

THE NEGRO LEAGUES COURIER

Newsletter of SABR's Negro League Committee

"We are the Ship; All Else Are the Sea"

JUNE 2006
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Contributors

Despite the fact that I do all the work, I am FORCED by the powers that be to acknowledge EVERYONE that contributes to our humble rag. They are: Bob Allen, Bob Bailey, Tim Booker, Adrian Burgos, Dick Clark, Leslie Heaphy, Larry Hogan, Larry Lester, Jerry Malloy, Gary Maurer, Rod Nelson, Bob Peterson, John Russell, Lucky Smith, Wayne Stivers, and Gregg Truitt

Oldest Negro Leaguer

A new owner of the title oldest living Negro Leaguer has been found and come to find out, he should have held the title for sometime. A former member of the New York Lincoln Giants and the New York Cubans, Silas "Si" Simmons was attending elementary school when Ted "Double Duty" Radcliffe, once thought the oldest living Negro Leaguer, was born.

A five foot ten inch, 165 pound left handed pitcher and hitter, Simmons was born in Philadelphia on October 14, 1895 and currently resides in a nursing home in St. Petersburg, Florida.

The birth date is NOT a typo. Mr. Simmons is 110 years old.

JERRY MALLOY IX NEGRO LEAGUES CONFERENCE

JULY 6-9 This is the annual conference of SABR's Negro League Committee, and Kansas City was selected as the host site this year. It will be the largest gathering of SABR members in Kansas City since the 1996 National Convention. All regional members are invited and encouraged to attend even if they are not Negro League Committee members. Former Negro Leaguer, White Sox and Indians star Minnie Minoso will be in attendance, along with other former major leaguers and Negro Leaguers. Many of the voters on the panel that inducted 17 people in to the Baseball Hall of Fame this spring will be in attendance. For all the conference details and registration info please check the SABR Web site:

<http://www.sabr.org/sabr.cfm?a=cm s,c,779>

The SABR Negro Leagues Committee presents the 9th Annual Jerry Malloy Conference July 7, 8 and 9 in Kansas City. Satchel Paige is the theme and his 100th birthday is July 7. The site is the Hyatt Regency Hotel at Crown Center. Rooms are available for \$79 per night. Full registration includes Admission to NLBM, Conference Publications, Research Presentations, Paige Family Panel, Educational Roundtable, Legends Luncheon, Awards Banquet, TOR vs KC ballgame and more. Throughout the conference attendees will have the opportunity to hear from scholars and researchers from all over the country presenting on a variety of Negro League topics. Each

session will include a time for Q & A following the presentation. Also, if you would like to volunteer to help the local planning committee with this event, please contact Lloyd Johnson, 816-651-7118 or lloydj@msn.com.

A continuing education program for teachers will be available on Friday the 7th, with college credits issued by Pittsburgh State. If you know of any teachers that are baseball fans who are non-SABR members, please pass this conference info along to them. I'm sure they would love to listen to baseball talk to earn credit!

Negro League Articles

THE KANSAS CITY STAR,
5/7/06, "Did Feud Sabotage Buck's Bid for Hall?", **4pgs

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE,
5/5/06, "Josh Gibson May Have Been the Greatest Home Run Hitter Ever", **5pgs

THE FREE PRESS (Kinston, NC), 5/12/06, "A Chance for A History Lesson" **2pgs

THE WASHINGTON POST,
4/16/06, "Woman of Summer" (Effa Manley) **3pgs

**JET MAGAZINE 3-20-2006,
"Negro League Players Elected To Baseball Hall Of Fame. **2pp

CHICAGO SUN TIMES 2-28-2006, "Minoso still on the outside looking in" **1pg and 3-1-2006, "Negro League committee has some explaining to do" **1pg

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, 3-31-2006, **2pp, "Signings Of The Times"

THE KANSAS CITY STAR,
5/16/06, "He has No Spite Over This Slight" (Buck O'Neil) **1pg

SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER
5/6/2006 **2pp "962 home runs? Probably" on Josh Gibson.

ASBURY PARK PRESS "Right Stuff, Wrong Time" **2pp

Committee News

A copy of the annual committee report is available.
**1pg

The NLC meeting at the Seattle convention is scheduled for Thursday June 29 at 11:00 AM and will be presided over by Amy Essington.

Obituaries

Eduardo Valero, SABR's chair for the Latino baseball research committee, passed away on Friday, May 26, 2006. He was 80 years old. Aside from his great interest in SABR, Eduardo presided two Sportswriters Associations in Puerto Rico, and was a member of the AIPS (International Sportswriters Association) Board of Directors. He was elected to the Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame and to the Hall of Fame of Sports in Puerto Rico.

In The Marketplace

I suggest all interested persons contact the Hall Of Fame (25 Main Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326) asking how to obtain the latest issue of MEMORIES AND DREAMS.

Just about the entire edition is devoted to the Negro Leagues and the recent election. Articles included are the following: "Homage for heroes: Casting Ballots for Hall of Fame Election" **1pg (see who is responsible for the new inductees). "Glory Days: Hall of Fame Electees Immortalized in Cooperstown" **4pgs, "Monte Irvin Shares His Thoughts" **1pg, "Eighteen Immortals Who Came Before" **3pgs, "Biz and Hank's Wonderful Adventure" (the trip to Japan) **1pg, "Moving Toward the Day-The Negro Leagues in 1939" **1pg, "Greatness Affirmed: Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the Baseball Hall of Fame Move Black Baseball History into the Spotlight" by Raymond Doswell **2pgs, "Woman on a Mission: Effa

Manley's Historic Election to Cooperstown" by Leslie Heaphy
**1pg, "Cool Papa Bell Trips the Light Fantastic" by Tom Shieber
**1pg, "Giants Came to Cooperstown More Than a Century Past: Cuban Giants Grant, White Played in Village in 1890s"
2pgs, "Small Artifacts, Big Meaning" **2pgs, "Pre-Negro Leagues Role in Changing History" by Jim Overmyer **2pgs, "Professional Baseball's African-American Pioneer Hailed from Cooperstown" (Bud Fowler)2pgs, "Jim Crow and Baseball's Julius Caesar" (Landis)**2pgs. A terrific issue.

Recent Events

On May 16, 2006, Orange Park in Orange, NJ was rededicated again and is now officially, Monte Irvin Orange Park. It couldn't happen to a nicer person. Congratulations Monte! **1pg Promotional card **1pg from 5-14-2006 NEWARK STAR-LEDGER, "Irvin always safe at home". **1pg map of the park.

The Final Pitch

A full report of the Hall of Fame induction weekend will appear in the next issue.

Col. Sammy J. Miller