



**Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report**  
**December 1995**

# Unknown Player Identified And Found

There's nothing like ending 1995 with a bang. On June 17, 1884, the Washington Unions featured a battery of Thompson pitching and Rollinson catching. It was heretofore unknown who these players were. Bob Richardson has been able to identify Rollinson as William Henry Winslow, former catcher with Brown University, and also found his birth and death date. This amazing discovery earns Bob the December *Find of the Month* award.

A *Sporting Life* note of June 18, 1884 stated that "Tenney and Winslow, the well-known pitcher and catcher, graduates of Brown University, have signed with the Washington Nationals and will play against the Bostons on Tuesday." June 17 was the Tuesday in question, Bunker Hill Day in Massachusetts. Bob checked Brown from 1881-1884 and came up empty. He then found a note that a Winslow, "who caught J Lee Richmond for four years at Brown" caught briefly for Holyoke of the Massachusetts States Association in July 1884. This prompted Bob to check back further at Brown and found that William Henry Winslow, class of 1880, had caught both Tenney and Richmond at Brown.

Bob then was able to track down Winslow's son. That's right, the son of a man born in 1856. His son remembers his father telling him about taking the train with J Lee Richmond to play in a game. (It is quite possible that Thompson is actually Richmond.) Winslow was a teacher at the time in Lee, Massachusetts, a 2.5 mile train ride from Boston, and would have had Bunker

Hill Day off. Winslow played minor league ball in July and August of 1884 and 1885. An absolutely amazing find!

## John Hillary Swaim

I have been searching for John Hillary Swaim of the 1897-98 Washington club for quite some time. I had tracked him to Youngstown, Ohio in 1925. Supposedly, he had moved to Florida. I wrote a lady to search the Florida death index for him and she sent me a 2 page list of all people named Swain or Swaim who died in Florida. None of these looked especially promising.

Then Joe Simenic found a letter from Swaim in a 1942 *Sporting News* stating that he lived in Umatilla, Florida and that he wanted to hear from his ex-teammates. Umatilla is in Lake County. I went back to the list that the lady had sent me and found a John H. *Swain* who died in 1945 in Lake County. I wrote Florida for the death certificate and was delighted when the birth matched the birth of our ballplayer and the occupation stated "ballplayer." Just like Joe Quest, the occupation of a 71 year old man referred to him as a ballplayer. Thanks to Joe Simenic for providing the key clue.

## Member Movement

Brian Ten Eyck has moved. Brian's new address is 36330 Yocum Loop, Sandy, Oregon 97055. Please welcome Scott Schul to the committee. Scott's address is 665 Brighton Avenue, Portland, Maine 04102. Scott's code number will be X5.

## Simenic Says:

Didn't you all play that game when you were a kid? Joe Simenic checked out a few of the questions that I asked in the November newsletter. Frank Watt actually died in Washington, D.C. rather than the nonexistent Glen Cove, Maryland. Russell McKelvy did die

October, 19, 1915 and thus our information is correct. And John S. Neuer is the proper name for the 1907 Highlander pitcher.

## Junior

I have been asked this question a couple of times recently, so I thought I would respond to the question of using "Junior" in a player's name. I only list the name with "Junior" in the case of a player who had the exact same name as his father and the father either played or managed in the major leagues. Obvious examples are the Ripkens and the Griffey's. (For those of you who only read boxscores prior to 1920, these are players of the "modern" era.) If they don't have the same first, last, and middle name (David Russell Bell, David Gus Bell, David Michael Bell), then I don't list the "Junior." And if they have the same three names, but their father is not a major league player (William Irvin Adams), then I don't list the "Junior."

## Oldsters

Bob Davids suggested that I publish the list of the ten short-term players who lived the longest and the ten long-term (10 years or more) players who lived the longest. The list follows:

### Short-Term

Chet Hoff	104-7
Robert Wright	101-7
John Daley	101-3
Paul Otis	100-11
Charles Emig	100-5
Edward Gill	100-2
Ralph Miller	100-1
John Hollison	99-3
George Winkelman	98-11
Ollie O'Mara	98-7

### Long-Term

Milt Gaston	99-11
Dummy Hoy	99-6
Fred Parent	96-11
Larry Kopf	95-11
Joe Wood	95-9
Joe Oeschger	95-2
Ray Fisher	95-1
Elmer Flick	94-11
Edd Roush	94-10
Stan Coveleskie	94-8

Interestingly, the top guy on each list is the only one on each list who is still alive.

## An Ortega Lead

Dan Dischley wrote me that Bill Haber had been tracking Phil Ortega, last month's *Mystery*, prior to Bill's death. Bill had apparently traced him to Los Angeles, then to San Diego, and finally to Mexico City. Does this help anybody in tracking him down?

## Birthday List

There are five nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in January. Milt Gaston will celebrate his 100th birthday seven days after George Burns celebrates his. (This George Burns is a cigar-smoking comedian, not the Giant outfielder or Indian first baseman.) Make sure you send a card.

January 3	Gus Suhr	90
January 12	Joe Hauser	97
January 17	Ray Cunningham	91
January 27	Milt Gaston	100
January 29	Ray Hayworth	92

## George McAvoy/Carey

George McAvoy played one game with the Phillies in 1914. His minor league career was mainly confined to the state of Texas from 1909 to 1919. He was born on March 12, 1884 in East Liverpool, Ohio, apparently with the name George Carey. I'm not sure where the McAvoy came in. Both of George's parents, Samuel and Sarah Carey died in East Liverpool in 1914 and 1915, respectively. George had four brothers, Harry, Jess, William, and Elmer. It is unknown where George resided after his baseball career or whether he was using the name McAvoy or Carey. This qualifies George to be our final 1995 *Mystery of the Month*.

### The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	14449	72	99.504
Total Complete Births	13766	755	94.801
Total Complete Deaths	7154	474	49.267
Total Assumed Alive	6893		47.469
Total Bats	13164	1252	91.315
Total Throws	13409	1007	93.015
Total Heights	13400	1016	92.952
Total Weights	13337	1079	92.515
Total Debut Dates	14521	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9976	4545	68.701
Total Completion			92.1700

## New Monthly Data

### Questionnaires Received:

None

### New Information Received:

1929 Badgro, Morris Hiram	B: <u>Orillia, Washington</u>	(B8)
1914 Barron, Frank John	B: <u>St. Marys, West Virginia</u>	(H4)
	D: <u>St. Marys, West Virginia</u>	
1907 Brush, Robert	D: <u>San Bernardino, California</u>	(C1)
1953 Bruton, William Haron	D: <u>Dec 5 1995</u>	(D2)
	<u>Marshallton, Delaware</u>	
1990 Carr, Charles Lee Glenn	B: <u>San Bernardino, California</u>	(C1)
1884 Creegan, Martin	Weight: <u>161</u>	(R1)
1876 Curren, Peter	Weight: <u>175</u>	(R1)
1954 Davis, James Bennett	D: <u>Dec 6 1995</u>	(W1)
	<u>San Mateo, California</u>	
1885 Derby, Eugene A.	B: <u>Feb 3 1860</u>	(R1)
	<u>Fitchburg, Massachusetts</u>	
1891 Eagan, William	D: <u>Feb 13 1905</u>	(S5)
1916 Fisher, Wilbur McCullough	B: <u>Green Bottom, West Virginia</u>	(H4)
1935 Gomez, Jose Luis (Gonzalez)	Name: <u>Jose Luis Gomez (Gonzales)</u>	(D7)
1909 Hagerman, Zeria Zequi	B: <u>Lyndon, Kansas</u>	(Z1)
1898 Heidrick, John Emmett	Name: <u>R Emmet Heidrick</u>	(K1)
1941 Judd, Thomas William Oscar	D: <u>Dec 27 1995</u>	(C1)
	<u>Ingersoll, Ontario</u>	
1969 Manuel, Charles Fuqua	B: <u>Northfork, West Virginia</u>	(H4)
1969 Martinez, Jose (Azcuiz)	B: <u>Jul 26 1942</u>	(C1)
1995 Mecir, James Jason	B: <u>Bayside, New York</u>	(D7)
1884 Murphy, William N.	Name: <u>William H. Murphy</u>	(R1)
	B: <u>Mar 23 1864</u>	
	<u>Springfield, Massachusetts</u>	
1938 Powers, Leslie Edwin	B: <u>Seattle, Washington</u>	(B8)
1942 Rickert, Marvin August	B: <u>Longbranch, Washington</u>	(B8)
1884 Rollinson,	Name: <u>William Rollinson</u>	(R1)
	Real name: <u>William Henry Winslow</u>	
	B: <u>Jun 10 1856</u>	
	<u>Fairfield, Maine</u>	
	D: <u>Sep 28 1938</u>	
	<u>Bristow, Virginia</u>	
1897 Sparks, Thomas Frank	B: <u>Etna, Georgia</u>	(H4)
1965 Spriggs, George Herman	B: <u>Lothian, Maryland</u>	(W1)
1992 Suero, Williams (Urban)	D: <u>Nov 30 1995</u>	(C1)
	<u>Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic</u>	
1897 Swaim, John Hillary	D: <u>Dec 27 1945</u>	(C1)
	<u>Eustis, Florida</u>	
1874 Taylor, Z. H.	Name: <u>Zachary H. Taylor</u>	(W5)
1980 Valenzuela, Fernando (Anguamea)	B: <u>Navojoa, Mexico</u>	(C1)
1931 Watt, Frank Marion	D: <u>Washington, D.C.</u>	(S1)