

**SABR**  
**Biographical Research Committee**  
**March/April 2003 Report**

## **William Kinsler Found**

William Kinsler, who caught 1 game for the 1893 New York Giants has been found. Work by Richard Malatzky, Peter Morris, and Peter Mancuso led to capturing this *Find of the Month*. For many years, all we had on Kinsler was just his last name. Kinsler was listed in several articles as having come from Manhattan College. This was definitely the major league catcher. An article in the New York Sun showed that he lived on Manhattan Street. The city directory showed that this man was a policeman and appeared in the censuses that way as well. Peter Mancuso was able to find Kinsler's death through his pension card from the New York police department. This showed that he died in Florida in 1963. His Florida death certificate showed his exact date and place of birth as well as his place and date of death. He is buried in Mt. Carmel cemetery in Tenafly, New Jersey. At the time of his death, he was 96 years old, making him the oldest living player before he died. He became the oldest on May 8, 1962 on the death of Frank Burrell. Great work by all involved!

### **Connell O Connell**

We had listed Peter J. Connell as playing for New York (AA) in 1886. Patrick O'Connell played with Brooklyn in 1891. Using clues from the online Brooklyn Eagle newspaper and combining them with Reed Howard's minor league records, Peter Morris and Richard Malatzky proved that these two records belonged to the same player. He was listed as Connell in 1886, but apparently his real name was Patrick O'Connell. So we have combined the records of these two players.

### **Heroes For Finding Hogan**

Robert E. Hogan, who pitched one game for the St. Louis Browns in 1882 has been found by Richard Malatzky and Peter Morris. Apparently, the later record for this player belongs to someone else. Richard and Peter traced him through articles in the New York Clipper, Sporting Life, Sporting News, and The National Game. They were able to prove with some degree of certainty that the Robert Hogan, who died in 1932 in Yucaipa, California was the 1882 St. Louis pitcher.

### **Larry Yellen and Jay Dahl**

The following is a note I received from Tom Hufford. It's a pretty interesting story about Larry Yellen and Jay Dahl.

"Last week I received a notice about a new book that had been published by a fellow SABR member, Rob Trucks (Virgil's great-nephew), called "Cup of Coffee." It's about 18 pitchers who had "cups of coffee" in the majors. Rob was to be in Atlanta for a book signing, and would be accompanied by two of the book's subjects who live here - Larry Yellen and Cecil Butler. I know Cecil, but had never met Yellen. Based on where this small, independent book store was (and the subject), along with lack of publicity, I figured not many people would show up. I was right - there were about 6 or 7, including the author's friends. I had a fascinating talk with Larry Yellen and his wife. He was shocked when I told him I had listened to his major league

debut on the radio on September 26, 1963. I lived in the mountains in Virginia, our local radio station went off the air at sundown, and I could get night games from most of the big league teams, except the west coast. I listened to Houston's games on a station from New Orleans.

I remembered that Houston brought all these kids up to the majors in September, and had started their "all-rookie" lineup on September 27. That was the game that Jay Dahl, 17, started. The other starters were Rusty Staub (19), Joe Morgan (20), Sonny Jackson (19, ML debut), Glenn Vaughan (19), Jerry Grote (20), Brock Davis (19), Jim Wynn (21) and Aaron Pointer (21). Joe Hoerner and Danny Coombs also debuted in that game, and 15 of Houston's 18 players in that game were 1963 rookies.

Anyway, the plan was for Larry Yellen to have started that game, and there was a story about it in the New York papers. His mother saw it, called him, and got on him about pitching on Yom Kippur. Yellen said he hadn't even thought about that, he was just excited to make the majors. He mentioned it to manager Harry Craft and GM Paul Richards, saying he'd pitch anyway. They apologized for not knowing about the Jewish holiday, and said they'd move him up a day, so they moved his start up to September 26. That much of the story is detailed in the book. (and Yellen points out that this made him the first fellow not to pitch on Yom Kippur - not Sandy Koufax, who attended the same HS as Yellen).

When they moved Yellen up a day, Houston decided to start Jay Dahl in the "rookie game." I remarked to Yellen "If you had gone ahead and pitched that game as scheduled, I wonder if Jay Dahl would have gotten into either of the remaining games (the last weekend of the season). You know that was his only big league game, before he was killed."

Yellen got a shocked look on his face, and said "you mean Jay Dahl is dead?" And he was shocked when I told him the story. He said he really didn't know Dahl that well, and in 1965 I see that Yellen was at Oklahoma City and Amarillo while Dahl was at Salisbury, NC. Still, you'd think that news like that (Dahl and a female passenger were killed, another player blinded in the accident) would spread through the organization. If not, you figure that in telling his story over the past 40 years, someone somewhere would have told Yellen about Jay Dahl!"

## **New Members**

Please welcome Mark Hodapp, 1150 Dover Place, St. Louis, Missouri 63111 to the committee. Mark's code number will be H7. His e-mail is [mhodapp@charter.net](mailto:mhodapp@charter.net).

## **Bryan, Ohio**

Bob McConnell sent me a note that two players we list as being born in Bryan, Ohio probably were not born there. Russell Charles Young has no record of his birth in the county records, nor in any local history or obituary. According to the California death records web site, he was born in Ohio, but apparently not in Bryan. Also, Robert Brown Kelly is listed as being born in Bryan, but the Goshen News-Democrat has him born in Goshen, Indiana. Would someone like to check these out?

## **A Missing Committee Chairman**

For those of you who might be trying to get a hold of me around the middle of May, I will be unavailable as I will be on my honeymoon. But don't worry. I'll collect the e-mail and letters and answer you as quick as I can after I get back.

## **A Missing Yankee**

Our *Mystery of the Month* concerns a player who played as recently as 1965. James Leroy Brennenman pitched for the Yankees in 1965. According to the Social Security Death Index, he died March 15, 1994. His last address was in Orange, California; however, he did not die in California. He graduated from Fruita High School in Fruita, Colorado, but they had no record of his death. We need to locate his death date and have no clue where to look.

## Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Names	15875	56	99.648
Births	15250	681	95.725
Assumed Alive	7608		47.756
Deaths	7960	363	49.965
Bats	14630	1190	92.478
Throws	14865	955	93.963
Heights	14953	867	94.520
Weights	14911	909	94.254
Debut Dates	15931	0	100.000
Questionnaires	9985	5946	62.677
Total			92.3273

## New Monthly Data

### Questionnaires Received:

None

### New Information Received:

1942	Abernathy, Talmadge Lafayette	D: <u>Nov 16 2001</u>	(S3)
		<u>Charlotte, North Carolina</u>	
1941	Aleno, Charles	D: <u>Feb 10 2003</u>	(C1)
		<u>Deland, Florida</u>	
1952	Atwell, Maurice Dailey	D: <u>Jan 25 2003</u>	(C1)
		<u>Purcellville, Virginia</u>	
1944	Beeler, Joseph Sam	D: <u>Oct 8 2002</u>	(C1)
		<u>Mesquite, Texas</u>	
1963	Bowens, Samuel Edward	D: <u>Mar 28 2003</u>	(C1)
		<u>Wilmington, North Carolina</u>	
1884	Burch, Ernest A.	Height: <u>5-10</u> Weight: <u>190</u>	(M3)
1956	Burnette, Wallace Harper	D: <u>Feb 12 2003</u>	(C1)
		<u>Danville, Virginia</u>	
2000	Burrell, Patrick B.	Name: Patrick <u>Brian</u> Burrell	(C1)
1945	Buzas, Joseph John	D: <u>Mar 19 2003</u>	(D6)
		<u>Salt Lake City, Utah</u>	
1904	Byers, James William	<u>BL</u>	(C1)
2001	Chacon, Shawn A.	Name: Shawn <u>Anthony</u> Chacon	(C1)
1931	Cohen, Alta Albert	D: <u>Mar 11 2003</u>	(C1)
		<u>Maplewood, New Jersey</u>	
1886	Connell, Peter J.	Real name: <u>Patrick J. O'Connell</u>	(M4)
		B: <u>1862</u>	
		D: <u>Mar 5 1892</u>	
		<u>Brooklyn, New York</u>	
		Height: <u>6-01</u> Weight: <u>180</u>	
		Add BKN AA 1890 record from Patrick O'Connell	
1884	Cook, Paul	Height: <u>5-10</u>	(M4)
1873	Crane, Frederick William Hotchkiss	Height: <u>5-09</u> Weight: <u>135</u>	(M3)
1944	Crocker, Claude Arthur	D: <u>Dec 19 2002</u>	(C1)
		<u>Clinton, South Carolina</u>	
1969	Decker, George Henry	D: <u>Mar 2 2003</u>	(C1)
		<u>Fraser, Michigan</u>	
1935	Eisenstat, Harry	D: <u>Mar 21 2003</u>	(S1)
		<u>Beachwood, Ohio</u>	
1938	Epperly, Albert Paul	D: <u>Apr 14 2003</u>	(H9)
		<u>McFarland, Wisconsin</u>	
2000	Feliz, Pedro Julio	B: <u>Apr 27 1975</u>	(P1)
1944	Floyd, Leslie Roe	D: <u>Dec 15 2000</u>	(H9)
		<u>Dallas, Texas</u>	

1952	Fridley, James Riley	D: <u>Feb 28 2003</u> <u>Port Charlotte, Florida</u>	(C3)
1872	Galvin, John A.	Height: <u>5-07</u> Weight: <u>178</u>	(M3)
1990	Garces, Richard Alan (Mendoza)	Weight: <u>250</u>	(C1)
1874	Gavern,	New player with Brooklyn Atlantics Debut: <u>Jun 15 1874</u>	(C1)
1944	Gionfriddo, Albert Francis	D: <u>Mar 14 2003</u> <u>Solvang, California</u>	(C1)
2002	Gomez, Alexis DeJesus	B: <u>Aug 8 1978</u>	(C1)
1905	Good, Wilbur David	Height: <u>5-11.5</u> Weight: <u>180</u>	(M4)
1906	Hall, Charles Louis	Real name: Carlos <u>Clolo</u>	(H9)
1882	Hayes, John J.	Height: <u>5-08</u> Weight: <u>175</u>	(M4)
1872	Hearn,	Delete player. Record belongs to Bob Reach.	(C1)
1983	Hershiser, Orel Leonard Quinton	Name: <u>Orel Leonard Hershiser</u>	(H9)
1882	Hogan, Robert Edward	B: <u>Apr 6 1862</u> D: <u>Jan 22 1932</u> <u>Yucaipa, California</u>	(M3)
1969	Johnson, Robert Dale	B: <u>Aurora, Illinois</u>	(N5)
1893	Kinsler, William H.	B: <u>Nov 9 1867</u> <u>New York, New York</u> D: <u>Aug 10 1863</u> <u>Miami Beach, Florida</u>	(M3)
1943	Kreitner, Albert Joseph	B: <u>Oct 9 1922</u> D: <u>Mar 6 2003</u> <u>Nashville, Tennessee</u>	(Q1)
1945	Libke, Albert Walter	D: <u>Mar 7 2003</u> <u>Wenatchee, Washington</u>	(F4)
1965	Lopez, Arturo (Rodriguez)	B: <u>May 8 1937</u>	(H9)
2001	MacDougal, Robert Michael	Name: Robert <u>Meiklejohn</u> MacDougal	(H9)
1920	Manion, Clyde Jennings	B: <u>Big River, Missouri</u>	(F4)
1942	McCullough, Pinson Lamar	D: <u>Jan 16 2003</u> <u>Decatur, Georgia</u>	(H4)
1948	McDermott, Maurice Joseph	B: <u>Apr 29 1929</u>	(C1)
1943	Mertz, James Verlin	D: <u>Feb 4 2003</u> <u>Waycross, Georgia</u>	(S3)
1871	Mills, Charles	Name: Charles <u>F.</u> Mills Weight: <u>165</u>	(M3)
1948	Murray, Raymond Lee	D: <u>Apr 9 2003</u> <u>Fort Worth, Texas</u>	(H9)
1890	O'Connell, Patrick J.	Delete player. Record belongs to Peter Connell.	(M4)
1901	Owen, Frank Malcolm	Debut: <u>Apr 26 1901</u>	(V1)
1896	Payne, Harley Fenwick	B: <u>Windsor, Ohio</u>	(H9)
1884	Peltz, John	Height: <u>5-08</u> Weight: <u>175</u>	(M4)
1879	Phillips, William B.	Height: <u>6-00</u>	(M3)
1933	Reiber, Frank Bernard	D: <u>Dec 26 2002</u> <u>Bradenton, Florida</u>	(C1)
1902	Rhoads, Robert Barton	Real name: <u>Barton Emory Rhoads</u>	(D9)
1995	Roberson, Sidney Dean	B: <u>Sep 7 1971</u>	(H9)

1884	Seery, John Emmett	Height: <u>5-07</u> Weight: <u>145</u>	(M4)
1887	Simon, Henry Joseph	Height: <u>5-06</u> Weight: <u>155</u>	(M4)
1953	Triandos, Gus Constantine	Name: <u>Gus Triandos</u>	(F4)
1944	Wise, Roy Ogden	B: Nov 18 <u>1925</u>	(F4)
1963	Zachary, William Christopher	D: <u>Apr 19 2003</u>	(D6)
		<u>Knoxville, Tennessee</u>	