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Baseball in Kansas City

by Lloyd Johnson

The Civil War introduced baseball to the armies of the South in prisoner of war camps. Frontier Forts Leavenworth and Scott both reported baseball activity during and immediately after the War.

In 1866, a year after the Civil War ended, Kansas City organized its first baseball team, the Antelopes. The team played games on an exercise field at 14th Street between Oak and McGee. At the end of the season, the Antelopes met the older Frontier Club of Leavenworth. The Antelopes won 47 to 27.

In 1884, the Unions, sometimes called Onions by the press, became Kansas City's first professional baseball team. They played in the Union Association. They played at Athletic Park, in Cook's pasture near Summit and Southwest Boulevard. Organized by baseball entrepreneur Ted Sullivan, Kansas City offered its first ladies day and rainchecks that year. Some Sunday crowds topped 5,000 as the team finished sixth, but reportedly cleared a healthy profit of \$3,000-5,000. When the Kansas City contingent showed up for the winter meeting they met only representatives from Milwaukee. The league had folded, but neglected to inform the two clubs.

The next year Sullivan fielded another Cowboy entry in the Western League, but that league folded before the season was over. By 1886 the National League and David Rowe — one of baseball's original "Big Four" — had gained interest in Kansas City. The "Cowboys," admitted on a provisional basis, played their games in the city's new League Park, situated on the south side of Independence Avenue at Lydia. The players called the field "the Hole" because when Independence Avenue was graded, dirt was pushed high along the edge of the street, making a mound along the field's perimeter. It was a skin field without a blade of grass. After a rain the park would become a pond. It rained the day before the opening day of the 1886 season and the game had to be postponed until the field could dry out. The next day the Cowboys beat the defending champion Chicago White Stockings in a game that went 13 innings. Several gun incidents, on the field and off, convinced the Eastern baseball estab-

lishment that Kansas City was too rough for their ball players. Kansas City would remain the Westernmost extension of the National League until 1958 when the Brooklyn and New York clubs moved to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Undaunted by the National League setback, Rowe set up the Western League for the Cowboys. When that league failed to finish the season, he left Kansas City and became involved in the Players Union and the year-long strike in 1890.

Back at home, a group of business men found club acceptance in the American Association. The Cowboys never did very well, but they were major league. During the 1888 season, fans began calling the Kansas City Western Association team "the Blues" because they wore blue uniforms. They chose distinctive uniforms to differentiate them from the Cowboys who still played in the major league American Association. By 1889 the city was back to supporting only one club, the Cowboys. But, the Blues returned in 1890 to win the Western Association pennant in the final game of the year versus the Indianapolis Hoosiers. It was the first baseball pennant for Kansas City and a year in which the club cleared a substantial profit.

Over the next two decades, Kansas City professional baseball was played in Exposition Park, built in 1893 at 15th and Montgall, Sportsman's Park, home to Kid Nichols' Blue Stockings, at 17th and Indiana, Association Park — built in 1903 by George Tebeau at 20th and Olive; and Gordon and Koppel stadium — an old athletic field which housed the Federal League nine, at 48th and Tracy.

Kansas City had two teams in 1902 and 1903, the Western League Blue Stockings and the Blues who played in the American Association. From 1913 through 1915 there were again two teams. The Blues played at Association Park and the Packers of the Federal League played at 48th and Tracy.

Young brewery owner George Muehlebach started attending Blues games at Association Park. He built the

Muehlebach Hotel at 11th and Baltimore in 1915, and in that same year he purchased a small holding of the Blues. Two years later Muehlebach owned controlling interest in the team. In 1923, after finding out that the railroad had exercised its option to construct tracks through the outfield of Association Park, he built a ballpark for his team at 22nd and Brooklyn. He named it after himself. The Blues won the pennant as fans packed the stadium in record numbers. The franchise had set a minor league attendance record of 309,000 in 1922, the last year at Association Park, which it broke with 430,000 in 1923, the first year at Muehlebach. The Blues beat Baltimore to win the Little World Series in 1923. The Blues won the pennant and series again in 1929.

But by 1930 the fans seemed to lose interest in the team. As ticket sales dropped, Muehlebach attempted to resuscitate the franchise by playing night baseball. Although there were some increase in ticket sales, it didn't justify the cost of lighting the field. At the end of the 1932 season, Muehlebach sold the Blues and his stadium to a partnership that included the radio and movie comedian Joe E. Brown, E. E. Kayser of Des Moines — a boyhood friend of Kansas City Monarchs' owner J. L. Wilkinson — and all-time great Tris Speaker. The group grew disenchanted with baseball as the Depression hit the area hard. They sold the club to Kansas City, Kansas, resident Johnny Kling at a bargain price. Kling had been the catcher on the Chicago Cubs team that won four pennants in five years, 1906-1910. He sold the franchise to Col. Jacob Ruppert of the New York Yankees in the summer of 1937. The price tag for the team and the stadium was \$230,000. The Blues became a Yankee farm team. Many big league players appeared for this team: Phil Rizzuto, Jerry Priddy, Mickey Mantle, Moose Skowron, Johnny Mize, and Hank Bauer, to name a few.

At the same time, there was another professional winning baseball team in Kansas City. This team won more championships than any other in the city's sports history. When these athletes played their home games in Blues' Stadium, crowds filled the grandstand. The team was the



Kansas City Monarchs, and from 1920 until 1955 they dominated black baseball.

The Negro National League of baseball clubs came out of a meeting of African-American team owners and sportswriters held at the Paseo YMCA and Streets Hotel in 1920. James L. Wilkinson, who started the All-Nations — players of different races and nationalities — put together the Kansas City Monarchs team that same year. Wilkinson, who was white, was respected by both players and members of the black community. He would own the Monarchs for over 28 years and eventually would become vice-president of the Negro National League.

The Monarchs won nine league pennants and were the first Negro World Champions. In 1921 they challenged the Kansas City Blues to a championship series at Association Park. The Monarchs won three out of the five games. When Babe Ruth came through town with his Traveling All-Stars in 1922, the team lost both of their games to the Monarchs. The Monarchs won the first Negro World Series in 1924 and went on to win eight more pennants and another Series in 1942.

The Monarchs were the first to light ballfields for regular night games. In 1930 Wilkinson had a portable lighting system built. Poles that could be extended to a height of 50 feet and support six floodlights were powered by generators that were mounted on truck beds. The trucks were placed outside of the foul lines. The system cost more than \$50,000, but the lights sold tickets to night games.

During the Depression, when ticket sales went down in Kansas City, the Monarchs took to barnstorming small towns, challenging local teams to earn money. They traveled in their own bus to 18 states. It wasn't unusual for them to play one game in the afternoon, then drive to the next town to play another game under lights that evening. The Monarchs played anywhere from 80 to 150 games a season.

Leroy "Satchel" Paige has been called one of the greatest pitchers in baseball history. He played for Negro League teams for 30 years, then he went to the majors. Paige started playing professionally with the Chattanooga Black Lookouts. He moved quickly to the "Big Leagues" with the Pittsburgh Crawfords. He joined the Monarchs' traveling squad with a sore arm in 1939. Far from washed up, he used snake oil to revive his dead arm and starred for the Monarchs from 1941 until 1947.



The Cleveland Indians hired Paige in 1948.

He helped the team win the American League pennant that year. Later he pitched for the St. Louis Browns, and in 1965, when he was 59, Charles Finley hired him to pitch three innings for the Kansas City Athletics in order to qualify for baseball's pension plan. Named to the Hall of Fame in 1971, Paige died on June 8, 1982, and was buried in Forest Hill Cemetery, not far from fellow Hall-of-Famer Zach Wheat.

When Jackie Robinson, who had played for the Monarchs in 1945, was called up by the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, he broke the 20th century color barrier in the Major Leagues. This act started the decline of the Negro Leagues, which soon lost its best players to the majors where fans could see Paige, Larry Doby, or Monte Irvin against white Major League players.

Wilkinson sold the Monarchs in 1948, but the team carried on for 16 more years, barnstorming in small towns where they still attracted crowds. By 1964 the team was no more, but their history is on view at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum at 1601 E. 18th.

In 1955, Arnold Johnson, a Chicago businessman who owned Yankee Stadium, bought the major league Philadelphia Athletics and moved them to Kansas City. The grandstand roof of the old stadium, now called Municipal Stadium, was jacked up in order to put a second deck under it to enlarge the seating capacity. Former President Harry S. Truman threw out the first ball of the 1955 season and attendance at the games hit over a million that year to set a franchise record which was not broken until 1982. Kansas City's fans loved the A's.

It can't be said that Kansas City loved the next owner of the team. When Arnold Johnson died unexpectedly in the spring of 1960, his family sold the team to Charles O. Finley, a wealthy Chicago insurance company owner. During the seven years that Finley owned the club, the team was in constant chaos. He fired 12 managers and kept threatening to pull the A's out of Kansas City. When he moved the Athletics to Oakland in January 1968, it was the first time in more than 80 years that Kansas City did not have a professional ball club.

After some persuasion from Senator Stuart Symington, a commitment from the American League was made that Kansas City could have an expansion club in 1969. Ewing Kauffman agreed to put up the money needed to acquire the team then underwrite it until it

could sustain itself. He paid \$10 million for the franchise and began to put together an organization that would give Kansas City a World Series winner.

Mr. K. was a self-made man who had lived in Kansas City since he was eight years old. He was graduated from Westport High School and then served in the Navy during World War II. Afterward, he went to work as a salesman for a pharmaceutical company. In 1950 Kauffman started Marion Laboratories out of his basement. He bought vitamins from manufacturers and packaged them under his company's label.

Ewing Kauffman used his organizational skills and salesmanship to help guide the Royals to success. He hired baseball men, like Cedric Tallis and Lou Gorman and let them do their jobs. The team started out playing in the old Municipal Stadium. In 1973, the team celebrated moving into the new ballpark at Truman Sports Complex by hosting the major league's all-star game. The Royals lost playoffs to the New York Yankees three straight times, 1976-1978, before beating the Bronx Bombers in 1980 on George Brett's home run off ace reliever Goose Gossage. The Royals were in the 1980 World Series but lost, and they were in the 1981 and 1984 playoffs but didn't win. However, Kansas City fans supported their team with near-capacity crowds at home games.

In 1983, Kauffman sold half of his interest in the Royals to Avron Fogelman, a developer from Memphis, Tennessee. It was Kauffman's plan to eventually sell the remainder to Fogelman, too. However, by 1990 the developer's investments had suffered severe losses and Kauffman was forced to buy back Fogelman's share of the team.

When the Royals won the 1985 "I-70" World Series playing against the St. Louis Cardinals, Kansas City fans went wild. Businesses and schools closed so everyone could attend the team's welcoming home parade. Cheering fans lined up hours before the parade started, several people deep along the parade route from downtown to the Liberty Memorial. Thousands of pounds of confetti and shredded paper were thrown during the parade. It was a celebration that Kansas City fans would not forget.

Mr. Kauffman had not been able to find a partner who would invest in the Royals and eventually buy him out. In the spring of 1993 he presented a plan that would keep



the Royals in Kansas City for at least six years after his death. The Plan proposed that local philanthropists contribute \$50 million to be banked toward the team's future, and the interest would be used to pay the Royals' operating expenses. At Kauffman's death, the team would be managed by a group of civic leaders. When the team was sold, the money from the sale would go to the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation.

Those who had contributed to the plan could then donate their share to any charitable organization they wished. Kauffman's estate would donate sufficient money to pay the Royals' projected yearly losses during the transition time. At the time the plan was announced, Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman pledged \$10 million toward the \$50 million needed.

Ewing Kauffman died August 1, 1993. His wife and partner in the Royals, Muriel Kauffman, died March 17, 1995. In May 1995, the Internal Revenue Service approved the Kauffmans' plan to keep the Royals in Kansas City. The major-league owners gave their approval. When the rest of the \$50 million was raised and in June, 1995, the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation became the owners of the Royals. According to the Kauffmans' wishes, if there isn't a local buyer within six years, the Royals can be sold to someone in another city.

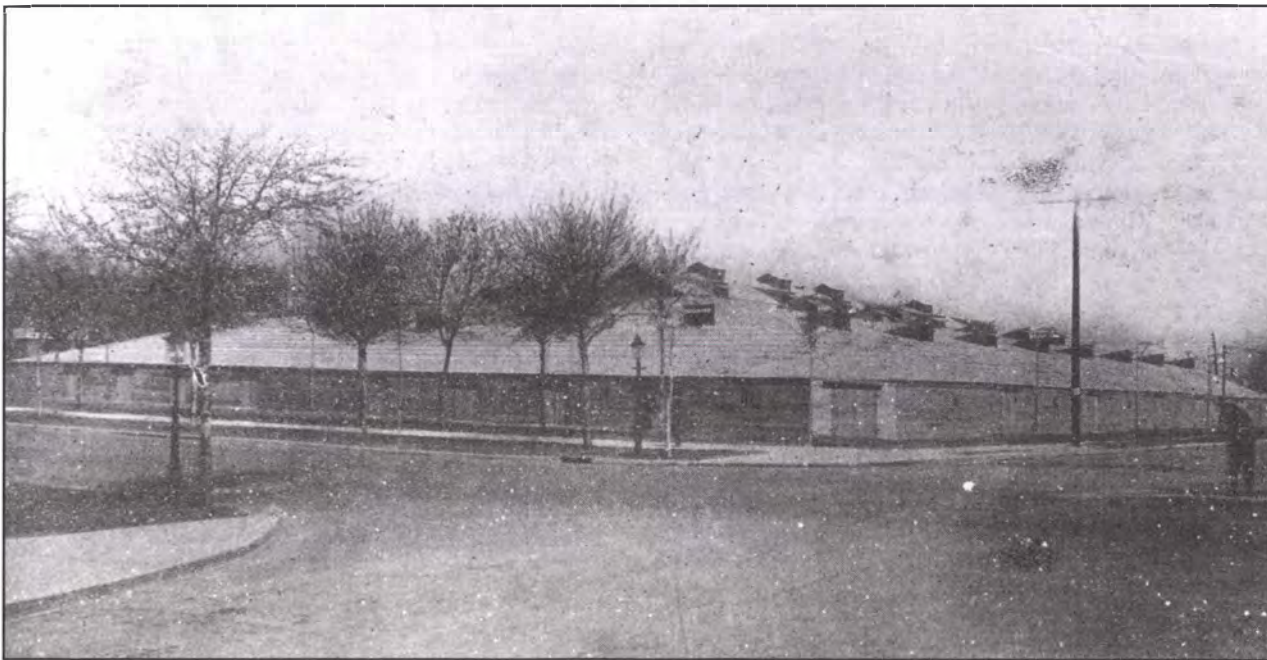
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Lloyd Johnson is past president of SABR and author of Who's Who in Baseball History.

In 1941, 20-year-old pitcher Frank Duncan III and 40-year-old catcher Frank Duncan, Jr. formed the first father-son battery in professional baseball as members of the Kansas City Monarchs.

— Larry Lester

Above: The Billy Sunday Tabernacle was built on the site of League Park where he had played in 1886 as a member of the Chicago White Stockings. Right: Look closely at the interior and one can see bleachers. Are these the grandstand seats from the old ball parks?





Larrupin' Lou Bids The Fans Adieu

by Jack Kavanagh

There was no bounce in Lou Gehrig's step as he walked into the depot dining room of Union Station in Kansas City. His roommate, Bill Dickey, carried two equipment bags, his and Lou's. The World Champion New York Yankees were in town to play an exhibition game with their AAA farm team, the Kansas City Blues of the American Association. Back east, the new Baseball Hall of Fame was being dedicated in Cooperstown, N.Y. It was June 11, 1939.

During the night a westbound Union Pacific train had dropped the two Pullmans used by the Yankees on a siding. The team, sleepy-eyed and wearing rumpled suits, their manager insisted they must, would have breakfast in the depot dining room before riding cabs to the ball park for the sold out game. When the game was over, only Lou Gehrig would check into a hotel after his teammates left. The next day Gehrig would take a train to Rochester, Minnesota and visit the Mayo Clinic. Someone there might be able to tell him why, at 36, he felt like a man in his 60s.

The Yankees owners, taking advantage of an off day on the major league schedules for the Hall of Fame ceremony, had added this stop to their western swing. The day before they had brushed aside the last place Browns twice before a sprinkling of depression era fans in St. Louis. Today would be different. Over 20,000 tickets had been sold to fans eager to see the famous Yankees. The new star, Joe DiMaggio, would face off against his older brother, Vince, a center fielder, like Joe. Vince was leading the American Association in batting and home runs. Local enthusiasts argued Vince was the best of the ball playing DiMaggio brothers.

The newspapers had warned that Lou Gehrig would not play. He had been missing from the Yankees lineup since May 2, when his consecutive game string had ended at 2,130 straight games. As the team's captain, he traveled with the team, carrying the lineup cards to the umpires before each game, then returning to the dugout to puzzle over his lost strength and coordination.

Later that day, Lou Gehrig would explain to reporters, "I guess everybody wonders why I'm going to the Mayo

Clinic. But I can't help believe there's something wrong with me. It's not conceivable that I could go to pieces so suddenly. I feel fine, feel strong and have the urge to play, but without warning this year I've apparently collapsed. I'd like to play some more and I want somebody to tell me what's wrong. Usually a fellow slows up gradually."

When Gehrig handed the starting lineup card to the home plate umpire, surprisingly his name was on it. His replacement in the Yankee lineup, Babe Dahlgren, had been crossed out and Gehrig would bat eighth. He explained that as long as so many people had come to see him, he would try to play a few innings for them. He handled four putouts at first base and it was the third inning before Gehrig came to bat.

The wide stance in the lefthanded batter's box was familiar. Gehrig squared off the way he always had. The bat was held the same way. But the menace was gone. He made contact and the box score tells us that he grounded out, second to first. When the Yankees took the field again, Dahlgren was at first base. Larrupin' Lou Gehrig had batted for the last time as a New York Yankee. He would never play a game of baseball again.

The fans got their money's worth. The Yankees, winning 4-1, kept their stars, Gordon, Keller, Rolfe, Henrich, Crosetti on the field for six innings. Joe DiMaggio, with a bandaged right wrist, was hitless in three times at bat. His brother, Vince, singled in his three times up. Neither hit a home run. A brisk wind was blowing in on an otherwise ideal sunny June afternoon.

After the game the police had to rescue the Yankees from crowds of autograph seekers. Inside the clubhouse, the Blues youngest player, the future Yankee shortstop, Phil Rizzuto, was a happy youngster gathering autographs for himself.

On July 4, after he had learned his fate from the Mayo Clinic, Lou Gehrig would make his formal farewell to the fans in special ceremonies at Yankee Stadium. The scene is familiar, both from newsreels which show a tearful Gehrig saying, "Today, I'm the luckiest man on the face of the earth," or actor Gary Cooper recreating the scene in the movie, "The Pride of the Yankees."

However, it was to a typical midwestern baseball crowd, few of whom had ever seen him play before, that the once indestructible Iron Horse said his last goodbye as a player. The slugger called "Larrupin' Lou" for the velocity of base hits crashing off his bat, had made one final, awkward appearance. The time left to Larrupin' Lou was short. He died on June 2, 1941, not quite two years after his last ball field appearance, playing first base in the uniform of the Yankees in Kansas City far from New York City and the Yankee Stadium.

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Jack Kavanagh is a man of many skills and trades. He is past vice-president of SABR and author of Walter Johnson: A Life.

Better in Pinstripes

Of the nine pitchers who each appeared in more than 50 game apiece for the Yankees and the Athletics, only Catfish had a better overall ERA with Kansas City than with New York.

ERA	With KC A's Won-Lost	ERA	With Yankees Won-Lost	
Jack Aker	15-16	3.54	16-10	2.23
Bud Daley	39-39	3.93	18-16	3.89
Art Ditmar	24-41	4.86	47-32	3.24
Tom Gorman	26-29	3.85	10-7	3.56
Bob Grim	13-17	3.96	45-21	3.35
Catfish Hunter	30-36	3.53	63-53	3.58
Johnny Knucks	12-21	4.79	42-35	3.33
Bobby Shantz	7-17	4.47	30-18	2.73
Ralph Terry	18-33	4.03	78-59	3.28

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Kansas City's Contribution to the Jurisprudence of Foul Ball Injuries

by Steve Garlick, J.D.

The weather was fair and warm on May 31, 1911, as the first place Kansas City Blues prepared for a morning/afternoon doubleheader against their American Association rival Milwaukee Brewers. The Blues won that double-header at Association Park, but the more lasting consequence of the double win was the legal precedent set because of a fan injury during one of the games.

While it was good day for the Blues, it was a bad day for Blues' fan C.A. Edling. It was a very bad day. C.A. Edling purchased an unreserved ticket for 50 cents and looked for a place to sit. Association Park, by most accounts was crowded, as temporary bleachers were added to the already existing grandstand and bleachers. Mr. Edling found his seat behind home plate and he was protected only by "an old rotten and worn" chicken screen netting. A foul ball traveled through the netting and smashed Edling by his left eye. The blow produced a swollen eye and a broken nose, and Edling sued the Blues in negligence for not using ordinary care in the maintenance of the screen.

Edling had several legal theories for recovery. He could sue for breach of contract and maybe recover his 50 cents. Edling instead sued in tort (a non-contractual civil wrong). There are three types of torts: Intentional (eg battery, conversion, defamation etc.), Negligence (defendant does not act with reasonable/ordinary care) or finally he could sue in strict liability (defendant is in control of an inherently dangerous condition, such as dynamite or dangerous animals, and the plaintiff can recover his damages without having to prove the defendant's negligence.).

Baseball players can not, normally, direct batted balls and intentionally hurt spectators, nor is baseball an inherently dangerous spectator sport. Therefore, Edling sued the Blues in negligence for not using ordinary care in the maintenance of the screen. In tort, unlike contract, a plaintiff can receive punitive damages and more likely recover consequential damages.

Plaintiff Edling had to prove each element in the Prima Facie case in negligence.

- 1) The defendant owes a duty to the injured plaintiff.
- 2) The defendant breached that duty.
- 3) The defendant's breach was the direct and foreseeable cause of the plaintiff's injury.

Even if the plaintiff can meet the above requirements, the defendant has several defenses. The defendant could show that the plaintiff was at fault through contributory/comparative negligence or that the plaintiff assumed the risk of his injuries.

The Edling court had to rely upon a previous Kansas City case Crane v Kansas City Baseball + Exhibition Co., 168 Mo. App. 301, 153 S.W. 1076 (1913). Crane paid 50 cents for a grandstand seat for a Blues morning/afternoon doubleheader. Although history did not record which game Crane attended, legal history noted Crane and its Kansas City progenies, as important legal precedents. Crane announced that baseball clubs are not insurers to the fans. Just as in any entertainment media, baseball must exercise ordinary care towards their patrons. This care is measured by the ball club providing screened seats from wild throws and batted balls for fans who desire such protection. The Blues in Crane met their Prima Facie duty to Crane by providing this option to Crane. Even if Crane could make the Prima Facie case against the Blues, the Blues could employ their negligence defenses. The court held that Crane had "common knowledge" concerning the national game, and therefore Crane assumed the risk for the known dangers. In fact, Crane's selection of his seat CONTRIBUTED to his injuries.

This was a difficult challenge for Edling. He claimed that the Blues failed to meet their duty to him by not providing a screen free from defects. The Blues' failure to maintain the screen was the proximate cause of his eye and nose injuries. In addition, the court also held that the Blues had no defenses. Edling neither assumed the risk of a defective screen, nor was this fan contributory negligent. In fact, this appellate court cited Edling's trial attor-

ney, when the attorney stated,

"If the Kansas City Blues had kept their eyes on the ball with the accuracy defendant says plaintiff should have displayed, they would have attained a higher place in the race for the pennant." (see Edling v. Kansas City Baseball + Exhibition Co., 168 S.W. 908 at page 910)

Edling is one of the few cases where plaintiffs have successfully sued baseball (Crane is the more likely outcome). But both the Crane and the Edling cases have become precedents for more nationally known cases (see Quinn v Recreation Park, 3 Cal. 2d 725, 46 P. 2d 144 (1935) for Edling, and Wells v Minneapolis Baseball & Athletic Ass'n 122 Minn 327, 142 NW 706 (1913) for Crane). Although foul balls have continued to find the anatomy of Kansas City baseball fans, only two more Kansas City cases have made important contributions to the jurisprudence of foul ball injuries.

In Hudson v Kansas City Baseball Club, Inc., 349 Mo 1215, 164 SW2d 318 (1942) Eugene L. Hudson, a near-sighted 64-year-old Blues fan, attended a Blues Indianapolis Indians doubleheader on 7/28/1940. While the Blues won the doubleheader, Hudson suffered several disappointments. The Blues fans had expected Johnny Vander Meer to pitch a rehabilitation assignment with the Indians and protested his absence. Although the records do not indicate that Hudson attended the doubleheader to see Vander Meer, he did suffer the pain and indignity of foul ball injury in his unscreened grandstand seat. Hudson argued that the Blues were negligent since the defendant did not meet the ordinary care standard under Crane and Edling. The Supreme Court of Missouri held that the Blues met these standards despite Hudson's claim of special circumstances.

Hudson expected a screened seat since he purchased a grandstand seat. In addition, the Blues should have been aware of his advancing age and nearsightedness. These special circumstances, claimed Hudson, put the Blues on notice of providing Hudson a screened seat or notifying



him that he was sitting in an unscreened area. While the court did not agree with the “common knowledge” standard announced in Crane, they held that Hudson had “actual knowledge” of the conditions and hazards of baseball games. Just because Hudson was “confused” as to his location, the court reasoned that this confusion did not equate to a duty on the part of the Blues.

In the final Kansas City case, Betty Anderson attended a Ladies Night at Blues Stadium on 9/6/1947. History records two expected events. A Blues victory (8-3 over St. Paul) coupled with an injured spectator. Anderson claimed that an usher switched her from a reserved screened seat to an unscreened seat. Also, the usher stated to the plaintiff-Anderson that hundreds sit safely in this section everyday. Betty reasoned that she relied on the usher’s assurances of safety. The Supreme Court of Missouri disagreed, and stated that the usher’s statements were the equivalent to stating that fans must think that those particular unscreened seats are safe since this was where the other fans chose to sit. The usher’s statements were not guarantees.

The Court believed that the Blues met their ordinary care duty to Anderson by providing screened seats for as many patrons who may reasonably be expected to desire screened seating (see Crane and Edling) and by providing screened seating to the portions of the stands which are most frequently subject to the hazards of foul balls (behind home plate). The Court correctly reasoned that the Blues owed no duty to warn every entering spectator of the hazards of the game! (See Anderson v. Kansas City Baseball Club, 231 S.W. 2d 170 (1950).)

In conclusion, a fan injured by wild throws or batted balls will have little chance of winning a lawsuit. The ball club can either attack the plaintiff-fan’s prima facie case or use their negligence defenses. For instance, a ball club can meet its Prima Facie duty by providing screened seating for a reasonable number of patrons who might request screened seating, screening the most dangerous part of the park (home plate) or providing a warning on the ticket, scoreboard etc. Even if a plaintiff-fan could meet all the elements of the Prima Facie case, the ball club could always resort to the assumption of the risk defense.

There is a suggestion by legal scholars that an injured fan should be able to sue in strict liability! In this scenario the plaintiff-fan could argue that an improperly

designed ballpark is inherently dangerous.

Injured fans could sue without the proof of the ball club’s negligence. This legal argument states that the ball clubs are in the best position to protect the fan from expected injuries with a design change or with insurance coverage. The more likely outcome is that an injured Kansas City fan has little recourse but he/she can take solace in that a foul ball injury is historically coupled with a Kansas City victory!

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Steve Garlick is an attorney who witnessed the aftermath of the 1969 Mets’ win from the playing field

Municipal Stadium, at 22nd and Brooklyn, was home to professional baseball in Kansas City from 1923. The upper deck was added in four months prior to the 1955 American League season.



Negro League Pennant Winners Negro National League Eastern Colored League

1920 Chicago American Giants	
1921 Chicago American Giants	
1922 Chicago American Giants	
1923 Kansas City Monarchs	Hilldale Giants
1924 Kansas City Monarchs*	Hilldale Giants
1925 Kansas City Monarchs	Hilldale Giants*
1926 Chicago American Giants*	Bacharach Giants
1927 Chicago American Giants*	Bacharach Giants
1928 St. Louis Stars	

*World Series Champions

In 1929, the Kansas City Monarchs won 62 of 79 contests to capture first place in the Negro National League. Their .785 winning percentage was the highest in Negro League history.

— Larry Lester





Only the Stars Come Out at Night!

J. L. Wilkinson & His Lighting Machine

by Larry Lester

Star light, star bright,
Black players overcome their forbidden plight.
They wish they may, They wish they might.
That Only the Stars Come Out at Night.

Before 1930, few working baseball fans envisioned their favorite stars showcasing their talents under the darkness of the summer moon. The first known lighting experiment came on August 27, 1910, when inventor George F. Cahill brought his patented system to Chicago's new White Sox park. Unsuccessful at first, he convinced a doubting Charlie Comiskey to showcase his 20 candlelight power — 137,000 watts — for a game between the local teams, the Logan Squares and Rogers Park. The game drew over 20,000 fans but failed to appeal to the passion of old-fashioned major league owners. The conservative owners followed closely the conviction of poet laureate, Paul Laurence Dunbar:

Night is for Sorrow and Dawn is for Joy
Chasing the Trouble that Fret and Annoy.

In 1930, James Leslie Wilkinson initiated the dawning of a new era in baseball with the first portable lighting system. He made it possible for sports enthusiasts to see a constellation of ebony stars perform in the illuminated shadows of the night.

Major league fans waited five more springtimes, until May 24, 1935, to witness the installation of stadium lights. On this historic day, from his oval office, President Franklin D. Roosevelt flipped a switch that generated close to one million watts of electrical power from 632 fifteen hundred-watt flood lamps in Cincinnati's Crosley Field. Chicago Cubs fans waited a half a century before night time baseball arrived at their Wrigley Field.

The innovator of night baseball was born on May 14, 1878, in the small town of Perry, Iowa, to John Joseph and Myrtie Harper Wilkinson. His father, known as J. J., was superintendent of the Northern Iowa Normal School

in Algona (near Des Moines). It was a teacher's college existing in the Kosuth County seat from 1886 through 1897. Daddy Wilk served six years as county superintendent of schools prior to being named president of the college by a committee. He applied his trade as far west as Omaha, Nebraska and eastward to Detroit, Michigan. Meanwhile, young J. L. Wilkinson was attending Highland Park College in Des Moines, Iowa, where he began his brief pitching career with the Hopkins Brothers, the local sporting goods store.

Wilkinson's semipro career was interrupted when a broken wrist halted his pitching and led him into management. His experience with the Hopkins Brothers gave him the idea for one of baseball's most unique and interesting teams, the All-Nations Club.

In 1912, along with local businessman J. E. Gall (or Gaul), Wilkinson formed an alliance of many nationalities, advertising: "Direct from their native countries, Hawaiians, Japanese, Cubans, Filipinos, Indians and Chinese." The All Nations simply ignored Jim Crow sanctions and barnstormed the Chautauqua loops from Wisconsin to Missouri to Nebraska by Pullman coach. They boasted of travel in their own "Private Hotel Car," a specially-built Pullman coach equipped with full sleeping and cooking facilities. "The All-Nations team traveled in a special private car in those days," said Wilkinson. "We all ate, slept and played together. There was never any trouble. We were a happy family."

Wilkinson found the proverbial "melting" pot of gold with his rainbow of nationalities. Despite being labeled as a "recreation" team by other baseball nines, the All-Nations had some of the finest players in the game. Along with Mendez, Drake and Donaldson, the great Cuban player Cristobal Torrienti later graced the roster. In 1915, they beat a tough Rube Foster team, the Chicago American Giants, two out of three games. The following year they swept a doubleheader, 9-5 and 5-2, and later tied a game 5-5, before losing to C.I. Taylor's Indianapolis ABC's, 5-1, considered by some sportswrit-

ers the most dominant Black club before the first World War.

A new horizon came in 1920, when J. L. Wilkinson was elected by team owners as Secretary of the new Negro National League. J. L. or "Wilkie", as he was affectionately known by his players, was the only white owner in a league as dark as a country night. He would retain this notoriety throughout the life of the league until its breakup in 1931. When the Negro American League organized in 1937, Wilkinson was elected treasurer. He was with the Monarchs 28 years (1920-1947); six of those years (1931-1936) his teams barnstormed across the nation's breadbasket, capitalizing on their popularity.

One of the strongest and most stable clubs in black baseball, the Monarchs were the white major leagues' equivalent of the New York Yankees; the winning team that everyone wanted to beat. During Wilkinson's tenure, the Monarchs won 11 league championships, a feat surpassed only by the perennial champion Yankees. During the same period, the Yankees won 15 championships under the managerial direction of Miller Huggins (1918-29) and Joe McCarthy (1931-1946). While the Bronx Bombers were fortunate to have played in the World Series each year they captured the league championship, the Monarchs were not so lucky, appearing in only four Colored World Series: 1924, 1925, 1942 and 1946. The Monarchs could have appeared in more if the Series had not been discontinued from 1927 to 1941. During the twenties, thirties and forties, the Monarchs dominated the teams of Negro League baseball.

While many of the New York pinstrippers can be identified by a single name — from the Babe to Lou, from the Clipper to Mick to Maris, Yogi, Dickey, Lefty, Red and Whitey — only a few dedicated fans of the game can recognize their Monarch counterparts. Slowly emerging from the shadows of anonymity are box office stars, Donaldson, Mendez, Bullet, Newt, Dobie, Brewer, Torrienti, Duncan, Foster, Turkey, Wells, Buck, Willard, Hilton, Jesse, Mr. Cub, Elston, Connie, Satch, Cool Papa, and, of course, Jackie.



On July 28, 1923, the Monarchs moved to Muehlebach Field, the future home of the American League's Kansas City Athletics. The field, named after brewmaster George Muehlebach, became Ruppert Field in 1937, when Jacob Ruppert purchased the park for his New York Yankee minor-league franchise. Normally, seating for the Blues games was segregated, however Wilkinson removed the twisted divider ropes and the crooked segregation signs when the Monarchs played. Fans, regardless of skin color, were allowed to sit wherever they liked at Monarchs games. A 1931 article in *The Kansas City Call*, a local African-American newspaper, reported, "there they were, the humble Negroes and the superior whites, all losing their relative social position in the interest of a very good game of ball."

The aura of the new steel and concrete stadium, seating over 18,000 fans with the state-of-the-art electric scoreboard, propelled Wilkie's Monarchs to their first league championship of the new decade. They captured 57 games and lost 33.

Although always a popular team, Wilkinson's Monarchs competed for the entertainment dollar against the more established major-league baseball teams. It was always a struggle to pay salaries and traveling expenses. In 1929, the midnight hour struck with the Great Depression. The league's rise to credibility came to a crashing halt. This situation forced Wilkinson to search for innovative ideas to keep his team intact and survive the country's financial crisis. Could night baseball be the solution?

To finance this dream, Wilkinson and Tom Y. Baird, owner of a bowling alley and billiard parlor, put up collateral to secure a \$50,000 loan. The loan enabled them to purchase a Sterling Marine 100 kilowatt generator with a 250 horsepower, six-cylinder, triple-carburetor, gasoline-driven engine. The new power plant consumed more than 15 gallons of gasoline an hour, and required 12 men to install 44 giant non-glare floodlights on telescopic steel poles, mounted on the beds of Ford trucks. The innovative power plant had an estimated illumination of 198,000 watts.

Soon minor league teams discovered that the lighting system helped ease the financial difficulties caused by the Great Depression. The fog of resistance had been lifted. In one of the darkest moments in baseball history,

Wilkinson became a tower of strength. Club owners found that baseball under the artificial sun often doubled or tripled attendance figures. The *Kansas City Star* hailed the event by stating:

"Night baseball will be a lifesaver, it will revolutionize the old game, restoring small town baseball on a paying basis. It gives recreation for the business and working man who can't afford day games. The Monarchs will probably do to baseball this year, what the talkies have done to the movies."

In 1948, Wilkinson sold his 50% of the mighty Monarchs to co-owner and close friend, Tom Y. Baird. The contract called for the exclusive rights by Baird to market the name "THE KANSAS CITY MONARCHS BASEBALL CLUB" and a sale price of \$27,000. The Wilkinson family, J. L. and his son Richard, were allowed to operate another team under the name "KANSAS CITY MONARCHS TRAVELING CLUB" with restrictions against tampering with any player currently under contract with the original club, except for Leroy "Satchel" Paige. Because of his popularity, Paige was available for pitching duty with either club. He was eventually sold to the Cleveland Indians for \$5,000.

In 1955, Kansas City baseball underwent a major change. Blues Stadium was purchased by the city and became Municipal Stadium, and the minor league Blues were replaced by the hapless Philadelphia Athletics of the American League. As the Monarchs played their last home game, they entered the era of burlesque baseball in the remaining years. The Monarchs, once the brightest-burning comet of all, were now falling to earth.

Fans, both black and white, flocked to see the big league A's, which had not won a pennant since 1931, setting an attendance record of 1,393,054. The rippling effect caused the Monarchs a loss of over \$10,000. They were sold to Ted Rasberry, a businessman from Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Under the Rasberry management, the Monarchs never regained the masterful level of play that once dominated the black diamond of the twenties, thirties and forties. Many of the Monarchs' finest stars had been seized by major league clubs, leaving Rasberry with only a shell of a once-great team. Now, the Grand Rapids based club was only a shadowy remembrance of the Kansas City



powerhouse team. The *Call* observed, "From a sociological point of view the Monarchs have done more than any other single agent in Kansas City to break the damnable outrage of prejudice that exists in this city."

Wilkinson's remaining years were spent at the University Nursing home in Kansas City, Kansas. He brought baseball out of the aberrant light into the spotlight. He gave sight to night baseball, only to lose his own vision late in life. On August 21, 1964, at the age of eighty-six, he passed away during the night. Earlier, on June 9, 1945, prominent sportswriter Wendell Smith of the *Pittsburgh Courier* wrote:

"One of those who has made a definite contribution to black baseball is J. L. Wilkinson, the silver-thatched, soft-spoken owner of the fabulous Kansas City Monarchs. Wilkinson has been in Negro baseball for more than twenty years, and during that time he has not only invested his money, but his very heart and soul. He has stayed in the game through storm and strife because he has loved it, not because he had to. There is no owner in the country — white or Negro — who has operated more honestly, sincerely or painstakingly. His baseball history is an epic as thrilling and fascinating as any sports story ever written."

Like all great men, Wilkinson was not without imitators. Long before Finley's follies and the days of Harvey the mechanical home-plate and promotions like "Farmers' Night" and "Hot Pants Night", Wilkinson was baseball's original drum major. In the mid-20s, he had introduced "Kids' Day" or "Knothole Day" (kids 15 and under, admitted free) and "Ladies Day" or "Fannettes Day" (all ladies free) at the ball park. Earlier, in 1922, Wilkinson hired attractive lady ushers as an added attraction and an incentive for men to use less profanity. In 1939, he initiated one of his most popular promotions with the Monarchs' annual bathing beauty contest, initially won by Mrs. Muriel Hawkins.

J. L. Wilkinson was an innovator, a promoter, a beneficiary and personal confidant to his players. He presented our national pastime with a formula for racial harmony and a quality product. Though not given the honor, Wilkinson — not Branch Rickey — was the forerunner of



interracial baseball. He produced champions of black teams, who lived outside the glow of the national pastime, away from the brightest of white lights.

Wilkie presented a new science to the game, long before televised baseball games, radar guns, lap-top computers, pronto replays, plastic grass, faxed scouting reports, caged stadiums and carnival scorecards, maybe even before aluminum bats and Teflon baseballs.

Star light, star bright, J. L. Wilkinson was a shining light in baseball's dark pastime.

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Larry Lester is a founder of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and operates his own baseball research company, NoirTech Research

Negro League Pennant Winners

Negro National League

1929 Kansas City Monarchs
1930 St. Louis Stars
1931 St. Louis Stars

Negro American League

Baltimore Black Sox

Negro Southern League

1932 Chicago American Giants

East-West League

Baltimore Black Sox

Negro National League

1933 Chicago American Giants
1934 Philadelphia Stars
1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords
1936 Washington Elite Giants

Negro American League

1937 Homestead Grays	Kansas City Monarchs
1938 Homestead Grays	Memphis Red Sox
1939 Baltimore Elite Giants	Kansas City Monarchs
1940 Homestead Grays	Kansas City Monarchs
1941 Homestead Grays	Kansas City Monarchs
1942 Homestead Grays	Kansas City Monarchs*

* World Series Champions

The Kansas City Athletics always entertained their fans. The sheep and goats grazing in the right field area later became part of Charley Finley's "petting zoo."





BLUES BARRAGE

by Bob Cole

“The Monsters of Missouri . . . Caliphs of Catastroph
. . . Prehistoric Pillagers of the Kaw . . . Arm and
Hammer Blues . . . Piano Movers . . . Village Smithys.”

These are some of the names given to describe the slugging Kansas City Blues during the stifling summer of 1952.

Several of the adjective-rich terms were applied to the Blues following their return to Kansas City in early July after an eight game road trip in which they hit a total of 26 home runs and set other records for power in the American Association.

The Blues’ homer barrage against the St. Paul Saints on June 29 was front page news the following morning in the Kansas City Times. Headlines of “Salvo of Homers . . . Ring Up Ten in Game,” greeted morning readers.

In winning the first game of a doubleheader 17-4 over the Saints at Lexington Park in St. Paul, the Blues socked ten home runs and totaled 53 bases, both American Association records. The previous one-game record of nine homers was set in 1951 by Milwaukee at Nicollet Park in Minneapolis. The old total base record of 50 was first set in 1940 by Minneapolis, and later matched by Columbus in a game at Minneapolis in 1948.

The June 29th 20-hit attack was highlighted by a big third inning. The Blues homered six times — establishing another American Association record — as they hit five of them after two were out. Roy Partee, the “Blues” sturdy little catcher, led off the third with a 330 foot homer over the left field fence.

After Blues pitcher Ernie Nevel struck out, Kermit Wahl walked and Fenton Mole went down swinging. Vic Power followed with a curving home run, fair by inches inside the line. Bill Skowron reached first on an error. Then, Kal Segrist, Bill Renna and Andy Carey all homered, before Partee, up for the second time in the inning, connected with number six to a near identical spot he hit the first one.

Renna hit his second homer in the fifth with one on and Partee socked his third home run in the seventh. Power and Segrist hit the final two homers in the eighth inning.

Partee’s three blasts equaled his entire output for the 1951 season. His homers in the third inning tied a league record shared by six others. The mark was first set in 1927 by an obscure Minneapolis player listed only as Kenna. Previous to Partee, it was last equaled in 1950 by Dave Williams of Minneapolis.

Every man in the Blues’ line-up hit safely in the game; Wahl and Mole were held to one hit apiece.

Bill Skowron, the league’s leading home run hitter at the time, failed to homer, but contributed a single and double to the Blues’ base total. Skowron did connect on a tie-breaking home run in the sixth inning of the second game, which the Blues lost 10-4.

The Blues power display that night was considered “unprecedented” in the 51-year history of the American Association. The feat of hitting six home runs in one inning was particularly startling. At the time, the league record book did not carry a listing for team homers in one inning. Despite this, veteran baseball observers in St. Paul, including Association record keepers, said the mark was “unquestionably” an all-time high.

Three days later they unloaded again.

The Blues bombarded the Millers 16-11 in a night game at Minneapolis, slugging eight home runs and eighteen hits.

The Millers led the game 11-5 after four innings, having hammered Blues pitchers Art Schallock and Rex Jones. But in the last five innings, the Blues homered seven times to storm from behind for the victory.

In the top of the fifth, Renna cracked his first homer of the night with two men on. Pitcher Wally Hood followed with a solo shot, cutting the Miller lead to two.

In the sixth, Bill Skowron launched a home run well over the 350 foot banner in left field.

Fenton Mole led off the eighth with a long fly that sailed down the right field foul line and out of the park to tie the game. The next batter, Vic Power, broke the tie with a homer over the left field wall. Then, Renna hit his second homer of the night, and the Blues’ third of the inning.

The Blues’ final three tallies came in the ninth on a home run by Power, with Hood and Mickey Owen on base. Power’s home run was described as a “dinky poke to right field,” traveling no more than 250 or 260 feet.

When the Blues returned to Kansas City, they had completed an eight game road trip and hit 26 home runs. The Blues attack was led by Renna, the “hulking” center fielder who barely made the club in 1951. He homered eight times in eight games, connecting in five consecutive games. The rest of the home run totals for the trip were more evenly divided: Power four, Segrist four, Skowron three, Partee three, and Carey, Owen, Mole and Hood one apiece.

The halfway mark of the season was July 2. The official averages showed the Blues with a team batting average of .303, the top mark for any team in the high minors or majors. The home run total stood at 116, with Skowron leading the team with 21, followed by Renna with 19, Segrist 17 and Power 13.

At the close of the season, the Blues finished in second place, 12 games behind the Milwaukee Brewers. Yet they ranked first in total bases with 2,472 and second in home runs with 183. Over 154 games, the team scored 869 runs, collected 1,499 hits, and stroked 260 doubles and 82 triples. The team batting average for the season was .286.

Bill Skowron batted .341 for the season, collecting 32 home runs and 134 runs batted in. Power hit .331, with 15 homers and 109 RBIs. Don Bollweg socked 23 round-trippers and batted .325.

Segrist finished with 25 home runs, 92 runs batted in, and hit .303. Renna ended up with 28 homers, hit .295, and knocked in 90 runs.

The team’s output eclipsed the 1923 Blues, previously considered the top sluggers in Kansas City baseball history. The 1923 club hit a total of 109 homers, a mark overshadowed by the Blues’ power in 1952.

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Bob Cole is a free-lance writer who resides in Independence, Missouri.



A Trip through the 1880s with the Cowboys and Blues

by Lloyd Johnson

On May 31, 1884 the Altoona Unions disbanded; club president Lucas arranged for their best players to be transferred to Kansas City. As an inducement for Kansas City to pick up Altoona's schedule, the results of all previous Altoona games were cancelled. The new Unions started with a clean slate. A. V. McKim, the Kansas City manager scoured the reserve teams of St. Louis and Cincinnati to pick up additional players.

The first home game was played June 7 before 1,500. KC lost to Chicago 6-5. Trying to upgrade the team, McKim turned over the managerial reins to Ted Sullivan, who hustled to the disbanded Bay City, Michigan, franchise to sign Hungarian-born Joe Strauss, shortstop Turbiddy and Jumbo Davis as a third baseman. He next landed the famous "Kid" battery — Bob Black and Kid Baldwin — from Quincy, Illinois, of the Northwestern League.

A strange forfeit occurred August 22. With Kansas City leading 6-2 in the ninth, umpire Seward called St. Louis runner Brennan safe at the plate. Ted Sullivan, argued that his catcher Baldwin tagged the runner out. He called his men off the field for the forfeit loss.

Kansas City lost a game in Washington when Powell hit a long fly to the right-field foul line where Black muffed it. The ball rolled through a small hole in a plat-form near the line. Black could not reach the ball as three Washington Nationals runs scampered across the plate. Though the Kansas City squad "kicked like Army mules," the umpire did not change his decision and the runs counted.

At the Union Association meeting on September 24, a proposal was made to realign the league into East-West divisions: Cincinnati, St. Paul, Milwaukee, and St. Louis in the West; Kansas City, Washington, Baltimore, and Boston in the East. Union backers in Kansas City saw that they had no future in the Association.

Still, Kansas City and Milwaukee showed at the January 15 winter Union Association meeting in Milwaukee. They were surprised to discover that Union founder and league benefactor Henry Lucas had applied

for a National League franchise and that the League wanted him! Milwaukee and Kansas City voted to disband the Union Association and began to work on a Western League for 1885.

Ted Sullivan is credited with organizing the new Western League on February 12, 1885 with Indianapolis, Kansas City, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Toledo, and Omaha as original clubs. The neophyte league was not without its own intrigue and skulduggery as a battle raged in baseball circles as to what was to be done with blacklisted players — every player in the Union Association was so tagged — while the main culprit, Henry Lucas, had already been accepted into the National League. The Cincinnati Unions, under Justice Thorner, had also been encouraged to apply to the National League. The Cincy group preferred to play in the new Western League. This scenario was impossible because the new league was a National Agreement league which meant adherence to the Reserve Clause that the Unions had so actively flaunted in 1884.

Eventually, all reserve and contract breakers from the previous year were reinstated at the insistence of Al Spalding, who persuaded the other owners that the reinstatement was a business deal, not a moral judgement.

Kansas City baseball hopes began to flounder when manager Ted Sullivan initiated a mob to chase umpire Hoover out of town. A few days later, Sullivan and Hoover tussled in Milwaukee; bystanders saved the Kansas City manager from a physical beating by the burly arbiter.

In mid-May, Cleveland and Toledo officials were arrested and convicted of Sunday baseball violations. Kansas City continued to draw good crowds on that day. Omaha, the first casualty, disbanded June 6, and Keokuk was brought into the league. The "Westerns" from Keokuk sported the celebrated Negro second baseman, John "Bud" Fowler. The city had earlier been rejected by the Western League as being too small, but the circuit was now desperate.

Cleveland and Toledo — creditors attached gate

receipts — disbanded in June, leaving only Kansas City, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, and Keokuk. A few days later the Indianapolis Hoosiers sold their best players to Detroit of the National League for \$5,000. When Keokuk won three straight road games at Milwaukee, that city wanted to quit also. The league went belly up, but not Kansas City's enthusiasm for the National Pastime.

The next year witnessed the entrance of the Kansas City Cowboys into the National League. Eastern sports-writers were astounded in 1886 as three ex-Union Association clubs — Washington, Kansas City, and St. Louis — were in the Senior Circuit. Kansas City was admitted on a one-year, probationary membership. In the fall, the club would have to reapply for a 1887 franchise. The Cowboys sported two sets of uniforms: one, white with blue caps and stockings; the other, chocolate with red caps and stockings. Consigned by most as a last-place team, the Cowboys — 50-1 odds to win the pennant — opened the season before 3,500 fans at League Park. They lost 6-5 in extra innings to the defending League champ Chicago. David Rowe, who sat out the previous season on the blacklist, was the manager. His catcher was Charles Briody who at 250 pounds was known as "Alderman" or "Falstaff."

Grasshopper Jim Whitney was the best pitcher on the undermanned staff. Midway through the season prejudice began to dominate Eastern articles on the Cowboys. Charlie Fulmer, on his first umpiring trip to Kansas City, was widely quoted as saying, "I ain't afraid of their yells but as soon as they pull their guns. I'm goin' to dust."

The New York Giants' visit was auspicious. The easterners lost the first day because a cross-eyed man ate dinner next to the ball club the previous night. Following the Giant defeat, the Kansas City officials felt obligated to offer protection to the visitors. A cowboy rode a mustang alongside the New York stage that carried the players from the Lindell Hotel to the playing field. Much to the chagrin of the 1,200 pairs of cowboy boots at the park, the Giants prevailed 6-2.

Kansas City along with Detroit and Cleveland, applied



for the vacancy in the American Association when Pittsburgh withdrew from that league. The Association, believing that Kansas City was to be ousted from the National League, felt that the Senior Circuit was trying to force Kansas City on them and voted to accept Cleveland's application for membership. A stalemate developed over Kansas City's membership because more pressing business took place at the winter meetings. Owner John B. Day of the Giants was miffed over comments by St. Louis Browns owner Chris von der Ahe that the New York club was a "third-rate nine." Day challenged the beer baron to a seven-game series with Jim Mutrie as umpire. The Browns were to be very busy next spring as they had already accepted challenges from Chicago and Detroit. A side bet of \$250 was being held by the Baltimore club. Then the Kansas City issue reappeared.

The newly-formed Kansas City Westerns issued a challenge to the League to play for the city championship. The League (National) had already accepted Pittsburgh and was trying to get St. Louis or Kansas City — both former Union Association franchises — to resign. Both refused. Indianapolis offered \$10,000 for Kansas City or \$20,000 for the St. Louis charter. The two Missouri cities wanted to combine franchises and play in Kansas City. This the other League owners refused. Indianapolis had collected \$10,000 and wanted a franchise for 1887. The forcible retirement of St. Louis — owned by Henry Lucas — was put on the agenda for a special March 7 meeting at the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York.

If Indianapolis was accepted, the National League would have 10 teams instead of eight. The league directors voted six to one to accept Indianapolis' application. A shouting match immediately ensued over the disposition of the St. Louis players. The directors retired to a upstairs caucus room. At 7:30 p.m. they returned with their Solomon-like decision: Indy would pay \$12,000 to the League for its franchise, and the League would offer St. Louis \$12,000 for its club and players. Kansas City would forfeit its players because they had failed to file proper reservations. Some of the delegates felt that something should be offered to Kansas City.

Then, all hell broke loose. President Stromberg of the St. Louis Maroons would not sell for \$50,000 if Sunday ball was allowed. Al Spalding boiled at the mention of

Indianapolis and declared that "it has never been a decent baseball city." The influential Spalding wanted the National League to stay in Kansas City, but Arthur Soden of Boston said he would never consent to Kansas City and favored Indianapolis. The next morning, the delegates declared that St. Louis had accepted the \$12,000 for its players. Indianapolis was admitted to the National League for \$12,000 and was "donated" 14 players. Kansas City was offered \$6,000 for its players, but refused to accept. Then, the League offered the Cowboys \$3,500 for McQuery, Basset, Donely, Whitney, and Myers; \$4,000 if Redford was added.

Indianapolis' total payment was returnable at the end of the season if the club did not want to retain the franchise in 1888. Kansas City reconsidered and accepted the \$6,000. The city would play in the newly-formed Western League in 1887. The St. Louis Maroons franchise became the Indianapolis Hoosiers; the Hoosiers folded after the 1889 National League season.

The Cowboys finished the 1887 season 30 games behind the Topeka Golden Giants who captured the pennant. It was the year of the walks-count-as-base-hits rule. In one Western League game, Lincoln defeated Wichita 46-7 on 50 base hits.

The following year a territorial dispute arose between the Western and American Associations with Kansas City as the battleground. Since the National League at the Board of Arbitration refused to take sides, Kansas City was destined to have two mediocre-drawing clubs instead of one well-heeled operation. Out of the turmoil came the city championship series and the nickname "Blues." In order to differentiate the Western club from the American version, the Western Association squad dressed in blue. Blue stockings, blue caps, blue pantaloons, and blue jerseys were the vestments of the Blues. The blue uniforms would stay until 1900 when George Tebeau tried to institute cream-colored ones in an ill-fated modernization attempt. Kansas City fans voiced their displeasure with the new attire with in pickets around the stadium. Even local nuns were upset with the new color for the Blues and wrote editorials in the newspaper. After two weeks the Blues went back to wearing blue.

The Westerns challenged the Americans to a preseason tourney for the city championship. The American Association club whipped the challengers 14-1 and 6-5 in



11 innings to take all of the gate receipts. The Americans were managed by David Rowe who had been with Kansas City in 1886 and 1887. The club was again expected to finish last. The crowds stayed away which caused Kansas City to become an advocate for the return of the 25¢ admission. While few fans bothered to come to the city ball park — known as the "Hole", because it was prone to mud puddles of the field, the city with its many saloons quickly became a favorite watering stop among Association ball players.

Pete Browning, the original Louisville slugger, was quite inebriated on the rainy evening that he took a couple of poles to a water puddle and set up a fishing line in front of his downtown hotel. When the fish refused to bite his unbaited hook he went inside the hotel and created such a disturbance that the police were soon on his tail. Ol' Pete eluded them, but failed to catch the morning train with the rest of his teammates.

The Association club also experimented with the "double umpire system." Kansas City and Baltimore each chose one of their own players to umpire and each made decisions that favored his own club. Both sides played the game — won by Kansas City 2-1 — under protest. Midway through 1888, Kansas City, Louisville and Baltimore were estimated to lose \$10,000 due to the 50¢ admission rule. When the Association went back to the 25¢ admission Kansas City upset the Brooklyn crowd by whipping the home team 1-0. The next day, Sunday, they piled it on 6-1 over the Bridegrooms. Meanwhile, the Western Association team was busy establishing itself as the minor league Blues.

The Blues failed to win the 1888 pennant, but they won over the fans with 25¢ admission and the pitching of future Hall of Fame hurler, Charles "Kid" Nichols. Jimmy Manning made his first appearance in a Kansas City uniform. He would be involved with Kansas City baseball for the next two decades.

The next year, the Blues disbanded, giving fans one club to support. The Association club sported new uniforms that had "Cowboys" printed across the chest. It was an uneventful season despite the presence of Herman Long and Billy Hamilton on the roster. The club was subject to some intrigue as Al Spalding and Chris Von der Ahe met in Kansas City to discuss forming a 12-team league. L. C. Krauthoff of Kansas City ran for president of the Association as the delegates of St. Louis,



Louisville, Columbus and Kansas City held a clandestine meeting in Philadelphia before the winter gathering. Kansas City's involvement in postseason maneuvering led to ill feelings from Brooklyn and Cincinnati. They represented the anti-Von der Ahe click. Delegates from the two cities affectively blocked the election of Krauthoff as president. Disappointed, Kansas City resigned from the American Association and entered the Western Association for the 1890 season.

In the Western Association Kansas City won a high-spirited pennant race over Minneapolis and Milwaukee. All three clubs played over .600 ball while the rest finished below .500. Six of the eight teams made money. The league and its members sought membership in the National Agreement as they looked forward to the 1891 season.

What a disaster that year was! As the American Association fell apart, its clubs dickered with Western Association teams: selling players, buying franchises and intruding on league politics. Both Associations went downhill. The Western, with Kansas City, started with eight clubs and limped home with four. Kansas City spent the entire year trying to gain entrance into the American Association and did not concentrate on defending its league title. As a result, Sioux City won the Western Association championship. The Soos also whipped the Chicago White Stockings and St. Louis Browns in post-season play. Kansas City never re-entered the American Association as it died in December 1891. In the next century, Kansas City would become a charter member of a top minor league, named the American Association.

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Lloyd Johnson is past president of SABR and author of Dream Teams.

In 1929, the Kansas City Monarchs won 62 of 79 contests to capture first place in the Negro National League. Their .785 winning percentage was the highest in Negro League history.

— Larry Lester



Top Ten Events in KC Royals History Event

Rank	Votes	Event
1	57	Game Seven win in 1985 World Series
2	51	Ewing Kauffman buying the franchise
3	50	Brett reaching .400 late in 1980
4	37	Brett's 4-for-4 game to reach 3,000 hits
5	30	Brett's Home Run off Goose Gossage to win in 1980
5	30	Busby's two no-hitters
7	20	Pine tar home run by Brett
8	17	Brett's 4-for-4 in Game Three ALCS 1985
9	16	Dennis Leonard Comeback Game
9	16	1980 World Series
	15	Denkinger's call in Game Six 1985 World Series
	13	Last Game in 1976 Batting Race
	13	Nolan Ryan's first no-hitter (Royals' Stadium)
	10	18-inning game vs. Texas
	10	16-game winning streak in 1977
	10	Brett's 3-homer game in ALCS
	9	First game in franchise history
	9	Second Place finish in Third Year
	7	Frank White Eight Gold Gloves
	6	Bo Jackson's throw v. Seattle
	6	Bo Jackson's All-Star Game home run
	4	Bo Jackson's scoreboard home run
	2	Gura's division-tying victory 1976
	1	Lou Pinella winning Rookie of the Year
	1	Saberhagen no-hitter
	0	Bob Oliver's 6-for-6 performance
	0	Kevin Seitzer's 6-for-6 game
	0	Buddy Bianalanza appearing on Letterman
	0	Frank White signing with the Royals
	0	Brett's game-winning home run after retirement announcement
	0	Al Hrabosky's pitching
	0	Colborn no-hitter
	0	The tarp that attacked Vince Coleman
	0	Bo Jackson's 3-homer game
	0	Game Three victory in 10 innings in 1980 World Series



Kansas City Diamond Specials...

By Herman Krabbenhoft & James Smith

Three Outs for the Price of One

Four different Kansas City teams (from three major leagues) have treated their fans to six triple plays at four different ball parks.

From a historical perspective, it is of interest to revisit the special feats (in batting, pitching, and fielding) achieved by the various baseball clubs that have called Kansas City “home.” In this article, we focus on a category of fielding — specifically, the ultimate rally-killing event — the triple play.

Kansas City served as the home base for six teams from five distinct major leagues: 1) the Unions of the Union Association, 1884; 2) the Cowboys of the National League, 1886; 3) the Blues of the American Association, 1888-1889; 4) the Packers of the Federal League, 1914-1915; 5) the Athletics of the American League, 1955-1967; 6) the Royals of the American League, 1969-present. As it has turned out, all but the first two Kansas City franchises have treated their fans to a home-field three-play special.

July 7, 1888

The Stage — On this date in their inaugural AA campaign, the Blues hosted the Baltimore Orioles at Association Park. In the 9th inning, Kansas City held a 13-8 lead. But the visitors proceeded to load the bases with nobody out — Tommy Tucker stood on first; Sam Trott occupied second; and Jack Farrell held third. Billy Shindle was in the batter’s box awaiting the slants of the Blues’ hurler, Phil Ehret.

The Play — Shindle hit a grounder to shortstop Frank Hankinson, who fielded the ball to first sacker Bill Phillips to retire the batter. On this routine play, the runners each moved up a base, Farrell scoring. However, Trott also tried to race home; he was doubled up at the plate on a peg from the number-three infielder to catcher Jim Donahue. And, while the second out was being recorded, Tucker attempted to advance to the third station. He was nailed there when the backstop whipped the

leather to the number five infielder, Jumbo Davis, who tagged him for the game-ending out. The scoring went 6-3-2-5.

July 24, 1915

The Stage — In the middle of the second and final season of the Federal League, the Buffalo Blues were the guests of the Kansas City Packers at Gordon and Koppel Field. At the end of the regulation nine innings, the winning team had not yet been decided. In the top of the 10th session, with the score deadlocked 2-2, the Blues mounted a threat. Clyde Engle and Solly Hofman connected for back-to-back singles, putting runners on the corners. Walter Blair was at the plate swinging the lumber. On the hill for the Packers was Norm Cullop.

The Play — Blair grounded the pitch to the hot corner man George Perring, who gloved it and fired the horsehide to keystoneer Bill Kenworthy who stepped on the middle bag to force out Hofman. Next, he relayed the sphere to first baseman George Stovall who toed the initial station to complete the around-the-horn double play. While the twin killing was in progress, Engle (who initially had to hold close to third) made a dash for the plate. He didn’t make it, being cut down on a peg from the primary sacker to catcher Ted Easterly. The scoring was 5-4-3-2.

NOTE — In spite of having their 10th-inning rally thwarted by a triple play, the visitors emerged with the triumph, 3-2.

September 4, 1966

The Stage — Near the end of their penultimate season in Kansas City, the AL Athletics were engaged in an old-fashioned (originally-scheduled) Sunday double header at Municipal Stadium with the visiting Boston Red Sox. The Crimson Hose, who had already taken the lid-lifter, opened the after-piece by getting their first three men on base. Rico Petrocelli led off with a single, and Joe Foy and Don Demeter drew walks from the A’s starting hurler, Gil Blanco. That brought clean-up hitter Tony Conigliaro

to the plate with the bases loaded.

The Play — Tony C. ripped into the pitch, but he managed to only hit a soft, low liner to shortstop Bert Campaneris who fielded the ball on the hop. The number-six infielder then tossed the ball to second baseman Dick Green, who stepped on the keystone sack to force out Demeter. Next, the number-four infielder relayed the ball to first baseman Tim Talton to complete the double play. Meanwhile, Petrocelli (who had held up at third in case Campy caught the ball in the air) got a late start in his run for home. He was retired on a throw from the first sacker to catcher Phil Roof. The scoring went 6-4-3-2.

Inspired by their first-inning fielding heroics, the Athletics — who also pulled three double plays — proceeded to carve out a 7-2 victory and gain a split in the twin-bill.

July 4, 1988

The Stage — Just three days before the 100th anniversary of the very first Kansas City triple play, the Kansas City Royals (in the middle of their 20th season in the junior circuit) treated the home-team fans to a three-outs-for-the-price-of-one special. The visiting Boston Red Sox found Royals Stadium to their liking, having built up a 6-2 lead going into the top of the 4th. The BoSox continued their attack as Mike Greenwell and Ellis Burks opened the stanza with consecutive singles, putting men on second and first. That brought up Jim Rice to take his cuts at the offerings of Rick Anderson.

The Play — Rice smashed a sinking liner to center field. The drive had “base hit” written all over it. But the number-eight flyhawk, Willie Wilson, charged in and caught it with a spectacular lunging effort. The runners, who thought the ball would fall safely, were motoring at full throttle around the bases. Were easily doubled and tripled up when the center fielder threw the ball to second baseman Frank White who, after stepping on the keystone to retire Greenwell, tossed the sphere to first baseman George Brett to nail Burks. The score went 8-4-3.

While the Kansas City triple play was the feature of

the game, the end result was a BoSox triumph, 9-2.

May 14, 1994

The Stage — With the ballpark having been recently renamed Kauffman Stadium to honor the memory of the founder of the Kansas City Royals, the Oakland Athletics were in town as guests of the Royals. Trailing by a 2-1 score in the top of the third inning, the A's had runners on first and second, Mike Aldrete and Stan Javier. Geronimo Berroa was in the batter's box facing Kansas City's Kevin Appier.

The Play — Berroa hit a sharp grounder to hot corner man Gary Gaetti who picked up the ball and stepped on third to force out Javier. The number-five infielder then rifled the sphere to second baseman Terry Shumpert who, after stepping on the middle station to force out Aldrete, zipped the leather to first baseman Wally Joyner to nab the batter and complete the classic around-the-horn triple play. The score was 5-4-3.

Concluding Remarks

A total of 18 Kansas City players have participated in the executions of the five triple slaughters in Kansas City. One of them, Gary Gaetti, has gained a unique position in the record book. The third baseman has taken part in seven triple plays — the most in Major League history for fielders at the hot corner position. The second ranking third sacker is Frank "Home Run" Baker with four triple plays.

Kansas City has disappointed its fans only twice by hitting into triple plays at home. The Royals were victimized once by the Angels — 1970 at Municipal Stadium — and once by the Baltimore Orioles in 1977 at Royals Stadium. The bottom line in three-out-for-the-price-of-one specials in Kansas City is a net of plus-three for the home-team fans.

SABR members Herm Krabbenhoft and Jim Smith have collaborated to research and document every triple play executed in major league history. Over the past six years, they have published their findings in Baseball Quarterly Reviews. Currently, they are preparing "BQR presents The Triple Play Encyclopedia of Major League Baseball."

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Herman Krabbenhoft is the founder and editor of "Baseball Quarterly Reviews" and a SABR member since 1979

The westernmost city represented each year in major baseball leagues is listed.

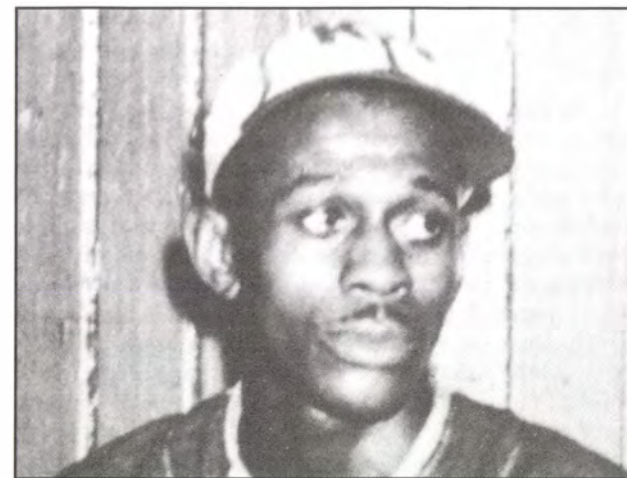
National Association	1871	Rockford, Illinois
	1872	Cleveland
	1873	Baltimore
	1874	Cleveland
	1875	Keokuk, Iowa
National League	1876-77	St. Louis
	1878	Milwaukee
	1879-84	Chicago
	1885	St. Louis
	1886	Kansas City
American Association	1887-91	Chicago
	1892-1957	St. Louis
	1958	San Francisco
	1882-87	St. Louis
	1888-89	Kansas City
Union Association	1890-91	St. Louis
	1884	Kansas City
Players' League	1890	Chicago
	1900	Kansas City
American League	1901	Milwaukee
	1902-53	St. Louis
	1954	Chicago
	1955-60	Kansas City
	1961-65	Los Angeles
Federal League	1966-67	Anaheim
	1968	Oakland
	1969	Seattle
	1970-76	Oakland
	1977	Seattle
Federal League	1913-15	Kansas City

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Cartwright in Missouri

Gold had been discovered in California and on March 1, 1849, Alex Cartwright and a dozen friends set out for the pacific coast. Under the leadership of President D'Arcy of the Camden and Amboy Railroad, they traveled by train to Pittsburgh, where they purchased a covered wagon and all the supplies they felt would be needed for the trip across the Western plains. The wagon and camping outfit were shipped ahead to St. Louis, where the group arrived after 42 days of travel, during which time they managed to work in a little baseball at various stopovers. In Independence, Missouri, 47 days out of Pittsburgh, Cartwright and company changed leaders, joining up with a veteran frontiersman and former army officer named Russell. Riding horseback part of the time and the balance on foot, the New Yorkers reached the frontier town of Boundary, where they waited for a wagon train to be made up.

— from The Royal Arch Mason



After integration, Satchel Paige was signed by the Cleveland Indians in 1948 and pitched his last major league game with the Kansas City Athletics in 1965.



Great Bend Baseball in the Kansas State and Central Kansas Leagues

by David Zink

The Beginning

In May 1905, J.R. Lindsley proposed organizing a baseball team with the intention of joining a professional league. On June 21, a baseball association was formed and plans were made to join the Kansas State League which had already begun play. The K-State League was a Class D minor league operation. It was composed of Kingman, Hutchinson, Minneapolis, Kansas, and Ellsworth. On July 4, Great Bend and Lincoln were admitted to the league. It was the city's first venture into Organized Ball. The home games were played at the Fair Grounds on the east side.

1905

Catcher Carl Moore was named manager of the team. In the off-season he was a teacher in the St. John school system.

Great Bend's first league game was played on July 7 at home against Hutchinson. Great Bend was the winner 10-3. Four to five hundred fans attended.

Lefty Holmes pitched a one-hitter on July 14 against Ellsworth at Ellsworth. He won 2-0. The lone hit came in the 9th inning.

Kingman dropped out of the league on July 24 and Hoisington took its place. At that time, Kingman's record was 10-21.

On August 2, Lefty Holmes pitched a no-hitter against Hoisington in the first game of a double header at Hoisington. He won 4-0 with Wayne taking the loss.

The last game of the season was played August 9 at Minneapolis. A victory would have clinched first place — percentage-wise — for Great Bend. But that was not to be. An umpire, who had been dismissed for rotten decisions was sent by the league president, who resided in Ellsworth, to umpire the game. It appeared Ellsworth saw this as its only chance to win the pennant. Jimmy Durham, Great Bend's pitcher, could not get a called strike. Carl Moore hit a fair ball, which the umpire ruled foul, over the fence in the fifth inning. At this point, it was evident that the umpire had been sent to rob Great Bend

of the game, so Great Bend refused to continue. The umpire forfeited the game to Minneapolis. On that low note Great Bend ended its season in second place. The final standings for the inaugural season were:

D Kansas State League President: George T. Tremble

Standings	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Ellsworth	34	15	.694		
Great Bend Benders	19	9	.679	4½	
Minneapolis Minnies	24	22	.522	8½	Roy C. Gafford
Hutchinson Salt Miners	22	24	.478	10½	Cook
Lincoln Center	11	19	.375	13½	Simpson
Kingman/Hoisington	13	34	.276	20	

Kingman disbanded July 22. Hoisington took Kingman's place in the league July 24. Lincoln Center and Great Bend joined the league July 6.

A Second Beginning

On December 29, 1908, at a meeting in Hutchinson, Great Bend joined the Kansas State League, which had been organized again as a Class D minor league. After a three-year absence, Organized Ball was back in Great Bend. The eight members of the league were: Strong City-Cottonwood Falls, Great Bend, Lyons, Newton, Hutchinson, McPherson, Wellington, and Arkansas City.

The Great Bend team was known as the Millers. This nickname was appropriate and offered an advertising boost to the town.

A new ball park was built for the team. It was located about a half block east of Frey Street at its intersection with Lakin. Its seating capacity was 1,200. The park had many names, such as League Park, East Side Park, Athletic Park and Sportsman's Park, at various times throughout its history.

The uniforms for the season were cream, nearly white. On the left breast was a swastika in black with the letters "G B" in opposite corners of the lucky sign. There was a fancy ornamentation on the uniforms. The Newton

Journal offered this editorial comment: "Great Bend's uniforms are to be cream color, the dainty things! The players should now be provided with sachet bags and hemstitched handkerchiefs."

1909

Rudy Kling, who appeared in four games at shortstop for the 1902 St. Louis Cardinals, was named manager of the Millers. In April, management announced that they did not intend to allow betting on games inside the ball park.

The home opener was May 6 against Lyons. Nearly 1,000 fans attended the game. A parade of cars containing the players of both teams, city dignitaries and other notables, preceded the first pitch. Unfortunately, Great Bend lost 2-1. It's no wonder Great Bend didn't win. Mayor Dawson balked on the ceremonial first pitch and club president Charles Brinkman failed as the receiver of the initial toss.

There were notable performances by Miller pitchers. Great Bend lost to Hutchinson, June 21, 1-0 in 13 innings. Green, the pitcher, had two of the three Great Bend hits and allowed only four himself.

On July 5, Bill Salm pitched 24 innings in one day against Strong City-Cottonwood Falls at Great Bend. However, it was not a good day for Big Bill. He lost the first game 1-0 although he had a no-hitter for 8 1/3 innings. He then lost the second game 3-1 in 15 innings. The monumental effort was too much for Salm, he was not the same pitcher after that day.

In July, the twin city franchise of Strong City-Cottonwood Falls was transferred to Larned. Lack of attendance was given as the official reason. Also, in July, Winfield bought a half interest in the Arkansas City franchise. Half of the remaining games were played there.

Attendance was a problem for Great Bend throughout the season. The Fourth of July doubleheader drew less than 500 people. Still, Great Bend's attendance was the highest in the league.

The final standings for the season were:



The final standings for 1910 were:



two weeks later.

D Kansas State League

President: P. H. Hostutler

Standings	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Lyons Lions	61	37	.622	—	Cecil Bankhead
Hutchinson Salt Packers	60	37	.619	½	Bill Zink
McPherson Merry Macks	59	37	.615	1	O.P. Depew/ Earl Green
Great Bend Benders	49	48	.505	11½	Rudy Kling/ Stillings
Wellington Dukes	44	54	.449	17	Cy Mason & John Meade
Newton Railroaders	42	54	.438	18	Con Harlow/ A. Stillwell
Arkansas City Grays-Winfield Twins	41	56	.423	19½	
Strong City-Cottonwood Falls Twins/Larned Cowboys	32	65	.330	28½	Butch Freese/ Buck Weaver

Strong City-Cottonwood Falls (22-41) moved to Larned July 12. Winfield bought part interest in the Arkansas City franchise July 22.

1910

The teams in the league remained the same as those that finished the 1909 season. Charlie Lyons, a member of Great Bend's baseball team in 1905, was named the new manager of the Millers.

Great Bend was involved in three no-hitters within three months. On May 20, Great Bend was beaten by Newton, 2-0, at Great Bend, on a perfect game by Chief Williams. Rolla Mapel was the losing pitcher. One month later, on June 20, George Kaiserling pitched a 10-inning, no-hit game against McPherson at Great Bend as the second game of a doubleheader. Great Bend won 1-0, Lagenaur took the loss. Then, on August 19, Larned beat Great Bend at Larned, 2-0, on a no-hitter by H. C. Watson, formerly a Great Bend pitcher. It was the second game of a doubleheader and lasted only seven innings. Billy Kuhagen was the losing pitcher.

During the final game of the season, Pete Falkenberg was given a silver-plated bat for the highest batting average on the team. Rolla Mapel was given a silver-plated ball for having the best pitching record on the team. These awards were provided by W. D. Gould. Rolla Mapel also led the league in strikeouts with 205.

D Kansas State League

President: P. H. Hostutler

Standings	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Hutchinson Salt Packers	70	39	.642	—	Bill Zink
McPherson Merry Macks	58	49	.542	11	D. Conklin/Syrek
Lyons Champions	57	53	.518	13½	Cecil Bankhead/ Joe Riggert/ Buck Ebright/ John Jones
Newton Railroaders	56	54	.509	14½	Mel Backus
Great Bend Millers	54	55	.495	16	Charles Lyons
Wellington Dukes	48	56	.461	19½	C. Pinkerton/ Spencer Abbott/ Vitters/ Lewis Armstrong
Larned Wheat Kings	46	56	.451	20½	Buck Weaver/ Harry McLean
Arkansas City Grays	40	67	.374	29	L. Evans/McGuire/ Doc Baker

Arkansas City was turned back to the league for its final two games, which were played under Doc Baker as the "Orphans."

1911

The Millers continued to try new managers, as R. F. "Affy" Wilson was named the third manager in three years. He had been in the Central Kansas League the previous year. El Dorado replaced Arkansas City for the upcoming season.

Great Bend's new uniforms arrived in April. The suits were real beauties. They were steel gray with navy trimming. The name "Millers" was perpendicularly placed on the shirt fronts. The time-honored swastika was conspicuous by its absence.

Special police were hired to be on the grounds during the games to cut down on rowdiness. The directors of the baseball association said drunks and rowdies would be thrown out of the ball park and given their money back. People found betting would be arrested and prosecuted.

The season opener was May 11 at Wellington. Great Bend won 2-1. Attendance troubles still plagued the league. Wellington transferred to Wichita in mid-June, but didn't last long as the team went back to Wellington

On July 11, the Kansas State League "blew up." Wellington and El Dorado had financial difficulties and gave up. When President Stahl of the Kansas State League attempted to make a six-team league by distributing the players among the other teams, Hutchinson and Larned, who also had financial difficulties, insisted the season end at once. Great Bend was declared the pennant winner because they were in first place when the league folded. The final standings were:

D Kansas State League

President: P. H. Hostutler/Stahl

Standings	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Great Bend Millers	39	20	.661	—	Affy Wilson/ William Luhrsen
Newton Railroaders	39	21	.650	½	
Lyons Lions	37	27	.578	4½	Spencer Abbott
McPherson Merry Macks	31	28	.525	8	Harris
Hutchinson Salt Packers	29	29	.500	9½	Bill Zink
Larned Wheat Kings	23	32	.418	14	Berte
El Dorado Crushers	15	33	.313	18½	Annis/Sizemore
Wellington Dukes/Wichita Dukes	15	38	.283	21	Ned Price/Powell

Wellington played 10 games (2-8) in Wichita June 13-21. The league disbanded July 11 due to crop failures and drought.

1912

This year Great Bend became a member of the Central Kansas League. Lyons and Newton joined Great Bend from the Kansas State League. Manhattan and Junction City remained from the Central Kansas. Salina, a member of the Central Kansas League in 1909 and 1910, rejoined the group. Affy Wilson returned as manager of the local team.

Great Bend opened the season at home, May 9, versus Salina. At this game the 1911 pennant was raised. A 60-foot pole of iron pipe was erected for the pennant. It remained flying all season. The game was called because of rain in the bottom of the fourth inning. On May 10, rain again kept the game from being played. At last, on May 11, Great Bend opened the season with victories in both games of a doubleheader against Salina, 13-4 and 9-4.



In June the Newton franchise was transferred to Minneapolis. Poor attendance was given as the reason.

On August 7 Great Bend beat Lyons while Junction City beat Manhattan. This clinched the pennant for Great Bend. Great Bend had a large lead early in the season, then went into a slump during which they dropped to fourth place before rallying to win by two games over the Little Apple, Manhattan. Great Bend did well to win because Manhattan had a number of players on their roster, who had come from Topeka's Class A Western League team.

Elmer Brown led the league in wins with 18. At the end of the season, the Gould store gave Al Ward a gold-plated bat for being the best batter. LeRoy Plympton received a gold-plated baseball for being the best pitcher. Johnny Fedor, who scored the most runs on the team, was given a cane made of leather with a steel rod in the center. It was made by Andy Ruble.

In September, Great Bend received the 1912 pennant. It was 20 feet long and nine feet wide. It read "Champions Central Kansas League 1912" with letters a foot high. The Topeka Capital sent a silver loving cup to Great Bend for winning the pennant.

Before the start of the season, it had been hard to raise the \$1,500 needed to finance the team for the season. Manhattan, Salina, Great Bend, and Lyons were all living hand-to-mouth during the season. The directors of the baseball association could not decide whether Great Bend would have a team in 1913 or not. The ploy was to coax fan support from the locals. The final standings for 1912 were:

D Central Kansas League

President: Roy C. Gafford

Standings	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Great Bend Millers	54	36	.600	—	Affy Wilson
Manhattan Elks	52	38	.578	2	Fred Moore
Newton Railroaders/					
Minneapolis Minnies	50	40	.555	4	A. Stillwell
Junction City Soldiers	47	43	.522	7	Cecil Bankhead
Lyons Lions	36	54	.400	18	Fred Wilson
Salina Insurgents	31	59	.344	23	Bert Lamb

Newton (16-11) transferred to Minneapolis July 12.

1913

Once again Great Bend decided to give Organized Ball a try. The city and club directors knew they would have a hard time raising money.

The league was renamed the Kansas State League. The teams were Manhattan, Junction City, Salina, Great Bend, Lyons, and Clay Center which took the place of Minneapolis from the previous year.

Affy Wilson was back for his third season as manager. Great Bend was scheduled to open the season at Salina on May 16. However, a number of changes were made to the schedule. One change was that Great Bend would open at home on May 15 with Lyons. Great Bend won the game, 7-4, before a crowd of 800.

On June 1, Great Bend won 2-1 at Lyons. Great Bend pulled a triple play which was probably the first in league history.

On July 3, Lyons beat Great Bend 2-1 in 18 innings, a league record for longevity. Chet Brown left at the end of the ninth inning to catch train to Grand Island, Nebraska, to whom he had been sold. Stoffer took over and pitched the remainder of the game. LaFlambois went the distance for Lyons and got the win.

On July 6 Cotton Seivers of Great Bend saw his 19-game hitting streak end. The streak established a new, league record. The record didn't last very long as Johnny Morgan, also of Great Bend, hit safely in 20 straight games. His streak ended on July 16.

Manhattan and Junction City "blew up" on July 8. Manhattan had no money and Junction City just blew. Manhattan ended with a 27-24 record while Junction City finished 21-29. The league continued with four teams. A new schedule for the remainder of the season was drawn up. Great Bend clinched its third straight pennant on August 11 by beating Lyons at Lyons.

G. H. Riley led the league with a won-lost percentage of 1.000. His record was 9-0. Despite the fact the baseball association had, again, had a hard time raising enough money to finance the team for the season, the directors weathered the storm and managed to reduce the debt somewhat. The final standings were:

D Kansas State League

President: Roy C. Gafford

Standings	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Great Bend Millers	53	36	.596	—	Affy Wilson
Clay Center Cubs	51	37	.580	1½	Max Addington
Lyons Lions	50	39	.562	3	William Nelson



Salina Insurgents	26	63	.292	27	Lon Ury/ Mike Welday
Manhattan Elks	27	24	.529	NA	Fred Moore
Junction City Soldiers	21	29	.420	NA	Norm Price/ Cecil Bankhead

Junction City disbanded July 9, causing Manhattan to drop July 9.

1914

Salina, Emporia, Great Bend, and Hutchinson were the teams in the league this year. The Lyons team moved to Hutchinson and Emporia took the place of Clay Center. Affy Wilson came back for his fourth season as manager. Once again it was hard to raise the necessary money to finance the season.

Great Bend opened at Hutchinson on May 8 before 3,000 fans. Hutchinson won the game, 5-0, on a three-hitter by Andy Rush.

Great Bend got off to a terrible start, winning only three of its first 19 games. Injuries played a big part in the slump. Finances for the day-to-day operations of the club dwindled. On June 13, it was reported that there was no money for the next week and a pay period was due.

On June 14, Hooks Beltz no-hit Great Bend at Emporia in the second game of a doubleheader. The score was 3-0. The game was stopped at 5:20 p.m. after 4 1/2 innings by agreement to allow Great Bend to catch the train.

On July 3, Hutchinson beat Great Bend at Hutchinson, 4-3, in 21 innings on a field of mud. Red Morton went the distance for Great Bend.

Leonard O'Byrne beat Hutchinson, his former team, in both games of the Fourth of July doubleheader, 2-1 and 5-3.

President Gafford of the Kansas State League or his representative, was in Great Bend on July 26 and 27 to look into the affairs of the local baseball association. As the season drew to a close, payments were getting into a critical condition. Attendance was very light. For the first time in its history, Great Bend missed a payroll.

On July 31 the team "blew up." On almost every payday the directors had trouble raising the necessary money. Attendance had been very poor. The early losing streak didn't help matters any. The team was transferred to Minneapolis, Kansas, for the last three games of the season. Great Bend finished the terrible season in last place.

The standings were:

D Kansas State League

President: Roy C. Gafford

Standings	W	L	Pct	GB	Manager
Emporia Bidwells	54	32	.628	—	Ira Bidwell
Salina Coyotes	47	41	.534	8	Dick Robin
Hutchinson Packers	40	49	.449	15½	Jesse Clifton
Great Bend Millers	35	54	.393	20½	Affy Wilson

It seemed Great Bend struggled every year to finance the ball club and to draw fans to its games. Even when the team was winning pennants, financial support was hard to come by. Then, when the team failed to win games early in the 1914 season, the fans stayed away from the ball park. The officers of the baseball association grew tired of the continuous struggle to raise money to support the team.

Despite its problems with attendance and finances, the Great Bend baseball team had a successful history on the field. They won three straight pennants and provided memorable performances. Some members of the Great Bend club made it to the major leagues. The lucky ones included George Kaiserling, Rolla Mapel, Charlie Wheatley, Bill Rumler, Harry Patton, Ovid Nicholson, and Bill Luhrsen. All in all, Great Bend would do it again. Those were heady days in the early part of the century.

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David Zink is an accountant with a passion for Great Bend baseball.

Negro League Pennant Winners

Negro National League

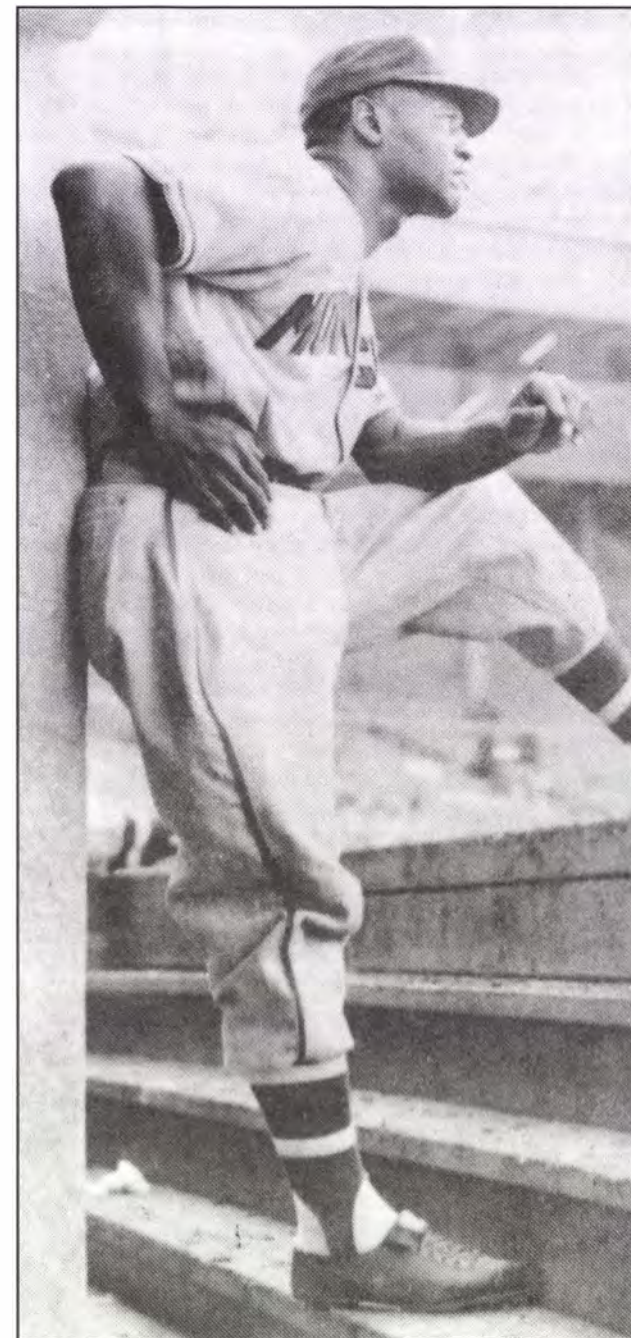
1943 Homestead Grays*
1944 Homestead Grays*
1945 Homestead Grays
1946 Newark Eagles*
1947 New York Cubans
1948 Homestead Grays*

Negro American League

Birmingham Black Barons
Birmingham Black Barons
Cleveland Buckeyes*
Kansas City Monarchs
Cleveland Buckeyes
Birmingham Black Barons

* *World Series Champions*

Bob Feller (left) and Buck O'Neil (right) are guests of honor at SABR 26 in Kansas City, Missouri.





Charley O: the Man, not the Mule

by Michael A. Wells

In the history of Kansas City baseball ownership, Charles O. Finley remained a controversial figure with the locals. His tenure in Kansas City with the A's was marked with controversy and exemplified by his abrasive style that would follow him and the team to Oakland. Finley bought the team late in 1960 from the heirs of owner Arnold Johnson who had died earlier in the year. His penchant for controversy surfaced almost immediately. Between the 1961 season and the time the team departed for Oakland--after the 1967 season--Finley had employed no less than seven managers.

The Finley version of the Kansas City A's never became a "threat" as a team. He would be constantly criticized for deals he made, sending better players to New York and elsewhere. Finley seemed almost immune to local criticism, aside from his periodic threats to move the franchise out of Kansas City. While many thought him to be eccentric, he displayed at times, a refreshing and innovative approach to the game.

Finley exhibited a flair for the extraordinary. He liked to do things to attract attention and publicity for the ball club. This led to "Charlie O" the Mule mascot of the team, sheep grazing beyond the outfield wall, Harvey the Rabbit, the Pennant Porch, Hot Pants Night, and the petting zoo. He also brought the aging, but great, "Leroy Satchel" Paige out of retirement in 1965 to pitch. That same year he changed the team dress to bright-green and yellow uniforms.

The Paige incident was Finley's most memorable publicity stunt while in Kansas City. Paige, aged 59, took the mound at old Municipal Stadium on 22nd and Brooklyn, on September 25, 1965, against the Boston Red Sox before a crowd of 9,289. Paige started the game and pitched three innings, giving up only one hit. That bingle was a first-inning double to Carl Yastrzemski. Paige later justified the hit, saying, "I got behind him 3-0 and he knew the next one had to be in there."

Lee Thomas, who played first base for Boston remembered his "hesitation" pitch as being most effective. He led off the third inning and popped to Campaneris at

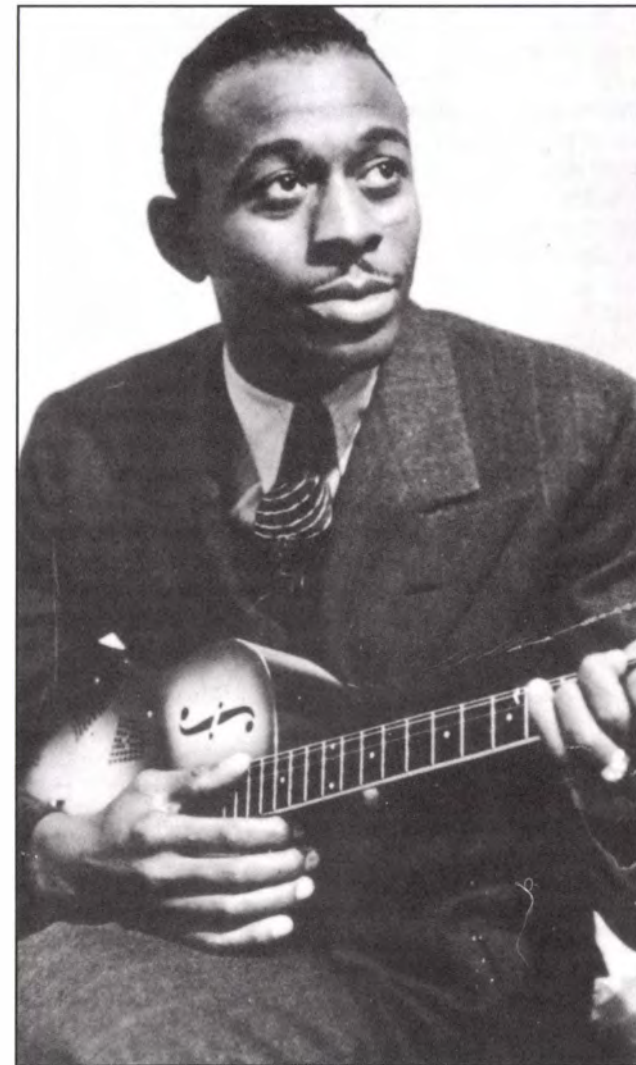
short. "We were trying to hit," insisted Thomas, "we would have hit our mothers if they had been on the mound." After three innings, Paige had satisfied Finley's publicity needs and came out of the game to ovations.

Finley's most poignant recollection of the game was sitting behind the aged hurler's children in his owner's box. At the onset of the game, the children quietly poked fun at their father for, once again, being out on the mound. As the great pitcher threw his stuff, the crowd began to come alive. By the third inning, the Paige children were in tears, seeing the respect their father had earned that day.

Finley and his team departed Kansas City in 1967. The city accepted his departure with a sense of relief as they looked forward to a "promised" expansion franchise. In Oakland, Finley realized a winning team, but his demeanor had not changed. His Oakland Athletics were the last three-time World Series Champions, but the team broke up amid a swirl of controversy, allegations, and threats from the Commissioner's Office and other owners. Finley left baseball in 1981 and died in 1996.

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Michael A. Wells is president of the KC SABR chapter and works in Democratic Party politics.



Besides being an outstanding athlete, Satchel Paige was a self-taught guitarist who loved to play the blues.



Leroy Robert “Satchel” Paige

by Larry Lester

Satchel Paige, the tall, talented, tan, talkative traveler from Mobile, Alabama, was known for his athletic achievement, phenomenal longevity and crowd-pleasing charisma which earned him the distinction of being baseball's greatest gate attraction. Satchel was boastful and unpredictable, a brilliant pitcher with an infectious personality. The entertaining Paige had impeccable control and four different windups. One was called a hesitation or hiccup delivery — that major league baseball banned. His pitching arsenal included the Blooper, the Trouble ball, Long Tom (a super fastball), Bat Dodger (his slider), Little Tom (a slow, fastball) and the microscopic Bee-Ball (“it be where I want it to be”). Former St. Louis Cardinal pitcher Dizzy Dean claimed: “I’ve seen all them fellows except Matty and Johnson and I know who’s the best pitcher I ever seen, and it be old Satchel Paige, that big, lanky, colored boy.”

He was born in 1906, the sixth child of twelve (including a set of twins) to John Paige, a gardener, and Lula Coleman, a domestic worker. Paige acquired his nickname as a 7-year-old by carrying passengers’ luggage or satchels on long poles across his shoulders at the Mobile train station. At age 12, he was found guilty of shoplifting and truancy from W. C. Council School and sent to the Industrial School for Negro Children in Mount Meigs, Alabama. He developed his pitching skills at the school and joined the semipro Mobile Tigers in 1924. After two years with the Tigers, he signed his first professional contract with the Chattanooga Black Lookouts of the Negro Southern League. He made his professional pitching debut on May 1, 1926, defeating the Birmingham Black Barons, 5-4.

In 1928 the Negro National League Birmingham team purchased his contract, and paid him \$275 a month. He stayed with the Black Barons until 1930, when he joined the Baltimore Black Sox for the remainder of the season. The following year, the Nashville Elite Giants purchased the tall (6’3 1/2”) hard-throwing righthander. The financially troubled Nashville franchise moved to Cleveland (Cubs) in mid-season, and eventually disbanded.

Businessman Gus Greenlee encouraged Paige to join his Pittsburgh Crawfords in 1932. There his life took a new direction. In Pittsburgh, he met waitress Janet Howard and married her on October 26, 1934. Famed toe-tapper Bill “Bojangles” Robinson served as the best man. In 1935, the power-packed Crawfords became league champions. The team had four other future Hall of Fame members: Oscar Charleston, James “Cool Papa” Bell, William “Judy” Johnson, and Josh Gibson. He stayed with the Crawfords until 1937, when the Dominican Republic dictator Rafael Trujillo enticed him and other prominent Negro League stars to play on his politically-motivated team. Stripped of team’s nucleus, an angered Gus Greenlee sold Paige’s contract to the Effa Manley’s Newark Eagles. Paige refused to report to the Eagles and headed for Mexico where he quickly developed a sore arm. His future was in doubt.

In 1939 Paige joined the Kansas City Monarch’s B-team, called either the Stars or the Travelers, depending on what part of the country they were playing. He pitched a few innings every week, but mostly played first base. After many therapeutic rub-down sessions with a special potion supplied by trainer Jewbaby Floyd, his once lame arm was rejuvenated. Monarch owner J. L. Wilkinson immediately called for Paige to rejoin the parent club where he soon became the ace of the Monarch pitching staff. He led the Monarchs to World Series appearances in 1942 and 1946. In the first series, the Monarchs swept the powerful Homestead Grays in four games. Paige appeared in all four contests, winning three of the games. Always popular with the fans, they voted him to the annual East-West All-Star classic in 1934 and 1936 as a Pittsburgh Crawford and in 1941, 1942, and 1943 as a Kansas City Monarch. Paige’s All-Star career netted him a record ERA of 0.60 in 15 innings pitched. His All-Star won-lost record was 2-1.

Paige remained with the Monarchs until 1948, when owner Bill Veeck of the Cleveland Indians, signed him to a Major League contract. It just happened to be Satch’s 42nd birthday. Many fans viewed the signing of this mid-

dle-aged man as a box office promotion. It was a huge success. A record night-game crowd of 78,383 fans watched Paige make his first appearance in Cleveland’s Municipal Stadium. Later, in his first starting role, he defeated the Washington Senators 5-3 in front of 72,434. In his third big league appearance, 51,013 fans jammed into Comiskey Park. Despite being baseball’s oldest rookie, in less than three months, he claimed six victories and one loss, guiding the Indians to a pennant and making his only World Series appearance against Boston Braves. To capitalize on this media frenzy, writer Hal Lebovitz and Paige collaborated on a semi-autobiography, Pitchin’ Man: Satchel Paige’s Own Story (1948).

In 1949, Veeck sold his controlling interest in the Indians. Paige was forced to seek employment elsewhere. However, two years later Veeck purchased the lowly St. Louis Browns and promptly signed Satchel again. Incredibly, the next year, at age 46, Paige enjoyed one of his finest Major League seasons. He won 12 games and was selected to the American League All-Star team, becoming baseball’s oldest Major League All-Star.

After the 1953 season, Paige was released again. He barnstormed across the country until the Miami Marlins signed him in 1956. Once again, under the guidance of Bill L. Veeck, now club vice-president, he spent three years with the International League team. In the three years, the great Satch walked only 54 batters in 340 innings. Quite an achievement for a player now in his fifties.

Once again Paige took the barnstorming route, but this time with Goose Tatum and the Harlem Globetrotters as a guest celebrity. Officially retired from baseball, Paige made his movie debut as a cavalry sergeant, in the October 1959 MGM production of “The Wonderful Country,” starring Robert Mitchum and Julie London.

A change of mind in 1961 found Paige returning to baseball with the Portland Beavers of the Pacific Coast League. At Portland, the ageless wonder, now 55, struck out 19 batters in 25 innings. Timely, he wrote his second semi-autobiography with David Lipman, called Maybe

I'll Pitch Forever (1961). It was complete with anecdotes and travels of the baseball legend. Baseball fans thought the final chapter of Paige's had been written.

However, in 1965, he signed a two-month contract for \$4,000 with Charlie O. Finley of the Kansas City Athletics. On September 25, Paige made his final major league appearance against the Boston Red Sox at Municipal Stadium in Kansas City. The 59-year-old legend, pitched three scoreless innings, yielding one stingy hit to future Hall of Fame member Carl Yazstremski. At last, Paige appeared to retire permanently from baseball.

He later served as a deputy sheriff in Kansas City before losing a democratic primary bid for the State Legislature on August 6, 1968. He gathered only 382 votes against 3,870 votes for political veteran Leon M. Jordan.

A week later, on August 12, Atlanta Braves president William Bartholomay announced the signing of Paige as an advisor and part-time pitcher. The Braves assigned Paige his retirement age — 65 as his jersey number. Although Paige never pitched for the Braves, he was able to get the 158 days needed to qualify for his major league pension as a coach.

Fittingly, on August 9, 1971, he became the first player from the Negro Leagues to be elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. With Hall of Fame credentials, Paige's popularity surged with a guest appearance on the popular Ralph Edwards show, "This is Your Life" on January 26, 1972. Special guest appearances were made by his old catcher Frank Duncan, friends and family.

Paige, aged 75, suffering from lingering emphysema, made his last appearance, on June 5, 1982. Only three days before his death, speaking from a wheelchair with the aid of a respirator, he graciously received recognition at the dedication of Satchel Paige Memorial Stadium, a \$250,000 renovated park, in Kansas City, Missouri.

Funeral services were held at the Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Emanuel Cleaver (later mayor of Kansas City) giving the eulogy. A 1938 Packard hearse carried Paige's body to Forest Hill Memorial Park Cemetery in the city. He was survived by his wife and eight children. Later in 1989, the original headstone was removed and replaced by an 6'8" tall, 7,000 pounds granite monument, on a remote island along Racine Avenue, a street within the cemetery.

Despite little formal education, Paige was honored on October 9, 1991, with the dedication of a new magnet school in Kansas City, Missouri, called the Leroy "Satchel" Paige Classical Greek Academy. The academy promoted the Greek philosophy of "body and spirit." Over a span of five decades, Paige established himself as one of the most physically talented bodies to play the sport of baseball

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Larry Lester is the editor of The Negro Leagues Book and operates NoirTech Research, Inc.

Right: This rare photograph shows the original marker on Satchel Paige's grave in Forest Hills Cemetery, Kansas City, Missouri. **Below:** Ball Grounds on the Paseo in 1909. Satchel Paige pitched many games on this diamond during the 1940's.





The All-Time Kansas City Area Team

by Bill Carle

The Kansas City area has been the home of many fine ballplayers over the years. What follows is the all-Kansas City team of players who were either born or grew up in the Kansas City area.

MGR — Casey Stengel — It is only appropriate the manager of this team was nicknamed after his home town. One of the greatest managers in the history of the game began his career at Central High School in Kansas City. Known as “Dutch” at that time, his professional debut consisted of a handful of games with the hometown Kansas City Blues in 1910. Later a fine National League outfielder, Casey as a young man had dreams of becoming a dentist, attending a local dental college. One can only imagine what it might have been like listening to Stengel explaining a complicated dental procedure to a patient.

1B — George Stovall — Stovall was born in Independence, just a stone’s throw from present-day Kauffman Stadium. A fiery first baseman for the Cleveland Indians and St. Louis Browns from 1904-13, Stovall became the player-manager for the 1914-15 Kansas City Packers of the Federal League.

2B — Frank White — Although born in Mississippi, White grew up and attended high school in Kansas City. Incredibly, White was never drafted but was discovered while attending the Royals Baseball Academy. One of the best defensive second basemen in the history of the game, White won a record-tying eight Gold Glove awards while amassing more than 2000 hits.

3B — Ken Boyer — Boyer was born in the northern suburb of Liberty, Missouri and his family moved south to Alba, Missouri soon after he was born. Making his name on the other side of the state with the St. Louis Cardinals, Ken was the only of three major league brothers not to play in Kansas City. (Clete and Cloyd both played with the Kansas City Athletics and Cloyd later became the pitching coach for the Kansas City Royals.) Ken was the National League MVP in 1964.

SS — Glenn Wright — Wright hailed from Archie, Missouri, a small town just south of Kansas City. Another local player who began his career with the Kansas City Blues, Wright hit the first home run in Muehlebach Field (later Municipal Stadium) in 1923. Wright was one of the finest fielding shortstops of the 1920s and also a fine hitter (just missing .300 lifetime) for the Pittsburgh Pirates and Brooklyn Dodgers.

LF — Bob Allison — Allison was born in the eastern suburb of Raytown. Allison was a star football player at the University of Kansas prior to winning the Rookie of the Year award with the Washington Senators in 1959. A powerful hitter, he also made a terrific, sliding catch of a Jim Lefebvre liner in the 1965 World Series. Allison unfortunately died of the mysterious disease ataxia in 1995.

CF — Brian McRae — Although born in Florida, Brian grew up in the Kansas City area, attending Blue Springs high school. Brian is the son of long-time Royals designated hitter Hal McRae. Brian was the Royals’ first round draft choice in 1985, finally making his eagerly anticipated debut with the big club in 1990. Brian frequently electrified the Kauffman Stadium crowd with spectacular catches from his post in center field prior to being traded to the Cubs just prior to the 1995 season.

RF — Zack Wheat — A Hall of Famer with the Brooklyn Dodgers, Wheat was born in Hamilton, a small town northeast of Kansas City. The National League batting champion in 1918, Wheat fashioned a .317 lifetime average. Wheat is buried in Forest Hill Cemetery just a few hundred yards away from the great Satchel Paige.

C — Johnny Kling — Kling was the Cub’s outstanding catcher in the early part of this century. After his playing career was over, he became a champion bowler and pool player, owning a pool hall in Kansas City. Kling owned the Kansas City Blues in the mid-1930s before selling them to Jake Ruppert of the New York Yankees in 1937.

P — Joe Wood — Although Cy Young award winners Rick Sutcliffe and David Cone both hail from the Kansas City area, the outstanding native Kansas City pitcher is Smokey Joe Wood. Wood had one of the best years any pitcher ever had in 1912, going 34-5 with 10 shutouts and a 1.91 ERA.

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Bill Carle is the second (or third, Vern Luse is in dispute) SABR member in Kansas City. Carle has won several national trivia titles and the Bob Davids Award.

Fathers and Sons

The 10 father-and-son pairs that have each played major-league baseball at least four seasons apiece for the same city are listed.

Ed Walsh, Chicago White Sox, 1904-16
 Ed Walsh, Chicago White Sox, 1928-30, 1932
 Ernie Johnson, Chicago White Sox, 1912, 1921-23
 Don Johnson, Chicago Cubs, 1943-48
 George Sisler, St. Louis Browns, 1915-22, 1924-27
 Dick Sisler, St. Louis Cardinals, 1946-47, 1952-53
 Jim Bagby, Cleveland Indians, 1916-22
 Jim Bagby, Cleveland Indians, 1941-45
 Joe Schultz, St. Louis Cardinals, 1919-24
 Joe Schultz, St. Louis Browns, 1943-48
 Gus Bell, Cincinnati Reds, 1953-61
 Buddy Bell, Cincinnati Reds, 1985-88
 Haywood Sullivan, Boston Red Sox, 1955, 1957, 1959-60
 Marc Sullivan, Boston Red Sox, 1982, 1984-87
 Jose Tartabull, Kansas City Athletics, 1962-66
 Danny Tartabull, Kansas City Royals, 1987-91
 Bobby Bonds, San Francisco Giants, 1968-74
 Barry Bonds, San Francisco Giants, 1993-96
 Hal McRae, Kansas City Royals, 1973-87
 Brian McRae, Kansas City Royals, 1990-94

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100 Dates in Kansas City Baseball History

by Roger Erickson and Lloyd Johnson

February 12, 1885, The Western League was organized at Indianapolis, with Indianapolis, Kansas City, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Toledo and Omaha the original clubs.

June 6, 1888, Henry Porter, with the Kansas City Cowboys of the American Association, tossed a 4-0 no-hitter versus Baltimore.

May 1, 1895, The new Western League season opened. At Milwaukee, Minneapolis defeated the home team before over 5,000 people by a score of 4-3. St. Paul, managed by Charles "The Old Roman" Comiskey, defeated Kansas City, in the Missouri city, 4-3. Veteran pitcher, Tony Mullane, played first base for St. Paul. Comiskey left the Cincinnati to take over the St. Paul club.

June 22, 1896, St. Paul registered 35 hits and scored in every inning to take a 34-21 slugfest from Kansas City in the Western League game. George slammed two home runs in the Saints' nine-run sixth, but Kansas City tallied 13 runs in the bottom of the inning, the two clubs scoring a total of 22 runs in that frame. George, Glasscock and Mullane each collected five hits for St. Paul.

August 6, 1897, The first three minor league players to hit home runs in succession, in the same inning, were Harry Steinfeldt (later the third baseman to Tinker, Evers and Chance of the immortal Chicago Cub infield), Davis and Macauley of Detroit against Kansas City's Abbey in a Western League game.

May 9, 1900, John Ganzel and William Coughlin, Kansas City, American League, each batted eight times in a nine-inning game.

December 30, 1901, American Association met at Kansas City and perfected the circuit, by awarding the Omaha franchise to Frank W. Bondle.

June 4, 1904, Toledo, American Association, hit into two triple plays in one game at Kansas City. Blues' Loewe and Ryan turned the first triple killing while Loewe and Sullivan did the second.

August 31, 1905, At Kansas City, eight Kansas City play-

ers were injured in a collision between their coach and a trolley car.

September 22, 1905, Nine Louisville players injured in a trolley wreck at Kansas City sued the Metropolitan Traction Company of that city for damages aggregating \$39,500.

May 11, 1911, Homer Smoot, Kansas City made six hits in six trips versus St. Paul.

September 22, 1912, Association Park, the home of the Kansas City baseball team was destroyed by fire.

June 26, 1913, The outlaw Federal League, formerly the Columbia League, switched its Covington, Kentucky franchise to Kansas City.

September 12, 1915, Dave Danforth, Louisville, whiffed 18 Kansas City batters to set a new American Association record. In his next game, September 15, Danforth struck out 16 St. Paul Saints for a total 34 in two consecutive games, 49 in three consecutive tilts and a total of 59 over a four-game stretch. He whiffed 130 in a 101-inning stretch.

July 8, 1917, Kansas City set a new American Association record by winning its 15th straight game in the first game of a double-header with St. Paul. The Saints won the second game to end the streak.

February 13, 1920, The first stable black league — the Negro National League — was organized in Kansas City, Missouri, by Andrew "Rube" Foster. Representatives from seven clubs met at the Paseo YMCA to draw up a constitution and by-laws for the National Association of Professional Colored Baseball Teams. The next day the same group drew up the charter for the Negro National League.

July 13, 1921, Outfielder Jim Thorpe, the famed Indian athlete, smashed three home runs as Toledo whipped Milwaukee, 17-4. In the same circuit, Bunny Brief of Kansas City made three homers against Columbus.

August 14, 1921, First baseman Bunny Brief, Kansas City was stopped by pitcher Grover Loudermilk of Minneapolis after batting safely in 31 consecutive games.

September 14, 1921, Bunny Brief, Kansas City hit his 36th homer of the season against Minneapolis, breaking the league record.

September 10, 1922, Beals Becker, Kansas City made eight hits in eight consecutive times at-bat in a double-header against Minneapolis.

September 2, 1923, After playing 238 games without being shutout, Kansas City was whitewashed by Milwaukee slabster Nelson Potts, 5-0. The string tied the American Association record of 238 games that was set by Minneapolis from September 1920 to June 1922.

October 25, 1923, The Kansas City Blues, American Association, defeated Baltimore, International League, 5-2, in the ninth and final game of the Little World Series, to capture the set five games to four.

July 9, 1925, James Kernan, Kansas City held Indianapolis without a hit, but lost in 10 innings, 2-1, on two errors and a hit in the extra frame.

August 28, 1927, An American Association game at Kansas City drew 28,973.

October 13, 1929, Kansas City, American Association, won the Little World Series, 5 games to 3, plus one tie, defeating Rochester, International League, in the final game, 6-5, in 11 innings.

April 28, 1930, The first regularly scheduled night game in Organized Ball took place in Independence, Kansas, between the local Western Association club and Muskogee in front of 1,000 fans. Independence dropped the contest 13-3. The game was played under temporary lights provided by T.L. Wilkinson, owner of the Kansas City Monarchs.

May 2, 1930, Des Moines, Western League, inaugurated night baseball. It marked the occasion with the first national radio hookup for a broadcast of a nocturnal contest. The idea was conceived by E. Lee Keyser, president and business manager of the Des Moines club. The night game was the first in Organized Ball history played under permanent light standards.

August 3, 1930, In a Negro National League game at



Kansas City between the Monarchs and the Homestead Grays of Pittsburgh, Smoky Joe Williams of the Grays beat Chet Brewer, 1-0, in 12 innings. Williams gave up only one hit and fanned 27. His catcher was Josh Gibson and Oscar Charleston scored the winning run at Kansas City.

September 19, 1931, Eddie Pick, Kansas City went 6-for-6 in a game. For the season he hit 58 doubles.

May 18, 1932, Bryan "Slim" Harris, St. Paul held Kansas City without a safety in a nine-inning game. The next day Russ Van Atta of the Saints pitched hitless ball for 7 2/3 frames, as the Blues went without a safety 16 2/3 innings. Van Atta pitched a one-hitter.

June 14, 1935, Dale Alexander, Kansas City set a new loop record with four successive home runs in one game. Alexander batted six times. Steve Sundra, Minneapolis moundsman on option from Cleveland, was the main victim. The Blues pounded out 22 hits to crush the Millers, 15-2, at Minneapolis.

October 8, 1938, Kansas City, American Association, defeated Newark, International League, — both Yankee farms — in the Little World Series, four games to three.

April 19, 1939, A low-attendance record was set at Columbus, when only 39 paid customers saw Kansas City defeat the Red Birds, 5-3, in near-freezing weather.

May 9, 1939, Johnny Sturm had six hits in six at-bats for the Kansas City Blues.

August 4, 1939, The largest night crowd in Kansas City history — 24,894 — saw the Blues defeat Minneapolis as Vince DiMaggio swatted his 37th and 38th home runs.

July 9-12, 1940, Stanley "Frenchy" Bordagaray, playing with the Kansas City Blues hit safely 13 consecutive times to set an American Association record.

September 4, 1945, Scoring 11 times in the fourth inning, the Kansas City Blues romped to a 17-7 win over the champion Milwaukee Brewers. A free-for-all occurred in the fifth inning when Mel Serafini slid into Brewer catcher Lou Stephenson with spikes high and when the battle ceased, manager Casey Stengel was discovered under the heap of players. The contest was called after the seventh inning.

October 23, 1945, Jackie Robinson, former UCLA football star, who played shortstop for the Kansas City

Monarchs, Negro American League, signed a contract to play for Montreal of the International League, a Brooklyn farm club, thus breaking the so-called "color-line" which had existed in Organized Ball since the 1880s.

June 11, 1946, Kansas City-Milwaukee game at Milwaukee was delayed 35 minutes by fog.

August 6, 1946, Louisville made 26 assists in a nine-inning game against Kansas City, setting a new American Association mark.

June 26, 1947, Carl DeRose, Kansas City righthander who hadn't hurled for a month and was suffering from a sore arm which pained him with every pitch, tossed a perfect game against Minneapolis at Blues Stadium, Kansas City. Facing only 27 batters, DeRose threw 93 pitches in his 5-0 victory, for first perfect game in American Association history. DeRose was able to make only two other mound appearances the remainder of the season.

July 8, 1951, Floods in Kansas virtually put the Western Association out of business. Parks at Topeka and Salina were under 10 feet of water. Some of the teams were marooned and unable to get to their destinations for games in Hutchinson and Fort Smith.

July 1, 1952, Kansas City Blues, who belted 10 home runs in one game two days previously smashed out eight more in one game at Nicollet Park to trim Minneapolis, 16-11.

August 29, 1952, Four singles and an error in the same inning failed to net St. Paul a run in the fifth frame in Saints game with Kansas City. One Saint was thrown out trying to stretch a single, while two others were pegged out at home plate.

November 4, 1954, Arnold Johnson purchased Connie Mack's stock for \$604,000.

November 30, 1954, American Association drafted Denver from Western League to replace Kansas City. St. Louis Cardinals shifted their American Association franchise from the Columbus to Omaha.

April 12, 1955, In their first game, the Kansas City Athletics, before 32,844 fans--the largest crowd ever to witness a sporting event in Kansas City--beat the Detroit Tigers, 6-2, behind the pitching of Alex Kellner and Ewell Blackwell.

April 23, 1955, The White Sox pounded out an unmerciful 29-6 win. The game featured a 16-year-old pitcher,



Jim Derrington, for the White Sox.

April 29, 1955, The largest crowd in A's history, 33,271, saw a night game against the Yankees.

June 15, 1956, The Athletics honored 13 Hall of Fame members before a game with Baltimore.

April 25, 1958, The only time in the history of the Mutual Game of the Day Series the game was broadcast from Municipal Stadium. The Athletics played Detroit that day.

July 11, 1960, The All Star Game was held at Municipal Stadium. The National League won 5-3.

December 19, 1960, The heirs of Arnold Johnson sold the Athletics to Charlie Finley for \$1,975,000.

June 18, 1961, 18-year-old Lew Krausse, in his debut, pitched a three-hitter against the Los Angeles Angels.

July 30, 1962, Buck O'Neil became the first African-American to coach in the major league All Star Game.

July 4, 1964, Manny Jimenez, of the Athletics, hit three homers at Baltimore.

July 23, 1964, Campy Campaneris hit a home run is his first major league at-bat in Minnesota.

May 13, 1965, Pitcher Catfish Hunter made his major league debut against the Chicago White Sox losing the decision, giving up three hits in two innings of work.

September 8, 1965, Campy Campaneris played all nine positions in a game against the Los Angeles Angels. The Angels won 5-3 in the 12th inning.

September 23, 1965, The Athletics drew only 690 fans in a contest against the Washington Senators.

September 26, 1965, Kansas City resident, Satchel Paige, at the age of 59, pitched three shutout innings against the Boston Red Sox.

June 9, 1966, Minnesota hit five home runs in one inning for a major league record against the Athletics. The hitters were Rich Rollins, Zolio Versalles, and Tony Oliva, Harmon Killebrew and Don Mincher. The last three hit the dingers in succession. August 18, 1967, Charley Finley fined pitcher Lew Krausse \$500 for rowdiness on a flight from Boston to Kansas City on August 3.

August 19, 1967, The A's team members issued a statement criticizing the fine and accused Finley of using informers and said Finley should give manager Alvin Dark and his coaches more authority.

August 21, 1967, Finley released first baseman, Ken Harrelson, who was quoted as saying, "Finley is a



menace to baseball.”

September 27, 1967, In what proved to be their last games in Kansas City, the Athletics knocked the White Sox out of the pennant race with a 5-2 and 4-0 doubleheader sweep. Kansas City native Chuck Dobson and Catfish Hunter were the winners.

January 11, 1968, In an American League meeting in Kansas City, Joe Cronin announced a Kansas City franchise would be activated in 1969. The winning applicant was 51-year-old Ewing Kauffman.

April 8, 1969, The Kansas City Royals won its first home game beating Minnesota 4-3 in 12 innings on a Joe Keough single.

April 9, 1969, The Kansas City Royals made it two in a row by winning in 17 innings over Minnesota.

May 4, 1969, Bob Oliver went six-for-six in a game against California.

September 23, 1969, The Royals used a major-league record 27 players in one game against Minnesota.

October 4, 1972, The Royals won the last game played at Municipal Stadium 4-0 against Texas.

April 10, 1973, The Kansas City Royals open the new Royals Stadium with a 12-1 win over the Texas Rangers. Whitey Herzog, a future Royals manager, was the skipper of the Rangers.

April 27, 1973, Pitcher Steve Busby threw a no-hitter against the Detroit Tigers at Tiger Stadium in his 10th career major league appearance.

August 2, 1973, George Brett played his first game on the Kansas City Royals team. The club was in Chicago.

June 19, 1974, Pitcher Steve Busby tossed another no-hitter. The victory at Milwaukee made him the first pitcher ever to throw no-hitters in their first two major league seasons.

October 1, 1976, The Kansas City Royals clinched the American League West for the first time.

October 3, 1976, George Brett won the the American League batting duel after a tight race with teammate Hal McRae and Minnesota's Rod Carew. Brett won the batting title after Minnesota outfielder, Steve Brye, misjudged a flyball.

May 14, 1977, Pitcher Jim Colborn threw a no-hitter for Kansas City against Minnesota. It was the first no-hitter thrown by a Kansas City hurler in O.B. before a home crowd since Carl DeRose's perfect game for the Kansas City Blues in 1947.

October 6, 1978, George Brett hit three homers in a 6-5

win in Game Three of the American League playoffs.

August 17, 1980, George Brett's four-for-four day put him over .400.

August 19, 1980, Brett's 30-game hitting streak came to an end. He bated .467 with seven game-winning RBI before being stopped by Jon Matlack.

October 10, 1980, George Brett's three-run homer off Goose Gossage gave the Kansas City Royals the American League Championship.

October 16, 1980, Brett had minor surgery for hemorrhoids between Games Two and Three of the World Series.

October 17, 1980, Willie Aikens' 10-inning single gave the Royals a 4-3 win in Game Three for Kansas City's first World Series triumph in franchise history.

October 18, 1980, Willie Aikens hit two homer runs as the Royals tied the Series at two games apiece.

July 24, 1983, George Brett's home run off Goose Gossage, New York Yankees, was disallowed because pine tar was discovered beyond the legal limit on his bat. The Royals saw a victory turn into a loss. Kansas City played the rest of the game under protest.

August 18, 1983, The protest of the Kansas City Royals was allowed and 1,245 fans saw Hal McRae strike out and pitcher Dan Quisenberry retire the Yankees in order in 1-2-3 fashion. The Kansas City Royals won the pine tar replay 5-4.

October 14, 1983, Kansas City Royals' players Willie Wilson, Willie Aikens and Jerry Martin pleaded guilty of one count of conspiring to attempt to possess of cocaine.

December 15, 1983, Kansas City Royals Aikens, Wilson and Martin along with Los Angeles Dodgers' pitcher Steve Howe were suspended for one year by Commissioner Bowie Kuhn.

September 12, 1984, Kansas City Royals beat the Minnesota Twins 3-2 and Dan Quisenberry — saving the game for Bud Black — became the first pitcher to record 40 saves in two consecutive seasons.

October 13, 1985, Pitcher Danny Jackson of the Royals shutout the Toronto Blue Jays on eight hits in the ALCS.

October 15, 1985, Brett tied the ALCS with another home run off Alexander as the Kansas City Royals won 5-3.

October 26, 1985, Royals' Dane Iorg, batting for Dan Quisenberry, lined a two-run single in the ninth inning

as Kansas City evened the series at three games apiece.

October 27, 1985, THE KANSAS CITY ROYALS WON THE WORLD SERIES — 11-0 — OVER THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS.

April 12, 1986, Pitcher Dennis Leonard threw a three-hit shutout against Toronto after three years of inactivity due to surgery.

September 14, 1986, Kansas City Royals Bo Jackson hit his first major-league home run, a 475-foot blast off Seattle's Mike Moore in a 10-3 win.

July 11, 1989, Kansas City Royals' Bo Jackson was voted the Most Valuable Player in the All Star Game at Anaheim, California.

August 26, 1991, Royals' Bret Saberhagen threw a no-hitter against Chicago at Royals Stadium.

September 30, 1992, George Brett's four-for-four performance included his 3,000th major-league hit off Angels' Julio Valero.

August 7, 1994, The Kansas City Royals 14-game winning streak is halted by the Seattle Mariners in a game moved to Royals Stadium, on short notice, due to structural damage at the Kingdome.

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Roger Erickson is a longtime SABR member and winner of citywide trivia contests.



Rube Foster founded the Negro National League at the Paseo YMCA, one block from the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.



Minor League No-hit Roster for Kansas and Missouri

by Lloyd Johnson

Date	Pitcher	Team	League	Opposition	Score	Notes
4-25-86	Billy Hart	Leavenworth	Western	St. Louis NL	0-3	
7-14-89	Philip Knell	St. Joseph	Western Assn	Sioux City	11-0	
6-5-98	Bumpus Jones	Columbus	Western	Kansas City	3-2	
7-19-02	Norwood Gibson	Kansas City	Western	Omaha	2-3	
8-25-02	Jake Weimer/Norwood Gibson	Kansas City	Western	St. Joseph	3-0	10 inn
?-04	Jack Pfeister	Omaha	Western	St. Joseph		
8-2-05	Ducky Holmes	Great Bend	Kansas State	Hoisington	4-0	1st Game
8-10-06	Harry Swan	Kansas City	Amer Assn	Columbus	5-0	
5-20-07	Clark	Wichita	West Assn	Leavenworth	3-0	
8-1-07	Jack Halla	Topeka	West Assn	Okla City	4-0	faced 28
8-17-07	Hoffer	Okla City	West Assn	Hutchinson	8-0	
8-26-07	Lefty George	Joplin	West Assn	Wichita	3-0	
5-14-08	Chick Brandom	Kansas City	Amer Assn	Indianapolis	5-0	
5-21-08	Joe Wood	Kansas City	Amer Assn	Milwaukee	1-0	
8-8-08	Gene Packard	Independence	Okla-Kan	Bartlesville	4-0	Perfect
8-18-08	George Upp	Columbus	Amer Assn	Kansas City	3-0	
8-21-08	Fred Burnham	Webb City	West Assn	Hutchinson	5-0	faced 27
8-26-08	Frank L. Barber	Hutchinson	West Assn	Springfield	5-0	
5-20-10	Ed Chief Williams	Newton	Kansas St	Great Bend	2-0	Perfect game, 12 ks
6-15-10	Fred Olmstead	Denver	Western	St. Joseph	10-0	
6-18-10	Rube Robinson	Toledo	Amer Assn	Kansas City	8-0	
6-20-10	George Kaiserling	Great Bend	Kansas St	McPherson	1-0	10 inn
8-8-10	Penny Farthing	Lincoln	Western	Topeka	1-0	faced 28
8-17-10	Clar. Mitchell	Des Moines	Western	Topeka	3-0	
8-19-10	H. C. Watson	Larned	Kansas St	Great Bend	3-0	7inn
9-21-10	Johnny Baker	St. Joseph	Western	Topeka	11-0	
4-21-11	Charlie Jackson	St. Joseph	Western	Sioux City	7-0	
5-31-11	Clarence McGrew	Junction City	Central Kan	Manhattan	6-0	
6-9-11	Phiifer Fulenweider	Independence	West Assn	Tulsa	1-0	
8-25-11	Brown	Hannibal	Central Assn	Monmouth	3-0	
6-24-12	Joe Willis	Auburn	Nebraska St	Hiawatha	6-0	
8-29-12	Tom Drohan	Kewanee	Central Assn	Hannibal	4-0	
9-16-12	Gene Cochreham	Topeka	Western	Omaha	1-0	
?-??-12	Chief Johnson	St. Joseph	Western	Sioux City		
4-27-13	Harry Smith	Lincoln	Western	Wichita	7-0	
6-7-13	Smith	Great Bend	Kansas St.	Manhattan	3-0	



6-23-13	Hippo Vaughn	Kansas City	Amer Assn	Toledo	2-0	
5-30-15	Dazzy Vance	St. Joseph	Western	Wichita	2-1	
8-21-15	Bob Ingersoll	Omaha	Western	Topeka	7-0	
6-26-16	Cy Lambert	Topeka	Western	St. Joseph	4-0	
5-26-17	Frank Graham	St. Joseph	Western	Wichita	4-0	tryout
6-10-18	Wally Waldbauer	Wichita	Western	Omaha	4-0	
6-15-19	Frank Sparks	Tulsa	Western	Joplin	6-0	
8-31-19	Howard Gregory	Wichita	Western	Joplin	5-1	
5-11-20	Ernie Koob	Louisville	Amer Assn	Kansas City	1-0	
5-13-20	Emilio Palmero	Omaha	Western	Joplin	1-0	
4-24-21	Leo Rossi	Pawhuska	West Assn	Springfield	4-0	
5-12-21	Harry Campbell	Independence	Southwestern	Miami	4-0	
8-27-21	Hub Pruett	Tulsa	Western	St. Joseph	6-0	
4-25-22	Cockrell	Springfield	West Assn	Ft. Smith	4-0	
7-24-22	Mose Poolaw	Joplin	West Assn	Henryetta	5-0	
7-23-23	Raymond Pierce	Topeka	Southwestern	Independence	4-0	
6-14-24	Ruest	Emporia	Southwestern	Independence	4-1	
6-15-24	Floyd Worley	Eureka	Southwestern	Independence	1-0	consecutive
6-7-25	James Marquis	St. Joseph	Western	Omaha	4-0	
7-9-25	James Keenan	Kansas City	Amer Assn	Indianapolis	2-1	10 inn, no-hitter for nine
5-18-32	Bryan Harris	St. Paul	Amer Assn	Kansas City	9-0	
8-30-32	Paul Dean	Columbus	Amer Assn	Kansas City	3-0	
5-22-33	Floyd Newkirk	St. Paul	Amer Assn	Kansas City	5-0	
7-27-33	Cy Blanton	St. Joseph	Western	Joplin	9-0	20 ks
6-29-37	Bill Faser	Hutchinson	West Assn	Bartlesville	1-0	19ks, first win
8-3-41	Neil Saulia	Ft. Smith	West Assn	Topeka	1-0	7 inn
8-9-42	Tex Sanner	Topeka	West Assn	Joplin	9-0	7 inn
5-17-45	Ed Wright	Indianapolis	Amer Assn	Kansas City	2-0	
6-3-45	Pete Mazar	Columbus	Amer Assn	Kansas City	4-0	
5-20-46	Bill Porter	Joplin	West Assn	St. Joseph	10-0	
8-6-46	Dick Mitchell	Joplin	West Assn	Leavenworth	2-1	
8-18-46	Abe Coffman	Topeka	West Assn	Leavenworth	5-0	
6-26-47	Carl DeRose	Kansas City	Amer Assn	Minneapolis	5-0	Perfect
9-?-47	Chris Haughey	St. Joseph	West Assn	Topeka	11-0	
6-28-49	Jim Morris	St. Joseph	West Assn	Hutchinson	9-0	
8-23-49	Nick Huck	St. Joseph	West Assn	Leavenworth	12-0	
8-31-49	Dick McCoy	Ponca City	K-O-M	Pittsburg	4-0	
5-5-50	James Waugh	Pittsburg	K-O-M	Independence	12-5	
6-14-51	Ron Kline	Bartlesville	K-O-M	Pittsburg	5-1	
7-4-51	Thomas Warren	Miami	K-O-M	Iola	1-0	7 inn

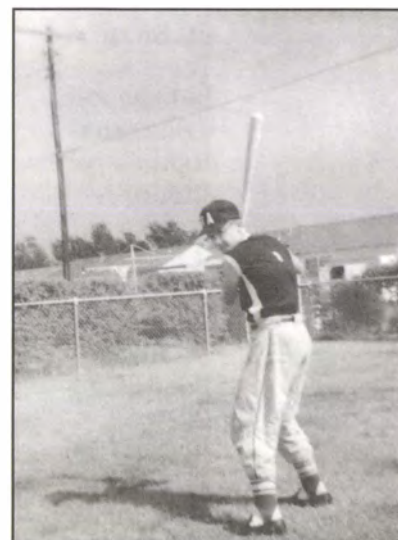


4-30-52	Jack Bruner	Wichita	Western	Lincoln	7-0	
5-2-52	John Brown	Hutchinson	West Assn	Salina	3-0	
6-12-52	McPherson Crum	Canton	M-O Valley	Hannibal	3-0	
6-16-52	Tony DeVelis	Ponca City	K-O-M	Iola	8-0	
9-7-52	Ernest Nevel	Kansas City	Amer Assn	Minneapolis	3-0	
8-5-53	James Lilly	Ft.S-Van Buren	West Assn	St. Joseph	2-0	7 inn
9-12-53	Charles Locke	Wichita	Western	Sioux City	6-1	
8-24-54	Tom Cronin	Mattoon	M-O Valley	Hannibal	2-0	7 inn
8-9-55	Richard Lessman	Hannibal	M-O Valley	Lafayette	1-0	7 inn
9-14-55	Bob Harrison	Wichita	Western	Des Moines	2-0	Playoff
6-5-56	Richard Atkinson	Sioux City	Western	Topeka	2-0	
5-22-58	Carlton Willey	Wichita	Amer Assn	Louisville	6-0	
6-20-58	Dave Stenhouse	Pueblo	Western	Topeka	5-0	
5-17-59	Ron Vingle	Burlington	Three-I	Topeka	3-0	
6-27-61	John Flavin	Topeka	Three-I	Fox Cities	12-0	7 inn
8-19-71	Rich Hand	Wichita	Amer Assn	Tulsa	3-0	
8-3-72	Jim Slaton	Evansville	Amer Assn	Wichita	5-0	
7-31-74	Joe Henderson	Iowa	Amer Assn	Wichita	10-0	
8-17-80	Robert Madden/ Mark Lemongelio	Wichita	Amer Assn	Iowa	5-2	
7-31-84	Tom Browning	Wichita	Amer Assn	Iowa	2-0	7 inn
8-25-87	Greg W. Harris	Wichita	Texas	Midland	7-0	
5-17-91	Kerry Knox	Wichita	Texas	Tulsa	1-0	2nd game, 7 inn

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Author Lloyd Johnson before he met the curve ball. **Left:** 1952 in an Oklahoma City Indians t-shirt. **Right:** 1964 in the backyard before the big game.





“The Czar is Dead — Long Live the Czar!” “How Kansas City Played a Role in Creating the Commissioner’s Office”

by David Pietrusza

In the wake of the Black Sox Scandal, baseball ownership searched for new leadership to salvage the game’s rapidly sinking reputation. When Chicagoan Albert Lasker proposed a new three-member commission, to be headed by fiery Federal Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis to rule baseball, many applauded. But American League President Byron “Ban” Johnson did not. Jealous of losing — or even of sharing — control of the game, Johnson retained the support of five of his eight club presidents. It appeared that baseball might split asunder, with eleven clubs following Landis and the “loyal five” still pledging fealty to Johnson.

On Tuesday November 9, 1920 major league owners assembled at Kansas City’s Hotel Muehlebach, where the National Association was to meet the following day.

Johnson was a belligerent as ever. Not only were his “loyal five” threatening to go their own way, but rumors swirled by pro-Johnson forces were scheming to oust National Association secretary John H. Farrell and replace him with a friendlier individual. Addressing the Convention for the first time in his career, Johnson laughed at the threat of war and called it “the best cleanser.” He attacked “undesirable owners” who tolerated gambling in their parks and declared that only his “loyal five” had aided him in any meaningful sense in battling the gaming scourge. Albert Lasker, he declared was “one who has not shed his swaddling clothes in baseball.” The National Association, warned Johnson, should steer clear of the new league and Lasker’s plan.

Aside from such bluster, the Johnson forces did manage to present their own version of baseball’s future. American League attorney George W. Miller proposed an unwieldy nine-member commission, composed of three members named by the National League, three by the American, and three by the National Association.

The minor league delegates seemed impressed by Johnson’s enthusiastic rhetoric, but while he had been orating, his major league allies were clearly wavering. In a Hotel Muehlebach corridor, Barney Dreyfuss, Bob

Quinn (representing Browns owner Phil Ball), Clark Griffith and Garry Herrmann assembled. “If my two boys wanted to fight over anything so silly,” Quinn sadly observed over the coming baseball war, “I would spank them both.” The Johnsonites concurred, and it was agreed Griffith and Quinn would sit in on a meeting with the “eleven” to represent the “loyal five’s” interests.

During the session Herrmann raised the issue: “Judge Landis has been chosen as head of the new Commission at a salary of \$50,000.00 a year. It is now proposed that his two associates be selected at a salary of \$25,000.00. It seems to me that considerable trouble will result unless we pay these associates as much as Judge Landis. They will naturally be prominent men who will consider themselves as competent as the Judge and deserving of as much salary.”

Quinn now raised an entirely new issue. “Personally,” he stated, “I see no necessity for having three commissioners. In my mind one would do as well. A man like Judge Landis who is a Federal Judge and accustomed to handling large business interests can certainly be trusted to administer any business Organized Baseball may give him.”

Herrmann interrupted. He wanted to know if Quinn spoke on his own or represented Ball. “I have not consulted Mr. Ball on this matter,” Quinn admitted, “but I will say that he has never failed to back me up in any reasonable measure. I consider this measure reasonable. I am sure that the St. Louis Browns would never be involved in any difficulties they would not trust to the hands of Judge Landis.”

The proposal failed to meet with any enthusiasm. Shortly thereafter, when Clark Griffith proposed a six-member joint committee (three members from each faction, the session nearly collapsed. But when the owners reconvened, Garry Herrmann endorsed Quinn’s one-commissioner proposal. In the interim all the owners had swung around to Ball’s thinking.

Detroit owner Frank Navin and Herrmann spoke to the

National Association convention the next morning. As Herrmann addressed the minors leaguers, he was handed a note. He stunned the gathering with its contents. His fellow owners had agreed to meet the next day in Chicago. No attorneys, no stenographers, and most significantly, no league presidents would be present.

The Kansas City Journal headlined “Moguls Leave Determined to Fight It Out,” but it was all over for Johnson. His loyalists had realized the futility of a new baseball war. Before the next opening day, they would have to create three new franchises and staff them. If they tried to place new clubs in Boston, New York, and Chicago, they would have to have to find not only new owners but new ballparks. In New York that would be virtually impossible. In bidding for talent they would have to go against such millionaires as Jake Ruppert and Charles Stoneham. They knew resistance would be folly.

A new czar of baseball was about to be crowned.

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David Pietrusza is the national president of SABR and the author of several books on baseball including Lights On!: the Story of Night Baseball.

A reporter recorded the meeting of the taciturn DiMaggio brothers when Vince came to the depot to welcome his kid brother, Joe.

Joe: “Hello, Vince.”
Vince: “Hello, Joe.”
Joe: “How many home runs you got?”
Vince: “Twenty-five.”
Joe: “What? You kidding?”
Vince: “No, that’s right.”
Joe: “Twenty-five? Boy, What are you doing?”
Vince: “Swinging.”
Joe: “Twenty-five. That’s a lot.”



Arnold Johnson's Railroad to New York

by Francis Kinlaw

The 1955 season marked the beginning of a new baseball era in Kansas City, as the big leagues extended westward following the purchase of the Philadelphia Athletics by Arnold Johnson. Even though the A's had lost 103 games in their final year in the City of Brotherly Love, the dawn of this exciting era was bright on April 12, 1955. A crowd of 32,844 watched with optimism and glee as the local heroes defeated the Detroit Tigers, 6-2.

The seasons that followed featured a string of disappointments for Kansas City's fans. A large number of transactions involving players were consummated by Johnson's front office and New York Yankee general manager George Weiss — and most of the trades were more beneficial to the Yankees. Furthermore, a subservient attitude prevailed among Athletics executives, suggesting that their frequent misjudgments were borne from loyalty to Weiss and other Yankee chieftains.

Johnson, a wealthy Chicagoan who invested heavily in a variety of business enterprises, had been involved in numerous business relationships with Yankee co-owners Dan Topping and Del Webb before obtaining the A's. He had purchased Yankee Stadium and Blues Stadium (the home of Kansas City's American Association team) from Topping and Webb in 1953 and then leased both parks back to the Yankees.

Johnson later sold both facilities, but Webb's construction company was awarded a lucrative contract to upgrade and enlarge Blues Stadium (renamed Municipal Stadium in 1955). The paths of Topping and Johnson had also crossed away from the business of baseball, when the two served simultaneously as officers of the American Canteen Company.

Fraternalism was suspected below the ownership level as well. Weiss had employed Parke Carroll, the A's general manager, when the latter was seeking his first baseball job. Carroll remained under Weiss' wing for 20 years. He had been hired as the general manager of Kansas City's major-league club on the basis of his mentor's recommendation. Having been groomed by Weiss at every turn, Carroll found it difficult to reject proposed deals

from his former boss.

Between March 30, 1955 and May 19, 1960, the "friendly rivals" completed 16 deals involving 53 major-league players and a considerable amount of cash.

When these 16 transactions are analyzed individually to identify "winners" and "losers," seven are found to have turned in the Yankees' favor, the Athletics can be given the edge in three deals, and six swaps can be considered "draws."

But the trades were not equal in importance: six of the seven trades which helped the Yankees more than the Athletics were weighted heavily in the Yankees' favor, while the Athletics could claim a significant advantage in only one of their three "good" deals.

On March 30, 1955, the Athletics obtained pitcher Tom Gorman along with Ewell Blackwell and Dick Kryhoski for \$50,000. Gorman won seven games and had 18 saves in 1955 as a mainstay in Kansas City's bullpen. — Slight advantage to the Athletics

On May 11, 1955, the Athletics surrendered pitcher Sonny Dixon and cash for Johnny Sain and Enos Slaughter. Of the three players, only Slaughter performed well in 1955 or thereafter. During the '55 season, he delivered a league-leading total of 16 pinch hits. — Slight advantage to the Athletics

On August 25, 1956, the Yankees more than evened the score by obtaining Slaughter for the waiver price. He added punch to the Bronx Bombers' bench during their 1956 pennant drive, and remained in New York to play in three World Series (1956-58). — Major advantage to the Yankees

The Athletics purchased Bob Cerv for cash on October 16, 1956. Cerv's exceptional 1958 season — 38 home runs and 104 runs batted in — fully justified the payment to the Yankees, and the slugger remained productive for the A's until May 1960. — Major advantage to the Athletics

With a twelve-player deal on February 19, 1957, the Yankees staged their first unqualified robbery of the A's franchise by obtaining Art Ditmar, Bobby Shantz, and

Cletis Boyer for four players who were well past their prime. Ditmar fit perfectly into the Yankees' rotation for the next four years, winning 13 games in 1959 and leading the New York staff with 15 victories. Shantz overcame a sore arm to post a 1957 record of 11-5 (achieved with the American League's lowest earned run average), and he continued to pay dividends through 1960.

By 1961, Boyer would challenge Brooks Robinson's status as the best fielding third baseman in baseball. — Major advantage to the Yankees

Shortly before the annual trading deadline of June 15, 1957, Weiss sent second baseman Billy Martin down the beaten path to Kansas City after an incident at the Copacabana nightclub in Manhattan. Pitcher Ralph Terry accompanied Martin to Kansas City, and the young Terry (who was 4-11 during the remainder of the '57 season and 11-13 for Kansas City's anemic 1958 club) actually contributed more to the Athletics than Martin. The A's also received Woodie Held, who hit 20 home runs in the second half of the '57 campaign before being traded to Cleveland during the 1958 season. But the achievements of Terry and Held (and to a lesser extent Martin) failed to balance this trade's scales, for the Yankees had supplemented their mound staff by snatching reliever Ryne Duren from the Athletics' grab bag. As a mainstay of the New York bullpen, Duren put a stranglehold on late-inning hopes of opponents in both 1958 (20 saves, six wins, an ERA of 2.01) and 1959 (14 saves, three victories, 1.87 ERA). — Slight advantage to the Yankees

By enticing the Athletics with Harry "Suitcase" Simpson (who had starred in 1955 and 1956 for the A's before heading to New York with Duren) and Bob Grim (whose arm miseries had diminished his great talent), Weiss and company were able to extract hurlers Duke Maas and Virgil Trucks from Kansas City on June 15, 1958. Trucks' career was nearly over, but Maas became a significant contributor to New York's staff, compiling a record of 7-3 during the second half of the 1958 season and a 14-8 mark in 1959. — Major advantage to the Yankees



On August 22, 1958, Weiss arranged for a trip east by veteran right-handed pitcher Murry Dickson, who had compiled a 9-5 record and an ERA of 3.27 at the age of 42. For this valuable pitching insurance during another championship drive, Weiss parted with Zeke Bella (who served without distinction in Kansas City during the summer of 1959) and cash. — Major advantage to the Yankees

By sending reserve infielder Jerry Lumpe and declining pitchers Johnny Kucks and Tom Sturdivant to the Athletics on May 26, 1959, the Yanks added Hector Lopez's bat to their potent lineup. Lopez played left field in New York and delivered some important hits for five pennant-winning teams. This trade also returned an improved Ralph Terry to the Yankee fold; Terry would win 10 games in 1960, 16 in 1961, 23 in 1962, and 17 in 1963. (He also hurled a 1-0 shutout in the seventh game of the 1962 World Series.) Lumpe developed into a steady second baseman after being dealt to the Athletics and hit at a .301 clip in 1962, but the trend continued. — A major advantage to the Yankees

The biggest steal of all came on December 11, 1959. The Yanks picked up Roger Maris and two throw-ins for Hank Bauer, Don Larsen, Marv Throneberry, and Norm Siebern. Maris would blast 39 home runs in 1960 and 61 in 1961, as Bauer was nearing retirement and preparing to become the A's manager. Larsen, with a 1-10 record in 1960, wouldn't approach perfection. Throneberry would become a big star — in beer commercials after some futile performances with the '62 Mets. Siebern did have a fine season in 1962 for Kansas City (25 homers, 117 RBI's, a .308 average), but he was no Roger Maris. — Major advantage to the Yankees

Hanging over these trades like a black cloud were the close relationships involving Johnson, Topping and Webb on one hand, and between Weiss and Carroll on the other. Although Johnson (who died suddenly in March 1960 from a cerebral hemorrhage) denied improper conduct and insisted that he always sought the best available talent, collusion between the two camps was taken for granted by baseball insiders until Charlie Finley became the principal owner of Kansas City's franchise on December 20, 1960.

Indeed, personal friendships and obligations set the stage for the long series of exchanges. While a few

unwise trades may have resulted from imprudent decisions by the Athletics' gullible front office, and while the Yankees' deep talent pool placed the New Yorkers in strong negotiating positions, Johnson cannot be excused for repeatedly exchanging players with men who had committed numerous acts of arson upon his organization by burning it over and over again!

Finley — who had vowed to end the trading and had made a great show of burning a symbolic "shuttle bus to Yankee Stadium" in a parking lot adjacent to Municipal Stadium — was responsible for the Daley trade.

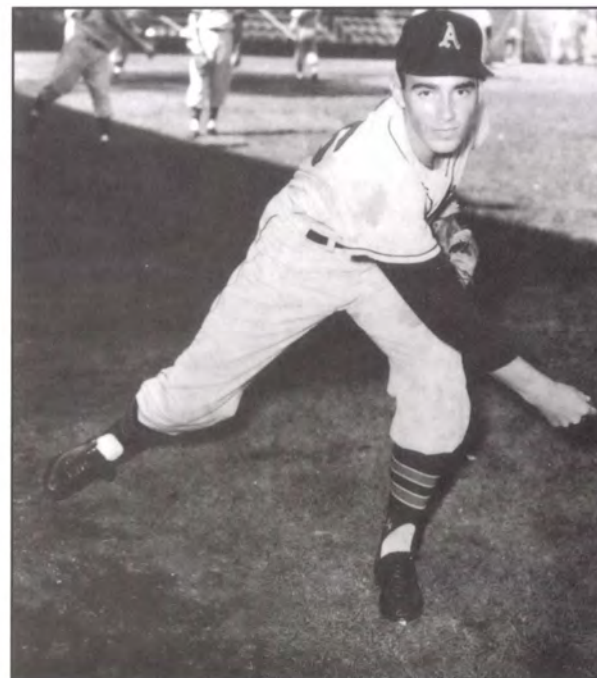
On June 14, 1961, Charlie Finley allowed Kansas City's masochistic tendencies to continue by dealing Bud Daley (16 wins in 1959 and 1960) for Art Ditmar and Deron Johnson. Daley complemented Bill Stafford and Roland Sheldon in the Yankees' pitching rotation, and could start or throw in long relief. Ditmar would appear in 32 games for Kansas City in the last three and a half months of the 1961 season, but would go winless. He retired in 1962. Johnson would eventually hit 245 home runs as a major leaguer, but he hit the vast majority after departing from Kansas City. Major advantage to the Yankees.

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Francis Kinlaw is the Assistant Tax Director in Greensboro, North Carolina. He is a long-time SABR member.



Top: Kansas City A's pitcher Evans Killeen was not a Yankee. **Bottom:** Cecil Travis, Dizzy Dean, and Satchel Paige pose for a publicity shot at a 1942 war-charities game.





BULLET JOE AND THE MONARCHS

Will Cooperstown Let Them In?

By John B. Holway

Little Bullet Joe Rogan may have been the greatest ballplayer ever to wear a Kansas City uniform. And that includes Satchel Paige. If Casey Stengel had had his way, the Bullet would have been in Cooperstown decades ago.

At 5'8" Rogan barely reached Babe Ruth's shoulders. But he deserves to stand beside Babe as one of the two greatest double-threat men, at bat and on the mound, in the history of the game. And not even Ruth could lead the league in both home runs and ERA in the same year — or bat .400 while topping all pitchers in wins, as Bullet did.

Joe was the best, but certainly not the only, superstar to come out of the Monarchs.

Because the early Hall of Fame selections were made by an eastern group, almost no western Negro League stars have been enshrined. The team whose talent has been most overlooked is the Kansas City Monarchs.

If Negro Leaguers were held to the same standards that white Hall of Famers were, then at least four of the old Monarchs would be looking down from the walls of Cooperstown.

FRANK DUNCAN

Catcher

Duncan was not a super slugger like Josh Gibson or Johnny Bench — his lifetime average was just .246. But he was a top receiver and handler of pitchers, a man who could catch with Rick Ferrell and manage with Al Lopez, two white contemporaries who are in the Hall of Fame.

Dizzy Dean, who knew "Dunc" well, compared him to Gabby Hartnett of the Cubs.

Duncan was also Jackie Robinson's first pro manager and skippered the Monarchs to two world championships, 1942 and 1946.

A Kansas City native, Duncan became a Monarch in 1922 at the age of 21, joining the older, grizzled army veterans such as Rogan, Dobey Moore, Heavy Johnson, and others. He proved as tough as they were.

In fact, he started perhaps the wildest free-for-all fight in blackball history, when he leaped at catcher Johnny Hines of their bitter rivals, the Chicago American Giants. In an instant both teams were pummeling each other, and Chicago fans were leaping over the railing to join in. As a catcher himself and an easy target for retaliation, it took nerve to do what Dunc did.

And he was a good clutch hitter, says centerfielder Willard Brown. "He could hit better with men on base, because he'd choke up and be right on that plate."

In 1924, in the first modern black World Series, Duncan got one of the most famous hits in blackball history. Bases loaded, seventh game, top of the ninth, Monarchs losing 2-1, Philadelphia Hildale catcher Louis Santop muffed Dunc's easy pop foul — the blackball equivalent of the Fred Snodgrass muff of 1912. Duncan then drilled the next pitch through third baseman Biz Mackey's legs to score the tying and winning runs.

In Oklahoma City in 1934, Dizzy Dean went down to the pool hall and got Duncan to catch a game for him. Naturally, city officials protested, but Dean told them, "Now if you all want me to pitch, if I'm good enough to pitch, he's good enough to catch me, and that's the way it's gonna be." The city fathers gave in.

Diz chuckled: "Duncan has a glove that makes that ball pop, and he makes my pitches sound like a rifle shot, and he tells them hitters, 'Boy, don't get near that plate, don't let that ball hit you or it kills you.'"

HILTON SMITH

Pitcher

If Smith had said funny things like "Never look back," many believe he, and not Satchel Paige, might be in Cooperstown today.

Smith toiled in the glare of that blinding star known as Satchel Paige, but who was in reality a hyphenated pitcher named Paige-Smith.

For sheer pitching skills, many a black hitter admitted

he would much rather face Satch than Hilton. Paige had only a fastball, they say, but Smith — you never knew what you were going to see.

Hilton had been the ace of the Monarch staff until Satchel joined them. Thereafter Smith often worked out of the bullpen, while Satchel started in order to draw a crowd. After two or three innings, Smith came in to complete the victory.

"Next day," he sighed, "I'd read in the paper:

"SACHEL AND MONARCHS WIN AGAIN."

Smith's lifetime won-lost was 69-33 for 13 years in the shortened Negro League schedule. (Most of the season they barnstormed against semipro teams.) But as a reliever, Hilton ranks alongside those two White Hall of Fame firemen, Hoyt Wilhelm and Rollie Fingers.

In 1941, Paige-Smith played Bob Feller and Ken Heintzelman of the Phils. Wrote Bob Burnes, sports editor of the St-Louis Globe Democrat, "Smith showed the best speed and sharpest curve of the quartet." The big leaguers also boasted Stan Musial, Johnny Mize, Johnny Hopp, Walker Cooper, and others. In five innings Smith gave one hit and struck out six.

In three games on the tour, Smith pitched 18 scoreless innings. "Mize didn't get a hit off me the whole series," Hilton said. "I guess I had a curve ball as good as anybody's in baseball at that time. My fastball ran, it just jumped. I just kept it on the outside, the curve ball would break in, and the umpire would call it. He would hit the ball weakly back to me. He never was able to pull it."

In postseason Negro league play, Smith had a perfect 3-0 record, including one win in the '46 World Series against Newark's Larry Doby and Monte Irvin. "Doby didn't look too good," Smith grinned. "Three straight times I struck him out, and he started jawing with the umpire."

After the Series, Roy Campanella approached Smith to say the Dodgers wanted to talk to him. But Hilton was



already 34 years old and didn't want to take a \$400 a month pay cut to join a minor league team. "Had there been other teams beside the Dodgers, I might have taken a chance."

In October Smith joined Paige's team against Feller's All Stars — Mickey Vernon, Stan Musial, Phil Rizzuto, Charlie Keller, Jeff Heath, Ken Keltner, and others. Smith broke even, losing 6-3 and beating Feller 3-2.

In March '47 he faced the Yankees. "For the first five innings," John Drebing of the *New York Times* wrote, "the Bombers ran into quite a Tartar in Hilton Smith, a right-hander who gave up only one hit, a single to Phil Rizzuto."

JAMES LESLIE WILKINSON

Owner

The short, derby-hatted, genial Wilkie gave Satchel Paige his second chance in the big time and Jackie Robinson his first. He built two different Monarch dynasties, the champs of 1923-24-25 and the champs of 1937, '39, '42 and '46.

Wilkinson was white. But he is being cited here, not as a great Negro, but as a great Negro Leaguer.

His greatest claim to fame was as a pioneer of night baseball. In 1930 in Enid, Oklahoma, his portable lighting system lit the darkness two weeks before Des Moines and the same night as Independence Kansas, the first two in Organized Baseball to play at night.

Wilkie took his lights to big league stadia in St Louis, Detroit, and Pittsburgh five years before the Cincinnati Reds played the first official major league night game. And he spread the gospel of lights to minor league teams far and wide. Wilkinson's gutsy investment in the teeth of the worst depression in history, saved the Negro Leagues and probably dozens of minor league teams as well.

As a semipro pitcher for Brooklyn, Iowa ("Why, I pitched for Brooklyn!"), in 1912 Wilkinson formed the All Nations team, made up of blacks, whites, Latins, orientals, and one girl. They beat Rube Foster's American Giants and the Indianapolis ABCs with Oscar Charleston, and the Sporting Life said they "could give any major league club a nip-and-tuck battle."

In 1920 Wilkinson formed the Monarchs from his All Nations, plus a bevy of doughboy athletes Casey Stengel had found in Arizona. Four years later they won the first

modern black World Series.

In 1935 Wilkie gave a job to a sore-armed pitcher just released by the Pittsburgh Crawfords — and Satchel Paige began a whole new career. Ten years later, Wilkinson signed a college football star and discharged Army lieutenant, Jackie Robinson.

He would lose both of them to the major leagues, along with 24 other players — Ernie Banks, Lou Brock, Elston Howard, Willard Brown, Hank Thompson, Connie Johnson, Gene Baker etc. He received not a penny for Robinson and little or nothing for the others. But he never raised a voice in protest. He insisted that, "I wouldn't stand in the way of a man who has a chance to better himself."

But when the big league doors finally opened, without Wilkinson there might not have been a Robinson to go through them — or even a Negro League to give him the chance.

WILLARD BROWN

Centerfield, shortstop

For a decade, 1936-46, Willard Brown and Josh Gibson waged a battle to decide which was the most powerful black hitter in the world. Many a pitcher winced that Brown was.

Hilton Smith insisted that Brown was better than Jackie Robinson: "He was a better hitter, he was faster — Jackie was smart and studied how to run, but he wasn't that fast. And Jackie had a poor arm, Willard had a real good arm. And power! Oh man, I've seen that guy hit one of the longest home runs I've ever seen right out here at this ball park (Muehlebach) against Satchel Paige in 1937. Brown hit the ball clear over everything, almost down to 18th Street. Man, that ball just sailed over the fence. It was still going when it went over the fence. At that time it was around 440 feet to centerfield."

Willard hit with high average too. His .350 lifetime average is one of the highest in Negro League annals. Against big league barnstormers he batted .373.

And it is very possible that, had Brown been in the Major Leagues, he could have broken Babe Ruth's home run record.

In 1946 Brown clubbed 13 home runs in only 62 at bats. Assuming 550 AB is an average big league season, that would come to 115 homers. Of course he couldn't



maintain that for 154 games, but 61 home runs?

Why not? Brown was a much better hitter than Hank Greenberg (58 homers) or Roger Maris (61).

The next year, aged 34, Brown hit the first black home run in the American League, an inside-the-parker off Hal Newhouser. He batted only .179 in 21 games, however, and the St Louis Browns let him and Hank Thompson go rather than pay Wilkinson a bonus. Thompson got a second shot, with the New York Giants. Brown never got another chance.

But in Puerto Rico that winter, he slugged 27 homers in 115 at bats to smash Josh Gibson's old mark of 13. (Rain washed out a 28th home run.) It's still the all-time Puerto Rican record; closest to him is Reggie Jackson with 20. Brown's total, incidentally, came to 129 per 550 at bats! Latin fans called him simply, "Esse Hombre" — "that man."

Brown had four excellent seasons in the Texas League, where he dodged beanballs as the league's first black position player. His best year, 1954, he hit .314 with 35 home runs. His teammate, Ken Boyer (.319, 21 homers) was promoted. Not Willard.

But "Willard Brown is my first choice for the Hall of Fame," says pitcher Wilmer Fields, Josh Gibson's teammate on the Homestead Grays. "There were no fences too far for him. I know, because he hit a couple off me. You generally remember those who hurt you. God knows how good he could have been."

BULLET JOE ROGAN

Pitcher, centerfield, second base

Everyone who saw both Rogan and Satchel Paige agrees: Bullet Joe was the better pitcher — and Joe hit cleanup on the Monarch powerhouse as well.

"Old Rogan," chuckled Dizzy Dean, "he was a showboat boy, a Pepper Martin ballplayer. He was one of those cute guys, never wanted to give you a ball to hit. Should be in the Hall of Fame."

Casey Stengel, who discovered Rogan toiling for the Army on the Mexican border, also tried to get Cooperstown to open its doors to him. Dodger outfielder Babe Herman and Hall of Fame ump Jocko Conlan were others. Conlan saw Rogan beat Red Faber of the White Sox. "He had an easy delivery," Conlan recalled, "and fast — much faster than Paige."



Rogan didn't even reach the Negro Leagues until he was 30 years old, but only four men won more games than he did:

Bill Foster	137-62	.688
Satchel Paige	128-80	.608
Andy Cooper	118-57	.674
Bill Byrd	116-78	.598
Bullet Rogan	113-45	.715

Others:

Joe Williams	80-48	.624
Hilton Smith	69-33	.676
Leon Day	66-29	.698

At bat Joe batted .343 lifetime. Says former Monarch Buck O'Neill, "You saw Ernie Banks hit in his prime — that was Rogan." Could Rogan hit white big leaguers? In 16 games against white Major League players, from Buster Mails in 1920 to Bob Feller in 1937, Joe batted .389.

In the Negro Leagues he dominated both batters and hitters in one glorious four-year span. Because Negro League seasons were short, about 60 games a year, I relate home runs to a 154-game major league season, with the stat, HR/550 at bats. In pitching, earned runs were not tabulated, so I use TRA, or Total Run Average per nine innings.

	BA	HR/550	W- L	TRA	Awards**
1922	.351	35*	13-6	3.55*	MVP
1923	.416	43	11-7	N/A	
1924	.412	18	16*-5	4.35	MVP, Cy Young
1925	.366	10	15*-2	2.17*	Cy Young

*led league

** my choices

Satchel Paige never dominated the league in any one year, thus won no mythical Cy Youngs.

By 1929 Joe was no longer pitching in the Negro League. But he did take the mound that October against a major league all star team of Jimmie Foxx, Al Simmons, Bob Meusel, and others. Joe got two hits in winning 10-3, and although Foxx hit him hard, Simmons (.365 that year) couldn't touch him. Four times in a row Rogan

struck him out. In the ninth, Al batted out of turn to try to get a hit — and whiffed again.

Simmons is in the Hall of Fame. Will Rogan and the other Monarchs be allowed to join him?

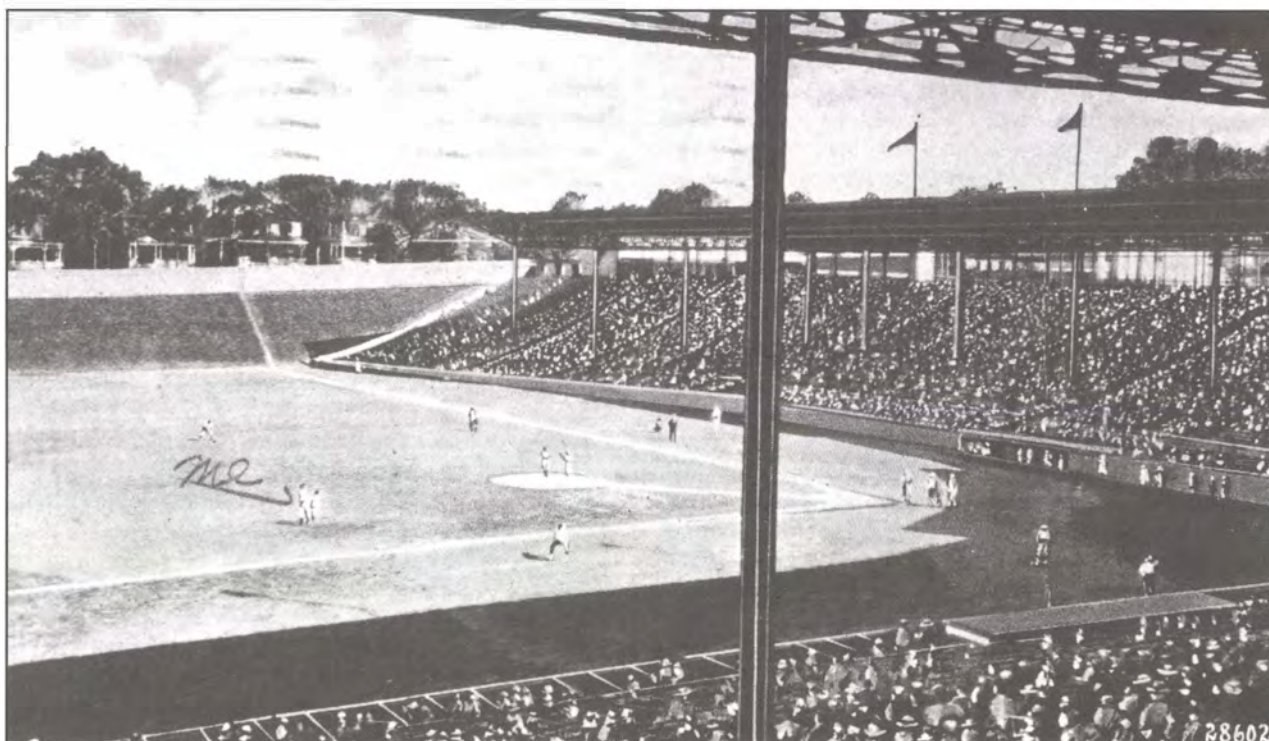
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John Holway is one of the original members of the Negro Leagues Committee. He is the editor of the Negro Leagues section of the Big Mac and the author of many baseball books



Right: Satchel Paige Hall of Fame pitcher.

Below: Who is the "me" in the picture postcard of Muehlebach Field? Muehlebach is the earlier name of Municipal Stadium.





Smooth Operator

by Larry Lester

Frank White, Jr. wore number 20 for the Kansas City Royals. The 5'11," 175-pound second baseman was born September 4, 1950, in Delta Blues, Greenville, Mississippi. Early in life he moved to Kansas City where he was graduated from Lincoln High School in 1968. Frank followed in the footsteps of Lincoln athletes and future Kansas City Monarchs, Newt Allen, Frank Duncan and Rube Currie, as he climbed the football bleachers to sneak a peak at professional baseball being played at nearby Municipal Stadium. When White was not starring in high school football and basketball — his school had no baseball team — he was playing in the Connie Mack, Ban Johnson, and Casey Stengel baseball leagues. In 1985 his old Casey Stengel League was renamed the Frank White League.

After attending the Royals Academy, Frank started his professional career with Sarasota in the 1971 Gold Coast League. There he led the league in stolen bases with 18, and all shortstops with a .928 fielding percentage on 219 chances — 149 assists and 27 double plays. The following year, he played for San Jose of the California League, then finished the season with Jacksonville in the Southern League.

His big break came in 1973. After starting the season with Omaha in the Triple-A American Association, he was called up on June 12, 1973 to replace the injured shortstop Freddie Patek. White did not play second base, his natural position, until his 16th game. In that first season, he appeared in 51 games, 37 were at short and 11 at second.

White's fortunes worked hand-in-glove with the Royals' fortunes. During his first full season, he played 50 games at second, 16 games at third, 29 games at short and three at designated hitter. He was improving as a hitter as well. On June 25, 1975, he hit his first major league grand slam home run against the California Angels.

In 1976, White became the Royals' regular second baseman, playing only 37 games at shortstop. He also set a Royals' record of 18 sacrifice hits as the club finally won a division title.

The next season, Frank White won his first Gold Glove with a .989 percentage. He played 62 consecutive games at second base without an error — June 28 to September 9 — as he handled 310 chances. He, also, stole three bases in one game that year.

In 1978 White won his second Gold Glove and was named to the all-star team for the first time. After the season, he made The Sporting News' Major League All-Star team. He accomplished the same three honors the next year as he hit for the cycle on September 26, 1979. He was named Royals' Player of the Month for September when he hit .336 (33 hits in 98 at-bats).

White won his fourth straight Gold Glove in 1980. He won the Most Valuable Player in the American League Championship Series against the New York Yankees when he batted .545.

During the next two years, White captured his fifth and sixth consecutive Gold Gloves. He made the American League All-Star squad each season. In 1981, he compiled a 13-game hitting streak and the next year he hit for the cycle again.

As Frank grew older, he developed into a slashing doubles hitter who routinely tomahawked the ball down the left field line. His fielding became better.

In 1983 he set the Royals' record for the most double plays by a second baseman, 124. During the off-season, he was named Royals' Player of the Year. White led all major league second baseman with 77 RBI. The following year, White was named American League Player of the Week as the Royals captured another division flag. Then came 1985.

White pumped up his hitting with 22 home runs and the Royals took all of the honors including the World Series in a thrilling win over intrastate rival St. Louis. In that Series, he became the only second baseman besides Jackie Robinson to hit clean-up in the series.

The next season on August 19, White tied a Royals' single-game record with seven RBIs in a game against the Texas Rangers. Postseason honors included his seventh Gold Glove and Royals' Player of the Year. He was

also named to The Sporting News Silver Slugger team which signifies the best hitters by position. His 22 home runs and 84 RBI led all second baseman in 1986. White made his fifth all-star team which he celebrated with a home run. White was a member of the major league all-star team that toured Japan.

For the rest of his career he solidified his hold on "most graceful second baseman." In 1987, he tied Bill Mazeroski, of the Pittsburgh Pirates, for the most Gold Gloves by a second baseman with number eight. He received the Ernie Mehl Award in January, 1988, for the player "who has contributed greatly to the overall image of baseball on and off the field." Later that year he had a most remarkable season.

In 1988, Frank White set the Royals' record for the most consecutive games at second base without an error—70 (September 22, 1987, to June 20, 1988). He committed only four errors, all throwing. Even though he lost the Gold Glove to Harold Reynolds of the Seattle Mariners, Royals' first sacker, veteran Bill Buckner, exclaimed, "Geez, I never played with second baseman who didn't make any errors. I didn't think it was possible." Some honors were completely unexpected.

In November 1989, the island of St. Vincent issued a 30-cent stamp of Frank White. Not bad for a youngster from the Academy.

Frank White capped an 18-year career with his hometown team by collecting 2,000 hits and playing in 2,324 games. After the season the Royals notified him that his contract would not be renewed. He eagerly anticipated his career as a civilian.

In 1991 White was named to the Board of Directors of the Mark Twain Bank and vice-president of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum. Later in the year, he accepted an offer to manager the Boston Red Sox's Winter Haven club in the Gulf Coast League.

Despite a promotion to Triple A, White left baseball in 1993 to begin work with Blue Cross and Blue Shield in its public relations department. However, the lure of baseball was too great. He returned to the Red Sox as first

base coach in 1994, the same year he was inducted into the John Q. Hammons Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in Springfield, Missouri.

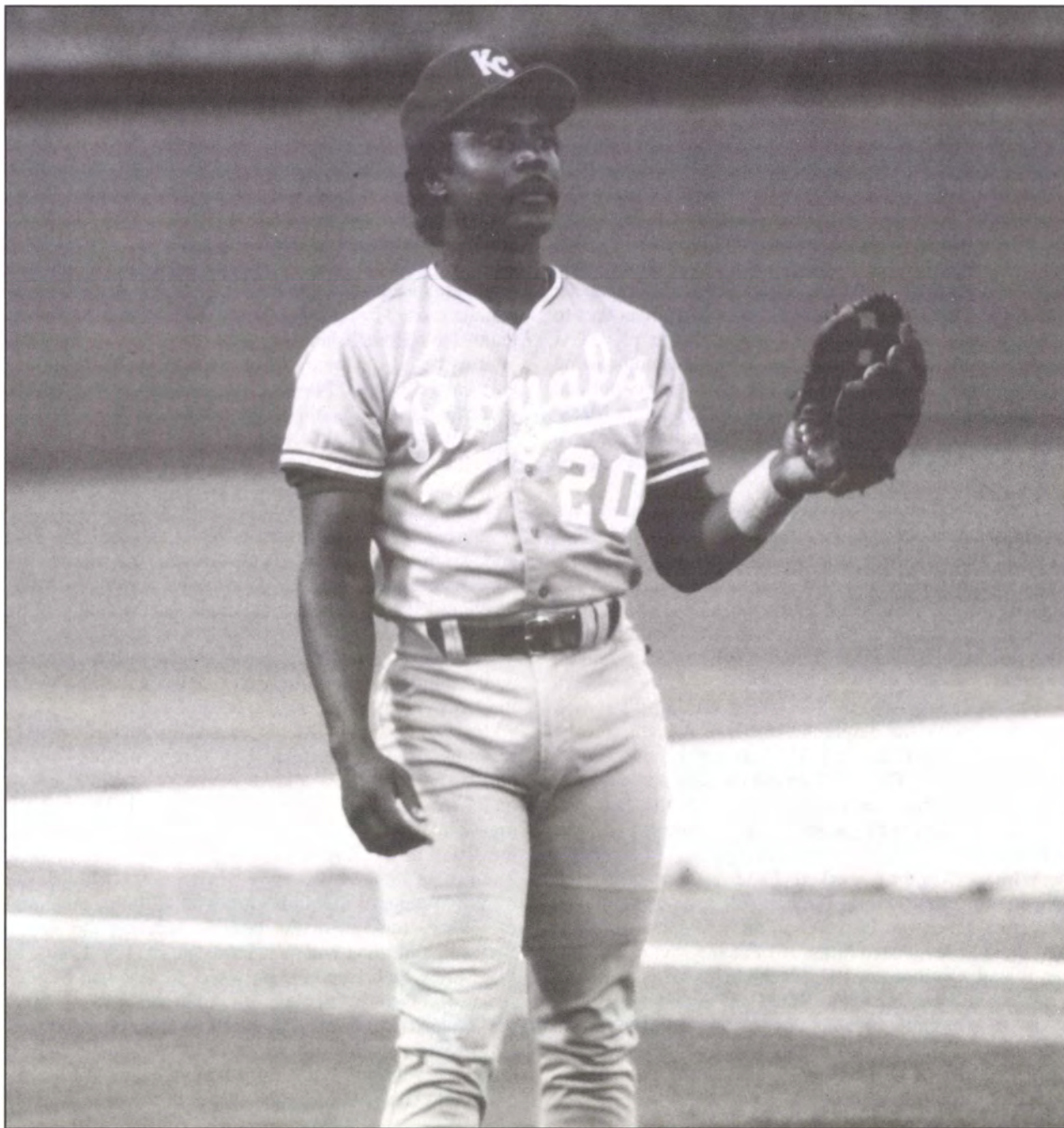
On July 2, 1995, the Royals retired Frank White's number 20 in a ceremony at Kauffman Stadium. The starting second baseman who had watched the Athletics as a kid appeared in Kansas City's Opening Day lineup 15 years in a row from 1976 through 1990. He is one of the select group who played 18 consecutive years with one club. His hitting, fielding, and longevity rank him among the top 30 players in baseball history, out of more than 14,000.

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Larry Lester is a founder of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum where he edited "Silhouettes."



Above: Some folks say that Casey was really from Kansas City. **Right:** Frank White, member of the Baseball Academy, used to watch Athletic from atop the football bleachers at Lincoln High School from whence he graduated.





The Promise of the Future

by Lloyd Johnson

In June of 1970, the Kansas City Royals unveiled the Baseball Academy. Under the patronage of Royals owner Ewing “Mr. K” Kauffman — who started the program with \$1.5 million — the school, located five miles southeast of Sarasota, would take non-baseball playing athletes and instruct them in the finer points of professional play. Graduates would be placed on farm teams in the Kansas City minor league system.

Potential enrollees faced a series of speed, flexibility, and psychological tests to qualify for the 50 open slots. Qualifiers attended classes at nearby Manatee Junior College — receiving college credit — lived in dorms and were paid \$100 per month for the first 90 days, \$150 for the next ninety, and then \$200 per month for the duration. They also went to baseball school.

The faculty included former Yankee farm hand Syd Thrift as the director, ex-Yankee first sacker Johnny Neun, former Senators’ slugger Jim Lemon, ex-Senator catcher and George Washington University baseball coach Steve Korcheck, plus collegiate sprinter Wes Santee and Kansas University track coach Bill Easton. Instructors who joined later in that first year were Carlton “Buzzy” Keller from Texas Lutheran, Sam Ketcham of Ferris State plus Chuck Stobbs and Bill Fischer from baseball. Harry Ledford, trainer at George Washington University, served in the same position for the Academy. Activities included morning classes at Manatee, afternoon instruction on fundamentals and conditioning, and evenings were filled with leisure activities and studying. After the fundamentals and conditioning courses were completed, the pupils were ready to play baseball.

Mr. K started the school because of the Lou Piniella situation. Lou became an outstanding baseball player and manager, but he did not have the opportunity to play baseball much as a youth. Instead, Piniella starred at basketball and track. The Royals’ owner felt that there were many Piniellas in the country, just waiting for the chance to play baseball. The only requirements to gain admission to the Academy were a boy must be under 22 years of age and have used all of his high school eligibility.

Out of the first class, 42 players survived the 10-month intensive baseball course to graduate. In addition to the college credit, three meals per day, tuition, room and board, the neophytes became eligible to receive a four-year scholarship to the college of their choice. The first class featured Orestes Minoso Arrieta, stepson of Minnie Minoso, Ron Washington, and Frank White.

The scorecard on the Academy was 21 of 42 played in the Gulf Coast League during the 1971 season. Eight of them were pitchers and 13 position players. Two years later, Frank White was in the Big Leagues while only six of his Academy mates were still active in the minors. Of the half-dozen remaining players, two were pitchers and the others, Ron Washington, Gary Rahe, Robert Servoss, and Ricky Boone were slick-fielding, light-hitting infielders. The good-field, no-hit tag may have doomed the Academy to a short Floridian tenure.

The idea, which Syd Thrift got from Casey Stengel, did not die with the demise of the Royals Academy. Instead, it was resurrected in the Dominican Republic. There the Royals, Blue Jays, and Dodgers began the rush to harvest golden talent on the Caribbean isle. The same cloister idea that produced light-hitting infielders in Florida, brought well-fed, powerful Latin sluggers to the Major Leagues.

Looking back, baseball people could say that the Royals Academy produced what could normally be expected. Perhaps, the first class produced even more than one could reasonably expect. Frank White played 20 years and Ron Washington posted ten seasons of major League ball. A carefully selected group of 50 undrafted prospects in any given year, would not likely be as productive as the 1970 class at the Academy.

The full list of the Royal Academy’s first graduating class follows: Scott Ackerman, Albuquerque, NM; Orestes Minoso Arrieta, Evanston, IL; Bruce Beranek, Rice Lake, WI; David Bischoff, Batesville, IN; Rick Boone, Lynwood, WA; Jackie Brown, Howe, OK; Steve Buzzard, Brunswick, GA; Rufus Caruthers, Kansas City, KS; James Compton, Hamilton, MO; Fred Creal,

Eugene, OR; Tommy Dugan, Corpus Christi, TX; James Dunkel, San Diego, CA; Mike Ferrin, Anaheim, CA; John Grizzle, Phoenix, AZ; Gary Hamm, Los Angeles, CA; Stan Hackenberg, Clearwater, FL; Gary Hendricks, St. Louis, MO; Dee Human, Blythesville, AR; John Irving, Wichita, KS; Danny Jackson, Corpus Christi, TX; Gordon Janiec, Kent, WA; Dennis Lane, Bellefontaine, OH; Nolan Lewis, Hartford, CT; Tom Linnert, Orange, CA; Mike Lowens, Edmonds, WA; David Manes, Leawood, KS; Bruce Miller, Bowie, MD; Tom Miller, Kansas City, MO; James Mitchell, Albany, GA; Howard Perkins, DeQuincy, LA; Monte Perkins, Kansas, MO; David Price, Topeka, KS; Victor Price, McLean, VA; Gary Rahe, Harper, TX; John Salverson, Lakewood, CA; Arturo Sanchez, Uvalde, TX; Robert Servoss, Mt. Pleasant, MI; Scotty Spillman, Farmville, VA; Tommy Sutton, Corpus Christi, TX; Tom Tyler, Toledo, OH; Ronald Washington, New Orleans, LA, and Frank White, Kansas City, MO.

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Lloyd Johnson is the former executive director of SABR.



Monarchs Rule

by Bonnie Serrell as told to Barry Mednick

After two years barnstorming with the Satchel Paige All-Stars I tried out for the KC Monarchs. I fielded well, hit for average, and could hustle. But making the team seemed rather unlikely.

The Monarchs had superb players at every position. Forty-year-old Newt Allen still had the greatest pivot I ever saw. He never looked at first base. I tried to imitate him and threw the ball into the stands. I don't know how he did it. With Allen on second, what chance did I have to play?

I had done my very best in spring training. Everyone worked hard because we loved the Monarchs. We all did what we could to help the team win. We helped each other, too. Newt showed me how things were done around second base. For example, he told me not to tip off the batter by changing my position. I could see the catcher's glove and knew if the pitch would be inside or outside. But if I moved, then the batter would know, too. So instead of moving to the right or the left, Newt taught me to take two steps in or two steps back. That way, I would be closer to where the ball was likely to be hit, but from the batter's perspective, I was still in the same spot.

We opened the 1942 season in Memphis. I thought I had no place to play, but there I was in the starting lineup at second base. Newt had told our manager to put me there. I will always be thankful for his help.

Frank Duncan managed the team. Actually, Newt Joseph, the third base coach, did most of the managing; Duncan's main job was to run us to death in spring training. On the field, Duncan could be mean, but outside the ballpark, he was the nicest man I ever met.

The meanest man in baseball, however, played left field. Bill Simms was another Ty Cobb, a speedy leadoff hitter who hated everyone I just stayed out of his way.

I roomed with Willard Brown, our top power hitter. he didn't care if the pitch was in the strike zone or not. He hit it hard and far. He could be undone by a pitch around the chest, but you couldn't get him out with a low pitch. Willard didn't talk much, except to himself. He would get bored in center field and start saying things. One day we

were down, 1-0, and Willard told me, "You'd better get on base." So I pushed a bunt to third and beat it out. The pitcher tried to throw a curve to Willard, but it broke too soon and bounced in front of the plate. Willard hit it on the bounce and put it over the fence.

Ted Strong, the other outfielder, also played basketball with the Globetrotters. With his large hands, he looked as good on the court as at the plate. He could play any position, even catch.

Joe Greene handled the regular catching duties. Runners respected Greene's strong arm and quick move to the bases. He struck out a lot, but hit with power.

Buck O'Neil did it all at first base and joined five other Monarchs at the East-West game. He later managed the Monarchs. Buck's long arms could snag a high throw or scoop the ball out of the dirt and turn it into an out.

Buck had no such trouble with throws from third base. Herb Souell's arm was not impressive, but he never threw wild and he never threw late. The hot corner deserved its nickname in our league. Souell would scoop up the ball, as smooth as you please, and lob it to first yelling, "Help me. Help me." And just before the runner could touch the bag, that ball would land in O'Neil's glove.

Shortstop Jesse Williams could spurt into the hole and fire the ball across the field like a bullet. He would slide across second base as he cheated on the double play. We made a lot of double plays that way. You see, we had only two umpires, and no one watches the infielder's feet. Everybody watches the ball. It's only natural to follow the ball. So we took advantage of that when crossing second base.

I cheated on the double play, too. They called me the "Vacuum Cleaner" because I left no dust on the infield, or so it was said. I studied the hitters and knew where to play each one. I also studied our pitchers. I had to know if my pitcher was capable of putting the ball where the catcher wanted it.

Of course, our pitchers had great control. Satchel had regained the speed on his fastball and could put it wherever he wanted. I never saw Satchel hit a batter. He did-

n't have to. Although everyone knew Satchel, he never remembered our names. He called me "Gospel Chicken" and Killdee."

One time a white all-star team requested that Satchel not pitch. We said, "Okay. You select the pitcher you want." Connie Johnson was napping in the bullpen, so they picked him. Connie had a blazing fastball and mowed them down. After we whipped them, they told us, "We thought there was only one Satchel Paige, but you have two Satchels."

Big, even-tempered Jack Matchett also threw hard, but was wild. His career ended during an argument with his wife. She cut his arm with a knife, slicing the muscle. He couldn't pitch after that.

Curveballer Jim LaMarque had very different experiences with women. He was the ladies' man on the team. If there was not but one woman in the whole town, LaMarque would be walking down the street with that woman on his arm.

Hilton Smith's arm changed inversely with his health. If he were smiling and feeling good, we didn't give him the ball. But if he had a headache, he was untouchable.

We had a great season, and went on to win the black World Series, stopping the mighty Homestead Grays with a four-game sweep. I knew that I wanted to spend the rest of my life in baseball.

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Barry Mednick is an electrical engineer--computer analyst--who is the head of the West Coast SABR Convention for 1998.

In 1924, the Kansas City Monarchs became the first Kansas City-based team to play in a sanctioned World Series. The Monarchs defeated Hilldale from Darby, Pennsylvania in a thrilling 10-game series.

— Larry Lester



All-Star Games in Kansas City

by Bob Cole

The first Major League All-Star game played in Kansas City featured the traditional red, white and blue bunting hanging on the front of box seats, colored team flags fluttering in the wind above the grandstand, and green outfield grass rich from recent rains.

The afternoon contest, the 28th All-Star game, was played at Municipal Stadium on July 11, 1960, in a sweltering, 100-degree heat. A crowd of 30,619 saw the National League All-Stars beat the stars of the American League 5-3. The attendance was below the stadium record of 33,585, set on July 4, 1955 when the New York Yankees visited the Athletics.

The National League team was crowded with star players, many of whom now reside in the Hall of Fame. They scored all of their runs in the first three innings off two, young American League hurlers, Bill Monbouquette of the Boston Red Sox, and Baltimore Oriole Chuck Estrada.

The winning pitcher was Bob Friend of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who held the American League to only one hit over three innings. Friend was followed by Mike McCormick of San Francisco, the Pirates' Elroy Face and Vern Law, and Bob Buhl of the Milwaukee Braves.

In addition to Monbouquette and Estrada, the American League used Jim Coates of the Yankees, Gary Bell of the Cleveland Indians, Kansas City's Bud Daley, and Frank Lary of the Detroit Tigers. Walter Alston of the Los Angeles Dodgers managed the National League squad, while White Sox skipper Al Lopez led the American League.

Willie Mays, representing the San Francisco Giants, led off the game with a long triple to right field. It was May's first appearance in Kansas City since being called up to the Major Leagues from Minneapolis of the American Association in 1951.

Mays quickly scored on a single by Bob Skinner of the Pirates. Monbouquette retired both Eddie Mathews and Hank Aaron of Milwaukee before facing Ernie Banks of the Chicago Cubs. Banks, a former Kansas City Monarch of the Negro Leagues, hit a towering drive over the left

field fence to give the National League an early 3-0 cushion. The home run was Banks' first in All-Star competition.

In the second inning, the Braves' Del Crandall tagged Monbouquette's first pitch over the left field screen, increasing the lead to 4-0. Crandall's homer was his first in five All-Star appearances.

Estrada retired the first two batters he faced before yielding a double to Banks, a high shot off the left field screen. The Braves' Joe Adcock singled off the glove of Frank Malzone of Boston at third, with Banks moving to third base. Bill Mazeroski of Pittsburgh singled to left and Banks scored.

The American league managed one hit off Friend and McCormick through the first five innings. In the sixth inning, they produced three hits and one tally, an unearned run.

Harvey Kuenn of the Cleveland Indians reached first base on a pop fly that landed between Aaron and Mazeroski, only to be thrown out when he tried to reach second base. Al Kaline reached first safely on an error by Mathews, his second of the game. After Bill Skowron of the Yankees singled, the Yankees' Elston Howard walked to load the bases. Nellie Fox of the White Sox singled to left field, scoring Kaline.

The American League's final two runs came in the eighth inning off Buhl. Kuenn was safe on an error by the Dodgers' Charlie Neal. Then, Kaline followed with a drive over the left field wall, his second home run in All-Star game competition.

The first dramatic incident of the day came when the public address announcer began his player introductions. When he announced "and from the St. Louis Cardinals, Stan Musial," a tremendous cheer burst from the stands followed by applause that continued for 10 to 15 seconds. The ovation was described as the "most prolonged ovation of the afternoon, a moving tribute to the St. Louis star making his 17th All-Star appearance." At the time, Musial held the All-Star game record for home runs with five, at bats with 55, and total bases with 34.

Musial was tied for the All-Star record for most runs, 10, with Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox. Williams, selected as an All-Star for the sixteenth time, had hit four home runs in All-Star competition.

When the American League stars were introduced, the crowd responded with loud cheers for Williams and local pitcher Bud Daley, the Athletics' lone representative on the squad. Daley led the major leagues with a 12-4 record. A smattering of boos could be heard in the crowd when Mickey Mantle and Vic Power were introduced.

One of the most thrilling performances of the day was supplied by Willie Mays. In addition to his triple in the first inning, he singled sharply to left in the second inning, and stretched a single into a double in the fourth. His speed and daring base running captivated the crowd. When he reached first in the second inning, many in the crowd began to chant "go, go, go," anxious for more of his dashing style of play.

The game was a tribute to the work of A's owner Arnold Johnson, who died in March of 1960. Johnson went to American League president Will Harridge shortly after moving the franchise, requesting the game be played in Kansas City.

A distinguished list of baseball visitors crowded the grand ballroom of the Hotel Muehlebach at a reception honoring the teams the night before the game. The dignitaries included Ford Frick, commissioner, American League president Joe Cronin, and Warren C. Giles, president of the National League. A huge press corps of nearly 270, including the top sportswriters in the country, were also guests at the reception.

By the time the All-Star game returned in 1973, Kansas City had a new team, a new owner, and a new stadium with fountains and artificial turf. The 44th All-Star game was played under an overcast sky at Royals Stadium on July 24, 1973 before an overflow crowd of 40,849 fans, and a national television audience estimated at fifty million. The game, won by the National League 7-1, was played on the 40th anniversary of the first All-Star contest in 1933.

The National League won with home runs by

AMERICAN LEAGUE STARTING LINE-UP

Minnie Minoso, Chicago LF .317
Frank Malzone, Boston 3B .262
Roger Maris, New York RF .320
Mickey Mantle, New York CF .274
Bill Skowron, New York 1B .316
Yogi Berra, New York C .291
Pete Runnels, Boston 2B .321
Ron Hansen, Baltimore SS .254
Bill Monbouquette, Boston P 8-7

NATIONAL LEAGUE STARTING LINE-UP

Bob Skinner, Pittsburgh LF .304
Willie Mays, San Francisco CF .353
Eddie Mathews, Milwaukee 3B .266
Hank Aaron, Milwaukee RF .290
Ernie Banks, Chicago SS .293
Joe Adcock, Milwaukee 1B .313
Bill Mazeroski, Pittsburgh 2B .249
Del Crandall, Milwaukee C .237
Bob Friend, Pittsburgh 10-5

Johnny

Bench, Bobby Bonds, and Willie Davis. Seven pitchers limited the American League to five hits, including three by Royals' stars Amos Otis and John Mayberry.

Cincinnati Reds manager Sparky Anderson, and Dick Williams of the Oakland Athletics, managed the two teams, utilizing a total of 54 players in the game, an All-Star record.

The American League jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the second inning off starting pitcher Rick Wise of the St. Louis Cardinals, the winner of the game. With one out, Reggie Jackson of Oakland doubled, followed by Otis' single to center field. Those were the only hits Wise allowed in his two innings of work.

American League starting pitcher Jim "Catfish" Hunter retired the first four batters he faced before leaving the game after attempting to knock down Billy Williams' sharp single in the second inning. Minnesota righthander Bert Blyleven replaced Hunter and wound up

with the loss in the game.

The National League took the lead 2-1 in the third inning. Blyleven walked two batters, followed by run-producing singles by Cesar Cedeno of Houston and Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves.

Bench homered in the fourth inning, a shot deep into the left field seats. It was the catcher's third homer in six All-Star game appearances.

In the fifth, Bobby Bonds homered over the left field barrier, a two-run shot off Bill Singer that gave the Nationals a 5-1 cushion. Singer, of the California Angels, was an All-Star for the first time since making it as a Los Angeles Dodger in 1969.

Singer's Angel teammate, Nolan Ryan, was the victim of the final National League home run, in the sixth inning. Davis, the Dodger outfielder, delivered a pinch-hit homer into the water in right field.

Bonds, described as "San Francisco's do-everything lead-off hitter," failed to make the starting line-up, finishing fourth in fan balloting. Yet the 27 year-old outfielder was aggressive enough to win the game's Most Valuable Player award for his play.

Bonds entered the game in the fourth inning, replacing Williams of the Cubs. He promptly cracked a liner to left-center off Ryan that quickly stretched into a double. Milwaukee center fielder Dave May had no chance to get Bonds, as he never stopped running rounding first base. He finished with a home run, double, two runs batted in, and one run scored.

For local fans, it proved a "Royals Night." Otis, John Mayberry, and Cookie Rojas all reached base at least once. Otis produced two singles and a stolen base in two trips. Mayberry doubled and walked in four at-bats.

Mayberry received a huge ovation when the players were introduced prior to the game. Mayberry came into his first All-Star game with 20 home runs and 80 runs batted in. Otis also had 20 homers.

But the longest and loudest standing ovation of the night came for Hank Aaron. Coming into the game, Aaron led all National League starters with 27 home runs. In addition, his career total stood at 700, only 15 shy of Babe Ruth's record. Aaron ranked as the All-Star game's first 700-homer performer. Ruth played in only two All-Star contests, 1933 and 1934. He had 699 homers entering the 1934 game, and got 700 three days later.

Several All-Star game records were broken or extended in the game. Willie Mays set the record for most at

bats total games (75), and most times on winning club (17). Mays also tied the record for most games (24).

Singer of the Angels and Dave Johnson of Atlanta became the 12th and 13th players to represent both leagues in All-Star games. Johnson had appeared for the Orioles in 1968 and 1970. Singer had represented the Dodgers in 1969. Rojas is one of the others to have played for All-Star teams in both leagues.

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Robert Cole is a freelance writer, living in Harry Truman's hometown of Independence, Missouri.



Satchel Paige Memorial Stadium, sight of the Kansas City Monarchs reunion, was dedicated on August 9, 1984.



Kansas City Packers

by Patrick Rock

Long forgotten by most Kansas Citians, the 1915 Federal League gave the city its first real major league pennant race, and still it was one of the most exciting.

A mid-season replacement team in the league's inaugural minor-league season of 1913, the Kansas City Packers were a true dark horse for its concluding one. Finishing a distant sixth place (67-84, 20 games out of 1st) in 1914, the franchise had barely survived the off-season, losing their ballpark to a flash flood in the waning days of the previous campaign, and just staving off the League's attempt to move them to Newark. In the wake of those maneuverings, the Indianapolis franchise was transferred instead of Kansas City. Expected to finish again in the nether reaches of the standings, the Packers were the surprise team of the 1915 season, leading the league for a large part of the way, contending until the last few weeks. They never let up through the entire season.

This was a team with no stars, only a handful of its players had major league careers of significant length. The pitching staff and starting lineup were both studded with unknowns and mediocrities, a Cinderella team if ever there was one.

There were some good players, but the team was mostly made up of career minor leaguers (Chet Chadbourne), big leaguers having a last fling (Bill Bradley), young pros getting an early shot (Johnny Rawlings) or Walter Mitty one-shots (Ben Harris) who would have otherwise never seen major league play.

Manager and first baseman George "Firebrand" Stovall,--through as a player--proved himself an able manager and motivator, imparting his own combativeness and work ethic on the team. Figuring his major league playing days over after the 1913 season with the Browns, he was the first bona fide major leaguer to jump to the Feds (Joe Tinker was the first star to jump). The two years in Kansas City were a sweet homecoming for Stovall who was born in Blue Springs, Missouri.

Second baseman Bill Kenworthy, hit 15 home runs in 1914 when the home town fences were closer and short-

er, but could only manage three this year. He remained a dangerous hitter with a .299 BA and good doubles power.

Johnny Rawlings played 120 games at shortstop in 1915. He would go on to play 10 years with four National League teams, but this year he was a raw 22-year-old, overmatched at the plate and maladroitness with the glove.

Chet Chadbourne was a great minor-league outfielder. His record was included in SABR's first Minor League Stars. This year was his only real shot in the bigs (he had a couple "cups of coffee" otherwise), and he acquitted himself well, though he would find himself back in the minors in 1916.

Grover Gilmore was a career minor-league outfielder whose only shot at the bigs came with Kansas City. His 108 strikeouts in 1914 was the second-highest season total at the time. His performance in Kansas City should have merited at least one more shot at the bigs, but his career was cut short by war and by death due to typhoid.

Al Shaw hit .324 in Brooklyn's bandbox park in 1914, but proved to be a decent hitter in a less favorable park, hitting .281 while platooning with the right-handed Art Kruger. The platooning was somewhat unnecessary, however, as Shaw hit .344 against lefties while managing .272 against righthanders.

Shaw's opposite number, Art Kruger, was a journeyman outfielder who was frequently mistaken for Art "Otto" Kreuger, so obscure was he. In his fourth, and last major league season, he was already past his prime.

Ted Easterly was the team's primary backstop, and pinch-hitter deluxe when he wasn't starting. Easterly was probably the premiere pinch-hitter of the dead-ball era, his lifetime .296 PH BA still rank among the top 10.

George Perring was an undistinguished journeyman infielder, logging three partial seasons with Cleveland before becoming Kansas City's starting third baseman and general utility player.

Bill Bradley wasn't always the pathetic hitter he was reduced to by 1915. In fact, he was considered by many to have been the best third baseman in the American League's history to that point. His 1902 29-game hitting

streak was the AL record until Ty Cobb's streak in 1911. By in 1915 it remained the 10th-longest of all time. He was frequently among the top hitters in the AL's first five years (before a debilitating injury), and was still the leader in most AL lifetime fielding categories for third basemen. Now, however, he was nothing more than a coach and defensive replacement.

Norman Andrew "Nick" Cullop achieved a dubiously unique accomplishment in 1914 when he logged a 14-20 record while pitching in two different leagues. As unusual as it was to win 20 games split between two leagues, it was even a rarer feat to do the reverse. In the 20th century, only one other pitcher has done so, and the encyclopedias are in dispute over Roscoe Miller's "achievement" in 1902. Cullop turned himself around in 1915, going 22-11 for the Packers. He worked two decent seasons for the Yankees following the FL campaigns, but dropped back to the minors, appearing only briefly with the Browns in 1921.

Gene Packard, the team's other southpaw pitcher, won 20 for the team in 1914, and matched his total in 1915, averaging 292 innings each year.

George "Chief" Johnson, a Winnebago Indian, was the object of a noted lawsuit during the Federal League War, when the Cincinnati Reds won an injunction in an Ohio court to enjoin him from pitching for the Packs. Fortunately for the Packs, there were no Ohio teams in the Federal League, and the "Chief" took an alternate route when the team traveled by train to Pittsburgh and Buffalo.

Beginning its season with an 8-0 loss to the Pittsburgh Rebels (named for their manager, "Rebel" Oakes), the team played .500 ball throughout April and early May, then began to win regularly, finally moving into first place with a 1-0 victory over Fielder Jones' St. Louis Terriers on June 7. They continued to win, playing .600 ball through July 4.

The game of May 23 against the Buffalo Blues was an example of their fight and luck during this spell. Rallying from a deficit in the third, the Packs loaded the bases in



the fourth against lefty Heinie Schulz, who had replaced a right-handed pitcher. Stovall platooned Shaw and Kruger in left field, and made the switch to Kruger at this juncture. Kruger gained his 30 minutes of fame, rewarding Stovall's faith with a grand slam, only the third pinch-hit grand slam in major league history.

As summer wore on, the thinness of the Packers' roster began to tell. They dropped back with the rest of the pack, fighting Pittsburgh, St. Louis, the Chicago Whales and the Newark Peppers for the lead.

Stovall and the Packers fought for first place in quite a literal manner in a late-July series with Brooklyn. The Packs split a double-header with the Tip-Tops, and Stovall split the lip of umpire Corcoran. A planned "day" for Stovall was almost postponed when he was threatened with suspension.

The threat was not carried out, and "Stovall Day" went on as planned. The Packers regained first with consecutive double-header sweeps over the last place Baltimore Terrapins on July 31 and August 1. The first three games were all decided by 2-1 counts.

That was the high mark of the season. They then lost eight of ten games to fall to fourth place. They were fading, and needed a miracle. That miracle, albeit short-lived, came on August 16 in the form of Miles Grant "Alex" Main.

Main did not appear destined for fame on that hot afternoon in Buffalo. His only real claim to fame was that he was one of the tallest pitchers of the dead-ball era; Macmillan listed him at 6'5", but photographs suggest he was taller. He sported an 11-10 record for the season at that point. Fourth in the Packers' rotation, his then-life-time mark of 17-16 did little if anything to further the impression of a hurler bound for glory.

But on that August afternoon, he was nearly untouchable, giving the Packers a much-needed lift.

Staked to a 3-0 lead before taking the mound, Main walked the game's leadoff batter, retired the next three, and pitched a perfect second inning. Buffalo catcher Walter Blair led off the third with a sharp grounder to short that tied up Johnny Rawlings. He beat it out. After some argument among the sportswriters, the scorer ruled it a hit. That tainted hit loomed larger with each inning, as Main retired 21 of the remaining 22 men he faced, allowing only one other base runner in the 9th on an obvious error by second baseman Bill Kenworthy. Main faced

only three over the limit in his 5-0 victory.

Main retired to the visitors' clubhouse thinking he'd thrown a 1-hitter and was happy with a shutout win. Within moments he learned that he now had credit for one better than that. Shortstop Rawlings, who would be charged with 46 errors that season, was glad to take credit for this one, too.

So Main's accomplishment was greeted with rousing fanfare and celebration, right? Well, not exactly. The Kansas City Star carried the news in its late edition that day with a less-than-celebratory endorsement: "The big hurler pitched what probably will go down in the records as a no-hit, scoreless game . . ." The Buffalo Express was even more pointedly unenthusiastic the next day, going so far as to deny the no-hitter in print, listing the hit-turned-error as a hit-turned-error-turned-to-hit and gave the story a rousing headline of "Anderson or Schulz Will Pitch Today", not even mentioning the game itself until the second paragraph.

In the course of a loss to Buffalo on September 11, Main suffered a freak injury. Following a foul ball, Umpire Westerveldt tossed the ball back to Main. When the giant reached for the high toss, he dislocated his left shoulder. This injury would keep him on the sidelines for about a week. While throwing batting practice the next week in anticipation of a start the next day, Main was struck in the ribs by a line drive. This fracture ended his season.

The final home game was a victory for the Packs. It featured fist fights between Stovall and two Baltimore players, Jimmy Smith and Otto Knabe. Stovall reported that he had been spiked several times during the series by Terrapin players and had warned them that he would punch anyone who tried it again. Smith was the culprit today, and Knabe got into the fray as the manager. Stovall invited both men to step outside the park for a second round, but police broke up the scuffle between the two managers in the clubhouse.

Despite the victory, the Packers found themselves eliminated from the race when St. Louis won. While three teams were still in the chase, Kansas City was playing only for pride and for the memories.

September 29 was a memorable day for Gene Packard. Not only did the southpaw win his 20th of the season (making him the FL's only two-time twenty-game winner), but he performed a feat of pitching and hitting of



remarkable rarity.

With a scoreless tie in the top of the sixth, Gene took advantage of the short right porch in St. Louis' Handlan's Field, and drove a ball into the seats for a solo home run. Davenport was invincible otherwise, yielding on four singles and no walks throughout the remainder of the game. Of course, Packard was even better, giving up only four singles (two of them scratches) and a walk, shutting out the Terriers 1-0. This was only the third time in Major League annals that a pitcher had won a 1-0 game with his own home run. It would only be matched eight more times.

Davenport must have felt particularly snakebitten, as this was the third time this season Packard had taken a game from him by that minimum count. It left the Terriers in the unenviable position of needing to sweep the remaining three games against the Packs.

It looked all but impossible the next day when the Packs jumped to a 2-1 lead in the seventh by virtue of a triple steal, but Chief Johnson gave up a single to lead off the home half of the inning. Pep Goodwin gave the Terriers the tying run by allowing a dribbler to go through his legs, then throwing the ball away in his attempt to catch the runner. Another base hit, another error and a sacrifice fly plated a total of three runs, and the Terriers were still in the race.

All games around the league were rained out October 1. When play resumed, the Terriers were a half-game behind the Rebels, with Chicago a full game behind St. Louis. Dave Davenport returned to the mound to try to gain revenge on the Packers for his earlier defeats. For awhile it looked as if he would finally reverse the tables. He led 1-0, going into the fifth. However, he found the bases loaded with two out and his opposite number, Cullop, at the plate. Cullop did what any lifetime .149 hitter would do in that situation, he slammed the first pitch off the center-field wall for a double, scoring all three runners. The Packers won the game, and St. Louis discovered to its horror that, although a half-game behind Chicago (who swept a twinbill from Pittsburgh) with one game left to play, the team had been mathematically eliminated from the race.

The final game went to the Terriers, 6-2, while the Whales and Rebels split, ending the season with the closest finish in major league history. The Whales finished 86-66, a won-lost percentage of .566; the Terriers were

87-67, .565 and the Rebels 86-67, .561. In the other leagues, the race would not have been over, as both Chicago and Pittsburgh would have had make up their rainouts, but the Feds had no such provision. Despite protests from both St. Louis and Pittsburgh, the Whales refused to make up their game or agree to a three-team playoff. The season had a finish at least as controversial as the league's beginning.

The Packs finished fourth, 5½ games behind Chicago, with an 81-72 record, half a game better than Newark, which finished 80-72. Kansas City would not see as high a finish by a major league team for another 56 years.

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Patrick Rock is a computer programmer and longtime SABR member.

Left-handers Gene Packard and Nick Cullop were the only pitchers with overall winning records for the Kansas City Packers.

	For Packers		AL - NL	
	Won-Lost	ERA	Won-Lost	ERA
Gene Packard	40-26	2.79	45-43	3.17
Nick Cullop	36-30	2.39	21-25	3.21
Chief Johnson	26-27	2.88	14-16	3.07
Pete Henning	14-25	3.83	No appearances	
Miles Main	13-14	2.54	8-8	3.06
Dwight Stone	8-14	4.34	2-6	3.56
Ben Harris	7-7	4.04	No appearances	
Dan Adams	4-11	3.74	No appearances	
George Hogan	0-1	4.15	No appearances	
Babe Blackburn	0-1	8.62	0-0	0.00

The eight other pitchers with at least one decision for the packers were right-handed. The Packers' overall record in the major-league Federal League (1914-15) was 148-156.



The Parade, 15th St. and The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. Yesterday, Well. Amos

Negro League Pennant Winners

Negro National League

1938 Homestead Grays
1939 Baltimore Elite Giant
1940 Homestead Grays
1941 Homestead Grays
1942 Homestead Grays
1943 Homestead Grays*
1944 Homestead Grays*
1945 Homestead Grays
1946 Newark Eagles*
1947 New York Cubans*
1948 Homestead Grays*

Negro American League

Memphis Red Sox
Kansas City Monarchs
Kansas City Monarchs
Kansas City Monarchs
Kansas City Monarchs*
Birmingham Black Barons
Birmingham Black Barons
Cleveland Buckeyes*
Kansas City Monarchs
Cleveland Buckeyes
Birmingham Black Barons

* World Series Champions

The Parade Grounds, at 15th and Paseo, in Kansas City, Missouri, were the scene of many impromptu baseball games in 1909 when this picture was snapped. Later, the Kansas City Monarchs used the field as a second



The Road to Cooperstown goes through Kansas City

by Lloyd Johnson and Bill Carle

Many members of the Baseball Hall of Fame played, coached, managed or scouted for various Kansas City ball clubs. Here is a thumbnail sketch of each of the 29 all-time greats.

Luke Appling, a lifetime .310 hitter, played 20 years as shortstop for the Chicago White Sox, but never appeared in a World Series game. The two-time AL batting champ coached the Kansas City A's under Charley Finley 1964-1967. He moved with the club to Oakland in 1968 as a scout.

Ernie Banks played shortstop for the Kansas City Monarchs who signed him off the Dallas, Texas, sandlots. After one season in the Negro American League, he was sold to the Chicago Cubs where he spent the rest of his career.

Jake Beckley still holds the record for the most major-league games played at first base. He also played a few for the Blues in 1908-09 and managed the club to a last-place finish in 1909. He left Kansas City to go to Bartlesville and Topeka. The Hall of Famer had 2,930 hits in the majors and another 834 in the minors.

James "Cool Papa" Bell combined speed, daring and batting skill to rank among the best players ever in the Negro leagues. His contemporaries rated him the fastest man, especially from first to third. The switch-hitting center fielder played for the St. Louis Stars, Pittsburgh Crawfords, Homestead Grays and Kansas City Monarchs between 1922 and 1950, spending part of the 1932 season with Kansas City. In twenty-one of those years, he also competed in winter ball. His calm demeanor before big crowds and his general outlook on life resulted in his nickname — "Cool Papa." He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1974.

Yogi Berra never played on a Kansas City team, but he was reserved on the Kansas City Blues roster for two years, 1944-1945, while he performed his military service. Back in New York, he won three Most Valuable Player Awards while leading the Yankees to 13 pennants in 16 years.

Lou Boudreau as player-manager of the Cleveland

Indians conceived of the radical Ted Williams-shift that left only one player on the left side of the diamond. More importantly, he went 4-for-4 with two home runs in the first AL playoff ever to give the Indians the 1948 pennant. He was the Athletics' first manager after they moved to Kansas City from Philadelphia. When his A's finished sixth in 1955, they set a franchise attendance record.

George Brett learned how to hit after he reached the Majors at the tender age of 20 in 1973. He learned well enough to finish with 3,154 hits — including 665 doubles, fifth on the all-time list.

Joe Cronin — the only player ever to be sold by his father-in-law — played briefly in 1928 for the Blues, then was drafted by Washington where he began his American League career and met his future wife, the daughter of Senators' owner Clark Griffith. Cronin hit .245 in 74 games for the Blues.

Whitey Ford, the Chairman of the Board, was called "Slick" by manager Casey Stengel and his Yankee teammates. He won 236 games and lost only 106, for a .690 winning percentage, the highest of any pitcher in the Hall of Fame. As a youngster, Ford was 6-3 in 12 games at Kansas City on his way to the Yankees in 1950. Unlike his buddy, Mickey Mantle, Whitey Ford never went down once he reached the big time.

Burleigh Grimes — nicknamed "old stubblebeard" because he refrained from shaving on days he pitched — won 270 games and pitched in four World Series for three different teams. But the Blues finished a dismal seventh under his tutelage in 1946. Grimes coached the 1955 A's, then scouted for them the next two years.

Billy Hamilton was the town's first big star. "Sliding Billy" stole 117 bases to lead the American Association in 1888 with the Cowboys. The next year he, again, led the league with 102 steals. The lifetime .344 hitter stole 937 bases which was the all-time record until Lou Brock broke it. He became a club owner, manager, and player in the New England League after his major league career.

Gabby Hartnett worked for Charley Finley first as a coach, then as a scout and front-office staff member

in 1965-66. Hartnett was the backstop for four Chicago Cub pennant-winners; his famous "Homer in the gloamin'" put the 1938 Cubs ahead of the Pirates in the NL race.

Carl Hubbell, the screwball throwing lefthander pitched in relief for the Blues on May 15 and 16, 1927.

Catfish Hunter, the smooth righthander, was nicknamed by Charles Finley who paid \$75,000 for him in 1964. Hunter pitched for the Kansas City A's three seasons — he even appeared at first base once — and won 30 of his 224 victories in a Kansas City uniform.

Reggie Jackson was the first pick — second player overall — of the Athletics in the June 1966 free-agent draft. He played 35 games with one home run for Kansas City the following year before moving on to Oakland, Baltimore, New York, and California. During his career, Jackson powered 563 homers and drove in 1,702 runs.

Harmon Killebrew, aka the Killer, played the 1975 season for the Royals. He hit 14 homers, but more importantly, he protected John Mayberry in the batting order. Killebrew's last season led to Mayberry's best season. The Killer swatted 573 home runs and had 1,584 RBI in his 22-year career.

Bob Lemon, who first made it to the Majors as a third baseman with the Indians before switching to his Hall of Fame pitching career, managed the Royals for 425 games in 1970-72. His second-place finish in the club's third year of existence was his greatest achievement, he compiled a 207-218 record as an expansion skipper.

Mickey Mantle — the Commerce Comet — had trouble adjusting to American League pitching when he jumped from Class C to the majors in 1951. Casey Stengel, Yankee manager, sent him down to Kansas City to learn the strike zone and receive advice from his dad, Mutt Mantle. His dad broke into Mick's room at the Muehlebach and started packing his clothes. He explained to his son that he didn't raise a quitter, and if Mick was going to quit the Yankees he might as well come home. We know what happened next.

Joe McGinnity, nicknamed Iron Man because he



worked in ore mines during the off-season, pitched for the 1894 Western League Blues. His 8-10 record belied his ability, which would account for 247 big-league wins and 235 in the minors. He won his last professional game at age 54 in the Mississippi Valley League in 1925.

Johnny Mize, the Big Cat, had trouble adjusting to Casey Stengel's managing techniques and American League pitching in 1950, so the Yankee skipper sent him down to Kansas City to find his stroke. It must have worked. The future Hall of Fame first sacker played on five straight World Series champions. He still holds the all-time St. Louis Cardinal single-season home run record with 43 in 1940.

Kid Nichols reached 300 victories at age 30 — Cy Young was 34 when he entered the charmed circle — and may have been the best pitcher of all time. He married a Kansas City woman and lived his entire adulthood in Kansas City. Still attending Hall of Fame gatherings into his 80s, the Kid provided a real link to baseball's past. He played for Kansas City in 1887, 1888, 1902-1903. He owned, managed, and pitched for the '02-'03 Western League team. He also managed Casey Stengel in the Kansas City Amateur Athletic League in 1908-09. Nichols is buried in Kansas City.

Leroy "Satchel" Paige may have been the greatest pitcher of all time, and was certainly baseball's greatest showman. He often guaranteed to strike out the first nine hitters. Paige's assortment of pitches included "Old Tom," his fastball, "Long Tom," his really fast ball, and his most famous pitch, "the Hesitation." Dizzy Dean said of him, "If Satch and I was pitching on the same team, we'd clinch the pennant by July 4th and go fishing until World Series time." Though born in the South, he married a local woman and lived in Kansas City when he wasn't on the road.

Gaylord Perry was already a 300-game winner when he joined the Royals on July 6, 1983. He finished his career in Kansas City that summer, going 4-4 with one shutout. He started baseball at age 19 with St. Cloud in the Northern League and ended up with the Royals 26 years later. In between he won 314 major-league games.

Phil Rizzuto, aka the Scooter, was one of Kansas City's favorite ballplayers. The shortstop for the 1939-40 back-to-back American Association pennant winners, tiny Rizzuto was Minor League Player of the Year in

1940. Ironically, he ended up playing for Casey Stengel and the Yankees after Casey as the Brooklyn Dodger manager had rejected him for being too small. As leadoff man for the 1950 Yanks, he won the AL Most Valuable Player Award.

Jackie Robinson was an exciting, versatile competitor and an electrifying baserunner. Combining these qualities with his batting and fielding skills, he could beat the opposition in any number of ways. As a member of the 1945 Kansas City Monarchs, Robinson learned the infield tricks that enabled him to play first, second, and third for the Dodgers. The Monarchs changed him from a shortstop to the best utility man in baseball history. He was the 1947 Rookie of the Year and NL Most Valuable Player in 1949.

Enos Slaughter wept when informed that he had been traded to the Yankees by the Cardinals. He wept again when told he was leaving the league-leading Yankees to go to the last-place Kansas City A's. While in Kansas City, Slaughter gained legions of fans who turned out to see a bona fide World Series star.

Tris Speaker, prematurely gray, was known as the Grey Eagle or Spoke. He was part of an ownership group that purchased the Blues from the Muehlebach estate in 1933. The .344 hitter with 3,515 lifetime hits appeared on a Goudey baseball card in a Kansas City Blues uniform but failed to last a month as Blues manager.

Casey Stengel was owned by the Blues, who signed him out of Central High School and shipped him out to the low minors. The irrepressible Casey returned to his native city 35 years later to manage the 1945 Blues to a cellar finish. Stengel is best known for winning 10 pennants in 12 years. He also hit two home runs to win games in the 1923 World Series for the New York Giants.

Zach Wheat, a lifetime .317 hitter with 2,884 hits, is buried in the same cemetery as Satchel Paige on Troost Avenue. Wheat, who was born in Hamilton, Missouri, played along side Casey Stengel in the Brooklyn Robins' outfield for six years.

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*Lloyd Johnson is the editor of the
Encyclopedia of Minor League Baseball.*



Top: To meet a demanding schedule, he required this Cessna airplane. Paige's constant companion was pro boxer Henry Armstrong.
Bottom: In 1946, the Satchel Paige All-Stars barnstorm across the country, in this Flying Tiger, against the Bob Feller All-Stars for a 13-game series.



Ball Park Sites in Kansas City, Missouri

by Lloyd Johnson

Ball Park Sites in Kansas City, Missouri

Name	Location	Team
Exercise Field	14th & McGee	Antelopes 1866
Athletic Field	SW Blvd. & Summit	Unions UA 1884
Pastime Park	SW Blvd. & Broadway	Cowboys WL 1885
League Park	Independence & Lydia	Cowboys NL 1886
		Cowboys WA 1887
		Cowboys AA 1888-89
Exposition Park	15th & Montgall	Blues WA-WL-AL 1888-1902
Sportsman's Park	17th & Indiana	Blue Stockings WA 1902-03
Shelly Park	Independence & Oak	Royal Giants 1910-15
Association Park	19th & Olive	Blues AA 1903-1922
	(20th & Prospect)	Monarchs 1920-1922
Parade Park	17th & Paseo	Monarchs 1930-1940s
Muehlebach Stadium	22nd & Brooklyn	Blues AA 1923-1954
		Monarchs 1923-1954
		Athletics AL 1955-1967
		Royals AL 1969-1972
Gordon & Koppel Stadium	48th & Tracy	Packers FL 1914-1915
Satchel Paige Stadium (CYO)	49th & Slope Parkway	Amateur 1981 —
Kauffman Stadium	I-70/Blue Ridge Cutoff	Royals AL 1973 —

Kansas City Ball Park Tour: 18 miles

Start at SW Blvd. & Summit (Athletic Field), go northeast on SW Blvd., past Broadway (Pastime Park) to Main, north on Main to Truman Road, east on Truman Road to McGee, north on McGee, Past 14th (Exercise Field) to 6th Street, east on 6th, past Oak (freeway is the site of old Shelly Park) to Charlotte, north on Charlotte, under freeway, one block to Independence Ave., east on Independence, past Lydia (League Park, aka the Hole) to the Paseo, south on The Paseo to 12th, east on 12th, past 12th street and Vine Memorial to Prospect, south on Prospect to Truman Road, east on Truman Road to Montgall, south one block on Montgall to Benton Plaza (Exposition Park — still in use), east on Benton Plaza back to Truman Road, east on Truman Road to Indiana Ave., past Sears Warehouse (Sportsman's Park) to 18th, was on 18th to Olive, south on Olive to 19th (Association

Park), was on 19th to Brooklyn, south on Brooklyn, past Muehlebach Stadium site (aka Blue Stadium, Monarchs Stadium, Ruppert Stadium, and Municipal Stadium), to Linwood Blvd., west on Linwood Blvd. to the Paseo, south on The Paseo to 47th, west on 47th to Tracy, turn around in the New York Deli parking lot (Gordon & Koppel Stadium) east on 47th to Swope Parkway turn off, south on Swope Parkway to 50th (Satchel Paige Stadium), west on 50th to College, north on College back to Swope Parkway, east on Swope Parkway, turn into Blue Parkway, to LC's Bar-B-Que on Sni-a-bar Road, east northeast on Sni-a-ba to Ozark Road, northeast on Ozark to Raytown Road, southeast on Raytown Road to Gate Four or Royal Way, north on Royal Way to Kauffman Stadium.

Exercise Field — 14th and McGee

D. S. Twitchell formed Kansas City's first baseball team, the Antelopes, in August 1866. The club played weekly exercise matches. The Antelopes journeyed by train to Leavenworth for a match game with the Frontier Base Ball Club. After nine innings of play, the teams celebrated with toasts and a banquet, then adjourned to the opera.

After suffering umpiring problems in a contest against the Pomeroy's of Atchison, Kansas, the Antelopes secured the services of James "Wild Bill" Hickok as umpire. The Antelopes won 48-28 and Hickok left amid cheering crowds.

Athletic Park — Southwest Boulevard and Summit

When the 1884 Union Association Altoonas folded, some local influential businessmen, led by A. V. McKim and Alexander Crawford, pledged the necessary \$15,000 security for a new team. Several players were drafted from the city's top semipro club, the Reds. The Kansas City Unions played their first game, the first major league game in Kansas City history, on June 7, 1884.

About 1,500 fans watched the first game versus the Chicago Unions. Though considered a goodly number, the crowd was dwarfed by the 4,000 capacity amphitheater-style stadium. Despite strong support, the team, under the leadership of noted manager T.P. "Red" Sullivan, was not very good. The Kansas City Unions — sometimes derogatorily called the Onions by the press — ended the season with a 16-63-3 record for 12th place in a 13-team league. Nonetheless, President McKim and Manager Sullivan hosted a banquet at the end of the season.

The management reported a \$7,000 profit from the season, a figure that is doubtful, but was convincing enough to entice the Kansas City Unions to send delegates to the Union Association winter meeting. Because Milwaukee was the only other club to send delegates, the major league died a quiet death, but professional baseball lived on in Kansas City.

Pastime Park — Southwest Boulevard and Broadway

In 1885, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Omaha, and Toledo team owners organized the Western League and elected A. V. McKim as its president. Kansas City manager T. P. Sullivan antagonized league umpires by whipping crowds of 5,000 at Pastime Park into maniacal frenzies against the arbitrators. The



league was dominated by the team from Keokuk, Iowa, led by John “Bud” Fowler, one of the earliest black professional baseball players. Local police shut down Sunday games with threats of arrests in early May. Without Sunday ball the teams could not survive, and the Western League folded on June 15, 1885.

League Park — The Hole — Independence Avenue and Lydia

Major-league baseball returned to Kansas City when the National League arrived in 1886. The team, called the Cowboys, were attired in white uniforms with blue stockings. Citified apparel notwithstanding, the team was rowdy. Almost every umpire who called a game in Kansas City threatened to quit. Manager David Rowe was said to carry a gun, and allegedly shot catcher Charles Briody in mid-season. The conservative NL expelled the Cowboys at the end of the season, partly for “hooliganism” but mostly because of poor attendance at their games. Though poor by Eastern standards, attendance figures show that Kansas City supported the Cowboys as they had previous teams, with large crowds on Saturday and small but steady gatherings during the week.

The ball park was another matter. Located just south of Independence Avenue at Lydia, League Park was built where a pond used to be. The playing field was 10 to 12 feet below street level. The grounds looked like an excavation site or a cellar for a large building. Outfielders had to scale heights to chase fly balls; fans bought places atop wagons that were parked around the wooden-fenced lot.

While the grandstand was advertised as one of the coolest places to beat the Kansas City heat, the playing field was one of the hottest. Without a blade of grass, the ball diamond was so hot that players poured water on their shoes between innings and wore cabbage leaves under their ball caps. Concession stands featured Hokey-Pokeys (small, flat cakes of ice cream which sold for 5c) and pink lemonade.

Exposition Park — 15th and Montgall

On the site of the Kansas City exposition of the 1870s, a grandstand was built in 1888 to accommodate the Western Association Blues while the Cowboys of the American Association played at League Park. The Blues folded and the 1889 Cowboys of the American

Association moved into the new grandstand and ticket office. The following year the Cowboys moved out of the AA into the Western Association.

No matter what was the name, fans supported the 1891 WA pennant-winning Kansas City club. The league grew under the skillful guidance of Ban Johnson and became first the Western League, then the American League of today. The last organized ball bunting to hang at Expo park was during the 1902 season.

A ball diamond still exists on the site and the city has renamed the park, East Grove, but the 1888 flavor remains.

Sportsman’s Park (aka Recreation) — 17th and Indiana

The Blue Stockings (not to be confused with the Blues) of the Western League in 1902 and 1903 were managed by Kansas City resident Charles “Kid” Nichols. The Kid, at age 32, pitched the Blue Stockings to the pennant in 1902, with 27 victories. He followed with 21 more in 1903, then returned to the Big Leagues in 1904 and left the franchise to flounder and die.

Shelly Park — Independence and Oak

Shelly Park was home to the Royals Giants, a black team founded by Topeka Jack Johnson in 1910. The ball park was located in the heart of downtown Kansas City, a white area, and the team drew white crowds. The Giants played at Shelly Park through the 1915 season. Some of the better players were Derby Day, the catcher, and Jack Marshall who later played for the Chicago American Giants. Black touring teams such as the Buckston Black Wonders and Minneapolis Keystones provided opposition for the Royal Giants, who were one of three black or mixed teams operating in the Kansas City area.

Another club which used the ball park was J. L. Wilkinson’s All Nations team. The Kansas City Monarchs also used the field for Negro National League games during the 1920s.

Association Park — 19th and Olive

When the new American League dropped Kansas City in 1901, the franchise was bought by George “White Wings” Tebeau, who placed it in the reorganized Western League. Tebeau then organized the American Association



as a minor league. His American Association Blues played in the crumbling Expo Park before he was able to build Association Park in 1903.

Great games and great stars plied their trade at the old park. Bunny Brief and Dutch Zwilling led the American Association Blues into a 1922 post-season championship series with the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro National League. The outcome — the Monarchs won five games to one — influenced baseball commissioner Kennesaw Mountain Landis to prohibit exhibition games between white and black teams.

When George Muehlebach purchased the Blues from Tebeau in 1918, he did not buy the ball park. Imagine Muehlebach’s surprise when the ball park owner sold it to the railroad, which built tracks through the outfield in 1923.

Muehlebach Field — 22nd and Brooklyn

Also known as Blues Stadium, Monarchs Stadium, Ruppert Stadium, and Municipal Stadium. The field at Brooklyn Avenue hosted the Kansas City Blues in the American Association, the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro National and Negro American Leagues, the Kansas City Athletics of the American League, and the Kansas City Royals, an expansion team in the American League.

Muehlebach with its assorted names was the park of fond memories for Kansas Citians. Royals’ second baseman Frank White was raised two blocks from the park and remembers watching the Athletics from the top of Lincoln High School bleachers that overlooked the park. The barbecue business grew up around the site. World-famous Arthur Bryant’s and Gates’ barbecue are just a home-run shot from the old stadium.

Major league baseball in the 1955 brought changes to the park and a scoreboard from old Braves Field. A second deck was added to accommodate the 1,800,000 fans who attend the games in 1955.

When Charles Finley bought the team from Arnold Johnson’s estate in 1960, he put half a million dollars into making the stadium the “sexiest-looking ball park in the country.” The field seats were citrus yellow, the reserved and bleacher seats desert turquoise, the beams yellow-orange, and vertical foul-lines poles fluorescent pink. Finley put picnic grounds and a small zoo beyond the left field fence. Charlie the Mule and two sheep were dressed



in green-and-gold blankets while they nibbled grass in right field. Harvey the electronic rabbit popped up to the right of home plate to supply the umpire with new baseballs. In 1964, Finley built the "Pennant Porch" in right field to ridicule the Yankees' 296-foot right field fence. After he was forced by the American League to remove the porch, announcers, on long fly balls to right, were instructed by Finley to broadcast, "The last fly out would have been a home run in Yankee Stadium."

The longest professional football game ever played took place at Municipal Stadium on Christmas Day, 1971. The Miami Dolphins defeated the Kansas City Chiefs in double overtime. The Chiefs moved to Arrowhead Stadium the next season.

Kauffman Stadium — Harry S. Truman Complex

The current home of the Royals — known as Royals Stadium until 1994 — is one of baseball's most attractive stadiums. The facility is enhanced by the poles in left-center that fly the Kansas City division and pennant-winning flags and the waterfalls beyond the right-center field fence.

The beyond-left-field area is used as a picnic area by the Royal Lancers, an innovative, season ticket-selling group. The Royals were the first to form a volunteer group to sell its season tickets. Now many clubs have followed the Royals' example.

In 1995 grass returned to Kansas City baseball after 22 years, as groundskeeper George Toma laid the new sod to make Kauffman one of the most beautiful stadium in all of baseball.

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*Lloyd Johnson is the editor of the
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Mr. and Mrs. K and Les Milgram look at the cake presented to the "Loyal Royal" by 1969 manager Joe Gordon.





Annual Finishes

Year Class League Team	W	L	Pct.	GB	Place	Manager
1884 Maj UA KC Unions	16	63	.203	NA	12th	Harry Wheeler/Matt Porter/Ted Sullivan
1885 WL KC Cowboys	17	13	.567	9½	3rd	Ted Sullivan
1886 Maj NL KC Cowboys	30	91	.248	58½	7th	Dave Rowe
1887 WL KC Cowboys	58	54	.518	30½	3rd	Joe Ellick/J. Bradley Patterson
1888 Maj AA KC Cowboys	43	89	.326	47½	8th	David Rowe/Sam Barkley/Bill Watkins
1888 A WA KC Blues	76	42	.644	—	2nd	James Manning
1889 Maj AA KC Cowboys	55	82	.401	38	7th	Bill Watkins
1890 Ind WA KC Blues	78	39	.667	—	1st	George W. Hackett
1891 Ind WA KC Blues	66	59	.528	1	2nd	James H. Manning
1892 A WL KC Blues	33	33	.500	13	3rd	James H. Manning
1893 Ind WA KC Blues	12	8	.600	—	1st	William H. Lucas
1894 Ind WL KC Blues	68	59	.535	6½	3rd	James H. Manning
1895 A WL KC Blues	73	52	.584	7	3rd	James H. Manning
1896 A WL KC Blues	69	66	.511	19½	4th	James H. Manning
1897 A WL KC Blues	40	99	.288	60	7th	James H. Manning
1898 A WL KC Blues	88	51	.633	—	1st	James H. Manning
1899 A WL KC Blues	53	70	.431	22½	7th	James H. Manning
1900 A AL KC Blues	69	70	.496	15	5th	James H. Manning
1901 A WL KC Blues	80	44	.645	—	1st	George Tebeau
1902 Ind AA KC Blues	69	67	.507	24½	4th	Dale Gear
1902 A WL KC Blue Stocks	82	54	.603	—	1st	Charles "Kid" Nichols
1903 A AA KC Blues	69	66	.511	19½	5th	Dale Gear
1903 A WL KC Blue Stocks	65	61	.516	18	3rd	Charles "Kid" Nichols
1904 A AA KC Blues	60	91	.387	37	7th	Dale Gear/Arthur Irwin
1905 A AA KC Blues	44	102	.301	53	8th	Arthur Irwin
1906 A AA KC Blues	69	79	.466	23	6th	James T. Burke
1907 A AA KC Blues	78	76	.510	12	4th	James T. Burke
1908 A AA KC Blues	70	83	.456	22	7th	Monte Cross
1909 A AA KC Blues	71	93	.432	2	8th	Monte Cross/Jake Buckley/Dan Shay
1910 A AA KC Blues	85	81	.512	21	5th	Dan Shay
1911 A AA KC Blues	94	70	.573	4½	2nd	Dan Shay
1912 AA AA KC Blues	85	82	.509	21	4th	Charles C. Carr
1913 AA AA KC Blues	69	98	.413	31	7th	Charles C. Carr/Tom Downey
1913 Ind FL KC Packers	54	65	.454	—	5th	Sam Leever/Hugo Swarthing
1914 AA AA KC Blues	84	84	.500	15	6th	William Armour/Dan Shay
1914 Maj FL KC Packers	67	84	.444	20	6th	George Stovall
1915 AA AA KC Blues	71	79	.473	19	5th	William Armour
1915 Maj FL KC Packers	81	72	.529	5½	4th	George Stovall
1916 AA AA KC Blues	86	81	.515	15	5th	Dan Shay/Art Phelan



1916 AA AA KC Blues	86	81	.515	15	5th	Dan Shay/Art Phelan
1917 AA AA KC Blues	66	86	.434	23½	7th	John H. Ganzel
1918 AA AA KC Blues	43	30	.589	—	1st	John H. Ganzel
1919 AA AA KC Blues	86	65	.570	6½	2nd	John H. Ganzel
1920 AA AA KC Blues	60	106	.361	56	8th	Alex McCarthy/Otto Knabe
1920 — NNL KC Monarchs	41	29	.586	3½	2nd	Jose Mendez
1921 AA AA KC Blues	84	80	.512	12	3rd	Otto Knabe
1921 — NNL KC Monarchs	50	31	.617	2 ½	2nd	Jose Mendez
1922 AA AA KC Blues	92	76	.548	15½	3rd	Otto Knabe/Wilbur Good
1922 — NNL KC Monarchs	46	33	.582	—	2nd	Jose Mendez
1923 AA AA KC Blues*	112	54	.675	—	1st	Wilbur Good
1923 — NNL KC Monarchs	57	33	.633	—	1st	Sam Crawford
1924 AA AA KC Blues	68	96	.415	27	8th	Wilbur Good/John “Doc” Lavan
1924 — NNL KC Monarchs	55	22	.714	—	1st	Jose Mendez
1925 AA AA KC Blues	80	87	.474	25	5th	John “Doc” Lavan
1925 — NNL KC Monarchs*	62	23	.729	1½	2nd	Jose Mendez
1926 AA AA KC Blues	87	78	.527	17	5th	Spencer Abbott
1926 — NNL KC Monarchs	57	21	.731	—	1st	Bullet Rogan
1927 AA AA KC Blues	99	69	.589	2	2nd	Dutch Zwilling
1927 — NNL KC Monarchs	54	29	.651	1	2nd	Bullet Rogan
1928 AA AA KC Blues	88	80	.524	11½	4th	Dutch Zwilling
1928 — NNL KC Monarchs	50	31	.617	10½	2nd	Bullet Rogan
1929 AA AA KC Blues*	111	56	.665	—	1st	Dutch Zwilling
1929 — NNL KC Monarchs	62	17	.785	—	1st	Bullet Rogan
1930 AA AA KC Blues	75	79	.487	18½	5th	Dutch Zwilling
1930 — NNL KC Monarchs	39	26	.600	15	3rd	Bullet Rogan
1931 AA AA KC Blues	90	77	.539	14	2nd	Dutch Zwilling
1932 AA AA KC Blues	81	86	.485	18½	6th	Dutch Zwilling
1933 AA AA KC Blues	57	93	.360	18½	W4th	Tris Speaker/Nick Allen
1934 AA AA KC Blues	65	88	.425	22	W4th	Roger Peckinpaugh
1935 AA AA KC Blues	84	70	.545	7	3rd	Dutch Zwilling
1936 AA AA KC Blues	84	69	.549	5½	3rd	Dutch Zwilling
1937 AA AA KC Blues	72	82	.468	18	5th	Dutch Zwilling
1937 — NAL KC Monarchs*	19	8	.704	—	1st	Andy Cooper
1938 AA AA KC Blues	84	67	.556	6	2nd	Bill Meyer
1938 — NAL KC Monarchs	32	15	.681	—	1st	Andy Cooper
1939 AA AA KC Blues	107	47	.695	—	1st	Bill Meyer
1939 — NAL KC Monarchs	17	7	.708	—	1st H	Andy Cooper
1940 AA AA KC Blues	95	57	.625	—	1st	Bill Meyer
1940 — NAL KC Monarchs	12	7	.632	—	1st	Andy Cooper
1941 AA AA KC Blues	85	69	.552	10½	3rd	Bill Meyer
1941 — NAL KC Monarchs	—	—	—	—	—	Newt Allen
1942 AA AA KC Blues	84	69	.549	—	1st	John Neun
1942 — NAL KC Monarchs	—	—	—	—	—	Frank Duncan
1943 AA AA KC Blues	67	85	.441	23½	7th	John Neun



1943 — NAL KC Monarchs	6	7	.462	3½	4th	Frank Duncan
1944 AA AA KC Blues	41	110	.272	61	8th	Jack Saltzgaver
1944 — NAL KC Monarchs	23	42	.354	22½	6th	Frank Duncan
1945 AA AA KC Blues	65	86	.430	26½	7th	Casey Stengel
1945 — NAL KC Monarchs	32	30	.516	22½	4th	Frank Duncan
1946 AAA AA KC Blues	67	82	.450	23	7th	Bill Meyer/Burleigh Grimes
1946 — NAL KC Monarchs	27	8	.771		1st	Frank Duncan
1947 AAA AA KC Blues	93	60	.608		1st	Bill Meyer
1947 — NAL KC Monarchs						Frank Duncan
1948 AAA AA KC Blues	64	88	.421	35	6th	Dick Bartell
1948 — NAL KC Monarchs	43	25	.632	8	2nd	Buck O'Neil
1949 AAA AA KC Blues	71	80	.470	21	5th	Bill Skiff
1949 — NALW KC Monarchs						Buck O'Neil
1950 AAA AA KC Blues	54	99	.353	35½	8th	Joe Kuhel
1950 — NALW KC Monarch	52	21	.712		1st	Buck O'Neil
1951 AAA AA KC Blues	81	70	.536	13	3rd	George Selkirk
1951 — NALW KC Monarch	42	28	.600		1st	Buck O'Neil
1952 AAA AA KC Blues	89	65	.578	12	2nd	George Selkirk
1952 — NALW KC Monarch	23	26	.469	11	4th	Buck O'Neil
1953 AAA AA KC Blues	88	66	.571	2	2nd	Harry Craft
1953 — NAL KC Monarchs	56	21	.727		1st	Buck O'Neil
1954 AAA AA KC Blues	68	85	.444	27½	7th	Harry Craft
1954 — NAL KC Monarchs	23	43	.348	20½	6th	Buck O'Neil
1955 Maj AL KC Athletics	63	91	.409	33	6th	Lou Boudreau
1955 — NAL KC Monarchs					1st	Buck O'Neil
1956 Maj AL KC Athletics	52	102	.338	45	8th	Lou Boudreau
1957 Maj AL KC Athletics	59	94	.386	38½	7th	Lou Boudreau/Harry Craft
1958 Maj AL KC Athletics	73	81	.474	19	7th	Harry Craft
1959 Maj AL KC Athletics	66	88	.429	28	7th	Harry Craft
1960 Maj AL KC Athletics	58	96	.377	39	8th	Bob Elliott
1961 Maj AL KC Athletics	61	100	.379	47½	10th	Joe Gordon/Hank Bauer
1962 Maj AL KC Athletics	72	90	.444	24	9th	Hank Bauer
1963 Maj AL KC Athletics	73	89	.451	31½	8th	Ed Lopat
1964 Maj AL KC Athletics	57	105	.352	42	10th	Ed Lopat/Mel McGaha
1965 Maj AL KC Athletics	59	103	.364	43	10th	Mel McGaha/Haywood Sullivan
1966 Maj AL KC Athletics	74	86	.463	23	7th	Alvin Dark
1967 Maj AL KC Athletics	62	99	.385	29½	10th	Alvin Dark/Luke Appling

1968 There was no professional baseball in Kansas City for the first time since 1883.

1969 Maj AL KC Royals	69	93	.426	28	W4th	Joe Gordon
1970 Maj AL KC Royals	65	97	.401	33	W4th	Charlie Metro/Bob Lemon
1971 Maj AL KC Royals	85	76	.528	16	W2nd	Bob Lemon
1972 Maj AL KC Royals	76	78	.494	16½	W4th	Bob Lemon
1973 Maj AL KC Royals	88	74	.543	6	2nd	Jack McKeon



1974 Maj AL KC Royals	77	85	.475	13
1975 Maj AL KC Royals	91	71	.562	7
1976 Maj AL KC Royals	90	72	.556	—
1977 Maj AL KC Royals	102	60	.630	—
1978 Maj AL KC Royals	92	70	.568	—
1979 Maj AL KC Royals	85	77	.525	3
1980 Maj AL KC Royals	97	65	.599	—
1981 Maj AL KC Royals	50	53	.485	11
1982 Maj AL KC Royals	90	72	.556	3
1983 Maj AL KC Royals	79	83	.488	20
1984 Maj AL KC Royals	84	78	.519	—
1985 Maj AL KC Royals	91	71	.562	—
1986 Maj AL KC Royals	76	86	.469	16
1987 Maj AL KC Royals	83	79	.512	2
1988 Maj AL KC Royals	84	77	.522	19½
1989 Maj AL KC Royals	92	70	.568	7
1990 Maj AL KC Royals	75	86	.466	27½
1991 Maj AL KC Royals	82	80	.506	13
1992 Maj AL KC Royals	72	90	.444	24
1993 Maj AL KC Royals	84	78	.519	10
1994 Maj AL KC Royals	64	51	.557	4
1995 Maj AL KC Royals	70	74	.486	30

W5th	Jack McKeon
W2nd	Jack McKeon/Whitey Herzog
W1st	Whitey Herzog
W1st	Whitey Herzog
W1st	Whitey Herzog
W2nd	Whitey Herzog
W1st	Jim Frey
W4th	Jim Frey/Dick Howser
W2nd	Dick Howser
W2nd	Dick Howser
W1st	Dick Howser
W1st	Dick Howser
W3rd	Dick Howser/Mike Ferraro
W2nd	Billy Gardner/John Wathan
W3rd	John Wathan
W2nd	John Wathan
W6th	John Wathan
W6th	John Wathan/Bob Schaefer/Hal McRae
W5th	Hal McRae
W3rd	Hal McRae
W3rd	Hal McRae
C2nd	Bob Boone

Leagues

AA — American Association, major league
AA — American Association, minor league
AL — American League, major league
FL — Federal League, major league
NNL — Negro National League, negro league
NAL — Negro American League, negro league
NALW — Negro American League West, negro league
UA — Union Association, major league
WA — Western Association, minor league
WL — Western League, minor league

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Kansas City Opening Day

1884-1996 Lineups

1884 Unions

C Nin Alexander
1B Charlie J. Fisher
2B Frank McLaughlin
2B Charlie Berry
3B Charlie Householder
SS T. Mathias
LF Harry Wheeler
CF Joe Connors
RF Taylor Shafer
P Ernie Hickman

1887 Cowboys

C Frank Ringo
1B Milt Scott
2B Jimmy Manning
3B Walt Kinzie
SS Joe Ellick
LF Jim Lillie
CF A. V. McKim
RF Mike or Tom Mansell
P Bill Hassamaer

1889 Cowboys

C Jim Donahue
1B Don Stearns
2B Sam Barkley
3B Jumbo Davis
SS Herman Long
LF Billy Hamilton
CF Jim Burns
RF Chippy McGarr
P Parke Swartzel

1885 Cowboys

C Bill Dugan
1B Billy O'Brien
2B Tom O'Brien
3B Doyle
SS Walter Hackett
LF Ernie Burch
CF Joe Visner
RF Emmett Seery
P Ed Dugan

1888 Cowboys

C Jim Donahue
1B Horace Phillips
2B Sam Barkley
3B Frank Hankinson
SS Jumbo Davis
LF Charley Jones
CF Dave Rowe
RF Jim McTamany
P Henry Porter

1890 Blues

C Charlie Hoover
1B Don Stearns
2B Henry Bittman
3B Chief Zimmer
SS Slater
LF R. Smith
CF Jim Burns
RF Bill Hoover
P Frank Pears

1886 Cowboys

C Charles Briody
1B Moxie McQuery
2B Al Myers
3B Jim Donnelly
SS Charley Bassett
LF Jim Lillie
CF Dave Rowe
RF Paul Radford
P Stump Weidman

1888 Blues

C Jake Wells
1B Ed Cartwright
2B Joe Ardner
3B Johnson
SS Bradley
LF Count Campau
CF Jimmy Manning
RF Bill Hassamaer
P John McCarty

1891 Blues

C Joe Gunson
1B Don Stearns
2B Jimmy Manning
3B Hick Carpenter
SS John Pickett
LF R. Smith
CF Bill Hoover
RF Griever
P John Sowders

**1892 Blues**

C Rollins
1B Jack Carney
2B Jimmy Manning
3B Ed Mayer
SS Gus Alberts
LF Pop Lytle
CF Billy Sunday
RF Wyman Andrus
P Ed Eiteljorg

1896 Blues

C Fred Lake
1B Billy Klusman
2B Charlie Nyce
3B Gil Hatfield
SS Ronny Viox
LF Jock Menefee
CF Sam Nichol
RF Paul Hines
P Nixey Callahan

1900 Blues

C John Gondling
1B Jake Ganzel
2B Germany Schaefer
3B Bill Coughlin
SS Albert Wagner
LF Jack O'Brien
CF John Farrell
RF Tom Nagle
P Casey Patten

1893 Blues

C Frank Belt
1B Frank Pears
2B Porter
3B Whalen
SS O'Day
LF Gregg
CF Jock Menefee
RF Bill Armour
P Bert Cunningham

1897 Blues

C Fred Lake
1B Jack Carney
2B Harry Truby
3B Josh Reilly
SS Frank Connaughton
LF Tom Bannon
CF John Bannon
RF Jock Menefee
P Charlie Abbey

1901 Blues

C Monte Beville
1B Norman Brashear
2B John O'Brien
3B Clyde Robinson
SS Gus Klopff
LF Dakin Miller
CF Scott Hardesty
RF William Hartman
P Billy Wolfe

1894 Blues

C Jim Donahue
1B Billy Klusman
2B George Ulrich
3B Billy Niles
SS Sharp
LF Tom Hernon
CF Sam Nichol
RF Lawrence Daniels
P George Darby

1898 Blues

C Hausen
1B Hal O'Hagan
2B Art Nichols
3B Ronny Viox
SS Otto Williams
LF Charlie Frisbee
CF Jimmy Slagle
RF Matty McVicker
P Pardee

1902 Blues

C Monte Beville
1B Mike Grady
2B John O'Brien
3B George McBride
SS Edward Lewee
LF Elmer Smith
CF John Rothfuss
RF William Nance
P Billy Wolfe

1895 Blues

C Marty Bergan
1B Billy Klusman
2B Jimmy Manning
3B Natty Nattress
SS Frank Connaughton
LF Tom Hernon
CF Sam Nichol
RF Ruppert
P Lawrence Daniels

1899 Blues

C Bill Wilson
1B Jake Ganzel
2B Ronny Viox
3B Jesse Hoffmeister
SS Frank Shugart
LF Tuck Turner
CF Jack Rothfuss
RF Matty McVicker
P Danny Friend

1903 Blues

C Billy Maloney
1B Mike Grady
2B William Kid Nance
3B Tom McAndrews
SS Edward Lewee
LF Elmer Smith
CF Bob Ganley
RF Jack Rothfuss
P Ralph Gibson

**1904 Blues**

C John Butler
 1B Jack Ryan
 2B Peter Childs
 3B Roy Montgomery
 SS Frank Bonner
 LF Hugh Hill
 CF William Kid Nance
 RF Dale Gear
 P Jimmy Durham

1908 Blues

C John Sullivan
 1B Jake Beckley
 2B Roy Brashear
 3B Otto Krueger
 SS Monte Cross
 LF Hugh Hill
 CF Howard Murphy
 RF Dan Kerwin
 P Oscar "Ducky" Swann

1912 Blues

C Pat O'Connor
 1B Charlie Carr
 2B Red Downey
 3B Jap Barbeau
 SS Andy Oyler
 LF Walter Schaller
 CF Josh Clarke
 RF Jack Love
 P Bob Rhoades

1905 Blues

C John Butler
 1B Bill Massey
 2B Frank Bonner
 3B Bill Donahue
 SS Suter Sullivan
 LF William Kid Nance
 CF Joe Rickert
 RF Louis Castro
 P Amos Morgan

1909 Blues

C John Sullivan
 1B Roy Brashear
 2B Jack Love
 3B Gus Hetling
 SS Monte Cross
 LF Walter Carlisle
 CF Spike Shannon
 RF Cy Neighbors
 P Oscar Swann

1913 Blues

C Pat O'Connor
 1B Charlie Carr
 2B Otto Williams
 3B Jap Barbeau
 SS Lee Tannehill
 LF Tom Downey
 CF Clarence Walker
 RF Delos Drake
 P Bill Covington

1906 Blues

C John Sullivan
 1B Mert Whitney
 2B Charles Donahue
 3B James Burke
 SS John Perrine
 LF Howard Cassidy
 CF Hugh Hill
 RF Bill Phyle
 P Oscar "Ducky" Swann

1910 Blues

C John Sullivan
 1B Fred Hunter
 2B Jack Love
 3B Bill Yohe
 SS Roy Ellam
 LF John Cocash
 CF Spike Shannon
 RF Tom Downey
 P Billy Campbell

1914 Blues

C Herb Moore
 1B Bunny Brief
 2B Morrie Rath
 3B William Wortman
 SS Monte Pfeffer
 LF John Titus
 CF Walter Mattick
 RF Pete Compton
 P Mack Allison

1907 Blues

C John Sullivan
 1B Chris Lindsay
 2B Otto Krueger
 3B Jimmy Burke
 SS George McBride
 LF Frank Huelsmann
 CF Hugh Hill
 RF Howard Cassidy
 P Al Egan

1911 Blues

C Lew Ritter
 1B Ham Hyatt
 2B Howard Baker
 3B Jap Barbeau
 SS John Corriden
 LF Spike Shannon
 CF Jack Love
 RF Elmer Gardner
 P Nick Maddox

1915 Blues

C Joe Geibel
 1B Jack Lelivelt
 2B Harry Hinchman
 3B Morrie Rath
 SS William Wortman
 LF Walter Mattick
 CF Pete Compton
 RF John Titus
 P Thomas George

**1916 Blues**

C Claude Berry
1B Fred Beck
2B Art Phelan
3B Art Bues
SS William Wortman
LF Charlie Hanford
CF Larry Gilbert
RF Eddie Faye
P Dick Crutcher

1920 Blues

C Ed Sweeney
1B Bunny Brief
2B Alex McCarthy
3B Ed Wright
SS Bunny Fabrique
LF Al Platte
CF Wilbur Good
RF Ward Miller
P Bill Evans

1924 Blues

C Bill Skiff
1B Dudley Branom
2B Hal Janvrin
3B George Armstrong
SS Lena Blackburne
LF Bunny Brief
CF Wilbur Good
RF Pete Scott
P Ray Caldwell

1917 Blues

C Claude Berry
1B Fred Mollwitz
2B Jim Viox
3B Art Phelan
SS Eddie Mulligan
LF Beals Becker
CF Wilbur Good
RF Jack Lelivelt
P George McQuillan

1921 Blues

C John Brock
1B Bunny Brief
2B Art Butler
3B George Cochran
SS Hal Leathers
LF Gus Felix
CF Wilbur Good
RF Dutch Zwilling
P Paul Carter

1925 Blues

C Ginger Shinault
1B Dudley Branom
2B Ralph Michaels
3B Frank Ellerbe
SS Robert Murray
LF Pete Scott
CF Frank McGowan
RF Bevo LeBouveau
P Jimmy Zinn

1918 Blues

C Jack Onslow
1B Bunny Brief
2B Alex McCarthy
3B George Cochran
SS James McAuley
LF Beals Becker
CF Wilbur Good
RF Jim Viox
P Babe Adams

1922 Blues

C Lew McCarty
1B Bunny Brief
2B Snooks Dowd
3B Walter Lutzke
SS Glenn Wright
LF Dode Paskert
CF Wilbur Good
RF Dutch Zwilling
P Joe Morris (Bennett)

1926 Blues

C Bob Wells
1B Dudley Branom
2B Ernie Smith
3B Frank Philbin
SS Lute "Danny" Boone
LF James Moore
CF Eddie Pick
RF Jim Grigsby
P Jimmy Zinn

1919 Blues

C John Brock
1B Beals Becker
2B Alex McCarthy
3B Bunny Brief
SS James McAuley
LF Josh Devore
CF Wilbur Good
RF Ward Miller
P Frank Graham

1923 Blues

C Bill Skiff
1B Bunny Brief
2B Walter Hammond
3B Paddy Reagan
SS Glenn Wright
LF Beals Becker
CF Wilbur Good
RF Braggo Roth
P Jimmy Zinn

1927 Blues

C John Peters
1B Joe Hauser
2B Bill Wambsganns
3B Eddie Pick
SS Ernie Smith
LF Jim Grigsby
CF Frank McGowan
RF Fred Nicholson
P Tom Sheehan

**1928 Blues**

C John Peters
1B Joe Kuhel
2B Bill Wambsganns
3B Ralph Michaels
SS Topper Rigney
LF Jim Moore
CF Frank McGowan
RF Fred Nicholson
P Tom Sheehan

1932 Blues

C Eddie Phillips
1B Pete Monahan
2B Ollie Marquardt
3B Bob Boken
SS Eddie Taylor
LF Denver Grigsby
CF Herbert Kelly
RF Eddie Pick
P Bob Osborn

1936 Blues

C Ed Madjeski
1B Dale Alexander
2B Ham Schulte
3B Marty Hopkins
SS Edward Marshall
LF Russell Scarritt
CF Malin McCulloch
RF Al Marchand
P Bill Shores

1929 Blues

C John Peters
1B Joe Kuhel
2B Freddy Spurgeon
3B Ralph Michaels
SS George Knothe
LF Denver Grigsby
CF George Gerken
RF Bob Seeds
P Tom Sheehan

1933 Blues

C Bill Brenzel
1B Pete Monahan
2B Aaron Ward
3B Ray Treadaway
SS Jim Cronin
LF Denver Grigsby
CF Stanley Schino
RF Herbert Kelly
P Johnny Niggeling

1937 Blues

C Chris Hartje
1B Jim Oglesby
2B Ham Schulte
3B Charles English
SS Edward Marshall
LF Earl Bolyard
CF George Stumpf
RF Ralph Boyle
P Lee Stine

1930 Blues

C John Peters
1B Joe Kuhel
2B Norm McMillan
3B Ralph Michaels
SS George Knothe
LF Denver Grigsby
CF George Gerken
RF Jack Smith
P Tom Sheehan

1934 Blues

C Bill Brenzel
1B Bruce Connatser
2B Doc Gautreau
3B Eddie Taylor
SS Glen Wright
LF Jim Mosolf
CF George Stumpf
RF Melo Almada
P Wilcy Moore

1938 Blues

C Chris Hartje
1B Harry Davis
2B Jack Saltzgaver
3B Eddie Joost
SS Eddie Miller
LF Joe Gallagher
CF Walt Judnich
RF John Glynn
P Marv Breuer

1931 Blues

C John Peters
1B Argus Prather
2B George Knothe
3B Norm McMillan
SS Lou Brower
LF Eddie Pick
CF Denver Grigsby
RF Fred Nicholson
P Tom Sheehan

1935 Blues

C Alex Gaston
1B Dale Alexander
2B Ham Schulte
3B Red Rollings
SS Ray French
LF Jim Mosolf
CF George Stumpf
RF Mike Kreevich
P Phil Page

1939 Blues

C Clyde McCullough
1B John Sturm
2B Ham Schulte
3B Jack Saltzgaver
SS Phil Rizzuto
LF Bill Matheson
CF Vince DiMaggio
RF Ralph Boyle
P Joe Vance

**1940 Blues**

C John Riddle
1B John Sturm
2B Jerry Priddy
3B Billy Hitchcock
SS Phil Rizzuto
LF Herman Caldwell
CF Frenchy Bordagaray
RF Russ Derry
P Johnny Lindell

1944 Blues

C Charles Bates
1B Roy Zimmerman
2B Charles Glunt
3B Goldie Holt
SS Michael Portner
LF Jesse Landrum
CF Roy Musser
RF Stan Platek
P Ken Gables

1948 Blues

C Ralph Houk
1B Dick Kryhoshi
2B Blas Monaco
3B Al Rosen
SS Lou Stringer
LF Jim Dyck
CF Hank Bauer
RF Milt Byrnes
P John Robinson

1941 Blues

C Eddie Kears
1B Mike Chartak
2B Al Glossop
3B Jim Nicholson
SS Billy Hitchcock
LF Buster Mills
CF Loyd Christopher
RF Bud Metheny
P Charley Wensloff

1945 Blues

C Bill Steinecke
1B Charles Suyter
2B Jack Saltzgaver
3B Melvin Serafini
SS Wayne Tucker
CF Joe Passero
RF Lynn King
P Fred Pepper

1949 Blues

C Bill Drescher
1B Joe Collins
2B Joey Muffoletto
3B Gene Valla
SS Jack Wallasca
LF Archie Wilson
CF Jim Delsing
RF Ford Garrison
P Paul Hinrichs

1942 Blues

C Eddie Kears
1B Steve Souchock
2B Mike Milosevich
3B Don Lang
SS George Scharein
LF Johnny Welaj
CF Leo Nonnenkamp
RF Larry Rosenthal
P Charles Wensloff

1946 Blues

C Charlie Silvera
1B Johnny Sturm
2B Mike Milosevich
3B Joe Beckman
SS Odie Strain
LF Burns
CF Harry Craft
RF Milt Byrnes
P Tom Reis

1950 Blues

C Bill Drescher
1B Fenton Mole
2B Gene Valla
3B Nick Witek
SS Jerry Snyder
LF Chuck Workman
CF Earl Wooten
RF Bill Renna
P Dave Madison

1943 Blues

C Joe Glenn
1B Roy Zimmerman
2B Mike Milosevich
3B Jim McLeod
SS George Scharein
LF Garrett McBryde
CF Harry Craft
RF Albert Lyons
P Tom Reis

1947 Blues

C Gus Niarhos
1B Steve Souchock
2B Joey Muffoletto
3B Jim Dyck
SS Odie Strain
LF Cliff Mapes
CF Bud Stewart
RF R. Douglas
P Carl DeRose

1951 Blues

C O'Neal
1B Augie Bergamo
2B Jerry Snyder
3B Andy Carey
SS Kal Segrist
LF Clarence Wojtowicz
CF Bob Marquis
RF Bob Cerv
P Cliff Melton

**1952 Blues**

C O'Neal
1B Don Bollweg
2B Kal Segrist
3B Jerry Snyder
SS Art Mazmanian
LF Vic Power
CF Bob Marquis
RF Bill Renna
P Tom Gorman

1956 Athletics

C Joe Ginsburg
1B Vic Power
2B Pete Suder
3B Jim Finigan
SS Joe DeMaestri
LF Elmer Valo
CF Harry Simpson
RF Enos Slaughter
P Alex Kellner

1960 Athletics

C Harry Chiti
1B Norm Siebern
2B Jerry Lumpe
3B Dick Williams
SS Ken Hamlin
LF Bob Cerv
CF Bill Tuttle
RF Hank Bauer
P Bud Daley

1953 Blues

C Lou Berberet
1B Bill Skowron
2B Don Leppert
3B Kal Segrist
SS Jerry Lumpe
LF Elston Howard
CF Bill Virdon
RF Vic Power
P Maler

1957 Athletics

C Hal Smith
1B Harry Simpson
2B Mike Graff
3B Hector Lopez
SS Joe DeMaestri
LF Gus Zernial
CF Bob Cerv
RF Johnny Groth
P Tom Morgan

1961 Athletics

C Haywood Sullivan
1B Marv Throneberry
2B Jerry Lumpe
3B Andy Carey
SS Dick Howser
LF Norm Siebern
CF Bill Tuttle
RF Leo Posada
P Ray Herbert

1954 Blues

C Gus Triandos
1B Marv Throneberry
2B Kal Segrist
3B Forest Smith
SS Woodie Held
LF Art Schult
CF Carmen Mauro
RF Bob Addis
P Rip Coleman

1958 Athletics

C Harry Chiti
1B Vic Power
2B Mike Baxes
3B Hector Lopez
SS Joe DeMaestri
LF Bob Cerv
CF Woodie Held
RF Bill Tuttle
P Ned Garver

1962 Athletics

C Haywood Sullivan
1B Norm Siebern
2B Jerry Lumpe
3B Wayne Causey
SS Dick Howser
LF Leo Posada
CF Jose Tartabull
RF Gino Cimoli
P Ed Rakow

1955 Athletics

C Joe Astroth
1B Vic Power
2B Pete Suder
3B Jim Finigan
SS Joe DeMaestri
LF Gus Zernial
CF Bill Wilson
RF Bill Renna
P Alex Kellner

1959 Athletics

C Frank House
1B Kent Hadley
2B Hector Lopez
3B Hal Smith
SS Joe DeMaestri
LF Bob Cerv
CF Bill Tuttle
RF Roger Maris
P Bob Grim

1963 Athletics

C Billy Bryan
1B Norm Siebern
2B Jerry Lumpe
3B Wayne Causey
SS Dick Howser
LF Chuck Essegian
CF Jose Tartabull
RF Gino Cimoli
P Diego Segui

**1964 Athletics**

C Doc Edwards
1B Jim Gentile
2B Dick Green
3B Ed Charles
SS Wayne Causey
LF Rocky Colavito
CF Nelson Mathews
RF Gino Cimoli
P Orlando Pena

1969 Royals

C Ellie Rodriguez
1B Chuck Harrison
2B Jerry Adair
3B Joe Foy
SS Jack Hernandez
LF Ed Kirkpatrick
CF Lou Piniella
RF Bob Oliver
P Wally Bunker

1973 Royals

C Jerry May
1B John Mayberry
2B Cookie Rojas
3B Paul Schaal
SS Fred Patek
LF Hal McRae
CF Amos Otis
RF Lou Piniella
DH Ed Kirkpatrick
P Steve Busby

1965 Athletics

C Billy Bryan
1B Ken Harrelson
2B Dick Green
3B Ed Charles
SS Campy Campaneris
LF Tommie Reynolds
CF Jim Landis
RF Mike Hershberger
P Moe Drabowsky

1970 Royals

C Ellie Rodriguez
1B Mike Fiore
2B Luis Alcaraz
3B Bob Oliver
SS Jack Hernandez
LF Lou Piniella
CF Amos Otis
RF Pat Kelly
P Wally Bunker

1974 Royals

C Fran Healy
1B John Mayberry
2B Cookie Rojas
3B Paul Schaal
SS Fred Patek
LF Jim Wohlford
CF Amos Otis
RF Vada Pinson
DH Hal McRae
P Paul Splittorf

1966 Athletics

C Billy Bryan
1B Ken Harrelson
2B Dick Green
3B Ed Charles
SS Wayne Causey
LF Larry Stahl
CF Jose Tartabull
RF Mike Hershberger
P Catfish Hunter

1971 Royals

C Buck Martinez
1B Bob Oliver
2B Cookie Rojas
3B Paul Schaal
SS Fred Patek
LF Lou Piniella
CF Amos Otis
RF Joe Keough
P Dick Drago

1975 Royals

C Fran Healy
1B John Mayberry
2B Cookie Rojas
3B George Brett
SS Fred Patek
LF Vada Pinson
CF Amos Otis
RF Hal McRae
DH Harmon Killebrew
P Steve Busby

1967 Athletics

C Gene Roof
1B Danny Cater
2B Dick Green
3B Ed Charles
SS Campy Campaneris
LF Joe Rudi
CF Joe Nosssek
RF Mike Hershberger
P Jack Aker

1972 Royals

C Jerry May
1B John Mayberry
2B Cookie Rojas
3B Paul Schaal
SS Bob Floyd
LF Lou Piniella
CF Steve Hovley
RF Bob Oliver
P Dick Drago

1976 Royals

C Fran Healy
1B John Mayberry
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Fred Patek
LF Hal McRae
CF Amos Otis
RF Al Cowens
DH Dave Nelson
P Paul Splittorf

**1977 Royals**

C Buck Martinez
1B John Mayberry
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Fred Patek
LF Joe Zdeb
CF Amos Otis
RF Al Cowens
DH Hal McRae
P Paul Splittorf

1981 Royals

C John Wathan
1B Willie Aikens
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS U. L. Washington
LF Amos Otis
CF Willie Wilson
RF Clint Hurdle
DH Hal McRae
P Larry Gura

1985 Royals

C Jim Sundberg
1B Steve Balboni
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Onix Concepcion
LF Darryl Motley
CF Willie Wilson
RF Pat Sheridan
DH Jorge Orta
P Bud Black

1978 Royals

C Darrell Porter
1B Clint Hurdle
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Fred Patek
LF Willie Wilson
CF Amos Otis
RF Al Cowens
DH Hal McRae
P Dennis Leonard

1982 Royals

C John Wathan
1B Willie Aikens
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS U. L. Washington
LF Willie Wilson
CF Amos Otis
RF Jerry Martin
DH Hal McRae
P Dennis Leonard

1986 Royals

C Jim Sunberg
1B Steve Balboni
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Angel Salazar
LF Lonnie Smith
CF Willie Wilson
RF Darryl Motley
DH Hal McRae
P Bud Black

1979 Royals

C Darrell Porter
1B John Wathan
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Fred Patek
LF Clint Hurdle
CF Amos Otis
RF Al Cowens
DH Hal McRae
P Dennis Leonard

1983 Royals

C John Wathan
1B Willie Aikens
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS U. L. Washington
LF Willie Wilson
CF Amos Otis
RF Jerry Martin
DH Hal McRae
P Larry Gura

1987 Royals

C Ed Hearn
1B Kevin Seitzer
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Buddy Biancalana
LF Bo Jackson
CF Willie Wilson
RF Danny Tartabull
DH Steve Balboni
P Danny Jackson

1980 Royals

C Jamie Quirk
1B Willie Aikens
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS U. L. Washington
LF Pete LaCock
CF Willie Wilson
RF Clint Hurdle
DH Hal McRae
P Dennis Leonard

1984 Royals

C Don Slaught
1B Steve Balboni
2B Frank White
3B George Brett
SS Onix Concepcion
LF Butch Davis
CF Pat Sheridan
RF Darryl Motley
DH Hal McRae
P Bud Black

1988 Royals

C Mike Macfarlane
1B Steve Balboni
2B Frank White
3B Kevin Seitzer
SS Kurt Stillwell
LF Bo Jackson
CF Willie Wilson
RF Danny Tartabull
DH George Brett
P Bret Saberhagen

**1989 Royals**

C Bob Boone
1B George Brett
2B Frank White
3B Kevin Seitzer
SS Kurt Stillwell
LF Bo Jackson
CF Willie Wilson
RF Danny Tartabull
DH Pat Tabler
P Mark Gubicza

1993 Royals

C Brent Mayne
1B Wally Joyner
2B Chico Lind
3B Keith Miller
SS Greg Gagne
LF Kevin McReynolds
CF Brian McRae
RF Felix Jose
DH George Brett
P Kevin Appier

1990 Royals

C Bob Boone
1B George Brett
2B Frank White
3B Kevin Seitzer
SS Kurt Stillwell
LF Bo Jackson
CF Jim Eisenreich
RF Danny Tartabull
DH Gerald Perry
P Bret Saberhagen

1994 Royals

C Mike Macfarlane
1B Wally Joyner
2B Chico Lind
3B Gary Gaetti
SS Greg Gagne
LF Vince Coleman
CF Brian McRae
RF Dave Henderson
DH Bob Hamelin
P Kevin Appier

1991 Royals

C Mike Macfarlane
1B George Brett
2B Terry Shumpert
3B Kevin Seitzer
SS Kurt Stillwell
LF Gary Thurman
CF Brian McRae
RF Danny Tartabull
DH Kirk Gibson
P Bret Saberhagen

1995 Royals

C Brent Mayne
1B Wally Joyner
2B Chico Lind
3B Gary Gaetti
SS Greg Gagne
LF Michael Tucker
CF Tom Goodwin
RF Felix Jose
DH Bob Hamelin
P Kevin Appier

1992 Royals

C Mike Macfarlane
1B Wally Joyner
2B Terry Shumpert
3B Gregg Jefferies
SS David Howard
LF Keith Miller
CF Brian McRae
RF Kevin McReynolds
DH George Brett
P Kevin Appier

1996 Royals

C Mike Macfarlane
1B Bob Hamelin
2B Bip Roberts
3B Keith Lockhart
SS Jose Offerman
LF Tom Goodwin
CF Johnny Damon
RF Michael Tucker
DH Joe Vitiello
P Kevin Appier



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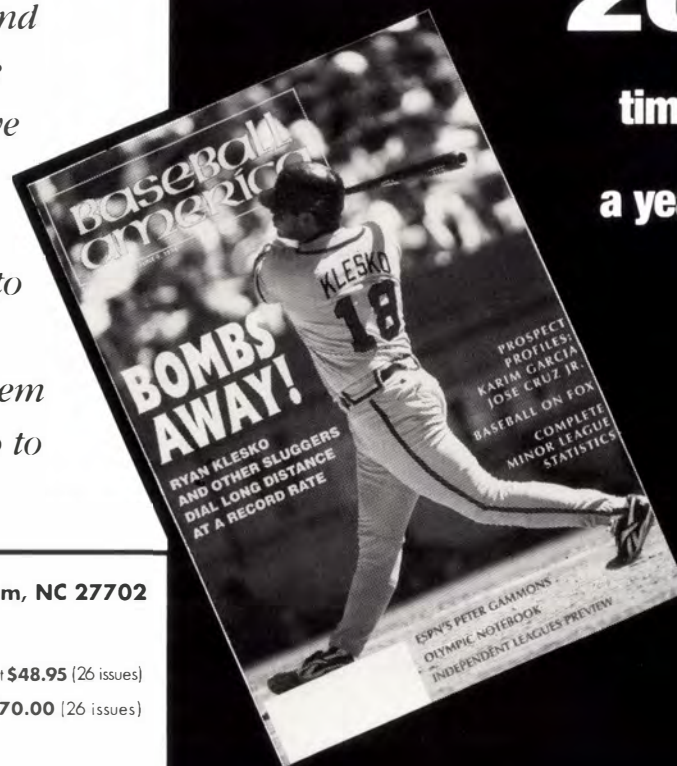
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