

**COLLEGIATE BASEBALL COMMITTEE**  
ISSUE #2, CHAIRMAN-DAVE ANDERSON; EDITOR-CAPPY GAGNON; 5/89

THE COLLEGIATE BASEBALL COMMITTEE HAS AGREED TO PARTICIPATE in two outside projects. DAVID PORTER'S newest volume of the BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF AMERICAN SPORTS will feature biographical material on some outstanding college coaches: BIBB FALK and CLIFF GUSTAFSON (TEXAS); ROD DEDEAUX (USC); RON FRASER (MIAMI); DICK SIEBERT (MINNESOTA) AND BOBBY WINKLES (ARIZONA STATE). The Committee is also interested in other college baseball coaches, particularly 10-year Major Leaguers and any other Major Leaguers who coached at least 10 years in the college ranks. THE MACMILLAN CHRONOLOGY OF BASEBALL has also requested our assistance in choosing 50-60 college baseball highlights for their anecdotal history of baseball. Recommendations are eagerly sought.

TOM SHEA, DICK THOMPSON, DAVE ANDERSON AND CAPPY GAGNON are working to develop a format for THE COLLEGIATE BASEBALL COMMITTEE'S collected material. Possibilities include seeking approval for a SABR publication as a book or monograph; linking with the NCAA in a similar effort; producing individual college fact sheets (see page 8); etc. A good response to these Committee Newsletters is necessary to accomplish these goals.

**VERIFYING THAT A MAJOR LEAGUER HAS BEEN A COLLEGIAN** is not easy for the game's first forty years. Reliable information is often unavailable. The single-best verification of college attendance is College Registrar records, provided they include biographical data to confirm identity (e.g. full name; date of birth; hometown; parents' names; etc.). Prior to W.W.I., these records are often missing. Sources such as college histories; player questionnaires; relatives; and newspaper obituaries should serve only as a starting point for verification. Complicating the problem is that some players used aliases or were enrolled in school only briefly.

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**NEITHER ROGER BRESNAHAN NOR ZEKE BONURA WENT TO NOTRE DAME** despite repeated and credible sources which say they did. In **BRESNAHAN'S** case, articles from 1915 campus publications list him as a former N.D. student. An extensive search of University archives fails to find any corroboration. Nevertheless, many writers (including this editor, in a 1965 "BASEBALL DIGEST" article) erroneously place him in South Bend. Many contemporary sources also described him as a native of Trallee, Ireland, so the life-long Toledo, Ohio resident is a twice-debunked "IRISH". **BONURA** is credited to **NOTRE DAME** by a "WHO'S WHO" from the 30's. I traced **ZEKE** to his home in New Orleans and asked him about it. He said that he was given his nickname by Knute Rockne (a reference to his impressive physique). **BONURA** had been an outstanding all-around athlete in high school, starring as a javelin thrower, thus earning the attention and the moniker from Rockne.

**BILL "MOOSE" SKOWRON AND MOE BERG WERE BOTH** college shortstops. According to an article by Harry Bradway, sent along by Peter Bjarkman, **SKOWRON** led the Big 10 in hitting in 1950, his only varsity season before signing with the Yankees. **CHARLIE OWEN** compiled **BERG'S** complete college playing record at **PRINCETON** (.267 b.a.; .337 during his senior year). **BERG**, a 1923 grad, played first base for his initial varsity game, then shifted to shortstop for the remainder of his three-year varsity career.

**THE FIRST TELEVISED SPORTING EVENT WAS A COLLEGE BASEBALL GAME** between **COLUMBIA** and **PRINCETON**, April 8, 1939. The game, available for viewing by the fewer than 400 television sets in use at the time, preceded the first Major League telecast by more than four months. Bill Stern called the game, without benefit of a monitor for the one NBC camera. With his well-known penchant for dramatic hyperbole, he may have had **GEHRIG** and **BERG** in the lineup as he re-told the story in later years.

**THE 1902 ATHLETICS FEATURED AT LEAST SEVEN COLLEGIANS** according to **BOB TIEMANN**. This was a high percentage for those days. **CONNIE MACK** always liked collegians. **HARRY DAVIS (GIRARD)**; **DAVE FULTZ (BROWN)**; **LOUIS CASTRO (MANHATTEN)**; **EDDIE PLANK (GETTYSBURG)**; **BURT HUSTING (WISCONSIN)**; **ANDY COAKLEY (HOLY CROSS)** AND **DOC POWERS (HOLY CROSS and NOTRE DAME)** represented nearly half the Philadelphia roster.

**ON THE SAME DAY THAT SABR MEMBER BOB POTTS WAS HONORED** by the AMERICAN BASEBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION (ABCA) for 25 years as a high school coach, the ABCA also presented similar service plaques to college coaches RAY KATT (TEXAS LUTHERAN) and JACK PHILLIPS (CLARKSON), both former Big Leaguers.

**SOUTH CAROLINA GAMECOCKS MOOKIE WILSON AND ED LYNCH** both played for the METS. Former Yankee BOBBY RICHARDSON coached at his home-state school. The first Major Leaguer from (the other) U.S.C. was ALFRED H. "FRITZ" VON KOLNITZ.

**ST. MARY'S COLLEGE HAS PRODUCED SOME FORMIDABLE PLAYERS** including ANDY CAREY, who recently spoke to the ALLAN ROTH Chapter of SABR. The "Gaels" also contributed two thirds of the great RED SOX outfield of the teens: HARRY HOOPER and DUFFY LEWIS. Other Big Leaguers from the Bay Area school were WALTER MAILS; VON HAYES; and JOE OESCHGER.

**SINCE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY "OESCHGER" WITHOUT SAYING "CADORE",** I am pleased to report that JIM PRICE notes that LEON CADORE attended GONZAGA some time before he went 26 rounds with OESCHGER, in the longest iron-man duel in history. PRICE said that CADORE was enrolled in a commercial program, not the regular college program. Other GONZAGANS who made the Bigs were three players from the same team: MIKE DAVEY; RICK SWEET; and LENN SAKATA. Three other famous alumni were classmates MEL INGRAM; RAY FLAHERTY and BING CROSBY. INGRAM had a cup of coffee; FLAHERTY made the pro football Hall of Fame, but also starred in Baseball; BING became a part owner of the.....?

**LARRY RITTER, WRITING FROM HIS HOME ACROSS THE STREET FROM** The Ansonia Hotel, (where BABE RUTH lived) listed three Big Leaguers from N.Y.U.: EDDIE YOST; JIM HANNAN; and HANK GREENBERG. "The Walking Man" attended N.Y.U. before and after his Big League career. HANNAN, a NOTRE DAME grad, wrote his M.B.A. Master's thesis ("The Administration of the Major League Players' Pension Plan") with RITTER as faculty advisor.

**JIM ABBOTT, OF MICHIGAN, BECAME THE FIRST MEMBER OF THE 1988** Olympic Baseball team to play in the Majors when he earned a spot in the ANGELS starting rotation with a strong spring training performance. Before the season is over, one or two other collegians from that team may see the bright lights.

**BASEBALL HAS BEEN A DEMONSTRATION SPORT AT THE OLYMPICS** on several occasions. **BOB LINDSAY** has delved into the 1936 Berlin Games. The only player from the U.S. team to make the Majors was pitcher **BILL SAYLES**, who attended the **UNIVERSITY OF OREGON**.

**STAN GROSSHANDLER HAS ADDED FOUR PLAYERS TO THE LIST OF** Major Leaguers also in the College Football Hall of Fame: **SAM CHAPMAN AND JACKIE JENSEN (CALIFORNIA); ERNIE VICK (MICHIGAN);** and **GREASEY NEALE (WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN)**.

**GERRY TOMLINSON ADDED A PLAYER TO THE BASEBALL-PRO HOOPS LIST:** **DON SAVAGE**, of **LEMOYNE**. played for the **YANKEES** and then later for the **SYRACUSE NATIONALS**.

**THE 1947 AND 1948 YALE TEAMS EACH REACHED THE FINALS** of the NCAA Tournament. The Eli Coach was **ETHAN ALLEN**. One of the team's stars was **DICK TETTELBACH**. The team captain during '48 was a "bush" hitter, but a fancy fielding first baseman, who later was in the same Naval Aviation class as **TED WILLIAMS**. In a recent interview, the **PRESIDENT** pulled his college mitt out of a desk drawer in the Oval Office and said: "It's the **GEORGE MCQUINN 'Claw'**".

**THE ALABAMA CRIMSON TIDE HAVE HAD A PROUD BASEBALL TRADITION** according to a list sent by **BILL PLOTT**: **JOE and LUKE SEWELL DAN and IKE BOONE; ANDY and SID COHEN; and FRANK AND AL LARY** were among the stars over **ALABAMA**. Other **TIDERS** who made the Bigs were **BUTCH HOBSON and RIGGS STEPHENSON**.

**SEVERAL ARIZONA WILDCATS ARE CURRENTLY ON BIG LEAGUE ROSTERS** including **TERRY FRANCONA; RON HASSEY; CRAIG LEFFERTS; and CASEY CANDAELE**. Earlier **ARIZONA** players who made the Majors included **DON GILE; EDDIE LEON; RON THEOBALD; and DAVE STEGMAN**.

**RON GABRIEL TOOK TIME OUT FROM HIS "BROOKLYN DODGER FAN CLUB"** to mention that **CLYDE KING** went to **U.N.C.-CHAPEL HILL**. **RON** wrote that a high percentage of the early Hall of Famers (10 of the first 40) were college men, "considering that baseball had a rural, blue-collar connotation in those days". This is a point made emphatically by **HARRY HOOPER** in **LARRY RITTER'S** great book, **THE GLORY OF THEIR TIMES**.

**HARRY HOOPER DENIED THAT ALL PLAYERS OF HIS ERA WERE ROWDIES,** by pointing out the large number of college men he played with and against. In addition to those mentioned here previously, he named: **CHIEF BENDER (DICKINSON COLLEGE); DAVY JONES (DIXON COLLEGE); FRANK CHANCE (WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY); and CHIEF MEYERS (DARTMOUTH).** HOOPER coached PRINCETON for a few years.

**GEORGIA TECH'S LIST OF MAJOR LEAGUERS LOOK LIKE GUESTS ON "What's My Line".** The tentative list for the "WRECKS" contains nine men who barely combined for a pot of coffee: **TOM ANGLE; "RED" BARRON; EDGAR CROWLEY; JIM HEARN; WELDON HENLEY; ED LAFITTE; JOE PALMISANO; BOB REEVES; AND FRANK WADDEY.** This list will grow longer after **TOM SHEA** checks his memory tapes. Upon close inspection of these one-line-in-Macmillan players, further research is warranted. The six position players had overlapping careers from 1926 through 1931. All were born between 1900 and 1906. It is likely that several were in school together. Three other players from this period are also being checked as possible **TECH RAMBLERS.**

**DAVID THOMAS POINTS OUT THAT "SCRANTON BILL" COUGHLIN** coached baseball at **LAFAYETTE COLLEGE** for 25 years (1920-1945). **DAVE** is researching **COUGHLIN'S** career and is looking for information about his college coaching years.

**THE STORY OF MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL IS ONE OF THE FINEST** reference books in my library. Besides covering minor league records thoroughly, through 1950, the book also has a lot to say about Major Leaguers. One of the most interesting sections is a listing of more than 250 colleges and their most famous player who made the majors. Among the gems from this list are **HAMPDEN SYDNEY'S CLARENCE "SOUP" CAMPBELL; MUSKINGUM'S WHITEY WIETELMANN; and SWARTHMORE'S JOHN OGDEN.**

**CARL LUNDGREN LED THE ILLINI TO CHAMPIONSHIPS** as both player and coach. **ILLINOIS** led the Big 10 in Baseball in 1900 and 1902, with **LUNDGREN** as a pitching star. After a superb Major League career, he became a college coach, leading **MICHIGAN** to Big 10 titles in 1918, 1919, and 1920. Heeding the call of his alma mater, **LUNDGREN** then won the title for the **ILLINI** in 1921 and 1922. **GEORGE HUFF**, his predecessor, who won 12 titles in his 24 years at the helm called **LUNDGREN** the best coach in the country.

IT COSTS AS MUCH AS AN MX MISSILE, BUT TOTAL BASEBALL.  
by JOHN THORN and PETE PALMER should be in every baseball  
library. This 2,300 page book is a true encyclopedia,  
containing chapters on every conceivable topic (Chapter 27, by  
this author, is "COLLEGE BASEBALL"), as well as supplying more  
thorough statistics than its competition. THORN is a graduate  
of a distinguished college, BELOIT, whose most famous Baseball  
personage before him was GINGER BEAUMONT. BELOIT had a very  
strong Baseball program around the turn of the century.

**SABR MEMBER DAVE ALEXANDER, PURDUE BASEBALL COACH**  
was a college roommate of CHUCK ARMSTRONG, General Manager of  
the SEATTLE MARINERS. DAVE has won more than 250 games in his  
12 years at the Boilermaker helm. PURDUE'S most famous  
Baseball coach (excluding Hank Stram) was HUGH NICOL, who won  
67 games and one Big Ten title in nine seasons (1906-1914).  
PEACHES O'NEILL (N.D.) also coached there, in 1905. RAY  
"CRACKER" SCHALK, served as a PURDUE assistant coach from  
1949-1963. PURDUE and NOTRE DAME began playing baseball  
against each other in 1894. This intra-state rivalry produced a  
post-playing career oddity around the turn of the century. From  
1897-1900, N.D. was led by ANGUS MCDONALD; From 1902-1904,  
the BOILERS featured ABE COHEN. Neither made the Major  
Leagues, but both did well on another "track": ANGUS became the  
President of the Southern Pacific Railroad and ABE became  
President of the New York Central Railroad.

**HUGH DUFFY (BOSTON COLLEGE) WAS ONE OF MANY FORMER**  
BIG LEAGUERS coaching collegiate programs during the depression.  
Others included FRED MITCHELL (HARVARD); ROY THOMAS  
(HAVERFORD); HARRY WOLTER (STANFORD); and JOE WOOD (YALE).

**GEORGE "SQUANTO" WILSON WAS BORN IN OLD TOWN, MAINE,**  
hometown of LOU SOCKALEXIS. Because this was an Indian  
reservation-town, I assumed that "SQUANTO" was also a  
Penobscot Indian, I was curious to see if his life compared to  
SOCKALEXIS. It didn't. WILSON had a brief minor league  
career after his short time in the Bigs and then he served as a  
school teacher before becoming one of the leading businessmen in  
Winthrop, Maine, owning a string of "Wilson's Dollar Stores".  
He was abstemious in his personal habits and admired by all who  
knew him. He lived to be 77. Oh yes, he was a graduate of  
BOWDOIN COLLEGE and apparently not an Indian, according to a  
close friend of his I located.

**ADIE SUEHSDORF HAS UNEARTHED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT** of information about **BIBB FALK**, whose Major League claim to fame was in replacing **JOE JACKSON** after **SHOELESS** "said it was so". **FALK** hit .314 in the Bigs, good enough to supplant most players, although a little short of his predecessor. But it was in the College game that **BIBB** excelled, first as a player in the **RUTH**-mold, and then as the second greatest college baseball coach of all time (I'm often given to making statements like this). He won 468 games (.727 pct.); 20 Southwest Conference Championships; and two NCAA titles, developing several major leaguers (**GRADY HATTON**, **MAX ALVIS**, **MURRAY WALL**) along the way. During his youth he was reported to have pitched a 16-inning, 30 strikeout game for the Donna, Texas team against **McCall**. He supposedly hit around .400 in college while not losing a single game on the mound. Earlier this year he celebrated his 90th birthday.

**LARRY GERLACH ADDED THREE NAMES TO THE BRIGHAM YOUNG LIST** albeit reluctantly, because of his affiliation with the **UNIVERSITY OF UTAH**. He tabbed hurlers **RICH AGUILERA** and **JIM GOTT** as former Cougars, as well as pitching coach **VEWN LAW**.

**THE GREAT AMERICAN BASEBALL CARD FLIPPING, TRADING AND BUBBLE GUM BOOK**, by Boyd and Harris is my idiosyncratic choice as the funniest Baseball book ever written. The authors satirized and memorialized every aspect of playing cards. **SAMMY ESPOSITO'S** college attendance was an object of ridicule: "Sometimes you had to read between the lines to get an accurate feel...**SAMMY** attended **INDIANA U.** for three years. Death. When they start mentioning a player's educational background we know we're dealing with a real stiff. After all, nobody cares whether or not **STAN MUSIAL** ever got out of the second grade or that **DIZZY DEAN** had a degree in quantum mechanics from **CAMBRIDGE**...They're just trying to divert our attention. But as long as they were at it, did they have to throw in the 'three years'? This makes it sound as if **SAMMY** was expelled."

**THE SYRACUSE ORANGEMEN HAVE SENT TWO TOP RELIEVERS** to the National League: **JIM KONSTANTY** and **DAVE GIUSTI**. Other Orangeman hurlers in the Bigs have included **MIKE BARLOW**, **WALT CRADDOCK** and **BILL CONNORS**.

**THERE ARE MANY FAMILIAR NAMES AMONG THE NCAA'S INDIVIDUAL** Records List: **JEFF TORBORG**, **RUTGERS** (.537); **DAVE MAGADAN**, **ALABAMA** (.525); **EDDIE LEON**, **ARIZONA** (28 Career triples); and **PETE INCAVIGLIA**, **OKLAHOMA STATE** (143 RBI'S, 1985)

## BROWN UNIVERSITY

PLAYER	BORN	CLASS	MAJORS	POSITION
JOHN LEE RICHMOND	1857	1890	1879	P
WILLIAM E. WHITE		1883	1879	1B
ASA STRATTON	1853	1873	1881	SS
FRED C. TENNEY	1854	1880	1884	OF
CHARLES BASSETT	1863	1885	1884	IF
ARCHIE CLARK	1865	1889	1890	UTIL
TOMMY "BUTTERMILK" DOWD	1869	1893	1891	OF
FRED WOODCOCK	1868	1891	1892	P
FRED TENNEY	1871	1894	1894	1B
ANDY SOMMERVILLE	1876		1894	P
FRED STEERE	1872	1894	1894	SS
FRANK SEXTON	1872	1893	1895	OF
WILLIAM LAUDER	1874	1898	1898	3B
DAVE FULTZ	1875	1898	1898	OF
DAFF GAMMONS	1876	1898	1901	OF
PEPPER CLARK	1874	1901	1902	OF
WILLIAM MELLOR	1874	1899	1902	1B
LIBE WASHBURN	1874	1891	1902	P
MIKE LYNCH	1880	1904	1904	P
RAY TIFT	1884	1907	1907	P
HARRY PATTEE	1882	1906	1908	2B
CHET NOURSE	1887	1909	1909	P
KEN NASH	1888	1912	1912	SS
EDWARD WARNER	1889	1912	1912	P
DOC SNELL	1889	1913	1913	C
JOE CONZELMAN	1885	1912	1913	P
ED EAYRS	1890	1916	1913	P
CAP CROWELL	1892	1915	1915	P
CHARLES BABINGTON	1895	1915	1915	OF
WILLIAM MURRAY	1893	1918	1917	2B
CLAUDE DAVIDSON	1896	1919	1918	2B
ART MEREWETHER	1902	1922	1922	PH
HAL NEUBAUER	1902	1925	1925	P
BUMP HADLEY	1904	1928	1926	P
HASKELL BILLINGS	1907	1929	1927	P
BRUCE CALDWELL	1906	1927	1928	OF
AMBROSE MURRAY	1913	1935	1936	P
BILL ALMON	1952		1974	SS

**NOTE:** This list was provided by BROWN Asst. S.I.D. Greg Johnson with considerable assistance from TOM SHEA. The "class" listed is the expected or actual graduation year. Players are listed in chronological ranking of their appearing in the Major Leagues.