



# EMIL ROTHE CHICAGO CHAPTER

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*Mike Noren (left) and Jason Schwartz (right) distributed envelopes filled with five unique Gummy Arts cards designed specifically for SABR's Black Sox Scandal Centennial Symposium at the Chicago History Museum. (Photo: Bill Pearch)*

## BASEBALL CARDS OF THE BLACK SOX SCANDAL

BY: JASON SCHWARTZ 

SABR members and guests in attendance at SABR's Black Sox Scandal Centennial Symposium were greeted with an unexpected treat when they made their way to their seats: a pack of 1919 baseball cards! Emil Rothe chapter member Jason Schwartz, who is also the national co-chair of SABR's Baseball Cards Research Committee, worked with Chicago-based artist [Mike Noren](#) of [Gummy Arts](#) and [Cecil Cooperstown](#) fame to make Mike's brand new 1919 White Sox creations available for the first time at the SABR event.

Each pack (envelope, really) contained five cards from the complete set of 19. Though most of the Symposium attendees would not have described themselves as collectors, at least not anymore, many became collectors for a day as they once again felt the suspense of wondering who they got, the thrill of (just maybe) pulling a Shoeless Joe, and the fun of making trades with their fellow attendees.



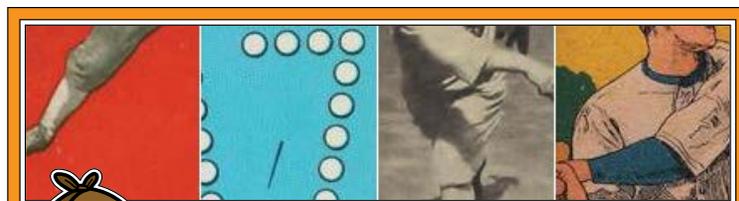
Among the many trades that went down, two stood out in particular. One SABR member [ran into the niece of Buck Weaver on the bus](#) and was able to trade her a Weaver for an Eddie Collins! Meanwhile, Mike Noren whipped up a [custom card of Edd Roush](#) that he was able to trade to Roush's granddaughter and Symposium presenter, Dr. Susan Dellinger, for a copy of the biography she wrote about her Hall of Fame grandfather.

The cards themselves were modeled after a set of "strip cards" known to collectors as the [W514 series](#). Issued in 1919 and distributed through 1921, the set is one of the most complete (and [one of the last](#)) in depicting the Black Sox players on cardboard. The set included twelve White Sox along with 108 other major leaguers of the era, including [28 Hall of Famers](#).

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BY JASON A. SCHWARTZ

Four cards, one player. Can you guess who?

# A TALE OF ROOFTOPS AS OLD AS TIME

BY: JOHN RACANELLI 

*"A few things are inevitable when it comes to spring baseball at Wrigley Field: the ivy won't be green, the weather won't be warm, there will be many who say, 'This is the year,' and there will be a battle between the Chicago Cubs and the rooftop businesses that surround Wrigley Field." - Judge Virginia Kendall, 2015*

The Ricketts' makeover of Wrigley Field was initially delayed because the owners of the apartment buildings across from the ballpark sued to stop construction. In response, the Ricketts family purchased several the buildings from the complaining owners and positioned the new right field video board to allow their own rooftop businesses a better view of the action. The holdouts' lawsuit was dismissed by Judge Kendall and affirmed on appeal.

Legal disputes over neighbors viewing National League ballgames go back nearly 135 years, however! In 1885, John Deppert, Jr. constructed a rooftop stand on his barn overlooking Recreation Park, home of the Detroit Wolverines, where "John and his friends and miscellaneous youngsters who delight in base ball" would root for Sam Thompson, Charlie Bennett, Ned Hanlon, and a rotation featuring Stump Wiedman, Pretzels Getzien and Lady Baldwin. The Detroit Base Ball Club retaliated by adding to the height of their outfield fence. Deppert, in turn, raised the platform on his barn. The team raised the fence again, so Deppert responded by adding an additional story to the deck. Team management finally added a canvas sheet to the top of the wall, yet Deppert built even higher to "remain triumphant."

Team ownership turned to the courts and a preliminary injunction was granted, prohibiting Deppert from using his viewing platform. Deppert was defiant, however, and continued to admit fans to his Victorian Era party deck for a ten-cent fee (approximately \$2.64 today). After several individuals confessed they had paid admission to Deppert while the injunction was in effect, Deppert was charged with contempt.

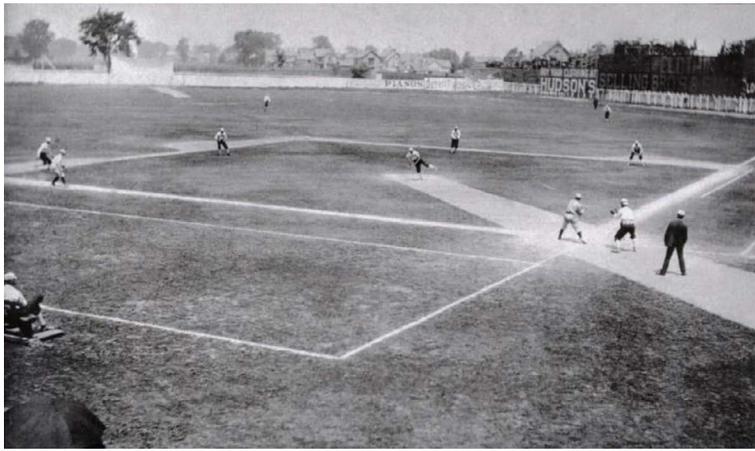
Judge Chipman, however, reconsidered having granted the injunction and ultimately decided that Deppert had the legal right to erect the stand for fans to "enjoy all the advantages and felicities which belong to the noble art of base ball." He opined that charging patrons admission to watch the ballgames was a "question of morals," but ultimately legal. The injunction was lifted, and contempt charges dismissed.

The Wolverines' appealed the ruling to the Michigan Supreme Court, where they complained that the club paid \$3,000 per month for rent (in excess of \$79,000 today) and that their 50-cent admission fee (approximately \$13.22 today) helped offset the cost. They were thereby "annoyed" by Deppert charging people—upwards of 100 per game—to watch the games from his property and asked the court to permanently ban Deppert from using his property in this manner.

In response, Deppert claimed that the ballgames ruined the quiet enjoyment of his premises; that ballplayers often trespassed on his land in pursuit of the ball; and, he often had to call the police to "quell fights and brawls of the roughs who assemble there to witness the games." He further claimed that his viewing stand had passed the city's building inspection and that he had the legal right to charge admission and sell refreshments.

On April 22, 1886 a divided Supreme Court (3-1) decided that the Detroit Base Ball Club had no right to control the use of Deppert's adjoining property and Deppert was within his rights to erect the stand and sell refreshments. Furthermore, there was no evidence that Deppert's rooftop denizens would have paid for admission to Recreation Park.

Deppert found himself in hot water again in May 1887, however, when he began operating his stand—some 36 feet above ground level—before having obtained a certificate of safety from the city's Building



Game action at Detroit's Recreation Park, date unknown. (Photo: public domain)



## WHAT'S ON DECK?

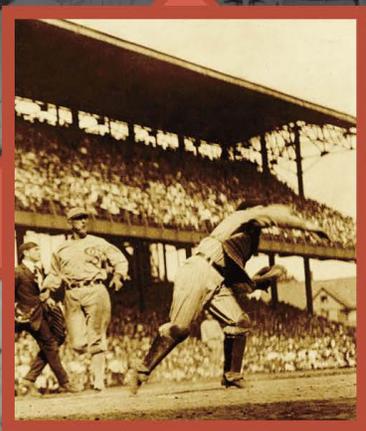
GET YOUR PENCILS AND SCORECARDS READY

- CHAPTER MEETING**  
 Saturday, November 2 - 1:30 p.m.  
 Chicago Public Library, Roden Branch  
 6083 N. Northwest Highway  
 Chicago, IL 60631

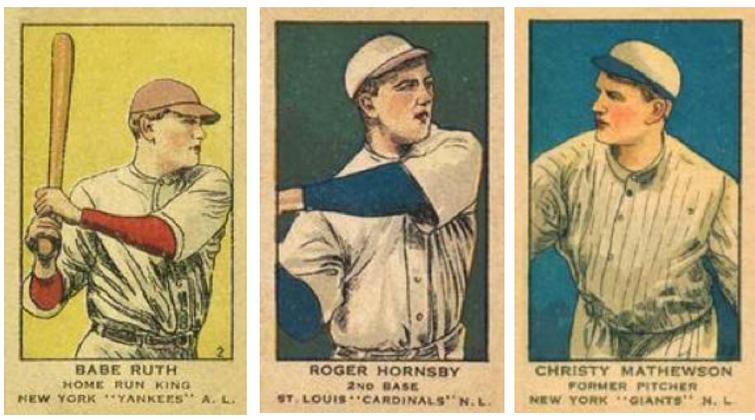


# BASEBALL CARDS (CONT.)

## THE 1919 BLACK SOX SCANDAL



IMAGES OF BASEBALL



A [longer write-up](#) of the Gummy Arts cards, including a full checklist, is on the [SABR Baseball Cards blog](#) and numerous pictures of attendees showing off their packs can be found online. At least for now though, the only picture of a complete set is right here in our Chicago chapter newsletter!



**ORDER THE BOOK TODAY**

**LISTEN TO THE AUTHOR DISCUSS HIS BOOK**

## HELPINGSTINE PUBLISHES NEW BOOK ON 1919 BLACK SOX SCANDAL

All kinds of spurious rumors had swirled around the 1919 World Series. Allegations about a fixed game between the Chicago Cubs and Philadelphia Phillies on August 31, 1920, began a chain of events that led to a grand jury indicting eight White Sox players for conspiring to throw the 1919 World Series to the Cincinnati Reds the year before.

Outside the courtroom, Shoeless Joe Jackson, just coming off his best overall offensive season with .382 average, was reportedly confronted by a young fan pleading for a denial from his hero. Jackson denied any guilt in the World Series fix. In the almost 100 years since eight White Sox players were banned for life, there has been little historical closure due to a fleeting consensus on a scandal that almost took down Major League Baseball.

Dan Helpingstine is a freelance writer living in northwest Indiana with his wife and daughter. This is his fourth Arcadia book. He has also written three other books on the Chicago White Sox.

## GET SOCIAL WITH SABR'S EMIL ROTHE CHICAGO CHAPTER

THERE ARE FIVE EASY WAYS TO INTERACT WITH CHICAGO CHAPTER MEMBERS. CLICK TODAY AND START TALKING BASEBALL.



**CLICK HERE TO PLAY DID THEY PLAY FOR THE MONTREAL EXPOS?**

# TALE OF ROOFTOPS (CONT.)

Department. When Inspector McWilliams attempted to conduct an inspection, he found pails of beer being hoisted up to the platform and encountered an angry (and presumably intoxicated) crowd who threatened to toss him from the platform. McWilliams swore out a warrant for Deppert's arrest on the charge of maintaining an insecure structure dangerous to human life. Deppert was found guilty and was ordered to pay a \$100 fine (approximately \$2,700 today) or spend 60 days in jail.

Seemingly content to end the ongoing strife in April 1888, Deppert and club management reached a financial agreement that resulted in Deppert razing his "wildcat stand" and the team taking down that portion of the fence that had been constructed to obstruct Deppert's view. Deppert's timing was fortunate in that the 1888 season was the last for the Detroit Base Ball Club as financial troubles forced management to sell off players and fold.

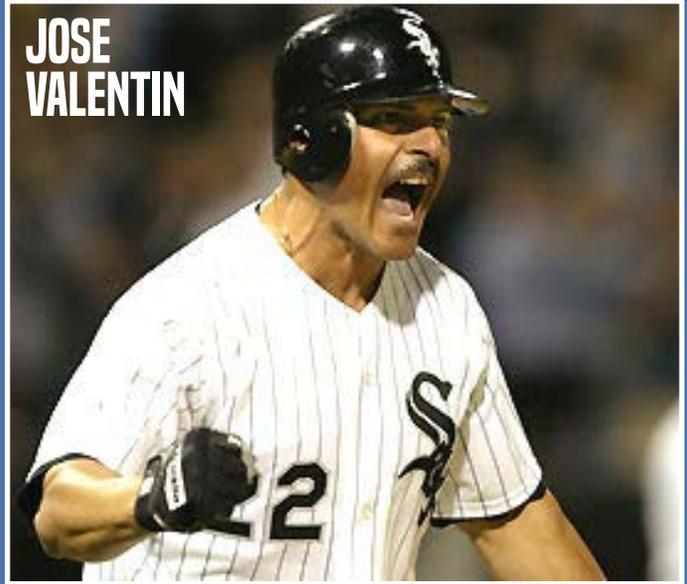
If you ever have the opportunity to view a Cubs game from one of the rooftops, raise a glass to John Deppert and toast kindred spirits from long ago.

## Sources:

- Right Field Rooftops, LLC v. Chi. Baseball Holdings, LLC, 87 F.Supp.3d 874 (N.D. Ill., 2015).
- Right Field Rooftops, LLC v. Chi. Cubs Baseball Club, LLC, 870 F.3d 682 (7th Cir., 2017).
- Right Field Rooftops, LLC v. Chi. Cubs Baseball Club, LLC, 138 S.Ct. 2621(Mem) (2018).
- Detroit Base-Ball Club v. Deppert, 61 Mich. 63, 27 N.W. 856 (Mich., 1886).
- "A Castle in the Air," Detroit Free Press, August 13, 1885.
- "Violating an Injunction," Detroit Free Press, September 1, 1885.
- "Mean but Legal," Detroit Free Press, September 13, 1885.
- "After Deppert's Scalp," Detroit Free Press, May 9, 1887.
- "Justice Miner Fines John Deppert \$100 for Maintaining a Peek-a-Boo Perch," Detroit Free Press, June 3, 1887.
- "Detroit's Trouble with a Man Who Ran a 'Wildcat Stand,'" Detroit Free Press, April 24, 1888.
- [www.baseball-reference.com](http://www.baseball-reference.com)
- [www.in2013dollars.com/us/inflation/1885](http://www.in2013dollars.com/us/inflation/1885)



**JOSE VALENTIN**



## TOP 10: MOST HOME RUNS IN A SEASON BY A SWITCH HITTER IN CHICAGO BASEBALL HISTORY

RANK	PLAYER	HR	YEAR	TEAM
1.	JOSE VALENTIN	30	2004	WHITE SOX
2.	JOSE VALENTIN	28	2001	WHITE SOX
2.	JOSE VALENTIN	28	2003	WHITE SOX
4.	MARK BELLHORN	27	2002	CUBS
5.	JOSE VALENTIN	25	2000	WHITE SOX
6.	IAN HAPP	24	2017	CUBS
6.	YOAN MONCADA	24	2019	WHITE SOX
8.	KEN HENDERSON	20	1974	WHITE SOX
8.	RAY DURHAM	20	2001	WHITE SOX
10.	RAY DURHAM	19	1998	WHITE SOX

SOURCE: [BASEBALL-REFERENCE.COM](http://BASEBALL-REFERENCE.COM) / PHOTO: CHICAGO WHITE SOX

## PASTIME PASSAGE...

"THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN THE WORLD IS A BALLPARK FILLED WITH PEOPLE."

— BILL VEECK

Source: *The Press Democrat* (Santa Rosa, California), January 4, 1986, 15.

Photo: [daniel-wyatt.com](http://daniel-wyatt.com)

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM SABR'S BLACK SOX SCANDAL CENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM IN CHICAGO



The SABR Black Sox Scandal Centennial Symposium was held on September 27-29, 2019, in Chicago. The SABR Black Sox Scandal Research Committee hosted this once-in-a-century event to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1919 World Series.

The event—which was attended by nearly 200 baseball fans—was highlighted by a research symposium on Saturday, September 28 at the Chicago History Museum. The museum is home to an extensive collection of Black Sox artifacts and documents, and we gathered in the beautiful Morse Genius Chicago Room event space to discuss the continued relevance of the 1919 World Series and its aftermath. A book signing with SABR authors, including our own *Scandal on the South Side: The 1919 Chicago White Sox*, followed.

Click on the links to the right to listen to audio highlights from each session:

1. **Say It Ain't So: The Legacy of the Black Sox Scandal**  
*Panelists: Daniel Nathan, David Pietrusza, Bill Savage, moderator Jacob Pomrenke*
2. **How Cheap was Charles Comiskey? Salaries and the Black Sox**  
*Presenter: Michael Hauptert*
3. **The 1919 Cincinnati Reds, Synthetic Champions?**  
*Presenter: Dr. Susan Dellinger*
4. **Sports Gambling From 1919 to 2019**  
*Presenter: Kevin P. Braig*
5. **Eight Myths Out: Shedding New Light on Baseball's Darkest Hour**  
*Panelists: Bruce S. Allardice, Rick Huhn, Bill Lamb, moderator Jacob Pomrenke*



LISTEN TO SESSION #1



LISTEN TO SESSION #2



LISTEN TO SESSION #3



LISTEN TO SESSION #4



LISTEN TO SESSION #5



SEE MORE EVENT PHOTOS

VISIT THE CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM

SABR Black Sox Symposium at the Chicago History Museum (Photos: Bill Peach)

# CHICAGO CUBS 1989: THE BOYS OF ZIMMER

BY: BILL PEARCH 

During my senior year at Dwight Township High School, the yearbook staff distributed a questionnaire to the Class of 1991 and asked each student to share some of their lasting memories from the last four years. My high school days bridged the gap between the '80s and '90s with two years firmly planted in each decade and atrocious music (too late for New Wave, too early for Grunge). There was no doubt that I was going to memorialize the only Chicago Cubs team to reach the postseason during that four-year run: the 1989 squad better known as the Boys of Zimmer.

*...T.P. and B.J. to our first Cubs night game, "Juan Franco," when P.P. wiffed 15 times on one hole, and the 1989 Cubs. Tony Parker remembers getting stuck in a farmer's*

That team was five years removed from the drama of the 1984 NL East Division winners and nearly a decade in advance of Kerry Wood's wild card team. They were stocked with several future Hall of Fame players: Sandberg, Maddux and Dawson. Jerome Walton and Dwight Smith finished one and two in the NL Rookie of the Year voting respectively. Despite having that talent, the San Francisco Giants quickly vanquished them in the NLCS. This month marks 30 years since that team's run came to an end after five postseason games.

Once the Cubs won the 2016 World Series, every team in franchise history dropped in rank as everyone's favorite. Sure, 1984 was the first time I saw my team win, but that '89 season still stands out to me. That was the first season that I started to attend several games. Seven in fact (they finished 3-4). That was the first year I attended games at Wrigley Field under the lights.

So yes, when the yearbook staff asked for cherished high school memories, the 93-69 NL East Division winners were definitely going to make that list. I just had no idea that the franchise would continue rebuilding for nearly 30 years.

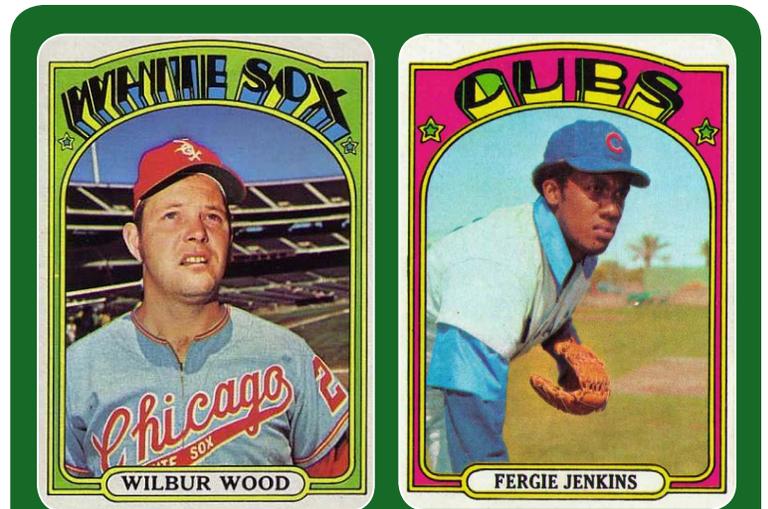


**Top: Dwight Township High School Yearbook, 1991**  
**Bottom: 1989 Chicago Cubs display at the 2013 Cubs Convention**  
*(Photos: Bill Pearch)*

# OCTOBER CHAPTER LUNCH



**Thank you to everyone who joined us at The Whistle Sports Bar and Grill in Oak Lawn on Saturday, October 12. We had a healthy dose of postseason and hot-stove baseball discussion.**



## CHICAGO RANDOM TANDEM WILBUR WOOD AND FERGUSON JENKINS

The last season in which both the White Sox and Cubs had pitchers post five or more shutouts was 1972: Wilbur Wood (8) and Ferguson Jenkins (5).

# PHOTOS FROM SABR'S BLACK SOX SYMPOSIUM WEEKEND



*Top: Andrew Aronstein (pitcher), Jason Schwartz (batter) and Daniel Dorff (catcher) visited the location of old Comiskey Park prior to Saturday's doubleheader.*

*Bottom: The Chicago White Sox and Detroit Tigers battle during the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.*

*(Photos: Bill Pearch)*

# ZEMAN'S ZINGERS

## SEPTEMBER 2019: HOW DID YOU DO?

1. Going into 2019, the Washington Senators/Minnesota Twins franchise saw only three different batters hit at least 40 home runs in a season. Who were they? **Harmon Killebrew (8 times), Roy Sievers in 1957 and Brian Dozier in 2016.**
2. Name the three teams that have won the last three World Series in which they have played. **The Boston Red Sox, who actually have won their last four Fall Classics, in 2004, 2007, 2013, and 2018; the Cincinnati Reds in 1975, 1976 and 1990; the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1960, 1971 and 1979; and the San Francisco Giants in 2010, 2012 and 2014.**
3. Who is the only American Leaguer to have a 50 home run season and also a 50 stolen base campaign (different years)? **Brady Anderson swiped 53 bags in 1992 and hit 50 homers in 1996.**
4. Two teams, the San Diego Padres and the Tampa Bay Rays, have won exactly one World Series game. Who were the sole winning pitchers for their respective clubs? **The Padres' Andy Hawkins won Game Two of the 1984 World Series and James Shields earned the victory in the second game of the 2008 Fall Classic for Tampa Bay.**
5. What current National League city was once named Losantiville? **Cincinnati, Ohio.**



*Above (left to right): Jason Schwartz, Bill Pearch, Daniel Dorff, Andrew Aronstein and Simon-Félix Laflamme visit Charles Comiskey's statue on the outfield concourse at Guaranteed Rate Field.*

## GET YOUR BASEBALL RESEARCH PUBLISHED

Are you conducting baseball research? SABR's Emil Rothe Chicago Chapter can help. We are looking for new articles to publish in the Chapter's monthly newsletter and social media outlets. Submit your articles to Chapter Secretary David Malamut via email at [david@malamut.net](mailto:david@malamut.net). Submittal deadlines are the 15th of each month for inclusion in the next edition.

## SABR MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

We all have great baseball stories to share. In each issue, we will highlight SABR Chicago Chapter members. Contact Bill Pearch, newsletter editor, via email at [wpearch@comcast.net](mailto:wpearch@comcast.net) to schedule a brief interview.

