

The INSIDE GAME

The Official Newsletter of SABR's Deadball Era Committee



VOL. XVII, No. 3: "LET'S GET THIS LUMPY LICORICE-STAINED BALL ROLLING!"

JUNE 2017

THE CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

by **John McMurray**

Kevin Graham, a member of the Deadball Era Committee, has taken on a time-consuming hobby: serving as commissioner of the Second Chance Fantasy League. Currently finishing a season with players active in 1912, the Second Chance League plays a 154-game schedule, culminating with a World Series title for one of its 14 general managers. Player performances, however, are not necessarily closely correlated with their actual on-field statistics from 1912. As a consequence, drafting and managing players from 105 years ago requires studious preparation and strategic adjustments in order for a vintage fantasy team to be successful.

In 2016, Graham decided to start his own online historical baseball league, in keeping with the burgeoning popularity of similar simulations. He decided to begin with players from the 1910 season and to work his way, season-by-season, into the 1920s. "From Cobb to Ruth to hopefully Gehrig," wrote Graham in a recent e-mail exchange for publication in this issue. The league, according to Graham, includes ten SABR members.

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DEADBALL AT SABR 47

Although hardly a convention mainstay, SABR 47 in New York City (June 28-July 2, 2017) will feature an attractive sampler of Deadball Era-related offerings. Research presentations of interest to DEC members include: *The Death and Life of Harry Pulliam*, by Steve King (RP10/Thursday); *Take Me Out to the Ball Game: The Story of Katie Casey, Suffrage, and Our National Pastime*, by George Boziwick (RP14/Friday); and *Ejection Diaries: John McGraw Battles the National League's Umpires and Executives*, by Dan Levitt (RP29/Saturday).

The annual meeting of the Deadball Era Committee will convene in Ballroom 1 at 4:15 pm on Saturday, July 1. Newsletter book review editor Dan Levitt will serve as meeting



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Glenn Stout

moderator. The highlight of the meeting will be the presentation of the 2017 Larry Ritter Award to author Glenn Stout for his engaging and informative *The Selling of the Babe: The Deal That Changed Baseball and Created a Legend* (St. Martin's Press). In addition to his acceptance remarks, Glenn will provide insight into the research process that informed his award-winning work and take questions from the audience. He will also autograph copies of his book for those who bring one to the meeting. The meeting promises to be an informative one and we hope for a strong turnout of DEC members.

WHY THE PITCHER OUGHT TO BAT

The suggestion, often made, that the pitcher be denied a chance to bat, and a substitute player sent up for him every time, has been brought up for consideration when the American and National League Committees on rules get together.

This time Connie Mack is credited with having made the suggestion. He argues that a pitcher is usually such a poor hitter that his time at the bat is a farce, and the game would be helped by eliminating him in favor of a better hitter.

Against the change there are many strong points to be made. It is wrong theoretically. It is a cardinal principle of baseball that every member of the team should both field and bat. Instead of taking the pitcher away from the plate, the better remedy would be to teach him how to hit the ball.

A club that has good hitting pitchers like Plank or Orth has a right to profit by their skill. Many of the best hitters in the game have started as pitchers. Burkett, Seymour, Wallace, Callahan and Donlin come readily to mind as men who would never have taken their rank had the pitcher been deprived of his chance to go up and have a swing.

From Philadelphia North American.

(contributed by Mike Lackey) *Sporting Life*, February 3, 1906

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The Official Newsletter of SABR's Deadball Era Committee

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A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED MANO A MANO BASEBALL FIGHT

by Dennis Pajot

Baseball fights still occur, but very seldom are they only a two-man affair. It seems the entire team has to show up now. But in baseball's Deadball Era I have come across a number of one-on-one fights. One of the nastiest occurred in Milwaukee on May 8, 1913. The press coverage gives us the feeling we are on the field with these two players.

On Tuesday, May 6, 1913, the Minneapolis Millers started a four-game series against the Milwaukee Brewers at Athletic Park. At the time the Millers were in fifth place in the minor league Double-A American Association with an 11-10 record. The Brewers were in third with an 11-9 record.

The Brewers took the first game of the series, 9-7. Both teams used a large amount of players, especially for that time, the Brewers 14 and the Millers 17. Millers manager Joe Cantillon used five pitchers in the loss. Part of the reason the Brewers used so many players was that Umpire J.A. Murray ejected second baseman Phil Lewis in the fifth inning "when the Cornell grad complimented him on his eyesight."¹ From the bench Brewer infielder Joe Burg added to the debate and was also ejected. In the seventh frame catcher Doc Marshall was gone after pushing umpire Murray. Milwaukee fans got a taste of the fireworks that would come two days later when Murray threw off his mask and protector, ready to go around with Marshall. Players got between the two would-be combatants and peace was restored. However, it was reported in the *Milwaukee Sentinel* that after the game a couple of bugs — the 1913 term for fans — offered to fight Murray, "but lucky for them, the umpire refused."²

On Wednesday the Brewers, now in second place, lost the second game of the series 8-7 in 10 innings. The game was uneventful in terms of pugilistic activity — no doubt because Brewers manager Harry Clark had told his boys there would be no kicking at the umpires. However, after the game there were almost fireworks. The

other umpire in this series, Eddie Handiboe, had been a "more or less a peace loving chap" up to this point. But near the end of the game Phil Lewis made a remark that was not to the umpire's liking, and the ump "invited Phil to come under the stand and settle matters, in the good old American way." The Brewer second baseman accepted the offer and both went under the grandstand. In this case Harry Clark and umpire Murray acted as peacemakers and no fists saw action.³

Sports writer "Brownie" of the *Milwaukee Journal* got it partially correct when he noted: "If these ball players and umpires don't quit challenging each other one of these days there is going to be an honest to goodness fight."⁴ Prior to the May 8 game, Phil Lewis was notified that he had been suspended for three games because of the incident the day prior. Even though no fight occurred, league president Thomas M. Chivington took the action on umpire Handboe's written report.⁵ The game was a hitting and scoring affair not associated with the Deadball Era. Minneapolis scored a single run in the first inning and the Brewers came back with two runs in their half of the inning. Brewer starter Tom Dougherty became ill in the first inning and John Nicholson took the mound "without a thing but his suit, shoes and glove."⁶ Nicholson gave up seven runs in the second inning to put the game out of reach early. Problems between the Brewers players and the umpire crew continued. In the third inning shortstop Lena Blackburne was bounced from the game by Handiboe. After six innings the score stood 13-4 in the Millers favor.⁷

What exactly happened in the seventh inning was disputed, but the results were "probably the most disgraceful scene ever witnessed since the inception of the American [A]ssociation," according to the *Evening Wisconsin*.⁸ According to this evening paper, Minneapolis shortstop

Dave Altizer walked and then stole second base. From this point, the *Evening Wisconsin* gave its readers a description of the incident, round-by-round, as if reporting a boxing match:

ROUND 1 – Altizer starts from second to steal third. Clark blocks his way and Dare

Devil Dave jumps into him feet first, spiking the Brewer manager quite badly. Clark immediately showed fight and pasted Dave with hard rights and lefts to the face. Altizer kicked viciously, planting his sharp spikes on Harry's forehead, drawing the blood in streams. Clark continued to drive in blow after blow, raising two big blotches on Dave's face.

On this round the *Milwaukee Sentinel* reported that when coming into third base Altizer leaped high in the air and spiked Clark with one foot on his forehead and the other dug a gash in his chest. It was at this point that the Brewers leader, "enraged by the dastardly attempt to cripply [sic] him jumped onto the runner and rained blow after blow on him while he was on the ground."⁹ Exactly where Clark was spiked was not clear, the *Sentinel* saying the forehead and chest, the *Milwaukee Journal* reporting the forehead and mid-hips, and the *Evening Wisconsin* in its game article saying the spikes cut into Clark's ankles.

ROUND 2 – Altizer manages to rise and the two square away for a regular scrap. Dave smashes hard right to the jaw and Clark staggers. Clark comes back with two heavy wallops to the face and several fierce exchanges take place before some of the players reach the scene. Both men are seized, but Clark manages to break away and they are at it again. All the players, the two umpires and several policemen now reach the scene. Umpire Murray grabs hold of Altizer and bodily throws him to the ground, and several players hold him down, while others are getting Clark and keeping him away.

The *Evening Wisconsin* commented both players "appeared to be like mad bulls and refused to be pacified."¹⁰ The *Sentinel* wrote the two players exchanged wallops for almost three minutes. The umpires did their part, as did the Brewers management off the field, as we see from the *Evening Wisconsin's* continuation round by round coverage of the scene.

ROUND 3 – Both Clark and Altizer are ordered from the game. Ferris taking Dave's



Dave Altizer



Harry Clark

place, and Cy Slapnicka succeeded Clark. The game is restarted after the fans are driven from the field.

What none of the above relates is that the umpire called Altizer safe at third, as Clark had dropped the ball in the spiking and fighting.¹¹ According to reports, Altizer would have been out by ten feet.¹²

ROUND 4 – Secretary Louis Nahin sends in a riot call to the police station and a squad of blue coats is ordered to the park.

As the accounts of the incident went across the sporting pages of the country, a few things were added that would appear did not really occur from reports in the Milwaukee newspapers. Almost all out-of-town newspapers talked of a near riot, which might not be too far off the mark.¹³ *The Washington Post* reported both Altizer and Clark "practically unconscious, were carried off the field, while policemen, with drawn revolvers, were standing off the crowd."¹⁴ But the action was not over, as we see in the *Evening Wisconsin* report.

ROUND 5 – After the game Clark lies in waiting for Altizer in the dressing room. Clark makes a fierce rush at his opponent, and for a moment a fierce encounter ensues. Policemen and players interrupt the battle and quiet is restored again.

The game ended with the Millers taking a 20-9 victory. But former Brewers manager Joe Cantillon, now piloting the Millers, sensed his player might be in bigger trouble with the police.

ROUND 6 – Manager Cantillon spirits Altizer out of town to avoid any legal action.

What happened was Cantillon kept Altizer in his room until the last minute and then quickly got him on a train for Chicago. Altizer would meet up with his teammates in the Windy City and continue on to Kansas City.

ROUND 7 – President Thomas M. Chivington will land a solar plexus blow and then both men will be repentant.

The two combatants had their say in the press. The *Milwaukee Sentinel* gave each a paragraph to explain their side:

BATTLING CLARK – Altizer deliberately spiked me. He aimed his spikes straight at me when he jumped at the bag, and one of his feet caught me just between the eyes, cutting a deep gash in my forehead, which a doctor had to sew up. His other spiked shoe got me in the chest. Early in the game he threatened to “get me,” and losing my temper I hit him. I know he tried to injure me, but if the same thing happened again, I would wait until I got off the ball field to

settle accounts. I would rather lose \$1,000 than to get mixed up in an affair of that kind. I have been playing ball for ten years, and that was the first time I ever exchanged a blow with a fellow player though the circumstances were such that I could not restrain myself. But it was the dirtiest kind of a dirty trick.

SPIKES ALTIZER – Clark called me a vile name early in the game, and told me he would “get me” the first chance he had. When I came to bat in the seventh, I know he ordered Nicholson to try to hit me, for four balls were thrown straight at my head. When I reached second he invited me to try and steal third, and I told him I was coming on the next pitch. I started for the base, and as he was in the way he was spiked.¹⁵

As can be expected the local press sided with the Brewer manager, but not 100 per cent. The *Sentinel* gave this paragraph on the incident:



Milwaukee Sentinel, May 18, 1913

That he [Altizer] deliberately tried to spike the Milwaukee leader there is no doubt, and to an unbiased spectator Clark was perfectly right in taking a punch at him, though it would have been better judgment to seek his revenge some other place than on the ball field. At that we can hardly censure Clarke (sic) for his part in it. Any player who will deliberately try to maim a fellow ball player is worthy of no consideration whatever, and it was only the impulse of a healthy human being to resent such an attack in the same way it was made.¹⁶

The *Evening Wisconsin* had this to say:

*From the press stand it appeared as if both men were about equally to blame. Altizer for jumping into Clark feet first when there really was no occasion for his double steal, as the Millers were far in advance of the Brewers. Clark, however, stayed right in his position in the middle of the path and Altizer could not have avoided him had he tried.*¹⁷

Perhaps the man coming out looking the best and having the best attitude was Minneapolis Miller manager Joe Cantillon:

It was a deplorable affair, and I would give anything if it had not happened. It was I who landed Harry his present job, and I am almost as anxious to see his club up there fighting as my own, and I am sorry he had to get into this kind of a mess. He and Altizer had a few words in the third inning, and when Dave returned to the bench he said that Clark had called him a bad name. However there is no excuse for one player deliberately trying to spike another, no matter what the provocation may be. I do not believe, however, that Dave spiked Clark in the face as Harry claims. Altizer made a kick at Harry while Clark was on top of him, and it was then that Clark's face was cut. It was a case of both men losing their heads. Altizer told me after the trouble that when he was at second, Clark urged him to try to steal third, and warning him to be careful. Dave has just as much nerve as Clark, and he started for the bag on the next pitched ball, and made a leap for the base. Harry

*refused to get out of the way and when he went down to take the throw was slashed by Altizer's spikes. Altizer is working for me, but I am not in sympathy with that kind of baseball and no matter what provocation he had he should have been more careful in sliding for the bag. Clark should also have kept his temper and not struck Altizer. It was a nasty affair and one player is as much to blame as the other.*¹⁸

Brewer management promised the last game, a Friday Ladies' Day, would produce no violent incidents.¹⁹ And as promised, the game was played as peacefully "as a Quakers' camp meeting."²⁰ The Brewers won the contest 11-2, as the two teams split the four-game series.

American Association president Chivington sat on the incident for a while, in part due to his being ill.²¹ A week later, he fined each player \$50, but there were no suspensions.²² Chivington explained suspensions would be more of a hardship on the clubs than on Clark and Altizer.²³

At least one state newspaper came down hard on the owners of baseball regarding this, and other rowdy incidents. The *Racine Journal-News'* T. S. Andrews wrote in a lengthy editorial:

The numerous fights between players and also between players and umpires on the



Milwaukee Sentinel, May 18, 1913

field this season have brought the owners and heads of the leagues to a realization that something must be done to put a curb on such work, or the first thing they know baseball will be getting into disrepute the same as some other sports....

Ball players are but the same as other human beings. They have feelings the same, but they must also know that they are being paid to please the spectators, the same as actors on the stage, and they should learn to control themselves at all times. A boxer in the ring controls himself if he is knocked down or out by an opponent; in fact boxers have proven time and again that they have wonderful control over their feelings, so why not baseball players?

Players work for salaries the same as clerks in stores and they should work for the benefit of each other. ... The American people like clean baseball and aggressive ball, but there is a difference between aggressive and rowdy ball. Cut out the rough stuff and give us baseball which ladies can attend without fear of being ashamed of lending their presence to each contests.²⁴

Harry Clark's Milwaukee Brewers went on to win the American Association championship in 1913, winning 100 games, while losing 67. The third baseman/manager would play in 165 games, hitting .286. The Minneapolis Millers would finish 1913 with a 97-70 record. Dave Altizer would play in 166 games, all at shortstop, finishing with a .292 batting average.²⁵ Both players' major league careers were in the past, but had a few years left in the high minor leagues.

Frequent newsletter contributor Dennis Pajot is a recognized authority on early Milwaukee baseball.

Several major league clubs have engaged leather lunged persons to announce the batteries and player changes to the fans. This practice will soon prevail everywhere.

The Pittsburg Press, April 3, 1912

1. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 7, 1913.
2. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 7, 1913.
3. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 8, 1913.
4. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 8, 1913.
5. *Milwaukee Sentinel* and *Milwaukee Journal*, May 9, 1913.
6. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 9, 1913.
7. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 9, 1913.
8. *Evening Wisconsin*, May 9, 1913.
9. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 9, 1913.
10. *Evening Wisconsin*, May 9, 1913.
11. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 9, 1913.
12. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 9, 1913.
13. See *Logansport (Indiana) Journal-Tribune*, *Newark (Ohio) Advocate*, and *Indianapolis Star*, May 9, 1913.
14. *The Washington Post*, May 9, 1913.
15. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 9, 1913.
16. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 9, 1913.
17. *Evening Wisconsin*, May 9, 1913.
18. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 9, 1913.
19. *Milwaukee Sentinel*, May 9, 1913.
20. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 10, 1913.
21. *Sporting Life*, May 17, 1913.
22. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 18, 1913, and *Oshkosh (Wisconsin) Northwestern* May 16, 1913. A number of newspapers reported the fines to be only \$25. See e.g., the *New York Times*, May 16, 1913, *Sheboygan (Wisconsin) Press*, May 15, 1913, *Sheboygan Journal*, May 15, 1913, and *Oshkosh Northwestern*, May 16, 1913.
23. *Milwaukee Journal*, May 18, 1913.
24. *Racine (Wisconsin) Journal-News*, May 19, 1913.
25. *1914 Reach Baseball Guide*, 243, 247.

UMPIRES UNDESIRABLE RISKS

SOUTH NORWALK, CONN.—“Rudd” Held, umpire in the Connecticut League, has discovered that a baseball umpire is regarded by life and accident insurance companies as an undesirable risk. His employment ranks with that of the aviator as a dangerous calling, the insurance men say. Held tried nearly every company in the country without results until this week, when a Western company, with a special rate, took his risk.

The Montreal Gazette, July 27, 1912

JAY HUGHES: AN EXERCISE IN BIOGRAPHICAL REVIEW AND REVISION

by **Bill Lamb**

An invaluable source of information for those active in the SABR BioProject is the modern baseball reference work. Indeed, the very first step in researching a player – but particularly those from the long-gone nineteenth century and Deadball Era – should be review of that player's entry in Baseball-Reference and Retrosheet, the gold standards of modern compendiums. At the press of a computer key, B-R and Retrosheet yield the fruit of generations of research on the game. But no work of human hands is entirely free of error, and caution must be exercised before employing data published even by these eminent references. This is particularly the case when it comes to biographical detail for obscure or long-dead players not the subject of recent research. Simply stated, such data are oftentimes wrong.

The Biographical Research Committee was founded shortly after SABR's formation in 1971, and has long served as gatekeeper of biographical information on major league players. Indeed, the biographical data presented by B-R, Retrosheet, and other present-day reference works do no more than reflect the data vetted and approved by the committee. For more than 25 years, the information gathered by the committee has been disseminated in a bi-monthly newsletter published by longtime committee chairman Bill Carle. One of the newsletter features is an accounting of revisions recently made (in date of birth, middle name, burial site, etc.) in committee records for various players. Obviously, any such change in data is the product of new research. One of the great virtues of the BioProject is that it contributes to this process through reexamination of baseball lives long past, and in so doing, evaluates (and sometimes corrects) biographical data that may have reposed unchanged on encyclopedia pages for decades. What follows is taken from a BioProject-driven memo sent to Bill Carle urging changes in the committee listing for turn-of-the-century pitcher Jay Hughes.

The memo began: Jay Hughes had a short but outstanding career, going a combined 83-40 (.675) in four seasons for Baltimore (1898) and Brooklyn (1899, 1901-1902). In fact Hughes was arguably the best pitcher in baseball in 1899 when he went 28-6 for the National League champion Superbas. Despite his one-time prominence, the Hughes entries in Baseball-Reference, Retrosheet, and other modern baseball reference works contain significant errata. His listed birth name of James Jay Hughes is wrong; the *Jim* nickname ascribed to him (and the *Jim Hughes* name by which he is identified in modern reference works) is inapt; and his purported brother relationship to late-1880s pitcher Mickey Hughes is unfounded. For the reasons set forth below, the following changes in the biographical listing for Hughes are proposed:

1. Change birth name to James H. Hughes;
2. Change nickname/BRC records listing to Jay Hughes, and
3. Delete any familial connection to Mickey Hughes.

To place argument for the above changes in perspective, a thumbnail bio of Jay Hughes is offered. He was born James H. Hughes on January 22, 1874 in Sacramento, California and would reside there his entire life. Next to nothing is known of Hughes's background, including the names of his parents. US Census data for Jay merely indicate that his parents were born in Ireland. Apart from Jay, the only identifiable member of his family is older brother *Buck* (John Edward) Hughes (1869-1908), a prominent California independent club and minor league ballplayer during the 1890s and a sometimes-teammate of Jay.

Jay Hughes was signed by the National League Baltimore Orioles after an impressive post-season pitching performance against an Orioles-flavored team touring the West Coast in November 1897. The following April, he debuted spectacularly, shutting out the Washington Senators, 9-0, in his first major league appearance. Four days later, Hughes threw an 8-0 no-hitter at the defending NL champion Boston Beaneaters. By season's end, his record

stood at 23-12, and Hughes was a budding star. In 1899, Hughes was among the Baltimore players transferred to Brooklyn when the two clubs were syndicated and performed even better. He led the NL in victories (28) and winning percentage (.824).

On April 4, 1900, Hughes married fellow Sacramentan Mary Waters, like himself the offspring of Irish immigrant parents and Catholic. Hughes then balked at leaving home and spent the 1900 season pitching in the California League, going 23-9 for the Sacramento Brewers. That November, Mary Hughes gave birth to fraternal twins. Government and other records reveal that the couple's infant boy was christened James Jay Hughes (and he would be called Jay Jr. during his own 1920s minor leagues playing career). Jay Sr. returned to Brooklyn for the 1901 and 1902 seasons, but was no longer the dominating pitcher that he had been before, posting good-but-not-great 17-12 and 15-10 logs. Thereafter, Hughes chose to remain in California and pitched in the Pacific Coast League until released by San Francisco early in the 1907 season. From there, his life went downhill as he bounced from job to job. The birth of a daughter (1909) and a son (1912) increased the Hughes family, but Jay struggled to find stable employment and there was apparently discord in the home. In 1915, Mary Hughes divorced Jay. Hughes was living as a lodger on a ranch outside Sacramento and working as groundskeeper of a local ball field when he fell off a high railroad trestle to his death in June 1924. He was 50. Interment was at St. Joseph Cemetery, Sacramento.

1. BIRTH NAME CHANGE: Examination of US Census data, Sacramento city directory listings, and contemporaneous newsprint reveals two things: (1) during his lifetime, Hughes's name was most-often published in civic records as James H. Hughes, but sometimes as Jay Hughes, and (2) no trace of the modern-day baseball reference name of James Jay Hughes was promulgated for him while he was alive. The evolution of the Hughes name change encompasses the following events:

1880 US Census: No listing for Hughes or family discovered.



Jay Hughes

1890 US Census: Destroyed by fire long ago and unavailable.

1893 Sacramento City Directory: James H. Hughes, saddle maker, 904 O Street. Note: What the middle initial *H.* stood for has not been ascertained. The fact that Hughes worked off-season as a saddle maker was noted periodically in the baseball press. See e.g., *Sporting Life*, May 10, 1898: "Baltimore's fine young pitcher Hughes is a saddler by trade."

1900 California Marriage Records: James H. Hughes and Mary A. Waters were married in Sacramento on April 4, 1900.

1900 US Census: James H. Hughes, Sacramento, married, saddler.

1901 Sacramento City Directory: James H. Hughes, ballplayer, 718 M Street.

1903 Sacramento City Directory: James H. Hughes, ballplayer, 718 M Street.

1904 to 1906 Sacramento City Directories: Jay Hughes, ballplayer, 904 O Street.

1909 Sacramento City Directory: Jay H. Hughes, rodman, 904 O Street.

1910 US Census: Jay Hughes, Sacramento, rodman (with wife Mary A., age 34, and children Jay and Marguerite, both 9, and Marjorie, 6 mos.).

1910 Sacramento City Directory: James H. Hughes, rodman, city engineering dept., 904 O Street.

1914 Sacramento City Directory: James H. Hughes, no occupation listed, 1505 9th Street.

1915: James H. Hughes ordered to pay \$40/month temporary alimony and \$50 attorney's fees to Mary A. Hughes pending disposition of her divorce suit against him, *Sacramento Union*, February 6, 1915.

1918 Sacramento City Directory: Jay Hughes, bartender, 1120 J Street.

1920 US Census: James H. Hughes, Sacramento, divorced, saddle maker.

1924 California Death Index: Jay Hughes, died June 2, 1924 in Sacramento.

The change in Hughes's birth name appears to date from publication of the first edition of *The Official Encyclopedia of Baseball* by Hy Turkin and S.C. Thompson in 1951. The listing for our subject is: "Hughes, James Jay." Since then, modern reference works through the current Baseball-Reference and Retrosheet have adopted the T&T listing and give our subject's birth name as: James Jay Hughes.

COMMENT: Like much other Turkin & Thompson biographical data, the source of its "Hughes, James Jay" listing is unknown and without basis in the historical record. On this point generally and for some critical commentary on the fact-collecting methodology utilized by Turkin & Thompson and the reliability of its data, see Peter Morris, *Cracking Baseball's Coldest Cases: Filling in the Facts about 17 Mystery Major Leaguers* (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland, 2013). The most facially plausible explanation for the Hughes listing is

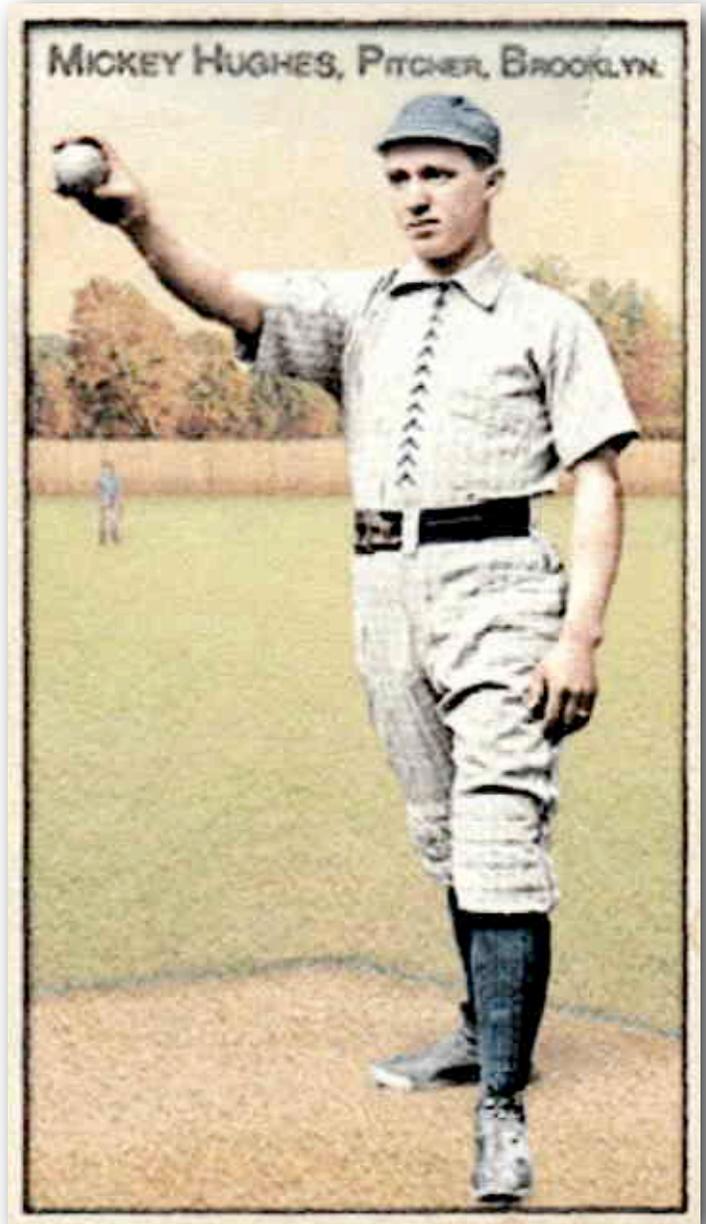
that T&T combined Hughes's first name (James) with his nickname (Jay) into a birth name. Or that T&T somehow confused Hughes's birth name with that of his older son, later a professional ballplayer himself. Just as likely, the James Jay Hughes name is simply yet another casually-crafted T&T invention. Whatever the case, the historical record persuasively establishes that Hughes's actual name was James H. Hughes (although he sometimes gave census/directory enumerators the Jay Hughes name that he was commonly known by). Important for our purposes, there is no evidence which supports the James Jay Hughes birth name presently listed for Hughes by B-R, Retrosheet, et al. That name lacks credibility and needs to be expunged. As he was during his lifetime, Hughes should be listed as James H. Hughes.

2. NICKNAME/BRC LISTING: Whatever their other sins, Turkin and Thompson are not responsible for the listing of our subject under the name *Jim Hughes*. That is the doing of *The Baseball Encyclopedia*, first published by Macmillan in 1969. In a word, the listing is inapt, as Hughes was hardly ever called "Jim" during his playing days. When Hughes first rose to local prominence pitching for the independent Sacramento Gilt Edge club, a proud *Sacramento Union* took to calling him "Our Jay." The nickname *Jay* was subsequently adopted by the rest of the California baseball press. But after Hughes signed with Baltimore for the 1898 season, a regional difference developed. To the extent that a first name was published, Hughes was called *Jay* by California and other West Coast sports outlets. Meanwhile, the Eastern press (to whom Hughes was a stranger) tended to call him *Jimmy* more often than *Jay*. My own random, non-scientific and non-comprehensive survey of 1898-1899 baseball reportage found *Jay* used 39 times in newsprint, and *Jimmy* 22 times. The nickname *Jim* was found only once during that time span. The margin of *Jay* over *Jimmy* in newsprint increased to 67 to 22 (plus one *Jim H.*) during the ensuing three years. Confined to the 1898-1902 span of Hughes's major league tenure, the discovered newsprint nickname usage breaks down as follows: *Jay*, 65.8%; *Jimmy*, 33%, *Jim/Jim H.*, 1.2%. After

1902, the use of *Jay* became near universal, and when Hughes died in 1924, both local and national news dispatches identified the deceased as former major league pitcher *Jay Hughes*.

No nickname appears alongside the Hughes listing in the 1951 and 1957 editions of Turkin & Thompson. But when the Macmillan encyclopedia became the game's official chronicler in 1969, its first edition captioned the entry for our subject: *Jim Hughes*, followed by *James Jay Hughes*, brother of Mickey Hughes. Initially published 20 years later (1989), Macmillan successor *Total Baseball* presented our subject as: *Jim Hughes*, followed by *Hughes, James Jay*. But by the time the seventh edition of *Total Baseball* was released in 2001, its Hughes listing had morphed into: *Jay Hughes*, followed by *Hughes, James Jay* with a F notation (indicating a family relation to another major league player). Presently, Baseball-Reference captions the stats portion of its Hughes entry: *Jim Hughes*, while its Bullpen section on him is headed: *Jay Hughes*. Retrosheet lists our subject as *Jim Hughes*, and both reference works give his birth name as *James Jay Hughes*, and identify him as the brother of Mickey Hughes.

COMMENT: The fallacy of the supposed brother relationship of Jay Hughes and Mickey Hughes is discussed below. Regarding the name currently used for listing our subject, how a pitcher mostly known as *Jay Hughes* during his turn-of-the-century playing days and universally identified as *Jay Hughes* at the time of his death in 1924 became *Jim Hughes* in 1969 is a mystery. Notwithstanding the respect that is rightfully accorded Macmillan encyclopedia compiler David Neft and his staff, there is only the scantest (or 1.2% newsprint) support for use of the name *Jim*. Plainly put, it was not how Hughes was known during his lifetime. To that, I would only add that some deference should be accorded how Hughes himself evidently felt about his name, as reflected in the fact that he was given to identifying himself as *Jay*, but not *Jim*. See again, the 1904-1906 and 1918 Sacramento City Directory and 1910 US Census listings noted above.



Mickey Hughes

3. THE PUTATIVE FAMILY CONNECTION TO MICKEY HUGHES: The inability to locate the Hughes family in the 1880 US Census and the long-ago destruction of the 1890 Census handicaps the identification of Jay Hughes's siblings. But when he first attracted the attention of the baseball press, notice was taken of the fact that Jay was the younger brother of well-known West Coast infielder Buck (sometimes called Ed) Hughes. See e.g., *Sporting Life*, May 21, 1898, and the *Fresno Morning Republican*, June 10, 1898. John Edward Hughes was born in Sacramento in November 1869, and notwithstanding a four-year age difference, the

Hughes brothers were close. Early in Jay's career, he and Buck often played on the same team. Indeed, when Jay triggered his major league signing by beating a touring Baltimore Orioles squad in a November 1897 exhibition game, Buck played behind him at second base. See the *San Francisco Chronicle*, November 26, 1897. When Jay held out most of the 1905 season in a salary dispute with Seattle Siwashes management, he occasionally picked up a few dollars umpiring local ball games with Buck, as reported in the *Seattle Times*, July 1, 1905. And when Buck died of stomach cancer at his home in Vallejo in August 1908, locally published obituaries and memorials prominently mentioned his playing ball with brother Jay in his younger days. See the *Vallejo Times*, August 21, 1908, *Sacramento Union*, August 22, 1908, and *Santa Rosa Press Democrat*, August 26, 1908. Those remembrances, however, made no mention of the deceased also being a brother of former major league pitcher Mickey Hughes. Finally, when Jay's younger son was born in December 1912, he was named John Edward Hughes in memory of his late brother.

Apart from sharing a surname with him and thousands of other Irish (and Welsh) Americans, there is no discovered historical evidence suggesting that Jay Hughes was related to late-1880s pitcher Mickey (Michael J.) Hughes, born in New York City on October 25, 1866. After winning 28 games for the 1888 Brooklyn Bridegrooms of the American Association, Mickey devoted himself to drink and debauchery and was gone from major league baseball by the end of the 1890 season. Mickey Hughes spent the remainder of his life in obscurity before dying in Jersey City on April 10, 1931. Tellingly, when Jay came to Baltimore and quickly became a star, no mention was made of him being a brother of former major leaguer Mickey Hughes. Nor was a family connection to Mickey noted when Jay was profiled in the sporting weeklies. See *Sporting Life*, September 10, 1898, *New York Clipper*, June 17, 1899, and *The Sporting News*, October 14, 1899. And when Jay died years later, press mention of family survivors did not include the still-living Mickey Hughes. See the *Sacramento Bee*, June 2, 1924.

As best I can determine, the notion that Jay Hughes and Mickey Hughes were brothers did not surface until the first edition of the Macmillan encyclopedia was published decades after their deaths. The basis for this assertion is unknown, and no evidence supporting it has been found by baseball researchers looking for it. In 2005, respected West Coast baseball researcher Carlos Bauer informed historian David Nemeč that "I have never come across any note that the two pitchers were related." See minorleagueresearcher.blogspot.com/2005/11. In his ensuing work on 19th century players, Nemeč was more emphatic, rejecting the purported brotherhood of Sacramento-native Jay Hughes and New York City-born Mickey Hughes, and describing it as based on "specious evidence." See David Nemeč, *Major League Baseball Profiles, 1871-1900, Vol. 1* (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2011), 95. But despite the views of experts like Bauer and Nemeč, Baseball-Reference and Retrosheet continue to list "Jim" Hughes and Mickey Hughes as brothers.

COMMENT: Unlike Turkin and Thompson, the creators of the Macmillan baseball encyclopedia were not given to invention and their work is entitled to respect. That said, it seems reasonable to ask: Where did the assertion that Jay Hughes and Mickey Hughes were brothers come from? On what authority was this sibling relationship premised? David Nemeč, an eminent 19th century baseball historian, has derided the brotherhood claim as based on "specious evidence." After having done my own research, I

NEW DEADBALL ERA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Inside Game is pleased to welcome to the committee the following SABR members who have expressed interest in the Deadball Era:

Matt McEnerney
Steve Perry
Justin Plinz

We look forward to their active participation in committee endeavors. These new committee members, as well as our newsletter contributors, can be contacted via the SABR directory.

would describe evidence of the relationship as non-existent. Although it is always difficult to prove a negative, the absence of any mention of Jay Hughes and Mickey Hughes being brothers in the historical record speaks volumes. This, it seems to me, makes it incumbent upon the Biographical Research Committee, Baseball-Reference, Retrosheet, and other proponents of the brother assertion to proffer their proof. And if such evidence cannot be produced, the brother claim should be deemed unsubstantiated and promptly deleted from BRC records and reference work entries on Jay Hughes and Mickey Hughes.

Bill Lamb

POSTSCRIPT: The Biographical Research Committee report for January-February 2017 contains the following revisions for “James Jay Hughes”:

Name: James H. Hughes

Use name: Jay

Not brother of Mickey Hughes

Pursuant to their standard review and revise protocols, the correct biographical data for Jay Hughes should appear in Baseball-Reference and Retrosheet within the coming months.

Newsletter editor Bill Lamb is the author of the recently-posted BioProject profile of Jay Hughes.

TO BEGIN WORK ON YANKEE STADIUM DURING THIS WEEK

GRADING OF SITE WILL BE COMPLETED IN FEW DAYS

NEW YORK—Unless something entirely unforeseen occurs to upset Frank Farrell's plans, the first step toward the actual erection of the Yankees' new stadium will be taken this week. The filling in and grading of the site will consume only a few more days. Within another month, it is expected, there will be enough steel work in place to give some sort of general idea of what the grandstand will look like.

In talking about his new plant, yesterday, President Farrell set at rest all fears that he, like Charley Murphy, would erect a combined ball park, Turkish bath, lodging house, restaurant, garage, and golf links.

“This stadium of mine,” he said, “will be for baseball only. I'm not going to have any hanging gardens, and I don't believe the fans would patronize a barber shop if I opened one on the roof. If I started a beanery under the grandstand Harry Stevens would probably get peeved and refuse to peddle peanuts and sandwiches for me.

“In all the years that I have been connected with baseball. I never heard of a fan who felt

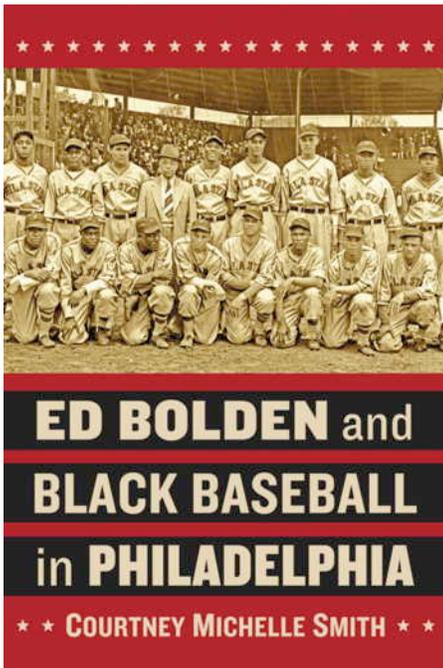
that his whole life would be blasted if he couldn't have a bit of grand opera between innings, nor of one who would pine away and die if there were no chariot races to cheer him up during a rally by the visiting club.

“I am very sorry not to be able to offer New York fans any such attractions as these, but the best I can do will be to provide seating room for between 35,000 and 40,000 people, with a few acres of parking ground somewhere outside the stadium for the use of automobile parties.

“Hundreds of thousands of people will probably be disappointed to know that I am not contemplating laying out a roque court just east of the Liverpool in a steeplechase course in deep center field, but we'll be criticized whatever sort of plant we fix up, so I expect we'll have to let it go at that.”

Editor's note: “Something entirely unforeseen” did happen, as the Yankees would have to wait more than a decade to construct a stadium. The 1912 ballpark site on Kingsbridge Road in the Bronx was regularly inundated by water from nearby Spyten Divil creek and plagued by construction snafus. Farrell poured a small fortune into this money pit before abandoning the site and making the Yankees a tenant at the Polo Grounds.

The Washington Times., February 4, 1912



**ED BOLDEN AND
BLACK BASEBALL IN
PHILADELPHIA**

**BY COURTNEY MICHELLE
SMITH**

*2017, McFarland
[ISBN: 978-0786478491. 192
pp. \$29.95 USD. Paperback]*

Reviewed by
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Author Courtney Michelle Smith has written a short but important text to fill a gap in the literature related to black baseball. Smith focuses on the important contributions made by Ed Bolden, owner of two teams during his more than 40 years involvement with black baseball. The Hilldale Daisies and Philadelphia Stars both enjoyed many years of success in the city and beyond, with each ball club winning one championship. She follows the highs and lows of Bolden's

career on the field and as he guided his two teams through the days of segregation, economic struggles and eventually integration.

Smith's thesis uses Bolden's career as a mirror to the trajectory of black baseball in all its ups and downs. She begins with the early independent days in Darby and takes readers all the way through to the end in the early 1950s. One of her key points is that Bolden understood the importance of a strong relationship between his teams and their communities. When the relationships declined the teams struggled to survive.

Smith organized her book in a chronological manner, beginning in 1911 and ending in 1953. That approach allows the reader to follow the story of Bolden's career in relation to larger events in American society such as the two World Wars, the Great Depression, and the start of the Cold War. Smith makes it clear that black baseball cannot be viewed in isolation, which is a strength of her work. Another strength of Smith's work is her documentation. Each chapter has extensive notes that reveal the use of a variety of sources. Smith relied heavily on black newspapers as the best sources available. She also consulted the best secondary works on black baseball to provide support for her conclusions. The bibliography is short but shows the use of all the expected sources. One might wonder a bit about the lack of

New York papers being used given the proximity to Philadelphia, but that is not a major oversight.

Smith has an easy writing style and makes her points clear. She begins her conclusion with a quote from W. Rollo Wilson, a fellow club owner, which shows she has proved her thesis that Bolden's career mirrors the journey of the Negro Leagues from the 1920s through integration. Bolden's career began in the pioneering days of black baseball, journeyed alongside some of the biggest stars, and was still operating as the leagues declined. Since his career followed the basic timeline of the Negro Leagues existence Bolden experienced pretty much everything the leagues did. Smith provides details of the early struggles teams had before a league structure was formed in 1920. Bolden experienced frustrations with contract jumping, hiring umpires, paying salaries, and finding stadiums to play in. During the honeymoon period of the 1920s, Bolden's Hilldale team flourished and benefited from the creation of a second league and the Negro League World Series. In the 1930s his teams struggled financially, and were forced to resort to barnstorming to survive. With the economic recovery in the 1940s the Stars again experienced success on and off the field before integration brought new challenges to Bolen and the other owners.

Smith has written a book that helps readers connect the different challenges and triumphs of owning a baseball team through one owner's career. Many of the stories told are not new but become easier to see and understand through one man's life story. Smith argues successfully that black baseball and Ed Bolden go hand-in-hand as a way to understand the history of the Negro Leagues.

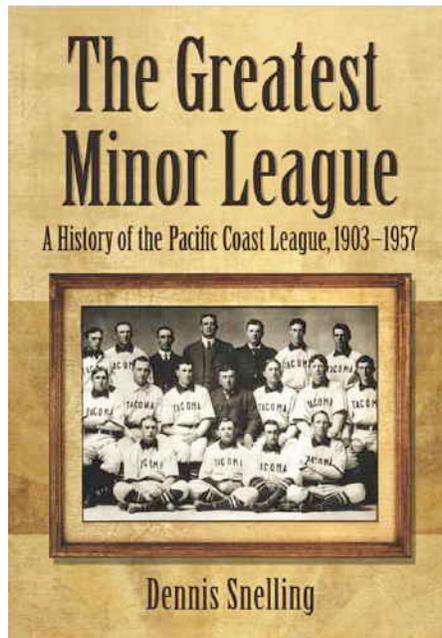
2014 Bob Davids Award winner Leslie Heaphy is a longtime SABR member, chair of the Women in Baseball Committee, and a history professor at Kent State University at Stark, Ohio.

PINCH PITCHERS FAMOUS

The pinch hitter has his opposite in baseball. The pinch pitcher is becoming a factor in the big league races, and it may be only a short time until teams will have to carry great one and two-inning pitchers—men that hurl shutout ball for a couple of rounds. They will rank with Cobb, Lajoie, Baker and Meyers, who are just naturally passed with men on.

Right now the three greatest pinch pitchers in baseball are Walter Johnson, Ed Walsh and Vean Gregg, who can make a game practically safe for the Nationals, White Sox or Naps.

(Pittsburgh) Gazette Times, September 15, 1912



THE GREATEST MINOR LEAGUE: A HISTORY OF THE PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE, 1903-1957

BY DENNIS SNELLING

2011, McFarland
[ISBN: 978-0786465248. 390 pp. \$39.95 USD. Hardcover]

Reviewed by
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I think the title of this book is deceiving. This is not a history of the Pacific Coast League (PCL). This book is almost surely *the* definitive history of the Pacific Coast League for this time period. Each chapter covers about three or four years of material regarding the entire league. A final chapter briefly summarizes the time period after the Giants and Dodgers relocated to California. Author Dennis Snelling also includes an

impressive appendix listing numerous PCL records and other more obscure statistics. In 1995, Snelling published a statistical history of the PCL, and this volume was meant to be a companion to the statistical history. No doubt, some of the appendix material was derived from this earlier work.

Snelling meanders gracefully between the off-field and on-field happenings of the PCL, covering all aspects of the game. Off-field details like ownership changes, franchise relocations, and ballpark problems are all detailed. The on-field highlights of each season are also described, and stories about colorful players and managers are presented. With 46 pages of detailed footnotes, this book was obviously painstakingly researched. The footnotes themselves are significant reading. Snelling mentioned that he had many stories that couldn't be included due to space. I wonder if we'll see a time when books of this nature will post their footnotes to a website to save space so they can include more research in the printed work.

Snelling writes that some PCL teams were outdrawing major league teams. Sporadic attendance information appears regularly throughout. I would have liked to see more complete attendance data to support that statement. Comparisons to major league attendance would have been a great addition to the already

impressive appendix. The author contended that the PCL was trying to be a third major league and that it was an “outlaw association.” I considered these to be the most controversial items in the book. PCL teams never had traditional major league affiliations. Yet, they still had important relationships with major league teams. Major league owners John Shibe and William Wrigley even owned teams in the PCL. In my opinion, these types of relationships were always going to prevent the PCL from becoming a third major league. I think one could argue the ill-fated Continental League scared the major leagues more in a few months than the PCL ever did.

The premise that the PCL was an outlaw association is folly. An outlaw association could have decided to group together to pay a young star like Ted Williams or Joe DiMaggio enough to keep them away from the major leagues. The PCL’s primary players were either young players or aging veterans. Players in their prime were normally sold to the major leagues. An outlaw association could have decided to break the color barrier before the major leagues. Would some of the really skilled black players have felt more comfortable in western cities and been willing to sign with PCL teams? An outlaw association may have tried to expand into another minor league’s territory. Cities like

Denver, Phoenix, and Dallas could have been lucrative targets for PCL teams. Finally, an outlaw association wouldn’t have sold the Los Angeles and San Francisco territories so quickly. In just a couple of months, Walter O’Malley moved the Brooklyn Dodgers into PCL territory with little resistance. What if there had been resistance by the PCL? If the PCL were that rebellious – why didn’t O’Malley just invade and offer nothing?

Granted, true outlaw leagues like the AFL, WHA, and ABA eventually accepted a merger deal with their more established counterparts. However, these negotiations took years and the rogue owners lost many millions of dollars. Even if they had been willing to lose money for the short term, PCL owners never seemed to have the bankroll to operate in that manner. Moreover, Organized Baseball never tackled (nor needed to tackle) the PCL as if they were battling an outlaw league. A summary comparing the PCL with these other leagues would have been interesting.

In the preface, Snelling notes that it took him 15 years to complete this book. Snelling provides a glimpse into his research methods and where he found some of the material. Microfilm machines in many different west coast libraries definitely got a workout. I found it motivational to read about how an author can actually finish a large project of this nature. The book does occasionally take on the feel of a college textbook and that may intimidate some readers. However, the valuable material presented warrants the attention of any baseball historian.

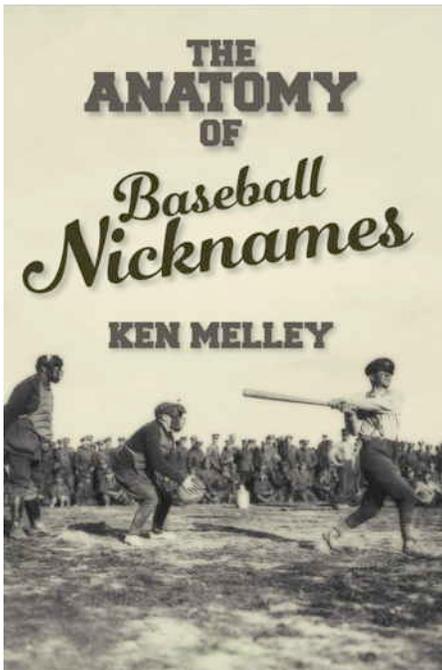
Brent Heutmaker has been a member of SABR’s Halsey Hall chapter for nearly two years. He resides in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area and works in the litigation support industry.



*The Topeka State Journal,
June 30, 1909*

PUBLISHERS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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**THE ANATOMY OF
BASEBALL NICKNAMES**
BY KEN MELLEY

*2016, CreateSpace
Independent Publishing
Platform*
[ISBN: 978-1530637959. 206
pp. \$12.95 USD. Paperback]

Reviewed by
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When I was about 10, I asked my father why Harry “The Hat” Walker was called “The Hat.” “Because he wore one,” my dad answered without missing a beat. Turns out, the old man was pretty close to right.

Baseball nicknames have long been a source of fascination for fans and the media, and now SABR member Ken Melley has put together *The Anatomy of Baseball Nicknames*, a charming and at times funny and informative little book that

should delight any readers who might pick it up. Just don’t expect an encyclopedic volume of deeply researched lore designed to answer every question you might have on any obscure nickname. That book probably hasn’t been written yet.

There is a folksy romance to baseball nicknames that is intricately entwined with the history of the game. Nicknames evoke a colorful past and point toward a curious and sometimes mysterious etymology. “The Arkansas Hummingbird” is one such nickname. “The Duke of Tralee” is another. Others, like “The Fordham Flash” or “Tom Terrific” might be more mundane but they still produce a sense of wonder and awe. Still other nicknames such as “Cap” Anson, “Kid” Gleason, “Doc” Medich, and “Hack” Wilson embody a physical trait, personality type, or character sign that tells us something unique or distinctive about that individual.

What should be especially interesting to the researcher are the sources of those nicknames, their meaning and subtexts, and the uses those nicknames are put to. With so many nicknames and stories throughout baseball history, Melley’s relatively short volume can do little more than scratch the surface, but he captures many interesting ones. The book sorts nicknames into just a few categories: body sizes, animals, and (in a chapter titled

“Strange, Unusual, but Revealing”), pretty much everything else. Melley also includes an interesting chapter on all the various nicknames for players named Bill, William, Billy, and Willie (Kaiser Wilhelm shows up in another chapter). Here, I would make a point of distinguishing between what I call monikers and sobriquets: namely, the difference between a substitute for a Christian name and a nickname used primarily in a newspaper headline, that is, the difference between “Babe” Ruth and “The Sultan of Swat.”

The author is at his best when, for instance, he tells us the different derivations for “Moose.” Harry “Moose” McCormick came by his nickname naturally, as Melley points out; he was a big man for his day. (The author also correctly observes that ballplayers have gotten a lot bigger since 1910 and what was large then is not so large now. In that sense, “The Big Unit” is a whole lot bigger than “The Big Train,” but everything is relative.) Walt “Moose” Dropo was from Moosup, Connecticut; Bill “Moose” Skowron as an infant resembled Benito Mussolini (wow!); and Mike Mussina and Mike Moustakas just because....

The same is true for the nickname “Hawk:” Ken Harrelson because of his nose, LaTroy Hawkins because of his name, and Andre Dawson because he was originally

known as “Hawkeye.” Melley is also instructive on the many variations of “Cat,” “Big Cat,” “Kitten,” and “El Gato.” (Also “Catfish”) The author does not fail to point out the connection between Harry “The Cat” Brecheen and Harvey “The Kitten” Haddix, although he somehow misses the irony of Felix “The Cat” Mantilla breaking up Haddix’s perfect game. He also doesn’t explain why players named Felix are nicknamed “Cat,” but maybe that’s too obvious.

Occasionally the source of various nicknames is simply conjectured or omitted without comment. It is one thing to tell us that Harry Kimberlin was known as “Mule Trader,” but it’s another to leave us wondering why. Kimberlin was also nicknamed “Murphy,” Melley tells us, without explanation. The entry immediately after Kimberlin is Muskrat Bill Shipke. “Chances are Muskrat Bill had red hair, which is usually associated with the nickname ‘Muskrat,’” Melley speculates. The author also devotes a half-page to Bill Dickey and his somewhat obscure nickname, “The Man Nobody Knows.” He concludes that it is a mystery how Dickey acquired that nickname, but a quick internet search reveals that his teammates gave him that nickname because Dickey tended to be distant and boring.

The book has a chapter on women’s nicknames, although here they are mostly from tennis, golf, and track and

field. Another chapter featuring Negro League players has a brief history of African American baseball. Melley also includes a list of SABR BioProject authors whose work he consulted and which he offers as a gateway to further research. It should be pointed out that this book is self-published and perhaps for that reason it is rife with typos, misspellings, and factual errors. To mention two: Daffy Dean did not play ten years with the Chicago White Sox; and Joe Morgan was not a catcher, for the Reds or anyone else.

The Anatomy of Baseball Nicknames is fine for what it

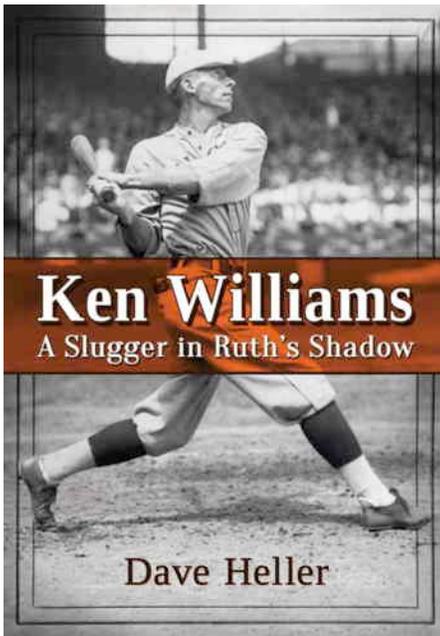
sets out to do and what it accomplishes, if that is to provide a basic primer on the subject of baseball nicknames. And while several well-known players with interesting monikers, such as Pete Rose, Casey Stengel, and Billy Martin, are missing, as are some of the more famous sobriquets (Losing Pitcher Mulcahy, Rubber Arm Krapp, or the Human Rain Delay), Melley’s book provides an enjoyable discussion of one of baseball’s more off-beat themes.

Art Mugalian is a SABR member from the Chicago area now living in Minneapolis. He is retired.

DON'T PICK ME OUT TO ASK----By Ripley



(Washington, DC) *Evening Star*, August 29, 1913



**KEN WILLIAMS: A
SLUGGER IN RUTH'S
SHADOW**

BY DAVE HELLER

2017, McFarland Publishing
[ISBN: 978-1476665351. 265
pp. \$35.00 USD. Paperback]

Reviewed by
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Author Dave Heller acknowledges that he is a lifelong fan of the Baltimore Orioles. But as someone who has an insatiable thirst to learn the history of baseball, he soon became interested in their predecessors, the St. Louis Browns. In 2003, Heller wrote his first foray into the history of the Browns with *As Good As It Got*. The title was appropriate, as the book focused on the 1944 Browns team, the only one in their history (1902 to 1953) to win a pennant. Many baseball historians would argue,

however, that although those Browns raised the flag, it was perhaps the 1922 edition that was the franchise's premier team.

In his current book, *Ken Williams: A Slugger in Ruth's Shadow*, Heller takes us on a diligently researched account about one of the unsung catalysts of those 1922 Browns, Ken Williams. He delivers a "soup to nuts" biography of Williams, beginning with his early years in Grants Pass, Oregon to his death in 1959. Through interviews with Williams' two sons, Ken Jr. and Jack, Heller is able to give the reader a look into the man, as well as the player.

Williams dropped out of school in the eighth grade, but he demonstrated a high acumen for baseball. When he learned that pitcher Hub Pernoll from nearby Applegate, Oregon had joined the Detroit Tigers in 1910, and that you could make a living playing professional baseball, that's where he set his sights. And Williams worked hard at his craft. Playing for amateur and semipro teams, Williams quickly earned a reputation as someone who carried a big bat and was also an excellent fielder. In 1913, Williams signed with Regina of the Western Canada League. Just two years later he made his major league debut with the Cincinnati Reds.

Although he was returned to the minor leagues the following year, Williams retained his reputation as a hitter. St. Louis

business manager Bob Quinn scouted Williams when he was with Portland in the Pacific Coast League and brought him back to the big leagues. After he appeared in only two games for the Browns in 1918, however, Williams was inducted into the military. After the war Williams returned to the majors, and from 1920 through 1927, he became a fixture in the Browns outfield. Only once during that span did his batting average dip below .300 (he batted .280 in 1926). But it was the 1922 season that really placed Williams front and center. He led the league in home runs (39) and RBI (155), as well as posting a .627 slugging percentage.

Williams' excellence showed up in other areas as well: He became the first player in American League history to hit three home runs in one game; he became the first player to hit a home run twice in the same inning; and he became the first player to be labeled a 30-30 man (at least 30 home runs and 30 stolen bases in the same year). Furthermore, unlike many players who swing for the fences, Williams did not accumulate a high number of strikeouts. In 1922, his home runs outnumbered his strikeouts (39 to 31), and he accomplished this feat two more times in his career. His defense was superb and his arm from his left field was a deterrent to baserunners in the AL.

When Babe Ruth began the 1922 season serving a suspension until May 20, Williams' quick start (he hit 11 homers before Ruth played in a game) naturally led to comparisons between the two. One article compared the two players, noting: "Ruth, while tall, is built much heavier than Williams and weighs perhaps 40 pounds more. Williams is the nervous type, Ruth the solid. Williams worries when in a slump. Ruth accepts such things as a matter of course. Williams' features are sharp; Ruth's are rounded. Williams looks the athlete all over, as he doesn't carry a pound of extra weight. Ruth with his large waistline, always seems lacking in condition." Or as one writer described Williams, "The St. Louis outfielder is a lean, sun-bitten individual of dour, lugubrious expression and few words, at least as far as the ball field is concerned. He would make an excellent undertaker." The Browns finished in second place in 1922, one game behind New York. It was the closest they would come to a post-season berth until 1944.

Heller's narrative brings Ken Williams front and center to the reader. He interweaves many descriptions, mostly taken from newspapers or baseball weeklies of the day that lend support to basic statistics. They provide the reader with a clear understanding of Williams and his abilities. Heller catalogs Williams' accomplishments in

detail, covering almost every game in which Williams gets a hit, smashes a home run, steals a base, or makes a defensive play (along with play-by-play accounts). This happens throughout the book and it includes minor league games, intra-squad games, and spring training games. The account that Heller provides might have been helped with more information about the exploits of Williams' teammates and what else was going on in the league. As an example, Heller writes that George Sisler won the Most Valuable Player award in 1922. I found myself wondering why and scurried to look up Sisler's statistics. He led the league in hits, runs, doubles, stolen bases, and he

batted .420. But there is no mention of this.

Dave Heller's hope was that the reader would learn a lot more about Ken Williams. His mission was accomplished. A biography on one of the great sluggers from the 1920s was long overdue. Ken Williams may not be a household name outside of St. Louis, but there is no doubt that his contributions to the game stand just as tall as his contemporaries from the same era.

Joseph Wancho is a longtime SABR member. He serves as the chair for the Minor League Research Committee and periodically contributes to The Inside Game.

NATIONAL LEAGUE DROPS WAGE LIMIT

BAN JOHNSON OPPOSED IT AND SO DID PLAYERS

NEW YORK—The \$11,000 monthly salary limit, decided on two days ago by the National League for each club, was rescinded at a special executive meeting of the league members here to-day. The new limit decided upon was not disclosed, but it was stated that the \$11,000 monthly limit was considered insufficient and unworkable.

The \$11,000 stuff was destined for the ashcan as soon as it was announced. The only thing it did was to get a laugh from the magnates of the American League. National League bosses believed the junior circuit men would fall for the limit agreement, but they were met with the well-known cold shoulder.

Ban Johnson and his pals refused to have anything to do with the salary limit, and the only comment that the American League president would make was that his league decided the salary limit question two years ago. This meant that it would not be taken up again. This pressure brought by Johnson caused the National men to reconsider the rule and drop it.

Harrisburg (Pa.) Telegraph, January 18, 1919

**ACCURATE RUNS-SCORED
RECORDS FOR PLAYERS OF
THE DEADBALL ERA:
THE PLAYERS ON THE 1912,
1914, AND 1915 DETROIT TIGERS**

by **Herm Krabbenhoft**

In previous reports I have documented the corrections of runs-scored errors in MLB's official records for players on the Detroit Tigers for the 1906, 1913, 1916, 1918, and 1919 seasons.¹⁻⁵ In this article I present the results of my research in which I discovered — and corrected — runs-scored errors in the official Major League records for the Detroit Tigers players from the 1912, 1914, and 1915 squads.

RESEARCH PROCEDURE

For each of the 1912, 1914, and 1915 seasons I utilized the same rigorous *modus operandi* employed in my previous research efforts to ascertain accurate RBI numbers for those seasons.⁶⁻⁸ Thus, for each of the runs scored by the Tigers in 1912 (720), 1914 (615), and 1915 (778), I sought to obtain three critical components: (a) the identity of the player who scored the run; (b) the details of the run-scoring event [e.g., a 2-RBI double, a balk, a 1-RBI grounder (batter safe on a fielding error), a 0-RBI grounder (batter safe on a fielding error), a 1-RBI bases-loaded walk, etc.]; and (c) the identity of the player who completed his plate appearance during the run-scoring event (i.e., the player who could be credited with batting in the run). And, because runs batted in were not recorded officially until 1920, and were not even defined officially until 1931, I followed the 1931 official scoring rules [Rule 70, Section 13] to credit or to not credit a player with an RBI — *“Runs Batted In are runs scored on safe hits (including home runs), sacrifice hits, outfield put-outs, infield put-outs, and when the run is forced over by reason of the batsman becoming a base-runner. With less than two outs, if an error is made on a play on which a runner from third would ordinarily score, credit the batsman with a Run Batted In.”* I then provided the complete documentation that I assembled to Retrosheet's Tom Ruane and Dave Smith for

their independent review, upon which we achieved 100% agreement and Retrosheet incorporated all of the runs-scored and runs-batted-in numbers in its Box Score file (and derived Player Daily files).⁹ The Appendices to those articles (available on SABR.org) provide a tabulation of the critical “(a)-(b)-(c)” information for each of the runs scored by the 1912, 1914, and 1915 Tigers. The Appendix to this article (available at SABR.org) provides the descriptions from the relevant newspaper accounts for each of the runs-scored errors/corrections treated in this article.

RESULTS

Tables 1, 3, and 5 present the full-season runs-scored numbers, according to my research, for each of the players on the Detroit Tigers in 1912 (53), 1914 (30), and 1915 (27). Also shown for comparison are the full-season runs-scored statistics from the *originally-generated* official DBD sheets. With a few exceptions, the originally-generated official DBD runs-scored numbers are also shown in each of the various most-recently published hard-copy baseball encyclopedias: *The ESPN Baseball Encyclopedia* (2008); *The Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* (2007); *Total Baseball* (2004); *Bill James presents STATS All-Time Major League Handbook* (2000); *The Baseball Encyclopedia* (1996).¹⁰⁻¹⁴ Likewise for the website Baseball-Reference.com (accessed on January 23, 2017).

1912

Examination of Table 1 reveals that there are differences between my runs-scored numbers and MLB's originally-generated official runs-scored numbers for five players — Donie Bush, Jean Dubuc, Davy Jones, Baldy Louden, and George Moriarty. Inspection of the official DBD records for each of the players reveals that there are mathematical errors for two of the players — Bush and Louden. For Bush, there was an addition error on page-3 of his five-page official DBD record: the actual sum of his runs scored through the first game of the double header on July 25 is 68. However, the incorrect number 69 was mistakenly entered instead of 68. The math error was carried through page-4 and page-5, resulting in his full-season runs-scored number

erroneously being shown as 107, instead of the true value of 106. An analogous addition error was committed on page-1 of Louden's five-page official DBD record, resulting in the mathematically incorrect full-season total of 57, instead of the mathematically-correct total of 58. However, as shown below, Louden's mathematically-correct 58 is *not* his accurate full-season total of runs scored.

Next, comparison of my GBG runs-scored numbers with the official DBD runs-scored numbers resulted in my unearthing of seven games with errors in the official records for five players. Table 2 collects the pertinent information. The Appendix provides the newspaper text descriptions for each of the runs scored in each of the games; also provided are the runs-scored numbers according to the newspaper box scores.

Here are brief summaries for each of the five players listed in Table 2. Ty Cobb was impacted by runs-scored errors in his official DBD records for four games. As it developed, the errors canceled each other out with the bottom-line effect being no change in his full-season runs-scored total of 119 runs. However, as shown in Table 2, while three baseball encyclopedias — *The Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* (2007); *The STATS All-Time Major League Handbook* (2000); *The Baseball Encyclopedia* (1996) — show 119 for Cobb's 1912 run-scored number, two other baseball encyclopedias — *The ESPN Baseball Encyclopedia* (2008) and *Total Baseball* (2004) — show Cobb with 120 runs scored in 1912. Similarly, Baseball-Reference also shows Cobb with 120 runs scored in 1912. The common thread for these three vehicles of baseball statistics is Pete Palmer's database of baseball statistics. Interestingly, the first (1989) edition of *Total Baseball* has Cobb with 119 runs scored in 1912. So, I asked Palmer about the 119->120 change he made in his database. Pete responded as follows: "On 7/12 Cobb was given a hit and no runs. If he did have a hit, he would have had a long hitting streak which was not noted. Checking the game, I found he had a run and no hits, so I made that correction. I did not check every game and so I did not come up with the other corrections."¹⁵



Ty Cobb (1915)

Jean Dubuc appeared as a pinch-hitter (batting for Ed Summers) in the eighth inning of the game on May 29. He was safe on a fielder's-choice-force-out and subsequently scored on a 1-RBI single by Sam Crawford. Somehow, the official scorer left Dubuc off the official scorer's report. It appears that the official scorer inadvertently mixed up George Moriarty (who batted in the sixth slot) and Baldy Louden (who occupied the seventh position) in the July 2 game. It seems that the game's official scorer or perhaps the in-putter at the American League office made a transcription error by entering a "1" in the runs-scored column for Davy Jones for the July 9 game.

1914

Inspection of Table 3 shows that two players from the 1914 Tigers have erroneous runs-scored numbers — Donie Bush and Ossie Vitt. Table 4 presents the game-specific information for the runs-scored errors. The Appendix provides the

newspaper text descriptions for the runs Detroit scored in the game on October 3, 1914.

1915

Inspection of Table 5 shows that four players from the 1915 Tigers have erroneous runs-scored numbers — Del Baker, Donie Bush, Harry Coveleski, and Ossie Vitt. Table 6 presents the game-specific information for the runs-scored errors. The Appendix provides the newspaper text descriptions for the runs Detroit scored in the two games with the runs-scored errors — May 29 (second game) and July 13 (second game).

For the second game of the May 29 double header, it appears that the official scorer simply made a transcription error, entering “1” in the run cell for Baker instead of the run cell for Coveleski — Baker (batting in the eighth position) was listed right above Coveleski (batting in the ninth spot). For the second game of the July 13 double header, it’s not obvious to me how Bush (who batted in the seventh hole) could have been erroneously credited with scoring one run when (according to the newspaper text descriptions, he actually scored zero runs) and how Vitt (who batted in the leadoff spot) could have been mistakenly credited with scoring one run when (according to the newspaper text descriptions) he actually scored two runs.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

I have now completed my runs-scored and runs-batted-in research for the players on the Detroit Tigers teams of 1906 and from 1912 through 1919, i.e., nine of the nineteen Deadball Era seasons. Runs-scored errors were discovered in eight of those nine seasons, only the 1917 season being free of runs-scored errors in the official records. A total of 20 players have been affected by the corrections of the runs-scored errors in their official records. Table 7 summarizes the impact of the runs-scored errors I discovered — and corrected.

Inspection of Table 7 reveals that the differences between the actual runs-scored numbers and the corresponding originally-recorded runs-scored numbers are usually small, generally just one



Baldy Louden

run. Six players have been impacted by multiple runs-scored errors in the official DBD records — Del Baker, Donie Bush, Ty Cobb, Baldy Louden, Bobby Veach, and Ossie Vitt. The composite runs-scored numbers for these players yield absolute-value deltas of just one run, except for Bush and Veach, whose deltas are three runs and four runs, respectively. From a statistical analysis perspective, Table 7 has 31 player-seasons with runs-scored errors in the originally-generated official DBD records. During the 1906 and 1912-1919 seasons, there were a total of 300 player-seasons. Thus, the official records for runs scored achieved an average mark of 89.7% correct. For comparison, it is pointed out (based on my previous research) that during the

1920-1947 period, there were 868 player-seasons and 64 player-seasons with runs-scored errors, yielding an average mark of 92.6% correct.¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Since 1948, there have been only 10 player-seasons with runs-scored errors in the originally-generated official DBDs, and none since 1963.

Finally, it is mentioned that during the 1920-1926 period there were two seasons (1920 and 1924) for which the originally-generated official DBD records had incorrect runs-scored numbers for Ty Cobb.¹⁶ Therefore, at this point in my research effort, including the four games with runs-scored errors from the 1912 season, I have found eight games with runs-scored errors in Cobb's official DBD records. In 1920 Tyrus Raymond actually scored 87 runs (not 86 runs) and in 1924 The Georgia Peach actually scored 114 runs (not 115 runs). Thus, for the 1906 and 1912-1926 seasons, The Genius in Spikes actually scored 1468 runs, not 1469 runs as given on his official DBD records. In future research I'll ascertain Cobb's accurate runs-scored performance for the 1905 and 1907-1911 seasons with the Detroit Tigers, as well as his other two ML seasons, 1927 and 1928 with the Philadelphia Athletics, and, thereby, ascertain the accurate career runs-scored performance for Cobb. Along that line it is pointed out that in the July-August 2006 issue of *The SABR Bulletin*, Steve Hirdt, executive vice-president of the Elias Sports Bureau (the official statistician for Major League Baseball) stated, "Around the time that Rickey Henderson was challenging Ty Cobb's all-time runs-scored record, there was some focus on someone's claim that, by God, a mistake had been found in Cobb's game-by-game statistics and that Cobb should be credited with one more run than Elias showed [i.e., 2246 vs. 2245]. I say it's amusing, because we knew not only of that particular error, but of more than a dozen dealing with Cobb's runs-scored total."¹⁹ Following up on this, Table 8 presents a summary of what has been published over the past 85-plus years for Ty Cobb's lifetime runs-scored total (i.e., since he scored his final ML run on July 26, 1928).

Perusal of Table 8 reveals that three different numbers have been shown for Cobb's lifetime runs-scored total — 2244, 2245, and 2246. It is



Harry Coveleski

important to point out that adding up the full-season runs-scored totals from his individual seasons — as shown in his originally-generated official DBD records — affords 2244 runs scored as his lifetime total. Examination of the all the complete year-by-year records for Cobb allows one to pinpoint the source of the one-run difference between 2244 and 2245 — the “missing” run from Cobb's 1906 season. As described in detail in reference 1, while the originally-generated official DBD records show Cobb with 44 runs, he actually scored 45 runs, the official DBD records having completely omitted his participation in the game on April 22 — in which he scored one run. David S. Neft and his research team apparently were the first to discover and correct that omission, showing Cobb with 45 runs in the first (1969) edition of *The Baseball Encyclopedia*. With regard to the one-run difference between 2245 and 2246, the source appears to be the first game of the July 12, 1912 doubleheader for which Palmer made the change (discussed above) in his database of baseball statistics, giving Cobb 120 runs scored for the season (instead of the 119 shown in the official DBD records) — as described in a blog

posted by Geoff Young, titled, “Henderson Breaks Cobb’s Career Runs Scored Record, or Does He?”²⁰ Young wrote:

“Great day for baseball yesterday [October 4, 2001]: The Tim Raineses play side-by-side in the Baltimore outfield, Barry Bonds ties Mark McGwire’s single-season home run record, and Rickey Henderson breaks Ty Cobb’s career mark for runs scored. Or does he? Almost every source available credits Cobb with 2246 runs. Well, I put in a call to the Office of the Commissioner of Baseball, and a very patient young woman confirmed the discrepancies, and said that Elias Sports Bureau is the official keeper of records for MLB and that sometimes the old records aren’t entirely accurate. So I called Elias, and they claim that someone at SABR went back and found a game (in 1912, I believe) where Cobb wasn’t credited with a run and should have been. The gentleman I spoke with also said that when Elias looked through all the records, they found that the single run added was balanced out by another run that was improperly added to Cobb’s record at some other point. He also suggested that MLB and various other sources are receiving faulty information from whomever maintains the databases that contain all this information. Why Elias isn’t providing these databases is beyond me, but that, in a nutshell, is the scoop. So, Rickey either broke or tied Ty Cobb’s mark for runs scored yesterday at the Q. And tonight he has the chance to either break or extend the record.”

Thus, when Rickey Henderson scored his career run number 2246 on October 4, 2001, the 2001 edition of *The Book of Baseball Records* (Elias) had Cobb with 2245 runs scored for the Major League record; likewise the 2001 edition of *The Sporting News Complete Baseball Record Book*. However, the seventh edition of *Total Baseball* (2001) had Cobb’s career run-scored total as 2246. And today (i.e., in 2017), one can find three different numbers for Cobb’s all-time American League record for most runs scored, lifetime: (A) 2244 — retrosheet.org; (B) 2245 —

The 2017 edition of *The Elias Book of Baseball Records* (published by the Elias Sports Bureau, the official statistician of Major League Baseball); and (C) 2246 — baseballhall.org (the website of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum), MLB.com (the official website of Major League Baseball), and Baseball-Reference.com. For perspective and completeness, Table 9 presents a survey of the year-by-year runs-scored numbers for Ty Cobb according to these (and other) sources.

As can be seen, there are (at least) six seasons with differences between the originally-generated official DBD runs-scored numbers and at least one of the sources — 1906, 1912, 1918, 1920, 1924, and 1928. It may also be mentioned that Retrosheet shows two different sets of runs-scored numbers for the 1912 and 1928 seasons, depending on the specific webpage one consults — Cobb’s “profile page” or Cobb’s “daily page.” So, which number is the truth for Cobb’s lifetime runs-scored total — 2244 or 2245 or 2246 ... or some other number? Stay tuned ... Next on my “Accurate-Runs-Scored” research schedule is the 1911 Detroit Tigers — Cobb led the majors in runs scored with 147 tallies — according to the originally-generated official DBD records.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I gratefully thank the following people for their tremendous help and cooperation in providing me with scans and photocopies of game accounts from newspapers to which they had access: Greg Hilton, Dave Newman, Gary Stone, and Dixie Tourangeau. I’m again very grateful to Tom Ruane and Dave Smith for reviewing the documentation I assembled to ascertain accurate runs-scored numbers and runs-batted-in numbers for the players on the 1912, 1914, and 1915 Detroit Tigers. Finally, I thank Pete Palmer, Jacob Pomrenke, Trent McCotter, Steve Elsberry, Cassidy Lent, and Lyle Spatz for checking their sources for the runs that Ty Cobb scored.

The work of retired research chemist Herm Krabbenhoft continues to inspire revision in the statistical record of Deadball Era baseball.

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GAMES AND BIOPROJECT

New entries published by the Games Project include 11 Deadball game accounts of the American League's first game in April 1901 by Jimmy Keenan through Dixie Tourangeau's take on two May 1918 Boston Braves contests. Meanwhile, the BioProject has posted profiles of Deadballers Jim Jones, Jay Hughes, Jim Shaw, Burt Keeley, Eric Erickson, and Bill Schwartz. As always, we urge you to check these out if you have not already done so.

MADE TRIPLE PLAY UNASSISTED

HOUSTON—Roy Aiken, third baseman of the Waco Club of the Texas League, retired the Houston team in the first inning of the game yesterday with a triple play unassisted. With runners on second and third base, the Houston batsman bunted for a "squeeze play." The runner from third raced toward home and the man at second base came to third. But Aiken caught the bunt, tagged the man from second, and touched third base before the man who attempted to score could get back.

Boston Evening Transcript, May 10, 1912

**TABLE 1: RUNS-SCORED NUMBERS
FOR PLAYERS ON THE 1912 DETROIT TIGERS.**

Player	Runs (This Work)	Runs (Official)	Player	Runs (This Work)	Runs (Official)
Al Bashang	3	3	Jim McGarr	0	0
Paddy Baumann	3	3	Dan McGarvey	0	0
George Boehler	0	0	Pat McGehee	0	0
Bill Burns	0	0	Deacon McGuire	1	1
Donie Bush	*106*	107	Harry Moran	1	1
Ty Cobb	119	119	George Moriarty	*37*	38
Red Corriden	22	22	George Mullin	13	13
Tex Covington	1	1	Charley O'Leary	1	1
Sam Crawford	81	81	Ollie O'Mara	0	0
Hooks Dauss	0	0	Eddie Onslow	11	11
Charlie Deal	13	13	Jack Onslow	7	7
Jim Delahanty	34	34	Hub Pernoll	0	0
Bill Donovan	3	3	Hank Perry	3	3
Jean Dubuc	*17*	16	Alex Remneas	0	0
Del Gainer	28	28	Jack Smith	0	0
Ed Irwin	0	0	Oscar Stange	35	35
Hughie Jennings	0	0	Joe Sugden	1	1
Willie Jensen	0	0	Ed Summers	1	1
Davy Jones	*53*	54	Alan Travers	0	0
Brad Kocher	5	5	Bun Troy	0	0
Ed Lafitte	0	0	Bobby Veach	8	8
Joe Lake	4	4	Ossie Vitt	39	39
Bill Leinhauser	0	0	Hap Ward	0	0
Baldy Louden	*59*	57	Charlie Wheatley	0	0
Billy Maharg	0	0	Ed Willett	6	6
Vincent Maney	0	0	Ralph Works	3	3
Red McDermott	2	2	—	—	—

NOTES: A player whose name is shown in boldface indicates that the player's actual runs-scored number [shown in the "Runs (This Work)" column] is different from the runs-scored number shown for him in the "Runs (Official)" column; the actual runs-scored number is also emboldened and bracketed with asterisks.

A NEW RULE IN BASEBALL

Under the rules of baseball a player who signs a side agreement by which he gets more money than his contract calls for on the face of it can, by turning [in] his manager or club owner, become a free agent.

Youngstown Vindicator, May 9, 1915

AGENTS' harvest—\$10 to \$20 per day made selling baseball cards; greatest game ever invented; it's the real game transferred to the parlor; every baseball fan buys a deck; send and get exclusive agency; we desire a general agent for San Francisco; be quick; can make \$1,000 on holiday trade. Baseball Card Co., lock box 87, Cleveland, Ohio.

The San Francisco Call, December 1, 1907

TABLE 2: RUNS-SCORED ERRORS IN OFFICIAL DBD RECORDS FOR PLAYERS ON THE 1912 DETROIT TIGERS — CONSEQUENCES (INDIVIDUAL GAME AND FULL SEASON) OF CORRECTING THE ERRORS.

Player	Game	OPP	Runs Game (This Work)	Runs Game (Official)	Runs Season (This Work)	Runs Season (Official)	Runs Season (Encyclopedias & B-R)
Cobb	May 9	BOS*	1	0	119	119	119 ^a
	July 12 (1)	BOS*	1	0			120 ^b & B-R
	July 19 (2)	PHI*	2	3			
	August 31	STL	0	1			
Dubuc	May 29	STL*	1	"0"	17	16	16
Louden	July 2	CLE	1	0	59	57	57
Moriarty	July 2	CLE	0	1	55	38	38
Jones	July 9	NY*	0	1	53	54	54

NOTES: The entries in the "Runs Season (Encyclopedias)" column are from the baseball encyclopedias given in references 10-14 as well as from Baseball-Reference B-R), unless noted otherwise. An asterisk in the "OPP" column indicates that the game was played in the opposing team's city. The "0" entry for Dubuc in the "Runs Game (Official)" column indicates that the official records do not show Dubuc as playing in the May 29 game, in which, as shown in the descriptions given in the Appendix, he certainly did. (a) Three of the encyclopedias (references 11, 13, and 14) have 119 runs scored for Cobb. (b) Two of the encyclopedias (references 10 and 12) have 120 runs scored for Cobb; Baseball-Reference (accessed January 23, 2017) also has 120 runs scored for Cobb.

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"Doc" White's Shadow Pitching

BASEBALL CORRESPONDENCE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, 2005 - 2015 MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO

Judge Magazine, July 5, 1913

**TABLE 3: RUNS-SCORED NUMBERS
FOR PLAYERS ON THE 1914 DETROIT TIGERS.**

Player	Runs (This Work)	Runs (Official)	Player	Runs (This Work)	Runs (Official)
Del Baker	4	4	Hugh High	25	25
Paddy Baumann	1	1	Marty Kavanagh	60	60
George Boehler	2	2	Alex Main	1	1
George Burns	55	55	Ed McCreery	0	0
Donie Bush	*96*	97	Red McKee	7	7
Pug Cavet	3	3	Fred McMullin	0	0
Ty Cobb	69	69	George Moriarty	56	56
Harry Coveleski	6	6	Red Oldham	1	1
Sam Crawford	74	74	Billy Purtell	4	4
Hooks Dauss	8	8	Ross Reynolds	1	1
Ray Demmitt	0	0	Oscar Stanage	16	16
Jean Dubuc	9	9	Bobby Veach	56	56
Del Gainer	0	0	Ossie Vitt	*36*	35
Marc Hall	0	0	Johnnie Williams	0	0
Harry Heilmann	25	25	Lefty Williams	0	0

NOTES: A player whose name is shown in boldface indicates that the player's actual runs-scored number [shown in the "Runs (This Work)" column] is different from the runs-scored number shown for him in the "Runs (Official)" column; the actual runs-scored number is also emboldened and bracketed with asterisks.

**TABLE 4: RUNS-SCORED ERRORS IN OFFICIAL DBD RECORDS FOR
PLAYERS ON THE 1914 DETROIT TIGERS — CONSEQUENCES
(INDIVIDUAL GAME AND FULL SEASON) OF CORRECTING THE ERRORS.**

Player	Game	OPP	Runs Game (This Work)	Runs Game (Official)	Runs Season (This Work)	Runs Season (Official)	Runs Season (Encyclopedias & B-R)
Bush	October 3	CLE	1	2	96	97	97
Vitt	October 3	CLE	2	1	36	35	35

NOTES: The entries in the "Runs Season (Encyclopedias)" column are from the baseball encyclopedias given in references 10-14 as well as from Baseball-Reference. An asterisk in the "OPP" column indicates that the game was played in the opposing team's city. It appears that the official scorer inadvertently mixed up Donie Bush (who batted in the leadoff position) and Ossie Vitt (who occupied the number-two hole) in his official report of the October 3 game to the AL office for conversion into the official DBD format.

**TABLE 5: RUNS-SCORED NUMBERS
FOR PLAYERS ON THE 1915 DETROIT TIGERS.**

Player	Runs (This Work)	Runs (Official)	Player	Runs (This Work)	Runs (Official)
Del Baker	*15*	16	Marty Kavanagh	55	55
George Boehler	2	2	Razor Ledbetter	0	0
Bernie Boland	5	5	Grover Lowdermilk	0	0
George Burns	49	49	Red McKee	10	10
Donie Bush	*98*	99	George Moriarty	38	38
Pug Cavet	3	3	Red Oldham	2	2
Ty Cobb	144	144	John Peters	0	0
Harry Coveleski	*10*	9	Ross Reynolds	0	0
Sam Crawford	81	81	Oscar Stanage	27	27
Hooks Dauss	9	9	Bill Steen	2	2
Jean Dubuc	7	7	Bobby Veach	81	81
Frank Fuller	6	6	Ossie Vitt	*117*	116
Bill James	4	4	Ralph Young	44	44
Baby Doll Jacobson	5	5	—	—	—

NOTES: A player whose name is emboldened indicates that the player's actual runs-scored number [shown in the "Runs (This Work)" column] is different from the runs-scored number shown for him in the "Runs (Official)" column; the actual runs-scored number is also emboldened and bracketed with asterisks.

**TABLE 6: RUNS-SCORED ERRORS IN OFFICIAL DBD RECORDS FOR
PLAYERS ON THE 1915 DETROIT TIGERS — CONSEQUENCES
(INDIVIDUAL GAME AND FULL SEASON) OF CORRECTING THE ERRORS.**

Player	Game	OPP	Runs Game (This Work)	Runs Game (Official)	Runs Season (This Work)	Runs Season (Official)	Runs Season (Encyclopedias & B-R)
Baker	May 29 (2)	STL*	0	1	15	16	16
Coveleski	May 29 (2)	STL*	1	0	10	9	9 ^a
Bush	July 13 (2)	NY	0	1	98	99	98
Vitt	July 13 (2)	NY	2	1	117	116	116

NOTES: The entries in the "Runs Season (Encyclopedias)" column are from the baseball encyclopedias given in references 10-14, unless otherwise noted, as well as from Baseball-Reference. An asterisk in the "OPP" column indicates that the game was played in the opposing team's city. (a) The "only" baseball encyclopedia which provides the batting record for Coveleski is the *STATS Baseball Handbook* (reference 13), although the first (1969) edition of the *Macmillan Baseball Encyclopedia* (reference 14) also provides the batting record for Coveleski, who is shown with 9 runs scored in 1915.

TABLE 7: DETROIT TIGERS PLAYERS WITH RUNS-SCORED ERRORS IN THEIR OFFICIAL RECORDS (1906, 1912-1919).

Player	Year	Official	Actual	\Delta
Del Baker	1915	16	15	(1)
	1916	7	8	1
	composite	23	23	—
Donie Bush	1912	107	106	(1)
	1914	97	96	(1)
	1915	99	98	(1)
	composite	303	300	(3)
Ty Cobb	1906	44	45	1
	1918	83	81	(2)
	composite	127	126	(1)
Harry Coveleski	1915	9	10	1
Jean Dubuc	1912	16	17	1
Del Gainer	1913	47	48	1
Davy Jones	1912	54	53	(1)
Marty Kavanagh	1918	2	1	(1)
Baldy Louden	1912	57	59	2
	1913	28	27	(1)
	composite	85	86	1
George Moriarty	1912	38	37	(1)
Fred Payne	1906	23	24	1
Pepper Peploski	1913	1	0	(1)
Chick Shorten	1919	37	35	(2)
Ed Siever	1906	5	6	1
Oscar Stanage	1916	16	17	1
Bobby Veach	1913	54	55	1
	1916	92	91	(1)
	1918	59	63	4
	composite	205	209	4
Ossie Vitt	1913	45	46	1
	1914	35	36	1
	1915	116	117	1
	1916	88	84	(4)
	1918	29	30	1
composite	313	313	—	
Frank Walker	1918	10	11	1
Archie Yelle	1918	7	8	1
Ralph Young	1918	31	30	(1)

NOTES: The |\Delta| column gives the absolute-value difference between the official runs-scored number and the actual runs-scored number; a value in parentheses indicates that the actual runs-scored number is less than official runs-scored number. For players with more than one season with runs-scored errors, the composite runs-scored numbers are shown in boldface.

TABLE 8: SUMMARY OF WHAT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED FOR TY COBB'S LIFETIME RUNS-SCORED TOTAL.

Publication (frequency)	(Years Published): Ty Cobb's Lifetime Runs-Scored Total
<i>The Elias Book of Baseball Records</i> ^a (annually)	(1929-1995): 2244 (1996-2017): 2245
<i>Daguerreotypes of Great Baseball Stars</i> (7 editions)	(1934, 1951, 1958, 1961, 1971): 2244 (1981, 1990): 2245
<i>The Sporting News Complete Baseball Record Book</i> ^b (annually)	(1949-1980): 2244 (1981-2004): 2245 (2005-2008): 2246
<i>The Official Encyclopedia of Baseball</i> (10 editions)	(1951-1979): 2244
<i>The Baseball Encyclopedia</i> (10 editions)	(1969-1996): 2245 ^c
<i>Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball</i> (27 editions, annually since 1987)	(1974-2007): 2245
<i>Total Baseball</i> (8 editions)	(1989, 1991): 2245 (1993-2004): 2246
<i>The ESPN Baseball Encyclopedia</i> (5 editions)	(2004-2008): 2246
baseballhall.org	(accessed January 23, 2017): 2246
MLB.com	(accessed January 23, 2017): 2246
Baseball-Reference.com	(accessed January 23, 2017): 2246
retrosheet.org	(accessed January 23, 2017): 2244

NOTES: (a) The *Elias Book of Baseball Records* was previously titled *The Book of Baseball Records* (1972-2004) and *The Little Red Book (of Baseball)* (1929-1971). (b) *The Sporting News Complete Baseball Record Book* was previously titled *One for the Book* (1949-1971). (c) Curiously, the fourth edition of *The Baseball Encyclopedia* (1979) shows Cobb's career runs-scored total as 2244.

TALES of the TURKISH TROPHIES

TALE 15-THE NEW SLAB ARTIST



“WHO is the new Southpaw?” asked the Kink, as the Sebastopols took the field against the Constantinoples.

“That is O’Whiff of the Persian League,” answered the Royal Scout enthusiastically.

“He cost us a barrel of coin, but he is the best that ever went into a box.”

“Have a Turkish Trophy,” said the Kink. “They cost us hardly anything, but they are the best ever came out of a box.”

Batter up!

(Pittsburgh) Gazette Times, August 15, 1912

TABLE 9: TY COBB'S YEAR-BY-YEAR RUNS-SCORED NUMBERS ACCORDING TO SELECTED SOURCES.

Year	HK	Official DBD	MLB.com	Elias	ESPN & TB	SI:BB & STATS	B-R	Retrosheet Player Profile Page	Retrosheet Player Daily File
1905	nya	19	19	ns	19	19	19	19	nya
1906	*45*	44	*45*	ns	*45*	*45*	*45*	*45*	nya
1907	nya	97	97	ns	97	97	97	97	nya
1908	nya	88	88	ns	88	88	88	88	nya
1909	nya	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	nya
1910	nya	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	nya
1911	nya	147	147	147	147	147	147	147	147
1912	119	119	119	ns	<i>*120*</i>	119	<i>*120*</i>	<i>*120*</i>	119
1913	70	70	70	ns	70	70	70	70	70
1914	69	69	69	ns	69	69	69	69	69
1915	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	144	144
1916	113	113	113	113	113	113	113	113	113
1917	107	107	107	ns	107	107	107	107	107
1918	*81*	83	83	ns	83	83	*81*	*81*	*81*
1919	92	92	92	ns	92	92	92	92	92
1920	*87*	86	86	(*87*)	86	86	*87*	*87*	*87*
1921	124	124	124	(124)	124	124	124	124	124
1922	99	99	99	(99)	99	99	99	99	99
1923	103	103	103	(103)	103	103	103	103	103
1924	*114*	115	115	(*114*)	115	115	*114*	*114*	*114*
1925	97	97	97	(97)	97	97	97	97	97
1926	48	48	48	(48)	48	48	48	48	48
1927	nya	104	104	ns	104	104	104	104	104
1928	nya	54	*55*	ns	54	54	54	54	*55*
Total	nya	2244	*2246*	*2245*	*2246*	*2245*	*2246*	*2244*	nya

NOTES: (1) The codes for the sources are – HK (Herm Krabbenhoft’s research); Official DBD (originally-recorded official DBD records); MLB.com (the official website of Major League Baseball, accessed January 23, 2017); Elias (the 2016 edition of *The Elias Book of Baseball Records*); ESPN & TB (the 2008 and 2004 editions of *The ESPN Baseball Encyclopedia* and *Total Baseball*, respectively); SI:BB & STATS (the 2007 and 2000 editions of *Sports Encyclopedia: Baseball* and *STATS All-Time Baseball Handbook*, respectively); B-R (Baseball-Reference.com) accessed January 23, 2017); Retrosheet Player Profile Page (retrosheet.org, accessed January 23, 2017); Retrosheet Player Daily File (retrosheet.org, accessed January 23, 2017). (2) An “nya” entry indicates “not yet available.” (3) A “ns” entry indicates “not shown.” (4) A runs-scored number in boldface and bracketed by asterisks indicates the number is different from the official DBD runs-scored number. (5) For the 1912 season, those sources having Cobb with 120 runs scored are indicated by showing the runs scored number in Italics, bracketed with asterisks. (6) In the Elias column, a runs-scored number enclosed in parentheses indicates that, while not shown in *The Elias Book of Baseball Records*, it has been authorized by the Elias Sports Bureau, as disclosed in reference 16.

CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

continued from page 1

Although the natural choice would have been to begin in 1901, Graham was intent on eventually drafting Babe Ruth. At a rate of playing one season every five months or so, however, Graham realized that he would not have been able to select Ruth until roughly 2020, had the first year of games been in 1901. To accelerate the process, he began the league halfway through the Deadball Era.

“The Second Chance Baseball League also includes Negro League Players,” said Graham. “It gives those who played in the Majors a second chance to show off their stuff. It gives the Negro League players a first chance to show off theirs. From [Rube] Foster, to [Crisobal] Torriente, to hopefully, Cool Papa Bell. ... We are currently in our third season, enjoying a 1912 where Pete Hill is battling Eddie Collins and Ty Cobb for the batting title. As it should have been.”

Past performance, though, does not always predict future results in this arena. Sherry Magee was named the league's Most Valuable Player in the 1910 simulation, exceeding his actual regular-season statistics, while Ed Walsh has underperformed. Having participated in the 1911 and 1912 simulations, I can confirm that Mordecai Brown's 21-win 1911 season did not translate into a top-level performance last season. Similarly, Lew Richie's 16-8 season with a 2.31 ERA in 1912 has not made him a Second Chance All-Star. (The league, in fact, played a 1912 All-Star Game simulation on April 30 via Google hangout. The National League All Stars won, 4-2).

Wins and losses are far less important in the simulation than a pitcher's ERA and run support. Graham said that even Walter Johnson could lose twenty games in the Second Chance League if he were not surrounded by a solid lineup. There can also be wide statistical variation: “Ty Cobb may hit .420 in 1912, or he might hit .360,” said Graham.

Graham utilizes gaming software from Diamond Mind Baseball (www.diamond-mind.com), a



Kevin Graham

longtime gaming company. As he points out, Diamond Mind's own website highlights the array of factors included: “the performance of the batter and pitcher against left- and right-handed opponents, how the defense is positioned, whether the pitcher is tired, ballpark effects, offensive and defensive tactics, the home field advantage, and weather conditions.” Moreover, the site notes that: “Pitcher ratings include the ability to prevent hits, induce ground balls, avoid walks and extra-base hits, get the key strikeout, and hold runners close. Fielders have separate ratings for range, errors, and throwing, and are rated for each position they play. Just as in real life, your players may or may not do all the little things that help you win.”

While noting that the Deadball-Era stadiums had spacious outfields, Graham tries to draft players who hit a lot of triples. Chief Wilson, Graham noted, may well hit 36 triples for his Jersey City Skeeters team in 1912. Ballpark effects also matter. Gavy Cravath, who benefited from the short right field at the Baker Bowl during his playing career, is hitting more doubles than home runs while playing for the Skeeters at League Park. At the same time, Hilltop Park's 540 feet to centerfield has led to a superabundance of extra-base hits in games played there, as in real life. Whereas pitchers completed 53 percent of their games in 1912, however, they do so only 31 percent of the time in the Second Chance League, making relief pitching important. Most teams in the league use a five-man rotation and employ platoons much more than they did in 1912. Even with old-time

players, some general managers rely on more modern statistics, such as Wins Above Replacement (WAR), in making their choices during the league's draft. Twelve players can be held over from one league season to the next, but it is important to be mindful of when player performance drops off steeply, as was the case for Brown from 1911 to 1912.

For Graham, oversight of the league has become what he called "a full-time hobby." He has found that league management requires three to four hours a week, which also includes e-mailing the general managers each week with fifteen games of new box scores, which arrive in groups of five on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights. Graham maintains the league's website at secondchancebaseball.royalwebhosting.net/index.html and writes a periodic league newsletter about league happenings. Also, at least twice a year, he takes on a substantial amount of pre-draft preparation as well as management of the seven-round draft. Further, Graham entered all of the statistics for players from the Negro Leagues from data on seamheads.com. Since many statistics for Negro League players are incomplete, Graham has increased their respective seasonal totals by 270

percent, thereby allowing them to be full-time players in the league.

Players are also limited based upon their real-life participation. When a batter from Major League Baseball in 1912 reaches 110 percent of his actual at-bat total from that season, he will 'burn out' and thus be sidelined for the remainder of the season. Birdie Cree, for instance, did not have much staying power in the 1912 simulation because he had only 190 at-bats that season; he was sidelined before the season was halfway complete. Burnouts also prevent a player who had, say, two home runs in 1912 from somehow getting 500 at-bats and having a Babe Ruth-caliber power explosion, which would clash wildly with what actually occurred.

Buoyed by the performance of Christy Mathewson, the Gashouse Gorillas, managed by Ryan Buckley, have won the first two league titles. Remarkably, the Gorillas did not make even a single roster move last season in taking the title. This season, John Momberg's Peoria Caterpillars are tops in mid-season, having won at a .681 pace. David Nemec, a familiar name to SABR members, joined the league this year as general manager of the Shamokin Stogies. "I'm still hoping for an autograph," said Graham.

Diamond Mind Baseball -- C:\dmb11\1912 Second Chance League - [4/15/2017 MSV12 at JCS12]

Game NetPlay View Quick play Report Window Help

Main Boxscore Scoresheet Game log

MSV12 JCS12

Midwestern Spit-It-Vinegars
1912 Jersey City Skeeters

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E
0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	9	1
1	0	0	5	0	0	0	3	x	9	16	2

Tactics

1 Save game stats 2 Exit game

2 Save box/ss/gmlog

Defensive lineup To pitch mode Weather report

Batting lineup Quick play Change options

Batter #2 #3

Ty Cobb BLsp

AVG	.000	.000	.409
OBP	.250	.250	.452
SPC	.000	.000	.584
AB	3	3	553
HR	0	0	7
RBI	0	0	83
BB	1	1	43
K	0	0	56

Avgs/Pwr vsLH .000/.000/.000 / Av
Avgs/Pwr vsRH .000/.000/.000 / Vg
Bunt sacHit Vg / Ex

Pitcher

Ed Walsh TR

ERA	2.00	2.00	2.15
INN	9.0	9.0	393.0
H	9	9	332
HR	0	0	6
BB	1	1	94
K	5	5	254
W-L	1-0	27-17	
S	0	0	10

Avgs vs All 231/ 279/ 305

MSV12 JCS12

Callahan
Carrigan
Earle

Wilson, C Av Av e8
Magee, S Av Fr e7
Cravath Fr Vg e6
Devlin Av e18
Mongin Av e24
Herzog Ex e19
Walsh, E (R) Av Av e2
Gowdy Av e0
Wilson, A Vg Av e15

Ed Walsh Ty Cobb

B 0
S 0
O 3

Dist 385 407 483 420 338 302 290
Hgt 5 5 5 45 45 45 45

Pch 109
Str 84

Def
Inf
Off

Howard Miller is another new general manager, joining league veterans Bill Bishop, Adam Graham (Kevin's son), Jimmy Keenan, Bill Miller, Michael MacKay, Greg Nolen, Philip Wagner, and a general manager who corresponds with the league solely as Verdun.

Because it is possible to retain players from season to season, some general managers draft players with future seasons in mind. "I once planned my draft around performance two seasons in the future," said Graham. Planning a draft strategy is key to success, particularly in a league where catching is at a premium. Graham looks at on-base percentage and WHIP in making his choices, while Adam Graham's Wheaton Warbirds made every draft decision based on WAR. Even in a time with abundant online resources, Kevin Graham still relies heavily on the 10th edition of the *Baseball Encyclopedia*, from 1996.

Even within the league's competitive dynamic, Graham tries to select at least one player each season who he counts among his favorites. In 1911, Graham was able to land Walsh on his team but lost Addie Joss when Philip Wagner — who also counted Joss among his own favorites — selected him. Later, Graham and Wagner simulated the Joss Benefit Game (with results at <http://secondchancebaseball.royalwebhosting.net/addiejossgame.html>). For Graham, not being able to select Joss was balanced by picking Germany Schaefer and Doc Crandall in the later rounds.

Graham's interest in historical baseball simulations dates to the 1990s, when he was part of an historical league which allowed him to draft Mickey Mantle. He joined other historical leagues, though each folded after several seasons. Graham subsequently started a baseball blog and later used the Diamond Mind software to simulate the World Series. Through his blog, Graham connected with several SABR members, himself joining the organization in 2011. Graham said that his main suggestion for putting together an effective team would be to draft a young Mickey Mantle. In terms of a Deadball Era

statistical equivalent, he would aim for Ty Cobb for the 1912 season.

"Everything I've learned about the Deadball Era I learned from the Deadball Newsletter and the SABR BioProject," said Graham. "I've read up on Germany Schaefer, Sherry Magee, and the unrelated Peaches Graham, among others. With the addition of the Negro League players, I went out and purchased *Shades Of Glory* by Lawrence Hogan, and *The Negro Baseball Leagues* by Phil Dixon. So I've gotten a whole new perspective on the players and the Negro Leagues. I'm just hoping this league lasts long enough so I can make Cool Papa Bell a Skeeter." Even though star performers drive team success, successful general managers will have to make use of a range of talent. Graham noted that Babe Borton, Olaf Henriksen, and Beals Becker have all gotten big hits for his team. "This is probably the only league that includes the likes of Bill Gatewood and Johnny Goodgame," said Graham.

Having added two new general managers this year, the league is currently at capacity. At the same time, vacancies do open up, and Graham encourages anyone interested in participating in future seasons to contact him at keving1701@gmail.com to be added to a league waiting list.

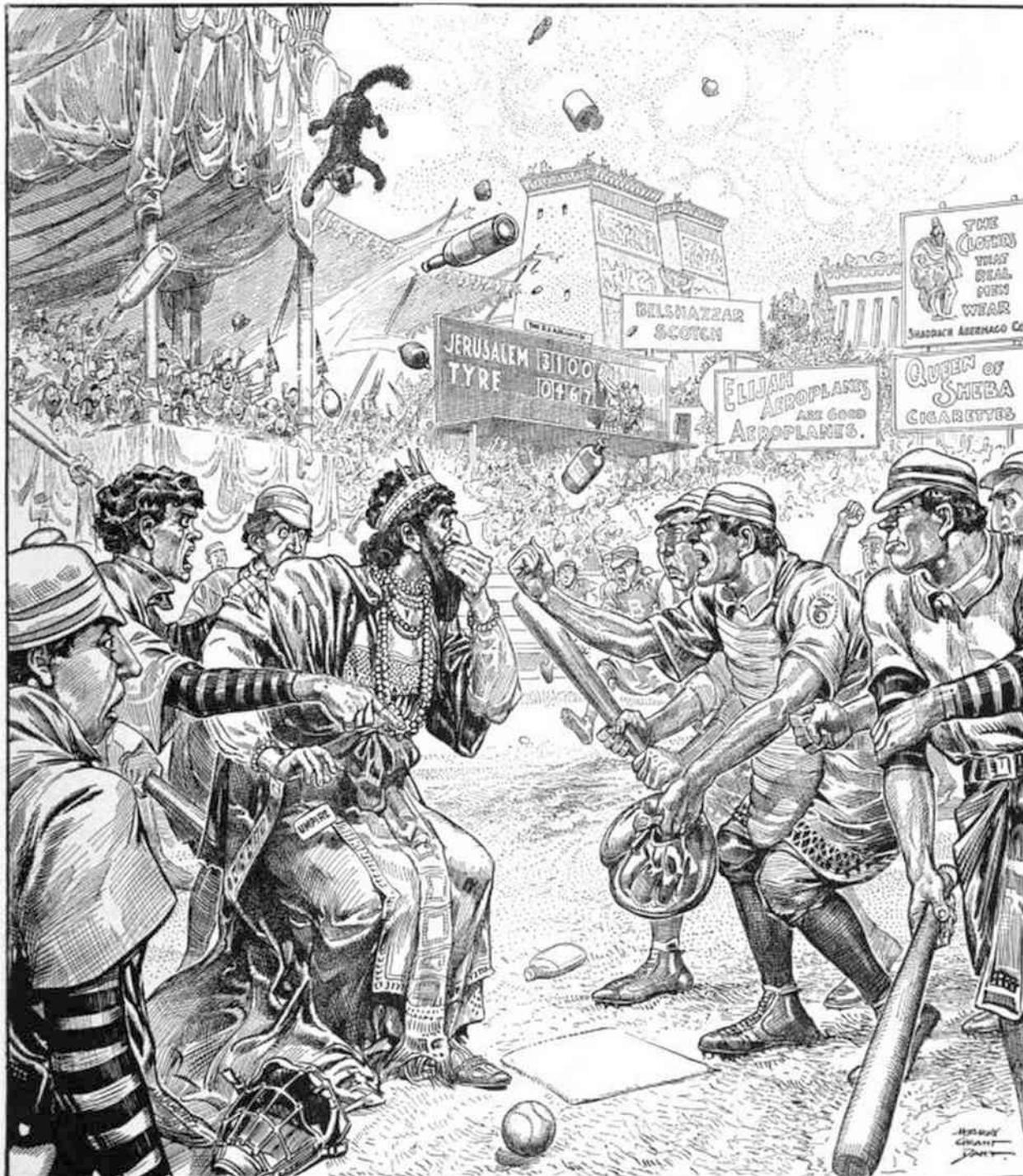
Graham said that there are "dozens" of things a general manager can do to help a team win within the confines of the simulation. He has found that general managers become very attached to their rosters and become dedicated to improving their respective teams. The eventual reward is solely the team's success: "Since there are no dues paid to be in this league, no trophies, or even certificates of merit, the only thing you get is bragging rights, and a cool team photo for the website," said Graham.

If modern fantasy baseball is driven by the anticipation of watching the actual games, Graham feels that bringing the Deadball Era to life makes this vintage simulation worth the time and effort: He said:

"Who wouldn't want to manage Ty Cobb? Christy Mathewson? Rube Foster? There are a lot of

lesser known and completely forgotten players that get rediscovered. Babe Borton, Peaches Graham and Olaf Henriksen get their second chance, and we get to give it to them. Today's game only exists because of the efforts of these players from 100 or more years ago. I think it's

kind of cool that they still get to play in 2017. My hope is the league continues through the Deadball Era and well into the 1930s. That would take about 10 years or so. A journey worth taking."



Life Magazine, July 14, 1910

HISTORY AS IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN
THE JUDGMENT OF SOLOMON