

SABR BALLPARKS COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

February-April 1994

Robert F. Bluthardt      Committee Chairman      © SABR Ballparks Committee  
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I NEW MEMBERS

We welcome these new members to our committee:

Rick Dalsky 2035 Hickory Avenue NE Massillon, OH 44646	All levels and eras; Cleveland & Fenway; architectural; photographs, stats; urban history & parks.
Douglas Ziegler 90 Birch Street Seachwood, NJ 08722	All major league level parks after 1900; photographs & illustrations; has large research library and is willing to assist people.
Al Smitley 1484 Division Hartland, MI 48353	All major league level parks; recreates ballparks/neighborhoods on computer for simulated games; would like to see an "Illustrated History of Ballparks" printed.
Jack Stott 350 Quigley Road Hamilton, Ont. L8K 5N2	All levels up to 1950; doing research on Hamilton parks; needs info on Dundurn Ball Ground (1885).
Michael Jaffee 70 Park Terrace East #3K New York, NY 10034	All levels after 1900; visits dozens of minor & major lg. parks; would be willing to trade postcards and videos of ballparks he has visited with other members.
Akihiro Ito 359-21 Kisomachi Machida-Shi Tokyo, 194 JAPAN	application en route; interested in all aspects of ballparks.
Tom Harris 66 Harvard Avenue Point Pleasant, NJ 08742	application en route; interested in all segments, especially marker projects.

Please contact these gentlemen if you see items of common interest.

II SABR CONVENTION IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS

The annual meeting will soon be upon us and I look forward to seeing many of you in Arlington where the new Ballpark in Arlington awaits you. Some details related to our committee:

- \* Annual committee meeting is set for Sunday, June 19, 7:00 - 9:30 am. We will use as much time as we need. Call or write me if you want a subject to be discussed.
- \* Ballparks Committee Table will feature our large photo collection, samples of the 19th century ballparks essays, back copies of articles, and other committee items. We need volunteers to "sit" the table for 2-hour shifts. Call me at (915) 942-0635 in the evenings to sign up.
- \* Photo binders: we have a few three-ring binders of photos that must get to Arlington. If you can take one, call Mike Dempsey at (203) 376-5435.

See you in Texas! If you have questions about directions, driving in the area, or other items, feel free to call on me.

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III RESEARCH REQUESTS

1. Lance Haffner of PO Box 100594, Nashville, TN, seeks info on that city's Sulphur Dell. His zip is 37334.
2. Matt Bronski of 1625 Naudain Street, Phila., PA 19146, seeks info on the "preferred viewing angles from the stands" as well as the preferred "rakes of upper and lower decks." He also needs the latest guidelines for minor lg. parks regarding capacity & facilities for ballparks. And, he asks for any details of an exhibition game played at Point Stadium (Johnstown, PA) between the NY Yankees and the local Middle League in 1927. Local lore has Babe Ruth hitting a massive home run in this game.
3. Richard Kempter of 226 Rte 148, Killingworth, CT, 06419, asks why the artificial turf isn't a darker shade of green so that it would not fade as quickly.
4. Jerry Kalback of 5881 Sunset Drive, Hudson, OH 44236, needs info on where to find the definitive colors of post-WWII scoreboards in ballparks, esp. Yankee Stadium. (216) 655-2462
5. Tom Dini of 312 Bramhall Drive, Rochester, NY 14626, needs info on Ebbets Field for a model he is making. (716) 227-6836
6. Cynthia Dorn at (818) 398-1768 needs info on the ballparks of Pasadena, CA.
7. Paul Ritter of 4811 Berwyn House Road, College Park, MD 20740, is writing a college paper on Griffith Stadium. Any info would be helpful. (301) 441-3483.
8. Robin Bachin, 216 No. Oak Park Ave. #2A, is writing a doctoral thesis on "Cultural Boundaries: Constructing Urban Space and Community Identity on Chicago's South Side, 1890-1920." He seeks info on the design of the park, (Comiskey), the history of land use in the park neighborhood, and the impact of the park on the neighborhood. (708) 445-1873. Oak Park, IL 60302
9. Bill Cahill, 9101 Shore Road, Brooklyn, NY 11209, asks for any example of a House of David game at a semi-pro or professional ML park in the NYC area before 7-28-23.

IV ADDRESS CHANGES

- \* Jay Gauthreaux now at 729 Frisella, Gretna, LA 70056
- \* Dennis Coyne now at 4235 21st Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
- \* Steve Burns now at 4101 124th Ave. South, Bellevue, WA 98006

Please keep us posted when you move. Updated roster lists always available for a 52¢ SASE. Thanks.

V WASHINGTON PARK MARKER

Progress continues on this marker project for the site of the Dodgers ballpark before the 1913 move to Ebbets Field. Bill Cahill has produced a large amount of research that is being forwarded to officials at Con. Edison, current owners of the site. David Ginsberg of Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, the kind sponsors of our Hilltop Park marker success last fall, has written a letter of support to Con. Edison. Marty Adler of the Brooklyn Dodgers Hall of Fame in NY has pledged his support. Con. Edison officials are still positive, so we hope for a projected date soon.

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VI NINETEENTH CENTURY PROJECT

Project chairman Bob Bailey has recently sent a short newsletter/update to all active contributors with the effort to bring to print a definitive listing and description of all facilities used in the nineteenth century up to the concrete & steel era at 1909. For a copy of the newsletter, contact Bob at 12129 Briargate Lane, Goshen, KY 40026. We need more researchers/writers, especially for some major cities like Albany-Troy, NY; Baltimore, Brooklyn, Indianapolis, Kansas City, New York, Pittsburgh, and Syracuse.

VII DOME FOR MILWAUKEE?

The slow-moving program for a new park in Milwaukee took an interesting turn with three proposals for a retractable dome facility. Initial excitement has been cooled by the ever-present challenge of funding. Jim Nötz and other committee members have sent in a large batch of clippings. For a selection, send \$1.50.

VIII PARK-ENTERTAINMENT CENTER IN DETROIT

The latest proposal for a new park to replace Tiger Stadium is part of the new trend to make a new park part of a massive development project. Anchored by the new ballpark and the Fox Theatre, this "Foxtown" project would involve a considerable level of public & private funding. For local stories and AP summaries, send \$1.50.

IX DENVER REPORT

Construction continues on the new Coors Field for the Rockies. Many wonder how a team that routinely draws 60,000 plus will adapt to a 50,000 seat facility. Note that the newsletter for the project is available to the public and the recent SABR Bulletin provided info on how to receive it. We have a photo and two articles from the Denver Post; send 50¢ for copies.

X BALLPARKS COMMITTEE ON LEARNING LINK

Thanks to committee member Bob Boynton who has agreed to serve as our representative on the SABR involvement with "Learning Link," an online service with PBS that will operate in conjunction with the Ken Burns baseball program. This will broaden the participation of SABR and provide great national exposure. There are many possibilities with this program and if you would like to read the proposals and summaries, please send \$1.00 and the info will be sent to you.

XI PHOTO CONTEST FOR 1995

Ken Carrano will be creating a flyer for our 1995 photo contest to be pushed at the 1994 convention in Arlington. Suggestions should be sent to him at 2696 Sterling Ct., Elgin, IL 60123.

XII BALLPARKS IN TV & MOVIES

Ken Hodges and Frank D'Amico responded to the last issue's request for info on parks in movies and tv programs. I recently saw the FBI Story movie on tv and large segments were shot in Yankee Stadium in 1959. Ken notes that Damn Yankees was shot in Wrigley (LA) Field. Frank made a short list of parks/movies mostly involving baseball. Some of the better ballpark scenes are for non-sports movies. Send 50¢ for a copy of what we have so far. If you think of some good references for this topic, send them along.

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#### XXII. NEW PARKS IN CLEVELAND & ARLINGTON

Jacobs Field in Cleveland (renamed from Indians Park since our last newsletter) and The Ballpark in Arlington had their first games in April and the response has been generally favorable. Arlington had some major traffic problems for the first games as the old facility, Arlington Stadium, remains standing, and the expected extra parking spaces from its destruction will not come until later this summer. Thanks to so many committee members we have a wide selection of articles on each and both parks:

1. "Cleveland Christens Its Brand New Era.." LA Times, 4-5-94, 1 pg.
- (1 pg) 2. "New ballpark gives team something to build upon," Dallas Morn. News, 3-13-94
3. "New ballgame at new ballpark": Cleve. Plain Dealer, 3-28-94, 1 pg.
4. "Jacobs Field a Jewel," Dayton Daily News, 3-29-94, 2 pgs.
5. "New Parks give fans Old-Time Feeling," WS Journal, 4-4-94, 1 pg.
6. "Home Field Advantage," Cleve. Plain Dealer, 4-3-94, 2 pgs.
7. "At Home in the City, Baseball's Newest Parks Succeed," NY Times, 4-17-94 2 pg
8. "A city field, a dream of change," Phila Inquirer, 4-14-94, 3 pgs.
9. "Close encounter at ballparks," NY Daily News, 4-18-94 1 pg.
10. "Ballpark building boom draws crowds," USA Today, 4-12-94, 3 pgs.
11. "At the Ballpark, green with envy," Houston Chronicle, 4-12-94, 1 pg.
12. Review of Rangers ballpark, NY Times, 4-1-94, 2 pgs.
13. Four misc. articles on new Cleveland park, 2 pgs.
14. Four AP pieces on Cleveland park with vital stats, 5 pgs.
15. New Rangers luxury suites, Sports Col. Digest, 3-4-94, 1 pg.
16. Vital stats and pre-opening events for new Texas park, 3 pgs.
17. Misc. Dallas Morning News articles on new park, 15 pgs.
18. Review of Jacobs Field by Bob Boynton, 2 pgs.

Copies are 6¢/page. Postage runs 29¢ for the first four pages plus 23¢ for each additional set of four pages or fraction. Checks must be made payable to Bob Bluthardt.

#### XIV YANKEE STADIUM REBUILDING

The plan to "re-do" Yankee Stadium into its 1920s look isn't getting much support or attention from the team. The club is more interested in the crime and neighborhood situation as well as the local parking spaces. Luxury boxes continue to be a major concern. For a summary /series of AP stories, send 75¢.

#### XV ANAHEIM STADIUM

The home of the California Angels has recovered from the earthquake damage, but a new scoreboard may top \$3 million. For a series of stories and graphics on the damage and new scoreboard, send \$1.00. Also, committee member Jonathan Busser has several excellent color prints of the stadium damage for sale. Contact him at 824 E. Panorama Road, Fullertown, CA 92681.

#### XVI TICKET PRICES ON THE RISE

The average price of a baseball game seat broke the \$10 barrier says an AP story. The 8.9% increase was modest regarding 1993 prices when you look at Cleveland (up 39%) and Texas (up 35%). Send 50¢ for several stories outlining the ticket prices and total costs for games in various cities.

#### XVII NEW MIAMI COMPLEX

Wayne Huizenga joins the crowd of owners pushing for his own "entertainment village" complex of a park and other sports/entertainment activity. The Nets have made some suggestions, the Tigers too (see item VIII). Send 50¢ for details.

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XVII MAJOR LEAGUE ARTICLES & NEWS NOTES

1. Chris Wait highly recommends "The Baltimore Ballpark Project" a softcover book that covers the Camden Yards project. \$29.95 plus \$5.00 s/h to Janis Rettaliata, PO Box 22799, Baltimore, MD 21203-4799.
2. Phoenix, AZ seeks major league baseball and has passed a sales tax increase to build a stadium. Send 29¢ SASE for details.
3. "A Look Back at Cleveland Stadium" from Gateway newsletter, 29¢ SASE.
4. The Padres may not draw a million fans this year and seek a review of their lease at Jack Murphy Stadium. Meanwhile, the Pirates are not doing so well and the city of Pittsburgh is lending the team money. The Angels may be for sale in the near future and Disney is rumored to be interested (another entertainment complex in the works?). And the Reds are not very happy with Cincinnati as the city made concessions and changes for the Bengals of the NFL with little to show for baseball. A baseball-only park is under some discussion in Cincinnati. One-page stories on SD and Cin. for a 29¢ SASE. Thanks to Bob Littlejohn we have a large packet of clippings on the Bengals & Riverfront Stadium. Copies available if interested.
5. A new park for Seattle? Possibilities for a baseball-only facility for the Mariners have been seen in the news and new Seattle resident John Pastier notes that this talk could be serious.
6. Ballparks have arrived! At the Hatters Ball in NYC, one of the theme costumes was ballparks! For a photo of the gala event, send 29¢ SASE.
7. White Sox prosperous in new Comiskey Park. Send 50¢ for the numbers.
8. Remembrances of Griffith Stadium, Sports Col. Digest, 4-22-94, 2 pgs.
9. Bob Creamer looks back at ballparks SCD, 3-4-94, 3 pgs.
10. Ballparks Tours/travel programs, SD Union-Tribune, 4-3-94, 1 pg.
11. Old ballparks story, Alstate Discovery Magazine, Summer-94 4 pgs.
12. New food for Rockies games, AP, 1 pg.
13. Stories on the rebuilt Washington Park for the Federal League in 1914, 7 pgs.
14. Details on changes at SF Candlestick Park for 1994, 3 pgs.
15. Plans for a new Yankee ballpark in 1914 at 226th Street & Broadway, 1 pg.
16. Stories of first game at Ebbets Field, 6 pgs, Daily Eagle, 1913.
17. Seats shifted at Camden Yards to improve sight lines, Sun, 2-1-94 1 pg.
18. Story on Ebbets Field chandelier and another on Harry Stevens objecting to a scoreboard going into Ebbets Field. 2 pgs total.
19. Bill Cahill found the box score and other info on a record Yankee Stadium crowd of 85,265 for a 9-9-28 game. Another 5,000 saw the game from rooftops. \$2.00 seats were scalped for as high as \$25.00. Send a SASE of 29¢ for the page.
20. 1993 Arlington Stadium group admission brochure. Free, while they last.
21. Jay Gauthreaux finished the biography on Matthewson and offers some ballparks-related corrections. 29¢ SASE.
22. AP story on Red Sox, new stadia, football/baseball, etc., 1 pg. March-94

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23. The Gateway Gear catalog just arrived. Now you too can order that t-shirt, mug, key chain, or other ballpark or arena-related trinket. To get your catalog call (216) 623-3979.
24. The opening of The Ballpark in Arlington was not without some tragedy: a woman sitting on the rail on the upper deck (she was posing for a photo) fell to the lower deck before the Texas-Milwaukee game. The club immediately had the rails raised to 42 inches with temporary rails and the new permanent ones will be 46 inches. Warning signs have been added too.
25. New exhibit on the PCL and its teams, players, cities, and ballparks is now on display at the Oakland Museum. It will run through July 31. Send 50¢ for a copy of the information on the exhibit.
26. Long-time public address announcer at Fenway Park, Sherm Feller, passed away in January at 75 years of age. He had made the player and general announcements in classic, understated, New England style for 28 years. Most true Sox fans had his opening welcome and announcements memorized! Does this leave the Yankees PA man as the senior fellow? I believe that Bob Sheppard has been doing the microphone chores for 40-plus years. Any thoughts on other senior PA people?
27. The winter/spring issue of the Boston Braves Historical Association newsletter had many great items for fans of Boston's NL team. Bob Brady of the association sent us some copies of photos that we can xerox for a SASE. There are six good shots of Braves Field. If you are a fan of the Braves and Braves Field, send \$10 for membership in the BBHA to George Altison, 47 Porter Road, Malboro, MA 01752.
28. Gregory Goodale of Fairfax, VA, wrote recently to note that he may have found the shortest-lived major league baseball park. On October 7, 1884, an AA league game was played between Richmond and Columbus, a 11-7 win for Columbus halted after five innings due to a soon-to-leave train from the game site in Petersburg, VA. If you have a shorter-lived ballpark, write Gregory at 9602 Hershour Court, Fairfax, VA 22032.
29. Shades of the Boston Speed Boys! (the Red Sox nickname 80 years ago!). The Fenway Park groundskeepers are rumored to be shifting the third-base line to help bunts stay fair for Otis Nixon!
30. There has never been a football or soccer game at Dodger Stadium, but the LA Raiders were looking at the site in case the Coliseum was unavailable due to earthquake damage.
31. The Houston Astrodome has two manually operated scoreboards, but they may be interfering with outfielders.
32. The April 4 Sports Illustrated had an interesting statistic on ballparks producing high runs totals:

*With 1,040 runs crossing home plate there last year, Mile High Stadium became the ultimate hitters' park in the majors. Still, that was only the fourth-highest single-season run total for a home team and its opponents at a stadium in this century. 1-1-90*

Year	Ballpark	Home Team	G	R	Avg.
1930	Baker Bowl	Phillies	77	1,187	15.4
1929	Baker Bowl	Phillies	76	1,083	14.3
1950	Fenway Park	Red Sox	77	1,052	13.7
1993	Mile High Stadium	Rockies	81	1,040	12.8
1925	Baker Bowl	Phillies	77	1,035	13.4

33. Bruce Genther may have finished his latest model project: Ebbets Field. Our thanks to Bruce for several color photos of his latest model.

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XVIII MINOR LEAGUE NEWS NOTES AND ARTICLES

1. Congrats to Stew Thornley and his committee as they successfully erected a marker on the site of Lexington Park in St. Paul, MN. It was unveiled at a ceremony on April 16.
2. Baseball almost moved from Albany, NY to Norwich, CT, but last minute arrangements cancelled what was considered a sure thing. Send \$1.00 for clippings on the whole affair.
3. Baseball did open in New Jersey this season. Send 50¢ for the details.
4. And the game returned to New Haven. Thanks to Bill Cahill for a generous sending of a program, photos, and stories. \$1.00 for a selection. The Ravens play in the vintage Yale Field. Bill thinks that the renovations were very sensitive to the field classic look.
5. Summary of facilities at Privateer Park, home of the New Orleans team. David Moreau notes that the club needs a new home. 29¢ SASE.
6. Spring Training Season as a profit maker in new ballparks in FL & AZ. 50¢
7. Wrigley Field in LA, LA Times, 2-21-94 1 pg.
8. New parks opening, planned, or discussed in:
  - a) Fishkill, NY 1 pg
  - b) Peoria/Yuma, AZ 5 pgs
  - c) Melbourne, FL > 1 pg
  - d) Erie, PA
  - e) Modesto, CA 1 pg
  - f) Fresno, CA 1 pg
  - g) Lake Elsinore, CA 1 pg
  - h) Tampa, FL 1 pg
9. Improvements at Reading, PA ballpark, 75¢
10. 1988 story on McCoy Stadium plus 1994 story on bleacher expansion, 50¢
11. One-page info on Vincent-Beck Stadium in Beaumont, TX & Alex Box Stadium in Baton Rouge, LA. 50¢
12. Rickwood Field News: Once the oldest ballpark in professional baseball, this Birmingham, AL field is undergoing an intensive study and examination by local and federal architectural and preservation officials. Latest news is the filming of the Ty Cobb movie at the site. Our thanks to Brian Powers of our committee and Warren Corbett of Diamond magazine for sending several long reports on the ballpark. For info on the movie, send 50¢
13. Baseball theme park slated for Durham Athletic Park in Durham, NC. SASE of 29¢.
14. Improved ballpark in Bangor, ME, 2 pgs, Providence Journal-Bul'tin, 8-12-92
15. San Antonio, TX, AA Texas League team moved into a new facility, leaving their cozy but cramped park at a college campus.
16. 1994 Prince William County Stadium ticket brochures. Free; while they last!
17. Minor league park maven Mike Dempsey continues his search for the lost, forgotten, and destroyed minor league facilities across the land. If you have a little known minor league site in your town, contact Mike at (203) 376-5435.
18. Dominick Denaro reports that Centennial Field in Burlington, VT, will be replaced. He continues to research the definitive list of oldest minor league parks, coming to grips with ambiguous terms such as replaced vs. renovated vs. rebuilt vs. restored. For info on Centennial Field or Dominick's oldest parks list, send a SASE of 29¢.

XIX COMMITTEE NOTES

Congratulations go to:

1. Jonathan Busser of Fullerton, CA, as he completed a project that produced a program on ballparks. The 105-minute "Once there was a ballpark" may be seen on some ESPN rain-delay or filler slot.
2. Michael Hershman whose Diamonds won the Casey award as the best baseball book of 1993.
3. Bill Hartel whose picture book on Wrigley Field has been published. A Day at the Park celebrated the classic ballpark with 150 color and 25 black & white photos.
4. Dick Kaufman who threw out the first ball at the Reading, PA "Turn Back the Clock Night" game on June 19, 1993. Dick was a club official with the Reading franchise in the 1950s.
5. Bob Boynton whose review of Diamonds will appear in Nine, a baseball publication of SABR member Bill Kirwin.

Thanks go to:

Charles Brereton for his generous donation to our postage fund.

The following members for donating clippings to our files: Michael Jaffee, Joe Cusker, Bill Gilbert, Mike Frank, Kit Crissey, Bob Boynton, David Moreau, Keith Danish, Brad Sullivan, Morris Eckhouse, Joe Favano, Bob Carr, Andy McCue, Steve Bennett, Bill Cahill, Don Coffin, Jim Nitz, Jack Carlson, Dick Clark, Bob Bailey, M. K. Bakst, Bruce Genter, Dick Kaufman, Mike Hardcastle, Bob Littlejohn. Our apologies if we left anyone out. The committee files and this newsletter benefit from all items sent this way.

An explanation regarding committee & SABR membership: The general rule in SABR is that any committee member should be a member of SABR too. Committee chairs are given the discretion to carry non-SABR people on their mailing list. Many non-SABR people contribute well to committee research and projects. Thus, when we refer to "member" in the newsletter, we usually mean a member of this committee. If such a person is not a member of SABR, we can only hope that he/she will see the light eventually!

XX NEW PROJECT

The recent series of new ballparks coupled with the unfortunate loss of some classic facilities have caused some committee members to think seriously about preserving documents, plans, photos, details, etc. of this nation's ballparks. Brian Powers, a new member to this committee, has started the process with his suggestion that we act now to gather information/documentation about the threatened parks (Yankee, Wrigley, Tiger & Fenway) while looking at other facilities on the major, minor, and college levels. Meanwhile on the specific question on architectural drawings, we have a survey form in this newsletter created by John Pastier. If you have a thought on the drawings projects, fill out the survey and send it to John. If you have thoughts on the overall goal of preserving materials on the old ballparks, contact Brian at 3547 Carter Hill Road, #205D, Montgomery, AL 36111.



Dear SABR Ballparks Committee Member:

The Ballparks Committee is exploring the feasibility of establishing an architectural drawings archive. It would eventually include plans of new and old ballparks at the major league, minor league, and college levels. Copies of these drawings would be made available to members at moderate cost, which would cover the expense of producing high-quality masters, storage equipment, reproduction, and postage. These plans would also be available to non-SABR members at somewhat higher prices.

To help us plan this project and determine the level of interest in it, we would appreciate your answering the following questions:

Yes    No

- I would be interested in obtaining plans through the archive.
- I have plans that I would lend to the archive for reproduction.
- I am interested in the newer parks (Camden Yards, Jacobs Field, etc.)
- I am interested in older parks.
- I am interested in major league parks.
- I am interested in Negro league and/or minor league parks.
- I am interested in college parks.
- I would probably order full sets of drawings (approx. 6-20 dwgs per park.)
- I would probably order only selected drawings of each park.
- I would probably order display drawings on heavy tinted stock.
- I would prefer full-size copies (roughly 32" x 44").
- I would prefer half-size copies (roughly 16" x 22").
- I would prefer small copies (11" x 17" and under).
- I would be particularly interested in the following parks:

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Name and Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this questionnaire to:  
John Pastier    2438 Lorentz Place North    Seattle WA 98109    (206) 282-0388

# Baseball Facts & Figures

## 1994 PLAYOFF FORMAT

Winners of each division and a wild-card team from each league will play best-of-five series (two in each league), beginning Oct. 4.

Wild-card entrant will be second-place team with best record and will play team with best record with home-field advantage, unless that team is in same division. If that happens, baseball will determine seeding.

Leagues will determine in advance which two divisions get home-field advantage, which will be for Games 3, 4 and 5. Two winners from each league will advance to best-of-seven LCS.

## 1993 ATTENDANCE

NL	1993 ATTENDANCE
COLORADO	4,483,350
ATLANTA	3,884,725
LOS ANGELES	3,170,392
PHILADELPHIA	3,137,674
FLORIDA	3,064,847
ST. LOUIS	2,844,328
CHICAGO	2,653,763
SAN FRANCISCO	2,606,354
CINCINNATI	2,453,232
HOUSTON	2,084,546
NEW YORK	1,873,183
PITTSBURGH	1,650,593
MONTREAL	1,641,437
SAN DIEGO	1,375,432
TOTALS	36,923,856
AL	
TORONTO	4,057,947
BALTIMORE	3,644,965
CHICAGO	2,581,091
BOSTON	2,422,021
NEW YORK	2,416,965
TEXAS	2,244,616
CLEVELAND	2,177,908
CALIFORNIA	2,057,160
SEATTLE	2,051,853
MINNESOTA	2,048,673
OAKLAND	2,035,025
DETROIT	1,971,421
KANSAS CITY	1,934,578
MILWAUKEE	1,688,080
TOTALS	33,332,603

## BALL PARKS

YEAR	CAPACITY
Anaheim Stadium	1966 64,593
Astrodome	1965 53,821
The Ball Park	1994 48,100
Busch Stadium	1966 56,627
Camden Yards	1992 48,000
Candlestick Park	1960 62,000
Comiskey Park	1991 44,229
County Stadium	1953 53,192
Dodger Stadium	1962 56,000
Fenway Park	1912 33,925
Fulton County Stadium	1966 52,709
Indians Park	1994 42,400
Jack Murphy Stadium	1969 46,510
Joe Robbie Stadium	1993 48,000
Kauffman Stadium	1973 40,625
Kingdome	1977 59,702
Metrodome	1982 55,883
Mile High Stadium	1993 76,100
Oakland-Alameda County Stadium	1968 47,313
Olympic Stadium	1977 46,400
Riverfront Stadium	1970 52,952
Shea Stadium	1964 55,601
SkyDome	1989 50,516
Three Rivers Stadium	1970 47,972
Tiger Stadium	1912 52,416
Veterans Stadium	1971 62,382
Wrigley Field	1916 38,710
Yankee Stadium	1923 57,545

(Source: The Sporting News)

## In search of city's long-gone ballparks

STEVE CLARK

In the spring of 1875, 10 years after the end of the Civil War, two major-league baseball teams came to Richmond to play two games at the state fairgrounds, then located at what today is Monroe Park, near Virginia Commonwealth University's Fan District campus.

These two contests were not exhibition games. They were "real" games that counted in the league standings of the National Association, the first professional baseball league with major-league status. The National Association operated for five seasons (1871-75), then was replaced in 1876 by the National League, which still exists.

The competing teams at the old fairgrounds

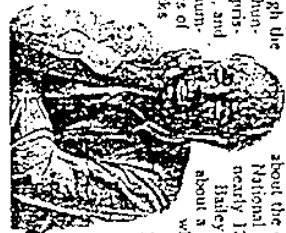
were the Boston Red Stockings, the premiere team of that era, and the Washington Nationals.

According to newspaper accounts in Richmond's Daily Dispatch, the teams arrived in town by train at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 29, 1875. After checking into the Exchange Hotel, the players had lunch then repaired to the fairgrounds.

"The crowd of spectators was unexpectedly large," the Daily Dispatch reported the next day. "The crowd of spectators paid their way through the gates, and it is estimated that at least five hundred men and boys of economical and enterprising mind clustered over the fence, and thus dead-headed themselves in. A goodly number of ladies were present, and the roadway of the grounds were pretty well-lined with hacks and other vehicles."

Historian, the champion of the National Association, died of the five years the league existed, died in Washington, D.C.

"The crowd seemed to favor the Washingtonians," reported the Dispatch, "and notwithstanding the fair and generally correct



decisions of the umpire, Mr. Heals, behaved in a most shameful manner towards that gentleman."

The bookend is an ancient species.

The second game was played two days later on May 1. The powerful Red Stockings again prevailed, 2-0. Game two's crowd, reported the Dispatch, was smaller and "much more orderly."

Robert S. Bailey, a Goshen, Ky., resident whose hobby is baseball history, wants to know more about the old fairgrounds park where those two National Association games were played nearly 120 years ago.

Bailey also is looking for information what was called Allen Pasture.

Located near the intersection of Broad Street and Allen Avenue, Allen Pasture was the home field of a major-league baseball team that played in Richmond in the summer of 1861. The team, which moved here from Washington in midseason, was a member of the

American Association, a major league for 10 seasons (1882-91).

Bailey's interest in Richmond's two long-gone ballparks is the result of a project sponsored by the Society of American Baseball Research, of which Bailey is an active member.

At SABR's 1992 national convention, the society's SABR's committee decided to embark on a project to dig up historical information on an estimated 170 ballparks of the late 1800s.

"Most of the literature on old major-league parks starts with concrete stadiums," said Bailey, a 45-year-old health consultant. "We've kind of lost the old wooden parks, and we'd like to find them. If we get enough material, we'll publish a book."

Bailey is looking for someone who lives in the Richmond area to conduct the research on the old fairgrounds park and Allen Pasture. You don't have to be a member of SABR, but you do have to be willing to spend the time necessary to do the research. Anyone interested should write to Bob Bailey at 12129 Britsign Lane, Goshen, Ky. 40026. Or call him at (502) 228-5259.

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 GILCOG (AP) -- Average ticket prices for 1993 and 1994 and the average cost for a family of four (FCF) to attend a major league game

Team	1993	1994	1993	1994
	Tix	Tix	FCF	FCF
Atlanta	9.76	12.00	27.05	112.38
Baltimore	11.12	11.12	102.36	104.95
Boston	11.57	12.51	100.18	102.55
California	8.02	8.05	84.50	90.24
Chicago AL	11.70	12.91	97.81	105.12
Chicago NL	11.74	12.12	101.34	108.97
Cincinnati	7.95	7.95	77.31	79.11
Cleveland	8.70	12.05	87.30	101.75
Colorado	7.91	7.90	81.12	82.08
Detroit	9.47	11.11	92.17	101.45
Florida	9.73	9.92	98.83	92.18
Houston	8.26	9.57	80.52	89.25
Kansas City	9.20	10.20	85.29	95.73
Los Angeles	9.15	9.58	83.50	90.73
Milwaukee	9.80	9.51	91.59	87.53
Minnesota	9.15	9.40	82.63	90.61
Montreal	8.53	8.58	85.14	82.89
New York NL	10.89	10.89	86.45	91.06
New York AL	13.48	14.44	113.40	115.25
Oakland	10.49	10.57	93.97	100.47
Philadelphia	8.20	9.75	82.81	91.00
Pittsburgh	9.73	9.73	91.40	93.46
San Diego	8.70	9.21	85.01	83.34
San Francisco	9.31	10.57	87.23	100.80
Seattle	7.36	9.72	85.05	95.42
St. Louis	9.11	9.81	75.54	91.72
Texas	8.93	12.07	92.73	95.75
Toronto	12.73	13.93	116.11	113.51
AVERAGE	9.50	10.45	90.81	95.80