

BOB BOYD

Q: Did you just play here a couple of years with the Dreamliners?

A: Three or four years.

Q: You enjoyed that time, didn't you?

A: Yes. I really did.

Q: Do you see any ball players come through here that made it up there?

A: Yeah. When I first played for Wichita up in Colorado Springs, Wichita had a team and (inaudible) were on the same team and I had to face them. When I went to the major leagues, I had to face them again and I said okay I'm going to get even with you cause I remember the time down there. It was real good pitching.

Q: Larson could throw the ball pretty hard, couldn't he?

A: Oh, yes, he could.

Q: I saw Larson out at Anaheim last month.

A: Oh, you did?

Q: Yeah, yeah, I saw Don. Spoke to him for a while. Of course, he does the circuit, too. He does the autographs, you know.

A: There's a couple of guys around here that autograph all the time and usually have since I've been here Hank Aaron, Bob Gibson, Mickey Mantle, and Billy Martin. I sit with all of them when they came. That's been a long time ago before they passed away, you know. Hank Aaron was here, too.

Q: When did you have the surgery on your leg?

A: It was about two years ago.

Q: Before that, did you do more traveling than you do now?

A: Yeah. I went all around. Still limping, but I just can't make it.

Q: Did you attend any funerals of any of the baseball players that you've mentioned?

A: Not yet.

Q: How come you don't like to fly?

A: I just never could get used to it. I did when I was playing, I had to go, but I never did get used to it.

Q: I had forgotten who told me, but one of the players I interviewed said they left San Francisco to fly to Kansas City and of course back then, to me, it seems funny that you didn't like to fly but the ones I remember them planes you guys flew in were not like the planes that we fly in today.

A: That's true, too, you know.

Q: I had forgotten who it was. I tried to remember which black ball player it was, I believe he was a pitcher, maybe, and whoever was telling me this story, I'm sorry, I can't remember, but they said he got on that plane in San Francisco and there was a storm and that plane was going like this and going like this and it might have been Satchell Page with the Cleveland Indians then and they said that when he got on the plane he was black but when he got off the plane he was white. You can relate to that then, can't you?

A: I've been on there with lightning striking sitting beside the window. I would get out of my seat and go somewhere else. I would be in somebody's lap over there.

Q: You didn't want to look at that prop, did you?

A: No, me. No way. Missed the runway and everything. It was a DC3. See I was in the Texas League, you know, that's where we used to travel all over to Oklahoma City and we would go up into Tulsa and get in a storm. They didn't have no radar. Everybody

would get up out of their seat. I don't want anymore of that. No way. I did it for 13 years, and that's enough. I ain't getting on there no more.

Q: You're not going to push your luck, huh?

A: No way.

Q: Who's going to get to come to Wichita whenever...

A: He named a few players, but he hadn't let me know yet. I'm going to try to get him to get a guarantee on it. Let's see there's who is it he'll get major leaguers to come in here and I can't think what they called his name. He was a pitcher. I can't recall his name.

Q: But you think they'll bring some older ball players in then, huh?

A: Yeah. They're bringing them.

Q: Good. And that would be next month in October?

A: November. But I don't know what date.

Q: You're going to be a busy man in November, aren't you?

A: Yeah. Frank White down here and George Brett married a girl from here. He's still working for the Royals up there. He comes home every once in a while.

Q: Another ball player, Don Lock, is who I am thinking of. Do you remember Don?

A: Yeah.

Q: He's been out here in Kansas.

A: He's here. Yeah.

Q: I'm going to see him tomorrow.

A: Tell him hello for me.

Q: I will. I told him I said I think I'm going to see Mr. Boyd later today and he said you tell Bobby hi for me.

A: Did he?

Q: Yeah.

A: Alright. Anybody else you know of?

Q: Darren Dalton's the only one that I know of that's close.

A: What about Dale Spencer?

Q: Dale Spencer?

A: Yeah.

Q: I don't know that name.

A: What about what's his name that played in the big leagues, Owen Friend?

Q: Owen Friend? Where does he live?

A: He lives here.

Q: In Wichita?

A: Yeah.

Q: Is that right?

A: Yeah.

Q: I did not know that. Who did Dale Spencer play for?

A: He played for the Yankees or the New York Giants.

Q: I just don't remember that name. It must have been the early 50s.

A: Brooklyn Dodgers or somebody. He was a good player.

Q: And he lives here in Wichita?

A: He's here.

Q: Owen Friend was a good ball player.

A: Yeah, that's right. I played against him.

Q: Did you?

A: Yeah. I think he was Washington.

Q: I was going to tell you one thing just so you would remember, you said Jim Genteel was in Ardmore, no, he's in Edmond.

A: Edmond. Yeah.

Q: Well, I wanted you to remember that because Ardmore is pretty far away. What would that take him, three hours?

A: I've got the address.

Q: See he could come up for the day come up here and be here.

A: Yeah.

Q: From Edmond, that's not that far.

A: That's true. He used to have a department store.

Q: Yeah. He had a Target department store in Oklahoma City.

A: Sure did.

Q: He's still doing well. He's enjoying good health. He looked good. He's a strong man. He looks like he hasn't changed very much.

A: Last time I seen him he played a lot of golf.

Q: Does he?

A: Yeah. He goes out to California to play golf and he runs into a guy that used to pitch for Cleveland. Runs into him out there. Did you think to bring George Kell's thing?

Q: I've got it out in the car. I'll have to go and get it for you. You going to try to get George to come up here?

A: No. I just want to talk with him.

Q: Just need to talk to him, yeah. He's a good guy. Boy he is a special man. If you asked him to come up here for whatever you're doing, he'd probably come. He's not too busy anymore. He doesn't go much. But Wichita is not far for him. He probably could fly to Kansas City and drive down. Boy, he announced for the Tigers, you know, he was announcer for them for years and years and years.

A: Yeah. Okay. I remember that. He had a tough team, too. Frank Larry and Jim Bunning and Al Kaline, oh, boy, he had a team.

● He had a strong team. Don Dementer was a part of that there, too.

● Yeah. I remember. I know they have a new stadium now and they don't have that old stadium.

Q: I wished I had gone to see that old stadium.

A: I think Boston is about the only one there that's around, you know, the Red Sox.

Q: The Gray Monster they call it.

A: Yeah. I think they're the only ones.

Q: Only one in the American League.

A: I believe so. Everybody has a new stadium.

Q: Of course, Yankee Stadium is still the same stadium, but they've changed it so much.

A: Yeah, they sure did.

Q: Then of course, Wrigley in Chicago.

A: Oh, it's still there.

Q: Candlestick is gone, isn't it?

A: Mm. Yeah. They built another one.

Q: Yeah. They have a name for it. I've already forgotten it.

A: Yeah. I did too.

Q: Wichita's been good for you, hasn't it?

A: Yeah. That's the reason I've just settled right here.

Q: I know George Kell. Does that look like George Kell to you?

A: Yeah.

Q: He hadn't changed much. He worked for the Arkansas Highway Commission for ten years and I remember his picture in the paper 10-15 years ago and he hadn't changed a bit since then.

A: He's alright.