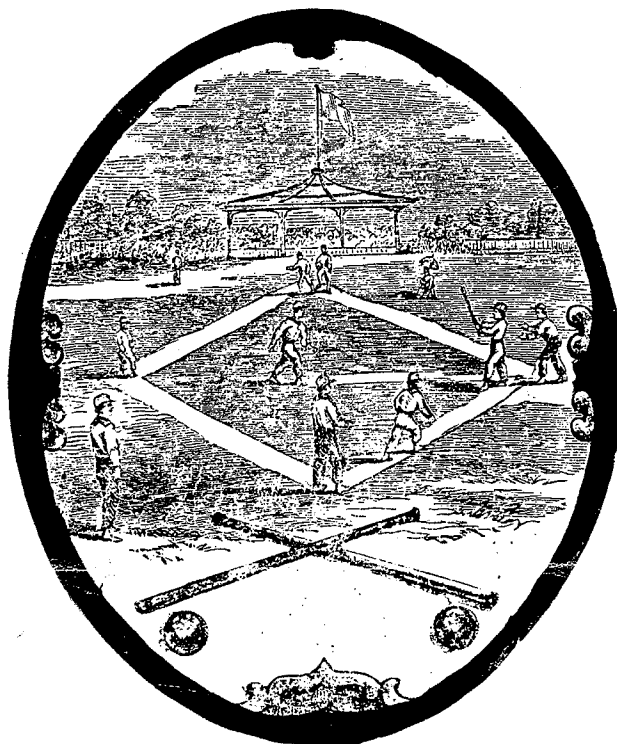


The Ballparks Bulletin

No. 10, September, 1987



COME ONE, COME ALL....TO STADIAPEX 1987

By Mike Walsh, Levittown, PA

The two best sources for me to acquire ballpark postcards are attending postcard shows and trading duplicates with fellow collectors. On occasion I run across something at a baseball card show, flea market, auction or from a dealer through the mail. However, these methods have not been nearly as effective.

More often than not I'll run into a fellow ballpark collector or two at postcard shows. That always results in a nice conversation, talking about what we acquired and perhaps even a trade or two comes about. Similarly, I've been fortunate enough to attend social gatherings attended by ballpark collectors. That is always enjoyable and is accompanied by a great deal of ballpark-related conversation.

In that regard I've envisioned a combination of the above on a larger scale. That seems to be an idea worth pursuing. I find the thought of a large room filled with ballpark postcards and their owners intriguing. Coupling such a gathering with a postcard show seems like a logical choice. It seems to me that if enough people are made aware of such a meeting and have sufficient time to make plans to attend the result should be great.

With all this in mind, I needed to decide only on where and when. Being from Pennsylvania means the location had to be in the east. The date needed to be a convenient weekend far enough in advance to make the necessary arrangements. The choices were narrowed down to a few upcoming postcard shows in the fall. My choice turned out to be the Morlatton Postcard Club Show held in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, over the Thanksgiving weekend. It seemed to fit all the criteria: good show, nice hotel, convenient to Philadelphia area, plenty of tourist attractions nearby, etc.

Thereby, I'm pleased to announce and invite one and all to the first Ballpark Postcard Collectors Mini-Convention, STADIAPEX 1987. The postcard show opens Friday, November 27, at 10:00 a.m.

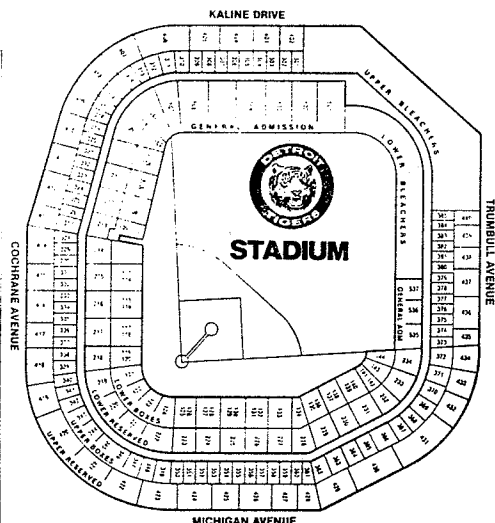
I've arranged for a hotel meeting room that afternoon and evening. The hotel is the Shawnee Lancaster Resort, Route 272, Lancaster, PA. We will be in room 209. I figured by 2:00 to 3:00 in the afternoon, those interested could leave the postcard show and relax in our conference room. There is no strict agenda planned so you can come and go as you please. A group of collectors that I've contacted have agreed to bring interesting cards out of their collections for viewing.

As I said, anyone interested is invited to attend. I hope it proves to be successful and turns into something we can do on an annual basis. Regardless of whether your interest is high or low stop by if you have the chance. It will be a fine opportunity to meet and talk with people who share a common interest - love for the great old ballyards.

Please contact me for directions as well as questions or if you have suggestions. Mike Walsh, 11 Pinewood Drive, Levittown, PA 19054, phone: 215-547-2929.

If Joe Heitkamp can't find an item for his ballpark memorabilia collection, he makes one! His current effort is a 1987 Detroit Tigers schedule complete with the team logo and a diagram of Tiger Stadium. Joe can be reached at 1855 Passolt, Saginaw, Michigan 48603.

LOWELL ULLRICH of Vancouver, B.C. Canada mentioned that Nat Bailey Stadium, home of the Vancouver Canadians (PCL) has a hand-operated scoreboard. Any others in the PCL? Any others in the minor leagues?



Lower Deck Box 101-144 Upper Deck Box 301-385
 Lower Deck Res. 208-234 Upper Deck Res. 402-440
 General Admission 501-507/535-537
 Tickets (Master Card or Visa) 313-963-7300
 STARTING TIME OF HOME GAMES
 Sundays 1:35 p.m. --- Afternoons 1:35 p.m.
 (Except Saturdays - 1:15 p.m. or 7:35 p.m.)
 Night Games 7:35 p.m.

3



1987 Schedule

Compliments of

Joe Heitkamp

Collector of Baseball Schedules
 and Baseball Memorabilia

1855 PASSOLT

SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48603

From Dick Kaufman, 70 Chestnut St., Mohnton, PA 19540...Here in Reading it looks like we might get new seats at Municipal Stadium and believe it or not, a roof. After 35 years it might actually happen. No ballpark should be built without a roof. When the weather is threatening or a light rain falls people stay away. Believe it or not, some people suggested a dome. Hard to believe.

Dick also reminds us that this was baseball's final season at Rickwood Field, home of the Birmingham Barons, Southern League. He sent an interesting article from the New York Times titled, "At the Second-Eldest Ball Park, the Final Innings."

Don't forget!!! STADIAPEX 1987, November 27, 1987, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

MYSTERIES WITHIN GREEN CATHEDRALS

by Philip J. Lowry, 10650 Porto Court, San Diego, CA 92124

SABR Ballparks Committee. At the SABR National Convention in Arlington, Virginia, the Ballparks Committee met on June 27. A Ballpark Run was conducted from the former site of Griffith Stadium to RFK Stadium, via the former sites of Swampoodle Grounds and Capitol Grounds. Fourteen runners and one bicyclist completed the entire five-mile distance, finishing with a triumphant tour of the basepaths at RFK. At the committee meeting, the group voted 29-0 to officially endorse Philip Bess' design for Armour Field to replace Comiskey Park in Chicago, and to support Joe Favano's project of collecting ballpark photos for exhibit at the 1988 National Convention in Minneapolis.

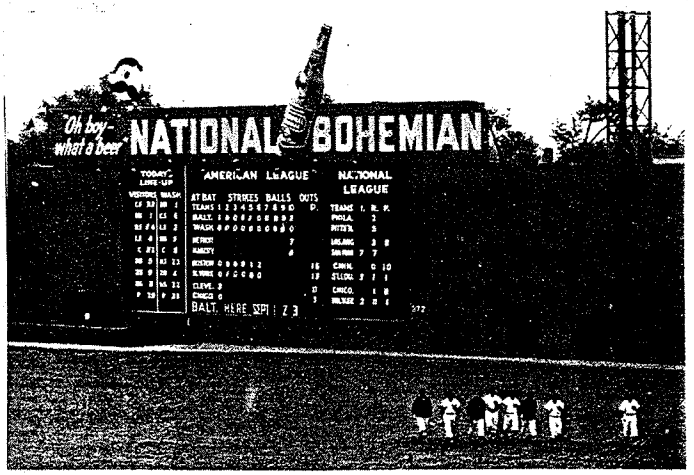
Short Outfield Measurements. John Spalding of San Jose, California makes an interesting observation concerning comments in the May issue of The Ballparks Bulletin about Lake Front Park #2 in Chicago. With the Cubs playing there in 1883 and 1884, why was there such a discrepancy in home run totals in these two years? The Cubs hit 13 homers in 1883, but 142 homers in 1884. Yet the park was supposedly the same in both years -- 180 to LF, 280 to LCF, 300 to CF, 252 to RCF, and 196 to RF. Does anyone have an explanation?

Highest Outfield Walls or Structures in Play. Four structures stand out as the highest "in play" -- Tiger Stadium's and Crosley Field's flagpoles at 125 feet and 82 feet respectively, the 90 foot high light tower in left field at Savannah's Grayson Stadium, and the two 60 foot high support towers that supported the 42 foot high left field screen at the Los Angeles Coliseum.

Nine outfield walls are known to have been 50 feet or more in height, but little detail is known about them, such as year of construction or the year they were torn down or modified in height, exact measurements to the nearest inch, etc. Three were scoreboards, two were screens, two were signs, one was a clubhouse, and one a beer bottle. A beer bottle?

Yes, a beer bottle. At Griffith Stadium in Washington, there was a high concrete wall in right field which was 30 feet high before 1954, and 31 feet high after 1954. (Does anyone know how it grew 12 inches over the 1954-55 winter?) In deep right center there was a scoreboard. The scoreboard itself was the same height as the concrete wall, but atop the scoreboard was a sign which rose to a height of 41 feet. Whether or not this 41 foot high sign was there in 1911 is unknown. Does anyone know when it was constructed? The sign variously read Coca Cola, Chesterfield, Old Georgetown Beer and National Bohemian Beer. And while the National Bohemian Beer sign was up in the late 1940s and early 1950s (maybe longer), there was a beer bottle on top of the sign which rose 56 feet above the field! The year the bottle was put up is unknown. We assume it was "in play" but have not been able to discover groundrules which prove it was "in play". Does anyone have details on the beer bottle? Was it still there in 1961 when the park saw its last game? Does anyone recall a batted ball being prevented from being a homer by the beer bottle?

The other nine tallest walls are similarly shrouded in mystery. Braves Field in Boston had a left field scoreboard in 1949 whose middle arch above the Waltham clock reached 68 feet. When was it built? When was it taken down. In one picture, this scoreboard is topped by signs saying, "The Six Little Tailors" and "It's OK to Owe Kay



Jewelry"; another picture shows a sign reading "OFGANT" to the left of the Waltham clock in the middle of the scoreboard's top.

Baker Bowl had a 40 foot high tin right field fence when built in 1895, but in July 1929 a 20 foot high "Lifebuoy" sign was added, making the total height 60 feet. Was the Lifebuoy sign ever removed before the Phillies' last game on June 30, 1938? I don't know. Does anyone have a way to find out?

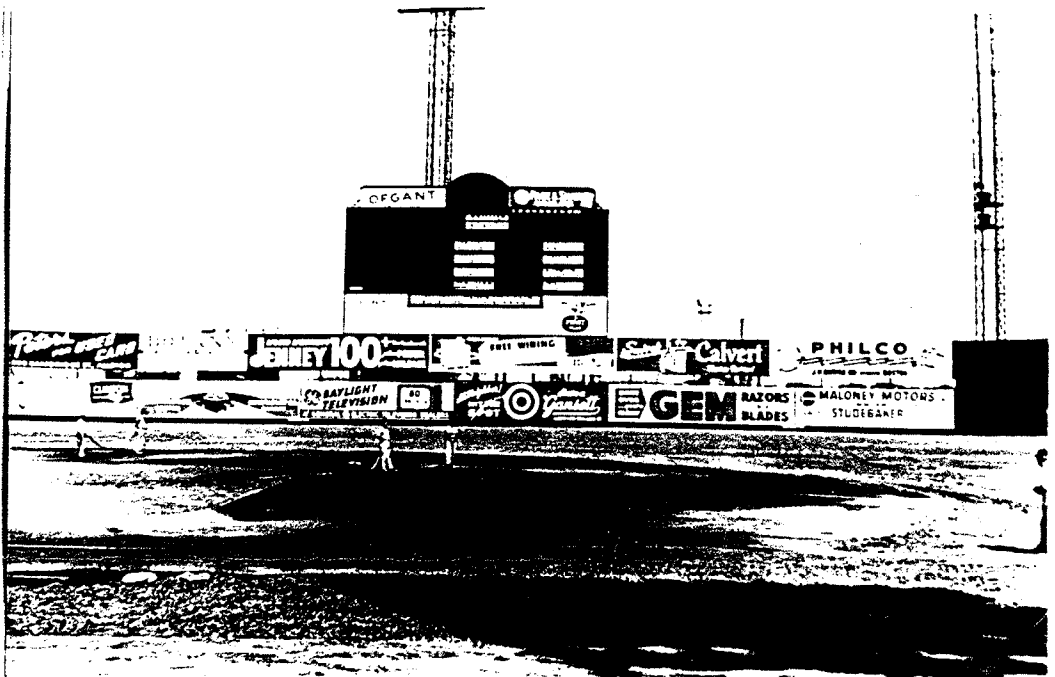
The Polo Grounds center field wall was a 60 foot high clubhouse. Was a ball ever hit off the clubhouse wall? Some Giants fans say no, but we're awaiting word on a definitive answer.

When Shibe Park opened in 1909, there was a 12 foot high concrete wall in right field, with signs painted on in two 6 foot high rows, saying things like "White Rock" and "Regal Shoes". In 1935, a 22 foot corrugated iron wall was added, for a total height of 34 feet. And then in 1956, Yankee Stadium's old scoreboard was added in front of the wall in right center. The black scoreboard's top was 50 feet above the field of play, but it was 60

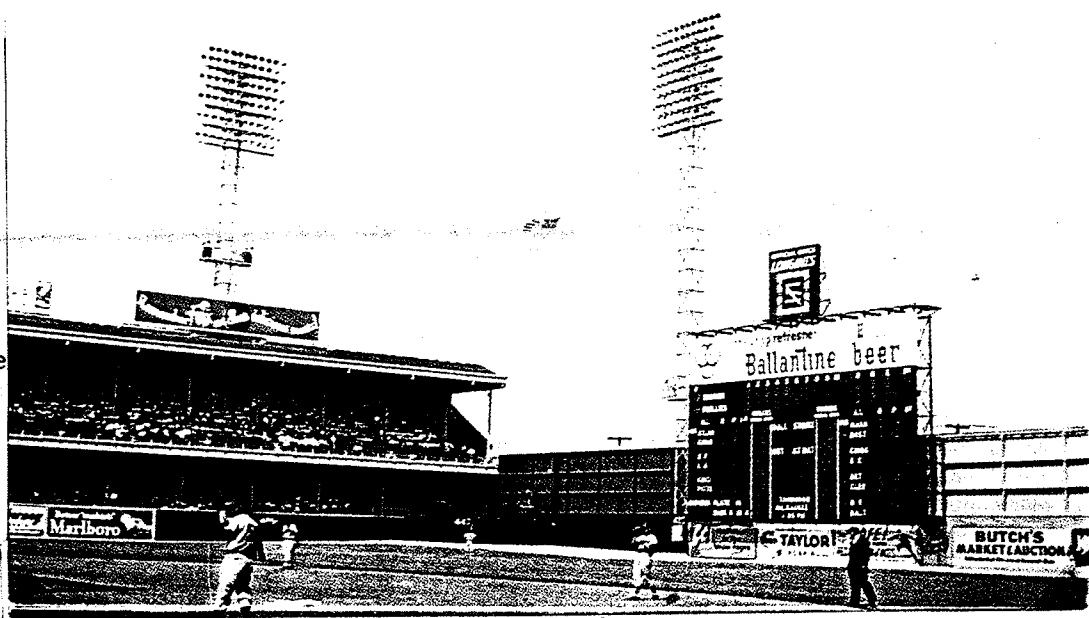
feet to the top of a white "Ballantine Beer" sign above the scoreboard, and 75 feet to the top of the Longines clock above the Ballantine sign. The Longines watch was "out of play", as was its cousin above the left field scoreboard in Forbes Field. But the Ballantine sign was in play. Does anyone recall a homer hit off the Longines clock high above right center? Or a double or triple off the Ballantine sign? Was the Ballantine sign still there for the Phils' last home game on October 1, 1970?

And why was the 34 foot corrugated iron fence reported as 30 feet high in 1943, 50 feet in 1949, 40 feet in 1953, 30 feet in 1954, 40 feet in 1955 and 32 feet in 1956?

Another mystery is Crosley Field's left center field scoreboard, constructed in 1957. The first scoreboard in left center appeared in 1938 and was 30 feet high, but grew to



Braves Field 1949



Shibe Park

37 feet in 1943, possibly due to the addition of a GRUEN clock on top. The new 1957 scoreboard's height was recorded as 58 feet when new, 50 1/6 feet in 1958 and 45 feet in 1967. Yet pictures show that the scoreboard didn't change from 1957 through the Reds' last game at Crosley on June 24, 1970. One possibility is that it was 45 feet to the top of the black scoreboard, 50 1/6 feet to the top of the Webbers Sausage sign, and 58 feet to the top of the Longines clock. Was the Longines clock "in play" or "out of play"? I don't know. An answer would be very helpful to the City of Blue Ash, Ohio, which is reconstructing Crosley Field.

The other three 50 foot plus outfield walls were in minor league parks - Point Stadium's 70 foot left field screen in Johnstown, the 60 foot center field scoreboard in Buffalo's Offerman Stadium, and the 60 foot right field chicken wire screen at Milwaukee's Borchert Field, constructed by Bill Veeck in 1941 because his team couldn't hit 266 foot homers but opposing teams could. The next year, Bill even arranged a hydraulic motor-driven system that reeled the 60 foot fence into foul territory while the home team was up, and back into fair territory when the visiting team was up. This was done for one entire game in 1942, but a rule was passed against it the next day.

Now isn't all this diversity better for the game of baseball than the sterile, conformist, plastic, cookie-cutter, uniform 8 to 12 foot fences that seem to be the "norm" today?

John Spalding, 5551 Fern Drive, San Jose, CA 95124, advises The Ballparks Bulletin readers that reports out of San Francisco indicate that Ogden Allied Services, Inc. and Sportservice have been offered concession rights at the new stadium in San Francisco in exchange for paying off city bonds used to build it.

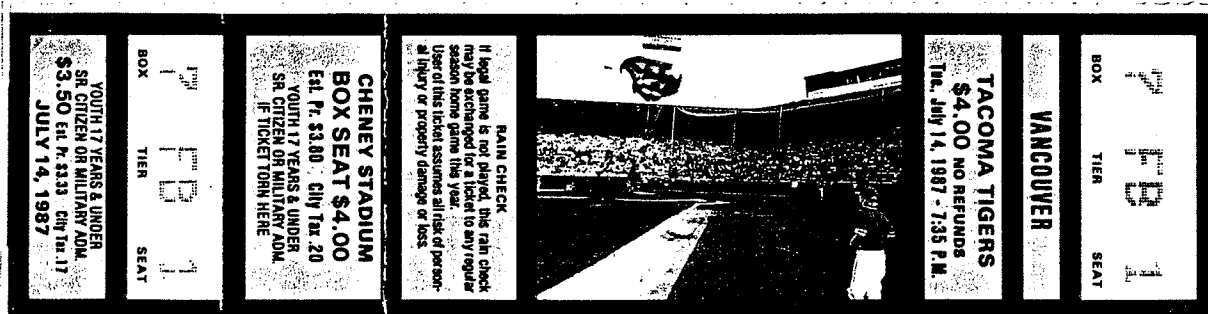
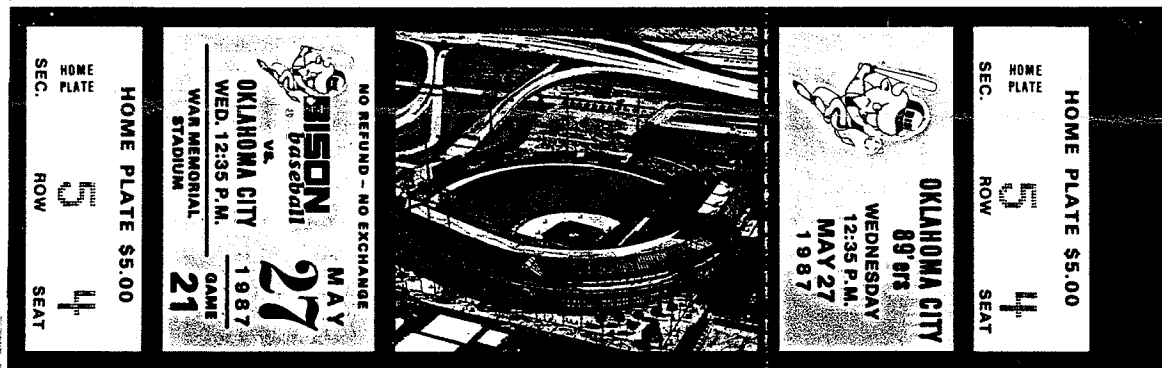
The two companies together operate concessions at more than half a dozen sports arenas in the United States and Canada. Both firms have acknowledged that they are negotiating with the Giants, but said they are far from reaching an agreement. Estimated cost of the downtown ballpark is \$80 million.

John wonders what ever came of the efforts of Ross Lewis Photography, New York, NY, to publish a book about Yankee Stadium in 1980. The asking price was \$135.00. Was that the book's undoing? What ever happened to Mr. Lewis file of rare photos intended for use in the book?

New Stadia Collectible?

Four minor league clubs have illustrated their tickets with views of their ballparks. Two examples are shown here. Tide-water and Rochester views are also known. Any others out there?

Are you going to attend STADIAPLEX 1987?



THE OLD AND THE NEW: TWO SOUTHERN LEAGUE BALLPARKS IN ALABAMA

By Jim Brown, c/o History Dept., Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, MS 39174

The revival of interest in minor league baseball in the past few years has led to the proliferation of brand new ballparks specifically designed for minor league play. The Diamond has replaced Parker Field in Richmond and the process has been documented by the excellent postcards of George Tinker. In Shreveport, Fairgrounds Field has risen along Interstate 20 to replace decaying SPAR Stadium, while Huntsville, Alabama lured a Southern League franchise two years ago with the construction of a new 11,000 seat stadium. Plans are now afoot to replace Rickwood Field in Birmingham and El Paso's Dudley Field and one wonders how many more summers will be witnessed by Chattanooga's Engel Stadium and Macon's Luther Williams Park.

Trips on consecutive weekends this April enabled the writer to contrast the old with the new. Less than a two-hour drive from each other sit Alabama's two Southern League ballparks. Rickwood Field in Birmingham is the oldest park where minor league baseball is still being played and only because Comiskey Park opened a few months earlier during the same 1910 season does Rickwood lose out on the title of oldest professional park still in use. Ninety miles away, in the Appalachian foothills of Northern Alabama and not far from the George C. Marshall Space Center lies Huntsville's sparkling-new Joe W. Davis Stadium. Opened in 1985 it lured the Oakland A's double A franchise into the twelve-team Southern League, and typifies the new parks now being built to bring minor league baseball into the 1980s.

In Philip J. Lowry's Green Cathedrals the author places Rickwood Field alongside Wrigley Field, Comiskey Park, Fenway Park and Tiger Stadium in the "fervent hope that the five most beautiful ballparks left will never face a wrecking ball." Sadly, 1987 will mark the end of an era, since Birmingham plans to construct a new stadium in suburban Hoover in time to open the 1988 season. Located in an older residential area not far from the State Fairgrounds, the two red caboose-like press boxes beckon from atop the roof behind home plate. The old park's character and age are first sensed as one approaches the green wooden walls and ancient ticket windows still in service. The red clay infield is surrounded by 11,000 comfortable seats which were improved in 1981. On this first weekend of the 1987 season the 2,000 or so who come out to see their Barons sweep the series from the Huntsville Stars seem almost to rattle around in the roomy park. Since it's Milo's Hamburgers promotion weekend few of the faithful have had to pay their way in and hope of meeting expenses is left to the age-old combination of concessions and parking.

New close-up dimensions of 325-395-335 at Rickwood are framed by right field porch seats - and several shots rattling off the old wooden walls produce singles instead of doubles. A slightly incongruous basketball goal - complete with net - hangs from a large "Mellow Yellow" sign in right center. Later, the p.a. announcer informs that any ball hit off the sign wins the batter \$100.00, and that a hefty \$500.00 goes to a batter who performs the unlikely feat of bouncing a ball off the sign and through the basketball goal. Tall white metal foul poles help to avoid fair/foul debates while a computerized scoreboard (added in 1981) provides a modern dimension.

Rickwood Field was named for Rick Woodward, who owned the Birmingham Barons until the depression years. In 1921 a tornado completely destroyed the outfield fence and much of the bleacher section - necessitating an at-that-time colossal \$30,000.00 repair job. An examination of the 1949 program reveals special "colored seating" during the days of segregation and an advertisement for the later - infamous Bull Connor - running for County Commissioner in 1949. The Birmingham Black Barons began playing their Negro League games at Rickwood in the mid-1950s. An era and much history will come to an end when the Barons end the 1987 season at old Rickwood Field.



Rickwood Field Late 1930's

To get a glimpse of what the new Baron's stadium is likely to be like I return the very next weekend to see the same two teams play at Huntsville's Joe W. Davis Stadium. The Stars were beginning their third season in the concrete and glass bowl sunk below ground level. The 10,250 seats provide comfort and a sense of spaciousness while still close to the field. Unlike Rickwood there is no roof and I'm grateful that the three games are blessed with good weather. On the other hand, all of the seats have back supports, something that cannot be said of Rickwood or most older minor league parks.

The 1985 Southern League pennant flies proudly from a towering aluminum pole in left field. The red clay infield and outfield warning track are separated by the lush green outfield grass. The double-layered billboard fence seems imposing given the 345-405-330 dimensions and all three home runs I witness during the three games are to right field. The contemporary aspect of the new stadium is underlined by the rushing freeway traffic visible beyond right field from the upper stands. Joe W. Davis Stadium is functional for high school and college football but retains its baseball configuration. With Rico Petrocelli managing the Barons and Moe Drabowski coaching for the Stars there is at least one slight connection with baseball's storied past. By next year Rickwood Field will be no more and Joe W. Davis will have a counterpart in the suburbs of Birmingham.

Looking for something different in baseball stadium cards? Then check out those sportscaster issues of the 1970s. At least ten views of major league ballparks are known from that long-running series: Fenway Park (2 different), Yankee Stadium (2 different), Veterans Stadium, Candlestick Park, Dodger Stadium, Shea, Busch, and Memorial Stadiums.



TIDBITS FROM CLARK AND ADDISON

By Mike Cervenka, 1907 Pampass, Cortland, IL 60112

Fifty years ago this July, Bill Veeck became involved in two of the most picturesque aspects of Wrigley Field -- the scoreboard, and the bleacher section with its ivy-covered walls. The project was to take three months at a cost of \$200,000. On game days, workers plied their craft until 2:30 P.M., for the Cubs played at 3:00 P.M.! In conjunction with the construction of the scoreboard, Chinese Elm trees were planted on a "stairway" to the scoreboard. Gale-like winds off Lake Michigan forced management to abandon this idea after ten trials! Today, these "steps" are enjoyed by sunbathers (not necessarily fans) who can unfurl a blanket and have a picnic at the "friendly confines."

Now a little history....Wrigley Field was built by Charles Weeghman in time for the Chicago Whales of the Federal League to begin play in 1914. The seating capacity was only 16,000 and it was named Weeghman Park after its owner. The Whales played there until the end of the 1915 season at which time the Federal League folded. Without a team or a league, Weeghman became interested in purchasing the rival Chicago Cubs from Charles Taft. Weeghman and several financial backers purchased the Cubs for \$500,000 and moved the franchise from the West Side Grounds. One of the financial backers was William Wrigley, who eventually bought Weeghman's interest in the team in 1918. Cubs Park, as it was known for several seasons, increased its capacity to 20,000 in 1922 and moved the fences back to 348 feet in left, 447 feet in center, and 318 feet in right. In 1927, Cubs Park became Wrigley Field, as the upper deck seats were added to bring the capacity to over 40,000. Ten years would pass before any significant alterations were made to Wrigley Field and another fifty years has gone by.....

Bill Veeck said in 1983, "It's (the bleachers) one of the rare places where people of my generation get along with youngsters."

At which ballparks were newspapers with accounts of that game sold to fans as they exited after the last pitch? Is there any park today where that once common practice occurs?

There are four books being written by various individuals or groups. The Ballparks Bulletin will attempt to keep you up to date as information is passed on to us. The following is the latest info received.

SPECIAL PROJECT: THE BASEBALL BIOGRAPHICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA
from Mike Shatzkin, New York, NY

The Baseball Biographical Encyclopedia will contain 6000 entries ranging from 25 to 1000 words about 4500 ballplayers and 1500 other subjects including scouts, executives, announcers, writers, umpires, Negro Leaguers, Japanese Leaguers, minor leaguers, and ballparks. The people entries focus on personality rather than the dry statistical accomplishments (we have the Macmillan for that); the ballpark entries should do the same.

We are looking for baseball lore about the 80 or so parks that have hosted major league action. About 50 writers around the country are working on this project now (it will be published by Arbor House/Morrow in 1989); if we can find good writers with ballpark knowledge, we want them. But we also want experts on all areas of baseball, including ballparks, to review the entries as written by others to make sure we are including the important facts and that all our facts are right.

We screen our writers and pay for the pieces we commission and accept (\$6/entry, regardless of length). We ask that candidates to become writers include some sample of baseball writing but we throw open the "reviewing" to anyone with the expertise and the interest in helping what we think is an important baseball research project. If a writer's samples look promising, we usually assign 6-10 entries. If what we receive is good, we assign them at whatever rate the writer can handle. Our contributors do anywhere from ten a month to ten a day. Of course, writers often request entries in a particular area of expertise: team, era, city, etc., and we oblige.

As for ballpark pictures, they are definitely of interest, particularly if you are sure you control the reprint rights. If you have a list of what you have, send it. If you don't have a complete list, give us a description of what's available from you. We will be using about 2000 pictures in the book.

Aspiring contributors and reviewers should contact us through my partner, Jim Charlton, who's address is The Baseball Biographical Encyclopedia, c/o Charlton Associates, 680 Washington Street, New York, NY 10014.

PROGRESS REPORT - SHIBE PARK: A HISTORY, 1908-1976

Tentative Chapter Outline for the Book - by Bruce Kuklick, Philadelphia, PA

1. Ben Shibe and Shibe Park, 1900-1909

Ben Shibe had a career as a sporting businessman and emerged as an entrepreneur connected with the rise of American League baseball at the turn of the century. This chapter will survey his ownership of the American League Baseball Club of Philadelphia (the A's), its involvement in local politics, and its concern for rapid and cheap urban transport and for widely-circulating newspapers. From this perspective I will analyze the club's search for a suitable park and the character of the "Swampoodle" neighborhood before the building of Shibe Park there.

2. Days of Glory, 1909-1931

The A's were a formidable power from 1910 to 1914 and again in the late twenties when they won three American League pennants in a row. This chapter will explore the managerial career of Connie Mack, who brought a certain integrity and dignity to major league baseball in Philadelphia and to the neighborhood in which the A's played. Although concentrating on his success, I will also examine those peculiarities of Mack's that led

to a decade of losing teams from 1915 to 1925 and that were signs of the problems the A's would have after 1931.

3. The A's and North City

The ballpark helped to establish a community around it during the era when the A's were a winning club. Local business connected to baseball grew. The park offered employment to the neighborhood, and ball players were integrated into the community -- many lived there. Shibe Park also contributed to local culture: a major neighborhood business by the late twenties was the use of houses for "rooftop" stands.

4. Depression and War

Philadelphia teams playing in Shibe Park from 1932 to 1949 were perhaps the worst, overall, in baseball history, and Connie Mack, who became the owner of the park and the A's during this period, managed affairs in a way that presaged the collapse of the club in the early 1950s (and, more indirectly, of the park). At the same time Shibe Park's history in these fifteen years reflected important tendencies in all of baseball: in the early 1930s the A's threatened to leave Philadelphia and move to a new site in New Jersey if Sunday baseball could not be played in Shibe Park; night baseball and electrification occurred in the late 1930s; and a long struggle began to permit the sale of beer in the park.

5. Bob Carpenter and the Phillies, 1938-1954

The Phillies, the Philadelphia National League club, moved to Shibe Park from Baker Bowl in 1938, sharing the stadium with the A's and paying rent to Mack. The Phillies -- and users such as the Philadelphia Eagles football team -- contributed to the site's profitability. Moreover, when Bob Carpenter bought the Phillies in 1943, he brought to Shibe Park a different management style than Mack's. He also had more money. Carpenter slowly built the Phillies, his attempts culminating in the National League pennant of 1950, the only championship between 1931 and 1980. Carpenter's management will be considered in the context of its impact on the viability of major league baseball in Philadelphia -- and consequently of Shibe Park -- at a time when Mack's team was in mortal difficulty.

6. The Mack Family and Shibe Park, 1950-1954

Mack's operation had proven successful until the Depression and from then until the post-war period, American League baseball was at least a going concern. But by the late forties and early fifties Mack (and his two sons) were no longer financially able to maintain the A's. Part of the problem was simply a shortage of cash. But part was also the family's unfortunate approach to ownership, shaped by the now senile senior Mack. This chapter focuses on the club's finances and in particular the role of its most valuable asset, Shibe Park. I will concentrate on the desperate period before the franchise shifted to Kansas City in 1954, a move that typified the changes in professional baseball in the 1950s.

7. Connie Mack Stadium

Carpenter bought Shibe Park when the A's left. Renamed in honor of Mack in 1953, the stadium was spruced up, but basically Carpenter played a waiting game, believing that the Phillies should move to another facility if the club were to prosper. This chapter surveys the problems and prospects involved in the eventual move, their impact on "Connie Mack", and the baseball there from 1954 to 1970.

8. Ballpark in the Slums, 1954-1970

This chapter parallels chapter 3 in structure, but will now show stadium and neighborhood in decline. As Carpenter bought time, the community changed from a white ethnic one to a black ghetto, its problems exacerbated by the racial tensions of the 1960s. The park's story is like that of many of its peers, which became rundown and were finally abandoned and demolished at about the same time. Attempts at rescuing the park were paradoxical: for example, the struggle to get more parking space to attract

spectators to games had the consequence of further destroying the neighborhood and, therefore, of making it a less desirable area for fans to visit.

9. Urban Renewal

The Phillies played their last game in the park in 1970, and various proposals were made for the use of the stadium from the late sixties until a fire in 1971, and for the site from 1971 until even after the park was destroyed in 1976. This chapter focuses on the complicated real estate transactions and their relation to land use in North Philadelphia, where the vacant, seven-acre parcel can still be seen.

THE PILGRIMAGE TO BASEBALL'S TEMPLES

by Chip Atkison

Progress on the Pilgrimage to Baseball's Temples goes at a snail's pace. The account of my 1986 journey through the ballparks of major league baseball's 26 stadiums is currently being transposed from yellow legal pads onto the disks of a Magnavox Videowriter word processor. My writing a book (my first) is quite a challenge but not as formidable as the odyssey I undertook on March 25, 1986.

I found the July issue of The Ballparks Bulletin very interesting, having been to all the stadia rated therein. I found myself agreeing with a majority of the rankings. With Fenway, Wrigley and Tiger Stadiums topping the list, I had to take exception to the fourth-rated choice. I am probably not qualified enough to judge, but Comiskey Park was the most uncomfortable of all the ballparks. The seats were too close together, the rows too narrow, the 24 inch roof supports made the number of good viewing seats rare and the public address system sounded like a weekend electrician had wired a diaphragm inside a 55 gallon drum.

It was unbelievable that windy Candlestick Park ranked a higher place than the Coliseum in Oakland. The Athletics have a more accessible park with its parking lots next to the freeway, BART (the rail system) a short walk from the right field stands and the absence of refrigeratory ocean breezes. There were other discrepancies too picky to bother with which brings me to the real reason for writing this.

My naivete about how to publish a book and my lack of formal training in our complex language leads me to seek assistance from external sources. I experienced a great many stories while viewing 95 games, an All Star game, the Hall of Fame, the passing of more than 19,000 miles of U. S. and Canadian highways, the hardships of limited funds and mechanical breakdowns. I talked to many fans, a couple of scouts and was interviewed on a Memphis sports radio show. I shivered in Toronto's stadium and melted outside Houston's Astrodome. I faced the possibility of abandoning the trip more than once, but, with the help of friends, family and luck I was able to complete the pilgrimage in October, with a precious collection of game and travel notes and poetry in my possession.

If anyone can offer pointers or help, my geographical coordinates are: 195 Seal Rock Drive #3, San Francisco, CA 94121, telephone: 415-752-2216.

SOMEBODY IN THE BLEACHERS IS WRITING A BOOK

by Lonnie Wheeler, 885 Gray's Lane, New Richmond, OH 45157, telephone: 204-633-7432

Be on the lookout for a very special bum in the bleachers at Wrigley Field. He's freelance writer Lonnie Wheeler and he's got the greatest summer job in the city.

This lucky sports fan is actually getting paid by Contemporary Books to spend his summer observing, recording, and writing about the baseball experience -- the game, the players, the fans, the stadium, and the interaction of all these elements that makes baseball our number one national pastime and makes Wrigley Field America's best-loved ballpark.

Wheeler will be at every home game throughout the 1987 season, and sharp-eyed fans will recognize him by the tell-tale T-shirt that reads "I'm the guy writing the book."

The Wrigley book is more of an ode to baseball fans than to the ballpark, although in this case the two can't be separated. His reason for setting the book in Wrigley is that the fans there represent baseball fans in general to the utmost degree -- the most loyal, caring, long-suffering, old-fashioned of all fans. At least, that was the premise of the book. He's finding, not surprisingly, that the charm of Wrigley Field and day baseball is perhaps the foremost reason for all of it. The book, specifically, deals with the bleachers, where the most ardent and colorful fans gather to see the games. The Cubs book is a sort of psalm.

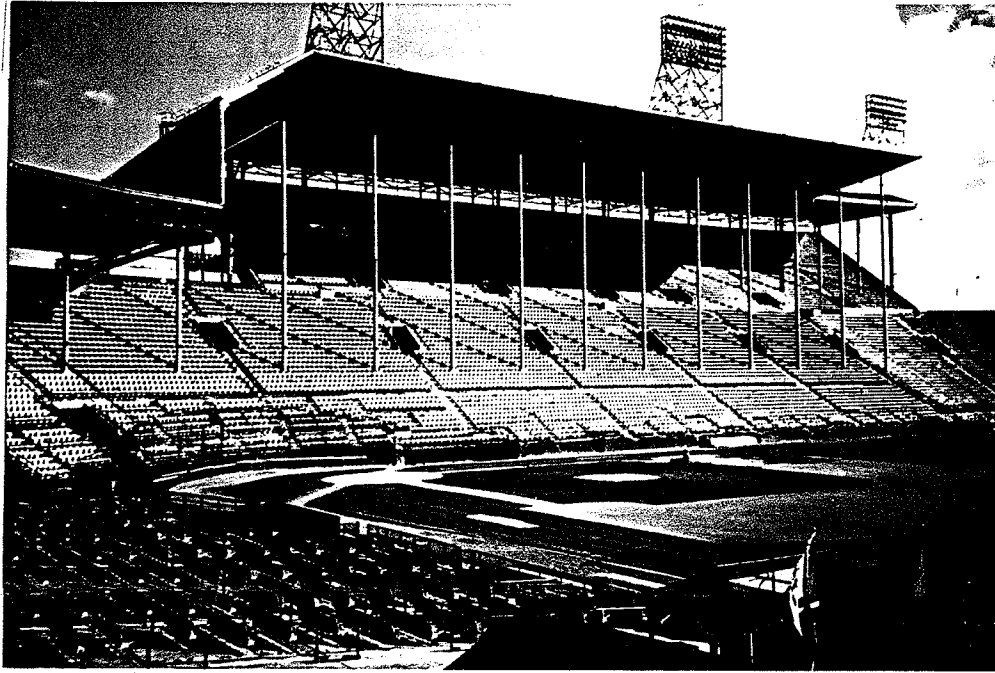
Wheeler is also writing a book on Cincinnati baseball. The Cincinnati book is more straightforward history, although hopefully, not without whimsy. Next year is Cincinnati's bicentennial and the book will come out in conjunction with it. Part of it deals with Riverfront Stadium and Crosley Field and its predecessors. It's called The Cincinnati Game and will be out in the late fall. The Chicago book is still untitled, and will be published by Contemporary Books next February or March.

FROM THE MAILBAG... Enclosed is a copy of a presentation I gave at the recent SABR convention on the history of Griffith Stadium. Please put a notice in your next issue that I'd be glad to send a copy to anyone for a 39¢ SASE. Thanks and keep up the good work. Gordon M. Thomas, 2733 S. Buchanan St., Arlington, VA 22206. (Editor: This presentation was outstanding and anyone interested in Griffith Stadium will enjoy it.) Jeffrey Ball, 107 Pine St., Box 597, N. Amherst, MA 01059, writes that he has had the privilege of being able to travel cross country and see games in 27 different major league stadiums. This was done over a period of three years, and he is in the process of writing an account in order to contribute it to a future edition of The Ballparks Bulletin. From Mike Cervenka, 1907 Pampass, Cortland, IL 60112: I recently attended a game at Wrigley Field and purchased a program which contained three articles of interest pertaining to ballparks. I am enclosing copies for your enjoyment and would be glad to send copies to any interested reader of yours for a 56¢ stamp. Bruce Kuklick, Dept of History, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104 writes: I have the new (July) issue of TBB. It's the best so far; but I've got one complaint. Put in people's addresses - so we can get in touch. (Editor's note: Consider it done!) From Danny Shameer, 7602 S. Yale Place, #1105, Tulsa, OK 74136. I'd like to share with you (TBB) an extra copy of a page from USA Today (July 13, 1987) featuring pictures of eight defunct ballparks. The interesting part for me was seeing the inset photos showing the stadium sites today. I knew about the tributary markers at the Polo Grounds and Ebbets Field. I had been unaware of others - like the beautiful memorial at the site of Forbes Field. I felt quite disappointed to see nothing but a vacant lot where Shibe Park was. Perhaps, some day, city officials will construct a Little League complex on that lot. It would seem to be a fitting tribute to fill space over what is now gone. Although I was born in 1958, I remember stadiums like Forbes Field, Shibe Park, Crosley Field and some others from watching baseball games on TV. I miss the originality of the old ballparks. Allan Grigg, 19-05 Deer Creek Drive, Plainsboro, NJ 08536 said: Wonderful publication. For me....like coming home. Somewhere in baseball, may there always be natural grass and foul lines of distances other than 330 feet..so equidistant, so perfect, so boring. From 8816 Saturn St., Los Angeles, CA 90035, Joseph M. Chodrow writes: I very much enjoyed the sample copy of TBB. It was interesting, enlightening, loaded with new and old facts and figures of stadium history, but above all, pleasantly nostalgic. Mark Reynolds of 2808-A Alta View Dr., San Diego, CA 92139, indicates that he has the same questions as Mike Shannon (Issue #8). How does one get started collecting stadium postcards? (Editor...There are articles planned by Ron Menchine which are intended to provide some of the history of postcards and the stadia segment in particular. The November TBB may carry the first installment. Stay tuned.)

AND STILL MORE FROM THE MAILBAG....Thanks to Bob Littlejohn (Cincinnati, OH), Bob Bluthardt (San Angelo, TX), Jim Ricci (Philadelphia, PA), Mike Conklin (Chicago, IL), John Thom (Los Angeles, CA), Anne Marshall (Redondo Beach, CA), Dwight Chapin (Mill Valley, CA), Tom Walsh (Lafayette, CA), and the many others who sent us copies of stories about The Ballparks Bulletin which ran in newspapers around the country. Since July, TBB has been mentioned in the Philadelphia Daily News, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, Cincinnati Enquirer, San Francisco Examiner, and the St. Louis Post Dispatch. The phone hasn't stopped ringing since! From Fred Greguras, 2 Palo Alto Square, Palo Alto, CA 94306...The Birmingham Barons have two 1987 scorecards, one with a Rickwood Field cover and the other with Hoover Stadium, the 1988 stadium for the team. They are nice items and stadium collectors can buy both for about \$5 (including postage) from the team. Larry Peters, 5032 Forest Side Drive, Flint, MI 48532, writes: These recent articles in the Detroit papers may be of interest to you. We'll probably end up with a new stadium in a few years and Tiger Stadium will be history. I'll send any other stadium articles I find in the local papers. Just keep the Bulletin alive - it's great! (Editor...We try hard to make the Bulletin interesting, informative, and fun but we cannot do it without the help and thoughtfulness of our readers. That's what keeps the Bulletin alive. Thanks, Larry, and everyone else who "pitches in." A NEW ADDITION...Dick Kaufman, 70 Chestnut St., Mohnton, PA 19540, indicates that he has an addition for Rick Dadouris' list of Olympic Stadium cards. It's a continental, artists drawing by Jean Bruneau-La Presse. The stadium is in the foreground with the swimming center, the tower and the velodrome in the background. The number is 23127-D. The card has a plain straight edge. On the front is the Montreal Olympic emblem and Montreal 1976. Frank J. Connelly, 6117 McKnight Drive, Lakewood, CA 90713, writes...The Ballparks Bulletin is an outstanding publication and one that I hated to come to the end of. I really enjoyed the articles and comments from your readership regarding ballparks they'd most like to visit. (Can anybody explain how Dodger Stadium placed ahead of County Stadium in Milwaukee?) My first recollection of a major league game was in 1958 or 59 at the L. A. Coliseum; my Dad and I sat just past first base (what a great view of Hodges at first and Snider in right). What a rush coming out of the tunnel entrances and seeing all that green. The Pirates were taking BP and I remember looking for Roberto and finally spotting him by the batting cage. I also remember the left field screen or "Chinese Wall" that I had listened to Vin Scully describe so many times while falling asleep with my transistor radio listening to the Dodgers (games started at 8:05 then). I also recall several fans that had trumpets or bugles with them and every inning they would play "Charge"! (One could see and hear "Charge" being played all around the coliseum.) I also recall how short a distance the left field screen appeared (and it was only 251 ft.) and why couldn't these men hit one off the screen every time. Unbelievable memories! By the way, Gilliam hit one over the screen, a 260 ft. fly ball, in the ninth to beat Pittsburgh 2-1 and Stan Williams was the winning pitcher. And now back to reality.....From 2343 Birtley Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15226, Donald Lancaster writes: By chance, would it be possible to put together a publication with photos of all ballparks (major and minor plus some college) in current use. Also, with outfield distances and wall heights. I was thinking about this and thought it might be a neat thing to have. I would be willing to put in time, money and film to get to some parks near here (Three Rivers, Erie, Cleveland, Harrisburg, Reading, Hagerstown, Williamsport, etc.). And again from Danny Shameer, address given previously in "Mailbag"...Did you happen to catch the August 10th telecast of Monday Sportsnite, the sports-news show on the ABC network? There was a segment on sports stadiums. Just for fun, an architect created his dream ballpark, which included structural stylings that made old stadiums so special. I don't remember all the details of his dream ballpark -- there were arches and columns as one entered, and red brick on the outside, as I recall -- but I enjoyed the sentiments expressed in the segment, which was this: they don't make new stadiums like they used to - and ought to.

Where will you be on November 27th? Where should you be on November 27th? -- Where anyone who wants to buy, swap or sell stadium postcards will be - STADIAPEX 1987!

War Memorial Stadium



ODE TO THE ROCKPILE

By Joe Overfield

For 50 years she stood the test
But now her time has come to rest.

Before the wrecking ball they fling,
Some words are due to ease the sting.

So it's bon voyage and sweet farewell
From some who trod her grassy dell.

From Broadway Joe and Orenthal,
From Ron McDole and Grady Hall.

From Marvelous Marve and Choo Choo, too,
From Jimmy Frey and Barber, Stew.

From Weber, Pete, and Murphy, John,
From Billy Long and Jerry Don.

From Mike Billoni and Kerby Farrell,
From Timmy Krauss and Boston, Daryl.

From Marshall, Jim, and Bryan Little,
From Marvin Foley and Ronnie Kittle.

From Carlton, Wray, and Gilchrist, Cookie,
From Dirty Al and Bernstine, Pookie.

From David Yobs and Christmas, Steve,
From Dave Dravecky and Tommy Grieve.

From the Earl of Bud and Butch, as well,
From Kelly Gruber and Jay Bird Bell.

From Surkont, Max, and Birrer, Babe,
From Mazza, Vince, and Gibron, Abe

From Tom Colella and Ollie Cline,
From Jimmy Coker and Bobby Wine.

From Paul Maguire and Duke the Voice,
From Rodney Craig, the people's choice.

From Miller, Van, and Felser, Larry,
From Russell Morman and Clifford Wherry.

From Friendly Fremo and Jimmy Mack,
From Billy Shaw and Tom Sestak.

From Robert Rich and Ralph C. Wilson,
From Harry Jacobs and Peter Filson.

We lift a glass and bid her well
And may we oft her glory tell.

"Ode to the Rockpile" was previously printed in the Bisongram, a publication of Bison Baseball, Inc., July 11, 1987, Vol. 3, No. 6, and is printed in The Ballparks Bulletin with the kind permission of the poet, Joe Overfield, 21 Pinewoods Ave., Tonawanda, NY 14150.

STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT...In the early fifties at Seals Stadium in San Francisco, before the Seals of the Pacific Coast League were replaced by the Giants, there were three white stars painted atop the right center field fence, marking the points where balls had been hit completely out of the park. The names of the batters were painted under the stars. I can remember two: Joe Brovia and Al Lyons. Can anyone remember the third? Or correct me if I have any of the other details incorrect?
Richard Leutzinger, 687 Mermaid Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

CONGRATULATIONS to Mel Bailey - again. He has another great photo appearing in a nationally distributed publication - this time a Street and Smith 1987 College Football Yearbook cover of Notre Dame's Tim Brown. During the summer of 1987 Mel has added extensively to his file of stadium views. See the SCOREBOARD section for details. And watch future TBBs for an article about the incredible number of ballparks this ace photographer has been in. It just might be Guinness Book stuff!

PROJECTS...Gordon Tindall is working on a new postcard of Kansas City. Collectors will certainly welcome another in his excellent series.

THE SKYDOME...Toronto's new domed stadium, scheduled to open in April, 1989, will be named the Skydome. The name of the stadium, which will serve as home for the Blue Jays and Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League, was picked from among 15,000 entries.

QUESTION...Do you readers know anything about the auxiliary right field wall in Griffith Stadium that's pictured in the TCMA 1974 black and white postcard of that park? Never have I seen this structure pictured elsewhere. What about the doubledeck left field line grandstand pictured in "Hit and Run" (Red Belt set) - where all Palace of the Fans postcards I've seen show only a single deck beginning to extend down the left field line. Joe Hammann, 5240 Greencroft, Dayton, OH 45426



A GREEN CATHEDRALS MYSTERY

by Joe Hamman, 5240 Greencroft, Dayton, OH 45426

"And Bell clubs one out by the exit gate." These words echoed by George Bryson, the Cincinnati Redlegs' telecaster from 1956 to 1960, still resound in my ears. They refer to a double hit by 1956 Redlegs' centerfielder, Gus Bell. For a long time, my memory was confused and I couldn't figure out what park gate Bryson had been describing in those days. However, since my engagement in microscopy of ballpark anatomy, I think I have finally figured out what Crosley Field idiosyncrasy George was alluding to in the above commentary. One reason for my perplexity stems from Crosley Field photographs of the era (1957-1970) which I had studied. In all of these I could not discern the presence of any kind of exit way leading out of the Cincinnati ballpark in fair territory.

However, one major modification in Crosley's architecture took place before the 1957 season. The club erected a new scoreboard. Down came the one topped by the rounded Gruen clock build by Larry McPhail in the 1930s. In its place was a taller and wider version now adorned with a square Longines-style clock, a timepiece that began crowning many major league scoreboards in the 1950s.

The "new" scoreboard produced other subtle changes in Crosley's outfield wall construction. Since the 1957 scoreboard was wider than its predecessor, it covered additional sections of the outfield wall on the left and right that had previously been exposed. Prior to its construction, the distance from home to the left field side of the old scoreboard was 382 feet. But after 1956 and until 1961, no foot marker existed in left center. Prior to the 1961 World Series though, the Reds added the designations of 378 feet to the left field side of the now four-year-old wider scoreboard and 360 feet to the cement base of the screening in front of the sun deck in straightaway right.

It was on the center field side of the new scoreboard that Gus Bell's exit gate shot enters our story, for prior to 1957, a metal tambour-like (a la roll top desk) exit gate was part of the left center field wall out by the ballpark's flagpole. The new scoreboard being wider, protruded over into this exit gate area. The new board also had more depth and could be entered by an attendant via a door in its left field side at the 378 foot mark. This expanded size-change resulted in the new tote board jutting out into the playing area more distinctly. To deal with these oblique edges, the park maintenance crew built an angled wall. It began at the scoreboard's center field edge and extended over to and joined the center field wall at the 383 foot mark. This structure camouflaged the previously visible exit gate and the flagpole base. Thus, as years passed, I forgot about its existence. It was still there behind this painted wooden fence, but no longer part of the field of play. It remained this way until the park closed in 1970.

One additional feature of the old exit gate remains unanswered for me, though. I am hoping some of you veteran ballpark aficionados will be able to solve the mystery for me. Many of you, I am sure, remember the ground rule that was painted on the right center field wall in Crosley where it attached to the screening of the sun deck. Because the two fences were of a different height, a white vertical line was drawn from the top of the sun deck screening on up to the top of the center field wall. The ground rule on the wall read, "Batted Ball Hitting Wall to Right of White Line on Fly Home Run."

Well, in looking at photographs and scorebooks of Crosley in the 1940s and 1950s, there was a second clarifying ground rule in left center field in front of the aforementioned exit gate. See Ray Medeiros' "Way Back When" postcard of Crosley #828011. For prior to 1957, when the smaller scoreboard existed, there was a short 3-4 foot fence built in front of the exit gate. I am sure its presence served as some sort of safety precaution for the outfielders, perhaps protecting them from running into the flagpole. Scorebooks from the 1940s alluded to this fence and said that any batted ball getting stuck behind it was a ground rule double. Any ball that hit behind it and bounced out freely was in play.

During part of this auxiliary fence's reign (not to be confused with the auxiliary fence that was built atop the existing center field wall in the mid to late 1960s) there was also a white lettered message printed on it. I have seen it from a distance in photographs (e.g. "Way Back When" #828011) but have never been able to make out its wording. My guess is that it was another ground rule definition, but I do not know for sure. This mystery continues to elude me and I thought I would turn to you readers for an answer. Send your answers to The Ballparks Bulletin for inclusion in the next issue. Also, if others of you know of a quirk or characteristic of one of the old parks you can write about, I would love to hear about it.

Gregory Bond, 1905 Buckskin Trail, Temple, TX 76502, inquires about the availability of photos of Colt Stadium, Houston, and Sicks Stadium, Seattle. Not many ever show up for these two short-lived major league parks. Any theories as to why?

The Ballparks Bulletin is published six times a year. Subscriptions are \$11.00 for one year. Single copies \$2.00. Back issues are completely sold out. Classified ads are available at 10¢ a word. Sorry - no display ads.

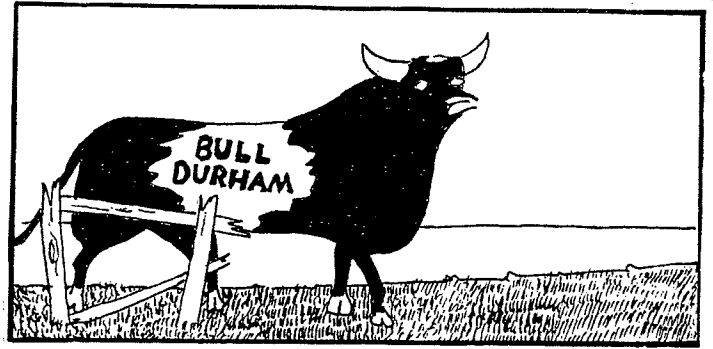
The next issue of The Ballparks Bulletin will appear in your mail box in November. DEADLINE for ads or articles...October 10th. If you submit articles for the Bulletin (printed or typed if at all possible) remember that you are welcome to a free "roughly" forty word classified for contributing. Write or advertise anything...as long as it's about ballparks. THE BALLPARKS BULLETIN, P. O. Box 10, Wauna, WA 98395, Telephone (206) 857-7331.

Editor: Ray Medeiros Publisher: Jeanne Medeiros

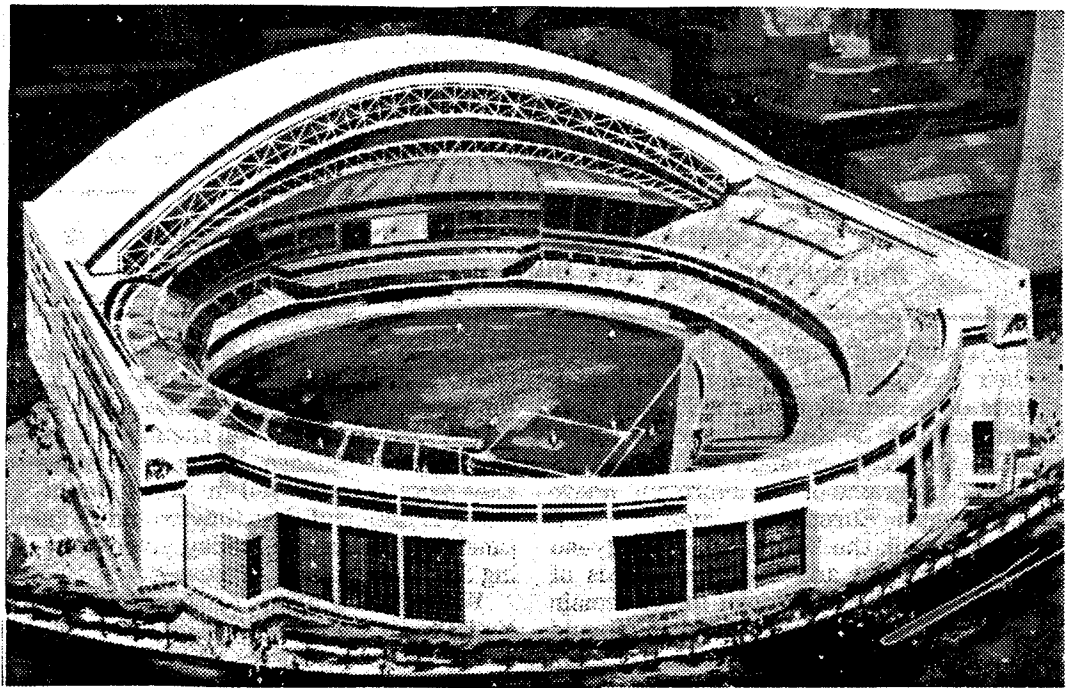
THE BULLPEN

By Gordon Tindall, 910 Maiden Lane,
Decorah, IA 52101

Stadia. A recent trip to Comiskey Park provided me with further evidence that the oldest ballpark is indeed in its final years. The Public Relations Department people told me the new stadium will open in two or three years. It will be built directly across the street in one of the parking lots. If they face the field the opposite way, and I believe that is the intention, home run balls out of the park may land on the railroad tracks. I was also informed that it will have NO DOME and it will be a grass surface. I am glad that the park will remain in Chicago proper but it does seem silly building a stadium next to one that's already there, especially when Comiskey Park never looked better. The field looked in great shape compared to years past, before the better drainage systems. The underside of the roof and second deck have been painted a flat black. Along with the green seats, immaculate playing field and Comiskey Park's famous exploding scoreboard, it provides the fan a great place to watch a ballgame, unless you get behind a pole. Old ballparks are not perfect by any means. Original baseball artwork by Chicago kids still adorns the concession areas. Comiskey Park offers a fine variety of foods, from Chicago hot dogs with all the fixin's to Mexican cuisine. It will be sad for us all when it closes. Hopefully, the new field will retain the name Comiskey Park, and also in honor of the old man retain the symmetrical dimensions which were so important to him. If we're lucky, the stadium will have an angular shape with the arched cutouts in the walls which have become such a trademark of Comiskey Park. Aerial view notecards in color are available at souvenir stands at \$1.25. Maybe you can get one by mail.



An inquiry to the Toronto Bluejays resulted in them sending to me a brochure all about the new dome set to open in a couple of years. It is loaded with all the facts plus six or eight color artist's conceptions of how it will look inside and out, open and closed. It is some kind of ballpark. I kind of hate to admit it, but I like it. It stands tall and majestic to be sure, and the way the roof will open and close is nothing short of incredible. I hope I can go to the opener. Anyone desiring this souvenir of



Sky Dome

the new Dome, billed as "The Dome like no other" should drop the Jays a line and tell them of your interest. Looking forward also to lots of new postcards.

I have yet to see the roof on Olympic Stadium opened. Are they still having trouble with the crane? Or will they just keep it closed and forget about it.

Thanks to all who wrote to the Des Moines Register and the Iowa Cubs. Regrettably, I missed the Sunday paper that came out immediately after the last Ballparks Bulletin. The Sunday paper after that, I did read a rebuttal to Phil Lowry's letter. This fellow talked about the perils of making a long trip only to have a rain-out. Life is full of disappointments but nothing will ever justify building a dome to me. This man also suggested that Iowa weather is much different from San Diego. He must have been a college man to come up with that. At any rate, Phil, he dismissed your feelings as not meaning much because of their origin in Southern California. If he only knew that you have probably been to more ballparks than any of us in every corner of the country. Thank you again to all who wrote to help smash Ken's dream.

Gordie's Dream. Like Ken Grandquist's dream of a 20,000 seat dome for Des Moines baseball, wrestling and the like, I too have a dream. Maybe it is just as far-fetched. However, it cannot be erased. Seeing the 1887 Baker Bowl brought back to life in downtown Dubuque seems a bit unlikely. Nevertheless, it would look great down there amongst the old brick breweries, factories, river, and railroad tracks. Dubuque has done a lot of building renovation in recent years. The architecture of many of the older buildings reminds one of 1890 style ballparks like the early Baker Bowl.

If that's not enough, how about a rebirth of the Federal League. If we start now, maybe we'll be ready by the year 2000. Its time has come. TV ball has become quite boring. Where you used to know every player in the league, now you're lucky if you can remember all the teams. The way TV sports is going now we'll be lucky if we can remember all the different sports. ARENA FOOTBALL!! What will they think of next!

The Federal League 2000 would be a rebirth of traditional baseball featuring teams, and team names from the early days of organized baseball, some of the old classic teams from two-team towns no longer, a foreign team, and even a Negro league team. Rules are simple, no TV! Batters reaching first are not permitted to chat with the first baseman. Removal from the game if detected by umpire. Players talking of stock market automatic one-week suspension. Fat chance of that happening with the players we'll have. I guess that would be the big problem. How to sign the good players with no TV money.

Here goes the league anyway. I almost forgot, no fat mascots, Phillie Fanatic, Rhubarb, Pirate Pete, etc. Box seats will be box seats and not any seat other than bleachers. There'll be good hot dogs!

FEDERAL LEAGUE 2000

National

- Brooklyn Dodgers
- New York Giants
- Buffalo Bisons
- San Juan Nationals
- Indianapolis Indians
- Chicago Whales

American

- St. Louis Browns
- Philadelphia Athletics
- Washington Senators
- Florida ???
- Louisville Colonels
- Chicago American Giants

Both Chicago parks may be available for Federal League play by 2000. The Browns and A's grounds are still mostly vacant. The Senators already have a modern stadium. The Sun-Belts or whatever the Florida team would be called could play all over the state. They should have several domes down there by then to keep the heat out. To resurrect Ebbets Field and the Polo Grounds would be a monumental task indeed. The Bisons will have a brand new stadium, while a second deck can be added to Bush Stadium in Indianapolis. San Juan must have a decent ballpark to house an all-Latin team. What a ballclub that would be.

Lastly, and possibly the sanest. A gathering of ballpark enthusiasts in St. Louis for an old-fashioned Sunday afternoon double-header at the old Sportsman's Park site. Are

there enough able-bodied readers to field two teams for a double dip in the nation's sweat box? Flannel uniforms a must. Games to be held in middle of July. Convention to follow? Cardinals game? Hospital stay? To feel what it was like to play a double-header in St. Louis in July heat in a Pepper Martin flannel seems like a good idea to me. Any takers? Comments? The lot is still vacant except for a boys' club in RF corner. There's still plenty of room for a ball game. As a matter of fact, there is still a diamond there and I would imagine kids use it as a sandlot field. Lots of St. Louis connections as well, thanks to good friend Carl!

Ballparks in the Movies. I'm still searching for the answer to a question I've had for some time in regard to scenes from "The Natural." Where were those Chicago games filmed? The bulk of the movie was filmed in Buffalo at "The Rock" or is it the "Rockpile" - I can never remember. When the Knights went on the road to Chicago, they showed a different park, double-decked. I've heard it was a high school field in Buffalo that was doctored up by Hollywood, and also heard it was Wrigley Field in Los Angeles. I didn't think any of it remained. Anybody got an answer?

Off the top of my head, I can think of the following stadia shown in movies:

?1940's	Angels in the Outfield - Forbes Field
1950	Armored Car Robbery - Wrigley Field - great close-up ground-level of exterior
1957	Fear Strikes Out - Fenway Park
1952 and 1970's	The Kid from Left Field - Offerman Stadium (?) and later San Diego Stadium
1958	Damn Yankees - Griffith Stadium and Wrigley Field, L. A. Pete Gray Story - Engel Stadium Bingo Long's Traveling All-Stars - Luther Williams Field Grayson Stadium
1950	The Natural - Buffalo War Memorial Stadium and ? Jackie Robinson Story - La Palma Park, Anaheim

I can also recall great shots of Ebbets Field in a Red Skelton movie. I cannot remember the name. He pitches against the Dodgers, I believe. Candlestick and the Astrodome have also been used in made for TV movies, probably many others as well. After many years of waiting to see "The Winning Team" with Ronald Reagan I finally managed to catch it on TBS. Can anyone identify the ballpark shown when he first reported to the Phillies? There across the top of the screen was BAKER BOWL. It was not Baker Bowl, but an old-looking grandstand I just couldn't identify. Help!

DISCOVERIES...I did manage to discover a real treat this week -- an envelope of Astrocards from 1965. It was marked Series 4 and contained 6 mint cards of the Astrodome, including 4 very tough-to-find views of restaurants and skybox interiors. They seem to be on everyone's want lists. I'd be interested if anyone has figured out which cards go in what series. All of the cards are slightly larger than standard chromes and all have no numbers. I've been lucky to find 24 of these no number cards, but with the exception of Series 4, don't know what goes where. Vic Pallos, 658 Arden Avenue, Glendale, CA 91202

JOHN THOM, 7737 Westlawn Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045, wonders if readers know of particular instances where size or shape of a ballpark changed the course of a game and altered the history of baseball.

QUESTION...How many minor league ballparks have been built in the last ten years? Leo Leibert, 8822 S. Park Ave., Tacoma, WA 98444

FROM NATE TO NATE

The following is portion of a letter written by Nate Williams of Middleton, Wisconsin, to former major league pitcher, Nate Andrews.

"I received a letter from your daughter, Olivia, yesterday which mentioned you are in the hospital after having major surgery on your legs.

After I got the letter I looked up your career in the baseball encyclopedia. After leaving the Cards you were with Cleveland and then with the Boston Braves in 43, 44 and 45. When I found out that you were with the Braves in 1945 I got out the scorecard that I have kept from the very first game that I went to on July 15, 1945. My Dad took me to that game, it was the second game of a doubleheader that went ten innings and the Braves won 5 to 3. But the amazing thing is the fact that listed on my scorecard is number 25 - Andrews. So while you and I were unaware of all this, we were both at Sportsmans Park in St. Louis that Sunday afternoon, an eight year old kid named Nate, sitting with his Dad in the right field pavilion and a visiting right-hander named Nate for the Boston Braves sitting, probably in the bullpen in the right field corner.

I wish that I could be there to chat with you to share in some of your memories and thoughts about your team mates. I could spend hours listening to you. Those were the days.

But then also these are the days. Remember you have many people still pulling for you.

From a ballfan to a ballplayer,

Nate Williams"

(Editor's note: Nate Andrews enjoys hearing from fans. He resides at Rt 3, Box 271, King, North Carolina 27021

"Where Is It" for July was Pynchon Park, Springfield, Massachusetts. The 1950 photo shows Carl Erskine on the mound pitching for the Montreal Royals in an International League Game. Congratulations to Dick Kaufman for identifying it first. Dick is on a roll, having picked the park correctly two times in a row. Can he make it three?

"Where Is It" for this issue is a multi-purpose stadium which was well-regarded as a baseball park until it was "tinkered" with. Where is it?

STADIAPLEX 1987 - Will you be there for the very first one?



HOTELS, MOTELS, RESTAURANTS AND BALLPARKS

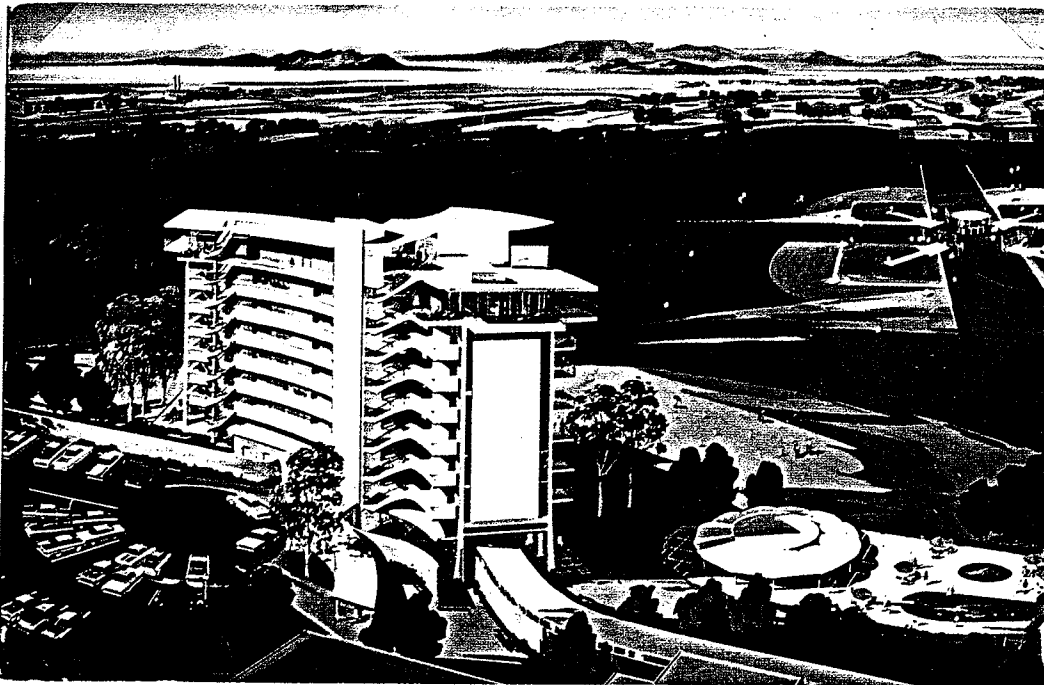
By Ron Menchine, 4301 Northcliff, Glen Arm, MD 21057

It's getting tougher all the time to find good ballpark cards at postcard shows, and for a variety of reasons. First and foremost, there are more people interested than ever before. There are ballpark collectors in virtually every section of the country. Secondly, many dealers are holding on to cards for specific customers. Many of my friends no longer attend west coast shows because one of the California dealers goes around before the shows "glomming" up all the good material and setting it aside for a collector friend. Those who attend the shows find nothing of significance. However, there's still outstanding material available if you're willing to take the time to look.

Ordinarily, when I attend a show I can check the "Baseball", "Sports", or "Stadium" categories in less than an hour. But for me the fun is just beginning. One of my

prime collecting areas is "Business Establishments" (hotels, motels and restaurants), that show a ballpark or are baseball related. Then too, states and cities in a dealer's stock are likely to hold a ballpark gem or two.

Lately I have begun checking all the 10¢ and 25¢ boxes which are generally reserved for chromes, many of which show hotels and motels. I make it a point to read the legend on the back of business establishments in major league cities. It's amazing how often a hotel, motel, or restaurant will mention its close proximity



Casa Grande, Arizona-Exterior View, Ser #69478

to the ballpark. Now I don't expect all ballpark collectors to do the same thing but it's fun to come up with such cards and helps assuage the disappointment of not finding that rare Wilkerson card of the New York parks, Taylor cards of Shibe Park and that elusive Palace of the Fans beauty. And you'll walk out a few hours later with your wallet barely noticing the difference.

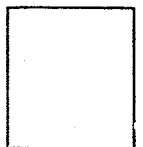
I won't insult your intelligence by calling the following a check list because there are

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS'
FRANCISCO GRANDE MOTOR INN
Casa Grande, Arizona

Furnished in hand-carved mesquite and imported Mexican tile these individually air-conditioned rooms offer luxurious living at the San Francisco Giants Spring Training Headquarters.

Petley

Published by Petley Studios, Phoenix, Arizona



56092

Casa Grande, Arizona-Interior View (Back)

hundreds more such cards out there that mention the local park. But let's refer to it as a starter list. This list only includes regular size chromes, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 5 inches. There are many more oversize cards. Here are some of the regulars: Anaheim - 007 Motel; Atlanta - Quality Motel, McDonough, GA; Boston - Hotel Kenmore, Copley Square Hotel; Cincinnati - Holiday Inn, Sheraton Gibson, Netherland Hilton; Cleveland - Hotel Auditorium, interior and exterior; Detroit - Alamo Hotel, Downtown Travelodge, Holiday Inn; Houston - Towers Motor Hotel, White Horse Motor Hotel, The Warwick (3 different); Kansas City - Howard Johnson's, Holiday Inn; Los Angeles - Downtown Travelodge, Pasadena Travelodge, Arroyo Sojourn Motor Inn; Milwaukee - Motel Continental; Minnesota - Holiday Inn; New York - Stadium Motor Lodge, interior and exterior, Stadium View Inn, The Van Cortlandt Motel, Bronx Park Motel; Oakland - Downtown Travelodge; Pittsburgh - Hilton; San Francisco - Bayside Motor Inn.

All of the above have been acquired within the last year and none have cost more than 25¢. So the next time you attend a show, before you walk away disappointed, spend a few minutes checking the 10¢ and 25¢ boxes. You may find it fun and get hooked like I have. And even better, you may discover some cards that show the stadium instead of just mentioning it. Happy hunting!

PHOENIX SEEKS NEW BALLPARK AND NFL FRANCHISE

By Geoffrey Gonsher, 2421 East Cinnabar Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85028

The city of Phoenix is planning a sports complex. When completed, the stadium will hold 73,000 for football and 47,500 for baseball. The facility will also accommodate other public events, such as concerts, trade shows, the circus, etc.

On May 5, the Mayor and City Council approved a conceptual agreement between the City and Phoenix Stadium Development Group (PSDG). "We believe that this unique public-private partnership for constructing a municipal sports stadium will be a national model in developing sports facilities," said Mayor Terry Goddard. "Approval of this conceptual agreement with PSDG will send the message nationally that the city of Phoenix is taking all the necessary steps to be prepared to build a stadium as soon as a NFL franchise is awarded."

PSDG is a partnership between Martin Stone, owner of the Phoenix Firebirds AAA baseball team, and Metropolitan Structures West, Inc., a national commercial developer with projects in many major cities. Mr. Stone is responsible for attracting a franchise and managing the stadium when completed. Metropolitan will be responsible for the ancillary development.

Specifically, PSDG is responsible for financing, building, and operating the \$135 million stadium, and the City will provide \$7.5 million for stadium-related infrastructure improvements. The City will also advance all sums for the land acquisition, which will be repaid with interest over a period of years. Construction of the stadium, if an NFL franchise is awarded, will entitle PSDG to develop the remainder of the 66 acre site with governmental, commercial, and retail activities.

MORE FROM THE MAILBAG....Tom Weber, 2457-A Highway 63 South, Rochester, MN 55904, writes: Thanks for a great newsletter. I look forward to reading future issues. Here's my two cents worth of opinion on my favorite ballparks: Dodger Stadium - Beats out Royals Stadium only by virtue of the fact it has natural grass and hosts an NL team. Everything about this stadium is first-class -- and it's still only 25 years old. Royals Stadium -- Somewhat antisepic, but there is no more comfortable place to watch a ballgame. The only drawback is the fake grass, but the fountains almost make up for it. And they've resisted the urge to put in an instant replay scoreboard.

STADIUM WHITEWASH AT SAN FRANCISCO NATIONAL CONVENTION
by Steve Cummings, 2001-26th Ave. East, Seattle, WA 98112

I sprinted into the Moscone Center at the pre-view session for Super Collectors on Thursday, July 9th, briefcase full of want lists, like Terry Forster trotting into relief. I had three hours to cover 500 tables in my search for ballpark memorabilia! Quickly eliminating Big Time Hype Card Pushers, I followed my usual aisle-by-aisle reconnaissance plan. I had to get a quick fix on each table and hustled amongst, hawking, "Any ballpark stuff?" I sought postcards, photos, and ephemera. Ray suggested that I take notes of what I found so I was ready for a big story.

The big story was all the calories I burned off in search of ballparks. I saw a total of two tables with common stadium cards. I double-checked the whole next day this time with some beer and a long-suffering Giants fan friend, and we were still batting .004, in spite of my increasing mellowness as he kept bringing me more suds. I got some great stuff, like an 1899 Cincinnati Reds schedule and a 1953 broadside advertising the Redlegs vs. White Sox HOF game at Doubleday Field. The closest I came to a ballpark piece of memorabilia was a Puck Magazine color-tinted litho depicting a series of workers begging off the day because of feigned illness, who all go to the ballpark -- where, of course, they see their cigar-chomping boss sitting in the box seats!

So we decided to do the real thing. I dragged my Giants friend across the East Bay to the Oakland Mausoleum that Friday night for three reasons: (1) I desperately wanted to see the stars, instead of flags and speakers, when a fly ball was struck; (2) I'd read that they had a new hand-operated scoreboard there; and (3) I have a vicarious scouting relationship with McGwire of the A's. I discovered him in Anchorage, Alaska in the summer of 1982 in the Alaska League, but no one knows it except Mark and myself.

We bought seats near Carney Lansford from a scalper and watched Dave Stewart mow down the bull-and-bear Brewers. I didn't see much of the ball game, since my eyes kept darting to the right-center field black scoreboard to check inning by inning progress. You see, the Giants and Astros both had to lose and the Reds had to win -- those were the games that really counted -- the imaginary ones out of town. What a surge when the numbers went black under "HOU" pitching, and the "F" when those banjos lost! People were not exactly delighted upon hearing my cheer when the Giants also lost, and the Little Red Machine won.

At least the A's were winning, and I was estimating Stewart's number of pitches. By the ninth, it was around 150. Sharp single drilled to left, followed by a shot on one hop to Canseco. Sveum the batter. I muttered to my Giants friend, "Sparky would lift Stewart now. Right at this instant!" So LaRussa trots out grimly, is reassured by Stewart, and Sveum hits a hanging floater into the right field bleachers. This time LaRussa walks more slowly and does something arcane with his left hand. Stewart leaves, proud but hangdog, as a Finley-sized crowd of 14,000 applauds his efforts. If LaRussa had listened to me, Oakland would have whitewashed the Brewers.

It all didn't really matter, since McGwire only hit a single and I watched the scoreboard the whole time. It was magical keeping the pulse of the country's sprawling contests in my mind all night, as one "F" after another slid into its definitive slot, while I calculated the meaning of each finale: games behind for 22 teams.

We lost the car on the way out, since the stadium is so terribly round and we came out the wrong side because of beers that kept appearing. So we burned off more calories walking around the outside of the Coliseum. Forster and I are supposed to stay away from donuts!

Detroit, Michigan's WXYT-AM talk-show host Al Gardner said his listeners love the charm of the existing 52,806 seat stadium. "Not one single caller agreed with the concept of a dome," he said. "One hundred percent said no dome."

FRANK-IN-SENSE

by Mike Frank, 100 Arden St., New York, NY 10040

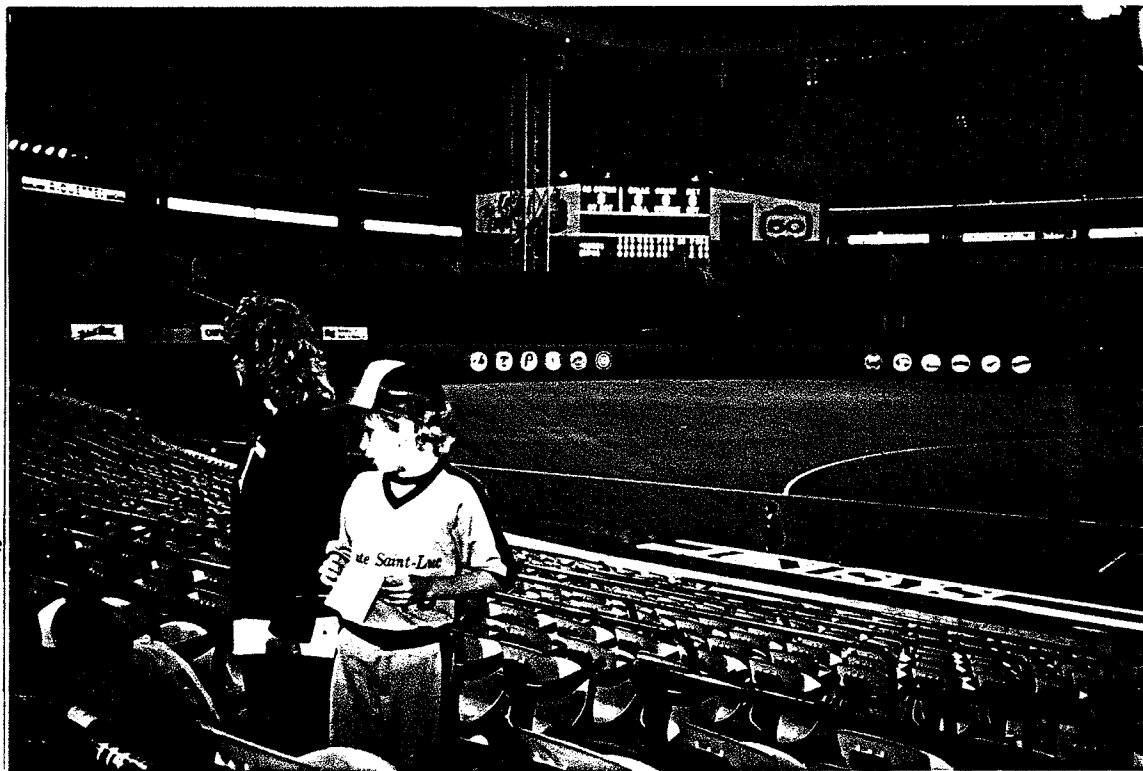
Montreal. Small for a major league ballfield, Jarry Parc is in a solidly English-speaking neighborhood north of downtown Montreal, a good walk from the metro (subway). To the west of the stadium is a cutaway with below-street-level railroad tracks; the stadium is otherwise surrounded by a neighborhood park including a pool (just beyond the stadium), Little League fields, and open spaces. I saw the Expos play the Cubs on a typically cold May (1973) night. The smallness of the place lent a certain degree of intimacy. Jarry Parc is still up; in later visits to Montreal, I saw it in use as a police rifle range, and for a large company's picnic.

Olympic Stadium is surrounded by more buildings and activity than similar concrete circles in, say, Pittsburgh or Cincinnati, so it doesn't dominate the skyline. Between the metro and the stadium are the offices for every organization dealing with sports (mostly amateur) or the outdoors in Quebec. Around the east side are the (indoor) Olympic pool and velodrome, and gift shop/tour headquarters, in modernistic, semi-attached buildings with sweeping lines. The offices of the Expos and Alouettes (recently folded) are on the street level at the south side; the main walk around the stadium is above street level.

I saw the Expos play the Astros in late 1977. At that time the roof hung well over the seats but the central part was open, something like Texas Stadium, but rounder. The track with chalked lanes ran all around the inside of the stadium. The fans were much further from the action than in Jarry.

I like to see fellow expansion teams square off against each other. When the Padres made their last 1986 visit to Montreal, one game was postponed due to a fire in the tower, and the double-header was almost postponed due to a strike. Nothing like that happened when I went July 3, 1987. The roof, a soft rose color with white splotches, was in place, the tower not visible from inside the park. In many ways, it was typical of modern stadia: team emblems on outfield wall, artificial turf field, computerized scoreboard, good lights.

French is the number one language, English close second. The Padres lineup was shown with the positions in English, the Expos in French (e.g., AC = arrêt-court = shortstop). Anyone dealing with the public speaks both languages. Prices, even when translated into American dollars, were high. Some sort of band was playing after the game near the tunnel to the subway. Wonder if they would have played had the Expos lost.



SABR REPORT

by Bob Bluthardt, San Angelo, TX

If you think that the classic ballparks had unusual dimensions, etc., then check out the sizes and shapes of 1880s ballparks. Try playing a baseball game using 1880s rules and dimensions. We did at Fort Concho, San Angelo, Texas, using a small section of the parade ground, and the park took on a most distinctive shape. As the "dead ball" was in effect and no one could hit the ball with any consistency anyway, we had few extra base hits, including one "off the CF wall" for a double. A 22¢ SASE will get you more details on some of our 1880s games.

The Braves Field project has taken a slight turn for the better. Our original contact no longer works for Boston University. Dick Johnson is working on a new fellow and Dick says that BU has agreed that a plaque is a fine idea. Now we want to arrange the related events. If you do not have a copy of the March 1987 proposal of events/activities and would like one, a SASE with 39¢ will get you a copy.

Phil Bess continues to garner attention in the media with the stadium design project for a new Chicago baseball park. Recent articles include coverage in the Chicago Tribune, Sun-Times, and Wall Street Journal. Copies available for SASE of 39¢. Phil has made contact with some members of the Sports Authority responsible for the new stadium, and he will be going before the committee soon in a public hearing to promote the project's proposals.

Both Sports Illustrated and The Sporting News had ballparks related stories recently. A recent cover of SI had Wrigley Field with a great story on the scoreboard in left field; The Sporting News had a piece (with cover illustration) of the fan rivalry between the Cubs and Sox with attendance figures of the past twenty years.

Dick Miller is researching a major work on baseball as seen and experienced by the fan. Issues like fan conveniences, concessions, transportation to parks, how fans follow the game away from the park, "nutty" or ardent fans, etc. Write Dick at 2770 Observatory Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45208.

Yankee Stadium, Fifty Years of Drama is available again from ATC Sport Books, 321 East Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802. Most SABR members got a catalog from them recently. The book retails for \$15 and has tremendous photos of the park from the 1920s to 1970s. An excellent resource for that park's history. Catalog #43X6.

Send for These: Braves Field article from The Baseball Magazine of October 1915. Toronto Dome promotional brochure. A 39¢ SASE gets one, 73¢ for both.

That's all for now. Anyone interested in learning more about the SABR Ballparks Committee may write to me at 244 N. Oxford Drive, San Angelo, TX 76901.

From Mike Cervenka, 1907 Pampass, Cortland, IL 60112

July's TBB mentioned an article in Boston Magazine about Fenway Park. I have written to them and received a nice letter in return. Now for the bad news -- since that particular issue is not current but considered a back issue, the cost is \$4.50! I have sent away, but have not as yet received my copy. I may be wrong, but this price may be prohibitive to many collectors; but I feel that fellow collectors should enjoy this hobby to the fullest and any help we can give each other only strengthens the hobby. I'd be glad to forward copies of this article on Fenway Park to any readers who would be interested. (Remember to send something for Mike's expenses.)

The Scoreboard

Classified advertising: Ten cents a word

I am trying to locate information about pre-1960 Municipal Stadium where the Phoenix Giants played. The New York Giants also held spring training in this old, wooden stadium. I recently viewed a new video entitled "The Giants, A Tale of Two Cities," which had numerous scenes from the stadium. The video also had a few scenes from the last Giants game at the Polo Grounds. If you have any information about this stadium, I would appreciate knowing about it. Geoffrey E. Gonsler, Sports Complex Coordinator, 225 East Adams, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

FOR SALE: Photo of Polo Grounds, LF grandstand, as cover page of Harper's Weekly, June 1, 1912. Nice to frame, \$15. Wooden cigar box, 13" x 9", black with ballpark photos decoupage on top and bottom of lid, inside bottom of box, and on removable tray that fits inside box...Comiskey, Forbes, Cleveland and Baker Bowl(?). Very nice, unique, \$25. Mike Shannon, 6224 Colledgevue Place, Cincinnati, OH 45224.

STADIAPEX 1987 is coming soon. It will be the first convention ever sponsored exclusively by and for stadium memorabilia collectors. STADIAPEX is where to meet your stadium postcard collector friends and do some swapping. Remember the date-- Friday, November 27 at Shawnee Lancaster Resort Hotel, Route 272, Lancaster, PA, 2:00 P.M. until? For more details contact Mike Walsh, 11 Pinewood Drive, Levittown, PA 19054. Phone: 215-547-2929.

WANTED - Non-returnable ballpark photo donations for SABR National Convention display representing Ballpark Committee. Personal, non-commercial photos only. 3½" x 5" or smaller. Slides accepted. NO POSTCARDS. Limit five photos per address. Subject matter - ballpark only. NO PLAYERS NOR ACTION PHOTOS. Credit will be given. Send photos to Joe Favano, 21 Roosevelt Avenue, Old Greenwich, CT 06870.

FOREVER FENWAY: 75 Years of Red Sox Baseball - 73 minutes of Red Sox history including the great moments, the fabulous players, and best of all, the classic ballpark. It's all there on a VHS format videocassette you can enjoy anytime, over and over again. Just the thing for a Red Sox fan - a special treat for a ballparks fan. Price \$19.95 plus \$3.50 postage and handling. By mail: "Forever Fenway", Fenway Park, Boston, MA 02215. By phone: 1-800-328-5727, Dept. 21.

GREEN CATHEDRALS - 160 pages crammed with 7 years of research on details of the geographic history of baseball, including the vital statistics for every ballpark ever used for an official major league or Negro league game since the birth of the National Association on May 4, 1871 at Hamilton Fld, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Also history of each franchise. \$8.00. Phil Lowry, 10650 Porto Ct., San Diego, CA 92124. Tel: 619-279-0719. A SABR publication.

PRIME WANTS - Please help me find these Prime Wants: Cincinnati PL 1768; Cleveland Municipal Stadium B&W 501; Shibe Park PL no# titled, "Players Bench Shibe Park." I'll buy or trade. Ron Menchine, 4301 Northcliff, Glen Arm, MD 21057.

FREE PRICELIST - Baseball stadium postcards for sale. Most are 25¢ plus postage. Just arrived - 2 Metrodome: 20-C, 19-CO, 25¢ each. Please include postage on all orders. J&J Cards, Box 243, Cortland, IL 60112.

BRUCE KUKLICK, who is writing a book on Shibe Park, and also making a movie about it, would like all the help he can get. He'd like to know the whereabouts of photographs and, in particular, movies of the park and its neighborhood. In addition, he'd like to hear from you if you have first memories, interesting anecdotes, or anything that puts into words what the park meant to you. Write to him at: Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

FOR SALE - Twenty page checklist includes all known postcards of spring training sites. Available at \$1.50 per copy from Elias Dudash, 20 Holly Forest Rd., Mt. Pocono, PA 18344.

CONNIE MACK STADIUM - full, unused ticket from last game to trade for a postcard of a ball-park or similar ticket. Mike Walsh, 11 Pinewood Dr., Levittown PA 19054 (215)547-2929.

WANTED - Any Cincinnati Reds postcards of ballparks and players. Comical baseball post-cards and older Reds material too. Steve Cummings, 2001-26th Ave., East, Seattle, WA 98112.

FOR SALE - Great American Ballparks - write for list. WANTED: Anaheim Stadium giant size postcards, KC Colonial Motel, Fenway #861, Comiskey Park #78. Gordon Tindall, 910 Maiden Lane, Decorah, IA 52101.

EBBETS FIELD - Large scale model in full color and painstaking detail by T. E. Carlson. For free flyer describing the kit, send SASE. For 8" x 10" color glossy of the model sent \$3.00. Anderson Enterprises, 114 Third Street, Fruitport, MI 49415.

FOR SALE - Original full color drawing of "The Green Monster" at Boston's Fenway Park. Available in three styles: Postcard 4 1/4" x 6" - \$4.95 a dozen; Notecard 10" x 7" - \$9.95 a dozen (folded envelopes included); and Poster 15" x 24" - \$4.95 each. Send orders and make check payable to Kevin Hubbard, P.O. Box 501, Cambridge, MA 02140. Add \$1.50 P&H.

ALL NEW 1987 STADIUM POSTCARDS - E = Exterior, I = Interior. Lawrence-Dumont Stadium, Wichita, KS (E5); Eck Stadium, Wichita State Univ., (E1); Desert Sun Stadium, Yuma, AZ (E2 & I5); Ray Kroc Complex (Padres), Yuma, AZ (E3); Mariners Complex, Tempe, AZ (I3); Gene Autry Park (Angels Complex), Mesa, AZ (I2); Tempe Diablo Stadium, Tempe, AZ (E2); Phoenix Municipal Stadium, Phoenix, AZ (E2); Astros Complex, Kissimmee, FL (E1); Huggins-Stengel Field, St. Petersburg, FL (I1); Charlotte County Stadium, FL (Texas Rangers) (E5 & I6); Texas Rangers Complex, Ft. Charlotte, FL (E3); Payne Park, Sarasota, FL (E1); Dowdy Field, Hollywood, FL (Yankees AAA camp) (E1 & I3); Joker Marchant Stadium, Lakeland, FL (E1); Chain O'Lakes Park, Winter Haven, FL (E1); Al Lang Stadium, St. Petersburg, FL (E1); Miami Stadium (from press box) (I2); Fiscalini Field, San Bernardino, (California League) (E2 & I5); San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium (E4 & I2); Ray Winder Field, Little Rock, AR (E5); Fairgrounds Field, Shreveport, LA (E5 & I2); Municipal Stadium, Hagerstown, MD (E3 & I7); Bob Hoffman Stadium, York, PA (E3 & I3); Stumpf Field, Lancaster, PA (E2 & I2); Reading Municipal Memorial Stadium (E2 & I5); Riverside Stadium, Harrisburg, PA (E3 & I6); Prince William County Stadium, VA (I5); Sun Devil Stadium, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ (E1); Arizona State Univ. Student Activities Center (E1); Bayfront Center, St. Petersburg, FL (has hosted Eastern Hockey League and CBA) (E1); West Palm Beach Auditorium (E1); Miami Dolphins Stadium, under construction, March 87 (E3); Orlando Stadium (E1); Independence Stadium, Shreveport, LA (E2); War Memorial Stadium, Little Rock, AR (E2); Louisiana Downs Horse Racetrack, Bossier City, LA (E4). Price 50¢ each plus approximate postage. Have many other stadium and player postcards. Send SASE for list. Mel Bailey, 2886 Sandberg Street, Riverside, CA 92506.

AVAILABLE WHILE THEY LAST - Two brand new postcards of Joe W. Davis Stadium in Huntsville, Alabama. Great color! A SASE and one dollar gets 'em, and if you collect college football stadiums, ask for my free list. Roger Duncan, 5855 E. Pioneer, Apache Junction, AZ 85219

WANTED - SCRANTON, PA - Early colored postcard of Scranton's Athletic Park with baseball game in progress. Taken down third base line from outfield, with crowd standing on right and grandstand in distance. \$25.00 in good condition. Jack Hiddlestone, 777 S. Abington Rd., Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

25TH ANNIVERSARY PIN SET AVAILABLE. The Dodgers and UNOCAL co-sponsored six commemorative pin dates during the 25th anniversary season of Dodger Stadium. The six pin dates were among the most popular on the home schedule. The complete set is available for \$30.00 plus \$3.00 mailing and handling by writing to: FMI, c/o Dodger Stadium, 1000 Elysian Park Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90012.