



Biographical Research Committee Monthly Report
September 1992

Charles Ingraham Found

For the third consecutive month, Richard Topf captures the *Find of the Month* award for nailing the one-game 1883 Baltimore catcher, Charles Ingraham. This time Rich did most of the research himself.

Joe Simenic provided the clue from the files of Tom Shea that Ingraham did not hail from Youngstown, Ohio, but was, in fact, a Chicago boy. Ingraham had played in Youngstown. Tom had him born in April of 1860 in Illinois. He had married a girl named Irene. Rich went to his local Mormon library and was able to find the Chicago death of a Charles W. Ingraham. Although the obituary did not mention baseball, Rich visited the cemetery and discovered Charles buried next to his wife, Irene. His birth was listed on his headstone as April 8, 1860. Good research!

New Members

Please welcome a new committee member, Mike DeMazza, 5 Stein Lane, Falls Village, Connecticut 06031. Mike's code number will be M5. Also welcome Jeff Lightly, 1105 Gratis Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50315. Jeff's code number will be L3.

I'll Kill You A Million Times

Last month, I listed Charles Peter "Greek" George as being alive although we had listed him as dying in 1975. Interestingly enough, I was looking over the April 1980 biographical report that Cliff Kachline had put out and he had listed then that George was actually alive even though

he had been listed as dead. We can't seem to keep this guy alive. The man who died in 1975 was a minor leaguer.

Look Where We Are

Remember a few months ago when we published a list of ballplayers convicted of murder? Dick Thompson noticed it appearing in the *Boston Herald* the other day (uncredited, of course). Isn't it amazing where these things turn up?

A New Brother Act

I received a letter the other day from a SABR member who reported (and the HOF questionnaire confirmed) that Leon Brown (1976) and Curtis Brown (1973) are brothers. Please update your brothers lists.

A Baseball Age or Not?

Ever since he made his major league debut, Luis Aquino has been listed in our records with a birth date of May 19, 1964. However, he has been listed by major league baseball with a birth date of May 19, 1965. I called the Royals and they list the 1965 date. If he was born in 1965, he signed his first professional contract with the Blue Jays at the age of 16. While that is not unheard of for Latin players, it does make you wonder which is correct. Can anyone provide documentation for either date?

Last Month's Mystery

Bill Weiss sent me a copy of the questionnaire that he received on Mickey Fuentes. Fuentes listed his birthday as May 10, 1948 and his place of birth as Loiza, Puerto Rico. Interestingly enough, when Fuentes broke in, his birth date was listed as May 10, 1949 and we list it as May 10, 1946. Does anyone have a birth certificate?

A Biography Idea?

Lefty Blasco had an interesting idea. Lefty suggested that if I had trouble getting player biographies for our *Biography of the Month* feature, that we could do biographies of various members of the committee. Does anybody have any thoughts on that? It does provide an opportunity for those of you who have been waiting for *The Richard Topp Story* to be made into a movie to get a sneak preview here.

A Great Resource

I have found a lady in Salt Lake City who is willing (for a fee, of course) to do research at the Mormon Library. She sent me a list of the sources she has and it is quite extensive. I didn't know a lot of it existed. For example, she has state death indexes for California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York City, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, and Washington. For eight dollars, it is worth it to consult these indexes. Does anyone have someone they want looked up?

Birthday List

We have several nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in October. One of them, Jimmie Reese, can now add another year to the three he added in April, giving him a four year gain for the year. Quite possibly a new major league record. Notice also that this month we made Edward Gill a year older, vaulting him into third place in the list of oldest living major leaguers. Anyway, please wish the following a very happy birthday:

Oct 1	Jimmie Reese	91
Oct 10	Homer Peel	90
Oct 20	James Uchrinscko	92
Oct 22	Isaac Kahdot	91

Hold On To That House

Did you ever see something in the encyclopedia that just bothered you for some reason? I have always felt that way about Charles F. Householder and Charles W. Householder. Both were born in 1856 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. We list Charles W. with a death date of December 26, 1908 in Harrisburg. We do not list a death for Charles F.

In *Sporting Life* of January 2, 1909, Charles C. Householder is given an obituary, in which it

is mentioned that he died in Harrisburg December 26 at the age of 52 and that he pitched in Chicago, Springfield, and Providence. However, Charles F. Householder is the one that played in Chicago. Lee Allen listed Charles F. Householder as dying October 10, 1884, when he fell off a roof. (I guess he didn't hold on to the house very well.) Somewhere along the way, this death disappeared from the books and I don't know why. Can anybody sort out who's who and which Charles Householder did what and died when? Meanwhile, we'll all hope and pray that Charles C. Householder is not a third player.

Coming Attractions

Be sure and stay tuned for next month's newsletter when we list the 1992 rookies. If anyone has any interesting tidbits on any of these players, please send it along.

The Scoreboard

	IN	OUT	PCT
Total Complete Names	13710	73	99.470
Total Complete Births	12969	814	94.094
Total Complete Deaths	6819	496	49.474
Total Assumed Alive	6468		46.927
Total Bats	12371	1311	90.418
Total Throws	12645	1037	92.421
Total Heights	12544	1138	91.683
Total Weights	12468	1214	91.127
Total Debut Dates	13783	0	100.000
Total Questionnaires	9906	3877	71.871
Total Completion			91.9520

Bertram Elmer "Bert" Daniels

By Cappy Gagnon

B: October 31, 1882, Danville, Illinois
D: June 6, 1958, Cedar Grove, New Jersey
BRTR Height: 5-09 Weight: 180

For most baseball players, being hit by a pitch is either a random occurrence or the result of a specific one-time incident (e.g. retaliation). There are a small number of players who have had a knack for gaining a base by receiving a pitched ball on some (usually well-padded) part of their body. Bert Daniels ranks second only to Ron Hunt in number of HBP per game.

Bert was able to attract pitched balls at every level of baseball he played. Because of the number of aliases he used, it was difficult to locate Daniels in a minor league game. Invariably, he was the player with the HBP in the box score.

On ten different occasions in the majors, Bert was hit by a pitch twice during the same day. He holds the American League record for most times being hit by pitches in a doubleheader. On June 20, 1913, against the Senators, Bert was hit twice in the first game (Gallia and Engel) and once in the second game (Long Tom Hughes). The Senators were his favorites in this category (18 pokes).

Bert stood in there against the hardest throwers. The two pitchers who nailed him the most were Walter Johnson (five) and Smokey Joe Wood (four). An oddity among the pitchers who hit Bert is that the final American League plunking was from Jean Dubuc, former Notre Dame teammate, and his final National League bruise was administered by another Notre Dame man, Ed Reulbach.

Bert's rookie year in the majors was with the 1910 Highlanders (Yankees). The Highlanders were led by pitcher Russ Ford (26-6) and controversial Hal Chase, who took over the managing from George Stallings near the end of the season. This was the era of the stolen base and the New Yorkers in each league were among the fastest and most aggressive on the paths. Though only a substitute player, Bert led his team in steals, as they led the American League. The team total of 288 is the ninth best of all time and is still the Yankee record. The following year, they had their second highest team total. Daniels led the team in steals over the two-year period.

Daniels was scouted and signed by Art Irwin, who had a long career as a major league player and manager. He compared Daniels to Ty Cobb. "I've seen a lot of young players, but he is far and away the best of them all." Irwin may have adjusted this analysis if he had known that Bert was already 27 years old and a veteran of 10 years of college and semi-pro football.

Bert may hold an unusual "amateur" baseball record: most different aliases (five) used in minor league baseball while playing six years of varsity sports at three colleges. According to interviews he later gave, he played semi-pro baseball and football from 1901 through 1904. In 1905 he had a chance to play ball with Albany in the New York State League. He stayed there until the beginning of the season when he jumped to Woodstock, Ontario. He helped win the pennant for Woodstock in the Canadian League. Then some Villanova collegians told him he could go there for college and, if he made good in baseball and football, there wouldn't be any expense. He said he took the deal because "at the same time I could secure an education."

In 1906 he went to Jackson (Mich.) as an outfielder, under the name of Daniels. "I had no idea of changing my name then, because I was proud of it." Fred Crolius, his football and baseball coach at Villanova, convinced Bert to join his Lancaster (Pa.) club in the outlaw Tri-State League. Bert was blacklisted as an "outlaw."

Crolius decided Bert should use the name "Walsh." "We were sitting in a cafe and happened to

see that name in a big headline. That was my first alias. After that it came easy. But all the while I was thinking of getting an education." He always equated playing sports to having a part-time job to underwrite the cost of his education. He went back to Villanova in the fall of 1906 and played football and baseball.

In 1907 he went to Kane (Pa.). He gave the name of "Thomas Barrett", a schoolmate from Joliet. The league folded in July, so he went to Waterbury (Conn.). Orator Jim O'Rourke discovered who he was and got him banished from the league. Bert had no money and did not want to get in trouble with the National Commission, so he hopped a freight train and landed in Manchester, (Conn.). He used the name of "Tom Bothwick." Jean Dubuc was a teammate of his. At the end of the season he went back to Villanova for the fall semester.

During the semester break he transferred to Notre Dame because, "They needed a first baseman. They paid everything for me. They had a dandy baseball cage there with a dirt floor. That's one reason why I went to Notre Dame." Dubuc may have also participated in the recruitment.

For the summer of 1908 Bert went to Allentown (Pa.) and took the name "Bert Berger." After the 1909 baseball season at Notre Dame he was forced to leave because of "professionalism." That summer he played for Altoona (Pa.) under the name "Bert Ayres." For the fall of 1909 he attended Bucknell, his third college, and played football and baseball, before being signed by Irwin.

After four years in New York, Bert was released to Baltimore. On April 22, 1914, he was playing right field when a young pitcher named George Herman Ruth made his professional debut. According to Ernie Lanigan in Baseball Cyclopedia there were only 200 fans present, owing to the competition from the Federal League. Both players were 2 for 4 at the plate as Babe defeated Buffalo 6-0.

In The Cincinnati Reds, Lee Allen reported that Garry Herrmann, owner of the Reds had a working agreement with Baltimore which permitted him to pick two players from the Oriole roster. Herrmann sent a crony named Harry Stevens to scout the team and to recommend the two players. Stevens was apparently not impressed with either Ruth or Ernie Shore; he came away with outfielder George Twombly and shortstop Claude Derrick. Each had a brief and forgettable stay. Ironically, Bert also ended up with the Reds before the season ended.

Bert spent the remainder of his life working as a college baseball coach and for the New York Central railroad designing terminals. He died of a heart attack on June 8, 1958 in Cedar Grove, New Jersey at the age of 75.

New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

1914 Coyne, Martin Albert

No New Information

(H1)

New Information Received:

✓1960 Chacon y Rodriguez, Elio 60-62	D: Apr 24 1992	(H1)
	<u>Caracas, Venezuela</u>	
✓1962 Davis, Ronald Everette 62-69 N	D: Sep 5 1992	(H1)
	<u>Houston, Texas</u>	
✓1942 Gilbert, Andrew 42-46 N	B: Bradenville, Pennsylvania	(H1)
	D: Aug 29 1992	(BL)
	<u>Davis, California</u>	
✓1919 Gill, Edward James	B: Aug 7 1895	(H1)
✓1931 Herman, William Jennings Bryan N	D: Sep 5 1992	(C1)
	<u>West Palm Beach, Florida</u>	
✓1883 Ingraham, Charles	Name: Charles W. Ingraham	(T1)
	B: Apr 8 1860	
	<u>Illinois</u>	
	D: Feb 18 1906	
	<u>Chicago, Illinois</u>	
✓1974 Lopez y Rios, Aurelio Alejandro 74-87 N	D: Sep 22 1992	(H1)
	<u>Matehuala, Mexico</u>	
✓1944 Lyon, Russell Mayo 44 N	D: Dec 24 1975	(S3)
	<u>Charleston, South Carolina</u>	
✓1925 Marquis, James Milburn 25 N	D: Aug 5 1992	(H1)
	<u>Jackson, California</u>	
✓1931 Masters, Walter Thomas 31-39-9 N	D: Jul 10 1992	(H1)
✓1927 Moore, Randolph Edward 27-37 N	B: Jun 21 1906	(H1)
	D: Jun 12 1992	
	<u>Mount Pleasant, Texas</u>	
1973 Ozark, Daniel Leonard (MGR) N	Real Name: Daniel Leonard Orzechowski	(H1)
✓1936 Parker, Francis James 36 N	D: Jul 27 1992	(H7)
	<u>Houston, Texas</u>	
✓1889 Reilly, Charles Thomas	Real name: Charles Thomas O'Reilly	(HF)
1884 Ryan, John A.	Debut: Jun 11 1884	(S1)
✓1943 Staller, George Walborn 43 N	D: Jul 3 1992	(H1)
	<u>Harrisburg, Pennsylvania</u>	
✓1902 Varney, Lawrence Delano N	Real Name: Lawrence Delano de Varney	(H1)
1884 Walker, Walter S.	D: Feb 28 1922	(M4)
1890 Welch, James J.	Name: James T. Welch	(S1)