

IV. Baseball

IV-1 Agens, Harry. "Ten Years of the Designated Hitter," *Baseball Research Journal*, (1982), 26-31.

A persisting imbalance between hitting and pitching is one of the challenging realities of major league baseball. To cope with a serious hitting famine in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the American League unilaterally adopted its designated hitter rule in 1973. A survey of the first ten years of this rule showed that while still controversial, the rule accomplished its goal. Useful statistical records are provided for assaying the pros and cons of the innovation. Based on primary and secondary sources: no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-2 Ahrens, Arthur R. "The Chicago National League Champions of 1876," *Baseball Research Journal*, (1982), 84-89.

The first season of the major league game under the newly-formed National League is surveyed with insights into rules, styles of play, stadia, players, equipment, umpires, and sportswriters. The Chicago White Stockings dominated play with a .781 winning percentage. Based on primary and secondary sources: no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-3 Blaisdell, Lowell. "Mystery and Tragedy: The O'Connell-Dolan Scandal," *Baseball Research Journal*, (1982), 44-48.

Baseball's seamy side of fixed games is reviewed; the "Black Sox" scandal of 1920 is shown to be only the most notorious of a cycle of attempted fixes occurring between 1917-1924. The last episode of this cycle featured an alleged bribery offer which resulted in the banning of two New York Giants, Jimmy O'Connell and Cozy Dolan, by Commissioner Landis. In reviewing the circumstances of this 1924 scandal,

Blaisdell is persuaded that scapegoating and concealment probably obstructed justice. Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-4 Cole, Robert. "Baseball Cartoon Memories," *Baseball Research Journal* (1983), 90-99.

The 1940-1964 era was the heyday of baseball cartooning, a time when the baseball cartoons of Willard Mullin, Lou Darvas, and Leo O'Mealia graced the covers of *The Sporting News* and contributed mightily to the game's popularity. Although the baseball cartooning enterprise has a much longer history, this article concentrates mainly on the works of the above-named artists. Based on primary and secondary sources with illustrations; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-5 Eradi, John. "Hostile Side of Ty Cobb Still Lingers in Memory," *Baseball Digest*, 44, No. 8 (August 1985), 66-72.

Even though Ty Cobb is considered to have been the greatest ballplayer of all time, many of his biographers and fellow baseball associates claimed that he never matured as a human being. Cobb, who played in the American League from 1905 to 1928, was the most feared player to wear a uniform. He terrorized the baseball diamond with his aggressive win-at-any-costs play. These vivid recollections of the "Georgia Peach," are brought to life by many of his contemporaries. Cobb would "show up" his fellow ballplayers, even the veterans. As a result, Cobb was not well-liked. His aggressive attitude was exhibited off the ball field as well. His business transactions of stocks and bonds with Coca-Cola and General Motors proved fruitful. Some insight was also directed toward the development of early 20th century baseball. Based on interviews; one photograph; no notes.

— Dennis R. Maher

IV-6 Gold, Eddie. "Baseball Movies," *Baseball Research Journal*, (1983). 126-129.

After the first baseball movie, 'Casey At The Bat,' appeared in 1899, between 1913-1976 thirty more baseball films followed. Most were artistic and box office flops, but the author singled out "Bang The Drum Slowly," "Pride of the Yankees," and "It Happens Every Spring" as the best of the lot. A list of the films with the starring actors is a welcome addition. Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-7 Gluck, Leonard Jay. "The Team That Couldn't 'Wait 'Til Next Year,' The Burlington Athletics," *Vermont History*, 45, No. 3 (Summer 1977), 145-154.

Until the early 1950s, New England was one of the nation's strongest minor league areas, but the advent of televised major league baseball cut into attendance very drastically. By 1955, when the Burlington Athletics were organized in the Class C Provincial League, they were New England's only minor league team. The Athletics seemed destined for success since the parent club's new owners, having just relocated in Kansas City from Philadelphia, were investing heavily in the farm system and the team had competent leadership. The Athletics made the playoffs and had the third highest attendance in the league. However, half of the league's six teams dropped out

after the season, thereby ending the only experiment in Burlington with professional baseball. Based on primary and secondary works; 39 notes; 4 illustrations; 2 tables.

— Glenn Uminowicz

IV-8 Humber, William and Eves, Raja. "The Baseball Tradition in Western Canada," *Baseball Research Journal*, (1982) 137-141.

Baseball enthusiasm among Canada's western province fans dates back to the 1840s, but the completion of railroad lines in the 1870s made for organized leagues and intercity competition. By the 1880s, teams from Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan vied in various leagues. By 1909, professional teams were competing in the Western Canada League. Sketchy highlights of minor league baseball events from 1904-1950 are provided. Based on primary and secondary sources: no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-9 Kleinknecht, Merl. "Integration of Baseball After World War II," *Baseball Research Journal*, (1983). 100- 105.

Before the end of the long, segregated era of 1899-1946, two blacks played in the majors, and some 60 played in the minors. Notwithstanding Jackie Robinson's celebrated 1946 debut which ended the segregated era, the pace of black acceptance was slow thereafter. By 1948 only a dozen minor leagues had admitted blacks and the acceptance of blacks by the majors was grudgingly slow until the 1950s. Not until 1959 did all major teams have one or more blacks on their playing roster. Based on primary and secondary sources with charts indicating dates of black player debuts in various leagues; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-10 Lerch, Steve. "The Life Satisfaction of Retired Ballplayers," *Baseball Research Journal*, (1982). 39-43.

The difficult transition from an all-consuming, but generally brief, career as a major league ballplayer to retirement and new careers is a seldom researched area. Using a number of factors, but emphasizing life satisfaction, the author polled over 500 ex-major league players in 1978 and found that most were satisfied with their post-baseball lives. Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-11 LinWeber, Ralph E. "Baseball Guides Galore." *Baseball Research Journal*, (1982) 161-164.

Baseball historians and statisticians will welcome this brief survey of the major record books that existed since 1860. Such guides supplied a continuing flow of "official" and non-official records of annual player performances. *Beadle's Dime Base Ball Guide* (1860-1881) was the first of many. In 1877 *Spalding's Official Base Ball Guide* entered the field followed in 1883 by the *Reach Guide*. These two guides were the official organs of the orthodox major leagues until 1942. Thereafter, other publica-

tions. such as The *Sporting News* guides predominated. Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-12 Overfield, Joseph M. “A Memorable Year—1884—A Memorable Performer, Jim Galvin,” *Baseball Research Journal*, (1982), 80-83.

Arguably the 1884 campaign was the most dramatic of all the 19th century major league baseball races. With three major leagues contending, awesome pitching and hitting performances occurred. Among National League feats was Buffalo pitcher Jim Galvin’s pitching heroics against Detroit in a four-game series. Pitching all four games, future Hall of Famer Galvin allowed no earned runs, walked none, and yielded only 12 hits in winning 3 and losing 1. Other memorable performances of that year are also recounted. Based on primary sources; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-13 Thompson, Stephen I. “The American Indian in the Major Leagues.” *Baseball Research Journal*, (1983), 1-7.

Although American Indians never faced the draconian exclusion visited upon black players in major league baseball, they were victims of racism. One manifestation of racism was the nickname ‘Chief’ that was bestowed on nearly every American Indian player. The essay briefly describes the careers of every prominent American Indian player from the unfortunate Lou Sockalexis to the highly successful Allie Reynolds. Based on primary and secondary sources: no notes.

— David Voigt

IV-14 Voigt, David Q, “Fie on Figure Filberts: Some Crimes against Clio,” *Baseball Research Journal*, (1983), 32-38.

The thesis of this article was that rampant “numbers gaming” by contemporary baseball statisticians poses a major threat to the enterprise of major league baseball history. A number of instances of statisticians attempting to impose present-day standards of record-keeping upon past baseball eras were described. Baseball historians are challenged to set the historical record straight by debunking wrongheaded notions of temporocentrism and certainty which were the indulgence of statistical zealots. Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes.

— Thomas Jable

IV-15 Von Bornies, Philip. “Requiem for a Gladiator,” *Baseball Research Journal*, (1983), 147-156.

Louis Rogers (Pete) Browning played 13 seasons (1882-1894) in the majors and compiled a lifetime .342 batting average, the tenth highest in the annals of the major league game. In 1884, it was Browning’s request for a custom bat that inspired Bud Hillerich to launch his famous Louisville bat factory. It was defensive ineptitude that kept Browning from achieving a place in the Hall of Fame. Moreover, physical disor-

ders and chronic alcoholism plagued Browning's career and his brief, tragic life ended at age 44 in 1905. Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes.

— David Voigt

IV- 16 Voigt. David Q, "From Chadwick to Chipmonks," *Journal of American Culture*, 7, No. 3 (Fall 1984), 31-37.

Henry Chadwick, sometimes called the "father of American baseball," most assuredly was "the father to baseball writing." Many of his innovations persist in present day sports reporting. The "tortoises" reported the sport during the first half of the 20th Century. These writers ranged from the Grantland Rice "Gee Whiz" school and the "Aw Nuts" Westbrook Pegler reporters to the "one the Button" advocates of stereotyped game descriptions. Romantics, fun-loving pranksters, and high livers were in this group as their contributions ranged from brilliant writing to romanticized cliches. With the expansion era of the 1950s came the "chipmonks" who, to compete with television, moved to in-depth explorations of the game, the players, and the organization. The chipmonks set out to de-mythologize baseball, often resulting in conflict between writers and players. Based on secondary sources; 43 notes.

— R. T. Bowen