

The National Pastime

No. 22

A REVIEW OF BASEBALL HISTORY



My Father, Lance Richbourg

by Lance Richbourg, Jr.

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The National Pastime A Review Of Baseball History 17

Richard Bailey



The National Pastime A Review Of Baseball History 17:

The National Pastime: A Review of Baseball History Edited by John Thorn, 2014-12 Back in 1982 the Society for American Baseball Research was still young barely a decade past its founding and had grown to some 1600 members One of their number a defrocked English Lit guy poking around in journalism suggested to the board of directors that SABR and the world might benefit from a publication along the lines of American Heritage only about baseball Before long that member John Thorn found himself at the helm of the newly christened periodical The National Pastime A Review of Baseball History The very first issue included names we think of today as luminaries in the field of baseball history and analysis Harold Seymour Lawrence S Ritter Pete Palmer David Voigt Bob Broeg and more Over the years the significance of that flagship issue has only grown while the inventory has dwindled SABR is pleased to present a replica edition here with the addition of a new preface by John Thorn now the official historian of Major League Baseball This issue includes Nate Colbert s Unknown RBI Record by Bob Carroll Nineteenth Century Baseball Deserves Equal Time by Art Ahrens Dandy at Third Ray Dandridge by John B Holway How Fast Was Cool Papa Bell by Jim Bankes The Field of Play by David Sanders Ladies and Gentlemen Presenting Marty McHale by Lawrence S Ritter Remembrance of Summers Past by Bob Broeg The Merkle Blunder A Kaleidoscopic View by G H Fleming A Tale of Two Sluggers Roger Maris and Hack Wilson by Don Nelson Baseball s Misbegottens Expansion Era Managers by David Voigt The Early Years A Gallery by Mark Rucker and Lew Lipset The Egyptian and the Greyhounds by Lew Lipset All the Record Books Are Wrong by Frank J Williams Goose Goslin s Induction Day by Lawrence S Ritter The Great New York Team of 1927 and It Wasn t the Yankees by Fred Stein Modern Times A Portfolio by Stuart Leeds Books Before Baseball A Personal History by Harold Seymour Ph D Ballparks A Quiz by Bob Bluthardt Runs and Wins by Pete Palmer Baltimore the Eastern Shore and More by Al Kermisch David and Goliath Figures by Ted DiTullio Double Joe Dwyer A Life in the Bushes by Gerald Tomlinson

Baseball Barnstorming and Exhibition Games, 1901-1962 Thomas Barthel, 2014-12-09 Until 1947 professional ball players were paid only from opening day to season s end Even during the season a lot of their expenses came out of their own pockets Even the best paid players had trouble making ends meet One answer to their money woes was barnstorming tours out of season Cities lacking their own major league teams were happy to host big league players for such events as well as for special exhibition games whose proceeds sometimes went to local charities Here is a history of barnstorming and exhibition games from 1901 when both of the two current major leagues began operating through 1962 when a team led by Willie Mays was unsuccessful in its attempt at a tour signaling an end to true barnstorming Decade by decade it covers the teams the games and the players for a detailed look at how barnstorming and exhibition brought big league baseball to the backyard ballparks of America

Baseball Edward J. Rielly, 2005-01-01 Baseball An Encyclopedia of Popular Culture looks at American society through the prism of its favorite pastime discussing not only the game itself but a variety of topics with significance beyond the diamond

Its 269 entries which vary in length from two hundred to twenty five hundred words explore the game's intersection with race gender art drug abuse entertainment business gambling movies and the shift from rural to urban society Filled with larger than life characters baseball legends sports facts and firsts important milestones and observations about daily life and popular culture this encyclopedia is not only an excellent reference source but also an enjoyable book to browse **The Los Angeles Angels of the Pacific Coast League** Richard Beverage,2011-10-10 Long before the Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants brought the major leagues to California in 1958 professional baseball thrived on the West Coast in the form of the Pacific Coast League PCL Minor only in name the league featured intense rivalries a huge fan base and such future Hall of Famers as Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams The Los Angeles Angels won 14 PCL pennants and stood as the league's premier franchise This year by year chronicle of the Los Angeles Angels from 1903 to 1957 includes an overview of the PCL and a wealth of statistical information including an all time player roster a list of important team records lineups and attendance information Based in part on personal interviews with former Angels players this history offers a nostalgic look back at the PCL and the early days of baseball in the West **Baseball in Europe** Josh Chetwynd,2019-10-18 With the success of The Netherlands in the World Baseball Classic baseball in Europe has begun to receive more attention But few realize just how far back the sport's history stretches on the continent Baseball has been played in Europe since the 1870s and in several countries the players and devoted followers have included royalty Hall of Famers from the U S major leagues and captains of industry Featuring approximately 80 new interviews and 70 new photos and images this second edition builds extensively on the previous edition's country by country histories of more than 40 European nations Also included are two new appendices on European players signed by MLB organizations and European countries performance in worldwide rankings **Chasing Baseball** Dorothy Seymour Mills,2010-03-08 For more than five decades pioneering researcher Dorothy Seymour Mills has studied and written about baseball's past With this groundbreaking book she turns her attention to the historians stat hounds and many thousands of not so casual fans whose fascination with the game and its history like her own defies easy explanation As Mills demonstrates baseball elicits a passion and inspires a slightly off kilter obsessive behavior that is only slightly less interesting than the people who indulge it **Of Tribes and Tribulations** James E. Odenkirk,2015-05-23 Over their first four decades in the American League the Cleveland Indians were known more for great players than consistently great play Its rosters filled with all time greats like Cy Young Nap Lajoie Elmer Flick Tris Speaker and the ill fated Addie Joss and Ray Chapman Cleveland often found itself in the thick of the race but with 1920 the lone exception seemed always to finish a game or two back in the final standings In the 10 years that followed the end of World War II however the franchise turned the corner Led by owner and world class showman Bill Veeck the boy manager Lou Boudreau ace Bob Feller and the barrier busting Larry Doby Cleveland charged up the standings finishing in the first division every season but one and winning it all in 1948 This meticulously researched history covers the Indians first six decades from their minor league

origins at the end of the 19th century to the dismantling of the 1954 World Series club. It is a story of unforgettable players, frustrated hopes, and two glorious victories that fed a city's unwavering devotion to its team. **The Sizzler** Rick Huhn, 2013-09-25

Gorgeous George Sisler, a left-handed first baseman, began his major league baseball career in 1915 with the St. Louis Browns. During his sixteen years in the majors, he played with such baseball luminaries as Ty Cobb, who once called Sisler the nearest thing to a perfect ballplayer, Babe Ruth, and Rogers Hornsby. He was considered by these stars of the sport to be their equal. Branch Rickey, one of baseball's foremost innovators and talent scouts, once said that in 1922 Sisler was the greatest player that ever lived. During his illustrious career, he was a .340 hitter, twice achieving the rare feat of hitting more than 400. His 257 hits in 1920 is still the record for the modern era. Considered by many to be one of the game's most skillful first basemen, he was the first at his position to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Yet unlike many of his peers who became household names, Sisler has faded from baseball's collective consciousness. Now in *The Sizzler*, this legendary player without a legend gets the treatment he deserves. Rick Huhn presents the story of one of baseball's least appreciated players and studies why his status became so diminished. Huhn argues that the answer lies somewhere amid the tenor of Sisler's times, his own character and demeanor, the kinds of individuals who are chosen as our sports heroes, and the complex definition of fame itself. In a society obsessed with exposing the underbellies of its heroes, Sisler's lack of a dark side may explain why less has been written about him than others. Although Sisler was a shy, serious sort who often shunned publicity, his story is filled with its own share of controversy and drama, from a lengthy struggle among major league moguls for his contractual rights, a battle that helped change the structure of organized baseball forever, to a job-threatening eye disorder he developed during the peak of his career and popularity. By including excerpts from Sisler's unpublished memoir as well as references to the national and international events that took place during his heyday, Huhn reveals the full picture of this family man who overcame great obstacles, stood on high principles, and left his mark on a game he affected in a positive way for fifty-eight years.

Conspiracy of Silence Chris Lamb, 2021-10-29

The campaign to desegregate baseball was one of the most important civil rights stories of the 1930s and 1940s. But most of white America knew nothing about this story because mainstream newspapers said little about the color line and still less about the efforts to end it. Even today, as far as most Americans know, the integration of baseball revolved around Branch Rickey's signing of Jackie Robinson to the Brooklyn Dodgers organization in 1945. This book shows how Rickey's move was critical, as it may have been, came after more than a decade of work by Black and left-leaning journalists to desegregate the game. Drawing on hundreds of newspaper articles and interviews with journalists, Chris Lamb reveals how differently Black and white newspapers and Black and white America viewed racial equality. Between 1933 and 1945, Black newspapers and the communist *Daily Worker* published hundreds of articles and editorials calling for an end to baseball's color line, while white mainstream sportswriters perpetuated the color line by participating in what their Black counterparts called a conspiracy of silence. The alternative

presses efforts to end baseball's color line chronicled for the first time in *Conspiracy of Silence* constitute one of the great untold stories of baseball and the civil rights movement

Death at the Ballpark Robert M. Gorman, David Weeks, 2015-12-23 When we think of baseball we think of sunny days and leisurely outings at the ballpark rarely do thoughts of death come to mind Yet during the game's history hundreds of players coaches and spectators have died while playing or watching the National Pastime In its second edition this ground breaking study provides the known details for 150 years of game related deaths identifies contributing factors and discusses resulting changes to game rules protective equipment crowd control and stadium structures and grounds Topics covered include pitched and batted ball fatalities weather and field condition accidents structural failures fatalities from violent or risky behavior and deaths from natural causes

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