

Negro League Baseball

Historical Timeline

- 1855** The first recorded baseball game between two black teams occurred on October 24, 1855. According to the Newark Daily Mercury, the St. John's team was beating the Union Clubs by a score of 10-2 at the end of two innings when the game was rained out.
- 1858** The National Association of Baseball Players is formed. The organization included both black and white players.
- 1860** The Colored Union Club of New York was defeated by a team from Weeksville (NY) at Elysian Fields (Hoboken, NJ) by a score of 11-0 on September 28, 1860.
- 1865** Black baseball grows in popularity in the United States. Organized black teams that played in 1865 include: Albany Bachelors, Baltimore Hannibals, Camden Blue Skies, Chicago Uniques, Detroit Rilatos, Harrisburg Monrovia, Jamaica (NY) Monitors, Philadelphia Excelsiors, Philadelphia Pythians and Washington Mutuals.
- 1867** The National Association of Baseball Players votes to ban black players from their teams.
- 1867** The Philadelphia Excelsiors meet the Brooklyn Uniques in what is publicized as a "Colored Championship Game." Philadelphia wins the game by a score of 42-35. This is the first "colored championship" game of record.
- 1868** The Philadelphia Pythians play the first recorded interracial game when they beat the City Items (white team) by a score of 27-17.
- 1869** Philadelphia Pythians go undefeated for the second straight year.
- 1869** The Pythians (Philadelphia, PA) defeat the Uniques (Chicago, IL) by a score of 9-1 in a game that had been billed as the "World Colored Championship."
- 1871** The Philadelphia Pythians apply for membership in the National Association of Professional Baseball Players. Their application is rejected.
- 1871** Octavius Catto (Owner and Manager) of the Philadelphia Pythians is killed in race riots in that city.
- 1878** John "Bud" Fowler becomes the first black professional black ball player to play on an integrated team when he signs with Chelsea, Massachusetts in April of 1878. One month latter he pitched for the Lynn Live Oaks of the International Association as they defeat Tommy Bond and the Boston Nationals by a score of 2-1.
- 1881** Moses "Fleetwood" Walker and his brother Weldy join the Oberlin College varsity baseball team.
- 1883** Moses "Fleetwood" Walker signs with the Toledo Blue Stockings of the Northwestern League.

- 1883** Cap Anson, star player of the Chicago White Stockings, refuses to play in an exhibition game against the Toledo Blue Stockings because they have a black player (Moses Fleetwood Walker).
- 1884** Moses "Fleetwood" Walker becomes the first African American ball player to play in the Major Leagues when the Toledo Blue Stockings move to the American Association.
- 1885** The Cuban Giants are formed by Frank P. Thompson, head waiter of the Argyle Hotel in Babylon (NY). The Cuban Giants are considered the first professional black baseball team.
- 1886** Southern League of Colored Base Ballists is formed. This is the first professional all black league in baseball history. The league was made up of ten teams: Charleston Fultons, Florida Clippers (Jacksonville, FL), Georgia Champions of Atlanta, Jacksonville Athletics, Jacksonville Macedonians, Memphis Eclipses, Memphis Eureka's, New Orleans Unions, Savannah Broads and Savannah Lafayettes. The league folded during its inaugural season.
- 1886** George Stovey signs with Jersey City of the Eastern league. Stovey a pitcher goes 16-15 for the season with a 1.13 ERA.
- 1886** Frank Grant starts the season with Meriden of the Eastern League and is batting .316 when he gets promoted to Buffalo of the International League. Grant finished the International League season with a .344 batting average (third highest in the league).
- 1886** John "Bud" Fowler hits .309 for Topeka of the Western League and leads the league in triples with 12.
- 1887** League of Colored Baseball Clubs is formed. Teams that played in the league included Baltimore Lord Baltimores, Boston Resolutes, Cincinnati Browns, Louisville Falls City, New York Gorhams, Philadelphia Pythians, Pittsburgh Keystones, and Capital City Club of Washington, D.C. The league folded 13 games into its first season.
- 1887** George Stovey establishes himself as one of the first black stars to play in organized ball. Stovey, pitcher for the Newark Little Giants of the Eastern League, compiled the following statistics for the 1887 season: 48 games pitched, 424 innings, 33-14 record (led the league in wins) and 2.46 ERA.
- 1887** Frank Grant hits .353 with a league leading 11 homeruns for Buffalo of the International League.
- 1887** On July 14th Cap Anson, player-manager of the Chicago Blue Stockings announced that he would not play in that days game Newark if George Stovey played. Newark announced that Stovey was "sick" and would not be in uniform. This event is credited with doing more to start segregation than anything else.
- 1887** The International League bans future contracts with black players.
- 1887** Future Negro League baseball historian Sol White hits .371 for Wheeling of the Ohio State League.
- 1887-1888** Cuban Giants barnstorm all over the Northeast promoting themselves as the "Colored Champions."

- 1888** Frank Grant (Buffalo) continues to dominate International League pitching by hitting .346 for the season
- 1888** Frank Grant is dropped from the Buffalo team when he demands \$ 250 per month for the 1889 season.
- 1889** The Cuban Giants change their name to the New York Gorhams. The team is actually based out of Philadelphia.
- 1889** Both the New York Gorhams and the Trenton Cuban Giants join the Middle States League. The Trenton Cuban Giants win the Middle States League championship with a 57-16 (.780) record. The New York Gorham (45-28 .616) finish in third place behind Harrisburg (61-20 .753). The league title is taken away from the Cuban Giants when three Giants wins are disallowed.
- 1889** The New York Gorhams beat the Trenton Cuban Giants take both games of a two game series to claim the “Colored Championship.”
- 1890** Colored Monarchs of York (formerly the Cuban Giants) play in the “all white” Eastern Interstate League and win the league championship. Colored Monarchs finished the season with a record of 40-16 (.714) in league play and 88-27 (.765) in all games played.
- 1890** The International League bans the signing of African-American ball players.
- 1891** Frank Grant, George Stovey and Sol White play for the New York Big Gorhams. According Sol White the Big Gorhams finished the season with a record of 100-4 (.962). Sol White called the Big Gorhams team the best black ball club of the decade.
- 1892-1893** Black baseball clubs have a hard time financially surviving. Most clubs including the Big Gorhams and the Cuban Giants disband.
- 1893** Cuban Giants are reformed and along with the Chicago Unions are two of the most dominate black baseball teams in the country.
- 1895-1898** Page Fence Giants dominate black baseball in America. The Page Fence Giants were formed by John “Bud” Fowler and Grant “Homerun” Johnson. They were based in Adrian, Michigan and travel the country in their own Pullman railroad car.
- 1895** John “Bud” Fowler and George “Lefty” Wilson leaves the Page Fence Giants and sign with Adrian of the “white Michigan State League. Wilson goes 29-4 on the mound for the season and Fowler hits .331 in his last year of professional baseball..
- 1896** The Plessey vs Ferguson case requiring “separate but equal public facilities for blacks” is upheld by the United States Supreme Court. The ruling firmly establishes the practice of racial segregation throughout the United States.
- 1896** The Page Fence Giants and Cuban Giants play a fifteen game “championship” series for the title of the best colored baseball team in the world. The Page Fence Giants won the series ten games to five for the Cuban Giants.

- 1896** Chicago Unions turn professional.
- 1897** Page Fence Giants are reputed to have won 82 consecutive ball games in route to a season record of 125-12.
- 1898** The Acme Colored Giants of Celeron (NY) are the last all black team of the 19th century to play in an otherwise “all white” league. The Colored Giants played in the Iron and Oil League.
- 1899** Many of the stars (Charlie Grant, Homerun Johnson, Chappie Johnson and Bill Binga) of the defunct Page Fence Giants sign with the Columbia Giants of Chicago.
- 1899** Cuban X Giants (champions of the East) played the Unions of Chicago (champions of the West). Cubans defeat the Unions to claim the “Colored Championship” by winning nine of the fourteen games.
- 1899** Bill Galloway formerly of the Cuban Giants played 20 games for Woodstock of the Canadian League. Galloway is considered as the last black player to play in “white” organized ball until 1946.
- 1900** There are at least five high-level professional black teams traveling the country. They were the Genuine Cuban Giants, Cuban X Giants, Chicago Unions, Columbia Giants and Norfolk Red Stockings.
- 1900** Even though no play off was held, both the Cuban X Giants and “Genuine” Cuban Giants claim the title as “Colored Champions.”
- 1900** The Cuban X Giants become the first black team to travel to the Caribbean when they go to Cuba to play a 15 game barnstorming schedule. The Cuban X Giants had a season record of 110-21 in the United States. They went 12-3 during their Cuban tour.
- 1900** The Cuban League opens it’s doors to black players.
- 1901** Frank Leland combines the Chicago Unions and the Columbia Giants teams to form the Chicago Union Giants.
- 1901** John McGraw, Baltimore Orioles manager, attempts to sign black player Charlie Grant to play in the American League by trying to pass him off as a full-blooded Cherokee Indian by the name of “Chief Tokahoma.”
- 1901** Andrew “Rube” Foster joins the Chicago Union Giants s for his first season in professional baseball.
- 1902** Newspaper men Harry Smith (Philadelphia Tribune) and Walter Schlichter (Philadelphia Item) form the Philadelphia Giants. Sol White is named the team’s manager
- 1903** Dan McClellan of the Philadelphia Giants becomes the first black pitcher to throw a perfect game when he beat Penn Park Athletic Club of York (Tri State League) on July 7, 1903.
- 1903** The Algona Brownies (IA) beat the Chicago Union Giants for the “Western Championship.”

- 1903** Rube Foster defects to the Cuban X Giants. Foster claims to had 44 straight wins during the season.
- 1903** Dan McClellan of the Cuban X Giants pitches a perfect game against York of the Tri-State League.
- 1903** The Cuban X Giants with Rube Foster defeat the Philadelphia Giants five games to two claim the title of “Colored World Champions.” Rube Foster goes 4-0 in the series.
- 1904** The Philadelphia Giants raid the Cuban X Giants and sign Rube Foster and Charlie Grant.
- 1904** The Philadelphia Giants finish the season with a record of 95-41-6 (.699) and are declared the “Colored World Champions” after defeating the Cuban X giants in a three game playoff series.
- 1905** Andrew “Rube” Foster of the Philadelphia Giants reportedly posts a 51-4 record for the 1905 season.
- 1905** The Chicago Union Giants change their name to the Leland Giants after their owner Frank Leland. They finish the season with a record of 112-20. The Leland Giants reportedly had a 48 game win streak during the season.
- 1905** The Philadelphia Royal Giants finish the season with a record of 134-21-3 (.848).
- 1905** The Philadelphia Giants claim their second “Colored World Championship” in a row. They defeat the Brooklyn Royal Giants three straight games in the playoff series.
- 1905** Rube Foster of the Philadelphia Giants posts a reported record of 51-4 for the season. During the season Foster also pitched a no-hitter against a team from Camden (NJ).
- 1905** The Cuban X Giants defeat the Brooklyn Dodgers (Major League) in Atlantic City by a score of 7-2. This is believed to be the first victory by a black team over a “white” Major League squad.
- 1906** The Philadelphia Giants defeat the Cuban X Giants to claim the “Negro Championship Cup.” Pete Hill leads the Giants attack with 28 hits in 62 at bats for a .452 batting average. Rube Foster (Giants) picks up three wins. The Giants are awarded the International League of Independent Professional Baseball Clubs championship trophy.
- 1906** The Philadelphia Giants finish the season with an unofficial record of 134-21(.866).
- 1907** Rube Foster returns to the Chicago Leland Giants as their player-manager. The Leland Giants post a record of 110-10.
- 1907** Sol White publishes the History of Colored Baseball.
- 1908** The “Colored World Championship” series between the Philadelphia Giants and the Chicago Leland Giants with Rube Foster ends in a tie with each team winning three games.

- 1909** Newspaper reports credit Jose Mendez of the barnstorming Cuban Stars with a pitching record of 44-2 for the 1909 season.
- 1909** The Philadelphia Giants defeat the Chicago Leland Giants three games to one to claim the “Colored World Championship.”
- 1910** The Leland Giants are virtually unbeatable as they post a won-loss record of 123-6 (.953) for the 1910 season.
- 1910** Rube Foster (Chicago Leland Giants) issues a challenge to any team that would play them for the title of “Colored World Champions.” The challenge included a \$ 3,000.00 side bet. Foster received no takers and the Leland Giants became self- proclaimed “World Champions.”
- 1911** The Chicago American Giants are founded by Andrew “Rube” Foster.
- 1911** At the end of the regular season, the New York Age newspaper called for a play-off series between the New York Lincoln Giants, Brooklyn Royal Giants, New York Giants (Major League Baseball World Series Champions) and the New York Yankees (American League). No response to the New York Age’s challenge was ever received.
- 1912** Dick “Cannonball” Redding of the Lincoln Giants pitched a perfect game against the Cherokee Indians barnstorming team in their game that was played at Olympic Field. Redding struck out 14 in his 1-0 victory.
- 1912** Dick “Cannonball” Redding of the Lincoln Giants pitched what is believed to be the first no-hitter between two Negro League teams. Redding no-hit the Jose Mendez and the Cuban Stars 1-0 in Atlantic City.
- 1912** Newspaper accounts credit Dick “Cannonball” Redding (Lincoln Giants) with a 43-12 record for the 1912 season. The article also says that Redding pitched seven no-hitters during the season.
- 1912** The New York Lincoln Giants behind the pitching of Smoky Joe Williams shut out a combined Major League team of New York Giants and New York Yankees by a score of 6-0.
- 1913** In one 15 game series that was played in 20 days versus the Chicago American Giants, Smoky Joe Williams of the New York Lincoln Giants pitched in 11 games and had a record of won-loss record of 7-2.
- 1913** Smoky Joe Williams and the New York Lincoln Giants defeat Grover Cleveland Alexander and the Philadelphia Phillies (National League) by a score of 9-2.
- 1914** On August 26th, Frank “The Red Ant” Wickware (Chicago American Giants) pitched a no-hitter against the Indianapolis ABC’s. After walking the lead off batter of the game, he was perfect the rest of the game and recorded a 1-0 victory.
- 1914** Smoky Joe Williams pitched no-hitter against Portland of the Pacific Coast League.

- 1914** Smoky Joe Williams of the Chicago American Giants is credited with a record of 41-3 for the 1914 season.
- 1915** J.L. Wilkinson's All Nations barnstorming team plays an independent schedule throughout the Midwest.
- 1915** Dizzy Dismukes (Indianapolis ABC's) pitches a no-hitter versus the Chicago Giants.
- 1915** Dick Whitworth of the Chicago American Giants pitches a 4-0 no-hitter against the Chicago Giants.
- 1916** The Duval Giants from Jacksonville (FL) move north to Atlantic City (NJ) and become the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants.
- 1916** Jimmy Claxton is signed by the Oakland Oaks of the Pacific Coast League. When a friend of Claxton's revealed his African American and Native American heritage, Claxton is released by the team.
- 1916** Bill Gatewood of the St. Louis Giants pitches a no-hitter against the Cuban Stars.
- 1916** The Indianapolis ABCs defeat the Chicago American Giants in a Western Playoff Series by winning four games to one for the American Giants. Indianapolis was led by Dizzy Dismukes who won three games.
- 1917** The 25th Infantry Regiment (Buffalo Soldiers) baseball team known as the "wreckers" gain national attention. The team featured Wilber "Bullet" Rogan, Oscar "Heavy" Johnson, Lemuel Hawkins, Bob Fagin and Walter "Dobie" Moore. All five of these players would go on to star in the Negro National League.
- 1917** The Chicago American Giants defeat the New York Lincoln Giants four games to three to claim the "World Colored Championship."
- 1918** Numerous Negro League stars (Oscar Charleston, Dizzy Dismukes, Dave Malarcher, Dick Redding, Spottswood Poles, Louis Santop, Frank Wickware, Smoky Joe Williams etc.) are drafted into the military during World War I.
- 1918** Bernardo Baro (Cuban Stars) pitches a 11-0 no-hitter versus the Indianapolis ABC's.
- 1919** Smoky Joe Williams (New York Lincoln Giants) and Dick "Cannonball" Redding (Atlantic City Bacharach Giants) both just back from World War I faced off against one another at Olympic Park in Harlem. Redding pitched a two-hitter and Williams pitched a no-hitter winning the game 1-0 when the winning run scored in the bottom of the 9th with one out. Williams called this the "greatest" game he ever pitched.
- 1920** J.L. Wilkinson forms the Kansas City Monarchs.
- 1920** Andrew "Rube" Foster, owner of the Chicago American Giants, organizes the Negro National League (NNL). The teams that played in the Negro National League during its inaugural season were the Chicago American Giants, Chicago Giants, Cuban Stars, Dayton Marcos, Detroit Stars, Indianapolis ABCs, Kansas City Monarchs and St. Louis Stars. The Negro National League proves to be the first successful black professional league.

- 1920** The Negro Southern League begins play. Cities fielding teams for the inaugural season of the league were Atlanta, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Memphis, Nashville and New Orleans.
- 1920** On July 17th the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants played the New York Lincoln Giants at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn (New York). This was the first game in which two Negro League teams played each other in a Major League stadium.
- 1920** Hilldale defeats the Brooklyn Royal Giants in a four game series two games to zero (the first two games of the series ended in a tie) for Brooklyn to claim the “Eastern Colored Championship.”
- 1920** The Chicago American Giants under Rube Foster win the Negro National League title.
- 1920** Knoxville the winner of the Negro Southern League with a record of 55-21 (.724) challenged the Chicago American Giants to a Negro League World Series, but no series was ever held.
- 1921** John Beckwith becomes the first player (black or white) to hit a homerun out of Redland Field (home of the Cincinnati Reds).
- 1921** The Eastern Colored Championship Playoff Series ended with the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants and Hilldale each team winning two games. A tie breaker was never played.
- 1921** The Chicago American Giants win their second straight Negro National League title.
- 1921** The Chicago American Giants played a double championship series against the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants and then Hilldale. The American Giants defeated the Bacharach Giants two games to one and then fell to Hilldale three games to two.
- 1921** The Kansas City Monarchs win both ends of doubleheader vs the Babe Ruth All Stars.
- 1922** Western League of Colored Baseball Clubs is formed. Cities represented in the league include Independence, Oklahoma City, Omaha, St. Joseph, Topeka, Tulsa and Wichita. They began operation on June 4, 1922 and folds by the end of the year.
- 1922** Hilldale pitcher Phil Cockrell threw a no-hitter against the Chicago American Giants on August 19th at Schorling Park in Chicago. Hilldale won the game 5-0.
- 1922** The Chicago American Giants win their third straight Negro National League championship.
- 1922** The Chicago American Giants defeat the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants three games to two in a “Colored Championship” Series.
- 1923** Ed Bolden (Hilldale) and Nat Strong (Brooklyn Royal Giants) head up a group of owners that form the Eastern Colored League (ECL). Teams that played in the ECL during its first season were the Bacharach Giants, Baltimore Black Sox, Brooklyn Royal Giants, Cuban Stars (East), Hilldale and Lincoln Giants.
- 1923** Hilldale wins the Eastern Colored League’s first championship.

- 1923** Jose Mendez (five innings) and Bullet Rogan (four innings) combine for a no-hitter against the Milwaukee Bears.
- 1923** The Kansas City Monarchs win their first Negro National League championship. The Monarchs would go on to win Negro National League titles in 1924, 1925, 1926 and 1929.
- 1923** Kenesaw “Mountain” Landis, the Commissioner of Baseball, bans off-season games between Major League teams and black ball clubs. The result was that Major League players formed their own “all star” teams to barnstorm against black teams.
- 1924** In an twelve inning exhibition game, Smoky Joe Williams of the Brooklyn Royal Giants struck out twenty-five (25) Brooklyn Bushwick batters. He struck out 11 of the first 12 batters he faced. The game was played on March 30th at Dexter Park in the Queens (NY).
- 1924** John Henry “Pop” Lloyd of the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants gets eleven (11) consecutive hits over one three game stretch.
- 1924** The first Negro League World Series is played. The Kansas City Monarchs who won the Negro National League championship played Hilldale who were the champions of the Eastern Colored League. The Kansas City Monarchs won the Negro League World Series by winning five games to four for Hilldale.
- 1925** Hilldale dominated the Kansas City Monarchs by winning five of the six games played to give them the Negro League World Series title.
- 1926** Rube Foster (President and Founder of the Negro National League) is arrested for displaying violent behavior. A Chicago judge rules him to be insane and commits him to an asylum in Kankakee (IL) where he would remain until his death in December of 1930.
- 1926** Willie Foster, ace pitcher for the Chicago American Giants (Negro National League) reportedly has a 26 game winning streak during the season.
- 1926** The Kansas City Monarchs loose to the Chicago American Giants in the Negro National League Playoff Series. The American Giants won five games and lost four.
- 1926** Claude “Red” Grier pitches 27 consecutive scoreless innings with out giving up a run. During this string he shut out the Cuban Stars, Brooklyn Royal Giants and Ocean City Riverias.
- 1926** Claude “Red” Grier of the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants pitches the first no-hitter in Negro League World history. Grier defeated the Chicago American Giants by a score of 10-0.
- 1926** The Chicago American Giants (Negro National League) defeated the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants (Eastern Colored League) to claim the Negro League World Series title.
- 1927** The Chicago American Giants defeated the Birmingham Black Barons in the Negro National League Playoff Series then defeated the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants in the Negro League World Series.

- 1927** Lonnie Goodwin, promoter and owner of the Philadelphia Royal Giants, takes the Royals Giants on a tour of Japan after the conclusion of the California Winter League season. This was the first time a Negro league team had ever traveled to the Far East. The Royal Giants went 23-0-1 on their tour of Japan.
- 1927** Luther Farrell of the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants pitches a no-hitter against the Chicago American Giants in game five of the Negro League World Series. Atlantic City won the game 3-2. It is important to note that Farrell only pitched seven innings, as the game was called due to darkness.
- 1927** The Chicago American Giants defeated the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants five games to three (one game ended in a tie) to claim the Negro League World Series title.
- 1928** The Eastern Colored League (ECL) folds before mid season.
- 1928** With no eastern league, teams like the Atlantic City Bacharach Giants, Baltimore Black Sox, Hilldale and New York Lincoln Giants play an independent schedule for the season.
- 1928** The St. Louis Stars win the Playoff Series with the Chicago American Giants and are crowned champions of the Negro National League.
- 1929** The American Negro League (ANL) is formed, but folds after the first season. The Atlantic City Bacharach Giants, Baltimore Black Sox, Cuban Stars (East), Hilldale, Homestead Grays and New York Lincoln Giants make up the teams that played in the league. The Baltimore Black Sox are crowned the champions at the end of the season.
- 1929** Quincy J. Gilmore (secretary of the Kansas City Monarchs) forms the Texas-Oklahoma-Louisiana League. Gilmore serves as the President of the league. The Houston Black Buffaloes win both halves of the season.
- 1929** Satchel Paige (Birmingham Black Barons) strikes out 17 Cuban Stars batters in a game on April 9th. Paige bettered the feat six days later Paige when he struck out 18 Nashville Elite Giants hitters. Paige is credited with 194 strikeouts in 196 innings for the Negro National League season.
- 1929** Herbert “Rap” Dixon (Baltimore Black Sox) collects fourteen (14) straight hits over a four game stretch in July of 1929.
- 1929** The Kansas City Monarchs are crowned the Negro National League champions.
- 1929** The Kansas City Monarchs meet the Houston Black Buffaloes in a self-proclaimed “Colored World Championship.” Kansas City wins the series.
- 1929** The Chicago American Giants play the Homestead Grays in a “Championship Series.” The American Giants swept the Grays in five straight games.
- 1930** J.L. Wilkinson the owner of the Kansas City Monarchs purchases a portable lighting system that enables the Monarchs to play night game as they barnstorm all over the United States. Wilkinson introduces night baseball to America five years before the Major League play night games. The cost for the lighting system was reported at \$ 50,000.00.

- 1930** On May 15th Johnny Marcum (Kansas City Monarchs) pitched the first no-hitter in night baseball history. Marcum beat the Waco Cardinals (Waco, Texas) 8-0. The game was also the first perfect game in night baseball.
- 1930** Negro League clubs make their first appearance at Yankee Stadium. In July of 1930 the Baltimore Black Sox and New York Lincoln Giants played a double header at Yankee Stadium. The game was played to benefit the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.
- 1930** Smoky Joe Williams of the Homestead Grays struck out twenty-seven (27) Kansas City Monarchs batters and gave up only one hit in a twelve (12) inning 1-0 victory for the Monarchs.
- 1930** The Kansas City Monarchs drop out of the Negro National League at the end of the summer of 1930. The Monarchs owner cited financial losses as the reason for his team changing to an independent schedule. The Monarchs would play a barnstorming-independent schedule for the next six years.
- 1930** The St. Louis Stars defeat the Detroit Stars in a Negro National League Playoff Series.
- 1930** Even though there is no formal league in the East, the Homestead Grays and the New York Lincoln Giants play an 11 game "Championship Series."
- 1930** Josh Gibson hits the longest homerun in the history of Yankee Stadium. The dispute still continues today if it went over the roof. Hall of Famer Judy Johnson who played in the game for the Grays was sure it did. Bill Holland and Larry Brown of the Lincoln Giants disagreed. The one thing they all agreed on was it was the longest homerun any of them ever saw.
- 1930** Satchel Paige is credited with sticking out 22 hitters in a barnstorming game.
- 1930** Andrew "Rube" Foster the founder of the Negro National League dies on December 9, 1930 in Kankakee, Illinois.
- 1931** At the height of the Depression, Gus Greenlee (owner of the Pittsburgh Crawfords) builds his own stadium at the staggering cost of \$ 100,000.
- 1931** Ed Bolden loses control of Hilldale to John Drew who renames the team the "Hilldale Daisies."
- 1931** Robert Cole takes over the Chicago American Giants.
- 1931** Kansas City Monarchs barnstorm against the "white" House of David.
- 1931** The Homestead Grays and Kansas City Monarchs play a "Championship Series." The Grays win the series by defeating the Monarchs six games to three.
- 1931** Juan "Tetelo" Vargas (Cuban House of David) becomes recognized as the fastest baseball player in the world when he circles the bases in an astounding 13.02 seconds. The feat was accomplished in September when the Cuban House of David were playing in Sioux City, Iowa.

- 1931** In October the Kansas City Monarchs and St. Louis Stars combine their rosters to form one team to play a National League All Star team that included: Babe Herman, Bill Terry, Lloyd Waner and Paul Waner. The Kansas City-St. Louis team wins all five games of the series.
- 1931** The Homestead Grays are credited with a won-loss record of 136-17 for the season.
- 1931** Newspaper stories report that Josh Gibson hit 75 homeruns for the 1931 season. This number has never been confirmed with actual box scores.
- 1931** The Negro National League ceases operation and does not field a schedule for the 1932 baseball season.
- 1932** Cumberland Posey leads a group that forms the short-lived East-West League. The “new” league included the following teams Baltimore Black Sox, Cleveland Stars, Cuban Stars, Detroit Wolves, Hilldale, Homestead Grays, Newark Browns, New York Black Yankees, Pittsburgh Crawfords and Washington Pilots. Originally, each team was to have played 56 games. The league folds in late June of 1932.
- 1932** The Negro Southern League is considered a “major” league of Negro League baseball.
- 1932** Chicago American Giants win the first half of the Negro Southern League season and then defeat the Nashville Elite Giants in a Playoff Series to win the Negro Southern League title.
- 1932** Satchel Paige (Pittsburgh Crawfords) tosses a no hitter against the New York Black Yankees. The Crawfords won the game 6-0.
- 1932** The Pittsburgh Crawfords post a won-loss record of 96-36 (.727) for the season.
- 1933** Under the leadership of Gus Greenlee, owner of the Pittsburgh Crawfords, the “new” Negro National League is formed. Teams played in the Negro National league during the 1933 season were the Baltimore Black Sox, Cole’s American Giants, Columbus Blue Birds, Detroit Stars, Homestead Grays, Nashville Elite Giants and Pittsburgh Crawfords.
- 1933** Gus Greenlee, owner of the Pittsburg Crawfords, installs lights at Greenlee Field to give the team the opportunity to play night games.
- 1933** The Pittsburgh Crawfords beat the Nashville Elite Giants in a Playoff Series to claim the Negro National League title.
- 1933** The first annual East-West All Star game is played. The historic game was played at Comiskey Park (Chicago, IL) on September 10th. In a real slugfest the West squad defeated the East by a score of 11-7.
- 1933-1934** Over the winter of 1933-34, the Kansas City Monarchs made a tour of the Orient. The Monarchs traveled to the Philippines, China, Japan and Hawaii. Their won-loss record for the tour was reported as 46-4.
- 1934** Satchel Paige throw a no-hitter and strikes out 17 batters against the Homestead Grays.

- 1934** The Austin Black senators defeat the Newgulf Black Buffs by a score of 3-2 in a 27 inning game. Both teams played in the Texas-Oklahoma-Louisiana League. The game was played in August at Monarch Field in Houston, Texas.
- 1934** Satchel Paige and Bill Perkins join the “white” House of David team and lead them to a victory over the Kansas City Monarchs in the prestigious Denver Post Tournament.
- 1934** The Philadelphia Stars defeat the Chicago American Giants in a Playoff Series to win the Negro National League title.
- 1935** Oscar Charleston and Josh Gibson lead the Pittsburgh Crawfords to a Playoff Series victory over the New York Cubans.
- 1935** Bismarck (ND) with Negro League pitcher Satchel Paige win the National Semi-pro Championship.
- 1935** Yankee Stadium hosted a four-team Negro League doubleheader on September 22nd. The Nashville Elite Giants defeated the Cuban Stars 4-3 and the Pittsburgh Crawfords defeated the Philadelphia Stars 12-2. An estimated crowd of 20,000 to 27,000 attended the two games.
- 1936** The New York Black Yankees are admitted to the Negro National League.
- 1936** Negro National League All Stars win the prestigious Denver Post Tournament.
- 1936** Negro League All Stars barnstorm against Bob Feller’s All Stars and take four of the five games played.
- 1936** Ray Brown goes 21-4 with 23 complete games during the Cuban Winter League season.
- 1936** Abe Manley buys the Newark Dodgers and combines them with his team the Brooklyn Royal Giants to form the Newark Eagles.
- 1936** Effa Manley, co-owner of the Newark Eagles with her husband Abe, becomes the first women general manager in Negro League baseball history.
- 1936** The Negro National League Play-Off Series ends after only one game is played. The Washington Elite Giants defeated the Pittsburgh Crawfords by a score of 2-0. No other games were ever played. The problem that league officials was faced with was that many of the players from both teams were already playing with other teams for the winter baseball season.
- 1937** The Negro American League (NAL) is formed. The teams that played in the inaugural season of the Negro American League were the Birmingham Black Barons, Chicago American Giants, Cincinnati Tigers, Detroit Stars, Indianapolis Athletics, Memphis Red Sox and St. Louis Stars.
- 1937** Josh Gibson and Judy Johnson are traded by the Pittsburgh Crawfords to the Homestead Grays for Pepper Bassett, Henry Spearman and \$ 2,500.00 of cash.

- 1937** Hilton Smith (Kansas City Monarchs) throws a no-hitter against the Chicago American Giants. The Monarchs won the game 4-0.
- 1937** Most of the top Negro League players defect to the Dominican Republic. Some of the top defectors were Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, James “Cool Pappa” Bell, Chet Brewer, Martin Dihigo, Sam Bankhead, Pat Patterson, Alejandro Oms and Juan “Tetelo” Vargas.
- 1937** The Kansas City Monarchs win both halves of the Negro American League season.
- 1937** The Chicago American Giants dispute the Kansas City Monarchs being awarded the title, so a special post season Playoff Series is played. Kansas City defeats Chicago to claim title.
- 1937** Homestead Grays win the Negro National League championship. This would be their first of nine consecutive Negro National League titles (1937-1945).
- 1937** After the regular Negro National League season, the Homestead Grays and Newark Eagles combine their rosters to form one team to play a combined squad from the Kansas City Monarchs and Chicago American Giants of the Negro American League. The Grays-Eagles team win eight of nine games to hand the Monarchs-American Giants team a humiliating defeat.
- 1937** Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson and James “Cool Pappa” Bell return from the Dominican Republic and lead their Ciudad Trujillo team to a Denver Post Tournament title.
- 1937** At the Polo Grounds in New York City, Johnny Taylor (New York Cubans) throws a no-hitter against Satchel Paige and his Dominican All Stars.
- 1938** In February Satchel Paige meets with Negro National League officials in Pittsburgh to see if he and the other players who had been banned for jumping their teams during the 1937 season would be reinstated. Paige leaves the meeting disgruntled and threatens to for his own team that would barnstorm across the United States and Latin America.
- 1938** Quincy J. Gilmore, secretary of the Kansas City Monarchs, proposed a plan to nationally organize all the black semipro and independent teams in the United States into a series of regional leagues. The goal of these regional leagues would be to “feed” the Negro American League and Negro National League with ballplayers. Gilmore felt his plan would revitalize Negro League baseball. The press titled the proposed endeavor the “Rube Foster League.” The plan never materialized.
- 1938** The Miami Giants become the Ethiopian Clowns under owner Johnny Pierce.
- 1938** A four team doubleheader is played at Yankee Stadium to benefit the Greater New York Fund. An estimated crowd of 15,000 fans turned out to see the Philadelphia Stars beat the Baltimore Elite Giants in game one and the Pittsburgh Crawfords defeat the New York Black Yankees in game two.
- 1938** Josh Gibson hits four homeruns in one game against the Memphis Sox at Mack Park in Zanesville (OH).
- 1938** Roy Campanella plays his rookie season with the Baltimore Elite Giants.
- 1938** Chet Brewer becomes the first Negro League ball player to play in the Mexican League.

- 1938** The Memphis Red Sox (21-4) win the first half of the Negro American League season and the Atlanta Black Crackers (12-4) win the second half of the season. Memphis beat the Black Crackers in a Playoff Series.
- 1938** Homestead Grays win the Negro National League pennant.
- 1939** Jorge Pasquel, President of the Mexican League, lures James “Cool Pappa” Bell, Cher Brewer, Barney Brown, Willie Jefferson, Lazaro Salazar, Ramon Bragana and Silvio Garcia to play South of the Border.
- 1939** Kansas City Monarchs win the Negro American League title and the Homestead Grays win the Negro National crown..
- 1939** The Homestead Grays, Newark Eagles, Philadelphia Stars and Baltimore Elite Giants square off in a four way Playoff Series. The Grays beat the Stars in the first match up and the Elite Giants beat the Eagles in their series. In the finals Baltimore prevailed over Homestead to win a “trophy” donated by Colonel Jacob Ruppert (owner of the New York Yankees).
- 1939** Willie Wells of the Newark Eagles becomes the first player in baseball history to wear a batting helmet. Wells borrowed a construction helmet to protect his head when he had received a concussion the day before and the doctor ordered him not to play.
- 1939** The Homestead Grays sweep the American Series in Cuba, winning all five games.
- 1939** Satchel Paige goes 19-3 and strikes out 208 batters in 205 innings to lead Guayama to the Puerto Rican League championship.
- 1940** In an attempt to integrate Major League baseball, the Young Communist League of New York collect 20,000 signatures supporting blacks playing in the Major Leagues.
- 1940** A large number of Negro League Stars play the 1940 season in Mexico. Negro League players defecting to Mexico included: Sam Bankhead, James “Cool Pappa” Bell, Barney Brown, Willard Brown, Ray Dandridge, Ducky Davenport, Martin Dihigo, Martin Dihigo, Bob Griffith, Bob Harvey, Willie Jefferson, Leroy Matlock, Henry Mc Henry, Pat Patterson, Andy Porter, Ted Radcliffe, Theo Smith, Ed Stone, Ted Strong, Johnny Taylor, Quincy Troupe, Willie Wells, Roy Welmaker and Wild Bill Wright.
- 1940** Kansas City Monarchs win the Negro American League pennant and the Homestead Grays win the Negro National League title.
- 1940** On December 29th a fire destroyed the Chicago American Giants ball park (American Giants Park). The park had originally been the home of the Chicago White Sox before the Team moved to Comiskey Park.
- 1941** Satchel Paige of the Kansas City Monarchs is reported to be the highest paid player in professional baseball (black or white).

- 1941** A crowd of 39,000 fans at Biggs Stadium (Home of the Detroit Tigers) are on hand to witness the Kansas City Monarchs sweep a double header from the Chicago American Giants.
- 1941** Newt Allen takes over as manager of the Kansas City Monarchs and leads them to a Negro American League title.
- 1941** Homestead Grays win the first half of the Negro national League season and the New York Cubans win the second half. The Grays win the Playoff Series against the Cubans.
- 1941** Gene Smith of the St. Louis Stars pitches a 6-1 no-hitter versus the New York Black Yankees.
- 1941** The East-West All Star game at Comiskey Park (Chicago) draws a record 50,256 fans.
- 1942** Radio station WWDC of Washington, D.C. becomes the first radio station to regularly broadcast Negro League baseball games. WWDC aired the Washington-Homestead Grays games.
- 1942** The Negro Major League is formed. League teams included Baltimore Black Orioles, Boston Royal Giants, Chicago Brown Bombers, Cincinnati Clowns, Detroit Black Sox and Minneapolis-St. Paul (Twin Cities) Black Gophers. League folds at the end of the season.
- 1942** Leon Day (Newark Eagles) struck out 18 batters and only allowed one hit in a victory over the Baltimore Elite Giants.
- 1942** The Philadelphia Phillies of the National League show an interest in signing Roy Campanella (Baltimore Elite Giants) as the first black player to play in the Major Leagues.
- 1942** The Pittsburgh Pirates (National League) announce they will give a tryout to the following Negro League players: Dave Barnhill (New York Cubans), Roy Campanella (Baltimore Elite Giants) and Sammy Hughes. The tryout is scheduled for August 4th but is rescheduled to September. Nothing ever comes of the “tryout.”
- 1942** The first Negro League World Series is played between the Negro National League and the Negro American League. The Kansas City Monarchs (Negro American League) defeated the Homestead Grays (Negro National League) in four straight games to claim the Negro League World Series title.
- 1942** The East-West All Star game that was played in Comiskey Park (Chicago) draws a record crowd of 51,000 fans.
- 1943** Bill Veeck devises a plan to buy the Philadelphia Phillies (National League) and sign black players for the next season. Major League Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw “Mountain” Landis blocks the deal.
- 1943** Alvin Gipson of the Birmingham Black Barons struck out 20 batters breaking the record of 18 by Satchel Paige and Leon Day. Birmingham breezed to a 5-1 victory over the Philadelphia Stars.

- 1943** The Birmingham Black Barons win the Negro American League title after beating the Chicago American Giants in a Playoff Series.
- 1943** The Homestead Grays (Negro National League) defeat the Birmingham Black Barons (Negro American League) to win the Negro league World Series.
- 1944** Albert “Happy” Chandler succeeds Kenesaw “Mountain” Landis as the Commissioner of Baseball. Chandler is more “open” to blacks playing in the Major Leagues.
- 1944** The Homestead Grays and Birmingham Black Barons meet in Negro League World Series. The result is the same as the year before (the Homestead Grays won it all).
- 1945** Branch Rickey (Brooklyn Dodgers) is instrumental in starting the United States League. Rickey’s goal was to use the “league” to scout black ball players. The league included the following teams: Brooklyn Brown Dodgers, Chicago Brown Bombers, Detroit Motor City Giants, Philadelphia Hilldales, Pittsburgh Crawfords and Toledo Rays.
- 1945** Ray Brown (Homestead Grays) pitches a perfect game against the Chicago American Giants at Griffith Stadium in Washington, D.C. The Grays won the game 7-0.
- 1945** Dave “Showboat” Thomas (New York Cubans) and Terris McDuffie (Newark Eagles) show up uninvited to the Brooklyn Dodgers training camp at Bear Mountain (NY) and are given a “try-out.”
- 1945** Jackie Robinson (Kansas City Monarchs), Sam Jethroe (Cleveland Buckeyes) and Marvin Williams (Philadelphia Stars) are given a tryout at Fenway Park by the Boston Red Sox.
- 1945** A.B. Chandler, Commissioner of baseball, meets with the black press in Washington, D.C. and pledges support for efforts to integrate the Major Leagues.
- 1945** The Cleveland Indians farm team in Bakersfield (CA) announces they want to hire Chet Brewer as the team’s player-manager. The deal is approved by George Trautman (Minor League Commissioner) but is killed by Roger Peckinpaugh (Cleveland Indians General Manager).
- 1945** Jackie Robinson signs a contract with the Montreal Royals of the International League (Brooklyn Dodgers farm club).
- 1945** The Homestead Grays make their third straight appearance in the Negro League World Series. The Grays are thoroughly dominated by the Cleveland Buckeyes (Negro American) who seep them in four straight games.
- 1946** Leon Day throws a no-hitter on the opening day of the Negro National League season. Day posts a won-loss record of 14-4 for the season.
- 1946** Abe Saperstein attempts to bring “Major League” Negro League baseball to the West Coast when he forms the West Coast Baseball Association (also known as the Negro Pacific Coast League). The league had franchise in Fresno, Oakland, Portland, San Francisco and Seattle. The league folded before the midpoint of the season.

- 1946** Jorge Pasquel, President of the Mexican League and owner of the Vera Cruz Blues, raids the Negro Leagues for Ray Dandridge, Bill Cash, Theo Smith, Martin Dihigo, Wilmer Fields and Raymond Brown.
- 1946** Branch Rickey (Brooklyn Dodgers) signs four more Negro League players and assigns them to the Dodgers Minor League farm clubs. These players were Roy Campanella (Nashua), Roy Partlow (Montreal), Johnny Wright (Montreal) and Don Newcombe (Nashua). Don Newcombe goes 14-4 at Nashua.
- 1946** Gentry Jessup (Chicago American Giants) and Eddie “Peanuts” Davis (Indianapolis Clowns) hook up for a 20 inning pitching duel that ends in a 3-3 tie.
- 1946** Josh Gibson (Homestead Grays) hits .397 in his final season of Negro League baseball.
- 1946** Jackie Robinson (Montreal Royals) leads the International League in hitting with a .349 batting average.
- 1946** The New York Yankees report taking in over \$ 100,000.00 in stadium rentals to Negro league teams.
- 1946** The Newark Eagles defeat the Kansas City Monarchs in the Negro League World Series.
- 1946** Satchel Paige (Kansas City Monarchs) and Bob Feller (Cleveland Indians) play a nation wide barnstorming tour that draws 271,645 fans.
- 1947** The legendary Josh Gibson passes away on January 20, 1947 at the age of 35.
- 1947** Four New York Cuban pitchers (Eddie Daniels, Pat Scantlebury, James Jenkins and Luis Tiant, Sr.) combine to pitch a perfect game against the New Orleans Creoles.
- 1947** Sam Lacy of the Baltimore Afro-American becomes the first black sports writer to be admitted to the Baseball Writer’s Association of America.
- 1947** Jackie Robinson becomes the first African American to play in the “modern day” Major Leagues when he takes the field for the Brooklyn Dodgers of the National League.
- 1947** Larry Doby becomes the first African American to play in the American League. Doby played his first game for the Cleveland Indians on July 5th.
- 1947** Dan Bankhead becomes the first black pitcher to pitch in the Major Leagues when he takes the mound for the Brooklyn Dodgers on August 26, 1947.
- 1947** Attendance at Negro League games begins a rapid decline. The Newark Eagles yearly attendance dropped from 120,000 in 1946 to 57,000 in 1947.
- 1947** The New York Cubans make short work of the Cleveland Buckeyes in the Negro League World Series. Cleveland can manage only one win in five games.
- 1947** Jackie Robinson wins the National League Rookie of the Year award.
- 1947** At the Negro National League meeting in Chicago on December 29th, the league owners

agree to a \$ 6,000 per month salary cap for each club. The move is made to combat a significant drop in revenues.

- 1948** Satchel Paige is signed by the Cleveland Indians of the American League. At the age of 42, Satchel becomes the oldest rookie to play in the Major Leagues. Paige finished the season with a 6-1 record and a 2.48 ERA. Paige helped lead Cleveland to American League and World Series championships.
- 1948** More than 72,000 fans jam into Cleveland Stadium to see Satchel Paige pitch in his first game for the Cleveland Indians.
- 1948** Television station WEWS (Cleveland) broadcast a double header between the Cleveland Buckeyes and Memphis Red Sox. The game was also covered on the radio, making it the first time a Negro League game was ever be carried on the radio and television at the same time. Further television broadcast were cancelled because Negro league officials felt they hurt attendance at the game.
- 1948** Artie Wilson (Birmingham Black Barons) wins the Negro American League Batting Title with a .402 batting average. This is the last time a player hit over .400 for the season in a top level league.
- 1948** The Birmingham Black Barons beat the Kansas City Monarchs four games to zero for the Negro American League championship.
- 1948** The Homestead Grays win the Negro League World Series. They beat the Birmingham Black Barons it what would be the final Negro league World Series ever played.
- 1948** Satchel Paige becomes the first African American to pitch in a World Series game.
- 1948** Abe and Effa Manley sell the Newark Eagles Dr. W.H. Young of Memphis. The Manley's cited financial reason (they reportedly lost \$ 22,000 in 1948) as the reason for the sale. Dr. Young moved the team to Houston, Texas.
- 1948** The Negro National League disbands after the 1948 regular season.
- 1948** The Homestead Grays and New York Black Yankees quit organized baseball to play an independent schedule.
- 1948** At a joint league meeting in Chicago, the Negro American League absorbs the remaining teams from the Negro National League into their organization. The Negro American League is divided into Eastern and Western divisions.
- 1949** Gene Collins of the Kansas City Monarchs pitches a no-hitter versus the Houston Eagles.
- 1949** The Homestead Grays join the Negro American Association and win the first half of the season with a record of 24-2. The second half season results were not reported.
- 1949** Jackie Robinson is the first black player to lead the National League in batting average. Robinson hit .3423for the 1949 season.

- 1949** Roy Campanella, Larry Doby, Don Newcombe and Jackie Robinson are the first blacks to appear in a Major League All Star game.
- 1949** Jackie Robinson (Brooklyn Dodgers) is the first black player to win the National League Most Valuable Player (MVP) award.
- 1949** Don Newcombe (Brooklyn Dodgers) is voted National League Rookie of the Year.
- 1951** Emmett Ashford becomes the first black umpire in organized baseball. Ashford umpires in the Southwest International League during the 1951 baseball season.
- 1950** Sam Jethroe is signed by the Boston Braves of the National League. Jethroe goes on to win the 1950 National League Rookie of the Year.
- 1951** Bill Veeck of the St. Louis Browns (National League) offers James “Cool Papa” Bell a contract. The 48 year old Bell declines the offer.
- 1951** Monte Irvin of the New York Giants leads the National League in runs batted in with 121.
- 1951** Roy Campanella (Brooklyn Dodgers) becomes the first black player to win the National League Most Valuable Player (MVP) award. Campanella would go on to win the MVP award two more times (1953 and 1955).
- 1952** Indianapolis Clowns sign Toni Stone, the first women to play in the Negro Leagues.
- 1952** By the end of the season more than 150 Negro League ball players have been signed into “white organized” baseball.
- 1952** Joe Black of the Brooklyn Dodgers wins the National League Rookie of the Year.
- 1955** Elston Howard joins the New York Yankees Major League roster, making him the first black player to play for the Yankees Major League team. It took the New York Yankees eight years to bring their first black ball player to the Major Leagues.
- 1954** Larry Doby (Cleveland Indians) leads the American League in homeruns with 32 and runs batted in with 126.
- 1955** Sam Jones becomes the first black pitcher to throw a no-hitter in the Major Leagues.
- 1956** Don Newcombe wins both the Cy Young Award and the National League Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award. Newcombe won 27 games during the season.
- 1957** Jessie Mitchell (Birmingham Black Barons) wins the Negro American League Triple Crown by leading the league in homeruns with 17, runs batted in with 67 and compiling a .331 batting average.
- 1959** The Boston Red Sox become the last team to integrate their Major League roster when Elijah “Pumpsie” Green debuts for the Red Sox on July 21, 1959.
- 1960** Comiskey Park (Chicago, IL) hosts its last East-West All Star game.

- 1961** An East-West All Star game is played in New York City. The game was held in conjunction with the Negro Elks convention.
- 1962** Buck O'Neil becomes the first black coach in Major League baseball when he signs with the Chicago Cubs of the National League.
- 1962** The last East-West All Star game is held. The game was played in Kansas City.
- 1962** The Negro American League folds after the East-West All Star game.
- 1962** Jackie Robinson becomes the first former Negro League player to be enshrined in the National Baseball Hall of Fame (Cooperstown).
- 1963** Elston Howard (New York Yankees) becomes the first black player to win the Most Valuable Player Award in the American League.
- 1963** Even though there is no "official" league four teams (Indianapolis Clowns, Kansas City Monarchs, Philadelphia Stars and Satchel Paige All Stars) continue to play a barnstorming schedule. By the late 1960's only the Indianapolis Clowns are left.
- 1964** Willie Mays (San Francisco Giants) becomes the first black captain of a Major League team.
- 1965** Syd Pollock sells the Indianapolis Clowns to Ed Hamman.
- 1966** Emmett Ashford becomes the first black umpire in the Major Leagues when he umpires in a game between the Cleveland Indians and Washington Senators on March 11, 1966.
- 1968** Monte Irvin is selected to serve in the office of the Commissioner of Baseball. Serving under Spike Eckert and Bowie Kuhn, Irvin held that position until 1984.
- 1969** Elston Howard of the New York Yankees becomes the first black coach in the American League.
- 1969** Roy Campanella (Brooklyn Dodgers) is inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.
- 1970** Curt Flood files a lawsuit challenging Major League Baseball's reserve clause. The action would eventually result in free agency in baseball.
- 1971** Bill White becomes the first black announcer in baseball when he is hired by the New York Yankees to announce their games.
- 1971** The Pittsburgh Pirates become the first team in Major League history to field an all black starting lineup. The historic event occurred on September 01, 1971.
- 1971** Satchel Paige becomes the first player to be inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown strictly for his play in the Negro Leagues.
- 1972** Josh Gibson and Walter "Buck" Leonard are inducted into the National baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

- 1972** Ed Hamman sells the Indianapolis Clowns to George Long of Muscatine, Iowa.
- 1975** Frank Robinson of the Cleveland Indians becomes the first black manager in Major League history.
- 1977** Bill Lucas of the Atlanta Braves is the black general manger in the Major Leagues.
- 1978** Larry Doby of the Chicago White Sox becomes the second black manager in Major League Baseball.
- 1981** Andrew “Rube” Foster is elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame.
- 1982** Frank Robinson of the San Francisco Giants finished in second place voting to Joe Torre for the National League Manager of the Year.
- 1982** Negro League great Satchel Paige passes away on June 8th in his hometown of Kansas City.
- 1983** George Long sells the Indianapolis Clowns to Dave Clark and Sal Tombasco of Corning, New York.
- 1989** After playing a few games at the beginning of the season, the Indianapolis Clowns cease operation.
- 1989** Frank Robinson of the Baltimore Orioles is named American League Manager of the Year. Robinson led Baltimore to a record of 87-75 in 1989 (they had been 54-107 in 1988).