Questionnaire Obtained For
Fred Goldsmith

I feel almost embarrassed by awarding myself the Find of the Month for obtaining the questionnaire for Fred Goldsmith. But I'm sure Joe Charboneau wasn't embarrassed by his Rookie of the Year award so I won't be embarrassed by winning this.

I was actually contacted by the great-granddaughter of Fred Goldsmith asking me for information on Fred. I sent her a copy of the article in 19th Century Stars and she filled out my questionnaire. So it didn't involve any great research on my part, but it isn't every day you obtain a questionnaire on a player who debuted in 1875.

Most Wanted - 1962

Cappy Gagnon sent me a copy of Baseball Digest from May of 1962. The magazine featured an article entitled "Wanted - Dead or Alive. $2,500 reward for information leading to the whereabouts of 100 missing players."

Actually, they were giving away The Official Encyclopedia of Baseball, The American League Story, The National League Story, and a four year subscription to Baseball Digest. The total value of all these publications was $25. This was 1962 remember.

They featured 10 players in the that issue, all of whom have been found. The players featured were:

Bio Report

Bert Blue - actually Bird Blue; died 09/02/1929
Pete Fahrer - alive in 1962; died 06/10/1967
E. J. Bowles - died 09/03/1959
Fred Haman - actually Elmer Hamann; alive in 1962; died 01/11/1973
Philip Voyles - alive in 1962; died 11/03/1972
Charles Briody - died 06/22/1903
George Davis - died 10/17/1940
James Holdsworth - died 03/22/1918
Fred Fussell - alive in 1962; died 10/23/1966
James Bedford - actually William Bedford; alive in 1962; died 10/06/1977

It seems funny to think that George Davis was missing and he later was elected to the Hall of Fame. Apparently the reward helped track these guys down. Perhaps if I offered an autographed picture of me.....

Best States for Major Leaguers

I received an interesting e-mail the other day in which someone asked me what state has produced the most major leaguers per capita. I used the 1998 census figures and the number of major leaguers through 1999. The top 3 states are:

1. Pennsylvania
2. Massachusetts
3. Missouri

So if any of you were born in any of those 3 states, perhaps it is time to start re-oiling your glove.

Like Father, Like Son

Scott Flatow has determined that the 1972 Cincinnati Reds hold a major league record by having 6 players who had sons play in the major leagues. Pete Rose, Tony Perez, Ed Sprague, Pedro Borbon, Hal McRae, and Julian Javier. I wonder who won the annual father/son game.
More on Meaney

Joe Dittmar researched last month's Meaney/Harrigan mystery. Joe checked 10 different newspapers from New York, Philadelphia, and Detroit. The only one to mention Harrigan was the New York Times, which contained a wire service account riddled with inaccuracies that "Joe Harrigan of Southward played shortstop." Some of the other papers mentioned Meaney; others did not. The only other paper that mentioned anything significant was the Detroit News Tribune which stated, "Some of the alleged Detroit players went by their regular names, some did not."

Hynes Dies Over Two Steins of Brines

Last month’s article about players who died on their birthdays prompted the following note from Bill Weiss about Patrick Hynes:

"Patrick Hynes was an outfielder and pitcher in the early 1900s. A St. Louis native, he played one season with his hometown Browns, batting .236 in 66 games in 1904 with a 1-0 record. He played in the American Association with Minneapolis in 1905 and Milwaukee in 1906. One writer said that Hynes had 'natural ability, but bad habits handicapped him.'

One night before heading for spring training with the Brewers in 1907, he and a friend became involved in a dispute with a bartender over payment for two glasses of beer. According to the bartender, Hynes attacked him. The bartender pulled out a gun and shot Hynes twice. Patrick Hynes died instantly at 2:45 AM, March 12, 1907. It was his 23rd birthday."

Birthday List

There are several nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in the next 2 months. Make sure you send a card.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>Robert Barr</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Harry Kimberlin</td>
<td>91</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>John Poser</td>
<td>90</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29</td>
<td>William Strickland</td>
<td>92</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Charles English</td>
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<td>April 9</td>
<td>Howard Groskloss</td>
<td>94</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Eddie Mayo</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>Robert Stevens</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>Samuel Harshaney</td>
<td>90</td>
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</table>

Could This Be Mr. Jones?

I received this letter the other day from someone interested in finding out about their grandfather. I immediately chose this as our Mystery of the Month.

"Our family recently found the obituary of our grandfather, David E. Jones, born April 1, 1861, died May 1, 1937, both in Utica, New York. It stated 'As a youth, Mr. Jones displayed considerable ability as a baseball player and in the late 1880s he played with Utica teams and was for a time catcher on a professional nine in Philadelphia.' Two of three brothers remember our father, who passed away in 1980, had told us that grandfather had played as a catcher, but in Baltimore."

As fate would have it, we have a missing ballplayer named William Jones, listed as being born in Syracuse, New York, who was an outfielder and catcher with Baltimore (AA) in 1882 and Philadelphia (UA) in 1884. We have virtually no information on him though. Can anyone track this guy down?
### The Scoreboard

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<th>OUT</th>
<th>PCT</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Total Complete Births</td>
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<td>Total Complete Deaths</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

Bio Report 3

Jan/Feb 2000
Emil Bildilli
By Pete Cava


Emil Bildilli died on his 34th birthday, less than 48 hours after throwing his last pitch. "Hill Billy" Bildilli was born, appropriately enough, in the western Indiana town of Diamond, near Terre Haute. He attended Clinton High School and played sandlot and semi-professional baseball before signing his first professional contract.

In 1937 the left-handed curveball specialist pitched for Terre Haute of the Three I League and Johnstown of the Middle Atlantic League before joining the St. Louis Browns in August. His big league debut came Aug. 23 at Sportsman's Park in St. Louis, when he started against Washington. The Senators drove Bildilli from the mound in a five-run fourth inning en route to a 9-6 win. The loss was Bildilli’s lone decision in four starts for the 37 Browns.

At Springfield, Ill., in 1938, Bildilli’s 185 strikeouts led the Three-I League. He posted a 3.07 earned run average and an 18-4 record, tying Floyd Giebell of Evansville for the most wins in the circuit. Bildilli briefly rejoined St. Louis in 38 and posted a 1-2 record in five games.

Bildilli spent most of the 1939 season at St. Antonio in the Texas League, compiling a 22-9 record. Back with the Browns for the tail-end of the campaign, he pitched two complete games for St. Louis and was 1-1 with a 3.32 ERA.

In 1940, Bildilli began the season with the Browns. On April 30 at Yankee Stadium, St. Louis manager Fred Haney turned to Bildilli after Howard Mills, the scheduled starter, came down with the flu and couldn’t pitch. In the bottom of the first, the southpaw surrendered a leadoff triple to Frank Crosetti, followed by a single to right by Red Rolfe. Those were the only hits Bildilli allowed. He blanked the Yankees the rest of the way as the Browns rallied to beat the World Champions, 2-1. Bildilli retired the last 19 batters he faced.

Later that season the Detroit Tigers offered St. Louis $200,000 for Bildilli, third baseman Harford Clift and first baseman George McQuinn. The Browns nixed the deal, and Bildilli went on to post a 2-4 record in 28 games as a reliever and spot starter.

After two appearances and an 0-0 record in 1941, the Browns dispatched Bildilli to Toledo of the American Association. Bildilli, who won five and lost nine for the Mud Hens, quit baseball after the season and moved from Terre Haute to Muncie, where he joined the fire department in October 1941. Bildilli returned to the semi-pro ranks as a member of the Muncie Citizens, a team made up of firefighters. After the Citizens folded, he joined the Fort Wayne Electricians club for 1944.

A popular member of Muncie’s fire department, Bildilli was well-known and respected in Indiana baseball circles. He also remained a valuable commodity. As World War Two thinned the ranks of available major league talent, several teams allegedly tried to lure him back into organized ball.

During the 1946 season, Bildilli pitched and won exhibition games for the Fort Wayne semi-pro squad against the Cincinnati Reds, Philadelphia Phillies, the Homestead Grays of the Negro Leagues, and the famed House of David squad.

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Bildilli was scheduled to pitch a night game against a black all-star squad at Fort Wayne’s Dwenger Park. On game days, he and teammate Lowell "Odie" Barnett, a shortstop, usually rode together from Muncie to Fort Wayne. That day, however, Bildilli’s relief man didn’t arrive on time, delaying his departure from the fire station. He and Barnett opted to drive separately.

Bildilli got the win in Fort Wayne’s 9-3 win over the all-star squad. Afterwards, he visited friends in the Fort Wayne area. At about 5:30 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15, Bildilli was heading south on State Road 3, some five miles north of Hartford City, Ind., when he apparently fell asleep at the wheel. Bildilli’s Lincoln Zephyr veered off the road, sideswiped a tree and plowed through a fence.

The crash roused the residents of a nearby farmhouse, who rushed to the scene of the wreck. They found Bildilli unconscious, but still alive. He had suffered multiple injuries, including severe head lacerations and a fractured skull. Bildilli was taken to Blackford County Hospital in Hartford City, where doctors didn’t expect him to survive the night. Irma Bildilli rushed to Hartford City from Muncie after learning of her husband’s accident. Although advised of the severity of Emil’s injuries, she insisted he would recover.

Bildilli died around noon Monday, Sept. 16 — his thirty-fourth birthday. In addition to his wife, he was survived by an 8-year-old daughter, Natalie, and a son, Donald, age 4, as well as his parents, four brothers and two sisters. Muncie fire department officials praised Bildilli as a firefighter and an athlete.

"On the job or in a ball game, nobody could beat him," said co-worker Dudley Williamson, former manager of the Muncie Citizens and Bildilli’s close personal friend. Fire chief Archie McCabe praised Bildilli as "one of the best fireman Muncie ever had. No fire was too tough and no night of duty was too long for Emil." The day of Bildilli’s funeral, all offices in the Muncie city building were closed. He was buried in Terre Haute’s Rose Lawn Cemetery.

In 1981, with Irma, Rosalie and Donald attending the ceremony, Emil Bildilli was inducted into the Delaware County Hall of Fame in Muncie.
New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:

1875 Goldsmith, Fred Ernest  
Name: Fredrick Ernest Goldsmith  
B: May 15 1852

New Information Received:

1999 Almonte, Hector Radhames  
Name: Hector Radhames Almonte (Moreta)  
D: Nov 16 1999  
Viborg, South Dakota  
(D1)

1934 Benson, Allen Wilbert  
D: Jun 7 1934  
Fargo, North Dakota  
(B6)

1973 Buskey, Thomas William  
D: Jun 7 1973  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
(C1)

1953 Carswell, Frank Willis  
D: Oct 16 1953  
Houston, Texas  
(C1)

1999 Christenson, McKay A.  
Name: McKay Andrew Christensen  
D: Jul 28 1999  
Nashville, Tennessee  
(C1)

1938 Cole, Edward William  
D: Nov 16 1938  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
(B6)

1999 Durazo, Erubiel Cardenas  
Name: Erubiel Durazo (Cardenas)  
D: Nov 28 1999  
Vineland, New Jersey  
(C1)

1910 Fanwell, Harry Clayton  
D: Aug 28 1999  
Madison, Wisconsin  
(K1)

1938 Gerlach, John Glenn  
D: Nov 13 1938  
Apopka, Florida  
(D7)

1920 Glenn, Burdette  
D: Jun 23 1920  
Tampa, Florida  
(C1)

1946 Goolsby, Raymond Daniel  
D: May 14 1946  
Birmingham, Alabama  
(D7)

1937 Haas, Berthold John  
D: Nov 29 1937  
Maple Shade, New Jersey  
(S3)

1944 Hayworth, Myron Claude  
B: Apr 5 1944  
Goldsboro, North Carolina  
(S1)

1954 Heard, Jehosie  
B: Jun 26 1954  
Long Beach, California  
(D7)

1963 Herbel, Ronald Samuel  
D: Jan 20 2000  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1954 Herrin, Thomas Edward  
D: Jan 11 1954  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1951 Hoderlein, Melvin Anthony  
B: Jan 11 1951  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1940 Hoerst, Frank Joseph  
D: Jan 11 1940  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1939 Holland, William David  
B: Jan 1 1939  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1954 Jacobs, Forrest Vandergrift  
Name: Robert Forrest Vandergrift Jacobs  
D: Jan 11 1954  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1918 Johnson, Roy J.  
Name: Roy Johnson  
D: Jan 11 1918  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1906 Karger, Edwin  
B: Jan 11 1906  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1952 Klaus, William Joseph  
B: Jan 11 1952  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1921 Klugmann, Joe  
B: Jan 11 1921  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1941 Lemon, Robert Granville  
B: Jan 11 1941  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)

1941 Leovich, John Joseph  
B: Jan 11 1941  
Lincoln City, Oregon  
(C1)
1999 Lilly, Theodore Roosevelt
B: Lamita, California
D: Dec 19 1998
Atlanta, Georgia (L5) (C1)

1945 Mack, Joseph John
D: Jun 15 1999
Barefoot Bay, Florida (C1)

1950 Markland, Cleneth Eugene
D: Jun 15 1999

1957 McIlwain, Stover William
Barefoot Bay, Florida (C1)

1971 Milner, John David
B: Lamita, California
D: Jan 4 2000
Atlanta, Georgia (C1)

1936 Mooty, J T

1938 Myers, Lynnwood Lincoln
B: Apr 13 1912
D: Jan 19 2000
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (S3)

1998 Nunez, Vladimir
Name: Vladimir Nunez (Zarabaza) (P1)

1917 Regan, Michael Joseph
Name: Michael John Regan (K1)

1943 Roberts, Charles Emory
D: Dec 2 1998
Atlanta, Georgia (C1)

1958 Smith, Robert Walkay
Name: Robert Walkup Smith (K1)

1999 Soriano, Alfonso G.
Name: Alfonso Guilleard Soriano (P1)

1952 Throneberry, Maynard Faye
D: Apr 26 1999
Memphis, Tennessee (S3)

1944 Tyson, Cecil Washington
D: Feb 17 2000
Elm City, North Carolina (N4)

1935 Wright, Albert Owen
B: Nov 16 1906 (K1)