Edward Mincher Found

This was a great find. Players who played as early as 1871 are nearly impossible to track down and Richard Malatzky did a marvelous job of putting this one together. It all started when he found a genealogical website that mentioned a man named Ed Mincher having a daughter who married Wright Van Dusen. They were living in Brooklyn. Richard found that Mincher had married a woman named Marie Theresa Eschbach. As he traced Mincher through the Brooklyn city directories, he found that Mincher changed his name to Henry McElwee. (He must have known we'd be looking for him.) McElwee died in 1918 and he was definitely the Ed Mincher who had married Marie Eschbach. But was he our ballplayer?

Richard went back to the Eschbach family and discovered that Marie Eschbach's sister Susan married William Lennon in 1872. William Lennon was Edward Mincher's teammate in 1868-70 with the Marylands of Baltimore. During the 1870s, both Mincher and Lennon were living with the Eschbach family. Lennon is still among the missing. This is a very deserving Find of the Month.

Lucky To Find Lackey

Actually, this wasn't luck; it was good research. On October 2, 1890, Philadelphia picked up two Columbus amateurs for their game against Columbus. Lackey was a pitcher and Macey was his catcher. Until recently, these players had been unidentified. Peter Morris found that William Lackey was pitching for the Northeast Stars of Columbus and his catcher was a man named Mullay.

Peter made a trip to Columbus and traced Lackey through the city directories. His last appearance in a directory was in 1940. Peter then went to the state records office and found Lackey's death certificate. The certificate gave us his birth date and place and his death date and place.

But what of Macey? Two different Columbus papers identified him as either Macey or Macy. Could this have been Mullay? There was also a local catcher named Lacy catching with the Columbus East Enders. Hopefully, we will eventually be able to identify him as well.

New Members

Please welcome Mike Attiyeh to the committee. Mike’s address is 9595 Harbour Place, Elk Grove, California 95758 and his code number will be A2.

James Green

James Green, third baseman for the 1884 Washington Unions, has been found and this involved the fine efforts of committee members Richard Malatzky, Peter Morris, Reed Howard, and Joe Simenic. Here is a condensed summary of the research involved in tracking him down.

There was a note in Sporting Life that Green was with Portsmouth, Ohio before signing with Washington. The 1884 Reach Guide listed James F. Green of the Portsmouth club with a hometown of Cleveland. In 1885, a team called the Cincinnati Clippers had third baseman James Green "of last year's Portsmouth team." Another Sporting Life note shows that Jimmy Green of the Cincinnati Clippers signed to be an umpire in Columbus, Georgia. He was back as a player from 1887-1890 playing with several teams in the Ohio State League. In 1889, he was playing with Dayton, and a note mentioned that his mother had died. Research into Cleveland death certificates showed this was Mary Green, widow of Michael Green. This allowed us to zero in on his family. Another
note mentioned that he married Annie Engert in 1889. More research into Cleveland deaths found a death certificate showing that James Green died December 12, 1912, the son of Michael and Mary Green and the husband of Anna Engert Green. Obviously, this is our man. Great work by all involved.

Ryder Rides Home

Tom Ryder, who played 8 games for St. Louis in the Union Association has been found by Richard Malatzky. Richard found notes showing that Ryder was from Dubuque, Iowa. He checked the 1880 and 1900 Iowa census and found Ryder listed with his family. He then traced the family through the city directories until 1937 when Ryder’s wife was shown as a widow. The Dubuque library had an obituary index and Richard was able to obtain the obituary. The obituary confirmed that Ryder was a former major league baseball player, who had played with St. Louis. A nice and tidy find.

Francis Abercrombie

For years, David Abercrombie was listed as playing shortstop for Troy in a game October 21, 1871. Richard Malatzky did some research on David and found that in 1871, he was president of the Baltimore News Company and was living in Baltimore. There is no evidence that he ever played baseball.

Richard did some research in Troy and found that the Troy Haymakers played a couple of games against a "Field 9" in 1872. Playing for the Field 9 was a player named Abercrombie who, according to the New York Clipper, was playing for Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Richard contacted RPI and found that this was Francis Patterson Abercrombie and that he played shortstop for RPI from 1870-1872. Richard was able to find his death in the New York Times Obituary Index. Obviously, this is our player. We don’t have an exact birthdate on him; however, since he was born in Oklahoma in 1851, that would make him the first major league player born in the state of Oklahoma, which at that time was known as Indian Territory. Nice job by Richard to get this straightened out.

May I Have This Waltz?

John Waltz was the interim manager of the Baltimore Orioles between George Van Haltren and Ned Hanlon. Richard Malatzky traced Waltz through the city directories and found several leads on his family. Peter Morris then waltzed into Annapolis, Maryland and tracked down the death certificate showing that he died in Baltimore on April 27, 1931.

Phil Coridan

Sporting Life and Sporting News provided most of the clues of tracing Phil Coridan. The first note said the Fort Wayne had signed Phil Coridan of Indianapolis. Later, a note said that Coridan of the Fort Wayne had signed with the Chicago Unions. The key note came in Sporting News in 1893 when an ad was placed by Coridan looking for a job. His address was given as 27 Buchanan Street in Indianapolis. Peter Morris used this to locate his family and this led to Peter finding his death notice in Indianapolis in 1915.

Francis Murphy

Richard Malatzky managed to track down Francis (Tony) Murphy, one game catcher for New York in 1884, in New York City. Two clues from Sporting Life were the keys to the search. An 1886 note mentioned that he had just gotten married in Hartford. A check of the Hartford marriages showed that he married Mary Spatcher. An 1889 note said that he was working as a butcher in New York City. Richard checked the city directories and the 1900 census and found Francis J. Murphy, butcher, who had married Mary Spatcher. Obviously, this was our player and Richard was able to find his 1915 death certificate.

A Quinn Readjustment

You may remember the Quinns, who were a Mystery of the Month a few years back. Peter Morris did some research on them and feels we need to readjust their record. So without going into a long explanation of how Peter arrived at these changes, (My head starts to hurt every time I look at these guys.) here are the changes we are making:

Joseph C. Quinn is really Patrick J. (Paddy) Quinn, and he played with Fort Wayne in 1871, Keokuk, Hartford, and Chicago in 1875, and Chicago in 1877. He died January 2, 1909 in Chicago.

The man we listed as Paddy Quinn wasn’t Paddy as you can see from our previous Quinn. This
guy just played with Brooklyn in 1875 and his first name is unknown.

Patrick Quinn, who we had listed with the 1875 Keokuk, Hartford, and Chicago entries, is actually Joseph Quinn and he played with Boston and Worcester in 1881. He probably died in Boston March 4, 1904, but we have no proof of that.

**Juuuust A Bit Outside**

We listed Thomas John Carey, who debuted in 1871 as dying in 1899 in Los Angeles. Peter Morris found a death certificate for this man and he was 26 years old. Since he was born in 1873, I think we can assume that we have been listing the wrong guy.

**Convention News**

It's hard to believe that the SABR convention is less than 2 months away, but I plan on being in Boston to attend my 24th straight convention. We didn't draw a very good time for our committee meeting. It is Sunday at 9:30. Hopefully, all of you won't have left by that time. Let me know if there is anything you would like to discuss.

**Birthday List**

With the death of Karl Swanson, our oldest living player becomes Ralph Erickson, who will be celebrating his 100th birthday in June. On the day Erickson became the oldest player, he was 99 years, 9 months, 9 days old. Here is the list of 90 year olds celebrating birthdays in May and June:

- May 1 Connie Marrero 91
- May 17 Michael Balas 92
- May 23 George H. "Ace" Parker 90
- May 31 Willis Hudlin 96
- June 19 William Fehring 90
- June 20 Don Gutteridge 94
- June 25 Don Gutteridge 94
- June 28 Joe Cascarella 95

**Zay What?**

Our Mystery of the Month is the mysterious Mr. Zay, who played one game with Baltimore in 1886. He was supposedly from Pittsburgh and Richard Malatsky found a William Zay, who was a paperhanger in Pittsburgh in 1890. The 1880 census showed William Zay (23) with Mena (20), Eddie (4), and Harry (6/12). It is unknown if this is the ballplayer.

**The Scoreboard**

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New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:
None

New Information Received:

1871 Abercrombie, David
Name: Francis Patterson Abercrombie
B: 1851
D: Nov 11 1939
Fort Towson, Oklahoma
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

1871 Anson, Adrian Constantine
1997 Aybar, Manuel Antonio
1883 Bakeley, Edward Enoch
1871 Barnes, Roscoe Charles
1936 Bertrand, Roman Mathias

1897 Brown, Charles E.
1935 Brown, Mace Stanley

1888 Brynan, Charles Ruley
1871 Carey, Thomas John

1911 Carlstrom, Albin Oscar
1884 Cleveland, Elmer Ellsworth
1945 Comellas, Jorge (Pous)

1884 Corridan, Philip

1974 Cowens, Alfred Edward

1996 Delgado, Wilson (Duran)
1947 Dente, Samuel Joseph

1898 Dinneen, William Henry
1916 Driscoll, Michael Columbus

1891 Duke, Martin F.
1883 Dundon, Edward Joseph
1893 Gilman, James Joseph
1890 Gray, Charles A.
1884 Green, James R.

Name: Philip E. Coridan
B: Aug 19 1858
Greensboro, North Carolina
The Dalles, Oregon

Height: 5-10
Eliminate death data and real name of J.J.
Debut: Sep 12 1911
Norton. Wrong man.
Height: 5-11 Weight: 190
D: Sep 13 2001
Miami, Florida

Name: William Henry Dinneen
B: North Abington, Massachusetts

Height: 5-11

Height: 5-08 Weight: 157
Height: 6-00 Weight: 170

TR

B: Jun 1864

Name: James F. Green
B: May 22 1854

Windham County, Connecticut

Cleveland, Ohio

Bio Report 4 Mar/Apr 2002
1920 Grimes, Austin Roy
1941 Gromek, Stephen Joseph
1944 Hansen, Andrew Viggo
1933 Haslin, Michael Joseph

1924 Henrich, Frank Wilde
1897 Hickman, Charles Taylor
1912 Johnson, Ellis Walter
1883 Jones, Ryerson L.
1886 Joyce, George W.

1991 Keenan, Harry Leon
1879 Klemmer, Rudolph
1932 Knothe, George Bertram
1890 Lackey, William D.

1943 Lindquist, Carl Emil
2000 Melo, Juan Esteban
1943 McDonnell, James William
1875 McGinley, Timothy S.
1922 Miller, Jacob George
1923 Miller, Leo Alphonso
1871 Mincher, Edward John

1884 Murphy, Francis J.

1891 Murphy, Lawrence Patrick
1888 Nicholson, Thomas Clark
1896 Norton, Elisha Strong
1907 Osborn, Wilfred Pearl
1953 Peden, Leslie Earl

1998 Perez, Odaliz Amadoll
1890 Phelan, Daniel T.
1889 Pickett, John Thomas
1871 Quinn, Joseph C.

1875 Quinn, Paddy
1875 Quinn, Patrick

1974 Reinbach, Michael Wayne

Bio Report
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