John Bates Found

John Bates, one-game pitcher for Kansas City in 1889, has been found by our newest committee member, Jay Sanford. Hence, Jay debuts by winning the April *Find of the Month* award. That's just like hitting a homer in your first major league at bat.

Harold Dellinger found several references to Bates coming to Kansas City from the Texas League as well as a note that Bates was from Denver. Jay tracked Bates throughout his Texas League career and found him to be one of the top pitchers from the Denver area. Jay was able to obtain the names of Bates' wife and children through Denver city directories. Since they disappeared from Denver in the early part of this century, Jay decided to check every state for the family in the 1920 census. He found the wife and children living in San Francisco with the wife listed as a widow. From there it was a simple matter to obtain the death certificate from California. A great way to break in to the committee!

Not Another One!

We have another new ballplayer and, as luck would have it, his last name is Smith and his first name is unknown. A SABR member from Cincinnati wrote me and said that the man who played for Cincinnati May 31, 1886 was referred to as a New Jersey amateur and also as a Louisville amateur. Elmer Smith didn't join the team until September.

Joe Simenich checked this out and found him referred to in *Sporting Life* as a St. Louis amateur. (At least we know he was an amateur; we just don't know from where.) Elmer Smith was playing in Nashville at the time. Anyone who would like to research our latest Mr. Smith has my blessing.

How Now, Mr. Brown?

Lefty Blasco sent me an article from *Sporting Life* of 11/23/1901 which stated that Brown, "formerly with the Chicago National League club" was with Marion, Ohio. Since both Browns who played with Chicago prior to 1900 were dead by 1901, does anyone know who this player is?

New Members

Please welcome Bill Arnold, 951 Alice Lane, Menlo Park, California 94025 to the bio committee. Bill's code number will be A4. Also welcome Al Quimby, 35 Ashington Lane, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027. Al's code number will be Q1. Finally, welcome Jay Sanford, 7086 Braun Court, Arvada, Colorado 80004. Jay's code number will be S5.

Committee Meeting

Our biographical committee meeting, the highlight of any SABR convention, will be held on Friday, June 17, at 7:00 PM. Please keep that time clear to attend.

Old-Timers

Fred London would like to know if Jimmie Reese is the oldest person ever to be in uniform for a major league team. My guess is that he is. Does anyone know?

Learning Link

SABR is partnering with PBS to provide baseball information through Learning Link, a computer-based information service for school age children. Our committee is going to help with this project by providing answers to questions of a biographical nature. It is all done
by way of a computer modem. I would like a volunteer to help with this effort as I don’t have
time to do it. You would have to log in every
few days and check if anyone has asked a
question, research the answer, and place the
answer back on Learning Link. It sounds like an
exciting project; let me know if you are
interested.

Last In, First Out

For the decade of the 1920s, you will notice a
change. After 1921, I will change the list to just
"First Out." This is because we have multiple
players still alive after 1921, except 1923 where
George Fisher is the last 1923 debut player. So
the player listed will be the first player to have
died from that year.

1920 - Walter Schulz
    Allen Conkright
    02/27/1928
    07/30/1991

1921 - Herman Merritt
    Lew Fonseca
    05/26/1927
    11/26/1989

1922 - Phillip Bedgood
    11/08/1927

1923 - Charles Dorman
    11/15/1928

1924 - Wayland Dean
    04/10/1930

1925 - Charles Corgan
    06/13/1928

1926 - George Stutz
    12/29/1930

1927 - Walter Morrison
    08/14/1934

1928 - Walter Lerian
    10/22/1929

1929 - Elliott Bigelow
    08/19/1933

Birthday List

Chet Hoff, the oldest player ever, turns 103
on May 8. Be sure to send him a card as well as
the other nonagenarians celebrating birthdays in
May.

May 7    Sal Gliatto    92
May 8    Chet Hoff      103
May 22   Decatur Jones  92

Another Missing Smith

The April Mystery of the Month is provided by
Bob Richardson. Albert E. Smith was born

Bio Report 2  April 1994

October 15, 1860 in North Haven, Connecticut.
He attended Yale and played baseball there in
1882, but he did not graduate. He played
professionally for Holyoke in 1882 and Boston in
1883, but quit playing after that to become a
paper salesman.

Bob traced Smith from Holyoke to Bridgeport,
Connecticut in 1884, to New York City in 1886,
to Paterson, New Jersey in 1892. The 1900
census showed Smith living in Rahway, New
Jersey with his wife, Ella, and two sons, Donald
and Henry. Smith is listed in the 1920 census,
but without his family. His occupation is the
proprietor of a publishing business.

Smith's brother, Frank, died April 7, 1941
and his parents died in 1911 and 1912, but no
obits could be found. Perhaps someone could
track down his family.
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None

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