Michael Flynn Found

Michael J. Flynn, one-game catcher for the 1891 Boston (AA) club has been found by Bob Richardson. For this, Bob wins the coveted Find of the Month award. Bob was able to determine the names of Flynn’s parents. Flynn’s mother, Maria Crane Flynn died February 28, 1902 in Lowell, Massachusetts. Her obituary referred to her "son, Michael, the well-known ballplayer and now proprietor of a bowling alley in Fall River." The Fall River city directory listed him until 1925, at which point it says "removed to LA." Bob then sent to California for a death certificate. After the obligatory four month wait, the death certificate arrived. The parents matched and his occupation was listed as a bowling alley proprietor. Good work by Bob Richardson!

California Death Index

Speaking of California, I now have access to the California Death Index from 1905-49. I intend to eventually order 1950 to the present, but if there is anyone you want me to look up in California, let me know and I’ll see if they are there.

Maybe Oprah Can Help

I was sitting in the doctor’s waiting room the other day and the television was tuned to the Oprah Winfrey Show. (I would never watch it otherwise.) Out walked Bucky Dent (Remember him, Red Sox fans?). Bucky told the story that when he was 9 years old, he learned that the people who had raised him and who he thought were his mother and father were actually his aunt and uncle. The woman he thought was his aunt was actually his mother and no one would tell him who his father was. (This could only happen on Oprah).

Bucky began a long search for his real father and eventually found him living in Georgia. His father’s name was Russell Stanford. Apparently Stanford kept up with Bucky’s career; Bucky didn’t find Stanford until he was 27 and they now keep in touch. We list Bucky’s real name as Russell Earl O’Dey. Now I’m really confused. I’ve written Bucky and asked him how he should be listed. When we have this much trouble getting the real name of a modern player, it’s no wonder we have trouble with the old-timers. By the way, does anyone remember the Homer and Jethro song, I’m My Own Grandpa?

There’s No Business Like Show Business

Continuing last month’s story of ballplayers who went into show business after their baseball careers, Dick Thompson sends along the following information:

Pop Lytle worked as a stage hand for Cecil B. DeMille.
Bill Rhiel appeared in the movie, Fireman, Save My Child.
Bill Phyle was a movie sound technician.
John Butler was a security guard at 20th Century Fox. (Is that show business?)
Toby Lyons had a vaudeville act.
Cyclone Ryan played Richard III on stage. (Is that Richard Topp, Richard Thompson, or Richard Puff?)

Finally, we can’t forget Joe Cicero who was Clark Gable’s cousin.

An Electrifying Performance

I don’t know if this is really biographical information but I found it fascinating nevertheless. We often see the modern player populate the disabled list far more than they used to. Players of old were a lot tougher. Witness the
story of Ray Caldwell. When he made his Indian debut in 1919, he was struck by lightning. He remained in the game and recovered to win 2-1. By the way, do gold chains and earrings conduct electricity?

**Matronymics**

Many of you wrote me regarding the proper way to treat the mother's maiden name of Latin players called a matronymic. It is correct to include it and it should be included. The "y" designation (Spanish for "and") is generally only used for royalty. The customary way of writing it is to include the mother's maiden name in parentheses such as Juan Roberto Agosto (Gonzalez). To ensure that the names are properly sorted, I will list them in the database this way:

Agosto, Juan Roberto (Gonzalez)

In cases such as the Alous who use their mother's maiden name as their use name, I will list them this way:

Alou, Jesus Maria
Real name: Jesus Maria Rojas (Alou)

**Birthday List**

September is a rather austere month for nonagenarian birthdays as we only have Leonard Dondero who turns 90 on September 12. Dondero does hold a unique place in baseball history as the player who was once traded for a dozen doughnuts. It is unknown whether they threw in a bagel to be named later.

We also add a new nonagenarian this month as Ralph Lief Erickson recently revealed that he is two years older than originally thought. Erickson actually turned 91 on June 25.

**Edward Whiting/Zieber**

We list Edward Whiting as playing with Baltimore in 1882, Louisville in 1883 and 1884, and Washington in 1886. Both Joe Simenic and Pete Morris have looked into Whiting and it would appear that the 1886 player is a different man. While he was often listed as Whiting in the 1886 Washington box scores, several newspapers indicate that his real name was Zieber and that he was a New York amateur. Joe found a biography of the 1882 player and he was definitely born in Philadelphia. This is our *Mystery of the Month* for August. We need to find who Zieber was and also a death date for Whiting. I am going to hold off splitting these guys up until we find more information.
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New Monthly Data

Questionnaires Received:
None

New Information Received:

1946 Armstrong, George Noble
Name: Noble George Armstrong
D: Jul 24 1993
Orange, New Jersey
B: Aug 26 1926
D: Lawrenceville, Georgia
B: Oct 1 1925
D: Apr 5 1993
Sequin, Washington

1957 Barnes, Frank
1952 Bishop, Charles Tuller
1951 Boyd, Robert Richard
1935 Coscarart, Joseph Marvin

1910 Cunningham, William James
Name: William John Cunningham
D: Utica, Ohio
B: Oct 8 1849
D: San Rafael, California
B: Apr 11 1944
B: Jun 25 1902
B: Oct 5 1861
Windham, New Hampshire

1909 Curtis, Clifton Garfield
1912 Delhi, Lee William
1890 Demarais, Frederick
1884 DePangher, Michael Anthony
1871 Donnelly, Peter J.
1903 Dulleavy, John Francis
1929 Erickson, Ralph Lief
1890 Fessenden, Wallace Clifford (MGR)

1886 Flynn, John A.
1891 Flynn, Michael J.

1899 Flood, Timothy A.
1884 Gastfield, Edward
1935 Gomez, Jose Luis (Rodriguez)

1898 Hall, Robert Russell
1905 Hart, James Henry
1902 Hess, Otto C.

1885 Hiland, John William

1905 Hinchman, William White
1890 Honan, Martin Weldon
1941 Hughson, Cecil Carlton

1912 James, William A.
1884 Jones, Frank M.
1890 Jones, Michael

Name: Jose Luis Gomez (Gonzalez)
D: Dec 1 1992
Nuevo Laredo, Mexico
Height: 5-10
Weight: 170
B: Everett, Massachusetts
B: Oct 10 1878
D: Feb 25 1926
B: Baltic, Rhode Island
Height: 5-08.5
Weight: 165
D: Feb 20 1963
B: Apr 1871
D: Aug 6 1993
Austin, Texas
D: Glenroy, Ohio
BL
B: Jul 6 1865
Height: 5-11.5
Weight: 168
1892 Keeler, William Henry
1890 Kelty, John James
1957 Kennedy, John Irvin

1884 Knight, Joseph William

1889 Krumm, Albert

1926 Langford, Elton

1890 Lyons, Patrick Jerry
1945 Maier, Robert Phillip
1943 Malloy, Robert Paul
1884 Manning, James H.
1940 Marion, Martin Whitford
1905 McCarthy, William John
1912 McGehee, Patrick Henry
1884 Meinke, Frank Louis
1957 Miller, Robert Lane

1884 Moriarity, Eugene John
1883 Mountjoy, William R.
1887 O'Neill, Frederick James
1901 Owen, Frank Malcolm
1884 Parsons, John S.
1884 Phillips, Marr B.
1883 Pirie, James Montgomery
1871 Pratt, Thomas J.
1883 Ringo, Frank C.
1882 Scott, Milton Parker
1903 Shannon, Owen Dennis Ignatius
1917 Shaw, Benjamin Nathaniel
1884 Smith, Michael Anthony
1886 Smith, William S.
1883 Sweeney, John J.
1907 Sweeney, William John
1875 Terry,
1906 Towne, Jay King
1952 Trouppe, Quincy Thomas

1881 Troy, John Joseph
1888 Walker, George A.
1888 Weaver, William B.
1951 Williams, Richard Hirschfeld

Real Name: William Henry O'Kelleher
B: Jun 1866
D: Oct 12 1926
Jacksonville, Florida
(M4)

B: Jan 1865
D: Jul 31 1993
Pennsylvania
Plainview, Texas
(C1)

B: Mar 1860
Is Deceased
Is Alive
(B6)

BS Height: 5-07
Name: Martin Whiteford Marion
(B2)

Height: 5-06 Weight: 138
D: Paducah, Kentucky
(BR)

Name: Robert Lane Gemeinweiser
Real Name: Robert Lane Gemeinweiser
D: Aug 6 1993
Rancho Bernardo, California
(B2)

B: Jul 1855
B: London, Ontario
Name: Frederick James O'Neil
BS
(B2)

Height: 5-06 Weight: 138
D: Cleveland, Ohio
(B2)

Name: James Moir Pirie
Real Name: James Moir Pirie
B: Feb 1844
D: Dec 22 1879
B: New York, New York
B: Watertown, Massachusetts
D: Atletboro, Pennsylvania
(B2)

Height: 5-05 Weight: 154
D: Aug 12 1993
Creve Coeur, Missouri
(B2)

B: 1863
D: Jan 23 1943
B: May 7 1922
(B2)

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