In the News

**The Negro Southern League Museum host a players reunion**

Wayne Stivers (Plano, IL) and I recently attended the 7th annual Negro League Baseball Players Reunion in Birmingham, Alabama, from May 31 through June 1st. Roughly 40 players attended the gala event. A special luncheon for the players was held at Lawson State Community College, and later they were recognized at the 22nd annual *Rickwood Classic*. Another highlight was the visit to the Negro Southern Leagues Museum (NSLM).

The NSLM tells the story of African-American baseball in America through the eyes of Birmingham. The museum features the largest collection of original Negro League baseball artifacts in the country. NSLM also features an on-site research center that is supported by a research team consisting of seven of the top researchers in Negro League and Southern League baseball history. If you are looking for a one-of-a-kind experience, please make plans to visit the NSLM. Whether you are a baseball enthusiast or a novice, the NSLM has something for you.

Museum highlights include several vintage artifacts such as:

- **Satchel Paige**'s game worn uniform
- **Willie Wells**' Kansas City Royals uniform
- **Bullet Rogan**'s pitching jacket
- **Louis Santop**'s bat
- **1919 McCallister Trophy**, the oldest known Negro League trophy
- A 1907 **Cuban Stars** player contract, the oldest known contract.

The NSLM also features an interactive hologram of **Satchel Paige** pitching four different pitches; the Wobble ball, Hesitation pitch, the Hurry-up ball and the Midnight Rider. A fun time for all ages. Meanwhile, let's add a massive display of **1500 original single-signed baseballs** by former players.

To learn more about facility rentals, tours, sponsorship opportunities, and other programs, please call 205-581-3040 and ask to speak with Ms. **Toby H. Richards** or Ms. **Natasha L. Rogers**.

If you are interested in learning more about the NSLM, please visit the Center for Negro League Baseball Research at: [www.cnlbr.org](http://www.cnlbr.org)

The NSLM is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday/Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. Admission is FREE! The hours of operation are subject to change based on the schedule of special events and programs.

And finally, take out your selfie sticks & cell phones, and say cheese! Unlike some museums, flash photography and video recording is encouraged at the NSLM. Be sure to upload your photographs and share them via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Remember to tag @NSLMBham so they can see what you post. They may even share it!
Carl Erskine Helps Honor a Childhood Friend
By MICHAEL TACKETT May 28, 2016, NY Times

ANDERSON, Ind. — As he approaches his 90th birthday, Carl Erskine doesn’t feel as if he has many boxes left to check. But there had been one: He wanted to see his childhood friend Johnny Wilson properly honored in his hometown. That moment arrived Friday when a nine-foot bronze sculpture of a leaping Wilson, his arms outstretched, a basketball in his right hand, was unveiled at Anderson High School.

Erskine, the Brooklyn Dodgers pitcher who appeared in 11 World Series games and threw two no-hitters in the 1950s, and Wilson have been friends since meeting as children, in an alley with a basketball hoop attached to a barn, when Erskine offered an innocent invitation: “Do you want to play?”

One white child, one black, they were bound from that point by their love of sports and their meager economic circumstances during the Depression in this north-central Indiana factory town. The friendship with Wilson was Erskine’s bridge to his warm relationship with Jackie Robinson, whom he joined on the Dodgers in Robinson’s second season after breaking Major League Baseball’s color barrier.

One day, Robinson went out of his way to thank Erskine for speaking to his wife, Rachel, and children in front of white fans. Erskine said no thanks were necessary, and on Friday he said one name explained why: Johnny Wilson.

Their is a friendship going on eight decades that both men see as a powerful counter narrative to the racial tensions that have consumed many American cities and at times inflamed the presidential campaign. They simply never saw each other through the prism of race.

Erskine said the sculpture was a deserved, if belated, tribute to Wilson.

“My hope is that it will mean a lot more than Johnny being a great athlete,” Erskine said in an interview. “What Johnny stands for to me is he beat all the odds. Segregation was rampant in those days. Blacks and whites were separate, except for friendship, and then it didn’t make any difference.”

Wilson was an all-around athlete in Robinson’s mold, playing four sports and earning the state’s top high school honor, Mr. Basketball, after leading Anderson to the state title in 1946, scoring 30 of his team’s 67 points in the championship game. He also shared the state championship in the high jump, and played football as well. In the summer, he joined Erskine to play baseball and held major league dreams of his own.

But while Erskine has lived a life of adulation and acceptance, Wilson was often met with rejection. He wanted to attend Indiana University, but the basketball coach said he wasn’t good enough even though he had been named the best player in the state. Unstated was that the Big Ten conference did not offer athletic scholarships to black students.

After Wilson led the state in scoring while playing for tiny Anderson College, the fledgling professional basketball leagues also offered no opportunity. So Wilson signed with the Harlem Globetrotters in the era when the team was highly competitive, barnstorming the country to take on college all-star teams and white professional teams, even traveling to Europe and Asia.

As talented as Wilson was in basketball, his first love was baseball. He had a tryout with the St. Louis Cardinals, hitting two home runs, with four other hits, and recording the fastest time in sprints. When the attending Cardinals scout was asked what he thought of Wilson, he said, “Which one was Wilson?” He was the only black player.

Wilson eventually signed with the Chicago American Giants, a team in the Negro leagues, playing two seasons before returning to the Globetrotters.

As boys, Erskine and Wilson worked around the segregation of the time. Wilson was barred from the Y.M.C.A. pool, so Erskine would swim with him at the “colored” pool. Black people did not sit on the first floor of the movie theater downtown, so Erskine would go to the balcony to sit with his friend. When a restaurant refused to serve them, they simply walked out together.
When Erskine asked Wilson to play with his all-white city youth baseball team, the team won easily. The next day, the city made Erskine’s team forfeit for using a black player, Erskine said.

When Erskine was flourishing with the Boys of Summer-era Dodgers, Wilson would try to find a radio to listen to the game when his friend was pitching. One day, their baseball teams played on the same day in Pittsburgh, and they met in Schenley Park across from Forbes Field and took in how far both of them had come.

“Look at us from the old neighborhood,” Erskine recalled saying to his friend.

Erskine returned to Anderson after baseball, working first in insurance and later in banking. He has also been deeply involved in Special Olympics; his youngest son, Jimmy, was born with Down syndrome, and Erskine still drives him back and forth to his job. He is in many ways the city’s most popular face.

The two as schoolboy basketball teammates in the 1938-39 season: Erskine, second from right in the second row, and Wilson, left in the first row.

Wilson, who will be 89 in July, met a different fate. He was twice rejected as a candidate to become coach of the high school basketball team, for reasons that he has always associated with race. Still, Wilson said he had no time for bitterness.

When he was denied an opportunity, Wilson said, his mother, Hazel, would tell him: “It’s their loss. They need you more than you need them. Don’t go where you aren’t wanted.”

And so Wilson did not.

Wilson lives on his own and rarely misses an Anderson High School basketball game. Each week, he volunteers at his church’s clothing drive, often passing out items to families in need. His town has also come to embrace him fully. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from what is now Anderson University. He was inducted into the Anderson High School Hall of Fame, and the state of Indiana honored him as a Sagamore of the Wabash, an award given to those who advanced the state’s heritage.

Wilson and Erskine talk frequently by phone, have breakfast or play golf together. During one round last summer, Erskine shot a hole in one, and Wilson was his witness.

Erskine, who helped raise money for the sculpture, which cost more than $60,000, said the high school grounds were an appropriate place to honor one of its most inspirational graduates.

Wilson was more sanguine, saying, “If one kid can look at that statute and say ‘I think I can do that,’ that would satisfy me.”

On the hot, steamy morning, Erskine helped to remove the purple draping from the sculpture as it dramatically appeared, with Wilson in his Harlem Globetrotters uniform, his lean body reaching skyward.

“He’s my brother without the blood,” Erskine said.

Editor’s note: Carl Erskine and Johnny Wilson were our guests at the 2011 Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference in Indianapolis. Wilson, along with writer Dick Burdette published Jump, Johnny, Jump! by Author House in 2007. Earlier, in 2001, The Anderson Herald-Bulletin named Wilson the greatest basketball player in Madison County history. He also was named the co-greatest athlete in county history. The other recipient was Carl Erskine. Wilson played for the 1948 and 1949 Chicago American Giants.
Cumberland Posey elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame by Stephen J. Nesbitt / Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The grass-roots campaign to get Cumberland “Cum” Posey enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame began one day in 2002 when two men met at a Starbucks in Pittsburgh and drafted a plan to unearth the story of one of the best athletes the area has seen.

Posey, who was born in Homestead in 1890 and died in 1946, was the first black athlete at Penn State and Duquesne and was a player, manager and owner of the Homestead Grays baseball team. He will be the first to be voted into both the professional basketball and baseball halls of fame.

“Today, we honor a man who could be called Pittsburgh’s forgotten champion,” said Duquesne president Charles Dougherty at a ceremony Monday night on Duquesne’s campus, with a number of Mr. Posey’s descendants in attendance.

Posey is best known for helping build the Grays into a national power, and his basketball prowess seemed lost to history until Dr. Rob Ruck, a history professor at Pitt, wrote the book “Sandlot Seasons,” which told of prominent people and places in Pittsburgh’s black sports history.

That’s how Mr. Claude Johnson, the founder of Black Fives Foundation, which uses pre-1950 history of African-American basketball to honor its pioneers, came to meet Dr. Ruck. He had read the book and wanted to know how to research and help Posey gain his worthy induction into the basketball hall.

Posey’s basketball resume began with a city championship in 1908 while at Homestead High School. The Monticello Rifles, an all-black team he formed, won the Colored Basketball World Championships in 1912. He later led the Loendi Big Five to four consecutive black national titles.

“Posey and his teams showed what the African-American community was capable of achieving during some pretty hateful times when segregation and theories of racial supremacy were the norm,” Ruck said Monday. “His teams beat all comers, white and black. They did so with athletic skill, with intelligence and dignity.”

As Pittsburgh’s industrial identity faltered and fell later in the 1900s, Ruck said, “sport, not steel, became the story we told about ourselves to the world.” Pittsburghers were people who worked hard and played harder, who lost but persevered.

“In the end, it became Titletown, USA,” Ruck said. “Nobody was more integral to that story than Cum Posey. His teams won more championships in two different sports than the Steelers and Pirates combined.”

While leading Duquesne in scoring every season from 1916-18, Posey played under the alias “Charles Cumbert.” There are a few theories as to why — eligibility concerns is one — but Johnson said Posey tried passing as white because opponents would refuse to play a black person.

Posey entered the Duquesne University Sports Hall of Fame in 1988, under his real name, though while researching Johnson could find no evidence the player was ever enrolled at the university.

To complete the commonwealth’s collegiate triangle, one yearbook Johnson discovered shows Posey also was enrolled for a time in Pitt’s pharmacology program.

In 2013, Duquesne announced the creation of the Cumberland W. Posey Jr. Endowed Fund, established with a principal of $1 million, to assist minority students with financial needs. Dougherty, the university president, called the fund “a living legacy” that continues to grow.

Posey, who died one year before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball, was inducted into baseball’s National Hall of Fame in 2006 after decades of effort from Negro League historians.

Evan Baker, who works in the pathology department at UPMC Mercy, is Posey’s great nephew. At the ceremony Monday, Dr. Baker said he and the family were elated when Mr. Posey was inducted into the baseball hall of fame. And now the basketball hall?

“For me to go through this a second time,” Dr. Baker said, “is beyond words.”
Jackie Robinson will be honored with a statue at Dodger Stadium by Dave Brown of CBS Sports

The Los Angeles Dodgers announced December 22, 2015, that, sometime in 2016, a likeness of Jackie Robinson would be the first statue ever to appear at Dodger Stadium. The artist Branly Cadet, a former Brooklyn resident, will sculpt a statue between 9 and 10 feet tall of Robinson, who broke Major League Baseball's modern color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, and named Rookie of the Year.

Robinson had retired by the time the Dodgers moved to the West Coast in 1958, but he remains the most iconic player in team history, one of the most important baseball players of all time and an American civil-rights hero. Earlier in 2015, the team announced that a statue was coming, but plans have been finalized only recently.

Dodgers president Stan Kasten said in a statement, via the Los Angeles Times: 
"The Dodgers have a rich history of breaking barriers, and it all began with Jackie Robinson in 1947," Kasten said. "Therefore, it is altogether fitting that our first statue at Dodger Stadium be of Jackie. The class that Jackie exhibited, while still performing at the highest level, made everything that has happened since -- not only in baseball, but in many respects throughout American society -- possible. It is with great humility and joy that the Dodgers launch this project in concert with Rachel Robinson and the Jackie Robinson Foundation. We know Branly Cadet's artistry will result in a tribute to Jackie that will resonate with Dodger fans for decades to come."

Dodger Insider: Jon Weisman wrote about the sculptor
Cadet’s artistry will result in a tribute to Jackie that will resonate with Dodger fans for decades to come.”

Cadet studied figurative sculpture at the New York Academy of Art, Arts Student League, and the Vaugel Sculpture Studio and L’Ecole Albert Depois in France. Cadet won the prestigious James Wilbur Johnston National Figure Sculpture Competition and has completed several private and public commissions.

“We’re thrilled that the Dodgers will honor Jack with the inaugural statue at Dodger Stadium,” said Rachel Robinson, wife of Jackie Robinson and founder of the Jackie Robinson Foundation. “Branly Cadet’s excitement for the project is heartening, and I look forward to the unveiling with great enthusiasm.”

According to the Dodgers, Cadet, who lived in Brooklyn before settling in Oakland, is creating the Robinson piece around the theme, “Leveling the Playing Field.” Cadet’s previous works include the William Shakespeare medallion at the former Booth Theatre site in New York City, and the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Memorial in front of the New York State Office Building in New York City. He is also currently working on a privately funded large-scale monument for the City of Philadelphia.

“I am so honored to have the opportunity to design a sculpture memorial to Jackie Robinson for the Los Angeles Dodgers,” Cadet said. “He is an icon of American history being celebrated by a legendary team in a grand city. I’m excited to create a design that is both befitting of this context and pays homage to his legacy as a sports hero and civic leader.”

Visit Cadet’s website to view more of his work at: http://www.branlycadet.com/index.php
Sunrises!

JUNE
8™ – LIONEL EVELYN - 87
14™ – DON NEWCOMBE - 88
19™ – HANK MASON - 85
20™ – AL CARTMILL, JR. - 86
21st – ART SIMMONS - 79
22nd – BOB SCOTT - 86
23rd – ULYSSES HOLLIMON – 85
24th – NEALE “BOBO” HENDERSON – 86
30th – RENDON MARBURY - 79

JULY
1st – FRANK ENSLEY - 89
7th – JUMPIN’ JOHNNY WILSON - 89
16th – CLIFF DUBOSE - 79
19th – JOHNNY FAIRLEY – 75
26th – PEDRO SIERRA – 78
30th – WILLIAM BELL – 86
31st – DON JOHNSON – 90 & POP DURHAM - 85

AUGUST
1st – A.J. JACKSON - 83
5th – IRA McKnight, Jr. - 81
8th – GRADY MONTGOMERY – 85
12th – RAYMON LACY – 94
19th – WALT “COACH O” OWENS – 83
25th – CLARENCE “CHOO CHOO” COLEMAN – 79
26th – IKE WELCH – 96
29th – RICH BOOKER – 87
31st – JAKE SANDERS - 82

CONGRATULATIONS to Nonagenarians, RAYMOND LACY & IKE WELCH.

Sunsets . . .

CHARLES ”CHARLIE, Whip” DAVIS, 89, died March 18, 2016, in Cincinnati, Ohio. His nickname of "Whip" was given to him by teammate and country music singer Charley Pride, his teammate with the Memphis Red Sox during the 1953-55 seasons.

Davis claimed his biggest thrill was relieving Satchel Paige in the 1955 (not in 1953 as often reported) East-West All-Star game. He pitched two hitless, shutout innings.

In 2008, he was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in a Special MLB Draft of former Negro League Players. Davis known for his special automotive skills, leaves a wife Cheryl, three daughters and seven grandchildren.

THEODORE "TED" TOLES, JR., 90, died April 4, 2016, in Warren, Ohio. Toles began his professional baseball career in 1946 with the Pittsburgh Crawfords of Branch Rickey's United States League. He later played until 1949, for the Cleveland Buckeyes, Newark Eagles and the Jacksonville Eagles.

Toles was an honored guest at the 2012 Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference in Cleveland. Other tributes include, in 2007, Topps created a baseball card for the talented Toles. The following year, Hartland Sports Collectible created a statute in his image. The ultimate compliment came as his life has been chronicled in the book Living on Borrowed Time: The Life and Times of Negro League Player Ted Toles Jr., by Michael Swank published last year.

FREDERICK JOHN "RICK" MEISTER, 71. Upon returning from Spring Training in Florida, Meister died March 28, 2016. Rick was a dedicated attendee at both the Malloy Conference and the SABR National Conference. Meister was one of the key organizers in hosting the 2014 Detroit Jerry Malloy Conference.

Today, Rick is on a baseball diamond, where he will never grow old. There are no sunsets or sunrises, nor any rain delays for this Show. We shout his new victory, as hospitality will be his host, and fellowship will be forever. The river of his life will flow freely, his team will be unbeatable, and his eternal gifts will be visible to us all. I will miss my travel buddy and especially our Kansas City Royals and Detroit Tigers rivalry.

The late Dick Clark (left) and Rick Meister, avid Detroit Tiger and Detroit Star fans.
MUHAMMAD ALI, 74, died June 3, 2016, in Scottsdale, Arizona. The former three-time heavyweight champion was a big fan of the Negro Leagues.

Ali is pictured here at the 1995 Major League All-Star game in Arlington, Texas with legends Max Manning, Wilmer Fields, Gene Benson, himself, Bill Cash, Sherwood Brewer and Josh Johnson.

Help Us Commemorate Leon Day’s 100th Birthday in October.

The National Great Blacks in Wax museum which is Baltimore’s first wax museum and the first wax museum of African American history in the nation, is looking to install a Leon Day wax figure. Funding is led by Tonya Thomas, 443-804-6827 at tthomas@ballinc.org

The museum was started as a grassroots operation by Dr. Elmer Martin and his wife Dr. Joanna Martin. The idea of Blacks in Wax started with a few wax figures that were taken around to various schools, community centers, and malls. It received national recognition in 1983 when the founding members were allotted grants, loans, and endowments to open a permanent exhibition. In 1988, Blacks in Wax received its permanent home on the 1600 block of North Avenue in the neighborhood of Oliver.

The museum was originally sponsored exclusively by Dr. Elmer Martin, his wife Dr. Joanna Martin, and donations from the community. In the early days, Dr. Elmer Martin was forced to ask his wife to sell her wedding ring to keep the moving exhibit going. However, in 1983 the project was awarded several loans and grants in order to obtain a permanent home, and now survives on admissions, loans, grants, and endowments.

The site was originally home to a firehouse that was converted into a show house. In 2004, The Blacks in Wax Museum was recognized by the U.S. Congress and became The National Blacks in Wax Museum.

Let’s help Tonya Thomas via the GoFundMe page and raise the funds so that Leon Day can join the likes of figures in the museum such as; Bessie Coleman, W.E.B. DuBois, Emmett Till, Madam C.J. Walker, Barack Obama, Nelson Mandela and Rosa Parks, et al.

The fund link is: https://www.gofundme.com/LeonDayWaxFigure

Day, a versatile athlete played every position (with the exception of catcher) during his tenures with such Negro leagues teams as the Baltimore Black Sox (1934), Brooklyn Eagles (1935), Newark Eagles (1936-39, 1941-43, 1946), and Baltimore Elite Giants (1949-50). In 1937 he finished the season with a perfect 13-0 record, and even after his career was interrupted by military service (1944-46), he returned to the mound on opening day to hurl a no-hitter. Day, who emerged victorious in three of four matchups with the legendary pitcher Satchel Paige, was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame about a week before his death. His accomplishments and achievements warrant his recognition and place in this Baltimore museum.

The Baseball Reliquary Announces the Induction of Don Newcombe, Bo Jackson and Arnold Hano.

On May 4, 2016, the Board of Directors of the Baseball Reliquary announced the 18th class of electees to the Shrine of the Eternals. The Shrine of the Eternals is the national organization’s equivalent to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Of the 50 eligible candidates, Don Newcombe received the highest voting percentage, being named on 42% of the ballots returned. Congratulations Big Newk.

SABR’s Negro Leagues Committee
Larry Lester, chairman, LarryLester42@gmail.com or NTresearch@comcast.net

The Courier is a quarterly newsletter published by the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR); in March, June, September and December. Inquiries, submissions and research requests can be sent to Larry Lester. Back issues can be found HERE.

To receive your personal copies of this newsletter please join SABR by clicking here.

For more information about SABR’s Negro Leagues Committee click here.

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19th Annual Jerry Malloy Negro League Conference - Tentative Schedule - All times subject to change.

THURSDAY - JULY 7th
9:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Educational forum conducted by Dr. Leslie Heaphy with special presentation by Dr. Ray Janifer
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Conference Registration at Sheraton Overland Park Hotel
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Meet & Greet Reception at Sheraton Overland Park Hotel with special guest George Altman, former Kansas City Monarchs and Chicago Cubs all-star outfielder.

FRIDAY - JULY 8th
8:00 - 8:45 a.m. - Coffee & Tea - welcome by Larry Lester — SABR's Negro Leagues Committee Chairman
8:45 - 9:00 a.m. - First Pitch: Why Black Baseball Matters! by Larry Lester
9:00 to 9:30 a.m. - James Brunson - One of the Finest Catchers Who Ever Looked Through a Mask: Visual Culture, Blackball and Frank Maupin, 1885-1899
9:30 to 10:00 a.m. - Brian Carroll - Black Baseball's Funmakers: Time to Take the Ethiopian Clowns Seriously
10:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Courtesy Break
10:30 to 11:00 a.m. - Allison Petonic - Ohio's Capital City in 1884: Fleet Walker’s Major League Visits to Columbus
11:00 to 11:30 a.m. - Brian Campbell - African American Ballplayers Abroad: Baseball, Race & the Black Press, 1920-50
11:30 a.m. to Noon - Karl Lindholm - The Cuban Giants Come to Middlebury

Noon to 1:15 p.m. Lunch on your own
1:30 - 2:00 p.m. - Board Arrow Stage Lines motor coaches to American Jazz and Negro Leagues Baseball Museums en route to Kauffman Stadium for the Seattle Mariners against the World Champion Kansas City Royals
2:30 - 4:30 p.m. - Tour the American Jazz and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museums at 18th & Vine
5:00 - 6:00 p.m. - Visit the Royals Hall of Fame Museum in left field at Kauffman Stadium
6:00 - 6:15 p.m. - Robert Paige & George Altman throw out the first pitch.
6:35 p.m. - Game Time
11:00 p.m. - Return to the Sheraton Overland Park Hotel

SATURDAY - JULY 9th
8:30 a.m. - Coffee & tea
8:45 - 9:00 a.m. - Welcome by Larry Lester
9:00 to 9:30 a.m. - Bryan Steverson - Brothers in our Game: Negro Leaguers with Friends
9:30 to 10:00 a.m. - Nia and Owen Lawson IV - Beyond K.C. . . . Shadowball 2.0: A West Coast Migration - West Coast Baseball Association
10:00 – 10:30 a.m. – Courtesy Break
10:30 to 11:00 a.m. - Todd Peterson - Before the Monarchs: The K.C. Giants, 1907-17
11:00 to 11:30 a.m. - Sherman Jenkins - Satchel & Monarchs Tame Dizzy Dean's All-Stars
11:30 a.m. to Noon - Ruby Berryman - Barnstorming as Theatre: Satchel Seizes the Elixir

Noon - 1:15 p.m. - LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
1:30 to 2:00 p.m. - Peter Gorton - John Donaldson: Restoring the Legacy of Segregated Baseball's Greatest Left-Handed Pitcher
2:00 - 2:30 p.m. Frank White - Untold Stories of Black Baseball in Minnesota
2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Paul Spyhalski - Iowa's Black Barnstorming Champions

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Courtesy Break
3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - Special Presentation with the children of Leroy and Lahoma Paige with Dr. Donald Spivey
5:00 – 5:45 p.m. - Trivia Preliminaries and Finals:
5:45 - 6:00 p.m. - Courtesy Break
6:00 to 7:00 p.m. - Reception and cash bar in Leatherwood 2 and 3 - Satchel Paige's 110th Birthday Celebration
7:00 - 10:30 p.m. - Awards Banquet with silent auction in Leatherwood 2 and 3

www.sabr.org/malloy
The Negro Leagues Committee awards scholarships

SABR's Negro Leagues Research Committee is pleased to award $4,300 scholarships to five 2016 high school seniors in its seventh annual national essay contest. They beat out more than 240 candidates from 42 states and one foreign country. The selection committee was comprised of educators Leslie Heaphy, Stephanie Liscio, Mel May, Shawn Morris and Dr. Charles Crutchfield.

The Thomas R. Garrett Memorial Scholarship contest was open to high school seniors planning to pursue a degree at an accredited U.S. post-secondary institution and carrying a minimum 2.5 GPA at the end of their junior year. Students had to write a 1,000-word essay answering one of four questions about Rube Foster, Tweed Webb, Jimmie Crutchfield or Robert Peterson.

Below are biographies received from the winners.

The THOMAS R. GARRETT FAMILY OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Robert Peterson Scholarship Winner

Kevin Vernan Crosby is 17-years old and will graduate with honors from the Academy of Health Sciences at Prince George’s Community College (AHS@PGCC). Kevin will receive both his high school diploma and associates degree with his focus in Biology. Kevin will have earned over 60 college credits when he graduates in May with a 4.259 GPA. Kevin always made the Dean’s list.

During his time at AHS@PGCC, Kevin became a member of the National Honors Society; the Inter-Club Council Representative for Prince George’s Community College Pre-Health Professionals Club and became a member of Prince George’s Community College Honors program. Kevin won the highly esteemed POSSE Foundation Full-tuition Merit Scholarship to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was also admitted into Johns Hopkins University. Kevin was chosen as a summer intern at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) which he begins in June 2016.

Kevin has a passion for health literacy and aspires to become a physician. Kevin was born with a birth defect that severely impacted his hearing and speech. This early time in his life was challenging but defining and is one of the reasons why he is working towards becoming a physician. Through hard work, determination, and numerous prayers, he eventually overcame his speech impediment which taught him how to work towards a goal.

In middle school Kevin found his love for the trumpet and played the trumpet in Accokeek Academy’s honors band and was selected through county level competition to play the trumpet in the Prince George’s County Public Schools Middle School Honors Band. He also maintained a 4.0 GPA in middle school and was inducted into the National Junior Honors Society.

Kevin placed first in many school wide and countywide science fairs while at Accokeek Academy. Kevin’s passion for science led him to write five science books that were submitted to the Prince George’s County Public Schools Write-A-Book (PGCPS WAB) competitions which he also won first place. His books on science include: Black Holes: Exploding Stars; Seven Types of Natural Disasters; Lasers and Lights; St. Elmo’s Fire & Lightning and Egg-Cellent Journey!


Kevin said, “Participating in community service also gives me as much joy as when I play football, basketball, soccer or lift weights. Volunteering motivates me to continue pursuing my vision of becoming a physician.” As a member of INROADS College Links and Mind Expansion Community Service, Kevin has participated in service activities focused on assisting those in need and with hidden disabilities.

More info at: http://www.larrylester42.com/jerry-malloy.html
Jansen Rouillard is a senior from Wichita Falls, TX. He will graduate Rider High School in May 2016 and will attend Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri in the fall of 2016. He plans to pursue a double major in Psychology and English, and hopes to one day become an Industrial Organizational Psychologist. Some of his greatest scholastic accolades include being named a National Merit Commended Scholar, the Rider High School Scholastic Award, and the Times Record News Star Student Award.

When he is not in the classroom, Jansen enjoys playing tennis for his high school’s varsity team, where he has played in a variety of places and is a three-time Regional qualifier, as well as traveling around Texas playing USTA tennis in the Super Champ division. He is president of RHS Acapella Choir, and is a two-time UIL Division 1 State Soloist. Jansen is also heavily involved in National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, National Society of High School Scholars, Spanish Club, Key Club, World Affairs Club, and Student Council. Jansen would like to thank family and friends for pushing him to excel and would also like to thank the Tweed Webb Scholarship committee for selecting him and giving him an opportunity to pursue his dreams.

Rube Foster Scholarship Winner

Grant Heindselman is a senior at Westlake Academy, an International Baccalaureate school in the suburbs of the Dallas area. While in high school, he was elected as president of his school’s chapter of the National Honor Society and has volunteered regularly. Grant received the Presidential Gold Service Award for three straight years, recognizing those who volunteer at least 250 hours during each calendar year. Grant was the founder and president of his school’s Philosophy Club and treasurer of the Latin American Culture Club. Grant is going to attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall to pursue a medical career in order to continue helping others.

Jimmie Crutchfield Scholarship Winner #1

Josephine Riedell, (everyone calls me Josie). I’m a senior graduating through a homeschool assistance program in Iowa. I took part in drama, Mock Trial and the Madrigal Singers. I was also inducted into the National Honor Society. I’ve grown up with my wonderful Catholic family of six, a dog with anxiety and really noisy parakeets. I also spend time volunteering at the Hiawatha Care Center. After I graduate, I plan to attend UNI to study Graphic Art and Design, possibly also studying writing in some way. I’m obsessed with birds and animals and spend my days with friends, on Pinterest, doodling all over my math book and singing until I drive my Mom crazy. As for the future, I don’t know if I’ll ever change the world: but I want to change individual people’s lives, day by day.

Jimmie Crutchfield Scholarship Winner #2

Grace Rootes is a senior and is graduating from Noblesville High School, Noblesville, IN. Grace was inducted into the National Honor Society in 2016 and participated in show choir and dance team while in high school. Grace also started a school sponsored ASL club in 2014. Outside of school Grace volunteered each summer at a youth camp and was a member of the White River Ballet Company. Grace is planning on attending Ball State University in the fall as a Hearing Impaired and Deaf Studies major. After that Grace plans on pursuing a career in either interpreting or Deaf Education.

More info at: http://www.larrylester42.com/jerry-malloy.html