NEGRO LEAGUES MICROLESSONS

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF KANSAS CITY
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TEACHING-ECONOMICS-WITH-BASEBALL/

Developed by Gigi Wolf
UNIT ONE: BASEBALL BASICS

MICROLESSON THREE: JOBS

Timing: 30 - 90 minutes, contingent upon activities completed

Description: In this microlesson, students will learn about different players and jobs within Negro Leagues Baseball. Students will receive one or more Negro Leagues player profiles and use the information provided to complete various activities based on teacher preference and time allotted. Student activities include constructing a Venn Diagram to compare/contrast players, organizing data related to players’ physical attributes and baseball careers, classifying skills and training for various jobs and baseball positions, interpreting graphs, performing simple addition and skill matching exercises, evaluating and ranking player attributes and visualizing their future career and human capital development.

Learning Objectives:
Students will be able to:
• Define human capital, choice, income, incentive, human resources and specialization.
• Identify human capital for various jobs.
• Classify specialization within sports and businesses.
• Categorize details about baseball and baseball players.
• Compare and contrast information about baseball players.
• Interpret data about athletes’ income.
• Analyze their own human capital and growth potential.
• Evaluate players to create their own baseball team.

Key Vocabulary:
• Choice – a decision made between two or more possibilities or alternatives
• Human Capital - knowledge and skills that people obtain through education, experience, and training
• Human Resources – workers who make goods or provide services
• Income – the amount of money earned or received for work
• Incentive – something that influences the behavior of people
• Specialization - working in a specific job producing a specific good or service, and relying on other workers to produce other goods and services
Materials Needed:
• Handout 1-40: Negro Leagues Player Card
• Teacher Guide: Negro Leagues Player Cards
• Handout 41: Venn Diagram Template
• Handout 42: My Ideal Team
• Handout 43: Sports Jobs
• Sports Jobs Answer Key

Introduction:
• Who are some of the most popular athletes we know of today?
• Why have we heard about them? What makes them so popular?
• In baseball, players are often known for how many homeruns they get or how fast they can run the bases or pitch the ball.
• These skills are all part of their human capital.
• **Human capital** is an individual’s education, experience, training and skills.
• These things can be helpful when we choose a job or career.
• To choose, or to make a **choice**, is deciding between two or more alternatives.
• Within the game of baseball there are many jobs to choose from, including pitcher, umpire, catcher, hitter and sometimes promoter, ticket seller or even manager when it comes to Negro Leagues Baseball.
• Negro Leagues Baseball began in the early 1900’s, at a time when black players were not allowed to play alongside white players.
• Black players then formed their own teams and often traveled to play their games because they didn’t have a stadium or field of their own.
• Those who played baseball on the road were also called “barnstormers”.
• Barnstorming teams would not only play baseball, but would entertain the crowds with skits, comedy routines, jokes, and more.
• The players earned **income**, or the amount of money received for work, from ticket sales for each game.
• At the time, ticket sales were just as important as how they played the game.
• For instance, players were known to parade into town on bicycles and to break out in song in between innings.
• Entertainment became an incentive for both players and audiences.
• **Incentive** is something that influences one’s behavior.
• The more that players entertained, the more people wanted to attend.
• Some of the Negro Leagues Baseball teams were the most successful black-owned businesses of their time (according to the book, *The Negro Leagues: Celebrating Baseball’s Unsung Heroes*).
The players were also **human resources**, or workers who provide a service.
The services they provided included baseball and all of the entertainment surrounding it.
Although Negro Leagues Baseball players were not allowed to compete in Major League Baseball with white baseball players, they were still known for their high level of skill on the field.
Many players broke records and outperformed white players as hitters, pitchers and runners.
Several Negro Leagues players are now in the National Baseball Hall of Fame because of their remarkable talents and skills.
Some of them worked in a specific job of the game, while others played many positions.
**Specialization** is working in a specific job, while relying on others to perform other jobs or duties.
Let’s explore jobs in baseball and individuals from the Negro Leagues who performed those jobs so well.

**Activity 1:**
- Distribute and use the Negro Leagues Player cards to complete the activities outlined in the Teacher Guide: Negro Leagues Player Cards. (Appropriate for grades K-8)

**Activity 2:**
- Ask students to complete Handout 43: Sports Jobs. (Appropriate for grades 4-8)
- Use the Sports Jobs Answer Key to check responses.

**Discussion Questions:**
- What could you do to improve your human capital as a student?
- Think of your favorite type of business. Who are the human resources in that business?
- What choices do you make during a regular day?
- What is your incentive to complete your schoolwork?
- The average income for a major league baseball player in 2021 was about $4 million. Do you think that income is too high? Why or why not?
- How can chefs improve their human capital? How about a nurse? A plumber? An astronaut?
- In a fast food business, some workers focus on making fries. What are other tasks in a fast food business that workers can specialize in?
- Do you have incentives to improve your own human capital? What are they?
- If you had to choose now, what would your future job be? What human capital would you need to do that job?
- Who are the human resources in a grocery store? A bank? A movie theater? A school?
- How might the lives of Negro Leagues Baseball players been different if they were allowed to play with white players in the Major Leagues from the beginning? What incentives did they have to play in the Major Leagues instead of the Negro Leagues?
Additional Resources and References:
• Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum - https://nlbemuseum.com/history/overview.html
• The Negro Leagues: Celebrating Baseball’s Unsung Heroes by Matt Doeden

Content Standards:
Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics
• Standard 4: Incentives - People usually respond predictably to positive and negative incentives.
• Standard 13: Income - Income for most people is determined by the market value of the productive resources they sell. What workers earn primarily depends on the market value of what they produce.

Common Core Standards – English Language Arts
• Reading: Literature – Key Ideas and Details:
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.1
  With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1.1
  Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1
  Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1
  Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.1
  Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.3
  Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).
• Reading: Literature – Integration of Knowledge and Ideas:
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7
  Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.
• Reading: Literature – Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity:
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.10
  Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
• Reading: Informational Text – Key Ideas and Details:
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.1
  With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.2
With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.3
With prompting and support, describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.1
Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.2
Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.3
Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1
Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.1
Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.3
Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.1
Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.3
Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

• Reading: Informational Text – Integration of Knowledge and Ideas:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.9
With prompting and support, identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic (e.g., in illustrations, descriptions, or procedures).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.9
Identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic (e.g., in illustrations, descriptions, or procedures).

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.9
Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.9
Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.9
Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.9
Integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.8.9
Analyze a case in which two or more texts provide conflicting information on the same topic and identify where the texts disagree on matters of fact or interpretation.

- Reading: Informational Text – Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity:
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.10
    Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.10
    With prompting and support, read informational texts appropriately complex for grade 1.
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.10
    By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 2-3 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.10
    By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 2-3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.10
    By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.10
    By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.10 and 7.10
    By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction in the grades 6-8 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.8.10
    By the end of the year, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at the high end of the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

- Writing – Text Types and Purposes:
  - CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.3, 4.3 and 5.3
    Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective
Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

- **Writing – Production and Distribution of Writing:**
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.4
  With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.4 and 5.4
  Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.4, 7.4 and 8.4
  Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

- **Writing – Research to Build and Present Knowledge:**
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.8 and 1.8
  With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.8
  Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.8
  Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.8
  Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; take notes and categorize information and provide a list of sources.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.9, 5.9, 6.9, 7.9 and 8.9
  Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

- **Speaking and Listening – Comprehension and Collaboration:**
  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.2
  Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.6.1
  Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 6 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

  CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.7.1
  Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building
on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**Common Core Standards – Mathematics**

- **Counting & Cardinality** – Count to tell the number of objects:
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.CC.B.4
    Understand the relationship between numbers and quantities; connect counting to cardinality.
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.CC.B.5
    Count to answer “how many?” questions about as many as 20 things arranged in a line, a rectangular array, or a circle, or as many as 10 things in a scattered configuration; given a number from 1-20, count out that many objects.

- **Measurement & Data** – Describe and compare measurable attributes:
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.MD.A.1
    Describe measurable attributes of objects, such as length or weight. Describe several measurable attributes of a single object.
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.MD.A.2
    Directly compare two objects with a measurable attribute in common, to see which object has “more of”/“less of” the attribute, and describe the difference.

- **Measurement & Data** – Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category:
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.K.MD.B.3
    Classify objects into given categories; count the numbers of objects in each category and sort the categories by count.

- **Measurement & Data** – Represent and interpret data:
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.1.MD.C.4
    Organize, represent, and interpret data with up to three categories; ask and answer questions about the total number of data points, how many in each category, and how many more or less are in one category than in another.

- **Measurement & Data** – Solve problems involving measurement and conversion of measurements:
  - CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.MD.A.2
    Use the four operations to solve word problems involving distances, intervals of time, liquid volumes, masses of objects, and money, including problems involving simple
fractions or decimals, and problems that require expressing measurements given in a larger unit in terms of a smaller unit. Represent measurement quantities using diagrams such as number line diagrams that feature a measurement scale.

- Number & Operations – Build fractions from unit fractions:
  CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.4.NF.B.4
  Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication to multiply a fraction by a whole number.

- Number & Operations – Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division:
  CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.NF.B.4
  Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication to multiply a fraction or whole number by a fraction.

- The Number System – Compute fluently with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples:
  CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.6.NS.B.3
  Fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit decimals using the standard algorithm for each operation.

- Functions – Use functions to model relationships between quantities:
  CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.8.F.B.5
  Describe qualitatively the functional relationship between two quantities by analyzing a graph. Sketch a graph that exhibits the qualitative features of a function that has been described verbally.
Teacher Instructions: Ask students to complete the exercise(s) you choose below using the provided Negro Leagues Player Cards.

The exercises can be done as a class or in small groups, based on your preference.

Student Activities:

1. Grades K-4: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, line up according to your height.
2. Grades K-4: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, line up according to your birthdate.
3. Grades K-4: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, line up according to how many years you played in the Negro Leagues.
4. Grades K-4: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, line up according to how many teams you played on, not including your years of military service.
5. Grades K-8: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, find others that are from the same geographic area of your birthplace. (e.g., North, South, East, Midwest or by state).
6. Grades 4-8: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, find others that play the same position(s). Choose one if you played several. Then, discuss the human capital needed for that position.
7. Grades 4-8: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, find others that played on the same team. If you played on more than one team, choose the team you played on the longest. Then, discuss what incentives players might have to switch or to stay on a team. Also, discuss which of you specialized in certain positions and which did not.
8. Grades 4-8: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, if you were voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame, line up according to the year you joined. Then, share some of your achievements that likely led to you being chosen for the Hall of Fame.
9. Grades 4-8: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, if you played in Major League Baseball, line up according to the year you joined the Major Leagues. Then, compare the number of players who did and did not play in the Major Leagues and discuss reasons why.
10. Grades 5-8: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, create your own mathematical problem(s) based on your player’s information (height, weight, length of career, years playing on certain teams, etc.). Then, trade with a partner, solve your partner’s equation and ask your partner to check your work. (All mathematical problems could also be combined into a quiz for the class).

11. Grades 5-8: Review the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card and write down three - five interesting facts about yourself. Share what you learned.

12. Grades 5-8: Using the information on two or more Negro Leagues Player cards, work with a partner/group to complete a Venn Diagram of differences and similarities between your players. (Handout 41: Venn Diagram Template is provided for this exercise).

13. Grades 6-8: Use information on your Negro Leagues Player Card to create a list of the human capital needed for your position(s) and what you could do to improve your human capital. Then, share and compare your results.

14. Grades 6-8: Using the information on two or more Negro Leagues Player Cards, work with a partner/group to discuss how your players used their human resources to benefit the game of baseball and how they used them after retiring from baseball. Also, discuss which players specialized in their position(s) and which did not and how those specialties impacted their team(s).

15. Grades 6-8: Using the information on three or more Negro Leagues Player Cards, work with a partner/group to think about the human resources you would like to have on your own baseball team. Then, work together to rank your players based on who you would choose for your team, first to last, and why. (Handout 42: My Ideal Team is provided for this exercise, the back can be used as needed).

16. Grades 7-8: Using the information on your Negro Leagues Player Card, create and write a short story about a specific time in your player’s life that includes real-life facts and descriptive details you have imagined about your player’s personality, background, relationships, skills, and career goals. Read your story aloud.
HENRY “HANK” AARON

**Name:** Henry Louis Aaron  
**Nickname(s):** Hank  
**Height:** 6’ 0”  
**Weight:** 180 pounds  
**Birthplace:** February 5, 1934, Mobile, Alabama  
**Negro Leagues Career:** 1952 (1 year)  
**Position(s):** Shortstop, 2nd Base, Outfield  
**Team(s):** Indianapolis Clowns (1 year), Minor Leagues (2 years), Major Leagues (22 years)

**Life Facts and Achievements:**
- Discovered at the age of 17 playing with the semi-pro baseball team, Mobile Black Bears
- Joined Indianapolis Clowns in April 1952, earning $200 per month
- Moved to major leagues in 1954 to play for the Milwaukee Braves and got 13 home runs his first year
- Won the National League batting title in 1956
- Earned the National League’s Most Valuable Player in 1957 by helping the Braves win the World Series
- Got 40 or more home runs for several seasons and hit a career high 713 home runs in 1973
- Broke Babe Ruth’s record by hitting his 715th home run in 1974
- Retired with a total of 755 home runs, 2 batting titles, 6,856 total bases run and 12,364 times at bat
- Selected to play in 24 All-Star games
- Joined the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1982
- Worked as Atlanta Braves’ director of player development and served as their vice president after retiring
- Founded “Chasing The Dream Foundation” to help black athletes succeed in the Major Leagues

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
SAMUEL “SAM” BANKHEAD

Name: Samuel Howard Bankhead

Nickname(s): Sam

Height: 5’ 8”

Weight: 175 pounds

Birthplace: September 18, 1905, Empire, Alabama

Negro Leagues Career: 1930-1950 (20 years)

Position(s): Shortstop, Center Field, 2nd Base, Left Field, Right Field, 3rd Base, Pitcher, Manager

Team(s): Birmingham Black Barons (3 years), Nashville Elite Giants (3 years), Louisville Black Caps (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (1 year), Pittsburgh Crawfords (2 years), Santo Domingo (1 year), Memphis Red Sox (1 year), Toledo Crawfords (1 year), Homestead Grays (9 years), Mexican League (1 year), Canadian League (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Worked in the coal mines and played pickup baseball games as a child
- Began his professional career with the Birmingham Black Barons in 1929
- Served as a pitcher in 1932 with three different teams
- Received his first chance to play in the All-Star game in 1934 and played in it four more times in his career
- Helped the Grays win third championship in the Negro National League playing 2nd base
- Led Grays to four championships as a shortstop
- Known for one of the strongest arms in the Negro Leagues, but did well in any position he played
- Selected to the East-West All-Star team seven times with three different teams
- Played in Santo Domingo, Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Panama and California, setting base stealing records
- Was close with Josh Gibson and became a substitute father to Josh Gibson Jr. after his father died
- Managed the Grays for two seasons before the team split up
- Born oldest of five boys, who all played in the Negro Leagues
- Became the first black man to manage a white team in 1951, the Farnham team in Canada
- Worked in the Pittsburgh city garbage department when baseball was out of season in 1949-1950
- Took Josh Gibson Jr. with him after retiring from baseball to work at the garbage department full time
- Had a job as a hotel doorman in Pittsburgh later in life

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
JAMES “COOL PAPA” BELL

Name: James Thomas Bell
Nickname(s): Cool Papa
Height: 5’ 11”
Weight: 150 pounds
Birthplace: May 17, 1903, Starkville, Mississippi
Negro Leagues Career: 1922-1946 (24 years)
Position(s): Center Field, Left Field, 1st Base, Pitcher
Team(s): St. Louis Stars (9 years), Detroit Wolves (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (2 years), Homestead Grays (4 years), Pittsburgh Crawfords (5 years), Memphis Red Sox (1 year), Santo Domingo (1 year), Mexican League (3 years), Chicago American Giants (1 year), Detroit Senators (1 year), Kansas City Stars (2 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Raised by a farmer father and grandfather who was an Oklahoma Indian
• Worked at a packing plant in high school
• Discovered by the St. Louis Stars and paid $90 a month
• Known for his speed, he once circled the bases in 12 seconds
• Became the top base stealer in baseball, stealing 175 bases in just under 200 games
• Earned his nickname in 1922 by staying “cool” while pitching in a close game
• Got the rest of his nickname from his manager that thought “Papa” made it sound better
• Moved from pitcher to outfield position in 1924 after an injury
• Played on championship teams nine years
• Played 21 winters in Cuba and 4 summers in the Mexican League, earning $450 a month
• Was a manager his last 4 seasons and a part-time scout to find new players
• Worked as a custodian and night security officer at St. Louis City Hall after baseball
• Joined National Baseball Hall of Fame (1974)
WILLARD “HOME RUN” BROWN

Name: Willard Jesse Brown

Nickname(s): Home Run, Esse Hombre, Willie

Height: 6’ 0”

Weight: 195 pounds

Birthplace: June 26, 1911, Shreveport, Louisiana

Negro Leagues Career: 1935-1950 (15 years)

Position(s): Center Field, Left Field, Shortstop, Pitcher

Team(s): Monroe Monarchs (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (13 years), Mexican League (1 year), military service (1 year), Major Leagues (1 year), Minor Leagues (4 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Began playing baseball as a child
• Signed to the Negro Southern League’s Monroe Monarchs in 1934 for $10/week as a shortstop and pitcher
• Recruited by the Monarchs a year later at $125 per month, plus $1 a day for meals and a $250 bonus
• Played with the Monarchs in the Negro American League from 1937 to 1942 and won five championships
• Known as black baseball’s top home run hitter of the 1940’s
• Appeared in the East-West All-Star game as a shortstop in 1936 and an outfielder in 1937
• Left the Monarchs to play in Mexico and Puerto Rico 1940-1942, where he got the nickname “Esse Hombre”
• Made another All-Star appearance before the military, where he hauled ammunition and guarded prisoners
• Began playing baseball in the G.I. World Series while serving in the military for two years
• Returned to play in Puerto Rico after the war and then rejoined the Monarchs for another championship win
• Achieved three batting titles, won three home run titles and set a record of 27 in the 1947-1948 season
• Signed by the St. Louis Browns’ Major League team in 1947 without time to adjust in the Minor Leagues
• Hit a home run, the first one ever in the American League by a black player in the Major Leagues
• Returned to the Monarchs after being dismissed by the Browns and had six All-Star appearances total
• Played in the Texas League for four seasons and won the championship in two of those years
• Went back to Puerto Rico for a final season in 1956-1957
• Retired from baseball and lived in Houston until he was hospitalized in 1989 with Alzheimer’s disease
• Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
ROY “CAMPY” CAMPANELLA

Name: Roy Campanella

Nickname(s): Campy, Poochinella

Height: 5’ 9-1/2”

Weight: 195 pounds

Birthplace: November 19, 1921, Philadelphia, PA

Negro Leagues Career: 1937-1945 (8 years)

Position(s): Catcher, 3rd Base, Outfield, Pitcher

Team(s): Baltimore Elite Giants (8 years), Mexican League (1 year), Minor Leagues (2 years), Major Leagues (10 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Started playing for the Baltimore Elite Giants as a fifteen-year-old
- Invited to practice at Philadelphia Phillies stadium in high school, but denied when they saw he was black
- Quit school at 17 to play baseball full time
- Won Most Valuable Player (MVP) award both years in Minor League baseball
- Finished in the top six hitters in the Negro Leagues in 1944 and 1945
- Voted Most Valuable Player in an East-West All-Star game
- Played in Puerto Rico and Cuba during the winter seasons
- Signed by Major League baseball team after playing on an all-black All-Star team
- Joined Jackie Robinson on the Dodgers in 1948
- Selected to the All-Star team 8 times and earned MVP 3 times during his ten years in Major Leagues
- Earned 106 home runs last 3 years in Major Leagues
- Paralyzed in a near-death automobile accident, which ended his baseball career
- Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1969

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Leon Day

Nickname(s): none

Height: 5’ 9’’

Weight: 170 pounds

Birthplace: October 30, 1916, Alexandria, Virginia

Negro Leagues Career: 1934-1950 (16 years)

Position(s): Pitcher, 2nd Base, Outfield

Team(s): Baltimore Black Sox (1 year), Brooklyn Eagles (1 year), Newark Eagles (6 years), Venezuelan League (1 year), Mexican League (3 years), military service (2 years), Baltimore Elite Giants (2 years), Minor Leagues (4 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Began playing baseball in Baltimore in an athletic club after quitting school before 11th grade
- Played in semi-pro league at 2nd base in 1934 and then started professionally with Black Sox at $60 a month
- Joined Brooklyn Eagles in 1935 as pitcher, yet he was known to play any position well except catcher
- Appeared in 7 East-West All-Star games from 1935-1946 and set an All-Star record in striking out 14 batters
- Joined Newark Eagles in 1936 when Abe Manley merged the Brooklyn Eagles with the Newark Dodgers
- Had a perfect record of 13 wins and 0 losses in 1937 and set a record running 100 yards in 10 seconds
- Injured his arm, missing the 1938 season, then worked hard to return in 1939 and had 16 wins and 4 losses
- Played in Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Mexico and earned lead pitcher title in 1941
- Served in the Army during World War II during the invasion of France and was discharged in 1946
- Earned the strikeout record in Negro National and Puerto Rican Leagues and the East-West All-Star game
- Helped Eagles in 1949 by leading the league in strikeouts and innings pitched, going on to win the Negro World Series
- Played last season in Negro Leagues with Elite Giants in 1949, then went on to Minor Leagues 1950-1954
- Worked as a security guard, mail carrier and bartender after baseball
- Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1995 and called best pitcher in the Negro Leagues in 1943

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
MARTIN DIHIGO

**Name:** Martin Dihigo  
**Nickname(s):** none  
**Height:** 6’ 3”  
**Weight:** 190 pounds  
**Birthplace:** May 25, 1905, Matanzas, Cuba  
**Negro Leagues Career:** 1923-1945 (22 years)  
**Position(s):** 2nd Base, Outfield, Pitcher, 1st Base, 3rd Base, Shortstop, Catcher, Manager  
**Team(s):** Cuban Stars East (5 years), Homestead Grays (1 year), Hilldale Daisies (2 years), Baltimore Black Sox (1 year), Venezuelan League (1 year), New York Cubans (2 years), Santo Domingo (1 year), Mexican League (4 years)

**Life Facts and Achievements:**
- Immigrated to the United States from Cuba as a youth, playing 2nd base before eventually moving to pitcher
- Joined the Cuban Stars in 1923, the same year the Eastern Colored League started
- Led the league in home runs in 1926 and tied for the lead in home runs in 1927
- Recruited by Cum Posey to play with the Homestead Grays and then was traded to Hilldale the next year
- Finished 2nd in the American Negro League with 18 home runs
- Went back to Stars in 1930 and then back to Hilldale the next season
- Played winters in Cuba and was known as most versatile man ever to play the game of baseball
- Won 2 straight championships in Cuban Leagues between 1935 to 1937 and was the lead in batting in 1935
- Appeared in an East-West All-Star game, playing both center field and pitcher
- Took on role of playing manager for New York Cubans, before moving to play in Mexico
- Led the league in batting and pitching records in the Mexican League in 1938
- Helped lead Veracruz team to championship in 1940 and started managing the Laredo team in 1944
- Was mostly a batter in the U.S. and pitcher in Latin America, pitching no hitters in the Mexican Leagues
- Had a lifetime record 115 wins and 60 losses as a pitcher in Cuba and 119 wins and 57 losses in Mexico
- Served as Minister of Sports in Cuba after retiring from baseball
- Considered by many to be the greatest all-around black player of all time because he played any position
- Received membership in the Cuban and Mexican Halls of Fame and became a national hero in Cuba
- Voted into America’s National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1977

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
ANDREW “RUBE” FOSTER

Name: Andrew Foster
Nickname(s): Rube, Jock
Height: 6’ 2”
Weight: 200 pounds
Birthplace: September 17, 1879, Calvert, Texas
Negro Leagues Career: 1902-1926 (29 years)
Position(s): Pitcher, 1st Base, Manager, Executive, Owner, Founder of Negro National League
Team(s): Chicago Union Giants (1 year), Cuban X Giants (1 year), Philadelphia Giants (2 years), Leland Giants (3 years), Chicago American Giants (15 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Started his baseball career with the Waco Yellow Jackets after completing the eighth grade
• Beat well-known player Rube Waddell in 1902 with a record-winning season to get his nickname
• Pitched Chicago Union Giants, Cuban X Giants and Philadelphia Giants towards many championships
• Managed Leland Giants in 1907 with his team immediately becoming one of the best in black baseball
• Broke his leg in 1909 ending his time as an occasional player at exhibition games to increase attendance
• Formed his own team in 1910, Chicago American Giants, that had a record 128 wins and only 6 losses
• Recognized as the father of the Negro Leagues for organizing the first professional black baseball league
• Served as president and treasurer of the new Negro National League while managing his own team
• Earned his income from a portion of ticket sales for every league game
• Had a nervous breakdown in 1925 and resigned having been a successful player, manager, and executive
• Placed in a hospital in Kankakee, Illinois in 1926 because of decline in his mental health
• Honored at his funeral when fans lined up for three days to pay their respects
• Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1981
WILLIAM “WILLIE” FOSTER

Name: William Hendrick Foster

Nickname(s): Willie, Bill

Height: 6’1”

Weight: 195 pounds

Birthplace: June 12, 1904, Calvert, Texas

Negro Leagues Career: 1923-1938 (15 years)

Position(s): Pitcher, Manager

Team(s): Memphis Red Sox (2 years), Chicago American Giants (8 years), Birmingham Black Barons (1 year), Homestead Grays (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (1 year), Cole’s American Giants (3 years), Pittsburgh Crawfords (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Lost his mother at four years old and raised by his maternal grandparents
- Attended school at Alcorn College until 1918 and then went to Chicago to work in the stockyards
- Tried to sign up with his half-brother, Rube Foster’s, Chicago American Giants team, but was rejected
- Returned to Mississippi and later signed with the Memphis Red Sox in 1923
- Transferred from Red Sox to Chicago American Giants before the end of that season by Rube Foster
- Attended college in Tennessee during the off seasons
- Played baseball during winters in Cuba in 1926 and California in 1927
- Helped lead his team to championships in 1926, 1927 and 1933
- Pitched for Chicago American Giants over a decade and took on manager role in 1930
- Tempted from the Giants to play with the Homestead Grays in 1931, when the team was at its greatest
- Won championships of the Negro Southern League in 1932 and the Negro National League in 1933
- Served as pitcher in 1933 for the West team in the first East-West All-Star game
- Joined the Pittsburgh Crawfords in 1936, their last year of being the top black baseball team
- Trained and pitched in a game with the Memphis Red Sox in 1938, his last year in the Negro Leagues
- Retired from baseball to become a dean and baseball coach at Alcorn State College in 1960
- Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1996

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Joshua Gibson

Nickname(s): Black Babe Ruth

Height: 6’ 1”

Weight: 210 pounds

Birthplace: December 21, 1911, Buena Vista, Georgia

Negro Leagues Career: 1929-1946 (17 years)

Position(s): Catcher, Outfield, 3rd Base, 1st Base

Team(s): Homestead Grays (9 years), Pittsburgh Crawfords (4 years), Santo Domingo (1 year), Mexican League (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Known for his batting strength and distance, sometimes called “the black Babe Ruth”
- Had a total of 962 home runs in his Negro Leagues career, with a high of 84 in 1936
- Played in Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela and Puerto Rico and earned Most Valuable Player award in Puerto Rico
- Earned $6,000 a year playing in Mexico
- Nominated to start in nine East-West All-Star games
- Was the eldest of three children, his family moved to Pittsburgh when he was in elementary school
- Attended school until the 9th grade, then enrolled in a pre-vocational school to study to be an electrician
- Became an apprentice in an air-brake factory while playing baseball with a local team
- Left the Grays in 1932, joining the Pittsburgh Crawfords, known as the greatest team in all of black baseball
- Rejoined the Grays in 1937, helping the team win nine Negro National League championships
- Valued at $200,000 per year if he were to play in the Major Leagues, although he never got the chance
- Committed to a hospital in 1943 after having a nervous breakdown, which weakened his playing ability
- Had a fatal stroke a month after his thirty-fifth birthday
- Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1972, the second player from the Negro Leagues
**Name:** Elander Victor Harris  
**Nickname(s):** Vic, Vicious Vic  
**Height:** 5’ 10”  
**Weight:** 168 pounds  
**Birthplace:** June 10, 1905, Pensacola, Florida  
**Negro Leagues Career:** 1923-1950 (27 years)  
**Position(s):** Left Field, Right Field, Center Field, 1st Base, Manager, Coach  
**Team(s):** Cleveland Tate Stars (1 year), Toledo Tigers (1 year), Cleveland Browns (1 year), Chicago American Giants (2 years), Homestead Grays (21 years), Detroit Wolves (1 year), Pittsburgh Crawfords (1 year), Baltimore Elite Giants (1 year), Birmingham Black Barons (1 year)

**Life Facts and Achievements:**
- Moved to Pittsburgh in 1914 and began playing baseball with the YMCA
- Began playing baseball professionally in 1923 as an infielder with the Cleveland Tate Stars
- Transferred to Cleveland Browns in 1924 and then Chicago American Giants later that season
- Joined Homestead Grays and spent most of his career there as a player and manager in 1920s-1930s
- Appeared in 6 East-West All-Star games between 1933 and 1947
- Tempted to move in 1934 to Pittsburgh Crawfords and then lured back to Grays in 1935 as player manager
- Guided the Grays to 6 straight championships, leading to their first World Series game
- Captured 9 straight Negro National League championships from 1937-1945
- Achieved 10 home runs and stole 17 bases in 1938, what some say was their best season
- Took a job working in a defense plant in 1943-1944, playing with the Grays when his work schedule allowed
- Returned to manage Grays in 1945 and led them to another two Negro National League championships
- Coached the Baltimore Elite Giants in 1949, when they won the Negro American League championship
- Managed the Birmingham Black Barons in 1950
- Played and managed in the Caribbean, including Cuba 1937-1939 and Puerto Rico between 1935 and 1950

*Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum*
PETE HILL

Name: J. Preston Hill

Nickname(s): Pete

Height: 6’ 1”

Weight: 215 pounds

Birthplace: October 12, 1880, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Negro Leagues Career: 1889-1926 (27 years)

Position(s): Center Field, Left Field, Right Field, 1st Base, 2nd Base, Manager

Team(s): Pittsburgh Keystones (11 years), Cuban X Giants (2 years), Philadelphia Giants (4 years), Leland Giants (3 years), Chicago American Giants (7 years), Detroit Stars (2 years), Milwaukee Bears (1 year), Baltimore Black Sox (2 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Started playing baseball with Pittsburgh Keystones in 1899, moving to the Cuban X Giants 2 years later
- Moved to newly formed Philadelphia Giants in 1903 and started working with Rube Foster
- Led the team to championships in 1905-1906 and then transferred with Foster to Chicago Leland Giants
- Went to Cuba in 1907 with Foster and other well-known players and played 6 winters in Cuba in total
- Stayed with Foster’s team in 1910 and earned the league batting title
- Helped the team achieve 106 wins to 7 losses that year, when he was also made team captain
- Stayed with Foster’s team in 1910 and earned the league batting title
- Helped the team achieve 106 wins to 7 losses that year, when he was also made team captain
- Managed the team in Foster’s absence, leading to a playing manager position in 1919 with the Detroit Stars
- Achieved 19 home runs and several wins that season, including a game against his previous team
- Stayed with Detroit until 1921, giving the manager position to Bruce Petway
- Moved to the Milwaukee Bears before moving east in 1924 to manage the Baltimore Black Sox
- Retired from playing baseball in 1925 after a 27-year career as one of black baseball’s best outfielders
- Formed Buffalo Red Caps Minor League team and worked for Ford Motor Company in Detroit after retiring
- Selected for the All-Time All-Star team in 1944 and 1952, although one vote kept him from playing in 1952

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
MONTE IRVIN

Name: Monford Merrill Irvin
Nickname(s): Monte, Jimmy Nelson
Height: 6’ 1”
Weight: 190 pounds
Birthplace: February 25, 1919, Halesburg, Alabama
Negro Leagues Career: 1937-1948 (11 years)
Position(s): Center Field, Shortstop, 3rd Base, Outfield
Team(s): Newark Eagles (8 years), military service (2 years), Mexican League (1 year), Minor Leagues (3 years), Major Leagues (7 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Was an all-around athlete at Orange, New Jersey High School by playing football, basketball, baseball and track
• Earned 16 awards for sports in high school while setting the New Jersey state javelin record
• Received a scholarship to University of Michigan, but declined because he did not have money for the train
• Started baseball with the Eagles, but played under the name Jimmy Nelson to protect his school record
• Attended Lincoln College in Pennsylvania 2 years before leaving for professional baseball
• Helped lead his team to a championship win at the 1939 Negro Leagues East-West All-Star game
• Won two batting titles in the Negro National League in 1941 and 1946, after returning from military service
• Left Eagles in 1942 over a salary disagreement to play in Mexico, where he became Most Valuable Player
• Chosen as first black to play in the Major Leagues before Jackie Robinson, but he had to join the military
• Served as an Army Engineer in Europe during World War II, before returning to the Eagles in 1945
• Joined Latin American Leagues to get in shape after the war, playing on two championship teams
• Wanted by the New York Giants and the Dodgers, but the Giants bought his contract from the Eagles
• Led the Giants to World Series wins in 1951 and 1954 and played 4 more East-West All-Star games
• Had his best season in 1951 with 24 home runs and a World Series batting record
• Ended his 8-year Major League career in 1956 with the Chicago Cubs, after a season in Minneapolis
• Scouted for the New York Mets and was assistant to the Major Leagues Baseball Commissioner 1967-1984
• Voted into 9 Halls of Fame in the U.S. and Latin America, including National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973
• Received the “Greatest Athlete Ever in New Jersey” honor by the New Jersey Sports Writers’ Association

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Clarence Jenkins

Nickname(s): Fats

Height: 5' 7"

Weight: 180 pounds

Birthplace: January 19, 1898, New York, New York

Negro Leagues Career: 1920-1940 (20 years)

Position(s): Outfield, Manager

Team(s): New York Lincoln Giants (3 years), Atlantic City Bacharach Giants (3 years), Harrisburg Giants (4 years), Hilldale Daisies (1 year), Baltimore Black Sox (1 year), New York Harlem Stars (1 year), Pittsburgh Crawfords (2 years), New York Black Yankees (5 years), Brooklyn Eagles (1 year), Brooklyn Royal Giants (2 years), Toledo Crawfords (1 year), Philadelphia Stars (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Known for his exceptional speed in the field and on the bases, becoming an excellent base stealer
- Played basketball in the off-season for the Renaissance team between 1924-1935, serving as team captain, winning 88 straight games during the 1934-1935 season.
- Started his professional baseball career with the New York Lincoln Giants in 1920
- Became manager in 1923 to the Harrisburg Giants and also played right field for the next five years
- Joined the Bacharach Giants for two years beginning in 1928
- Rejoined the Lincoln Giants in 1930 during their last year of existence
- Played with the New York Harlem Stars in 1931, which later became the New York Black Yankees
- Chosen for the East team in 1933 for the first East-West All-Star game and again in 1935
- Continued playing with the New York Black Yankees and four other teams his last two years, 1936-1938
- Enjoyed music, playing the piano and singing in his team’s quartet during his spare time
- Became a successful businessman after retiring because he was great at saving money that he earned
- Opened a packaging store in the Bronx and was a boxing referee in New York City after baseball

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Clifford Johnson, Jr.

Nickname(s): Connie, Cliff

Height: 6’ 4”

Weight: 200 pounds

Birthplace: December 27, 1922, Stone Mountain, Georgia

Negro Leagues Career: 1940-1950 (10 years)

Position(s): Pitcher, 1st Base

Team(s): Indianapolis Crawfords (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (5 years), military service (2 years), Canadian League (1 year), Minor Leagues (3 years), Major Leagues (4 years), Mexican League (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Started playing baseball in high school
- Joined the Crawfords in 1940 and the Monarchs the following year
- Known for having good control and an assortment of pitches, including an outstanding fastball and curveball
- Helped the Monarchs win the 1941, 1942 and 1946 Negro American League championships
- Served in the Army for three years during World War II
- Returned to play in 1946 and helped the Monarchs win another pennant
- Was a star player in the East-West All-Star game twice in his career
- Played in Canada in 1951
- Traded to the Chicago White Sox in 1952 and led the Western League with 233 strikeouts
- Signed to the Major Leagues in 1953 at age thirty
- Toured with Roy Campanella’s All-Stars in 1954
- Sent to Baltimore Orioles in 1956, having the best season of his 5-year career in 1957
- Traded to the Minor Leagues in 1958 and played in the Pacific Coast and Mexican Leagues before retiring in 1961
- Earned $15,000 a year at most and said players today make more in a day than he made his entire career
- Retired from the Ford Motor Company after baseball

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Mamie Johnson

Nickname(s): Peanut

Height: 5’ 4”

Weight: 120 pounds

Birthplace: September 27, 1932, Long Branch, New Jersey

Negro Leagues Career: 1953-1955 (2 years)

Position(s): Pitcher

Team(s): Indianapolis Clowns

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Attended Long Branch High School where she played boys’ sports including football
• Went to New York University to study medicine and engineering before joining the Negro Leagues at age 22
• Received her nickname because of her small size, but pitched as hard as many male pitchers
• Was one of female players for Indianapolis Clowns
• Worked 30 years as a nurse and coached little league baseball after leaving the Negro Leagues

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
WILLIAM "JUDY" JOHNSON

Name: William Julius Johnson
Nickname(s): Judy, Jing
Height: 5' 11"
Weight: 150 pounds
Birthplace: October 26, 1900, Snow Hill, Maryland
Negro Leagues Career: 1918-1937 (19 years)
Position(s): 3rd Base, Shortstop, Manager
Team(s): Bacharach Giants (1 year), Madison Stars (2 years), Hilldale Daisies (9 years), Homestead Grays (2 years), Pittsburgh Crawfords (4 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Played football and baseball in Wilmington, Delaware when his father became athletic director there
• Trained as a boxer by his father but he preferred baseball
• Took a job loading and unloading ships at Deep Water Point, New Jersey after one year of high school
• Joined the Bacharach Giants in 1918 after his semi-pro career with a team in Pennsylvania
• Earned $5 a game in the Minor Leagues before getting hired to Hilldale at $135/month
• Helped Hilldale win first three Eastern Colored League competitions with his batting talent
• Became manager of Homestead Grays in 1929, Hilldale in 1930 and later joined the Pittsburgh Crawfords
• Was with Grays and Crawfords when those teams held the best records in black baseball
• Worked as a supervisor for the Continental Can Company in Wilmington after retiring from baseball in 1972
• Operated a general store with his brother after baseball
• Served as a scout for the Philadelphia Athletics, Philadelphia Phillies, and Milwaukee Braves later in life
• Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1975

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
HENRY KIMBRO

**Name:** Henry Allen Kimbro  
**Nickname(s):** Kimmie, Jimbo, Scooter Motoneta  
**Height:** 5’ 8”  
**Weight:** 175 pounds  
**Birthplace:** February 19, 1912, Nashville, Tennessee  
**Negro Leagues Career:** 1937-1950 (13 years)  
**Position(s):** Center Field, Left Field, Manager  
**Team(s):** Washington Elite Giants (1 year), Baltimore Elite Giants (11 years), New York Black Yankees (1 year), Birmingham Black Barons (2 years)

**Life Facts and Achievements:**
- Led the Negro Leagues with 18 stolen bases in the 1939-1940 season with the Elite Giants  
- Traded to New York Black Yankees in 1941 but returned to Elites the next year  
- Known as the best center fielder in the Negro National League and a base-stealing threat in his time  
- Topped the Negro Leagues in stolen bases in 1944, just behind leaders Josh Gibson and Buck Leonard  
- Tied with “Cool Papa” Bell for the lead in times at bat in 1944  
- Was the first in home runs scored in 1946 and 1947  
- Finished in the top ten hitters in batting average for 3 seasons  
- Appeared in six Negro Leagues All-Star games  
- Achieved 4th best batter in the Negro American League Eastern Division in 1948  
- Played with Birmingham Black Barons in 1952-1953  
- Starred in the Caribbean winter leagues, leading the Cuban League in batting in 1947-1948  
- Served briefly as manager at one time in his career  
- Built successful businesses after retiring from baseball, including a gas service station and cab company

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
WALTER “BUCK” LEONARD

Name: Walter Fenner Leonard
Nickname(s): Buck
Height: 5’ 10”
Weight: 185 pounds
Birthplace: September 8, 1907, Rocky Mount, North Carolina
Negro Leagues Career: 1933-1950 (17 years)
Position(s): 1st Base, Outfield
Team(s): Brooklyn Royal Giants (1 year), Homestead Grays (16 years), Mexican League (2 years), Minor Leagues (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Born the oldest of six children to a father who was a railroad fireman and a mother who was a housewife
• Nicknamed Buddy by his parents, but his younger brother called him Buck
• Attended school through the eighth grade until he left to help support his family after losing his father
• Worked full-time putting brakes on boxcars for the Atlantic Coastline Railroad Shop starting at 16
• Became interested in baseball watching the white Rocky Mount minor league ballclub near his home
• Left home to pursue a professional baseball career during the Great Depression
• Helped lead Grays to nine Negro National League championships and two World Series
• Selected as the 1st baseman on an All-Time All-American team chosen for a national magazine
• Considered one of the best-liked players in the game for his even temper, dependability and skill
• Won three batting titles and tied for the lead in home runs in 1948
• Nominated 11 years to play in the annual East-West All-Star classic
• Offered a chance to play with the St. Louis Browns Major League team in 1952, but stayed in Negro Leagues
• Played in Cuba, Puerto Rico, Venezuela and the Mexican League
• Worked as a truant officer, a realtor and officer with the Rocky Mountain baseball team after retiring
• Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1972

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
JOHN HENRY “POP” LLOYD

Name: John Henry Lloyd

Nickname(s): Pop, El Cuchara (“The Tablespoon”)

Height: 5’ 11”

Weight: 180 pounds

Birthplace: April 25, 1884, Palatka, Florida

Negro Leagues Career: 1906-1932 (26 years)

Position(s): Shortstop, 2nd Base, 1st Base, Catcher, Manager

Team(s): Macon Acmes (1 year), Cuban X Giants (1 year), Philadelphia Giants (2 years), Leland Giants (1 year), New York Lincoln Giants (8 years), Chicago American Giants (3 years), New York Lincoln Stars (1 year), Brooklyn Royal Giants (2 years), New York Bacharach Giants (1 year), Atlantic City Bacharach Giants (3 years), Columbus Buckeyes (1 year), Hilldale Daisies (1 year), Harlem Stars (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Lost his father as a baby and had to leave school at an early age to help support his family as a delivery boy
• Discovered in 1905 in Jacksonville, Florida and hired the next year to a semi-pro league
• Got nickname playing in Cuba of “El Cuchara,” Spanish for “The Tablespoon” because of his catching skills
• Had ability to hit, run, field, throw, and run bases with speed and said he’d play wherever the money was
• Known as the greatest black baseball player during the early 1900’s and greatest shortstop in baseball
• Started as a catcher and the team was so poor, he had to use a wire basket as a catcher’s mask
• Began managing the New York Lincoln Giants and in 1913 led the team to a record 101 wins to 6 losses
• Played with the American Giants starting in 1914 and they won three championships in the next four years
• Worked in the Army Quartermaster Depot in Chicago in 1918
• Served as playing manager for five Negro Leagues teams, winning the batting title himself in 1924
• Managed one of the teams in 1930 that were the first black teams ever to play in Yankee Stadium
• Retired in 1933 and was a mentor to young black players until age 60, hence his nickname Pop
• Worked as a custodian for the post office and school system in Atlantic City after retiring from baseball
• Served as the city’s Little League commissioner and had a baseball park dedicated in his honor in 1949
• Called the greatest baseball player of all time, black or white, by baseball star and legend Babe Ruth
• Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1977

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
RALEIGH “BIZ” MACKEY

Name: Raleigh Mackey
Nickname(s): Biz
Height: 6’ 0”
Weight: 200 pounds
Birthplace: July 27, 1897, Eagle Pass, Texas
Negro Leagues Career: 1920-1947, 1950 (28 years)
Position(s): Shortstop, 3rd Base, 2nd Base, 1st Base, Outfield, Pitcher, Manager, Catcher
Team(s): San Antonio Black Aces (1 year), Indianapolis ABCs (2 years), New York Lincoln Giants (1 year), Colored All Stars (1 year), Hilldale Daisies (8 years), Philadelphia Royal Giants (1 year), Washington Elite Giants (1 year), Baltimore Elite Giants (1 year), Philadelphia Stars (2 years), Newark Dodgers (1 year), Newark Eagles (5 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Known to have the best defensive skills in the history of black baseball, as well as a powerful throwing arm
• Considered one of the most dangerous hitters in baseball because of his strength
• Had a great memory and studied the game of baseball, although he could barely read
• Learned to play baseball with his two brothers as a teenager, before going professional in 1918
• Helped lead Hilldale to three Negro World Series championships
• Played in California and Japan, where he was admired as a player and representative of the United States
• Was unexpectedly quick, along with having soft hands, which helped him to be flexible as a player in any position
• Selected to play in the first East-West All-Star game in 1933 even though he was already 36 years old
• Helped young black players as a manager, leading his team to the Negro World championship in 1946
• Retired to Los Angeles and worked as a forklift operator after baseball
• Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
MAXWELL “MAX” MANNING

Name: Maxwell Manning

Nickname(s): Max, Emilio, Dr. Cyclops

Height: 6’ 4”

Weight: 185 pounds

Birthplace: November 18, 1918, Rome, Georgia

Negro Leagues Career: 1938-1949 (11 years)

Position(s): Pitcher

Team(s): Newark Eagles (6 years), military service (3 years), Houston Eagles (1 year), Mexican League (1 year), Canadian League (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Was a star player in his youth with the Johnson Stars in Atlantic City
- Attended high school in Pleasantville, New Jersey
- Contacted by a Detroit Tiger talent scout after graduating in 1937, but turned away because he was black
- Pitched with the semi-pro Camden Giants team while attending Lincoln University
- Joined the Eagles Negro Leagues team in 1938
- Nicknamed “Dr. Cyclops” because of his thick glasses
- Served in the military during World War II in the Air Force as a truck driver in England and France
- Rejoined the Eagles after the military, leading them to the Negro National Leagues championship in 1946
- Played on Satchel Paige’s All-Star team in 1947
- Appeared in the East-West All-Star game in 1948
- Suffered from a shoulder injury that didn’t completely heal, even after surgery, that weakened his arm
- Played baseball in most Latin American leagues between 1938-1951 and also in Canada
- Used the G.I. Bill to pay for his education and graduated from Glassboro State College in New Jersey
- Taught for 28 years in the Pleasantville, New Jersey school system after retiring from baseball

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
**WILLIE “BUCK” MAYS**

Name: Willie Howard Mays, Jr.  
Nickname(s): Buck  
Height: 5’ 11”  
Weight: 175 pounds  
Birthplace: May 6, 1931, Westfield, Alabama  
Negro Leagues Career: 1948-1950 (2 years)  
Position(s): Center Field  
Team(s): Birmingham Black Barons (2 years), Minor Leagues (1 year), Major Leagues (20 years), military service (3 years)

**Life Facts and Achievements:**

- Started his baseball career as a high school teenager in the Negro Leagues after playing semi-pro  
- Had to get permission to play from his father, who had been a center fielder in the industrial leagues  
- Nicknamed Buck by his friends  
- Called up to play on the New York Giants team in the Major Leagues in 1951 at age twenty  
- Named the National League Rookie of the Year in 1951  
- Served in the Army for two years  
- Returned to baseball and led the Giants to another National League win and a World Series win  
- Voted the National League’s Most Valuable Player in 1954  
- Led other players on his team in nearly every area for 21 seasons, including batting and home run records  
- Set a Giants’ team record with four home runs in one game in April 1960  
- Led the National League in home runs in 1962 and 1964  
- Chosen Most Valuable Player for a second time in 1965  
- Ended his baseball career with a total of 660 home runs and 338 stolen bases  
- Won a batting title, 3 home run titles, 4 stolen base titles and other titles for hits and runs during his career  
- Was the first player to achieve 300 homeruns and 300 stolen bases, which very few players have repeated  
- Played in 24 All-Star games  
- Traded to the New York Mets in 1972  
- Retired at the end of the 1973 season and his uniform number, 24, has also been retired by the Giants  
- Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1979

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
JOSE “JOE” MENDEZ

Name: José Mendez Baez
Nicknames: Joe, The Black Diamond
Height: 5’ 8”
Weight: 160 pounds
Birthplace: March 19, 1887, Cardenas, Matanzas, Cuba
Negro Leagues Career: 1908-1926 (18 years)
Position(s): Pitcher, Shortstop, 3rd Base, 2nd Base, Manager
Team(s): Brooklyn Royal Giants (1 year), Cuban Stars (3 years), Stars of Cuba (1 year), All Nations (5 years), Chicago American Giants (1 year), Detroit Stars (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (6 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Made his baseball debut in 1903 at age sixteen
• Played with the top team in Cuba by 1908 and joined the Negro Leagues that same year
• Helped his team to wins in the Cuban League three years straight
• Known for his speed as a pitcher and one of the greatest black pitchers of his time
• Pitched with such power and speed that a teammate died when hit with one of his fastballs during practice
• Had a pitcher’s duel with Rube Foster in 1910 that ended in an 11-inning tie with no clear winner
• Valued to be worth $30,000 a year if he were allowed to play in the Major Leagues
• Achieved a seven-year record as a pitcher by 1914 before developing arm trouble
• Joined J.L. Wilkinson’s All Nations club as a shortstop in 1916
• Hired as playing manager of the Kansas City Monarchs after Wilkinson bought the team in 1920
• Pitched occasionally after that time, including the winter of 1923 in Cuba
• Led the Monarchs to three championship wins in 1923, 1924, and 1925
• Got his pitching arm back in the 1924 World Series victory over Hilldale
• Died at 41 from bronchopneumonia in 1928, about two years after retiring from baseball
• Was in the first group of players chosen for the Cuban Hall of Fame in 1939
• Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
MINNIE MINOSO

Name: Saturnino Orestes Arrieta Armas Minoso

Nickname(s): Minnie

Height: 5’10”

Weight: 175 pounds

Birthplace: November 29, 1922, Perico, Cuba

Negro Leagues Career: 1945-1948 (3 years)

Position(s): 3rd Base, 1st Base

Team(s): New York Cubans (3 years), Minor Leagues (3 years), Major Leagues (16 years), Mexican League (8 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Began his baseball career in Cuba a year before he joined the New York Cubans
• Played for the New York Cubans in 1946 and was the top hitter on the team
• Helped his team win the Negro National League and Negro World Series championships in 1947
• Selected to play in the 1947 and 1948 East-West All-Star games before joining the Major Leagues
• Traded from Cleveland Indians to the Chicago White Sox and led the league in stolen bases for 3 years
• Spent most of his Major League seasons with the “Go-Go” White Sox of the 1950s
• Played a season each with the St. Louis Cardinals and the Washington Senators
• Ended his career with a total of 186 home runs, 205 stolen bases and was hit by pitches 189 times
• Qualified as a five-decade player by making special appearances in 1976 and 1980 with the White Sox
• Had short career in Minor Leagues, including the Pacific Coast, International and Mexican Leagues
• Played his last full year in 1973 at age fifty

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Connie Morgan
Nickname(s): none
Height: 5’ 4”
Weight: 140 pounds
Birthplace: October 17, 1935, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Negro Leagues Career: 1954-1955 (2 years)
Position(s): 2nd Base
Team(s): Indianapolis Clowns

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Attended John Bartrum High School and William Penn Business School in her hometown
• Started playing baseball with an all-girl baseball team, the North Philadelphia Honey Drippers
• Signed with the Clowns in 1954 at age 19 to play 2nd base
• Hired to replace another female player, Toni Stone
• Used mostly as a gate attraction to boost ticket sales
• Considered an all-around athlete, playing basketball during the off-season

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
JOHN “BUCK” O’NEIL

Name: John Jordan O’Neil

Nickname(s): Buck, Foots, Nancy

Height: 6’ 2”

Weight: 190 pounds

Birthplace: November 13, 1911, Carrabelle, Florida

Negro Leagues Career: 1937-1955 (18 years)

Position(s): 1st Base, Outfield, Manager

Team(s): Miami Giants (1 year), New York Tigers (1 year), Shreveport Acme Giants (1 year), Memphis Red Sox (1 year), Zulu Cannibal Giants (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (14 years), military service (3 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
- Worked in the celery fields of Florida as a child
- Pursued baseball after attending Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, Florida
- Got the nickname “Foots” because he had big hands and feet and the nickname “Buck” from a team owner
- Served in the U.S. Navy for three years
- Earned first place in batting in the Negro Leagues in 1946
- Played on 9 championship teams and in 3 Negro American League All-Star games
- Played for the Cuban and Mexican Leagues during winters and the Satchel Paige All-Stars in 1946
- Managed KC Monarchs last 8 years of career, winning 5 championships and 2 Negro Leagues World Series
- Became a Major League scout for the Chicago Cubs and Kansas City Royals
- Was the first black coach in the Major Leagues in 1962
- Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2022

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
**ROBERT “SATCHEL” PAIGE**

**Name:** Robert LeRoy Paige

**Nickname(s):** Satchel

**Height:** 6’ 4”

**Weight:** 180 pounds

**Birthplace:** July 7, 1906, Mobile, Alabama

**Negro Leagues Career:** 1926-1950 (24 years)

**Position(s):** Pitcher

**Team(s):** Chattanooga Black Lookouts (2 years), Birmingham Black Barons (3 years), Baltimore Black Sox (1 year), Cleveland Cubs (1 year), Pittsburgh Crawfords (6 years), Kansas City Monarchs (15 years), Santo Domingo (1 year), Santo Domingo All-Stars (1 year), Newark Eagles (1 year), Mexican League (1 year), Satchel Paige’s All-Stars (1 year), New York Black Yankees (1 year), Memphis Red Sox (1 year), Philadelphia Stars (2 years), Major Leagues (4 years), Chicago American Giants (1 year), Minor Leagues (4 years), Indianapolis Clowns (1 year)

**Life Facts and Achievements:**

- Raised as one of a dozen children and rarely attended school
- Worked as a porter carrying suitcases at the train station as a kid
- Got his nickname from trying to steal a man’s satchel and learned how to pitch in reform school
- Started his career pitching for the Mobile Tigers and other semi-pro teams
- Went professional in 1926 with Chattanooga in the Negro Southern League
- Known for striking out batters with his super-fast pitches
- Warmed up by throwing twenty straight pitches across a chewing gum wrapper used as home plate
- Became well known with Pittsburgh Crawfords in early 1930s, but argued with owner over salary often
- Formed his own team in 1937 after returning from playing in Mexico and also played in Puerto Rico
- Signed with the Kansas City Monarchs with a sore arm, but recovered and came back stronger
- Pitched a total of 2,600 games, 300 shutouts, and 55 no-hitters, including 208 strikeouts in 205 innings
- Joined Major League baseball in 1948 as the oldest rookie ever and became oldest pitcher ever in 1965
- Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1971, the first player ever from the Negro Leagues

*Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum*
CUMBERLAND "CUM" POSEY

Name: Cumberland Willis Posey, Jr.

Nickname(s): Cum

Height: 5’ 9”

Weight: 145 pounds

Birthplace: June 20, 1880, Homestead, Pennsylvania

Negro Leagues Career: 1911-1946 (35 years)

Position(s): Outfield, Manager, Officer, Owner, Secretary of Negro National League and East-West League

Team(s): Homestead Grays (35 years), Detroit Wolves (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:
- Raised by a riverboat engineer father and mother who was the first black graduate of Ohio State University
- Attended Homestead High School, University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania State and Holy Ghost Colleges
- Led basketball team in scoring and also played baseball and golf in school, while working as a mail clerk
- Joined the Homestead Grays in 1911 and became manager in 1912 when the team became popular
- Known as “father” of the Homestead Grays and guided them into a money-making business 1912-1929
- Secured permission for the team to use the Pittsburgh Pirates field when they were out of town in 1922
- Played professional basketball with Monticello Delaneys and the championship Leondi teams until 1925
- Formed and coached a Grays’ basketball team in 1927 that defeated the New York Celtics
- Stopped playing baseball in 1929 and later became Homestead Gray’s booking agent, manager, and owner
- Continued to improve the team and recruited more baseball stars, including Josh Gibson and Judy Johnson
- Won the Eastern championship in 1931 with a record of 163 wins and 23 losses
- Lost star players to Pittsburgh Crawfords because they paid higher salaries
- Served as officer of the Negro National League and founded the East-West League
- Started night baseball before the Major Leagues explored the possibility
- Served as executive secretary of Negro National League and wrote a regular article in a local newspaper
- Won 9 straight Negro National League championships beginning in 1937
- Began having health problems in 1945, which led to his death from lung cancer in 1946
- Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
CHARLEY “MINNIE” PRIDE

Name: Charley Pride

Nickname(s): Minnie

Height: 6’ 1”

Weight: 180 pounds

Birthplace: March 13, 1938, Sledge, Mississippi

Negro Leagues Career: 1953-1958 (5 years)

Position(s): Pitcher

Team(s): Memphis Red Sox (2 years), Birmingham Black Barons (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

- Discovered when he pitched for a sandlot team against the Memphis Red Sox
- Played with the Memphis Red Sox and the Birmingham Black Barons during the early 1950s
- Joined the Negro American League when it was struggling, losing players to the Major Leagues
- Tried out for the Angels and New York Mets after leaving the Negro Leagues, but not selected
- Returned home and signed a record contract with RCA
- Became first African American star of country music with 36 #1 hits and 25 million albums sold worldwide
- Had 31 gold and 4 platinum records, including one quadruple platinum record
- Voted into the Grand Ole Opry, dedicated to honoring country music and its history, in 1993
- Won the Academy of Country Music’s Pioneer Award in 1994
- Received the Turner Broadcasting Trumpet Award for Career Achievement in 1995
- Elected into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000
- Served as a board member for the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Missouri

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Theodore Roosevelt Radcliffe

Nickname(s): Ted, Double Duty

Height: 5’ 10”

Weight: 190 pounds

Birthplace: July 7, 1902, Mobile, Alabama

Negro Leagues Career: 1928-1950 (22 years)

Position(s): Catcher, Pitcher, Manager

Team(s): Detroit Stars (2 years), St. Louis Stars (1 year), Homestead Grays (4 years), Pittsburgh Crawfords (1 year), Columbus Blue Birds (1 year), Cleveland Giants (1 year), New York Black Yankees (1 year), Bismarck, North Dakota (1 year) Chicago American Giants (4 years), Brooklyn Eagles (1 year), Cincinnati Tigers (1 year), Memphis Red Sox (2 years), Mexican League (1 year), Birmingham Black Barons (4 years), Kansas City Monarchs (1 year), Harlem Globetrotters (1 year), Louisville Buckeyes (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Played on three great black baseball teams: St. Louis Stars, Homestead Grays and Pittsburgh Crawfords
• Nicknamed “Double Duty” by a sportswriter because he would catch and pitch during games
• Appeared in six East-West All-Star games, dividing them equally as a catcher and a pitcher
• Moved to the Midwest in 1934 to play with a white semi-pro team in North Dakota
• Known to change teams whenever more money was offered
• Began managing in 1937, moving to the Memphis Red Sox in 1938 and Chicago American Giants in 1943
• Traveled to Cuba the winter of 1939-1940 and Mexico the summer of 1940 to play in their leagues
• Selected as the Negro American League’s Most Valuable Player (MVP) in 1943
• Played in the Negro League’s World Series in 1944
• Traded to the Kansas City Monarchs in 1945 as a catcher
• Managed Chicago American Giants in 1950 and made history by signing three white players to the team
• Became an entrepreneur with Satchel Paige forming the All-Star Negro Leagues, making them wealthy

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
RICHARD “CANNONBALL DICK” REDDING

Name: Richard Redding

Nickname(s): Cannonball Dick, Smiling Dick

Height: 6’ 4”

Weight: 210 pounds

Birthplace: 1891, Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Leagues Career: 1911-1938 (27 years)

Position(s): Pitcher, Outfield, 1st Base, Manager

Team(s): Philadelphia Giants (1 year), New York Lincoln Giants (5 years), New York Lincoln Stars (1 year), Indianapolis ABCs (1 year), Brooklyn Royal Giants (12 years), Chicago American Giants (2 years), military service (2 years), Atlantic City Bacharachs (2 years), New York Bacharachs (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Lacked formal education and did not know how to read, although he had extensive experience in baseball
• Played with the Atlanta Depins, a semi-pro team in his hometown, before joining professional baseball
• Began his career in 1911 at 20 with the Philadelphia Giants, then moved to the New York Lincoln Giants
• Won 17 straight games that first year because of his blinding speed and good control as a pitcher
• Nicknamed “Cannonball Dick” because of his overpowering speed and “Smiling Dick” by sports media
• Moved to the Lincoln Stars in 1915, winning 20 straight games before a loss
• Known among the top pitchers in black baseball in the 1910s
• Joined Rube Foster’s Chicago American Giants in 1917 after a short time with the Indianapolis ABCs
• Called to serve in World War I during the peak of his career
• Signed on with the Bacharach Giants as a player-manager in 1919 after military service in France
• Transferred to the Brooklyn Royal Giants in 1923 when the Eastern Colored League was formed
• Was appointed manager of the Royals for six seasons between 1927-1932
• Left the Royals to manage the New York Bacharachs
• Pitched in five winter seasons in the Cuban League
• Retired from baseball in 1938
• Admitted to a mental hospital in 1948, where he was until his death

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
JACK "JACKIE" ROBINSON

Name: Jack Roosevelt Robinson

Nickname(s): Jackie

Height: 5’ 11-1/2”

Weight: 190 pounds

Birthplace: January 31, 1919, Cairo, Georgia

Negro Leagues Career: 1945 (1 year)

Position(s): Shortstop, 2nd Base, Outfield

Team(s): Kansas City Monarchs (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Was an All-American in college football at the University of California, Los Angeles
• Played college and semi-pro baseball before joining the Negro Leagues
• Known as an outstanding hitter and base stealer because of his speed
• Selected in 1945 by the Dodgers to be the first black in the Major Leagues at that time
• Played as an outfielder in the Major Leagues
• Set a record of stealing 29 bases his first year in the Major Leagues
• Played baseball in Venezuela during winter
• Won the batting title in 1947, while also stealing 37 bases and hitting 16 home runs
• Helped the Dodgers win three World Series
• Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1961

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Wilbur Rogan

Nickname(s): Bullet, Bullet Joe

Height: 5' 7"

Weight: 180 pounds

Birthplace: July 28, 1889, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Negro Leagues Career: 1917-1938; 1939-1946 (28 years)

Position(s): Pitcher, Outfield, 1st Base, 2nd Base, 3rd Base, Shortstop, Manager, Umpire

Team(s): Kansas City Colored Giants (1 year), All Nations (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (18 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Born in Oklahoma, but raised in Kansas City, Kansas
• Started his baseball career as a catcher in 1908
• Played with the Kansas City Giants the next season and achieved 54 consecutive wins
• Served in the Army from 1911 to 1919 and led their baseball camps in the Philippines, Hawaii and Arizona
• Known as an outstanding pitcher with a tremendous fastball, a fine curveball and good control
• Signed and played as a shortstop, left fielder and pitcher with the 1917 All Nations team
• Moved to the Monarchs in the first Negro National League
• Was a star player for the Kansas City Monarchs for almost twenty years
• Played in the California Winter League with the Los Angeles White Sox in 1917 and again in 1920
• Achieved a league high 16 home runs in 1922 and continued to have league highs that winter in Cuba
• Missed the World Series in 1924 due to an injury he got while playing with his young son
• Became the Monarch’s team manager in 1926
• Helped the Monarchs win another Negro National League pennant in 1929 before becoming seriously ill
• Recovered by 1931 and continued in the manager position until his first retirement at age 48 in 1938
• Restarted baseball career as an umpire in the Negro American League through the 1946 season
• Retired from baseball again to work in the post office in Kansas City
• Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006
Name: Louis Santop Loftin
Nickname(s): Top, Big Bertha
Height: 6’ 4”
Weight: 240 pounds
Birthplace: January 17, 1890, Tyler, Texas
Negro Leagues Career: 1909-1926 (27 years)
Position(s): Catcher, Left Field, Right Field, 1st Base, 3rd Base, Manager
Team(s): Fort Worth Wonders (1 year), Oklahoma Monarchs (1 year), Philadelphia Giants (1 year), New York Lincoln Giants (4 years), Brooklyn Royal Giants (5 years), Chicago American Giants (1 year), New York Lincoln Stars (1 year), Hilldale Daisies (9 years), military service (2 years), Santop Bronchos (4 years)

Life Facts and Achievements:
- Known as a solid, strong-armed catcher who guarded home plate really well
- Nicknamed after the Germans’ World War I tank because of his powerful hitting, once over 500 feet away
- Started baseball career in 1909 with the Fort Worth Wonders and Oklahoma Monarchs of Guthrie
- Was a popular player, loved by fans, and earned $500 a month
- Demonstrated strength and toughness, playing with injuries like a broken thumb, to help his team
- Served in the Navy during World War 1, missing a couple seasons of baseball
- Formed his own semi-pro team in 1926, the Santop Bronchos, after getting limited playing time
- Worked as a radio broadcaster, did charity work, served as a bartender and got into politics after baseball
- Developed severe arthritis and other illnesses and was hospitalized towards the end of his life
- Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Name: Marcenia Lyle Alberga

Nickname(s): Toni Stone

Height: 5’ 7 ½”

Weight: 146 pounds

Birthplace: 1931, St. Paul, Minnesota

Negro Leagues Career: 1953-1954 (2 years)

Position(s): 2nd Base

Team(s): Indianapolis Clowns (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Began playing softball with the Girls Highlex Softball Club in St. Paul, Minnesota
• Graduated Roosevelt High School at 15 and switched to playing baseball on a men’s team
• Known as the first female to play in the Negro American League
• Recruited to attract audience members in the early 1950s when black baseball was struggling to survive
• Joined the Indianapolis Clowns at 22 in 1953
• Played a total of 50 games as a 2nd baseman
• Traded to the Kansas City Monarchs in winter 1954 and replaced on the Clowns by another female player
• Treated like any other player by being knocked down by pitchers and taken out by baserunners on the field
• Voted into the Women’s Sports Hall of Fame on Long Island in September 1993

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
GEORGE “MULE” SUTTLES

Name: George Suttles
Nickname(s): Mule
Height: 6’ 3”
Weight: 215 pounds
Birthplace: March 2, 1901, Brockton, Louisiana
Negro Leagues Career: 1918-1944 (26 years)
Position(s): 1st Base Right Field, Manager, Umpire
Team(s): Birmingham Black Barons (2 years), St. Louis Stars (5 years), Baltimore Black Sox (1930), Detroit Wolves (1932), Washington Pilots (1932), Cole’s American Giants (1933-1935), Newark Eagles (1936-1940, 1942-1944), Indianapolis ABCs (1939), New York Black Yankees (1941-1942)

Life Facts and Achievements:
• Worked in the coal mines of Birmingham as a youth and played semi-pro ball on area mining teams
• Had an older brother scheduled to join the Negro National League, but he broke his leg in the mines
• Started his professional baseball career at age seventeen and played 26 years before retiring
• Joined the St. Louis Stars in 1926 and achieved 26 home runs his 1st season and a record 600 feet hit once
• Set a record hit once of 600 feet
• Hit 3 home runs in one inning in 1929 and when he next went to bat, the other team walked off the field
• Helped lead the Stars to championships in 1928, 1930, and 1931 with his batting skills
• Jumped to several teams after the Stars ended, playing with the Pilots, Detroit Stars and American Giants
• Led the Giants to the 1933 championship and also played in Cuba during off season
• Moved to Newark Eagles as a 1st baseman in 1936 and earned 26 home runs in 1938
• Loaned to Indianapolis ABCs to play a game against the Homestead Grays in 1939, upsetting Gray’s owner
• Traded to New York Black Yankees in 1941, but returned the next season and began managing in 1943
• Appeared in the East-West All-Star games 5 times, including hitting the first home run in the very first game
• Known as a patient hitting instructor after retiring
• Lived in Newark until he died of cancer in 1968
• Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
BENJAMIN H. TAYLOR

Name: Benjamin H. Taylor

Nickname(s): Ben

Height: 6’ 1”

Weight: 190 pounds

Birthplace: July 1, 1888, Anderson, South Carolina

Negro Leagues Career: 1910-1940 (30 years)

Position(s): 1st Base, Pitcher, Manager, Umpire

Team(s): Birmingham Giants (2 years), West Baden Sprudels (2 years), St. Louis Giants (2 years), New York Lincoln Giants (1 year), Chicago American Giants (2 years), Indianapolis ABCs (6 years), Hilldale Daisies (1 year), New York Bacharach Giants (1 year), Washington Potomacs (2 years), Harrisburg Giants (1 year), Baltimore Black Sox (2 years), Atlantic City Bacharach Giants (1 year), California Stars (1 year), Silver Moons (1 year), Washington Pilots (1 year), Baltimore Stars (1 year), Brooklyn Eagles (1 year), Winston-Salem Eagles (1 year), Washington Black Senators (1 year), Washington Royals (1 year), New York Cubans (1 year), Edgewater Giants (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Began playing baseball in 1908 as a pitcher with the Birmingham Giants
• Moved to Indiana to play on a team his brother managed in 1910, was first in the league in batting that year
• Had 30 wins to 1 loss pitching record in 1911 with St. Louis Giants
• Joined the Chicago American Giants as 1st baseman in 1913 to play with his brothers Jim and Johnny
• Gained most popularity playing for Indianapolis ABCs 1914-1922, under his brother C.I.’s management
• Played in Cuba 1915-1916 before returning to the ABCs
• Became a manager for first time in 1919 for New York Bacharach Giants
• Returned to manage the ABCs after his brother C.I.’s death in 1922, then moved to Washington in 1923
• Hired his brother Johnny as pitching coach and in 1924 led the team in batting and home runs
• Transferred to Baltimore Black Sox as playing manager in 1926 and got hurt in a bad car accident in 1927
• Traded in 1929 to Atlantic City Bacharach Giants, receiving the highest salary in black baseball at that time
• Served as umpire in the East-West League in 1932 and the Negro National League in 1934
• Managed a poolroom after retiring from baseball
• Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2006

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
WILLIE WELLS

Name: Willie James Wells

Nickname(s): The Devil, El Diablo, Chico, Bubbles

Height: 5’ 8”

Weight: 160 pounds

Birthplace: August 10, 1905, Austin, Texas

Negro Leagues Career: 1924-1949 (25 years)

Position(s): Shortstop, 3rd Base, 2nd Base, Pitcher, Manager

Team(s): San Antonio Black Aces (1 year), St. Louis Stars (7 years), Detroit Wolves (1 year), Homestead Grays (1 year), Kansas City Monarchs (2 years), Cole’s American Giants (2 years), Newark Eagles (5 years), Mexican League (4 years), Chicago American Giants (1 year), New York Black Yankees (2 years), Baltimore Elite Giants (1 year), Indianapolis Clowns (1 year), Memphis Red Sox (2 years), Canadian League (2 years), Birmingham Black Barons (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:

• Started playing baseball on the sandlots of Texas and with the San Antonio Black Aces
• Joined Stars in 1924 and set a record in 1926 with 27 home runs and with batting titles in 1929 and 1930
• Helped lead St. Louis Stars to Negro National League championships in 1928, 1930 and 1931
• Won championships with the Negro Southern League in 1932 and Negro National League in 1933
• Appeared in eight All-Star games, including the first one ever
• Transferred to Eagles in 1936 and wore a hard hat to bat after being knocked unconscious once accidentally
• Played many years in Latin America, mostly in Cuba, and named Most Valuable Player in 1938-1939
• Earned his nickname “El Diablo” in Mexico playing as shortstop to help win the 1940 championship
• Returned to Newark as a player-manager for $315 per month in 1942 and voted MVP that year
• Selected to annual All-American team and identified as one of top five players to transition to Major Leagues
• Returned to Mexico in 1943 and became a tutor to Jackie Robinson when he played with Montreal
• Played in the 1940s with Giants, Memphis and Indianapolis and as playing manager in Canada in the 1950s
• Retired from baseball and worked in a New York deli for 13 years before moving to care for his mother
• Suffered from heart failure in 1989
• Voted into National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1997

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
“SMOKEY JOE” WILLIAMS

Name: Joseph Williams

Nickname(s): Joe, Smokey Joe, Cyclone, Yank

Height: 6’ 4”

Weight: 190 pounds

Birthplace: April 6, 1885, Seguin, Texas

Negro Leagues Career: 1905-1932 (27 years)

Position(s): Pitcher, Outfield, 1st Base, Manager

Team(s): San Antonio Black Bronchos (2 years), Chicago Giants (1 year), New York Lincoln Giants (12 years), Mohawk Giants (1 year), Chicago American Giants (1 year), Atlantic City Bacharach Giants (1 year), Hilldale Daisies (1 year), Brooklyn Royal Giants (1 year), Homestead Grays (7 years), Detroit Wolves (1 year)

Life Facts and Achievements:
- Started his career in Texas with Austin/San Antonio Black Bronchos and the Birmingham Giants
- Played during winter seasons in California and Cuba
- Known as a dominant player in black baseball from the time he started with the Chicago Giants in 1910 until his retirement from the Homestead Grays in 1932
- Nicknamed “Cyclone” because of his fastball pitch
- Pitched with Chicago American Giants in 1912, winning over every Pacific Coast League team except one
- Had his best all-around season in 1914 pitching for 41 wins and only 3 losses
- Moved to the New York Lincoln Giants and served as captain and manager for several seasons until 1923
- Married a Broadway dancer in New York in 1922
- Joined the Grays in 1931, as part of “the greatest black team of all time” alongside Josh Gibson and others
- Received more votes than Satchel Paige as the “all-time best pitcher in the Negro Leagues” in a 1952 poll
- Voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1999

Source: Negro Leagues Baseball eMuseum
Player 1

Player 2

Player 3
MICROLESSON THREE - HANDOUT 42: MY IDEAL TEAM

Your group is putting together human resources for an ideal baseball team. In what order would you choose the players you have been given and why?

1st Choice Player ___________________________________________________________

Why is this player your 1st choice?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2nd Choice Player __________________________________________________________

Why is this player your 2nd choice?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3rd Choice Player __________________________________________________________

Why is this player your 3rd choice?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
1. In the chart, which of these leagues has the highest income?
   a. Major League Baseball
   b. National Football League
   c. National Hockey League
   d. Major League Soccer

2. In the chart, which sports league has an average annual income above $5 million?
   a. Major League Soccer
   b. National Hockey League
   c. Major League Baseball
   d. National Basketball Association

3. Based on the chart, is there higher incentive to be a professional basketball player or soccer player? Why?
4. During the time of the Negro Leagues, barnstormers sold tickets, entertained and played the game of baseball. For every ticket sold, players received a portion as income. If a player were to receive $.01 cent for every ticket sold and 56 tickets were sold, how much income would that player receive?
   a. Less than $.17 cents
   b. Less than $.42 cents
   c. More than $.53 cents
   d. More than $.81 cents

5. During the Negro Leagues, do you think black baseball players had different human capital than white baseball players? Why or why not?

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

6. During an average game, football and soccer teams use 11 players at a time, a baseball team uses 9 players, a hockey team uses 6 players and a basketball team uses 5 players. Which sport uses the most human resources per game?
   a. Soccer
   b. Baseball
   c. Hockey
   d. Basketball

7. Players of which sport, football or baseball, require the most human capital? Why?

___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
8. Athletes can improve their human capital by developing certain skills. Match the skills on the left with the appropriate sport on the right.

- Pitching
- Ice skating
- Hitting the ball as far as possible
- Kicking the ball
- Bouncing the ball
- Passing the ball with your head
- Stickhandling
- Controlling the puck
- Stealing bases
- Throwing the ball in the hoop

A. Basketball
B. Baseball
C. Football
D. Soccer
E. Hockey

9. If you had to make a choice, which sport would you choose to play?
   a. Baseball
d. Hockey
   b. Basketball
e. Soccer
   c. Football

10. What skills do you have now that could help you play that sport? Would these skills be helpful in another sport? Why or why not?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
1. In the chart, which of these leagues has the highest income?
   a. Major League Baseball
   b. National Football League
   c. National Hockey League
   d. Major League Soccer

2. In the chart, which sports league has an average annual income above $5 million?
   a. Major League Soccer
   b. National Hockey League
   c. Major League Baseball
   d. National Basketball Association

3. Based on the chart, is there higher incentive to be a professional basketball player or soccer player? Why?

   Basketball; basketball players earn a much higher income.
4. During the time of the Negro Leagues, barnstormers sold tickets, entertained and played the game of baseball. For every ticket sold, players received a portion as income. If a player were to receive $.01 cent for every ticket sold and 56 tickets were sold, how much income would that player receive?

   a. Less than $.17 cents  
   b. Less than $.42 cents  
   c. More than $.53 cents  
   d. More than $.81 cents

5. During the Negro Leagues, do you think black baseball players had different human capital than white baseball players? Why or why not?

   Answers may vary, but may include: Yes, because black baseball players had to play and entertain; No, they both had similar skills to play the game of baseball.

6. During an average game, football and soccer teams use 11 players at a time, a baseball team uses 9 players, a hockey team uses 6 players and a basketball team uses 5 players. Which sport uses the most human resources per game?

   a. Soccer – 11 players  
   b. Baseball  
   c. Hockey  
   d. Basketball

7. Players of which sport, football or baseball, require the most human capital? Why?

   Answers will vary.
8. Athletes can improve their human capital by developing certain skills. Match the skills on the left with the appropriate sport on the right.

B. _____ Pitching  
E. _____ Ice skating  
B. _____ Hitting the ball as far as possible  
D. _____ Kicking the ball  
A. _____ Bouncing the ball  
D. _____ Passing the ball with your head  
E. _____ Stickhandling  
E. _____ Controlling the puck  
B. _____ Stealing bases  
A. _____ Throwing the ball in the hoop  

A. Basketball  
B. Baseball  
C. Football  
D. Soccer  
E. Hockey

9. If you had to make a choice, which sport would you choose to play? **Answers will vary.**
   a. Baseball  
   b. Basketball  
   c. Football  
   d. Hockey  
   e. Soccer

10. What skills do you have now that could help you to play that sport? Would these skills be helpful in another sport? Why or why not?
   **Answers will vary, but may include: running fast, throwing, jumping, etc.**
   **Answers will vary, but may include: Yes, these same skills could be useful in other sports because they also involve running, throwing, etc.**