

From the Negro Leagues to the Majors: The Untold Story the Integration of Baseball From 1947 - 1973

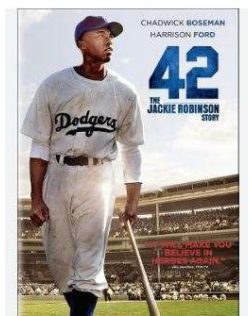
Presented by:
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Starting
Point –
Released in
2013



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Dodgers retire the number 42 in 1972



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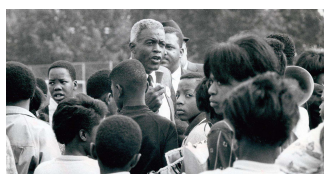
Why Jackie Moved on From Baseball.

- Jackie “broke up” with the Dodgers and baseball itself.
- Why?
- Dodgers traded him to the Giants in 1957
 - Jackie retired from the game.
- Things Jackie never did –
 - No old timers’ games
 - No baseball card shows
- His involvement in politics and civil rights movement.
- Had a difficult life – even after baseball.
- Excellent Book – “I Never Had it Made.” – his memoir.

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Jackie dies in October, 1972

- Died at 53 years old
 - Two weeks after appearing at 1972 World Series.
 - Complications due to diabetes and heart disease.
 - His work was unfinished.
- His teammate Gil Hodges died
 - April, 1972
 - 47 years old.
 - Mets Manager in 1969
 - Mets win the World Series.



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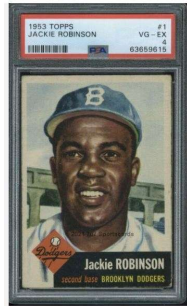
How I became interested in this topic..

- Started from collecting vintage baseball cards.
- Why I Love Vintage baseball cards ..
- “I collect the cards I could not afford to buy as a kid.”
- Possibility for “Time Travel” ...
- Authenticity ...
- Players have stood the test of time..



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My Favorite Jackie Card



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Main Points

- The story of Jackie Robinson and the Brooklyn Dodgers has been told many times.
- The purpose of this talk is to provide a broader social and historical context.
- The process of integration took almost 30 years!
- It was an incremental process.
- Many “early pioneers” followed in Jackie’s footsteps.
 - Their stories are mostly forgotten.

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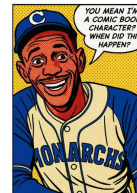
Main Points

- We address some common myths or misconceptions regarding the story of Jackie Robinson..
- Problem I have ..
 - So much information ... so little time!
- How I tell this story –
 - Vintage Baseball Cards..
 - Style of ..
 - Graphical Novel and
 - Comic Books.

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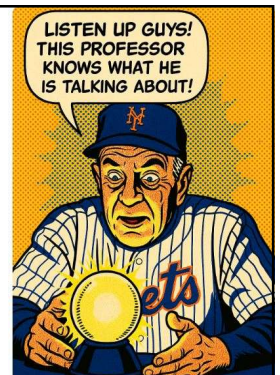
Main Questions

- Why did it take so long for baseball to become fully integrated?
- What were some key milestones along the way?
- Who were some of the colorful characters?
- How has baseball changed?
- How has society changed?

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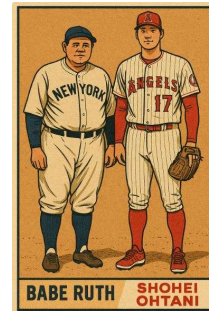
Most Pressing Questions of the Day!!

- How fast was Cool Papa Bell?
- Could you get a hit off Satchel Paige? (No!)
- How fast was Jackie Robinson?
- What was the worst trade in baseball history?
 - Cubs trade Lou Brock to the Cardinals.
- Why did the Red Sox lose the 1967 World Series?
 - Was it the "Curse of the Bambino?"
 - Cosmic Karma?
 - Or simply bad management?
- Was Willie Mays catch in the 1954 World Series
 - The greatest catch of all time?



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What does
"the Babe" and
Ohtani have in
common?



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How can we
compare the
best players
from different
eras?

Roberto Clemente was
5 feet 11 inches
170 lbs
Hit 240 home runs!



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Looking Back

- Integration of Baseball was inevitable
- Driven by forces such as –
 - Economics
 - Labor Relations –
 - Rising Middle Class
 - Changing Demographics
 - Civil Rights Movement
- The ways of the "old school" totally incompatible with
 - The modern game...



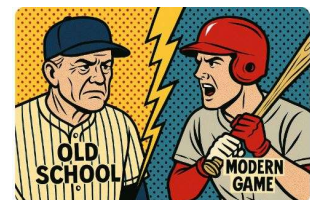
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Forces of Change



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Baseball's
Old School



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Thought Experiment

- Suppose someone else had been the first Black player to play in the major leagues.
- Consider what if the first Black player had been:
 - Satchel Paige
 - Ernie Banks
 - Roy Campanella

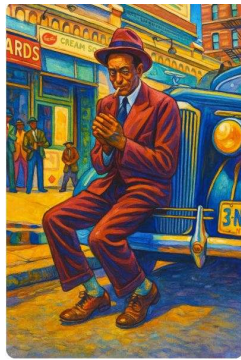


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Meanwhile, back
in Harlem



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Satchel
Unleashes
the "Radio
Ball"

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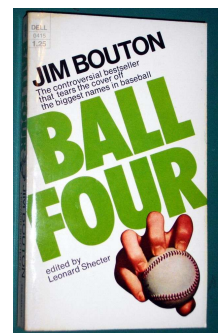
What made Satchell so good



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Baseball Memoir

- Jim Bouton's Ball Four..
 - Published in 1970
 - Cause a huge uproar!
 - Considered one of the greatest sports books of all time.
 - Sold 5.5 million copies.
- Some Deep Questions
 - What is the meaning of happiness?
 - How can you be a "good person" in a complex world?
- Critics said –
 - Bouton violated the "sanctity of the locker room"
 - What if his teammates did not want to be written about?



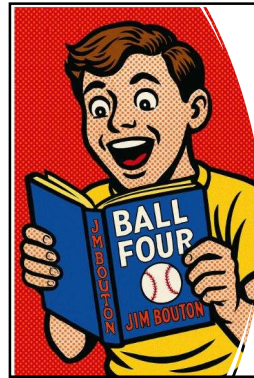
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Jim Bouton

- A man ahead of his time..
- He dragged baseball
 - From the 1960s
 - Into the 1970s...
- A genius at sports marketing

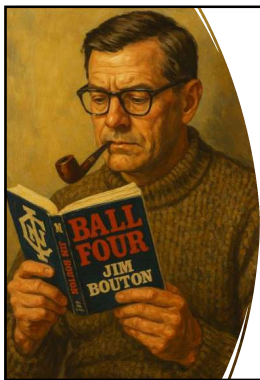


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Baseball Memoir – Myself at age 12

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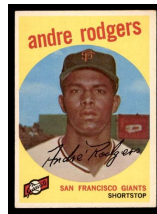
Baseball Memoir – Myself at 53

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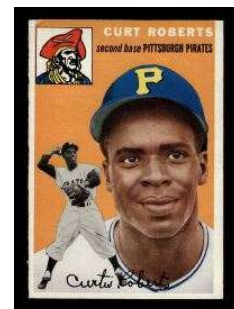
Andre Rodgers – “The Natural”



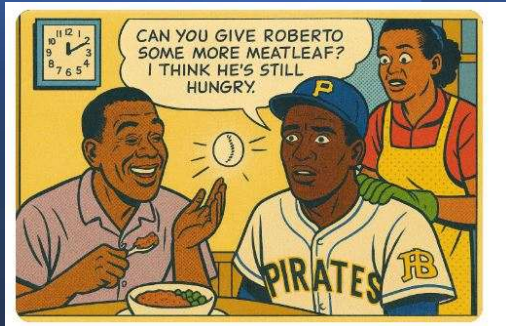
Height: 6' 3"
Weight: 185
Shortstop.

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First Black Player for the Pirates



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Learning Objectives/ Main Takeaways

- An Homage to the “unsung heroes” unsung heroes.
 - Tell their stories
 - Recognize their contributions..
 - Honor their sacrifice.
- Remembering –
 - It's not about wins and losses – how many home runs you hit
 - It's about the world you leave behind.
 - It's about the impact your life has on others.

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Historical Airbrushing...

- History is always
- A simplification of the real story
- We tend to forget or gloss over
- Things that are difficult..
- Things that are painful
- Things that are hard to remember.
- The filter is called “nostalgia.”
- Let us go back to 1945 –
 - Why was baseball segregated?



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Bob Gibson and Curt Flood

- Time: 1964
- Place: St. Petersburg, FL
 - Stopping at a diner
 - For some breakfast



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MYTH #1

The myth of 'heroes and villains.'

HEROES

Jackie Robinson
Branch Rickey



VILLAINS

Dodgers teammates
Phillies manager



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Myths and Misconceptions

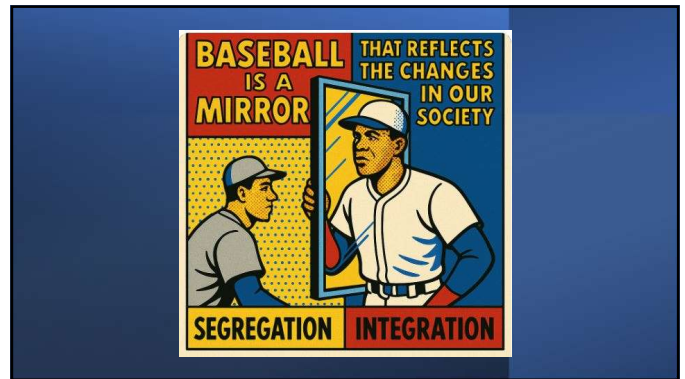
- Myth # 1: The myth of “heroes and villains.”
 - Heroes: Jackie Robinson, Branch Rickey
 - Villains: Dodger teammates who resisted, Phillies manager Ben Chapman
- Myth # 2: Racial prejudice was confined to certain regions of the country.
 - That is, The South.
- Myth # 3: Jackie Robinson believed in “turning the other cheek.”

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Barriers to Overcome --

- Not just changing attitudes of individuals
- About Changing Organizations...
- About Changing Laws –
 - 1964..

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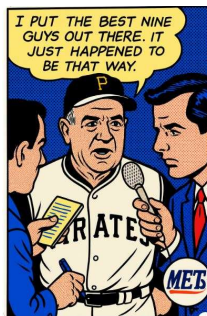
What happened in the early 1970s?

- First amateur draft happened in 1965
- 1971 – Pittsburgh Pirates – 9 Black players start a game.
- Curt Flood lawsuit - 1972
- 1974 – Baseball's first free agent Jim Catfish Hunter.
- 1973 – American League adopts the designated hitter..
 - What does this have to do with racial integration?
- 1975 – Frank Robinson becomes first black manager.

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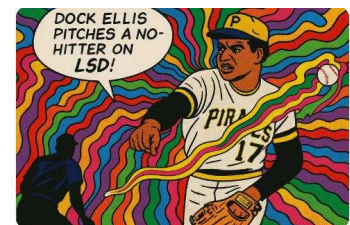
PITTSBURGH PIRATES	
Sept. 1, 1971	
2B	RENNIE STENNETT
CF	GENE CLINES
RF	ROBERTO CLEMENTE
LF	WILLIE STARGELL
C	MANNY SANGUILLÉN
3B	DAVE CASH
1B	AL OLIVER
SS	JACKIE HERNÁNDEZ
P	DOCK ELLIS

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Dock Ellis a
Throws No-
Hitter:



42

Ted Williams – Induction into the Hall of Fame.

- "I hope that someday the names of Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson can be added as a symbol of the great Negro League players that are not here only because they were not given the chance."
- Cooperstown, NY

