



## Reinstate Buck Weaver to Major League Baseball

1806 N. Market St. \* Champaign, IL 61822 \* (217) 356-6150

February 16, 2004

Commissioner Allan H. (Bud) Selig  
Office of the Commissioner  
c/o Major League Baseball  
777 E. Wisconsin Ave., Ste. 3060  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Commissioner Selig,

I was encouraged to read the latest editorial piece by Michael Bauman about Buck Weaver's reinstatement on MajorLeagueBaseball.com. I strongly agree with his view that Buck Weaver should be the leading candidate considered for reinstatement. While Pete Rose's issue was recently the leading story in the national media, many articles paid attention to a cause more deserving of headlines – the ClearBuck.com campaign.

Though similar in terms of subject matter, the Pete Rose and Buck Weaver cases are entirely separate and different in substance. As you know Weaver took no money to throw the series, batted .324 and fielded flawlessly. Rose on the other hand, admitted to gambling only after lying about it for more than a decade.

Buck Weaver's family, unlike Pete Rose's, cannot afford to hire high-profile attorneys and consultants to fight on their behalf. Instead, they rely on the validity of the story and the passion of Buck Weaver fans. Patricia Anderson, surrogate daughter and niece of Weaver, seeks to restore her uncle's honor and reputation. The truth of Buck Weaver's innocence is known among the baseball community, yet no known action is underway to make this small, meaningful gesture happen in Patricia's lifetime. She is 77-years-old and her health is deteriorating. The reversal of Judge Landis' ban on Buck Weaver will provide only positive press for Major League Baseball.



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It would mean a great deal to both Patricia Anderson and myself to meet with you regarding the issue. Her recollection of her uncle during his post-baseball days and his incessant quest for reinstatement will astonish you. I have tapped resources unavailable to my scholarly Black Sox predecessors and have uncovered a number of items that bring new light to this well-researched issue. The Chicago Historical Society has asked me to be the featured Black Sox scholar at a symposium October 3<sup>rd</sup> honoring the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Black Sox Scandal.

As noted in the New York Times, USA Today, ABC News, the Associated Press and other news sources around the country, Buck Weaver was wrongly banned from baseball and deserves justice. Restoring him to the ranks of Major League Baseball is all the Weaver family is looking to accomplish.

Again, granting Patricia Anderson and me the opportunity to meet with you would be a small but well-received gesture. Help us prove that Major League Baseball truly is America's favorite pastime. Open your doors to a former player's daughter and one of the sports most passionate fans. You won't regret the decision.

Sincerely,

Dr. David J. Fletcher MD MPH

*Enclosure*