

Reinstate Buck Weaver to Major League Baseball

ClearBuck.com Update

Friday, May 21, 2004

Issue 6



ClearBuck.com on "The Today Show"

ClearBuck.com ambassadors battled the early morning cold and ventured out to the Tribune plaza where "The Today Show" taped live. Katie Couric and Al Roker helped celebrate the destruction of the Bartman ball with fellow Chicago

baseball fans. Look carefully in the audience for the neon green Clear Buck! signs. Thanks to Allison Donahue of Serafin & Associates for the 4:00 a.m. wakeup.

Black Sox historian objects to glorification of Comiskey

Statue condones Major League Baseball's cover-up of 1919 World Series

To the dismay of Black Sox historian and ClearBuck.com founder Dr. David Fletcher, the Chicago White Sox will honor franchise founder Charles A. Comiskey on April 22, 2004 with a life-sized bronze statue.

According to White Sox chairman Jerry Reinsdorf, Comiskey 'played an important role in the White Sox organization.' Dr. Fletcher agrees. "Charles Comiskey engineered the cover-up of one of the greatest scandals in sports history – the 1919 World Series Black Sox scandal. Honoring Charles Comiskey is like honoring Richard Nixon for his role in Watergate."

While Dr. Fletcher acknowledges Comiskey's accomplishments as co-founder of the American League and the Chicago White Sox, his masterful cover-up of the series contributed to Buck Weaver's banishment from Major League Baseball. Though Weaver played flawless baseball during the Series, he was banned for life for having 'guilty knowledge' of the World Series fix.

"It's ironic that Buck was banned from baseball for knowing of the fix, and yet Comiskey is emblazoned in right-center field," cites Dr. Fletcher, a professor at the University of Illinois. "Comiskey was told before the Series began, that several of his players were reached by gamblers. He would not call off the Series because he knew the large amount of money to be made with the expanded 9-game playoff format that year."

AL Central Champs

Who will win the AL Central?

Indians

Royals

Tigers

Twins

White Sox

[See Results]

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Dr. Fletcher also points out the following facts:

? Comiskey was nearly indicted by the Cook County Grand Jury in September 1920 when the Black Sox scandal broke. In 1929, the Cleveland Plain Dealer reported how precariously close Comiskey came to being tried with the other eight ballplayers in the 1921 trial in Chicago for conspiracy charges.

? In 1923, Comiskey was able to convince Chicago Tribune publisher Captain Joseph Medill Patterson not to publish a series of articles written by Hugh Fullerton that told the real story of the World Series scandal.

? Comiskey was less than truthful in the 1924 Milwaukee trial when Joe Jackson successfully sued Comiskey for back pay. Comiskey testified that he did not know about the fix until the morning of Game Two.

Dr. Fletcher's passion for the Chicago White Sox and the history of baseball, led him to the sordid tale of the Black Sox scandal. A member of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR), Dr. Fletcher has tapped resources unavailable to his Black Sox predecessors and has uncovered a myriad of facts and findings certain to bring new light to a very intriguing and complex story. He has no ax to grind, no personal animus to get out of his system. He believes the public should know the facts of the 1919 World Series scandal.

Watch Dr. Fletcher tonight, April 22nd on "Chicago Tonight," airing at 7:00 p.m. on WTTW Ch. 11.

11th Annual Spring Training Conference for Nine was a success!



"Nine: A Journal of Baseball History and Culture" hosted this year's spring training conference in Tucson, AZ. ClearBuck.com founder and President Dr. David Fletcher presented "ClearBuck.com: The Crusade to Bring Back Buck Weaver to Baseball." Joining Dr. Fletcher was "Eight Men Out" author Eliot Asinof. Mr. Asinof has been a tremendous help to the ClearBuck.com campaign. What a thrill it was to listen to his

fascinating tales of life as a former baseball player, soldier and blacklisted author. We look forward to our next encounter in October 2004 when Eliot will be a panel member at the Chicago Historical Society's Black Sox program.



While in Arizona for spring training the ClearBuck.com campaign members took in a few ballgames. The photo to the left shows ambassadors wearing the neon green t-shirts at the Cubs vs. White Sox game in Mesa, AZ. This cross-town rivalry is just as intense in Arizona for spring training as it is in Chicago during the regular season.

ClearBuck.com

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ClearBuck.com is now an established company with Amber Buchanan working fulltime as the organization's vice president. In July, Amber coordinated the launch of the ClearBuck.com campaign while with public relations and affairs firm Serafin & Associates. She recently ended her 3-year tenure with Serafin & Associates to work fulltime on the ClearBuck.com campaign. Her fingerprint is on every major ClearBuck.com activity from special events to day-to-day communications and operations.

Amber enjoyed a successful decade long career as an international model before earning her Communications Management BA from Lindenwood University. While on soccer scholarship, she was twice named All-American. Amber's previous work experience includes marketing and on-air promotions for the sports and entertainment industries.

Amber will continue to oversee operations and coordinate special events for the campaign. She will begin to assist Dr. Fletcher in researching the Black Sox scandal. Eventually, they plan to turn their extensive research and experiences heading up the ClearBuck.com campaign into a book and screenplay. Stay tuned.

A true Chicago hero



The inspirational documentary of Chicago Cubs legendary third baseman and broadcaster Ron Santo premiered Wednesday, March 24th at the Chicago Historical Society. Amber Buchanan, vice president of ClearBuck.com attended the event.

"This Old Cub" captures Santo's spirit and appreciation for life highlighting his battle with Juvenile Diabetes and his passion for baseball. His message is optimism; his mission is hard work.

It's a must-see for every child in America. Visit www.thisoldcub.com to learn more about Ron Santo and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

How Can I Help?

There are a number of ways you can help the ClearBuck.com campaign. If you haven't already done so, visit our website to sign the online petition or forward the link to everyone in your address book. Other ways you can help:

* Download the petition available on our website and take it to:

Local sport and social activities

Schools

Community groups

Special events taking place in your area

Please return all signed petitions to:

Amber Buchanan

ClearBuck.com

3023 N. Clark St. #150

Chicago, IL 60657

773.244.2492 (p/f)

amber@clearbuck.com

* Write a letter to the editor of your local paper.

* Write a letter to Commissioner Allan H. 'Bud' Selig letting him know your thoughts about Major League Baseball's injustice to Buck Weaver. Send your letters to:

The Office of the Commissioner of Baseball

Allan H. (Bud) Selig, Commissioner

245 Park Avenue, 31st Floor

New York, NY 10167

Phone: (212) 931-7800

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Published by Dr. David J. Fletcher

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