

**ATTENTION: PLANNING EDITORS, PHOTO EDITORS, SPORTS EDITORS
& SPORTS COLUMNISTS**

Media Contact:
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312-799-2161

MEDIA ALERT

“THE BLACK SOX: 85 YEARS LATER”

The Chicago Historical Society Looks at the 1919 White Sox World Series Scandal

WHAT: “The Black Sox: 85 Years Later” – a moderated discussion.

WHEN: Tuesday, October 5, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Chicago Historical Society, Clark Street at North Avenue.

THE BLACK SOX: 85 YEARS LATER

The 1919 Chicago White Sox are a symbol of infamy in baseball’s storied history. Accused of conspiring with gamblers to throw the World Series, eight players were suspended, tried in court, found not guilty and then were banned from baseball. A moderated discussion will look back on the story of the “Black Sox,” featuring Black Sox scholar Dr. David Fletcher, Illinois State Representative Patricia Bellock (granddaughter of White Sox founder and owner Charles Comiskey), Patricia Anderson (niece of banned White Sox third baseman Buck Weaver) and Tom Cannon (grandson of the lawyer who tried Shoeless Joe Jackson’s civil trial in 1924). The panel will be moderated by Chicago Tribune sports editor Dan McGrath.

\$5 per person; CHS members are admitted free. Reservations recommended; please call 312-642-4600 or visit www.chicagohistory.org.

MEDIA NOTE – Please contact Marty Cusack at CHS, 312-799-2161, by Monday, Oct. 4, to set up an appointment to view archival images of the White Sox and original “Black Sox” trial documents. These will not be readily available at the Tuesday evening discussion.

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The Chicago Historical Society, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located on Clark Street at North Avenue, and can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151 and 156. Public parking is conveniently located one block north of CHS at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). The museum is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5:00p.m. Suggested admission is \$5 for adults; \$3 for seniors and students (ages 13-22) with valid school ID; \$1 for children (ages 6-12); free for members and children under 6. Admission is free on Mondays.

*For more information, call 312-642-4600 or visit us at www.chicagohistory.org.
The Chicago Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the Chicago Park District’s generous support of all of the museum’s activities.*

Reinstate Buck Weaver to Major League Baseball

ClearBuck.com Update

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Issue 8

2004 World Series

Who will win the 2004 World Series?

- New York Yankees
- Minnesota Twins
- Oakland A's
- Atlanta Braves
- St. Louis Cardinals
- Los Angeles Dodgers
- AL Wild Card Team
- NL Wild Card Team

[See Results]

Chicago Historical Society Black Sox Program



Mark it on your calendars. The Chicago Historical Society and ClearBuck.com present "The Black Sox 85 Years Later" on Tuesday, October 5, 2004. The panel discussion takes place between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. CST and will feature ClearBuck.com founder and Black Sox scholar Dr. David Fletcher; Illinois State Representative Patti Bellock (pictured at left, great-granddaughter of Charles Comiskey); attorney Tom Cannon (grandson of Ray Cannon, Joe Jackson's attorney

during the 1924 Milwaukee trial) and Buck Weaver's niece Patricia Anderson. Dan McGrath, sports editor for the [Chicago Tribune](#) will moderate the event.

The event will take place at the Chicago Historical Society, located at the corner of Clark Street and North Avenue. Check the [Chicago Historical Society](#) website for pricing and general information.

Commissioner Selig Correspondence

ClearBuck.com recently sent another letter to Commissioner Selig requesting a meeting with Weaver family members. We have not yet received a response. Below is a copy of the letter:

Dear Commissioner Selig:

Congratulations on extending your position as Commissioner of Major League Baseball. You should be commended for the great job you've done bringing the sport to the 21st century.

It has been a while since I have written you concerning George "Buck" Weaver's reinstatement into Major League Baseball. I recently accepted responsibility for Buck Weaver's estate and represent his family as their official legal agent.

I would like an update concerning Major League Baseball's review of the 1919 World Series that you explained was underway (see your July 31, 2003 and November 14, 2003 correspondence with me). I would like to share this update for the forthcoming Chicago Historical Society Black Sox symposium to be held Tuesday, October 5, 2004. Representatives for the Comiskey and Weaver families will attend.

I read an article that your favorite movie was [The Natural](#). I find that ironic since [The Natural](#) is a fictionalized story of the Black Sox, and Roy Hobbs is the Joe Jackson character. In the movie, Hobbs hits a homerun, but in the book, he strikes out.

You Can Help

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[Contact Us](#)

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[Discussion Board](#)

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[Broadcast Media](#)

I uncovered additional research since our last correspondence. I included an article I found from the Cincinnati Post by Ross Tenney, written the day after the White Sox lost the 1919 World Series. I believe this article says it all about Buck Weaver's character and his role in the 1919 World Series. I think it would be a great accomplishment as commissioner, to be remembered as the one who finally brought justice to Buck Weaver, a man who fought his entire life to clear his name.

I have talked to many people in the game who believe Buck Weaver's reinstatement would be a positive move for Major League Baseball. I still want a private meeting with you as the legal representative for the Weaver family, to discuss Buck's reinstatement to baseball. The Weaver family has been patient over the years. I am requesting just 15 minutes of your time to meet in Milwaukee at your earliest convenience.

Dr. David J. Fletcher

Chicago Baseball Museum

Congratulations to Linda Williamson, the newest member of the ClearBuck.com team. Linda is working as a consultant on a feasibility study for our Chicago Baseball Museum proposal.

Linda has spent the last 20 years involved in state, federal and local government. She recently served as Deputy Director of Community Development and Manager of the Energy and Recycling programs with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

Linda served as State Representative for Leyden Township which allowed her to vote on the installation of lights at Wrigley Field and the construction of U.S. Cellular Field. Asked about some of her greatest Chicago baseball memories, Linda recalls the Beatles concerts and the final game played at Comiskey Park I. The fireworks and the sadness of walking out of Comiskey Park I that final night, will remain in her heart forever.

Contact [Linda Williamson](#) for more information on the Chicago Baseball Museum.

ClearBuck.com Website Updates



The screenshot shows the ClearBuck.com website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with icons for HOME, HISTORY, NEWS, FORUMS, PHOTOS, BLOG, STORE, and CONTACT. Below the menu is a large graphic of a baseball player in a batting stance. To the right of the graphic is a registration form with the following text: "We, the undersigned, believe George 'Buck' Weaver was unjustly banned from baseball. In supporting the clearbuck.com campaign we are strongly urging Alden H. 'Bud' Selig, Commissioner of Baseball, to clear Buck Weaver's name and reinstate George 'Buck' Weaver to Major League Baseball." The form includes fields for "Your name:", "Email:", "City:", "State: (Choose State:)", and "Phone:". Below the form is a "Submit" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: "Copyright 2003-2004, ClearBuck.com".

If you haven't visited the ClearBuck.com website in a while, now is your chance to see our simplified, updated website. We've been working hard over the last few weeks to bring you a more streamlined, organized website.

The news page contains stories of various events and speaking

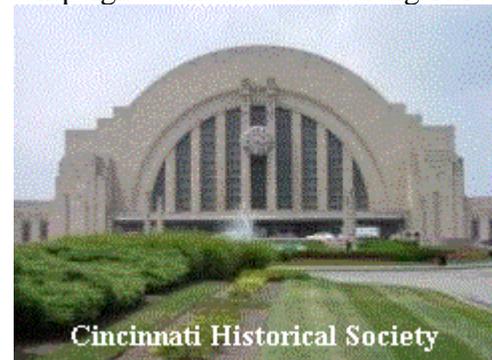
engagements attended by members of the ClearBuck.com campaign, in addition to all correspondence with Commissioner Selig. For a recap of ClearBuck.com activities since the campaign launch in July 2003, browse the archived newsletters.

Our [media page](#) now contains all print, online, and broadcast media, including radio and television interviews and feature stories. Also available to our subscribers are materials uncovered through Dr. Fletcher's vast research. Browse newspaper articles from the 20's through current day that pertain to the 1919 World Series.

If you have an article you'd like to share with us, click [here](#) to contact us directly.

SABR Convention July 15 – 18, 2004

The 2004 Society for American Baseball Research convention was held at the Westin Hotel in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. Members of the ClearBuck.com campaign attended an hour-long 1919 World Series seminar organized by



fellow SABR member Gene Carney. Other panel members included, Jim Sandoval, history teacher and freelance writer; Daniel Nathan, author of *Saying It's So: A Cultural History of the Black Sox Scandal*; David Fleitz, author of *Shoeless Joe: The Life and Times of Joe Jackson*; and moderator Alan Schwarz, senior writer of *Baseball America* magazine and weekly columnist for ESPN.com.

To read more about our experience and to view photos from the event, visit our website at www.clearbuck.com.

One of the most memorable experiences of our campaign happened at the SABR convention when we visited the Cincinnati Public Library. Dr. Fletcher came across an article by Ross Tenney, formerly of the Cincinnati Post. Written the day after the World Series ended on October 10, 1919, the article reads as follows:

WEAVER DIES GAME AS REDS ROLL ON

Cincinnati Post
October 10, 1919
By: Ross Tenney

Though they are hopeless and heartless, the White Sox have a hero. He is George Weaver, who plays and fights at third base.

Day after day Weaver has done his work and smiled. In spite of the certain fate that closed about the hopes of the Sox, Weaver smiled and scrapped.

One by one his mates gave up. Weaver continued to grin and fought harder.

Cicotte and Williams fell and the Sox were two games to the bad. Weaver's smile never faded. His spirit never waned.

Cicotte tried again and failed. Williams made his second game attempt but the Red Juggernaut rolled on. In that sixth inning when Moran's men slugged and pounded the Sox into submission, Weaver pulled his cap lower over his eyes and grinned. Two of the Sox hits were lined out by his bat.

The Reds have beaten the spirit out of the Sox all but Weaver. Buck's spirit is untouched. He was ready to die fighting.

Buck is Chicago's one big hero; long may he fight and smile.

NCRA Convention July 29 – August 1, 2004



Dr. Fletcher recently spoke to the National Shorthand Court Reporters 2004 Annual Convention in Chicago. The presentation focused on court reporter Elbert M. Allen's role in the 1921 and 1924 Black Sox trials.

One notable audience member was Janice Friend, great-granddaughter of Judge Hugo Friend who presided over the 1921 Black Sox trial in Chicago, IL. With Janice's help, Dr. Fletcher recently interviewed Judge Friend's son about his thoughts on the Cook County trial. He told Dr. Fletcher he thought the trial was just a public airing of the scandal. Mr. Friend also mentioned a conversation he had with 1919 White Sox catcher Ray Schalk. Mr. Friend said Schalk knew something was going on during the 1919 World Series because Cicotte and Williams crossed him up on pitches. Dr. Fletcher is looking forward to viewing Mr. Friend's personal scrapbook of trial media clips.

[Click here](#) to view the NCRA presentation. Visit our website for more information as it becomes available.

The Push Continues

A short time ago, the [Springfield State Journal-Register](#) interviewed Dr. Fletcher about the ClearBuck.com campaign. Below is an excerpt from that interview.

***BUCKING THE SYSTEM
MOUNT ZION DOCTOR DEVOTED TO CLEARING WEAVER'S NAME***

*Springfield State Journal-Register
August 8, 2004
by: Steve Schmidt*

While political campaigns rage for the upcoming elections, one man wages his own campaign for someone who never ran for office.

George "Buck" Weaver never had political aspirations, but the former Chicago White Sox third baseman is caught in the politics of modern-day baseball 48 years after his death.

To read the full story, [click here](#) to be directed to the [Springfield State Journal-Register](#) article.

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
c/o 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

[PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION]

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