

2005 World Series Special Edition Newsletter

ClearBuck.com Update

Saturday, October 22, 2005

Issue 10

Congratulations Chicago White Sox!

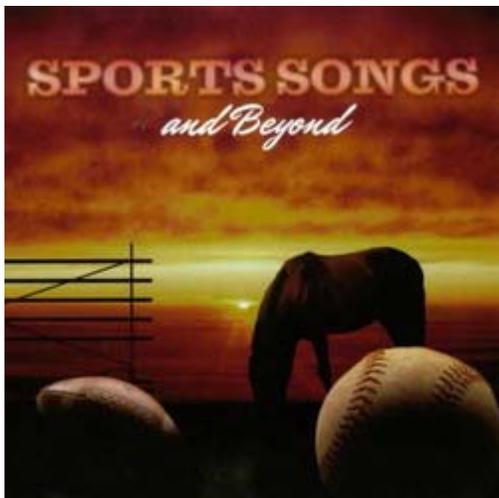
Not since 1959 has the City of Chicago had a team to root for in the World Series. And not since 1917 have Chicagoans celebrated a victory. On Saturday, October 22, 2005 the Chicago White Sox take the field against the Houston Astros for the 101st World Series showdown. And you can bet ClearBuck.com will be there!

Dr. Fletcher has secured tickets to all of the games at U. S. Cellular Field, including a skybox for a potential showdown in game seven. John Cusack, who played Buck Weaver in the movie "Eight Men Out," accepted an invitation to join Dr. Fletcher in the sky box rented for members of ClearBuck.com and the Chicago Baseball Museum. Look for Dr. Fletcher at today's game in section 114 row 10 between first base and right field, and help him root for his beloved White Sox.

The Media Spotlight

With the Chicago White Sox attending their first World Series in 46 years, comes a renewed interest in the Black Sox scandal and the ClearBuck.com campaign. A number of media outlets have shown interest in speaking with Dr. Fletcher about the scandal and his motivation behind ClearBuck.com. Check out today's edition of the [Toronto Star](#) and watch for Dr. Fletcher on ESPN's Outside the Lines. Visit the [media section](#) of our website for more updates.

Sports Songs and Beyond



World Series

Who will win the 2005 World Series?

- White Sox in 4 games
- White Sox in 5 games
- White Sox in 6 games
- White Sox in 7 games
- Astros in 4 games
- Astros in 5 games
- Astros in 6 games
- Astros in 7 games

[\[See Results\]](#)

You Can Help

- [Download the Petition](#)
- [Find Your Legislator](#)
- [Visit MLB for Official Information](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Visit Our Site

- [Discussion Board](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Broadcast Media](#)
- [Chicago Baseball Museum](#)

Sports Songs and Beyond is the second CD album of the team of Joe Pickering Jr. and Phil Coley. There is a wide variety of sports songs on this CD, including songs about football, rodeo, and baseball. Song number six "Let Buck Back In," describes the perils of the White Sox over the years for baseball's injustice to Buck Weaver. CD's can be purchased at Amazon.com, on ClearBuck.com's [online store](#), or by visiting www.kingoftheroadmusic.com. Our special thanks to Joe Pickering Jr. for thinking of our campaign for his sports CD. A sample of the lyrics is below:

*WILL THE WHITE SOX EVER WIN?
NOT 'TIL BASEBALL LETS BUCK BACK IN!
THE CURSE OF THE WHITE SOX CAN BE WIPED OUT
LET BUCK BACK IN ALL THE FANS SHOUT!*

We Couldn't Say It Better Ourselves

*Chicago Tribune
October 20, 2005
By: Mike Downey*

High time for Selig to pardon Weaver

Bud Selig, I have a favor to beg of you.

A request, really. A plea. An appeal to you as a decent, honest, red-blooded American who happens to be in charge of our national pastime. You are the commissioner of baseball. You have clout. You have influence. You have say-so.

How would you feel about being truly brave? About becoming a hero to the people of Chicago—and to one Chicago man's family in particular—here in a town that hasn't won a World Series for 86 years?

Grant amnesty to Buck Weaver.

The grave marker at Mt. Hope Cemetery, just off 115th Street, reads this way:

Husband

George D. Weaver

1890—1956

And that's it. Nothing else. Not a word about how Ty Cobb called him the greatest third baseman of his day.

Not a word about his .333 batting average in the 1917 World Series as the White Sox took the championship.

No mention of how he hit .324 in the 1919 Series and played each of its eight games error-free.

Of how he never took a dive or took a dime.

Of how he was banned for life by the commissioner anyway.

Of how he was guilty of nothing except not being a snitch on his friends.

Of how he was the only one of the eight "Black Sox" defendants to ask for a separate trial.

Of how catcher Ray Schalk spoke during the case and for years thereafter of "the seven" Sox teammates who were crooks.

Of how the trial judge, Hugo Friend, reportedly instructed the jury that he would overturn a guilty verdict in Weaver's case (and his alone).

Of how 14,000 Chicago fans signed a petition in 1921, pleading for Weaver's reinstatement.

Of how until his death in 1956, Weaver was the only one of the "Eight Men Out" who remained here in Chicago—and the only one who maintained his innocence to the end.

Bud, this one's up to you.

I am asking on behalf of George Daniel Weaver's descendants, who cannot for the life of them comprehend baseball's 80-plus years of persistently, maddeningly blind justice. They have all but given up hope.

"When you're family, as I am, you're biased of course," Buck's niece, 78-year-old Pat Anderson, told me this week. "But you can't understand why someone else could be so obtuse.

"Some of these commissioners, it's like they put a brown paper bag over their heads."

I ask also on behalf of Dr. David Fletcher, a man still very much devoted to this cause. He is president of the Chicago Baseball Museum and the man responsible for ClearBuck.com, a Web site dedicated to the Sox player's receiving of a full pardon for a crime he didn't commit.

Acquitted by a jury, Weaver was banished by Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis for attending a meeting at which the "fix" was discussed and not telling anybody about it. In other words, for not being a rat.

"If you want to compare it to events just of the last few weeks, just look at the reception Rafael Palmeiro got after he said a teammate gave him a drug," Fletcher said

The disgraced Palmeiro was abandoned for good by the Baltimore Orioles not after his suspension for steroids but after he said teammate Miguel Tejada had given him a B-12 vitamin that might have been responsible for his positive drug test.

To ask a baseball authority to be lenient with a Palmeiro (for drugs) or a Pete Rose (for gambling), well, let's just say I would be ashamed to do that. Some punishments do fit some crimes.

But in the words of Buck Weaver himself, a man who did nothing except to *say* nothing: "There are murderers who serve a sentence and then get out. I got life."

Bud Selig, commute this innocent man's sentence.

Be a hero to the late Marge Follett, who died shortly after coming to the 2003 All-Star Game hosted by the White Sox to personally beseech you to exonerate her Uncle Buck.

Be a hero to the late Bette Scanlon, a longtime reporter for the Sun-Times who was raised like a daughter by Buck Weaver for 16 years after her own dad died.

Be a hero to Pat Anderson, who used to walk her uncle to work at a drugstore on the South Side, who never heard him speak of the 1919 World Series, whose own husband is 83 now and would love to get the news that the good name of Buck Weaver has been resurrected at last.

I don't know about you, Bud, but all my life I have wanted to do one *really good thing*.

Correct an injustice. Right a wrong. Do something of merit, something magnanimous, something more than watch a man catch a ball or report a score. You can. You have the power.

And what a gesture it would be on your part, to let Chicago have a World Series back in town and have a World Series hero back, all in one fell swoop.

Anderson says she would fly in from Missouri in a blink of an eye for *that* World Series celebration.

"I'm not a drinker," she told me. "But I think if that did happen, I would really go hang one on."

Bud, the first round would be on me.

Chicago Baseball Museum Advisory Board Meeting

Dr. Fletcher and the Chicago Baseball Museum advisory board gathered yesterday for their second meeting at the LaSalle Bank Building. The meeting covered a number of topics ranging from discussions of the business plan, the introduction of Mo Mullhal - the first donating member of the museum, ideas for the design of our logo, and our action plans for the coming six months. Additionally, the board celebrated the museum's recent

recognition as a 501 (c)3 tax deductible organization.

On November 15, 2005 the Chicago Baseball Museum will host their first fundraiser at Fletcher Chicago. Tickets are \$100 per person, \$175 per couple. Contact Rachel Christoff of Winning Systems at (630) 833-7722 for more information.



The Chicago Baseball Museum would like to congratulate the 2005 Chicago White Sox. We wish you the best of luck in the World Series.

Judy Baar Topinka Honors Dr. Fletcher



Once again Dr. Fletcher's passion for baseball was recognized. On September 16th Illinois State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka congratulated Dr. Fletcher for receiving the "Hilda Award" from the Baseball Reliquary by presenting him with a State Proclamation. The plaque recognized his hard work and dedication toward our national pastime, and wished him luck with his future endeavors, including the Chicago Baseball Museum. On hand for the ceremony were (From L to R: Debra Richards, niece of recently deceased Negro League star Ted 'Double Duty' Radcliffe, White Sox legend Minnie Minoso whose number '9' was retired in 1983, Dr. Fletcher, Illinois State Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka, and Negro League pitcher Al Spearman of the Chicago American Giants.

Congratulations Dr. Fletcher!

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

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Published by Dr. David J. Fletcher
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