

BASE BALL
Sunday, May 17, '08
SENATOR OVAL
145 Street and Avenue C, Dunwoody
SENATOR
ATHLETIC CLUB
D.C.
BELMONT COLORED
GIANTS OF HARLEM
Don't fail to attend. Game called 3:30 P.M.

2A



2B



2C

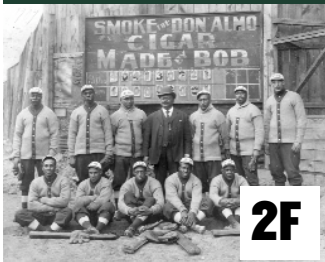


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BARNSTORMING ON THE OPEN ROAD 1887-1919

By 1887, some black players were on organized baseball rosters, mainly in the minor leagues. But during that season, the International League owners agreed to make no new contracts with African-American players. In unspoken agreement, other leagues adopted similar policies over the next 15 years. Black players, in response, started their own professional teams. They barnstormed throughout many of the nation's towns and cities, playing against all comers and building a reputation for great baseball. By 1910, more than 60 teams were on the road. Some were so good that no amount of prejudice could deny their talent. Even with the advent of organized black baseball in 1920, many black teams continued to barnstorm all the way up through the 1950s.



2F



PHILADELPHIA GIANTS

2G



LINCOLN GIANTS

Land of Giants

Many black barnstorming teams took the name "Giants" possibly because of the prominence of the National League New York Giants, who were managed by John McGraw. These black teams, among them the Lincoln Giants of Savannah, the Union Giants of Chicago and the Lincoln Giants of New York City, became giants in their own communities.

Cuban X Giants

Partly made up of players from the nearby Cuban Giants team in Long Beach, New York, the Cuban X Giants were illustrative of the type of contracts on African-American teams. In general, play was more or less trading and playing. The conditions were usually marginal during the barnstorming era. Players would "jump" their contracts to play with more financially successful teams, it was difficult to become a profit based on attendance at games because in many other cities, such as most of a barnstorming circuit, decreased their revenues. Black teams established regular to make ends meet and to keep their best players throughout the area of barnstorming.

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MOBILE GIANTS

Sol White

Hall of Famer Sol White, baseman of early black baseball and player manager for the Philadelphia Giants, earned Adolph "Doc" Adair for racism in major league baseball because the powerful Chicago White Sox league manager often refused to play teams with black players. There was not unusual in visiting the underground racetrack of the 1880s.



2M



CUBAN X GIANTS

2N

African-American History Baseball History

Giants' Ascent

Black baseball teams were organized in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The first professional black baseball team was the Cuban X Giants of Long Beach, California, in 1875. Other teams followed, including the Philadelphia Giants and the Lincoln Giants.

Normal, Colored Base Ball League

The National Association of Colored Baseball Players (NACBP) was founded in 1907. It was the first national organization for black baseball players.

American Association Entry

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Historical Context

The history of black baseball is closely tied to the history of racism in America. Black players were often excluded from white teams and had to play in segregated leagues.

First African American Player

Sam Houston Williams was the first African American player in the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues (NAAPBL) in 1878.

First African American Manager

Adolph "Doc" Adair was the first African American manager in the NAAPBL in 1887.

Chicago Defender

The Chicago Defender was a prominent African American newspaper that supported black baseball and civil rights.

Black to Africa

The Black to Africa movement was a social and political movement that encouraged black people to migrate to Africa.

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PRIDE & The African-American Baseball Experience

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