

The Sporting News

Baseball with a beat

Oct 6, 2003 by Don Armstrong

Think you know the game, eh? All right, we'll see.

1. Who made the last out in Dock Ellis' LSD-"aided" no-hitter?
2. How big was the Phillies lead right before the big collapse of 64?
3. Which rule (exact number) did Bonehead Merkle break when he failed to touch second base, costing the Giants the 1908 pennant?
4. What player was the inspiration for The Natural?
5. Max Patkin played 5,000 games, typically working three innings. Why is he not the career leader in innings pitched?
6. Who was the first African American in the major leagues?
7. All right, wise guy, who was the first--and perhaps only--white player in the Negro Leagues? OK, time to stretch!

Source: The Baseball Ballads, a new CD by Chuck Brodsky (Chuckbrodsky.com), lifelong Phillies fan and son of "quite possibly ... the biggest baseball fan on Earth." Musically, it's basic folk--a couple of guitars, bass, drum, an organ or electric piano here and there--but as baseball lore, well, Vin Scully surely could learn a thing or two. This is perhaps the most repertorial collection of music about sports ever put on disc. Did you ever hear about Moe Berg, Dodgers catcher and

World War II spy? Well, listen up! Richie Allen, Lefty Grove, the rowdy crowd at Connie Mack--they're all here, everybody but Van Lingle Mungo. And Brodsky delivers his tales with sweetness and obvious affection for the game. Even Merkle finally gets an ovation. The music: C sharp. The stories: Grammy worthy.

Answer: Sorry, pal you gotta buy the disc.

Upon further review ... The Boston Red Sox have won five world championships, four as the Red Sox and one as the Boston Pilgrims. The information was incorrect in the September 22 issue.

COPYRIGHT 2003 Sporting News Publishing Co. COPYRIGHT 2008
Gale, Cengage Learning