Baseball's Best

Remembering Don Sutton

By LAMAR GARRARD
Baseball historian

"Luck is the by-product of busting your fanny." – Don Sutton, Hall of Fame pitcher

It is 1,140 miles from Clio, Alabama, his birthplace, to Cooperstown, New York, and the Baseball Hall of Fame where Donald Howard Sutton was enshrined in 1998. After 23 years of major league pitching, 16 of those with the L.A. Dodgers, Sutton was rewarded for his years of busting his fanny as his quote so aptly put it. He recorded 324 wins with 256 losses and compiled a 3.26 earned run average while fanning 3,574 batters. He is seventh on the all-time strikeout list and pitched a remarkable 5,000-plus innings in 774 games. Compare that to today's starting pitchers who only pitch maybe at the most five, six, or seven innings per game.

A three-sport athlete in high school, Sutton was signed by the Dodgers and spent 1965 pitching for two different Dodger minor league clubs. His 23-7 record that year quickly propelled him to his rookie season with Los Angeles in 1966 where he joined Don Drysdale, Sandy Koufax, and Claude Osteen on probably the league's best pitching staff. The power of that staff gave Don incentive to win 12 games that season with 209 strikeouts and only 52 walks. The Dodgers went on to the World Series, but lost the crown to the Baltimore Orioles. The Dodgers, with Sutton on board, also made the World Series in '74, '77 and '78, losing in all three contests.

The curly-haired right-handed moundsman exhibited top notch control during his career, walking only 1,343 batters and notching a .559 winning percentage. He had two-and-one-half times more strikeouts than walks.

Don Sutton joined the TV and radio broadcasting team of the Atlanta Braves in 1989. During his 30-year broadcasting career, he witnessed the Braves 14-year streak of National League pennant wins and also the 1995 World Championship Braves team of Smoltz, Glavine, Maddux, Chipper Jones, and company. Don's tenor-tone type voice was very distinctive. Because of his vast experience in playing the game, he was welcomed by the other Braves announcers as one who knew the finite details of what was going on during the play-by-play of each game. It may be a strange but true stat, but Don won only 20 games once in his career and that was in 1976 when he went 21-10. This tells you that he had the tenacity and will to pitch 23 years, going year after year, recording wins and more wins and at the end had a record that is in the top rung of the all time pitching greats.

Hank Aaron, the home run king, never hit 50 homers in a given year but in 23 years he amassed 755 round trippers. Consistency for Don Sutton was a major part of who he was as a pitcher. We all miss the popular Mr. Sutton and thank him for being a part of many treasured moments in baseball history.

COLTON PRESTON ROGERS

Brad and Mandy Rogers are proud to announce the birth of their son, Colton Preston, born Tuesday, March 30, 2021, at Doctor's Hospital in Augusta, Georgia. Colton weighed seven pounds, three and one half ounces and was 21 inches long.

Paternal grandparents are the late Johnny and Linda Rogers formerly of Wrens, Georgia.

Maternal grandparents are Jan Smalley of Lincolnton and the late Carlton Dornberg formerly of Lincolnton.

Special aunt, Carla Dornberg and God father, Randy Powell also welcomed Colton home.

McCloud participates in Sylvania parade

Little River Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Vice President Alton McCloud of Dearing dressed in Revolutionary War Militia attire and participated with other area Sons of the American Revolution compatriots in the Sylvania Livestock Parade on April 3. He also participated in the filming of the militia and color guard events on April 10 at Ft. Frederica on St. Simons Island, in preparation for the virtual ceremony to be held on April 17.

The Little River Chapter, Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution, represents the counties of Warren, McDuffie, Lincoln, and Columbia. If you are interested in learning more about the Sons of the American Revolution, please contact chapter president William Tankersley at 706-825-5810 or wjtank@comcast.net.

Revival services

Morningside Baptist Church Revival Services will begin on Sunday evening, April 18 at 6 p.m., Mon.-Wed. night at 7 p.m. Rev. David Spears will be bringing the messages.

Game night at Post 194

The American Legion Post 194, offers games for its members and the general public as "guests of the legion" on Thursdays from 6-9 p.m.

The range of games available are billiards, darts, poker (with house chips), various card games like Hearts, Spades, Gin Rummy, etc. The Legion has added an "Old School" collection of games: Checkers, Chest, Pick-Up-Sticks, Dominoes, Jacks (with the bouncy red ball), Battleship, UNO, Jenga, Tic Tac Toe, Cribbage & Scrabble and much more.

The Gamesmanship comes with a background of great food, great adult drinks, Karaoke, "Music by Request" 50's, 60's 70's Classic Rock n' Roll, Country and Motown Era music.

The Legion is back with its new Military and Americana make-over and it's a beautiful thing.

For more information, contact Al Ewing at (706) 825-2363.

Elvis tribute

Kelly Ray Burkham and Al Ewing Entertainment will present 'Back to Yesteryear' a tribute to Elvis, at the American Legion Post #194 on Fri., April 17, beginning at 7 p.m. There will be a $5 cover charge dontation to benefit the legion's building fund.

Kelly also has hosting duties every Friday night, 7 p.m., at the Legion Bar and Lounge, performing many of his hits, along with other country favorites. Admission is free for legion members and the general public. For more information contact Al Ewing, Events Coordinator (706) 359-3445 or Kelly Ray Burkham at: kellyrayburkham@yahoo.com.

Sunday services

Blessed Hope Bible Baptist meets at the Presbyterian Church on Sundays at 11 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for prayer meeting. Come join us. For more information call 706-359-6759.

County represented at Masters Tournament

Lincoln County was well represented at the Masters Tournament last week. Working the tournament were (l-r) Franklin Brown, James Mattison, Coach Kevin Hunt, and Tristan Pia.

LCHS seniors eligible to apply for scholarship

Seniors at Lincoln County High School may apply for the W. E. Mason Pioneer Scholarship by submitting an application to the Pioneer Educator Committee.

The scholarship is available to students with a grade point average of 80 and above; is designed to give preference to first generation college students; and those interested in pursuing the field of education. Students must have been accepted into an institution of higher education by the submission deadline, which is April 22.

Interested students should contact the high school counselor or principal

For more information about the scholarship or to contribute contact Luther Jones at 706-410-4349.

VBS at LBC

Come join us as we go to Mystery Island tracking down the one true God!

Vacation Bible School will be held at Lincolnton Baptist Church on Sunday, June 13, from 4-6 p.m., Mon., June 14, – Thurs., June 17, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Commencement Service will be held on Thurs., June 17.

Four-year olds through fifth-grade are welcome. Pre-registration will be available after April 12, on the LBC website at lincolntonbaptist.org and click on the VBS tab. For more information call the church office at 706-359-3303. LBC is located at 235 S. Peachtree St.

Planning, zoning meetings

The City of Lincolnton Planning & Zoning Board meetings for 2021 are scheduled as follows: April 27, May 25, June 29, July 27, Aug. 31, Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 30, Dec. 28. These meetings will be held in City Hall at 5:30 p.m. each month if there is an agenda.

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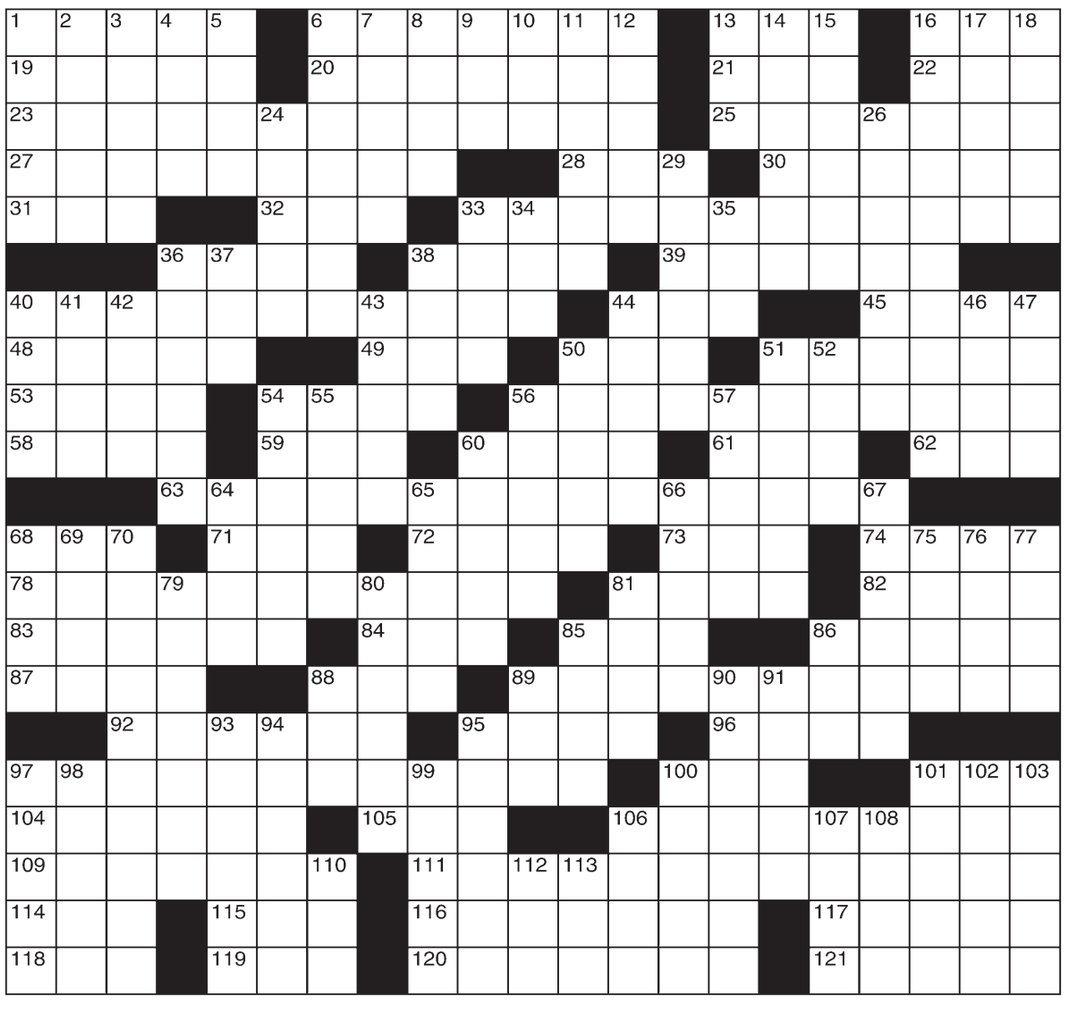
[1] "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Product not available in all states. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, LA, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P1500K; TN: P150TN); Rider kinds B438/B439 (GA: B439B).
6255

Answers on page 5

Super Crossword

HIT SINGLES

ACROSS
1 Insurance giant
6 Italian side dish
13 Govt. media watchdog
16 Once lived
19 Cheek makeup
20 Put out of memory
21 "Impressive!"
22 Skiing peak
23 "Glamorous" singer who's a member of the nobility?
25 Dodgy
27 Not disproven
28 "This Old House" airer
30 Hot and heavy
31 Size above med.
32 Kind of camera, for short
33 "Raise Your Glass" singer being scandalous?
36 Cheese variety
38 With 82-Across, Tour de France, e.g.
39 Resident doctor
40 "Kiss From a Rose" singer after lots of coaching?
44 Inits. on an ambulance
45 — Romeo
48 "Marat/Sade" playwright Peter
49 With 35-Down, short, easy putts
50 Cup edge
51 Lowly
53 Hostelries
54 Tilted text: Abbr.
56 "Material Girl" singer of high birth?
58 "— chance!"
59 Neither's partner
60 Bit of dust
61 Galena, e.g.
62 Ending for peer
63 "Every Breath You Take" singer working as a spy?
68 — -TURN (traffic sign)
71 Suffix with mountain
72 Writer Haley
73 Clutch sitter
74 Moby Dick's pursuer
78 "Have You Ever?" singer doing commercials for Mac computers?
81 Brazilian soccer great
82 See 38-Across
83 Make an exit
84 Negatives
85 In the style of
86 Readily bent
87 — -deucy
88 Needle hole
89 "Yeah!" singer as a deacon?
92 Cheese variety
95 Co. leaders
96 Cry of pain
97 "Hot in Herre" singer on edge?
100 Vehicle navig. aid
101 Bar bill
104 UFO pilots
105 Outer: Prefix
106 Decided by ballot
109 Deviate
111 "You Were Meant for Me" singer whom everyone treasures?
114 "Sort of" suffix
115 Sharp bark
116 Most ethereal
117 Popular font
118 No longer active: Abbr.
119 Ocean
120 Frightful flies
121 Shabby

DOWN
1 Paula of pop
2 Tossed
3 "Filthy" gain
4 Court champ Arthur
5 Emeril, e.g.
6 Stole stock
7 Deduce
8 Olympic racer
9 Atop, in odes
10 "It" game
11 Easel, often
12 Last non-A.D. year
13 Rival
14 London's — Garden
15 Cavalry cry
16 Be part of a queue
17 Ailey of dance
18 Bit of dust
24 "Wake Up Little —"
26 Hitter of high notes
29 Revealing, as a bikini
33 Dial or Coast
34 Actor Linden
35 See 49-Across
36 Africa's Guinea- —
37 ER workers
38 Not fake
40 Bed size
41 Nevada city
42 "— I a stinker?"
43 Ringo who was knighted
44 Downy duck
46 Air blowers
47 "Ah, me!"
50 Kind of paint
51 Nautical
52 Shangri-la
54 Seeing red?
55 "— is human ..."
56 — -dovey
57 Super 8, say
60 Sculpts
64 At no time, to bards
65 Lake craft
66 Crop off
67 Too gaudy
68 Not a thing
69 Big oil gp.
70 Northeast, on a map
75 Doth own
76 It's a pain
77 Lager, e.g.
79 Time between flights
80 "Do I have a volunteer?"
81 In addition
85 "Hey, sailor!"
86 Filmmaker Jean- — Godard
88 Nav. rank
89 Cartoon pic
90 Cowardly evasions
91 Shucks
93 Fiscal sums
94 Oz resident
95 Leachman of "Phyllis"
97 Lowest point
98 "Beloved" actress Kimberly
99 Yank in Europe, say
100 Skein bird
101 "Namely ..."
102 Really got to
103 Tummy
106 Connections
107 Open a bit
108 Lynn or Miles
110 Hot tub site
112 Afore
113 Op. — (kin of "ibid.")