

Baseball's Best Lasorda was determined and focused

By LAMAR GARRARD
Baseball historian



"The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a man's determination." — Tom Lasorda, L.A. Dodgers, Hall of Fame manager

Let your memory take you back to watching the game on TV and out comes this manager, rushing from the dugout to his next umpire recipient of a verbal assault coupled with intense dramatization of a missed call or a disputed call that was emphasized by numerous acts of protest by the said manager, Thomas Charles Lasorda.

Tommy, as he was called, liked to say he bled Dodger Blue. Many of his years in professional baseball were spent with the Dodger organization. Tommy passed away in January of 2021 at the age of 93. He earned the title of Baseball's Ambassador for his many years of promoting the game at venue after banquet proclaiming the positive benefits of the game he enthusiastically loved so well.

Born to Italian immigrant parents in the Philadelphia area, he had an early affinity to the sport of baseball that would see him start at

the bottom rung and wind up as an inductee into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1997.

The 17-year-old left-handed pitcher got his start in pro ball in 1945 with Concord in the North Carolina State League. He won only three games all year while losing 12 on a last-place team.

Fast forward to 1949. After spending two years in service in WWII, Lasorda moved up to A ball with the Greenville, S.C., Spinners. Greenville finished third in the Sally League and Tommy had a good year, winning seven while losing seven.

He met a gal from the south named Jo and they married in 1950. They enjoyed 70 years of marriage. Tommy played several years for Montreal in the International League before being called up to the big league club in 1954. He pitched only three years in the majors, two for the Brooklyn Dodgers and one year for the Kansas City Athletics. His record was 0-4 in less than 30 games in his big league career.

This mediocre showing did not stop Tommy. He got into managing in the Pioneer League in 1965 and

worked his way up to the Pacific Coast League and by 1976 he was managing the Los Angeles Dodgers. He managed the Dodgers for 21 seasons.

Lasorda won two World Series, 1981 and 1988. He was named National League Manager of the Year in 1983 and 1988. He also managed the winning USA Baseball Team in the Olympics in 2000 at Sydney.

I was privileged to hear him speak at the Baseball and War-time Conference in New Orleans a few years ago. Needless to say, he brought the house down. He was funny but also serious at the same time. People listened to a fellow who had won 1,599 major league baseball games.

Tom Lasorda loved baseball and loved America. We need more men like him in professional sports today. Determined and focused and committed are three words that partially describe his amazing life.

Photo shoot May 6-8

Unique Christian Solution will be setting up its professional portrait studio at Martin's Crossroads C. H. Church on May 6-8, for its 100th year edition of its church directory.

If you have attended the Martin's Crossroads Church in the last 100 years, we would love for you to come and get your photo made to be part of this special directory. Participants will receive a free 8 x 10 and have an opportunity to view and purchase any additional photos on the day of the photo shoot if so desired. No pressure sales or obligation to be done so.

Pictures will be taken on May 6, from 3-8 p.m., May 7, from 2-7 p.m., and May 8, from 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The same offer is available to anyone even if you have not attended the church and would like to get a new family portrait made.

To set up an appointment call Unique Christian Solutions at 1-888-742-5823.

Martins Crossroads will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on Sunday, June 13. More details will be announced in May.

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Residents 65 and older can apply for CSRA EOA cooling assistance

The Lincoln County Community Partnership has teamed up with the CSRA Economic Opportunity Authority (EOA) to begin the application process for the CSRA EOA Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The program will offer financial assistance with home cooling costs to target households of those who are 65 years and older or medically homebound.

Due to the continued impact of COVID-19 and the mandate to exercise social distancing, neither office will be serving clients face-to-face until further notice. In an effort to continue serving the community with limited staff the CSRA EOA will operate as follows. Residents 65 years and older or medically homebound must submit a request for assistance at www.csraeo.org. All other qualifying households may apply using the same method as above beginning May 3, 2021.

To apply, applicants must complete an on-line assessment. If it is determined that the household qualifies to apply during the priority period, applicants will receive instructions on how to submit the following documents:

- Picture ID for verification of U.S. citizenship.

- Social Security card for all household members.
- Proof of income in consecutive order for the past 30 days for all household members.
- Most recent electric bill
- Most recent gas bill (required for data).

Applicants will be required to submit current documents as instructed. CSRA EOA is unable to pull documents from previous files. Payment assistance schedule for all fuel types include: Income Level I - benefit amount \$400; Income Level II - benefit amount \$350, and Vulnerable Population which are households with adults age 60 or over - benefit amount \$400.

Income eligibility requires for Level I household size are as follows: one-person, \$16,265; two-person, \$21,270; three-person, \$26,275; four-person, \$31,280; five-person, \$36,285; six-person, \$41,290; seven-person, \$46,295; eight-person, \$51,300; nine-person, \$56,305; ten-person, \$61,310; 11-person, \$66,315; 12-person, \$71,320; 13-person, \$76,325; 14-person, \$81,330; 15-person, \$86,335; and 16-person, \$91,340.

Income eligibility requires for Level II household size are as follows: one-person, \$16,266 - \$25,025; two-person, \$21,271 - \$32,725; three-person, \$26,276 - \$40,425; four-person, \$31,281 - \$48,125; five-person, \$36,286 - \$55,825; six-person, \$41,291 - \$63,525; seven-person, \$46,296 - \$71,225; eight-person, \$51,301 - \$78,925; nine-person, \$56,306 - \$86,625; ten-person, \$61,311 - \$94,325; 11-person, \$66,316 - \$102,025; 12-person, \$71,321 - \$109,725; 13-person, \$76,326 - \$117,425; 14-person, \$81,331 - \$125,125; 15-person, \$86,336 - \$132,825; and 16-person, \$91,341 - \$140,525.

Income eligibility requires for Vulnerable Population household size are as follows: one-person, \$25,025; two-person, \$32,725; three-person, \$40,425; four-person, \$48,125; five-person, \$55,825; six-person, \$63,525; seven-person, \$71,225; eight-person, \$78,925; nine-person, \$86,625; ten-person, \$94,325; 11-person, \$102,025; 12-person, \$109,725; 13-person, \$117,425; 14-person, \$125,125; 15-person, \$132,825; and 16-person, \$140,525.

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



A high-flying spring break

Selah and Sabine Inglett spent their spring break visiting with their grandmother, Anne Ritchie. While there, Selah enjoyed her first indoor skydiving experience at iFly in Atlanta, while Sabine looked on in amazement. Selah and Sabine are the daughters of Andrew and Tricia Inglett of Savannah.

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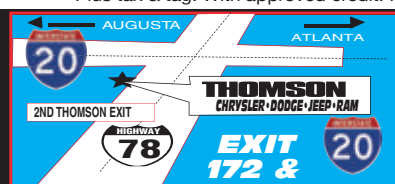
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 2018 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE ALLOYS, FOG LIGHTS, ONE OWNER, SIRIUS/XM, TILT, CRUISE, LOW MILES <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$17,190</h2>	 2021-18 CHEVY CAMARO CONVERTIBLE #221245B, LOW MILES, FACTORY WARRANTY, NOW ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$25,797</h2>	 2020 TOYOTA CAMRY SE NIGHTSHADE #221346A, 20,000 MILES, FACTORY WARRANTY, NAVIGATION, SPOILER AND MUCH MORE, ON SALE <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$25,791</h2>	 FORD F-150, FX4'S, LARIATS 2 AND 4 DOOR SUPERCREWS <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">MANY IN STOCK</h2>
 2021-19 KIA OPTIMA SE'S, LX'S #221165A, HEATED LEATHER, SUN-ROOFS, FACTORY WARRANTY, LOW MILES, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$18,644</h2>	 2021-18 DODGE JOURNEY R/T'S, CROSSROAD'S #220935A, 3RD SEAT, DUAL A/C, GAS SAVER, FACTORY CERTIFIED, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$18,552</h2>	 2021-15 DODGE CHALLENGERS, R/T'S, SXT'S #221084B, LEATHER, HEMI V-8'S, NOW ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$20,920</h2>	 2021-16 JEEP TRAILHAWKS, CHEROKEES, GRAND CHEROKEES #221133A, LEATHER, NAVI, LOW MILES, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$13,990</h2>
 2016 NISSAN TITAN XD CREW 4X4 PLATINUM EDITION, NOW ON SALE <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$27,852</h2>	 2019 FORD RANGER XLT SUPERCREW 4X4 SPORT PACK, REAR FOLDING SEATS, 8,000 MILES, ONE OWNER, ALLOYS, SIDE STEPS <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$32,870</h2>	 2021-17 LARAMIE LONGHORN RAM 4X4'S, CREW 2X4'S HEMI V-8 #221356A, 6.4'S, LEATHER, NAVI, LOW MILES, WARRANTY, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$31,949</h2>	 2021-17 FORD LARIAT SUPER DUTY 4DR CREW 4X4 #221448A, SPORT PACKAGE, POWER STROKE, LOW MILES, MANY EXTRAS, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$68,990</h2>
 2017 INFINITI Q50 PREMIUM 3.0T #221372A, SUNDAY, LOW MILES, HOT & COOLED LEATHER, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$22,494</h2>	 2020-17 CHEVY TAHOE LT #220713B, LANE ALERT, FORWARD COLLISION ALERT, REMOTE START, WARRANTY, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$36,992</h2>	 2020 TOYOTA SUPRA LOW MILES, PREMIUM PACKAGE <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$48,690</h2>	 2020-18 CHEVY SILVERADO HIGH COUNTRY 4X4 CREW #221407A, ON SALE FROM <h2 style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px;">\$50,920</h2>

Plus tax & tag. With approved credit. Pictures for illustration, offer not in conjunction with any other offer. Sale ends 4/26/21 at close of business.



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