

Baseball's Best

Your favorite baseball card

By LAMAR GARRARD
Baseball historian



"I knew when my career was over. In 1965 my baseball card came out with no picture." Bob Uecker, Braves Catcher, 1962 and '63, announcer and comedian.

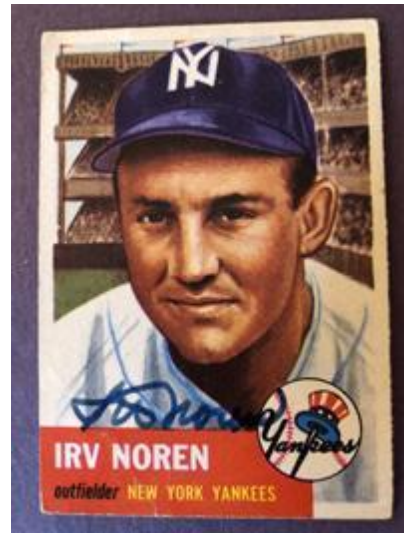
It is quite interesting how much attention is given to a little piece of cardboard called a baseball card that is often smaller than a 3x5 photo. Factor in the amount of pleasure and fun that is generated by collectors, speculators and dealers in the hobby and you have a fascinating collectible.

At the recent Sports Collectors Convention in Chicago a record turnout of patrons posted the 2nd highest overall attendance in the show's 41 year history. It was reported that the 450,000 square foot convention center was packed out by hobby enthusiasts from all over the US and the world.

The T206 Honus Wagner card recently sold for \$6.6 million dollars. Mickey Mantle's 1952 Topps card was purchased not long ago, for \$5.2 million dollars. One of super star outfielder Mike Trout's cards reigned in \$3.84 million. A 1914 Babe Ruth card brought the seller in June of this year, \$6 million dollars. A Ty Cobb Tobacco card of the world's best ever play-

er, secured \$1.1 million greenbacks from the buyer. Jackie Robinson's 1952 Topps card went for \$984,000. These are just a few of the top money cards that changed hands recently. The current hot collectors market seems to have no ceiling for better, scarce and rare cards. The average collector can only dream about these super star cards in the baseball collecting world.

I remember as a elementary school lad purchasing some 1953 Topps Cards at a local grocer near our school. I saved my pennies to anxiously buy those bubble gum cards that came in nickel packs. I gladly coughed up the five cents to see what star card might be in the 5 card pack when I hurriedly tore off the wrapper. On separate occasions I was fortunate enough to find in my hands a Mickey Mantle and the other most popular card in that set, the "Say Hey Kid," Willie Mays! Time and necessity prompted me to sell both of those cards in the early days of my marriage. Yes, I really regret selling them. My favorite card in that set was the Irv Noren #35. Because the card has the old Yankee Stadium, before the current stadium, showing the stands and flags on the top of the facade, the



1953 Topps card.

card is very attractive.

The Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown has a one of a kind card collection of thousands of cards. The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City has over 30,000 rare cards in one of its collections. In the Hargrett Library at the University of Georgia, you will find Senator Richard Russell's collection of early 1900's baseball tobacco cards.

The "Georgia Peach," Ty Cobb is represented in the cache with several cards among the hundreds in this archives.

Many rare baseball cards over the years have been discovered by collector's families quite by accident. Maybe grandpa or an uncle have some stored away in an old trunk or cigar box. Hey, wouldn't that be a wonderful discovery?

On a side note, the main Augusta Library is featuring a baseball exhibit in the "GEORGIA ROOM" on the 3rd floor during the months of September and October.

It is entitled: "African American Baseball History and The Negro Leagues."



Lincoln County Elementary School Breakfast Menu

- Mon., Sept. 13 - Fri., Sept. 17
- Monday - Waffles, fruit.
 - Tuesday - Donuts, fruit.
 - Wednesday - Steak biscuit, fruit.
 - Thursday - Muffins & yogurt, fruit.
 - Friday - Sausage biscuit, fruit.

All breakfast menus include choice of milk, 100% fruit juice. Entrée options are: cereal bowl or cereal bar w/graham crackers. Menus subject to change due to availability.

Lincoln County Middle/High School Breakfast Menu

- Mon., Sept. 13 - Fri., Sept. 17
- Monday - Waffles, fruit.
 - Tuesday - Donuts, fruit.
 - Wednesday - Steak biscuit, fruit.
 - Thursday - Chicken biscuit, fruit.
 - Friday - Sausage biscuit, fruit.

All breakfast menus include choice of milk, 100% fruit juice. Menus subject to change due to availability.

City council meetings

The Lincolnton City Council meeting dates for 2021 are as follows: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7. All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Clark benefit fund at FSB

A fund to benefit Joy Clark has been established at Farmers State Bank. Donations are needed to help Joy with medical expenses as she has been diagnosed with liver cancer. Donations can be made at Farmers State Bank or mailed to PO Box 99, Lincolnton, GA 30817.

Planning, zoning meetings

The City of Lincolnton Planning & Zoning Board meetings for 2021 are scheduled as follows: 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.

Across The Savannah

Where they sleep, while they sleep

By TOM POLAND
tompol@earthlink.net



I visit old cemeteries quite a bit. Lest you think death thoughts consume me, understand that readers tell me of near-forgotten cemeteries. It's my duty to visit them. I find them photogenic and a tonic to modern ills. Whenever I spend time in an isolated, overlooked graveyard I come away a better man. I see beauty and read affectionate sentiments and farewells, rare escapes from our insanely negative, disease-ridden world of avarice and destruction.

So yet again I train my thoughts and camera on a place where people sleep the deep slumber of eternity. This cemetery, whose location would be hard to find without a guide, holds ancient and more recently departed ones. What strikes me about this graveyard are its sentiments and images. I seldom see such renderings. Words, numbers, and hyphens? I see them a lot.

I know some of you share my interest in cemeteries. You tell me so. Those who don't venture out to graveyards would be surprised, maybe shocked, to know how many isolated cemeteries hide in woods. When you see a clear cut with a small stand of trees on a hill, chances are good a family plot lies there. I'll wager that, like this cemetery, their stones lean and will topple with time. Their inscriptions, dates, and years are destined to fade. While they stand, while the dead sleep, however, their last words and images tell us something.

What do we see in this tree-shaded resting place? Well, the departed's loved ones left tributes in stone that tell us a bit about the people sleeping here. Images of a guitar, a bass and deer, and seashells and more tell us what the deceased ones loved. I can see them fishing, sitting in a tree stand, strumming a guitar, looking for seashells as surf curls around their ankles.

What images might your stone hold? What might they tell others? And what words might compose your forever statement? Mine might hold images of a book, a typewriter, perhaps, for an old



Stone with guitar reads "Love You Son." (Photos by Tom Poland.)

school touch. Were my stone large enough, it might hold the Georgia G, a camera, a pair of running shoes, and a likeness of the best dog ever, whose death stung so much I never got another dog. That was thirty-six years ago. If I had a monument as big as one of those Georgia Guidestone columns, I'd list the family members and friends who meant the most to me on my orbits around that star we call the sun.

Now and then I face the inevitable and give thought to what my marker might say, what it might look like. Do I make some serious statement? A scripture? "Go Dawgs?" Do I say something witty, have a bons mots etched into marble or granite? I recall that famous epitaph, "I Told You I Was Sick," but I don't dwell

on such matters though columns. No, I don't dwell on such things. I might jinx myself. Never say "I'd die before I (fill in the blank)." You might jinx yourself. Besides as an old friend says, "It's better to be seen than viewed."

While I'm viewable I'll continue to visit forgotten places of rest while the departed sleep. One thing I can say about old cemeteries with 100 percent accuracy: they're peaceful. And deep inside in some place where rational thinking is banned, I believe those who sleep know I visit them. Moreover, they know I bring them to the attention of others one more time. And they appreciate my efforts. No one wants to be forgotten, especially the dead, for to be completely forgotten is to never have existed at all.



Two Cade stones

AA meetings

AA meetings are held in McCormick, S.C. on Tuesday & Thursday nights at 6 p.m. in the new Talmadge Center located at 1319 S. Main next to Dr's office.

Celebrate Recovery Thursday

First Assembly of God hosts Celebrate Recovery every Thursday evening at 6:30 pm with a light meal followed by large group worship at 7 pm and small groups at 8 pm. First Assembly is located on the Thomson Highway. Call the church office at 359-7237 for more information.

Assessors board to meet

The following dates are for the 2021 regular scheduled meetings of the Lincoln County Board of Tax Assessors. All meetings are scheduled for 5:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Lincoln County Courthouse located at 210 Humphrey Street.

Any changes in meeting, dates, and times will be posted on the bulletin board of the Lincoln County Courthouse, and the front door of the Tax Assessors Office. When time allows, we will also notify *The Lincoln Journal*.
; Tues., Sept. 21; Tues., Oct. 19; Tues., Nov. 16; Tues., Dec. 21.

Board of Elections dates

The Lincoln County Board of Elections meetings are scheduled for September 23, October 28, November 18, and December 16, 2021. Meetings are subject to change. All meetings are open to the public. For more information call 706-359-6126.

Midway cookbook

Midway UMC's "Midway to Heaven" cookbook is now available from Tommie Henderson (Henderson Logging); Brenda Danner McGahee (tag office); in Washington from Betty Sue Bunch (REA) or Linda Anthony (706-678-7616).

In addition to recipes group photos from 1930, 1950's, 1964, 1999 and church history data are included. Makes a wonderful gift. \$15.



Lincoln County Elementary School Lunch Menu

- Mon., Sept. 13 - Fri., Sept. 17
- Monday - Corn dog, tater tots, creamy coleslaw, honey glazed carrots, fruit.
 - Tuesday - Country steak & gravy, buttered rice, hot biscuit, pinto beans, turnip greens, fruit cocktail.
 - Wednesday - Scrambled eggs, hot biscuits, sausage pattie, cheesy grits, dragon juice, fruit.
 - Thursday - Cheeseburger on bun, lettuce & tomato, potato wedges, raw veggies/dip, fruit.
 - Friday - Chicken tenders, hot roll, macaroni & cheese, green beans, rosy applesauce.
- All meals include a choice of milk, 100% fruit juice. Entrée options are: pizza or peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Menus subject to change due to availability.

Lincoln County Middle/High School Lunch Menu

- Mon., Sept. 13 - Fri., Sept. 17
- Monday - Chili cheese dog, corn chips, creamy coleslaw, baked beans, cool tropics fruit slush.
 - Tuesday - Turkey & gravy, buttered rice, hot rolls, steamed broccoli w/cheese, baby carrots, fruit.
 - Wednesday - Scrambled eggs, hot biscuits, sausage links, cheesy grits, dragon juice, fruit.
 - Thursday - Bacon cheeseburger on bun, lettuce & tomato, potato wedges, buttered corn, raw veggies w/dip, fresh strawberries.
 - Friday - Chicken tenders, hot roll, macaroni & cheese, green beans, rosy applesauce.
- All meals include a choice of milk, 100% fruit juice. Entrée options are: chef salad, pizza or peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Menus subject to change due to availability.

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Lincoln County Development Authority
Called meeting
September 13, 2021: 6:00PM
Development Authority Board Room
112 North Washington S., Lincolnton, GA 30817
(706) 359-7970

WHITE HARDWARE
CUTTING & REPAIRING
CUTTING & REPAIRING
CUTTING & REPAIRING

SUNSET AUCTION COMPANY, INC.
Auction dates: In-House "estate liquidations":
September 4th & 18th
All auctions start at 6 p.m.
For more information visit sunsetauctioncompany.com
1449 Washington Road • Thomson, GA 30824

Lincoln County Development Authority
Called meeting
September 13, 2021: 6:00PM
Development Authority Board Room
112 North Washington S., Lincolnton, GA 30817
(706) 359-7970

Agenda
Setting of annual millage rate
Final signing of amended Authority By-Laws

NOTICE
The Fiscal Year 2022 proposed budgets for the Lincoln County General Fund and the Lincoln County Miscellaneous Funds were delivered to the Board of Commissioners on Thursday, September 9, 2021. Copies of the proposed budgets are available for public inspection in the Finance Department, during normal business hours, at the Lincoln County Courthouse, 210 Humphrey Street, Lincolnton, Georgia.

A public hearing to receive comments on the proposed Lincoln County General Fund and the Lincoln County Miscellaneous Funds budgets will be held at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 16, 2021, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Commissioner's Conference Room, 210 Humphrey Street, Lincolnton, Georgia.

A called meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will be held on Friday, September 24, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. to consider the adoption of the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 General Fund and the Lincoln County Miscellaneous Funds budgets. The called meeting will be held in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Commissioners Conference Room, 210 Humphrey Street, Lincolnton, Georgia.