



Negro League Historian Sean L. Gibson To Appear At Cleveland Indians Negro Leagues Turn Back The Clock Heritage Weekend

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A Media Meet & Greet Event will be held on Friday August 6 from 4:30pm-6:30 pm at Cleats Sports Bar Gateway located at 2123 East 2nd Street. This is an opportunity for local media to meet & interview Sean L. Gibson, Negro League players Ted Toles Jr. and Ron Teasley and Former Indians All-Star Pitcher Jim “Mudcat” Grant. The event is sponsored by The Josh Gibson Foundation.

On Saturday August 7, 2010 the players will be at Progressive Field on the lower level concourse near “Fan Services” signing autographs and meeting with the fans. The players will be available to meet & pose for photos from 6pm through the first pitch. A collection of memorabilia from the Josh Gibson Foundation will be on display. Sean L. Gibson and Ike Brooks, a local baseball historian will be at the display to answer questions and educate the fans on the Negro Leagues.

Both events are open to the public.

Sean L. Gibson is the Great Grandson of Josh Gibson, Legendary Slugger of the Negro Leagues. Josh Gibson led the Negro League in home runs for 10 consecutive years. He played for the Pittsburgh Crawfords and the Homestead Grays from 1927-1946. Josh died 3 months before the game of baseball was integrated. Many describe him as the greatest player to never play in the Major Leagues.

There is likely no greater expert on the Negro League than Sean L. Gibson who speaks to a multitude of audiences throughout the year teaching the significance of the Negro Leagues and these great men who played before the game of baseball was integrated.

Negro League baseball was a direct result of baseball's color line. The first black versus black baseball game was held on September 28, 1860 at Elysian Fields in Hoboken, New Jersey. After the integration of the major leagues in 1947, as marked by the appearance of Jackie Robinson with the Brooklyn Dodgers, interest in the Negro Leagues waned. The American Negro League played its last game in 1958.

The Josh Gibson Foundation is a private 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation which was established in 1994 in an effort to keep the memory of Josh Gibson and the entire Negro League alive. The Foundation partners with the Duquesne University matching college students with elementary and middle school youth for tutoring.

For information on the Josh Gibson Foundation visit www.joshgibson.org

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