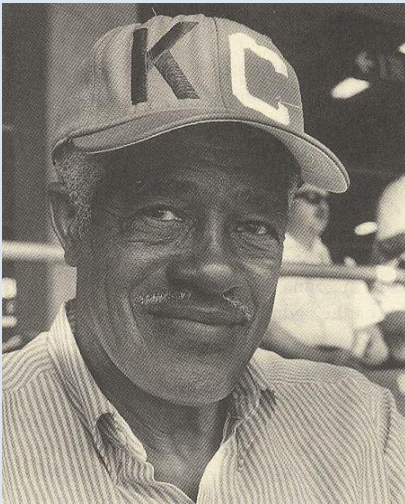




Providing the services of Dynamic Athletes & Celebrities to meet your business & promotional needs

## *Hank Presswood*



Hank enjoyed 5 years in the Negro Leagues with the Cleveland Buckeyes from 1948 to 1950 and the Kansas City Monarchs from 1950 to 1952. He was a shortstop and third baseman. But Hank started his pro career late, debuting at the age of 27. The reason for his late start was that he was serving his country in the army. His friend, Willie Grace of the Buckeyes, convinced Hank to try out for the team.

Hank loved every minute he spent in the Negro Leagues. And who wouldn't when he was able to play for Negro Leagues' legend Buck O'Neil, his manager in KC.

To illustrate one difference between the Negro Leagues and Major League Baseball, Hank was paid a whopping \$300 per month to play ball, and he was thrilled with

it.

Hank's favorite story is about an at-bat against the great Satchel Paige. After listening to Paige warm up – yes, the heavy thumping of the ball in the catcher's mitt was intimidating – Hank strode to bat and dug in, something you didn't do to Satch. Paige blew a fastball past him as he hit the dirt. Satch then threw Hank a curve that Hank hit foul out of the park. With two strikes on Hank, Paige then threw an "aspirin tablet". Presswood swung so hard that he pulled a muscle in his side and struck out – yet another victim of Satchel Paige!!

Hank speaks enthusiastically of his time with the great of Negro Leagues baseball.



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