

THE "HOLY COW"

NEWSLETTER OF THE HALSEY HALL CHAPTER,
SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN BASEBALL RESEARCH

Halsey Hall

February 2002

Rich Wolf Dies

Rich Wolf died December 7, 2001 when he was hit by a car while crossing Minn. Hwy. 47 in Coon Rapids. Rich, who was 68, had been a member of the Halsey Hall Chapter since 1998. A retired certified public accountant, Rich enjoyed crunching baseball numbers, as well, and had an interest in statistics. He also served as the statistician for a pair of Rotisserie Leagues.

Rich served as batboy for the St. John's University baseball team, for which his brother played, when he was 9. Rich later played high school baseball in his hometown of Long Prairie, Minnesota. In 1959, he began playing townball on a team known as the Bucks in Long Prairie. Rich had a batting average of .368 in 1960 as the Bucks won the Victory League title and advanced to the regional playoffs.

Rich is survived by four children and nine grandchildren.

Research News

Rich Arpi, Deano Thilgen, and Dan Cagley are among the Halsey Hall Chapter members working on the Minnesota 19th-Century Base Ball Project, noting all baseball references in newsletters in an attempt to document the early years of Minnesota baseball.

"To date, much of 1867 has been extracted," Deano reports. "The results of these newspaper searches will allow us to compile a list of known clubs in Minnesota (so far we have identified about 27 Minnesota clubs that played in 1867), complete a chronology of games, compile an all-time roster, expand our understanding of the game's growth and evolution, and assist modern vintage base ball clubs by knowing what players wore, how they executed the game, etc.

"The next phase works in other primary and secondary sources, seeking photographs, artifacts, and other supporting evidence."

Cow Chips

Mark Johnson shook hands with prospective-Twins owner Donald Watkins in December and ended up with his picture in the *Star Tribune, Newspaper of the Twin Cities* on December 23. Mark also had the chance to chat with **Harold Reynolds**. . . . **John Dobratz** married **Courtney Luurs** on December 22. . . . **Dr. Seth C. Hawkins** is converting the basement of the Julian H. Sleeper House into a special exhibition devoted to the history and culture of Slovenia.

Upcoming Events

The Halsey Hall Chapter will have a table at Twins Fest, February 1-3 at the Metrodome.

The next Hot Stove Saturday Mid-Morning will be at 9:30 a.m., on February 9 at the Baker's Square in Richfield. The post-breakfast event will be a trip to Fort Snelling Cemetery to see the graves of Halsey Hall and Frank Trechock.

The Halsey Hall Chapter Spring Chapter Meeting will be Saturday, May 11 with the group attending the Twins-Yankees game at 6 p.m. To order tickets for the game, at \$11 each, send your money (checks made out to Stew Thornley) to S. Thornley, 1082 Lovell Avenue, Roseville, Minnesota 55113-4419 by April 1.

Quiz Time

Name the Cary Grant movie that opens with a brawl between the Yankees and Dodgers at Ebbets Field.

Name's the Same

Ken Griffey, Jr.'s high-school baseball coach and one of the players traded by Cincinnati to Seattle for Griffey in 2001.

Answers on back page

End of the Road



A Halsey Hall Chapter member visited the grave of Eddie Mathews in Santa Barbara, California, on Saturday, January 19, 2002, completing the member's quest to visit all 184 Baseball Hall of Fame graves. The member wishes to recognize fellow chapter members Glenn Gostick, Brad Zellar, Paul Rittenhouse, Howard Luloff, George Rekela, Brenda Himrich, Jerry Janzen, and Cary Smith for their advice and support as well as their companionship on the grave-hunting trips (where it can be nice to have live company once in a while).

Halsey Hall Chapter

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Please direct news about chapter events, about yourself, or about other chapter members to S. Thornley, 1082 Lovell Avenue, Roseville, Minnesota 55113-4419 or via e-mail at thorn017@tc.umn.edu.

<http://halseyhall.org>

Answers to Quiz and *Name's the Same*

The Cary Grant movie that opens at Ebbets Field is *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Ken Griffey's high-school coach and a player traded for him are both named Mike Cameron.

Calendar

February 1-3

Twins Fest, Metrodome

February 9

Hot Stove Saturday Mid-Morning, 9:30 a.m.,
Baker's Square, 66th and Xerxes, Richfield

Post-Breakfast Event:

Trip to Fort Snelling Cemetery

May 11

Spring Chapter Meeting

Halsey Hall Chapter Web Page Bigger and Better than Ever

<http://halseyhall.org>

Webmaster Deano Thilgen continues to add features and information to the Halsey Hall Chapter web site.

Past versions of the newsletter are available in various formats (*The Holy Cow!* back to October 1999 and *Holy Cow Extra* back to October 2001) along with a current calendar of events and an ever-expanding page on research projects, which offers chapter members a place to describe their research projects and to post queries.

To submit information or queries about the research they are doing or seeking, chapter members may send an e-mail to webmaster@halseyhall.org.

Deano also plans to create a new section on the web site to cover Minnesota baseball history from all eras. It will have different sections and will grow as members contribute to it. The first contribution will be to post the best newspaper articles from the earliest years of Minnesota baseball.



Halsey Hall Chapter—SABR

The Holy Cow!

Stew Thornley, Editor

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