

# Saskatchewan African Canadian Heritage Museum

## Fact Sheet No. 6 - Baseball Heroes



[WWW.SACHM.COM](http://WWW.SACHM.COM)



- 1910** Dick Brookins played 3rd base for Regina Bone Pilers posing as a person of Aboriginal ancestry. He was later kicked off team when his true ancestry discovered.
- 1925** John Donaldson was one of greatest players around. He played on an integrated team from Radville, Saskatchewan. In the Moose Jaw Optimist tournament of 1925, Donaldson pitched a perfect game, striking out 19.
- 1949 – 1951** George "Junior" Walton played in Canada with the Buchanan All-Stars. In 1950 and 1951 Walton played with Estevan.
- 1950's** This was a heyday for Baseball in Saskatchewan. Many African American Baseball players found a home in Canada after being deterred by major league baseball's color barrier and the decline of the "Negro Leagues" in the US.
- 1950** Big Bob Herron's most memorable day with Saskatoon was a 16-strikeout, one-hit performance against the California Mohawks. In later years, Herron played for the North Battleford Beavers.
- 1950 – 1954** The Indian Head Rockets were Saskatchewan Provincial Champions for 1951 and 1952. The Rockets were among the prime attractions in Western Canada baseball in league, tournament and exhibition play.
- 1953** Roberto "Jeronimo" Zayas arrived from Cuba and played in Saskatoon, Lloydminster & Moose Jaw where he retired and made his home. He died in 2006 and was inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame in 2010.
- 1955-1963** Willie Curly Williams played for Lloydminster and was one of the best and most popular players in the Western Canada Baseball League.
- 1956-57** Benjamin Lott played for Lloydminster. He had the nickname, "Honey" Lott, which was probably due of his sweet swing. He was an outstanding second baseman who hit for both average and power.
- 1959** Don Buford was a key member of the Lloydminster-North Battleford Combines as an Outfielder. Buford hit .284 and led the league in stolen bases with 19, and in triples with 11.
- 1963** Satchel Paige and his All-Stars made a stop in Stenen, Sask. to play the local All-Stars. Paige's group won 7-0. Satchel Paige was famous for his Barnstorming teams that toured the prairies from the 30's to the 60's. He has been inducted into the Saskatchewan Baseball Hall of Fame in Battleford.