

#### Letters from Chicago by Mersha Y. Morgen

# Notes from my 1994 Cub journal:

Opening Day. . . Harry and Hillary Rodham Clinton sing "Take me out to the Ball Game." Hillary wears a Cub hat and looks as goofy in it as I do in mine. She appears to be very happy and excited to be there, almost girlish. Hillary grew up in a Chicago suburb which almost qualifies her to be a righteous Cub fan. And there he is for his first official game, looking wise and wonderful, Terrific Tom Treblehorn. I can feel the thrill in my bones. This has got to be it.

## 00000

Cubs lose opener, and second game at home as the weather returns to deep winter

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Cubs trade Yisciano.

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Dusty Rhodes! There's hope. Someone makes a Rhodes-o-meter. Dusty's on a streak.

## 00000

No matter how hot the bats, Cubs just can't win at home. Guzman can't pitch in the cold. Morgan's got a sore arm. And I have a headache.

## 00000

Cubs make Ignominious Baseball History Hall of Fame by giving the Coloredo Rocks their first ever, inside the park home run. It's early yet.

99999 More statistical ignomity: Longest losing streak at home in the history of baseball.

## 00000

Observing a long tradition (and pulling off a great publicity stunt), a Greek guy who owns The Billy Goat, a sub-Michigan Avenue beer and burger joint (made famous by Mike Royko and Saturday Night Live), tries to break the losing streak by renting a goat from Wisconsin and trotting him around the Friendly Confines to end the curse. Cubs lose. Maybe we should get an Apache and a grizzly. Curse too strong for goat.

## 00000

Friday, May 13th. Cubs have only won ten games. I watch a few innings between the cracks of my fingers, and turn off the TY after a dozen or so men are left on base. God, I just hate it when that happens.

## 00000

Ryno resigns, he won't finish the season, not even for \$17 million dollars.

## 00000

Harry misses a step in the Cubs dugout in Florida and falls on his face. His injury is minor, but he stays in the hospital,

O UPPER LEFT EDGE AUGUST 1994

missing his 50th Baseball Anniversary party.

## 00000

Treblehorn watches in despair as some players ignore his instructions and create new ways to lose.

00000 Cubs rally in the late innings making for several heart stopping

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#### Cubs win one, lose four straight at home to Colorado. 00000

All Star Break. Saver Randy Meyers is the only Cub who was

#### picked for the National League team. 00000

During the break, I always think it is a good time to step back and evaluate, and these are my predictions for the second half. The Cubs will come alive and become the great spoiler, magically defeating leading teams. A phenomenal young hurler will emerge from the farm team, and we will finish the season at .489. While Cubs fans are filing their hopes with the miracle makers for next year, Cubs management will skim off the cream and make the most ruinous trades in the history of base ball.

Or maybe, just maybe they'll come to their senses, they'll give Treblehorn a long contact. They'll get rid of the troublemakers and the marginal players, they'll send scouts to every corner of the earth who will find several fine players who enjoy winning. The management will lower the price of tickets, beer and hot dogs, and then in '95, at least by '96 we'll win the playoffs and the World Series against San Diego, of course at home. Harry Carry, Steve Stone, and Jack Brickhouse will do the announcing. And we'll all be there together. Hot damn, I can hardly wait.

BASEBALL QUIZ

- 1) As of June, the NL had only three lifetime .300 hitters with more than one year of service. Who is the odd man out?
- A) Mark Grace
- B) John Kruk
- C) Hal Morris D) Willie McGee
- The AL had ten. Which of these guus missed the cut?
- A) Paul Molitor
- B) Will Clark
- C) Edgar Martinez
- D) Mike Greenwell
- At the same time, the Junior Circuit could boast one hurler with better than 2500 K's. Who?
- A) Frank Tanana
- B) Roger Clemens
- C) Jack Morris D) Dennis Eckersley
- 4) Who is the only player to hit for the cycle on Opening Day?
- A) Willie Kamm
- B) Cookie Lavagetto
- C) Gee Walker
- D) Billy Jurges
- 5) Three guys have won MYP honors more than once, at two different positions. Which of these players didn't?
- A) Ernie Banks
- B) Hank Greenberg
- C) Robin Yount D) Stan Musial

- 6) Who was the last player to get a hit off of Satchel Paige?
- A) Rudy York
- B) Pinky Higgins
- C) Birdy Tebbetts
- D) Carl Yastrzemski
- 7) Who is the only twirler to collect at least one World Series victory five years straight?
- A) Ralph Terry
- B) Allie Reynolds
- C) Whitey Ford D) Yic Raschi
- 8) This guy had just 5 hits and a .161 average in a Championship Series, yet scored eight runs, a record. Who was
- A) Ricky Henderson
- B) Dave Cash
- C) Jim Rice
- D) George Hendrick
- 9) Who holds the single-season RBI mark for a Met?
- A) Howard Johnson
- B) Daryl Strawberry
- C) Rusty Staub
- D) Gary Carter
- 10) And who has the same record for the late, lamented St. Louis Browns?
- A) Harland Clift
- B) George Stater
- C) Baby Doll Jacobson
- D) Ken Williams

Extra Credit-

Who wrote the lyrics to "Take Me Out To The Ball Game"?

> QUIZ ANSWERS ON NEXT PAGE

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#### Movies I Have Seen Recently by Rob Milliron

I went to my grandparents house recently and saw three movies: True Lies. The Lion King. & City Slickers 2.

True Lies was great. In this action/ comedy Harry Tasker (Arnold Schwarzenegger) is a spy but his wife thinks he's a computer salesman. Tom Arnold is Harry's partner; this is the best performance of his career.

The Lion King was excellent. It had a good story, music and artistry. The young Simba was the son of a king. and he was cast out by his uncle.

City Slickers 2 was good. Mitch finds a map and goes looking for gold. Jon Lovitz adds some spark to the movie. Overall it was a good movie.



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