

# SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Michael Johnson may miss Nationals due to injury

A thigh injury suffered by Michael Johnson in a match race with Donovan Bailey last weekend is expected to keep the two-time Olympic gold medalist out of the national track and field championships next week. Johnson was diagnosed with a severe pull of the left quadriceps and is listed as doubtful for the national championships scheduled for next week in Indianapolis. If Johnson is not able to compete next week, that would make him ineligible to compete for the United States at the World Track and Field Championships this summer in Greece.

### TENNIS

#### Graf falls again to Coetzer in French Open quarterfinals

Second seed and two-time defending champion Steffi Graf of Germany suffered her third loss this year to her latest nemesis, South Africa's Amanda Coetzer, 6-1, 6-4 Tuesday in quarterfinal action at the \$8.23 million French Open in Paris. The 11th-seeded Coetzer had a 3-1 lead in the second set before rain stopped play. When action resumed, Graf broke Coetzer in the ninth game to pull within 4-5. However, Graf was unable to capitalize on four chances to get back on serve. After hitting a backhand into the net to force the first matchpoint, Graf hit a forehand return long to conclude the 92-minute match. Coetzer broke Graf's serve three times en route to winning the opening set in 36 minutes, and five times in 19 chances overall. Graf lost for only the 10th time in 87 lifetime matches at Roland Garros, and it marks the first time that Graf has failed to reach the French Open semifinals since 1986.

### BASKETBALL

#### NBA Finals resume; Pippen will not practice

The Chicago Bulls are using the two-day break between the first two games of the NBA Finals to rest All-Star forward Scottie Pippen. Meanwhile, the Utah Jazz are itching to get back on the court after an agonizing 84-82 loss to the Bulls in Game One of the NBA Finals Sunday night. After Utah's Karl Malone, the NBA MVP, missed two free throws with 9.2 seconds left, Michael Jordan, a four-time MVP in the NBA Finals, hit a 20-footer at the buzzer to give the Bulls the win. Game Two is Wednesday night at the United Center in Chicago before the series shifts to Utah in the 2-3-2 Finals format. Pippen scored 27 points in Game One, despite nursing an injured left foot. He did not practice on Monday and will not participate in a workout Tuesday, but will start in Game Two. The injury is diagnosed as a "soft tissue" injury to the foot.

### BASEBALL

#### Dodgers activate Brett Butler from disabled list

Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Brett Butler, who said he would retire if a shoulder injury required surgery, was activated from the disabled list late Monday night. Butler made a remarkable recovery from throat cancer last year, but his comeback this year was stalled by a labral tear in his left shoulder that forced him on the 15-day disabled list on May 7th. The injury has healed sufficiently so as to not require surgery. The 39-year old Butler suffered the injury making a throw in the third inning of an 8-3 loss to the Florida Marlins on April 26th. He is batting .360 (32-for-89) with 10 runs and two RBI in 24 games. Butler is expected to return Tuesday when the Dodgers conclude a two-game series in Houston against the Astros.

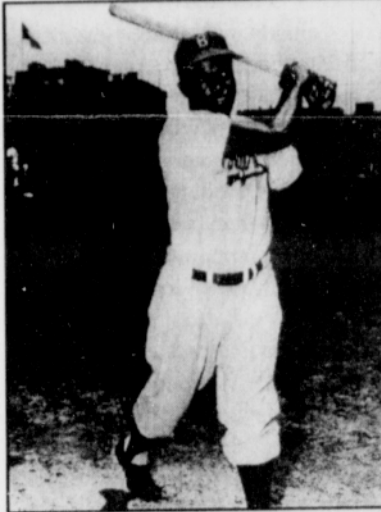
#### FIELD OF DREAMS CREATOR W.P. KINSELLA TO OPEN STADIUM ON SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH

It will truly be a "Field of Dreams Day" when the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes' new Stadium opens on Saturday, June 7th. Field of Dreams creator W.P. "Bill" Kinsella will be on hand to meet and greet fans. Kinsella authored the book Shoeless Joe. It was used as the basis for the popular movie Field of Dreams where Kevin Costner portrayed Ray Kinsella who, in the movie, plowed under his corn field to build a baseball field.

The Salem-Keizer Volcanoes will be hosting the event in conjunction with A Seat Tryout. Fans will be encouraged to 'tryout' seats which are still available for the Volcanoes' 38 home games. The available seats will be clearly marked and on sale during the day. The event is free and open to the general public from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Fans will have the opportunity to meet Mr. Kinsella.

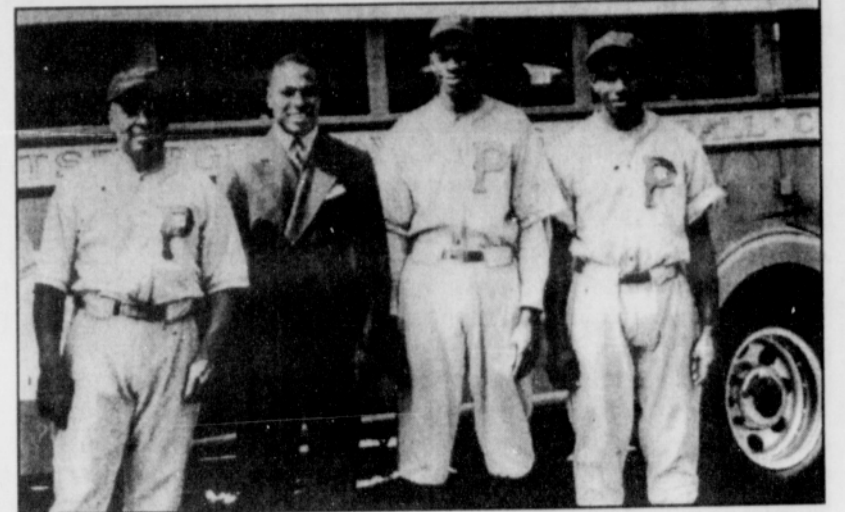
## PRIDE & PASSION: THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BASEBALL EXPERIENCE

Set to open on June 12 at the National Baseball Hall Of Fame And Museum



Left: Hall of Famer Jackie Robinson broke Baseball's color barrier in 1947.

Right: One of the Negro National League's greatest ball clubs, the Pittsburgh Crawfords, featured a roster of Hall of Famers including: (from left in uniform) Oscar Charleston, Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson. Also pictured (second from left) is middleweight boxer John Henry Lewis.



THIS EXHIBIT IS DEDICATED TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHOSE PASSION FOR OUR NATIONAL GAME HELPED THEM TRIUMPH OVER OBSTACLES BROUGHT ABOUT BY PREJUDICE AND INTOLERANCE IN OUR NATION; AND ESPECIALLY TO JACKIE ROBINSON WHOSE ACTIONS ON AND OFF THE FIELD SERVED AS THE CATALYST FOR PROGRESS, BOTH IN OUR GAME AND IN OUR SOCIETY.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum will open a landmark exhibit on June 12th, detailing the rich history of African-Americans in Baseball. Pride and Passion: The African-American Baseball Experience, which chronicles African-Americans' involvement in the game from the Civil War to the

present, opens in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's historic elevation to the major leagues.

A special dedication ceremony, highlighting the permanent exhibit's grand opening, will take place at 10:30 A.M. on Thursday, June 12th.

The keynote speaker at the ceremony will be Robinson's widow, Rachel, who will also sign copies of her highly-acclaimed book, Jackie Robinson: An Intimate Portrait. Hall of Famer and current ESPN broadcaster, Joe Morgan, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Other Baseball dignitaries expected to attend the dedication include: former Negro League and Brooklyn Dodger pitcher, Joe Black;

the first black ballplayer in the American League, Larry Doby; former Brooklyn Dodger pitcher, Carl Erskine; former Commissioner of Baseball, Bowie Kuhn; former Montreal Expos' General Manager, John McHale; and former Negro League player, manager and scout, Buck O'Neil. Morgan, Kuhn and McHale serve on the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors. O'Neil is a member of the Hall of Fame's Veterans

Committee.

The grand opening of the Pride and Passion exhibit coincides with the ninth annual Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture, to be held June 11-13 at the Baseball Hall of Fame. The 1997 topic will be African-Americans in Baseball, with Jules Tygiel, author of the critically-acclaimed book on Robinson, Baseball's Great Experiment, serving as the keynote speaker.

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