

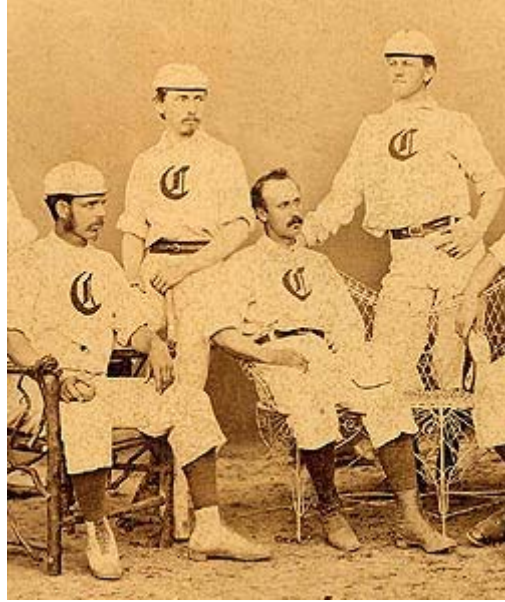
# OUT OF THE PARK: A HISTORY OF SPORTS AND THE HUMAN CONDITION

by [Alan Milstein](#) and [Michael Dube](#)

- 776 BC First records of Greek Olympics, though it is believed they had been going on for at least two prior centuries, involving athletes who, by and large, derived the means of their existence from their status as sportsmen.
- 688 BC Boxing added as Olympic sport. Most famous boxer of this era is Melanomas of Karia, who believed injuring an opponent showed a lack of bravery.
- 150 BC Romans invent the [caestus](#), a boxing glove reinforced with iron and lead, transforming the Greek art of boxing into a deadly spectator sport.



- 394 Roman Emperor Theodosius abolishes the Olympics in effort to abolish pagan rituals.
- 10/8/1805 William Richmond of New York, the first African American boxer, fights English champion Tom Cribb; the fight is billed as “Cribb and Richmond (The Black).”
- 1845 New York Knickerbockers become first organized baseball club.
- 7/9/1846 First baseball game between the New York Nine and the Knickerbockers Club in Hoboken, New Jersey.
- 1867 First Belmont Stakes won by Ruthless.
- 1869 First professional baseball team, the Cincinnati Red Stockings.



- 1872 Queensbury Rules of boxing adopted, requiring the boxers to wear gloves and allowing for a one-minute rest period between rounds.
- 1873 First Preakness Stakes won by Survivor.
- 1876 Coal baron William A. Hulbert founds the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs. To prevent players from freely moving to the club that offers them the most money, the teams secretly agree to reserve players at the end of each season.
- 1877 First Wimbledon Tennis Championship.
- 1884 Moses Fleetwood, a catcher for Toledo of the American Association, becomes first African American in professional baseball.
- 1884 Providence defeats New York in first unofficial baseball World Series.
- 1891 [James Naismith](#) invents the game of basketball at the International YMCA training school.



- 1892 First basketball game at YMCA in Springfield, Massachusetts.

- 4/8/1893 First college basketball game between Geneva College and New Brighton YMCA in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.
- 1896 First modern Olympic games involving only men. Including women, the organizers said, would be “impractical, uninteresting, and unaesthetic.”
- 1903 Jack Johnson defeats Ed Denver to win the Negro Heavyweight Crown; asked whether Johnson can get a shot at the crown, the World Champion Jim Jeffries declares, “I will not fight a negro.”
- 10/1903 National League and American League agree to combine, holding first World Series.
- 1905 This year in college football sees 18 deaths and 149 serious injuries.
- 1906 [NCAA](#) born as the Intercollegiate Athletic Association: “Its object shall be regulation and supervision.”
- May 1908 At the first Kentucky Derby, 13 of the 14 jockeys are African American. By the mid 1920’s, blacks would be excluded from riding in major races.
- 12/25/1908 Jack Johnson knocks out Canadian Tony Brown to become the first African American world boxing champion, winning \$30,000. Reportedly, no one in the crowd of 20,000 cheers.



- 8/19/1909 First race at Indianapolis Speedway resulting in the death of two drivers, two mechanics and two spectators.
- 7/4/1910 Jim Jeffries is persuaded out of retirement to become the Great White Hope. Johnson knocks him out in the 15th round, earning the then princely sum of \$110,600.
- 5/30/1911 First Indianapolis 500.
- Summer 1912 Jim Thorpe wins gold medals in pentathlon and decathlon, only to have them taken away the following year because he had earned \$25 a week playing baseball in 1909.



1915 Paul Robeson of Rutgers and Fritz Pollard of Brown break the color barrier in college football.

1919 Eight members of the Chicago White Sox, including [Shoeless Joe Jackson](#), are banned from baseball for accepting bribes to throw the World Series to the Cincinnati Reds.



2/14/1920 Rube Foster, the father of black baseball, organizes the Negro national



League.

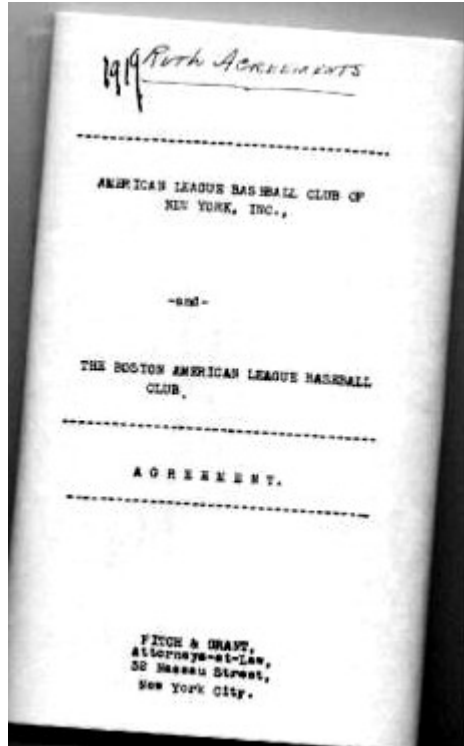
9/17/1920 Fourteen professional football clubs agree to combine to form the American Professional Football Association, restricting player movement and abiding by a set of league rules.

9/1920 African American Fritz Pollard joins the Akron Pros and leads the team to a 15-0-4 record, becoming its player coach the following year.



1920

Boston Red Sox sell Babe Ruth to the Yankees for \$125,000.



1921

APFA changes its name to the National Football League.

1922

*Federal Baseball Club of Baltimore v. National League of Professional Baseball Clubs*, [259 U.S. 200](#). Chief Justice Holmes rules that baseball is not subject to the antitrust laws because it is not part of interstate commerce.

1923

Cumberland Posey forms the New York Renaissance, a barnstorming African American basketball team.



Summer 1924

African American DeHart Hubbard allowed to compete in the “Chariots of Fire” Paris Olympics in the long jump where he wins the gold and is the first man of color to win a medal; though he was the fastest American, and probably the fastest human, he is held out of the 100 dash because it is the premier event of the games.



Fall 1924

First Negro World Series between Negro Eastern League and Negro National League.

Winter 1924

First Winter Olympics.

1925

International Olympic Committee defines “amateur” as “one who devotes himself to sport for sport’s sake without deriving from it, directly or indirectly, the means of existence.”

1925

[Harold Red Grange](#) stuns the sports world by leaving college after his sophomore year to join the Chicago Bears for a reported \$5,000. NFL thereafter adopts an eligibility rule prohibiting teams from signing players until they are at least four years removed from high school.



1927

Members of Chicago’s Wendell Phillips High School call themselves the Savoy Big Five. With their agent Abe Saperstein, they become the Harlem Globetrotters.

1930

Babe Ruth offered a salary of \$80,000. Asked if he was overpaid because President Hoover had only earned \$75,000, Ruth reportedly replies, “I had a better year than he did.”

1931

Basketball player George Gregory of Columbia University becomes the first African American named as an All American.

5/1933

Five drivers killed in Indianapolis 500.

1933 NFL teams agree to ban African Americans from the league.

1934 The New York Renaissance Five, the Rens, an all black professional basketball team, are refused acceptance into the white professional league but defeat the Boston Celtics in 7 of 8 challenge games.

1935 African American Hank Williams plays for the Buffalo Bisons in pro basketball's Midwest Basketball Conference.

10/1934 Hank Greenberg gets dispensation from Rabbi to play on Rosh Hashanah but is told he must sit out if a world series game falls on Yom Kippur.



1936 First NFL draft of college players.

Summer 1936 Jesse Owens wins four gold medals in Berlin Olympics staged by Adolph Hitler as a showcase of the Nazi regime. At the end of the games, Avery Brundage, chairman of the USOC and track coach Dean Cromwell, both Nazi sympathizers, remove Marty Glickman and Sam Stoller from the 4 x 100 relay so as to avoid further embarrassment for Hitler if two Jews were to win gold medals. Following the games, Brundage is elected to the International Olympic Committee.



1936 100,000 fans turn out to see exhibition game between the Negro League all-stars and the Cleveland Indians.



1937 Jockey Sammy Renick is injured while riding, leading to the formation of a jockeys' labor organization called the Jockeys' Guild.

6/29/1937 Joe Louis knocks out Jimmy Braddock to become heavyweight champion of the world.



6/22/1938 Joe Louis defeats German Max Schmeling in 124 seconds before 70,000 fans at Yankee Stadium.

7/4/1939 Lou Gehrig speaks to a crowd of 60,000 at Yankee Stadium: "For the past two weeks, I've been reading about my bad break. Today I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."



[hear an excerpt](#)

1940 The Harlem Globetrotters defeat the Chicago Bruins of the NBL to win the Chicago World Professional Basketball Tournament.

1/17/1942 Cassius Marcellis Clay, Jr. born in Louisville, Kentucky.

1942 Bill Jones and three other African Americans join the Toledo Jim White Chevrolets in the National Basketball League which becomes the first integrated professional sports league.

1942 On the subject of whether to suspend baseball during the war. President Franklin D. Roosevelt declares, "I honestly feel it would be best for the country to keep baseball going."

1943 Frank Whitaker of the University of Chicago becomes the first African American to play in the Big 10 Basketball Conference.

6/1944 Fifteen year old Joe Henry Nuxhall plays in his first major league game, pitching for the Cincinnati Reds.



1946 NBA, known as the Basketball Association of America, founded.

1946 Kenny Washington of the Los Angeles Rams becomes the first African American to play in the NFL since the 1933 ban.

4/10/1947 Jackie Robinson joins the Brooklyn Dodgers.



JACKIE ROBINSON STEALING HOME • MAY 15, 1952

7/6/1947 Larry Doby joins the Cleveland Indians, becoming the first African American in the American League.



8/26/1947

Dan Bankhead of Brooklyn is first African American to pitch in a league game and hits a homerun in his first at bat.



8/13/1948

Satchel Paige of Cleveland debuts as first African American to pitch in the American League and shuts out Chicago.



1949

*Gardella v. Chandler*, 172 F.2d 402 (2d Cir.). Danny Gardella is successful in antitrust challenge to baseball owners' agreement not to accept his return from a jump to the Mexican League. Branch Rickey claims Gardella's attempt at free labor possesses a "communist tendency."

1950

Three African Americans are the first to be selected in the NBA draft including Earl Lloyd who becomes the first to play in an NBA game.

1950

Althea Gibson becomes first African American to compete in United States National Tennis Championships at Forest Lawn.



1951

Althea Gibson becomes first person of color to compete at Wimbledon.

- 3/1952 Solly Walker becomes the first African American to play in University of Kentucky arena, later named for its coach Adolph Rupp, when St. Johns defeats Kentucky in the NCAA East Regional.
- 3/1952 Tennessee State becomes the first black college invited to the NAIA (later the NCAA) Basketball Tournament.
- Summer 1952 Russia participates in Olympics for first time in 50 years, winning 71 medals. The Soviets will thereafter dominate the games with athletes whose means of existence are derived from their role as sportsmen.
- 1953 *Schentzel v Philadelphia National League Club*, 173 Pa. Super. 179. Fan injured by foul ball at Shibe Park fails in claim for damages.
- 1953 Sir Edmund Hillary succeeds in climb of Everest along with native Sherpas who also carry the equipment.
- 1953 *Toolson v. New York Yankees*, [346 U.S. 356](#). George Toolson is unsuccessful in antitrust challenge to baseball's reserve clause because baseball does not constitute interstate commerce.
- 5/6/1954 Roger Bannister runs the mile in 3:59.4.



TRACK AND FIELD  
LEGEND



“I FOUND longer races boring. I found the mile just perfect.”

- Inducted: 2001 -

- 7/17/1954 Brooklyn Dodgers field a majority of African Americans in a game.
- 1955 Elston Howard becomes the first African American to join the New York Yankees.
- 1955 Sandy Koufax is brought up to join the Brooklyn Dodgers. Marginal white players complain to African American Don Newcomb: “What is that Kike Jew son of a bitch doing taking our job?”



6/29/1956

Charles Dumas becomes first human being to jump 7 feet at high jump Olympic trials.



1956

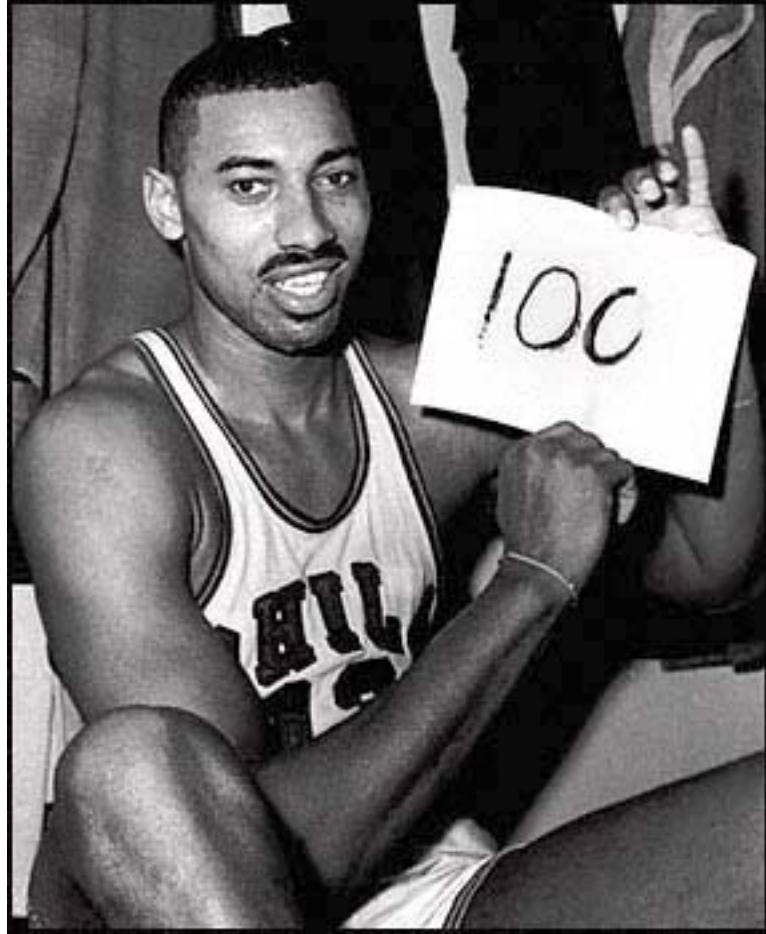
Paul Hornung, the Golden Boy of the 2 and 8 Notre Dame Fighting Irish, wins the Heisman while Jim Brown, the greatest college football player of that or any year, comes in fifth. Brown had run for 986 yards and fourteen touchdowns in the 8 games Syracuse played that season. (He scored 43 goals in the 10 lacrosse games played.)



- 1956 National Football League Players Association (“NFLPA”) formed.
- 1957 *Radovich v. NFL*, [352 U.S. 445](#). Supreme Court rules NFL does not have baseball’s antitrust immunity.
- 1958 Brooklyn Dodgers move to Los Angeles.
- 1958 Willie O’Ree of the Boston Bruins becomes the first African American to play in the NHL.
- May 1958 [Wilt Chamberlain](#) turns pro after his junior year at the University of Kansas, joining the Harlem Globetrotters.
- 1959 Pumpsie Green joins the Red Sox, the last baseball team to integrate its roster.



- Summer 1960 18 year old Cassius Clay wins gold medal in Rome Olympics. After returning to Louisville to find he is still subject to racism when refused service in a local diner, he tosses his gold medal into the Ohio River.
- 1960 Birth of the American Football league, a rival to the NFL.
- 3/2/1962 Wilt Chamberlain scores 100 points in game against the New York Knicks.



5/29/1962

Buck O'Neill of the Cubs becomes first African American to coach in major league baseball.

1962

Emile Griffith knocks out and kills Benny "The Kid" Parret in a nationally televised bout.



1963

Featherweight Davey Moore dies after being pounded in a nationally televised fight against Sugar Ramos: ["I hit him, yes, it's true. But that's what I'm paid to do. Don't say murder. Don't say kill. It was destiny. It was God's will."](#)



11/24/1963

Two days after Kennedy assassination, NFL decides games will be played.



2/25/1964

Cassius Clay defeats Sonny Liston after 6 rounds to become heavyweight champion of the world. After the fight, he announces he is a Black Muslim and has changed his name to Muhammad Ali.





[hear the post fight interview](#)

- 1964 After a goal is disallowed in Olympic qualifying soccer match between Argentina and Peru, fans riot, leaving 309 people dead and 1000 injured.
- 10/6/1965 Sandy Koufax refuses to pitch the first game of the World Series because it falls on Yom Kippur. When Don Drysdale gets hammered during the first game and manager Alston comes out to get the ball, Drysdale says, "Skip, I bet you wish I was Jewish today, too."
- 1966 At the peak of his career and after only nine seasons, Jim Brown announces his retirement from football to devote more time to his movie career and to race relations.



3/19/1966

Texas Western College, now known as UTEP, wins national collegiate basketball championship, beating Kentucky easily 72-65 with five black starters against all white Kentucky squad coached by Adolph Rupp.

1966

Bill Russell of the Boston Celtics becomes the first African American to coach a professional sports team.



1966

NFL agrees to merge with the AFL so it may monopolize the game.

1967

Birth of the American Basketball Association, rival to the NBA.

1/15/1967

Green Bay defeats Kansas City 35-10 in the first Super Bowl.



April 1967

Muhammad Ali refuses induction into the Army claiming conscientious objector status and stating “No Viet Cong ever called me nigger.” The World Boxing Association strips him of his title and of his license to box.



5/27/1967

Middleweight boxer Rubin Hurricane Carter is convicted by an all white jury in Patterson, New Jersey [for somethin' that he never done.](#)



7/20/1968

First Special Olympics held at Soldier Field in Chicago.

Summer 1968

At Mexico Olympic games, Bob Beamon shatters the long jump record by 21 inches and Dick Fosbury debuts the flop to win the high jump. At the ceremony for the 200 meters, Tommie Smith and John Carlos raise a black gloved fist during the playing of the Star Spangled Banner. The two are suspended from further participation and deported.



10/15/1967

Jim Hines becomes first human being to run 100 yards in less than 10 seconds.



1968

NFLPA and NFL enter into their first Collective Bargaining Agreement.

1/16/1970

Curt Flood of the Saint Louis Cardinals files suit against major league baseball in federal court in Manhattan challenging the reserve clause as anticompetitive and a violation of the 13th Amendment prohibiting slavery. Flood plays for an openly racist manager and complains when he does not receive a raise while one is given to an inferior white player. At the trial, District Judge Irving Cooper taunts Flood in what union representative Marvin Miller characterized as racist treatment, asking, “This isn’t as easy as playing centerfield, is it?” Ignoring Jackie Robinson’s stirring testimony on behalf of Flood, Cooper rules in favor of the owners because “baseball has been the national pastime for over one hundred years and enjoys a unique place in our American Heritage.” Flood never plays another inning.



11/1970

New Orleans Saints kicker [Tom Dempsey](#), born with half a right foot and no right hand, breaks an NFL record by kicking a sixty-three yard field goal to lift the Saints to a last-second 17-16 victory over the Detroit Lions at Tulane Stadium.

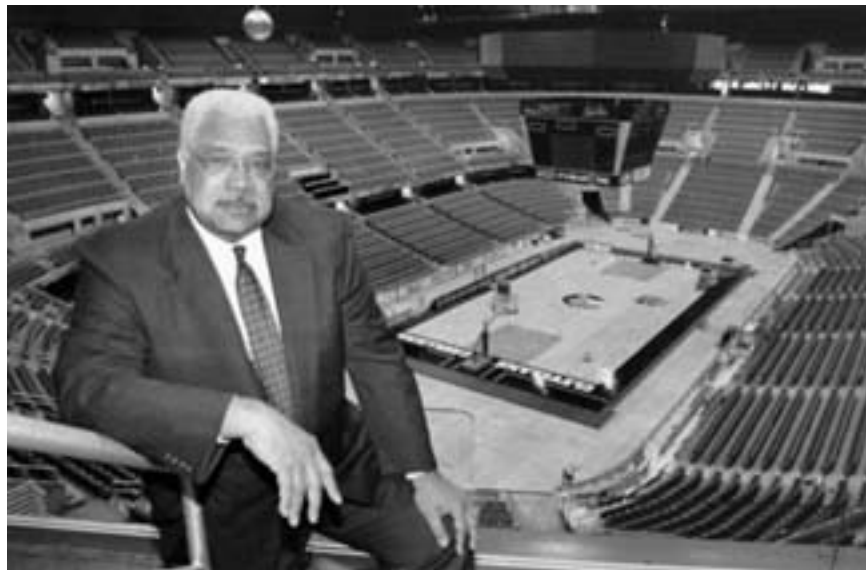


1971

*Denver Rockets v. All-Pro Management, Inc.*, 325 F. Supp. 1049 (C.D.Cal.), *aff'd*, [401 U.S. 1204](#). Spencer Heywood is successful in his antitrust challenge to NBA draft eligibility rule requiring player be four years removed from high school graduation class.



- 6/28/1971 United States Supreme Court reverses conviction of Muhammad Ali. *Clay, aka Ali v. United States*, [403 U.S. 698](#).
- 9/1971 Junior College transfer John Mitchell becomes the first African American to play football at the University of Alabama or for Paul Bear Bryant who after 35 years is the premier coach in NCAA football.
- 1972 Wayne Embry of the Milwaukee Bucks becomes the first African American General Manager in professional sports.



- Summer 1972 Black September terrorists kidnap 11 Israeli athletes, all of whom are killed either by the terrorists or in the rescue attempt. IOC President Avery Brundage, elected to the Committee 36 years before at the Berlin games,

orders that the games continue; one columnist writes, “It’s almost like having a dance at Dachau.” The United States basketball team then loses to the Soviet Union in the championship game and refuses the silver medal because of outrage over an official’s decision. At the close of the ceremonies, Brundage does not mention the fallen athletes, outraging the Israelis.



- 1972 *Philadelphia World Hockey v. Philadelphia Hockey*, 351 F. Supp. 462 (E.D.Pa.). Players are successful in antitrust challenge to limit on player movement because no serious arms length bargaining over rules.
- 1972 *Flood v. Kuhn*, [407 U.S. 258](#). Citing, among other things, “Casey At The Bat,” Justice Blackmun rules that baseball is exempt from the antitrust laws.
- 1973 *Blalock v. LPGA*, 359 F. Supp. 1260 (N.D.Ga.). Ladies Professional golfer is successful in striking down as anticompetitive LPGA exclusion from market of golfer accused of violating certain rules.
- 5/1973 Three drivers and a crewman are killed, and 13 spectators injured, at the Indianapolis 500.
- 1974 Word “amateurism” is removed from Olympic charter.
- 1974 *Kapp v. NFL*, 390 F. Supp. 73 (D.Cal.), *aff’d*, 586 F.2d 644 (9th Cir. 1978), *cert. den.* 441 U.S. 907 (1979). Joe Kapp is successful in striking down as anticompetitive NFL Draft Rule, Tampering Rule, One Man Rule, Ransom Rule and Standard Contract Rule.
- 4/8/1975 Frank Robinson becomes first African American manager in major league baseball.



5/1975 Lee Elder becomes the first African American to play at the Masters Tournament.



1975 - Former NFL running back David Kopay, who hid his homosexuality throughout his ten-year playing career, publicly acknowledges that he is gay, becoming the first major athlete in history to do so. Former New York Giants offensive guard Roy Simmons later reveals his sexual orientation on The Phil Donahue Show.

1975 *Robertson v. NBA*, 389 F. Supp 867 (S.D.N.Y.). NBA players are successful in antitrust challenge to draft, reserve clause and merger if not subject of serious actual bargaining).

1975 *Bowman v NFL*, 402 F. Supp. 754 (D.Minn. 1975). Court strikes down as anticompetitive NFL concerted refusal to deal with former WFL Players.

1975 *In Re Arbitration of Messersmith and McNally*. Andy Messersmith and Dave McNally declared free agents by Arbitrator Peter Seitz who strikes down baseball's reserve clause; Curt Flood is already out of baseball.

1976 *Mackey v. NFL*, 543 F.2d 606 (8th Cir. 1976). John Mackey is successful in antitrust challenge to reserve clause in NFL because not bargained over.

12/9/1977 Kermit Washington punches Rudy Tomjonavich during Lakers Rockets basketball game, nearly killing him. Tomjonavich later sues the Lakers for failing to curb Washington's temper and is awarded a judgment of \$3,246,377.





1977 Bill Lucas becomes first African American General Manager in major league baseball.

1977 *Linseman v. WHA*, 439 F. Supp. 1315 (D.Conn.). Court strikes down as anticompetitive league rule declaring players younger than twenty years old not eligible for WHA draft.

1977 Remaining ABA franchises merge into the NBA.

7/13/1978 Ron Turcotte, who rode Secretariat to the Triple Crown, is paralyzed after a spill at Belmont Park, the site of his greatest triumph.



8/12/1978 Oakland Raiders cornerback Jack Tatum hits Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Darryl Stingley during an exhibition game, leaving Stingley paralyzed. After the game, Steelers head coach Chuck Noll decries the “criminal element in the NFL.”



1978 *Smith v. Pro-Football, Inc.*, 593 F.2d 1173 (D.C.Cir.). Yahoo Smith is successful in antitrust challenge to draft because not yet in collective bargaining agreement.

1979 *Chuy v Philadelphia Eagles*, 595 F.2d 1265 (3d Cir.). Eagle player fails in defamation suit against club for releasing false information about why player was forced to retire.

1979 *Bayless v Philadelphia League Club*, 472 F. Supp. 625 (E.D.Pa.). Injured Phillie successful in asserting he is covered by Workman's Compensation Act even though "a high priced athlete."

1979 *McCourt v. NHL*, 600 F.2d 1193 (6th Cir.). Hockey players fail in antitrust challenge to reserve system in NHL because subject of collective bargaining.

1980 Willie Jeffries is hired at Wichita State University, the first black football coach in Division 1A NCAA history.



9/80 Art Shell becomes the first African American to coach an NFL team since Fritz Pollard in 1921.



Winter 1980 While Americans are held captive in Iran, United States Hockey team composed of college hockey players defeats the Soviet Union, arguably the best hockey team pro or amateur in the world. The game is said to renew patriotic pride all over America.



[see video clip](#)

Summer 1980

Moscow Olympics are first to be held in Communist country; [United States boycotts the games.](#)

5/1/1981

Billie Jean King admits to having a lesbian relationship.



[hear audio clip of press conference](#)

9/1981

Eighteen year old Dale Hawerchuk of Winnipeg Jets becomes the youngest to play in an NHL game.



- 1981 Olympic Committee states professionals will be allowed to participate but may not earn money during the games.
- 5/12/1982 Birth of [United States Football League](#).
- 9/20/1982 NFL players begin eight-week strike.
- 1982 Olympic Committee pardons Jim Thorpe and returns his medals to his descendants.
- 1982 First Gay Games draws 1,300 competitors.
- 4/29/1984 The Baltimore Colts, a storied NFL franchise whose fans held an almost religious devotion to the team, steal out of town in the middle of the night to move to Indianapolis. Owner Robert Irsay tells the fans: “It’s not your ball team. It’s my family’s.” [see video clip](#)
- 1984 *Detroit Lions v. Argovitz*, 580 F. Supp. 84 (E.D.Mich.). Billy Sims and the Lions successfully void a player agent contract because the agent is coowner of USFL’s Houston Gamblers.
- 1984 *Boris v. USFL*, 1984 WL 894 (C.D.Cal. 1984). Court strikes down as anticompetitive age eligibility rule of USFL.
- 1984 *NCAA v. Board of Regents*, [468 U.S. 85](#). Courts strikes down NCAA limitation on TV broadcasts as anticompetitive.
- 1984 Greg Louganis becomes the first man in fifty-six years to win Olympic gold medals in springboard diving and platform diving.



1984 *LA Memorial Coliseum v NFL*, 726 F.2d 1381 (9th Cir.). Al Davis is successful in antitrust challenge to NFL's rejection of his move to LA because league is a collection of individual entities not a single entity.

Summer 1984 Los Angeles Olympics are first to be privately funded and show a \$215 million profit, selling the right to be part of the torch relay for \$3000 a pop. Soviets boycott the games.

10/17/1984 USFL files antitrust suit against the NFL.

1985 Federal Judge Lee Sarokin overturns Hurricane Carter's conviction and he is set free after serving eighteen years in prison. *Carter v. Rafferty*, 621 F.Supp. 533 (D.N.J.)



[hear Rod Steiger deliver an excerpt from Judge Sarokin's Opinion](#)

1985 Tennis champion Martina Navratilova announces that she is a lesbian.



- 1986 *Shoemaker v Hardel*, 795 F.2d 1136 (3d Cir.). Jockey Bill Shoemaker loses constitutional challenge to New Jersey Racing Commission's policy of random drug testing of jockeys.
- 1986 The USFL folds, leaving the NFL to monopolize the game.
- 1986 *Zimmerman v NFL*, 632 F. Supp. 398 (D.D.C.). Ex-USFL players fail in their antitrust challenge to supplemental draft.
- 1986 Washington Redskins Jerry Smith announces that he has AIDS, becoming the first professional athlete to do so.
- 6/19/1986 Len Bias dies of a cocaine overdose forty-eight hours after being selected as the second pick of the NBA draft by the Boston Celtics.



- 7/29/1986 Jury finds in favor of USFL against the NFL and awards damages of \$1. The attorneys receive an award of \$20 million in fees.
- 11/22/1986 Mike Tyson knocks out Trevor Berbick in the 2d round to become the youngest Heavyweight Champion of the World.



- 2/25/1987 Southern Methodist University receives the Death Penalty from the NCAA suspending its football program for two years because thirteen players had received payments totaling \$47,000. The program had generated \$4 million in revenues the previous academic year.
- 4/10/1987 Dodger General Manager Al Campanis tells Ted Koppel on the 40th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's debut on the subject of the lack of African Americans in the baseball's front office, "They may not have some of the necessities to be, let's say, a field manager, or perhaps a general manager . . . I don't say that all of them, but they certainly are short. How many quarterbacks do you have? How many pitchers do you have that are black?"
- 1987 *Wood v NBA*, 809 F.2d 954 (2d Cir.). Drafted college player Leon Wood fails in his antitrust challenge to salary cap and draft.
- 1987 *Williams v NBA*, 45 F.3d 684 (2d Cir.). NBA players fail in antitrust challenge to draft and salary cap because these are mandatory subjects of collective bargaining.
- 5/30/1987 Tyson knocks out Pinklon Thomas to retain his crown, saying, "Every shot was thrown with bad intentions. I was hoping he would get up so I could hit him again and keep him down."
- Summer 1988 Ben Johnson defeats Carl Louis to win the 100 meters then tests positive for steroid use and is stripped of his medal.



[see](#)

[video clip](#)

1988 *NCAA v. Tarkanian*, [488 U.S. 179](#). College basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian loses in claim that NCAA suspension was without due process because NCAA not a governmental entity. Nevada Supreme Court which had ruled in favor of Tark had stated: “The NCAA practices might be considered efficient but so was Adolph Eichmann.”

1989 [Pete Rose](#) is banned from baseball for betting on games while managing the Cincinnati Reds.



1989 *Powell v NFL*, 930 F.2d 1293 (8th Cir.). Eight NFL players fail in antitrust challenge to first refusal compensation system.



1989 *United States v. Walters*, 711 F.Supp. 1435 (N.D.Ill.). NCAA's eligibility rules restricting compensation to students held not to violate antitrust laws.

10/17/1989 Earthquake hits San Francisco while A's and Giants are warming up for Game 3. [see video clip](#)

3/4/1990 Hank Gathers dies on the court during a game between Loyola Marymount and Portland in a West Coast Conference semifinal game. The tournament is suspended and LMU is given the automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.



1990 NFL changes eligibility rule to three seasons.

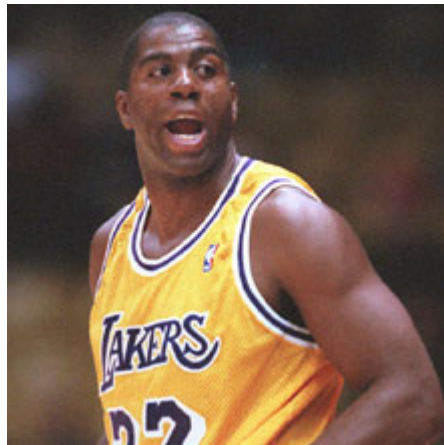
1991 Augusta National admits its first African American; it continues to exclude women.

1991 Marge Schott, current owner of the Cincinnati Reds, baseball's oldest team, reportedly tells an Oakland A's official, "I'd would rather have a trained monkey working for me than a nigger."



11/7/1991

Magic Johnson retires from the NBA at age thirty-two after testing HIV-positive.



[see video clip of Magic's press conference](#)

Winter 1992

International Olympic Committee members acknowledge receiving huge bribes to vote to approve Salt Lake City as the site of the games.

2/10/1992

Mike Tyson is found guilty of raping a black Miss America contestant in Indianapolis and is sentenced to ten years in prison, four suspended.

Summer 1992

United States sends professional basketball players to the Olympics; its "Dream Team," including Magic Johnson, Larry Bird and Michael Jordan, easily wins the gold. [see video clip](#)

1992

*Chicago Bulls v. NBA*, 961 F.2d 667 (7th Cir.). Team is successful in antitrust challenge to twenty-game limit for super station.

1993

Monica Seles is stabbed during a tennis tournament by a fan of her rival Steffi Graf.



[see video clip of press conference](#)

1993

*White v NFL*, 92 F. Supp. 918 (D.Minn.). NFL player fails in antitrust challenge to draft and free agency rules.

6/1993

12-year-old Martina Hingis becomes the youngest Grand Slam junior champion at 1993 Roland Garros.

1994

Greg Louganis comes out at the 1994 Gay Games.

1/6/1994

Skater Nancy Kerrigan is clubbed on the knee at the Olympic trials by Shane Stant, a colleague of Jeff Gilooly, the husband of Kerrigan's rival Tonya Harding. Gilooly later pleads guilty and says Harding approved of the plot.



[see video](#)

[clip of Tonya pleading guilty](#)

Winter 1994

Harding competes in the games finishing out of medals while Kerrigan takes the silver.

3/16/1994

Harding pleads guilty to conspiracy and is banned from competition for life.

- 6/12/1994 O.J. Simpson's wife Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman are murdered. [see video clip of O.J. car chase](#)
- 10/1994 World Series cancelled because of players' strike.
- 3/25/1995 Mike Tyson is released from prison.
- 10/3/1995 O.J. Simpson is found Not Guilty of murder and set free.



- 1995 Former major leaguer Glenn Burke posthumously publishes his autobiography, entitled *Out At Home*, announcing his homosexuality. The book, which describes the discrimination that he faced as a player on the Oakland A's, becomes a best-seller.
- 1995 *Caldwell v ABA*, [66 F.3d 523](#) (2d Cir.). Terminated NBA player Joe Caldwell fails in his antitrust challenge to discharge because discharge a condition of employment and within jurisdiction of NLRB.
- 1995 Pitcher Jim Mecer, born with two club feet, signed to a major league contract by the Seattle Mariners.
- 1996 *Brown v Pro Football*, [518 U.S. 231](#). Practice squad members fail in antitrust challenge to fixed salary unilaterally imposed after impasse because arose from bargaining process.
- 7/27/1996 At Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Eric Rudolph sets off bomb killing one and injuring others. Rudolph would later be convicted of also bombing an abortion clinic and a gay nightclub. Rudolph said the bombings were motivated by "a hatred of abortion and of a federal government that lets it continue."
- 12/5/96 Eighteen years and 53 days old Jermaine O'Neal of the Portland Trailblazers becomes the youngest player to ever play in an NBA game.
- 1997 Antonio Alfonseca, who was born with six fingers, is signed to a contract by the Marlins. Alfonseca leads the major leagues with 45 saves in 2000.

5/1997

Tiger Woods wins the Masters by an incredible 12 strokes. Fuzzy Zoeller comments: “That little boy is driving it well and is putting it well. So you know what you guys do when he gets back in here. You pat him on the back and you say ‘Congratulations’ and ‘Enjoy it’ and tell him not to serve fried chicken next year or collard greens.”



[see video clip of Tiger](#)

6/28/1997

Mike Tyson is disqualified in fight against Evander Holyfield after twice biting Holyfield’s ear.



[see video of Round 3 of Tyson vs Holyfield](#)

12/1997

Golden State Warriors player Latrell Sprewell chokes his coach, P.J. Carlisimo. The NBA suspends him for one year and the Warriors terminate his contract, but Sprewell appeals to arbitrator John Feerick, who reduces his suspension to 68 games and reinstates his contract. [see Sprewell press conference](#)

1/1998

16-year-old Martina Hingis becomes the youngest tennis player, or woman, to earn \$1 million in prize money.

1998

*Law v. NCAA*, 134 F.3d 1010 (10th Cir.). College football couch successful in antitrust challenge to salary cap for college coaches.

1998

Congress passes the [Curt Flood Act](#), whose purpose “is to state that major league baseball players are covered under the antitrust laws (i.e., that major league baseball players will have the same rights under the antitrust laws as do other professional athletes, e.g., football and basketball players)”

Winter 1998

NHL players compete in Olympic Hockey Tournament.

5/6/2000

Marlon St. Julien becomes the first black jockey to ride in the Kentucky Derby in 79 years.

5/2001

L. Wayne Gertmenian becomes Chief Executive Officer of the Jockeys' Guild in a "midnight coup," replacing forty-year Guild member John Giovanni, who is fired without notice.



2/21/2001

Dale Earnhardt dies following a crash on the final lap of the Daytona 500.

9/13/2001

NFL cancels all of its week two football games because of 9/11.

9/26/2001

Dodger Shawn Green sits out critical game because it falls on Yom Kippur. Green says, "There is nothing I would rather do than play against the Giants in a pennant race, but some things take precedence over that."

2002

Ozzie Newsome of the Baltimore Ravens becomes the first African American General Manager in the NFL.

May 2002

New York Post publishes reports that a star player on the New York Mets is a closeted homosexual. Mets manager Bobby Valentine famously remarks in Details Magazine that baseball is "probably ready for an openly gay player." Mike Piazza, the subject of the speculation, publicly announces that he is a heterosexual.

12/2002

Freshman Maurice Clarett blasts Ohio State before the National Championship for renegeing on its promise to fly him back to Ohio to attend a friend's funeral, saying: "some things are more important than football."



1/3/2003

Maurice Clarett dives into the end zone to give Ohio State its first championship in thirty-four years in the last football game of his career.

3/9/2003

Tod Bertuzzi punches Mike Moore in Canucks Avalanche hockey game, nearly killing him.



6/27/2003

Eighteen year old LeBron James is selected as first player drafted by the Cleveland Cavaliers.

7/3/2003

Kobe Bryant is charged with rape in Eagle County, Colorado.



- 7/12/2003 Mike Freeman of the New York Times publishes an article quoting sources saying Maurice Clarett received preferential treatment in classes during his freshman year. Freeman later is forced to resign from the Times for falsifying his own resume. The article spurs an NCAA investigation into Clarett which concludes with no finding of academic wrongdoing but punishes Clarett for not being candid with NCAA investigators by suspending him for his sophomore season.
- 8/1/2003 Mike Tyson files for bankruptcy after a career in which he earned more than \$200 million.
- 8/2003 Always vigilant NCAA sanctions Utah basketball coach Rich Majerus for buying Keith Van Horn a meal while breaking the news that the player's father had passed away.
- 9/23/2003 [Maurice Clarett sues the NFL](#), alleging that the NFL's age eligibility rule violates the antitrust laws.
- 12/2003 Sylvester Croom is hired as coach of Mississippi state, the first African American to coach a division 1A school in the South.
- 2/5/2004 *Clarett v NFL*, [306 F. Supp. 411](#) (S.D.N.Y.). After more than four months of extensive briefing, trial judge Shira Scheindlin finds the NFL eligibility rule to be in violation of the antitrust laws and orders Clarett eligible for the upcoming draft.
- 4/19/2004 The Second Circuit stays Judge Scheindlin's thoughtful decision after a nearly one-hour oral argument in which the three judge panel pound Clarett's counsel.
- 5/5/2004 14 year old Freddy Adu plays in his first professional soccer game.



5/24/2004

*Clarett v. NFL*, [369 F.3d 124](#) (2d Cir.). The Second Circuit reverses Judge Schindlin, holding the NFL's eligibility rule is shielded from antitrust scrutiny by the labor exemption because, among other things, the rule which had predated the union by fifty years and was not in the CBA was the result of collective bargaining.

7/20/2004

Jockey Gary Birzer is paralyzed when he is thrown from his horse at Mountaineer Race Track in Chester, West Virginia. After racking up over \$600,000.00 in medical bills, he and the world find out that the Jockeys' Guild allowed its catastrophic insurance policy to lapse, leaving him without coverage. Jockeys at tracks nationwide sign a petition calling for an audit of the Guild's books. Jockeys Guild Vice President Albert Fiss tells Birzer's wife that the Guild is using Berzer as a "guinea pig" to get racetracks to pay for on-track insurance.



8/10/2004

Charges against Kobe Bryant are dropped.

9/15/2004

NHL announces lockout of players.

10/22/2004

Boston Red Sox win the World Series for the first time since 1918. In the celebration afterward, the Boston Police Department fire a projectile to disperse the crowd, killing a local college student.

11/19/2004

[Brawl between Indiana Pacers and fans in Detroit ends with Ron Artest suspended for the season.](#)



11/2004

[Jockeys Edwin King and Gary Donahue sue the Jockeys' Guild](#), alleging that they are entitled to audit the Guild's books.

11/15/2004

At the start of ABC's Monday Football, blond Nicole Sheridan attempts to seduce Eagle wide receiver Terrell Owens in a skit which draws howls of outrage from conservative watchdog groups.



12/2004

Notre Dame fires Tyrell Willingham, leaving two black coaches in the 117 Division 1A schools, though Willingham is almost immediately hired by the University of Washington.

2005

NBA announces players may not join a team until they are one year removed from their high school graduation.

2/16/2005

[NHL cancels season.](#)

5/2005

Maurice Claret is drafted in the third round of the NFL draft by the Denver Broncos, then fails to make the team.

5/10/2005

In the spirit of promoting international relations, various world baseball organization announce plans for the World Cup of Baseball to be held in March '06 between 16 national teams. The Bush administration later announces Cuba will not be permitted to field a team on U.S. soil, the site of the games.

- 7/13/2005 NHL and players union reach agreement to end the lockout.
- 9/ 2005 In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the destruction of the Superdome, NFL announces that the Saints will play “home” games at various locations including Baton Rouge, Louisiana and San Antonio, Texas. The Saints lose their first “home” game to the New York Giants at Giants Stadium, 27-10. After the game, Saints quarterback Aaron Brook’s remarks, “Try not to patronize us next time, traveling us to New York, saying we’re playing a home game.”
- 9/2005 Chicago Bulls demand center Eddie Curry take a DNA test to screen for a rare genetic heart disorder. Curry refuses and is traded to the New York Knicks.
- 10/2005 Reebok terminates endorsement contract with DeAngelo Hall after Hall appears in a Monday Night Football game wearing Nike shoes.
- 10/2005 Tampa Bay Buccaneers’ season ticket-holder sues Tampa Sports Authority alleging that policy of patting down all fans who enter the stadium violates the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.
- 10/5/2005 15 year old golfer Michelle Wie turns pro.



- 10/18/2005 Congress holds hearings into financial irregularities of the Jockey's Guild.
- 11/2005 Wayne Gertmenian is removed from his Presidency of the Jockeys Guild.
- 11/2005 Boston Red Sox file complaint against former first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz, who caught the ball that clinched the 2004 World Series victory, claiming the team owns the ball.
- 11/18/2005 Arbitrator Richard Bloch [Rules that the Philadelphia Eagles acted appropriately](#) in suspending Terrell Owens for four games and excluding him from games and practices for the remainder of the season for out of the park comments even though his on field performance was excellent.
- 11/24/2005 New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson acknowledges that he was never drafted by a Major League Baseball team, as he had alleged during his various runs for office.
- 12/5/2005 Kansas State hires Ron Prince who becomes the fourth black coach in Division 1A football and the first in the history of the Big 12.

12/15/2005

University of Buffalo hires Turner Gill who becomes the fifth black coach in Division 1A football.