

# MLB.com launches Negro League section

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

**NEW YORK** - MLB Advanced Media, the interactive media and Internet company of Major League Baseball announced recently the launch of its newly created Negro League section on MLB.com, the official MLB Web site.

The new section, providing some of the most comprehensive material on the Negro League available anywhere on the Internet, can be reached at <http://www.mlb.com>.

"The Negro Leagues played a critically important role in the history of baseball," said Bob Bowman, chief executive officer of MLBAM. "Our new section provides fans with a greater appreciation of the talent, dedication and courage of the more than 2,600 Negro League players. The story of the Negro Leagues provides a valuable educational opportunity for fans of all ages."

Bowman said.

The launch of the new section coincides with Black History Month in February.

The new Negro League section offers articles and editorials about the league and its history; a photo gallery of players, teams and games; video and audio clips of interviews with Negro League players and Major Leaguers who played against them; audio clips of induction ceremonies at the Negro League Hall of Fame; an e-commerce area offering Cooperstown Collection jerseys, hats, and collectibles, and a link to the Negro League Hall of Fame in Kansas City, Mo.

Major League Baseball is a major sponsor of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM) in Kansas City. The privately funded, not-for-profit museum is dedicated to preserving and illuminating the rich history of African-American baseball.



RAY GORACH/CHICAGO TRIBUNE  
Brown Jackson crosses home plate after hitting a three-run homer in the sixth inning of the 1958 Negro League's East vs. West All-Star game held annually at Old Comiskey Park in Chicago, Ill. Andrew "Rube" Foster is credited with forming the National Negro Baseball League in 1929, the first official Negro league.

## Why I'm boycotting Black History Month

*"But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain."*

- 1 Corinthians 15:13-14

Recently, I asked my mother-in-law whether she was going to watch the television miniseries "Roots" in celebration of the 25th anniversary of its first showing. She said she would not and dropped her head and stared at the floor. I was shocked because Mamma always watched stuff dealing with our history. She gave me that look that only mothers-in-law can give. You know, the kind of look that pierces your soul and makes you think that maybe you should have kept your big mouth shut.

I braced myself for a long sermon but she only said, "You know, 25 years ago, I thought things would get better, but they have only gotten worse."

She walked out the room, leaving me thinking about the many ways in which my generation had failed her.

It was not entirely our fault. I mean, we got mixed signals from the leaders of the 1960s. Did we segregate or integrate? Was it Black Power or Green Power? Did we help build America up or did we burn it down? There also was no concrete definition of what "the struggle" actually was. Was it cultural or economic, personal or collective, academic or street?

What resulted was a vaguely defined war that was at the beck and call of the power structure that was supposed to be "the enemy." When and why black people protested became controlled by the white-owned media and public relations firms. I always found it funny that a company that was the black community's most hated adversary one year could become 21st century abolitionists and proud sponsors of Black History Month the next. They say that money talks but it also laughs as public relations firms have a good time laughing at our fickleness.

For many brothas who became frustrated with trying to decipher the black empowerment user manual, becoming a "g" (gangsta) became a viable option.

Corporate America and its evil twin, the white supremacist system, was right there to capitalize on our confusion. While we were stalled at the crossroads of indecision, corporate America set up kill 'em all records at the corner of Sell-Out Street and Liberation Lane. The genocide of African

people became big business and the number one form of entertainment in America. Hip-hop has become one big killing field that leaves those who enter mentally and spiritually dead. How can we cele-

brated hip-hop addict for more than 20 years, if I can do without gangsta rap for 28 days, anybody can. I guarantee that at the end of the 28 days we will find ourselves spiritually and mentally renewed.

as rating symbols, we will use Black Power fists.

Third, we must collectively ask our brothers and sisters in hip-hop to join us in our quest to resurrect the minds of our people. We must tell the white Pharaohs of the music industry to let our people go to be free to serve their people through their music and influence.

Only when we take steps like these will we prove ourselves worthy to pick up the mantle left behind by our ancestors. There will be a resurrection of the African community and as they say in the church, "Ain't nobody gonna be mad but the devil."

*Minister Paul Scott is the founder of the New Righteous Movement, based in Durham, which teaches African liberation theology. He can be reached at [operationmedia@yahoo.com](mailto:operationmedia@yahoo.com)*

### BLACK HISTORY PERSPECTIVE by Minister Paul Scott

brate the achievements of Malcolm, Martin and Marcus when we allow the media to tell our young brothas to light a blunt with the torch that these great men carried?

While many are familiar with the old "how many people does it take to screw in a light bulb" joke, the question for us in 2002 is how many black intellectuals, theologians and philosophers does it take to defeat the hip-hop conspiracy to destroy black children? With all of our think tanks and conferences, we still have not been able to stop Hollywood from pimpin' our culture and using it against us.

I guess having the answer and having the courage to carry out the solution are two different subjects. We are like the precha who whoops, hollas and turns back flips before a congregation that will leave the service just as broken as they were when they walked through the door. If we are not about the business of resurrecting the spiritually and mentally dead in our community, then all of our intellectualizing, debating and preaching is in vain.

Malcolm X once brilliantly analyzed the image-making role of the media and how it can make your enemy your friend and your friend your enemy. Until we effectively deal with the role that the media play in our suffering, we will never reach the brotha on the corner who sees another black man as his enemy.

This is why we are boycotting Black History Month this year and instead participating in Black Resurrection Month, during which we will try to destroy the hip-hop conspiracy once and for all. We are not looking to engage in the usual 20-year plan for black liberation but we are looking for our condition to be changed.

First, we are asking the black community to join us in a hip-hop fast, where we will abstain from listening to or watching anything that disrespects the black community and portrays us in a negative light during February. As an

Second, as rap pioneer Kool Moe D established a hip-hop report card in the mid-1980s to rate rappers on their lyrical skills, we will set up a report card to rate rappers on their musical contributions to the liberation of African people (or lack thereof). As the Source magazine uses mikes

Celebrating Black History

## ERVIN'S BEAUTY SERVICES

"A Full Service Salon"

Service is our LAST Name but our FIRST Priority  
All services and products guaranteed

Telephone: 722-0562      3217 N. Patterson Ave.  
Residence: 724-7806      Winston-Salem, NC 27105

MINNIE J. ERVIN  
PROPRIETOR

MasterCard      VISA

The Triad's 24 hour Gospel Music Source  
The Light 1340/1400

# Salute Black History Month

"MUSIC OF THE LIGHT - ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT"

## THE LIGHT

1340AM & 1400AM  
WINSTON-SALEM      GREENSBORO

Listen to interviews, music, questions and vignettes during the month of February as The Light 1340/1400 Salutes Black History also listen to win Prizes only on The Light 1340/1400 AM - Playing Today's Gospel Music!!!!

The Light  
1340 AM / Winston-Salem  
1400 AM / Greensboro  
You're 24 Hours Gospel Station

Linda F. Richardson  
Operations Manager

4405 Providence Lane  
Winston-Salem, NC 27106  
Office: 336-759-0363 Fax: 336-759-0366  
Request Line: 336-721-1340

Contact us at  
[news@wschronicle.com](mailto:news@wschronicle.com)