

Manuscript Archives & Rare Book Library

OF EMORY UNIVERSITY

fall 2011 ≈ *volume 5, number 2*



EMORY
LIBRARIES

- 2** A New Collecting Focus for MARBL:
African Americans in Sports
by Maureen McGavin
- 3-4** Race and Sports in American Culture:
MARBL Offers New Paths for Historical Scholarship
by Pellom McDaniels III
- 5-6** History in Plain Sight
by Earl Lewis
- 7-8** Other Voices: Collection Safe at Home
by Clyde Partin Jr. 78C 83M 86R
- 9** Rare Gifts of History
by Terri McIntosh
- 10** Calendar of Exhibits and Events

Manuscript Archives & Rare Book Library

OF EMORY UNIVERSITY

TO SUBSCRIBE, CONTACT:

Christeene Fraser
Manuscript, Archives, & Rare Book Library
Robert W. Woodruff Library, Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia 30322
crfrase@emory.edu

For more information, go to marbl.library.emory.edu.

HOURS

Fall semester:
Monday–Saturday: 9:00 am–5:30 pm
For exceptions, check
marbl.library.emory.edu/visit-marbl

CREDITS

Editor: Holly Crenshaw
Art Director: Stanis Kodman
Photography: Maureen McGavin
Scans: MARBL

Front cover:

Postcard, Auditorium Studio, Atlanta GA. African American photograph collection, MARBL, Emory University.

Back cover:

Sam C. Austin, *The Black Champions of the Prize Ring from Moineaux to Jackson*. London: Richard K. Fox, 1897.



EMORY
LIBRARIES

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

With each issue of MARBL magazine, we bring you stories drawn from our collections. In this issue, I invite you to move with me beyond the exploration of collections to the experience of meeting some of our staff.

Our curators are at the heart of MARBL's work, using their expertise to acquire collections; to advise us during the arrangement, description, and cataloging of collections; to teach from the materials; and to provide specialized research consultations. Most of our readers know Randall Burkett, curator of African American Collections, who is profiled—along with his wife Nancy—in this issue; and Kevin Young, curator of the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library and Modern Literary Collections, whose curatorial work on the exhibition about the Black Sun Press was featured in our last issue.

In this issue, you will meet Pellom McDaniels III, an Emory PhD who has played professional football in Philadelphia, Kansas City, and Atlanta, and who now teaches at the University of Missouri–Kansas City. He is serving as consulting curator for our new collecting initiative relating to African Americans and sports, and we look forward to his continued contributions to our curatorial work.

The newest member of this group is Randy Gue, our curator of Modern Historical and Political Collections. Most recently, he was project archivist for the Robert W. Woodruff papers and curator of the Woodruff exhibit. His work will encompass our longstanding strength in local and regional history and will grow to include civil rights, conflict resolution, and more.

MARBL has been designated the destination for the post-Senate personal papers of Sam Nunn 62L and for the records of his chief project, the Nuclear Threat Initiative, which works to reduce risk in the use of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. These papers and records will join Senator Nunn's earlier personal and political papers in MARBL and become a key part of Randy's curatorial portfolio.

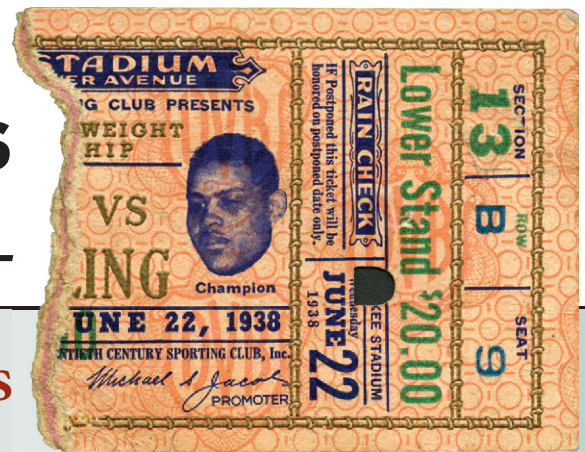
Whether it is through continued reading of our publication or a visit to MARBL, you will get to know other members of our stellar staff who process and preserve our materials and partner with researchers to make new discoveries among our collections. &

Virginia H. Smith
Interim Director



A NEW COLLECTING FOCUS for MARBL

African Americans in sports



MARBL RECENTLY ANNOUNCED A NEW COLLECTING FOCUS—AFRICAN AMERICANS IN SPORTS.

The collection brings to light the effect athletes and others in the sports world had on the civil rights movement and their struggle to be recognized for the impact of their achievements on society.

“The general public, even to this day, believes that sports are a trivial endeavor, a form of entertainment or escapism and that those who play must not be skilled at other things, because if they were, why aren’t they doctors or lawyers?” says former NFL player Pellom McDaniels III, who is a MARBL consultant curator for the collection. “The complex meanings associated with African Americans participating in sports, which historically were used to assist in the community-building process, have been lost.” McDaniels, who earned a master’s and PhD in American studies from Emory’s Institute for Liberal Arts, is also an author and an assistant professor of history and American studies at the University of Missouri–Kansas City.

McDaniels says many African American athletes were instrumental in the civil rights movement, including Muhammad Ali, Arthur Ashe, Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Curt Flood, and 1968 Olympic track and field medalists Tommie Smith and John Carlos. Although MARBL has collections related to African Americans and religion, the arts, literature and poetry, civil rights, and other areas, there was precious little in the area of sports until recently.

The new collecting focus was sparked by the spring 2010 acquisition of the William Clyde “Doc” Partin Sr. collection, which includes Partin’s essays about baseball Hall of Famers Earle Combs, Frank Robinson, Babe Ruth, and others, as well as posters, documents, signed baseballs, and a large collection of books about African American athletes. Randall Burkett, curator of MARBL’s African American Collections, says Partin—who died in 2009—was a beloved member of the Emory community. He also was an avid collector of sports history.

The African Americans in Sports collection currently consists of items purchased by Burkett at auctions, supplemented by materials from other MARBL African American collections and the Partin collection.

Some of the significant items in the new collection include:

- The 1897 edition of *Lives and Battles of Famous Black Pugilists*, held by only one other library in the United States.
- A publicity photo of boxer Joe Louis and a ticket stub from the Joe Louis/Max Schmeling fight in 1938.
- A rare first edition of historian Edwin Bancroft Henderson’s book *The Negro in Sports*, originally published in 1939.
- A color print of Tom Cribb knocking out Tom Molineaux at a London fight in the first half of the nineteenth century.
- A signed 1939 photo of Martín Dihigo, a two-time All-Star in the American Negro leagues and the only player to be inducted into the American, Cuban, and Mexican Baseball Halls of Fame.
- A team photo of the Atlanta Black Crackers, the counterpart to the white minor league Atlanta Crackers baseball team, active in the first half of the twentieth century.
- Broadsides promoting games and baseballs autographed by Hank Aaron, Satchel Paige, Buck O’Neil, and other legendary players.

Burkett says that, through the years, Emory faculty members have taught courses about sports, racism, and American culture, and they have visited MARBL seeking historical information. “This collection will have tremendous research value,” he says. “This is an interesting and important area, and there is a wealth of material that needs to be preserved.”

The new collecting focus was announced in May, when MARBL and the Emory Libraries hosted “What’s Next? A Symposium on Race and Sports in American Culture.” Panelists Mike Glenn, former NBA player; Gerald Early, director of the Center for the Humanities at Washington University in St. Louis; and Earl Lewis, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at Emory and African American studies professor, discussed race and sports and their impact on American culture and civil rights. McDaniels was the moderator. The symposium can be viewed on Emory’s iTunes U channel and YouTube page.&

by Maureen McGavin
Writer/Editor, Office of Communications, Emory Libraries

[above] Ticket stub, Joe Louis and Max Schmeling boxing match, June 22, 1938. Michel Fabre archives of African American arts and letters, MARBL, Emory University.

RACE AND SPORTS IN AMERICAN CULTURE

MARBL OFFERS NEW PATHS FOR HISTORICAL SCHOLARSHIP

THE GIFT OF THE LATE CLYDE PARTIN SR.'S PERSONAL SPORTS-RELATED LIBRARY TO MARBL has initiated a new focus in African American collections to include materials related to black athletes such as letters, photographs and, of course, manuscripts and personal papers. To the surprise of most knowledgeable scholars and historians, former professional and amateur black athletes—especially those who lived during the first half of the twentieth century—have papers worth collecting and studying. Certainly, the fact that some of the most artistic, political, social, and cultural performances have happened within the context of the athletic arena should generate a significant degree of curiosity for anyone exploring the impact of race, class, and gender on American life and history. Add to this the limitations placed on blacks that kept them from pursuing the vast number of opportunities available to white Americans; the use of sports as a proving ground for one's manhood, citizenship, and patriotism; and the evolution of athletic arenas as liminal spaces for unraveling race-based stereotypes, and the decision to expand MARBL's focus on African Americans and sports makes good sense.

In 2009, Randall Burkett—MARBL's curator of African American Collections—and I began developing programming, meeting with Emory faculty and staff to imagine the possibilities of having such a collection available for research and teaching, and identifying potential collections for future acquisition to support this initiative. To assist us, we were able to enlist the help of Dana White—professor of American studies, urban studies, and film in the Institute for Liberal Arts, who was a close friend of “Doc” Partin's. White understood the unique opportunity that Emory had to connect its collections on African Americans and its interest in civil and human rights with sports and public scholarship.

Current MARBL collections with materials that support this initiative include the Carter G. Woodson collection, the Billops-Hatch collection, and the papers of Michel Fabre. Each provides some extant materials—such as books, photographs, and newspaper clippings—that connect directly to the development of “the black athlete” as social and cultural phenomenon during the twentieth century.

To introduce the new collections focus formally, MARBL and the Woodruff Library hosted the “What's Next?” symposium

on May 11, 2011. The symposium was intended to examine the intersections between race and sports in American history and provide an open forum for a conversation about the challenges ahead. There were three underlying goals of this public presentation: (1) to provide a space for a dialogue that addresses the impact of individuals such as Jackie Robinson and Hank Aaron, to name but a few, on American culture through their individual and collective participation in sports; (2) to interpret the impact of race and sports in civil rights history; and (3) to provide the space to discuss what is next beyond the traditional memorialization and commemoration of the breaking of racial barriers in sports. Panelists included the well-respected scholar of American literature, sports, and popular culture Gerald Early of Washington University; former National Basketball Association player Mike Glenn; and Emory University's provost and Asa Griggs Candler Professor of History and African American Studies Earl Lewis.

In *A Hard Road to Glory* (1986), the late tennis champion and writer Arthur Ashe Jr. argues: “Black historians never deemed sports serious enough for their scarce time; and these same historians had underestimated the socio-historical impact of the black athlete in black American life.” Historians in general and African American scholars in particular have since recognized the value in studying the life and contributions of black sports heroes such as Jack Johnson, Jesse Owens, Jackie Robinson and Muhammad Ali, to understand the impact of their performances on the whole of American history. Black female athletes such as Althea Gibson, Wilma Rudolph, Alice Coachman, and Mammie “Peanut” Johnson also have contributed to this changing landscape in ways less known compared to their male counterparts. For example, in 1960—after winning three gold medals in the Rome Olympics—Wilma Rudolph refused to be honored by her hometown of Clarksville, Tennessee, if the celebration was segregated. Rudolph's request for an integrated homecoming was granted. For the first time in its history, Clarksville residents sat together at her banquet and stood side by side at the parade that honored her accomplishments as an Olympic champion.

Like their contemporaries, including many who were political activists and socially conscious artists, black athletes from

[top right] “Rural Sports, A Milling Match between [Tom] Cribb and [Tom] Molineaux.” 1811 hand-colored broadside. Black Print Culture collection, MARBL, Emory University.

[bottom right] Sam C. Austin, *The Black Champions of the Prize Ring from Molineaux to Jackson*. London: Richard K. Fox, 1897.

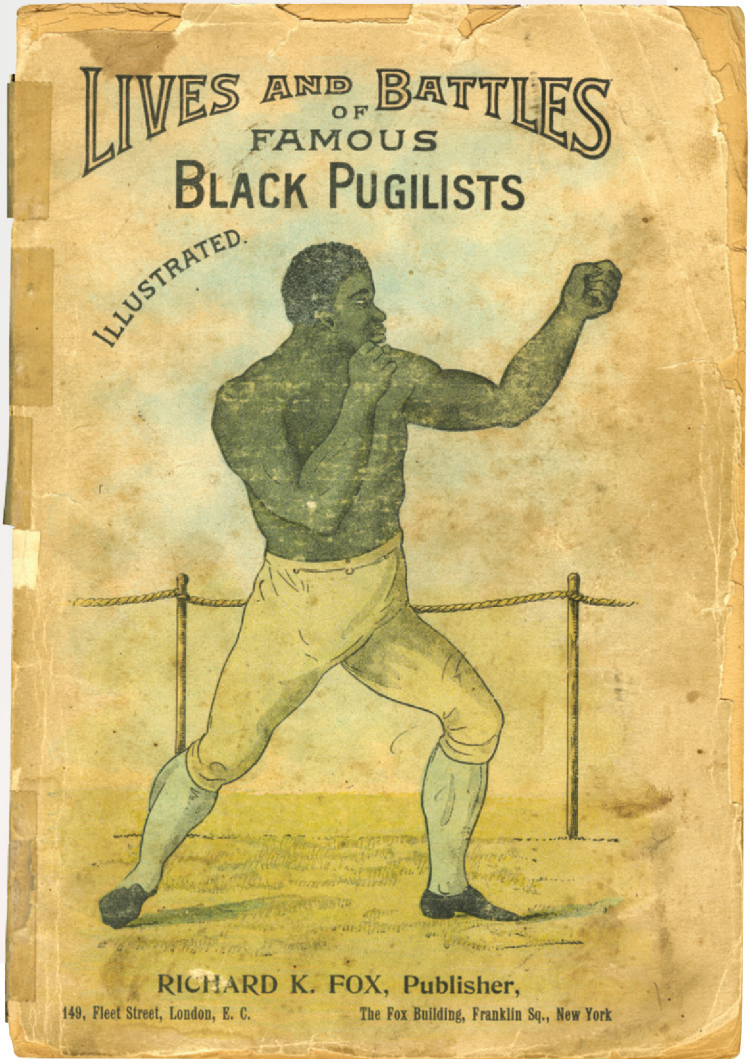


RURAL SPORTS. A MILLING MATCH Took Place at Thelthorpe Gap in the County of Rutland Sept 22 1810. Between **CRIBB AND MOLINEAUX** in a 25 foot Stage and was the second Public contest between these two Pugilists. It lasted 16 Minutes and 10 seconds and was decided in favour of Cribb. *See page 25. in the "The Negro's Progress"* *London 1810.*

the 1950s and 1960s acted bravely and courageously in an effort to influence the changes necessary for American society with regard to race relations. What is more, through spectatorship, numerous African Americans learned of their value and their ability to challenge the status quo on their own terms. Still, there exists a void in understanding the complex meanings associated with African Americans and sports, which have become intrinsically linked with community building and individualism, as well as rebellion and resistance to American forms of oppression.

In the final analysis, sport may be one of the last thresholds for serious scholarship on African American history and life that can expose the complex nature of blackness throughout American history. Yet, to appreciate fully the accomplishments of those who fought for the right to play America's pastime in organized white baseball or perform on behalf of one's country as an Olympian, we first need to recognize the "psychic value" of sports in the black community as a vehicle to achieving some sense of belonging in a country that denied the birthright of its darker sons and daughters. In this way, Emory University and MARBL will provide the place, space, and materials necessary for scholars to examine and deal with the complexity of African American life and history in ways that reveal something new and exciting.

by Pellom McDaniels III
 Consultant, Associate Curator of African American Collections, MARBL, Emory University; Assistant Professor of History and American Studies, University of Missouri-Kansas City



HISTORY IN PLAIN SIGHT

Earl Lewis, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at Emory University and African American studies professor, spoke about MARBL's new collecting focus at the "What's Next?" symposium. Here is an edited version of his remarks.



SOMETIMES HISTORY IS THERE IN PLAIN SIGHT, BUT NOT VISIBLE. There are stories right before us, and if we pause long enough to see them, we also come to understand their place and significance. Recognizing what is significant is an important responsibility that we all must share. It then becomes the job of all of us to own that responsibility in a way. Institutions such as Emory have a special role because we can do something that others can't, which is to make sure that we archive and preserve forever those documents and those ways of knowing, so that others then can come back and actually try to piece together the story. So the first responsibility is identifying what deserves to be preserved, where we're actually trying to wrestle with how

important is the document and why do we want to claim part of MARBL here in the Woodruff Library to hold onto this artifact forever?

The intersection between African American history and sports history offers a rich opportunity for collecting, archiving, and—ultimately—storytelling. Together, both histories offer a pathway to the larger story of America's deep engagement with race. It is that deep engagement, and I use those words carefully, that requires us to try to ensure that this generation and subsequent generations have the resources and tools to analyze the bits and pieces that serve as the historical record of a moment, event, period, or issue.

[above] Edwin Bancroft Henderson, *The Negro in Sports*. Washington, D.C.: Associated Publishers, 1939.

[right] "Roar of the Crowd with the one and only Joe Louis," promotional flier. Black Print Culture collection, MARBL, Emory University.

How do we understand the story of inclusion, for example? It's not a singular story; it's a multiple and integrated story about the ways in which we have projected our broader image onto the world. In my view, the story of sports and race in American history is also a story about power. When Jack Johnson won his fight with Jim Jeffries, there were race riots all over the United States, and the whole equation upon which the edifice of segregation rested was called into question. You realize that the ring and rope symbolized the boundaries of the world and the circumscribed existence that defined both black and white life in early-twentieth-century America. And then Johnson—black—beats Jeffries—white, squaring off within that squared space, playing by the established rules and winning. This is a story not just about these two boxers; it exposes the fallacy of racial superiority.

It really is the American story about a deep engagement with race.

So we come back then to a place like MARBL. Our role here is our ability to think about all those stories—from the early part of the 1800s, down to the most recent stories about Michael Vick or anyone else we want to put on the table to engage.

We need to make sure that we're collecting materials that allow us to deal with African Americans as complex human beings. What I don't want is a one-dimensional story and, hopefully, the documents that we are able to preserve reflect that complexity. Rather, I always have argued, African American peoples have always been complex, and a one-dimensional, linear story only begins to showcase the deeper complexities of the lived experience. That's part of the challenge for us—to make sure that we're collecting in such a way that we can deal with those deeper dimensions.

We should also assume that we always will be surprised. Randall [Burkett] and I joke because Randall has been known to call dumpster divers to actually figure out what people are throwing away and why they are throwing the materials away. He and I realize that, in some people's waste, we find treasures that have great importance because what has been discarded is linked to a series of other items and other kinds of possibilities.

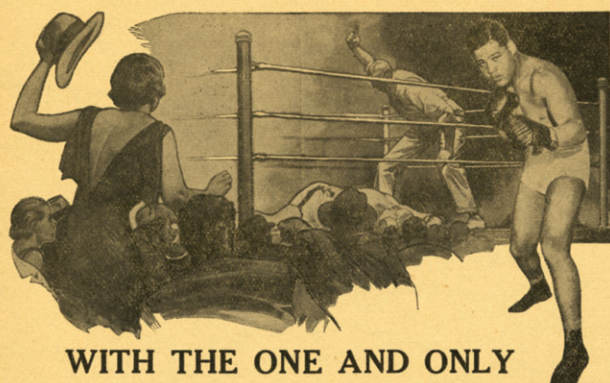
We need to begin to make sure that as we collect, we collect for a twenty-first-century environment and not just for a twentieth-century one. If you think of technology having a life cycle every eighteen months, by the time we get it—however many generations later—we have to ask the question, "If we collect it, can we actually retrieve it?" But more than that, how do we retrieve it, preserve it, and then make it possible for others to use it? The young folks who will be reading the books and other documents now can stream video and audio along with what they're going to read, and you get people to actually engage in a different

kind of learning—where the reader becomes the author at the same time because they're engaging in what's known. Imagine the infinite possibilities for collecting and preserving in the years ahead. What should be our methods given the many modalities?

So, I both welcome this opportunity for Emory University and signal the responsibility that goes with it, making sure that we're asking the right questions about the future. I share both in your sense of deep obligation and the complexities of the narratives that have been created. The challenge for us, as we go forward, is to make sure that we are the proper stewards that we seek to be when we say that we're going to archive these important materials.&

Watch the entire symposium on YouTube:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Spq-vhNBBsc

ROAR OF THE CROWD



WITH THE ONE AND ONLY
JOE LOUIS

HIS RISE— HIS FALL— HIS COMEBACK

Sensational Movietone Biography of The
Million Dollar Fighter With The
Great Ring Celebrities—

**BAER - CARNERA - LEVINSKY
SCHMELING - SHARKEY - ETTORE
BRADDOCK**

**THRILL WITH THE MILLIONS!
ROAR WITH THE CROWD**

**A Double Barreled Program Shown With
Extra Feature And Comedy**

YOU'LL LIKE IT

THE LATE W. CLYDE “DOC” PARTIN SR. WAS A TEACHER, COACH, ATHLETICS DIRECTOR, HISTORIAN, AND BELOVED EMORY UNIVERSITY ICON FOR MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS. Clyde Partin Jr.—an Emory alumnus, physician, and professor who has been a member of the MARBL Literary Collections board for more than ten years—was instrumental in arranging the gift of his father’s personal papers, books, and sports memorabilia to MARBL. That collection forms the nucleus of what will evolve into a major collection exploring the role of African Americans in sports and the role of athletics in the struggle for human and civil rights.

History and biography by T-shirt is a literary genre without much provenance, but one with which I have become familiar. Sorting through my father’s belongings, I discovered more than one thousand T-shirts. I realized much of his life could be recapitulated, especially that part of his career encompassing Emory University and athletics, just by following the events emblazoned on the T-shirts. For example, in how many and which Peachtree Road Races did he participate? Just count the T-shirts. Celebrating his career at one of his retirement parties in the 1990s, his colleagues from the athletic department gave him a quilt artfully designed from T-shirts.

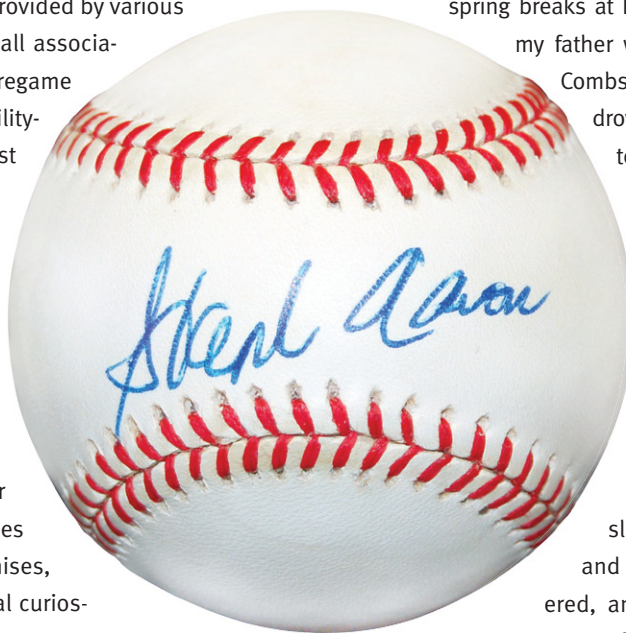
There were other items of interest. My father carefully had saved the heads-or-tails coins provided by various refereeing football and basketball associations, which he used for the pregame toss. I also found a 1947 facility-use card for the Emory gym. Most fascinating are several World War II scrapbooks chronicling his stint in the US Navy and adventures in the English Channel and North Sea. Neither my mother nor any of his three children can recall ever seeing those scrapbooks. Also preserved is a college paper he wrote regarding the finances of professional baseball franchises, heralding his lifelong intellectual curiosity about baseball.

For baseball historians, one of the real gems in the collection is the material on New York Yankees and Hall-of-Famer Earle Combs—material that his family generously gave my father. Piecing this together retrospectively, I suspect that former Emory Director of Athletics Thomas McDonough—who had roots in Kentucky, as did Combs—suggested to my father

that he write about Combs, a man who had received scant attention from baseball historians. Yes, even the coaches had to publish or perish within the academic framework of Emory at the time. Combs was highly respected and had a successful banking and business career following his baseball days. Gentlemanly, quiet, a revered family man, Combs attracted little attention from the press while playing centerfield next to the flamboyant Babe Ruth. The 124-page monograph my father wrote about Combs may be the most complete account of Combs’s life available. Combs died in 1976, but not before my father interviewed him several times.

My favorite personal story was spending one of my college spring breaks at Eastern Kentucky University with my father while he did some research on Combs. On a chilly March morning, we drove to nearby Versailles, Kentucky, to interview Happy Chandler, a former baseball commissioner and governor of Kentucky who knew Combs well and had played ball with him. We all sat around a particularly long table in Chandler’s picturesque home, watching him fume because fresh-baked donuts from a local bakery were slow to arrive. The donuts (warm and delicious) eventually were delivered, and only then did the interview commence. For some other projects, I know my father traveled to New York City to interview Mrs. Ruth and to Buffalo, New York, to visit with retired Yankee manager Joe McCarthy. I hope the handwritten letters he exchanged with them made it into the collection.

There are many signed items, including baseballs by Hall-of-Famers. Most of these signatures were obtained in the



[above] Baseball signed by Hank Aaron. Clyde Partin papers, MARBL, Emory University.

[right] “Jackie Robinson 50th Anniversary” tribute poster. Clyde Partin papers, MARBL, Emory University.

“more than a thousand books about baseball eventually adorned his study, and he pored over them, striving to answer every question he had about baseball’s past.”

press box at Atlanta Fulton County Stadium, where my father worked in various part-time capacities for the Atlanta Braves for more than thirty years. Well-known baseball players—many retired from playing but working as radio announcers or team officials—frequented the press box. At some point, my dad began to regret that he had failed to get autographs from them. So my father began the habit of buying baseballs by the dozen and always had a few in his pocket when baseball luminaries passed through.

A friend and former vice president for the Atlanta Braves, Richard A. Cecil, was the promoter for the annual Cracker Jack Baseball Classic, a popular old-timers baseball game. When Cecil hired my father as an assistant, my dad found

himself surrounded by baseball legends as they traveled by bus from venue to venue. Out came the baseballs from my father’s pockets. This proximity fulfilled one of my father’s collecting rules: watch the person sign the ball, so you know for sure that it is authentic.

After returning from one of the earliest Hall-of-Fame games, he mentioned to my mother that he had been in charge of assisting wheelchair-bound Roy Campanella. A photographer happened by and shot a photo of my father, Campanella, and Joe DiMaggio chatting. My mother wondered why he had not asked for a copy. So, he chased it down and received in the mail a photo showing a smiling DiMaggio and Campanella. The only evidence of my father was his hand resting on Campanella’s shoulder. Disappointing maybe, but the experience served to stimulate my father’s interest in collecting baseball memorabilia. More than a thousand books about baseball eventually adorned his study, and he pored over them, striving to answer every question he had about baseball’s past.

My father perceived that not much had been written about the Negro Leagues and its baseball players; thus, a subtheme began to emerge in his personal library and interests. While rooting around in a bookstore in Toronto in the 1990s, I recall being excited about finding a book about black baseball history that I knew he did not have. Rarely did a birthday, Father’s Day, or Christmas pass by without his family giving him a baseball-related book.

My family and I are grateful for the vision of the Emory library leadership, Richard Cecil, Pellom McDaniels III, and Randall Burkett, who conceived of such a creative repository for my father’s collection. My father would be ecstatic to know that his collection had slid safely home to Emory. At the recent symposium, it was gratifying to see representative items from the compilation on display, a few of them unfamiliar to me. I look forward to delving into the archives to see what else I can find.&

Read more: emory.edu/EMORY_REPORT/stories/2010/04/05/partin_gift.html

THE ATLANTA BRAVES
Present
THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE TO
JACKIE ROBINSON

Come see the Atlanta Braves and the Philadelphia Phillies outfitted in authentic 1938 Negro League Uniforms, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the "color barrier."

ATLANTA BLACK CRACKERS VS **Philly**

A THROWBACK CLASSIC

GAME DATE: **SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH** PLACE: **TURNER FIELD** TIME: **7:10 PM**

for ticket information call 404-522-7630

-755 HANK AARON DRIVE -

<p>June 26th Western Union Negro League exhibit on display Braves vs Phillies 7:40 pm Video tributes & trivia during the game</p>	<p>June 28th BellSouth presents "Touching Home" a ceremony with living legends of the Negro Leagues Braves & Phillies don 1938 Negro League uniforms 7:10 pm Western Union Negro League exhibit on display Video tributes & trivia during the game</p>
<p>June 27th Jackie Robinson 50th Anniversary Collector's Pin Giveaway Jackie Robinson Number Retirement ceremony Western Union Negro League exhibit on display Braves vs Phillies 7:40 pm Video tributes & trivia during the game</p>	<p>June 29th Western Union Negro League exhibit on display Braves vs Phillies 1:10 pm Video tributes & trivia during the game</p>

Logos: THE NEGRO LEAGUES, Kroger For Goodness Sake, Bellsouth, Churches, Western Money Union Transfer, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution



RARE GIFTS OF HISTORY

RANDALL K. BURKETT IS THE SON OF COLLECTORS. His father had more than 1,000 pocket knives. His mother accumulated paperweights, thimbles, bells, and other knickknacks. “She collected things she loved,” he says.

Growing up with these humble archives stirred his interest in collecting, which led to bigger things. Today, he curates the African American Collections in MARBL. He and his wife, retired librarian Nancy Burkett, have given much of their personal store of rare historical materials to the library. “It’s a rich collection for research,” she says, “perfect for a university.”

Among the books, broadsides, pamphlets, funeral fans, photographs, and other materials the Burketts have donated are the papers of William H. Scott, who fled slavery in Virginia at age twelve and became an aide-de-camp to a Union Army officer, serving until the war’s end. Scott went on to be a teacher, minister, and political activist, one of the twenty-nine founding members of the Niagara Movement, which was the predecessor of the NAACP.

Scott’s grandson, on his deathbed, gave the papers to Randall to ensure that his grandfather’s story would be preserved. The Scott archive includes a Confederate battle sword, which was displayed in the Burketts’ library for years, much to the delight of visiting children. The couple also has given 347 rare books on African American history, politics, and culture, including a series of children’s books; and ten boxes of little-known African American periodicals, including some that are the only existing copies.

The Burketts’ gifts include the papers of William Scott—teacher, minister, political activist, and former slave.



Their collection of collective biographies tells the stories of thousands of African Americans. *Women Builders*, for instance, chronicles the lives of seven African American women who founded institutions for the African American community. It was published around 1931. The Burketts’ broadsides include an extremely rare 1858 call for protest against the Dred Scott decision from Boston abolitionist William Cooper Nell.

Randall Burkett’s interest in African American studies began when he was a graduate student at Harvard Divinity School working toward a master’s degree in religious history. He was struck by the absence of information on African Americans in his course materials and decided to focus his research there. After Harvard, he pursued a doctorate at the University of Southern California. Finding few primary source materials in the library, he began buying his own materials at antiquarian bookshops and library sales, starting with a 1927 first edition of *Who’s Who in Colored America*.

He became curator of MARBL’s African American Collections in 1997, a position tailor-made for a research historian with his own substantial collection of rare materials. Emory’s collections focus on the freedom struggle, black print culture, blacks and the left, African American literature and the arts, and expatriate literary and cultural figures. Driven by his penchant for collecting and informed by the couple’s research backgrounds, the Burketts’ private donations span those categories.

Their gifts support Emory Libraries’ fundraising efforts as part of Campaign Emory. The libraries’ campaign priorities include a new home for MARBL, support for key collections, a stronger endowment, digital innovations, and unrestricted annual support. To learn more, visit campaign.emory.edu/libraries.

EXHIBITS

Schatten Gallery, Level 3, Woodruff Library

Through March 16 “Shadows of the Sun: The Crosbys, The Black Sun Press & The Lost Generation”
 Founded by Caresse and Harry Crosby in Paris in the 1920s, the Black Sun Press is emblematic of the avant-garde and adventurousness of the “Lost Generation.” “Shadows of the Sun” brings together the exquisite books published by the Crosbys before and after the heyday of the Black Sun Press. Curated by Kevin Young.

Also: “Postcards from Paris,” which illuminates the complicated, intimate, and sometimes tragic relationships between members of the Lost Generation. Curated by Amy Hildreth.

MARBL, Level 10, Woodruff Library

Through December 22 “Portrait and Text: African American Artists of Dance, Music and the Written Word”
 Featuring portraits by Harlem arts patron and photographer Carl Van Vechten and MARBL’s exceptional collection of African American primary sources, this exhibition offers a unique perspective on many renowned African American writers, actors, singers, and dancers. Co-curated by Kelly Erby and Randall K. Burkett.

EVENTS

- October 3** **CREATIVITY CONVERSATION: ROSEMARY MAGEE WITH DEBORAH LIPSTADT**
 Magee’s conversation will cover, among other things, Lipstadt’s latest book, *The Eichmann Trial*.
 4:00 p.m., Jones Room, Woodruff Library. Free and open to the public.
- October 24** **AUTHOR TALK: MARK AUSLANDER**
 Auslander will discuss *The Accidental Slaveowner: Revisiting a Myth of Race and Finding an American Family*.
 Co-sponsored by MARBL, the President’s Commission on Race and Ethnicity at Emory, and the Office of Community and Diversity.
 4:00 p.m., Jones Room, Woodruff Library. Free and open to the public.
- October 26** **RAYMOND DANOWSKI POETRY LIBRARY READING SERIES**
 D. A. Powell, National Book Critics Circle Award finalist and chronicler of the AIDS epidemic.
 6:00 p.m., Jones Room, Woodruff Library. Free and open to the public.
- November 3** **ART, ARTISTS, AND ARCHIVES: A CONVERSATION WITH HAZEL BIGGERS AND AMALIA K. AMAKI**
 Moderated by Emory Professor Emeritus Richard A. Long. Co-sponsored by MARBL and the Department of Art History.
 7:00 p.m., Jones Room, Woodruff Library. Free and open to the public.
- January 29** **RAYMOND DANOWSKI POETRY LIBRARY READING SERIES**
 Billy Collins, former Poet Laureate of the United States and one of the country’s most popular poets.
 4:00 p.m., Glenn Memorial Auditorium. This is a ticketed event. More information available by November 1.

For more information: web.library.emory.edu/news-events

Annual gifts enable the Emory Libraries to serve a vital role in the academic and cultural life of the campus. They help build unique special collections and allow MARBL to acquire exciting new materials. They fund digital innovations that lead to groundbreaking scholarship. And they support an engaging array of public programs and exhibitions that enliven the community. Make a gift today and join the community of annual donors who are making a difference at Emory Libraries.

For more information on giving, contact Brock Matthews, Director of Development and Alumni Relations for Emory Libraries, at 404.727.5386 or brock.matthews@emory.edu.

MARBL Blog: marbl.library.emory.edu/blog



connect
Facebook



listen
iTunes U



watch
YouTube



follow
Twitter

Manuscript, Archives, & Rare Book Library
 Emory University, Robert W. Woodruff Library
 Atlanta, Georgia 30322-2870

marbl@emory.edu

T 404.727.6887

F 404.727.0360



EMORY
LIBRARIES



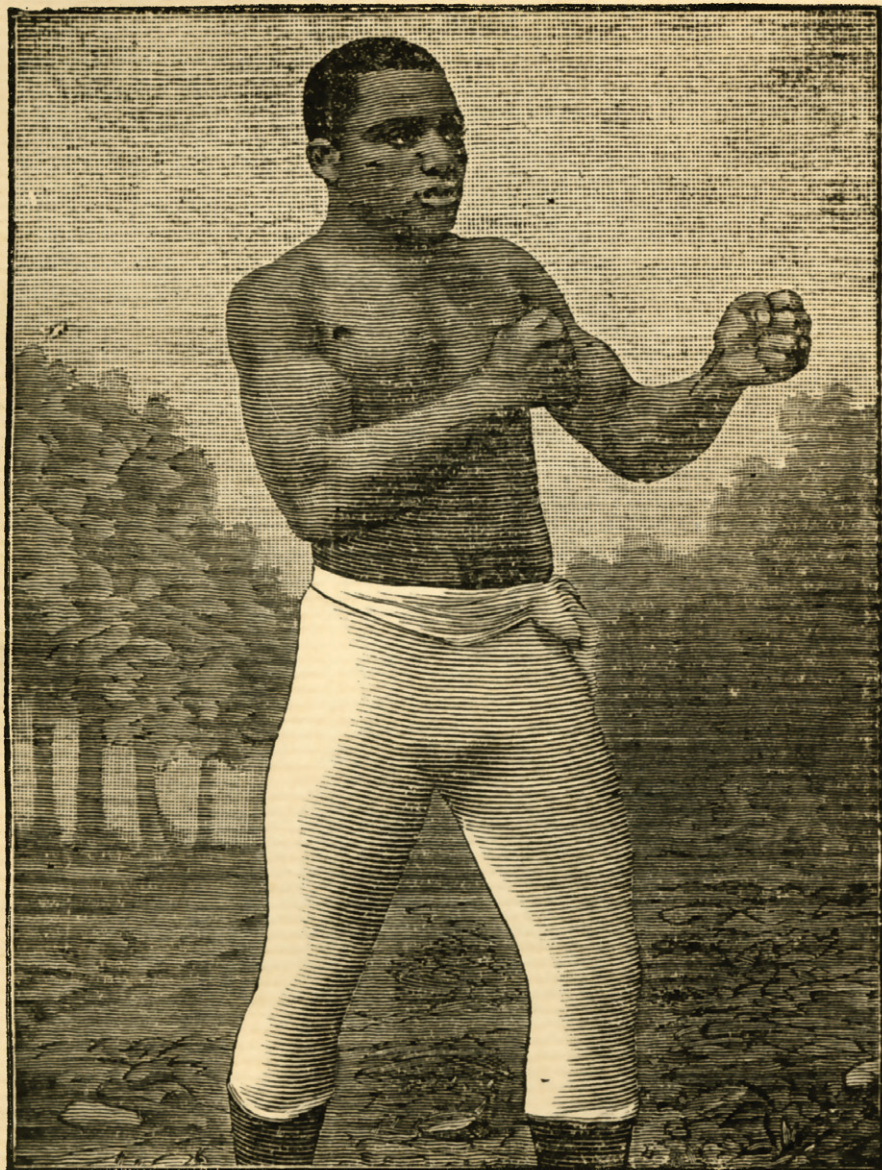
EMORY
LIBRARIES

Manuscript, Archives, & Rare Book Library
Robert W. Woodruff Library, Emory University
540 Asbury Circle
Atlanta, Georgia 30322



NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

EMORY
UNIVERSITY



HARRY WOODSON, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, "THE BLACK DIAMOND."