

Sixty-five Years Ago, Doby Made History

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Today marks the 65th anniversary of Larry Doby's major league debut, one of the most significant moments in baseball history, and Chicago was the scene of it.

When the Cleveland Indians outfielder struck out as a pinch-hitter in the seventh inning at Comiskey Park, he became the first black player in the American League.

Because Jackie Robinson had broken the color barrier in the National League earlier in the 1947 season, Doby's achievement was overshadowed to large extent. Yet as outlined in Baseball's Greatest Maverick, Indians owner Bill Veeck had designs on integration years before Robinson played his first game.

On Friday night, the Indians will unveil Larry Doby Way adjacent to Progressive Field. The U.S. Postal Service also will dedicate a stamp in his honor later this month.

The man and the milestone should not be forgotten.