

## ***Forty Years Later: Where The '72 White Sox Are Now***

*By Mark Liptak and Paul Ladewski  
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Forty years have passed since the 1972 White Sox team breathed new life into the franchise in one memorable season. Here's where the core players have been since then and where they are now:

**Cy Acosta, pitcher.** The reliever spent three of his four major league seasons in a White Sox uniform. In 1973, his 18 saves ranked fifth in the league. The same year he became the first American League pitcher to bat in the designated hitter era. The 65-year-old resides in Mexico.

**Dick Allen, first base.** He was the runaway winner in the 1972 American League Most Valuable Player vote, as he had career-highs in RBI (113), bases on balls (99) and on-base percentage (.420). The career .292 hitter played for five teams in 15 seasons, after which he served as an advisor and instructor for several years. Now 70 years old, he resides in western Pennsylvania.

**Luis Alvarado, shortstop.** In 1972, the Puerto Rican utilityman took part in a career-high 102 games. Two years earlier, the former International League Most Valuable Player was acquired in the trade that sent shortstop Luis Aparicio to the Boston Red Sox. Died at age 52 on March 20, 2001.

**Mike Andrews, second base.** Also a part of the Aparicio trade, he started 143 games in the 1972 season, his last as an everyday player. One year later, he became the first DH in franchise history. A member of two World Series teams, he spent more than 30 years as chairman of the Jimmy Fund charity in the Boston area, where the 68-year-old resides currently.

**Stan Bahnsen, pitcher.** Acquired from New York Yankees prior to the 1972 campaign, the one-time Rookie of the Year posted 21 victories in his first of three seasons with the team. The 67-year-old resides in the Palm Beach, Fla., where he works for MSC Cruises, for whom he recruits former major leaguers to interact with patrons.

**Tom Bradley, pitcher.** The right-hander was a 15-game winner in each of his two seasons with the team. He also gave roommate Rich (Goose) Gossage his nickname. The University of Maryland product spent two decades as a coach at the college, minor league and major league levels. Currently, the 64-year-old assists his son Andy at the Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C.

**Harry Caray, radio announcer.** After one forgettable season with the Oakland Athletics, the Prince of Palindromes moved to Chicago in 1971 and his career took off again. In 1989, the St. Louis native received the Ford Frick Award. He passed away at 83 years old on Feb. 18, 1998.

**Rory Clark, home team batboy.** The St. Ignatius High School and Northwestern University graduate served as Allen's caretaker among other responsibilities. The 57-

year-old lives in Gilbert, Ariz., where he is president of The Impact Corporation consultant firm.

**Jack Drees, television announcer.** Before the former Austin High School basketball star returned to Chicago in 1968, he worked for every major network and covered the Super Bowl, Kentucky Derby, Masters and NCAA basketball tournament among other events. He died at age 71 on July 27, 1988.

**Tom Egan, catcher.** In 1971, the ex-bonus baby became the fifth White Sox player to reach the roof in Comiskey Park history. Three years later, he caught the third no-hitter in pitcher Nolan Ryan's career. A beanball limited the vision in his right eye and a career that once had much promise. Currently vice president for a trucking company, the Tempe, Ariz., resident will turn 66 years old next month.

**Ralph Faucher, radio announcer.** Best known as the voice of WTAQ Radio, he was a fixture on local high school basketball broadcasts. He spent three seasons in the White Sox radio booth. Now 86, he lives with two grandchildren in Eagle River, Wis., and hosts an oldies show on WRJO-FM on weekends.

**Terry Forster, pitcher.** One year after 19-year-old fireballer made the jump from Class A ball, he saved 20 games to rank second in the league. In 1973, the second-round draft pick led the league in the category (24) before he encountered arm problems. Hit .500 (12 of 24) in the pre-DH days. Turned 60 years old earlier this year. Resides in Montreal.

**Rich Gossage, pitcher.** Posted a 7-1 record in 1972, his rookie season. Three years later, he led the league in saves (26) for the first of three times in his career. Still known as Rick to family and friends. A member of the 2008 Hall of Fame class, he resides in Colorado Springs, Colo., where he promotes youth sports.

**Roland Hemond, player personnel director.** In little more than two seasons at the controls, he turned the White Sox inside out and was named Executive of the Year. He spent 16 years in the front office. The 82-year-old resides in Phoenix, where he is an Arizona Diamondbacks special assistant.

**Ed Herrmann, catcher.** In five consecutive seasons (1970-74) with the team, he reached double figures in home runs. In 1972, he gunned down a league-high 50 percent of would-be base-stealers. At 65, the former Kansas City Royals scout remains active in youth baseball in the San Diego area.

**Stu Holcomb, general manager.** Known best for his work as Purdue University football coach and Northwestern athletic director. He was general manager of the ill-fated Chicago Mustangs soccer team before he replaced Ed Short in the White Sox front office. Died on Jan. 11, 1977, at 66 years of age.

**Bart Johnson, pitcher.** His athletic talent was such that UCLA head coach John Wooden recruited him to play basketball. After a solid 1971 campaign, the right-hander sustained a knee injury in a basketball game and was limited to nine appearances in the next season. He spent 30 years in the organization – 12 as a player and 18 as a scout. The 62-year-old makes his home in Oak Lawn, Ill.

**Jay Johnstone, outfield.** In 1970, he was acquired with Bradley and Egan from the Angels in a deal that helped turn the team around. The 66-year-old Pasadena, Calif., resident spent three seasons with the Cubs later in his career. He owns two World Series rings – one with the Yankees and one with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

**Steve Kealey, pitcher.** He and Johnson were teammates at Torrance (Calif.) High School, which produced several major league players. His three-run homer against the Minnesota Twins in 1971 was the only one by a White Sox pitcher in 25 years. The 65-year-old resides in Abilene, Kan.

**Bud Kelly, television announcer.** Spent two seasons with Drees in the TV booth. He also filled in on Blackhawks telecasts for two seasons. He last worked for KLIV radio in San Jose, Calif., before his retirement in 2008 after 60 years on the air. He resides in Arizona.

**Pat Kelly, outfield.** The fleet right fielder set the wheels in motion with 32 stolen bases, which ranked fourth in the league. Later he served as an ordained minister in Maryland. He passed away on Oct. 2, 2005, at 61 years of age. His brother is Leroy Kelly, the former Cleveland Browns halfback and Pro Football Hall of Fame member.

**Dave Lemonds, pitcher.** He's the answer to this trivia question: In 1972, which White Sox pitcher was the fourth starter in their three-man rotation? The Cubs drafted him first overall in the 1968 draft, one spot ahead of Johnson, his future teammate. Arm problems cut short his career. The Matthews, N.C., resident will turn 64 years old next month.

**Joe Lonnett, third base coach.** In 15 seasons, the former catcher was manager Chuck Tanner's first lieutenant with the White Sox, Oakland Athletics and Pittsburgh Pirates. The World War II and Korean War veteran died on Dec. 5, 2011, at 84 years of age.

**Carlos May, outfield.** The 1972 season was the best of his nine with the club – .308 batting average, 23 stolen bases. Believed to be the only player to wear his birthday (May 17) on the back of his uniform. Now the 63-year-old serves as Schaumburg Boomers first base coach and White Sox community relations representative. Resides in Country Club Hills.

**Bill Melton, third baseman.** On the heels of consecutive 33-home run seasons, he sustained a herniated disc and was never quite the same. Remains in the game as an analyst on White Sox telecasts. The 66-year-old also does community work for the organization. Has dual residences in Chicago and southern California.

**Al Monchak, first base coach.** At 95, he is on the short list of oldest living former major leaguers. He played briefly with the Philadelphia Phillies before World War II interrupted his career. As a manager, he guided four minor league teams to championships. Like Lonnett, he followed Tanner to Oakland and Pittsburgh later in his career.

**Rich Morales, shortstop.** Nine years after the White Sox signed him as a free agent, he had a career-high 71 starts at the unsettled shortstop position. He went on

to become a manager in the Cubs farm system among others. The 68-year-old makes his home in Pacifica, Calif.

**Tony Muser, first base.** Recalled midway through the 1972 season, he was primarily a defensive replacement in the late innings. Was Kansas City Royals manager for four seasons and parts of two others. Currently, the 63-year-old is a roving instructor in the San Diego Padres organization. Lives in Los Alamitos, Calif.

**Jorge Orta, shortstop.** Purchased from the Mexican League after the 1971 season, the 21-year-old made his major league debut five months later. The converted second baseman totaled 1,002 hits in nine seasons with the team. Was a member of the 1985 Royals team that won the World Series in seven games. At 61, he makes his home in Flossmoor, Ill.

**Rick Reichardt, outfield.** A left fielder by trade, he split time with Johnstone in center field out of necessity. In 1964, the University of Wisconsin two-sports star touched off a bidding war that resulted in a then record \$200,000 bonus and the establishment of the draft a short time later. The 69-year-old is a part-time financial planner in Gainesville, Fla.

**Jim Riley, ballboy.** In his first of four seasons with the team, the Loras College graduate had a regular position near the home team bullpen down the left field line. The 55-year-old resides with his wife and two children in Elk Grove Village, where he is a Zurich Financial account executive.

**Vicente Romo, pitcher.** Widely regarded as the greatest pitcher in Mexican League history, the reliever was acquired with Muser from the Boston Red Sox before the 1971 season. Played for five teams in eight years. His older brother Enrique also was a major league pitcher. Listed at 69 years old, he lives in Mexico.

**Glen Rosenbaum, batting practice pitcher.** An accomplished minor league pitcher, he compiled a 95-45 record in 11 seasons in the White Sox farm system. In all, he spent five decades in the organization, which included stints as a coach and traveling secretary. The retired 76-year-old was born in Union Mills, Ind., and still makes his home there.

**Johnny Sain, pitching coach.** The outspoken Arkansan was a rarity: An accomplished pitcher who went on to become an equally successful instructor. He coached nine 20-game winners and for five pennant-winners. A four-time 20-game winner himself, he totaled 139 victories despite a three-year Navy stint. Died on Nov. 7, 2006. He was 89 years old.

**Ed Spiezio, third base.** The Joliet native filled in for Melton in the last three months of the 1972 season, after which he retired at 30 years of age. A member of the 1967 St. Louis Cardinals championship team, he later hit the first homer in San Diego Padres history. The Lewis University (then College) product lives in Morris, Ill. His son Scott also played in the major leagues.

**Chuck Tanner, manager.** His unbridled optimism and infectious enthusiasm played no small role in team success and his Manager of the Year selection. The ex-outfielder also had stints with the Athletics, Pittsburgh Pirates and Atlanta Braves, and his 1979

Pirates team won the World Series in seven games. He passed away on Feb. 11, 2011, at 82 years of age.

**Walt Williams, outfield.** Known as No Neck because of his short, compact build, the popular reserve filled in for Kelly against some southpaw starters. Was traded to the Cleveland Indians shortly after the 1972 season. The 68-year-old lives in Brownsville, Tex., where he was director of a youth recreational center after he left professional baseball.

**Wilbur Wood, pitcher.** On the strength of 24 victories and 376 2/3 innings pitched, the southpaw finished second in the Cy Young Award and seventh in the Most Valuable Player votes. In July, 1973, the Hoyt Wilhelm disciple started both games of a doubleheader against the Yankees in New York. Now 70 years old, the former pharmaceutical sales representative resides in suburban Boston.

*(White Sox business development director Bob Grim contributed to this story.)*