FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

VEECK BIOGRAPHER PAUL DICKSON WINS 5th ANNUAL HOLTZMAN AWARD


Each year, the Holtzman Award is presented by the Chicago Baseball Museum to the person who reflects the values and spirit of its Hall of Fame namesake. The honoree is selected by what is deemed to be the most significant contribution to the promotion of Chicago baseball and the preservation of its history and tradition.

The Holtzman Award was established in 2008. Its recipients are recognized each year at the annual Pitch & Hit Club's banquet, the oldest and most prestigious off-season baseball event in the Chicago area.

Dickson, author of more than 55 non-fiction books, earned the Holtzman Award for contributions to Chicago Baseball. “Bill Veeck: Baseball’s Greatest Maverick” (Walker and Company, New York) is a richly-detailed portrait of the ground-breaking baseball innovator who livened up the game with memorable promotions and was a firm advocate for racial equality in the mid-20th Century, whose signing of Larry Doby in July 1947 in Chicago broke the American League color line.

Dickson conducted more than 100 interviews to paint the portrait of two-time White Sox owner Veeck while also featuring the back story of his father William Louis Veeck, also an innovator as Cubs president from 1919 to 1933. The two generations of Veecks had lasting impacts on both sides of town in Chicago baseball history.

The Veeck biography follows up Dickson’s previous baseball books such as “The Unwritten Rules of Baseball,” “The Hidden Language of Baseball: How Signs and Sign Stealing Have Influenced the Course of Our National Pastime,” “The Joy of Keeping Score,” “Baseball’s Greatest Quotations,” “Baseball The President’s Game” and “The Dickson Baseball Dictionary,” the latter now in its third edition.

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Dickson lives in Garrett Park, Md., with wife Nancy, who works as his first-line editor and financial manager.

The last Holtzman Award winner presented in January 2012 was White Sox icon Minnie Minoso, who celebrated his 88th birthday Nov. 29.

For more information, contact Dr. David Fletcher, president of the Chicago Baseball Museum, at 217/855-0979 or DFletcher@ChicagoBaseballMuseum.com

The Chicago Baseball Museum and Jerome Holtzman Library and Research Center is a 501(c)3 charitable organization that was started in 2005 and is looking for a permanent location to build a brick and mortar facility. At the core of the CBM is the Jerome Holtzman collection acquired from the legendary sportswriter and 1st MLB historian in 2007 right before his death. In 2008, the CBM produced a critically-acclaimed documentary film “Buck O’Neil: Black Baseball in Chicago” that was shown at the 2010 Baseball Hall of Fame Film Festival in Cooperstown, New York.