



Fame is the name within the game

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A ton of things in life are compared to baseball, the mother game. Baseball metaphors are as common as failed closers on Chicago's North Side.

It cuts both ways. Each spring a new crop of distinctive names breaks into the game. Many of the names remind you of something, as baseball retains a hold on the populace like no other (in contrast to supposedly more popular, but gambling-oriented football).

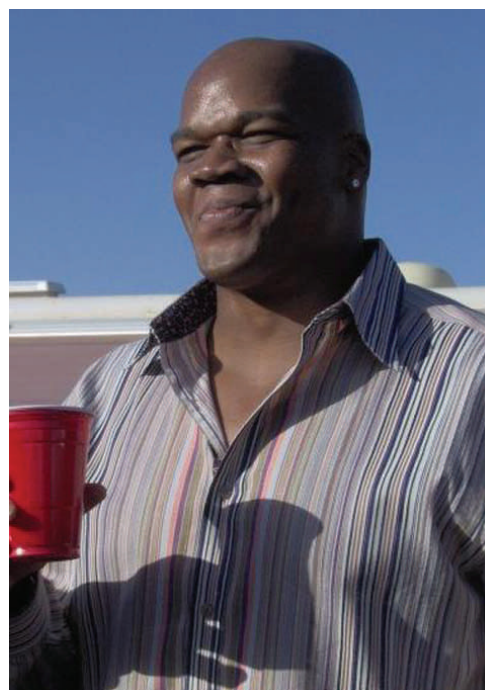
We love to chew over baseball names. Remember how Harry Caray tried to pronounce "Grudzielanek" backward. Good thing Harry wasn't around when "Grud" was the Cubs' everyday second baseman for two years.

So as a public service, the Chicago Baseball Museum is relating the distinctive names in the game in a number of different categories. And just like the stretched strike zone for control masters like Maddux and Glavine, the "phantom" double play at second base, or bang-bang call at first base that doesn't match the result of the HD replay, we've taken some liberties, with spellings.

Broadcasters and sportswriters are included. "Wringers" from outside baseball are included as honorary members. First names and nicknames apply in each category.

Have fun.

The game itself: Matt Batts; Art, Jeff, Jim and Neal Ball; Prince and Cecil Fielder; Scott and Thomas Diamond; Gary Glover; Josh Fields; Lee Walls; Bump Wills; Johnny Bench; Brett Pill; Dave Philley; Dave Chalk; Brandon Belt; Stan Hack and Justin Smoak. Honorary member: Mitt Romney.



Frank Thomas not only has a statue at U.S. Cellular Field, but also a Chicago side street in his name.

Bodies of water and their surroundings: Chris and Fred Waters, Mickey Rivers, Jason Bay, Steve and Junior Lake, Bobby Seay, Hubie Brooks, Doug Creek, Jack Spring, Joe Falls, Marshall, Rocky and Tommy Bridges, Jack Beach, Charlie Sands, Ernie Shore and Ernie Banks. Honorary member: Former Chicago Tribune reporter/editor Bill Sluis.

Hail to the Chief: Herb and Ron Washington; Sparky, Bobby and Mike Adams; Art, Dave and Scotti Madison; Craig Monroe; Reggie (et. al) Jackson; Bob, Chuck, Josh, Matt, Rit, Roric and Tom Harrison; Billy and Jack (et. al.) Pierce; Brad, Ezra and Mike Lincoln; Randy (et. al) Johnson; Mark Grant; Willie Mays Hayes; Roosevelt Brown; Willie (et. al) Wilson; Buster, Charlie, Dick, J.J., Joe, John and Paul Hoover; Ike Davis and Ike Brown; John and John Kennedy; Otis and Russ Nixon; Joe (et. al) Carter; Phil Regan; Bullet Joe, Dave, Donie, Guy, Homer and Randy Bush, and Jim and Lou Clinton.

Animal kingdom: Jack, Joe and John Buck; Rob Deer; Nellie, Terry and Chad (et. al.) Fox; Randy (et. al) Wolf; Greg “Mad Dog” Maddux; Lance “One Dog” Johnson; Hawk Harrelson, Hawk Taylor and Andre “Hawk” Dawson; Eddie (et. al.) Fisher; Dizzy, Steve and Mike Trout; Mike Carp; Bobby Sturgeon; Jeff “Shark” Samardzija; Sammy “The Panther” Sosa; Doug Bird; Frank Wren; Catfish Hunter; Goose Gosage; Ducky Medwick; Harry “The Cat” Brecheen; Johnny “Big Cat” Mize; Ryne “Ryno” Sandberg; Jim “Hippo” Vaughn; Jim “Kitty” Kaat; Ron “Kitty” Kittle; Robin Ventura, Robin Roberts and Robin Jennings; Fergie “Fly” Jenkins, and Bill “Froggy” Hands.

Royal Carriage: Jim (et. al.) King; Mel Queen; Babe “Sultan of Swat” Ruth; Prince Fielder and Bill Prince; Duke Snider, Duke Carmel, Duke Sims and Zack Duke; Tommy Dukes; Earl (et. al.) Averill; Don Kaiser; Royle Stillman; Diane K. Shah; Bris, Carlton and Harry Lord.

Chicago players or Chicago connections matching Chicago-area streets: Thornton, Don, Bill and Derrek Lee; Carlos and Derrick May; Milo, Dave and Steve Hamilton; Bubba and Len Church; Ryan Dempster; Howard Johnson; Kerry, Wilbur and Travis Wood; Bobby and Mike Morgan; Jim Thome; Jerome Walton (both streets); Hal Chase; Shawn Estes; Michael Morse (Sox No. 3 draft pick in 2000); Pat Jarvis (served up Ernie Banks’ 500th homer in 1970); Todd Pratt; Kevin Foster; Hack Wilson; Mark Grace; Kiki Cuyler; Frank and Lee Thomas; George Altman and George Kell et. al.; Steve and Ken Henderson, and Willie and Ernie Banks.

More streets: Francisco Barrios; George, Buddy and David Bell; Troy O’Leary; Jack Warner; Milton Bradley; Corey, Ken and Bob Patterson; Scott Fletcher; Gene Nelson; Dave Clark; Wayne Nordhagen; Rodney Scott; Bill North; Randy Wells and Don Wells; Don Elston; Sammy



Will folks like Ike Davis as much as a Chief Executive nicknamed Ike? Photo credit [dbking](#).



Prince Fielder as a royal baseball name, so to speak. Photo credit [Keith Allison](#).

and Tony Taylor; Steve and Junior Lake; Cecil Randolph Hundley; Craig Monroe; Sparky, Bobby, Mike and Terry Adams; Darrin, Danny, Larry, Ron and Brett Jackson; Roosevelt Brown; Jesse Jefferson; Bill, Ron and Joe Campbell, and Solly and Sammy Drake.

Final stroll down the avenue: Joe Dobson; Tyler Houston; Bill Long; Carl Warwick; Mike Mason; Ron Davis; Addison Reed; Howie Judson; Sherman Lollar, Jim Spencer, and Adrian Garrett.

Primary colors: Red Faber, Red Corriden, Red Rush, Red Mottlow and Rick “Big Red” Sutcliffe; Dallas Green; Lu Blue and Blue Moon Odom, and Elder White.