

# News & Notes

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BREWERS ANNUAL NEGRO LEAGUES TRIBUTE SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY**

*James "Red" Moore and Eugene "Dick" Scruggs to be Honored; Brewers and Pirates to Wear Replica Uniforms from the Negro Leagues Era*

**MILWAUKEE**— The Milwaukee Brewers will host the franchise's annual Negro Leagues Tribute Game this Saturday when the Brewers take on the Pittsburgh Pirates at 6:05 pm.

When fans arrive at the ballpark on Saturday, each fan in attendance will receive a Negro Leagues placard to commemorate the day. They will also witness their favorite players in what may be unfamiliar Milwaukee uniforms. As part of the Negro Leagues Tribute, the Brewers will wear reproductions of uniforms worn by the Milwaukee Bears, the city's 1923 representative in the Negro National League. The team played only one season before disbanding but featured some of the game's most influential men, including Baseball Hall-of-Fame player/manager Preston "Pete" Hill.

The Pittsburgh Pirates will join in by donning uniforms that will honor the Pittsburgh Crawfords, home to Negro League legends such as Josh Gibson and Satchel Paige. The Crawfords played as an independent team in 1932 before joining the Negro National League from 1933-38.

The activities start at 11 a.m. when former players James "Red" Moore and Eugene "Dick" Scruggs are inducted into the **Yesterday's Negro League Hall of Fame** at the Mother Katherine Daniels Center located at 3500 W. Mother Daniels Way on the grounds of Milwaukee's Holy Redeemer Church (COGIC). The Brewers are partnering with the MKDC and the church as a sponsor of the annual induction ceremonies and other initiatives.

A pre-game reception will take place at Helfaer Field, beginning at 4 p.m., to honor the Negro Leagues. Also at this time, a Beckum-Stapleton Little League game will be played at Helfaer Field from 4 – 5 p.m.

***MEDIA NOTE – The honorary Negro Leagues players will be available for interviews on the Miller Park field from 5:15 – 5:30 p.m.***

Beginning at 5:30 p.m., James "Red" Moore and Eugene "Dick" Scruggs will participate in a pre-game ceremony that will include a scoreboard video highlighting great moments from the Negro Leagues. The honorees will be recognized on the field and participate in ceremonial first pitches. Following the ceremony, Moore and Scruggs will sign autographs from the first through third innings on the Field Level concourse.

The Brewers will auction the game-worn Milwaukee Bears uniforms worn by Brewers players and coaches at [brewers.com](http://brewers.com), starting next week. In addition, merchandise from the Yesterday's Negro League Players Foundation will be available for purchase. The proceeds from the auction will benefit the Yesterday's Negro League Baseball Players Foundation and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City. For additional information or ticket info, fans can visit [www.brewers.com/negroleagues](http://www.brewers.com/negroleagues).

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## **NEGRO LEAGUES, Continued**

Below are bios of the two former players who will be honored at the MKDC:

### **James “Red” Moore**

**Career: 1934 – 1948**

**Position: First Baseman**

**Teams: Atlanta Black Crackers, Newark Eagles, Baltimore Elite Giants**

**Born: November 18, 1916 in Atlanta, GA**

James “Red” Moore was one of the top fielding first basemen in the Negro Leagues during the 1930s and 40s. Moore was a slick fielder who often entertained crowds during warm-ups by fielding balls behind his back. He had some sensational years with the Atlanta Black Crackers, with the pinnacle coming in 1938 when he led them to the Negro American League second-half pennant where they lost to the Memphis Red Sox in the ensuing playoffs.

Moore excelled as a contact hitter, often batting just below the .300 mark. It was his fielding, however, that drew fans out to the ballpark where they were rarely disappointed. He also starred for the Newark Eagles before finishing his career in the Black Major Leagues with the Baltimore Elite Giants.

Today, Moore resides in Atlanta, Georgia with his wife Mary of sixteen years. He is considered a true ambassador for Negro League Baseball and frequently visits schools, organizations, recreation centers, and participates in various parades throughout the year.

### **Eugene “Dick” Scruggs**

**Career: 1952-59**

**Position: Pitcher**

**Teams: Detroit Stars, Kansas City Monarchs**

**Born: May 17, 1938 in Meridianville, AL**

Eugene “Dick” Scruggs started playing sandlot baseball at the age of 14. At a young age, he developed a solid fastball that was accompanied by a stellar curveball, which garnered the nickname “the funky curveball.”

In 1956, Scruggs played his first game with the Kansas City Monarchs in Memphis. Because of his young age and slender build, he was often nicknamed “Pee Wee” or “Puny.” Eventually, he moved to Michigan to play for the Grand Rapids Black Sox before playing for the Detroit Stars. One of his best performances came while playing for the Stars when he pitched a complete-game shutout that included striking out 16 batters, while his team went on to win, 7-0.

Scruggs also spent time playing for the Mayeville Red Sox and the Birmingham Black Barons. He has a career pitching mark of 28 wins and 13 losses.

Today, Scruggs resides in Huntsville, Alabama where he lives with Ethel, his wife of over fifty years. He is a father to six and has 18 grandchildren. Through the years, he has received a number of baseball-related recognitions and was named Alabama’s “Man of the Year” in 1995 for his dedication to the Old Negro Professional Baseball League.

Courtesy: Negro League Baseball Players Association