

**THE ODD COUPLE:
TWO VERY DIFFERENT BORDER LEAGUE
HALL-OF-FAMERS**



CANADIAN BASEBALL HISTORY CONFERENCE 2023

BORDER LEAGUE

WWI












WWII



	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960
AL debut							
		Canadian League (II) D	Canadian League (III) D/C/B				Ferguson Jenkins
			Border League (I) D				
			Black Sox Scandal				
				Michigan-Ontario League B			
				Yankees win 110 G; Babe Ruth hits 60 HRs			
				Ontario League C		Can-Am League C	
							Border League (II) C
						MLB Color Barrier broken	

BORDER LEAGUE - 1946-51

1951†

			
Auburn Cayugas/Falcons	NY	1946-51	
Granby Red Sox	QC	1946	
Geneva Red Sox	NY	1947-51	1949
Kingston Ponies	ON	1946-51	(1951) 
Ogdensburg Maples	NY	1946-51	1948, 1950
Sherbrooke Canadiens	QC	1946	
Ottawa Nationals/Senators	ON	1947-50	1947 
Cornwall Canadians	ON	1951	
Watertown Athletics	NY	1946-51	1946



Ottawa finished 1st three times (2nd in '49).

BORDER LEAGUE - MAJOR LEAGUERS

Many prominent Border Leaguers made little or no impact in the MLB, including..:

GARLAND LAWING

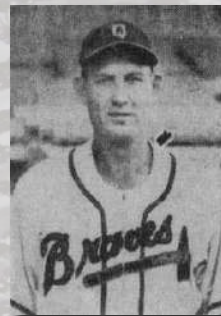
Minors from 1939-43 (Class B/A1). Missed two years (US Army).

Reached NL in 1946 (age 27) with Cincinnati (2G) and then NY Giants (8G).

1948 - Border League (Ogdensburg) - .379, 122 RBIs

1949-50 - Can-Am League (Quebec) - Triple Crown & MVP in 1950

But.. he never returned to majors and retired in 1954 (age 36).



OTHER NOTABLE BORDER LEAGUERS

Bob Dill	1946 Ogdensburg	.397 / 20 HR / 118 RBI
Arnold Jarrell	1946 Kingston	21W / 2.30 ERA
Donald Phelps	1947 Geneva	25 HR / 103 RBI
Leonard Seamon	1948 Ottawa	21 W / 2.00 ERA
Peter Kousagan	1950 Geneva	31 HR / 125 RBI

















Only **20** Border Leaguers ever reached the Majors (out of over 600 players (>10 GP)).
[Until 2020, this number was only **14**]

BORDER LEAGUE - MAJOR LEAGUERS

PLAYER	BORDER LEAGUE TEAMS	AGE	GP	POS	MLB GP	MLB TEAMS
Gideon Applegate ☕	1949-51 Kingston	21	146	3B	3	45 NBY
Zeke Bonura ☕	1949 Kingston	40	70	1B	917	34-40 (4 teams)
Joe Campini ☕	1950 Watertown	30	19	C	1	48 BEG
Arnold Carter	1947 Watertown	29	24	P/OF	56	🧢 44-45 CIN
Ike Delock ☕	1948 Auburn	18	30	P	329	52-63 BOS, 63 BAL
Jim Devlin ☕	1948 Watertown	25	30	C	1	🧢 44 CLE
Frank Fanovich	1946 Ogdensburg; 1947 Watertown	23	115	P/OF	55	49 CIN; '53 PHA
Johnny Gee	1951 Auburn	35	6	P	44	39-44 PIT; 44-46 NYG
Ken Jungels	1949 Ogdensburg	33	40	P	28	37-41 CLE; 42 PIT
Garland Lawing ☕	1948 Ogdensburg	29	122	OF/PH	10	46 CIN & NYG
Don Liddle ☕	1946 Auburn	21	10	P	119	53-56 (MLN, NYG, STL)
Walt Masters ☕	1947 Ottawa	40	19	P	8	31 WSH, 37 PHI, 39 PHA
William Metzger ☕	1947-50 Ottawa; 1951 Cornwall	28	490	2B	5	🧢 44 CHW
Pedro Miro	1951 Geneva	33	35	2B	15	45,48 NYC
Hal Naragon ☕	1948 Watertown	19	31	C/PH	424	53-62 CLE, WSH, MIN
Maurice Peatros ☕	1949 Geneva	22	16	1B	4	47 HG
John Sanderson ☕	1951 Geneva	23	8	SS	9	47 KCM
Lou Sleater	1947-48 Ogdensburg	20	66	P	145	50-58 (6 teams)
Charlie Small	1946 Granby	40	108	PH/OF	25	30 BOS
	1950 Ottawa	35	30	OF/SS		



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BORDER LEAGUE - HALL-OF-FAMERS

TWO Border Leaguers, despite only 21 total GP in NL/AL, are Hall-of-Famers.

Who are they?



(🔍 Both with Ottawa in 1950)



HALL-OF-FAMER #1

1



**I TURNED PRO IN
1934 IN MONROE LA**

HALL-OF-FAMER #1

2

**PRO: '34
MONROE**



**I PLAYED OF FOR
OTTAWA IN 1950 AS
A 35-YEAR-OLD**

HALL-OF-FAMER #1

3

**PRO: '34
MONROE**

**1950
OTTAWA AS
35-YR-OLD**

**IN 30 G, I BATTED
.352 AND HELPED
THE NATIONALS TO
THE PENNANT**



HALL-OF-FAMER # 1

4

**PRO: '34
MONROE**

**1950
OTTAWA AS
35-YR-OLD**

**HIT .352 TO
HELP
OTTAWA WIN**

**I PLAYED 21 G WITH
THE ST. LOUIS
BROWNS, HITTING
.179 WITH 1 HR**



HALL-OF-FAMER # 1

5

**PRO: '34
MONROE**

**1950
OTTAWA AS
35-YR-OLD**

**HIT .352 TO
HELP
OTTAWA WIN**

**HIT .179 W/
ST. LOUIS IN
21 G**

**I WAS ELECTED TO
COOPERSTOWN IN
2006 AS A PLAYER**



HALL-OF-FAMER # 1



**PRO: '34
MONROE**

**1950
OTTAWA AS
35-YR-OLD**

**HIT .352 TO
HELP
OTTAWA WIN**

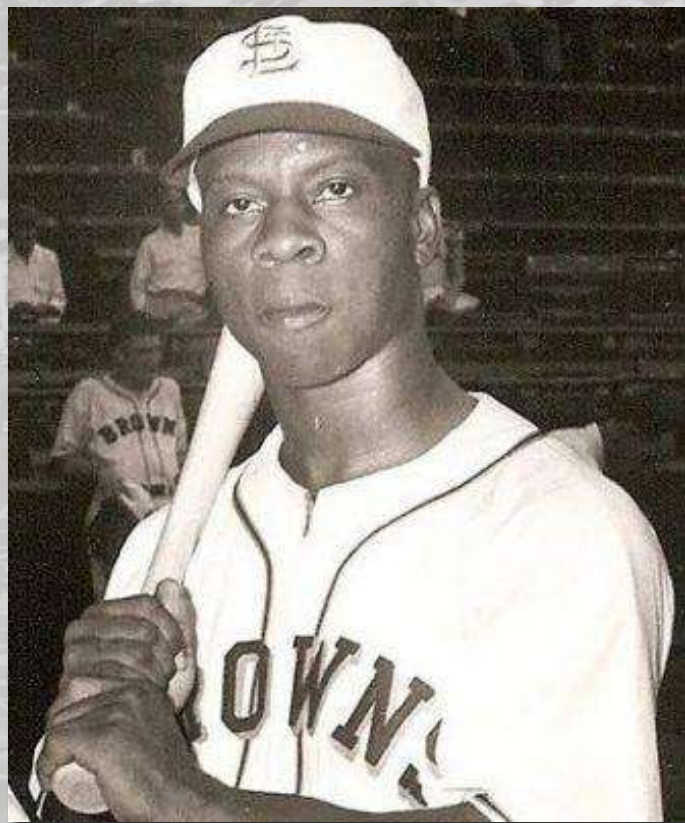
**HIT .179 W/
ST. LOUIS IN
21 G**

**BBHOF IN
2006**

**I WAS THE FIRST
BLACK PLAYER TO
HIT A HR IN THE AL**



WILLARD BROWN



WILLARD BROWN



Born in
Shreveport, LA

Turns pro
(Monroe LA)

Leads NAL in H,
3B, HR, RBIs..

Plays in Mexico;
2G in KC

Part of Normandy
Invasion

Leads NAL in R, H,
2B, 3B, HR, RBIs



1915



1934



1937



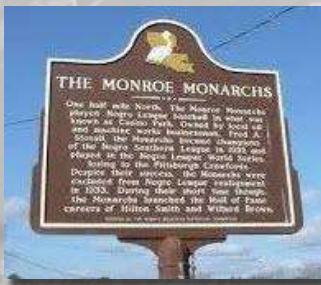
1940



1944-45



1946



Leads Kansas City to 6 pennants in 10 years

(1937-48) Leads Negro American League in many categories including:
hits (7x), HR (5x), & RBIs (6x)

WILLARD BROWN

1947

3/4 with KC
(opening day)



May 04



Signs with St.
Louis Browns



Jul 18



Jul 20



Jul 23

In lineup w/
Thompson

1ST

night. He recalled Schultz and sent Brown, St. Louis' Negro outfielder, to face the famed Detroit pitcher. Willard J. picked upon the first ball served by Hal and sent it on a line to the center-field wall at the 426-foot mark and raced around the sacks behind Peters to put the teams on equal footing.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Aug 14, 1947



4/5, 3 RBIs
vs Yankees



Aug 13

Inside-the-
park HR

1ST



Released by
Browns



Aug 23 ~ Aug 26



Back with KC
(hit .377)



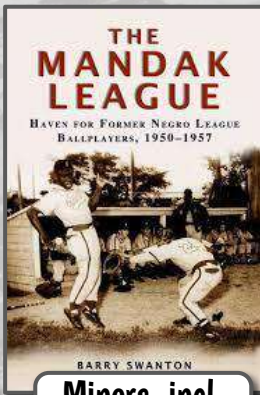
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WILLARD BROWN

KC



OTTAWA



WILLARD JESSE BROWN
"ESE HOMBRE" "HOME RUN"

Triple Crown
in PRWL

Bats .408 w/
KC

Triple Crown
in PRWL

Leads NAL at
.417

Minors, incl.
ManDak Lg.

Dies in
Houston

BBHOF



1947-48

1948

1949-50

1950

1951

1953-57

1996

2006

27 HRs



BASEBALL
DE PUERTO RICO

219

WILLARD BROWN

Fue guardabosque y jugó con Humacao, Santurce y Ponce. Tiraba y bateaba a la derecha. Fue campeón bate en tres ocasiones: 1947, 1948 y 1950. Tiene el récord de cuadrangulares con 27 en una temporada en Puerto Rico.

Edición



WILLARD BROWN

OTTAWA

AUGUST 1950

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 
6	7	8 	9	10 	11	12 
13	14 3 RBIs	15	16	17	18 	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



GP	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BA	SLG	FPct
30	128	23	64	14	1	1	18	2	.352	.648	1.000

WILLARD BROWN

Brown was one of the **fastest players in baseball** in the late 1930s and 1940s, as well as a solid outfielder.



Regarded by some as having the most raw power in Negro league history, and possibly in all of baseball. He hit home runs more often than **Josh Gibson**, who nicknamed him Home Run Brown.

From 1937-48 with KC:
.358 BA, 53 HR & 385 RBIs. MLB
prorated for 162-game season:
.351/20/147, with 30 SB



HALL-OF-FAMER #2

1



**I STARTED
PLAYING PRO
BASEBALL IN 1947
AT THE AGE OF 22**



HALL-OF-FAMER #2

2



**PRO: '47 AT
AGE 22**

**I WAS NAMED TO
THE BORDER
LEAGUE ALL-STAR
TEAM IN MY ONLY
2 FULL SEASONS IN
THE LEAGUE**



HALL-OF-FAMER #2

3



PRO: '47 AT
AGE 22

BORDER LG
ALL-STAR
TWICE

I PLAYED FOR
VALLEYFIELD IN
1950, ALONG WITH
THIS 17-YEAR-OLD



HALL-OF-FAMER #2

4

**PRO: '47 AT
AGE 22**

**BORDER LG
ALL-STAR
TWICE**

**VALLEYFIELD
WITH PODRES**

**I WAS NAMED THE
QUEBEC RUGBY
FOOTBALL UNION
LEAGUE MVP FOR
1943**



HALL-OF-FAMER #2

5

**PRO: '47 AT
AGE 22**

**BORDER LG
ALL-STAR
TWICE**

**VALLEYFIELD
WITH PODRES**

**FOOTBALL
MVP IN 1943**

**I BECAME A
HALL-OF-FAMER IN
1973...**



HALL-OF-FAMER #2



PRO: '47 AT
AGE 22

BORDER LG
ALL-STAR
TWICE

VALLEYFIELD
WITH PODRES

FOOTBALL
MVP IN 1943

HOFER IN
1973

...IN TORONTO



HALL-OF-FAMER #2



PRO: '47 AT
AGE 22

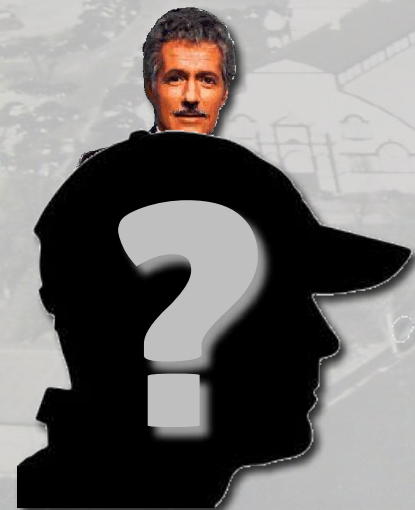
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ALL-STAR
TWICE

VALLEYFIELD
WITH PODRES

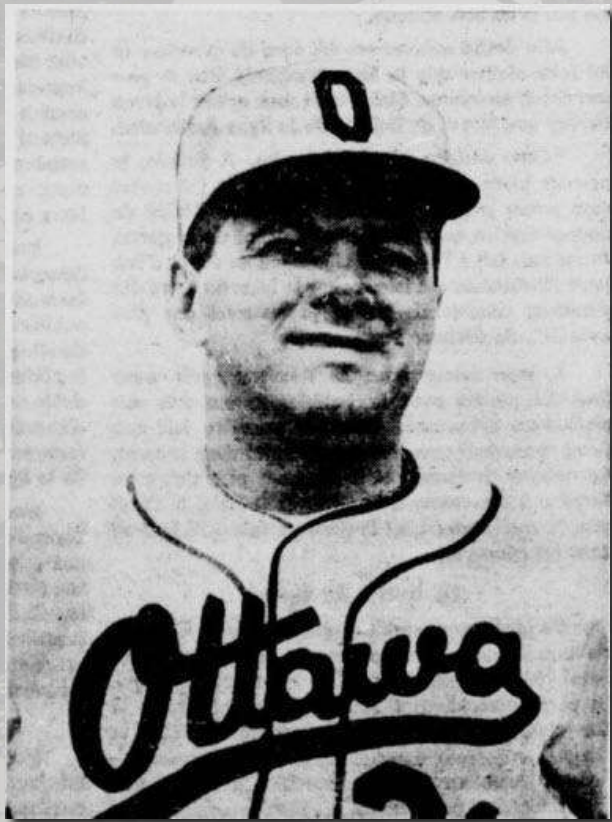
FOOTBALL
MVP IN 1943

HOFER IN
1973

I AM NOT THIS
PERSON



DOUG HARVEY



DOUG HARVEY



Born in Montreal

Multi-sport star in HS

Plays slopitch

Plays on Navy Hockey team

Quebec Rugby Football Lg MVP

Halfback w/ Mtl Hornets

Mtl. Royals; '47 Allan Cup



1924



1942



1943



1943



1943



1944



1945



1946-47



DOUG HARVEY "Doug."

"Build thee stately mansions, oh my soul,

Activities: Rugby, Sr. B., '40, Sr. A., '41; Jr. and Sr. Soccer, '37, '38, '41; Sr. A. Hockey, '42; III-Y.

Probable Destiny: To be pacified by the same teacher.

Activities: Rugby, Sr. B., '40, Sr. A., '41; Jr. and Sr. Soccer, '37, '38, '41; Sr. A. Hockey, '42; III-Y.

DOUG HARVEY



14 Games
4 Goals
9 Assists
26 PIM



DOUG HARVEY

1947

Signs with
Ottawa



Apr 16

Pro debut:
Bunt & IF hits



Aug 22

6/15 in 10 G;
misses playoffs



Aug-Sep

1948

Mtl 20-29;
Harvey blamed



Apr 14

Named starting
right-fielder



May 10

Starter in
All-Star Game



Jul 28

.340, 73 RBIs
& led in 3B



----- Sep -----

Playoffs:
.357/2/5 in 4G



The outfield will include Doug Harvey in right field, Glen Winslett in left and Len Riley in centre field. Although Harvey's fielding is worrying Metzsig a bit, his heavy hitting should compensate for his inexperience.



DOUG HARVEY

The word from Montreal is that Doug Harvey and isn't too greatly interested in "playing baseball." It was something of an effort for Jack De

If ever a team watched a game blow up in their face it was Auburn Cayugas in the same moment when the slugging Ottawa right fielder blasted a triple to deep left centre field and turned the play into the winning run with a daring piece of base-running.



1949



Return to Ottawa?

Misses 20 G; "Dramatic debut"

Wins batting title; R & RBIs

GW run in 1st playoff game

Drafted by Braves, Red Sox..

Played only 10 G with Ottawa

.449 w/ Valleyfield

Player/Mgr w/ Lachine



May 02

Jun 01

Sep 08

Sep 09

1949-50

1950

1950

1951-52

Balash Chalks Up Fifth Win
Harvey's Bat Stirs Rally

Doug Harvey Wins Batting Title
Nats Sweep Most Hitting Honors

Last game: Aug 07?
(Brown's 1st: Aug 12)



Harvey, in a dramatic debut, made it all possible when he blasted southpaw Bob Bush's no-hitter in the eighth inning to sent Nats on their way to victory.

Harvey in Hero's Role When Nats



18

DOUG HARVEY

THE OTTAWA JOURNAL

TU

Bill Metzsig Confident Doug Harvey Will Rejoin Nats



Maurice RICHARD, le brillant ailier droit des Canadiens, qui a terminé en tête des compteurs dans les récentes séries éliminatoires pour la coupe Stanley, s'est entraîné avec le club Lachine de la ligue Laurentienne au cours de la fin de semaine. Richard n'a toutefois pas encore signé son contrat avec le club de Pete Morin, dont le gerant sera Doug Harvey. Lachine ouvrira sa saison jeudi après-midi à Ste-Therese.

BIG Dominion Day

CELEBRATIONS JULY 2nd at the
BEDFORD FAIR GROUNDS

Display of Modern Farm Machinery, Trucks and Automobiles of all makes.
This will be a Field Day and a Big Social Event.
Bring the family, meet friends and have a good time.

— PROGRAM —

10:00 A.M. — Sports — For Boys and Girls,
Under the direction of Murph. Chamberlain and Adolphe Goodhue

12:00 — LUNCH

1:30 P.M. — GUEST SPEAKERS —

Honourable James C. Gardiner, Federal Minister of Agriculture.
Honourable Laurent Barre, Provincial Minister of Agriculture.
Senator Adelford Godbout
Henri A. Gosselin, M.P.
Lecturer, Bedford, N.S.

2:30 P.M. — BASEBALL

Bedford vs. "Lachine Canucks" with Richard, Harvey, Masdell,
Sawchuck, etc.

8:00 P.M. — DANCE — Music supplied by "The Rhythmaires"

ADMISSION: 50c

CHILDREN FREE

EVERYBODY WELCOME

DOUG HARVEY

BORDER LEAGUE STATISTICS

YR	GP	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BA	SLG	FPct
1947	10	15	4	6	1	0	0	0	0	.400	.467	NA
1948 🌟	109	423	107	144	22	16	4	73	24	.340	.496	.965
1949 🌟	109	422	121	148	27	10	14	109	30	.351	.561	.945
1950	10*	35	11	10	1	2	0	5	4	.286	.371	1.000

*13 GP in *Ottawa Journal*

DOUG HARVEY



**Montreal
Canadiens**



New York Rangers



AHL



**Detroit & St.
Louis**

Retires from NHL



HOCKEY HOF

**Mtl retires
sweater**

**Dies in
Montreal**



1947-61 1961-64 1963-67 1966-69 1969 1973 1985 1989



STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONS

1916	1924	1930	1931	1944	1946
1953	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
1965	1966	1968	1969	1971	1973
1976	1977	1978	1979	1986	1993



Doug HARVEY
NEW YORK RANGERS



DOUG HARVEY
ST. LOUIS BLUES



DOUG HARVEY

He would later claim, during moments of nostalgia, to **regret** not having pursued baseball more seriously.

"Baseball is a sport that I always **loved to play** and still, today, when I have the opportunity, I make my way to the De Lorimier stadium to see the Montreal Royals at work. If I chose hockey over baseball, it was that my chances of progress within the organization with the Canadiens were better than they were with the Boston Braves. Personally, I think I made a wise decision to abandon baseball"

Harvey aurait pu se créer une carrière au baseball

Par Bert SOULIERE

Douglas Norman Harvey est l'une des plus grandes vedettes dans les annales de notre sport national, l'un des plus fameux joueurs ayant endossé l'uniforme des Canadiens, mais étant un athlète doué de beaucoup de talent, il aurait pu aussi bien se créer une carrière dans plusieurs autres sports, principalement le baseball.

Named to **NHL All-Star Game 13X** and **won Norris Trophy 7X (1955-62)**, losing only to teammate Tom Johnson in 1959. Only Bobby Orr won more (8).

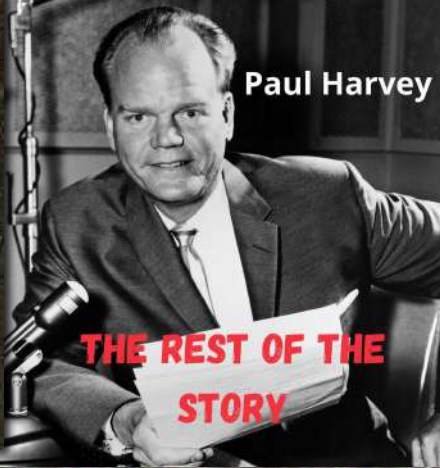
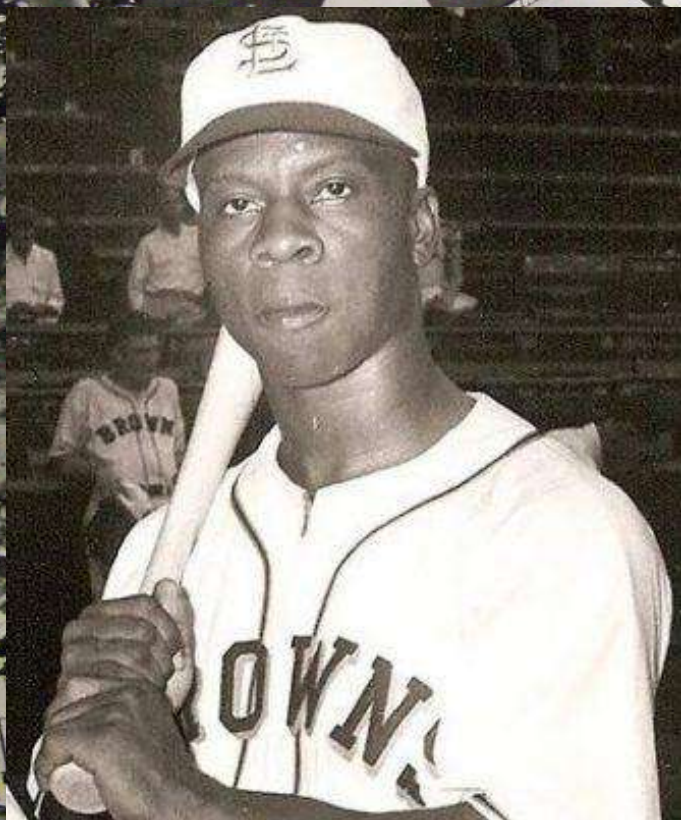


WILLARD BROWN

DOUG HARVEY



1947



Paul Harvey

**THE REST OF THE
STORY**

