GUIDE to the CASEY AT THE BAT COLLECTION

National Baseball Hall of Fame Library
Manuscript Archives

National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum
25 Main Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

www.baseballhall.org

Claudette Scrafford
September 2013
Collection Number
BA MSS 208

Title
Casey at the Bat Collection

Inclusive Dates
1931 - 2000

Extent
1.33 linear feet (1 archival box)

Repository
National Baseball Hall of Fame Library
25 Main Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326

Abstract
This is a collection of items relating to the poem, *Casey at the Bat*, acquired through various sources.

Preferred Citation
Casey at the Bat Collection, BA MSS 208, National Baseball Hall of Fame Library, Cooperstown, NY

Access
By appointment during regular business hours, email research@baseballhall.org.

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History
"*Casey at the Bat*" is a baseball poem written in 1888 by Ernest Thayer. It was first published in The San Francisco Examiner on June 3, 1888. DeWolf Hopper gave the poem's first stage recitation on August 14, 1888, at New York's Wallack Theatre as part of the comic opera Prinz Methusalem in the presence of the Chicago White Stockings and the New York Giants. Although a star of the musical stage, he was best known for performing the popular baseball poem.

The residents of Stockton, California, which was known for a time as Mudville prior to incorporation in 1850, also lay claim to being the inspiration for the poem. In 1887, Thayer covered baseball for The San Francisco Examiner owned
by his Harvard classmate William Randolph Hearst and is said to have covered the local California League team, the Stockton Ports. For the 1902 season, after the poem became popular, Stockton's team was renamed the Mudville Nine. The team reverted to the Mudville Nine moniker for the 2000 and 2001 seasons.

**Controlled Access Terms**

These records are indexed under the following terms in the National Baseball Hall of Fame’s Library catalog.

**Corporate Names**

- New York Sunday News (Newspaper)
- Mudville Times (Newspaper)
- Saturday Evening Post
- Coronet (periodical)
- Mad Magazine
- National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues
- National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum
- Fox Fur Trapper Program

**Personal Names**

- Thayer, Ernest L, 1863-1940
- Hopper, DeWolf 1858-1935

**Subject Headings**

- Poetry
- Illustrations
- Cartoons
- Audio recordings

**Content List**

**Box 1**

*Folder 1*  “Casey at the bat: the celebrated epic of the ball field”, newspaper
  - unknown source/date, cartoon illustrations, BL-349.2006.34

*Folder 2*  “Casey at the bat”, poem on 15” x 12” poster board, 2 copies
  “Baker at the bat” by W. Harry Heisler, poem, [1954], BL-359.54

*Folder 3*  Mudville Times, Spring 2000, newspaper, Stockton, CA
  - Mudville Nine BBC

*Folder 4*  New York Sunday News, poem with illustrations
  Apr 21, 1957, Apr 5, 1959, Apr 16, 1961
  Apr 12, 1964, Apr 10, 1966

*Folder 5*  “The truth about Casey” by Darrell Berrigan, illustrated by Paul Nonnast
  - Saturday Evening Post, Jul 3, 1954
Saturday Evening Post, Summer 1972, poem with color illustrations

Coronet, May 1946, poem with color illustrations

Mad magazine, Oct 1960, “Cool” Casey at the bat

Spotlight, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre newsletter, Feb 2001
- Performance review, tribute to PNC Park, Pittsburgh Pirates

Folder 6
Correspondence, 1986, Jack Kabat and Baseball Hall of Fame
- Casey at the bat folder, SF Giants on it
- copy of Certificate of Copyright Registration, 1978
  - re: Casey’s Revenge

Folder 7
“Casey at the bat”, by Jack Kabat, 1978 in a bi-fold frame, BL-3807.86
“Casey’s Revenge”, by Jack Kabat, 1978 in a bi-fold frame, BL-3808.86
- both bi-folds have an illustration on one side
Tri-fold with both poems and an illustration

Folder 8
Flier, Gastown vs. Sudville, Jul 25, 1970, Milwaukee County Stadium
- Joe Hauser as Casey

National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, 1952
- advertisement selling commemorative Casey glass for its
  Golden anniversary, 1902-1952

AC Service Technicians’ Club, no source/date
- Salutes the great American game

Folder 9
Bases Loaded-100th anniversary of the poem, 1988
- Exhibit, One Market Plaza, San Francisco, CA

Folder 10
National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum
- 2 brochures, advertising HoF
- HOF drawing on cover with the poem inside, BL-7.56

Folder 11
Booklet, with the poem, BL-95.2010

Booklet, with the poem, Christmas 1954, printed for Friends of the
Marchbanks Press

Booklet, with the poem, 1977, Huntington Library Publications, CA

Magazine page with the poem, unknown source/date
  - George Whitefield D’VYS written at the top
“Casey at the mound”, in a pamphlet titled “Scribbler’s Miscellany”
- by Clyde W Park, B-267.60

“Casey at the bat” poem, one page, inscribed at the bottom:
“To a great ball player Joe Cronin, with best wishes from Daniel M Casey,
original Casey at the bat, at the age of 78, June 13, 1941”, BL-2601.81

Pamphlet with the poem, “As broadcast by Hopper on the Fox Fur Trapper
Program, Cleveland, OH, March 16, 1931, BL-105.50

Booklet, “Casey at the bat and other Mudville Ballads”, by George
Whitefield D’VYS, BL-2549.73, BL-2000.83

George Whitefield D’VYS envelope

Folder 12 “Casey at the bat”, booklet and 33 1/3 RPM microgroove record
- recorded by Hopper, as adapted in 1904
- illustrated by Edgar Keller
- 3 copies

Folder 13 “Casey at the bat”, cassette, published by Putnam, 1994, BL-11742.94

Folder 14 “Casey at the bat”, printed in The Evening Mail, c. 1904, cartoon, N/A.20