

## Glasgow honors Donaldson

Hall of Fame might be next for pitcher.

By RUSSELL COOPER of the Tribune's staff  
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GLASGOW - Two months ago, John Ward asked the Glasgow Museum Board to put a few photos of Negro Leagues star John Donaldson, who was born in Glasgow in 1892, on display.

Ward never imagined the Board's excitement would lead to this.

Glasgow declared yesterday "John Wesley Donaldson Day," held a ceremony with three guest speakers and two films, hosted a reception afterward and created a Donaldson exhibit, which will run in the museum from today through July 10.

"This is a great day for Glasgow, a great day for John Donaldson and an outstanding day for me," Ward said to the approximately 80 people who attended.

Donaldson's career spanned three decades from 1911-1938. He played for the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro Leagues in addition to 15 other teams across the country.

Keynote speaker Phil Dixon, who is on the Negro Leagues Museum Board of Governors in Kansas City and wrote "The Negro Baseball League" and "The Monarchs - 1920-1938," traced perhaps Donaldson's most dominant season in 1915.

The southpaw played for the barnstorming All Nations team from 1912-1917. That season, Donaldson averaged 18 strikeouts per game and struck out 30 in an 18-inning game. Roger Clemens and Kerry Wood share the major-league record for strikeouts in a game with 20. That historic season, Donaldson struck out more than 500 batters, a feat he repeated the next year. Nolan Ryan's single-season major-league record is 383.

Donaldson continued to pitch into the '30s, but throwing four-to-five days a week started to take a toll on his arm by 1920.

Yesterday was just another step in the rediscovery of one the game's greatest pitchers. Jeremy Krock, an anesthesiologist from Peoria, Ill., attended the event. Last year he raised the money for a headstone to be placed on Donaldson's unmarked grave in Chicago.

The next step for Donaldson might be Cooperstown.