“Baseball took my sight away, but it gave me a life,” - Ed Lucas

Ed Lucas – A Biography In Brief…

Lucas, a native of New Jersey attended college at Seton Hall University (’62) and upon graduation was able to parlay his love of baseball into a lifelong career as a freelance baseball reporter who has interviewed countless baseball players, administrators and personalities over the last five decades. His work and accomplishments have been lauded in many ways either through countless by-lines, or as the featured subject in various media accounts. For more information about Ed Lucas please consult the remainder of this brochure along with Ron Bechtel’s recent article – “For The Love Of The Game” (Seton Hall University Magazine, 26-29, Winter/Spring 2007) and featured homepage – http://www.edlucas.org

“As He Sees It”
An Exhibit on the Extraordinary Life & Accomplishments of Expert Baseball Reporter…

Ed Lucas

A Biographical & Baseball-Oriented Retrospective

Walsh Library Gallery Window Exhibit

Sponsored By The Msgr. William Noé Field Archives &
Family Ties - Ed has always been a devoted and dedicated family man. His parents Roseanna and Edward were strong and supportive role models for Ed and provided him with a great foundation from birth to adulthood. His sons Christopher and Edward M. Lucas are among Ed’s pride and joy, young men who carry on the family name with much class and distinction. Ed also has three grandchildren – Edward James, Adam and Sean, ages 3-7 who have been a much welcome addition to the Lucas family as well. Ed’s wife Allison as always a warm and wonderful individual who is featured in more detail within this exhibit in accord with wedding details and the display of her signed Pete Rose cap. The family tree unofficially includes many friends, fans and well-wishers alike!

St. Joseph’s School for the Blind - An educational facility founded in 1891 and run by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace. Ed was a student at the Jersey City school from during the early 1950s. He later was involved in various capacities and became a fixture and esteemed part of the St. Joseph’s experience where he currently serves as their Director of Fund-Raising and Development.

Hazard Zet Forward / Ed & Kay - Ed Lucas, ‘62 is proud of his Setonia roots. As a student Ed had his share of adventures and was one of the most prominent Pirate fans ever to step foot on the South Orange campus. He was a regular listener to Baseball and Basketball broadcasts, and even hosted a sports-oriented radio program on W-S-O-U FM entitled - “Around the Bases with Ed Lucas.” Shown are his diploma and photograph from the Galleon (School Yearbook) among other S.H.U. souvenirs from Ed’s college years. When Ed was a student at Seton Hall University between 1958-1963 he became well-versed with campus architecture, but from a unique perspective. He learned how to navigate around campus through an acquired sense of dedicated direction. Aiding Ed was his trusty Seeing-Eye Dog – Kay. Kay turned out to be the first canine of her kind in recorded Setonia history. She was also a true campus celebrity and friendly four-legged friend for Ed and his classmates.

Man of Letters & Literature / Early Press Coverage - When Ed was in school he was a budding essayist. Found in the exhibit are a few examples that showcase Ed’s personalization and passion for the game. Included are correspondence with former Hall of Fame Manager - Leo “The Lip” Durocher (later a Broadcaster) and his very own early essays on what the game of Baseball means to him. These are early indications of the print fame Ed would ultimately secure in later years in such periodicals as Baseball Digest, New York Times, Newark Star-Ledger, Sports Illustrated and even the book – “Bronx Zoo” by Sparky Lyle.

Comic Relief - Along with the wonders of the lens, Ed has been captured in caricature form by noted artist – John Pennisi of Retired Press, Inc. who is known for his Baseball-related illustrations including many legendary New York Yankees including those in the print on exhibit here from Ed’s own collection.

Ed & Friends - Various Photographs of Ed with different celebrities including – Bill Clinton; Willie Mays; Willie Randolph (New York Mets Manager) & Ray Negron (Author); Joe DiMaggio; Bob Hope; Ron Howard; Reggie Jackson; Thurman Munson; Rachel Robinson; Robin Williams and others are also featured.

General Baseball Examples

Phil Rizzuto (1917-2007) - Popularly known as “The Scooter,” Rizzuto was a lifelong friend of Ed Lucas who was among the finest Shortstops in Baseball history. A member of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, Rizzuto who played his entire career on the New York Yankees (1941-1956) appeared in five All-Star Games and was American League MVP Award in 1950.

Jackie Robinson (1919-1972) - A trailblazer in sports as the first African-American baseball player of the modern era to play in the Major Leagues when he broke into the lineup for the Brooklyn Dodgers where he played his entire Hall of Fame career (1947-1956) prior to his retirement from the game.

Craig Biggio – A fellow Setonian (like Ed), Biggio played his entire 20 year career with the Houston Astros and on July 24, 2007 he earned his 3,000th career hit (and counting) in this his last major league season en route to eventual enshrinement in the Hall of Fame down the road. Exhibited are an autographed ball and hat from this season of accomplishment by Setonia’s most famous baseball alumnus.

“The Shot Heard Round The World” - On October 3, 1951 the New York Giants and Brooklyn Dodgers battled each other at the Polo Grounds and Giant outfielder Bobby Thomson hit a game winning home run off relief pitcher Ralph Branca to win the National League Pennant for New York. Various memorabilia signed by
both gentlemen are featured as one of the centerpieces of this display.

Present-Day Prominence / Meet The Mets!! - Ed knows countless individuals throughout the baseball world whether they be players, broadcasters, writers, administrators or fans alike. He is a kindly presence no matter if he is at the ballpark or beyond. Items representing Gary Carter, Johnny Damon, Derek Jeter; Mickey Mantle, Alex Rodriguez and Ron Swoboda are among the unique items featured within this particular exhibit representing both of New York’s Major League Clubs.

Autographed Baseballs / Oodles of Autographs - When Ed was a youngster he met many players who provided the budding Baseball fan with a signature in his autograph book. Included here are some of the more prominent individuals such as - Roger Maris, Stan Musial, Jim Piersall, Frank Robinson, Jackie Robinson, Casey Stengel, Billy Williams & Ted Williams. A popular souvenir for the true Baseball fan is a personally signed ball. Included here are just a few stars of significance who have been interviewed and/or become friends to Ed over the years. Individual Signatures include - George Brett, Whitey Ford, “Goose” Gossage, Juan Marichal, Robin Roberts, Brooks Robinson, Duke Snider. Multi-Player Signatures include - Monte Irvin, Ralph Branca, Carl Erskine & Sandy Amoros; Bobby Murcer & Rick Cerone; Bobby Murcer, Phil Rizzuto & Ron Guidry; Ripkin Family – Cal Sr., Cal Jr., Billy.