

December 1996

Mule Kicks

By S. (Mule) Thornley

Rittenhouse Clings to Lead as Fantasy Death League Enters Final Month

The *Paul Bearers*, the fantasy death team operated by Chapter member Paul Rittenhouse, holds a narrow lead over the *Grim Reapers*, coached by George Rekela, as the Fantasy Death League, which includes fellow chapter members Howard Luloff, Stew Thornley, and John Gregory, winds down its 1996 season.

Rittenhouse tallied early and often and has garnered 203 points for the following people he correctly predicted would die:

Bill Nyrop, 57 points (based on 100 minus the age at time of death)

Butterfly McQueen, 16 points

Martin Balsam, 24 points

Erma Bombeck, 31 points

Tim Gullickson, 56 points

Morey Amsterdam, 19 points

The Grim Reapers, with 160 points, remain within striking distance. Captain Rekela is counting on a late death or two to go along with Dean Martin, 22 points; Gene Kelly, 17; Bill Goldsworthy, 49; Ben Johnson, 23; Andreas Papandreou, 23; Max Winter, 7; and Dorothy Lamour, 19.

Howard Luloff's *Necromaniacs* are solidly in third place with 111 points. Luloff scored with the following deaths: Vivian Blaine, 26; Audrey Meadows, 29; McLean Stevenson, 34; Ella Fitzgerald, 22.

Finally, the lowly *Jello Biafra Kevorkian Kids*, operated by Thornley and Gregory, pull up the rear. The team was shut out completely until April when 92-year-old Greer Garson died. The *Kids* finally got into double-digits with the death of 83-year-old Mel Allen and caught a bit more steam with the expiration of Spiro Agnew (the only draft pick on any of the teams whose name is an anagram for "Grow a Penis").

Gos Quiz

A poser from Glenn Gostick: Name the three players with at least 1,000 games who have averaged more than two bases per hit.

Answers at bottom of page

New address for Bob Kapla: 1008 Green Ridge Drive Green Bay, WI 54313, phone: 414-499-4312

Baseball: Consumer Approved

From an interview with Ralph Nader in the July 1996 *Mother Jones* magazine:

Mother Jones: Tell us about your childhood. You were a big Yankees' fan. What thrilled you about baseball?

Nader: It was about the only professional game you could listen to. Football was around but not very visible, and basketball was almost invisible. You heard these games on the radio, and then you went down to the sandlot and you played the same game and you could mimic the great players. My boyhood hero was Lou Gehrig because he represented stamina—2,130 consecutive games played. It wasn't only his stamina, it was his demeanor. He was a great player, and he was modest, overshadowed by the more flamboyant Babe Ruth, and it never affected his work.



Answer to the Gos Quiz:

Mark McGwire 2,1092 (through 1996), Dave Kingman 2,0260, Babe Ruth 2,0166