

Luther “Casey” Smith (aka Brown)

First game May 18, 1913 and last game May 22, 1913

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| <p>The Indianapolis News (Indianapolis, Indiana) • 19 May 1913, Mon • Page 10</p> <p>Al Hohnhorst, former Mud Hen and for a few days last year an Indian, looked familiar on first base. He first signed with the Covington club, being sold later to St. Louis. Shortstop Brown is a full-blooded Indian, who arrived yesterday from the coast. He made a favorable impression on his initial appearance. The Hoosiers wound up their series with the Clevelanders by splitting Saturday's double bill with Cy Young's team. They dropped the first game, 3 to 6, but came back strong in the second, winning, 12 to 6.</p> | <p>The Indianapolis News (Indianapolis, Indiana) • 23 May 1913, Fri • Page 20</p> <p>O'Connor made it easy for the local Feds yesterday when he improvised a pitcher out of his redskin infielder, whose diamond non de plume is Brown, the Hoosiers piling up enough runs to win before he could be yanked. The final count was 8 to 2. Bair had the visitors guessing all the way, refusing to yield a hit until the seventh inning. A pass and two bingles netted them one in this round, while a pair of hits in the ninth gave them one more.</p> |
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Shortstop Brown, “full-blooded Indian” and “non de plume is Brown”, suggests not Jimmy Brown.

Two possible options:

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| <p>Pittsburgh Daily Post (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) • 09 Mar 1913, Sun • Page 1</p> <p>IS HE AN ABORIGINE?</p> <p>Barney Dreyfuss has picked up a promising player from the Indian reservation in North Dakota. Th's new recruit's name is George Eastman and he has been playing sensationally at shortstop on a picked team at his home in Peever. He has been watched carefully by Homer Hillebrand, the former Princeton and Pittsburgh pitcher, who resides only a short distance from Eastman's home. It</p> | <p>The Journal Times (Racine, Wisconsin) • 06 Mar 1912, Wed • Page 1</p> <p>Lew Smith, the Indian recruit shortstopper picked up by Chance on the coast, has been dubbed “Casey” Smith to designate him from Charley Smith, the pitcher. Johnny Evers thinks it a better name than the usual “Chief” stunt attached to Indian players.</p> |
| <p>George Eastman Eastman was with Pittsburgh in the spring, was sent to Steubenville, returned to Pittsburg in May, and signed with Huntington late May 1913.</p> | <p>Luther Casey Smith Casey Smith was with Witter and Ridgeway in Columbia SC, and he jumped to the Federal League about the same time they did.</p> |

Who was Brown?

On May 18, 1913, the St. Louis Terriers started a shortstop identified as “Brown” in the box scores and articles in their game in Indianapolis. The *Indianapolis News* wrote the next day “Shortstop Brown is a full-blooded Indian, who arrived yesterday from the coast. He made a favorable impression on his initial appearance.” (May 19, 1913: 10.) A few days later, Manager O'Connor used Brown as a pitcher: “O'Connor made it easy for the local Feds yesterday when he improvised a pitcher out of his redskin infielder, whose diamond non de plume is Brown.” (*Indianapolis News*, May 23, 1913: 20.) This was his third and final game with the club.

Baseball-Reference identifies Brown as James Brown, an outfielder who also played with Indianapolis in 1913, his last game being May 13, 1913. The Indianapolis papers were clear that Jimmy Brown previously played with Pittsburgh in the United States League (an outlaw league that was a precursor to the Federal League) in 1912. One of the papers describes him as from Hazelwood, near Pittsburgh. Jimmy joined Youngstown briefly after the USL collapsed. Terriers'

manager Jack O'Connor managed Cleveland in the USL in 1912, so he would have known who Jimmy Brown was. However, for a variety of reasons, I do not think the Brown who played for St. Louis was Jimmy Brown.

Just about a week after Brown's last game with St. Louis, the Pittsburgh Federal League club tried out L. Brown, "an Indian" at third base in a double header in St. Louis (*Pittsburgh Daily Post*, May 29, 1913: 15). He was injured in the second game, as a few days later the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported that he had been sent home to Louisville to rest (May 31, 1913: 12). He returned to Pittsburgh for a few games in June. L. Brown was the alias for Luther (Casey) Smith (<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/luther-smith/>).

Luther Smith was a Native American from California who received a brief tryout with the Cubs in the spring of 1912, where Frank Chance gave him the nickname "Casey". The Cubs sent him to Louisville, and Louisville sent him to Columbia (SC), where he played shortstop, third base, and pitched. In 1913, the Columbia club was transferred to Charleston. Three of the players reserved by Columbia/Charleston for 1913 were James Barton, Leo Witter (Witterstaetter) and Jack Ridgway. Jimmy Barton was an infielder for the Terriers, first at second base, and then at short after Charlie Stis got hurt. Leo Witter and Jack Ridgway both jumped from Charleston to the Federal League in May where they played for the St. Louis Terriers under the names Leo Jones and Jack Mullin, respectively. Casey Smith jumped to the Federal League at the same time, ending up in Pittsburgh. (*Columbia Record*, September 19, 1913.) Per his SABR bio, he played 25 games in Charleston before quitting the club. He played for a team in Louisville later in the summer, after he was done in Pittsburgh.

In 1914, Smith signed with Regina (Saskatchewan, Canada), where the papers noted he was one of four ex-Federal League players on the club. The manager at Regina was Charlie Stis, whom Brown supplanted at shortstop for two games. Outfielder Joseph Zoellers was a St. Louis native who played a few games with the Terriers at the start of the 1913 season.

It seems entirely plausible, then, that Casey Smith used the non de Plume Brown by during a brief stint with St. Louis after leaving Charleston with Witter and Ridgway. When he didn't impress O'Connor, he was turned over to Pittsburgh.

While Casey Smith is the most logical option for Brown, there was another Native American Indian shortstop in the neighborhood at that same time. George Eastman, a Sioux Indian from South Dakota, was given a trial by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the spring of 1913. In early May, he was sent to Steubenville of the Interstate League, but they returned him to Pittsburgh (*Pittsburgh Press*, May 4, 1913: 22). On May 22, Eastman was sent out by Pittsburgh to Huntington (WV) in the Ohio State League. While it seems unlikely that he would jump to the Federal League and then come back without problem, Eastman was MIA during the time span in which Brown played for St. Louis. Eastman played in Montana for a few years after 1913, and in 1921 he was given a tryout by the St. Louis Browns (*Great Falls (MT) Tribune*, March 15, 1921: 8).

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| <p>Pittsburgh Daily Post (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) • 29 May 1913, Thu • Page 15</p> <p>[SPECIAL TO THE POST.]</p> <p>ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 28.—Red Ashenfelter was master of the situation at all times here this afternoon and the Filipinos had no trouble walking off from St. Louis with the first game of the series, 5 to 3. Ashenfelter was a trifle wild, walking several men, but he evened this up by fanning the same number. Menosky was the star hitter for the Filis, getting a triple and a homer out of five times up, but each time there was no one on the bags. L. Brown, an Indian was tried out by Manager Phillippe at the third station, and he played a good game until he injured his hand sliding into second, in the sixth. Umpire Franklin lost his eyesight during the contest and could not see whether the ball came over the pan or not, and for kicking so hard on some of the decisions Manager Phillippe, Pitcher Bridges and Manager O'Connor, of the St. Louis team, were banished from the grounds. The game was played as follows:</p> | <p>Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) • 31 May 1913, Sat • Page 12</p> <p>Phillippe Sends Indian Home.</p> <p>ST. LOUIS, MO., May 30.—L. Brown, the Indian of the Pittsburgh Federal Leaguers, who was injured in Wednesday's contest, will be unable to play for several weeks. He was allowed to go to his home in Louisville by Manager Phillippe this morning. He will report as soon as he is in condition.</p> |
| First game for L. Brown with Pittsburgh | L. Brown from Louisville? |

L. Brown played with Pittsburgh from May 28 through June 15, 1913

Casey Smith

With Columbia in 1911, 1912, plus a tryout with the Cubs in 1912

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| <p>The Columbia Record (Columbia, South Carolina) • 27 Feb 1913, Thu</p> <p>Fred Badel, A. Barrett, Thomas Hughes, James Barton, L. Whitter, E. B. White, U. A. Hidy, R. G. Menefee, L. C. Dashner, Casey Smith, G. E. Winston, Jack Ridgeway, J. L. Hurley, E. R. Bitting and L. G. Brown are the 15 Columbia players on the reserve list who are available for the Charleston management to pick from, although what number of these will be used is problematical. Several of these men are good performers and will without doubt be utilized.</p> | <p>The Columbia Record (Columbia, South Carolina) • 20 Mar 1913, Thu</p> <p>A sad message was received by Walsh yesterday from Casey Smith, the full-blooded Indian, who will be seen in a Charleston uniform this summer, conveying the news of the death of Mrs. Smith, the player's wife, who died Tuesday night at their home in Los Angeles, Cal.</p> |
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Jacksonville 1, Charleston 1
JACKSONVILLE, May 10—Foster and Wilder worked a pretty eleven inning pitcher's battle this afternoon, the game being called on account of darkness when the score was 1 and 1. Foster allowed but five hits but did not walk a man. Wilder allowed seven hits and walked one. A one handed catch of a line drive from Casey Smith's bat by Hoffman was the fielding feature. Score:
 Jacksonville001 000 000 00—1 5 2
 Charleston100 000 000 00—1 7 2
 Batteries: Wilder and Smith; Foster and Menefee. Time 1:50. Umpire Pender.

Butchertown Beats Glenwood.
 Butchertown won their sixth straight Sunday game yesterday afternoon, when they defeated Glenwood—4 to 1. Harpner, the East Enders' crack twirler, again demonstrated that he is the best twirler on the local lots by allowing the North Siders but three hits, and fanned eight men. Bradbury hit the ball for keeps, the little centerfielder hitting safely on every trip to the plate, one of which was a double. A stop by Murphy and a catch by Weisenstein featured. Casey Smith, the Indian who was with the Cubs and Colonels for a while last season, played shortstop for Glenwood, and amazed the crowd with his clever base running. Vetter and Girard both hit well for Butchertown. The score:
 Innings1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9—R. H. E.
 Glenwood0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0—1 3 3
 Butchertown0 0 0 1 0 0 3 0 0—4 12 2

Glenwood plays at Madison to-day, leaving on the mailboat at 9 a. m. from foot of Third street. Hikes or Whitman will twirl and Casey Smith, the Indian, who was with Chicago and Louisville last year, will cover short for Glenwood.

chance of making a reputation for himself. Clubs in both the Southern and American associations wanted him. Casey Smith and Jack Ridgeway, who were suspended along with Witter, have been released. Ridgeway is pitching ball at present for the St. Louis club of the Federal league under the name of Mullin. Smith for a while played with the Pittsburghs, of the Federal league, but he was canned, and his whereabouts since has not been learned.

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PLAYERS WOULD GO PLAYING F
TO FEDERAL LEAGUE 3RD
Foster the Only Pitcher Avail- Tomorrow
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(Associated Press Dispatch.)
 Charleston, S. C., May 16.—Charleston takes the field against Macon today considerably crippled, with Smith, Witter and Ridgeway under suspension for threatening to jump to the Federal league, and with Foster the lone pitcher available for effective duty. Foxen will probably play third. Pitchers must go into the outfield. The Gulls may win with perfect weather prevailing. Voss twirls for Macon.

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Present Roster
 Pitchers—J. B. Ryan, Jean Sullivan, W. H. Evers, Clyde Bundy, A. Butter-off.
 Catchers—John Murphy, Alf. Baker, Charles Roth.
 Infielders—Charles Stis (manager), C. C. Newman, Casey Smith.
 Outfielders—J. W. Zoellers, Thomas Gilroy, John Smith.
 The Regina Red Sox have four ex-Federal Leaguers in their roster now, and it is not impossible that more ex-outlaws will be signed up before the open season is over. These four have promised to be good and show none of the qualifications one would expect in an outlaw or bandit. The quartette who have become re-incarnated and have promised to abide by the rules and regulations of organized baseball forever in the future are Gilroy, Zoellers, Manager Stis and "Casey Jones" Smith. The new catcher, Roth, was also sought by the Feds, being tendered a contract by the famous Mordecai Brown, but he refused to listen to the siren's call and, therefore is still within the plan of the organized brand.

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Form 1

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REGISTRATION CARD

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1 Name in full Luther Smith (Print name)

2 Home address Orville Oak (Print address)

3 Date of birth April 21 1893 (Month) (Day) (Year)

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? Natural born

5 Where were you born? Orville Oak Mo So (City) (State) (County)

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject? Belgium

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? Ball Player 29

8 By whom employed? B. B. Oak

9 Where employed? B. B. Oak

10 Have you a father, mother, wife child under 12, or sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? No

11 Married or single (specify which)? Single Race (specify which) Indian

12 What military service have you had? Rank None Branch None

13 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? No

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Luther Smith (Signature of registrant)

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1 Tell, medium, or short (specify which)? Short Slender, medium, or stout (specify which)? Slender

2 Color of eyes? Brown Color of hair? Black Bald? No

3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? No

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

P. H. Moran (Signature of registrar)

Precinct Registration

City or County San Francisco, Cal. Date of registration May 24 1917

The Los Angeles Times (Los Angeles, California) • 19 Mar 1913, Wed • Page 21

Dies of Car Injuries.

Mrs. L. C. Smith, No. 1700 Griffith avenue, died at the Angelus Hospital yesterday, as the result, it is thought, of having been jerked off her feet Monday when she attempted to board a South Pasadena car on Main street. Mrs. Smith, not feeling any ill-effects from the accident continued her journey. Examination yesterday showed that an artery had been torn.

Laura Gray Smith

BIRTH unknown

DEATH 1913
Los Angeles County, California, USA

BURIAL Fairview Cemetery
New Albany, Floyd County, Indiana, USA

MEMORIAL ID 108184276 · [View Source](#)

22 or 24 years old; daughter of William C. Gray; wife of Casey Smith buried 27 Mar 1913; obit states she was killed in Los Angeles

First wife, buried in New Albany, Indiana.

George Eastman

Signed in spring 1913 for a tryout with Pittsburgh (NL)

Pittsburgh Daily Post (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) • 10 Mar 1913, Mon • Page 11

McCarthy came in from South Bend.

INDIAN EASTMAN REPORTS.

A surprise to everybody was the appearance of a Sioux Indian, in the person of George Eastman, of South Dakota, an infielder who has never played professional baseball, but was recommended by Homer Hildebrand, who considers him very promising material. Clarke says Indian players are the style, and the Pittsburgh club will be in style. Hildebrand has never recommended anybody else to the club and it is entirely upon his word.

DALL night game to Marl was opened, notified young p over a day. The death of Marl's ley's ho 24 years Ohio St

The Pittsburgh Press (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) • 04 May 1913, Sun • Page 22

ments.

George Eastman, the half breed Sioux Indian who was released shortly after the season opened to the Steubenville club of the Interstate league, wandered into Forbes Field yesterday afternoon, and informed Manager Clarke that Manager Roy Montgomery had turned him back to the Pirates. The local club had received no previous notification, and had made no plans for again disposing of the youngster. He was left here last night, and will probably be shipped to some other minor league club if the proper arrangements can be made. Eastman was taken south by the Pirates this spring on the recommendation of Homer Hildebrand, the former Pittsburgh pitcher. Manager Clarke said recently the Indian had all the earmarks of a coming ball player, but was sadly in need of experience. Mike Mowrey, the Cardinals' clever third-

The Pittsburgh Press (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) • 15 May 1913, Thu • Page 19

to their feet.

ANSWER TO QUERY.

J. S.—Pittsburg sent George Eastman to Steubenville in the Interstate league, but he was returned, and is still on the Pirate roster.

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) • 23 May 1913, Fri • Page 13

is. The major league clubs are getting down to the limit of 25 men. Barney Dreyfuss yesterday sent Pitcher Reuther back to California, First Baseman Holderman to Tacoma and Infielder George Eastman to Huntington, W. Va., in the Ohio State League.

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What was George Eastman doing between May 15 and May 23?

| Great Falls Tribune (Great Falls, Montana) • 31 Jul 1913, Thu • Page 9 | Great Falls Tribune (Great Falls, Montana) • 15 Mar 1921, Tue • Page 8 i |
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| <p>Special to The Daily Tribune.</p> <p>Lewistown, July 30.—Lewistown won its sixth straight victory over the Butte Independents today, the score being 8 to 0. Wilcox pitched a strong game, but five costly errors were made by the visitors. George Eastman, a brother of Chief Eastman, the pitcher, arrived last night and played his first game with Lewistown at short, taking the place of McQuaid, who was injured Sunday, and will be out of the game for some time. Eastman is on Pittsburg's reserve, and played with the Pirates in the spring trip. He was farmed out in the Virginia league, which blew up ten days ago, and will finish the season here. His playing today was spectacular. Sunday the league games will be resumed with a double header with Sheridan.</p> <p>D D L S T O S W V S P V T S</p> | <p>Eastman Is Training With St. Louis; Rook With Detroit, and Kandler With Minneapolis.</p> <p>Special to The Tribune.</p> <p>Wolf Point, March 14.—Three ball players who were with the Wolf Point 1919 team, which won the Montana state pennant, have signed contracts and are trying out at major league training camps this spring.</p> <p>George Eastman, the Indian captain and shortstop of the "Wolves" in 1919, is with the St. Louis Browns. Eastman, a few years ago, played one season as utility infielder with the Pittsburg Pirates.</p> <p>Herb Rock is on the Detroit Tiger's</p> |

Ended up in Montana in July 1913