



## TAKE ME OUT TO SAN QUENTIN



There are always a lot of baseball trips that the Hoop Historians take each year, but **Pat Irvine** and **John Mayberry** made a unique excursion

this summer when they attended a baseball game in San Quentin Prison. Pat threw out the opening pitch and in perfect style of her brother, former MLB Manager Billy Martin, kicked dirt on the umpire to the delight of the inmates. While many penitentiaries around the country have organized baseball teams, San Quentin's is the oldest and one of the only ones that competes against outside ball clubs. The ballpark is in the middle of the prison compound and has been there for over 100 years and gives those that are incarcerated an opportunity to still play the game. Irvine, who was the only woman in the facility, thought it was an awesome experience, "It was almost like being in a movie. The prisoners were very nice. They told me their story and how it was their fault that they were in here. I was not uncomfortable for one moment. For prisoners they were pretty darn nice". Coach Mayberry noted that Pat and himself were the only two people allowed to sit during the game. The San Quentin Baseball Team played two games that day, tying the visiting Santa Monica Suns in the first game 7-7 and then dropping the nightcap 7-6. The San Quentin News, a prison publication, did an article on the game which can be found [HERE](#).



ABOVE: John Mayberry (left) and Pat Irvine (right) take a picture with the other spectators on the San Quentin Lower Yard

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN: NOW 53 STRAIGHT YEARS

Back in 1964 Hoop Historian **John Tierney** thought it would be a good idea to get a Driver Education certification. That decision for the Hall of Fame coach and basketball player has paid dividends, as John just completed his 53<sup>rd</sup> consecutive summer teaching Driver Education to high school students. Tierney was inducted into the Upper Iowa University Hall of Fame as a player and into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame as a coach, but despite being pre-occupied with the game, it never interfered with his love for his long-lasting summer activity. Through the years Tierney has logged thousands of miles instructing students on the rules of the road.



## PRO FOOTBALL IS BACK IN L.A.

Hoop Historian **Tom Tallarito** travelled over 4,000 miles to see Los Angeles' first home NFL football game in 22 years, as professional football returned to the City of Angels for the first time since 1994. Over 91,000 spectators were in attendance to witness the historic event, as the L.A. Rams beat the Seattle Seahawks 9-3 in their first home game.



ABOVE: The Los Angeles Coliseum has a new look and a new tenant on Sundays this year

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN: A TRIO'S BASEBALL TRAVELS

Hoop Historian **Joe Spagnolo** and Friends of the Hoop Historians **Steve Busa** and **Joe Dote** are fans of baseball. The threesome used to umpire together and recently completed a baseball trip that took them to four states, three games, various Presidential historic sites, the Pro Football Hall of Fame and the Flight 93 Memorial. Between the three of them, either collectively or independently, they have seen games in 13 different cities seeing almost every Major League team at least once this season.



ABOVE: Joe Spagnolo, Joe Dote and Steve Busa take time out at Pittsburgh's PNC Park.

## 2017 NABC CONVENTION DATES

Members of the National Association of Basketball Coaches should mark their calendars as registration for the NABC Convention is scheduled to start on Tuesday, October 25. Check the NABC website at [www.nabc.org](http://www.nabc.org) for more information.



## SEE YOU IN THE VALLEY OF THE SUN



APRIL 1 & 3, 2017