

There was no objection.

**GARFIELD'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY:
"I'LL RISE, BUT I WON'T SHINE"**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, as the Congressman who represents Muncie, Indiana, and Delaware County, home to the most famous cat in the world, I rise today for the awesome and important duty to pay a happy birthday wish to Garfield. Not President Garfield, but someone probably more famous in this day and age than that, a large, orange, slovenly, lazy cat, born in the mind of an Indiana native by the name of Jim Davis who, along with Garfield and literally dozens of artists and artisans, make their home near Muncie, Indiana, the world headquarters of Paws, Incorporated.

It was, in fact, today in 1978 that the Garfield strip debuted in 41 U.S. newspapers. Several months after its launch, the Chicago Sun-Times abruptly canceled the Cat. Over 1,300 angry readers, it is reported, immediately demanded that Garfield be reinstated. As they say, the rest is history. Today, 263 million readers across the globe read Garfield in 2,570 newspapers every day. Recently, Guinness World Records named this cat, Garfield, the most widely syndicated comic strip in the world. It all comes proudly from east central Indiana.

It is said that people relate to Garfield because Garfield, in many ways, is them. "He's a human in a cat suit," his creator Jim Davis likes to say. Garfield loves TV and he hates Mondays. He would rather pig out than work out. In fact, his passion for food and sleep is matched only by his aversion to diet and exercise, a cat after my own heart. He would like mornings better if they started later, coffee "strong enough to sit up and bark," and, he pledges regularly, "I'll rise but I won't shine."

Jim Davis, born in July of 1945 in Marion, Indiana, was raised on a small Black Angus cow farm. He graduated from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, where he majored in art and business and he is the founder and president of Paws, Incorporated, a full service licensing studio created and established in eastern Indiana. They have received numerous awards, including four Emmys and the National Cartoonist Society award, just to name a few.

So I rise today in the midst of serious debates and serious discussions to pay tribute to a very large, orange American tradition, here shown bursting out of his birthday cake on this, the 25th anniversary.

I will never forget, Mr. Speaker, as I close, Jim Davis and I first became acquainted 15 years ago. He told me of all the offers he had had through the years to move Garfield, which is internationally syndicated, maybe to Los Angeles

or maybe to New York, more recognized as media centers than the cornfields of eastern Indiana, and Jim Davis said to me, "Mike, I always turn them down, because you have to have a sense of humor to live in Indiana." Let us hope Jim Davis and this big orange cat always live in Indiana. They are a source of pride, not only their creativity and their energy, but their philanthropy and their commitment to the quality of life for the families of our region.

We thank you, Jim. Congratulations to you and that big, fat, lazy cat.

**MOURNING THE PASSING OF
LARRY DOBY, FIRST BLACK
PLAYER IN AMERICAN LEAGUE
HISTORY**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Hall of Famer Larry Doby, the first black baseball player in American League history, died last night at the age of 78 in his home in Montclair, New Jersey. Larry Doby was one of the Cleveland Indians finest centerfielders, a slugger with speed. He was with the Indians in one of their most successful eras, from 1947 to 1955 during which they won two league pennants and a World Series, besides finishing second to the New York Yankees four times. He hit a decisive home run as the Indians won their last World Series in 1948. He led the league in home runs and runs batted in when the Indians romped to the American League pennant in 1954, winning 111 games, the fourth most in baseball history.

Larry survived and endured many racial insults after arriving in the majors only 3 months after the first black player, Jackie Robinson, of the old Brooklyn Dodgers. He never seemed to hold any grudges because of the torment. Doby is quoted as saying, "Life is too short for that. People who judge others based on the color of their skin have more problems than I do."

When he first stepped onto a major league field on July 3, 1947, amid a deluge of publicity, he was an uncertain, nervous 22-year-old. He knew that many fans and teammates resented his presence at Municipal Stadium. Doby batted only 32 times that first season and got five hits, a paltry .156 average. He stated, "It was one of the toughest things I ever had to go through. I had never sat on the bench before and now all I could do was sit and watch." He had come up as a second baseman with the Newark Eagles of the Negro League where he was hitting .420. But he was not going to displace Joe Gordon, the team's cleanup hitter who had been the league's most valuable player as a member of the Yankees in 1942.

Doby survived because of the support he received from his late wife Helyn; Indians owner Bill Veeck, who brought him to the majors; teammates Gordon

and catcher Jim Hegan, and coach Bill McKechnie. They were the closest to him that first year. He also was friends with the late Arthur Grant, the father of one of my childhood friends, Laureen Grant Beach. On many occasions I had an opportunity to see him and enjoy time with his daughter Kristie.

As a baseball pioneer, Doby also received encouragement from black celebrities of the era. Heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis, singers Lena Horne, Ella Fitzgerald and Dinah Washington and musicians Duke Ellington and Count Basie were among those who contacted him.

When centerfielder Thurman Tucker was injured in May, Indians manager Lou Boudreau moved Doby into his spot. He stayed there for 10 years, he recalled. "The Cleveland fans were great. They never booed me, even when I made a mistake."

Doby hit .301 with 14 homers as the Indians won the 1948 pennant. In the playoff game against Boston for the American League flag, he belted two doubles. His most famous homer came in the fourth game of the 1948 World Series at Municipal Stadium when he connected to give Steve Gromek a 2-1 victory and the Indians a three-games-to-one lead over the Boston Braves. After the game, Doby and Gromek were photographed hugging each other in jubilation. The picture is considered a civil rights milestone. It was the first widely publicized photo of two baseball players of different races embraced in victory.

Doby led the Indians in hitting in the series with an average of .318. Players soon accepted him because of his ability. Doby, 6-1 and 180 pounds, quickly established himself as a first-rate player. In 1950 when he hit three homers in a game, batted .326 and drove in 102 runs, the Sporting News chose him as the best centerfielder in baseball, ahead of Joe DiMaggio and Duke Snider. He topped the league in homers, 32, and runs batted in, 124, in the pennant year of 1954 when the Indians won 111 and lost 43 games for a winning percentage of .721, a league record that still stands.

The Indians traded him subsequently to Chicago on October 25, 1955. He then with the White Sox, had a rebound, he went to Baltimore in a six-player deal in 1958, and then in 1959 he was sent back to Cleveland to play.

Doby was chosen for seven All-Star teams in his career. His lifetime stats show a .283 batting average and 253 home runs.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give credit to Bob Dolgan, the Plain Dealer reporter from whom I obtained a lot of this information. I hope that all my colleagues will join me in mourning the death of a baseball great, Larry Doby.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) is recognized for 5 minutes.