

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More Robinson books available for youth

I enjoyed reading the excellent article (March 2) "Rediscovering Jackie" by Marshall Fine and Georgette Gouveia.

In addition to the excellent books listed by them, I would like to add to those listed for young readers three that I read to my children that they enjoyed thoroughly:

"In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson" (Harper & Row), by Bette Bao Lord; "Thank You, Jackie Robinson" (Scholastic), by Barbara Cohen; "Teammates" (Gulliver Books), by Peter Golenbock and illustrated by Paul Bacon.

The first two are novels for and about young people, one Chinese and one Jewish, and how Jackie Robinson influenced their lives.

"Teammates" is a picture book that tells the classic story of the time Jackie was being cursed and called vile names by the fans and players of the opposing team. Pee Wee Reese, a Kentuckian, who played shortstop along side Robinson, simply went over to Jackie, draped his arm over Jackie's shoulder and chatted with him briefly. It is a true story and was of historic significance when it occurred and equally moving in the reading.

I have taught my four children (ages 10 to 30) about Jackie Robinson and of that golden era. It was the time of the Brooklyn Dodgers, a sports team that people loved without reservation or qualification, and that personified the ideal of a democracy, an ideal not always achieved in the reality of the American experience.

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