

Kevin Lohse Emails...

Subj:	[OBC-Ramblings] More memories
Date:	8/3/01 10:58:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	<i>tply@aol.com</i>
To:	<i>OBC-Ramblings@yahoogroups.com</i>

Subj: Re: To all but Kevin PT. 2
Date: 96-08-19 02:09:52 EDT
From: ZXRM
To: ChicoD1

Sal,

Will I be sending the 75's to late? I havesome other cards I can send with your package. It does not matter to me. Figured I needed to get something out quick for the 75's. Looks like I wasright. This group is wonderful.

See ya..
Robbie

Subj: Re: To all but Kevin PT. 2
Date: 96-08-19 02:14:07 EDT
From: CardClctor
To: ChicoD1

Sal,

Thanks for sending the original message to me. I didn't think I had gotten it. I did get a little insight when I read this part of a message from XBLX:
>>Ihave contacted Kevin a couple of times to offer support and to see how he was doing. From what he tells me his type of cancer has a very low survival rate (something like5%).<<

These words just crushed me. I've never met Kevin. I only know his name from a list of about sixty people called OBC. Therefore, I'd have to assume he's like ALL the people in this group that I HAVE met: People who treated me like old friends or even a brother, even whenwe met for the first time. These are people who invited me to stay in their homes for the night the very first time we ever laid eyes on each other. These are guys who have basically dumped things of monetary value into my lap without expecting anything in return except my enjoyment of the items and a 'Thank You'. I shake my head in amazement - this is all because I like to collect little piecesof cardboard! People that I never even KNEW as little as SIX WEEKS

AGO

are treating me like I've been their best friend for twenty years. (Maybe better than my own family would.)

That's why this feels like it's happening to my own brother. I was crying my eyes out when I read how his body's practically infested with the cancer and how it was causing him pain. It hurt me too. I keep looking at the pile of cards I'm sending for his 75 set. 5% survival; keeps running through my mind. I keep thinking I wish there was more I could do and looking at my comparatively insignificant donation and thinking Maybe if I'm really generous, the Man Upstairs will listen to my one request - to be able to someday shake Kevin's hand and congratulate him on winning his battle.

Ken M

Subj: RE: To all but Kevin PT. 2
Date: 96-08-19 07:12:48 EDT
From: rdn56@ipass.net (Robert Neill)
To: ChicoD1@aol.com ('ChicoD1@aol.com')

Gosh, stay busy for a weekend and I miss a lot! Anyway, count me in on sending the card to Kevin. My personal view is that receiving them from all over the place as separate envelopes would be more fun than one big package. But as usual, whatever the group decides is fine by me.

Bob

Subj: Re: To all but Kevin PT. 2
Date: 96-08-19 13:23:37 EDT
From: jose88@newtech.net (Joe and Leah Greco)
To: ChicoD1@aol.com

Sal,

Count me in. I hope I have something good for Kevin, my dupes box is LOW!

Joe

Subj: Kevin
Date: 96-08-19 08:03:10 EDT
From: friar4@usa.nai.net (Bob Corvello)
To: ChicoD1@aol.com

Sal,

I'm in on this.

the olde Friar

Subj: Kevin's updated wantlist 8/19/96 7:13 PM West Coast
Date: 96-08-19 22:15:10 EDT
From: TPLY
BCC: ChicoD1

All -More messages coming in and the Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist is getting really short! Here is the latest list of needed cards for Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist:

1975Topps Wantlist (any condition)

70 228 300 312 620 623

I will be glad to continue to update this list if everyone will send me a list of the cards you will be able to send! I would like to finish Kevin's list before we flood his mailbox but, anything all you want to do is fine! Anyone not having any 1975 Topps might want to try something else on his list.

Tripleplay(Rick)

Subj: Update: to all but Kevin...
Date: 96-08-19 22:42:12 EDT
From: ChicoD1

OK boys, the responses are rolling in...

So far I've gotten e-mail from: Trips, Guru, Canadian George, Bill Lehuta, Robbie, Jim Montgomery, Bent Corners Bill, Trader Jim, KenCardClctr, Bob Neill, Joe Greco, and the Friar prior to the flash session.

It seems the consensus is to send from our own homes on a predetermined date and hope the postman rings within a couple of days. So to those who were sending cards to me...hold off. I think Sept 1 is a good day, as it will give us a chance to try and finish the 75 set. Remember, let's send the 75s separately. The one card is for the healing power of cardboard. Remember, ANY card, doesn't matter who or value. The guy on it just had to make you feel good at one time or another.

BTW, Trips (unless things have changed in the last 4 hours :-), put me down for card #312 (K Ldrs). I think that leaves us 8 shy... Just amazing!

OK, that's the story from Levittown... Looking to hear from some of the other guys!

Aside- Guru, Neonknight (xnk) comes up as non-existent. Keep on crankin'!

SAL

Subj: Re: Update: to all but Kevin...
Date: 96-08-19 22:55:48 EDT
From: jose88@newtech.net (Joe and Leah Greco)
To: ChicoD1@aol.com

Sal,
Anyideas on what to send?
Alsomsince I live just around the corner from Kevin, I will send mine 9/2,
not9/1.

joe

Subj: Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist updated8/19/96 8:28 PM west coast
Date: 96-08-19 23:32:48 EDT
From: TPLY
BCC: ChicoD1

All -More messages coming in and the Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist is getting
really short! Here is the latest list of needed cards for Kevin's 1975 Topps
wantlist:

1975Topps Wantlist (any condition)

228(Brett RC), 300 (Pete Rose), 623 (Keith Hernandez RC)

I addedthe Mike Schmidt to make this task even easier, of course that means
it goes back on mywantlist. I will be glad to continue to update this list if
everyone will sendme a list of the cards you will be able to send! Everyone
that has committed to sending cards please hang on to them until we finish
the list and then we will flood his mailbox! I just spoke to Tom Curtis on
the phone and he is going to try and get the three remaining cards from the
dealer that had the Dimagio. If Tom is successful I hope we can mail
thepackages from all over the country ala STANHACK (no return addresses)
before the week is out! Let me know if you have other suggestions on how to
handle this! Everyone one of you make be proud to ba a part of this
group,this has to be an OBC record that will not soon be broken!

Tripleplay(Rick)

Subj: Re: Recap---1st of 2, to all but Kevin
Date: 96-08-19 23:59:18 EDT
From: kal4u2@juno.com (Keith A. Lenhart)
To: ChicoD1@aol.com

Sal,

I would like to participate in the 'feelgood' cardboard send. Could you let me know when I should mail my card? And what is the projection date for arrival. I may want to send priority.

This idea of the 'feel good' card-send choked me up when I first read it. I must congratulate you for a very warm and tender thought such as this. Hats' off to you!! ---Keith

Subj: Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist updated 9:36PM West Coast Time
Date: 96-08-20 00:38:05 EDT
From: TPLY
BCC: ChicoD1

All -More messages coming in and the Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist is getting really short (one card left)! Here is the latest list of needed cards for Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist:

1975 Topps Wantlist (any condition)

228 (Brett RC)

I added the Mike Schmidt to make this task even easier, of course that means it goes back on my wantlist. Everyone that has committed to sending cards please hang on to them until we finish the list and then we will flood his mailbox! I just spoke to Tom Curtis on the phone and he is going to try and get the last remaining card from the dealer that had the Dimaggio. If Tom is successful hope we can mail the packages from all over the country ala STANHACK (no return addresses) before the week is out! Let me know if you have other suggestions on how to handle this! Everyone one of you make be proud to be a part of this group, this has to be an OBC record that will not soon be broken!

Tripleplay (Rick)

Subj: Thanks and.... hmmm
Date: 96-08-20 12:51:50 EDT
From: CardClctor
To: CardClctor
BCC: ChicoD1

Higuys,

On a completely different note.....Just the other day I was lamenting Kevin's situation (He's not getting this, BTW.) and I asked someone in OBC the unanswerable question: Why do bad things happen to good people? as I was rambling on as I normally do. Well, the VERY NEXT DAY, I was e-mailed this

from a person who was 'inspired' to send it my way. As a preface to this, it was from a guy in another group my mom is in - under this same screen name. (I don't get enough e-mail from this group <G>) The group is called AWON and is composed of WW II orphans (I'm not sure of the exact acronym). Anyway, the subject of the e-mail was Life's Ride

Anyone who imagines that bliss is normal is going to waste a lot of time running around shouting that he's been robbed. The fact is that most putts don't drop, most beef is tough, most children grow up to be just people, most successful marriages require a high degree of mutual toleration, most jobs are more often dull than otherwise. Life is like an old time rail journey...delays, sidetracks, smoke, dust, cinders and jolts, interspersed only occasionally by beautiful vistas and thrilling bursts of speed. The trick is to thank the Lord for letting you have the ride. "
--Gordon B. Hinckley--

I don't know, but the timing of the thing kinda gave me the willies. About the only thing that was missing is that it wasn't sent from an address like: youknowwho@heaven.net.com. So if you don't think He works in mysterious ways....

Ken M -(Does that seem weird to you?) :-0

Subj: Re: To all but Kevin PT. 2
Date: 96-08-20 07:31:23 EDT
From: Len124
To: ChicoD1

Hey Sal! Count me in on the special card. I usually send a card to my Christmas pal from my childhood collection every year but I'd be glad to send one to Kevin as well. I think the individual mailings would have a more lasting effect. This is just my opinion and will go along with what the majority decides. Hope all is going well.

Best Regards,

Len

Subj: Re: Recap---1st of 2, to all but Kevin
Date: 96-08-20 12:54:32 EDT
From: XCIP
To: ChicoD1

I'm infor Kevin!

Dan

Subj: Re: To all but Kevin PT. 2
Date: 96-08-20 15:13:20 EDT
From: XGKX
To: ChicoD1

Sal,
I was out of town for this whole deal. Is there anything left I can do?
Greg

Subj: Re: Update: to all but Kevin...
Date: 96-08-20 19:30:14 EDT
From: JCERU8600
To: ChicoD1

Hi Sal,

I have a card for Kevin's "healing power of cardboard" campaign. I will stand by to hear confirmation of the mail date.

Joe

Subj: Fwd: Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist updated 9:36PM West Coast Time
Date: 96-08-20 21:41:24 EDT
From: TPLY
BCC: ChicoD1

All -The deal is done!!!! Great job by everyone!!!! I even got a message that will allow me to keep the Schmidt from my collection! Wow, doesn't even express how I feel about this group!

Everyone that agreed to supply cards please put them in the mail to Kevin on Friday! I just wish some of us could be at his mailbox in the coming days to see his reaction! I plan on mailing the cards I agreed to contribute without a return address and they will go out in Friday's mail!

Another Baseball Quote:

"More than any other American sport, baseball creates the magnetic, addictive illusion that it can almost be understood."

-----Thomas Boswell

Like Baseball, this group is addictive and gives the illusion that it can almost be understood. I have no problem explaining this group to friends until I try to describe events like what happened over the last few days. Try and explain this to anyone and you will see what I mean.

Tripleplay(Rick)

ForwardedMessage:

Subj: Re: Kevin's 1975 Topps wantlist updated 9:36 PMWest Coast Time
Date: 96-08-20 13:24:08 EDT
From: Curtisea
To: TPLY

HiTrips,

Enjoyed talking with you the Brett(R) is a done deal! Will be ready to send out in Fridays mail....THE75 TOPPS QUEST IS COMPLETE!!!!

YourPal!

Tom(Curtisea)

Subj: Kevin's 1975 Topps Set (COMPLETED)
Date: 96-08-20 23:48:40 EDT
From: TPLY
BCC: ChicoD1

All -This is the last message on Kevin's 1975 Topps set! If you agreed to send cards please send them directly to Kevin (try and mail them by friday 8/23/96). If you know you will be sending cards and may not be sure which ones you agreed to send let me know (I kept all the emails) and I will help you figure it out! Kevin's mailing address follows:

Kevin Lohse
P.O.Box 386
2928Hickory Drive
Worcester,PA 19490

Tripleplay(Rick)

Subj: I Can't put into words...
Date: 96-08-21 00:38:11 EDT
From: ChicoD1

Please excuse me if this note is one big slobbering mess. I just got off the phone with Rick (Trips) as he broke some awesome news-- We have finished the 75s for Kevin! I am running the gamut of emotions-happy,sad,melancholy,ecstatic, you name 'em!

#1- hearing from Rick is a joy in itself, gotta love a guy with a little west coast thing in his voice (Remember, all YOU guys have the accents, we Lawng Islanders talk good English). We talked for about a 1/2 hour like we've know each other for ages (well 2 1/2 years at least).

This group continues to amaze and restore my faith in mankind. We come from all walks of life and backgrounds, yet we share a common thread. Just a little piece of cardboard. Its wild how something so small can be so strong.

I literally have tears in my eyes writing this. As Rick says, this is a record that won't be broken for some time... Completing a set in a weekend. As good as that feels, I feel kinda sad because of the reasons behind this feat. You gentlemen continue to give... and this all comes from the heart.

I also want to make mention to other guys having their hardships- guys like Bing, Bill, ZZ. You guys know how I feel about you's. You all are in my prayers, always.

I just keep rolling in my mind the things that have come around this group-- sending the baseballs around the country for Teenager (remind us next Monday session, we'll fill you in)-guru's Civil War checklist, flipping on line, Wayne's Seaver rook (or his son throwing Drysdale down the stairs). I have things that will stay with me forever. And you rookies--- son of a gun if you guys don't get to the OBC hall of fame. You all have lifted the spirit to astounding levels. Like Rick said, "how do you explain OBC?" it's cards, faith, hope, charity, love (quick I need more adjectives).

OK, I'm babbling... let's get down to business-- The 75s will be sent from our homes on Friday on THIS week. Send them anonymous, might want to put STAN HACK on the return address.

SEPT 1, we will send out the healers. Remember, back of the envelope "the Healing Power of Cardboard." Inside you may want to drop a note of encouragement and a story about your choice of card.

Thanks to Rick for the phone call and BigAl, who had this idea the same time as me and to all for helping to pull this off. Damn, I'm getting soggy again. I'm just so proud to know and call you all my friends...

SAL

Subj: Sept. 1

Date: 96-08-21 07:23:50 EDT

From: ghart@headwaters.com (George Hart)

To: ChicoD1@aol.com

HiSal--

Here's to the power of OBC and your idea for Kevin. I'll mail the Healer a day or two before Sept. 1, to compensate for the cross-the-border delay.

Have been trying to Email Big Al Cattle for about 2 weeks, and they get returned undeliverable. Any ideas? I'm using his earthlink address.

George

Subj:	[OBC-Ramblings] Old Email from the early days
Date:	8/3/01 9:49:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	<i>tply@aol.com</i>
To:	<i>OBC-Ramblings@yahoogroups.com</i>

Before you read this. My apologies to Sal whom I believe was the one that started the Kevin 75 Topps set idea and not Geno as I earlier stated. I guess old age has gotten to my memory, enjoy.

Subj: Kevin...
Date: 97-09-24 20:53:30 EDT
From: ChicoD1
To: sagard@pconline.com, alcazar@fox.nstn.ca, Jocraig
To: XDrJ, buscemi@erols.com, geordie@cell2000.net
To: stephen.carter@multiflex.com, JCERU8600
To: bkc@ci.cookeville.tn.us, jching@aloha.net, XCIP
To: gcodere@scieh.tcom.co.uk, dcoen@aa.net
To: cpconley@desertlinc.com, yaz@evansville.net
To: friar4@ct1.nai.net, craft.sondra@mcleodusa.net
To: AICattle, DCBBL, Curtisea, MCzape, XDDX
To: redsox3@ibm.net, dietrick@penn.com, ChicoD1
To: okeedokee@pipeline.com, XNDX
To: webbing@mindspring.com, TPLY, RFarr19
To: feastert@aspb.state.ar.us, ipsinc@us.net, KWG0
To: jose88@voicenet.com, Binghamton4, CHackman

To: ghart@log.on.ca, soli@frontiernet.net,GHAY1
To: CoachJPH, hitzema@indiana.edu, neilh@adam.com.au
To: DSH46, Mtlcamess, marcpeter@juno.com
To: djj@earthlink.net, julien@i1.net
To: kalinajc@erols.com, rkeating@juno.com,R6514
To: kinneys6@juno.com, tknowles@mocc.com
To: dkolenda@surfnetinc.com, XBLX, Wite3
To: familytoad@webtv.net, famlist@erols.com
To: Playball33, danm@atcon.com, Malsman
To: wmarvin@ic.waseca.mn.us,smcgowan@cs.uml.edu
To: m.mcgrail@telemedia.nl, JEdward
To: metz@io.uwinnipeg.ca, pgmiller@interl.net
To: jmmnt@oldbaseball.com,tigersgam@worldnet.att.net
To: ZXRM, HMorgan707, CardClctor
To: cjmdpi@main.goldengate.net,dnathan@tenet.edu
To: rdn56@ipass.net, nyej@menominee.k12.mi.us
To: oneills@gte.net, rmperry@alpha.delta.edu,EHP111
To: Toppsin50, Irobinson@gasto.org, MattR613
To: MSRANGERS, RScogland, chahta@juno.com,Ses617
To: skel@radiks.net, TraderDoug
To: dsosidka@postoffice.ptd.net,skeeter6@erols.com
To: dstexmex@ix.netcom.com, hutch2@cyberis.net
To: debrick@wichita.fn.net, jimt@ix.netcom.com
To: guru@dockingbay.com, SICX,illini90@juno.com
To: w-wagner@nwu.edu, maway@isbe.accessus.net
To: marshall52@juno.com, XTrJmx,williamt@kic.or.jp
To: KGWOLFMAN, Txpoobah,mzentko@worldnet.att.net
To: LZurawski

I think we all had the same reaction when we saw the incoming mail title... One of those moments where you knew what you're about to read, yet avoiding it, hoping the mail would go away. I guess deep down, we knew this day would come. It is my hope that everyone in this group touched him in a way that made his short time here just a little more enjoyable. I know he touched me that way. The thing that makes this tough is that we aren't supposed to lose anyone in this group. Oldtimers, bear with me... Some of you guys have an idea of what OBC is about. Others are still working their way thru the massive e-mail. We have been thru divorce, marriage, birth, death, the kids in the playoffs, ourselves in the playoffs, a few fights, many laughs, and just plain & "damn glad to know you" types of chatter.

So I feel that I can honor Kevin best by sharing what has come to be known as the greatest moment in OBC history. The next few e-mails will tell of a quest we had on behalf of Kevin. I'll send the files of the e-mails we exchanged, trying to accomplish this amazing feat. I know that you guys made me proud that day. This is what OBC is all about. Despite what we sometimes go thru, we never let each other down. Like the saying says, you can always count

on your friends. I am happy to call each of you that and feel very privileged to have called Kevin my friend. It kind of makes you think how special a bunch of folks we have here. I can name some great things done by OBCers. Thanks Phil for pulling me aboard for this wild ride. Ok, I'm getting a little whispy and winded, so here is part one...

SAL

Subj:	[OBC-Ramblings] Another OBC Memory
Date:	8/3/01 10:23:50 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	<i>tply@aol.com</i>
To:	<i>OBC-Ramblings@yahoogroups.com</i>

Subj: Kevin Part 3

Date: 97-09-24 20:56:55 EDT

From: ChicoD1

To: sagard@pconline.com, alcazar@fox.nstn.ca, Jocraig

To: XDrJ, buscemi@erols.com, geordie@cell2000.net

To: stephen.carter@multiflex.com, JCERU8600

To: bkc@ci.cookeville.tn.us, jching@aloha.net, XCIP

To: gcodere@scieh.tcom.co.uk, dcoen@aa.net

To: cpconley@desertlinc.com, yaz@evansville.net

To: friar4@ct1.nai.net, craft.sondra@mcleodusa.net

To: AICattle, DCBBL, Curtisea, MCzape, XDDX

To: redsox3@ibm.net, dietrick@penn.com, ChicoD1

To: okeedokey@pipeline.com, XNDX

To: webbing@mindspring.com, TPLY, RFarr19

To: feastert@aspb.state.ar.us, ipsinc@us.net, KWG0

To: jose88@voicenet.com, Binghamton4, CHackman

To: ghart@log.on.ca, soli@frontiernet.net, GHAY1

To: CoachJPH, hitzema@indiana.edu, neilh@adam.com.au

To: DSH46, Mtlcamess, marcpeter@juno.com

To: dj@earthlink.net, julien@i1.net

To: kalinajc@erols.com, rkeating@juno.com, R6514

To: kinneys6@juno.com, tknowles@mocc.com

To: dkolenda@surfnetinc.com, XBLX, Wite3

To: familytoad@webtv.net, famlist@erols.com

To: Playball33, danm@atcon.com, Malsman

To: wmarvin@ic.waseca.mn.us, smcgowan@cs.uml.edu

To: m.mcgrail@telemedia.nl, JEdward

To: metz@io.uwinnipeg.ca, pgmiller@interl.net

To: jmmnt@oldbaseball.com, tigersgam@worldnet.att.net

To: ZXRm, HMorgan707, CardClctor

To: cjmdpi@main.goldengate.net, dnathan@tenet.edu
To: rdn56@ipass.net, nyej@menominee.k12.mi.us
To: oneills@gte.net, rmperry@alpha.delta.edu, EHP111
To: Toppsin50, lrobinson@gasto.org, MattR613
To: MSRANGERS, RScogland, chahta@juno.com, Ses617
To: skel@radiks.net, TraderDoug
To: dsosidka@postoffice.ptd.net, skeeter6@erols.com
To: dstexmex@ix.netcom.com, hutch2@cyberis.net
To: debrick@wichita.fn.net, jimt@ix.netcom.com
To: guru@dockingbay.com, SICX, illini90@juno.com
To: w-wagner@nwu.edu, maway@isbe.accessus.net
To: marshall52@juno.com, XTrJmx, williamt@kic.or.jp
To: KGWOLFMAN, Txpoobah, mzentko@worldnet.att.net
To: LZurawski

Subj: Re: Kevin
Date: 96-08-28 20:13:13 EDT
From: Glk
To: ChicoD1

HiSal!! I too was really touched by the way things worked out with Kevin. Even my tough as bricks wife thought it was a wonderful thing to do!!

The part that leaves a hole with me is that I had no 1975's to contribute. Yes, we did it as a group and even though none of my cards were in the packages, I was still represented. Therefore, after talking to Rick and getting his thumbs up, I thought that we might try to get his 1965 set finished. This would allow those of us who have cards in that "era" to make our own contribution. The only problem card is the Carlton Rookie. none of the other cards he needs are major stars.

My alternative is to just mail the 27 cards i have for him on the September 1st "healing power of cardboard" mailings we are supposed to do.

What do you think? Please let me know!

Your friend, Joel

Subj: Re: Kevin
Date: 96-08-29 05:10:26 EDT
From: Glk
To: ChicoD1

I will send them on the first!!!!
Joel

Subj: Stan Hack Project Update
Date: 96-08-29 11:39:03 EDT
From: klohse@trend1.com (Kevin Lohse)
To: KLOhse@trend1.com

HeyOBCers!!!

Really wanted to give you an update yesterday regarding the amazing thing you did for me, but, to be quite frank, my son and I spend almost every free moment sorting out all those cards and putting them into the new binder!!!

We setup a cardboard table in his bedroom and went to work starting on Monday night when they first came in. Right now we're up to # 500 something and there's only 2 blank spaces in the folders - AND they're probably ones that we misplaced into the back of the stack and didn't come across yet. I absolutely can't believe how that project was so well organized! We put card after card in the folder, with maybe 2 or 3 dupes out of the 500 + we did so far.

You maybe thinking, if we spent so much time working on the cards why are we not still not finished? Do you believe that he makes me try to guess the answer to EACH of the trivia questions on the back of each card before he puts it into the binder!!!! WATCH OUT, TEXPOOBAH!!

Kevin

Subj: Hack Update / Cobb Contest !!
Date: 96-08-30 18:23:51 EDT
From: klohse@trend1.com (Kevin Lohse)
To: KLOhse@trend1.com

HiOBCers,

Last night my son Nathan and I finished compiling the '75 Topps set into the binder! From Aaron to Aaron, every card (except for 4 commons which he and I will have a great time searching for at the local shop tomorrow) in the correct slot. Each trivia question attempted. As we finished up the last 100 cards Nate asked me which year we should collect next. I told him that I'll get another starter set for him at the Ft. Washington show.

COBB CONTEST

Maybe you guys could help me out with something. I have a 1912 T202 Hassan Triple Folder card of Ty Cobb that's burning a hole in my pocket. A typical triplefold has a black and white center panel with a card almost identical to a T205 at each end. What I have is one of the end cards which happens to

be of Ty Cobb, with the middle and other end card missing - but something any true OBCer would truly appreciate. As the card stands now, I believe it looks identical to a T205 of Ty except the border is white and not gold.

The back of the card has the following: "Ty" Cobb, Detroit's outfielder, is one of the fastest players that ever lived. In 1911, he batted .420, making 248 hits, the greatest number ever made by a player in one season. He also led the American League in scoring runs, in stealing bases, in two-baggers, and three-baggers. For the five years ending 1911 his average batting figures were .371. " Sounds like the Peach was coming off a pretty good year....

I think it might be fun to have a little contest so some lucky OBCer could walk away with this card. To enter, all you have to do is write a few words regarding the subject, "How cardboard has made your life a little bit happier". It could be funny, tear jerking, anything you feel like writing.

Content will actually have no bearing on who wins because I'll just put a name in a hat for each person who writes something (please post to all, though I'll compile them and resend them to everybody at the end). The deadline to post a message will be September 25. We'll draw the lucky name sometime during the Ft. Washington weekend festivities (no, you don't have to be there to win). Good luck!

Kevin

Subj: "How cardboard has made your life a little bit happier"
Date: 96-08-31 14:20:30 EDT
From: TPLY
BCC: ChicoD1

Kevin and all - Great idea and I will try and put into words "How cardboard has made my life a little bit happier";

The first thing I think about regarding old cardboard is this great group! I still marvel at how a group of collectors has maintained a friendship for the last five or six years simply by sending email and trading pieces of cardboard through snail mail. We have connected in a way that is hard to explain to family and friends. I have been fortunate enough to meet many members of this group in person and it has always been like meeting old friends! I treasure every package I

receive from this group and I often thumb through my many binders to sooth the days stresses.
Ofcourse, sending packages has the same effect at times! I know that every card I received from this group has a story to tell and many of them I recall simply by gazing at the card as I turn page after page of my binders. For instance the 1953 # 28 Topps Eddie Pellagrini Cincinnati Reds card I received from Milwaukee close to four years ago. This card was in a plastic sleeve and had a post-it stuck on the card that read "Trips";, when I peeled the post-it off the card, half the players face came with it including his left eye and half of his left ear. I have this card in a special binder that I keep "Tipton Mint" cards in. Another card in this binder is a rare 1951 Topps Team Card of the Cincinnati Reds that arrived several years ago from Los Angeles enclosed in a plastic bag from the Post Office, it appears that the package had been severely damaged by the Post Office and the Post Master wrote me a message apologizing for the damage that they had done to the mail. I still have the mangled envelope that enclosed the card, the plastic bag, a message from the post office, the mangled note written by the OBCer and, ofcourse, the card! When I sent a message describing the package and the damage done to the package I described the creases in the card and I received a reply from the sender that said in part; "Creases ala collector seem to be there." In other words, the card arrived pretty much like it was sent only the envelope and note was destroyed by the post office. I have the card, the mangled envelope and note in my special "Tipton Mint" binder and I look at it often with a smile on my face! I remember a trip I took a couple of years ago to Washington D.C. and meeting two OBCers for dinner, we talked baseball and the very generous OBCers from Maryland gave me a copy of the book "Great Book of Baseball Cards"!

We (I) then proceeded to rifle through a binder full of 1972 Topps cards that these very kind OBCers brought with them! Before long every waiter or waitress in the place was dropping by our table

marveling at our activities! I will never forget that night! I could go on to describe the night several of the members were flipping cards during a chat session or the "MIKITA" card I received from OK. but, I will stop here. One other thing is, of course, the pleasure I get from collecting with my family. I will close by saying that I really believe in "The healing power of cardboard"!

Tripleplay(Rick)

Subj: Re: "How cardboard has made your life a little bit happier"
Date: 96-08-31 19:09:50 EDT
From: Curtisea

Collecting cardboard again after 20 yrs. had past came quite by accident. I married early and divorced early the first time around. As those of you who share this experience know, the dating game can at times be both a blessing and a curse. I stayed single for 11 years bound and determined to not repeat old mistakes. I didn't!

One of my girlfriends children, a young son from her first marriage, was really into card collecting. Playing the pseudo father role was part of the relationship so I spent a good deal of time driving her son, and usually a friend, to various shows in the area. While the youngsters ran off to check out their favorite players I killed some time wandering around amazed that people would actually pay good money for cards. Cards our mothers had tossed!! I was infatuated! Here were all the stars of my youth Mantle, Maris, Berra, Kaline, Fisk, BOOG!.

Well to make a long story short the old girlfriend is long gone and I have found that elusive love of my life, my wife Vickie, but ever since those days, I've remained in the hobby. I even opened a hobby shop for a short while hoping to capture what I've now found with OBC! I remember one of my customers, a local minister, who used to come into my shop at times. He was always excited about something going on with this group and filled me in periodically on his

own collection and collections being constructed by other members. Of course, that minister was our own Dr. John Ball and believe, to add a religious twist to this, that John's entrance in that shop of mine was nothing short of divine intervention. I honestly never believed at that time that I could ever get to that level of collecting. I thought the time to begin a collection of this magnitude had long since passed and that I could not possibly succeed. You guys have all proven me wrong and I thank you for it. How has cardboard made my life happier? It was cardboard that brought me to become friends with you guys, it is you all who have made my life happier. Thank you!

Tom (Curtisea)

Subj: The Meaning of Cardboard
Date: 96-08-31 23:45:10 EDT
From: txpoobah@e-tex.com (Terry Woods)

I was an normal child. Bright and well-liked, but living in a neighborhood with no one my age. My yard was Memorial Stadium, County Stadium, Boston Garden, and the Coliseum. Later it would become Augusta National. Whatever this season it was adaptable. Longhorns, Braves, Celtics and the Olympics (decaathlon of course, bamboo fishing poles for the pole vault and my mother's patio lounge chair cushion for the landing. at least until she caught me. Cleared four feet once.) A thousand imaginary games were played in that yard.

But thereal magic occurred in the bedroom. Two single beds along adjoining walls with a night table in the corner. THE PERFECT OUTFIELD WALL. The Braves whipping up on everyone except the Orioles. Even they could not beat the team headed by the great Willie Miranda. the ball you ask.....either a football card or a Joe Margoneri (I must of had 15 of him) folded to about one inch and then held together by a rubber band. The bat.... a pencil (Ticonderoga with one side shaved flat and a layer of glue. Then notched for two finger. The ultimate weapon)

Now lineups were kept by writing ON the card the players spot in the lineup. Ink, pencil, crayon all were used at one time or another. Willie hit a massive homer once. It stuck to the top of the curtains. A full nine feet above the playing field. Miranda once hit six homers in one game. Probably exceeding his actual Career totals. Only the Mick of all the dreaded Yankees could ever have any success against the Braves, Giants, Orioles or Dodgers. Matthews, Aaron, Reese, Campanella Hodges Adcock not only heroes, but there at the lovely Mission Stadium for a 1957 spring training game.

But none of the real games could match the drama of the thousands of games played in the bedroom.

After hours spent comparing the statistics I would create All-star teams, all Texas teams vs. the infidels from the North, the biggest guys at each position vs. the littlest. the players with the highest batting averages against those with the lowest. (The Poobah obviously in the making)

Then came May 27th 1963 and three friends decided to play golf on a Friday afternoon. Later I would discover that after accumulating 75% of the 59 and 60 sets, I had about a 100 61s and 50 62s and NOT ONE 63. I needed money for greenfees.

Then in 1981 I went to a card show in Dallas. My 5 year old daughter in tow. (Can this be the same child who is now a mother?) Couldn't believe the prices they were selling cards. My 53 Mantle at \$200. And to sell cards, they wanted to give you nothing for them. Too many memories to sell any of those precious 2500 baseball and 800 football cards that now resided in a briefcase I had used in College.

Then came 1989 and a trip to the 7-11. What's this? A box of Bowmans. Resurrecting my childhood hobby and the set with the TVs. Let me have a box. Later had one set and most of another. My childhood had returned. Besides my new wife loved to go to flea markets and I was seeing baseball stuff everywhere.

Then a new toy for the computer, Prodigy. A local call and here's someone writing about old baseball cards. And yes he likes them beat up too. Bob Neill from North Carolina. Soon some nut from Oklahoma joined us and the rest is history.

At age 4 I started wearing baseball caps. Mom said I'd lose my hair. She was right. I asked her one day if I was as passionate for the game as I think I was. Her response "You thought of almost nothing else from that age." Baseball, the greatest and most noble of all games. I still live it, I still breathe it, I still live those dreams as Miranda homers once more.

I remain

TGPORAI

Subj: The Meaning of Cardboard
Date: 96-09-01 09:10:20 EDT
From: friar4@usa.nai.net (Bob Corvello)
To: friar4@nai.net

All,

For a long time I hesitated to write or even talk about this subject. I guess because I felt that my hobby was kind of weird and that such an obsession as cardboard addiction could only be interpreted as some form of mental aberration. As many of you have written at various times, our hobby is not the easiest thing in the world to explain to "normal people."

My attitude has changed, however, and I guess I am now truly ready to fully come out of the closet on this. OBC has turned a big corner, in my opinion, in recent weeks. We have been something more than just a cardboard trading club for quite some time now; but the last few weeks have, somehow, made all of that so much more official. Now, don't get me wrong; I was never ashamed of collecting old baseball cards with all of you. I just found it awkward to try to really explain it to my fellow teachers how a full grown 51 year old could be so fascinated in what most of them considered a kid's hobby. Of course, you know that it's not just a kid's hobby and I know it's not just a kid's hobby, and we all know that, in many ways, it really is just a kid's hobby; but how to heck to describe all that complexity and have it make sense. Most of my colleagues are much more interested in playing tennis, or mountain biking, or gardening, or a whole number of pseudo-intellectual hobbies that are OK I guess, but that just don't appeal to me any more.

I must have started collecting baseball cards sometime between the mid to late '50s. From that time in history until 1991, the only cards I owned (yes, my mother never threw them out) were from the '54, '58, '59, '60, and '61 sets. I had more from the '58 set than any other and about all I did was to caretake them from 1961 to 1991. They sat in cellars, attics, and who knows where as I moved from house to house and from Rhode Island to Connecticut with my wife and children in 1977. Every once in a while I would see them off in a corner in a shoebox somewhere and I would say to myself that I should do something with them, but

I never really did. I knew that they were increasing in value as I read about some crazies who were really getting into collecting cards in the late '70s and early '80s, but, for some reason, nothing about this really appealed to me over those years.

The decade of the '80s was a very difficult one for the olde Friar. I was beset by tons of personal problems related to my son's emotional problems, my marriage, my job, and on and on it went. Chronic depression set in and very little seemed to mean anything anymore. I tried, of course, to dig out from under and hold my family together (which it still is, thank God), but the successes came hard and, as we moved into the '90s, things were a little better, but my life still had many huge holes. I guess you could say that I needed to find something positive and wholesome to fill those holes and recreate a better person, to rebuild a foundation for myself, and, more importantly for my family who I love very much.

Two things happened, not quite simultaneously, but close enough, to help me fill those holes. They were things that would seem quite trivial to many, but I found them to be much more meaningful than anyone, even I, could have imagined. For one, I discovered computers as the initial technology wave swamped over the field of education, and, of course, I rediscovered my old cardboard.

I will never forget the day when it happened. I was visiting my colleague Dick Ayer in the classroom we shared (Rm. B-1 at Shepaug Valley Middle/High School). He said he had something for me. When I asked him what it was, he pulled out a Dwight Evans card from the mid-eighties (I wish now that I could remember which one it was). Anyway, he had been collecting cards again now for a few years, and said he had a dupe on this one. He knew that Dwight was one of my favorite players and as a Yankee fan, he was anxious to get rid of all his Red Sox dupes. Well, I took the card, more out of politeness than anything else, and took it home.

The rest is history, as they say. One thing led to another. It dawned on me that computers might be a great way to organize something that I had loved to do as a kid. After all, I already had some (although relatively few in number) old cards to start with. While gearing up my spreadsheets and databases for the cards, I started to go to flea markets, auctions, and, yes, even card shows. I also started to check out the boards, first on AOL and then Prodigy. Happily, I found that there were others like me who shared this strange attraction to cardboard. At first it was all cardboard, new and old; but then I saw the light and really started to focus on the old stuff, the stuff that brought me back to the late '50s and early '60s when life was much simpler. When OBC finally came into the picture, it was the final piece in the puzzle that gave meaning to all of it. To circle back, you all know what OBC has come to mean to all of us. Yes, it has truly helped to fill a hole in my heart, and, as I can see, the same is true for many others. The meaning of old cardboard is, indeed, much more than old cardboard.

the olde Friar

Subj:	[OBC-Ramblings] Yet another OBC memory (I will stop for now)
Date:	8/3/01 11:23:25 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	<i>tply@aol.com</i>
To:	<i>OBC-Ramblings@yahoogroups.com</i>

IN MEMORY OF KEVIN LOHSE

KEVIN'S CHARITY AUCTION

This auction is to benefit the children of Kevin Lohse. Kevin was an active trader of old baseball cards. He died of cancer this past summer, leaving a wife and three children. The proceeds of this auction will

provide college funds for Kevin's children. All cards being auctioned were donated by members of OBC (www.oldbaseball.com). 100% of the proceeds will benefit Kevin's children.

RULES OF THE AUCTION

1. The auction will end Wednesday, January 28, promptly at 11 PM eastern time.
 2. This is an e-mail only auction. No phone bidding. Have a question -- e-mail KevinSauc@aol.com. E-mail bids recorded in order received by my computer. We know sometimes e-mail does not come through promptly, but we can't deal with that. Bid early.
 3. Bidding -- suggested minimum opening bid of \$2 or 50% of the at condition value of the lot. This is a charity auction and we plan to sell all lots, so these minimums are only suggested. Only whole dollar bids. Raises must be a minimum of 10% above the current bid.
 4. Limit bids -- are accepted. "Top all" bids are not. Lots will be bid for limit bidders at 10% above the next highest bidder up to your limit.
 5. Notification -- it is my intent to notify all bidders of the status of the auction daily, more often on the last day. Notification is not guaranteed.
 6. Payment by personal check or money order within 7 days payable to Doug Smith, 2306 Woodmoor Lane, Colleyville, Texas 76034
 7. All lots in this auction have been donated. The auctioneer's time is donated. There is no "buyers premium."
 8. Because of the nature of this auction, the auctioneer does not own any lots and will be bidding in the auction. To protect the integrity of the auction he will not bid during the last 24 hours.
 9. Please add a buck or two for postage. If you want insurance add \$3 for that. I'll send it regular US mail unless you pay for something else. I'd hoped to donate the postage but this auction got too big.
 10. If you're not satisfied return the lot for a full refund within 10 days.
 11. High book values come from the December Beckett or the 1997 SCD Standard Catalogue of Baseball Cards. Errors are possible, check for yourself.
- Auction Items:

I didn't list all the cards everyone donated for this auction and I will let Terry or perhaps others tell you how we did for his kid with the proceeds. The magic of OBC is incredible to this day!

Tripleplay (Rick)