

## **Exhibit celebrating minorities in baseball opens Monday in Providence**

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**By Special to The Journal**

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PROVIDENCE — “Chasing Dreams: Baseball & Becoming American,” an exhibit celebrating minorities in baseball, will be on display starting Monday and will run through Dec. 15 at Dwares JCC.

The exhibit will feature well-known Jewish baseball heroes such as Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax and iconic baseball pioneers such as Jackie Robinson, Joe DiMaggio, Roberto Clemente and Ichiro Suzuki, as well as baseball’s extended family of vendors, team owners, minor leaguers, amateur players, scouts, broadcasters, journalists, novelists — and especially, fans. The core exhibit, developed by and on loan from the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia and augmented with artifacts on loan from local organizations and individuals, investigates and shares how baseball has served as an arena in which values, identity, ethnicity and race have been projected, contested and occasionally solidified.

Alongside the core exhibit, Rick Harris, an expert on Rhode Island baseball and minorities in baseball, will display some of his collection of postcards (many a century old) that illustrate the obstacles faced by African-Americans and women as they sought to participate in America’s game.

The official opening night program will be Nov. 9, with a drop-in beginning at 5:30. The 7 p.m. ceremony will feature a presentation by Robert Cvornyek, professor of history at Rhode Island College, where he specializes in sports history.

School and church groups are encouraged to reserve times for tours. For more information about the exhibition and about related programming at the Dwares JCC, please contact [ChasingDreams@JewishAllianceRI.org](mailto:ChasingDreams@JewishAllianceRI.org). The Dwares JCC is at 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence. There is no admission charge.