

Ron Lewis' latest creation honors Jewish ballplayers. Signed lithographs are available to order now.

ARTWORK HONORS JEWISH BALLPLAYERS – Ron Lewis, whose iconic art has celebrated living members of baseball's 500 Home Run Club, 3,000-Hit Club, its 3,000 strikeout pitchers and hockey's 500 goal scorers, has completed a new lithograph presenting 26 living Jewish baseball players.

The signed pieces, available for purchase in five editions, are presented by Art O Graphs Limited of Buffalo Grove, Ill., where owner Greg Harris conceived the idea and then undertook the task of traveling the country to obtain the autographs of the players presented.

The lithographs are currently being signed and are expected to be ready to ship on Nov. 7. Orders are now being taken, with collectors encouraged to reserve a print at this time. Each player depicted on the art is individually signing all 500 total prints, and with each print numbered, orders will be filled based on a first-come, first-served basis, with the lowest numbered prints sold first. One-of-a-kind "Gold Issue" and "Greatest Moments" prints are expected to go quickly.

Featured on the lithograph is Hall of Famer Sandy Koufax, MVP award winners Al Rosen and Ryan Braun; Cy Young winner Steve Stone; All-Stars Shawn Green, Ian Kinsler, Kevin Youkilis, Brad Ausmus, Joe Horlen, Jason Marquis and Richie Sheinblum; World Series players Art Shamsky, Gabe Kapler, Steve Yeager, Mike Epstein and Scott Feldman; first designated hitter Ron Blomberg; plus Norm Sherry, (Dodgers player, Angels manager), John Grabow (.558 winning percentage), Craig Breslow (77 appearances in 2009), Norm Miller (10-year veteran), Ross Baumgarten (13-8 in 1979), Ike Davis (31 home runs in 2012), Sam Fuld (2011 Division champ), Ruben Amaro Jr., (now the Phillies GM) and "One More Pitch" wonder Adam Greenberg. The painting also includes a 27th figure, the late Hank Greenberg, unsigned of course.

In addition to the players, shown in uniform standing on the field, "spectators" in the stands behind the grouping include MLB Commissioner Bud Selig, White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf, Cubs president Theo Epstein, 61* film producer Billy Crystal, broadcast legend Larry King, TV star/producer Rob Reiner, Diamondbacks president/CEO Derrick Hall, Dodgers broadcaster Charley Steiner and the past and present executive directors of the Major League Baseball Players Association Marvin Miller and Michael Weiner.

Orders may be made by mail to Art O Graphs, Ltd., 471 Thorndale Dr., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089. Check, credit card or PayPal is accepted.

Details for ordering are online at www.JewishBaseballPlayer.com or call (847) 924-6140. ◆

Obituaries

Eddie Yost

Eddie Yost, nicknamed the "The Walking Man" for his ability in drawing a base on balls, died Oct. 16. He was 86.

Yost enjoyed an 18-year major league career from 1944-62, missing the 1945 season due to military service, with the Washington Senators for 14 years and two years each with the Detroit Tigers and Los Angeles Angels. Yost led the league in walks six times, and his 1,614 free passes rank him 11th all-time (he ranked fourth at the time of his retirement). In his career, the third baseman compiled a .254 batting average, with 139 home runs, 683 RBI and a .394 on-base percentage. Yost would later serve as a coach with the Senators, N.Y. Mets and Boston Red Sox.

Alex Karras

Alex Karras, who gained fame in the NFL as a fearsome defensive lineman and later as an actor, died Oct, 10. He was 77.

Karras spent his entire 12-year career with the Detroit Lions, leading the defensive line. He was named to four Pro Bowls and was a member of the NFL's All-Decade team of the 1960s. Karras was also known for butting heads with Lions management and the commissioner of the NFL during his playing days. After football, Karras became a successful actor, with his most memorable role as George Papadapolis on the TV show Webster.

Donnie Butcher

Former New York Knick and Detroit Piston guard and Piston coach Donnie Butcher died Oct. 8. He was 76.

Butcher played in the NBA from 1961-66, averaging 6.1 points and 2.1 assists per game.