

# Former Expo Singleton has doubts of split Montreal-Tampa home schedule



Mike Cohen

NEW YORK- Okay, I can check something else off my Bucket List, having just watched a Major League Baseball game from the press box at Yankee Stadium with the added bonus of their opposition being the Toronto Blue Jays and Vladimir Guerrero Jr. New York won the game 4-2 before more than 42,000 fans on a picture perfect day.

This was the first time I had seen a MLB game since the Expos left town 15 years ago. Thanks to my good friend Morden "Cookie" Lazarus, I connected with former Expos right fielder Ken Singleton to get his take on the return of pro ball to Montreal.

Can Singleton really be 72 years of age? He spent three seasons in a Montreal uniform, arriving with Tim Lincecum and Mike Jorgensen in the then controversial trade that sent Rusty Staub to the Mets. Singleton ended up completing his MLB career with 10 strong years in Baltimore.



Ken Singleton

For the past three decades Singleton has made a living as a broadcaster. This included stints as the colour commentator for Dave Van Horne on the Expos television and radio networks for 12 years. These days he is winding down his career, doing a limited amount of Yankees TV broadcasts. He will decide on whether to continue at the end of this season.

While Singleton remains optimistic that the Expos will indeed return, he is not buying the latest proposal by Tampa Bay Rays owner Stuart Sternberg to begin splitting seasons in Florida and Montreal in four years time.

"The major hurdle is the Major League Baseball Players Association," Singleton said. "I do not see the players going for this. If a player is married with kids that means he has to move three times – for spring training, to Tampa and then to Montreal. This whole thing is all about putting pressure on the city of Tampa to build a stadium; it is sort of like a power play. Four years is a long time. It is like the Rays are telling the city they have time to get their act together."

"If I am Montreal," adds Singleton, "then I want a team full-time."

Singleton also believes that Montreal needs a stadium with a retractable roof. "I played three seasons at Jarry Park and for the early scheduled games there, it was brutally cold," he said. "It also made it tough for us to get off to a good start. There were a lot of early season postponements and with all the makeup games at the end that makes it tough on the pitching staff."

A downtown stadium is imperative, Singleton maintains. "Olympic Stadium is not in a good location," he said.

As for possibly getting an expansion team

or the Rays moving to Montreal, Singleton notes that Montreal has an advantage that Olympic Stadium could be used for the team until a new stadium is built.

Singleton is among those who still believes the Rays could relocate to our city. "The Yankees have spring training in Tampa and I own a home there so I know about the fan base very well," Singleton says. "Their stadium is in a poor location and it does not look like they will get a new one. They have a lease until 2027 and the way I see it Major League Baseball could just buy that out and facilitate the move to Montreal. Figure that if the Rays move to Montreal, the Expos would be in the same division as the Yankees, the Red Sox and the Blue Jays which would be very good for attendance and rivalries."

**BLOG BANTER:** Please see my blog on *The Suburban* website for more about Yankees game as well as the Alouettes and Just For Laughs.

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# Montreal's renowned neuroscientist Dr. Brenda Milner turns 101

*Colleague of legendary Dr. Wilder Penfield*

By Mina Mazumder  
The Suburban

The Montreal Neurological Institute celebrated Canadian neuroscientist Brenda Milner's 101st birthday with pride re-

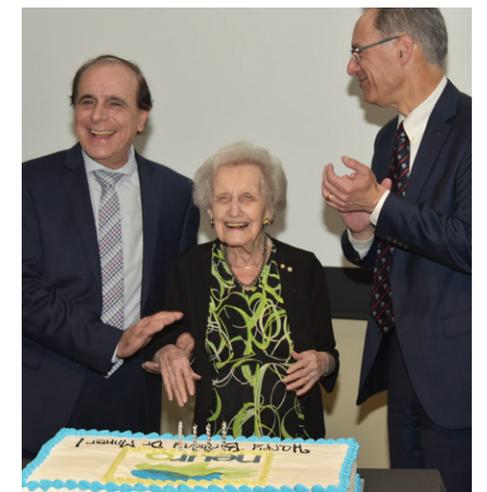
cently. The MNI's auditorium was filled with graduate students, researchers, and professors from cognitive science, neuroscience and neuropsychology from McGill University and other institutions around Montreal.

"I'm very happy to be here," Milner said. "I'm very grateful to this institute and to all of you who came here today for this wonderful honor." Milner shared a laugh with the audience as she mentioned that he has been working for the institute since 1952. "I'm happy to be in good health and to get the chance to be here on such a wonderful day with great colleagues and students."

Milner is known for her contribution and research in clinical neuropsychology. She was a professor in the Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery at McGill University and a professor of Psychology at the Montreal Neurological Institute. In the 1950s, Milner worked at the Institute with Dr. Wilder Penfield, exploring the interaction between the brain's left and right hemispheres while studying the behaviour of young adult patients with epilepsy. She is a pioneer in the field of cognitive neuroscience and is world-renowned for her work on memory.

Michael Petrides, a neuroscientist and neuroscience professor at McGill, worked on his postdoctoral research fellowship with Dr. Milner. When he completed his PhD, his advisor recommended him to pursue further research with Dr. Milner in Montreal. "At the time, everybody was already thinking of her as the person for brain research," he said. "She never tolerated fuzzy thinking and our ideas had to be expressed precisely in good grammatical language. We learned a lot from her. Working with her was a great experience and we are all very loyal to her."

Petrides said Milner is a good role mod-



From left Dr. Michael Petrides, Dr. Brenda Milner and Dr. David Edelman, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at McGill. Photo by Helmut Bernhard

el for many women who want to pursue a career in the scientific fields. "She is a very sharp, intelligent and modest person," he said. "In her time, the people in this field were mostly men. We all see the graduate students here today who care about her because she has been such a great role model and a positive influence in our lives."

Many female scientists and researchers have already been inspired by Milner's career. Sivaniya Subramaniapillai, PhD candidate at McGill University who is also working at Montreal's Douglas Institute, said that Dr. Milner was a great inspiration to her and she hopes Milner will have a lasting impact on many other women for future generations to come. "She's definitely inspired me to pursue research in memory, and is an exceptional scientist role model," she said. ■

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