WALTER JOHNSON  
Walter Johnson’s parents, Frank & Minnie Johnson, met at a street dance in the late 1800s. 

Walter Johnson was born November 6th, 1887, northwest of Humboldt, Kansas. 

On December 7, 1889, George Sweatt was born in Humboldt, Kansas, on Pine Street just across the road from where the Walter Johnson Athletic Field is located. 

GEORGE SWEATT  
George Sweatt’s fame would come in the Negro League when, in 1920, he started for the Kansas City Monarchs. 

In 1907, Johnson made baseball’s “big show” by signing with the Washington Senators. He played for the Senators twenty years, and in 1924 they won the World Series. 

In 1924, during the first Negro League World Series, Sweatt played left field, batted eighth and contributed to a Monarch victory. Shortly after, Sweatt became friends with Negro League founder, Rube Foster. 

In 2000, “The Sporting News,” voted Johnson the fourth greatest baseball player of all time, behind Babe Ruth, Willie Mays, and Ty Cobb. 

Sweatt was educated at Pittsburg State University and taught at the Cleveland School in Coffeyville, KS. In 2005, he was voted into Pittsburg State University’s Hall of Fame. 

HUMBOLDT, KS  
In 1921, after eight barnstorming trips to Humboldt, Johnson had raised enough money for USD 258 to purchase the land to build the Walter Johnson Athletic Field. Johnson also helped fund the new Humboldt High School which was under construction. 

In 1936, Johnson was among the first group voted into The Baseball Hall of Fame. 

Humboldt’s native sons have been published in four different books: Walter Johnson: Baseball’s Big Train, Road Side Baseball, Black Stars and Black Ball Tales. 

Due to its baseball heritage, the City of Humboldt has been featured in several prominent newspapers such as The Kansas City Star and The Wichita Eagle. Humboldt has also been cited on the home page of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum web site, in the Pittsburg State University Magazine and the Kansas Government Journal. 

February 2009
Walter Johnson motion in Humboldt, Kansas

1910 - 1920


Players in 1900
Humboldt, Kansas

Photo by: Gene & Bev Miller

Humboldt High School
Time capsule location
Oct. 26, 1921
Humboldt native Walter Johnson pitched eight exhibition games to purchase the land for the Walter Johnson Athletic Field. The first games were played on the baseball field east of the railroad tracks on Pine St. The 1916 game was played in Iola.

There would be crowds of 3,000 people at the games. The Humboldt School District used this gift to purchase land from the Keller family at 6th & Pine to build Walter Johnson Athletic Field. The last game played on Oct. 26, 1921 dedicated the Walter Johnson Athletic Field. Johnson signed and dated the first pitch, the ball was then put in a time capsule in the N. E corner of the new Humboldt High School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Won or Lost</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>(Vs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>4-3</td>
<td>Iola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Tie</td>
<td>0-0</td>
<td>Iola (Darkness)</td>
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<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>8-3</td>
<td>Chanute</td>
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<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>Lost</td>
<td>4-3</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
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<tr>
<td>#5</td>
<td>1916</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>4-3</td>
<td>Iola</td>
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<tr>
<td>#6</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>K. C. Red Sox</td>
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<td>1918</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NO GAME DUE TO WAR TIME</td>
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<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>12-5</td>
<td>Moran</td>
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<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>NO GAME DUE TO RAIN</td>
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<tr>
<td>#8</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>Won</td>
<td>5-4</td>
<td>Garnett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Humboldt History Baseball Map

B&W
Truck Beds

224 Exit
Old Santa Fe Railroad

Hwy 169
E.

W.
Hwy 169

Camp Hunter
Camping & dump station
(Check in at City Hall

2 Mile sign
Johnson Sweat Sign

City Hall

Neosho River
2ND Street
Sweat Home 1901

Johnson Field

Sweat Memorial Complex

Wulf Drive
Monarch Cement

Swimming Pool

H.H.S.M.

900 Rd.
Ohio Road
Illinois Rd

2 Miles

Humboldt Original High School Baseball items 1900

Dodie's

9th Street

Ball in the Wall

Humboldt Original High School Baseball items 1900

1st Ball Park

Pine Street

Works Sports

Sweat Memorial Complex

Johnson Sweat Sign

Sweat Park