



**Nashville Old Timers
Baseball Association**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Old Timers Banquet to Feature Rick Dempsey

Baltimore Orioles Catcher World Series MVP in 1983

NASHVILLE, TN – December 8, 2009 - Former Major League player Rick Dempsey will be the featured speaker at the 2010 Old Timers annual banquet, scheduled for Friday, January 22nd at the Millennium Maxwell House, 2025 Rosa L. Parks Blvd.

Dempsey was drafted in 1967 by the Minnesota Twins but is best known for his years with the Baltimore Orioles. His playing career also included stints with the New York Yankees, Cleveland Indians, Los Angeles Dodgers, and Milwaukee Brewers.

In 1983 as a member of the Baltimore Orioles, Dempsey had five hits in the World Series, four doubles and a homer, and the Orioles beat the Phillies in five games. Dempsey was named World Series MVP. Dempsey, who came to the Orioles as part of a 10-player trade with the Yankees in 1976, was also a member of the Los Angeles Dodgers World Series championship team in 1988.

Dempsey led AL catchers in fielding in 1981 and 1983 and in assists in 1979. In 1990 Dempsey achieved the rare distinction of catching a major league game in four different decades.

His sense of humor during his playing career was renowned. Dempsey was famous for his "rain delay theatre" performances, in which he emerged from the dugout in stocking feet onto the tarpaulin covering the infield during a rain delay and pantomimed hitting an inside the park home run. He climaxed his performances by sliding into home plate on his belly on the wet tarp, all to the delight of soggy fans.

He has served as a coach for the Orioles and currently is the studio analyst for O's Xtra on MASN, the cable channel that carries Orioles games. Dempsey was born in Fayetteville, Tennessee.

Tickets for the banquet are \$35 each and may be purchased at Nashville Sporting Goods, Hit after Hit, Nashville Sounds, or from any Old Timers board member. The event begins at 6:30 PM and will include a silent auction. Call Farrell Owens (615-269-7348), Skip Nipper (615-773-7050) or visit www.otbaseball.com for more information.

At their annual banquets the Nashville Old Timers Baseball Association has presented scholarships totaling over \$175,000 to worthy area high school senior baseball players. Scholarship applications are available on the Old Timers web site. A golf tournament is held each September to raise funds for scholarships.

Formed in 1938 by a group of local baseball enthusiasts, the Nashville Old Timers Baseball Association is one of the oldest such ongoing organizations in the United States. The Old Timers group will be celebrating its 72nd year of existence in 2010.