

1106-H5-1618 **E. Lee May, Jr.*** (elmay@salisbury.edu), MATH/COSC, 1101 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801, and **Frank Van Santen.** *The Ex-Cub Factor.*

The Ex-Cub Factor is the presence, on Major League Baseball Team T, of at least three players who, at one time or another before joining T, found themselves on the roster of the Chicago Cubs. The factor was identified and named in 1981 by Ron Berler, then a columnist for the Boston Herald American. From his study of baseball statistics dating from 1946 (a year the significance of which will be explained in the talk) forward, Berler had determined that, “According to The Ex-Cub Factor, it is utterly impossible for a team with three or more ex-Cubs to win the [World] series.” This talk will feature a history of the Ex-Cub Factor; the presentation of statistics on the World Series from 1946 through 2014, with an eye to how well the conjecture has fared; and some inference regarding its value as a predictor of the winner of future Series. No knowledge of baseball is necessary to understand the talk, but successful completion of a course in introductory statistics would be helpful in doing so. Consequently, the talk is accessible to undergraduates. (Received September 14, 2014)