Hi Friends —

Normally in this space I throw my fastball (jazz) or my curveball (politics). But this month I'm tossing my changeup and talking about the "designated hitter" rule. (You know, just in case you don't know that I also have a July 4th concert to promote. Just Jazz presents Trombonist Wayne Wallace and his Latin jazz ensemble for eight standards and two originals. Brown never composed for a saxophonist like Billy Strayhorn. Carlon and an excellent Latin jazz ensemble carry ten classic tunes. To be frank, this is not what I was planning to write this month — a long involved discussion of the history of the Negro folksong. But if you were that all gifted...