

Ruth Rescued Baseball After Scandal Struck

Turned Game Into Eden For Batters, Won Major Renown, Huge Fortune

(By The Associated Press) Babe Ruth rescued baseball when it was tottering in the wind of public disfavor under the impact of the 1919 "Black Sox" scandal and with his mighty bat he went on to change the entire complexion of the national pastime. Baseball, in turn, brought him rich dividends in fame and fortune.

The big, lovable, happy-go-lucky Bambino was more than a star. He was a symbol. Baseball players might come and go, but regardless of their achievements, none ever could supplant him in the public mind as the personification of everything that was great and spectacular in the game.

He turned baseball from a pitcher's stronghold to a batter's paradise. The ball was changed to put more "rabbit" in it. The squeeze, bunt and steal system gave way to free swinging and big innings. The fans cheered the heavy hitting and particularly the Ruthian long-distance dynamiting.

Richly Rewarded
How well they loved it was evidenced by the financial re-

wards Ruth received. In 22 seasons he earned \$896,000 plus \$41,445.11 as his share of World Series receipts and around \$1,000,000 from endorsements, barnstorming and the movies. Two seasons—1930 and 1931—paid him \$90,000 a year, \$5,000 more than the President of the United States received.

Through advisers, he invested so well he realized a \$2,500 monthly income by the time he was 45. This despite the fact that he once said he had lost or been defrauded of a quarter of a million.

Hit 714 Home Runs
During his major league career the Babe hit 714 home runs in regular season play, including 60 in one season. He had a slugging average of .847 in one season and a lifetime slugging average of .690. His lifetime batting average was .342.

"Shucks," he once said, "I could have hit a .600 lifetime average easy. But I would have had to hit singles. The people were paying to see me hit home runs."

Ruth set a record by smashing three home runs in a World Series game, accomplishing that feat twice. He was in 10 World Series—three while with the Boston Red Sox and seven with the Yankees. He batted in more runs than any other player—2,209—and scored more runs himself—2,147—than any except Ty Cobb.

First Starred As Pitcher
The records he set were not confined to batting. As a pitcher he hurled 29 World Series innings in a row without allowing a run.

That string began in 1918, when he pitched 13 innings for the Red Sox in one overtime game with the Brooklyn Dodgers, and was carried over to 1918, when next the Red Sox reached the post-season classic. Then he hurled one complete nine-inning scoreless game and seven more whitewash frames in another against the Chicago Cubs.

He had held, in all, 76 major league records—so many that the statisticians gave him an entire section to himself in the record books.

Left An Orphan
Ruth was born George Herman Gerhardt, son of a butcher, in Baltimore.

His parents died when Ruth was very young. For a time he lived with an aunt, but before he was 7 he was placed in St. Mary's Industrial School, run by a group of Catholic Brothers. It was there that his name was changed to Ruth.

He showed early aptitude for baseball. One of the school's faculty, Brother Gilbert, encouraged and coached him. Realizing the youth's potentialities, the Brother asked Jack Dunn of the Baltimore Orioles to look him over. Dunn watched the youngster play in one game and immediately signed him to a contract as a pitcher.

In the spring of 1914 the six-foot-two, 200 pound recruit, with his flat broad nose, large ears and limitless stamina, reported to the Orioles at a salary of \$600 a year. This was increased to \$800 after the first month and to \$1,300 after the second month. Before the season was over, Dunn sold Ruth to the Red Sox for a sum reported to have been somewhere between \$2,900 and \$10,000.

This year's Pacific International Livestock exposition, scheduled for Oct. 1 to 9 in Portland, will be the 38th since its founding in 1910.

Chiefs Slump In Batting Averages

Based on a report of the Southern Oregon League secretary, batting averages for the Umpqua Chiefs have taken a decided downward swing since July 31. At that date, the league secretary released a memorandum listing the top 65 batters in the league. Of the 10 Chiefs listed, four had a batting average over .300 but in the last two weeks, only Ralph Montgomery has been able to better his mark.

Two members of the local team have retained their averages of two weeks ago. Lovell Baker, in three additional games, is still batting .291 and Jerry Huggins was sidelined with injuries to retain a season hitting average of .267.

As of July 31, Manager Del Hoff was leading the team in hitting with a .382 followed by Elmore Hill .321, Virg Sanders .318, and Red Shapero .317. Only Virg Sanders was able to retain his comparative standing. He is still in third spot in team hitting but dropped from his respectable .318 to .258.

Player	AB	H	AV
Red Shapero	54	16	.294
Lovell Baker	45	13	.289
Virg Sanders	56	15	.268
Elmore Hill	52	9	.201
Ralph Montgomery	32	8	.250
Del Hoff	43	17	.395
Jerry Huggins	42	11	.262
Brick Aver	21	4	.190
Bruce Hamilton	21	4	.190
George Sanders	28	4	.143

Averages based on report as of July 31 with addition of three games. Averages for Southern Oregon League games only.

Averages for players who have been to bat at least 25 times and batting over .200.

Japanese Mourn Passing of Ruth

TOKYO, Aug. 17.—(AP)—Babe Ruth, who rated only slightly under General MacArthur in the esteem of the Japanese, was mourned throughout this baseball-loving nation today.

Every Japanese old enough to pull on a baseball mitt loved "Babe Ruth." Every baseball game in the country was halted for one minute out of respect to the home run king who died in New York yesterday.

Ruth came here in his prime with Connie Mack's All-Stars. They were billeted at the Imperial Hotel, but before checking in Ruth drove to the ball park and started hitting a few while goggle-eyed Japanese watched.

In rapid succession Ruth lined four pitched balls into the grandstand.

Oriental pitching and Oriental ballparks were made to order for him. His "home runs," as the Japanese called them, have never been equalled here.

Japanese propagandists taught their soldiers during the war to taunt U. S. troops in battle with cries of "To hell with Babe Ruth."

They figured that ought to be the supreme insult to an American.

Woolmen Defeat Albany Juniors

SALEM, Aug. 17.—(AP)—Portland's Rock Woolmen held the state American Legion Junior baseball championship today.

The big city entry, sailed through the double elimination tournament series undefeated and captured the title here yesterday by defeating Albany, 6 to 1.

Jerry Hefty limited the Albany batsmen to seven hits and rapped out three singles in the nine hits the victors collected off three Albany moundsmen.

The champions will go to the regional playoff at Yakima next week against Washington, Idaho and Montana titlists.

Team	Score
Portland	600 140 001-4 8 1
Albany	010 000 000-1 7 9

Hefty and Livsey; Mohler, Simmons (3), Vannice (3) and Spreen.

The panda is one of the rarest of mammals, with the face of a racoon, feet like a cat and body similar to that of the bear.

There are about 200 kinds of lizards in Australia.



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