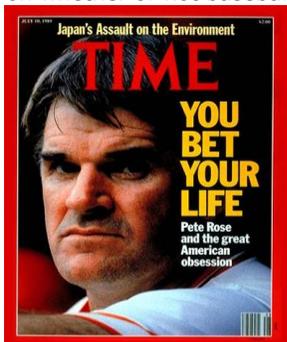


Pete Rose Erased Topps Doesn't Recognize All-Time Hits Leader

Friday, February 15, 2013 | Chris Schilken, Los Angeles Times

Pete Rose is one of the most polarizing figures in baseball. Just the mention of his name can spark a huge debate on whether or not baseball's all-time hits leader deserves his lifetime ban from the sport for allegedly betting on games. Topps baseball cards has joined the debate -- without even mentioning Rose's name. In fact, the company has joined the debate by *not* mentioning his name.



Rob Harris of the Chicagoside website wrote that Rose -- and apparently only Rose -- is left out of a new feature on the back of the 2013 cards. On the back of each card, there's a line labeled "Career Chase," indicating how close -- or far -- that player is from some MLB milestone. It also indicates which player holds that particular record. But apparently there's an exception. Harris mentions two examples -- the cards of the Chicago Cubs' Starlin Castro and the Chicago White Sox's A.J. Pierzynski -- in which the all-time record of 4,256 career hits is listed with no mention of Rose's name as the guy who set that record. Topps spokesman Clay Luraschi told Harris it was a "simple decision" to leave Rose's name off the back of the cards but did not elaborate. When pressed, Luraschi just repeated that it was "plain and simple." He does have a point. Topps owns the exclusive rights to produce MLB-licensed trading cards -- and anyone on the permanently ineligible list is not allowed to be included on any of the league's licensed products. Now, whether or not that is a fair policy or if it should include something as minor as including Rose's name next to a record he earned is up for debate. Then again, what concerning Rose isn't?

In August 1989, three years after he retired as an active player, Rose agreed to permanent ineligibility from baseball amidst accusations that he gambled on baseball games while playing for and managing the Reds, including claims that he bet on his own team. In 1991, the Baseball Hall of Fame formally voted to ban those on the "permanently ineligible" list from induction, after previously excluding such players by informal agreement among voters. In 2004, after years of public denial, Rose admitted to betting on baseball and on, but not against, the Reds. The issue of Rose's possible re-instatement and election to the Hall of Fame remains a contentious one throughout baseball. The Major League baseball rule Rose violated makes no distinction between betting for or against your team, only that you bet on them and were in a position to influence the outcome. The rule is: "Rule 21 MISCONDUCT, (d) BETTING ON BALL GAMES, Any player, umpire, or club or league official or employee, who shall bet any sum whatsoever upon any baseball game in connection with which the bettor has a duty to perform shall be declared permanently ineligible. Rose's ban has prevented the Reds from formally retiring his No. 14 jersey. However, aside from his son Pete Jr.'s stint with the team in 1997, the Reds have not issued that number since.

1. In appropriate paragraph form, compare and contrast the pros and cons synonymous with permanently banishing an athlete from recognition for behavior which occurred outside the traditional confines of the ball field. In light of his indefinite suspension, do you feel this is an appropriate course of action for Topps Baseball Cards in blatantly failing to acknowledge Major League Baseball's All-Time Hit Leader? Thoroughly explain your reasoning and provide specific artifacts and evidence limited solely to passage above to support your response. Create and illustrate a Venn Diagram to effectively explore relationships and patterns and to make arguments about relationships between sets. **(LA.910.3.2.2; LA.910.1.6.2; MA.912.D.7.2; MA.912.A.10.1)**
2. Ed Smith Stadium located merely blocks away from our Sarasota Military Academy recently underwent at \$31.2 million renovation under a 30-year Spring Training agreement with the Baltimore Orioles beginning in 2010. A HD LED video board in the outfield measures 17 ft and casts a shadow of 7.5 ft. 27-year-old Baltimore Orioles outfielder, Adam Jones, is 75 inches tall. Use proportions to determine the dimensions of Jones' shadow. Explain your reasoning. **(MA.912.A.10.1; MA.912.A.5.4; MA.912.A.2.13; MA.912.A.5.1)**
3. Peter Edward Rose was actively employed in Major League Baseball as a player from 1963 – 1986 and a manager from 1984 – 1989. During his prime in the seventies, he was a member of an elite squad known as The Big Red Machine. During a routine practice drill, Johnny Bench was strategically positioned 60 ft to the east while Joe Morgan was 180 ft southeast. Meanwhile, 300 ft to the north, Tony Perez was 180 ft to the west and Pete Rose was 60 ft to the northwest. The angle formed between the paths of Bench and Morgan is congruent to the angle formed by the paths of Perez and Rose. If Bench and Morgan are now 156 ft apart, how far apart are Perez and Rose? Illustrate the diagram. Classify the triangle formed by its sides, measure the angles formed, and classify the triangle by its angles. Thoroughly explain your reasoning via the applicable Congruence Postulate or Theorem. **(MA.912.G.1.2; MA.912.G.2.3; MA.912.G.4.1; MA.912.G.4.3; MA.912.G.4.4; MA.912.G.4.6)**
4. Using contextual clues only, define the following italicized words: *ineligible*, *amidst*, *contentious*, *induction*, *elaborate*, *allegedly*, *distinction*, and *polarizing*, as obtained from the passage above. Additionally, use each word in a complete sentence to demonstrate further comprehension. **(LA.910.1.6.3; LA.910.1.6.1)**
5. **SARASOTA MILITARY ACADEMY WORD-OF-THE-WEEK** Create a concluding paragraph aligned with the passage above using the following italicized word: *inveigle* (in VAY gul) (v.) To tempt or persuade by using deception or flattery. **(LA.910.1.6.1; LA.910.1.6.5)**

Next Generation Sunshine State Standards adapted from floridastandards.org. Standards specifically addressed in this edition are strategically aligned with state standards and annotated adjacent to the respective inquiry.

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