

When the Mighty Bambino Came to Town

“The Big Bam fairly exploded into the city. He bounced off the train and into the arms and hearts of hundreds of Salt Lake newsboys. With a flock of handshakes, a rapidfire succession of explosive greetings to every youngster he could see, and a rushing through the milling crowd of boys, Babe started on the dizzy whirl that marks his appearance in every city in the hinterland.”

Steve Moloney, *The Salt Lake Telegram*, January 26, 1927.

BABE RUTH SPENDS WEEK IN FAIR CITY

Eve of Greatest Season in Baseball History Spent with Adoring Salt Lake Denizens.

By **BILL ORAM.**

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, July 10, 2011 — The locomotive carrying the most mythic man to ever play a game charted a straight path through the dark night across a naked desert.

Inside, the man prepared for his first visit to a minor-league town that he knew only as the last station on a 12-city vaudeville tour that would pay him \$100,000 — more than he received the year before for an entire season of baseball. At each stop he donned his famous striped uniform, took mighty cuts with a polished hickory club, tipped his lopsided ballcap, read his condensed life story as written by someone else, then climbed aboard another train bound for another city full of people who, if not for this tour, wouldn't have occasion to see the great fellow.

It began on Oct. 30 in Minneapolis and hop-scotched through the Dakotas and on to the coast, where he delighted Spokane, then Seattle, and every other major city along the Pacific. And finally there he sat, on a rail bound for Salt Lake City, which, 84 years later, has a rich baseball tradition, running right up to this week's Triple-A All-Star exhibition.

Spring training was just weeks away in Florida. Before returning to the east, he would yet go to

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Tony Lazzeri.

From Salt Lake Bees to Yankees' Famed 'Murderers' Row'

In less than a full season in 1925, Tony Lazzeri became “Our Tone,” starring for the Salt Lake Bees and blasting his way into history with 60 home runs. The next year, he joined the Sultan of Swat in New York.

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City Celebrates Arrival of Legendary Baseball Idol



Shown here at Yankee Stadium, home-run king Babe Ruth of the New York Yankees spent a week in Salt Lake City in 1927 where he dazzled 100 Salt Lake Tribune newsboys at the Union Pacific depot moments after stepping off the Los Angeles train. Later, the Bambino enthroned himself in the sports desk at The Tribune, pounding out a column that is reprinted below. The Tribune sports staff of four men snapped into it when the big boy yelled “copy.” (Associated Press file photo)

FAMED SLUGGER STOPS BY NEWSROOM, PENS INSIGHTFUL PROSE

By **BABE RUTH.**

TRIBUNE EDITORIAL ROOM

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Jan. 25, 1927 — Some friends I met on the train told me that the proper thing to do when I got to Salt Lake was to look around and say, “This is the place.” I haven't had much chance to look the town over yet, but I sure liked the reception I got. Believe me, it was great to see that pack of kids running for me. I like kids. Besides the folks, baseball and children are my hobbies. Of course, I like golf, too; that's why I take my clubs with me every place I go.

NO SCANDALS TODAY.

First off let me say I haven't even read about the recent baseball scandals. I haven't paid much attention to the trouble between Landis and Johnson. I have seen a great deal about Johnson to admire

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Boys of RSL take first kicks against rival foe

COACH Jason Kreis and the claret and cobalt lads took on FC Dallas at resplendent Rio Tinto Stadium on Saturday night, in the first of two tilts in four days against their spirited rivals from the Lone Star State. The next clash, in steamy Texas, will be even bigger.

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“Ruth showed the youngsters how he holds his mighty club when the bases are filled and when a ‘clean-up’ swat is necessary to put the game on ice. He demonstrated the famous follow-through swing, much to the delight of the members of [St. Ann's] orphanage ball team, while the others looked on in silent awe and approval.”

(The Salt Lake Tribune; Jan. 29, 1927)

1927 YANKEES CONSIDERED ALL-TIME BEST

By **BILL ORAM.**

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, July 10, 2011 — Babe Ruth departed the Utah capital on Feb. 2, a Wednesday, in 1927. He did so on a train headed for Los Angeles and a whirlwind filming session before the Florida spring training that would serve as the preamble to a season regarded as the Babe's finest and, even, the greatest by a team in baseball history.

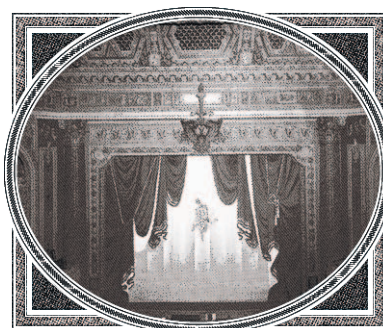
As a team, the so-called “Murderers' Row” Yankees hit .307 with a .489 slugging percentage and chucked their way through the American League schedule with a 110-44 record, one of the five best in baseball history. Their World Series opponent was similarly fated to all those American League foes. The Pittsburgh

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Academics Keen on Pacific-Twelve for Research Boost

THE exquisite academicians who represent the pinnacle of learned man upon the West Coast form an athletic grouping collectively known as the Pacific-12. Its intellectual renown is such that the University of Utah shall benefit.

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SULTAN OF SWAT RULES OVER THE PANTAGES