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## Lou Gehrig's High School Home Run

by Jay Gauthreaux



A member of the Society for American Baseball Research

Long before he was known as the "Iron Horse", Lou Gehrig earned the moniker as the "Babe Ruth of the High Schools" for his monstrous grand slam home run to ice a high school championship game at Chicago's Cubs Park (Wrigley Field), against Lane High School on Saturday, June 26, 1920.

In the ninth inning of a 8-6 game in favor of Commerce, Lou, who was erroneously listed as "Hank Geherig," slammed the second pitch offered by pitcher Ryrholm, (his first name not available), out of Cubs Park with three mates on base. According to the report, the ball landed on the front porch across the street.

With scouts in the stands with their mouths open in amazement, and the crowd buzzing with excitement over Gehrig's clout, this is what the Chicago Tribune for Sunday, June 27, 1920 had to say:

*'Gehrig's blow would have made any big leaguer proud. Yet, it was walloped by a boy who hasn't yet started to shave'.*

For fans watching the game that day, it had to be a sight to behold, watching a 17 year old high school player who would later terrorize American League pitching, crushed a ball completely out of Wrigley. Little did people realize that Gehrig's home run was an inkling of things to come.

*Jay Gauthreaux now resides in Memphis, TN with his wife and son where he is now researching the history of Memphis baseball.*