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Kent Hampton's Capitol Report October 3, 2013

OCTOBER 03RD 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Submitted by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

Cardinals Quest for a World Series Championship

On October 6, 1926, Yankee slugger Babe Ruth hits a record three homers against the St. Louis Cardinals in the fourth game of the World Series. The Yanks won the game 10-5, but despite Ruth's unprecedented performance, they lost the championship in the seventh game. In 1928, in the fourth game of another Yanks-Cards World Series, Ruth tied his own record, knocking three more pitches out of the same park.

The 1926 championship promised to be an exciting one. The AL champs had a powerful lineup, later called the "Murderer's Row," that included the great Babe, the young "Columbia Lou" Gehrig, and the leadoff man Earle Combs. For their part, the Cardinals had the intimidating Rogers Hornsby along with ace pitchers Flint Rhem and Bill Sherdel.

But the Yanks were heavily favored, and they won the first game easily. They lost the second, though, thanks to an outstanding full-game performance from St. Louis pitcher Grover Cleveland Alexander. The next day, Cardinal Jessie Haines pitched the whole game--and hit the only home run--in his team's 4-0 Game 3 victory.

By the fourth game in the series, the underdog Cards were up two games to one. The Yanks needed to pull it together, and for one game, they did. Veteran Waite Hoyt pitched all nine innings while St. Louis shuffled through its entire bullpen. And the Babe--the Sultan of Swat, the Caliph of Clout, the Wali of Wallop--hit his three homers and led the Yanks to a 10-5 victory. Unfortunately for the Bombers, that game didn't decide the series. Though they won the next game in 10 innings, they lost the next one by eight runs. And they were losing the seventh game by one run in the ninth inning when the Bambino stepped to the plate again. With a 3-2 count, Ruth drew his eleventh walk of the series and trotted off to first base. The Yanks' hopes plummeted as quickly as they'd risen, though, when second baseman Hornsby nabbed him as he tried somewhat ploddingly to steal second. The game was over. Thanks to the magical Bambino, the Bombers had lost.

On October 18, 1977, Yankee Reggie Jackson became only the second player to hit three homers in a single Series game.

As the fresh air of October arrives and the regular season of baseball has ended, some are packing up and going home. But, our St. Louis Cardinals are preparing for the playoffs and hopefully the Fall Classic World Series. Aside from the updates on the weather, questions and recent developments about the Cardinals are a hot topic. With all the differing issues and opinions we may have formed, continue to focus on the freedoms we enjoy knowing the price that was shed for those, and without any doubt who is in charge. Give thanks that we live in the greatest country in the world. See ya in church Sunday!

As always, it is an honor to serve you in the Missouri House. If you would like to discuss any issue, please call 573-751-3629. You can also email me at kent.hampton@house.mo.gov . I look forward to hearing from you.

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