

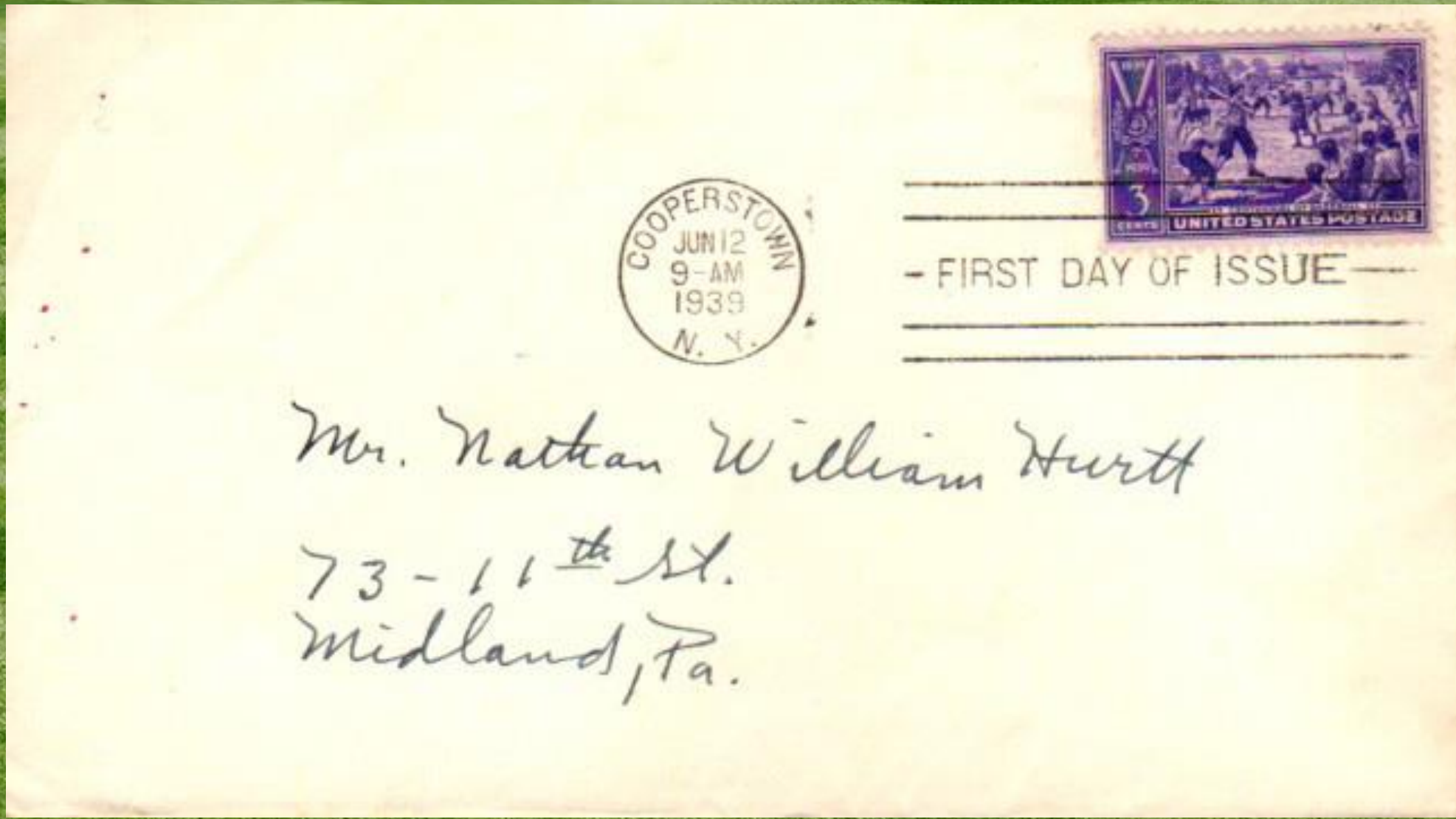
# Baseball on Worldwide Covers

A Presentation for the  
Rochester Philatelic  
Association, 2019  
by Luis Greiff, Jr.



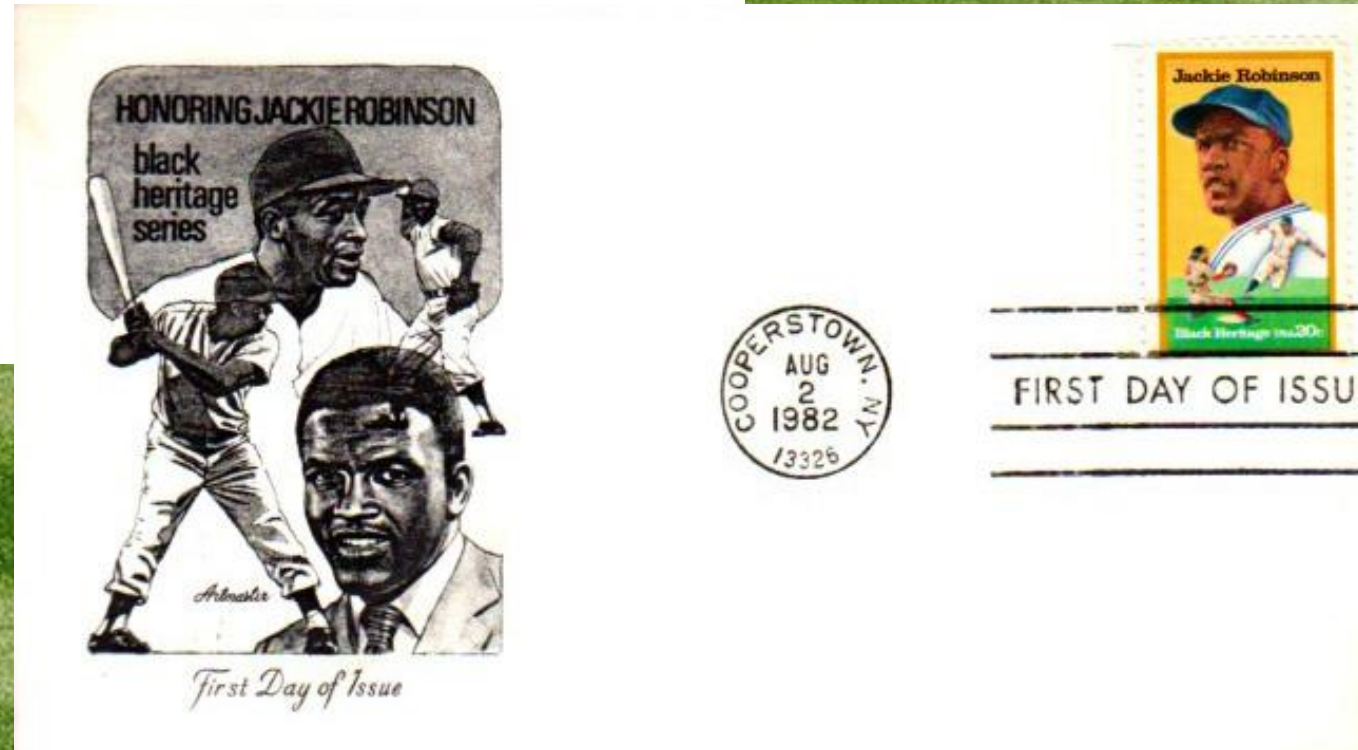


The first US sport stamp, village baseball by BEP artist William Roach.





# Pro baseball centennial and Jackie Robinson commemoratives.



Artmaster cachet





# Babe Ruth and Roberto Clemente commemoratives.



*Babe Ruth*

HF cachet



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

FIRST DAY COVER



*Roberto Clemente*

HF cachet

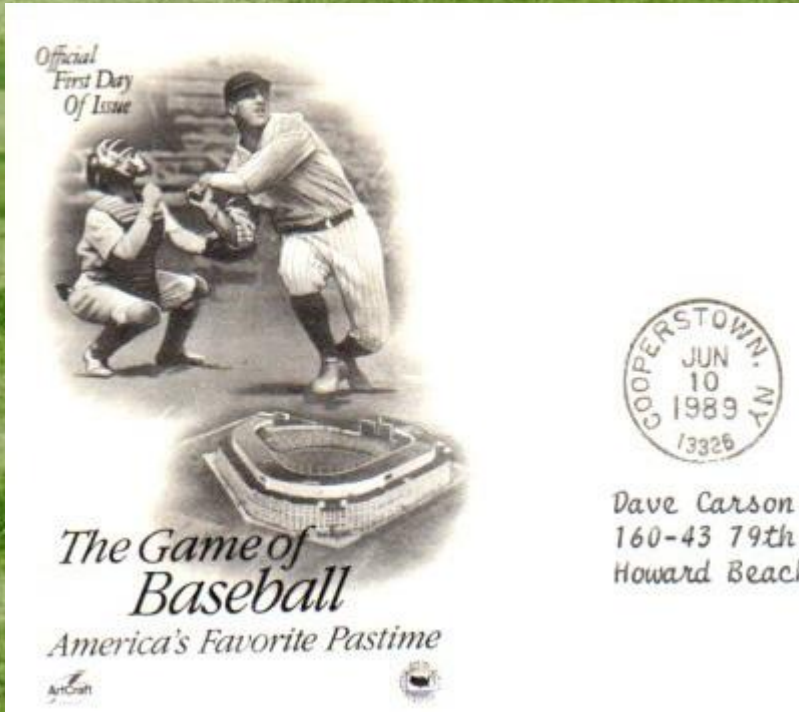


FIRST DAY OF ISSUE





# Lou Gehrig and Olympic baseball commemoratives.



Artcraft cachet



## Olympic Baseball

America's national pastime,  
joining the roster of Olympic events.

## OLYMPIC BASEBALL

The repetitive cries of a concessions vendor peddling freshly roasted peanuts and stadium hot dogs; the resounding crack as bat meets ball; the crowd's deafening roar of approval as the batter sails one out of the ballpark and trots leisurely around the bases — these are the sights and sounds of America's favorite spectator sport. Legend says Abner Doubleday invented baseball in 1839 in Cooperstown, New York. Baseball scholars stoutly maintain that the 17th century English game of rounders is the true precursor to the sport, but Alexander J. Cartwright is largely credited with creating in 1845 a standardized version of the game, from which modern baseball evolved. After the Civil War, the game's popularity skyrocketed. Amateur teams sprang up throughout the country, and in 1869 the Cincinnati Red Stockings became

America's first professional baseball team. By the early 1900s, America boasted two professional baseball leagues — the National and the American, and in 1905 the first World Series became an annual event. During the 20th century, baseball fever has become a world-wide epidemic, wildly popular in countries such as Japan, Venezuela and Puerto Rico. In 1992, baseball teams from across the globe traveled to Barcelona, Spain, to compete for the first time in the summer Olympic Games. In honor of this historic "first," the U.S. Postal Service issued this Olympic Baseball postage stamp which depicts a player's dramatic slide into home plate. Accompanied by artist Tom McNeely's colorful artwork, the stamp salutes America's national pastime and its inclusion in the summer Olympic Games.



Fleetwood cachet





# Softball issues, including the introduction of women's Olympic softball.



## Softball

Among America's most popular sports, originally intended for indoor play.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

### SOFTBALL

When softball was first devised in the late 19th century, its developer, G.W. Hancock of Chicago, envisioned it as an indoor alternative to baseball. To facilitate playing inside, the ball was made larger — 12 inches in circumference — and the bat thinner than those used in traditional baseball. In addition, the playing field was reduced in size. All of these changes were intended to limit the distance of a batted ball. Hancock perhaps little imagined that his creation would grow to rival the game it emulated, involving millions of players in the United States and around the world. Interestingly, softball hasn't always been known by its current name. In its early years,

the sport was variously referred to as indoor baseball, army ball, kitten ball, playground ball and mush ball. By 1926, however, the term softball was widely accepted, and by 1933 enough interest had arisen to permit holding national championships. While rules of play have been somewhat standardized, softball remains diverse today. Across America, leagues offer teams the opportunity to play slow-pitch and fast-pitch versions of the game. In some leagues, two strikes equal an out, while others allow three strikes. It has been said that no game is more American than baseball, but thanks to its diversity and its popularity, softball can safely make a similar claim.

## Fleetwood cachet

### WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

When softball was first devised in the late 19th century, its developer, G.W. Hancock of Chicago, envisioned it as an indoor alternative to baseball. To facilitate playing inside, the ball was made larger — 12 inches in circumference — and the bat thinner than those used in traditional baseball. In addition, the playing field was reduced in size. All of these changes were intended to limit the distance of a batted ball. Hancock perhaps little imagined that his creation would grow to rival the game it emulated, involving millions of players in the United States and around the world. Across America, leagues offer teams the opportunity to play slow-pitch and fast-pitch versions of the game. It has been said that no game is more American than baseball, but thanks to its diversity and popularity, softball can easily make a similar claim. Softball's international popularity will be demonstrated this year at Atlanta when the game makes its debut as an Olympic event.

## Fleetwood cachet



WOMEN'S SOFTBALL



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE





# Casey at the Bat baseball poem written in 1888 by Ernest Thayer.



Mystic cachet

Mighty Casey  
American Folk Hero



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

## Mighty Casey – Baseball Hero

When the poem “Casey at the Bat” appeared in the San Francisco *Examiner* June 3, 1888, it was an instant hit and has remained so to this day. For baseball is America’s favorite pastime and Ernest Lawrence Thayer captured the emotions that grip fans from time to time.

The poem opens with the hometown team, the Mudville nine, down four to two in the bottom of the ninth with two outs. The 5,000 fans are numb with melancholy. If only Casey were the next batter up, they could hope. But alas, two batters are ahead of Casey in the line-up.

Amazingly, Flynn snags a single. Blake, following,

viciously slams the ball, stripping it of its very leather. Delirious hope sweeps melancholy away because Blake is safe on second, Flynn is a-huggin’ third, and Casey is striding to the plate.

Casey lets the first pitch go – “Strike one!” He lets the second go and it’s “Strike two!” The crowd holds its collective breath. Casey clenches his teeth. He pounds his bat on the plate, and glares at the pitcher. The ball is hurled; Casey swings. He misses! The poem ends with the Mudville fans wrapped in total despair.

But “it ain’t over ‘til it’s over.” James Wilson gave Mudville its day of joy in the sequel “Casey’s Revenge.”

Obverse: National Baseball Library & Archive, Cooperstown, NY

©Mystic Stamp Company





# Celebrate the Century baseball issues.



HF cachet

Bonnie Fuson  
cachet, 7/10

Babe Ruth® hit 54 home runs in 1920. He went on to hit 59 homers in 1921, and 60 in 1927. Twice he hit 3 home runs in a single game of a World Series®. One of his nicknames was the Sultan of Swat.

CELEBRATE THE CENTURY – 1920s



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



The championship games of 1903 are considered baseball's first **World Series®**. Boston of the American League beat Pittsburgh of the National League 5 games to 3 in a best-of-nine series.

CELEBRATE THE CENTURY – 1900s



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

1920s





# Celebrate the Century baseball issues.

CELEBRATING THE CENTURY

Jackie Robinson

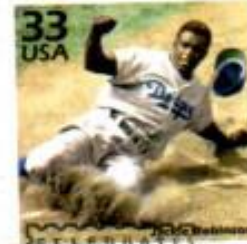


1940s

World War II Transforms America  
FIRST DAY COVER



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE  
1940s



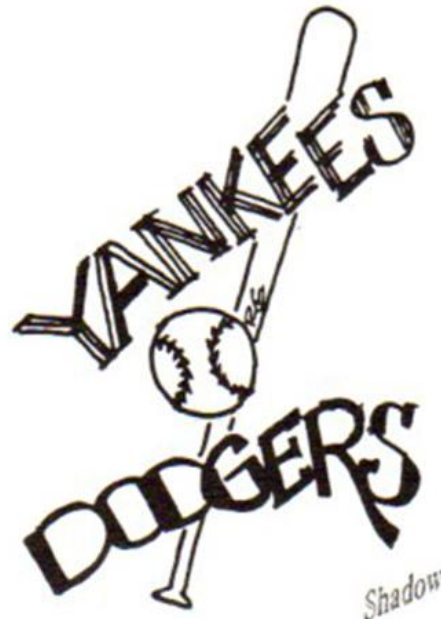
Jackie Robinson™ broke the Major League Baseball color barrier in 1947 when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers. Voted Rookie of the Year that season, he earned the National League's Most Valuable Player award in 1949.  
CELEBRATE THE CENTURY – 1940s

HF cachet

Between 1949 and 1956, the New York Yankees™ and their crosstown rivals, the Brooklyn Dodgers™, met five times in the **World Series™**: 1949, 1952, 1953, 1955, and 1956. The Dodgers won once, in 1955.

Shadow cachet

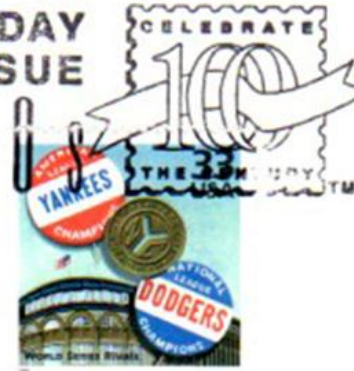
CELEBRATE THE CENTURY – 1950s



Shadow



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE  
1950s



Celebrate  
the  
Century

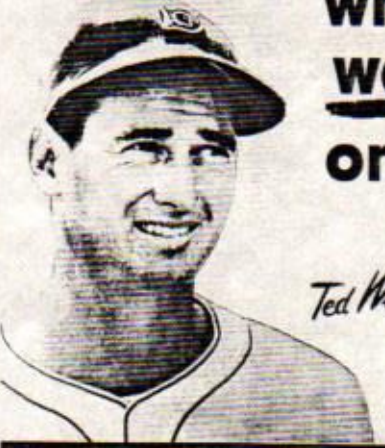
First Day of Issue





# Celebrate the Century baseball issues.

**Ask the man  
who  
was  
one!**



*Ted Williams*  
BASEBALL STAR

**UNITED STATES MARINES**

Back in the service for the second time during the Korean War, Ted Williams was a Marine Corps poster boy.



**FIRST DAY  
OF ISSUE**  
1950s





**The Korean War**  
(1950-1953), the first major United Nations military action, claimed the lives of more than 50,000 Americans. U.S. and other UN forces fought to oppose the invasion of South Korea by Communist troops.

CELEBRATE THE CENTURY – 1950s

The **1951 National League™ pennant race** was decided in a best-of-three games playoff. The New York Giants™ beat the Brooklyn Dodgers™ when, in the ninth inning of the third game, Bobby Thomson hit a three-run homer.

CELEBRATE THE CENTURY – 1950s



**FIRST DAY  
OF ISSUE**  
1950s





# Minor league commemorative cancel and kids sports issues.

**2000 TRIPLE-A  
ALL-STAR GAME**



**FRONTIER FIELD  
STATION  
ROCHESTER NY  
14608  
JULY 12, 2000**



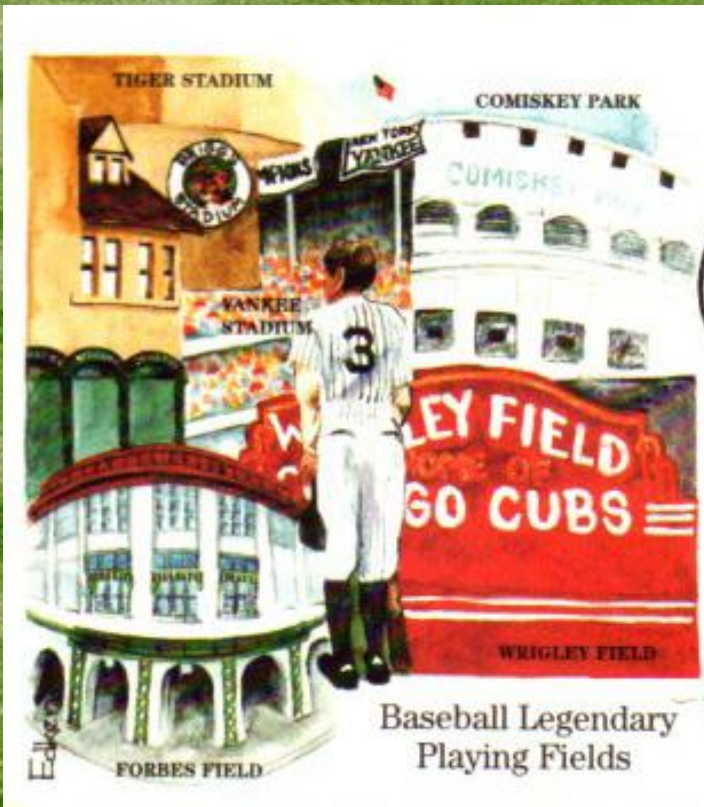
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

PMW cachet 5/5





# Baseball Legendary Playing Fields commemoratives set of 10.



Baseball Legendary Playing Fields

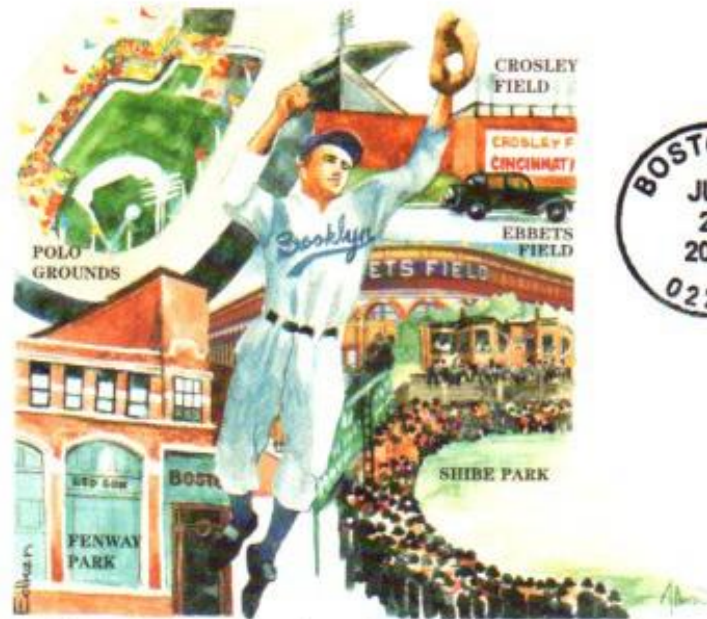


FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**Tiger Stadium, Detroit**  
 Opened in 1912 as Navin Field, Tiger Stadium was home to the Detroit Tigers for 88 seasons. It put fans very close to the field and featured a right field upper deck that jutted out ten feet farther than the lower deck.

Edken cachets

**Fenway Park, Boston**  
 Boston's intimate Fenway Park has the Green Monster, a 37-foot-high left field wall. Red Sox fielders who mastered its unpredictable caroms become legends. The home run that ended game six of the 1975 World Series made history there.



Baseball Legendary Playing Fields

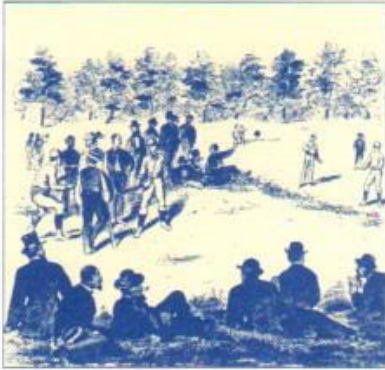


FIRST DAY OF ISSUE





# Canadian baseball- 150 years and 2001 Toronto Blue Jays 25<sup>th</sup> year.



Day of Issue: Canada Post Corporation / Jour d'émission: Société canadienne des postes



The roots of baseball in Canada go back to 4 June 1838 in Beachville, Ontario, where the first recorded organized game of baseball in North America took place. Canada's long and colourful baseball history has had many great moments and Canadians have distinguished themselves in both the minor and major leagues.

Baseball's popularity in Canada heightened with the acquisition of two major league franchises. The National League's Montreal Expos played their first game in April 1969, while the Toronto Blue Jays of the American League first began play in April 1977. Besides the professionals, there are now well over a million amateur baseball players in Canada playing all forms of the game.

The cachet illustration of an early baseball game was published in the *Canadian Illustrated News*, July 1874. (National Archives Canada/C 61336)

The Montreal Expos and Toronto Blue Jays logos are the properties of their respective clubs and are used with their kind permission.

C'est le 4 juin 1838, à Beachville (Ontario), que s'est tenu le premier match de baseball organisé dont il est fait mention en Amérique du Nord. La longue et brillante histoire de ce sport en sol canadien est truffée d'épisodes glorieux qui témoignent des exploits de Canadiens, tant dans les ligues mineures que dans les ligues majeures.

L'acquisition de deux concessions dans les ligues majeures a accru la popularité du baseball au Canada. Les Expos de Montréal ont disputé leur premier match en avril 1969 au sein de la Ligue nationale, et les Blue Jays de Toronto en avril 1977 dans la Ligue américaine. En plus des professionnels, le nombre de joueurs amateurs qui pratiquent aujourd'hui les multiples formes de ce sport dépasse largement le million.

L'illustration, qui nous montre une partie de baseball, est tirée du *Canadian Illustrated News*, juillet 1874. (Archives nationales du Canada/C-61336)

Les Expos de Montréal et les Blue Jays de Toronto ont gracieusement autorisé la reproduction de leur logotype respectif.

## TORONTO BLUE JAYS 25<sup>TH</sup> SEASON

One of the most successful baseball franchises in history, the Toronto Blue Jays joined the American League 25 years ago, and played their first game at Exhibition Stadium in 1977. The Jays moved to more spacious quarters at SkyDome in 1989, and a year later became the first team in major league history to draw four million spectators in a single season.

In 1992, the Jays defeated the Atlanta Braves in six games to take home Canada's first World Series trophy. One of the greatest moments in Canadian sport took place the following season in game six of the World Series final against the Philadelphia Phillies. In the bottom of the ninth inning, with the Jays down a run, Joe Carter stepped up to the plate and blasted a three-run homer to claim baseball's greatest prize for the second year in a row.

Canada  
Post  
cachets





# Chinese Taipei baseball- Little League champs 1975 and 1977.

中華民國六十四年九月九日  
交通部郵政總局印製

中華青年及青少年棒球雙獲世界冠軍紀念

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE WINNING OF TWIN CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE 1975 LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES BY THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA TEAMS SEPTEMBER 9, 1975

自莊強敬

北(國)台  
9.9.75-II  
TAIPEI

郵政總局人作收郵票

九 九 台 北 日 首 行 發



IN COMMEMORATION OF THE WINNING OF TWIN CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE 1975 LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES BY THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA TEAMS SEPTEMBER 9, 1975

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE WINNING OF TRIPLE CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE 1977 LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES BY THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA TEAMS SEPTEMBER 9, 1977

紀念軍冠三獲再隊球棒年少及年少青、年國民華中  
66.9.9 北(國)台

隊球棒年少及年少青、年國民華中  
念紀軍冠三界世獲再

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE WINNING OF TRIPLE CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE 1977 LITTLE LEAGUE WORLD SERIES BY THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA TEAMS SEPTEMBER 9, 1977

日九月九年六十四國民華中  
製印局總政郵通交

郵政總局人作收郵票

北(國)台  
9.9.77-II  
TAIPEI





# Peoples Republic of China and Dominican Republic issues.



中国美邮总公司  
CHINA NATIONAL  
PHILATELIC CORPORATION

**J. 144 《中华人民共和国第六届运动会》纪念邮票**

邮电部于1987年11月20日发行《中华人民共和国第六届运动会》纪念邮票一套四枚，面值共0.96元。

中华人民共和国第六届运动会于1987年11月20日在广东举行。这套邮票画面上的体育项目用连续动作形式表现，四幅画面用一个由跑道组成的“6”字连续起来，表示六届全运会。

**J.144 6th National Games of the People's Republic of China Commemorative Stamps**

The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of PRC issued, on Nov. 20, 1987, a set of four commemorative stamps entitled "6th National Games of the People's Republic of China" with a total face value of RMB¥0.96.

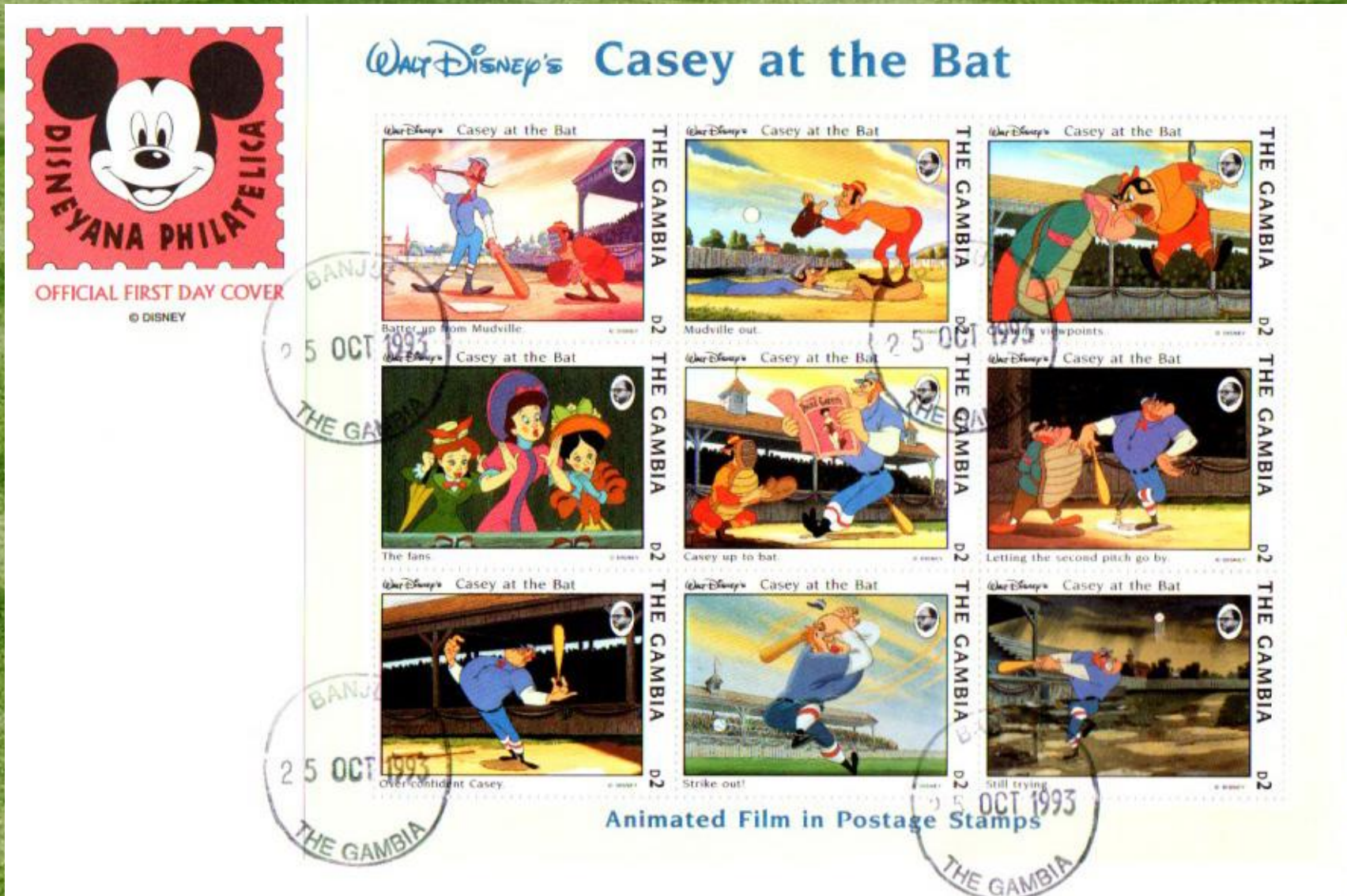
The Games was opened on Nov. 20 in Guangdong Province. All four stamps were designed to show continuous movements of different sports events. Putting four stamps together, the numeral "6", formed by track, is identified to indicate the 6th National Games.

邮票、邮戳、首日封设计者：卢德辉  
Designer of stamps, cancellation and FDC: Lu Dehui



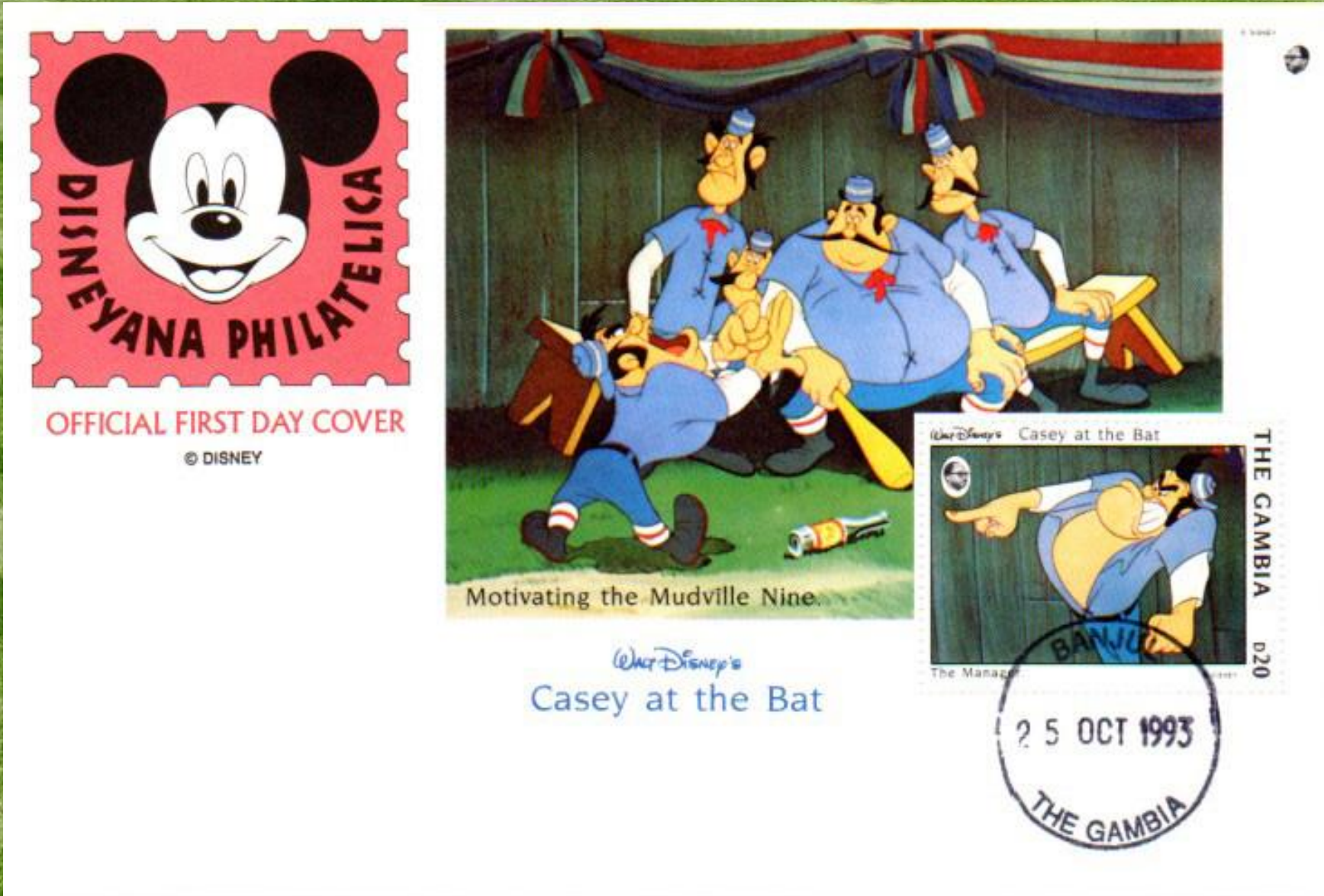


# 1993 Casey at the Bat animated Disney film set from The Gambia.



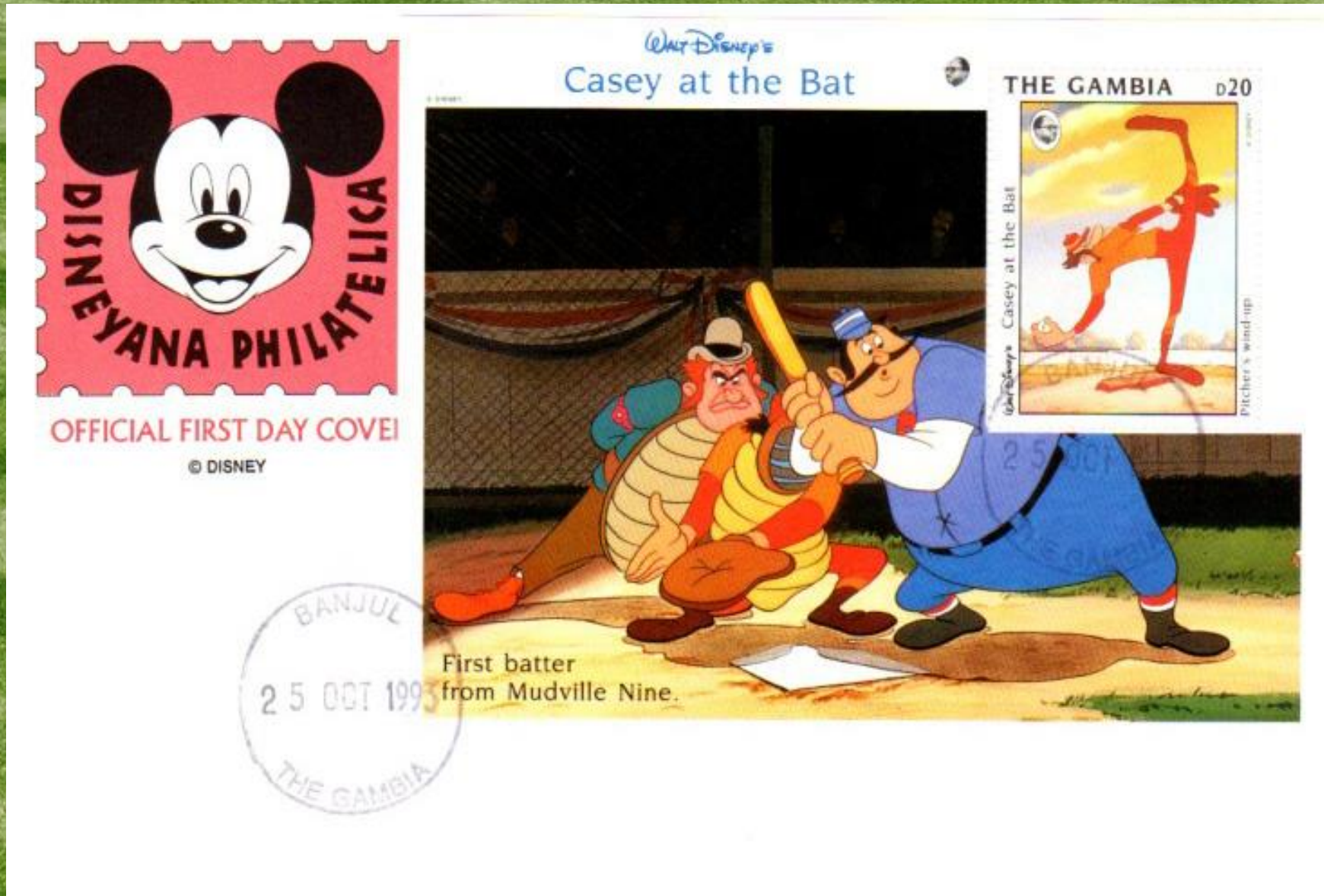


# 1993 Casey at the Bat souvenir sheet from The Gambia.



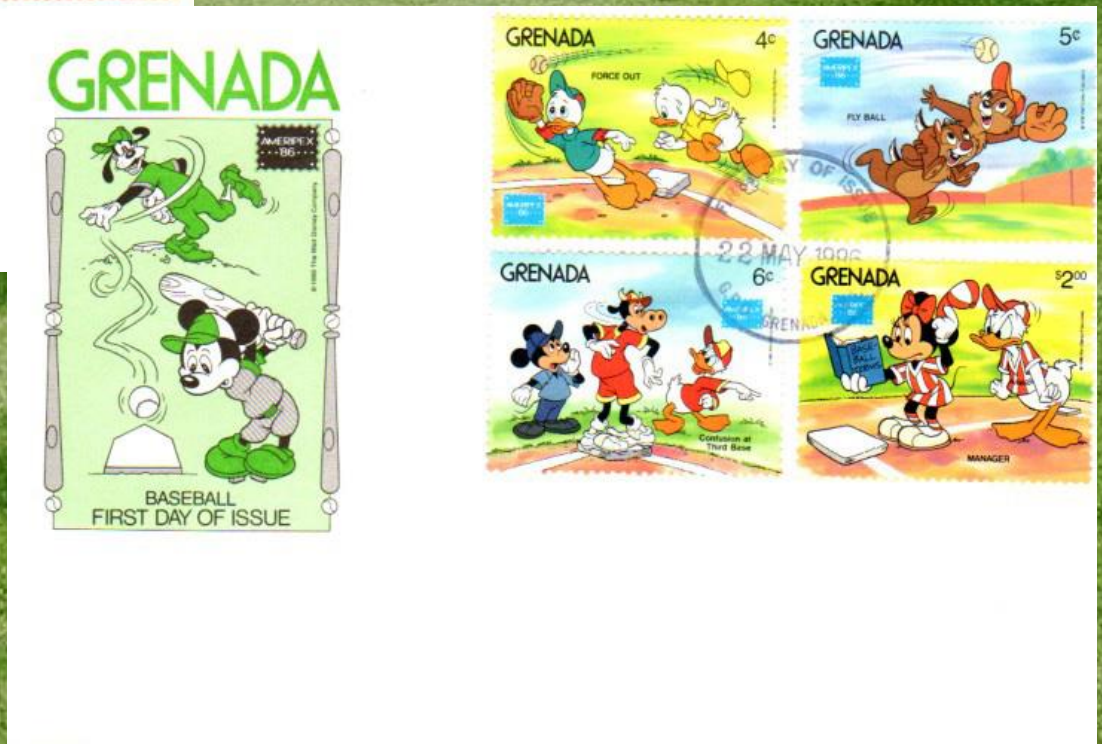
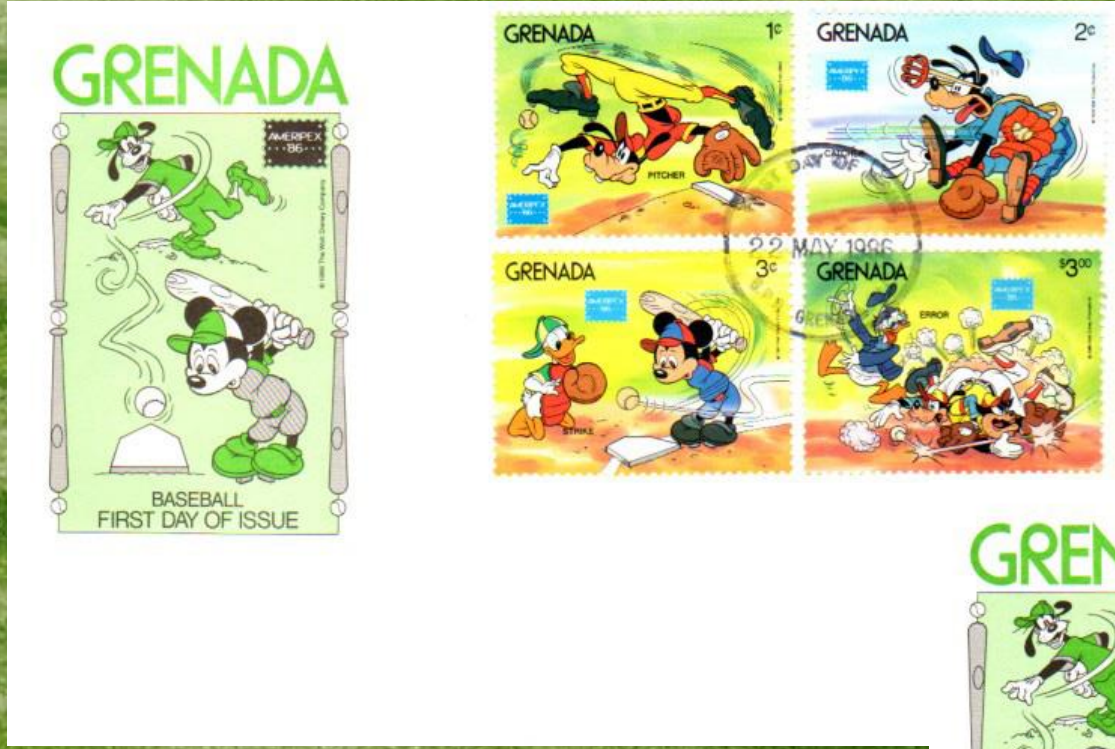


# 1993 Casey at the Bat souvenir sheet from The Gambia.



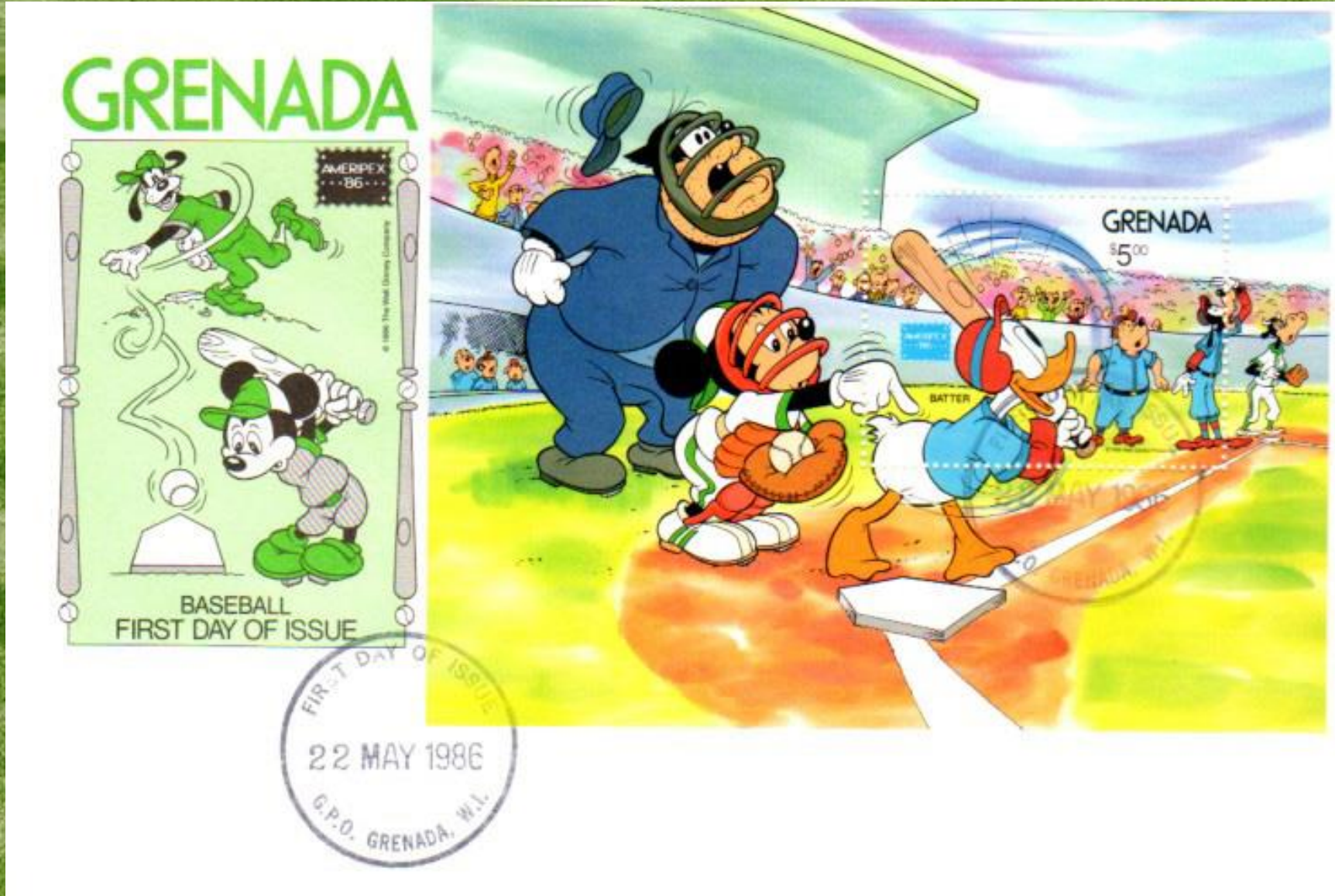


# 1986 Grenada Disney set issued for the Ameripex 1986 stamp expo.



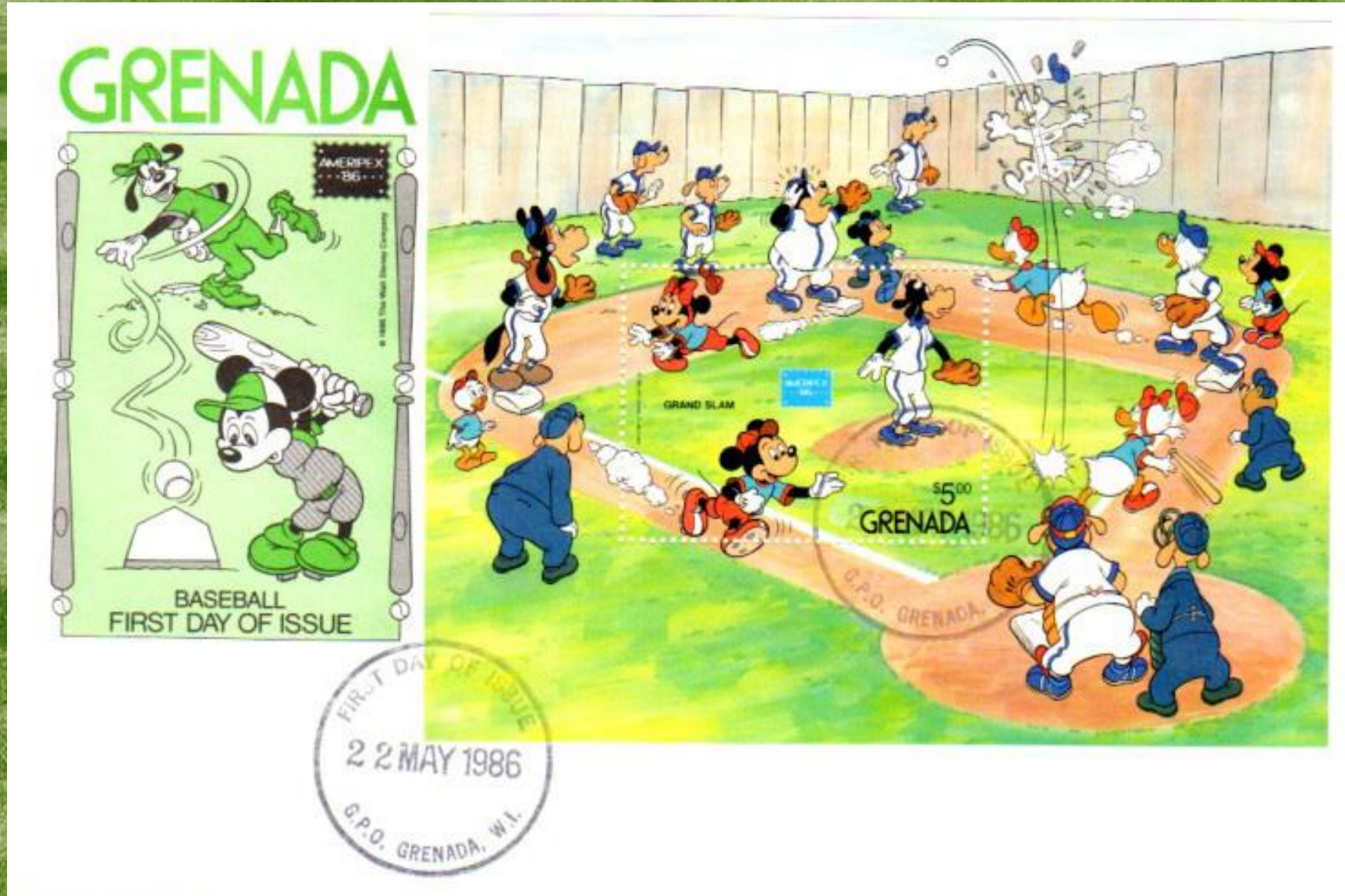


1986 Grenada Disney souvenir sheet issued for the Ameripex 1986 stamp expo.





1986 Grenada Disney souvenir sheet issued for the Ameripex 1986 stamp expo.





# Japanese issues- 50<sup>th</sup> high school championship, 33<sup>rd</sup> national athletic meet



Japan Stamp Publicity Assn. cachet

Z Silks cachet



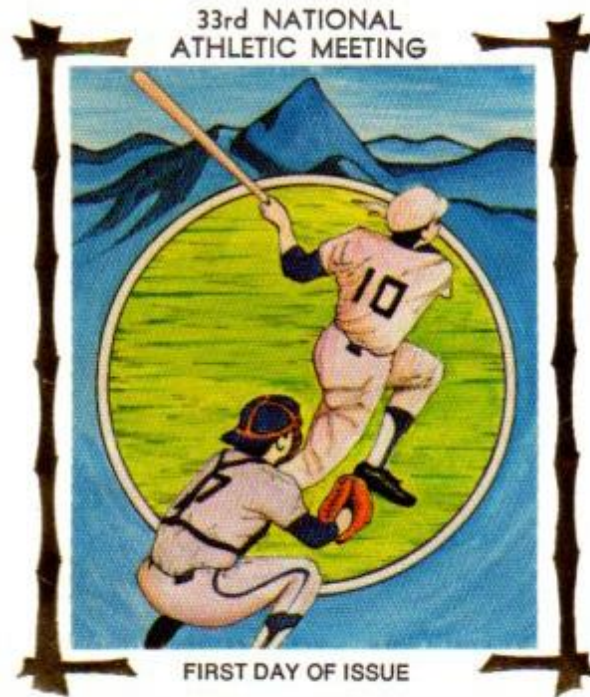
**第50回全国高等学校野球選手権大会記念郵便切手**

昭和43年8月9日から甲子園球場で開催される第50回全国高等学校野球選手権大会を記念して、15円郵便切手2種が発行される。

**FIFTIETH ALL-JAPAN HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS**

To commemorate the Fiftieth All-Japan High School Baseball Championship Tournament that opens at the Koshi-en Baseball Ground on August 9, 1968, the following two 15-yen special postage stamps are coming out.

発行日	昭和43年8月9日	Date of issue:	August 9, 1968
種類	15円郵便切手2種	Denomination:	Both fifteen yen
意匠	(A) 投手と優勝旗 (B) 記念の英文字	Designs:	(A) The pitcher and the championship flag (B) The idea of the fiftieth baseball tournament shown in hitomoji (human letters)
印面寸法	縦22.5mm 横33mm	Size of impression:	33mm × 22.5mm
版式	(A) グラビア3色 (B) グラビア4色	Printing process:	Multicolored photogravure
シート構成	20枚(縦4枚、横5枚)意匠A Bが縦横交互にあらわれるよう連刷	Sheet composition:	20(5×4) stamps per sheet in which (A) and (B) are arranged chequerwise
原画作者	長谷部日出男	Designer:	Hideo Hasebe
発行枚数	(A)(B)各15,000,000枚 (カッシーの筆者 長谷部日出男)	Quantity issued:	(A)&(B) 15,000,000 stamps each





# Japan issues- 50<sup>th</sup> Intercity championships, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pro Ball



## 第50回都市対抗野球大会記念郵便切手

今夏東京で開催される毎日新聞社主催の都市対抗野球大会が第50回を迎えるので、これを記念した郵便切手が発行される。この大会は、昭和2年夏、東京日日新聞（現毎日新聞）が東京で開催し、以来毎夏東京で行われ（昭和18—20年は中止）今日に到った。大会は、各地区の代表権を獲得した社会人チーム（クラブ、会社、銀行、官庁等）のいわゆるノンプロチームにより行われるが、第1回には、12地区から1チームずつの参加であったのが、現在では32チームにまで発展している。

発行日：昭和54年7月27日 種類：50円郵便切手 意匠：黒獅子を配したボールと選手 版式・刷色：グラビア5色（黄味だいたい、灰色、赤いぶ青、黒） 印面寸法：縦35.5ミリ、横25ミリ シート構成：縦5枚、横4枚の20枚 発行枚数：27,000,000枚 原画作者：久野実 カバー版元：懶松屋

## 50TH INTERCITY AMATEUR BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP

An intercity baseball championship has been held in Tokyo every summer since 1927, with the exception of 1943-5, under the auspices of the Mainichi Shimbun Company. This year being the 50th such championship, a commemorative postage stamp will be issued. This summer, 32 amateur teams will participate.

Date of Issue: July 23, 1979 Denomination: 50 yen Design: A ball bearing the Kurojishi (black lion) emblem and a player Printing Process: Five-color photogravure (yellowish orange, gray, red, dim blue, black) Size of Impression: 25 m/m × 35.5 m/m Sheet Composition: 20 (4 × 5) stamps Quantity Issued: 27,000,000 stamps Designer: Minoru Hisano Cover Publisher: Matsuya Co., Ltd.

## 日本プロ野球50年記念郵便切手

日本プロ野球50年を記念して昭和59年11月15日に60円郵便切手が3種発行されます。

昭和9年に大日本東京野球クラブの創設と同時に日本のプロ野球は発足しましたが、その後、幾多の名選手が輩出し、今日では国民各層に親しまれる健全な大衆娯楽として定着しています。

昭和59年は日本のプロ野球創設の50年に当たり、日米対抗試合(11月)、日本プロ野球50年記念展覧会等の行事が行われる予定です。

発行日 昭和59年11月15日  
種類 60円郵便切手 (3種類連刷)  
意匠 (A) 投手  
(B) 打者  
(C) 球場のイメージにプロ野球創設者正力松太郎像を配す。  
印面寸法 縦33.0mm・横22.5mm  
版式刷色 グラビア6色  
シート構成 20枚(縦5枚・横4枚)  
発行枚数 35,000,000枚  
原画作者 (A)(B) 東角井良臣  
(C) 武荒勳嗣

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAPANESE PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL

Three 60 yen postage stamps will be issued on November 15th, 1984 to commemorate the 50th year of professional baseball in Japan.

Professional baseball in Japan dates back to 1934 when the Japan Tokyo Baseball Club was founded. Since then, professional baseball has produced many players of renown, and is firmly established as a healthy amusement loved by people in all levels of society.

It corresponds to the 50th anniversary of professional baseball in Japan. U.S.—Japan Games are scheduled for November, along with the Japan Professional Baseball 50-Years Exhibition Meeting and other activities.

Date of issue: November 15, 1984  
Denomination: 3 × 60 yen se-tenant  
Design: (A) Pitcher  
(B) Batter  
(C) Matsutaro SHORIKI (the organizer of professional baseball in Japan) statue against baseball stadium design  
Size: 22.5mm × 33.0mm  
Printing process: Six-color photogravure  
Sheet composition: 20 (4 × 5)  
Initial printing: 35,000,000  
Designer: (A)(B) Yoshiomi HIGASHITSUNOI  
(C) Kanji TAKEARA





# Netherlands Antillies sports issue.



Netherlands Antillies Post cachet



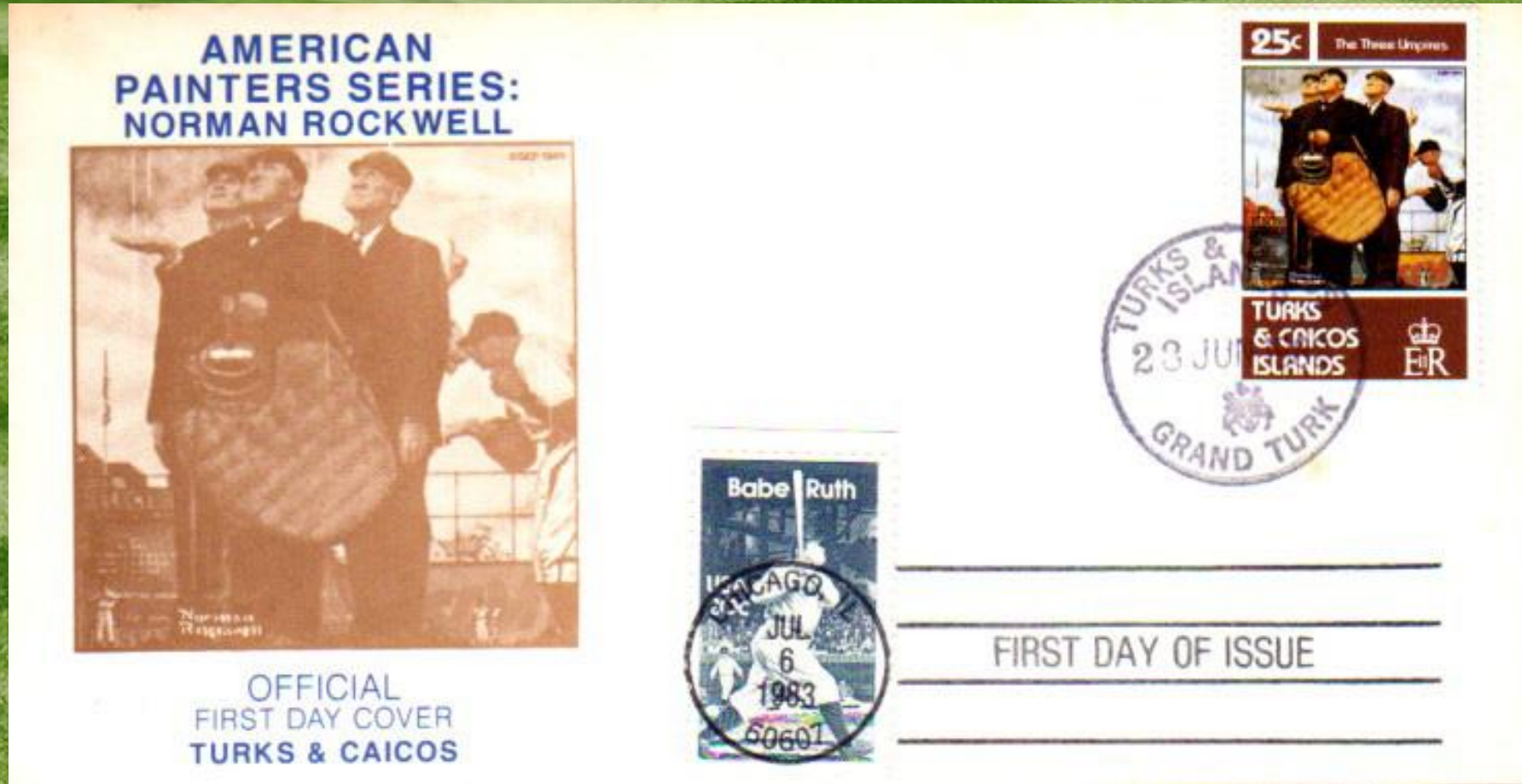


# Nicaragua 1974 History of Baseball commemorative series.



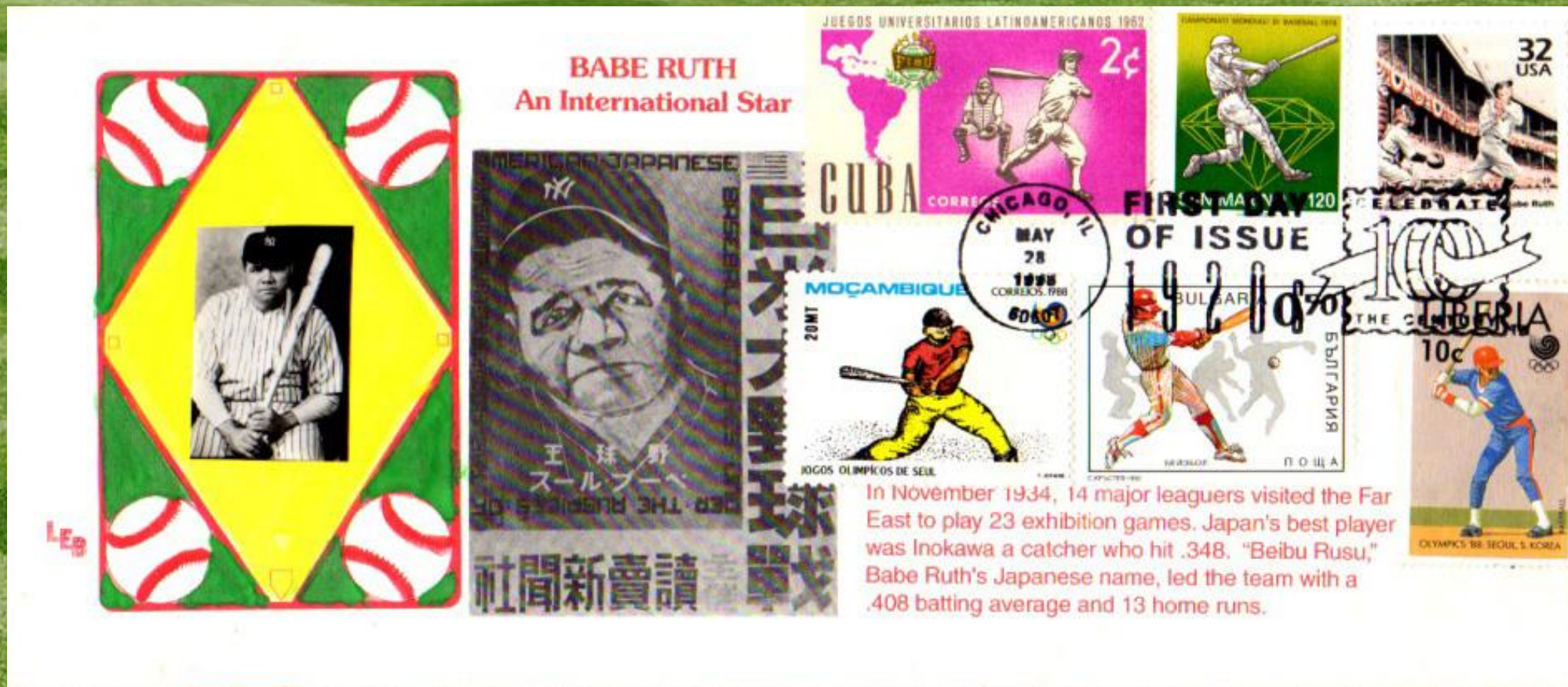


# Turks & Caicos Norman Rockwell issue, 1948 painting The Three Umpires





# Combo cover for the 1998 Babe Ruth Celebrate the Century issue



LEB cachet





# Canadian issue honoring the 1919 Vancouver Asahi Int. League Champs

DAY OF ISSUE  
Canada Post

JOUR D'ÉMISSION  
Postes Canada







**1**  
FIRST ASAHI



**2**



**3**



**5**



**6**

**1914** ①  
Creation of Vancouver Asahi (photo, 1915)  
Création de l'équipe des Vancouver Asahi (photo, 1915)

**1919**  
First championship, Vancouver International League  
Premier championnat (Vancouver International League)

**1921**  
Team splits in two for the season; Asahi All-Stars tour Japan  
Division du club en deux équipes pour la saison; l'équipe Asahi All-Stars part en tournée au Japon

**1926** ②  
"Ty" Kenichi Suga wins medallion for best pitcher; team wins Terminal League Championship  
• Ty • Kenichi Suga remporte la médaille du meilleur lanceur; l'équipe gagne le championnat de la Terminal League

**1927**  
Team moves to Senior "A" League  
L'équipe rejoint la Senior • A • League

**1930** ③  
Team returns to Terminal League, wins championship  
L'équipe retourne à la Terminal League et remporte le championnat

**1933**  
Another Terminal League Championship win  
Encore championne de la Terminal League

**1938**  
Burrard, Commercial and Pacific Northwest Japanese league champions  
Championne de la Burrard League, de la Commercial League et de la Pacific Northwest Japanese League

**1940** ④⑤  
Kaye Kaminishi's jersey and glove  
Chemise et gant de Kaye Kaminishi

**1941** ⑥  
Final team photo before disbandment  
Dernière photo de l'équipe avant qu'elle soit démantelée



For Further Information Online...

APS U.S. Baseball Album- <https://stamps.org/Portals/0/albums/Baseball-2012.pdf>

Smithsonian Exhibit- <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibits/upcoming/baseball/index.html>

Ed Stephan's Baseball on Stamps- <http://www.edstephan.org/webstuff/bbstamps/as.html>

History of Baseball- <http://baseballresearch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Schulz18.pdf>

Baseball Stamps & Postmarks Blog- <http://baseballstamp.blogspot.com/>

*Thanks for Watching*

