

## CUBS QUIT CATALINA FOR EXHIBITION TOUR

## M'CARTHY DOESN'T BELIEVE SQUAD IN BEST OF PHYSICAL TRIM.

But There's Time Left If Weather Only  
Will Be Kind; Team Has Good  
Reserves, Except for First.

**T**OS ANGELES, Cal., March 18.—The Chicago Cubs have quit their Catalina Island training camp and are now entrenched in this city where they will remain until March 25. During their stay here their afternoons will be taken up with a string of exhibition games with the Los Angeles club of the Pacific Coast League and the Detroit Tigers. Following the final game with the Tigers, the Cubs will start East on March 25 and make their first stop at Tucson, Ariz., where they will play the Paso, Beaumont, Houston and Kansas City clubs also be visited.

Leaving the island camp after a sleep of work, Manager Joe McCarthy was not over a humiliated one of the crowd events and the manner in which his team is shaping

[illegible]

out of the running during the season, "I has men whom he could throw into the game and win the game."

Blair are good field men who could pressed into service at either third, short second or center.

McMillan is a veteran, with Blair, who played with him at Little Rock this Spring. And there is also Danny Taylor, who plays either in the outfield or at short.

Stephenson, Wilson and Cuyler make up the regular outfield, and there is ample backing for them in case any of them are injured.

McMillan is the team's catcher, a veteran Headnotee, and Johnny Moore will be around for emergencies.

Darnest and Gonzales will, of course, lead the pitching staff.

Coming out of the back of the line, making it out for the third baseman, are two youngsters, both of whom look mighty good at this time. Earl Grace from Little

still waxing a hot scrap and it is hard to tell which one will be retained. The backbone of McCarthy's pitching staff will be made up of Sheriff Blake, Charley Root, Guy Bush, Hal Carlson, Perce Malone and Art Neff. Then there is Mike Cveugros, reclaimed from the minors after former major league experience. Mike is a wily little southpaw upon whom much dependence is placed.

Two Youngsters May Sick.

McCarthy has found two youngsters who appear to have the stuff that will make them members of the staff. Frank J. Tenbacher, who hails from the City of the Ten Horns, had a good record there in the second and has been going right on in the Spring training. John J. Gorman, who comes from Jersey City, has also shown considerable and may fool some of the players who thought he had but little chance.

Casualties have not been heavy since the team left the island over the injury to Shortstop Edwood English. English sprained his foot and when an infection set in, he was required to take a place on the bench for several days. Blair and McInnis complained of sore arms during the tour.

During the several games the club played in Los Angeles, Manager Munnich became sweet on Walter Berger, the Angels and the natives out this way fast that he has designs on the young star for immediate use. Berger plays both outfield and first base and Manager Kne of the Angels intends to use him at the initial snok whenever possible. The ab-

McCarthy is making no rash and far-reaching predictions about a pennant for the club. Of course he considers the team a contender.

under, but he figures like many of the others who have essayed to distinguish the race before it gets under way. The Great Pirates and Cardinals are booked by Mr. McCarthy as the stiffest opposition the club will have to meet. — BOB FRANKLIN.

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/ December 6, 2008

# Sherry Magee Anecdotes

by Matthias Koster(<http://mopupduty.com/author/newk/>)

## Sherry Magee Anecdotes



After writing Thursday's article on voting Sherry Magee into the baseball hall of fame(<http://mopupduty.com/index.php/sherry-magee-for-2008-hof/>). I came across a great biography piece by the SABR Bio Project(<http://bioproj.sabr.org/>). The entire article, written by Tom Simon, can be read here: Sherry Magee SABR Bio(<http://bioproj.sabr.org/bioproj.cfm?a=v&v=1&bid=938&pid=8658>). I've borrowed some of the key points from the article, which are shared below. Hopefully this adds some color to the strong statistics that we presented earlier in the week.

“ In late-June 1904, Phillies scout Jim Randall was getting off a train in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, when he overheard some baseball fans raving about a kid named Magee...After checking out the kid and liking what he saw, Randall approached him and asked if he'd be interested in playing with a league team. “With what team?” asked Magee. “With the Phillies,” ... The next day he was in Philadelphia, practicing with the Phillies, and the day after that-June 29, 1904, to be exact-19-year-old Sherry Magee was starting in left field against the Brooklyn Superbas. ”



Sherry Magee

“ Philadelphia Times after the 1908 season; “That he is one of the most hot-headed players in either big league is admitted; it couldn't be denied, because the records, showing how often he has been suspended for scrapping with the umpires, speak for themselves.” ”

Named captain of the Phillies in 1914, Magee went out of his way to do everything he could to help the team win. Up to this point he had spent over ten seasons in primarily left field. Injuries weakened the Phils depth and Magee demanded to be shifted to the shortstop position. That season he played 39 games at short, 32 at first and 8 at second base. Surprisingly, Magee posted better than league average range factor and fielding percentage from short.



“ Reporting to spring training for the 1915 season... when he stepped in a hole while shagging a flyball. He fell and injured his shoulder. Weeks later, when it failed to improve, he finally saw a doctor and learned that his collarbone was broken. Magee was only 30 years old but never again was the same player. ”

After his major league career, Magee played seven seasons in the minors. He retired at the age of 42 after his final season in the minors as the player/manager for Jack Dunn's Baltimore Orioles.

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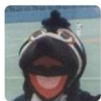
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Thanks for the thumbs-up for Pop and his life's work. The family deeply appreciates the recognition he is finally receiving for those many years of dedication to baseball. I don't know where you got the picture of him in the sweater on the field, but it's a good one! I have many more--contact me if you need anything.

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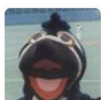
I have an old Gordon Magee baseball bat. I know there careers did not overlap. Did they jointly endorse a bat or start there own manufacturing enterprise? Can anyone shed some light on this mystery? Rich

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Thanks for the comments!

Gail, no problem. Sherry deserves his due. I'll e-mail you shortly and see if we can get some 'inside dope' on the life and career of Sherry Magee.

Richard, I can't find any mention of Gordon Magee at the MLB level. Was he a minor league player or perhaps an MLB player that I missed?

[^](#) | [v](#) • [Reply](#) • [Share](#) >**Gail Magee Marquiss** • 11 years ago

Richard--Gordon Magee and Sherry Magee aren't related and weren't in business together making bats. I don't know who Gordon Magee is, just that he wasn't a family member.

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/ December 4, 2008

# Sherry Magee For 2008 HOF

by Matthias Koster(<http://mopupduty.com/author/newk/>)

## Sherry Magee for 2008 HOF





## Who he is

Sherry Magee spent sixteen seasons in the major leagues, beginning his career in 1904 and ending it in 1919. He spent his prime seasons playing for the Philadelphia Phillies. During the first ten years of his career he was considered the second greatest offensive star in the National League, behind only the incomparable Honus Wagner.

## Previous Voting

Magee has received votes on seven previous ballots, in 1937 – 1939, 1942, 1945, 1950 and 1951. The highest percentage that he's ever garnered has been 1%. This season he is part of the veteran's committee pre-1943 ballot.

From my personal perspective, I'd rather have a player that was at or near the top eschalon for 10 years than an occasional all-star that held on for 15+ to collect his milestone numbers.

## Era & Stats



Magee played in the deadball era, known as such due to the overall lack of offensive stats and power numbers. Before the death of Ray Chapman in the World Series of 1920, it wouldn't be considered rare if only two or three baseball's were used during an entire game. Add in the dirt factor that the balls collect, along with ball "bruising", the allowance of spitballs, scuff balls, etc and low light situations towards the end of games and its not difficult to see why hitting was down.

The deadball era itself goes a long way in explaining the lack of milestone stats for Sherry Magee. 2169 hits, 83 HR, 1176 RBI. On the surface this makes it hardly worth having an HOF conversation about Magee. But when we look closer at his league rankings we see that he was one of the top hitters of his time.

### **Top 10 rankings during his career**

Batting Average 6 times

On-Base % 5 Times

Slugging Percentage 11 Times (10 times in 11 seasons)

OPS 8 Times

Total Bases 9 Times

Runs 7 Times

Doubles 9 Times

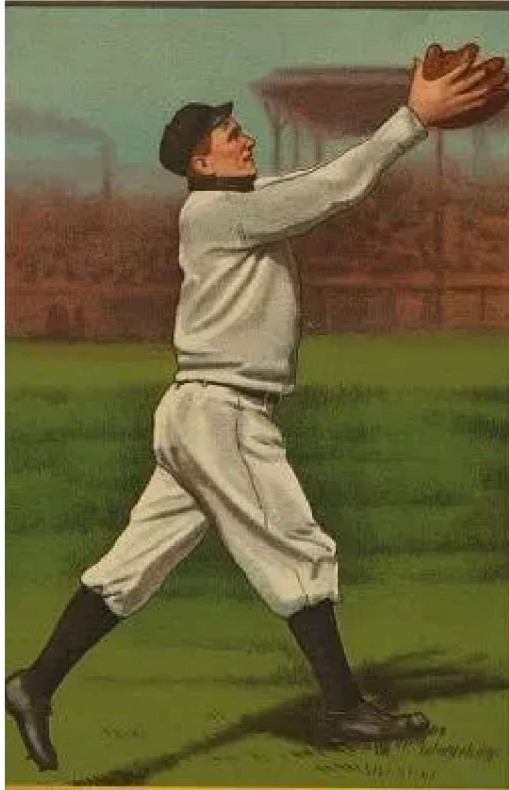
Triples 9 Times

Home Runs 7 Times



## RBI 9 Times

Sherry's career OPS+ is 136. The only player in the NL during this time that posted more top ten rankings is Honus Wagner.



Using two hall of fame metric tests created by Bill James, the Black-Ink and Gray-Ink Tests, Magee scores well-above the average HOF player. In Black-Ink he scores 35 (42nd all-time) and in Gray-Ink he scores 210 (33rd all-time). These metrics are based upon league rankings. Magee ranks higher in one or both of these systems over strong HOF inductees such as Paul Molitor, George Brett, George Sisler, and even Joe Dimaggio.

Whether the veteran's committee will give Magee the time of day remains to be seen. For over ten years Sherry Magee was the #2 offensive force in the National League. Sherry Magee should be elected into the MLB hall of fame.



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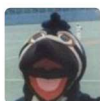
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**Callum Hughson** • 12 years ago

I'm sold. Good work K.

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**L.A. TARONE** • 10 years ago

Sherry Magee was indeed a great player -- maybe the best all around player of his era. The problem was he was likely dishonest. His name surfaced in connection with numerous Hal Chase fixes. How involved he actually was isn't completely clear, but he certainly had the same "guilty knowledge" that has kept Joe Jackson and Buck Weaver (who should be in HOF) out. In Weaver's case, he knew about the 1919 WS fix, told the Sox about it, but was ignored and paid for it -- dearly and unfairly. Magee was very hot headed, he fought with fans, teammates, the press, anybody. He played on that 1919 Reds team that beat the crooked Sox and was alleged to have known about the fix and made money on it. Oddly, he later tried umpiring after his career ended. No question about his talent -- he was among the best players of his era. But he's gotten so few HOF votes because of questions of his honesty.

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