

For The Record

OBITUARIES

Wally Moses, a solid outfielder with three American League clubs during a 17-year career that spanned three decades—and a successful batting coach for another 13 years—died October 10 in Vidalia, Ga., two days after his 80th birthday.

The lefthanded hitter attracted the attention of Ty Cobb when Cobb, as a favor to a friend, umpired a sandlot game in Georgia in which Moses played.



Wally Moses

Cobb got Moses a contract with Augusta, Ga., in the Palmetto League in 1931, and when the Class D league folded in midseason, Moses signed with Elmira (New York-Penn). Moses rode the bench until the club's general manager, Warren Giles, who would go on to become National League president, saw him in batting practice and insisted he be placed in the lineup.

Moses rose steadily through the minors and signed with the Philadelphia Athletics off the Galveston (Texas) roster in 1934. A line-drive hitter who usually batted leadoff, he compiled a .325 average through 85 games before suffering a broken arm when he collided with an outfield wall. Writers named him the A.L.'s top '34 rookie anyway, and he became the A's regular right fielder the following spring.

He strung together seven 300-plus seasons with the A's, batting a career-high .346 in 1936, before he was traded to the Chicago White Sox after the 1941 season. He spent the war years with Chicago, leading the league in triples (12) and stolen bases (a club-record 56) in 1943.

It was his defensive ability in right field that led to another trade, this one in midseason 1946 to the Boston Red Sox, who were chasing a pennant.

Boston won the A.L. title, and Moses hit .417 in four games in the World Series with St. Louis.

Moses spent two more years with Boston as a part-time outfielder, then signed with the A's again after he was released in late 1948. He completed his playing career with Philadelphia in 1951 with a .291 average and .416 slugging percentage in 2,012 games, but stayed with the A's as a batting coach.

He became batting coach for the Phillies when Mayo Smith became manager in 1967, and later followed Smith to Cincinnati and Detroit.

Moses was the Phillies' batting coach when Richie Ashburn won N.L. batting championships in 1955 and '58, the New York Yankees' hitting coach when Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle staged their home run battle in 1961, and the batting coach for a sixth-place Cincinnati team that ran away with the N.L. team batting title in 1959.

He also was the batting coach for the 1968 Tigers team that won a pennant and World Series.

Moses retired in 1970, but was

coaxed back as a coach by the Phillies, who made him a hitting instructor in their organization. He retired again in 1975 and returned to his native Georgia. He had suffered from chronic lung problems the past 10 years, and had been in failing health for about a year. In 1988, he was in-

ducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

Dick Jorgensen, a National Football League official for 23 years who worked his last assignment at Super Bowl XXIV in New Orleans in January, died of cancer October 10 in Champaign, Ill. He was 56.

Jorgensen, a resident of the Champaign-Urbana area, where he was a community leader and the president of a local bank, became an NFL official in 1968 and a referee in 1971. His assignments included 12 NFL playoff games, among them four conference championship contests.

Jorgensen was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, where he captained the basketball team as a senior in 1956. He later served two years in the Navy.

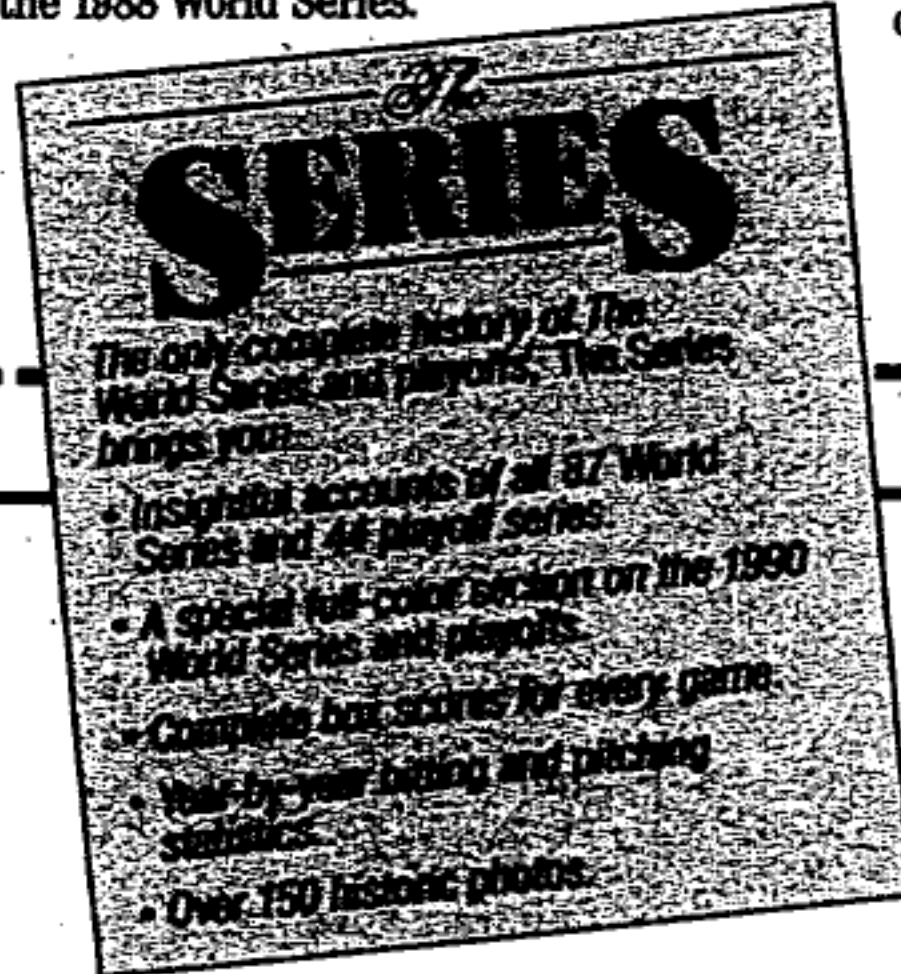
His illness was diagnosed in May, and he had not worked an NFL game this season.

TAKE A CLASSIC LOOK BACK



The Time When:

- Babe Ruth gestured his bat to center field as if to indicate where he would plant Charlie Root's next pitch and followed with a home run to center field during game three of the 1932 Series.
- Don Larsen stunned the Dodgers with the first no-hitter and perfect game in World Series history in game five of the 1956 Series.
- Dodgers Kirk Gibson, badly hobbled by a pulled hamstring, came off the bench and slammed a 3-2 pitch into the right field bleachers to beat the A's in game one of the 1988 World Series.



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