



THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF MASTER  
SET OF TWENTY-ONE PRESIDENTIAL  
AUTOGRAPHED BASEBALLS (1901-2026)

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*Baseball and the Presidency:  
A Shared American Tradition*

For more than a century and a half, baseball and the presidency have occupied sacred places in the American imagination. One has been called the national pastime; the other represents the nation's highest office. Together, they have formed a powerful cultural partnership that reflects the hopes, struggles, and traditions of the United States itself. From crowded ballparks and presidential box seats to wartime speeches and ceremonial first pitches, the story of baseball and the presidency is uniquely intertwined with the history of this nation.

The connection between U.S. Presidents and the game of baseball dates back to the nineteenth century when the game was still developing into a national sport. As baseball spread across the country after the Civil War, it became one of the few experiences shared by Americans from different regions, backgrounds, and political beliefs. Presidents quickly recognized baseball's ability to unite citizens in ways that politics often could not.

One of the earliest presidents associated with baseball was Abraham Lincoln. While historians debate some of the stories surrounding Lincoln's attendance at games, there is little doubt that baseball flourished during his presidency. Soldiers played the game in camps throughout the Civil War, helping transform a regional pastime into a truly national sport. By the time the war ended, baseball had become deeply woven into the American identity. Albert G. Spalding aptly noted in his 1911 book titled America's National Game, *"Modern baseball had been born in the brain of an American soldier. It received its baptism in the bloody days of our Nation's direst danger.*

*It had its early evolution when soldiers, North and South, were striving to forget their foes by cultivating, through this grand game, fraternal friendship with comrades in arms."*

As the twentieth century began, baseball emerged as the nation's dominant sport. United States Presidents increasingly embraced the game, understanding its symbolic importance. Theodore Roosevelt, known for his energetic personality and love of athletics, encouraged physical activity and viewed sports as essential to American character. While Roosevelt was clearly a fan of the more physical game of football, he appreciated baseball's place in American life and recognized its cultural significance.

No tradition better symbolizes the relationship between baseball and the presidency than the ceremonial first pitch. This beloved custom began on April 14, 1910, when President William Howard Taft attended the Washington Senators' Opening Day game against the Philadelphia Athletics. Sitting in the grandstand, Taft threw a baseball onto the field before the game began. Although ceremonial throws had occurred before, Taft's participation established a precedent that would evolve into one of the most enduring rituals in American sports. *"The game of baseball is a clean, straight game, and it summons to its presence everybody who enjoys clean, straight athletics. It furnishes amusement to the thousands and thousands."* President William Howard Taft.

The image of a president tossing out the first pitch immediately resonated with the public. It represented something uniquely American: the nation's elected leader participating in a game enjoyed by ordinary citizens.

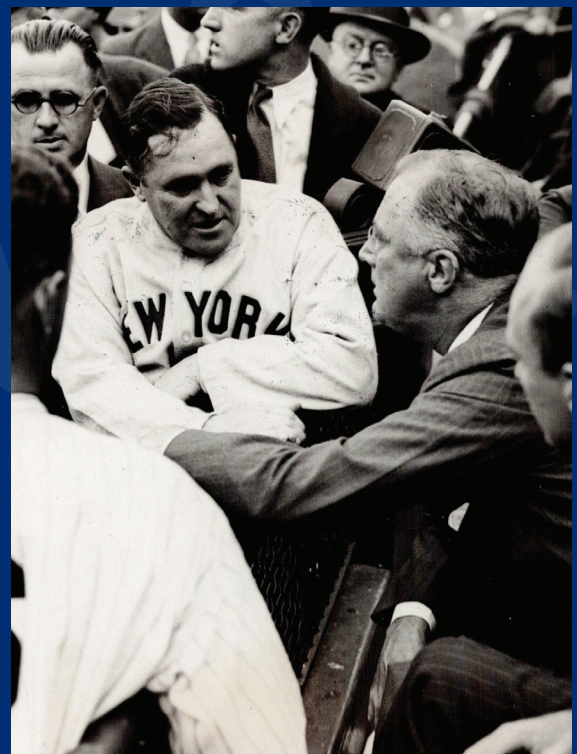


The act was simple, informal, and deeply symbolic. For a few moments, political divisions disappeared as fans focused on a shared national tradition.

President Woodrow Wilson was a fervent supporter and fan of the game attending a number of contests during his tenure. Following Taft's example, Wilson threw out Opening Day pitches during his presidency, even doing so while recovering from illness. The tradition became so firmly established that it eventually came to signify the official beginning of the baseball season.

During the Presidential administrations of Warren G. Harding and Calvin Coolidge, baseball enjoyed tremendous popularity. Harding was an avid fan who attended numerous games and frequently spoke about the sport's importance. His presence at ballparks demonstrated how deeply baseball had become woven into American public life. *"I never saw a game without taking sides and never want to see one. There is the soul of the game,"* remarked Harding.

Coolidge, though more reserved, continued the presidential connection to the game. The relationship between baseball and the presidency took on even greater meaning during the Great Depression and World War II. As Americans faced economic hardship, baseball provided a sense of continuity and hope. President Franklin D. Roosevelt understood this better than anyone. In 1942, after the United States entered World War II, baseball officials wondered whether the sport should suspend operations for the duration of the conflict. Roosevelt's response became one of the most famous documents in baseball history. In what is now known as the "Green Light Letter," sent to Commissioner Kennesaw Mountain Landis, he encouraged Major League Baseball to continue playing. One poignant excerpt from the significant document reads as follows: *"I honestly feel that it would be best for the country to keep baseball going. There will be fewer people unemployed and everybody will work longer hours and harder than ever before. And that means that they ought to have a chance for recreation and for taking their minds off their work even more than before."*





Roosevelt believed that baseball would boost morale for both civilians and servicemen. Games provided a temporary escape from wartime anxieties and reminded Americans of what they were fighting to preserve. His decision helped ensure that baseball remained a constant presence throughout the war years.

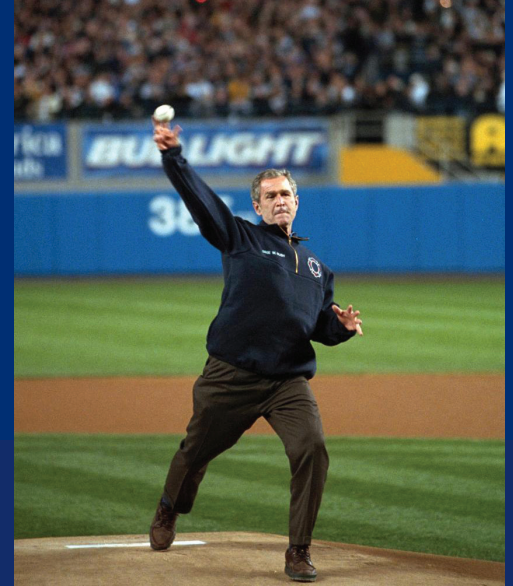
The postwar era brought new opportunities for Presidents and baseball to intersect. President Harry Truman, a lifelong sports enthusiast, frequently attended games and maintained the tradition of presidential involvement. President Dwight D. Eisenhower continued this connection during the prosperous 1950s, a decade often remembered as one of baseball's golden ages. "Ike" was a lifelong baseball enthusiast who notably recalled a childhood dream: *"I told him that I wanted to be a real major league baseball player, a genuine professional like Honus Wagner. My friend said that he'd like to be President of the United States. Neither of us got our wish."*

Perhaps no president was more publicly associated with baseball than President John F. Kennedy. Young, charismatic, and athletic, Kennedy represented a new generation of leadership. His attendance at Opening Day ceremonies and his interactions with players reinforced baseball's role as a symbol of national unity during a period of social change and Cold War tension. His celebrity meshed well with the immense national popularity of the game's greatest stars and only furthered the overall public stature of both. Kennedy's trademark style and wit were ideally exemplified by a quip about Stan Musial:

**"A COUPLE OF YEARS  
AGO, THEY TOLD ME  
I WAS TOO YOUNG TO  
BE PRESIDENT AND YOU  
WERE TOO OLD TO BE  
PLAYING BASEBALL. BUT  
WE FOOLED THEM."**

As television transformed American culture, ceremonial first pitches became increasingly visible. Millions of viewers could now watch presidents participate in baseball traditions. What had once been witnessed by a few thousand fans in a stadium now reached households across the nation.





The tradition continued through the administrations of Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan. Each president brought a unique personality to the role, but all understood the significance of baseball's connection to the American people. Reagan, a former radio broadcaster who had once announced baseball games, possessed a particularly deep appreciation for the sport's storytelling traditions. Among Reagan's countless remarks about the game he so loved was this observation: *"I wouldn't even complain if a stray ball came through the Oval Office window now and then."*

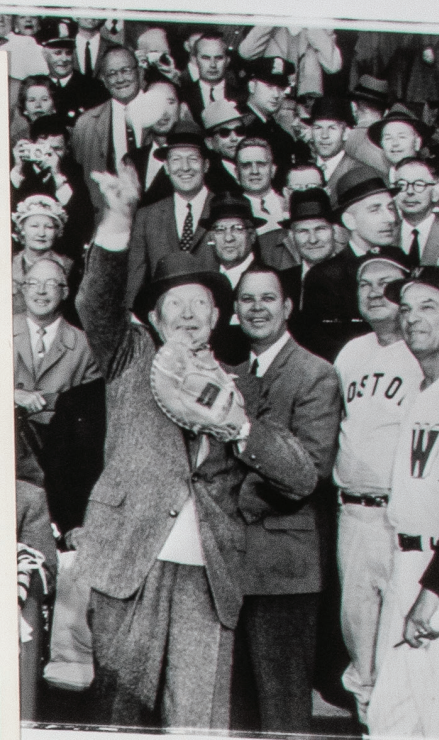
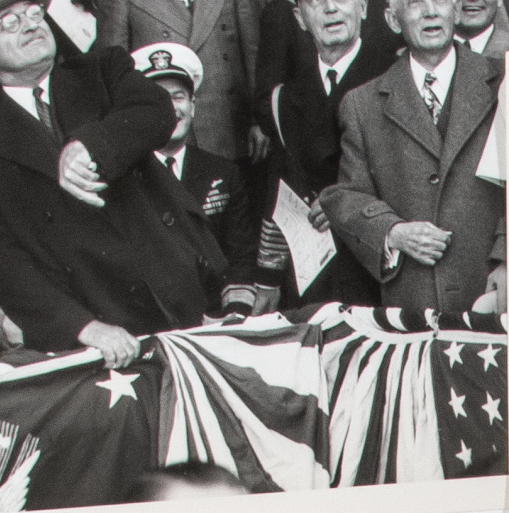
One of the most indelible and memorable moments in the history of baseball and the Presidency occurred on October 30, 2001. Just weeks after the September 11 terrorist attacks, President George W. Bush threw out the ceremonial first pitch before Game 3 of the World Series at Yankee Stadium. Wearing a protective vest beneath his jacket, Bush walked confidently to the mound and delivered a strike to home plate.

The moment transcended sports. In a city still grieving and a nation still recovering from tragedy, the pitch became a symbol of resilience and determination. The crowd's emotional response reflected baseball's enduring ability to bring Americans together during difficult times. Many historians consider it to be the most significant ceremonial first pitch ever thrown.

The modern era of the presidency continued the tradition into the twenty-first century. Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joe Biden each maintained connections to baseball in various ways, demonstrating that the sport remains an important part of American civic culture. Although modern presidents face countless responsibilities and a rapidly changing media environment, baseball still offers opportunities to connect with citizens through a shared tradition.

The relationship between baseball and the presidency is ultimately about more than sports or politics. It reflects the ways Americans tell their collective story. Baseball provides a language of hope, perseverance, and renewal. Every season begins with optimism. Every game offers the possibility of redemption. These themes resonate deeply with the American experience and with the responsibilities of presidential leadership. So long as baseball remains part of the nation's cultural fabric, presidents will likely continue to participate in its traditions.

It is a reflection of the American spirit, and its partnership with the presidency remains one of the country's most enduring and heartfelt traditions.



1302 4/13/64 WASHINGTON: Right arm cocked, Pres. Eisenhower opens the 1964 baseball season at D.C. Stadium. UPI TELEPHOTO film.



Lot 180



*Walter Johnson with Presidential Baseball Collection*

## THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF MASTER SET OF TWENTY-ONE PRESIDENTIAL AUTOGRAPHED BASEBALLS (1901-2026)

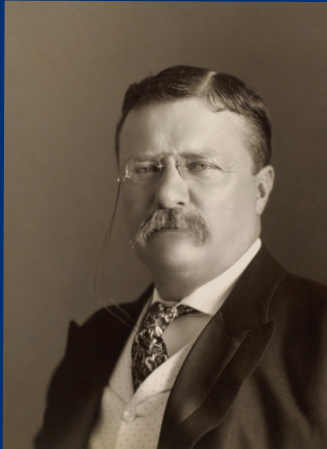
Assembled over three decades, The Commander in Chief Master Set of Presidential Autographed Baseballs stands as one of the greatest achievements in the history of collecting, for any medium. The combination of scarcity, importance, and quality demonstrated within this assemblage of historic baseballs is unprecedented and without equal as the only continuous link of Presidential baseballs in private hands. While other respected collectors have undertaken the task of assembling impressive runs of Presidential signed baseballs, the offered grouping represents curation at its finest. Even the personal collection of presidential baseballs from legendary Washington Senators pitcher Walter Johnson which is tucked away securely in the National Baseball Hall of Fame, as impressive as it is, simply cannot match the presented group.

The labor of love and appreciation for the history of baseball and its relationship with the Presidency that embodied this collector's pursuit of these treasures is as impressive as the objects within. There could be no better venue to present this unique collection to the public than the greatest showcase of the game's greatest players on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the country—in the city where America's Declaration of Independence was instituted.

We are honored and privileged to present The Commander in Chief Master Set of Twenty-One Presidential Autographed Baseballs within this special catalogued section. The following individual baseballs within the master set collection will all be sold within Lot 158. Letters of authenticity and provenance for each specific baseball are noted accordingly.

*Exhibited: Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory, The George H. W. Bush Presidential Museum & Library, The Babe Ruth Museum*

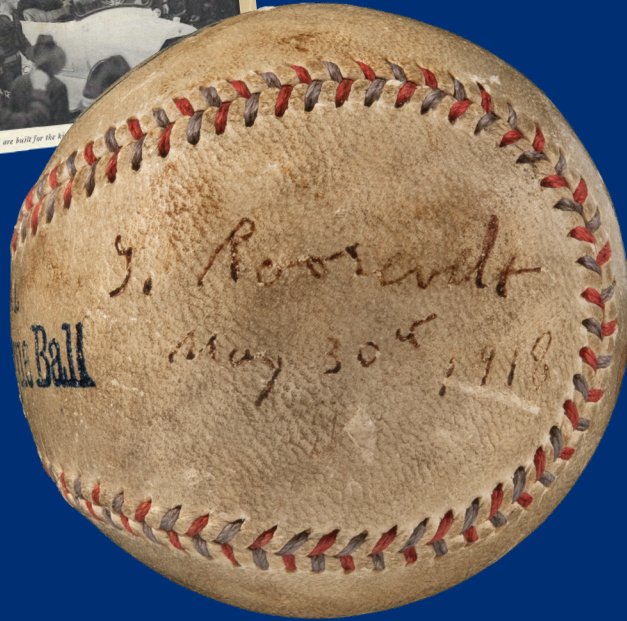
**Estimated Upon Request.**



President R. H. Collins is not the only one to be patriotic. There was more than baseball and navy, or an autograph, in Mr. Collins' purchase.

**Mr. Collins Buys a Baseball**

**M**EMORIAL DAY was Cadillac Day in Detroit. Early in the morning America's foremost private citizen, President Roosevelt, arrived to take part in Detroit's Memorial Day parade, and by his presence and enthusiasm lent an added impetus to the interest which youthful Detroit is taking in the navy. Previous to Colonel Roosevelt's speech at the Arcadia in the evening, an appeal was made to the audience in support of Detroit's Navy recruiting fund. A new baseball was produced which Colonel Roosevelt had autographed for Frank Navin, owner of the Detroit Tigers, earlier in the day. The ball was donated to the cause by Mr. Navin and put up for auction. Considerable excitement was raised in the building. After some sharp competition it was finally knocked down to President Collins for \$1,500. Mr. Roosevelt and party were met on their arrival in Detroit by a fleet of fawn-colored Cadillacs. These cars were in service during the day taking the city's guests to the various clubs and halls where he lunched and spoke, and taking part in the huge parade which was the feature of the day. Fawn-colored Cadillacs are now furnishing the Navy with the same kind of service that is making olive drab Cadillacs popular with the officers of the American Expeditionary Forces in France.



#26

**PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT (1901-1909) - DATED MAY 30, 1918 AND SIGNED FOR DETROIT TIGERS OWNER FRANK NAVIN.**

Red and blue stitched Reach Official American League baseball is signed "T. Roosevelt" and dated "May 30th 1918" on the side panel. Fountain pen signature rates 7/8 to 8 out of 10 and the ball has mild soiling throughout along with some minor scattered surface wear. Stampings remain bold and well defined. It was signed at the behest of Detroit Tigers owner Frank Navin who in turn donated it to be sold at auction with the proceeds to benefit Detroit's Navy recruiting fund. Ultimately bought by R.H. Collins, then President of the Cadillac division of General Motors for a bid of \$1,500 and remained within the Collins Family until the early 2000s. An investment of \$1,500 in the U.S. stock market (S&P 500 equivalent) at the beginning of 1918 would be worth approximately \$84.46 million in 2026 assuming all dividends were automatically reinvested. The ball is pictured in an article which was published in the era and was likely done by General Motors which discusses the day it was signed and the Collins acquisition. A notarized letter signed by Collins' grandson relays that he was gifted the ball for his 18th birthday. Roosevelt signed baseballs should be considered the rarest among all Presidents and it is believed that the offered is one of only two known. The other resides in the permanent collection of the Baseball Hall of Fame - gifted by the legendary Walter Johnson. This is the only example which has been sold publicly and alongside William Howard Taft represents the cornerstone of any "complete" collection.

Roosevelt ball includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA, signed letter of provenance from Edwin Collins, and the original publication article referenced above.

horseback figure of General Grant  
and horseback were given to each guest.

**AT THE BASEBALL GAME.**  
"For Fred Clarke, With best wishes,  
William H. Taft, May 2, 1910."

That was the message penned on a  
baseball presented by the President to  
Cap. Clarke during the game yesterday.

Similar souvenirs were also given to  
Wagner, Chance and Evers. Mr. Taft  
also arose in his box at Forbes field  
yesterday and tossed the first ball to  
George Gibson, and the great game was  
on.

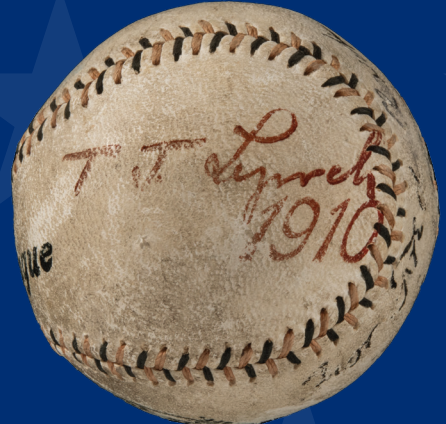
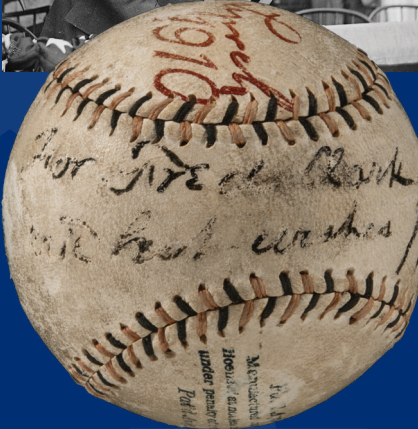
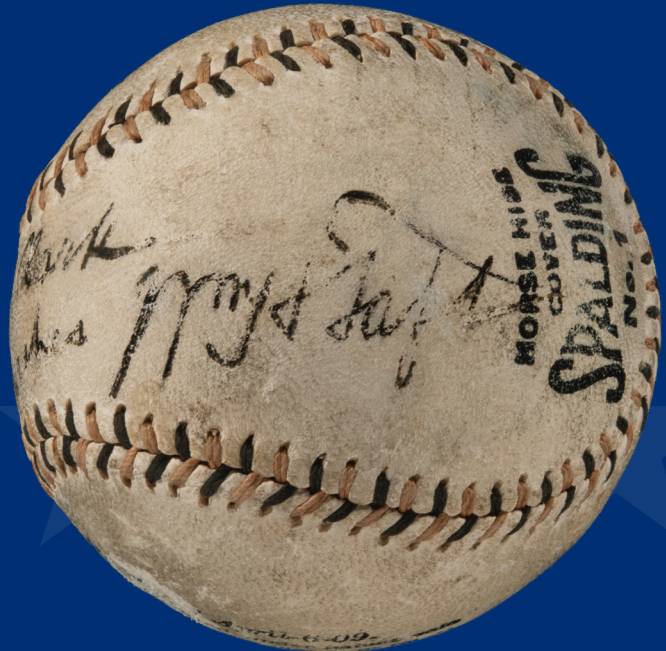
The only regret expressed by the Pres-  
ident was that "Brother Charley" wasn't  
present to see his pet Cubs being spanked.

Last May at old Exposition park  
"Charley" was on hand and gloated over  
the Cub victory and the \$100 he won  
from Secretary Knox on the game.

Twenty thousand fans filled the stands  
and bleachers when Mr. Taft entered his  
box in the balcony between home plate  
and first base. As the chief executive  
sat there and surveyed the field which  
he declared to be the "finest" he had  
ever seen he said:

"If there was anything that could add  
to my pleasure in coming to Pittsburg it  
was to see a baseball game, and particu-  
larly one in which Wagner was playing,"  
was all the President said in response to  
a query as to how he was enjoying him-  
self.

When Hans Wagner, the prime presi-  
dential favorite, was on the business  
end of a lightning double play in the  
eighth inning, the President applauded  
vigorously. Mr. Taft thinks Wagner is  
the best that ever happened. That



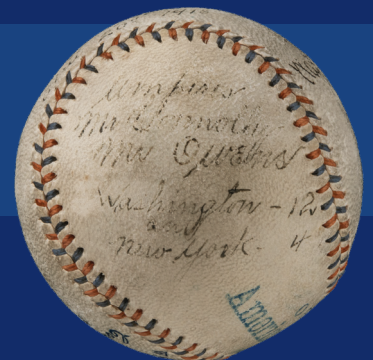
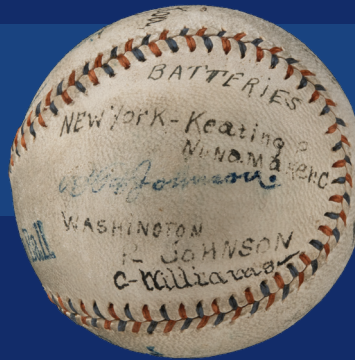
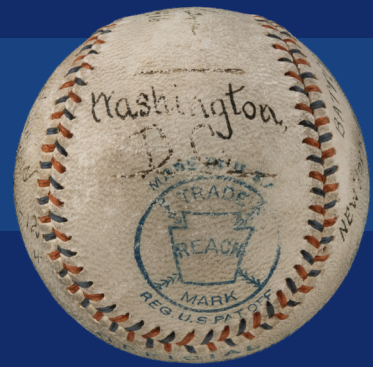
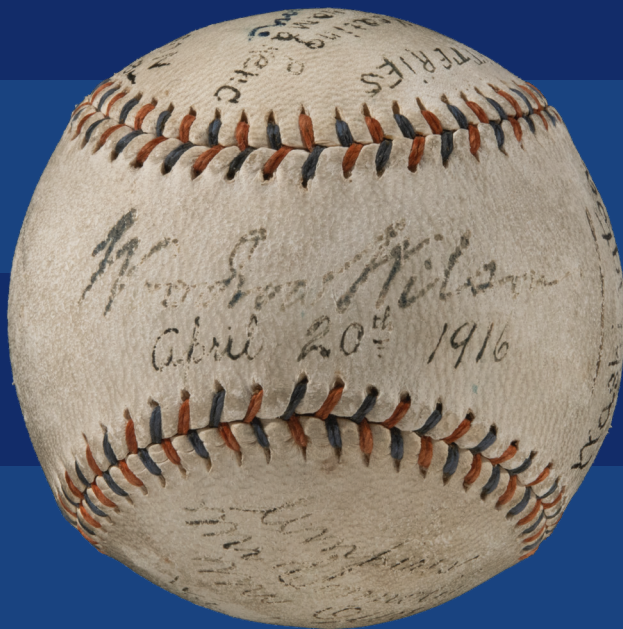
#27

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT (1909-1913) - INSCRIBED TO HALL OF FAME FRED CLARKE.**

Orange and black stitched Spalding Official National League baseball with a "TJ Lynch 1910" stamp applied. Personalized spanning the sweetspot and signed on a side panel, "For Fred Clarke, with best wishes, Wm H. Taft." Fountain pen signature and handwriting rate 6-6/7 out of 10. Ball displays mild toning/discoloration with some scattered surface wear. An included letter of provenance handwritten by Clarke's granddaughter relays that she was gifted the ball by Clarke in 1954. Taft and Clarke had shared a moment over (4) decades prior when the then President appeared in Pittsburgh for "Taft Day." As relayed in a period newspaper article Taft signed a ball and inscribed it in a nearly identical manner (article mentions that it was dated, an oversight which is easy to understand in their gathering of facts for the story) for the Pirates star. One of only three examples of a Taft single signed baseball known to exist and the only one that has been offered publicly. Two others reside in the permanent collection of the Baseball Hall of Fame having been donated by Walter Johnson and Ray Schalk.

Taft ball includes full LOA from JSA and signed letter of provenance from Helen Dee Duerr

remained standing until the last note had died away. Just before playing time, Mr. Wilson rose and made a good throw to Thomas Connolly, who made a reasonably good catch, and then the serious business of making that same ball perform all manner of uncanny tricks was taken up by Walter Johnson. The ball was scarcely soiled when it left the box at the speed king left the box at the

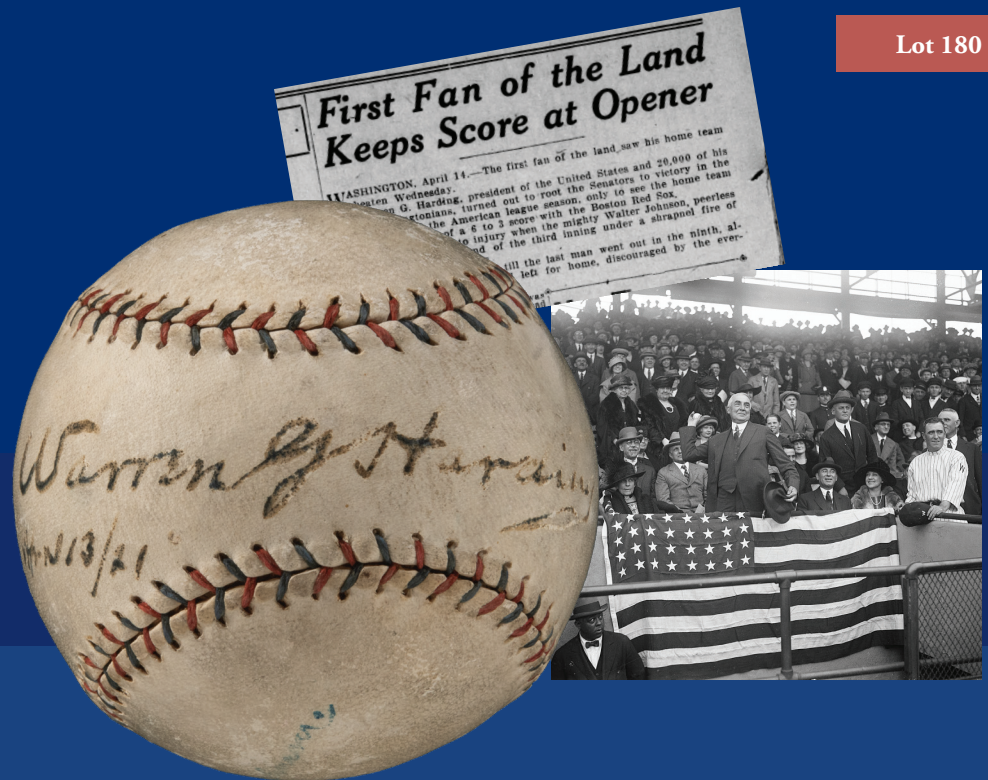


#28

**PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON (1913-1921) - DATED APRIL 20, 1916 AND FIRST PITCH ATTRIBUTED BALL FROM THE COLLECTION OF HALL OF FAME TOM CONNOLLY.**

Red and blue stitched Reach Official American League baseball has Ban Johnson facsimile signature on the side panel. Signed "Woodrow Wilson" across the sweet spot in fountain pen rating 6-6/7 out of 10. The ball resided in the collection of Hall of Fame umpire Thomas Connolly for decades and first entered the collecting world through the sale of many relics from his career which took place at Sotheby's in 2005 and has remained in this private collection for the past two decades. He was among the most respected arbiters of the era and oversaw a number of the most important games of the early 20th Century. There were several baseballs within his collection which originated from notable events and all had notations throughout done in similar style to those which are handwritten on the offered example. April 20, 1916 date is below Wilson's autograph and other panels have jottings which note the game score, participating umpires, pitching batteries, and the "Washington D.C." location. As relayed in a New York Herald article published the following day, "The President tossed out the first ball to umpire Tommy Connolly and he did not leave his box near the Washington bench until the final out." Wilson and his wife witnessed the great Walter Johnson lead the Senators to victory over New York. President Wilson suffered a debilitating stroke in 1919 that left him largely incapacitated and unable to fulfill public requests including some autograph inquiries. Among the small population of authentic Wilson autographed baseballs known, the offered is among the very best with regard to condition that remains in private hands.

Wilson ball includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA.

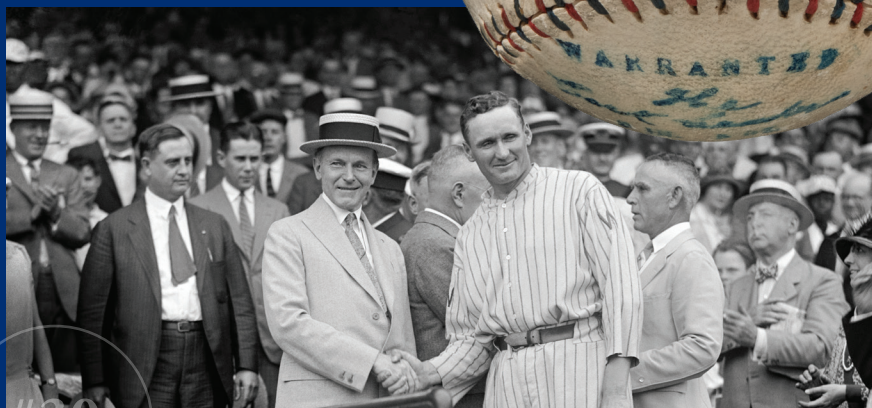
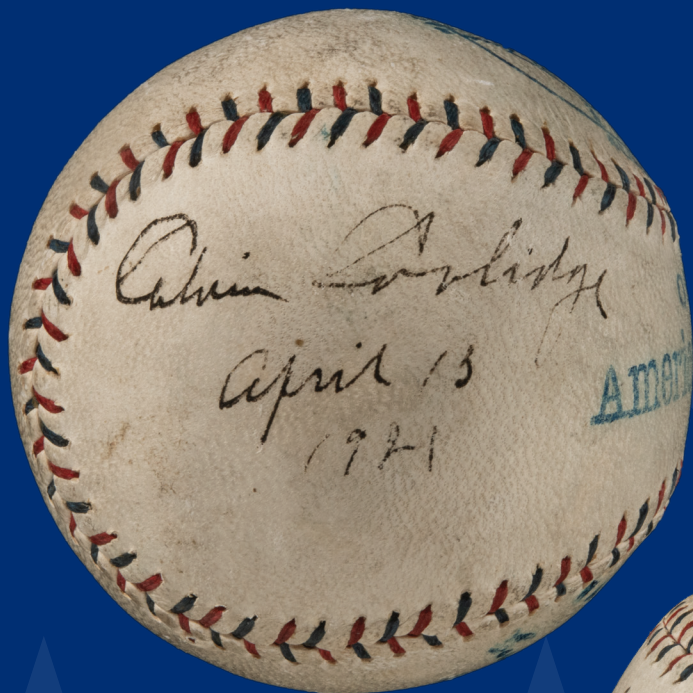


#29

**PRESIDENT WARREN G. HARDING (1921-1923) - DATED APRIL 13, 1921, OPENING DAY IN WASHINGTON.**

Red and blue stitched Reach Official American League baseball has Ban Johnson facsimile signature on the side panel. Signed "Warren G. Harding" across the sweetspot in fountain pen rating 7 to 8 out of 10 and dated "April 13 / 21." Harding was in Washington as the Senators opened their season and threw out the first pitch in what had now become tradition. He had been sworn in as President just over a month prior and would pass while still in office on August 2, 1923. He would attend just one other opening day during his time in office thus we can conclude that there are but a handful of baseballs which he likely signed and even fewer still survive to this day. There are just four confirmed examples: Two reside in the permanent collection of the Baseball Hall of Fame (donated by Walter Johnson and Ray Schalk) and there is one other which has reached the open market. This example has been in this private collection for over 25 years.

Harding ball includes full LOA from JSA

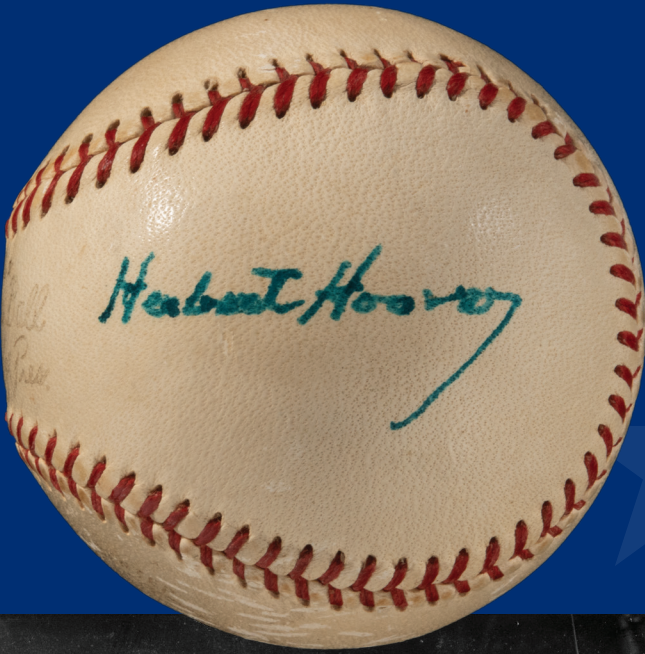


#30

**PRESIDENT CALVIN COOLIDGE (1923-1929)- DATED OPENING DAY, 1921 - THE VICE PRESIDENT ATTENDS WITH WARREN G. HARDING.**

Red and blue stitched Reach Official American League baseball has Ban Johnson facsimile signature on the side panel. Signed "Calvin Coolidge April 13, 1921" in fountain pen rating 7-8 out of 10. The then newly sworn-in Vice President was in attendance with President Warren G. Harding. It is believed that Woodrow Wilson was also in attendance marking what was likely the only occasion when three men who have served the highest office in the land were together at a baseball game. This baseball sold at Sotheby's in 2005 and has remained within this private collection for over 20 years.

Coolidge ball includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA



#31

**PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER (1929-1933) - ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN, GRADED PSA/DNA "8", EX-GEDDY LEE COLLECTION (LEAD SINGER OF RUSH)**

Reach W. Harridge Official American League baseball, signed "Herbert Hoover" on the side panel in fountain pen. Autograph is graded "8" by PSA. Unlike his predecessor Calvin Coolidge, President Herbert Hoover was a genuine, lifelong baseball fanatic who actively played the sport as a child and college shortstop. In 1930, during the onset of the Great Depression, Babe Ruth famously held out for a massive contract extension with the New York Yankees. When a reporter pointed out that Ruth's requested \$80,000 salary was more money than President Hoover's annual \$75,000 income, Ruth delivered an iconic, unapologetic response: "I know, but I had a better year than he did." While Hoover was known to sign baseballs for use as awards to young players, the offered example should be considered among the very best, if not the singular best, extant. This baseball sold for \$214,000 when last offered at auction in December of 2023.

Hoover ball includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA (signature graded "8") and JSA



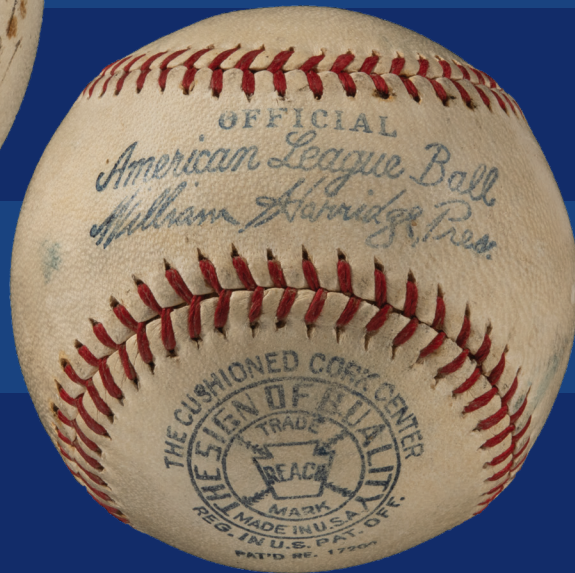
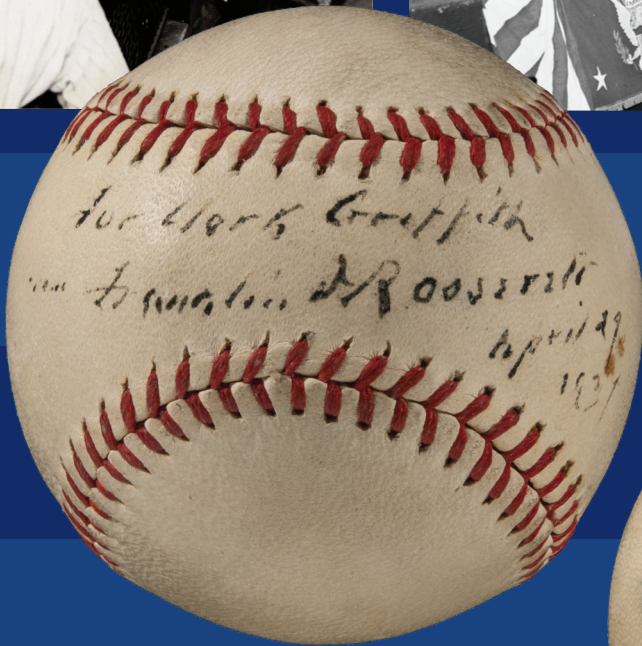
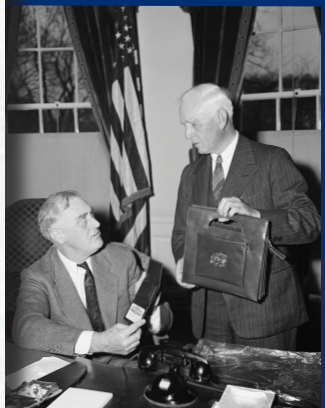
**ROOSEVELT WARMED UP FOR 1ST PITCH**

WASHINGTON, April 19. (AP) — Franklin Roosevelt, a big righthander, warmed up today to start the American League on another base ball season.

He was free to put all he had on his first pitch, for he was to make only one. That was from the president's private box to the Washington and Philadelphia players, grouped near home plate.

A sellout two days before the game assured a capacity crowd of 30,000 to see the president in his annual pitching chore. The season starts here a day ahead of the other major league cities. Vice President Garner also had a preliminary duty—hoisting the flag in centerfield.

Once Mr. Roosevelt had thrown the first strike, Joe Casarella was to take over the pitching for Washington and Harry Kelley for the Athletics.

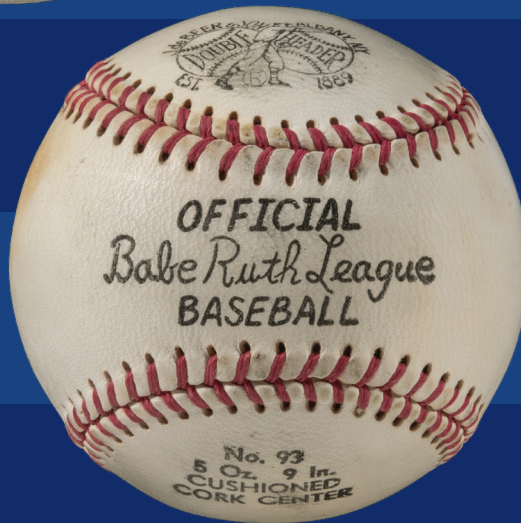
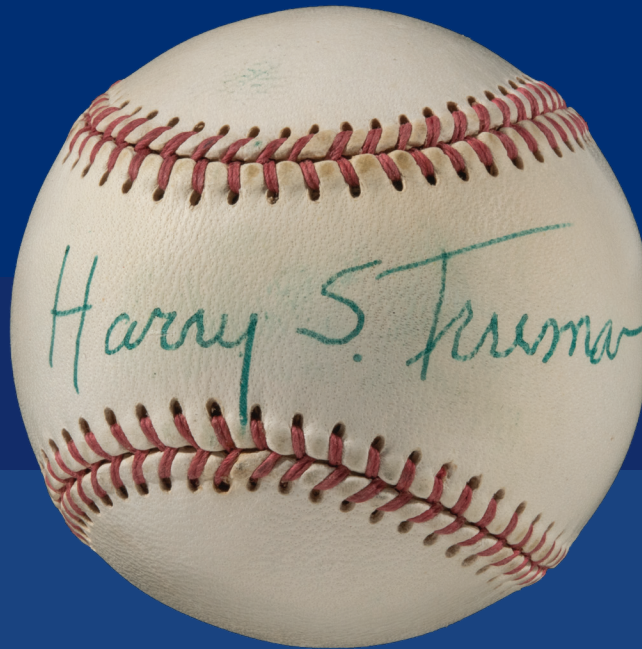


#32

**PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (1933-1945) - OUR LONGEST SERVING PRESIDENT INSCRIBES A BALL TO CLARK GRIFFITH IN 1937.**

Reach W. Harridge Official American League baseball signed "For Clark Griffith, from Franklin D. Roosevelt" and is dated "April 29, 1937." Fountain pen signature rates 7-8 out of 10. Roosevelt appeared at Griffith Stadium to throw out the first pitch of the 1937 season in early April when Clark Griffith was then owner of the Washington Senators, a team he had managed for nearly a decade before assuming control of the franchise. FDR was likely present at more Presidential first pitch games than anyone else in history given his long-standing tenure in our Nation's Capital. Despite being paralyzed from the waist down due to polio, FDR used his immense love for baseball to project strength, unity, and normalcy to a nation reeling from the Great Depression and World War II. FDR's most significant impact on baseball history occurred during World War II. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis wrote to FDR asking if Major League Baseball should be suspended for the war effort. FDR famously replied with the "Green Light Letter," urging the sport to keep playing because it provided a crucial, affordable morale boost for hard-working American citizens. One of the most desirable of all Presidential signed baseballs with the offered example among the very finest of an elite population.

Roosevelt ball includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA

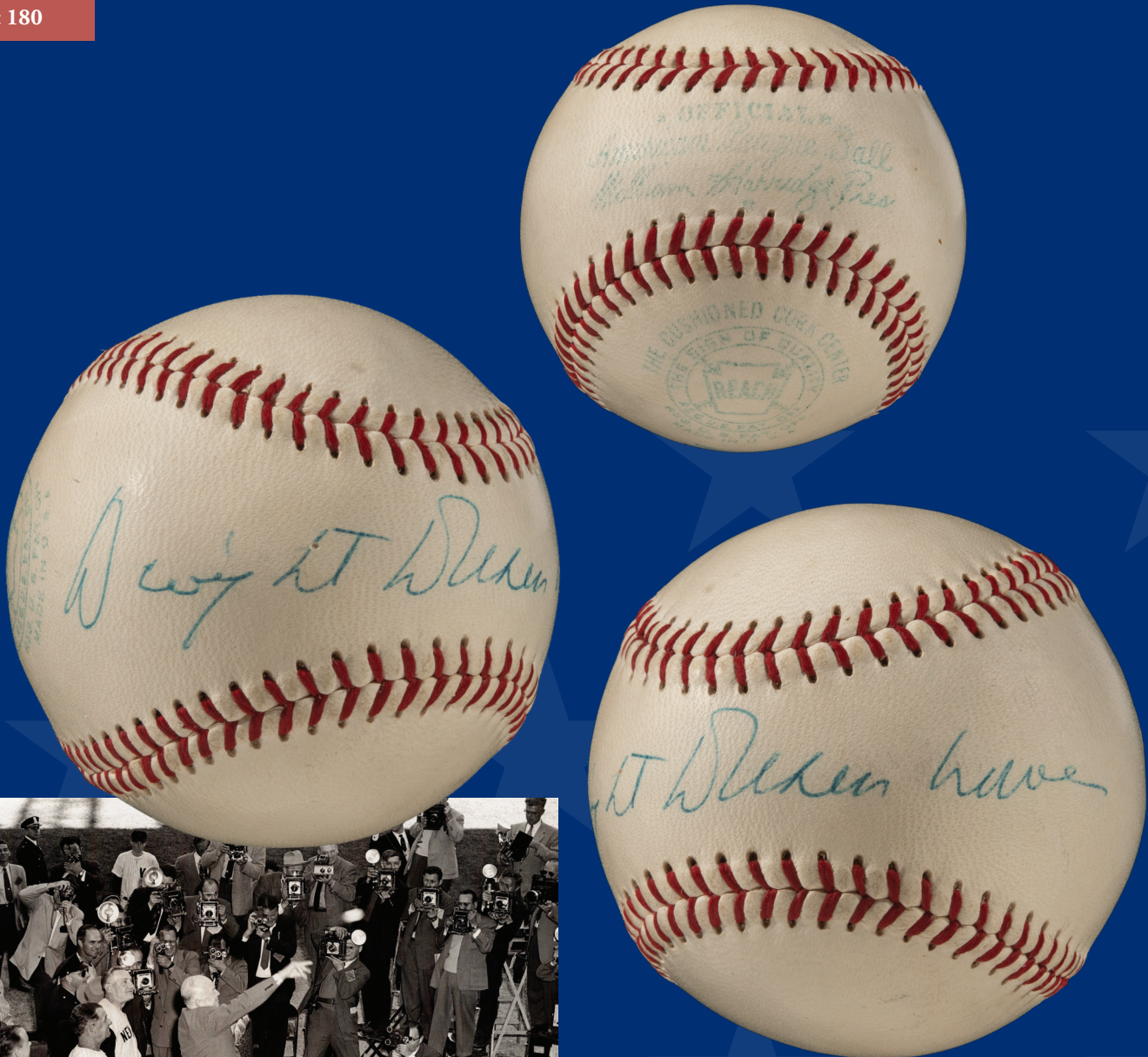


#33

**PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN (1945-1953) - STRIKING EXAMPLE FROM THE ARDENT BASEBALL FAN.**

J.DeBeer & Son "Official Babe Ruth League Baseball" has been boldly signed "Harry S. Truman" spanning the sweet spot and a side panel. Ink signature rates 8 out of 10 with strong contrast against the lightly toned surface. Truman was completely ambidextrous, which he used to delight stadium fans. On September 8, 1945, just six days after Japan's official surrender ended World War II, he became the first left-handed president to toss a ceremonial first pitch. On Opening Day in 1950, he went a step further and threw out two separate first pitches simultaneously, one with his left hand and one with his right hand. The letter "S" in Harry S. Truman does not stand for a full name. It is just the single letter "S." His parents, John and Martha Truman, deliberately gave him a standalone middle initial as a clever compromise to honor two of his grandfathers at the same time.

Truman includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA, JSA, and noted expert John Reznikoff

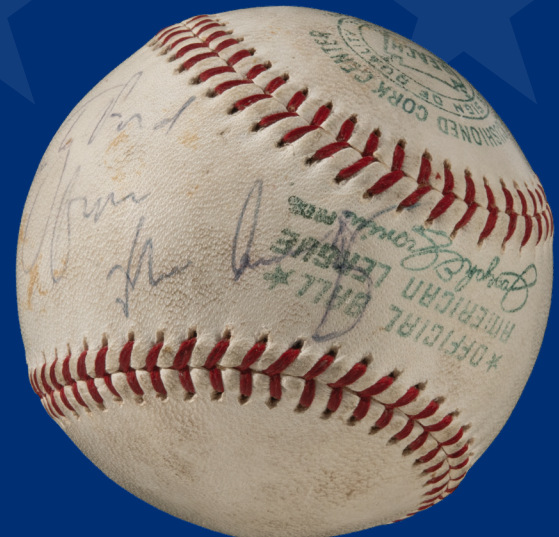
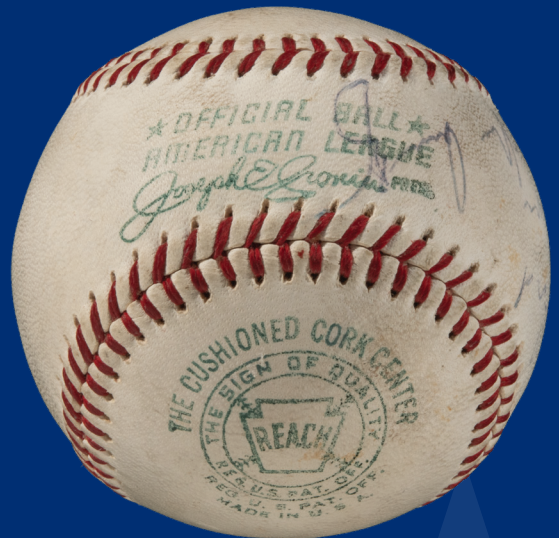
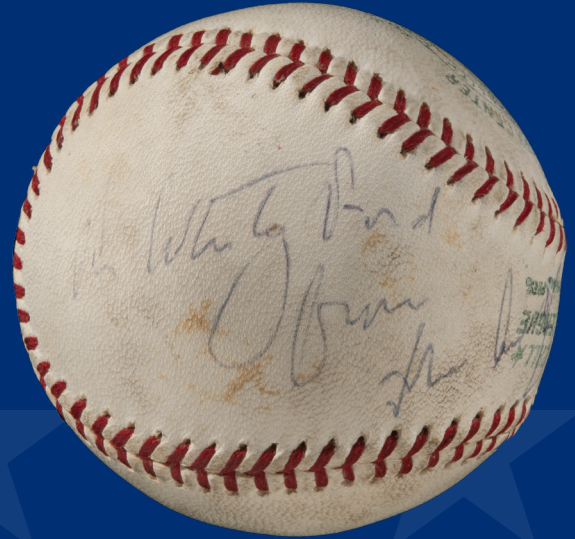
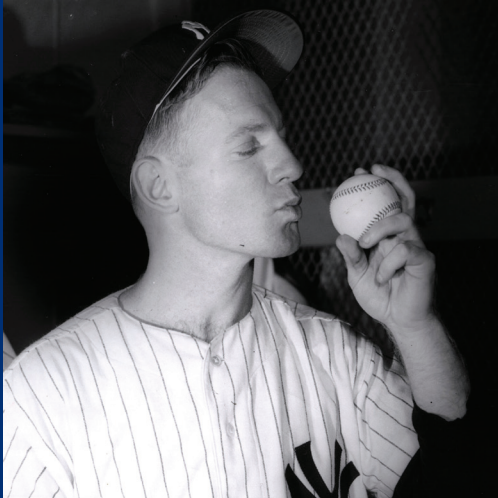


### #34

#### PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (1953-1961) - THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER.

Reach W.Harridge Official American League baseball has a large "Dwight D. Eisenhower" signature applied which spans the sweet spot and both adjoining panels. Done in ink, it rates 8 out of 10. President Dwight D. Eisenhower was a highly talented athlete who secretly played professional minor-league baseball under a fake name before his military career took off. Because playing professional sports would instantly disqualify him from West Point's strict amateur military rules, he played under the assumed fake name "Bob Wilson." The secret was kept so safe that baseball historians didn't officially uncover the proof until decades later. "Ike" holds the record for the most hot dogs eaten by a president at a baseball game. During an Opening Day game at Griffith Stadium, press photographers caught Ike completely ignoring the game to devour three hot dogs covered in mustard, a bag of peanuts, and a box of popcorn. When a reporter asked about his appetite, the President laughed and said, *"You can't properly enjoy a ballgame on an empty stomach."*

Eisenhower includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA

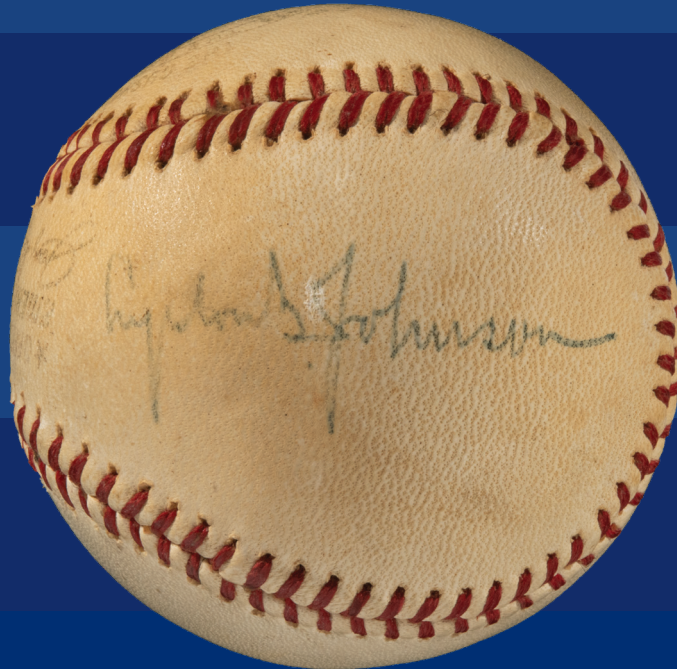
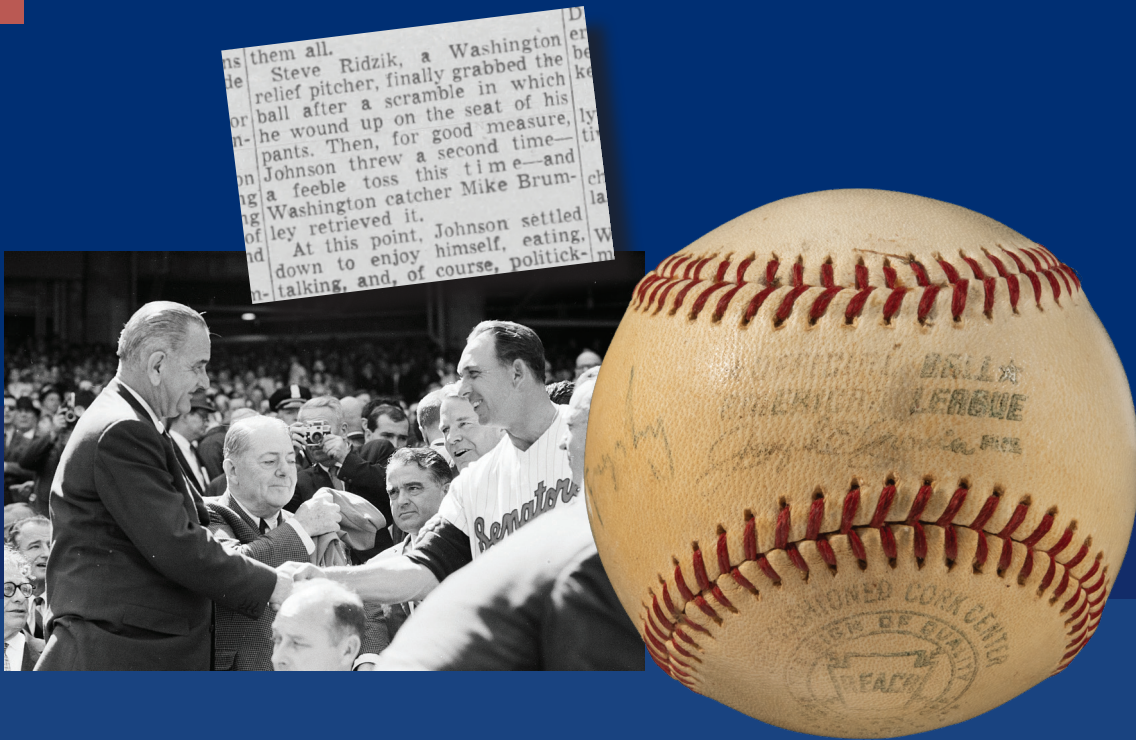


#35

**PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY (1961-1963) -  
INSCRIBED TO LEGENDARY YANKEES HALL OF  
FAMER WHITEY FORD.**

Reach J.Cronin Official American League baseball has been signed on the side panel, "To Whitey Ford, from John F. Kennedy." Ink signature rates 7-8 out of 10. An included letter of provenance signed by Ford relays, "In the early 1960s, during an exhibition game in Palm Beach, Florida, I was approached by a couple of Secret Service agents. After asking me to identify myself, the agents told me that President Kennedy's father, Joseph Kennedy, had a home in Palm Beach and had requested to see me and several of my teammates. After the game, Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle, Tony Kubek, and I were escorted by limousine to the elder Kennedy's home. I had taken twelve baseballs with me and at the end of the day, I asked Mr. Kennedy to have the baseballs signed by his son, John F. Kennedy. A few months later, I received all twelve baseballs, three signed for each player. After all this time, this is the only ball that remains.

Kennedy includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA and aforementioned letter of provenance from Whitey Ford

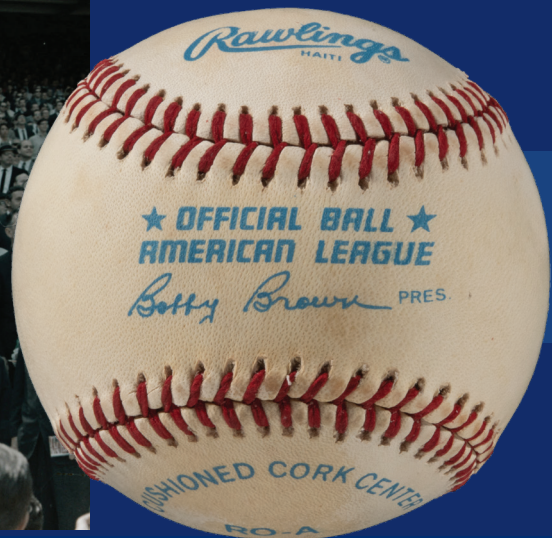
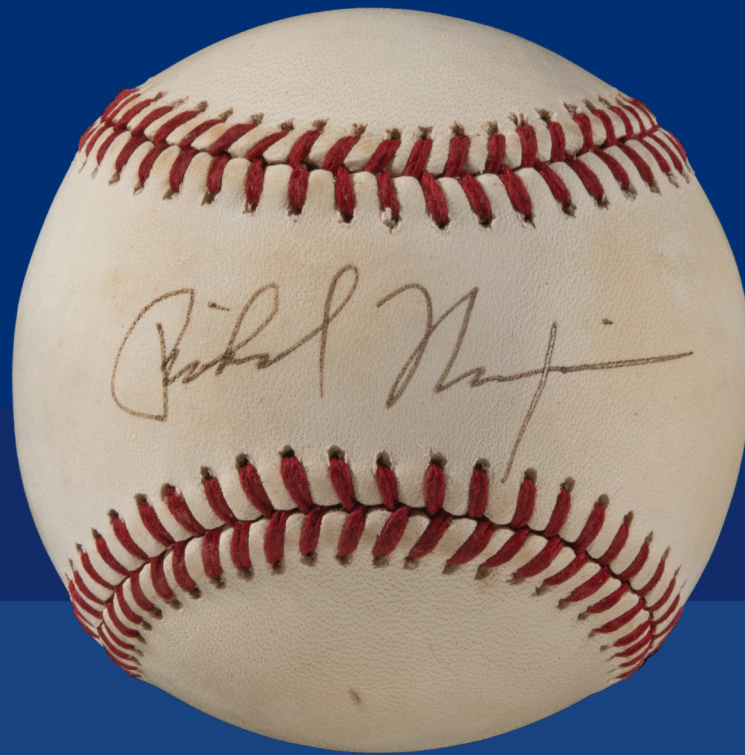


#36

**PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON (1963-1969) - OPENING DAY FIRST PITCH FROM WASHINGTON, 1965.**

Reach J.Cronin Official American League baseball has been signed "Lyndon B. Johnson" across the side panel. Signature rates 7 out of 10. An included handwritten letter of provenance from Steve Ridzik (who played with the Senators from 1963-1965) relays that it was "thrown to players before start of game" and later taken to the President's box to be signed. Period newspaper articles confirm that Ridzik indeed caught the "first" ball thrown by Johnson, with a second ball thrown which landed up with catcher Mike Brumley. An important and well documented first pitch baseball noting both the letter of provenance and corroborating newspaper articles.

Johnson includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA and aforementioned letter of provenance from Steve Ridzik

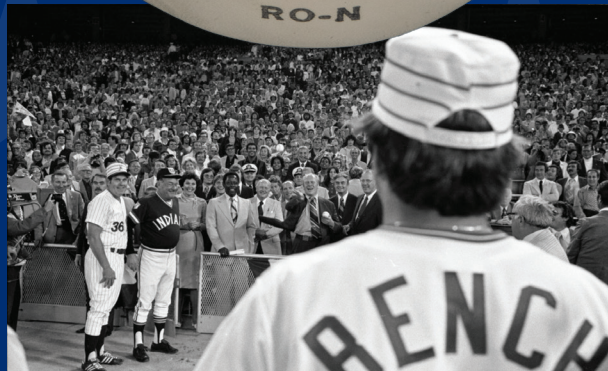
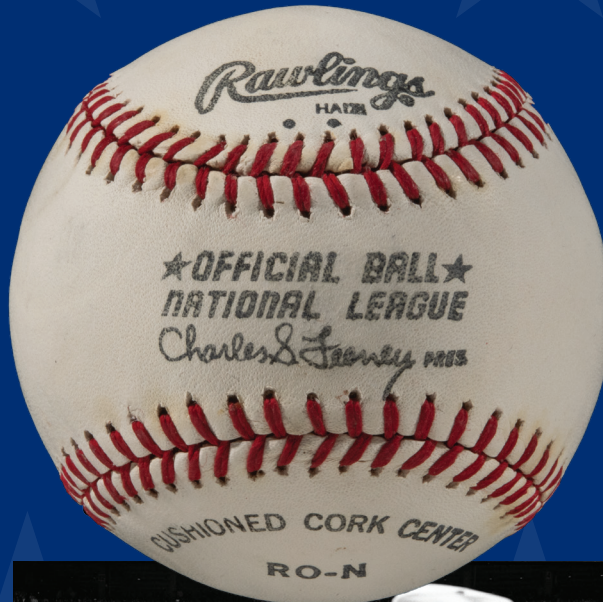


#37

**PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON (1969-1974)**

Rawlings B.Brown Official American League baseball has been signed across the sweet spot, "Richard Nixon." The signature rates 7-8 out of 10. Nixon was an avid, passionate bowler who routinely used the sport to blow off steam. In 1969, he had a private, single-lane bowling alley built directly beneath the North Portico of the White House. He would regularly head down to the basement completely alone late at night, sometimes bowling up to 12 games in a row. On July 20, 1969, Nixon made the longest-distance long-distance phone call in human history. Using a special radio-telephone patch routed through Houston, he called Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin while they were walking on the moon's surface, telling them their achievement made all Americans infinitely proud.

Nixon includes full LOA from JSA

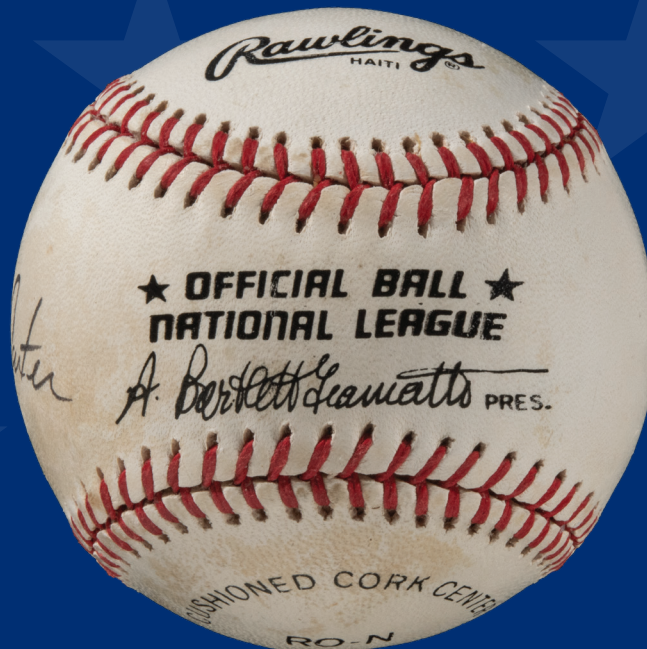
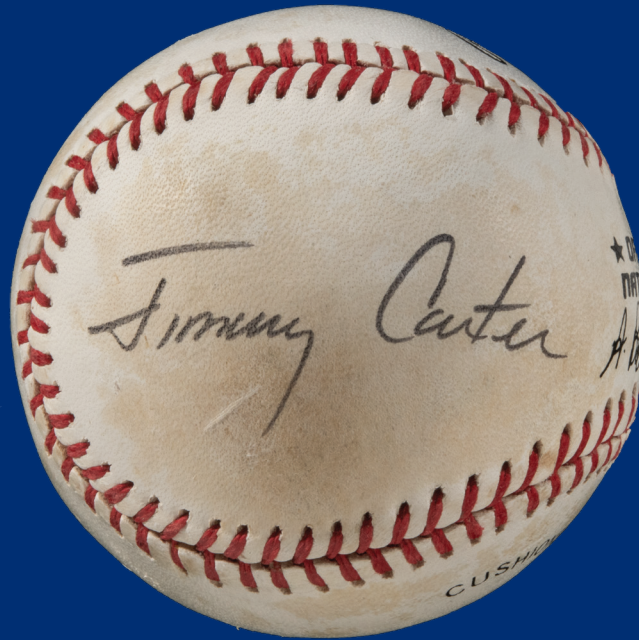


#38

**PRESIDENT GERALD FORD (1974-1977)**

Rawlings C.Feeney Official National League baseball signed “Gerald Ford” across the sweetspot rating 8-9 out of 10. Following his legendary college football career, Ford received active contract offers to play professional football for both the Green Bay Packers and the Detroit Lions. He turned down both franchises because he preferred to pursue a career in law, ultimately taking a job as a boxing coach at Yale to pay his way through law school. Ford never ran on a national ticket for either President or Vice President. He was appointed Vice President in 1973 under the 25th Amendment after Spiro Agnew resigned, and he automatically ascended to the Presidency in 1974 when Richard Nixon resigned.

Ford includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA



#39

**PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER (1977-1981)**

Rawlings B.Giamatti Official National League baseball signed "Jimmy Carter" on the side panel rating 8/9 out of 10. This represents one of the nicer examples we have seen given the use of full name and not the more commonly seen "J.Carter" variant. President Carter holds the ultimate presidential longevity records, having reached the age of 101. He has also logged the longest retirement of any president, living over 45 years after leaving the Oval Office in 1981, and celebrated the longest presidential marriage—77 years with his late wife, Rosalynn.

Carter includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA

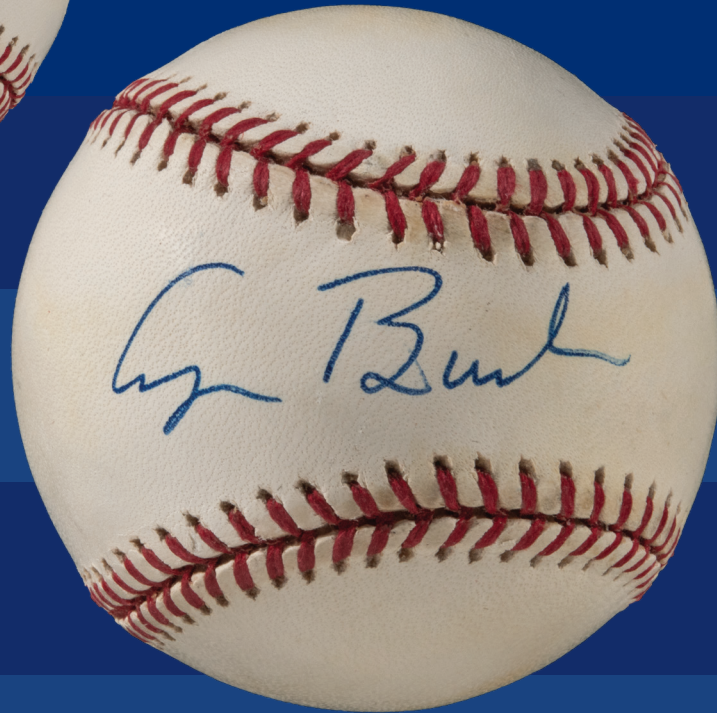
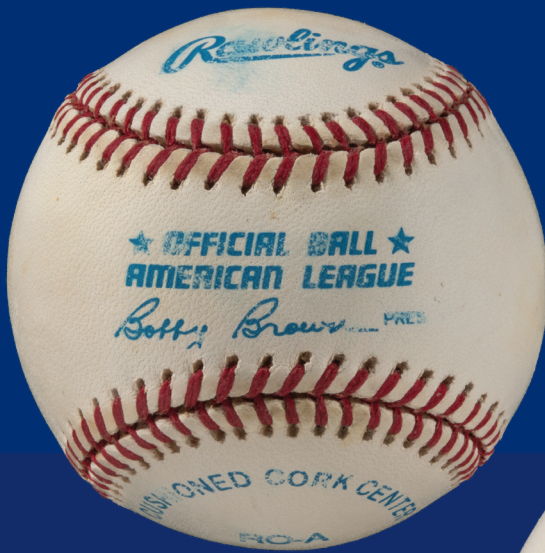


#40

**PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN (1981-1989)**

Rawlings B. Brown Official American League baseball has been signed "Ronald Reagan" with the autograph graded PSA/DNA (8 NM-MT) Touch of light toning is noted but does not detract from strong overall eye appeal. Offered for the first time publicly by the original recipient who obtained the baseball at Jimmy Fund charity event in Boston. Reagan famously kept a massive jar of Jelly Belly jelly beans on the Resolute Desk in the Oval Office. He originally started eating them in 1966 while Governor of California as a psychological trick to help him successfully quit smoking a pipe. His favorite flavor was licorice, and his administration ordered over 300,000 jelly beans per month for White House events.

Reagan includes full LOA from PSA/DNA (8 NM-MT)

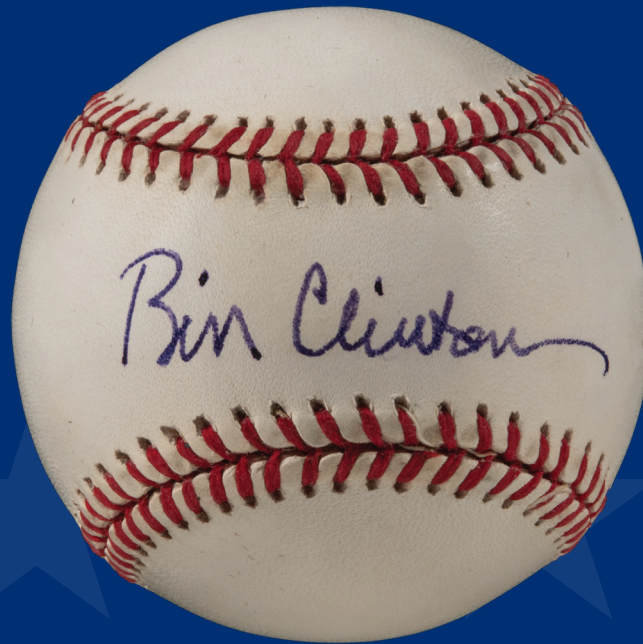


#41

**PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH (1989-1993)**

Rawlings B.Brown Official American League baseball signed "George Bush" in ink rating 8 out of 10. Because of his deep love for baseball, Bush kept his actual, vintage Yale first baseman's glove tucked inside the top drawer of the Resolute Desk throughout his entire presidency. He would regularly pull it out to show visiting dignitaries or to oil the leather between high-stakes policy meetings.

George H.W. Bush includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA

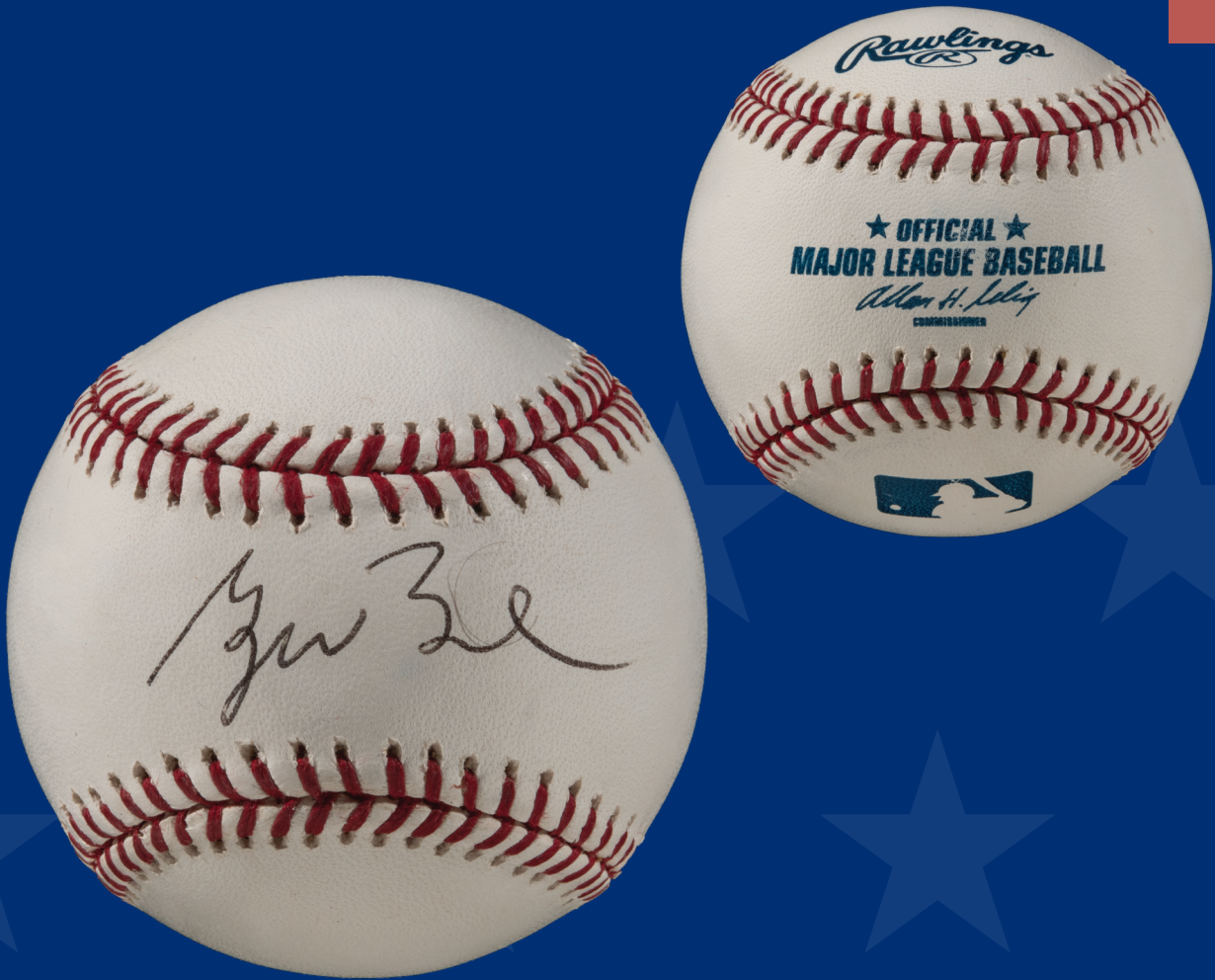


#42

**PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON (1993-2001)**

Rawlings B. Brown Official American League baseball has been signed in ink rating 8-9 out of 10. President Clinton is a highly accomplished jazz saxophonist who famously played "Heartbreak Hotel" on The Arsenio Hall Show during his 1992 campaign. His musical talents later earned him two separate Grammy Awards for Best Spoken Word Album (one in 2004 for his autobiography *My Life* and another in 2005 for the children's audio track *Peter and the Wolf*). Clinton belongs to a unique statistical anomaly in modern American history: he is left-handed. He shared this trait with his immediate predecessor (George H. W. Bush).

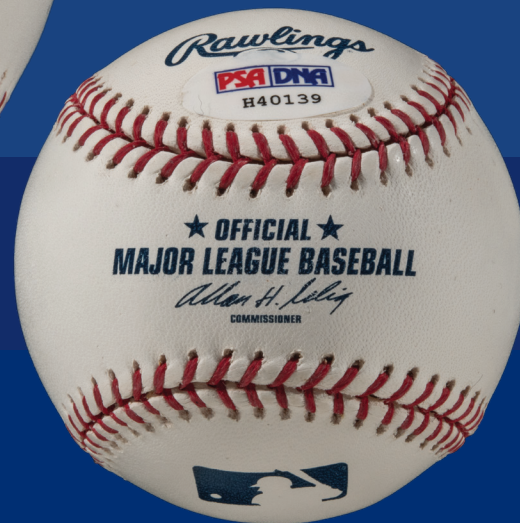
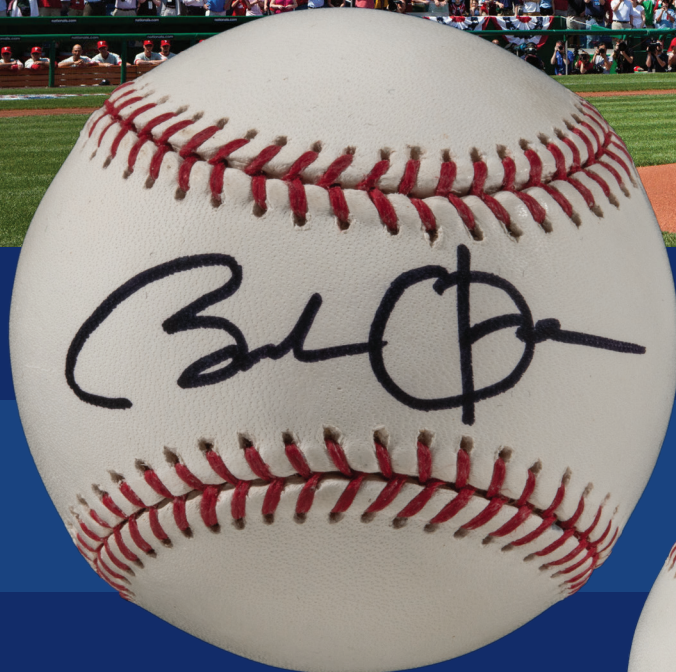
Clinton includes full LOA from PSA/DNA



#43  
**PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH (2001-2009)**

Rawlings B.Selig Official Major League baseball has been signed in ink rating 8-9 out of 10. Long before entering politics, President Bush assembled a group of investors in 1989 to purchase the Texas Rangers baseball franchise. He served as the managing general partner for the team, routinely sitting in the open stadium stands with fans, which massively boosted his public profile in Texas before his successful run for Governor.

George W. Bush includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA

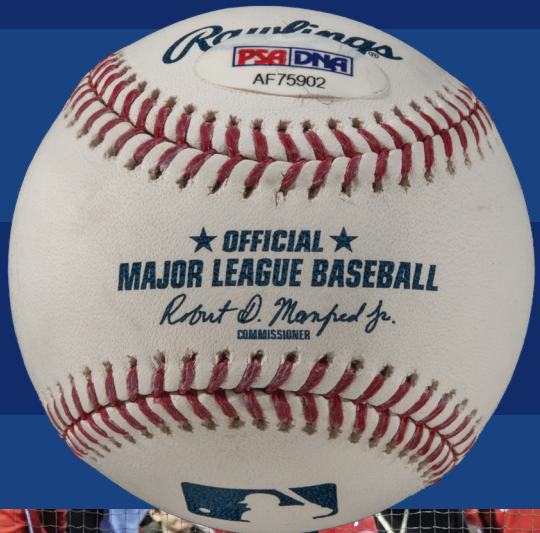
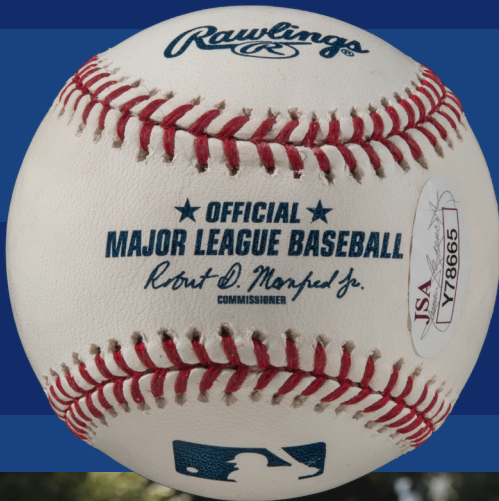
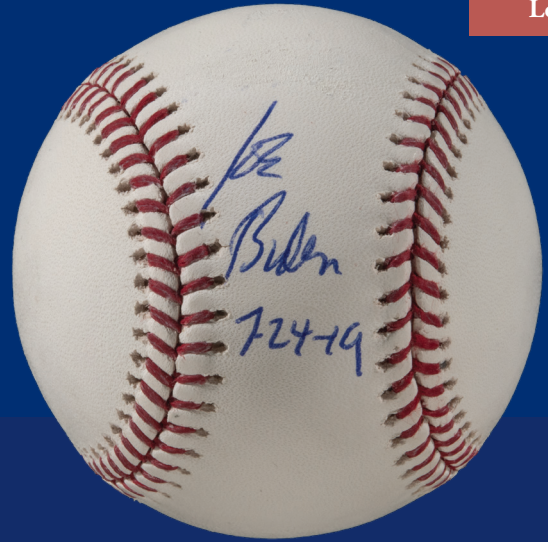
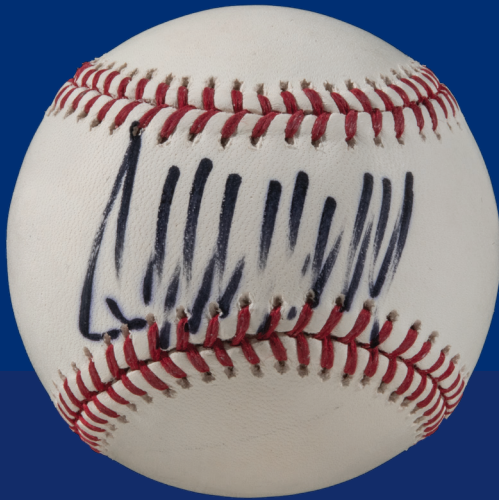


#44

**PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA (2009-2017)**

Rawlings B.Selig Official Major League baseball has been signed “Barack Obama” in marker with the autograph graded “9” by PSA/DNA. President Obama made history by becoming the first African American President in the nation’s history. Like Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, Obama has a highly decorated background in the recording arts. He has won three separate Grammy Awards for Best Audio Book, Narration, and Storytelling Recording—earning his trophies for the audio versions of his books *Dreams from My Father* (2006), *The Audacity of Hope* (2008), and his presidential memoir *A Promised Land* (2022).

Obama includes full LOA from PSA/DNA



#45/47

**PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP (2017-2021 AND 2025-PRESENT)**

Rawlings B.Selig Official Major League baseball has been signed "Donald Trump" across the sweet spot in marker rating 7 to 8 out of 10. Long before his real estate career, Trump was a hard-throwing first baseman and captain for the New York Military Academy baseball team. His high school coach famously noted that major league scouts from both the Philadelphia Phillies and Boston Red Sox actively watched him play, and Trump later claimed he chose real estate because there was "no money in baseball" at the time.

Donald Trump includes full LOAs from PSA/DNA and JSA

#46

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN (2021-2025)**

Rawlings R.Manfred Official Major League baseball has been signed "Joe Biden 7-24-19" in ink rating 9 out of 10. Biden is famously obsessed with classic American muscle cars. His prize possession is believed to be a pristine, Goodwood Green 1967 Corvette Stingray convertible, which was given to him as a wedding present by his father, who ran a local Delaware car dealership. Because the Secret Service strictly bans sitting presidents from driving on public roads, he only gets to drive it on closed tracks or private property.

Biden includes COA from PSA/DNA