

# Rose doesn't tell all in new book

by Brian Lennox

**Pete Rose: My Story**  
by Roger Kahn  
Collier MacMillan Publishers  
289 pages, \$25.95

Baseball suffered a series of negative events during 1989: the Wade Boggs sex scandal, Steve Garvey's travelling sex show, and the earthquake during the World Series. The first major story of the year and possibly the most compelling was the Pete Rose gambling allegations. The story emerged in February and came to

a climax in August, when Rose was banned from baseball.

Throughout the year, Pete Rose told the media that his story would be told. With the help of noted baseball author Roger Kahn, Rose is telling his story.

*Pete Rose: My Story*, is more of a biography of Rose than an explanation of his gambling habits. The book was conceived in 1986 as Rose was in his second full year as manager of the Cincinnati Reds. Only in the final chapter does the book discuss the gambling accusations and his accusers.

Pete Rose was one of the greatest players in baseball. His place in the Hall of Fame was secure until this year. Rose devoted his life to baseball with a style of play that many thought was impossible in the era of million-dollar players.

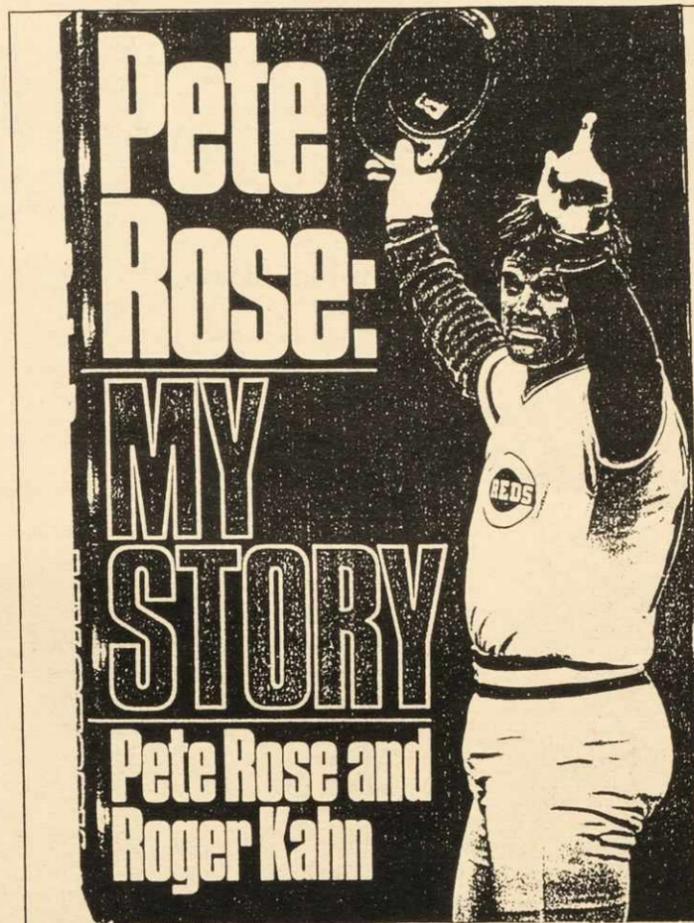
Kahn discusses Rose's work ethic throughout the book. Rose was not blessed with great athletic ability, but no man has ever worked harder at the game than Rose. He has the most base hits ever, 4256, took three batting titles, and was MVP of both the regular season and world series during his career.

Kahn did not want the book to concentrate solely on the gambling allegations because that was not the intention of the book. This can be debated. Kahn and Rose have their reasons. However the gambling questions have affected the public's perception of Rose forever.

Kahn and Rose explain what happened during the 1989 season and why Rose did not respond to his critics. They also deal with Ron Peters and Paul Janszen, the two men who came forward and accused Rose of gambling. Kahn was critical of how the baseball commissioner's office handled the investigation, especially since the commissioner's office principally used Peters' and Janszen's testimony. Peters and Janszen both had criminal records.

There are many questions that remain unanswered, though. Why did Rose wait until after the decision by the late Bart Giamatti to tell what gambling he actually did? Like others who have addictions, Rose denied he gambled and said he never had a gambling problem.

Kahn is one of the best authors of baseball. He is also a devoted fan of baseball and certainly a fan



Pete Rose got canned from baseball for life when he got caught gambling. In this book, he hardly talks about it at all. We should feel sorry for Pete?

of Pete Rose. Kahn and Rose became good friends, which helped and hurt the book at the same time. In becoming friends, Kahn thoroughly describes Rose's character, specifically his devotion to the game of baseball. One gets the sense that nobody played the game harder than Rose did.

Unfortunately, Kahn does not step back and critically analyze Rose's gambling problem. Why

did Rose not seek the help of his long-time teammates Johnny Bench, Joe Morgan, and Tony Perez? Surely he could have confided in them. It was Bench who said, "If Pete really did gamble, why does he not just come out and say it?"

This book is not as good as *The Boys of Summer* — very few are — but it is nevertheless a good read on one of baseball's most celebrated players.

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**Submissions due March 23, by 3 pm.**

## Dal victory no upset

by Brian Lennox

Many observers would consider the Dalhousie men's basketball victory over the UPEI Panthers on Sunday to be an upset. The Panthers, ranked ninth in Canada, have been the most successful team in the AUAA in recent years. However, the Tigers have the talent to match any team in the conference.

The Tigers had to go into overtime to beat UPEI 86-81. The Panthers gained a lead late in the first half. They stretched the lead to 11 points before Dal closed the margin to seven before the half.

The Tigers used a variety of defences to keep the very quick Panther squad off balance.

Dalhousie's rebounding was once again the major factor in the outcome of the game. No other team in the AUAA collects as many offensive rebounds as the Tigers do. This effective offensive rebounding causes the opposition to get into foul trouble which eventually gives the Tigers more foul shots.

In the second half, the Tigers got behind by 10 points, with 10 minutes left in the game. The Tigers switched defences to a halfcourt trap which created

problems for the Panthers. With 3:12 left, the Tigers tied the game at 72-72. The teams ended regulation time tied, at 76-76. The overtime period saw Dalhousie take control of the game. UPEI began to lose players because of foul trouble. The issue was decided late in the overtime, with the Tigers going ahead by five points with less than :30 left.

Will Verbeek led the Tigers with 24 points, while second-year centre Dean Thibodeau added 22 points. Oscar Martens made a major contribution with 12 points.