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# TRULY GREAT IS SA

(Reprinted from Time)  
In the midst of a campaign, some years ago, in the rural American country, "Satchel" Paige and I were talking about the Negro team arrangement. One of the candidates for the position of baseball aficionado of baseball made his rival a sportsman. He let the lecture turn on a bet. He would bet on Satchel. He won the bet. The bet was made, Satchel was a breeze, but didn't stop to thank: he detected the chutes from the defeat of his supporters.

It is characteristic of a hero and narrator of a story that he does not remember where the episode took place. He is hazy about his age, his record, and the number of times he has pitched. Last year the Cleveland Indians, up, Paige became the pitcher in the American League.

(The Brooklyn Daily Eagle)  
A year old Negro pitcher had a brief trial last year back to a Dodger farm.

(His name is also Satchel.)  
He came perhaps from the South, shaped shoes (size 12) in his early days as a laborer.  
**Born, but When?**

Satchel has been around so long that his memory is a little hazy. He says he is from Mobile, Ala., 39, 43 or 45 years ago, son of a gardener and a mother who was a baseball player. He was of nine—or sixteen. His inexactitude did not help Cleveland's President when he was elected last week. For all Veeck might be "two or three years older than the next man," he could pitch. Bob Veeck that Paige was the league-leading pitcher. He was desperately needed.

Satchel Paige figures in odd years he has pitched 2,000 games. Records of Negro leagues are riddled with spotted pages, but even the most skeptical of the legends and legends of Satchel are as incredible as the legends of the legends.

In 1933 Satchel Paige, won 31, lost 11, he pitched (and won) in one week. His fans expect him to win every game. Satchel once pitched in Pittsburgh, to Chicago, shut out the Cubs in twelve innings, no runs, no hits, no errors, for the Kansas City team. In the 1942 Negro League Showoff Satchel pitched to get Catcher J. Gro baseball's Babe Ruth then forced him to fly.