



Cy Young

Topic Guide for Chronicling America (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>)

Introduction

Born in Gilmore, Ohio, a small farming community in Tuscarawas County, Denton Young would end up being one of the greatest pitchers that baseball has ever known. Young pitched for 21-years (1890-1911) for five different teams, including stretches for the Cleveland Spiders and the Cleveland Naps (Indians). Over his career, Young amassed 511 wins—the most by any pitcher in baseball history—and threw 749 complete games, tossed three no-hitters and had one perfect game in 1904. Young earned the nickname “Cy” during a tryout for a minor league team in 1889. His fastballs were destroying fences, and it looked like a cyclone had destroyed them. Reporters liked the nickname “Cyclone” but preferred a shorter version. In 1956, one year after Young’s death, Major League Baseball started handing out the “Cy Young Award”, recognizing the best pitcher in the league. In 1967, this award was given out to the best pitcher in each league, American and National. Young was inducted into the inaugural class of the Baseball Hall of Fame 1937 and is buried in Peoli, Ohio.

Important Dates

- 1890: Cy Young signs with the Canton team of the Tri-State League.
- 1891: Young is sold to the Cleveland Spiders for \$500.
- 1892: Young finishes the season with 36 wins, a career high.
- 1897: Young throws his first no-hitter.
- May 5, 1904: Cy Young throws the first perfect game in American League history.
- February, 1909: Young is traded Boston to the Cleveland Naps.
- 1911: After a 21-year career, Young retires at the age of 45.

Suggested Search Strategies

- Try the following terms in combination (as an “all” word search), proximity or as phrases: Cy Young, Denton, Cleveland, Boston, pitcher, baseball, Naps, retire.
- Search newspapers in all states, not just Ohio.

Sample Articles from Chronicling America

- ["Cy Young the Crack Pitcher"](#) *Evening Bulletin* (Oahu, HI), November 22, 1902, Image 9, col. 1-2.
- ["Young Has Played Many Seasons and Is Still a Famous Pitcher"](#) *St. Louis Republic* (St. Louis, MO), May 15, 1904, Image 29, col. 3-7.
- ["Old Cy Young 'The Silent' Likes to Pitch, Not Talk"](#) *Evening World* (New York, NY), May 2, 1905, Image 10, col. 3-5.
- ["How Cy Young Broke Into The Game"](#) *El Paso Herald* (El Paso, TX), May 7, 1910, image25, col. 2-3.
- ["Tribute to Old Cy Young"](#) *Omaha Daily Bee* (Omaha, NE), August 20, 1911, Image 30, col. 7.
- ["'Cy Young' Decides to Retire from Baseball After Making a Remarkable Career"](#) *Bisbee Daily Review* (Bisbee, AZ), June 2, 1912, Image 13, col. 1-3.
- ["Moreland Tells of the Discovery of Cy Young"](#) *Washington Herald* (Washington, DC), January 5, 1920, Image 8, col. 7-8.