

# Baseball remains America's game

By CHRIS SILVESTRI  
Copy Desk Chief

Every spring, an annual ritual is replayed across the warmest portions of America.

The boys of summer begin training for the National Pastime: baseball. And in April, the teams begin their march toward the World Series.

Much has been said of how baseball is no longer America's game and that it has been replaced by football, including a recent survey revealing that football captures the largest television audience.

However, baseball still is, and always will be, America's game.

Anyone who has ventured to the ballpark on a cool summer's day, sat relaxed in the stands with a hot dog and Coke, heard the crack of the bat, smelled the freshly cut grass and watched their favorite team play a flawless game will tell you baseball is the greatest game.

Ask anyone at Wrigley Field watching the Cubs play, or the fans outside the stadium on the streets of Chicago anxiously waiting for a home run ball and the response will be that baseball is still America's game.

The nostalgia of the game is overwhelming. From the fixing of the 1919 World Series, through the Yankee dynasties, to the Miracle Mets of 1969 and the Cincinnati

Reds' astonishing World Series win this past year.

Critics of the game contend that it is a dull and boring sport and that it moves too slow.

Perhaps, the reason for this is that those who dislike baseball generally know little about the game and its intricacies. For example, those who complain when the pitcher throws to first base so often.

Baseball, along with the need for athletic ability and physical coordination, is a thinking man's game.

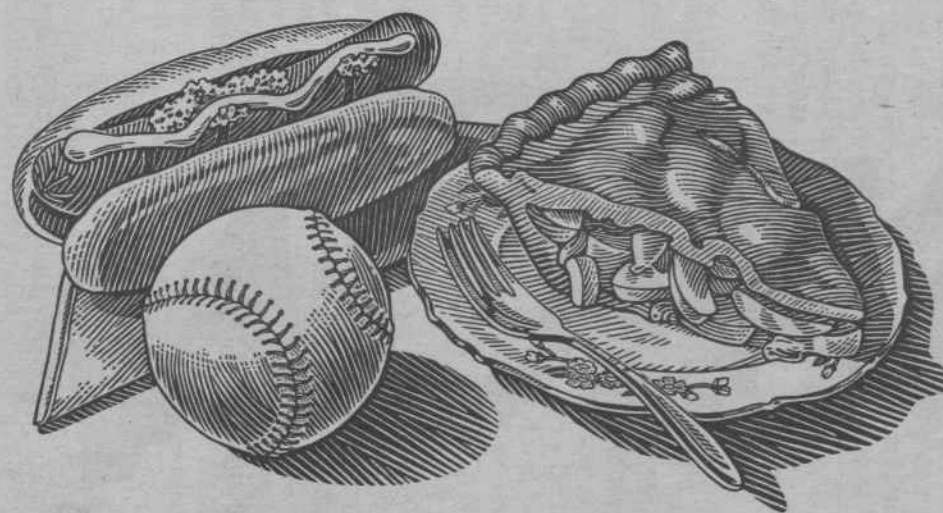
The hit-and-run, choosing what pitch to steal on, knowing when to pull the infield in or shift the outfielders and deciding how to pitch to certain hitters are just a small sample of the intricacies of baseball.

Certainly baseball is not the same game it was. It has become more like a business in recent years, with players constantly shifting from team to team, and demanding ridiculous salaries.

But it remains the National Pastime.

Anyone who has heard Lou Gehrig's farewell speech at Yankee Stadium must realize that.

When Gehrig gave his speech, he was dying and because he had the opportunity to play the game he loved so much, he said, "I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."



## Kentucky Fried Chicken.

is growing with Columbia. Be part of it. We are hiring experienced restaurant team members for Rosewood Dr. location. Be part of a winning team, USC and K.F.C. APPLY NOW!

★ PERFORMANCE REVIEWS ★

★ ROOM FOR ADVANCEMENT ★ COMPETITIVE SALARY



Kentucky Fried Chicken

1825 Rosewood Dr.  
Columbia, SC

**We Do Chicken Right.**



An equal  
opportunity  
employer

Some of the richest  
people on campus are  
not millionaires...they  
are volunteers!

Find out how you can be  
one too!

Contact:

Office of  
**COMMUNITY  
SERVICES**  
Programs



Campus  
Activities Center  
777-5780

Ladies shoes for all occasions,  
in sizes 9 and up, ALL widths  
at the Glass Slipper

Shoes and  
Accessories

• 10% off with  
student ID

Boozer Shopping Center  
Tues. - Sat., 10am - 6pm  
Phone 798-7937

