



Bob Gibson
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The greatest big-game pitcher of his era, Bob Gibson is a native of Omaha who continues to call the metropolitan area his home. Over 17 seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals, he posted World Series records of seven consecutive wins and 17 strikeouts in a game, both unbroken records today. Gibson led the Cardinals to two World Series championships and was twice named MVP of the World Series. He won nine straight Gold Glove awards, two Cy Young awards and pitched a no-hitter in 1971. In 1968, he was named the National League Most Valuable Player, after posting a 22-9 record, 1.12 ERA, throwing 13 shutouts and recording 268 strikeouts. He was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame on the first ballot in 1981 and in 1999 was voted by baseball fans to Major League Baseball's All-Century Team. The Hall of Fame called Gibson "the very definition of intimidation, competitiveness and dignity." Gibson was a star in both basketball and baseball at Omaha Technical High School and also was a two-sport star athlete at Creighton University. His first professional sports experience was in basketball, where he spent a year as a member of the Harlem Globetrotters. His roommate was Meadowlark Lemon. He was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals and soon moved from the minor leagues to the major league roster. Two of his roasters via videotape were famous former Gibson teammates: New York Yankees Manager Joe Torre and Fox Sports broadcaster Tim McCarver. Both were St. Louis Cardinals catchers for Gibson. McCarver greeted Gibson from Fenway Park in Boston, where Gibson won games one and seven of the 1967 World Series. Actor John Beasley was a roaster and Doug Parrott was the emcee. The crowd included basketball legend Bob Boozer, Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Rodgers and Mayor Mike Fahey.