

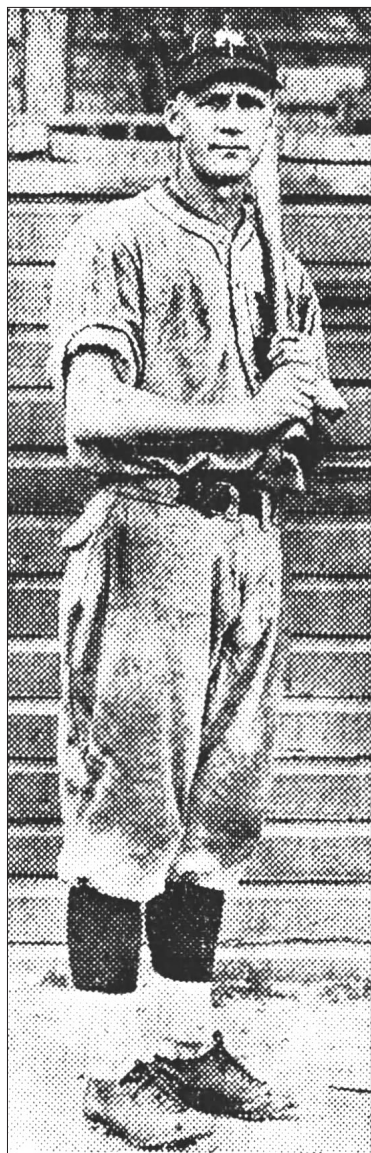
Joe Hauser, "The Minneapolis Mauler"

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*"In all my days in the majors I have never discovered a ball player who could be compared with George Sisler, but this chap Hauser is an exact duplicate for Sisler the way he handles his bat. His mannerisms are very similar."
- Branch Rickey, President, St. Louis Cardinals"*

Branch Rickey wants to compare Joe Hauser with George Sisler, but in many ways the legacy of Hauser is better served when comparing "Unser Choe" with the legendary Babe Ruth.

The similarities between the two sluggers are striking - both are left-handed power hitters who begin their careers as pitchers, both hit over 60 home runs in a single-season (Hauser twice, Ruth once) and both are in the Hall of Fame - Ruth in the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, while Hauser's plaque resides at the more modest Wisconsin Hall of Fame in his home town of Milwaukee.



Joe Hauser
1927 Kansas City Blues

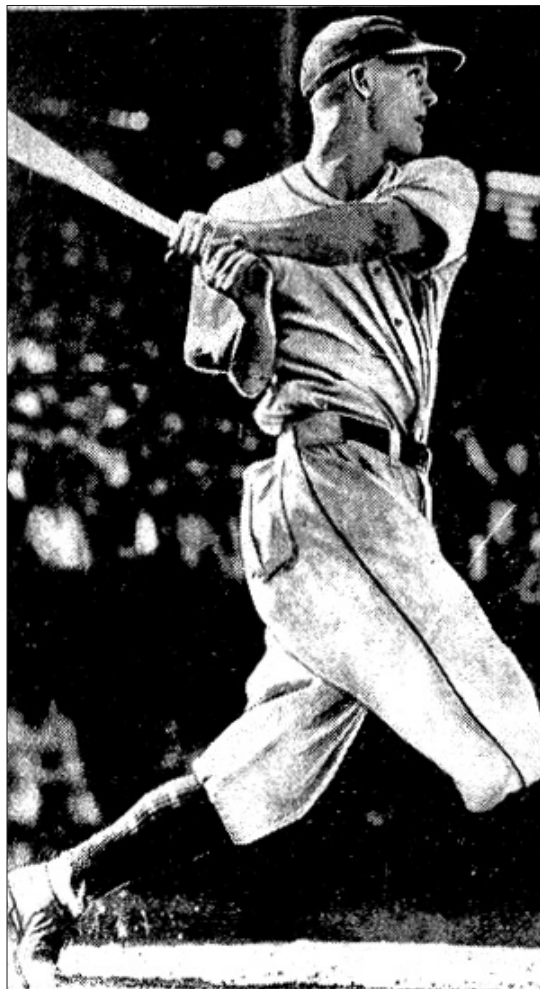
The fourth of six children to Mary and Andreas Hauser, a blacksmith, Joseph John (Joe) Hauser is born in Milwaukee on January 12, 1899. He attends St. Michaels Parochial School until the age of 14, when he quits his educational career and begins work in a nearby factory.

Two years later, playing with the Zunker Comers (the only uniformed team on Milwaukee's west side) for the first of three summers, he begins to receive attention from pro teams. The fireballing left-hander, noted for strikeouts and nicknamed "Zip," is paid fifty cents a game and all the soda pop he wants by Julius Zunker, a saloon keeper, who happens to sponsor the team.

One of the great home run hitters in minor league history, Hauser is the first player to hit 60 or more home runs twice in a career, hitting 63 in 1930 for the Baltimore Orioles of the International League and 69 in 1933 for the Minneapolis Millers of the American Association. His chance to hit 70 home runs in 1933 is denied when the season's final game is rained out. He also has a career-high 182 RBIs for the year.

Hauser's mark of 69 home runs stands unmatched until it was tied by Amarillo Gold Sox outfielder Bob Crues in 1948, and then eclipsed by Roswell Rocket first baseman Joe Bauman (72) in 1954.

Hauser will play six seasons in the majors with the Philadelphia Athletics (1922-24, 1926, 1928) and the Cleveland Indians (1929), hitting .284 with 79 home runs and 356 RBIs. Five of his home runs come against



Single Season Home Runs Minor League

1. Joe Bauman, Roswell	1954	72
2. Joe Hauser, Minneapolis	1933	69
Bob Crues, Amarillo	1948	69
4. Dick Stuart, Lincoln	1956	66
5. Bob Lennon, Nashville	1954	64
6. Joe Hauser, Baltimore	1930	63
7. Moose Clabaugh, Tyler	1930	62
Ken Guettler, Shreveport	1956	62
9. Tony Lazzeri, Salt Lake	1925	60
Frosty Kennedy, Plainview	1956	60



The 6-foot-4, 235-pound Bauman hits a pro record 72 home runs for the Longhorn League's Roswell Rockets in 1954 ... two years later, Bauman is out of baseball, at the age of 35.

Joe Hauser [2 of 7]:

Joe Hauser Year by Year:

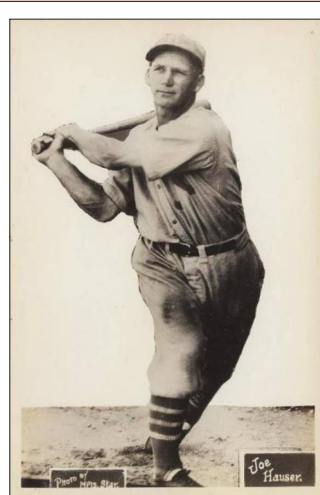
Year	Team	League	Lev	W-L	Finish	AB	R	HT	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	SLUG	OPS	AVG	
1915	Zunker Comers	Milwaukee City	S-Pro			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	---	
1916	Zunker Comers	Milwaukee City	S-Pro			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	---	
1917	Zunker Comers	Milwaukee City	S-Pro			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	---	
1918	Providence Grays	Eastern	B	34-22	3 of 8	130	17	36	5	6	1	-	4	.431	.708	.277	
1919	Providence Grays	Eastern	A	61-45	3 of 8	385	64	105	20	*21	*6	-	11	.481	.753	.273	
1920	Milwaukee Brewers	American Assoc.	AA	78-88	6 of 8	549	94	156	22	16	15	79	7	.464	.749	.284	
1921	Milwaukee Brewers	American Assoc.	AA	81-86	5 of 8	632	126	200	26	9	20	110	12	.481	.797	.316	
1922	Philadelphia Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	65-89	7 of 8	368	61	119	21	5	9	43	1	.481	.858	.323	
1923	Philadelphia Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	69-83	6 of 8	537	93	165	21	9	17	94	6	.478	.878	.307	
1924	Philadelphia Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	71-81	5 of 8	562	97	162	31	8	27	115	7	.516	.874	.288	
1925	Did not play - Broke Leg April 7					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	---	
1926	Philadelphia Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	83-67	3 of 8	229	31	44	10	0	8	36	1	.341	.653	.192	
1927	Kansas City Blues	American Assoc.	AA	99-69	2 of 8	617	145	218	49	*22	20	134	25	.601	.955	.353	
1928	Philadelphia Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	98-55	2 of 8	300	61	78	19	5	16	59	4	.517	.886	.260	
1929	Milwaukee Brewers	American Assoc.	AA	69-98	7 of 8	105	18	25	2	0	3	14	2	.343	.581	.238	
1929	Cleveland Indians	AMERICAN	ML	81-71	3 of 8	48	8	12	1	1	3	9	0	.500	.821	.250	
1930	Baltimore Orioles	International	AA	97-70	2 of 8	617	*173	193	39	11	*63	175	1	.718	1.031	.313	
1931	Baltimore Orioles	International	AA	94-72	3 of 8	487	100	126	20	6	*31	98	1	.515	.774	.259	
1932	Minneapolis Millers	American Assoc.	AA	100-68	+1 of 8	522	132	158	31	3	*49	129	12	.655	.958	.303	
1933	Minneapolis Millers	American Assoc.	AA	86-67	1 of 4w	570	*153	189	35	4	*69	*182	1	.770	1.102	.332	
1934	Minneapolis Millers	American Assoc.	AA	85-64	1 of 4w	287	81	100	7	3	33	88	1	.739	1.087	.348	
1935	Minneapolis Millers	American Assoc.	AA	91-63	+1 of 8	409	74	107	18	1	23	101	3	.479	.741	.262	
1936	Minneapolis Millers	American Assoc.	AA	78-76	5 of 8	437	95	117	20	2	34	87	1	.556	.824	.268	
1937	Sheboygan Chairs	^Wisconsin State	S-Pro	22-8	1 of 4	131	17	45	12	3	*8	*38	5	.664	-	.344	
1938	Sheboygan Chairs	^Tri-State	S-Pro	24-12	2 of 6	126	43	39	12	1	5	35	4	.539	-	.310	
1939	Sheboygan Chairs	^Tri-State	S-Pro	23-14	2 of 6	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	.296	
1940	Sheboygan Indians	Wisconsin State	D	54-63	4 of 6	204	48	53	16	3	7	32	11	.471	.730	.260	
1941	Sheboygan Indians	Wisconsin State	D	65-45	4 of 8	233	53	67	13	5	11	54	10	.528	1.011	.288	
1942	Sheboygan Indians	Wisconsin State	D	73-35	+1 of 8	242	57	73	17	4	14	70	7	.579	.880	.302	
Major League Totals						6 Seasons	2044	351	580	103	29	79	356	19	.480	.848	.284
Minor League Totals						16 Seasons	6426	1430	1923	340	116	399	1353	109	.575	.833	.299

*denotes league leader; +denotes league champion; ^denotes not affiliated with organized baseball

ML Debut: April 18, 1922, at Griffith Stadium, Washington, D.C.: Pinch ran for 1B Doc Johnston and scored a run in the ninth inning of a 17-2 win over the Washington Senators and Walter Johnson. Had two putouts in the bottom of the ninth inning.

ML Finale: October 6, 1929, at Sportsman Park, St. Louis, Missouri: started at first base and batted fourth, went 1-4 against Chad Kimsey in a 4-1 loss to the St. Louis Browns.

Washington's Hall of Fame pitcher Walter Johnson.

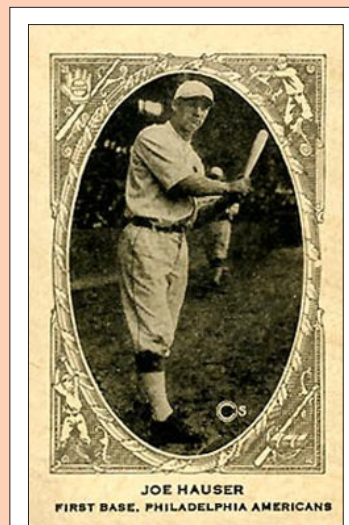


Hauser's card (#26) in the 57-card 1933 Worch Cigar American Association set can be purchased for \$180 in good-to-excellent condition.

Hauser's best year in the majors comes in 1924, when he hits .288 for the Athletics and finishes second in the American League in home runs (27), fourth in RBIs (115) and seventh in slugging percentage (.516). His 27 home runs are second only to Babe Ruth's 47 and nine ahead of Baby Doll Jacobsen's third-place total of 18. But his time in Philadelphia comes to an end and in 1928 when he is replaced as the Athletics' first baseman by 21-year-old future Hall of Famer Jimmy Foxx.

But it is in the minors where Hauser forges his reputation and his legacy. He has nine seasons with 20-or-more home runs, drives in 100-or-more runs six times and bats over .300 seven times. In 16 minor league seasons, including nine in the American Association and two in the International League, Hauser falls one point shy hitting .300, and one home run shy of 400.

As a pitcher of much promise with the Zunker Comers for three seasons (1915-1917), Hauser is invited straight from the sandlots to the Philadelphia Athletics 1918 spring training. However, on March 21, Hauser



Hauser's card (#49) in the 120-card 1922 Neilson's Chocolate set can be purchased for \$70 in good condition.

Joe Hauser [3 of 7]:

gives a "miserable exhibition," in practice, missing the strike zone so badly on 11 straight pitches that the (unnamed) batter steps out of the batters' box and, "not caring to chance injury," refuses to step back in. It is later reported that Hauser has a sore shoulder and could not "command the ball."

Pro Career Debut

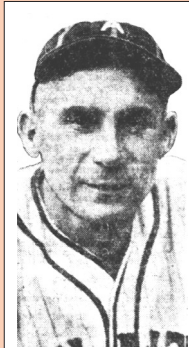
New Haven Murlins at Providence Grays
Melrose Park, Providence, Rhode Island
June 10, 1918

New Haven						
	ab.	r.	h.	po.	a.	e.
Turphy, ss.	3	1	0	0	4	0
Fradshaw, 3b.	4	1	0	2	0	0
Nutter, rf.	3	0	0	0	1	0
Stimpson, lf.	4	0	2	1	0	0
Ball, 2b.	2	1	0	5	4	0
Miller, 1b.	2	0	0	13	0	1
Leid, cf.	3	0	0	1	0	0
Pjura, c.	2	0	1	5	1	0
Watson, p.	3	0	1	0	5	0
Totals,	26	3	4	27	15	1
Providence.						
	ab.	r.	h.	po.	a.	e.
Brausen, 3b.	4	0	0	1	1	0
Sweatt, 2b.	4	0	0	4	7	1
Eayrs, cf.p.	3	1	0	4	1	0
Dameron, 1b.	4	0	1	11	0	0
McNeill, c.	4	0	2	1	3	0
Gearin, rf.	3	0	0	1	0	0
Whiteside, lf.	3	0	1	0	0	0
Pepler, ss.	3	0	0	2	2	2
Collins, p.	2	0	0	0	1	0
Hauser, cf.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals,	30	1	4	24	15	3

Totals,30 1 4 24 15 3
New Haven, .. 0 1 2 0 0 0 0 x—3
Providence, .. 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—1
Stolen base, Ball. Sacrifice hit, Whiteside. Double plays, Pepler, Sweatt and Dameron, Brausen, Sweatt and Dameron. Left on bases, Providence 5; New Haven 4. First base on errors, Providence 1; New Haven 2. Bases on balls, off Collins 5; off Watson 1. Hits, off Watson 4 in 9 innings; off Collins 4 in 6 innings; off Eayrs 0 in 2 innings. Hit by pitcher, by Watson, (Hauser). Struck out, by Watson 5; by Eayrs 2. Winning pitcher, Watson. Losing pitcher Collins.

Released by the Milwaukee Brewers four days earlier, Hauser makes his way to Providence, Rhode Island, and makes his pro baseball debut for the Eastern League's Providence Grays as a late inning replacement in center field during a 3-1 loss to the visiting Murlins of New Haven.

Released by the Athletics, Hauser returns to Milwaukee and signs with the hometown Brewers, who in turn option him on June 6 to the Providence Grays of the Eastern League where he makes his pro debut on June 10.



Roy Grimes captures his only minor league home run crown with the Hartford Senators in 1918 hitting three to lead the Eastern League.

Used primarily as an outfielder that first season (but he does to pitch in at least two games for the Grays) Hauser is hitting .277 with one home run (the league leader is Hartford's Roy Grimes (with three) when the league disbands on July 22.

In 1919, Hauser hits .273 and leads the Eastern League in triples (21) and home runs (6), and earning a return trip to Milwaukee.

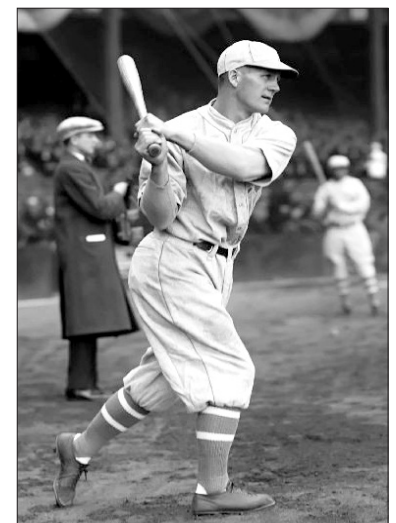
Following two solid seasons (1920-1921) with the Brewers of the American (AA) Association, a more mature and now much more in demand Hauser is traded to Connie Mack's Philadelphia Athletics on September 20, 1921, for four players and a reported \$10,000. Mack earlier had offered the Brewers \$15,000 for Hauser's services, but Milwaukee owner Otto Borchart, insists on a player exchange. The White Sox also express interest in the 22-year-old first baseman.

BREWERS TRADE HAUSER

Get Four Men From Philadelphia for First Baseman.



Joe Hauser
1918 Philadelphia Athletics



Joe Hauser
1928 Philadelphia Athletics



Joe Hauser
1928 Philadelphia Athletics

A much-publicized rising star following his breakout season in 1924, Hauser's major league career is dealt a serious setback on April 7, 1925. In the first inning of a pre-season game with the Philadelphia Phillies, he breaks his right knee cap fielding a throw from shortstop Chick Galloway. To repair his shattered knee cap, surgeons string the bones together with silver wire.

JOE HAUSER BREAKS KNEE,
OUT FOR REST OF SEASON

Forced to miss the entire 1925 season, Hauser is able to return to the Athletics in 1926, but Mack doesn't envision

Joe Hauser [4 of 7]:

him as an everyday player, but as a back-up to 31-year-old Jim Poole, who is coming off a solid season (5-67-.298) replacing Hauser as the team's starting first baseman. His return to "the show" is a rough one however, as he hits only .192 with eight home runs and 36 RBIs.

On November 27, 1926, Mack elects to send Hauser, along with free agent Bill Wambsgans and \$50,000 to the Kansas City Blues of the American Association for first baseman **Dud Branom (right)**. Branom proves to be a dud for the Athletics in 1927, as the Oklahoman hits a meager .234 with one extra base hit in 94 at bats before being sent back to the minors on June 14. Meanwhile in Kansas City, Hauser has a solid comeback season with the Blues, hitting .353 with 49 doubles, 22 triples, 20 home runs and 134 RBIs.

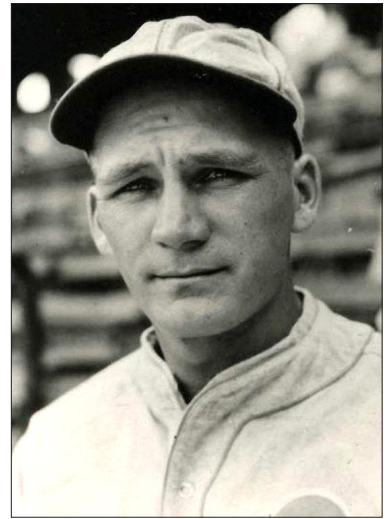
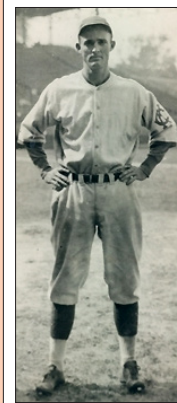
On May 14, in a 5-2 win over the Milwaukee Brewers, Hauser becomes the first player to clear the right field wall at the Blues' Muehlebach Field when he connects off of lefty Dinty Gearin.

Mack brings Hauser back to Philadelphia for a fourth time prior to the 1928 season and he responds by hitting .260 with 16 home runs and 59 RBIs for the Athletics. However, at the end of the season he is released to the Milwaukee Brewers of the American Association.

He begins 1929 with the Brewers, but is declared a free agent on May 11 and "awarded" back to the Athletics, who in turn sell him to the Cleveland Indians on June 3. As the team's back-up first baseman and pinch-hitter, Hauser makes only five starts in 56 games and hits .250 with three home runs and nine RBIs, and on October 6 plays his final major league game at the age of 30.

**Athletics Obtain
New First Sacker**

Branom, of Kansas City Club,
Swapped to Macks For
Hauser, Wambsgans

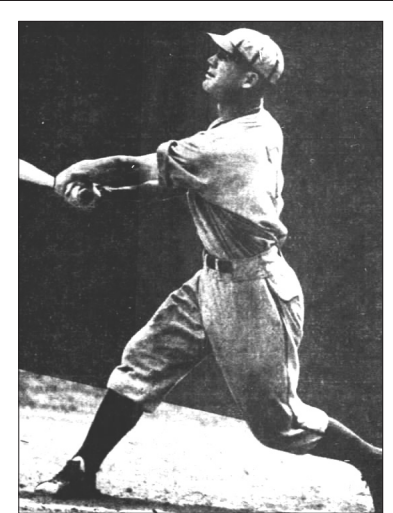


Joe Hauser
1928 Philadelphia Athletics



Joe Hauser
1929 Cleveland Indians

A .311 career hitter in 13 minor league seasons, Dud Branom is already a wealthy man by the time he plays for the Athletics in 1927. Because his father-in-law is one of Oklahoma's richest oil barons, Branom is able to purchase the Enid Harvesters of the Western (C) Association club prior to the start of the 1922 season.



Joe Hauser
1933 Minneapolis Millers

Home Runs No. 62 & 63

Baltimore Orioles at Newark Bears
Bears Stadium, Newark, New Jersey
September 20, 1930

BALTIMORE					at NEWARK				
	ab.	r.	h.	e.		ab.	r.	h.	e.
H'ner,2b	5	0	4	0	Layne,cf	4	1	2	6
M'G'n,cf	5	0	1	3	Zitz'nu,lf	4	0	0	1
Barton,rf	4	2	3	0	Jordan,rf	3	0	0	1
Hau'r,1b	4	2	2	6	Barr'tt,3b	4	0	3	5
St'ner,3b	3	1	2	2	Windle,1b	3	0	0	10
Sigm'n,lf	4	0	2	5	Cohen,2b	4	0	0	6
Sand,ss	2	0	0	6	Stevens,ss	3	0	1	4
Padden,c	4	0	0	8	Harg'v's,c	4	0	0	3
Bolen,p	4	0	0	0	M.T'm's,p	2	0	1	4
J.W'v'r,p	0	0	0	0	Boney,p	0	0	0	1

Totals 35 5 10 34 2 | Totals *33 1 6 4 1
 *Saunders batted for M. Thomas in 7th;
 April batted for Boney in 9th; H. Thomas
 batted for Jordan in 9th.

Baltimore012 000 200—5
 Newark100 000 000—1

Two base hits—McGowan, Barton.
 Three base hit—Layne. Home run—
 Hauser. Sacrifice—Sand. Bases on balls
 —Off M. Thomas 2, Bolen 5. Hits—
 Off M. Thomas 10 in 7, Bolen 6 in 8 2-3.
 Struck out—By Bolen 5, J. Weaver 1.
 Wild pitches—Bolen. Winning pitcher—
 Bolen. Losing pitcher—M. Thomas, Um-
 pires—Westervelt and McCormack.

In the second-to-last game of the 1930 International League season, Hauser hits home runs No. 62 and No. 63 off of Newark Bears' right-hander Myles Thomas in a 5-1 Baltimore Oriole win.

Sold to the International (AA) League's Baltimore Orioles on December 7, 1929, Hauser benefits from the cozy confines of the Orioles' Terrapin Park (305 to left, 412 to center and 310 to right), hitting .313 in 1930 with 175 RBIs and a professional baseball-record 63 home runs.

**Joe Hauser
Wallops Over
Homers 62, 63**

BALTIMORE, Sept. 20 (AP).—Joe Hauser, Baltimore first baseman, hit his sixty-second and sixty-third home runs of the season today as the Orioles defeated Newark here, 5 to 1, and brought to three his margin over the record set by Babe Ruth in 1927 and Tony Lazzeri in 1925.

The International League season ends tomorrow with a double-header at Newark. Today's victory clinched second place for Baltimore.

Rochester already has won the pennant.

Following another solid year with Baltimore in 1931 where he hits a minor-league leading 31 home runs, the Orioles sell his contract just before the start of the 1932 season,

Joe Hauser [5 of 7]:

to the Minneapolis Millers of the American (AA) Association.



During his record-setting season in 1933, Hauser hit 47 of his 69 home runs in cozy (279 feet to right field) Nicollet Park. Built in 1896 at a cost of \$4,000, it was the home of the Minneapolis Millers for 50 years. The park's dimensions were 334 feet to left field, 432 to center field and 279 feet to right field.

Home Runs No. 68 and 69

Kansas City Blues at Minneapolis Millers
Nicollet Park, Minneapolis, Minnesota
September 9, 1933

K. C.	AB	H	O	A	Minn.	AB	H	O	A
Wilburn,ss	5	3	0	0	Smith,ss	4	1	3	6
Taylor,3	5	0	3	5	Norris,2	5	0	6	8
Conntr,rf	5	3	0	0	Hauser,1	4	3	12	0
Grigsby,lf	5	2	1	0	Harris,cf	5	2	3	0
Keesey,1	3	3	6	0	Holland,lf	5	2	0	0
Schino,cf	4	1	2	0	Vandy	0	0	0	0
Cronin,2	4	2	4	0	Fothergill,rf	4	2	0	0
Brenzel,c	4	2	11	0	Ruble	1	0	0	0
Mails,p	4	1	0	1	Fingdon,3	4	1	0	2
Garland,p	0	0	0	0	Glenn,c	2	1	1	2
					Griffin,c	2	1	2	0
					Benton,p	2	0	0	1
					Tauscher,p	1	0	0	0
					Henline	1	0	0	0

Totals . 39 17 27 6 Totals . 40 13 27 19

1 Ran for Holland in ninth.

2 Batted for Fothergill in ninth.

3 Batted for Tauscher in ninth.

Kansas City, 2 0 0 0 5 1 0 0 0-8
Minneapolis, 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 4-6

Errors—Benton, Grigsby. Runs batted in—Hauser (4), Harris, Keesey (4), Connatser (2), Grigsby, Mails. Two-base hits—Glenn, Hauser, Connatser (3), Brenzel, Cronin. Home runs—Hauser (2), Harris, Keesey. Double plays—Smith to Norris to Hauser (2); Kingdon to Norris to Hauser (2); Norris to Smith to Hauser; Taylor to Keesey. Left on bases—Minneapolis, 9; Kansas City, 5. Base on balls—Off Tauscher, 1; off Mails, 2. Struck out—By Benton, 1; by Tauscher, 1; by Mails, 11. Hits—Off Benton, 11 in 5 innings; off Tauscher, 6 in 4 innings; off Mails, 13 in 8½ innings; off Garland, none in ¼ inning. Winning pitcher—Mails. Losing pitcher—Benton.

In what turns out to be the last game of Minneapolis' 1933 season, Hauser hits home runs No. 68 and No. 69 off of left-hander Buster Mails in an 8-6 loss to the Kansas City Blues before 6,000 Nicollet Park fans. Spencer Harris also homers as the Millers set an American Association single-season mark with 190 home runs.



Joe Hauser
1932 Minneapolis Millers

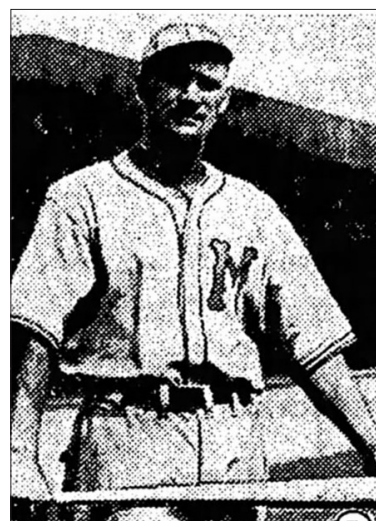
If Hauser thought that Baltimore's Terrapin Park was cozy, the Millers' Nicollet Park will prove to be down right claustrophobic for "Unser Joe" (a German expression for "Our Joe"). Hauser debuts with the Millers in 1932, hitting .303 with a league-leading 49 home runs and 129 RBIs despite missing 26 games with late-season injury.

In 1933, despite having to endure a large pay cut from \$6,500 to \$2,600, Hauser again sets the baseball world on its collective ear.

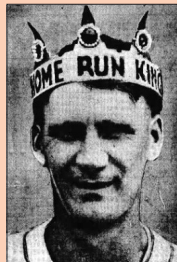
Despite the American Association reducing its regular season schedule from 168 games to 154, and going homerless in his first nine games, Hauser goes on a season-long tear, hitting 69 home runs, eclipsing the single-season home run record he had set three years earlier. He also drives in a career-high 182 runs and totals a record-setting 439 total bases and is named the MVP of the American Association.

As a team, the Millers hit a league-high 190 home runs, but only 39 are hit away from Nicollet Park.

In 1934 Hauser get away to an uncharastic fast start with 11 home runs in the Millers' first ten games, but a knee injury on June 10 shelves him for three weeks. Returning to the lineup on July 3, Hauser goes on a tear during a 18-day home stand and has a league-leading 33 home runs on July 29 when he falls rounding third base in the first game of a doubleheader in Kansas City and suffers a fracture of his left knee cap. Two days later, complaining of pain in his right arm, an x-ray reveals that he has also suffered a broken arm.



Joe Hauser
1933 Minneapolis Millers



Joe Hauser
1934 Minneapolis Millers

Career Home Runs Minor League

1. Hector Espino	484
2. Nelson Barrera	479
3. Andres Mora	444
4. Alejandro Ortiz	434
5. Buzz Arlett	432
6. Nick Cullop	420
7. Merv Connors	400
Mike Hessman	400
9. Joe Hauser	399
10. Bobby Prescott	398



"The Mexican Babe Ruth," Hector Espino had 484 career home runs with 481 coming in the Mexican League ... had 408 intentional walks in his career, including 53 in 1969.

Back on the sidelines, Hauser can only watch as another 35-year-old ex-major leaguer and teammate Buzz Arlett, surpasses him and captures the American Association home run crown with 41. Arlett actually finishes the season with 48 home runs having hit seven in 35 games with the Southern Association's Birmingham Barons earlier in the year.

Hauser will play two more seasons with the Millers. After the 1936 campaign, despite 34 home runs, 87 RBIs, a .268 average and being promised a job for as long as he wants it by manager Mike Kelly, the 37-year-old first baseman is caught up in the team's youth movement and along with 38-year-old pitcher Rosy Ryan, is released on February 14, 1937. Kelly comes under criticism for waiting until mid-February for releasing the extremely-popular first baseman and hurting his chances of landing another job.



Hauser does not remain unemployed for long as the Sheboygan Chairs of the unaffiliated Wisconsin State League sign him (left) on April 10 for a \$300 a month salary. In addition to Sheboygan, membership in the four-team league includes the Madison Blues, Racine Belles and Kenosha Unions. The excitement of Hauser playing for the Chairs is such that Milwaukee sausage maker Steve Herring, at the pre-season banquet, offers a sausage as long and as big as a baseball bat to the first Sheboygan player to hit a home run.

On May 10, Hauser, as expected, hits the team's first home run and a week later a happy Herring presents Hauser with his trophy a week later.

In his first season as the team's player/manager, Hauser handles 368 chances in the field without an error, finishes third in the league with a .389 average that includes 12 doubles, three triples and a league-leading eight home runs and 38 RBIs while leading the team to the league championship.

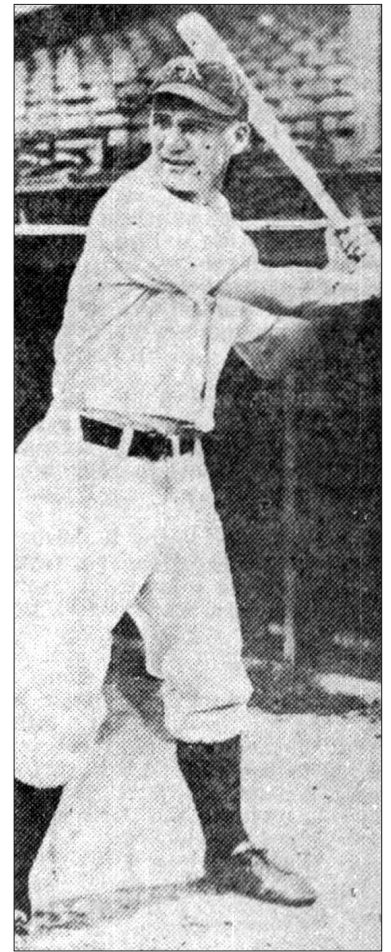
Gets His Sausage

Just before the game got under way Manager Joe Hauser was presented with a "sausage as big as a bat" for the home run he hit last Sunday against the Blues. True to his promise made at the Booster Banquet the night before the opening game, at which time he stated he would award a sausage to the first man to hit a home run, Steve Herring, Milwaukee sausage maker, sent the trophy here yesterday.

Hail These Champions Of The Wisconsin State League!



Over the next two years, Hauser leads the Chairs to a second and third place finish in a renamed Tri-State League, hitting five home runs each season, and hitting .320 and .296, respectively.



Joe Hauser
1937 Sheboygan Chairs



Joe Hauser
1940 Sheboygan Indians

Joe Hauser [7 of 7]:

In the 1939 off-season, two things happen.

First, Hauser turns down several managing offers, including one in the Northern League, and secondly, on the day after Christmas, Sheboygan receives an unexpected gift when the American Association's Milwaukee Brewers decide to place a Wisconsin State (D) League team in the city with Hauser as its manager. Now living in the city full-time, Hauser opens a sporting goods equipment store in 1943 named the Joe Hauser Sports Shop.

Final Career Home Run

Green Bay Bluejays at Sheboygan Indians
Sheboygan, Wisconsin
August 30, 1942

Green Bay	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Swittel, 3b.	4	2	1	0	0	0
Gillespie, 1b.	4	0	2	3	1	0
Hanson, rf.	5	0	2	7	0	1
Timm, lf.	5	1	2	1	0	0
Oddo, 2b.	4	0	0	2	1	0
Raddant, c.	4	0	0	3	0	0
Henrichs, p.	3	1	2	2	3	0
Delsing, ss.	4	0	1	1	0	0
Perthel, cf.	4	0	2	5	0	0
Totals	37	4	12	24	5	1
Sheboygan	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Bartos, 2b.	4	1	2	5	3	0
Dwyer, rf.	4	1	4	2	0	0
Richel, cf.	5	0	0	2	0	0
Krauss, 3b.	3	1	1	2	2	0
Hauser, 1b.	3	1	1	6	1	0
Deininger, c. ...	4	0	0	7	1	0
Males, ss.	3	0	1	1	1	0
Klauser, lf.	3	2	1	2	0	1
Wantuck, p.	4	0	1	0	3	0
Knowles, p.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	6	11	27	11	1

Green Bay	001	100	002—4	12	1
Sheboygan	000	031	20x—6	11	1

Runs batted in—Hanson 3, Timm, Bartos, Dwyer, Hauser 2, Wantuck. Earned runs—Green Bay 4, Sheboygan 5. Two-base hits—Perthel 2, Bartos, Klauser. Three-base hits—Henrichs. Home runs—Hauser, Timm. Sacrifices—Swittel, Dwyer. Double plays—Henrichs to Gillespie. Left on base—Green Bay 9, Sheboygan 11. Base on balls—Off Henrichs 6; off Wantuck 2. Struck out—By Henrichs 3; by Wantuck 5; by Knowles 1. Hits—Off Wantuck 12 in 8 2-3 innings for 4 runs. Hit by pitcher—By Henrichs, Males. Passed ball—Deininger. Winning pitcher—Wantuck.

In the fourth-to-last game of the 1942 Wisconsin State League season, 43-year-old Sheboygan first baseman Joe Hauser hits the final home run, and No. 478, of his illustrious pro career. Hauser's seventh-inning two-run shot off 15-game winner Robert Henrichs proves to be the winning margin in a 6-4 Indian win.

Hauser plays and manages the Indians for three seasons (1940-1942), hitting .284 with 46 doubles, 12 triples, 32 home runs, driving in 156 runs and (surprisingly) steals 28 bases. In his final season in 1942, a 43-year-old Hauser hits .302 with 17 doubles, 14 home runs and 70 RBIs.

Hauser will manage the Indians again for another eight years, beginning in 1946 when the Wisconsin State League resumes play following a three-year hiatus for World War II.

Hauser dies on July 11, 1997, at the age of 98 in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, just three days after he receives a notice from major league baseball that he was now eligible for a pension.

Chairs Sitting Pretty

In his first year as a manager, Joe Jauser directs the Sheboygan Chairs to the championship of the Wisconsin State League. In the first-half playoff, the Chairs lose to the Madison Blues two games to one. However, Hauser's nine turn the tables on the Blues in the second-half, winning the playoffs two games to one. With the league leadership "tied up in a knot," the Blues, to the surprise of everyone propose a one-game playoff, despite league rules mandating a two-out-of-three game series to determine the championship. Blues' manager Eddie Lenahan says the weather at this time of the year is not suitable for more baseball. At a league meeting, Racine, Kenosha and Sheboygan vote for a two out of three series. Madison refuses to participate and the league directors award the title to Sheboygan.

Obituary

Joe Hauser, 98, baseball player

The first baseman played six seasons in the major leagues, including a stint with the Philadelphia A's.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. — Joe Hauser, who played baseball with Ty Cobb and Babe Ruth, died Friday, four days after he received a notice from Major League Baseball that he would be eligible for a pension. He was 98.

Hauser, a first baseman, played six seasons in the major leagues. He had a career .284 batting average with 79 home runs and 356 RBIs. He hit over .300 his first two seasons.

While playing for Connie Mack's Philadelphia A's in 1924, Hauser had 27 home runs, finishing second in the American League behind Ruth, and 115 RBIs.

Hauser had fond memories of Ruth, but not-so-fond recollections of teammate Cobb.

"Babe loved to pull my shirttail out every time he stopped at first base," he told the Philadelphia Daily News in 1991. "Lucky for me, he seldom stopped there. He was usually on his way to another base."

In the interview, Hauser recalled Cobb's last season, 1928: "I got off to a good start that year and he didn't, and it made him jealous. Before long, he started giving me batting tips and really fouled up my swing. It seemed to make him happy when I went into a prolonged slump."

That year, Hauser was replaced in

the A's lineup by future Hall of Famer Jimmy Foxx. Hauser spent the next season, his last, in Cleveland.

He came to Sheboygan in 1937 to play for and manage the Sheboygan Chairmakers, and also owned and operated an area sporting goods store. In Wisconsin, he was affectionately known as "Unser Choe," or "our Joe," a name given to him by German-speaking fans in his hometown of Milwaukee, where he played during a brilliant, 1,621-game minor-league career that began in 1918 and resumed after his stint in the majors. He finally retired in 1942.

Hauser is the only player in the history of organized baseball to hit more than 60 home runs in two seasons: 63 with Baltimore in 1930 and 69 with Minneapolis in 1933, both triple-A teams.