

Lou Gehrig

<http://gardenofpraise.com/ibdgehri.htm>

Directions: Underline the words in the story as you find them, unscramble them and write them in the boxes below. Lou Gehrig was one of baseball's great players. His parents didn't want him to make a career of baseball. They thought it was a waste of time, but he loved the game. He was on his high school baseball team. A talent scout saw him and offered him a sports scholarship in college. He started playing for the New York Yankees in 1923. His parents scraped together \$14 for him to make the trip to spring training camp in New Orleans. When he got there, he started looking for a job, but the team paid him some money in advance. He improved so much that two different times, he was named American League Most Valuable player. He was called the "Iron Horse". He played in every game for 14 years without missing even one. He played over 2000 games. That was a record which wasn't broken for 50 years. But then something bad happened. He could barely swing the bat and he couldn't run around the bases any more. He knew something was wrong. He went to specialists . They said he had a disease called ALS. The long name for it is amyotrophic lateral sclerosis . It attacks the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord and the person becomes unable to move. He knew he would not be able to continue playing baseball, so he resigned . The Yankees held a special day in Yankee Stadium on July 4, 1939 to honor him. In his speech he said his career in baseball made him "the luckiest man on the face of the earth". That same year he was voted into the Hall of Fame. Players were usually not voted into the Hall of Fame until after they had been retired for two years.

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