

# Aaron finally does it!!

CINCINNATI (AP)—Hank Aaron, Atlanta's icy-nerved 40-year-old slugger, earned his niche among baseball's immortals today when he smashed the 714th home run of his illustrious career, tying the all-time record held by the legendary Babe Ruth.

Pitcher: Jack Billingham. Men on base: Ralph Garr and Mike Lum. Score: 0-0. Distance: 380 feet. Direction: Left-center field. Count: 3-1. Outs: One. Type of pitch: Fast ball.

some concern about it to teammate Dave Johnson after he had taken a few cuts in the batting cage.

"Looks like I'm swinging the bat all right?" Aaron whispered to Johnson.

"Yes, kid, you looked okay," Johnson replied.

"I look nervous?" Aaron asked.

"Yep," Johnson replied.

**Another record?**

ATLANTA (AP)—When Atlanta Braves' slugger Henry Aaron cracks the all-time home run record, he might also set another mark—the number of telegrams he receives.

"We believe the baseball fans of America could set an all-time record for messages sent to an individual," says E. O. Harbour, district manager of Western Union in Atlanta.

According to Western Union records, evangelist Billy Graham received approximately 100,000 telegrams in 1962 urging him to endorse a particular political candidate.

Anticipating the landslide of messages for Aaron, Western Union has agreed to set a flat rate of \$2 each, with \$1 going directly to the Hank Aaron Scholarship Fund. In turn, Aaron has pledged that half of each dollar donated will be diverted to the Babe Ruth Foundation in Baltimore.

"It's a load off my back," said the Atlanta Braves' slugger after tying baseball's most revered record by slamming his 714th home run in his first at-bat of 1974.

Concealing the pressure of his long chase of Ruth's record, Aaron said he'll show more emotion when he claims the record-breaking 715th homer.

"I'll probably run around the bases backward," said the reserved superstar.

**Senate approves**

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hank Aaron's 714th home run was formally recognized in the U.S. Senate Thursday with a resolution of congratulations.

In the House, the announcement was greeted by a standing ovation.

The Senate resolution was sponsored by Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey, Minn., who said he is a fan "who loves baseball night and day."

**Mrs. Ruth pleased**

NEW YORK (AP)—Like many other baseball fans, Mrs. Babe Ruth wasn't surprised Thursday that Hank Aaron hit his 714th home run.

"I've expected it for a long time," said Mrs. Ruth after the Atlanta star tied her husband's famous baseball record. "It came as no shock."

Mrs. Ruth wished Aaron "luck and health" in his attempt to break the mark and continue onward.

Asked about their playing styles, Mrs. Ruth would not compare the two formidable hitters.

"Babe was a pitcher as well as an outfielder, remember," said Mrs. Ruth. "He was a great all-around player. And, really, he never thought so much of his home run record."

**Aaron looks on**

CINCINNATI (AP)—"Tying the record is great, but breaking it is another thing," Hank Aaron said Thursday after the 40-year-old Atlanta Braves slugger joined the immortal Babe Ruth as baseball's all-time home run king.

The soft-spoken Mobile, Ala., native talked of the initial excitement, but said it was dulled considerably when the Reds staged a comeback for a 7-6 victory after trailing at one point 6-1.

"It's just another home run now," Aaron said. "If we had won, I'd probably be over there in our clubhouse drinking champagne."

The game was halted for six minutes as Vice President Gerald R. Ford and baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn congratulated Aaron on the field to the cheers of the overflow crowd of 52,154.

## Facts and figures

CINCINNATI (AP)—Here are the facts and figures on Hank Aaron's 714th home run, tying Babe Ruth's lifetime record:

Date: April 4, 1974.

Site: Riverfront Stadium, Cincinnati.

Inning: First.

Time: 2:40 p. m., EDT.

## Aaron nervous?

CINCINNATI (AP)—Hank Aaron wasn't outwardly showing any signs of nervousness during batting practice Thursday before the major league baseball opener between the Atlanta Braves and Cincinnati Reds.

Aaron did, however, express

By Charles M. Schulz

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	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	John 11:1-45	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalms 52:1-9	John 12:20-23	John 13:1-17	Matthew 21:1-11	Isaiah 50:4-7

## CALENDAR OF CHURCH SERVICES

<p><b>CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS</b> 101 N. Coulter, Bryan</p> <p>9:00 A.M.—Priesthood meeting 10:30 A.M.—Sunday School 5:00 P.M.—Sacrament Meeting</p>	<p><b>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p>9:45 A.M.—Sunday School 10:45 A.M.—Morning Worship 6:30 P.M.—Young People's Service 7:00 P.M.—Preaching Service</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY</b></p> <p>9:30 A.M.—Sunday School 11:00 A.M.—Sunday Service 12:30-3:30 P.M.—Tues. Reading Rm. 7:00-8:00 P.M.—Wed., Reading Room 8:00 P.M.—Wed. Evening Worship</p>	<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST</b></p> <p>9:30 A.M.—Sunday School 10:45 A.M.—Morning Worship 6:10 P.M.—Training Union 7:20 P.M.—Evening Worship 6:45 P.M.—Choir Practice &amp; Teachers' meetings (Wednesday) 7:45 P.M.—Midweek Services (Wed.)</p>	<p><b>SECOND BAPTIST</b> 710 Eisenhower</p> <p>9:45 A.M.—Sunday School 11:00 A.M.—Church Service 5:30 P.M.—Training Union 7:30 P.M.—Church Service</p>	<p><b>OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN</b></p> <p>8:30 &amp; 10:45 A.M.—The Church at Worship 9:30 A.M.—Bible Classes For All Holy Communion—1st Sun. Ea. Mo.</p>	<p><b>CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 3205 Lakeview</p> <p>9:45 A.M.—Sunday School 10:45 A.M.—Morning Worship 6:00 P.M.—Youth Hour 7:00 P.M.—Evening Worship</p>	<p><b>UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN</b> Hubert Beck, Pastor</p> <p>9:30 A.M.—Bible Class 10:45 A.M.—Divine Worship 6:00 P.M.—Worship Celebration 7:30 P.M.—Wednesday, Discussion Group</p>
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## Pitcher laments

CINCINNATI (AP)—"It was my mistake and he hits mistakes," Jack Billingham said of the historic 714th home run Hank Aaron hammered Thursday to tie Babe Ruth's all-time record.

The 31-year-old right-handed ace of the Cincinnati Reds said the Atlanta slugger ripped an outside fast ball for his three-run, first-inning blast in the Riverfront Stadium opener.

"I threw the ball and it didn't sink. It came into him over the outside of the plate," said Billingham.

"He deserves it," Billingham continued. "He's the greatest I've ever seen. It's unfortunate he hit it against me."

## Millions watch

NEW YORK (AP)—An estimated 8.5 million persons watched the videotape replay of Atlanta slugger Hank Aaron's 714th career home run Thursday at Cincinnati, NBC-TV said.

The network interrupted its afternoon soap opera, "Another World," for about four minutes to show replay and slow-motion tapes.

## Ghost is gone

CINCINNATI (AP)—Ageless Hank Aaron shed the ghost of Babe Ruth Thursday.

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Tea or Coffee

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