

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

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Volume XIII

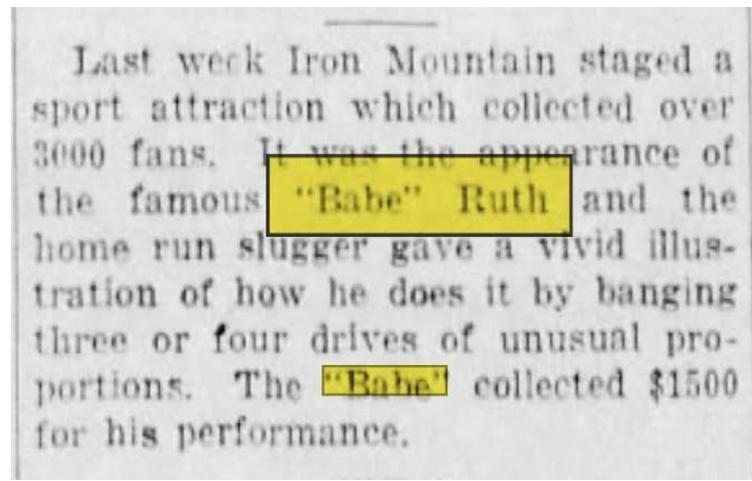
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Babe Ruth Passes Through De Pere

De Pere Journal-Democrat - November 4, 1926

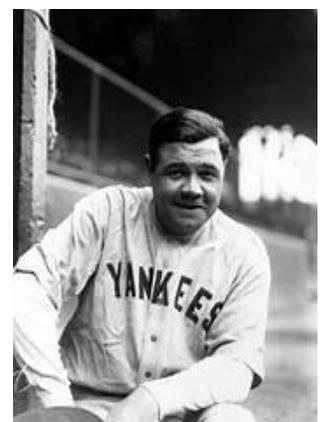
George H. (Babe) Ruth, the "king of Swat" in the baseball world, passed through De Pere on Thursday of last week. He did not stop here, but he made a brief stay at Charles Hall's attractive gas filling station and lunch room, where he and his party partook of refreshments, and also replenished their gas and oil supplies. Babe Ruth drove up from the south over State Highway 15. He was on his way to Iron Mountain where he was to participate in a baseball game. The pitcher opposing the champion batsman was Richard (Jab) Murray, Marinette lawyer and former Marquette University gridiron star. At Menasha, Ruth's car was proudly escorted through that city by a motorcycle officer.



Green Bay Press Gazette, November 3, 1926



Charlie Hall's filling station on N. Broadway in 1925 (was located near Zesty's)



George Herman "Babe" Ruth – King of Swat

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NICOLET AIRPORT
 Highway 57 — 1/2 Mile South of De Pere
 BOYD MILLER, Mgr.

The original Nicolet Airport opened in 1945. The airport was located about 1/2 mile south of De Pere near the corner of Heritage Road and Highway 57 on the Edward & Stella Brittnacher farm. It included five airplane hangers. The manager, Boyd Miller, serviced and sold airplanes and was a licensed instructor. In 1947 brothers Al & John Garrity bought property on Ridgeway Boulevard about a mile east of Webster Avenue. Four runways were laid out but eventually only two were used, an east-west and a north-south runway. Boyd Miller was again the flight instructor and airport manager. The airport was mostly used by private owners who had planes for business or pleasure. (over)

It was a well designed airport and served De Pere and eastern Brown County. The airport was busiest in the 1950's when a number of flying clubs were headquartered there. Nicolet Airport operated as an airport until January 1, 1977 when it was sold to a group of real estate developers. The city of De Pere annexes the property and approved residential development. The original airport terminal was located on what is now Brule Road where the Nicolet Landing Condominiums are currently located.



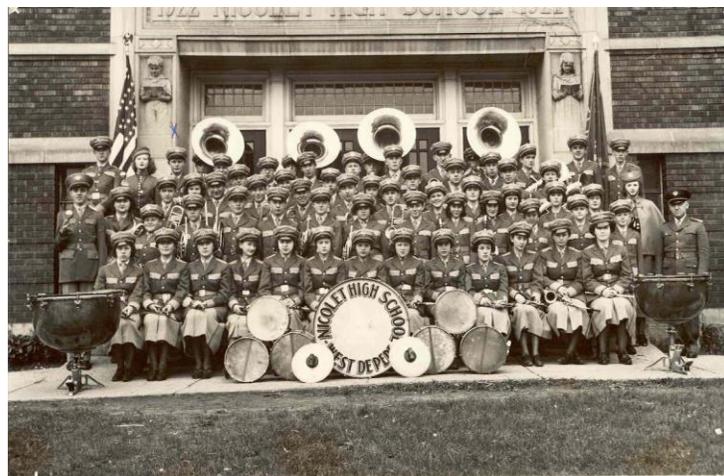
Notable People from De Pere

De Pere has been home to a number of notable citizens in the areas of business, politics, education and athletics. Here are just a couple you may not have heard of:

Wilson “Buster” Charles – Born in West De Pere in 1908, Wilson Charles was a Native American athlete who finished 4th in the decathlon in the 1932 Summer Olympics. He also competed nationally in basketball and football. Wilson became an engineer and died in Arizona in 2006 at the age of 98.



Alex Enna – Alex Enna was the band director at Nicolet High School (now West De Pere High School) from 1923 until his death in 1946. Enna studied opera at the Copenhagen Conservatory. While band director at Nicolet, Enna's bands competed at the state and national level winning four National Champion Band titles.



De Pere Trivia

Do you know the answers to these trivia questions?

1. **What was the original name of Reid Street in West De Pere?**
2. **Wisconsin became a State in 1848. In what year did Brown County become a county?**
3. **In its 39 mile run from Lake Winnebago, through De Pere to the bay of Green Bay, the Fox River drops how many feet?**

*Newsletter Sponsored by
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For more information about the De Pere Historical Society, visit us online @ www.deperehistoricalsociety.org

Answers to trivia – 1. Oneida Street 2. 1818, after General Jacob Brown 3. 168 ft; equal to the height of Niagara Falls.