

9/25/2009

## A BIG DAY AT OGDEN HIGH

I am going to try and remember as many facts about the big day at Ogden that 70 odd years will allow. Time causes loss of not only memories of events but small happenings that if remembered, would add to the excitement to the event.

In either in 1947 or 48, I lean toward 48 because that was the second year Ralph Ross and I were seniors. We wanted to come back and play Basketball another year and we told our parents we wanted to go to College and it would help if we stayed in school another year. Someone came up with the idea of having an Ogden High School Reunion of past graduates from all preceding years. It would be on Sunday with Preaching, Dinner on the Ground, and a baseball game between a team of Graduates and present High School Students. It was some kind of a big day. It seemed that all graduates of past years came. Big named people like Junior Smith, now in the La. Hall of Fame for Athletes. He held the National record for the Javelin while a student at Louisiana College. People said He could throw a baseball so fast it looked like an Aspirin Tablet. Mr. Peel the Principal was on the list of "Mr. Everything" at Tech. and Mr. Jones the Ag teacher was another standout Athlete at Tech. Mr. Peel and Mr. Jones were to be the Referees. The day before the big event Mr. Jones asked me if I wanted to wear His New York Yankees Uniform. The reason He had a Yankee uniform is another interesting story I will write about later.

The day of the game everybody had a fill of good preaching and good food. It was big game time. I was dressed out in a Yankee uniform and felt rather silly; all the rest of the High School Team wore Ogden uniforms. "Buddy Boy" Williams started pitching for our team and the first batter hit a long fly to center field my position. Me and My Yankee uniform promptly prepared to make a routine catch and I put my glove up to catch the ball there was a power line between Myself and the ball, I lost the ball for a couple of seconds and that was all it took for me to miss the ball. I was so embarrassed I went over to our Coach and asked to be relieved from the game. Of course we got behind and our Coach replaced "Buddy Boy" with guess who? Me, that's who.