

BASEBALL/FOOTBALL QUIZ (Total: 26 points)

Our September 2026 quiz celebrates the confluence of baseball and the lesser sports of college and pro football. Please identify the two- (or more) sport stars described below.

1. He knew both baseball and football, as evidenced by his 1985 Heisman Trophy and his 1989 MLB All-Star game MVP trophy.
2. A two time MVP and Hall of Famer, he received a football scholarship at #1's alma mater and was later his teammate in the majors. Despite his apparently low testosterone levels, he liked to inflict considerable pain upon pitchers.
3. This Hall of Fame catcher signed a letter of intent to play quarterback at my alma mater (UCLA), but a baseball contract kept him from becoming my classmate.
4. A quarterback for four NFL teams before retiring after last season, he won one Super Bowl and would have won another absent an ill-advised attempted goal line pass. Played in the minor leagues and in spring training for several seasons, and once pinch hit for Aaron Judge, but never played a regular season MLB game.
5. The only player to play in both the Super Bowl and the World Series, whose nickname and demeanor call to mind a certain odorless gas.
6. Two-time Super Bowl winning quarterback and outfielder for the 1982 Oneonta Yankees, who was drafted six spots ahead of Tony Gwynn.
7. Played three seasons at safety for the Atlanta Falcons and fifteen seasons as an outfielder for the Cardinals, Dodgers, Rangers, and Braves, where he hit 20 home runs three times and was an All-Star in 1999.
8. Local legend, Mary Jane aficionado, and Heisman Trophy winner; field at DKR Memorial Stadium partially named in his honor. Played four seasons in the Phillies organization and once made the Rangers' 40 man roster, but never played in the majors.
9. Former punter and later baseball coach for the University of Nebraska who was the first overall MLB draft pick and caught the last out of the Angels' only World Series win.
10. A catcher and left fielder for the Pirates, and a running back and two way player for The Ohio State University, he is the only person besides #1 to both win the Heisman Trophy and play Major League Baseball.
11. Hall of Famer and Peyton Manning's backup QB at the University of Tennessee.
12. Owner of seven rings, he was the last active professional athlete that had been drafted by the Montreal Expos.

13. Still the only four-sport letterman in the history of my alma mater.
14. (One point each) A defensive back and a wide receiver for Michigan State, these two individuals won the NL MVP award for the same franchise fourteen years apart.
15. First team All American QB for the University of Michigan who appeared in three Rose Bowls and finished third in the Heisman Trophy voting, he later played ten seasons for the Tigers, Blue Jays, Rangers, and Giants.
16. The only person immortalized in both the pro football and baseball halls of fame (the latter not as a player).
17. Hall of Famer born on the day that Bobby Thomson hit his famed home run, he was drafted not only by MLB (fourth pick), but also by the ABA, NBA, and NFL (Minnesota Vikings), despite not playing college football.
18. The first commissioner of the NFL and an OF for John McGraw's New York Giants, who is perhaps better known for a third sport and is buried in a town bearing his name.
19. (One point each) Teammates on the Highland Park (TX) high school football team, they are both MVP award winners who won championships for teams whose stadiums are less than fifteen miles apart.
20. Coach and member of both the pro and college football halls of fame, he led the Cincinnati Reds in hits during the infamous 1919 "Black Sox" World Series.
21. (One point only; last name only is acceptable) Father was undefeated (20-0) as a starting QB, led the Longhorns to the 1969 National Championship in the "Game of the Century," and pitched the only perfect game in Texas history. His son saved 324 games in a 13 year MLB career and was the 2005 AL Rookie of the Year.
22. During the 21st Century, the Dallas Cowboys have had two quarterbacks who also played Major League Baseball. Name one of the two.
23. Posted an 80-106 record in a 14 year career as a RHP, mostly for the Cubs and Giants. Also caught 78 passes for 1,017 yards and 12 touchdowns in his senior season for Notre Dame in 2006, including a 45 yard game winning TD with 27 seconds left to defeat UCLA (which is why he has been relegated to the end of this quiz).
24. One of only two persons to play in both the Rose Bowl and the World Series, he is also a member of the College Football Hall of Fame and was the 1958 AL MVP.

TIEBREAKER: The home run hit by #1 in the 1989 All-Star Game was the longest I have ever seen in person, and landed about 50 feet from my seats, which were the worst I have ever had at a sporting event. How long did it travel?

ANSWERS

1. Vincent Edward “Bo” Jackson.
2. Frank “The Big Hurt” Thomas.
3. Gary Carter.
4. Russell Wilson. (Down four points at the one yard line with 25 seconds to play, he famously threw an INT rather than hand off to power back Marshawn Lynch).
5. “Neon” Deion Sanders.
6. John Elway.
7. Brian Jordan.
8. Ricky Williams.
9. Darin Erstad.
10. Vic Janowicz.
11. Todd Helton.
12. Tom Brady.
13. Jackie Robinson.
14. Steve Garvey (1974) and Kirk Gibson (1988).
15. Rick Leach.
16. Cal Hubbard (in Cooperstown as an umpire).
17. Dave Winfield
18. Jim Thorpe.
19. Matthew Stafford and Clayton Kershaw.
20. Alfred Earle “Greasy” Neale.
21. James and Huston Street.

22. Drew Henson and Chad Hutchinson.
23. Jeff Samardzija.
24. Jackie Jensen (Cal 1948; NYY 1950; other is Chuck Essegian Stanford/LAD)

TIEBREAKER: 448 feet.