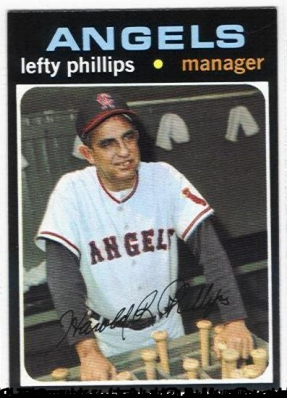
Here's a quick trivia question: In 1972, as a ten-year-old little league ballplayer, my chosen number was 8. Which big-leaguer would you say this was based on? Answer below.

Jersey numbers have held significance in Baseball since the New York Yankees became the first team to permanently wear them in 1929. The numbers of the starting position players reflected their spots in the batting order. Earle Combs was 1, Mark Koenig was 2, Lou Gehrig was 3, Babe Ruth was 4, Bob Meusel was 5, Tony Lazzeri was 6. As early as their historic 1927 season, they were known as Murderers' Row.

The answer to the question above? You are correct: it was Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski. (Either I was too young to know better, or the Boston Red Sox had yet to embody evil itself- ha.) Yaz had won the American League Triple Crown in 1967 (leading the league in batting average, home runs and runs batted in. It's a rare feat which had been accomplished by Baltimore Oriole Frank Robinson the season before, but has not been achieved since.).



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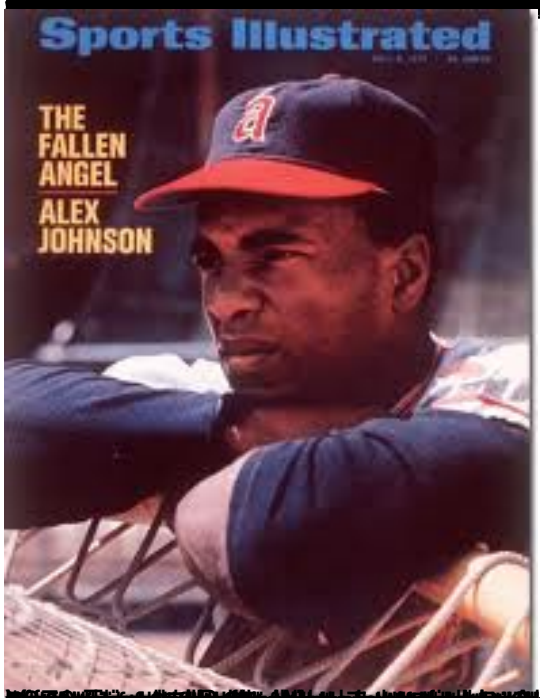

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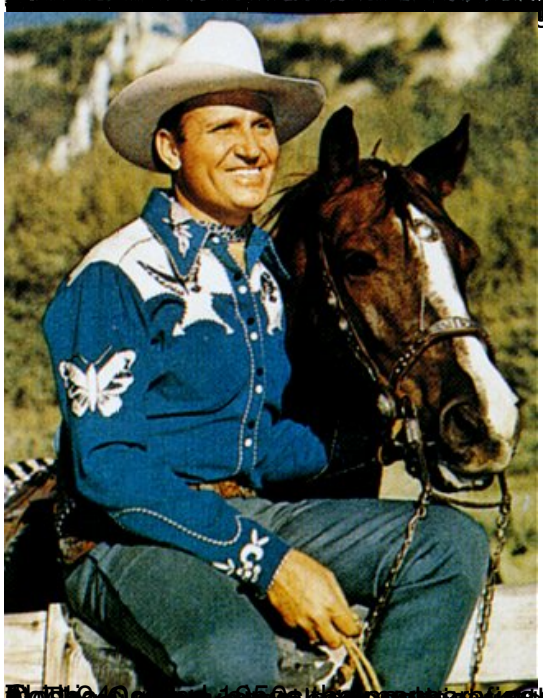

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