

The \$90,000,000 Man:

Bonds, BALCO and Baseball

By Evelyn Miliias

Senior Division

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In 1998, Barry Bonds was in his fifth season with the San Francisco Giants, and his twelfth season in Major League Baseball. It was a record-breaking season for Bonds: he hit his 400th home run and became the only player ever to have 400 home runs and 400 stolen bases, and received his eighth Golden Glove award.¹ Despite Bonds' accomplishments, he was overshadowed that season by the home run slugfest between the Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire of the Oakland A's. McGwire finished the 1998 season with a new record 70 home runs.² Bonds, feeling jealous,³ broke McGwire's record in 2001 with 73 single-season home runs. In August 2007, Bonds hit his 756th home run in his home ballpark, breaking the all-time home run record previously held by Hank Aaron.⁴ His accomplishments were a triumph for him as a player, and for all of the MLB.

However, allegations of steroid use tainted Bonds' records; his record-breaking ball was purchased at auction then sent to the Baseball Hall of Fame with an asterisk on it,⁵ representing the lingering questions surrounding the underlying reasons for Bonds' athletic prowess, as well as those of many other elite athletes. Ultimately, Bonds' triumphant breaking of a long-standing home run record, as well as a season home run record, were overshadowed by the tragedy of steroid use allegations and criminal investigations. One organization, Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative ("BALCO"), connected Bonds and many of these other athletes.

¹ "Barry Bonds Returns to Hall of Fame Ballot," *Baseball Hall of Fame*, <<https://baseballhall.org/hof/2015-bbwaa-ballot/bonds-barry>> (Accessed 14 April 2019)

² "Mark McGwire," *Baseball Reference*, <<https://www.baseball-reference.com/players/m/mcgwima01.shtml>> (Accessed 15 April 2019)

³ Mark Fainaru-Wada. "Game of Shadows." New York, NY. Gotham Books, 2006.

⁴ "Barry Bonds," *Wikipedia* 2019, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_Bonds> (Accessed 25 February 2019)

⁵ Mark Fainaru-Wada. "Game of Shadows." New York, NY. Gotham Books, 2006.

BALCO's Beginnings

In 1984, Victor Conte, Jr., a lifelong music enthusiast,⁶ decided to switch career paths. After quitting his band, *Tower of Power*, the newlywed's ambitions turned to vitamin supplements. Conte opened his first business, Millbrae Holistic, a vitamin shop located in northern California. Millbrae Holistic, a frantic effort to keep food on the table, closed about a year later. The shop was rebranded as BALCO, a sports medicine company flaunting its ability to personalize anyone's athletic regime through blood tests and medical analysis. Conte began to fine-tune his knowledge of medicine. Although largely self-taught, Conte's method was devised to perfectly balance the minerals in an athlete's bloodstream, thus improving their performance dramatically.

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The company saw a slow start, as Conte recovered from his recent divorce and years of financial hardships. It wasn't until 1996, when prominent National Football League linebacker Bill Romanowski became a client, that Conte began his road to professional success. Conte began to attract more high-profile athletes, and prescribed them a regime of relatively undetectable drugs, manufactured by a chemist from Illinois, Patrick Arnold,⁸ and then distributed by a hard-core personal trainer, Greg Anderson.⁹

⁶ Conte played in upwards of four bands after dropping out of college. Most of these bands were heavy metal or rock bands. Conte usually played bass, but he sometimes sung vocals. "Victor Conte," *Wikipedia* 2019, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victor_Conte> (Accessed 19 February 2019)

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Arnold, a man with a bachelor's degree in chemistry, and a passion for all things weightlifting, engineered the drugs for BALCO. "Patrick Arnold," *Wikipedia* 2018, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Arnold> (Accessed 23 February 2019)

⁹ Anderson, a personal trainer of the intense sort, ran a gym near the BALCO headquarters, and was largely responsible for distributing the steroids to the athletes. He also trained and monitored many of them at his gym after he prescribed the steroids. "Greg Anderson," *Wikipedia* 2018, <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greg_Anderson_\(trainer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greg_Anderson_(trainer))> (Accessed 23 February 2019)

Barry Bonds' Baseball Triumph

It was his fourteenth season playing America's favorite pastime, Major League Baseball. Bonds had just hit a whopping 49 season home runs. At age 36, he was nearing the obvious end of his lengthy career, and the upcoming 2001 season was the last year he was guaranteed a contract with the Giants franchise. The aging player needed a great season, and he knew how to achieve it: Greg Anderson.¹⁰

Anderson and Bonds were friends from childhood.¹¹ The two had done a mediocre job of keeping in contact, but in 1998, they reconnected. Anderson began training Bonds, and shortly after, Bonds hired Anderson to replace his current workout supervisor, Raymond Farris.¹²

In the 2000 offseason, Bonds worked closely with BALCO under Anderson's guidance, with remarkable results. Bonds returned for his 2001 preseason weighing 230 pounds and standing 6' 2", the same measurements as most NFL linebackers.¹³

During the 2001 season, Bonds broke McGwire's single-season home run record with 73. "He's doing things he's not supposed to do at 37 years old,"¹⁴ stated his teammate, Shawon Dunston.

¹⁰ Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

¹¹ The fact that Bonds and Anderson stayed loyal to each other even throughout the scandal is somewhat surprising. It might have had something to do with them being childhood friends, but that bond doesn't necessarily explain allegedly corroborating lies to a grand jury.

¹² "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

¹³ Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

He was resigned by the Giants with a five-year, \$90,000,000 contract, unheard of for any player over 35. During the same season, Giants' games drew over 3.3 million fans. They came to watch Bonds hit, and left the game as soon as his last at-bat ended. Bonds was great for MLB: when the Giants visited other ballparks, attendance spiked.¹⁵

Bonds was a baseball sensation. He went on to hit 46 home runs throughout his 2002 season, a significant decrease, but still impressive.¹⁶

The Regulation of PEDs in High-Caliber Athletics

In 1988, Ben Johnson¹⁷, a Canadian¹⁸ sprinter, was stripped of his Olympic gold medal after he was caught using stantonozol, a performance enhancing drug ("PED"). He was suspended from any competition for two years, even though he argued his herbal medicine drinks had been spiked.¹⁹ After returning to competition, in 1993 he was banned for life after testing positive for various PEDs again.²⁰

¹⁵ Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

¹⁶ "Barry Bonds," *Baseball Reference*, <<https://www.baseball-reference.com/players/b/bondsba01.shtml>> (Accessed 2 March 2019)

¹⁷ "Ben Johnson (sprinter)," *Wikipedia* 2018, <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Johnson_\(sprinter\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Johnson_(sprinter))> (Accessed 22 November 2018)

¹⁸ In the 1990s, Canada was showing a lot of promise in sprinting. David Ebener, "Canada's Fastest Man Hopes to put Canadian Sprinting Back in the Spotlight," *The Globe and Mail* 2015, <<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/sports/more-sports/de-grasse-hopes-to-put-canadian-sprinting-back-in-the-fast-lane/article25214436/>> (Accessed 22 November 2018)

¹⁹ He argued that his supplement drinks had been spiked; he said that the steroid for which he was tested positive he wouldn't take, since it made his body "feel tight." In this same explanation, he stated that he preferred to take another steroid, and he also admitted to taking steroids since 1981, which undermined his previous arguments. "Ben Johnson: Drug Cheat," *ESPN*, <<http://en.espn.co.uk/onthisday/sport/story/283.html>> (Accessed 22 November 2018)

²⁰ "History of Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sports," *ProCon* 2013, <<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/view.timeline.php?timelineID=000017>> (Accessed 22 November 2018)

Also in 1988, President Ronald Reagan²¹ signed an Act outlawing the sale of steroids not for medical use.²² Titled the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988,²³ the legislation prevented the legal sale of non-medical steroids, and instated criminal punishment for any sale of steroids to minors, or sales 100 feet from school grounds. The Act was another piece in Reagan's famous "War on Drugs."²⁴

In June 1991, the Commissioner of Major League Baseball²⁵, Fay Vincent, drafted a seven page memo²⁶ which was sent to every MLB team. The letter outlined a new, previously unwritten rule: that no MLB player could use or sell any illegal substances, including steroids and PEDs. This memo wasn't made public, and routine drug tests were never put in place, which made for an easy excuse for several future steroid users. Vincent later regretted his vague and non-publicised statement, saying, "We could have done a lot more lecturing, lobbying, and educating. But I didn't know anything about steroids."²⁷

²¹ 40th President of the United States, a Republican. Reagan was well-known for his tough stance on drugs, formally titled the "War on Drugs."

²² Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (Pub.L. 100-690, 102 Stat. 4181, enacted November 18, 1988, H.R. 5210)

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ "History of Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sports," *ProCon* 2013, <<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/view.timeline.php?timelineID=000017>> (Accessed 22 November 2018)

²⁵ An MLB Commissioner is basically the boss of the sport. The Commissioner gets to determine contracts, rules, television broadcasting, etc.

²⁶ Fay Vincent, "Major League Baseball's Drug Policy," *Office of the Commissioner* 1991, <<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/sourcefiles/VincentMemo.pdf>> (Accessed 23 January 2019)

²⁷ "History of Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sports," *ProCon* 2013, <<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/view.timeline.php?timelineID=000017>> (Accessed 22 November 2018)

Around six years later, another memo²⁸ was issued by the new MLB Commissioner, Bud Selig.²⁹ Selig's memo was practically identical to Vincent's,³⁰ and was largely ignored. When ESPN spoke to five baseball managers in 1997, none of them could recall any type of steroid policy.³¹

In October 2000, the United States Anti Doping Association³² was created. Its primary job was to test all US Olympic athletes for any PEDs before they went to the Olympics. Suggested by the US Olympic Committee, the organization's main purpose was to keep the US out of international upsets or scandals relating to doping.³³

On May 28 2002, former MLB player Ken Caminiti³⁴ was interviewed by *Sports Illustrated*, stating he estimated almost half the MLB players used steroids.³⁵ He also admitted to using steroids during the year he won National League MVP.³⁶ He later admitted to using cocaine during his career.³⁷ Caminiti died in 2004, with drugs listed as a factor in his death.³⁸

²⁸ Bud Selig, "Major League Baseball's Drug Policy," *Office of the Commissioner* 1997, <<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/sourcefiles/SeligMemo.pdf>> (Accessed 23 January 2019)

²⁹ Selig stood as the Commissioner from 1992 to 2015.

³⁰ Selig's memo was practically an exact copy of Vincent's from years earlier.

³¹ Tom Farrey, "The Memos: A Ban Ignored," *ESPN the Magazine*, Nov. 2005, <<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/view.source.php?sourceID=007297>> (Accessed 23 January 2019)

³² The USADA is still an active organization, encouraging young Olympic hopefuls to stay off steroids and performance enhancing drugs, so they can achieve their dreams in a sportsmanlike way.

³³ "United States Anti-Doping Agency Fact Sheet," USADA, March 2001, <www.usantidoping.org> (Accessed 23 January 2019)

³⁴ Caminiti was a notable baseball player, particularly in his 1996 season for the San Diego Padres, where he won National League MVP.

³⁵ "Caminiti Comes Clean," *Sports Illustrated* 28 May 2002.

³⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁸ "History of Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sports," *ProCon* 2013, <<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/view.timeline.php?timelineID=000017>> (Accessed 22 November 2018)

Following this, steroid testing was written into MLB player contracts³⁹ in August 2002. The players' union threatened a strike, but an agreement was reached. All steroid tests would be conducted anonymously, and every player on an MLB team's forty-man roster would be tested. This ended up being more of a way to gauge how many players were using steroids, rather than catching actual players using PEDs.⁴⁰

It wasn't until early 2005 that MLB banned steroids.⁴¹ Under the new plan, an athlete could test positive for steroids as many as four times before they would face a one-year suspension. The plan also allowed an option for a player to pay fines instead of serving the ban. In comparison, the Olympics banned athletes for two years after being shown to have used PEDs once. MLB's new policy was called "a joke" by fans and media alike. In response, MLB toughened its penalties in November 2005, with a third positive test leading to lifetime suspension. This policy followed baseball's "three strikes, you're out" rule, promoting more honest and authentic gameplay.⁴²

BALCO and Bonds: Investigation of a Tragedy

Starting the 2002 season, questions circled Bonds and steroid use.⁴³ When asked whether he previously took steroids, he said, "You can test me and solve that problem real quick. To me, in baseball it really doesn't matter what you do; you still have to hit that baseball. If you're

³⁹ Although there was a push from the higher offices of the MLB to incorporate a drug ban into the contracts, this didn't occur until about 2015 when realistic and harsh penalties for positive, non-anonymous drug tests were actually written into signed contracts. Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ "Doping in Baseball," *Wikipedia* 3 February 2019, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doping_in_baseball> (Accessed 15 February 2019)

⁴² "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

⁴³ These questions mainly came from fans and ESPN reporters, not from the MLB.

incapable of hitting it, it doesn't matter what you take. You have to have eye-hand coordination to be able to produce. I think [steroid use] is really irrelevant to the game of baseball."⁴⁴

BALCO, while in business, used an undetectable "designer steroid"⁴⁵ created by Patrick Arnold. The steroid (later named tetrahydrogestrinone) went completely unnoticed during even Olympic-level competition. The drug made Conte famous among athletes looking for the latest competitive edge. Following an anonymous tip alerting the Anti-Doping Agency, reverse engineering was used to make a successful test for the drug. Many athletes across several sports tested positive for the drug, including five Oakland Raiders football players.⁴⁶

On September 3, 2003, federal investigators raided BALCO's headquarters. BALCO was suspected of dealing steroids to several professional athletes.⁴⁷ Hundreds of documents were seized, some allegedly including information on Bonds' steroid regimen and past purchases.⁴⁸ Shortly after, Anderson's apartment was raided, with investigators seizing documents containing athletes' medication schedules plus \$60,000 in cash.⁴⁹

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Designer steroids are created by certain chemists, in this case Arnold. The creation of these steroids requires enough knowledge of chemical compounds, as well as previously identified steroid tests, in order to create a new steroid to produce the same results as its chemical counterpart, but instead be completely undetectable. Kazlauskas, "Designer Steroids," *pubmed.gov*, <<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20020364>> (Accessed 5 March 2019)

⁴⁶ Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

⁴⁷ A list can be found in the following article. Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

About a month later, a grand jury began investigating BALCO. Many high-profile athletes were asked to testify. Although several athletes admitted to knowing they were taking steroids, Bonds told a much different story, saying he received supplements during his 2001 season, but he was told that they were flaxseed oil and arthritis cream.⁵⁰ When testifying to the jury, Bonds denied ever paying Anderson for steroids or supplements, and instead characterized the \$15,000 he'd paid as his weight training fees. Bonds also recalled a time when he asked Anderson to test him for steroids, since at the time he lacked trust in the MLB. According to Bonds, Anderson told him he tested negative for steroids.⁵¹

By February 2004, BALCO operatives, including Conte and Anderson, were facing a 42-count indictment. Five days after the indictment, Anderson admitted giving steroids to several athletes. Bonds continued to deny steroid use, saying he was offered steroids, but didn't take them.⁵²

As the BALCO investigation continued, reports of a tape recording surfaced, allegedly including Anderson boasting about Bonds taking an undetectable steroid. Concurrently, the VP of BALCO, James Valente, claimed Bonds had used steroids.⁵³ The people who had once

⁵⁰ This refers to the testosterone boosting lotion and tetrahydrogestrinone, which was ingested orally. Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

⁵³ This allegation made Anderson in particular quite mad. The fact that Anderson chose loyalty to a client over loyalty to his former business partner is another example of how Anderson and Bonds cooperated with each other over the grand jury. Ibid.

supplied a vast amount of steroids to athletes began to lash out at their former partners during trial. More athletes began to admit to taking BALCO's steroids.⁵⁴

Bonds eventually testified he remembered receiving rubbing cream and pills from Anderson, but denied he knew it was steroids. However, Bonds' former girlfriend, Kimberly Bell, testified Bonds admitted in 1999 his elbow injury was caused by steroids. Because of Bell's testimony, investigators began to look into whether Bonds had previously lied to the grand jury, as well as possible financial crimes. Bonds, still under investigation, continued to work out under Anderson's supervision.⁵⁵

Ultimately, both Conte and Anderson pled guilty to distributing steroids and money laundering. Valente pled guilty to one count of steroid distribution. Conte was sentenced to four months in prison, and Anderson to three months. Valente received three years' probation.⁵⁶

Bonds later admitted that he first tried steroids in 1997, called androstenedione. However, he never admitted to taking steroids during his 2001 season.⁵⁷

⁵⁴ "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

⁵⁶ Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*

On March 23, 2006, a book detailing Bonds' steroid case was released.⁵⁸ The authors of "Game of Shadows" were ordered by Bonds' lawyer to turn over any profit made. The request was filed the same day as the book's release, and was denied not even two days later.⁵⁹

Despite Bonds' denials, on March 29, 2006, Commissioner Selig opened a private investigation into MLB steroid use, appointing George J. Mitchell⁶⁰ to serve as its head. This came as a surprise to many baseball fans, since the Commissioner had said earlier he would "do what's best for the sport," giving little indication about his stance on steroid use.⁶¹

The jury continued investigating the perjury case surrounding Bonds' previous testimonies.⁶² Bonds' personal surgeon, Dr. Arthur Ting, was asked if Bonds committed perjury when he testified he had never taken steroids. The Giants' trainer, Stan Conte, was subpoenaed as well. Lastly, Anderson and Valente were called to testify.⁶³

Despite this turmoil, Bonds' baseball triumphs continued. On August 7, 2007, Bonds surpassed the all-time home run record, with a total of 762 home runs.⁶⁴ Bonds had also failed a drug test during the 2006 season. He tested positive for amphetamines, which he said he took from a

⁵⁸ Yes, I read the book.

⁵⁹ "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

⁶⁰ Former Senator, member of Boston Red Sox's board, and Disney chairman.

⁶¹ "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

⁶² The fact that the grand jury called most of the BALCO higher-ups back, as well as some people from the Giants staff is odd. The grand jury ended up spending almost four years just investigating Bonds in general, trying to convict him of nearly anything. Ibid.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

locker of his teammate, Mark Sweeney. Bonds would later deny that he took steroids from Sweeney's locker.⁶⁵

'Roids and Records: Triumphs Tainted by Tragedy

Because of the steroid use allegations, Bonds' records would go on to be questioned and debated. The MLB, however, recognizes both his season home run record and his all-time home run record as legitimate. His 762nd home run ball was branded with an asterisk by fashion designer Marc Ecko, who purchased the memento at auction to create a social statement of sorts. Upon learning of this, Bonds responded, "There's no such thing as an asterisk in baseball." The "asterisk ball" is now displayed at the MLB Hall of Fame.⁶⁶

The culture of baseball was greatly affected by these triumphs cloaked in tragedy. Fan debate continues, with most fans skeptical about how much, if at all, Bonds' actual abilities were enhanced with PEDs.⁶⁷ There is no doubt, however, that Bonds drew in record MLB crowds during his compelling 2001 season. Bonds brought in more revenue for the MLB, regardless of the legitimacy of his records.⁶⁸

⁶⁵ Ibid.

⁶⁶ "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

⁶⁷ Tom Verducci, "Bonds: 10 Years after 756th, a Reminder of What Bonds' Record Really Means," *Sports Illustrated* 2017, <<https://www.si.com/mlb/2017/08/07/barry-bonds-756-home-runs-10-years-asterisk>> (Accessed 6 March 2019)

⁶⁸ Ibid.

Finally, questions surround the multiple investigations into Bonds' steroid use and perjury.⁶⁹ Why was Bonds investigated so closely, unlike the hundreds of other steroid users in the MLB? Was it perhaps because he was black, or maybe because Selig wanted so desperately to pin the baseball steroid epidemic on one player to minimize its impacts on the sport as a whole? Whatever it was, Bonds ended up as the "posterboy" for doping in baseball. Though his triumphant career generated multiple records that remain unbroken, Bonds himself is forever tainted by the tragedy of alleged PED use. Baseball, too, enjoyed the revenue Bonds brought in while effectively ignoring rampant drug use. It wasn't until this hypocrisy was exposed that the MLB put into place more effective anti-steroid policies.⁷⁰

Bonds was a prime example of how the public reacts to athletes using steroids. He was able to break the home run record, but at what cost? Most MLB fans will call his record "illegitimate" or "fake," however, he's still formally recognised as the home run record holder.⁷¹ Bonds opened the gateway for MLB to ban steroids, since the organization realized the poor reaction of baseball fans after he beat the record. The lingering questions of illegitimacy still stain the MLB organization's credibility, as well as that of other players. Over a decade later, whenever a player comes close to beating Bonds' season home run record, the question arises: is he on steroids, too?

⁶⁹ Mitchell, George, "Report to the Commissioner of Baseball of an Independent Investigation into the Illegal Use of Steroids and Other Performance Enhancing Substances by Players in Major League Baseball." *MLB*, 13 December 2007, <<http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/news/mitchell/index.jsp>> (Accessed 15 April 2019)

⁷⁰ Mark Fainaru-Wada, Lance Williams, Chronicle Staff Writers, "SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports," *SFGATE* 21 December 2003, <<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>> (Accessed 10 February 2019)

⁷¹ "Barry Bonds Returns to Hall of Fame Ballot," *Baseball Hall of Fame*, <<https://baseballhall.org/hof/2015-bbwaa-ballot/bonds-barry>> (Accessed 14 April 2019)

In late 2007, the jury convicted Bonds on four counts of perjury, and one count of obstruction of justice.⁷² He was accused of lying about his knowledge of steroids Anderson was allegedly giving him, and of lying about never taking steroids. Anderson refused to testify against Bonds. The perjury charges were eventually reversed, and Bonds was convicted on one count of obstruction of justice.⁷³ He served no sentence.*

⁷² "Barry Bonds Perjury Case," *Wikipedia* 2019, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_Bonds_perjury_case#Sentencing> (Accessed 2 March 2019)

⁷³ "Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline," *ESPN* 7 December 2007, <<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>> (Accessed 4 February 2019)

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- *Annotation:* This was one of the first legal acts put in place to attempt to make steroid sales illegal. It pins BALCO as potentially violating the law for distributing steroids.

Barry Bonds. Baseball Reference,

<<https://www.baseball-reference.com/players/b/bondsba01.shtml>>

Accessed 2 March 2019

- *Annotation:* This contains the stats of all the seasons Bonds played. It's important to note the spike in home runs from the 2000 season to the 2001 season, in particular.

Caminiti Comes Clean. Sports Illustrated, 28 May 2002, <www.si.com>

Accessed 13 February 2019

- *Annotation:* This was an interview done by *Sports Illustrated*. It was originally in an article, but the paper only requires the information from the transcription of the interview. This features a long-time baseball athlete stating that more than half of MLB players use steroids.

Mitchell, George. *Report to the Commissioner of Baseball of an Independent Investigation into the Illegal Use of Steroids and Other Performance Enhancing Substances by Players in Major League Baseball*. MLB, 13 December 2007, <<http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/news/mitchell/index.jsp>>

Accessed 15 April 2019

- *Annotation:* This is the original copy of the Mitchell Report in a PDF format. The Mitchell Report was the report published by the special investigator hired to investigate Bonds, as well as drug use in the MLB in general.

Selig, Bud. *Major League Baseball's Drug Policy*. Office of the Commissioner 1997,

<<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/sourcefiles/SeligMemo.pdf>>

Accessed 23 January 2019

- *Annotation:* This was the second of two practically identical memos exchanged between the Commissioners of the MLB and the staff of the League. The memo states that the use of steroids and other PEDs wasn't allowed in the MLB. This memo was largely ignored by the MLB at the time.

Vincent, Fay. *Major League Baseball's Drug Policy*. Office of the Commissioner 1991,

<<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/sourcefiles/VincentMemo.pdf>>

Accessed 23 January 2019

- *Annotation:* This was the first of two practically identical memos exchanged between the Commissioners of the MLB and the staff of the League (see previous annotation). The memo was largely ignored by the MLB at the time.

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- *Annotation*: This article contains background knowledge and specific dates related to Barry Bonds. This relates because Bonds is one of the main focuses.

Barry Bonds Perjury Case. Wikipedia 2019,

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barry_Bonds_perjury_case#Sentencing>

Accessed 2 March 2019

- *Annotation*: This article contains information on the charges and verdicts of one of the later cases that sprung from a grand jury trial. This centers around Bonds and the steroid use and perjury charges that were leveled upon him.

Barry Bonds Returns to Hall of Fame Ballot. Baseball Hall of Fame,

<<https://baseballhall.org/hof/2015-bbwaa-ballot/bonds-barry>>

Accessed 14 April 2019

- *Annotation*: This gives basic information about Bonds as a person, and his career in general. Bonds had a lengthy career, with lots of stats.

Barry Bonds Steroids Timeline. ESPN 7 December 2007,

<<http://www.espn.com/mlb/news/story?id=3113127>>

Accessed 4 February 2019

- *Annotation*: This article contains specific dates pertaining to both Bonds and BALCO. This gives an exact timeline of when the events happened.

Ben Johnson: Drug Cheat. ESPN, <<http://en.espn.co.uk/onthisday/sport/story/283.html>>

Accessed 22 November 2018

- *Annotation:* This article talks about Ben Johnson, a Canadian sprinter, who used PEDs and lied about it prior to Bonds' alleged steroid use. This gives a sense of how people reacted to steroid use before Bonds' case.

Ben Johnson (sprinter). Wikipedia 2018, <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Johnson_\(sprinter\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Johnson_(sprinter))>

Accessed 22 November 2018

- *Annotation:* This article explains background information, as well as specific dates pertaining to Ben Johnson. Ben Johnson was a record breaking athlete who used steroids before Bonds.

Doping in Baseball. Wikipedia 3 February 2019,
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doping_in_baseball>

Accessed 15 February 2019

- *Annotation:* This article gives a brief history of drug use in the MLB. This pertains to alleged steroid use in baseball.

Ebener, David. *Canada's Fastest Man Hopes to put Canadian Sprinting Back in the Spotlight.*

The Globe and Mail 2015,

<<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/sports/more-sports/de-grasse-hopes-to-put-canadian-sprinting-back-in-the-fast-lane/article25214436/>>

Accessed 22 November 2018

- *Annotation:* This article explains the records that were broken by Ben Johnson. This explains records broken by an alleged steroid user.

Fainaru-Wada, Mark. *Game of Shadows.* New York, NY. Gotham Books, 2006.

- *Annotation:* This book explains, in detail, the scandal created by the relationship between BALCO and Bonds. This connects BALCO to Bonds' steroid use. Additionally, the book's author was almost prosecuted by the same grand jury that was investigating Bonds.

Fainaru-Wada, Mark. Williams, Lance. Chronicle Staff Writers. *SPORTS AND DRUGS / How the doping scandal unfolded / Fallout from BALCO probe could taint Olympics, pro sports.*

SFGATE 21 December 2003,

<<https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/SPORTS-AND-DRUGS-How-the-doping-scandal-2545661.php>>

Accessed 10 February 2019

- *Annotation:* This article gives a timeline and analysis into the BALCO scandal specifically, but also Bonds, too. This explains the BALCO scandal more in depth.

Farrey, Tom. *The Memos: A Ban Ignored*. ESPN the Magazine, Nov. 2005,
<<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/view.source.php?sourceID=007297>>

Accessed 23 January 2019

- *Annotation:* This article gives insight into the fact that the two anti-steroid memos written by MLB Commissioners Selig and Fay were overlooked by the rest of the MLB. This relates because the letters explicitly stated that no MLB player should be using steroids or PEDs; however some did anyway.

Greg Anderson. Wikipedia 2018, <[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greg_Anderson_\(trainer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greg_Anderson_(trainer))>

Accessed 23 Feb. 2019

- *Annotation:* This article has a brief summary of Greg Anderson and who he was before and after BALCO. Anderson was the physical trainer and childhood friend of Bonds, but more notably, he was sentenced to jail time following the grand jury investigation.

History of Performance Enhancing Drugs in Sports. ProCon 2013,

<<https://sportsanddrugs.procon.org/view.timeline.php?timelineID=000017>>

Accessed 22 November 2018

- *Annotation:* This article gives a timeline of drug use by professional athletes. This helps compare Bonds' situation to other previous cases.

Kakutani, Michiko. *Barry Bonds and Baseball's Steroids Scandal*. NY Times, Mar. 2006,
<<https://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/23/books/barry-bonds-and-baseballs-steroids-scandal.html>.
> Accessed 11 Nov. 2018.

- *Annotation:* This article gives more of a summary of the Bonds-centered portion of the BALCO scandal. BALCO and Bonds are the two main focal points of the paper.

Kazlauskas. *Designer Steroids*. pubmed.gov,
<<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20020364>>

Accessed 5 March 2019

- *Annotation:* This article provides an in-depth look into how designer steroids are made and what they are in general. BALCO's chemist, Arnold, created a special, previously undetectable, designer steroid.

Mark McGwire. Baseball Reference,
<<https://www.baseball-reference.com/players/m/mcgwima01.shtml>>

Accessed 15 April 2019

- *Annotation:* This gives basic information on Mark McGwire, another MLB player who allegedly used steroids, and also held the season home run record. A spike in performance, similar to Bonds' is shown in McGwire's stats.

Mark McGwire. Wikipedia, 2019, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_McGwire>

Accessed 25 Feb. 2019

- *Annotation:* This article gives an overview of Mark McGuire and his alleged steroid use. McGuire is a previous example of alleged steroid use in the MLB.

Patrick Arnold. Wikipedia, 2018, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Arnold>

Accessed 25 Feb. 2019

- *Annotation*: This article talks about Patrick Arnold, the chemist that created BALCO's designer steroid. Arnold created an undetectable steroid used in many of BALCO's athletes.

Verducci, Tom. *Bonds: 10 Years after 756th, a Reminder of What Bonds' Record Really Means*.

Sports Illustrated 2017,

<<https://www.si.com/mlb/2017/08/07/barry-bonds-756-home-runs-10-years-asterisk>> Accessed

6 March 2019

- *Annotation*: This article explains how Bonds impacted pro sports and the MLB after a decade. Bonds and BALCO are famous in the MLB for supposedly disgracing baseball and pro sports in general.

Victor Conte. Wikipedia, 2019, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victor_Conte>

Accessed 19 Feb. 2019

- *Annotation*: This article gives a brief description of Conte's past occupations before he ran BALCO. Conte ended up running BALCO and serving the most jail time out of all the BALCO affiliates, and it provides good information about how he became a BALCO principal.

United States Anti-Doping Agency Fact Sheet. USADA, March 2001, <www.usantidoping.org>

Accessed 23 January 2019

- *Annotation:* This article explains more of what the USADA actually does to prevent steroid use in America and by American athletes. BALCO distributed steroids to professional athletes on American soil, creating a need for more legislation around the use of PEDs in professional sports.