

Hammering Hank

Although baseball is not one of my top sports attractions, it is a compelling game. My interest mounts at playoff time. Since Atlanta has the nearest professional franchise, I am a fan of the Braves. One player, in particular, I have always admired is Hank Aaron.

Aaron never led major league baseball in batting average or home runs during any single season. He struck out more often than almost any other batter. When it came to sheer persistence and overall consistency, however, he was unmatched. He broke Babe Ruth's monumental record of 713 career home runs, and kept right on batting balls out of the park. It wasn't until the season of 2007 when his final total of 755 was exceeded by Barry Bonds.

No matter what kind of job you may hold, persistence and consistency will help you build a solid reputation as a person who can be counted on to deliver the goods. Consistency, by its nature, isn't something that gets noticed immediately, and it's not always easy to remain focused in today's constantly shifting work environments. But over time, persistence and consistency emerge and shine.

You may see some flash-in-the-pan types grabbing all the attention, but keep hammering away, just as Hank Aaron did. When such "all-about-me" folks are gone and forgotten, you will be remembered – and valued.

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us (Hebrews 12:1).

--Beecher Hunter