



Gaylord Perry

Rule 8.02 of the *Official Baseball Rules* specifically prohibits a pitcher from either defacing the baseball or applying any foreign substance to it. Section E states that "the umpire shall be the sole judge on whether any portion of this rule has been violated." In other words, don't get caught. Gaylord Perry openly flaunted this rule for most of his career and was seldom caught.

Although Gaylord took several seasons to learn to control the pitch effectively, he pitched his way into the San Francisco Giants starting rotation in 1964. Gaylord put it all together in 1966 when he won 21 games. Then, in 1968, he pitched a no-hitter against the St. Louis Cardinals. In 1970, Gaylord won 23 games and his brother, Jim, won 24 games for the Twins. They were the first brothers to win 20 games in the same season.

San Francisco traded Gaylord to Cleveland in 1972, and he responded with the best season of his career, winning the Cy Young Award with a sparkling 1.92 ERA and leading the AL with 24 wins. In San Diego in 1978, Gaylord won 21 games for the Padres and his second Cy Young Award. He remains the only major league pitcher to win a Cy Young Award in each league.

Gaylord won his 300th game with Seattle in 1982 and retired after the 1983 season with 314 wins. Gaylord published an entertaining biography, *Me and the Spitter*, in 1974. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1991. Gaylord is now a motivational speaker and entertainer.

Sports Celebrity Marketing S.C.M. Inc.
13332 Tenth Line,
Georgetown, ON L7G4S8 Canada
Phone: 647-221-8405

www.sportscelebs.com