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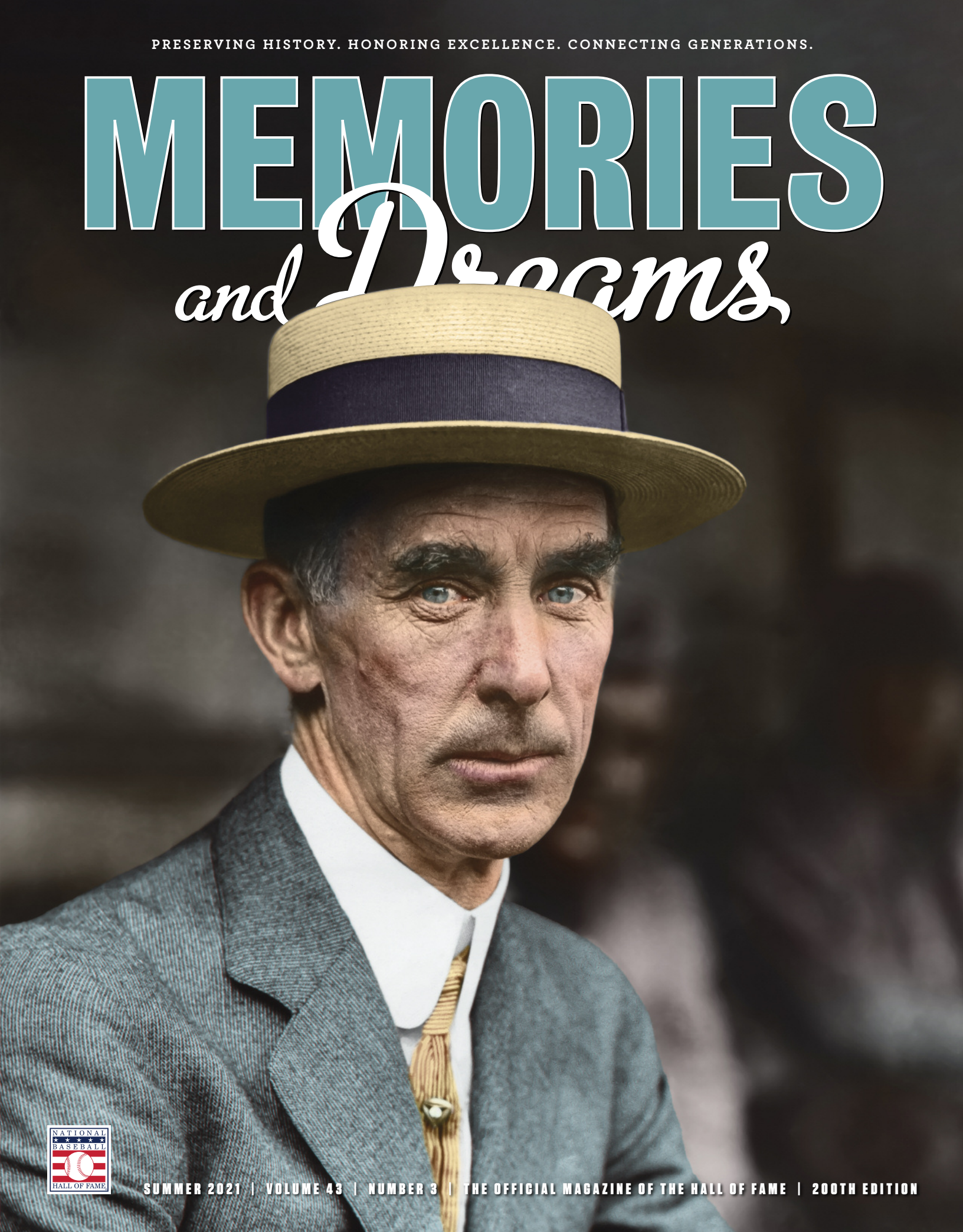
MEMORIES and Dreams



SUMMER 2021 | VOLUME 43 | NUMBER 3 | THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HALL OF FAME | 200TH EDITION

Marvin Miller was the leading voice for the players in the sports labor movement. His contributions to protecting and furthering players' rights continues to benefit generations of professional athletes across all sports.

Marvin's induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame is a well-deserved honor.

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MEMORIES and Dreams

The Official Magazine of the Hall of Fame

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SUMMER 2021 | VOLUME 43 | NUMBER 3


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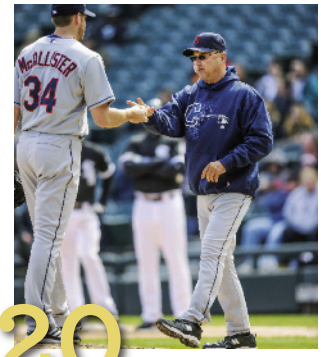
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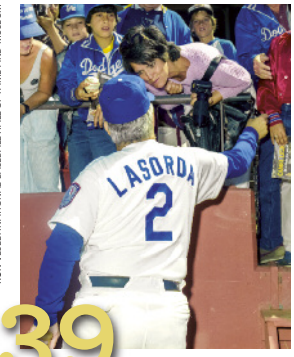
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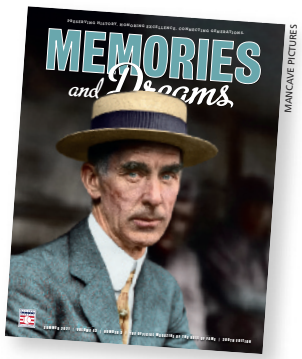

MANCAVE PICTURES

ON THE COVER
Connie Mack managed the Philadelphia A's for 50 seasons, during which time the game and a manager's responsibilities dramatically evolved. This edition of *Memories & Dreams* examines those changes and celebrates the work of managers throughout the decades.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

JANE FORBES CLARK

In 2019, we were very excited to welcome Tim Mead as the new President of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. Deeply respected throughout baseball, Tim brought his 40 years of experience working for the Los Angeles Angels to this institution, and has kept the Museum on the path forged by his predecessor and friend, Jeff Idelson, who retired after 25 years with the Hall of Fame, 11 years as its President.

In mid-April, after two years at the Museum's helm, Tim announced that he was stepping down to return home to his family in California. It was with great regret that the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors accepted his resignation.

I would like to share with you a few words from Tim on why he made this decision:

I have been extremely blessed as a life-long fan of the game to spend four decades serving the organization I grew up admiring, and then have the distinct honor and privilege of assuming the role of President of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. The driving force behind my career in baseball has always been love of the game.

I made the recent leap with every intention of following in the footsteps of my predecessors, in continuing their efforts in maintaining the Hall of Fame as a critical component of the game. Try as I might, even with the unwavering support of my family, these last 22 months have been challenging in maintaining my responsibilities to them.

I want to thank Jane Forbes Clark and the amazing staff in Cooperstown for their dedication and commitment to Preserving History, Honoring Excellence and Connecting Generations. I am confident the fruits of their labor will continue to impact current and future generations in telling the important stories of the wonderful game of baseball.

The Hall of Fame, the game of baseball and the entire world faced many challenges in Tim's two years of leadership at the Hall of Fame. From overseeing the exciting Induction of the Class of 2019 to facing the multitude of challenges of the pandemic, Tim served baseball and this institution with distinction. Throughout all of his efforts, Tim's great affection for the game and its history – and the National Baseball Hall of Fame – always shone through.

On behalf of the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors, we wish Tim and his family all the very best, and share our deepest appreciation to him for the time that he spent with us. We will miss him in Cooperstown!

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

From left, Hall of Fame President Tim Mead, 2019 inductee Mariano Rivera, Chairman of the Board Jane Forbes Clark and MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred at the *Induction Ceremony* in Cooperstown on July 21, 2019.

SHORT HOPS

@BaseballHall

For more information and news from the Hall of Fame, visit baseballhall.org.

New Hall of Fame book captures baseball through the camera's lens

Celebrate baseball like you've never seen it before through a unique photography collection drawn from the archives of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

"Picturing America's Pastime: Historic Photography from the Baseball Hall of Fame Archives" showcases the Museum's unequaled collection of photos from baseball history. Revel in the moments we share at the ballpark, the grand sweep of the stadium, the drama of the game and classic images of baseball greats.

Selected by the historians and curators at the Baseball Hall of Fame, these photographs reveal the rich relationship between photography and the game. Each image is accompanied by an historic quote and a detailed caption, often highlighting little-known information about the photographers and the techniques used.

Featuring a forward by Hall of Famer and accomplished photographer Randy Johnson, "Picturing America's Pastime" is available now at shop.baseballhall.org.

STAFF SELECTIONS

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Name: Liam Delaney
Position: Exhibits technician
Hall of Fame Debut: July 25, 2005
Hometown: West Belfast, Northern Ireland

Favorite Museum Artifact:
P.J. Conlon Mets cap from May 7, 2018. I've been around a lot of artifacts, but I really enjoy the story of this cap. P.J. was born just miles from where I lived in Belfast. A great piece of baseball/Irish history.

Memorable Museum Moment:
I drive a lot of players and Hall of Famers to and from airports when they visit Cooperstown. I've really enjoyed chatting with Hall of Famer Alan Trammell, who is simply a class act.

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS

THANK YOU to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum donors for their recent gifts to support our mission to preserve history, honor excellence and connect generations. Memorial and honorary gifts are listed below.

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MEMBERS MAILBAG

He was truly in a league of his own

The 1992 feature film *A League of Their Own* has won critical acclaim from both baseball enthusiasts and the general public. It takes a whimsical look at how female baseball "filled the void" while the sport's superstars were away fighting World War II.

Left out from the credits – despite having a few lines in the movie – was the umpire for the scrimmage, Chet Collins, shown at the beginning and end of the flick. His line was an "explanation" on why he called a disgruntled batter out on strikes.

Being a college official, I met Mr. Collins in 1987 when I was assigned to umpire a men's doubleheader at Doubleday Field. He was a smallish (5-foot-8), 60-plus man, slightly bent over at the waist but displaying powerful forearms.

His smile upon my acquaintance immediately put me at ease. The two games went well.

In November 1992, he wrote me to say they were filming a movie at Doubleday Field about women in baseball. He was just sitting in the stands minding his own business when Penny Marshall, the director, made an announcement that they needed an umpire for the scrimmage. Chet raised his hand and got the part.

In 2002, he invited me to his house because they were having a special 10th anniversary celebration of the movie at the Hall of Fame. Sitting in the audience, my friend was acknowledged, stood up and waved. I'm 100-percent certain it meant a great deal to him. It's something I will never forget.

Chet passed away a few years later. He was a kind and modest man, a true "gentleman farmer," a good official and a great friend. I still miss him to this day. I feel certain that if there's a ballgame going on in heaven right now, there's a good chance he's umpiring it.

Harvey Sandig, Stamford, N.Y.

MEMORIES and Dreams

200TH EDITION

The volume 43, number 3 edition of *Memories and Dreams* marks the 200th issue of the Museum's flagship publication, although it wasn't always called *Memories and Dreams*. Here is a look at its evolution over the years.

Volume 1, Number 1

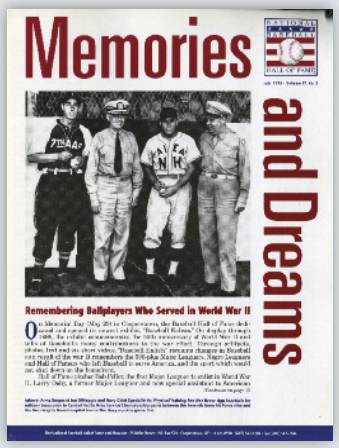
The very first issue was published in April 1979 to coincide with the launch of the Museum's Membership Program. It was 2-color and 4 pages.

Volume 6, Number 4

from October 1984 switched the printing to 3-color, allowing heavier use of photographs.

Volume 12, Number 4

from October 1990 introduced the *Memories and Dreams* title.

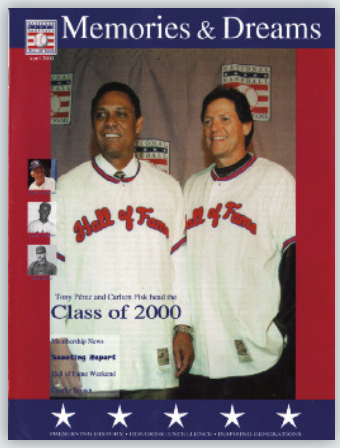


Volume 17, Number 3

from July 1995 introduced a new logo for the Museum and a masthead redesign.

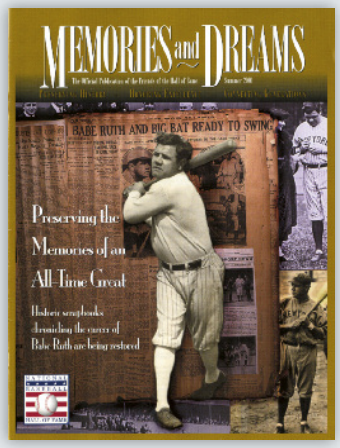
Volume 21, Number 3

from July 1999 is the first full-color issue and saw the expansion from 4 to 8 pages.



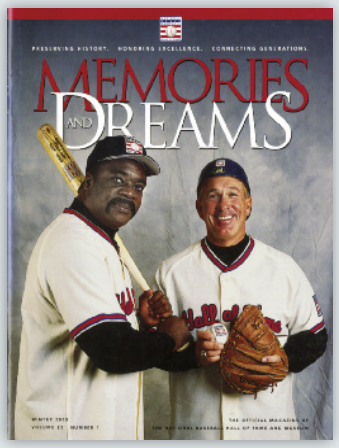
Volume 22, Number 2

from April 2000 was the second issue to include 12 pages. It also featured a new masthead, which would last for just three issues, and it was the first use of a cover photo.



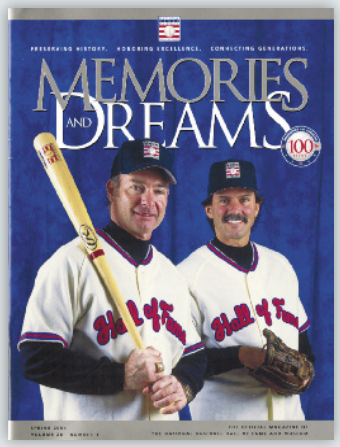
Volume 23, Number 2

from Summer 2001 was the second issue to feature a redesigned masthead and the first issue to boast 16 pages.



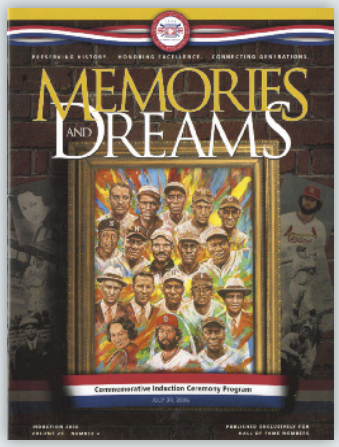
Volume 25, Number 1

from Winter 2003 was the first issue labeled as a magazine, featuring a heavy cover stock that is still in use today. It also marked the expansion to 32 pages plus the cover.



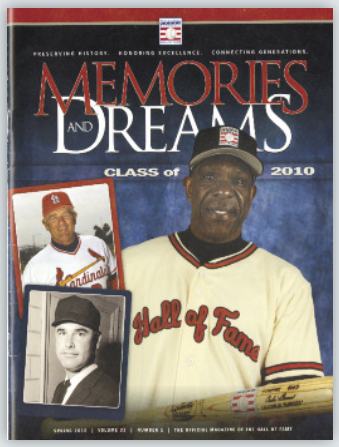
Volume 26, Number 1

from Spring 2004 marked the 100th issue of *Memories and Dreams* and was the first to feature an "Around Cooperstown" photo on the back cover.



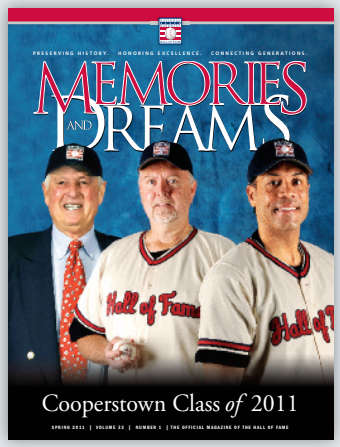
Volume 28, Number 4

from Induction 2006 was the first issue that also served as the *Induction Ceremony* Program. 2006 also marked the increase of *M&D* from being published four times per year to six times annually.



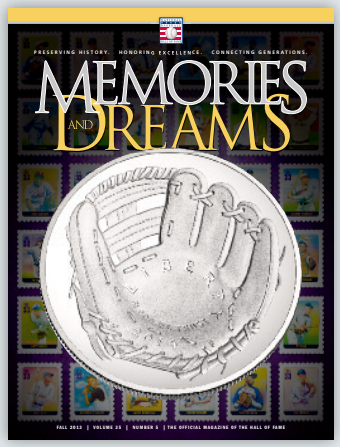
Volume 32, Issue 1

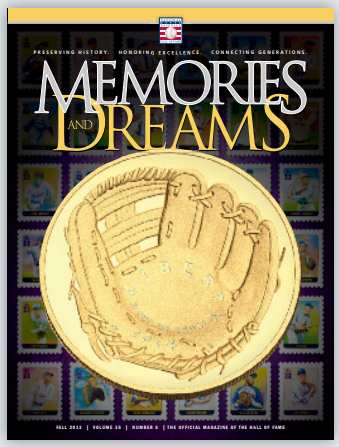
The first issue of *Memories and Dreams* of 2010 included the inaugural Player Card, which featured Hank Aaron.

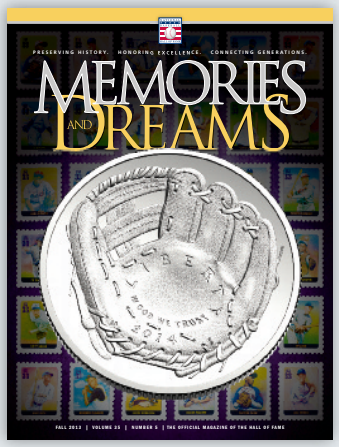


Volume 33, Number 1

from Spring 2011 was the first issue published by our current publisher, H.O. Zimman, Inc. and marked the magazine's expansion to 48 pages plus a cover.

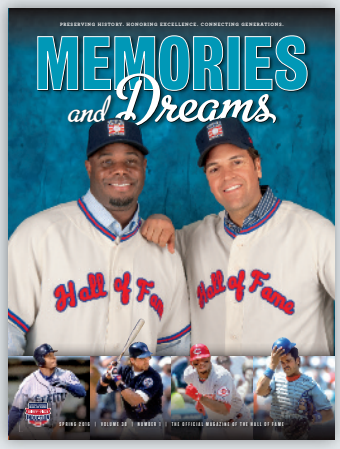






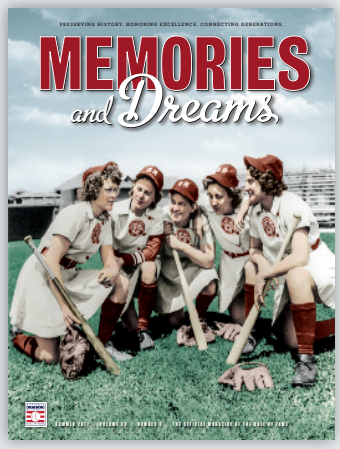
Volume 35, Number 5

from Fall 2013 featured three covers, highlighting the different versions of the Hall of Fame Commemorative Coin – in silver, gold and clad – that would be released in 2014 in honor of the Museum's 75th anniversary.



Volume 38, Number 1

from Spring 2016 featured the first use of the current masthead design.



Volume 39, Number 3

from Summer 2017 was the first cover using a colorized B&W photo from the Library collection.

MACK AND MAC

CONNIE MACK AND JOHN McGRAW SET STANDARDS FOR MANAGERS THAT REMAIN MORE THAN A CENTURY AFTER THEY BEGAN THEIR CAREERS.

BY SCOTT PITONIAK

One was known as the "Tall Tactician," the other as "Little Napoleon." Their nicknames underscored stark contrasts. From physiques to temperaments to choices of baseball attire and strategy, Connie Mack and John McGraw were as different as a slow curve and high heat.

Mack stood a shade under 6-foot-2 and weighed all of 150 pounds. He rarely swore or publicly berated his players or umpires. He believed kindness and civility were more productive than ridicule.

"Humanity is the keystone that holds nations and men together," the longtime Philadelphia Athletics manager once explained. "When that collapses, the whole structure crumbles. This is as true of baseball teams as any other pursuit in life."

After retiring as a player to devote full energies to managing in 1896, Mack eschewed wearing a baseball uniform and cap in the dugout, instead donning a three-piece suit with a starched high-collar, white dress shirt and a straw hat atop his head. It all contributed to his reputation as "the grand old gentleman of baseball."

McGraw, meanwhile, carried a solidly built 155 pounds on his 5-foot-7 frame. Driven to find any competitive edge, including an occasional bending of the rules, he bragged about managing like a czar with absolute power.

"McGraw eats gunpowder every morning for breakfast," said Arlie Latham, who served as one of his coaches on the New York Giants. "And washes it down with warm blood."

McGraw's ire often was directed at umpires, who ejected the pugnacious manager more than 110 times – a record for early departures that stood for nearly eight decades before being broken by Atlanta Braves skipper and future Hall of Famer Bobby Cox in 2007.

Despite their many differences, Mack and McGraw shared some things in common. Sons of Irish immigrants who fought for the Union Army in the Civil War, they both fell in love with the assimilating game of baseball in the late 19th century and went on to enjoy double-digit big league playing careers – Mack as a journeyman catcher, McGraw as a star third baseman. Both were master psychologists, astute judges of talent and innovative, influential strategists.

Over time, these fierce rivals would come to respect one another. Mack gave his foe the ultimate compliment when he said: "There has been only one manager … and his name is McGraw." And, near the end of his career, McGraw paid homage to Mack by ditching his baseball flannels in favor of three-piece suits in the dugout.

In 1937, these polar opposites became the first managers inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. All these decades later, they continue to be standard-bearers. And many of their pioneering tactics – positioning of fielders, use of relief pitchers, aggressive baserunning, reliance on big innings – continue to be employed. Combined, they managed a mind-boggling 86 seasons and 12,524 games, winning 6,494 of them, along with 19 pennants and eight World Series championships.

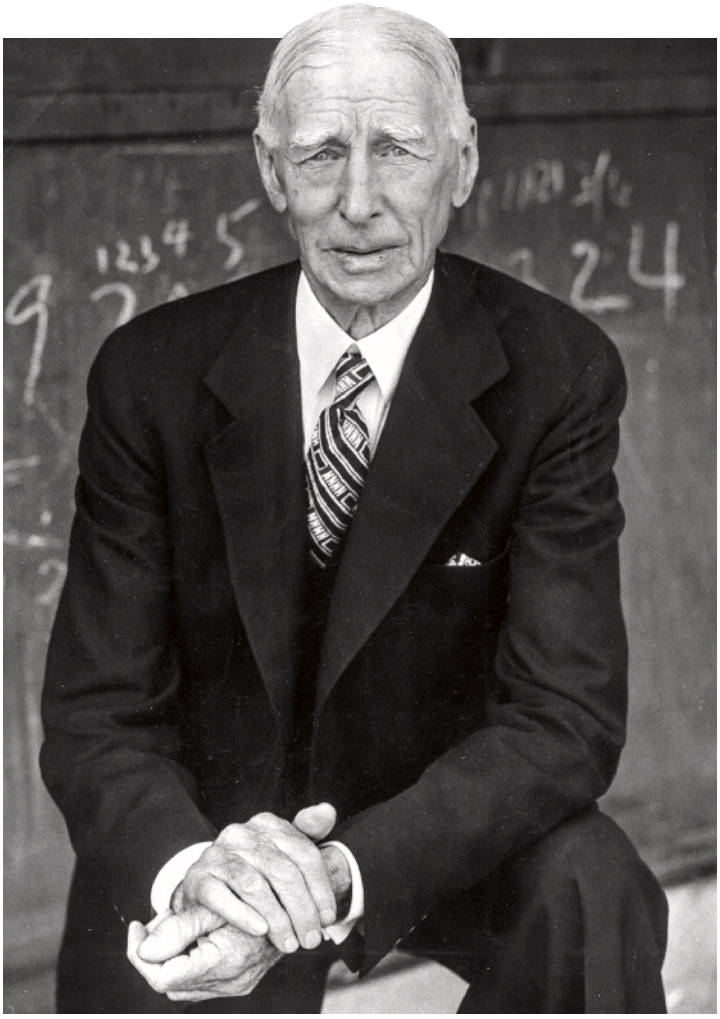
Mack established records for wins (3,731), losses (3,948) and longevity (53 seasons) that likely will never be broken. Though McGraw's tenure was shorter – poor health led to his death at age 60 in 1934 – it still was longer and more successful than most. Hall of Famer Tony La Russa, who recently came out of retirement to manage the Chicago White Sox, is on track to leapfrog McGraw into second place on the all-time wins list this season. But he'd need to go unbeaten for a few seasons to match McGraw's robust .586 career winning percentage. Remarkably, McGraw, also known as "Mugsy" – a moniker he detested – won 10 pennants and finished second 11 times, and endured just two losing seasons in the Big Apple, where he became a highly paid vaudeville performer and a transcendent celebrity.

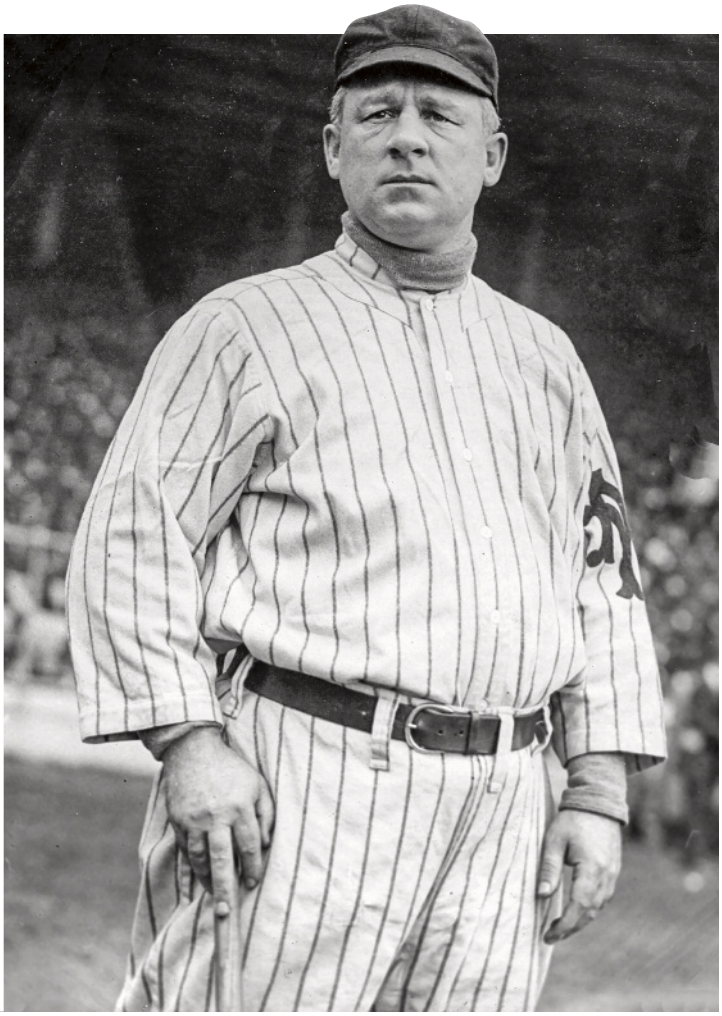
McGraw was first on the all-time wins list when he retired in 1932 (Mack passed him in 1934) and has not been out of the top two all time since surpassing Ned Hanlon's 1,313 wins in 1914.

They set the table for La Russa and the 19 other managers who have followed them into the Hall.

Opposite page: When Connie Mack (left) and John McGraw met as managers of the American and National League All-Star teams, respectively, in Chicago on July 6, 1933, they renewed roles they occupied 20 years earlier when, as pilots of the Philadelphia Athletics and New York Giants, they faced each other in the World Series. Mack's A's won the 1913 Fall Classic in five games.

AP IMAGES





PHOTOS BY NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Connie Mack (left) eschewed uniforms while a manager, preferring shirts with starched collars and three-piece suits. Mack managed the Philadelphia Athletics for 50 seasons. John McGraw (right) led the New York Giants to 10 National League pennants and three World Series titles in 31 seasons as manager.

Cornelius McGillicuddy was born in East Brookfield, Mass., in 1862, six months before the Battle of Gettysburg. Like many 19th-century Irish immigrants whose names began with "Mc," he became known as "Mack," though he never legally changed his surname.

McGraw was born 11 years later in Truxton, N.Y. His father had bounced around after his Civil War service and eventually settled in the dot-on-a-map village 64 miles west of Cooperstown after finding employment as a railroad worker.

Both Mack and McGraw grew up poor, and the still evolving game of baseball became their ticket out. Dubbed "Slats" by his friends, Mack dropped out of school at age 14 to work in a shoe factory. He became the catcher and captain of his town team, and eventually pursued a professional baseball career that saw him spend 11 seasons in the majors.

Though just a .244 lifetime hitter, Mack was a solid defender who led his league in assists three times. He became one of the first catchers to play directly behind home plate instead of setting up by the backstop, and also was one of the first to block the paths of runners attempting to score.

Despite his clean-cut image, Mack was proficient at impeding hitters' bats with his mitt as they were swinging and at distracting them and umpires with irritating chatter.

The young McGraw worked a series of odd jobs to save up enough money to purchase a Spalding baseball, and he eventually developed a powerful throwing arm that landed him a spot on his town team. Unlike Mack, he received his high school diploma, and later would attend St. Bonaventure University, where he coached the baseball team in exchange for tuition.

McGraw experienced one of the worst debuts in professional baseball history, committing eight errors in 10 chances in an 1890 game for Olean's New York-Penn League team. Fortunately, that ignominious start wasn't an omen, as McGraw rebounded to enjoy a fabulous 17-year MLB playing career. One of the stars of the Dead Ball Era, he finished with a .334 career batting average and 436 stolen bases. His .466 on-base percentage trails only Ted Williams and Babe Ruth all time.

Both Mack and McGraw spent the latter years of their playing careers as player/managers and were influenced by their perspectives as players – especially McGraw. Playing for a powerhouse Baltimore Orioles team, he embraced their aggressive approach to the game, forcing the action with stolen bases and innovations such as the hit-and-run, suicide squeeze and the "Baltimore Chop," in which a batter pounded a high-hopper in hopes of beating out an infield hit.

McGraw was known to talk baseball with teammates well into the night, discussing ways to find any new edge possible, including questionable tactics such as slapping the ball out of fielders' gloves and grabbing hold of or tripping baserunners. His power to motivate and his win-at-all-costs attitude were cherished by manager Ned Hanlon during an era of rough-and-tumble baseball.

"Hanlon saw that McGraw's value to the Orioles came less from his

agility than his intensity," wrote baseball author Burt Solomon. "He never gave up, and had contempt for anyone who did. John McGraw could drive his teammates to another level of play."

And he would do the same as a manager, often ruffling feathers along the way.

While McGraw groused that "namby-pamby methods don't get much results," Mack believed you could catch more flies – and grounders and line drives, too – with honey. He built his players up whenever possible and developed a code of conduct for them to follow. The grade-school dropout valued intelligence – "baseball smarts" – and, as historian Bill James noted, Mack "was ahead of his time having numerous college players on his team."

One thing Mack and McGraw had most in common was an eye for talent. They knew how to develop Hall of Fame players and championship teams. And their partial ownership in their respective clubs gave them the power to build without fear of being fired during down times.

No one was ever more synonymous with the team he managed than Mack with the A's, whom he founded in 1901 at the urging of American League president Ban Johnson and managed until 1950, when he was 87 years old. As manager, treasurer and part-owner, his tenure would outlast that of eight U.S. Presidents.

The "Mackmen" were the AL's first juggernaut, winning six of the league's first 14 pennants – including four out of five between 1910 and 1914. Led by pitchers Eddie Plank, Chief Bender and Jack Coombs, and hitters such as Eddie Collins and Home Run Baker, the A's won World Series titles in 1910, 1911 and 1913. But after being swept by the Boston Braves in the 1914 Fall Classic and facing an economic recession and a player bidding war with the new Federal League, Mack sold the cornerstones of his franchise.

The A's immediately plummeted to the AL basement, where they would reside for seven consecutive seasons. They wouldn't recover until the middle of the Roaring Twenties, when Mack built his second powerhouse. From 1929-31, Philadelphia enjoyed one of the greatest three-year runs in history, capturing three pennants and two World Series championships, with future Hall of Famers Al Simmons, Mickey Cochrane, Lefty Grove and Jimmie Foxx leading the way.

But the Great Depression derailed Mack's second dynasty, and he conducted another fire sale that turned Philadelphia into a second-division team once more.

Mack's legacy featured high peaks and deep valleys. In addition to his nine pennants and five Series crowns, his teams would record 17 last-place finishes, including 10 during his final 18 years. Despite the disappointing final chapter, he remained revered.

"He was a new type of manager," *The New York Times* wrote after he died at age 93 in 1956. "The old-time leaders ruled by force, often thrashing players who disobeyed orders on the field or broke club rules off the field. One of the kindest and most soft-spoken of men, he always insisted that he could get better results by kindness."

McGraw would enjoy more sustained success, albeit over a shorter stretch, but received criticism for his World Series failures, with only three titles in nine attempts. (The Giants won a pennant in 1904, but declined playing in the World Series because of McGraw's feud with Johnson, the AL president who once suspended him for 20 games.) McGraw's first championship would come against the "Mackmen" in 1905 as Christy Mathewson hurled three shutouts and the Giants romped four-games-to-one. During that season, McGraw broke new ground, using pitcher Claude Elliott in relief eight times to close games.

The title made McGraw a hero in the Big Apple and also emboldened him to open the following season with the words "World Champions" emblazoned on the front of the Giants jerseys. The year didn't go as planned; the Chicago Cubs won the National League pennant with an astounding 116-36 record.

His 1911 club established a modern-day record with 347 stolen bases to reclaim the pennant, but lost to Mack's team in the World Series. The following season, his Giants won 54 of their first 66 games and never looked back, but wound up losing another Fall Classic, this time to the Red Sox.

Before the 1913 season, McGraw signed a five-year contract worth $30,000, making him the highest-paid man in baseball history, but another Giants pennant was followed by another World Series failure against Mack's A's.The Giants would lose the World Series again in 1917 against the White Sox. McGraw, however, remained the highest-paid employee in baseball with a salary that reached the $50,000 mark.

From 1921-24, McGraw won four consecutive pennants, making him the first and only NL manager to achieve such a feat. Led by slugger High Pockets Kelly and speedster Frankie Frisch, and featuring hustling, future Hall of Fame manager Casey Stengel, the Giants won back-to-back Series titles in 1921 and 1922, as McGraw defeated the Babe Ruth-led New York Yankees both times. Although his teams would remain competitive, they never won another World Series, and health issues prompted the manager to retire 40 games into the 1932 season. A year later, he and Mack served as honorary managers in the inaugural MLB All-Star Game. McGraw died the following year, and although some decried his win-at-all-costs reputation, the baseball world celebrated his impact on the game.

One obituary recounted an anecdote about how unimpressed Baltimore's manager was when he first laid eyes on the diminutive McGraw before his MLB playing debut in 1891.

"I'm bigger than I look," McGraw responded.

The same could have been said of the pencil-thin Mack. Decades later, these disparate figures remain giants of the game.

Scott Pitoniak is a best-selling author from Penfield, N.Y. His latest book is "Remembrances of Swings Past: A Lifetime of Baseball Stories."

LEADERSHIP CHANGE

THROUGHOUT THE SEASONS, THE MOST INNOVATIVE MANAGERS HAVE FOUND NEW WAYS TO WIN.

BY PHIL ROGERS

There has always been an edge to be found for the most creative managers.

Talent generally wins, for sure, which goes a long way toward explaining the standing of Hall of Fame managers such as John McGraw, Joe McCarthy and Walter Alston. But the most innovative, cunning managers have always been able to slide more chips to their side of the table than could have been expected.

Consider how Gil Hodges' handling of the New York Mets allowed them to shock the world in 1969. The Mets already had future Hall of Famer Tom Seaver. Whitey Herzog, an assistant to Mets GM Johnny Murphy, was a pitching-and-defense disciple who surrounded Seaver with a stable of promising pitchers, including Nolan Ryan, Gary Gentry and Jerry Koosman.

While Seaver was arguably the National League's best pitcher entering the '69 campaign, Hodges planned for a long season. He went with a five-man rotation, which was being done by only six of the other 23 teams. Seaver, Koosman and Gentry combined for 102 starts and 748 innings, and the difference showed when the Mets went 38-11 after mid-August.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Hall of Famer Joe McCarthy was a rarity in his day because he managed in the big leagues despite not making the majors as a player. Today, managers take varied paths to the dugout, including serving in the front office and as broadcasters.

Hodges was also an early believer in platoon advantages. He utilized the entire roster, whether the veterans who had been used to getting all the playing time liked it or not.

"I was never cool with the platooning," right fielder Ron Swoboda told author Barry Zeman. "But in the end, Gil proved he knew what he was doing."

The Mets finished 9-11 in April, but Hodges had established a plan that was built for success over 162 games.

"Gil defined everybody's role," said Ron Taylor, a veteran who would share the closer's role with Tug McGraw. "I could see it coming. … We sat in the bullpen, Tug McGraw and me, Don Cardwell, Cal Koonce, and we said to each other how good this team could be."

Hodges' early adaption to new trends was just one of a long line of examples of managers who were ahead of their time.

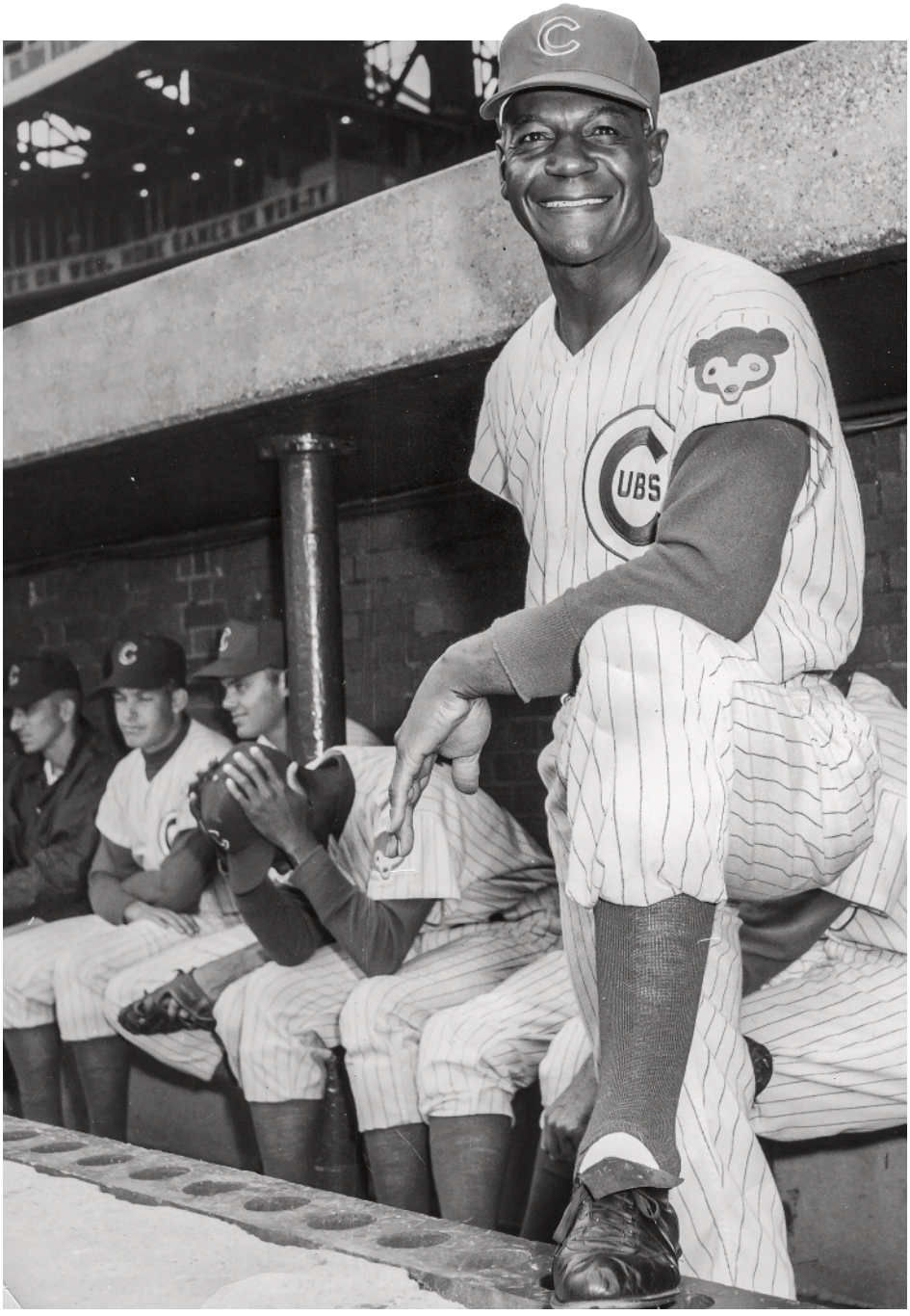
It wasn't until sometime around 1900, according to MLB Official Historian John Thorn, that the term "manager" referred to the man setting the lineup and making in-game decisions. It had initially been used to describe the team's business manager and was sometimes filled by the team's owner.

Because it was cheaper, many teams gave their captain the roles later filled by managers. He wore a uniform, because he was playing, and that set the pattern the game still follows, with managers and coaches in uniform, unlike coaches in football, basketball, soccer and most other sports.

Teams used a variety of models to fill the manager's position. Connie Mack, who had been a player himself, was at least a part-owner of the Philadelphia Athletics throughout his 50-year run as manager of the A's.

Hall of Fame first baseman Frank Chance was the last person before Joe Maddon in 2016 to manage the Chicago Cubs to a championship. He was a player/manager when he led them to back-to-back titles in 1907 and '08. Twelve of the 16 major league teams used player/managers in those seasons.

More than 60 Hall of Fame players were



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

In 1962, Buck O'Neil became the first full-time Black coach in the American or National Leagues when he was hired to be an instructor with the Chicago Cubs. Among his prized pupils was future Hall of Famer Lou Brock.

given stints as player/manager, including some of the sport's true brand names: Cy Young, Ty Cobb, Cap Anson, Rube Foster, Honus Wagner, Eddie Collins, Rogers Hornsby, Christy Mathewson, Oscar Charleston, Pie Traynor and Tris Speaker.

Player/managers became much less common after World War II, when teams began investing in managers and coaches. But Frank Robinson was a player/manager when he became the American League's first Black manager with Cleveland in 1975. Joe Torre began his managerial career as a player/manager with the Mets in 1977, moving from the clubhouse into the manager's office after the team's 15-30 start. Pete Rose was a player/manager with the Cincinnati Reds when he broke Cobb's all-time hit record in 1985.

Before World War II, teams had only two or three coaches, including the manager. The skipper often doubled as the third base coach, making the strategic decisions as well as signaling them to his hitter and baserunners. This practice largely ended when coaching hires increased after the war, and the third base coach instead became the second in charge, responsible for running the team if the manager was ejected or missed a game.

Cubs owner Phil Wrigley tried to get ahead of the curve when he instituted the "College of Coaches" – a rotating system of multiple managers rather than naming one. Vedie Himsl, Harry Craft, El Tappe, Lou Klein and Charlie Metro are credited with having managed the Cubs in 1961 and '62, when Wrigley's team went 123-193.

Buck O'Neil could have been on that list, which would have made him the first Black manager in the AL or NL. He was an instructor with the Cubs in 1962, becoming the first full-time Black coach in either league and working heavily with Lou Brock and other players. Because he had managed with the Kansas City Monarchs of the Negro American League, O'Neil seemed the logical choice to take over when Metro and Tappe were ejected in a game against the Houston Colt .45s. Pitching coach Fred Martin was instead brought in from the bullpen to run the team.

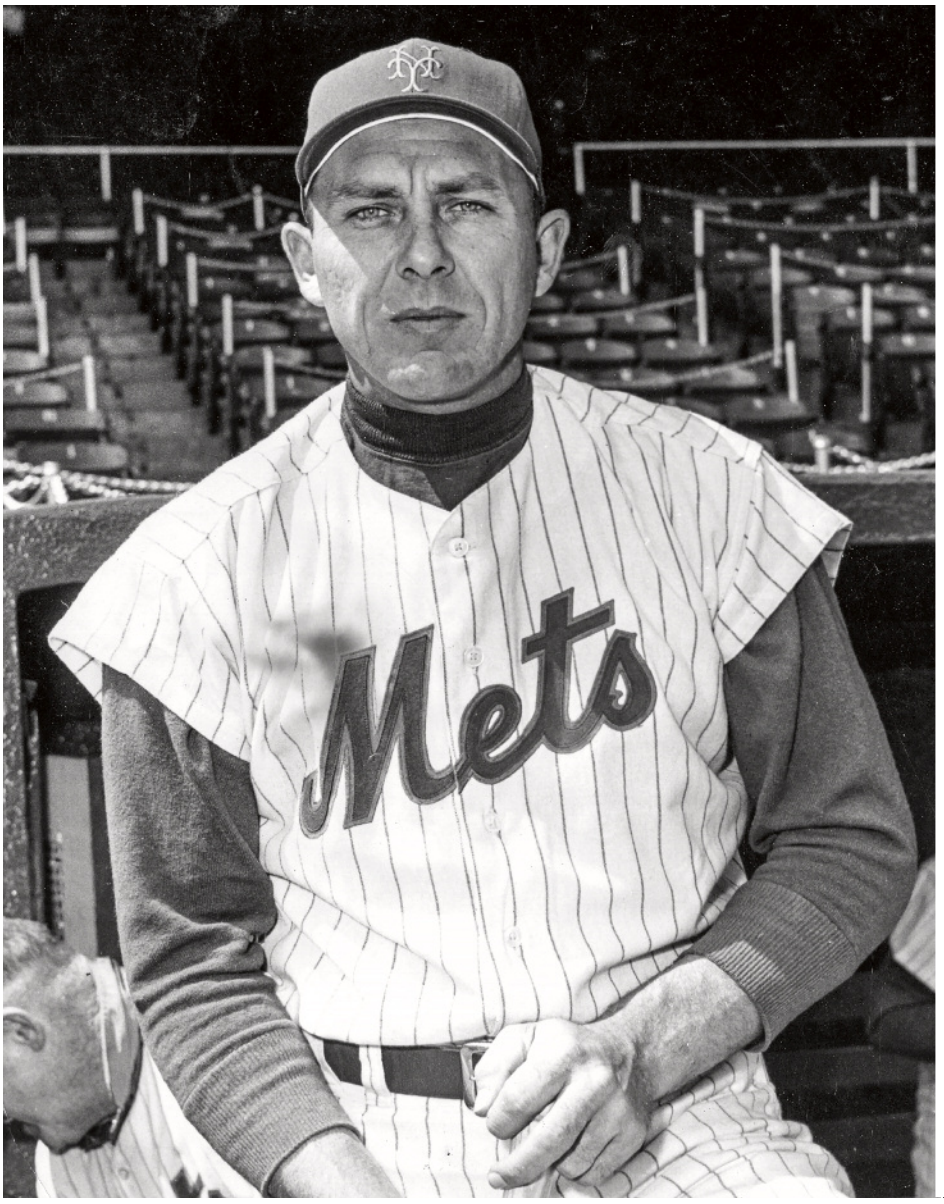
When the role of player/manager faded, a new dual role became popular. Managers like Jack McKeon and Herzog also doubled as their team's general manager, either by an official chain of command or with an understanding that they controlled the trades and roster moves made by the GM.

But with the advent of analytics in the game, the worm has turned. Front office executives are directly involved in creating lineups and setting end-game pitching scenarios, limiting the authority of managers.

But analytics are nothing new. Branch Rickey had studied data heavily with the St. Louis Cardinals in the 1930s. The late Johnny Oates was insistent on his media relations staff printing copious stats on upcoming opponents, which he studied under passenger lights on late-night flights in the 1990s. The late Don Zimmer remembered Wrigley as the first owner to use a computer.

"He had this huge IBM computer installed (in his downtown office) and had his people enter information and stats of all the players in the National League," Zimmer told MLB.com's Hal Bodley.

But the size of baseball operations staff and the front office's daily involvement with the manager increased exponentially after teams like the Oakland A's and Boston Red Sox used analytics to become consistent winners.



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

RON VESELY/CHICAGO CUBS

BILLIE WEISS/AP IMAGES

Clockwise from above: Gil Hodges steered the Mets to the 1969 World Series title using platooning and new pitching-use strategies to get the most out of his team. Joe Maddon managed the Cubs to a World Series title in 2016 – the franchise's first in 108 seasons – with a style that allowed him to connect to players, media and fans alike. Álex Cora brought the skills he learned from the playing field and in the broadcast booth to Boston to lead the Red Sox to a World Series championship.

"The omnipotent manager is no longer going to exist," Maddon said while managing the Cubs. "In the next several years, teams are going to revolve around managers and general managers and front offices."

Maddon was proven prescient when his contract was not renewed after the 2019 season, even though he had ended the Cubs' 108-year drought in 2016. In many ways, he epitomizes the ideal modern manager, largely because of his communication skills. He's a master with the media – a vitally important trait given the daily pre- and postgame sessions, many of which are televised – and uses personal exchanges with his players to get the best from them.

These days few players choose to manage after long, successful runs as major league players. The 2020 World Series was decided with two hard-working, non-star former players in the dugout as managers: Dave Roberts of the Dodgers and Kevin Cash of the Rays. Neither had ever managed before being hired at the big league level.

Roberts had spent time as a broadcaster, which was the path for Yankees manager Aaron Boone and Red Sox manager Álex Cora.

"There's a saying in the industry that you have to pay your dues to get to the big leagues," Cora said. "Maybe we pay our dues through [working in the media]. People think that that's an easy job, it's just, 'Get behind that desk and put that tie on and just talk baseball.' It doesn't work that way, man. … You had to be prepared. … I think it was a good school for us."

It doesn't matter how a manager gets his job. They come from a variety of avenues.

But as long as baseball has been played, there have been managers like Gil Hodges, Bobby Cox, Joe Torre, Dave Roberts and Joe Maddon, all finding a way to turn just enough losses into victories.

It has always been as much art as science, in any era.

Phil Rogers is a freelance writer living in Utah who has covered baseball since 1984.

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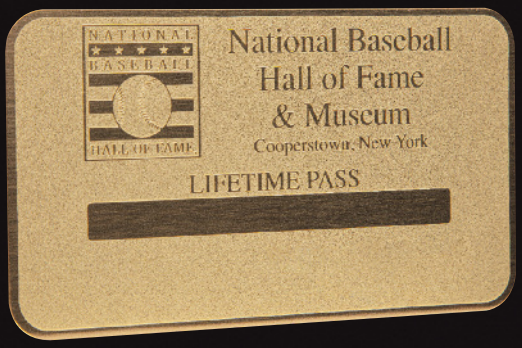

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TROUBLE BEHIND

WHEN CASEY STENGEL TOOK OVER THE YANKEES, HE CHANGED THE COURSE OF HISTORY AND HIS MANAGERIAL FORTUNES.

BY BILL FRANCIS

Thanks to "Nine Old Men," Casey Stengel's journey from a funny-but-failed big league skipper took a life-altering turn in Oakland – and ended in Cooperstown as a Hall of Fame manager.

Today, Stengel is remembered as the pilot of a juggernaut New York Yankees squad that dominated the American League. In the "Old Perfesser's" dozen years leading the Bronx Bombers, from 1949 to 1960, the franchise won 10 pennants and seven World Series crowns.

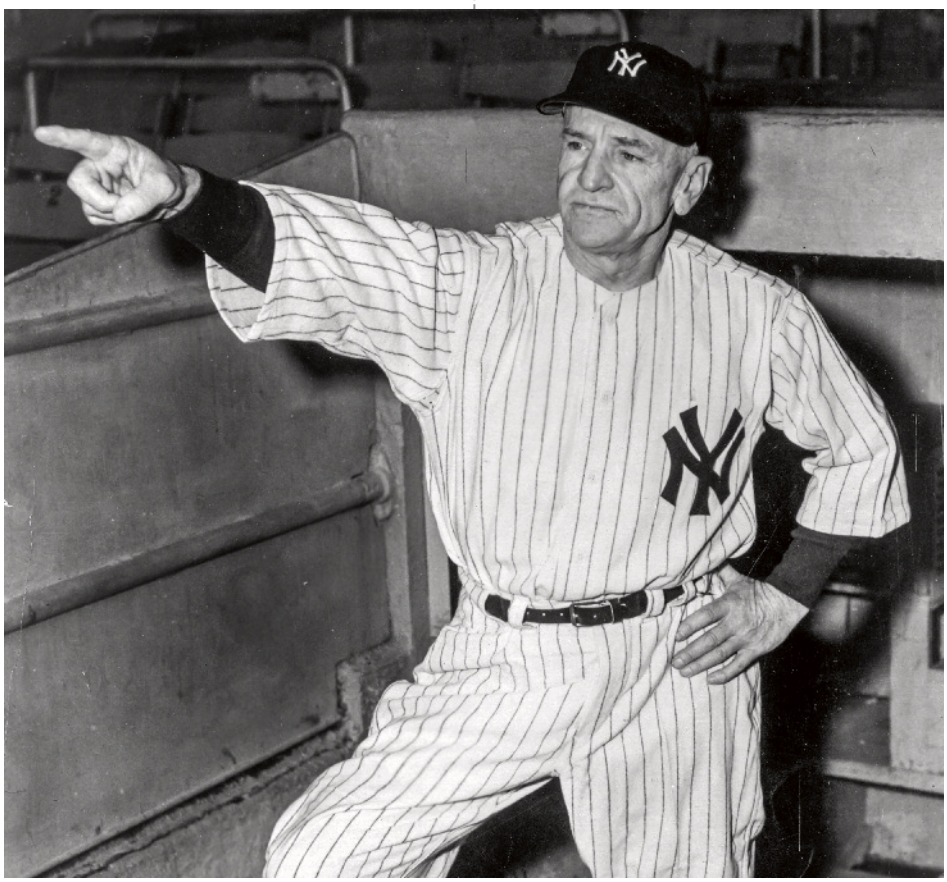
But immediately prior to Stengel's reign leading the sport's most successful and glamorous team, he was resigned to spending the rest of his baseball career as a beloved figure leading the Oakland Oaks of the Pacific Coast League. After a 14-year career with five teams as a big league outfielder, he skippered the Brooklyn Dodgers and Boston Braves for nine seasons that resulted in only second-division finishes in the eight-team National League.

The turning point in Stengel's career came in 1948 when – in his third season at the helm – Oakland won the PCL pennant with a 114-74 record, then captured the loop's postseason crown.

Borrowing a moniker once bestowed on the United States Supreme Court, the '48 Oaks got the nickname "The Nine Old Men" because they had so many older players, including veteran big leaguers Ernie Lombardi, Nick Etten, Cookie Lavagetto, Dario Lodigiani, Maurice Van Robays and Jim Tobin.

While the Oaks, who won their first PCL pennant since 1927, were excelling on the West Coast, on the other side of the country the Yankees were making a surprising managerial change.

Bucky Harris, the "Boy Wonder" who, as a 27-year-old player/manager, led the 1924 Washington Senators to a World Series championship, was let go as Yankees manager on Oct. 4, 1948. The 1947 Yankees, in Harris'



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Casey Stengel led the Yankees to 10 American League pennants and seven World Series titles from 1949-60, becoming one of the most successful managers in big league history.

first season at the helm, won the World Series. In 1948, the Yankees missed the AL pennant by two-and-a-half games, after winning 94 times but losing out on the next-to-last day of the season to Cleveland.

The team's brain trust, which included co-owners Dan Topping and Del Webb, along with general manager George Weiss, released a statement: "The name of the new manager will be announced at some future date. Several candidates, not including any player active with the Yankees in 1948, are being considered for the post."

Rumors swirled as to who would be hired for one of the most coveted jobs in the game, with names prominently mentioned including current Yankees players Tommy Henrich and Joe DiMaggio as possibilities (despite the team statement to the contrary), as well as Portland Beavers manager Jim Turner, Newark Bears manager Bill Skiff, former Reds manager Johnny Neun, former White Sox manager Jimmy Dykes and future Hall of Fame outfielder Al Simmons.

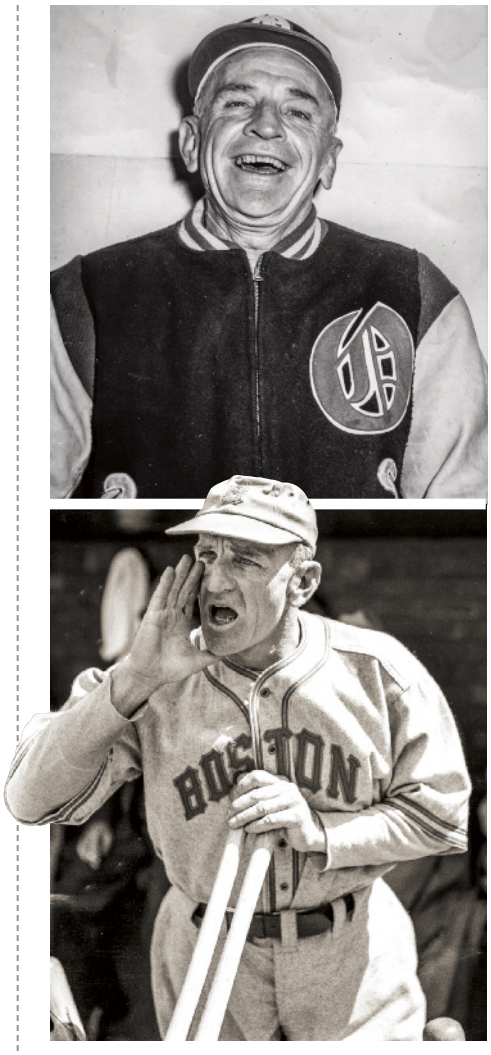
But during the 1948 World Series between the Cleveland Indians and Boston Braves, Stengel's name emerged as a favorite, with reports of his friendships with Webb and Weiss a factor.

Topping, on Oct. 11, 1948, told New York's *Daily News* that the Yankees' new manager was among a group that included Dykes, Simmons, Stengel, Neun and Skiff, adding, "and while *The News* wrote Dykes was my candidate, Stengel was Webb's and Neun and Skiff was Weiss' choice, you can be assured our new manager is not the choice of any single individual. He is the unanimous choice of three of us (Topping, Webb and Weiss)."

Reports out of California had other major league clubs besides the Yankees interested in Stengel as their manager, but at 58 years old, he was not going to accept any offer that didn't carry with it a chance at a pennant.

On Oct. 12, 1948, the Yankees finally announced that they had hired Stengel and inked him to a two-year pact for a reported $35,000 per season. For Stengel, becoming the 16th skipper in Yankees history would be his eighth managerial job.

Interestingly, Stengel's hiring came on the 25th anniversary of him hitting a solo home run over the right field wall at Yankee Stadium to give his New York Giants a 1-0 victory in Game 3 of the 1923 World Series.



PHOTOS BY NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Top: Casey Stengel skippered the Pacific Coast League's Oakland Oaks from 1946-48, leading the team to the 1948 PCL crown. **Bottom:** Prior to his stint with the Oaks, Stengel managed the NL's Boston Braves from 1938-43. He also managed the Brooklyn Dodgers for three seasons.

"Stengel's hiring was a big surprise nationally, but especially in New York, which had by then come to demand excellence from their Yankees. All of a sudden they were hiring a 'clown,' which was the feeling at the time," said Marty Appel, baseball historian and the author of the 2017 book "Casey Stengel: Baseball's Greatest Character," in a recent interview. "He was not only clownish, but he was totally unsuccessful in his previous managing.

"Not a lot of people made this comparison, but when Joe Torre was hired by the Yankees, the *Daily News* headline was 'Clueless Joe.'

"Torre's record in the National League with a number of different teams was similar to Stengel's. But they both wind up getting their tickets punched to Cooperstown."

Stengel, the lovable Missourian whose nickname derived from his Kansas City hometown, once tipped his cap to a hostile crowd in 1919 and a sparrow flew out. He even attended dental school for two-and-a-half years while playing in the minor leagues. Now his sense of humor and his common sense would be put to the test when his hiring elicited derisive hoots after displacing the popular Harris.

"We settled on Stengel Sunday night (Oct. 10) when we were in Cleveland at the Series," Webb said. "We telephoned him at Oakland, where he had just clinched the Pacific Coast League playoffs after having won the pennant with an overaged team. We called him at 7:30 and asked that he fly to New York to discuss the job here. We also asked that he bring along the owner of the Oakland team, Brick Laws. We felt that Laws should receive that courtesy because we were going to make his manager an offer to handle our ball club."

In a statement released in Oakland, Stengel wrote that three of the happiest years of his baseball career were spent in Oakland, adding, "I want to thank the press, fans, officials, owners and players of the Oakland club for their help. I feel cooperation on their part promoted me to the position I now have."

At his introductory press conference at New York City's famed "21" Club, Stengel, who spent his entire career in the NL, admitted that he hadn't seen the Yankees play in several years.

"The owners have promised to back me up," Stengel told the assembled media. "I'll see what I need, but I plan to go slow. You can tear a club down a lot faster that you can build it up.

"I can't tell you what changes have to be made. Because I would then be rapping some of the players I've never looked at. At first glance, I'd say that there isn't very much to be done. We've got a great bunch of players."

The 1948 Yankees roster included such recognizable names as Phil Rizzuto, Yogi Berra, Bobby Brown, Charlie Keller, Allie Reynolds, Eddie Lopat, Vic Raschi and Joe Page. Arguably the greatest was Joe DiMaggio, one of a few Yankees to attend Stengel's introductory event. According to The Yankee Clipper, it was the first time he had formally met his new manager.

"I've seen Casey pull quite a few antics in baseball," DiMaggio said grinning. "I'll consider it a privilege to play under a great manager like Casey."

Stengel said he had the wrong DiMaggio brother in the past: "I had Vince out in the Coast League and at Boston. He was a good player, but now I have the big fellow."

Stengel, in reality, gave up a plush job to risk the uncertainties of big league managing again. Undertaking one of the toughest in baseball, he was confident he could escape the fate of his predecessors.

"Believe me, those players are the real reason why I'm back in the big time as manager of the Yankees," Stengel said. "I liked it in the Coast League, and I loved it at Oakland. I'm not kidding when I say it had to take a job like this one to get me away. Just any job in the majors wouldn't have done it."

Boston Daily Record sports columnist Dave Egan came down hard on the Stengel hiring:

"Well, sirs and ladies, the Yankees now have been mathematically eliminated from the 1949 pennant race.

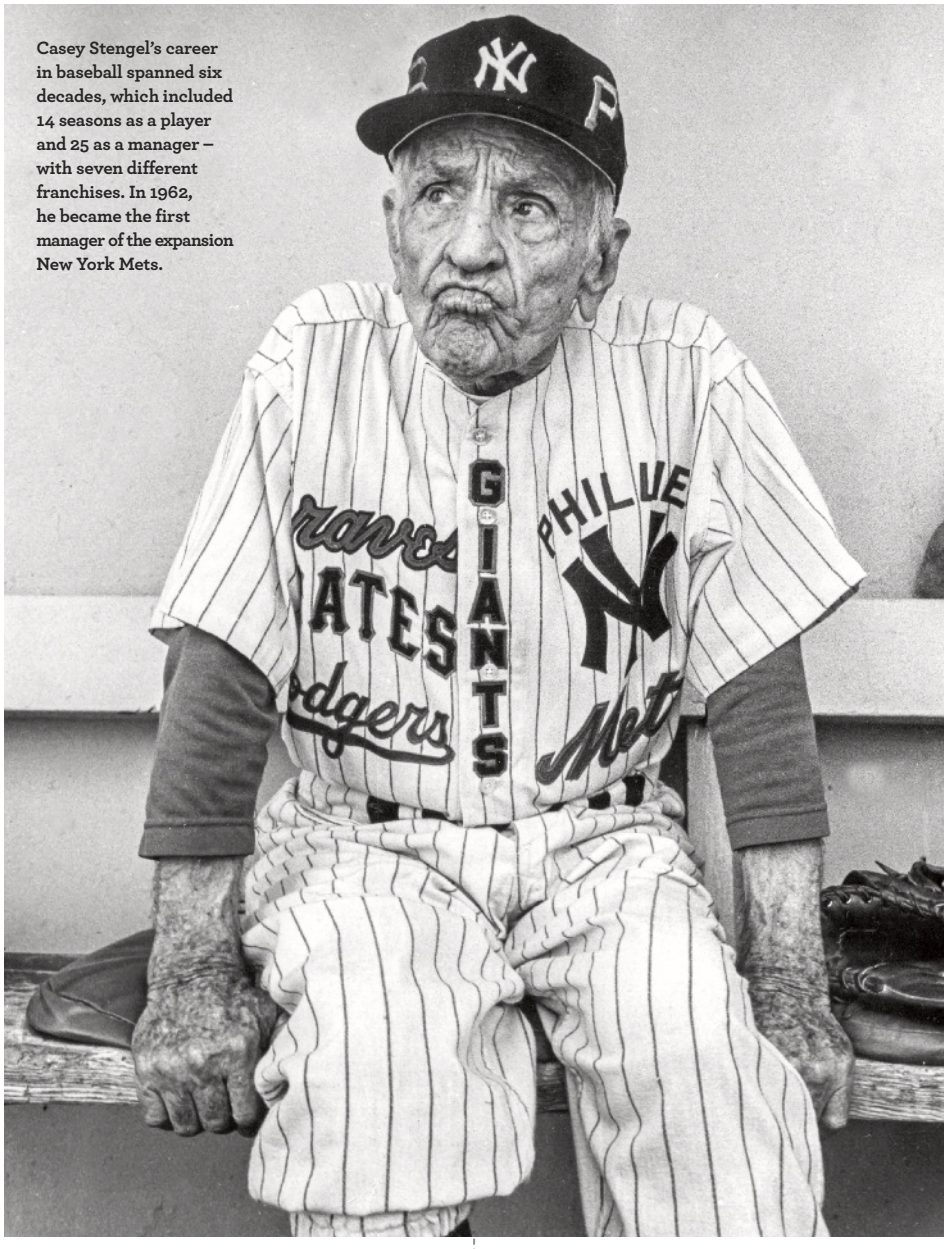
"They eliminated themselves, Oct. 13, when they engaged Perfesser Casey Stengel to mismanage them for the next two years, and you may be sure that the Perfesser will oblige to the best of his unique ability. From McCarthy to Harris to Stengel hardly can be considered an onward and upward movement, and to paraphrase the remark of Winston Churchill on another occasion, here is a man who has been brought in to supervise at the dissolution of the Yankee empire."

International News Service sports editor Lawton Carver wondered how anybody would hire Stengel to manage a club that had built for itself such importance and popularity as the Yankees.

"In his previous tenure of major league management, he failed to build a contender in Brooklyn or Boston but still was one of the most popular men in the game," Carver wrote. "New York baseball writers saw to that, emphasizing his likable qualities and casting aside his apparent lack of ability.

"He has built himself up as a funny man who is at his best in witty conversation and in this respect bows to no peer. But he has never been able to knit together a ball club, as Billy Southworth, for instance, does it.

"Let us hope Stengel proves all this to be untrue. Let us hope he is a rip snorting success as Yankee manager. He is a nice guy with a million friends. He is the kind you would like to see successful."



Casey Stengel's career in baseball spanned six decades, which included 14 seasons as a player and 25 as a manager – with seven different franchises. In 1962, he became the first manager of the expansion New York Mets.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Stengel didn't need to worry, getting off to a fast start with the Yankees in 1949, capturing the AL pennant with a 97-57 regular-season record and then defeating the Brooklyn Dodgers in five games for a Fall Classic title.

"The thing that surprised me most about the Yankees was the way they received me as manager," said Stengel after the '49 World Series. "My record wasn't too good as a manager, you know – at least not in the major leagues. Of course, I had won the Coast League pennant with Oakland, which I thought was something, but doesn't mean too much in the big show.

"The players not only accepted me, but they followed me, which is very important. We had a wonderful spirit … no clubhouse lawyers and no arguments. If you've been around baseball any length of time, you know that's rather surprising."

According to Appel, Stengel's Yankees years made him a national celebrity and a future Baseball Hall of Famer, inducted as a member of the Class of 1966.

"It proved that he was a brilliant baseball mind who understood baseball strategy long before computers came along," Appel said. "His most important pennant was 1949, and then when he made it two in a row in 1950, already by then he was hailed as a genius."

Bill Francis is the senior research and writing specialist at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

FRANKLY SPEAKING

AS THE FIRST BLACK MANAGER IN BOTH THE AMERICAN AND NATIONAL LEAGUES, FRANK ROBINSON CHANGED THE FACE OF THE BIG LEAGUE DUGOUT.

BY JOHN ROSENGREN

On Oct. 3, 1974, the Cleveland Indians announced the hiring of a new manager. But this was no ordinary hiring.

"The impact of Frank Robinson being named manager of the Indians, the first Black manager in major league history, is second in importance only to Jackie Robinson's entry into baseball in 1947," American League President Lee MacPhail declared.

Two years earlier, in a ceremony at the 1972 World Series to commemorate the 25th anniversary of his breaking baseball's color barrier as a player, Jackie Robinson had called out Organized Baseball on the subject of minority managers. There had been qualified candidates to manage – Monte Irvin, John Roseboro and Larry Doby among them – but the owners and general managers hired retired Black ballplayers as hitting coaches or to minor league posts, not to manage in the majors, not even to coach third base.

Then came Frank Robinson. He was smart, a natural leader, driven to win and – ever outspoken – had made clear his desire to manage in the big leagues. To prepare himself, he had skippered the Cangrejeros de Santurce in the Puerto Rican Winter League for five seasons. In his first, the winter of 1968-69, they won the pennant and he was named Manager of the Year.

CLIFTON BOUTELLE/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Frank Robinson debuted as the first full-time Black manager in American or National League history with the Cleveland Indians on April 8, 1975.

Cleveland fans welcomed the new manager on Opening Day, April 8, 1975, with a thundering ovation. Rachel Robinson, Jackie's widow, threw out the ceremonial first pitch and said she was "heartened by this symbol of progress." Having put himself in the lineup as the designated hitter, batting second, Frank lent a hand to the victory in his first at-bat, slugging the 575th home run of his career. That would stand as the high-water mark for the year, a difficult season when Frank not only had to prove himself as a rookie manager, but prove his race worthy of the challenge.

Robinson butted heads with a few players, including pitcher John "Blue Moon" Odom, who was traded in May. Perhaps since Odom was Black and didn't last long, the press made more of Robinson's conflict with catcher John Ellis, who was white. After a newspaper story suggested that race was the underlying factor, Cleveland fans voiced support for Ellis and lobbied for Robinson's dismissal.

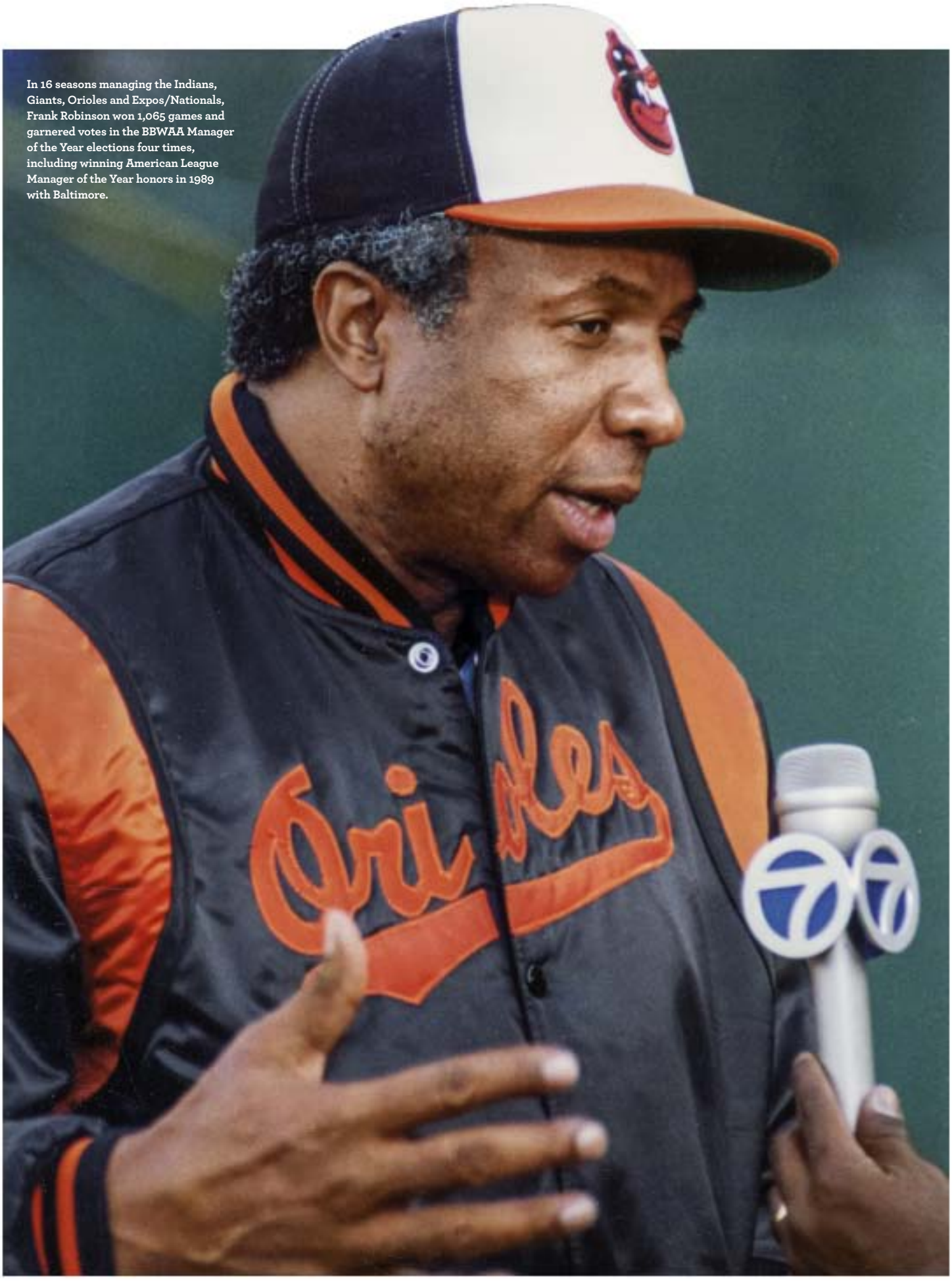
Robinson's critics weren't just local. Bigots from around the country littered his mailbox with hate mail. One man called the Indians switchboard and threatened Robinson's life.

Robinson didn't stay away from the ballpark that night, but he couldn't dismiss his suspicion that prejudice tainted the calls of white umpires. By the All-Star break, they had ejected Robinson three times.

"Every close call goes against us, and I think they are taking out on the club the way they feel about me," Robinson said.

Even so, he urged his players to salvage the season, which they did, winning 27 of their last 42 games. Robinson won the respect of managers and general managers, who praised him for pulling his team together and getting the most out of a young squad.

Robinson appeared in only 49 games as a



In 16 seasons managing the Indians, Giants, Orioles and Expos/Nationals, Frank Robinson won 1,065 games and garnered votes in the BBWAA Manager of the Year elections four times, including winning American League Manager of the Year honors in 1989 with Baltimore.

DOUG MCWILLIAMS/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

The Hall of Fame Class of 1982 featured (from left) Travis Jackson, Happy Chandler, Frank Robinson and Hank Aaron.

player in 1975 and 36 the following season, when the Indians finished fourth with an 81-78 record. Forty-one years old after the 1976 season, the future Hall of Famer – and only winner of the MVP Award in both the National and American Leagues – retired as a player. When the Indians stumbled to a 26-31 start in 1977, general manager Phil Seghi's support expired and Robinson was out of a job.

After stints coaching with the California Angels and the Baltimore Orioles, and managing the Triple-A Rochester Red Wings, Robinson became the first Black manager in the National League when the San Francisco Giants hired him for the 1981 season. He clashed with general manager Tom Haller, who wasn't as willing to make the trades his manager wanted as Seghi was in Cleveland. With the Giants a dismal 42-64 in August 1984, Haller fired Robinson.

Robinson returned to Baltimore, first as a coach, then in the front office. When the Orioles lost the first six games of the 1988 season, the club dismissed manager Cal Ripken Sr. and replaced him with Robinson, who reluctantly accepted the role. The floundering team he took over lost 15 more games before winning one. They finished 54-107, but the following season, Robinson led them to an 87-75 record, good for second place in the AL East and American League Manager of the Year honors for Robinson. But his good fortune didn't last, and when the team struggled to a 13-24 start in 1991, he was fired again.

Major League Baseball hired Robinson as an executive, then in 2002 appointed him to manage the Montreal Expos, which it owned at the time. Robinson took over a team that had losing records in its five previous seasons and directed them to finishes above .500 his first two seasons. He stayed at the helm when the club became the Washington Nationals in 2005. The Nationals finished the 2006 season in fifth place for the third straight year, and the team's management decided not to renew his contract. He worked for Major League Baseball for almost a decade, but he would not manage again.

Robinson passed away on Feb. 7, 2019, at the age of 83.

Over parts of 16 seasons, Robinson managed four franchises and posted a career record of 1,065-1,176, good for a .475 winning percentage. But the significance of Frank Robinson's managerial career is not measured in statistics or popularity polls. It's in the courage to go first in both leagues, blazing a trail for others to follow. They quickly did, with Larry Doby taking over as White Sox skipper in 1978, and Maury Wills hired to manage the Seattle Mariners in 1980.

President George W. Bush recognized Robinson's accomplishments as a player and a manager with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest honor bestowed upon a civilian, in 2005.

"His legacy is as a trailblazer," said Ron Washington, who played for Robinson when he was coaching the Orioles and who later managed the Texas Rangers for eight years. "He certainly was a tremendous model for me."

On Opening Day 2021, there were two Black men (Dusty Baker, Astros; Dave Roberts, Dodgers) and three dark-skinned Latinos (Luis Rojas, Mets; Charlie Montoya, Blue Jays; and Álex Cora, Red Sox) managing in the majors. Roberts, whose mother is Japanese and whose father is Black, became the first Asian American and second Black man (after Cito Gaston, who led the Blue Jays to World Series championships in 1992 and 1993) to win a World Series as a manager when his Dodgers won the crown in 2020.

"Knowing he was invested in me means so much," Roberts said of Robinson. "He paved the way for what I was able to do. I feel invested in keeping the light of his torch glowing."

John Rosengren is a freelance writer from Minneapolis.

LATEST GENERATION

MANAGERS LIKE BAKER, BOCHY, FRANCONA, MADDON AND SCIOSCIA HELPED MAKE THE PAST TWO DECADES A GOLDEN AGE FOR SKIPPERS.

BY RICHARD JUSTICE

To fans, they represent dozens of moments that will live forever in hearts and minds. They've been such a familiar presence on our televisions and radios that fans feel as comfortable approaching them in restaurants and airports as they would an old friend.

In plenty of ways, that's what they are.

Check out the names: Bruce Bochy and Dusty Baker. Terry Francona and Mike Scioscia. There's Joe Maddon, too, rapidly climbing the all-time wins list.

They're why we may look back and remember this as the Golden Era of Managers in Major League Baseball. Or at least one of them. Let's pause and appreciate how special this is.

Inside the game, each of them has a larger-than-life presence constructed through their accomplishments, personalities and years of service. Yes, also a colorful ejection or two along the way.

Together, they've won 8,525 regular-season games (through the 2020 season) and made 43 postseason appearances. Bochy, Baker, Francona and Scioscia are all among the 20 winningest managers of all time.

RON VESELY/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Mike Scioscia (right), shown with umpire Doug Eddings, managed the Angels from 2000-18 following a 13-year playing career with the Dodgers. Scioscia led the Angels to six American League West titles and the 2002 World Series championship.

And then there's the new kid: Tony La Russa, the third-winningest manager of all time. He's back in the White Sox dugout after a nine-year sabbatical.

During his time away, he became one of 22 managers inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame, alongside contemporaries Bobby Cox and Joe Torre, who were also members of the Class of 2014. Some of his new co-workers could join him in Cooperstown at some point in the future. Their stories and laughter, their decisions, both those that worked out and those that didn't, will forever be part of the game's folklore.

Bochy retired in 2019 as one of 10 managers to win at least three championships: 2010, 2012 and 2014. His 2,003 victories are the 11th-most regular-season wins, and in leading eight teams to the playoffs, he became a standard for everyone who takes a lineup card to home plate.

He would be the first to say he was a part of a great San Francisco Giants organization and benefitted from the great work of his general managers: Brian Sabean and Bobby Evans. But Bochy was the guy who made it work. He adamantly deflected credit, but few managers ever ran a bullpen or related to players better.

One time, a reporter stuck his head into Bochy's office two hours before a World Series game and announced: "I've got you figured out."

"How's that?" Bochy asked.

"You want everyone to think you're the dumbest guy in every room," he said. "I just want you to know I'm not fooled. I know how smart you are."

"Close the door on your way out," Bochy instructed.

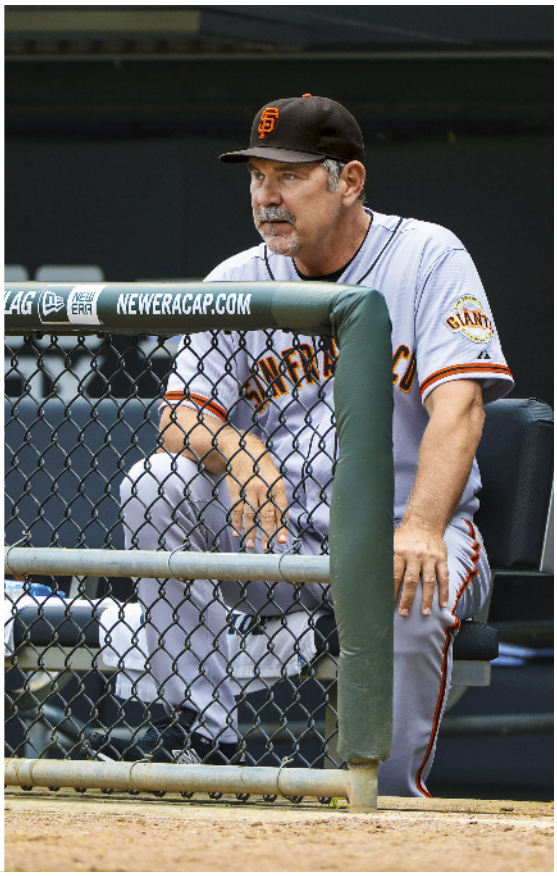
He always made it about the players during 12 seasons with the Padres and 13 with the Giants.

"They're the ones that do the work," Bochy said. "It's more about the players than you ever think. Sometimes early in your career, you think, 'I can make a huge difference,' but really it's the players who determine it and they're the ones who should get all the credit."

Francona would agree with every word of that. He's in his 22nd season as a manager, having spent four seasons in the Phillies dugout and eight in Boston before arriving in Cleveland in 2013.

One thing every single one of his players knew: He had their backs. He defended his guys endlessly and could always find a silver lining even in the toughest of times.

PHOTOS BY RON VESELY/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Left: Terry Francona led the Red Sox to World Series titles in 2004 and 2007 and skippered the Indians to the AL pennant in 2016. Francona's teams won 90-or-more games in 11 of his first 19 seasons as a manager. **Right:** Bruce Bochy led the San Francisco Giants to three World Series titles in five seasons from 2010-14. Bochy is one of only 10 managers to win at least three World Series.

Among the first things he did upon arriving in Cleveland was have a wall separating his office from the clubhouse removed. He wanted his players to see him as accessible, and through the years, they've played games, watched television and chatted with him. In the process, they've built the kind of bond that can carry a team through tough times.

To Francona's various general managers through the years, he's one of the funniest, quirkiest and most likable men they've ever met.

For instance, take Twins president of baseball operations Derek Falvey. During his time in Cleveland, he became extremely close to Francona, both a confidant and advisor. He's asked for the Francona story that makes him laugh hardest.

"One night he telephoned my room and said he was having a medical emergency," Falvey said. "I panicked and wondered how to get help to his hotel room. Turned out, he'd fallen asleep with a hot fudge sundae next to him and awoke to find himself soaked in chocolate sauce."

Baker has had a few laughs along the way as well since the Braves selected him in the 26th round of the 1967 MLB June Amateur Draft. He managed 3,560 regular-season games through 2020 for the Giants, Cubs, Reds, Nationals and now Astros.

His teams have been to the playoffs 10 times, but because he has not won a World Series, some incorrectly assume that's why he returned in 2020 to manage the Astros.

That would be a mistake. Instead, he said his reasons were basic: He loves putting on the uniform every day, loves competing, loves being at the ballpark.

Nothing he has ever done in his life – and he's a man of many interests, from winemaking to cooking to reading and music – is quite as fun as running a major league game.

"I missed the competition, missed being around the coaches and players," said Baker, who won a World Series as a player with the Dodgers in 1981. "You miss teaching. You can help players become better. That's what you miss. You think back to all the coaches that you had, that helped make you better, and you feel you have something to offer."

Perhaps the greatest tribute to Scioscia during 19 seasons managing the Angels could be found not in his seven playoff appearances or 2002 World Series win, but in being outside his clubhouse before spring workouts.

That's when the laughter would echo through the closed doors as Scioscia held morning meetings that were equal parts mapping out the day ahead and team-building through his light-hearted critiques of his players and coaches.

"From day one, he's been the same man that he is right now – straight with the players, handles the young generation, older generation," said Alfredo Griffin, a member of Scioscia's coaching staff for all 19 seasons. "Doesn't talk behind your back.

"Players respect him because he's straight up. If somebody messes up, he's going to call you into the office. He's not going to send somebody else to talk to you. He goes face-to-face and tells you the truth."

Similar to Francona and Bochy, Scioscia relentlessly refuses to accept credit for all the good the Angels did during his tenure. He was headed to Clemson University in 1976 when

PHOTOS BY RON VESELY/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Above: A three-time NL Manager of the Year selection, Dusty Baker has led five teams – the Giants, Cubs, Reds, Nationals and Astros – to the postseason. **Inset:** Joe Maddon has managed the Angels, Rays and Cubs – and led Chicago to the 2016 World Series title, the franchise's first world championship in 108 seasons.

Dodgers third base coach Tommy Lasorda stopped by his home in Springfield, Pa., and had a chat. Thus began a lifelong friendship that lasted until Lasorda's death in 2021.

His teams won at least 90 games seven times, but as Scioscia checked off one milestone moment after another, he never wavered. It was about the players.

"It reflects on the quality of players we've had over the years here, the good teams," Scioscia said. "I don't think it's anything special that I've accomplished, but I think it speaks well for the organization that for a long time we've had continuity, we've had good teams."

Maddon was Scioscia's bench coach for six seasons before Tampa Bay handed him its lineup card in 2006. When he returned to manage the Angels in 2020, it felt like a circle closing with him returning to the organization he'd spent 30 seasons with as a minor league player, manager and major league coach.

"I dig into the relationship component of all this," Maddon said. "Everybody wants to know strategies, hit and runs, bullpen management, lineups and all that stuff. But it starts with relationships, and I've already had that built. That's where it began."

Maddon was in charge of the Angels' Instructional League program one fall three decades ago when he heard Gene Mauch's gravelly voice behind him.

"I don't know how you're doing it, son," Mauch said. "But you've created a great environment here."

To this day, Maddon considers it maybe the greatest compliment he has ever received, because Mauch was a legendary tough guy and frugal with praise – and yet universally respected throughout the managerial fraternity.

Back during those years of riding buses and eating cold cuts, Maddon could not have envisioned how his career would play out. But he understands the pull the game has and why a man like La Russa, with 2,728 victories and three championships before the 2021 season began, would want back into the dugout.

"I love the job," La Russa said. "I felt fortunate when I was offered the job. That's one of the beauties of being downstairs (in the dugout). You can't hide from pressure. You've got to embrace it."

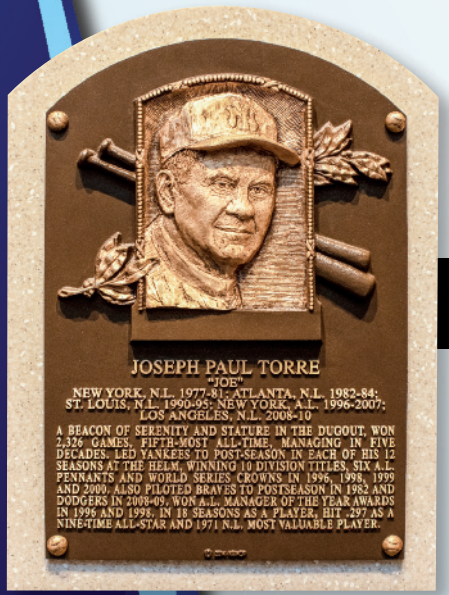
He'll do that. He'll love it, too. In another Golden Age of Managers, his return feels right.

Richard Justice covered the Astros for two decades with the Houston Chronicle *and MLB.com.*

Manager

JOE TORRE

BRAD MANGIN/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



JOSEPH PAUL TORRE

Elected: 2014 • Born: July 18, 1940, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Manager: New York Mets (1977-81), Atlanta Braves (1982-84), St. Louis Cardinals (1990-95), New York Yankees (1996-2007), Los Angeles Dodgers (2008-10)

Year	Team	League	G	W	L	Pct.	Finish
1977	New York Mets	NL	117	49	68	.419	6
1978	New York Mets	NL	162	66	96	.407	6
1979	New York Mets	NL	163	63	99	.389	6
1980	New York Mets	NL	162	67	95	.414	5
1981	New York Mets	NL	105	41	62	.398	4/5
1982	Atlanta Braves	NL	162	89	73	.549	1
1983	Atlanta Braves	NL	162	88	74	.543	2
1984	Atlanta Braves	NL	162	80	82	.494	3
1990	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	58	24	34	.414	6
1991	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	84	78	.519	2
1992	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	83	79	.512	3
1993	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	162	87	75	.537	3
1994	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	115	53	61	.465	3
1995	St. Louis Cardinals	NL	47	20	27	.426	4
1996	New York Yankees	AL	162	92	70	.568	1
1997	New York Yankees	AL	162	96	66	.593	2
1998	New York Yankees	AL	162	114	48	.704	1
1999	New York Yankees	AL	162	98	64	.605	1
2000	New York Yankees	AL	161	87	74	.540	1
2001	New York Yankees	AL	161	95	65	.594	1
2002	New York Yankees	AL	161	103	58	.640	1
2003	New York Yankees	AL	163	101	61	.623	1
2004	New York Yankees	AL	162	101	61	.623	1
2005	New York Yankees	AL	162	95	67	.586	1
2006	New York Yankees	AL	162	97	65	.599	1
2007	New York Yankees	AL	162	94	68	.580	2
2008	Los Angeles Dodgers	NL	162	84	78	.519	1
2009	Los Angeles Dodgers	NL	162	95	67	.586	1
2010	Los Angeles Dodgers	NL	162	80	82	.494	4
29 years			**4329**	**2326**	**1997**	**.538**	**2.6**

RON VESELY/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

All statistics are from baseball-reference.com

Awards & Records: 4 World Series Championships • 6 Pennants • AL Manager of the Year in 1996 & 1998

DID YOU KNOW ...

★ ... that in his final 15 seasons as a manager, Joe Torre led his team to the postseason 14 times?

★ ... that Torre's four World Series titles as a manager rank fourth all time behind Joe McCarthy (7), Casey Stengel (7) and Connie Mack (5) and tied with Walter Alston?

FRONT OF CARD: EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

WHAT THEY SAY ...

★ "In many ways, Joe was the pulse of all those championship teams. He was a great teacher and father figure to all of us." – YANKEES PITCHER ANDY PETTITTE

★ "We played the game with respect and honor, and we took those qualities from [Torre]." – YANKEES CATCHER JORGE POSADA

★ "He did it with a quiet dignity that was true to the Yankee Way." – YANKEES OWNER HAL STEINBRENNER

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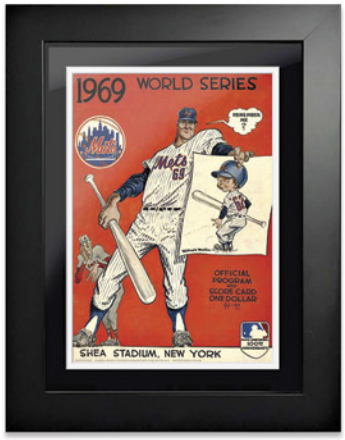

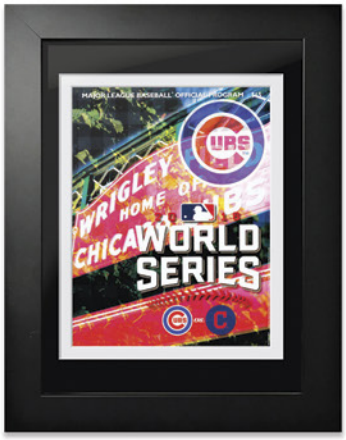

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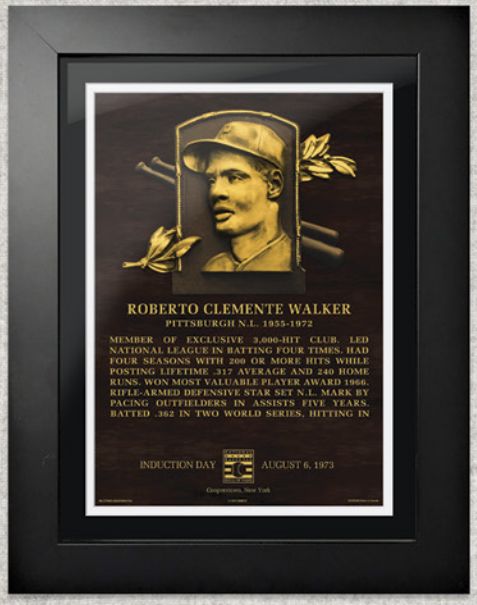

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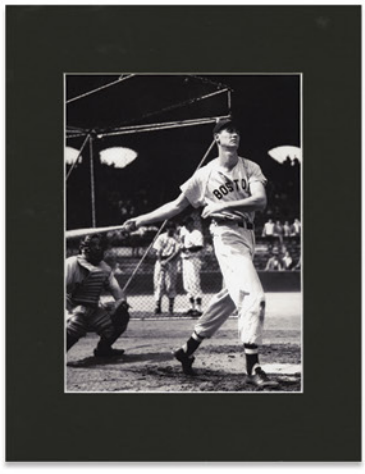

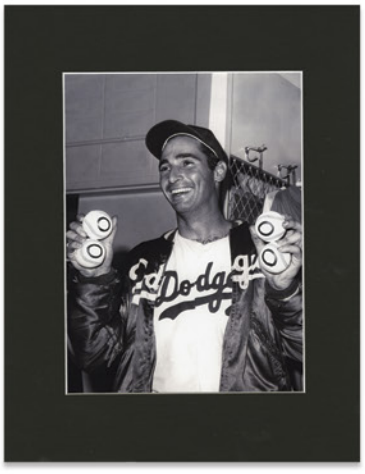

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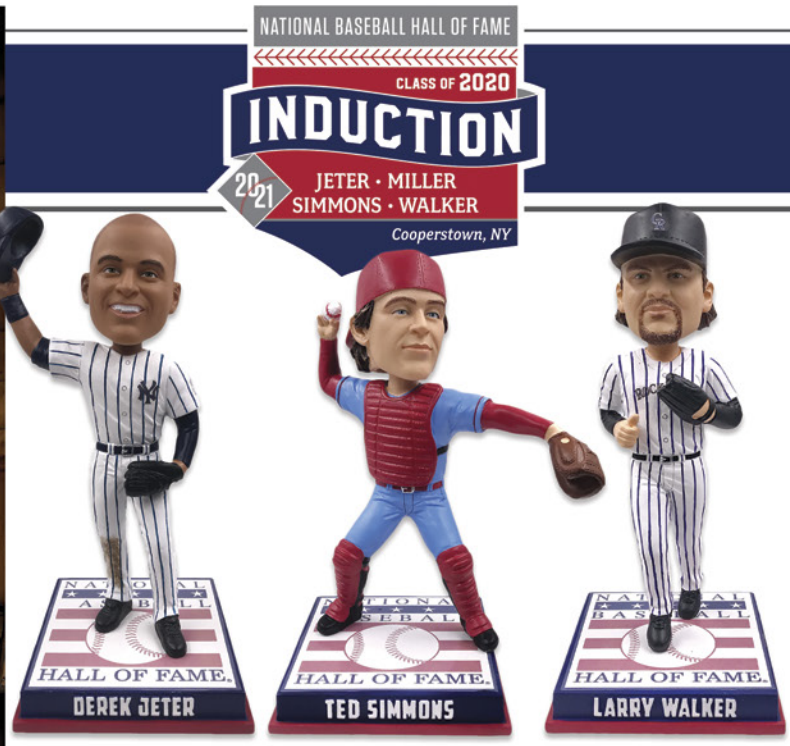

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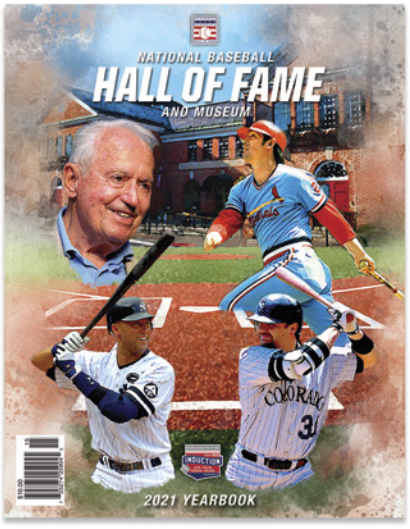

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Ceremonies of Class

The 2021 Hall of Fame *Induction Ceremony* will be a television-only event honoring the Class of 2020.

BY CRAIG MUDER

It's the annual date on the baseball calendar when Cooperstown becomes the baseball capital of the world.

On Sunday, July 25, the newest members of the Hall of Fame will be enshrined, capping a more-than-18-month journey necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Derek Jeter, the late Marvin Miller, Ted Simmons and Larry Walker will be inducted in a television-only event in Cooperstown. Due to the ongoing safety concerns associated with the pandemic, all 2021 Hall of Fame Weekend public events have been canceled, and the *Induction Ceremony* will be held indoors.

The Museum, featuring exhibits dedicated to each of the members of the Class of 2020, will be open throughout Hall of Fame Weekend.

The 2021 *Induction Ceremony* will also honor the 2021 Ford C. Frick Award winner for broadcasting excellence, Al Michaels; the 2020 Frick Award winner, Ken Harrelson; the 2021 Baseball Writers' Association of America Career Excellence Award winner, Dick Kaegel; the 2020 BBWAA Career Excellence Award winner, the late Nick Cafardo; and the 2020 Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award winner, the late David Montgomery.

For decades, the *Induction Ceremony* has been held as an unticketed event, free and open to all fans. Since 1992, it has been held on the grounds of the Clark Sports Center, with estimated crowds approaching and surpassing 50,000 at five of the last six ceremonies from 2014-19.

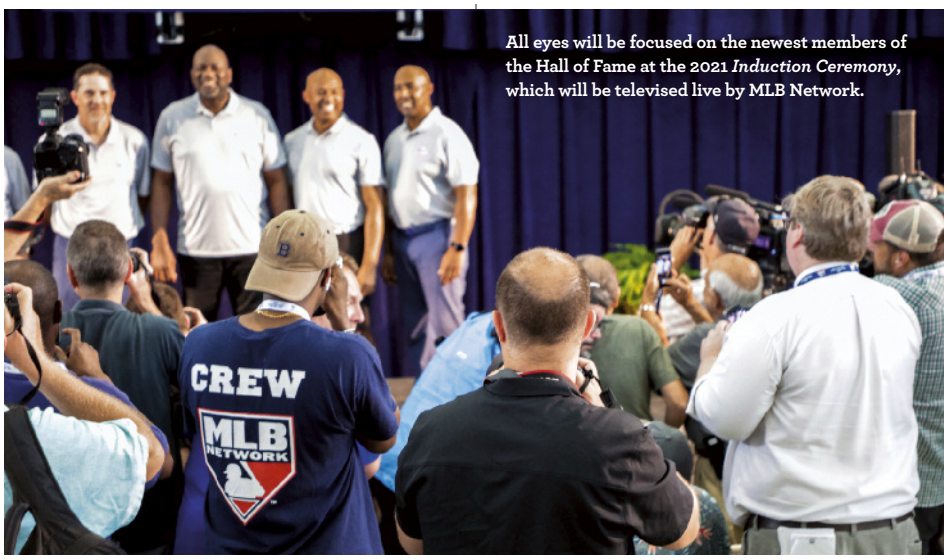
Jeter played 20 seasons, all for the New York Yankees, where he won five World Series titles and was World Series MVP in 2000. He was the 1996 American League Rookie of the Year after hitting .314, scoring 104 runs and helping the Yankees to their first world championship in 18 seasons. A 14-time All-Star who finished in the top 10 of the AL Most Valuable Player Award voting eight times, Jeter was a five-time Gold Glove Award winner at shortstop and never played another position in his 2,674 games in the field, which ranks second all time among shortstops.

Miller was elected as the head of the Major League Baseball Players Association in 1966 and quickly turned the union into a powerhouse. By 1970, he had secured the right to independent arbitration to resolve player grievances. Through that arbitration process, Miller won free agency for the players when pitchers Dave McNally and Andy Messersmith played out their contracts following the 1975 season. By the time Miller retired in 1982, the average player salary was approximately 20 times what it was when he took over. Miller passed away on Nov. 27, 2012.

Simmons played for 21 seasons for the Cardinals, Brewers and Braves, totaling a .285 batting average, 2,472 hits, 483 doubles, 248 home runs and 1,389 RBI. An eight-time All-Star – and the first catcher to start the All-Star Game for both the National League (1978) and the American League (1983) – he garnered MVP votes seven times in his career and finished among his league's top 10 players in batting average six times. Simmons never struck out more than 57 times in a season, and he is one of only 12 players in history with at least 240 home runs and fewer than 700 strikeouts. His 182 National League home runs were the most ever by an NL switch hitter at the time of his retirement.

Walker played 17 seasons for the Expos, Rockies and Cardinals. A seven-time Gold Glove Award winner in right field and a five-time All-Star, Walker won three National League batting titles and led the NL in on-base percentage twice and slugging percentage twice. His .565 career slugging percentage ranks 12th all time and his career OPS of .965 is 15th. Walker won the 1997 National League Most Valuable Player Award and is one of four retired players in history – along with Hank Aaron, George Brett and Willie Mays – with at least a .300 batting average, 300 home runs and 200 stolen bases.

Craig Muder is the director of communications for the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.



All eyes will be focused on the newest members of the Hall of Fame at the 2021 *Induction Ceremony*, which will be televised live by MLB Network.

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

PHIL'S COURAGE

WHILE MANAGING THE COLORADO SILVER BULLETS, PHIL NIEKRO INSTILLED HIS PLAYERS WITH THE CONFIDENCE THAT THEY COULD SUCCEED.

BY JULIE CROTEAU

Come with me on a journey back in time. It is the 1990s, and I'm walking onto a baseball field in Florida.

It is almost 30 years ago – a completely different era. A time in which the WNBA doesn't exist yet and beer commercials featuring the Swedish Bikini team play on our televisions.

Like so many women in baseball, I have spent my career being doubted. People are not shy about voicing their doubt in my ability to understand the game and are even more vocal about their disbelief in my ability to play the game at a high level.

But I am standing here today because I've been invited to try out for a women's professional baseball team. This is the day I will meet baseball legend Phil Niekro.

Phil will go on to manage the Colorado Silver Bullets from 1994 to 1997. But for now, I am just one of 1,300 women who will put on my cleats and glove and pinch myself to prove that this is really happening.

When Phil walks onto the field and speaks to us for the first time, his words are brief and professional. He speaks to us from a place of understanding and respect. He does not doubt us as athletes, and he will bring his family to the endeavor to prove it. His brother, Joe, will be our pitching coach, his son John will serve multiple roles and his wife, Nancy, will be our unofficial mentor.

LARRY GORENJAP IMAGES

Former Atlanta Braves pitcher Phil Niekro throws out a pitch while managing the Colorado Silver Bullets during a 1995 game at Fiscalini Field in San Bernardino, Calif.

Together, they will lend the Niekro name and its legitimacy to the enterprise.

Aren't you afraid they will laugh?

After tryouts in 11 cities, only 55 athletes are invited to Tinker Field in Orlando, Fla., for Spring Training. I've been near Phil for weeks but will not get a chance for a one-on-one conversation with him until after the final roster is set.

I have my first opportunity to talk with Phil privately after making the team. He is sitting by himself at a restaurant bar and waves me over to join him. Intimidated, but thrilled, I take the open chair next to him.

I have so many questions and surprise myself with the speed in which I ask: "Why are you doing this? Aren't you afraid they will laugh?"

He smiles, looks down at his food and answers the second question first – his words earning a permanent place in my memory. "Julie, lots of

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

JASON FISCHER/AP IMAGES

Above: Phil Niekro is surrounded by his Colorado Silver Bullets while holding his Hall of Fame plaque following the 1997 *Induction Ceremony* in Cooperstown. The knuckleballer won 318 games across 24 MLB seasons. **Right:** Niekro watches the first day of the Silver Bullets' 1996 Spring Training at the City of Palms Park in Fort Myers, Fla.

people didn't respect the knuckleball," he said. "Sometimes they even laughed at it. I ignored those people. I kept showing up, working hard and winning ball games. I'm not afraid of what people will say and you shouldn't be either."

He isn't concerned about his reputation or his legacy. He knows his 318 wins will likely carry him to the Baseball Hall of Fame – Phil will be elected to Cooperstown in 1997 – and isn't concerned about what people will say.

Then he tells me about his sister, Phyllis, and how they played baseball in the backyard. She was his catcher, and with visible emotion in his eyes, he tells me about her talent. How they were equally good, but that she "just wasn't allowed to play ball back then."

"It was a shame," he says, "because she was such a good ballplayer."

On a deeper level, I understand why he is here. Why he is leading us. On the outside, we look different, but there are strong currents of understanding underneath. There are powerful parallels between us.

He sees the chance to give each one of us an opportunity that his sister never had.

Now I understand why he accepted the offer from former Atlanta Braves executive Bob Hope to run a women's professional baseball team. When he was asked about the job, he didn't have to stop and wonder whether women could play baseball. Thanks to Phyllis, he already knew the answer.

Throwing the knuckleball

One of the beautiful things about baseball is how time ebbs and flows. The game includes periods of intense action followed by empty expanses of time, and one of my strongest memories of playing baseball with Phil lives in those empty expanses.

It shows up on the day he first shows us how to throw a knuckleball. We are in the bullpen waiting for a delayed bus when he

BRAD MANGIN/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Phil Niekro managed the Colorado Silver Bullets from 1994-97, helping dozens of women ballplayers live their dreams on the baseball diamond.

takes the mound to demonstrate the pitch. The ball floats effortlessly from his fingertips. It is simultaneously beautiful, perplexing and untouchable. From such a close perspective, it becomes obvious how the pitch simply dances away from an awaiting bat.

We all want to emulate him. Who wouldn't? He makes it look so easy. He shares the details of his expertise so freely we are sure we will be throwing knuckleballs with precision by the end of the day. As I write this, I still can feel the grip, the contact of my fingernails on the ball, and I can hear his soft voice talking us through the extension and the release.

As anyone who's tried to throw a knuckleball knows, it is not as easy as it looks, and even with the undisputed master providing private lessons, it is an elusive pitch. I never came close to mastering it, but we did fill a lot of the empty space that season trying and got better as the year progressed. At the end of the 1994 season, I joke with Phil and Joe that if the distance between the pitcher's mound and home plate was just reduced to 15 feet instead of 60 feet, 6 inches, then maybe, just maybe, I could do their pitch justice.

Learning from the pros

The baseball knowledge I glean from Phil and Joe Niekro is immeasurable, but they also teach me how to be professional off the field. They teach me how to live on the road. How to catch buses and airplanes, find gyms, stay focused through disappointment and to not lose touch with those I love. They teach me how to stay even, how (and, more importantly, when) to unwind and blow off steam. They teach me to carry my bag with my non-throwing arm to avoid injury and how to make waiting for luggage fun by waging a $1 bet on whose luggage will come out of the carousel first.

A baseball season on the road can be long and grueling. They teach me to recognize that the season is a marathon and not a sprint, and to pace myself accordingly, to push myself to the limit and to know when to let something go. They also chew the team out when we deserve it.

After we lose a game, 2-0, with no errors but only four hits, Phil raises his voice and tells us to, "Just hit the damn ball! You won't win until you hit the damn ball!"

Memories of Phil

Traveling back to 2021, I need to close my eyes to remember Phil. When I do, I see him standing beside his brother Joe. They are smiling like they just got away with something. Like they'd solved a puzzle that other people couldn't figure out. Their smiles are easy, comfortable and open. Their friendship so palpable that you wonder if the winning of 539 games between them was simply an extension of their tight bond.

In my mind's eye, Phil's right hand is on his hip and his left hand holds a clipboard containing our workout. He is wearing the Silver Bullets uniform with the same ease and pride as he wore the Atlanta Braves uniform. He exudes the qualities of a man who is equally comfortable having a meal with a friend as he is being on the mound with an important game on the line.

It is unmistakable that he believes in the transformative power of baseball – and that he believes in us.

Julie Croteau played for the Silver Bullets in 1994. Recognized as the first woman to play NCAA men's baseball, she is now the director of communications for the BeWell Programs at Stanford University.

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NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

Handy Men

Negro Leagues managers filled multiple roles while making history.

BY MATT KELLY

The Negro Leagues' star players are still earning recognition they were denied for decades, continuing with Major League Baseball's announcement that it will soon add Negro Leagues statistics and accomplishments to the official record books.

Managers, however, were just as vital to Black baseball's success. These men knew just as much about the strategy of the game as their more celebrated MLB counterparts, but Negro Leagues skippers usually had far more on their plate than on-field strategy.

"A Negro Leagues manager in those days might have not only been playing a position on the field," said Gary Ashwill, a prominent Black baseball researcher and co-creator of the Seamheads Negro Leagues statistical database, "but also captaining and running the team, making arrangements for games, arrangements for travel, possibly doing contract negotiations (for his teammates) and certainly handling the money. They basically did everything; running the team in every sense of the word."

No one embodied that versatile role more than Andrew "Rube" Foster. First a superstar pitcher in Philadelphia, Foster took over as the Chicago American Giants' owner, manager and star attraction. In 1911, Foster secured the White Sox's old ballpark as the Giants' playing grounds and set up games across the Midwest with his hand-built network of promoters. He also built a star-studded roster that won an astounding 123 of its 129 matchups in 1910 and captured multiple Black championships across the next 12 years.

The man once compared to Christy Mathewson on the mound later drew comparisons to John McGraw on the bench, training the Giants to perfect the small-ball style that the Negro Leagues later embodied. And, as if Foster didn't have enough going on, he was also the Giants' stadium superintendent, worked crowd control and attended to dissatisfied fans personally – all while still managing the Giants on the diamond. After Foster's pitching career wrapped up in '17, he served as the Giants'

DON SPARKS/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

manager and owner and as the Negro National League's president well into the 1920s.

Foster was far from Black baseball's lone managing legend. The Indianapolis ABCs' C.I. Taylor often trained the 1910s' best players before Foster bought them for his Giants, contemporaries recalled. Taylor's brother, "Candy Jim," racked up nearly 1,000 wins while jumping between several clubs. Another brother, Ben, was a star first baseman elected to the Hall of Fame in 2006.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Left: Buck O'Neil mentored early Black stars in the American and National Leagues before becoming a coach with the Cubs in the 1960s. **Above:** Oscar Charleston was one of dozens of player/managers in the Negro Leagues who starred on both the field and in the dugout.

Vic Harris, a seven-time East-West All-Star outfielder, led the Homestead Grays to an unprecedented seven pennants (and could have made it nine, had he not served a defense job during World War II).

Foster also wasn't the only skipper who wore many hats. Traditional front offices with traveling secretaries and business managers didn't arrive in the Negro Leagues until the 1930s and '40s, meaning managers personally wrote letters to rival teams to arrange games. Indeed, booking frustrations were a major impetus for the Negro Leagues' organization in 1920, which finally released Black teams from the whims of stadium promoters (particularly white promoters in smaller towns)

and gave them agency over their own schedules.

On the diamond, these managers did more with less. Faced with playing fields that usually ranked below minor league quality, skippers turned the uneven dirt to their advantage and employed a myriad of steals, bunts, squeeze plays and hit-and-runs, manufacturing runs however they could and keeping Negro Leagues games in constant motion.

"See, Major League Baseball to me is you could go get some popcorn or soda until Ruth came up, or some of the (other) big hitters," Negro Leagues great Buck O'Neil would recall. "But with this, uh-uh. You couldn't leave because you might miss something you'd never seen before, because these guys would steal second, steal third, steal home, if you wasn't smart."

Black managers also maintained rosters and balance sheets that were far more in flux than those in the majors. With no guarantee that his job (or even his club or his league) would be around the following year, a Negro Leagues manager was more motivated to ride his star ace in as many games as possible, and then put that ace in the outfield on days when he didn't pitch.

One cost-effective measure was the player/manager, used more prominently in the Negro Leagues than the majors, and the Leagues' stars executed the role with more success. Cuban legend José Méndez led the Kansas City Monarchs to the first Negro World Series in 1924 as the club's manager and staff ace, twirling a shutout in the decisive game. Frank Warfield was Hilldale's second baseman and manager during its subsequent World Series title in '25, and third baseman/manager Dave Malarcher inherited the Giants from Foster and led them to back-to-back crowns in 1926 and 1927.

Hall of Famer Oscar Charleston built the Eastern Colored League's Harrisburg Giants from scratch as its star player, manager and general manager in the middle of his playing prime, and later skippered the Pittsburgh Crawfords to three Negro National League pennants. Fellow Hall of Fame players Andy Cooper, Martín Dihigo, Bullet Joe Rogan, Pop Lloyd and Biz Mackey all became pennant-winning skippers.

The rebirth of the Negro Leagues following the Great Depression saw more organized front offices take some duties off the manager's plate, and the job underwent another transformation after Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in 1947.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Before he became the primary force behind the creation of the Negro National League, Rube Foster was a star player and manager – helping form the foundation of Black baseball.

As waves of Negro Leaguers leapt into the majors, late-era skippers such as the Monarchs' O'Neil took it upon themselves to develop and showcase their players for big league clubs. Early Black MLB stars, including Robinson, Hank Thompson, Elston Howard and Ernie Banks, were all tutored by O'Neil, who was later instrumental in the careers of Billy Williams, Lou Brock, Joe Carter, Lee Smith and others as the majors' first Black scout and coach.

Indeed, as the field managers, trainers, general managers, financial directors, traveling secretaries, promoters and, in many cases, the stars and faces of their teams, the term "manager" hardly encapsulates the lives of many of the men who served the role in Black baseball.

"The managers were responsible for the whole team," Ashwill said. "It was all on their shoulders."

Matt Kelly is a freelance writer from Brooklyn, N.Y.

CHANGING SOX

BILL VEECK MADE HISTORY WITH HIS MANAGERIAL CHOICES IN 1978–79, FINALLY SETTLING ON FUTURE HALL OF FAMER TONY LA RUSSA.

BY CARROLL ROGERS WALTON

The legacy of late Baseball Hall of Fame owner Bill Veeck was built on his unique skills as a master promoter. And why wouldn't it be, for the creator of postgame fireworks, weddings at home plate, names on the back of the jerseys and bat day giveaways?

The former Chicago White Sox owner, who convinced Harry Caray to serenade fans with "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," is also remembered as a forward-thinker. As owner of the Cleveland Indians, he signed Larry Doby to become the American League's first Black player. Veeck later hired Doby to manage the White Sox, making him only the second Black manager in American League history.

But the recognition Veeck receives for making shrewd baseball decisions sometimes gets lost in the historical shuffle. Even some of his best moves came across as yet another of his "gimmicks." A prime example took place in the midst of a tumultuous period for the White Sox in the late 1970s. In one 13-month span, Veeck went through four managers. With the fourth, however, Veeck unearthed arguably one of the greatest managers of all time: Tony La Russa.

From June 29, 1978, to Aug. 2, 1979, Veeck and general manager Roland Hemond oversaw the firing of Bob Lemon, the Hall of Fame pitcher; the hiring of Doby, the future Hall of Fame center fielder; and the hiring and resignation of Don Kessinger, the last player/manager in American League history. At that point, Veeck turned to his Triple-A manager, La Russa, a 34-year-old Tampa, Fla., native with minimal managing experience.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Bill Veeck often created headlines while an MLB team owner, among them hiring four different managers over a 13-month period in the late '70s with the White Sox.

"We knew he was smart," said the now 91-year-old Hemond, the recipient of the 2011 Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. "We had good reports on him. I knew he would be special; all he needed was to get his chance."

La Russa had only managed for parts of two minor league seasons and one year of winter ball. What he lacked in experience, La Russa made up for in intrigue, apparently, as a recent graduate of Florida State University College of Law.

"Bill was a reader of books, he had a lot of interests, kind of a renaissance man, right?" said La Russa, who came out of retirement last October to manage the White Sox again at age 76. "I think the fact that I had a law degree got his attention."

Chicago Tribune columnist David Israel called La Russa's 1979 hire a gimmick.

"Veeck became the first owner in memory to go out and intentionally hire a genuine clubhouse lawyer," he wrote. "… He is the new trick."

La Russa doesn't argue that point, then or now, even after compiling 2,728 wins in 34 years managing the White Sox, Athletics and Cardinals before retiring in 2011. In 2021, he is poised to surpass John McGraw for second place on the all-time wins list behind only Connie Mack.

"Harry Caray said the only reason I was there (in 1979) was Bill was too cheap to hire a real manager," La Russa said. "He was probably right."

But when La Russa describes some of the conversations he had with Veeck after the White Sox first hired him as their Double-A manager in Knoxville in 1978, he reveals the depth to Veeck's thinking.

La Russa had spent his winters as a minor league player taking classes toward his law degree. When he arrived in Knoxville, he had completed the first two sections of the Florida bar exam.

"He pulled me aside a couple of times in minor league camp just to ask me about why I was pursuing it," said La Russa. "I was a decent Triple-A player, but I realized I wasn't going to be able to support a family, so I needed to be able to do something else. I loved to read,

CHICAGO WHITE SOX

White Sox manager Tony La Russa (right) chats with owner Bill Veeck in 1980, the day after La Russa injured his shoulder while breaking up a fight. Veeck hired La Russa as White Sox manager in 1979.

problem-solve and I had some friends who were lawyers. I needed another occupation, and the law seemed to fit."

La Russa put his problem-solving skills on display as a first-time manager in 1978. Knoxville won the first half, going 49-21, led by No. 1 draft pick and future Hall of Famer Harold Baines. Behind the scenes, La Russa's conviction, and willingness to stand up for his position, was also making an impression on Veeck.

By Spring Training of 1979, after La Russa was promoted to manage the White Sox's Triple-A team in Iowa, he was a regular dinner guest of Veeck's. La Russa was often joined by Hemond, farm director and former White Sox manager Paul Richards, and minor league instructor Ken Silvestri.

"Bill liked to throw out stuff to see how guys would respond," La Russa said.

Two topics stand out in La Russa's memory. One was about the hit-and-run. During one dinner discussion, Richards brought up former White Sox manager Al López, an idol to La Russa growing up in Tampa, and how he preached against the hit-and-run. His philosophy was either bunt or let them swing.

La Russa had a feeling the question was aimed at him because he had hit-and-run a fair amount in Knoxville.

"I said, 'With due respect, I think there's a place for the hit-and-run,'" La Russa said. "I got an, 'Oh? Really?'"

The other hot topic was the merits of playing your infield halfway. Richards made the case that there was no point to it.

"I listened and said, 'With due respect, I disagree,'" La Russa recalled. "There are times that halfway makes sense.' And I tried to give a couple [examples]. Bill would take a puff of his cigarette and go, 'Oh?'

"I don't know if I made any sense, but I think the fact that I had opinions meant something."

As La Russa rose in the White Sox ranks, his opinions stuck with Veeck. When Lemon was fired following a 34-40 start in 1978 and replaced by Doby, La Russa got promoted from Double-A manager to first base coach for the White Sox.

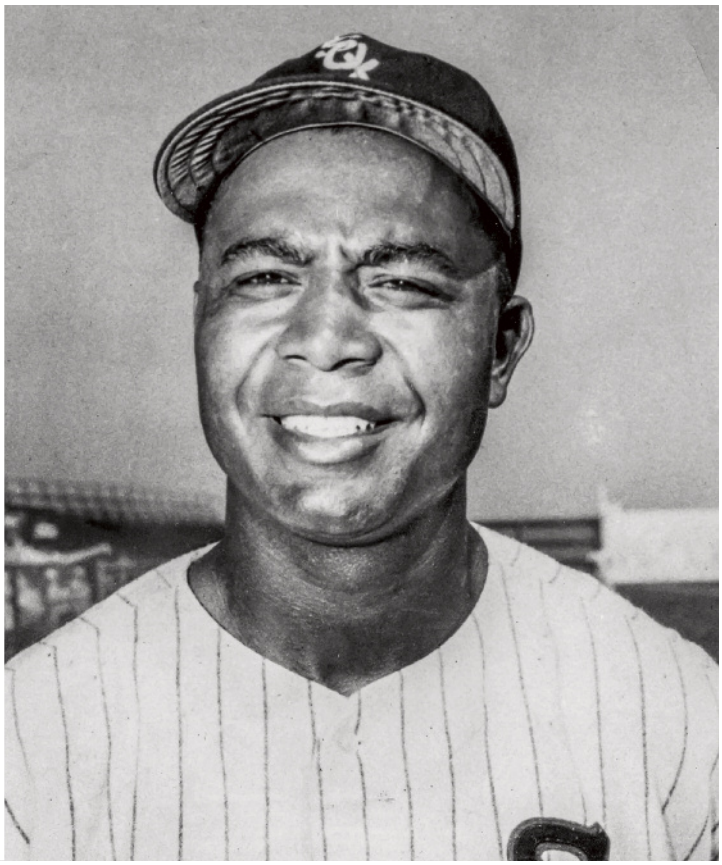
At the end of the season, Doby returned to his former role as hitting coach, and Veeck tabbed Kessinger, a former star shortstop for the Cubs and White Sox, to be his player/manager.

La Russa, who managed in the Dominican Republic that winter, asked to manage in Triple-A Iowa rather than return to the major league coaching staff, to get more experience managing. He was in Des Moines eating lunch with his wife, Elaine, after a doctor's appointment, when Walt Jocketty, then in the front office with Iowa, tracked La Russa down at a Chinese restaurant. He told him to call Chicago.

La Russa's assumption was the White Sox wanted to call up Iowa catcher Mike Colbern. But when he got on the phone with Hemond, he was told Kessinger had just resigned during lunch with Veeck. A seven-game losing streak had left the team at 46-60. The White Sox wanted to announce La Russa as their new manager at a 4 p.m. press conference. He had two-and-a-half hours to decide.

"I was shocked," La Russa said. "My immediate response was, 'Well, I need to talk to [my wife, Elaine]. We're getting ready to have a baby.'"

Elaine was eight months pregnant with their first daughter, Bianca. La Russa said after



PHOTOS BY NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Bob Lemon (left) and Larry Doby (right) both managed the White Sox in 1978. Lemon was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1976, and Doby – just the second Black manager in American League history – was enshrined in Cooperstown in 1998.

talking with Elaine for nearly an hour, they decided to take a chance on a new city, a new obstetrician and a new job.

"In the end, it felt like, 'If you turn this one down, you may never be offered again,'" La Russa said. "And because I had that law degree, at some point I was going to have to leave baseball. We decided to take a shot."

As unproven as La Russa was to those outside the White Sox organization, he had to convince himself he was ready, too.

"My thought was, 'Well I didn't really deserve the job because I had a really crappy playing career, and I had only managed parts of two years in the minor leagues and one [year of]winter ball,'" La Russa said. "But when the job was offered, Mr. Richards called me and said, 'Look, just trust your gut and don't cover your butt.' I asked him to explain. He said, 'Well, there's a lot of attention, and there are major league managers who are tempted sometimes to get away from what they think and do something that is expected. And if it doesn't work, nobody gets you.' He said, 'But if you don't trust your gut and you lose, you'll never know if you're good enough.'"

La Russa wanted to find out if he was good enough. The White Sox went 27-27 under his watch the rest of that season. Over the winter, Veeck asked him to come back as manager in 1980.

"I was just as surprised as our fans," said La Russa, who managed the White Sox for eight more seasons and won the AL West in 1983 before getting fired by the next ownership group in 1986. (Veeck, the last major league owner without an independent fortune, sold the team in 1981.)

La Russa said Hemond told him that the White Sox had received calls from several other clubs in 1979 wanting permission to talk to La Russa about open managerial positions. It was further indication that Veeck's hiring decision was no publicity stunt.

The White Sox were just three weeks removed from "Disco Demolition Night" when La Russa took over on Aug. 2. The promotional brainchild of Veeck's son Mike had morphed from a hit into a riot, forcing the White Sox to forfeit the second game of a doubleheader.

La Russa said the prospects of becoming a spectacle, working for an owner who once sent in 3-foot-7 Eddie Gaedel to pinch hit, hired clown Max Patkin as a coach and, for a night, let fans vote on managerial decisions, never bothered him. And he always appreciated that Veeck insisted he finish the bar exam before signing his contract with the White Sox for 1980.

As much as anybody, Veeck could appreciate the fluidity of a manager's job and wanted La Russa to be covered.

"Bill loved the game," La Russa said. "He was just a very creative guy. He didn't have a big legacy of money, so a lot of those gimmicks were partly to bring fans to the park so they could sell some tickets and also because he wanted the game to be fun.

"It made sense to me. The more money he had, the more money he could spend on the club, but also let the fans enjoy whatever the giveaway was that day. I thought it was creative, and it matched the way his brain worked. But it was all on behalf of the greatness of the game."

Carroll Rogers Walton covered the Braves for 11 years with the Atlanta Journal-Constitution *and is currently a freelance writer based in Charlotte.*

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THE SUNDAY MANAGER

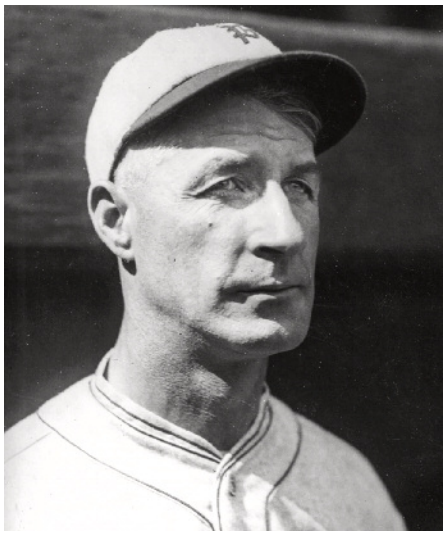
BURT SHOTTON FACED CHALLENGES THAT NO SKIPPER EVER HAD WHILE LEADING THE DODGERS TO THE 1947 NL PENNANT.

BY STEVE WULF

"He lives quietly. Since coming to Brooklyn about a month ago (he stays in the Hotel St. George), he has gone to one movie (*The Best Years of Our Lives*) and has not found it necessary to visit Manhattan, except on baseball business." –*Brooklyn Eagle*, June 15, 1947

You wonder what Burt Shotton was thinking when the movie credits were rolling. *The Best Years of Our Lives* had to strike a chord. After all, it's about three veterans who must withstand a new ordeal after coming home to restart their lives. Wherever Burt was perched in the theater that day, he must have felt that he was sitting in their seats.

The story of how this unlikely but likeable man managed the 1947 Dodgers into the World Series – and the history books – is worthy of its own movie. When the season opened in Brooklyn, "Barney" was a 62-year-old part-time scout living in Bartow, Fla., with his wife, Mary, content to hunt and fish for game – both in the wild and on the baseball diamond.



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Burt Shotton played 14 big league seasons with the Browns, Senators and Cardinals, earning a reputation as one of the fastest players in the game.

In fact, he was down in Miami to talk about some Havana prospects when he was handed a telegram from the Brooklyn office. He didn't think it was crucial, so he put it in his pocket. Then he opened it at Mary's urging.

It read, "Be in Brooklyn tomorrow morning. See nobody. Say nothing. Rickey."

At the time, the Dodgers were 2-0 but were reeling. Right before Opening Day, manager Leo Durocher had been suspended by Commissioner Happy Chandler for conduct unbecoming a manager. Jackie Robinson and Branch Rickey had just broken down the door to baseball's fortress of prejudice, only to find themselves surrounded by people who thought Robinson didn't belong – fans, owners, writers, players, even some of Jackie's own teammates.

The Dodgers were a pennant contender, but interim manager Clyde Sukeforth felt that he wasn't the man for the job. That's why Rickey asked his brain trust to come to his office to go over a list of candidates.

"I am falling out a window," he told them from the comfort of his chair. "I am on the ledge and going over! The sidewalk is 20 feet below! One name – one name can save me!"

One by one, the candidates were dismissed. But when Sukeforth made a case for a man who hadn't managed in the majors since 1933, Rickey backed away from the precipice … and sent a telegram to Burt Shotton.

The old scout had no idea what the cryptic message was all about when he stepped on the plane to LaGuardia Field on Friday, April 18. That's why he had only an overnight bag when Rickey met him and took him to breakfast at his home. It was then and there that "The Mahatma" dropped the bombshell: "I want you to manage the team the rest of the year."

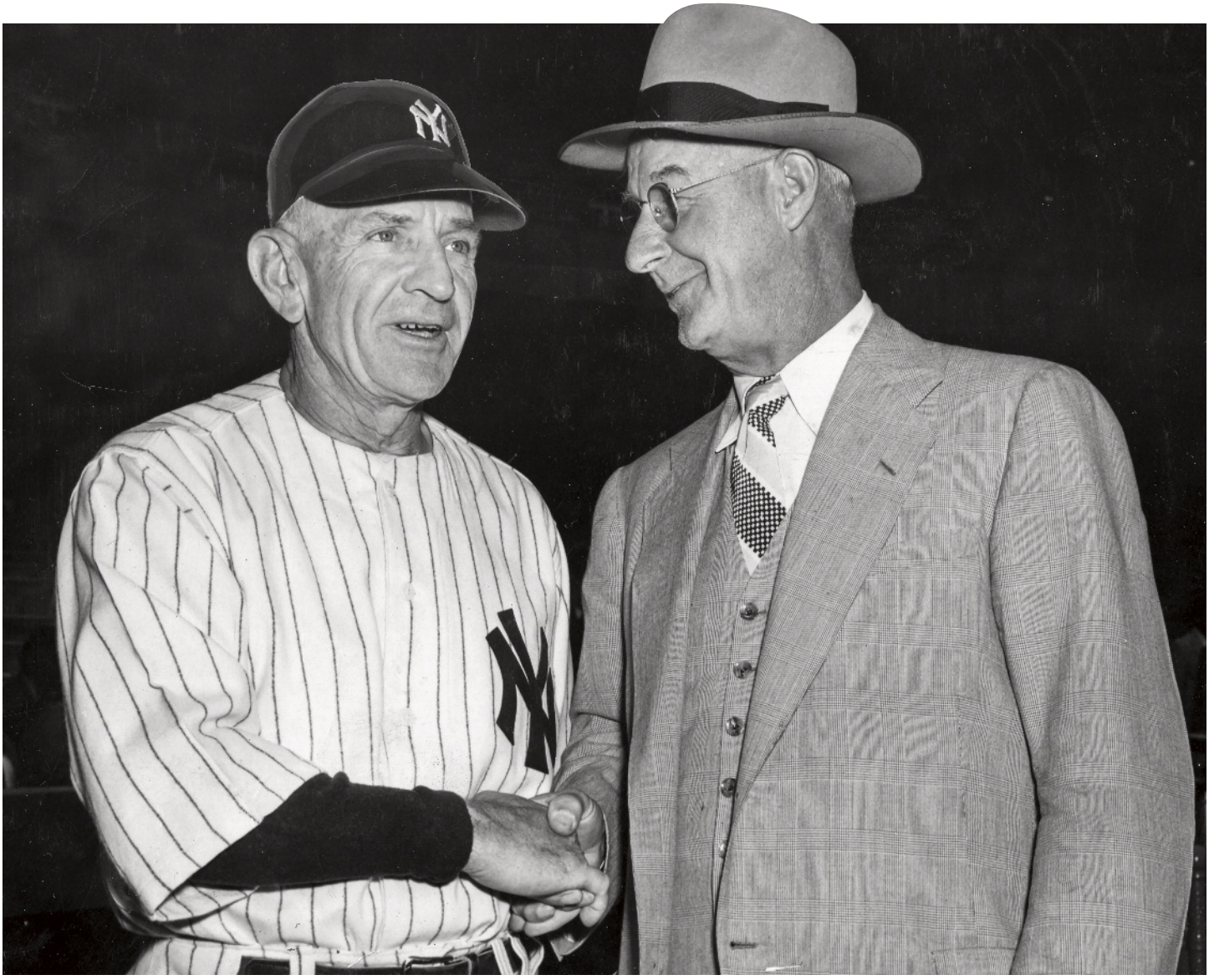
As Shotton later said: "I didn't have a chance to refuse the job for the very good reason that you don't resist Branch Rickey."

They didn't discuss salary, but Rickey did agree to one of Shotton's conditions. When he had retired as an Indians coach a few years before, he promised Mary he would never again put on a uniform. Rickey was his boss, yes, but Mary was his partner of 37 years. So Rickey agreed he could wear civilian clothes, the way Connie Mack did. Shotton then got in a cab to the Polo Grounds, where the Dodgers were scheduled to play the Giants. The driver got lost.

Shortly before game time, an announcement was made to the press while Sukeforth introduced this elderly gent in a Fedora, glasses and topcoat to the players. The Dodgers knew him from Spring Training, but really … Burt Shotton?

"You fellas can win the pennant in spite of me," he told them. "Don't be afraid of me as a manager."

With that, the Dodgers gave up six homers to the Giants and lost, 10-4. After the game,



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Dodgers manager Burt Shotton (right) shakes hands with Yankees skipper Casey Stengel in 1949. Shotton managed the Dodgers from 1947-50, winning two NL pennants.

Shotton told the befuddled reporters: "As soon as I know something about the club and can help, I'll start to work. Until then, I'll just watch." Then he excused himself to call Mary to give her the news and have her ship him some clothes.

Red Barber, the legendary Dodgers broadcaster, summed up the situation this way: "It was a good thing Burt Shotton was already white-haired when he took over. … Otherwise what he had to contend with would have turned his head the color of new-fallen snow."

So why did Rickey choose him? The answer goes back to 1913. According to "Burt Shotton, Dodgers Manager," a 1994 biography by David Gough: "The pair first met in the lobby of a Philadelphia hotel … shortly after Rickey, fresh from attending law school at the University of Michigan, had joined the [Browns'] front office."

At the time, Shotton was a Browns outfielder and considered to be one of the fastest men in the game – he would steal 43 bases and score 105 runs that year. Indeed, he acquired the nickname "Barney" while growing up in Ohio because his speed afoot reminded people of Barney Oldfield, the famed auto racer who was also from Ohio.

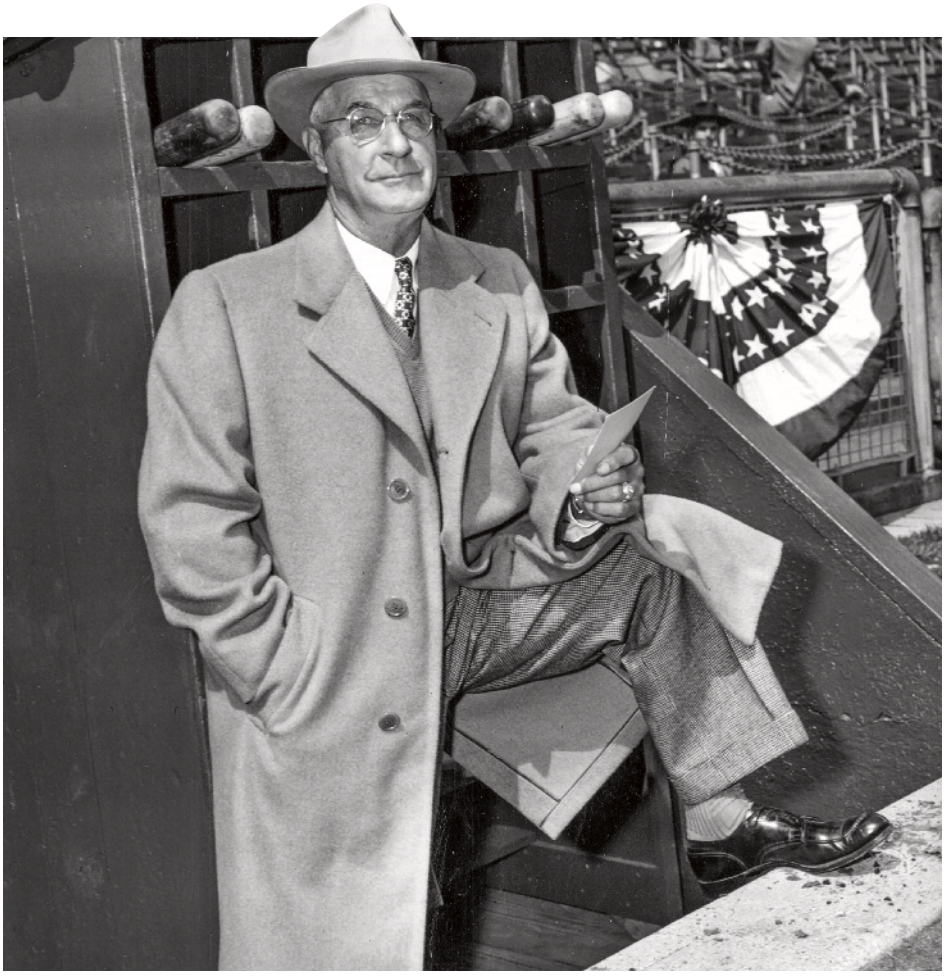
Rickey, too, was an Ohioan, a former major league catcher whose intelligence for baseball was readily apparent. And he saw in Shotton a like mind. Late in the 1913 season, Rickey took over as manager of the Browns on one condition – he couldn't manage on the Sabbath because he had to go to church and teach Sunday school. So he needed somebody to run the team on the Sabbath, a "Sunday manager." Shotton was usually his choice.

How good a player was Shotton? When major leaguers were polled after the 1915 season to name an all-star team, the outfield was Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker and … Burt Shotton. Four years later, he rejoined Rickey with the Cardinals.

When his playing days were over, Shotton became a coach for the Cardinals and then the manager of their Syracuse affiliate. That led to a six-year stint as the Phillies' manager (1928-33). The only thing he won, though, was top honors in a 1929 target shooting competition.

Rickey brought him back into the Cardinals' fold in 1935 as a minor league manager, and he nurtured a new generation of stars for the team. Shotton then became the right-hand man for Cleveland Indians player/manager Lou Boudreau, while Rickey took over the Dodgers. They kept in touch.

In retrospect, it's little wonder that in April 1947, when Rickey found himself in a bind after choosing to follow through on his beliefs,



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Burt Shotton wore street clothes in the dugout after taking over the Dodgers in 1947, keeping a promise to his wife that he would never again put on a uniform.

he turned to his old Sunday manager. But the job was far from a Sunday afternoon stroll.

"Shotton was handed by Rickey and by the fates the most upset, torn-apart ball club in history," said Barber.

After losing their first two games under Shotton, the Dodgers won six straight. It wasn't his genius so much as it was his patience – the team relaxed and played ball. Shotton owed a debt of gratitude to Durocher, who had put down a player revolt over Robinson in Spring Training. But he still had to win their trust, and they saw how well he handled the rookie first baseman during an early-season slump.

Robinson wrote of those struggles in "I Never Had It Made." "As my slump deepened, I appreciated Shotton's patience and understanding. I knew the pressure was on him to take me out of the lineup. … Shotton, however, continued to encourage me."

Shotton had ditched the dugout attire of his debut for comfortable slacks, shirt and a Dodgers baseball jacket. The more he learned about the team, the more he liked its chances. The lineup was solid, so his main area of concern was the starting rotation – he had to send Sukeforth out to the mound to change pitchers (only uniformed personnel could set foot on the field), and Sukey was doing a lot of walking.

Shotton wasn't just a cheerleader, though. He would call out his players if they disrespected the game. One of them was a brash rookie who struck out after being asked to bunt, then threw his bat and muttered, "What does that old so-and-so think he's doing, having a .300 hitter bunt?" Shotton overheard him and replied, "You'll find out tomorrow in St. Paul." Which is where Duke Snider was sent the next day.

The National League race was fairly tight for the first three months, but then the Dodgers rattled off seven- and 13-game winning streaks in July. By mid-September, they had built an insurmountable 10-game lead.

As Franklin Graham of the *New York Journal-American* wrote: "The name of Durocher is seldom heard in the borough. What particularly impressed … members of the press box was the way Shotton deployed his bench and every available arm."

Could the '47 Dodgers have won the NL pennant under Durocher? Barber didn't think so.

"The coming of Jackie Robinson brought a seething turbulence that was waiting to explode. Shotton saw to it that serious internal trouble didn't break loose."

In his book "1947: When All Hell Broke Loose in Baseball," Barber freely confided his affection for Shotton: "After an afternoon game on the road, after dinner Shotton and I often walked, just the two of us. … Usually we found a place that served ice cream. … He had very simple habits, which made it very hard for certain city-wise writers to understand him."

One of those writers was Dick Young of the *Daily News*, who kept referring to Shotton simply as KOBS, an acronym for Kindly Old Burt Shotton. Well, he kindly got the Dodgers into the World Series with the New York Yankees.

"That's the true measure of a manager," said Branch Rickey III, the grandson of the man who had asked Shotton to do him a favor. "My grandfather always believed that what a manager did in the clubhouse was more important than what he did on the field."

An epic season ended with an epic World Series. Again, Shotton lost the first two games, and again, the Dodgers righted themselves, forcing a Game 7. Two of their victories were directly attributable to Shotton moves.

In Game 4, pinch-hitter Cookie Lavagetto broke up Bill Bevens' no-hitter in the ninth and won the game, 3-2. In Game 6, with the Dodgers leading, 8-5, in the sixth, Al Gionfriddo was brought in to play left, and with two outs and runners on first and second, he robbed Joe DiMaggio of extra bases with a one-handed catch at the wall. The Dodgers held on to win, 8-6.

If life were a movie, they would have won Game 7 and carried Shotton off on their shoulders … but it's not. They lost, 5-2. Still, they had won over millions of doubters and opened the doors for thousands of players.

It was not only the best year of Barney's life, but it might have been the best year the game has ever had. It certainly inspired a movie – the 2013 film *42*, starring the late Chadwick Boseman as Jackie Robinson and featuring Max Gail as Burt Shotton.

Steve Wulf has been writing about baseball since Hank Aaron was active. He lives in Larchmont, N.Y., just up the hill from where Lou and Eleanor Gehrig once resided.

TOMMY'S DODGERS

IN 1988, TOMMY LASORDA LED LOS ANGELES TO AN IMPROBABLE TITLE WITH HIS UNMATCHED PASSION FOR THE GAME.

BY JERRY CRASNICK

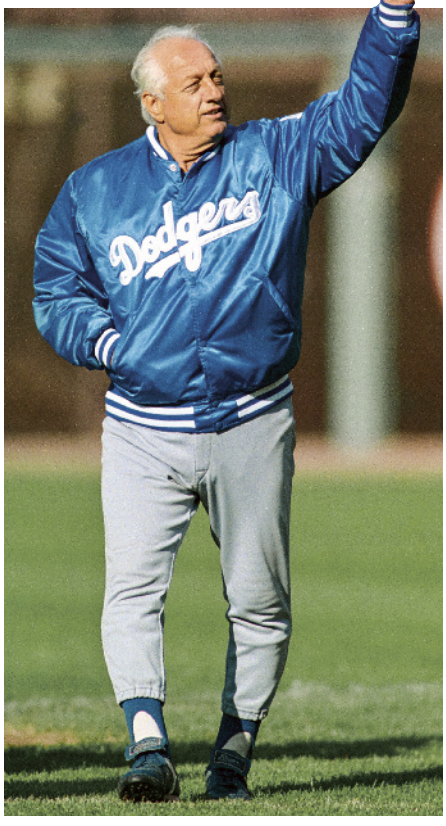
In the pre-internet days, when anger bubbled up naturally rather than in a volcano of tweets, it took ingenuity to muster up a passable sense of outrage over a stray comment in the media.

And few coaches or managers were more adept than Tommy Lasorda at stoking the phenomenon known as "bulletin board material."

With help from a prominent broadcaster, Lasorda crafted one of his greatest hits during the 1988 World Series. It would be the culmination of a season-long managerial performance for the ages.

While previewing Game 4 between Los Angeles and Oakland, NBC's Bob Costas observed that the lineup card posted by the Dodgers was "probably one of the weakest ever to take the field for a World Series."

The observation was rooted in numbers: The Dodgers had ranked eighth among 12 National League teams with 99 home runs and a .352 slugging percentage during the regular season, and their two best hitters, left fielder Kirk Gibson and right fielder Mike Marshall, were both out of the lineup with injuries.



BRAD MANGIN/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Tommy Lasorda managed the Dodgers to four National League pennants and two World Series titles over 21 seasons as manager.

Lasorda, true to character, didn't let a few technicalities undermine a good pep talk. He seized upon the comment and left nothing to chance – taking umbrage to motivate his group.

"We were in the clubhouse in Oakland. The TV was on, so we were all hearing this," said former Dodgers catcher Mike Scioscia, who went on to manage 19 seasons with the Los Angeles Angels. "Tommy comes out, and in his own style, he's letting [curses] fly. He says, 'You guys are a championship-caliber team. Let's go out and show the whole world what we can do!' We were ready to dive off a cliff for him."

It's impossible to gauge the impact of hurt feelings on performance, but the Dodgers seized upon the perceived slight and commenced cliff-diving. They beat the Athletics, 4-3, in Game 4, then closed out the series on an Orel Hershiser complete-game four-hitter in Game 5 and celebrated the sixth title in franchise history.

More than three decades later, Lasorda's speech serves as a masterclass in the art of finding competitive advantages.

"Tommy could understand a moment, whether it was a small moment that he needed to accentuate into the biggest thing in the world or a big moment that he needed to calm down or redirect," Hershiser said. "It wasn't make-believe. It wasn't a shtick. There was a purpose to it."

Lasorda won four pennants, two World Series and 1,599 games during a 21-year run with the Dodgers en route to his Baseball Hall of Fame induction in 1997. Along with his masterful job in coaching the U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal victory over favored Cuba at the 2000 Summer Games in Sydney, his 1988 managerial triumph will be remembered as an underdog special.

The Dodgers, dismissed by most observers as non-contenders in Spring Training, went 94-67 to capture the NL West title. They outlasted the Mets in seven games in the National League Championship Series after

losing 10 of 11 and being outscored, 49-18, by New York during the regular season. Then they defeated a heavily favored A's team led by sluggers José Canseco and Mark McGwire, 20-game winner Dave Stewart and star closer Dennis Eckersley, author of 45 saves and a 70-to-11 strikeout-to-walk ratio, in the World Series.

Lasorda cajoled, improvised and cheer-led his way through the season, navigating a range of injuries and forging personal connections that helped his players take their games to a new level.

"Tommy did a wonderful job of bringing players together," said Fred Claire, the Dodgers' general manager from 1987-98. "That was his strength. You can talk about being a tactician all you want, but the manager's job is to mold a team and get the most out of the team. That's pretty basic. That's what Tommy had the ability to do – to get to know players quickly and establish relationships."

When Lasorda passed away on Jan. 7, 2021, at age 93, the postmortems referenced his legacy as one of baseball's most accomplished communicators and goodwill ambassadors. He coaxed big moments from role players and epic performances from All-Stars with a combination of gregariousness, intuition and attentiveness to detail.

And he was a larger-than-life character, for sure. Newspaper profiles through the years focused on his friendships with Frank Sinatra, Don Rickles and other Hollywood personalities who passed in and out of his Dodger Stadium office. Numerous stories made reference to his fondness for receiving free meals in exchange for autographed photos that were on display on restaurant walls throughout America.

"The joke was that Tommy had meal money envelopes from the '70s that he hasn't even opened yet," Hershiser said.

The '88 Dodgers, a special team in hindsight, were nobody's darlings in February. The team had logged a combined 146-178 record over the previous two seasons and finished an aggregate 40 games out of first place in the NL West. Claire, who had taken over for Al Campanis as GM in April 1987, remade the roster and changed the tone of the clubhouse with his acquisitions. He signed free agents Mickey Hatcher and Rick Dempsey and traded for outfielder John Shelby, shortstop Alfredo Griffin, starter Tim Belcher and relievers Jay Howell and Jesse Orosco.

Claire made his signature addition in late January, when he signed free-agent outfielder Kirk Gibson to a three-year, $4.5 million contract. Much of Gibson's appeal stemmed from his football mentality, which Claire hoped would rub off on the rest of the roster. It was a prominent topic of conversation when the two met for dinner at a Pasadena, Calif., restaurant before the Dodgers assembled for Spring Training in Florida.

"Kirk had done his research," Claire said. "He said to me at dinner, 'Fred, I may have to kick some [butt] around here.' I said, 'Why do you think you're here?'"

Hershiser, the team's No. 1 starter, got off to an ominous start shortly before Spring Training. He was playing golf at the Los Angeles Country Club when he hit a shot on the 18th fairway and dropped to his knees in pain.

DOUG PIZAC/AP IMAGES

Mike Marshall (right) is congratulated by Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda following his third-inning home run that helped spark the team to a 6-0 win over the Athletics in Game 2 of the 1988 World Series. The Dodgers would take the series in five games, earning Lasorda his second world championship.

"I felt like somebody shot me," he said.

Hershiser's wife found him passed out in the bathroom later that day, and he was rushed to the hospital for an emergency appendectomy. Barely a week later, he was in Vero Beach, Fla., lobbying Lasorda and pitching coach Ron Perranoski to let him throw a side session to prove he was healthy.

"Then off we went," Hershiser said.

Thanks in part to Lasorda's ability to integrate new personalities into the mix, the Dodgers blended almost immediately. They went 13-7 in April, assumed sole possession of first place on May 26 and led the division the rest of the way.

Gibson set a businesslike tone and made it clear that jocularity in the workplace would not be tolerated when he famously stormed off the field in Spring Training after Orosco pranked him by smearing black shoe polish on the inside of his cap.

"Let's just say I won't be doing it again," Orosco told reporters in camp. "That's because I don't want to read my name in the obituaries."

Gibson went on to hit 25 homers, log an .860 OPS and beat out Mets outfielders Darryl Strawberry and Kevin McReynolds for the NL MVP Award. Hershiser won the Cy Young Award with a 23-8 record, 15 complete games, eight shutouts and a league-high 267 innings. During a historic run in August and September, Hershiser threw 59 straight shutout innings to break the record of 58.2 held by Dodgers great and Hall of Famer Don Drysdale.

As a 17th-round draft pick out of Bowling Green State University in 1979, Hershiser was cognizant of the Dodgers' organizational tradition and Lasorda's place in it. Lasorda christened Hershiser the "Bulldog" and injected the hurler with a confidence that helped drive him throughout his career.

"Every stage of your career, it's a different relationship," Hershiser said. "From the minor league side, you'd look across to the big league side in Spring Training and you were like, 'Wow, that's like God over there. If he even just knew my name.' Then you'd pitch in a minor league scrimmage, and Tommy would be in the stands just bellowing at you, whether he was mad or happy or whatever. He was always there. He didn't care if there were 10 people and a couple of scouts or 500 people in the stands.

"I had a really good outing one time when I was a Double-A pitcher, and Tommy called me and another guy into the stands and gave us this huge pep talk. He said, 'What's your name? I'm going to do an investigation. If you don't keep working at it and pitch in the big leagues, what a waste of talent that would be.'

DOUG McWILLIAMS/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

One of the game's most respected and popular managers, Tommy Lasorda was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1997.

"It was the typical Lasorda speech," Hershiser explained. "From Double-A on, that speech was part of my daily thoughts of, 'I can do this.'"

Up and down the roster, Lasorda sought out minor details to get to know his players and their families. His passion for baseball and aversion to losing were contagious.

"Tommy's leadership skills were incredible," Scioscia said. "He was absolutely the most competitive person I've ever been around in my life. He wanted to beat you if you were playing cards or having free-throw shooting contests in Vero Beach. If he was throwing batting practice to you, he challenged you that he was going to get you out. He instilled in a lot of us the grind of what you had to do if you wanted to be successful in the major leagues."

Whether it was sticking with embattled closer Jay Howell in the postseason or summoning a hobbled Gibson from the dugout to face Eckersley in the ninth inning of World Series Game 1, Lasorda made the right calls. Gibson hit an improbable homer off an Eckersley backdoor slider to give the Dodgers a 5-4 victory, and the chaos that ensued – Lasorda leading the charge from the dugout, Gibson limping around the bases and a stunned Vin Scully letting the action speak for itself – created a tableau for the ages.

Claire, who watched from his box at Dodger Stadium, was stunned by how many fans in the crowd of 55,983 lingered after Gibson crossed home plate. He went to his office to collect his briefcase and left the ballpark to an empty Dodger Stadium parking lot.

"The people who had left early were gone, and those who had stayed weren't leaving their seats," Claire said. "I could hear the cheering in the parking lot. I can still hear it in my mind. I drove home to Pasadena and said, 'This is a moment in time that we will never forget.'"

In 2018, the Dodgers assembled at Chavez Ravine to celebrate the 30-year reunion of their last title. They told stories, relived moments and acknowledged the impact of the man who provided daily doses of inspiration.

What will the players remember most about their manager? Lasorda made his living with lots of words, but Hershiser boils it down to a few.

"It's so hard to do in a paragraph or sentence," Hershiser said. "I would say generous. Passionate. He was the most generous and passionate Dodger."

Jerry Crasnick covered the 1988 MLB season as a beat writer for the Cincinnati Post. *After three decades as a baseball writer, he currently works as a senior advisor for the MLBPA.*

OUT OF LEFT FIELD

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's collection contains more than 40,000 three-dimensional artifacts – many apparently having little obvious relation to the National Pastime. But dig a little deeper, and you'll find that these treasures connect us to the game in fascinating and unexpected ways. Come inside and examine some of the pieces that appear to be "Out of Left Field."

Music Box

With a few notes on a harmonica, Phil Linz changed the course of the 1964 American League pennant race.

BY CRAIG MUDER

The story became part of baseball legend seemingly overnight, a moment in time that condensed a pennant-winning season into no more than five minutes.

Yankees shortstop Phil Linz played the harmonica on a team bus one afternoon in Chicago. And that moment is now a part of history in Cooperstown.

The date was Aug. 20, 1964, and the Yankees were en route to O'Hare Airport after a 5-0 loss to the White Sox at Comiskey Park. Chicago pitcher John Buzhardt shut out New York on seven hits – all singles – that day, handing the Yankees their fourth straight defeat and leaving the Bronx Bombers four-and-a-half games behind the AL-leading White Sox.

Linz, who had struck out as a pinch-hitter in the game, was sitting next to teammate Joe Pepitone near the back of the bus when he began playing a Marine Band harmonica made by the M. Hohner Company of Germany. First introduced to the American market in 1896, the Marine Band brand became popular because of its small size and price.

Yogi Berra, the Yankees' first-year manager, was not impressed.

"Put that thing in your pocket," the *Associated Press* quoted Berra as shouting at Linz.

As the story goes, Mickey Mantle encouraged Linz to keep playing. After a few more notes, Berra moved toward Linz, saying: "You'd think you'd just won four straight."

Linz then flipped the harmonica at Berra, and a shoving match ensued.

"Why are you getting on me?" the *AP* quoted Linz saying to Berra. "I give a hundred percent out on the field. I try to win. I should be allowed to do what I want off the field."

Berra was unmoved and quickly returned to his seat. But Yankees coach Frank Crosetti, who had been with the team as a player and a coach for 33 seasons, began arguing with Linz.

Crosetti later said it was the worst internal incident he'd seen in his time with the club.

The outburst had no immediate effect on the team, which lost the following day to Boston, 7-0, to extend its scoreless innings streak to 21 innings. But with the pennant slipping away, the Yankees suddenly caught fire – winning 26 of their next 33 and eventually capturing the flag on the next-to-last day of the season, finishing one game ahead of the White Sox.

Berra and Linz later signed a box with a harmonica similar to the one used that August day, dating it Oct. 10, 1964. The box and harmonica are now a part of the Hall of Fame collection.

The 6-foot-1, 180-pound Linz played seven years in the big leagues with the Yankees, Phillies and Mets – appearing in a career-high 112 games in 1964 when he batted .250. He had seven hits, including two home runs (one off of future Hall of Famer Bob Gibson), in the Yankees' seven-game loss against the Cardinals in that year's World Series.

Berra was dismissed from his job as Yankees manager following that Fall Classic, but went on to manage the Mets from 1972-75 – leading the team to the 1973 NL pennant – and the Yankees again in 1984 and 1985.

Berra, who helped the Yankees win 10 World Series titles during his playing days, was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1972.

Craig Muder is the director of communications for the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Above: This harmonica, similar to the one Phil Linz played on a Yankees team bus on Aug. 20, 1964, is part of the Hall of Fame collection. The box is signed by Linz and Yogi Berra, who managed the Yankees that season.

Right: Yogi Berra (left), at the time a Mets coach, jokes with Phil Linz after the infielder was traded to the team in 1967. Linz spent seven seasons in the majors, finishing his career with the Mets in 1968.

BETTMAN/GETTY IMAGES

Our Museum in Action

These ongoing projects are just a few of the ways the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's mission is being supported today.

BASEBALLHALL.ORG/MUSEUMINACTION

WHAT WE'VE DONE TOGETHER

#COOPERSTOWNMEMORIES

As history has shown us time and time again, baseball has a tremendous impact on families and friends everywhere – often serving to heal us during our challenges.

In these uncertain times, there is one thing that the entire staff at the Museum is sure of: Together we will continue to preserve the game's greatest stories – and our own baseball memories.

As baseball fans, we all have stories: Our first trip to Cooperstown; meeting a Hall of Famer in America's Most Perfect Village; seeing an exhibit that brings our own memories flooding back; stepping into the Plaque Gallery and feeling the connection to the game's all-time greats – the memories are countless.

We would love for you to share your **#CooperstownMemories** with us.

Simply send an email that includes your story and your name to development@baseballhall.org. As we compile them, we'll share selected ones with our "baseball family."

Here are a few stories we've received from supporters like you:

>>>

My wife, Jackie, and I have made several trips to the Hall of Fame. We have seen four Induction Ceremonies of favorite players and have had numerous "moments." My favorite: Shaking hands with my childhood hero, Willie Mays. Hers: Being able to give Lou Piniella a kiss on the cheek.

But my most important HOF moment with her came before we were married. Jackie told me she loved baseball when we started dating. I wasn't sure exactly what that meant. When our dating became serious, and Memorial Day Weekend was approaching, I asked her if she could get Friday off of work. That gave us from Thursday night till Tuesday morning for a trip.

I told her I would take her anywhere she wanted to go. She asked, "Really?" I explained that southern France was out of the question for an extended weekend, but anywhere reasonable. She replied, "Really? Anywhere? You're serious?" I said, "Yes, anywhere. Where have you always wanted to go and haven't?" She replied "Cooperstown!" I asked, "You want to go to the Baseball Hall of Fame? That's your dream trip?" To which she replied, "YES!"

THAT'S when I knew I was gonna marry this woman!

Our next mission: To visit with our youth baseball-playing son, Ben!

Marc Hertz
Member since 2005

>>>

My first link to the Hall of Fame was through White Owl Cigars. My dad use to smoke these, and in 1963 there was a coupon on the back of their box, which if you sent in the coupon with $1, you could receive the "1963 White Owl Baseball Encyclopedia."

It was through that book that I first read about the Hall and its members and their records. The following year, 1964, was the 25th anniversary of the Hall. My Uncle Ed took me to the Hall of Fame for my first visit. We drove up on a Wednesday afternoon in his Cadillac Coup DeVille. The Hall was totally different than now. I can remember the Hall with all the plaques, and I just wanted to read about the Yankees, my favorite team. Ruth, Gehrig, Gomez, etc.

In the gift shop, my uncle bought me four Hall of Fame busts: Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Bill Dickey and Christy Mathewson. He also bought me a ceramic coin bank in the shape of a baseball with Baseball Hall of Fame printed on the side and a 25th anniversary book. I still have these items displayed in my Yankees room at home. We then went to a gift shop down the street, where he bought me a silk Yankees warm-up jacket and had the No. 7 stitched on the back. On the ride home on Route 28, we got behind a horse-drawn hay wagon.

Jed Tester
Member since 2008

Museum benches

Thanks to a generous gift from Alison and Dan Satinoff in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary, a new bench has been added to the Museum.

There are a limited number of benches still available through this program, both within the Museum and on the grounds. Each bench helps enhance the visitor experience – allowing guests the opportunity to relax and reflect during their trip to the home of baseball.

Donors supporting the installation of a bench with a gift of $2,500 will be recognized with an engraved 8" x 2" brass plaque on the bench. This personalized message is a great way to honor a loved one or your favorite all-time great.

You can learn more about the Museum Bench Program by calling our development office at (607) 547-0385 or at **baseballhall.org/benchprogram**.

Photos to be digitally preserved

Thanks to a number of generous donors, photographs from our archive are being digitally preserved and added to our online digital collection, which you can browse at

collection.baseballhall.org. They include:

- **Roberto Alomar** – Thanks to gifts from Jonathan Astor, Alan T. Gorrie and Manuel Iglesias
- **Joe Gordon** – Thanks to gifts from John Jeffery Klein, Richard Saladino and Elaine and Robert Zinnecker
- **Randy Johnson** – Thanks to gifts from Steven Fisher, Robert S. Govero, Peter Hand, Ian Laczynski, Arthur Thomas and an anonymous donor
- **Bowie Kuhn** – Thanks to a gift from Peter O'Malley
- **Kenesaw Mountain Landis** – Thanks to gifts from Maryjo Kamin, Benjamin Wright and two anonymous donors
- **Joe Torre** – Thanks to gifts from Nancy Boudrot, Michael Brouillette, Carolyn Chittenden, Terrell Holmes, Rosemary Minsky, Clyde Pilkington and Louis Verardo
- **Dazzy Vance** – Thanks to gifts from Mike Bender, Andy Cohen, Mark R. McCallum and Max J. Striedl Jr.
- **Zack Wheat** – Thanks to gifts from Thomas Biblewski, David Fuller, Michael Green, Bryan Lentz, Mark R. McCallum, David L. McKinney, Anthony F. Migliaccio, Conor Murphy, Max J. Striedl Jr. and John Wright

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

The photo collection of Hall of Famer Joe Torre has been funded in full, but you can help complete the projects for other legendary managers, including Leo Durocher, Joe McCarthy, Billy Southworth and Casey Stengel at baseballhall.org/museuminaction.

A new Look at a timeless collection

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

This photograph featuring Hall of Famer Paul Waner is part of the Museum's *Look Magazine* photo collection. There are more than 4,100 images in this nearly unmined collection, which needs to be reorganized, rehoused and conserved. Learn more about this important project and help preserve these historic images at support.baseballhall.org/lookmagazine.

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

A generous donation from Alison and Dan Satinoff in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary funded a new bench in the Museum's *Baseball at the Movies* exhibit.

Julie Croteau mitt

The mitt worn by St. Mary's College of Maryland first baseman Julie Croteau is in need of conservation work. Croteau was the first woman to play regularly for a men's collegiate baseball team (1989 to 1991).

Croteau continued her career as the starting first baseman of the Colorado Silver Bullets in their inaugural season. The Bullets were an all-female professional baseball team that played in the United States from 1994 to 1997, and the first such team since the demise of Allington's All-Americans, which played 1955 through 1958.

— *Estimate for conservation to be performed by B.R. Howard and Associates: $1,975*
— *Donations to date: $1,320*
— *Support still needed: $655*

MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

This mitt used by pioneer player Julie Croteau is part of the Museum's collection and is in need of conservation efforts.

WHAT YOU CAN HELP US DO

Hall of Fame Heroes Campaign

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, like most museums, depends heavily on revenue generated through admission fees to support its mission. In 2020 and 2021, this source of revenue has been significantly impacted.

That is why we need your help, now more than ever, to ensure a steady base of support.

Please consider making a monthly gift today through our Hall of Fame Heroes Campaign. Help ensure that we continue to preserve the greatest moments in baseball history together.

The Museum is a National Treasure where the legends of the game live forever. It's up to us as fans to make this happen – to keep their legacy alive.

Bob Crotty, Champion Since 2004

Becoming a monthly donor is easy, convenient and secure. Your recurring gift, of any amount, helps sustain the work we are doing every day at the Museum to preserve the game's history.

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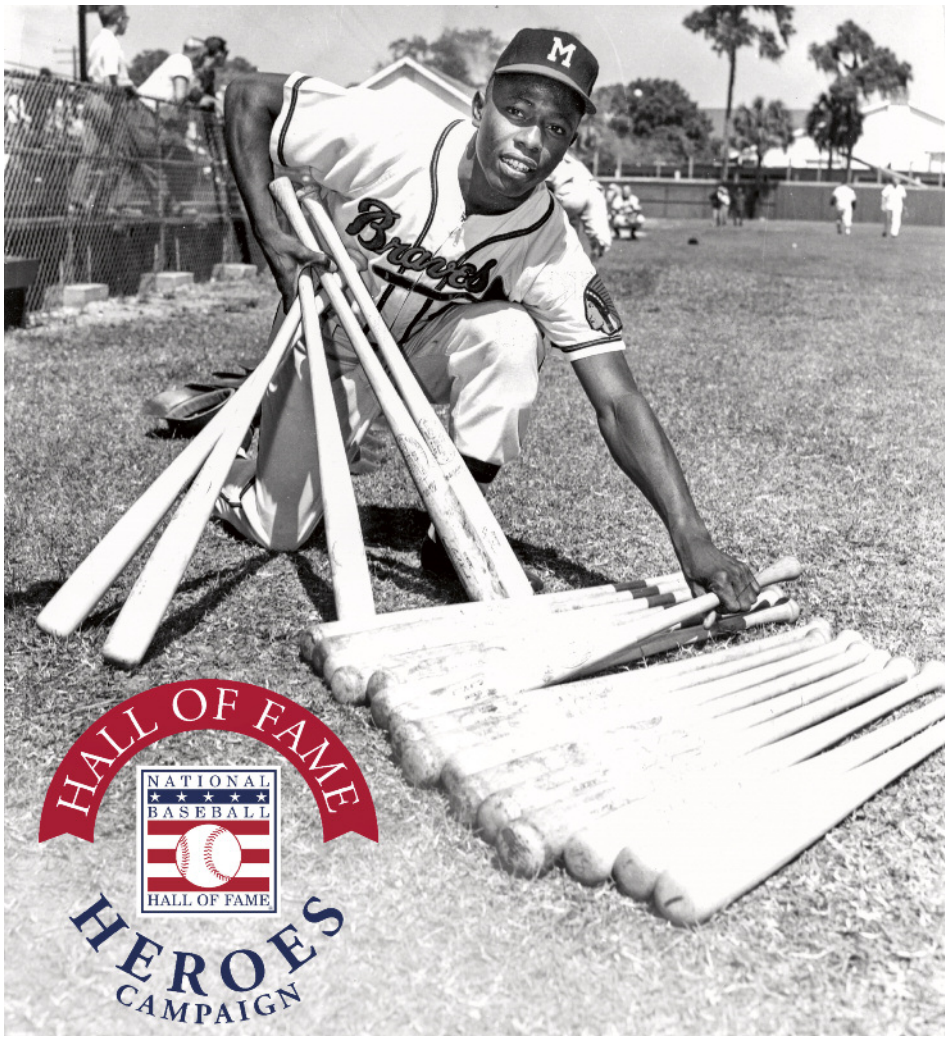

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DUGOUT WISDOM

Managerial roles have changed, but the game within the game continues.

BY TOM TREBELHORN

It's a players' game. Always has been. But even in today's game, managers have to manage.

Sure, things are different from when I managed in the 1980s and '90s. The heart and the hunch have been taken out of the game. The numbers now dictate the likelihood of success.

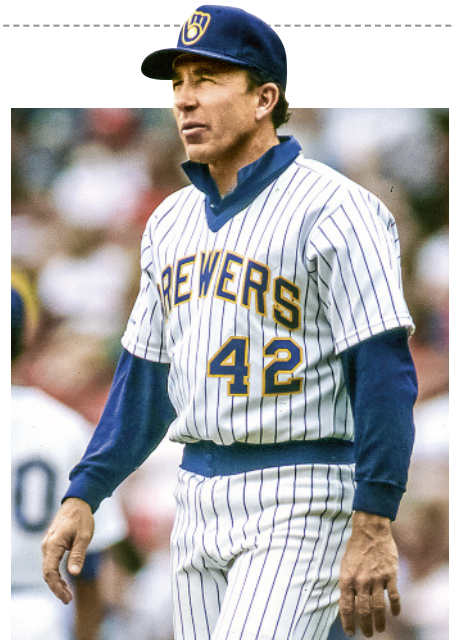
I used to love to be able to get a player not to worry about their numbers against an opponent. You convince them that it doesn't matter that they're 0-for-whatever against this pitcher or can't seem to get that hitter. When you could do that, that's when good things happened. That was heart.

And the hunch? That was going against what everyone thinks you should do. When it works, you're a genius. When it doesn't, you spend the entire postgame interview explaining why you did what you did.

I remember playing Detroit when Sparky Anderson hit-and-ran with Lou Whitaker and Alan Trammell in the first inning. The next night, they got on in the first and he did it again. The third night, they got on in the first again. I said: "No way he's going to hit-and-run again." And he did it! You really enjoy that, even when you're managing in the other dugout.

Then there was the time we were out in Anaheim: July 4, 1987. We're up, 2-1, in the ninth, and they load the bases with no outs. An extra-base hit beats us. Dan Plesac is our pitcher. Greg Brock is our first baseman. And Wally Joyner is up for the Angels.

Greg asks if I want him to guard the line.



MILWAUKEE BREWERS BASEBALL CLUB

Tom Trebelhorn managed the Brewers and Cubs for seven big league seasons, twice earning Manager of the Year votes.

I say to him: "The only way Joyner will pull is if we hang a slider. We will get after him with fastballs and challenge him … so no sliders."

Joyner hits a two-hopper to Brock, who comes home for the first out and the return throw goes back to Dan at first for the second out. Then Butch Wynegar flies out and we win the game. Afterward, Angels manager Gene Mauch tells the papers that you never do that … that you have to guard the line.

Next morning, a Sunday, I'm out for a jog and run into Gene Mauch. He says: "I don't apologize for what I said."

I said: "Well, Gene, I'm just glad I had Brock in the wrong position."

That doesn't happen today – the hunches. With computers, you have the ability to observe every game and every pitch, and you can store every game and every pitch. You push a button and get all that info back. That's what makes analytics possible. In the past, we did it semi-technologically and semi-labor, doing the remembering yourself.

As a manager back then, you had more control of the game.

Back to Detroit again: Sparky had Doyle Alexander starting. Doyle threw a sinker, so I come out to the plate at the start of the game and find two or three inches of diamond dry in front of the plate while the rest of the base paths were bone dry. They were trying to deaden the front of the plate so that the balls would die right there. I had to ask the umpire, Jim Evans, to do something. The grounds crew must have removed three wheelbarrows of that stuff before we started the game.

Much of that stuff is gone. But some truths remain. For one: The better you play, the luckier you are.

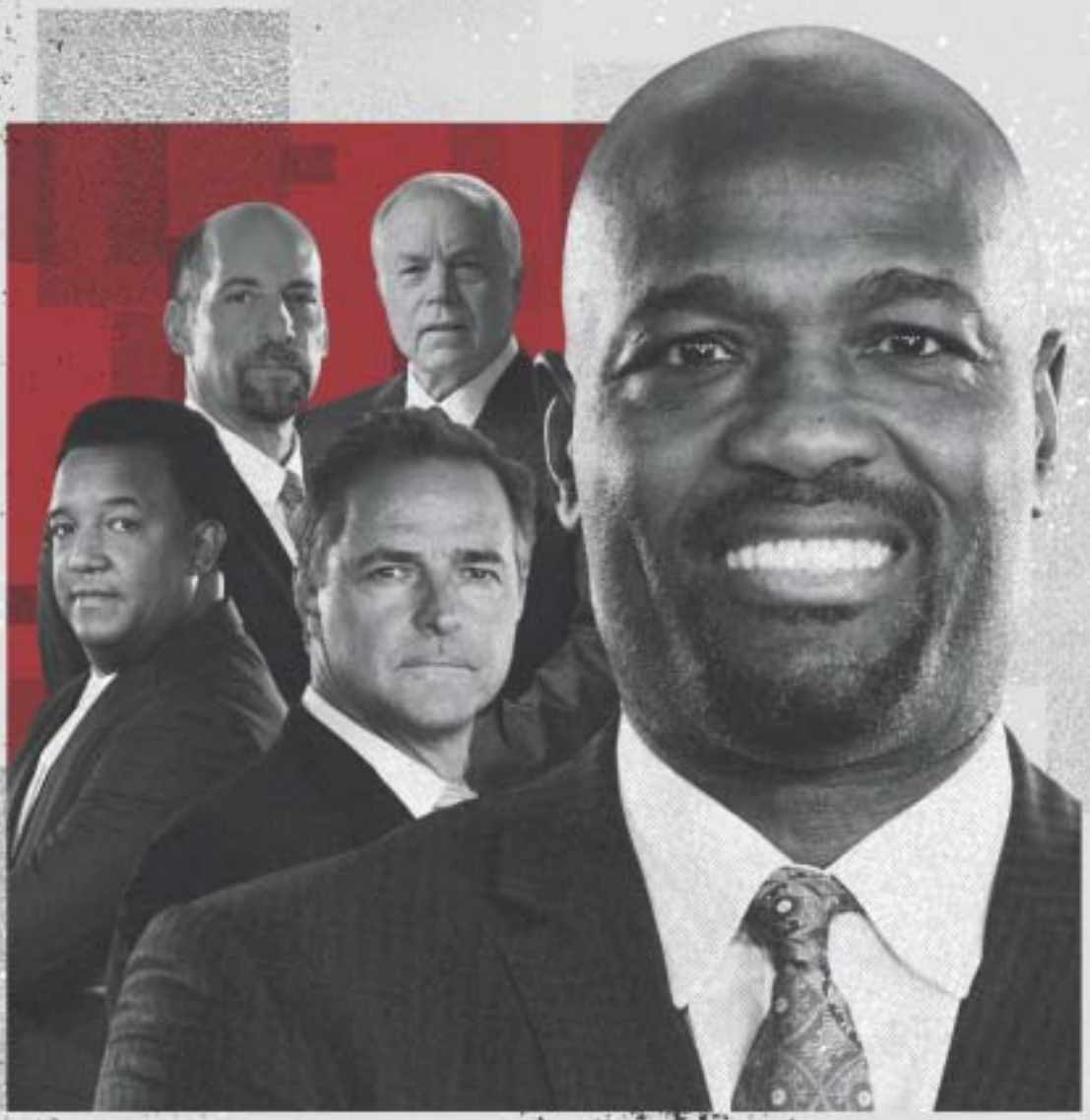
I managed some great players. Paul Molitor and Robin Yount were really interesting. Both were great athletes. You had in Robin a reactive, adjusting on-the-fly player who could handle anything. Then Paul, who was intuitive and seemed to know what would happen before it did. Two very different kinds of players. Both outstanding.

If I could go back in time, I'd tell myself not to worry about results until you've implemented the plan. Don't get ahead of yourself. Don't worry about outcomes until they happen. Work as hard as you can communicating with your players. The results will be what they are.

But I honestly realized how lucky I was all the time I was managing. Gracious sakes, I was grateful. If you're grateful on a daily basis, that will overcome all the things that have the potential to get you down. Some times were tough, but who doesn't have tough times?

I had a great time managing. In the final analysis, it was a great life.

Tom Trebelhorn managed the Brewers from 1986-91 and the Cubs in 1994. He has been a Museum Member since 2008.



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Roy Campanella peeks through the daffodils in the Hall of Fame's Statue Garden.