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FALL 2018 | VOLUME 40 | NUMBER 5 | THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HALL OF FAME





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# MEMORIES and Dreams

The Official Magazine of the Hall of Fame

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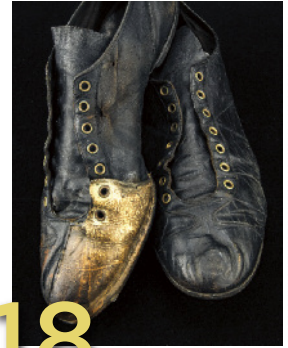
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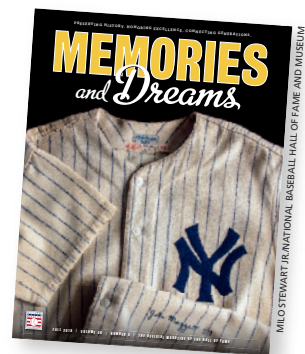


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## ON THE COVER

From head to toe, baseball players have long been identified by their attire, like this classic Yankees jersey worn by Joe DiMaggio in 1951. Explore the Museum's collection of jerseys in this issue of *Memories and Dreams* and online at collection.baseballhall.org.



# FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN > JOE MORGAN



**O**ne of the greatest moments in any athlete's life is when you get your uniform. It signifies you are a part of the team. It doesn't matter which sport, what level or how old you are. Putting on that uniform is a very special feeling and bonds you with your teammates like nothing else.

Growing up in Oakland, I remember the first team I played on was Young America in a T-shirt league. Even having just a T-shirt made me feel like I was part of something special, because that was the uniform. And when I was a teenager, I played for our area's

Babe Ruth League team. I remember well buttoning that itchy wool uniform top with pride, with our sponsor's name, Kwik Way, stretched across the chest.

At every stop of my career, the uniform I wore was special. Being a part of something bigger was what mattered most.

The single greatest moment in my career wasn't when I had a game-winning hit, won a World Series or achieved any other individual or team accolade. It came when I put on a major league uniform for the very first time. I can still remember my heart beating and thinking, "I have finally made it." I then played in my



Hall of Famer Joe Morgan wore the uniform of five big league franchises, including the red and white of the Cincinnati Reds of the 1970s.

first game, just two days after I turned 20.

That was in 1963, and back then, times were different. The Houston Colt .45s had been around for all of one year. We didn't even have a clubhouse, so we dressed in a trailer. I just stood there and started crying. I could not believe I had made it. I was 5-foot-5 and 140 pounds. So many people told me I would never make it, that I was just too small to play. That moment changed everything for me. The Colt .45s logo was right across the front. I had made it.

My uniform didn't really fit, as this was the era before uniforms became tailored. I had to roll the pant legs up and under, they were so long. When I played for Double-A San Antonio in 1964, it was the first time I was ever actually measured for a uniform. What a treat!

I don't really remember wearing No. 12 or No. 35 during my early Houston days, but I do remember wearing No. 18. When I was traded to the Reds after the 1971 season, the great Ted Kluszewski, who had become one of the coaches, had that number. So I asked for No. 8, the number Willie Stargell was wearing with the Pirates.

Willie was three years older than me, grew up in Oakland and was one of my heroes. I really admired him. Once I had No. 8, I never gave it up, and wore it for the last 13 years of my career.

After playing for the Phillies in 1983, I signed a two-year deal with Oakland, coming home to play to close out my career. During that first season, we were in the middle of a road trip. I woke up in my hotel room one morning and it just hit me. I realized that I was missing a lot else in life. I wrote a letter to Roy Eisenhardt, who ran the club and was part of ownership, letting him know I would retire at the end of the season and forgo my final year on the team.

I have great memories of the last game of the season. My dad threw out the ceremonial first pitch to me in that final game, the last time I wore the A's uniform — or any uniform — as a player. I was happy and prepared to take my uniform off for the final time after that game.

The following spring, I felt that pull, but I knew I had left it all on the field over 22 seasons in the major leagues. I had no regrets, and will always remember the day I first buttoned that Colt .45s jersey more than a half century ago. 🍌

DOUG McWILLIAMS/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM





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## World Series Gala

The excitement of the Fall Classic returns to Cooperstown on Saturday, Oct. 27, with live coverage of Game 4 of the 2018 World Series. Held in the Hall of Fame's recently renovated Grandstand Theater, this is one of the year's most popular family events and includes refreshments, trivia, raffles and prizes in addition to the game.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Participants in the Hall of Fame's Membership Program can reserve their tickets by calling (607) 547-0397. Remaining tickets will be available to non-members starting Oct. 22.

## Hall of Fame Halloween

With Central New York's fall in beautiful full color, a popular stop-off for trick-or-treaters is always the Hall of Fame. Children in costume

and their parents/guardians receive free admission from 3-4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 31 – and the trick-or-treaters can experience an adventure through the Museum.

## Overnights at the Museum

Be one of the lucky few to spend a night with baseball's legends. Children ages 7-12 can sleep in the Hall of Fame Gallery among the plaques honoring Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Jackie Robinson and the rest of the game's greats. The evening includes all-access to the Museum's public areas after-hours, hands-on programs, a late-night snack and a movie in the Bullpen Theater. Upcoming dates include Oct. 20-21 and Nov. 3-4. For more information or to book your experience, call (607) 547-0329 or go to [baseballhall.org/visit/extra-innings](http://baseballhall.org/visit/extra-innings).

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**Name:** Peyton Tracy

**Position:** Registrar

**Hall of Fame Experience:**

Debuted May 2017

**Hometown:** Renton, Wash.

**Favorite Museum Artifact:**

Félix Hernández's perfect game jersey – currently on exhibit on the Museum's second floor "locker room."

**Memorable Museum Moment:**

I was a Steele Intern in 2016 when the baseball idol of most every kid I grew up with, Ken Griffey Jr., was inducted. I was a whirl of excited energy during Hall of Fame Weekend. When I had to run back up to the curatorial offices to get something, I nearly collided headlong into a behind-the-scenes tour with three more Mariners I watched as a youngster: Jamie Moyer, Jay Buhner and Dave Valle. Meeting them and seeing The Kid get inducted was nothing short of magical.

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

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# *Congratulations*

Jack Morris on your induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.



# STYLE POINTS

THROUGHOUT BASEBALL HISTORY, TEAM JERSEYS HAVE REPRESENTED LEAPS IN INNOVATION, DESIGN AND THOUGHT.

BY STEVEN WALTERS

**T**hey differentiate players, represent an organization and give their team a unique look. The jersey has been an essential part of the baseball uniform throughout time.

But while each team wears one, not all jerseys are the same – and some teams have gone to extreme lengths to make their jersey unique.

The 2017 MLB Players' Weekend saw teams take jerseys to a whole new level. The youth-league inspired uniforms featured vibrant colors and unique designs that contrasted with the historic look of uniforms, while the nicknames on the back bucked the last name tradition: Lindor was replaced with "Mr. Smile," Trout with "Kiiiiid" and Sanchez with "Kraken."

Unique jerseys are not just a recent baseball phenomenon, however. Long before the rich history of jerseys was established, the early 1900s saw many teams experiment with lettering. In 1906, the reigning World Series champion New York Giants became the first team to don the words "World's Champions" on their jersey instead of their team name. The Giants jersey worn by Hooks Wiltse during that season is preserved in the Hall's collection and features four buttons and dark blue patch lettering. It was also the first jersey without a collar and helped usher flap collars out of major league jerseys by 1914.

"That jersey is unique for being the first year that, after winning a World Series, a team announced that to the world, and not only that, held it over their opponents for all to see," said Erik Strohl, the vice president of exhibitions and collections at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. "It's almost like a stick in the eye to everybody else, reminding them that, 'I am indeed the champion.' That was really the thought, too, and that even dates back to the 19th century, when once you were the winner of the World Series ... you were considered the winner until the next team won."

The Boston Americans took on the Red Sox nickname in 1908 and featured the city name "Boston" on their jerseys inside a red sock that flowed diagonally across the chest. It was one of the first uniforms to incorporate text in a shape or object. The jersey also featured a collar and a laced front. Although the logo was only used for one season and the laces would be extinct by the beginning of the 1911 season, the Red Sox nickname lived on.

In 1910, jersey lettering was also tinkered with by the Brooklyn Superbas, who, drawing from the 1909 Chicago Cubs uniforms, put "Brooklyn" vertically on their road jerseys. This went against the grain of the horizontal lettering traditionally used by big league teams. The White Sox and the Pirates soon followed suit, but the style died out by the 1914 season.

While many early experiments were with lettering, the 1940s brought about a big change in jersey material. Several National League teams adopted satin jerseys to reflect stadium lighting during night games, the 1948 league champion Boston Braves among them.

"It was really just about making the players more visible to the fans at the ballpark," said Paul Lukas, a columnist for ESPN.com. "It's important to remember in the days before television, that's all that mattered in terms of uniforms – how did they look to the fans in the ballpark – because you weren't selling jerseys, you weren't seeing them on TV, so the parameters of what constituted a good design, what the function of the design was and who

really was seeing the design was very different than it is now."

The 1970s brought a color wave to the field. Maybe the most memorable jersey of that time was the Houston Astros' "tequila sunrise" jerseys, which made their debut in 1975. It was a stark contrast to what fans were used to seeing on the field.

"They were just looking for a splash – to do something different, to



The New York Giants were on the cutting edge of uniform design in the early days of the 20th century. From the uniform shirt Red Murray wore during the 1911 season (above) to the bold "World's Champions" jerseys (opposite page) they adorned in 1906 to celebrate their 1905 World Series win over the Athletics, manager John McGraw's crew pushed the boundaries of style in the big leagues.





**WORLD'S  
CHAMPIONS**





BEL VAN HOUTEN/GETTY IMAGES



MANNING LAMBERT/GETTY IMAGES





**Top (left to right):** Major league uniforms have evolved over the decades, with both Sheldon Lejeune's 1911 Brooklyn Dodgers jersey featuring vertical lettering and Jesse Tannehill's 1908 Red Sox jersey being innovative at the time. The 1970s saw an explosion of color in jerseys, led by the "tequila sunrise" design of the Astros. This jersey, part of the Museum's collection, was worn by Joe Niekro. In 2017, all MLB teams participated in "Players' Weekend," which allowed players to print special messages on patches on their uniforms. This Yankees jersey was worn that weekend by catcher Gary Sánchez.

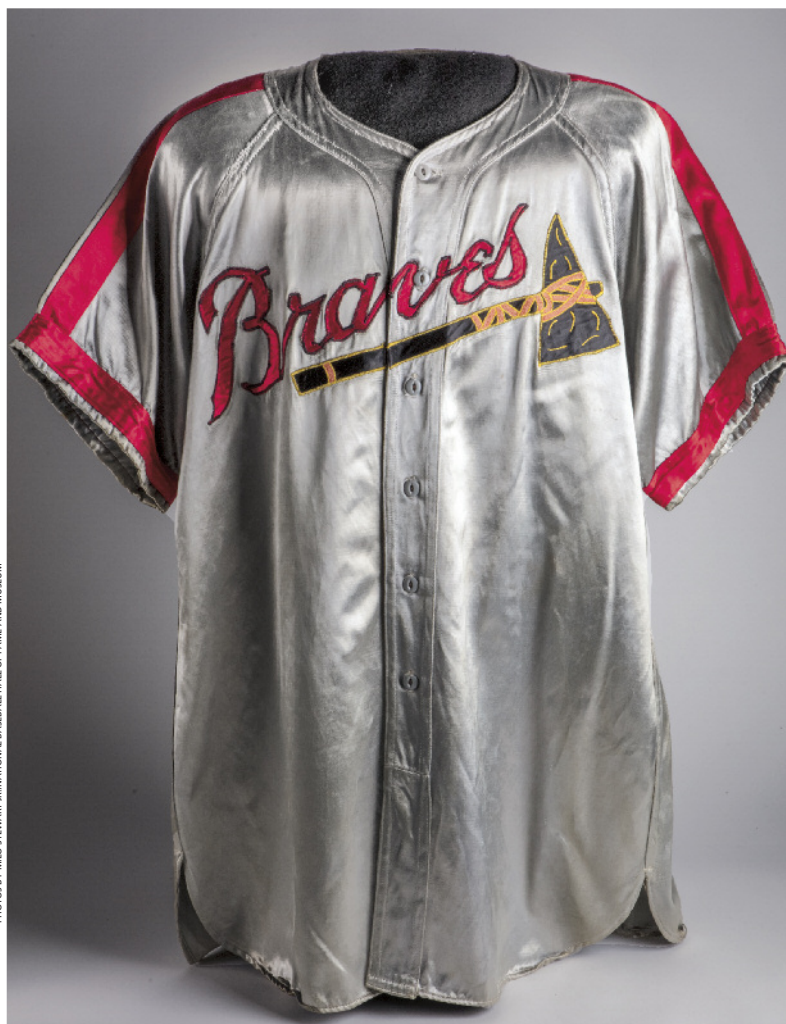
**Bottom (left to right):** Future Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr. was a member of the Seattle Mariners on July 18, 1998, when the team staged "Turn Ahead the Clock Night." The game featured futuristic uniforms and equipment. White Sox owner Bill Veeck outfitted his team in shorts and jerseys with collars during the 1976 season, a version of which is preserved in the Museum's collection. This satin jersey was worn by Braves manager and future Hall of Famer Billy Southworth in 1948.

do something, frankly, that would take people's attention off of the field," Lukas said.

To build the original pattern, Lukas said the designer laid out strips of colored paper and toyed with the order of the colors. Though the design was ridiculed early on, it became an important part of the Astros' identity, and when the team transitioned to the American League in 2013, the "tequila sunrise" pattern was reintroduced on their warm-up jerseys.

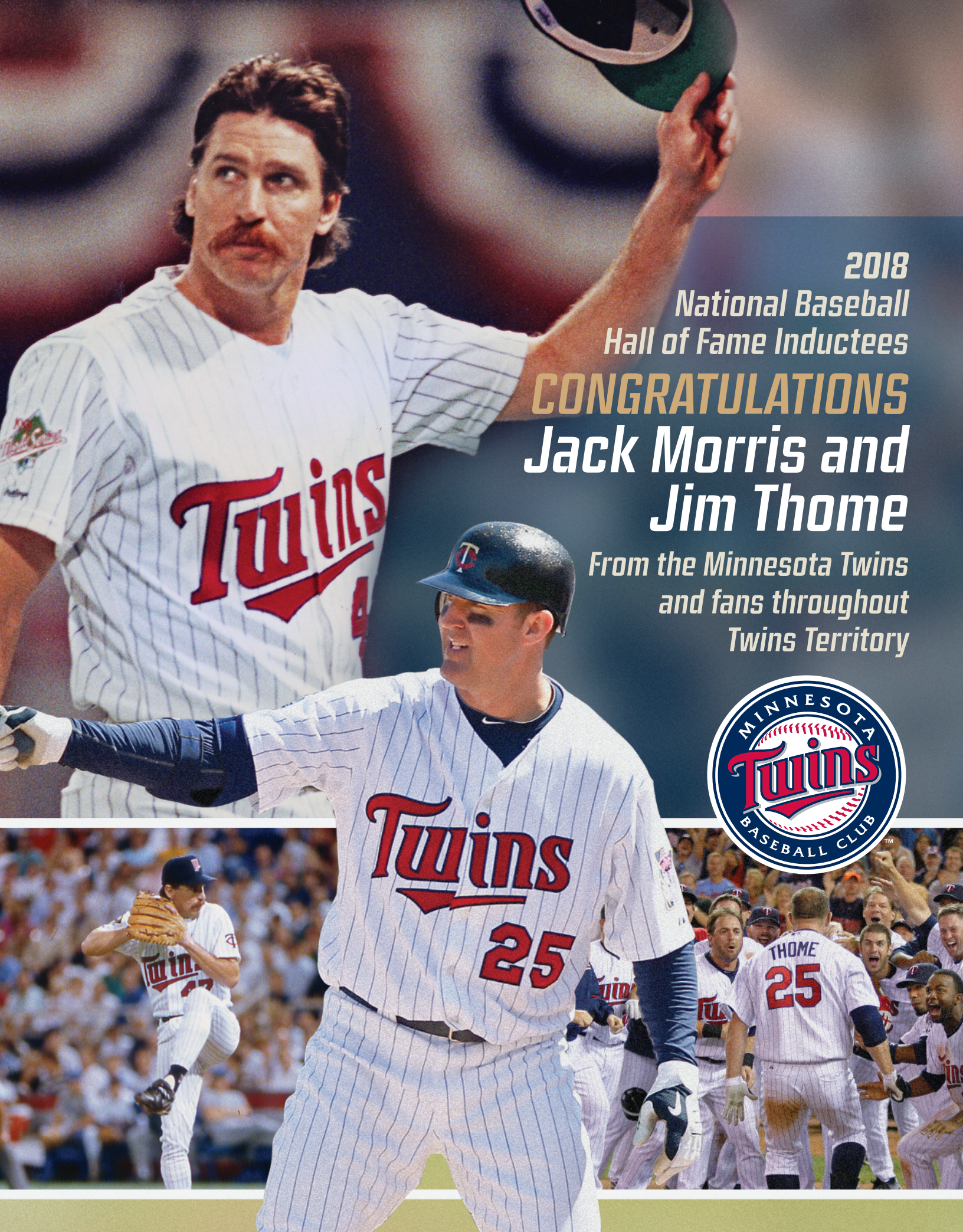
"As is often the case with radical designs, over time it has become sort of endearingly nostalgic," Lukas said. "And even people who hated it at first kind of have a nostalgic fondness for it today. So, yeah, that is truly a revolutionary design."

Holiday jerseys also started popping up in the 1970s. In Spring Training 1978, the Cincinnati Reds surprised fans with a green-accented jersey that featured a shamrock on the left shoulder. Though a St. Patrick's Day uniform previously debuted in other sports, this marked the first time the



PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART FOR NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM





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## SKIP(PER) THE JERSEYS?

Football coaches wear hoodies and khakis and basketball coaches wear suits, so why do baseball managers wear uniforms?

In the early days of baseball field managers, many doubled as player-managers, which required them to wear their uniforms. Early Hall of Famers who served in that dual role included John McGraw (1899-1906), Fred Clarke (1897-1915), Tris Speaker (1919-1926) and Rogers Hornsby (1925-1937).

Connie Mack was a player-manager with Pittsburgh from 1894-1896, but upon taking over the managerial duties of the Philadelphia Athletics in 1901, the future Hall of Famer replaced his baseball pants and jersey with a suit - a practice he maintained during his 50 years at the helm of the AL team.

Other managers also wore suits in the dugout, but Mack's choice of clothes became more unique as the decades progressed. For while player-managers became less frequent during the 20th century, managers continued wearing their team's uniform. Earl Weaver donned the orange Baltimore Orioles top, while the Reds' Sparky Anderson would wear long, red sleeves under his jersey.

Though Rule 4.07(a) says, "No person shall be allowed on the playing field during a game except players and coaches in uniform, managers, news photographers authorized by the home team ...", Major League Baseball has

used a relaxed approach in enforcing the jersey part of this rule.

The pants and hat seem to be non-negotiable, but managers have modified the style of their jersey top over the years. Many managers now wear team-issued jackets and pullovers in any weather situation. In the 2010 season, MLB expanded managerial attire to include sweatshirts, a look used by then-Rays manager Joe Maddon.

With the jersey frequently being covered up, there is a recent trend of managers not wearing them at all.

Former Red Sox manager and current Indians manager Terry Francona became the center of attention in the 2007 season when people began to notice he was wearing a pullover on top of the traditional jersey. Francona though, said he did so for medical reasons. His pullover from the 2007 World Series, not his jersey, is preserved in the Museum's collection.

Other managers also adopted the no jersey look. On May 16, 2016, then-Tigers manager Brad Ausmus was ejected for arguing balls and strikes. Fuming over the call, he pulled off his hoodie and draped it over home plate to show his disagreement. Revealed underneath his hoodie was a navy, team-issued undershirt, not a jersey.

- Steven Walters

Terry Francona's pullover was one of several artifacts the Hall of Fame collected from the Red Sox following the 2007 World Series.



MILD STEWART / NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM





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

Minor league promotions have often served as springboards for big league jersey innovations. The Jamestown Jammers of the New York-Penn League wore this jersey on Aug. 3, 2011, to commemorate Lucille Ball's 100th birthday. Ball was born in Jamestown, N.Y.

Irish holiday made it to a Major League Baseball diamond.

"I think what's interesting about it is that nowadays we think of the special occasion holiday jerseys as a way to sell merchandise," Lukas said. "Like it's an additional item that you can have for sale at the team store, but back when the Reds did this in the late '70s, that market didn't yet exist."

"And it's particularly notable that it was done by a team that's named after a color. So they changed their color. I think if the Mets or the Yankees had done it, or basically any other team, it still would have been interesting, but it was more interesting that the Reds chose to do it because they basically went from being the 'Reds' to the 'Greens.' It was definitely an innovative move on their part."

Of course, there was also the creative mind of White Sox owner Bill Veeck. Known for unique promotions and gimmicks, Veeck had his White Sox feeling cool in the famous short pants uniforms that debuted on Aug. 8, 1976. Naturally, the jerseys were untucked, giving players even more breathability. While the shorts were a new phenomenon, Veeck paid tribute to uniforms of the past with a wide-spreading collar.

"Collars were very much a formal part of jerseys in the 19th century and all jerseys (of that era) would have had a standout collar like that," Strohl said. "Once you get into the 20th century, you start to see deviations from that."

"I doubt if any of the (White Sox) players who were on that team in the '70s had worn a collar before or since."

The 1990s brought about many modern uniform styles to the fold.

Throwback uniforms were also popular, but one team wanted to flash forward. The Seattle Mariners hosted "Turn Ahead the Clock Night" on July 18, 1998, featuring jerseys that tried to predict what 2027 uniform styles would be like. With help from Ken Griffey Jr. on the design, the uniforms featured metallic black vests with brick red lettering on the top left chest. The Mariners logo was enlarged and spanned over much of the front of the jersey. The back lettering was also unique, featuring each player's name in a futuristic lowercase font below the number. And just like the White Sox short pants uniforms, these were often worn untucked.

"That's another (jersey) that was widely ridiculed at the time, including by me, and has now become sort of nostalgic, or has a certain nostalgic appeal for a lot of people," Lukas said. "That was sort of an, 'It's so bad, it's good,' kind of thing. I don't think anyone would argue that the turn ahead the clocks was a good design or that it was a good-looking baseball uniform, but it was fun."

Even though some unique jersey styles are more prominent than others, Lukas noted the unifying aspect between these designs.

"I think when the traditional guidelines are so well established, it's pretty easy to deviate from them because we all know how to color inside the lines," Lukas said. "So all you have to say is: 'I'm going to color outside the lines and do something different.'" 🍷

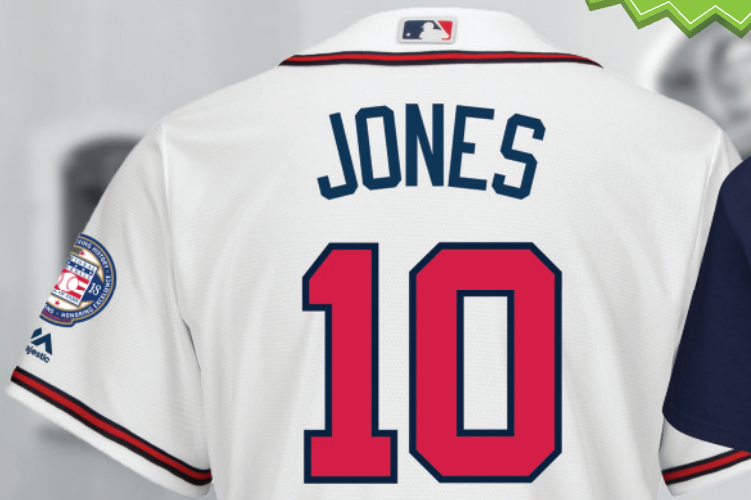
*Steven Walters was the 2018 public relations intern in the Hall of Fame's Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development.*



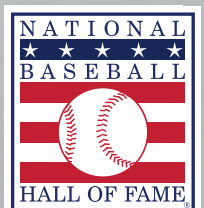
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# CAPPING THINGS OFF

BASEBALL HAS ADDED A STAPLE TO MODERN CULTURE AND FASHION.

BY GEORGE VECSEY

W

hen Babe Ruth played for the Yankees, ball players wore caps with wide, clunky visors that kept the sun out of their eyes. (They played only day games back then, kids – a wonderful custom.)

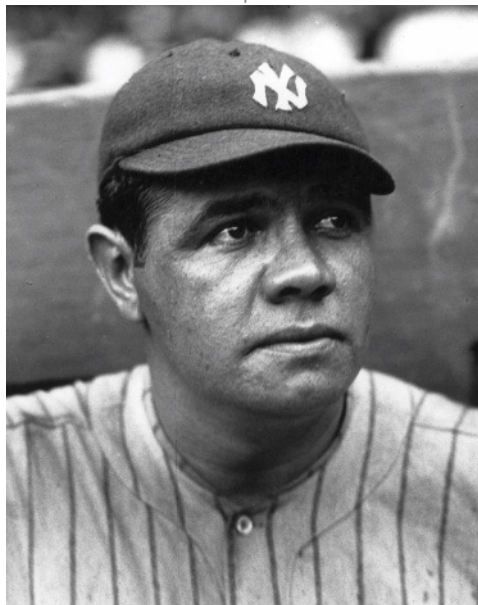
The Babe never saw headgear he would not place on his head while barnstorming or visiting orphanages or dude ranches or golf courses: A rancher's sombrero, soldier's hat, football helmet. A born performer, Ruth wanted to please and amuse.

However, when living the life of a burgher on the West Side of Manhattan, The Babe often wore a soft, fluffy cap with a tiny peak, favored by drivers of new-fangled automobiles. In the '20s and '30s, ball caps were strictly for ball fields.

And ball fans? Check out photos of World Series crowds at mid-20th century, a mostly annual occurrence in New York. Fans were wearing hats, fedoras, homburgs – plus jackets and ties. It was, you might say, a different time.

Nowadays, ball caps are the universal headgear of a good swath of the globe – not only slimmer and trimmer with longer peaks, plus colors and ornaments and logos to make parrots jealous. In 1996, Spike Lee craved a

red Yankees cap, and George Steinbrenner – traditional, born-on-the-Fourth of July George – saw the business possibilities in many hues of Yankee-ness. (Spike is from Brooklyn, but that's another story.)



CHARLES M. CONLON/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Ball caps are even part of the fashion pages. On July 19, 2017, no less an authority than Vanessa Friedman, fashion director and chief fashion critic of *The New York Times*, turned her attention and wit to an article, “How to Dress Down Like a Power Player,” coining the absolutely perfect phrase “calculated schlubbiness.”

Friedman defined it as: “Who can give the impression they care less about what they wear than the next guy?” and she added: “Apparently, when you've reached the top of the mountain, literal and professional, it's really about the smarts, people, not the suits.”

Recently, I asked Friedman whether there was a Mendoza Line for wearing ball caps. You know, the Mendoza Line: The minimal .200 batting average that often eluded Mario Mendoza, a good-fielding shortstop from

Mexico. (He wound up with a .215 major league average and is in the Mexican baseball hall of fame.)

Are ball caps acceptable at outdoor weddings, funerals, graduations, even presidential inaugurations?

“There are very few hard and fast rules for any garment these days,

**This page:** Almost any photo of Babe Ruth in a Yankees cap is an iconic baseball image. **Opposite page:** (Top) Hall of Famers (left to right) Jake Beckley, Pedro Martínez and Roger Bresnahan showcase the cap designs of their day. (Middle) The Houston Astros are well represented in the Museum's collection of hats, including (left to right) the cap Don Wilson wore during his June 18, 1967, no-hitter; the cap Ken Forsch wore during his April 7, 1979, no-hitter; Darryl Kile's cap from his Sept. 8, 1993, no-hitter; the cap worn by Craig Biggio when he recorded his 3,000th hit on June 28, 2007; and the cap worn by Mike Fiers during his no-hitter on Aug. 21, 2015. Over the franchise's 50-plus seasons, the caps worn on the field have reflected the changes in style throughout the big leagues. (Bottom left and right) These replica caps from the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club are part of the Museum's collection and represent some of the earliest cap designs.





NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



BRAD MARGIN/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



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



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



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

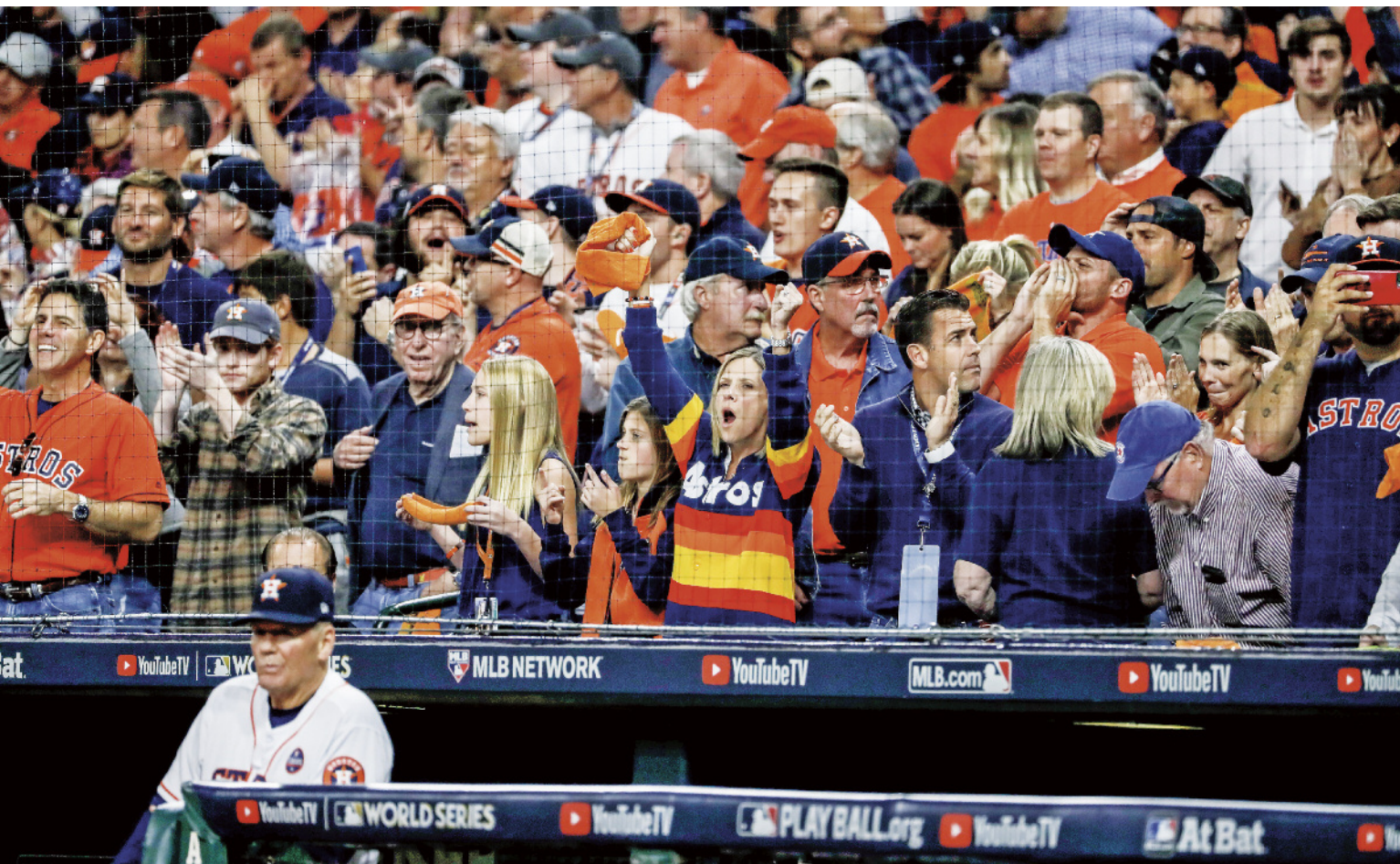




From head to toe, fans have taken on a more informal appearance at baseball games, as seen when comparing the 1952 Yankees-Dodgers World Series (above) to Astros fans attending the 2017 World Series (opposite page). **Below:** Baseball caps aren't just for baseball players anymore, evidenced by the array of celebrities and athletes who don them, including (clockwise from top left) Rihanna, Bill Murray, Chance the Rapper, a model walking the runway during the 2019 Feng Chen Wang Fashion Show in New York, Jordan Spieth, Halle Berry and Kevin Durant.







AP IMAGES

and most men I know, including my husband, do wear baseball caps as basic head covering pretty much all the time,” Friedman replied in an email. “My feeling is: No hats at the dinner table. And I wouldn’t advise it for a formal occasion, or a serious meeting.”

Friedman noted that major fashion houses now produce caps, T-shirts and jeans, based upon streetware “now seen on the runway.”

How did the utilitarian ball cap become fashion apparel? The line seems to start with the New York Knickerbocker Base Ball Club, which introduced the uniform in 1849, including a hat “simply because it was the 1800s, and they were respectable men in a public space,” wrote Troy Patterson in *The New York Times Magazine* on April 1, 2015. He added that around 1858, the Brooklyn Excelsiors “introduced the progenitor of the modern baseball cap, with its round crown and brief brim indebted to the jockey’s headgear.”

In 1954, the New Era Company of Buffalo, N.Y., introduced the forerunner of today’s caps, but now everybody has discovered branding – multiple team uniforms and caps, every season, to keep affluent fans happy and consuming. In the past generation, stylistas have come to emulate the inner beauty of athletes sweating into their uniforms.

The ball cap is also a medical necessity. As somebody who sees a dermatologist regularly to monitor damage from long-ago summer days at Jones Beach, I rotate a dozen caps with various logos (American Pharoah, Casey Stengel Baseball Center, NYPD – all gifts from friends). I live in fear of outdoor ceremonies where it might be inappropriate to wear a ball cap on my balding head.

“I think, if you’re going to a formal occasion outdoors, why not wear a straw fedora?” Friedman said in a phone conversation. “It’s actually kind of ‘hot.’ Men look good in them, and white linen pants, and a striped jacket. But the issue is the hat. Most clothing items have been denatured. The trend is toward wearing something.”

A search of the web does not yield a single photo of a ball cap on the sleek coiffure of *Vogue’s* renowned editor, Anna Wintour, but that magazine has surely discovered the glory of the ball cap. The July 10, 2017, issue of *Vogue* includes a slideshow of celebrities wearing exotic headwear and other sporty garb:

*“Never one to keep things simple, Rihanna brings a touch of royal regalia to proceedings by fastening a silk headscarf over her Supreme hat. It’s Queen Elizabeth-meets-streetwear.”*

The May 30, 2017, issue of *Harper’s Bazaar* had an article by Ella Alexander entitled, “Should you, could you, wear a baseball cap?” After displaying ultra-cool women in designer caps, the article’s conclusion: “Well, if nothing else it’s an alternative to summer frizz.”

Now that the fashion world has jumped the shark, are there places where ball caps just should not go?

The proliferation of ball caps – bright, gaudy, plus utilitarian? My guess is The Babe would love it. ❶

*George Vecsey is an author and longtime New York Times columnist who has covered baseball for nearly 60 years. His works include “Baseball: A History of America’s Favorite Game” (Modern Library, 2006).*



# UNDER YOUR FEET

SPIKES HAVE EVOLVED OVER THE DECADES  
BUT REMAIN INTEGRAL TO PLAYING THE GAME.

BY BILL FRANCIS

**S**hoeless Joe Jackson wore them, along with virtually every other pro player the game has ever known. The indispensable spiked shoe has served an important role in a ballplayer's arsenal for more than 150 years, providing such varied functions as foot protection, a certain amount of stability in running, and a dangerous weapon with sharp edges.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has in its permanent collection approximately 300 pairs of baseball shoes, with more than half of the collection donated over the past 30 years.

While one of the Museum's earliest accessioned items is a pair of Babe Ruth's he donated himself in 1939, others, aside from those from record-breaking and Postseason performances, include a pair worn by 2018 Hall of Fame inductee Alan Trammell from his final game in 1996; a pair belonging to Gloria Cordes Elliott of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League; those donned by Sadaharu Oh when he managed Team Japan in the 2006 World Baseball Classic; and ones sported by Negro Leagues star Jimmie Crutchfield.

The Hall of Fame even has a pair of baseball shoes once worn by Shoeless Joe in 1919, the year the infamous Black Sox Scandal took place. Ironically, the incident in which Jackson received his famed, but personally disliked, moniker took place in the minors when he played a game with only socks on his feet because his new baseball shoes were not broken in yet.

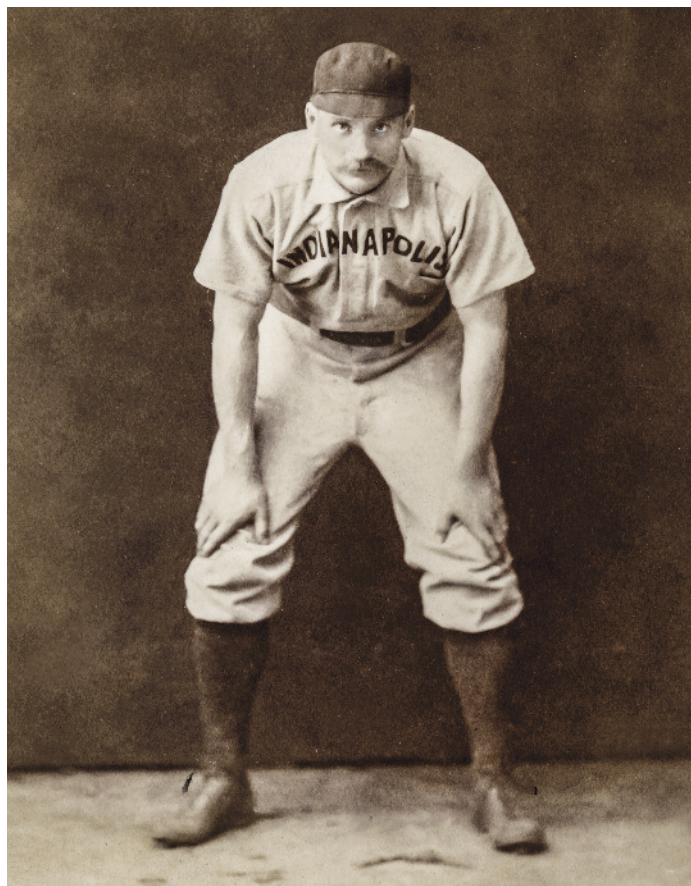
"I've read and heard every kind of yarn imaginable on how I got the name," he told writer Furman Bisher in 1949. "I never played the outfield barefoot, and that was the only day I ever played in my stockinged feet, but it stuck with me."

Baseball shoes in their earliest form, dating to the mid-19th century, were most likely made of canvas and were of the "high-top" variety. By the 1870s, leather was introduced into the manufacturing process and a hybrid with canvas was created. It wasn't until the 1880s that the baseball shoe became the now familiar all-leather product – and kangaroo leather, with its softness and durability, the preferred choice of players for years to come.

It was a game-changer, so to speak, when modern research showed that spikes were first introduced to the baseball shoe beginning in the 1840s.

Through the 1860s, these shoes, with individual spikes, often resembled what we think of as looking like a golf shoe. By the 1870s, the traditional baseball spikes, with metal plates under the toe and heel, were launched. Soon enough these newfangled baseball shoes were weaponized by some.

"Jack Glasscock used to throw sand in the eyes of the baserunners, but he has quit that and adopted the plan of spiking and blocking every man that comes down to second," reported the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* in July 1888. "He has already injured two men this season."



Jack Glasscock, a 17-year big league veteran who excelled at shortstop in the 1880s and 1890s, developed a reputation as one of the first players who used spiked shoes to his advantage on the field.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM





These spikes, worn by Hall of Famer George Kell, are among the approximately 300 pairs of baseball shoes preserved in the Hall of Fame's collection.



Curtis Granderson wore these spikes in 2018 in celebration of Jackie Robinson Day. The spikes, which depict Robinson, who broke MLB's color barrier in 1947, and Larry Doby, the first African-American player in American League history, were later donated to the Museum by Granderson.





NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

For decades, spiked shoes in baseball – like the ones worn here by future Hall of Famers Jimmie Foxx (left) and Lou Gehrig – were leather-and-metal creations not designed for comfort or style. But as the game evolved, spikes became more technically advanced and colorful.

Glasscock, a shortstop with the National League’s Indianapolis Hoosiers, soon had developed a reputation around the game.

“It is safe to say that a man who is capable of willfully maiming a fellow player in a ballgame is totally incapable of feeling ashamed of himself, and it is not likely that Mr. Glasscock will be troubled with any qualms of conscience,” wrote the *New York World* in 1888. “Yet above all this, the fact remains that self-defense is the first law of nature, and if by the end of the season Mr. Glasscock does not meet with a broken jaw, which will be quite as accidental in its way as some of his spiking feats, it will be because other players have too much heart and humanity.”

By the early 20th century, future Hall of Famer Ty Cobb was a player often used to illustrate the negative use of spiked shoes. One such story goes that in order to intimidate opponents, Cobb could be seen before games sharpening his spikes, though the Georgia Peach denied such charges.

“Cobb’s the hardest man to tag at third base of any ballplayer in the business because he goes right at the man with his feet up in the air,” said infielder Lee Tannehill in 1909. “No one is going to stand there and be spiked if he can get out of the way. I have been convinced that Cobb deliberately tries to spike the basemen, for he knows after a fellow has been cut once, he will get out of the way the next time. Sometime, when I see Cobb coming at me that way, I’m going to let the ball go to the outfield, and get the man before he gets me.”

Such aggressive play led to calls for banning spiked shoes.

“There is at least a small fortune in store for the man who will invent a substitute for the steel spikes which are now a part of the baseball player’s shoe,” the *Chicago Tribune* editorialized in 1904. “These have always been an element of considerable danger to players because of the chance of getting cut by those worn by an opponent, either accidentally or through the intent of that opponent, but they have been considered a necessary

evil because thus far nothing has been invented to take their place and serve the same purpose.”

Outfielder Topsy Hartsel agreed that the sport could use a new shoe, telling the *Washington Post* in 1904: “If a fellow could only invent some kind of rubber sole that would grip the ground right, what a cinch he would have in base running! The spikes now used by all players seem to be the only thing so far devised which will keep a man from slipping and falling as he runs down the baseline. Plain leather soles will be worn glassy in a day. Various trials of rubber soles and leather cleats, like those of football players, have been made, but nothing except the spikes proved satisfactory.”

Veteran sports scribe John B. Sheridan, author of “Baseball for Beginners,” wrote in 1921 that spiked shoes were the most necessary part of a boy’s baseball outfit.

“There is only one thing in which the younger baseball players should spend much money – that is shoes,” wrote Sheridan. “While baseball may be played without a pair of spiked shoes, it cannot be played properly unless the boy has spikes in his shoes. You can play a good game of baseball with a bad ball or a bad bat, without a glove or without a cap, but it is almost impossible to play a good game without spiked shoes. Rubber soles make a poor substitute for the spiked article. Street shoes are worse.

“So every boy should if possible endeavor to acquire a pair of spiked shoes when he plays baseball. A great deal depends upon the spikes. A pitcher cannot get a good hold upon the pitcher rubber without spikes. A batter cannot get a good firm stand at the bat unless he has spikes in his shoes. Infielders and outfielders cannot start and stop quickly and cannot cover the ground they should cover without spikes in their shoes.”

The dark, all-leather spiked baseball shoe was a baseball tradition from the 19th century through 1967 when the Oakland Athletics introduced white shoes to their green and gold uniforms.

“When you’re looking at the evolution of baseball equipment, it can be an interesting exercise,” said Hall of Fame vice president of exhibitions and collections Erik Strohl. “For most types of equipment, you see a long progression where things change pretty steadily, whether you’re talking about innovation or changes to jerseys or gloves for example. Shoes are a bit of an anomaly. I could show you shoes from the 1880s and I can show you shoes from the 1950s – and they basically look the same.”

Today, conformity rules in regards to a ballplayer’s uniform, with a team controlling the cap worn on the top of the head to the stirrups on the feet. But baseball does allow the player to choose his own brand of footwear, which can change on a daily basis depending on field conditions or synthetic surfaces.

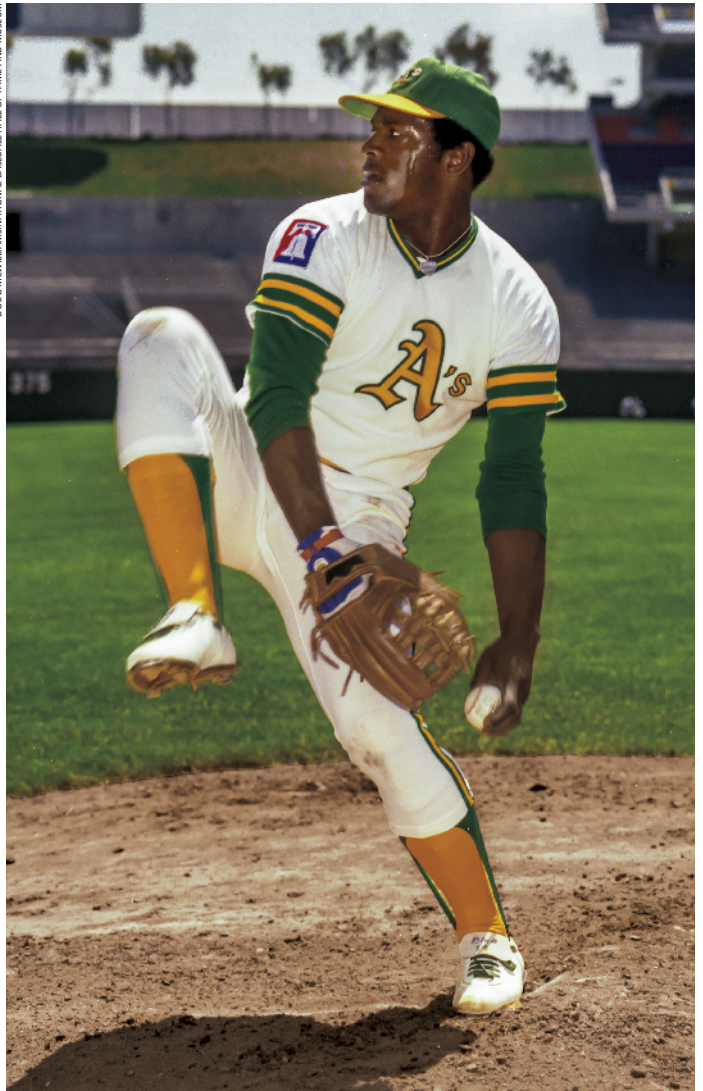
Personalizing of one’s baseball shoes is also a recent phenomenon. Included among artifacts in the permanent collection of the Hall of Fame is unique footwear worn by Adam Jones and Curtis Granderson during 2018 Jackie Robinson Day events.

There are also special messages players add to their shoes, such as those worn by Craig Kimbrel when he collected his 300th career save – on which is written “Lydia Joy 11/3/17” in black marker, the name and birthdate of his daughter. The shoes from 2018 Hall of Fame inductee Trevor Hoffman’s 500th career save have “Brody/Quinn/Wyatt/Save 500” stitched in white on the underside of the tongues in honor of his children. Curt Schilling’s





**Top:** Bob Feller wore these spikes on Oct. 2, 1938, when he struck out 18 batters for the Indians to set what was then a modern-day MLB record. **Bottom:** These baseball shoes were worn by Team Japan manager Sadaharu Oh during the inaugural World Baseball Classic in 2006.



By the 1970s, spikes – which for decades were either brown or black in color – became available in a wide variety of colors. The Oakland A's, including pitcher Vida Blue (above), helped usher in the trend of white spikes.

2004 World Series spikes are inscribed with “K ALS,” a message about defeating Lou Gehrig’s disease.

“It was designed to say thank you to each and every family member, each and every ALS patient, each and every researcher,” Schilling explained.

Early in the 2018 season, baseball shoes were back in the news when Major League Baseball warned Chicago Cubs players Ben Zobrist, Kyle Schwarber and Steve Cishek after they wore black spikes, a violation of the regulation requiring that at least 51 percent of the exterior of a player’s shoes be the club’s designated primary shoe color. In the Cubs’ case, that color is blue. By July, however, MLB said it was willing to loosen the rules for spikes’ colors.

“We recognize the need to allow players to be more demonstrative on the field,” Commissioner Rob Manfred said. “What you don’t want to do is get into a situation where the field becomes a billboard for any and all political messages. The politicization of sport can be a very problematic thing.”

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



## Record Class, Record Crowd

Fifty-seven Hall of Famers were in Cooperstown to see the Class of 2018 inducted in front of 53,000 fans.

BY BILL FRANCIS

When all was said and done, it came as no surprise that this crowd, with its wild cheering, appreciative applause and standing ovations for six new electees, would be one of the largest in the history of the National Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

With their bronze plaques awaiting and immortality a certainty, switch-hitting third baseman Chipper Jones, slugging star Jim Thome, multi-talented outfielder Vladimir Guerrero, closer extraordinaire Trevor Hoffman, competitive and durable starting pitcher Jack Morris and legendary Tigers shortstop Alan Trammell gave their induction speeches in Cooperstown on Sunday, July 29.

In the ceremony held under ideal conditions – party sunny, a slight wind and temperatures right around 70 degrees – on the grounds of the Clark Sports Center, an estimated 53,000 fans came to witness this annual rite. It's a number that's been surpassed just once, when the 2007 Induction Ceremony welcomed 82,000 fans. The three-hour event also was televised live on MLB Network.

A record 57 Hall of Famers, including the Class of 2018, were in attendance. The six newest members of this exclusive fraternity would speak of their families, thank teammates,

coaches and managers, have a lip quiver at the emotional moments, and try their hardest to put into words what being a Hall of Famer now means to them.

The festivities began to the sounds of John Fogerty's "Centerfield" rolling over the pastoral setting, then Jones took the podium as the day's first speaker.

"All my friends have been telling me for the last week or so: 'Relax, take a deep breath, you'll do just fine.' My reply: 'You stand up here in front of 40- or 50,000 people and with 60 of your favorite baseball players sitting behind you, and let me know how you'd do,'" Jones said.

"You know, every person on this stage has had a group of people who believed in them from the start, whether it was before they had achieved much in baseball yet, or whether they just needed a little extra kick in the butt; that person that believed in them when the game or life had humbled them or had them down. Those are the people I want to thank here today because they are the ones responsible for me being on this stage. You all made this possible."

Jones would later talk of his wife, Taylor, as she sat in the audience just days before giving birth to their son, who'd be aptly named Cooper in honor of the Hall of Fame occasion.

"I didn't meet Taylor until I was 40 years old, playing my last year with the Braves in 2012, but she changed my life forever. Now we've taken

our two families, blended them together, and it's given me what I've been searching for my entire life, true happiness," he said.

Trammell batted second in this day's lineup and talked of receiving what many consider a life-altering phone call.

"When people ask me, 'Where were you when you received your phone call from the Hall of Fame,' I tell them Jane (Hall of Fame Chairman Jane Forbes Clark) called while I was standing in the aisle deplaning from my flight to the Winter Meetings. You can't make that up. That's how it happened," Trammell said.

"How do you really describe your emotions in a time like that? I wanted to jump up and down, yell and scream, but I didn't think it would be appropriate to do that in the aisle of a plane. My mind was racing, I was overwhelmed, it was unbelievable.

"But those words aren't enough. Seven months later, they're still not enough. Thank you to the Modern Baseball Era Committee for selecting both Jack (Morris) and I into this year's class. Honestly, I didn't think this day would ever come. But knowing that the voting committee included many of our peers makes this even sweeter."

Trammell ended his speech by looking ahead to how he'll remember the day.

"One day this incredible journey will all sink in, and in my current role as a special assistant to the general manager, I feel I can speak for the entire Tigers organization and for all Tigers fans, that going into the Hall of Fame wearing the 'Old English D' makes us all very proud," he said. "I feel truly honored to be on Major League Baseball's dream team. To everyone here in Cooperstown and watching at home, thank you very much for being a part of this special day for me and my family."

Guerrero's speech – given in Spanish with a translator also delivering it in English – may have been the shortest of the six, but no less emotional.

"When I was a player, I always mentioned that I wanted my bat to do the talking, but now that I'm not playing, I'm very happy to be standing here and talking to you," he said. "I know I don't speak a whole lot, but let me tell you that I am so happy to be part of this group because some of them I saw and watched play and I witnessed it, but also I got to play against a lot of them, and it means a lot to me.

"And lastly, I'd like to thank the fact that I





The Class of 2018 poses with their Hall of Fame plaques following the Induction Ceremony. From left, Vladimir Guerrero, Trevor Hoffman, Chipper Jones, Jack Morris, Alan Trammell and Jim Thome were inducted into the Hall of Fame on Sunday, July 29, at the Clark Sports Center in Cooperstown, swelling the ranks of “baseball’s greatest team” to 323 members.

came out of a small, little town, Don Gregorio, in the Dominican Republic,” he added. “Even more special today is that today we celebrate Father’s Day in the Dominican Republic, which is twice a celebration for me being here today, and happy Father’s Day to all the Dominican pops.”

Hoffman gave an eloquent recap of his career and thanked his family and friends.

“When I was a struggling shortstop in the Cincinnati organization three decades ago, I could have never imagined being here today. My transformation from an infielder to relief pitcher to closer, it’s been an amazing journey capped by this amazing moment,” Hoffman said. “We stand here at the doorstep of one of the great shrines of all of sports. Each member of the Hall of Fame has a unique story, not only those who are already enshrined, but those who will join us in the future.”

Hoffman would end with a simple farewell: “Thank you all for allowing me to share this beautiful day with you all. And in closing, to achieve true success, there are no shortcuts.”

Morris began his speech saying he was “humbled and honored” to be with everyone on this special of all days. He then looked at the

returning Hall of Famers on stage and added, “To all the men behind me, thank you for all that you have brought to the game of baseball and all that you have brought out in me. You have inspired me and helped to elevate my game.”

Morris would later state: “With age comes more aches and pains, gray hair if you’re lucky, but also wisdom and perspective. The game has always been a part of who I am and what I have become. It has somehow been connected to almost every lesson that I’ve learned in life. To be successful, I believe it takes practice, patience, focus, concentration, work ethic, desire, determination, trust, will and confidence, and more practice.

“Whether in Little League or in the big leagues, I would encourage all baseball players to learn the history of our game. Learn about the great players behind me. Learn about the owners and the history of the players union. Only then will you have a better understanding of who you are and where you fit into its history.”

According to Thome, the last speaker on the day, “These last few months have been an absolute whirlwind for a kid that grew up in Peoria, Illinois, hitting rocks in our gravel driveway on South Crest Drive with an

aluminum bat until my family and neighbors couldn’t take it anymore. This is the ultimate dream come true.”

As he closed his speech, Thome added, “My experience has taught me that if you try to conduct yourself with authenticity and honesty, the end result is one of the most natural highs any human being can have.

“I’m so honored to be a part of something so special, something greater than the individual. It’s been my great privilege to have played the game for as long as I did. And I can say this with certainty, the possibilities are just as important as the outcome. In living the dream that is Major League Baseball, the best part is not the result, but taking the journey with the people whose contributions make it all possible. Baseball is beautiful, and I am forever in its service. Thank you.”

The National Baseball Hall of Fame’s 2019 Induction Weekend will take place July 19-22, with the Induction Ceremony scheduled for Sunday, July 21. 🏆

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





2018

# POSTSEASON

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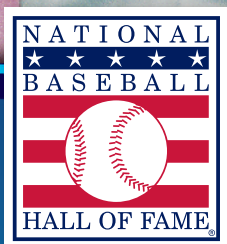


**CLASS  
OF  
1988**



**Left Field**

**WILLIE STARGELL**







# WILVER STARGELL

Elected 1988 • Born: March 6, 1940, Earlsboro, Okla. • Died: April 9, 2001, Wilmington, N.C.  
 Batted: Left Threw: Left • Height: 6'2" Weight: 188  
 Played for: Pittsburgh Pirates (1962-82)



FRONT OF CARD: DOUG McWILLIAMS/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Year	Team	G	PA	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	BA	SLG
1962	PIT	10	34	31	1	9	3	1	0	4	0	3	.290	.452
1963	PIT	108	328	304	34	74	11	6	11	47	0	19	.243	.428
1964	PIT	117	443	421	53	115	19	7	21	78	1	17	.273	.501
1965	PIT	144	582	533	68	145	25	8	27	107	1	39	.272	.501
1966	PIT	140	549	485	84	153	30	0	33	102	2	48	.315	.581
1967	PIT	134	536	462	54	125	18	6	20	73	1	67	.271	.465
1968	PIT	128	496	435	57	103	15	1	24	67	5	47	.237	.441
1969	PIT	145	594	522	89	160	31	6	29	92	1	61	.307	.556
1970	PIT	136	529	474	70	125	18	3	31	85	0	44	.264	.511
1971	PIT	141	606	511	104	151	26	0	48	125	0	83	.295	.628
1972	PIT	138	569	495	74	145	28	2	33	112	1	65	.293	.558
1973	PIT	148	609	522	106	156	43	3	44	119	0	80	.299	.646
1974	PIT	140	605	508	90	153	37	4	25	96	2	87	.301	.587
1975	PIT	124	526	461	71	136	32	2	22	90	0	58	.295	.516
1976	PIT	117	487	428	54	110	20	3	20	65	2	50	.257	.458
1977	PIT	63	222	186	29	51	12	0	13	35	0	31	.274	.548
1978	PIT	122	450	390	60	115	18	2	28	97	3	50	.295	.567
1979	PIT	126	480	424	60	119	19	0	32	82	0	47	.281	.552
1980	PIT	67	231	202	28	53	10	1	11	38	0	26	.262	.485
1981	PIT	38	66	60	2	17	4	0	0	9	0	5	.283	.350
1982	PIT	74	85	73	6	17	4	0	3	17	0	10	.233	.411
<b>21 Years</b>		<b>2360</b>	<b>9027</b>	<b>7927</b>	<b>1194</b>	<b>2232</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>1540</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>.282</b>	<b>.529</b>

All statistics are from baseball-reference.com • All bolded marks are league-leading totals, numbers in italics led both leagues and career stats asterisks are all-time records  
**Awards & Records:** 1979 National League co-MVP • 7-time All-Star • 1979 NLCS MVP and World Series MVP

## DID YOU KNOW ...

- ★ ... that Willie Stargell is the only player in MLB history to win his league's regular season MVP, LCS MVP and the World Series MVP in the same season?
- ★ ... that over two Postseason series in 1979, Stargell hit .415 and tied a record (since broken) with 25 total bases in the World Series?
- ★ ... that Stargell hit 11 homers in April 1971, the most in any April in MLB history to that date?

## WHAT THEY SAY ...

- ★ "He's got power enough to hit home runs in any park, including Yellowstone."  
 - HALL OF FAME MANAGER SPARKY ANDERSON
- ★ "Having Willie Stargell on your ball club is like having a diamond ring on your finger."  
 - PIRATES MANAGER CHUCK TANNER
- ★ "He doesn't just hit pitchers, he takes away their dignity."  
 - HALL OF FAME PITCHER DON SUTTON

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# Mo Candidates

Record-breaking closer Mariano Rivera highlights list of players eligible for Hall of Fame induction for the first time in 2019.

BY CRAIG MUDER

**T**wenty-three inductees. Four of the six top Induction Ceremony crowds of all time. And a record number of returning Hall of Famers.

The last five induction classes at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum have brought all that to Cooperstown. And

more appears to be on the way, starting in 2019.

When Mariano Rivera left the Yankee Stadium mound amid cheers and tears on Sept. 26, 2013, the countdown officially began. This fall, baseball's save king debuts on the Baseball Writers' Association of America ballot following the mandatory

five-year waiting period.

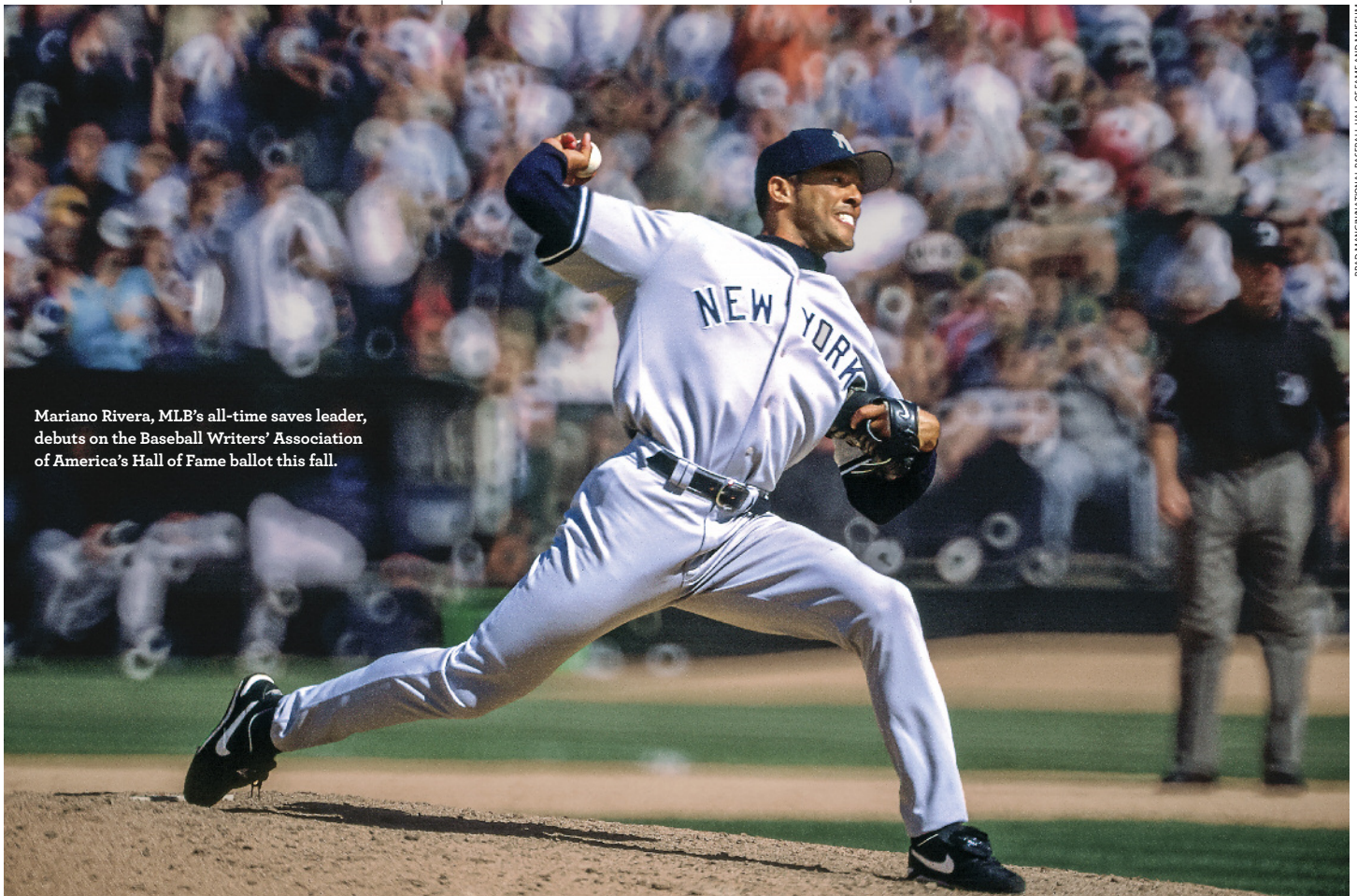
Since 2014, 23 new names have joined the rolls in Cooperstown – including 16 elected by the BBWAA. The Class of 2018, which featured six living electees, was welcomed to the Hall of Fame by an estimated 53,000 fans in Cooperstown July 29, the second-most all time following the 82,000 who witnessed the induction of Tony Gwynn and Cal Ripken in 2007.

In all, 57 Hall of Famers took the stage this year at the Clark Sports Center, the most Hall of Famers ever to attend an Induction Ceremony.

It's a record that might not stand for long, given the star-studded potential of the Class of 2019.

Rivera, who totaled 652 saves and a 2.21 earned-run average over 19 big league seasons – all with the Yankees – owns five World Series rings and was named to the All-Star Game 13 times. In 96 Postseason games, Rivera was 8-1 with 42 saves and a 0.70 ERA.

Rivera, however, is not the only big name to debut on the BBWAA ballot this year. Also



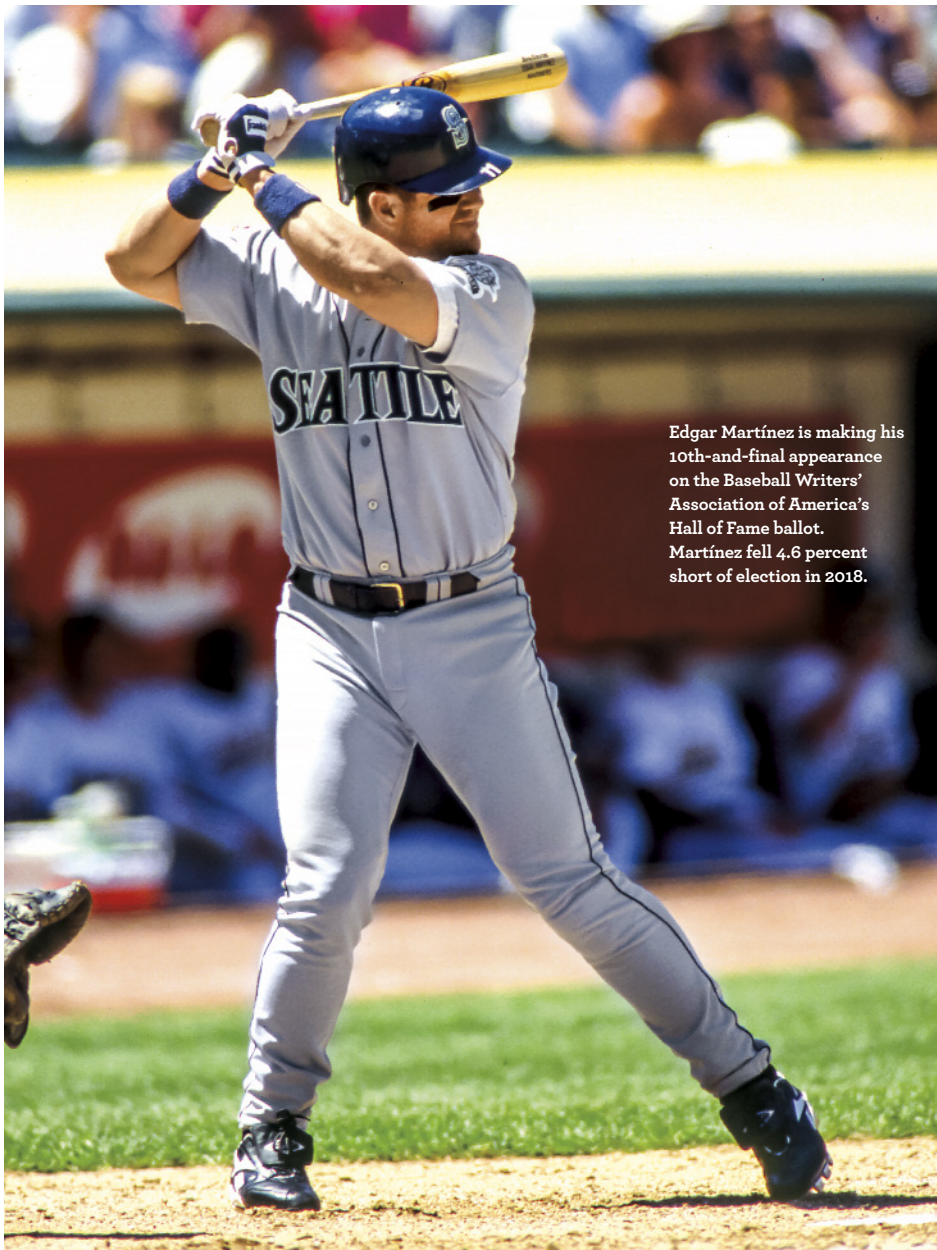
Mariano Rivera, MLB's all-time saves leader, debuts on the Baseball Writers' Association of America's Hall of Fame ballot this fall.

BRAD MANGIN/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM





**Left:** An estimated 53,000 fans attended this year's Induction Ceremony in Cooperstown, the second-largest in Hall of Fame Weekend history.



Edgar Martínez is making his 10th-and-final appearance on the Baseball Writers' Association of America's Hall of Fame ballot. Martínez fell 4.6 percent short of election in 2018.

eligible for Hall of Fame consideration for the first time are: Two-time Cy Young Award winner Roy Halladay, who had a career .659 winning percentage and threw the second no-hitter in Postseason history; five-time All-Star first baseman Todd Helton, a lifetime .316 hitter who slugged 369 home runs; and lefty hurler Andy Pettitte, who won 256 games and whose 19 Postseason victories are an MLB record.

Fifteen candidates will return to the BBWAA ballot, including five who received more than 50 percent of the vote in 2018: Edgar Martínez (70.4 percent), Mike Mussina (63.5 percent), Roger Clemens (57.3 percent), Barry Bonds (56.4 percent) and Curt Schilling (51.2 percent).

Martínez is making his 10th-and-final appearance on the BBWAA ballot.

Also returning to the ballot are (listed in order of their 2018 vote percentage): Omar Vizquel (37.0 percent), Larry Walker (34.1 percent), Fred McGriff (23.2 percent); also making his final appearance on the BBWAA ballot, Manny Ramírez (22.0 percent), Jeff Kent (14.5 percent), Gary Sheffield (11.1 percent), Billy Wagner (11.1 percent), Scott Rolen (10.2 percent), Sammy Sosa (7.8 percent) and Andruw Jones (7.3 percent).

The BBWAA's full 2019 Hall of Fame ballot will be announced in November. The results of the 2019 BBWAA vote will be announced in January, and Induction Sunday is set for July 21, 2019.

In addition to the BBWAA candidates, the Today's Game Era Committee will meet at Baseball's Winter Meetings in Las Vegas in December to consider candidates whose main contributions to the game came from 1988 to the present. The Today's Game Era Committee, which will be formed this fall, last considered candidates in 2016 when John Schuerholz and Bud Selig were elected as members of the Class of 2017.

Results of the Today's Game Era Committee vote will be announced Dec. 9. The 10-person ballot for consideration by the Today's Game Era Committee will be announced later this fall. **11**

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



# SOMETHING SPECIAL

## UNIQUE JERSEYS CELEBRATING EVENTS HAVE BECOME THE NORM THROUGHOUT BASEBALL.

BY SCOTT PITONIAK

**N**othing seemed out of the ordinary that St. Patrick's Day at Al Lopez Field in Tampa, Fla., in 1978. The Cincinnati Reds, clad in their familiar white, home-team uniforms with the red caps, red socks and red numbers, went through their usual pregame rituals. They played catch, fielded fungoes and took batting practice in preparation for that afternoon's Spring Training game against the New York Yankees. It wasn't until Reds players returned to their clubhouse to towel down before the first pitch that they discovered general manager Dick Wagner had something up his sleeve. They did double-takes when they saw the new sets of white and green double-knits hanging in their lockers.

"Did we just get traded to Oakland?" quipped Hall of Fame catcher Johnny Bench, referring to the Athletics traditional green garb.

No, no one had been traded, but thanks to marketing whiz Wagner, the Big Red Machine was about to become the Big Green Machine for a day. Manager Sparky Anderson instructed his players to put on their new attire – which substituted green for everything that had been red – and join him on the diamond. The color

switch caught fans and reporters by surprise – pleasantly so. And Wagner, who once promoted the Ice Capades show, was thrilled to have pulled off his prank.

A sleepy March Spring Training game wound up attracting national attention. And a tradition was born.

"The Cincy green uniforms in Spring Training is generally accepted as the first time a team dared to wear something different for a

**This page:** Major League Baseball's special occasion jerseys for holidays often support charitable causes, such as wearing blue on Father's Day (below) to raise awareness of prostate cancer or pink on Mother's Day (bottom) in support of breast cancer research.

**Opposite top:** In 2017, MLB teams participated in "Players' Weekend," where all players could print special messages on patches on their uniforms. This Yankees jersey, now a part of the Museum's collection, was worn that weekend by catcher Gary Sanchez.

**Opposite bottom:** Throwback uniforms, like this one worn by future Hall of Famer Frank Thomas (left) of the White Sox, have become popular throughout baseball. But the entire special occasion jersey trend may have started on St. Patrick's Day in 1978 when the Cincinnati Reds dressed in green for a Spring Training game (right).



MARK CUNNINGHAM/GETTY IMAGES



BRIAN DAVIDSON/GETTY IMAGES





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STEPHEN DUNNETT/IMAGES

**Above:** MLB dedicated April 15 as Jackie Robinson Day starting in 1997, and within a few years players began requesting to wear Robinson's No. 42 during games on that day. Today, every player in baseball wears No. 42 on April 15 to celebrate Robinson's big league debut in 1947. **Right:** The Seattle Mariners dugout, including manager Lou Piniella (third from left) and Ken Griffey Jr. (No. 24), enjoys a laugh during Turn Ahead the Clock day on July 18, 1998, in the Kingdome.

day," said William Henderson, author of "The Game Worn Guide to MLB Jerseys," a 3,000-plus page digital tome in its eighth edition. "It created a lot of buzz."

Over time, other teams followed suit – and not just on a holiday known for four-leaf clovers and leprechauns. Since the early 1990s, the use of special occasion uniforms has become all the rage.

MLB players have worn pink uniforms for Mother's Day and blue ones for Father's Day, raising awareness and money for breast cancer and prostate cancer research. They've donned Turn Back the Clock threads to celebrate team histories, as well as the histories of Negro Leagues clubs. And Jackie Robinson's role in integrating baseball and the country continues to be recognized each April 15 when every MLB player wears the No. 42 Jackie once wore with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Memorial Day is commemorated with camouflaged uniforms and caps, while the Fourth of July has a red-white-and-blue color scheme.

The St. Paddy's Day baseball garb, which honors the Irish, has sparked other ethnic attire. The Milwaukee Brewers have worn



BEN VANHOUTEN/SEATTLE MARINERS

uniforms celebrating their city's German, Polish, Italian and Hispanic heritage. Since 2005, the San Francisco Giants have honored Latin-American culture by suiting up in jerseys with the word "Gigantes" – the Spanish word for Giants – sewn across their chests.

In an effort to connect players to fans, MLB teams wore special uniforms in 2017 bearing players' nicknames on the back and sleeve patches on which they wrote in Sharpie the name of the most influential person in their careers and lives. (The majority responded with "Mom.") It marked the first time the Yankees had names on the back of their jerseys, as Aaron Judge became "All Rise," Didi Gregorius became "Sir Didi" and Gary Sanchez became the "Kraken."

Sixty-one years before the Reds went green, the Chicago White Sox unveiled a special star-spangled uniform for the World Series, symbolic of the patriotic fervor sweeping the nation during World War I. The new wool threads were a good fit as they defeated the New York Giants, four-games-to-two, to win the 1917 Fall Classic.

Interestingly, on July 11, 1990, the uniforms from the White Sox's 1917 season made a comeback in MLB's first Nostalgia Game, as it was then called. The Sox were playing their final season at Comiskey Park, and this was part of a season-long homage.

"What I loved about these uniforms and this game is that they made the whole day feel



like a turn-back-the-clock affair,” said uniform historian Morris Levin. “The White Sox turned off the electronic scoreboards and erected a hand-operated one. They dressed the groundskeepers and ushers in period costumes. They announced the lineups with megaphones. It was brilliant. The uniforms fit the ballpark – that is, the White Sox actually had worn these uniforms in this ballpark. So it was a way of bringing back to life a season that had actually been.”

Sensing the White Sox were on to something, other teams began staging similar games. During a 1991 contest, the Philadelphia Phillies wore replica uniforms from 1957. Peter Capolino of MLB licensee Mitchell & Ness had a hand in both those Phillies uniforms and the 1969 throw-back uniforms the New York Mets wore during a game in 2000.

“I’m watching the [Mets] on television and I notice that some of the stitching is beginning to unravel,” Capolino recalled. “I’m worrying that some guy is going to take a swing and his uniform is going to split and fall off like some bad comedy routine. Fortunately, they held up, but I was sweating bullets.”

The 1990s also saw the start of the Negro Leagues tribute trend as the Kansas City Royals wore replicas of the flannels once donned by Kansas City Monarch stars Satchel Paige, Cool Papa Bell, Buck O’Neil and Turkey Stearnes.

“The Royals also invited back several Negro Leaguers,” Henderson said. “That was a really nice touch – a great way to give these overlooked guys their due.”

In 2007 – 10 years after MLB announced



## POSTSEASON PATCHES

The 1988 World Series will forever be remembered for Kirk Gibson’s limp-to-the-plate, walk-off homer that ignited the Los Angeles Dodgers to victory against the favored Oakland A’s. But uniform history also was made that Fall Classic as players from both teams wore specially designed World Series patches for the first time.

“After that, it got crazy as they started wearing different patches for each round of the Playoffs,” said author and uniform expert William Henderson, who owns 1,000 game-worn MLB uniforms and restores between 150-200 uniforms a year. “That poor guy who had to sew on all of those patches probably didn’t sleep the entire month of October.”

A few years later, MLB teams wore one set of patches for the entire Playoffs and another patch for the World Series. And those patches also were sewn onto uniform sleeves.

Each team usually is issued new uniforms and caps for the Postseason, but not every player is enamored with the new attire. Superstitious Yankees closer John Wetteland got off to a solid start in 1996 and insisted on wearing the same salt-stained cap throughout the season, while racking up an American League-leading 43 saves. When the Postseason arrived, he didn’t want to tempt fate, so he had the Playoff and World Series patches embroidered onto his lucky hat. Wetteland wound up saving all four Yankees victories against Atlanta to earn World Series MVP honors.

– Scott Pitoniak

Robinson’s number would be permanently retired throughout baseball – Ken Griffey Jr. received permission from then-Commissioner Bud Selig to wear 42 during a Jackie Robinson Day game. Griffey was joined by 240 other players. Today, every player wears the number that day to commemorate Jackie’s debut.

The Seattle Mariners decided to focus on the future rather than the past when they staged the first Turn Ahead the Clock game on July 18, 1998, in the Kingdome, renamed the “Biodome” for the occasion. The ball for the ceremonial first pitch was delivered to the mound by a robot and was tossed by actor James Doohan, who played Scotty on *Star Trek*.

The Mariners wore burgundy and black uniforms with vested jerseys bearing an enormous compass logo. Griffey and several teammates wore their caps backwards during the game. Although the promotion was widely criticized, other MLB teams staged their own throw-ahead games in 1999.

After ending their 86-year World Series title drought in 2004, the Boston Red Sox wore gold-trimmed uniforms during their ring ceremony at their home opener at Fenway Park the next season. With the exception of the 2005 White Sox and 2009 Yankees, each championship team has followed Boston’s lead.

Although Henderson believes that the special event uniforms craze may have peaked, he acknowledges the benefits. They are money makers for both teams and good causes and shine a light on an organization.

“A lot of us purists have become cynical because it’s a good idea that’s been beaten to death,” he said. “But if you look at the fan population as a whole, these are events that attract news coverage and call attention to important things, like cancer research and remembrances of Jackie and the Negro Leagues. So, there’s absolutely a positive message to all of this that doesn’t relate to a bunch of traditionalists and collectors being grumpy.”

*Scott Pitoniak resides in Penfield, N.Y., and recently published his first children’s book, “Let’s Go Yankees! An Unforgettable Trip to the Ballpark.”*



The Red Sox, including legendary designated hitter David Ortiz, received permission from MLB in 2014 to celebrate their World Series title from the previous fall with special occasion jerseys with gold outlines.

JIM DAVIS/GETTY IMAGES



# THAT '70s SHOW

## AFTER YEARS OF CONSISTENT DESIGNS, MLB UNIFORMS RADICALLY CHANGED DURING THE AGE OF POLYESTER.

BY TODD RADOM



Major League Baseball, much like America itself, experienced a series of dramatic and tumultuous changes at the outset of the 1970s.

The first four years of the decade saw two franchise moves, the introduction of the designated hitter in the American League and the opening of a series of multi-purpose “cookie-cutter” stadiums – all juxtaposed against a background of ongoing labor strife.

Baseball’s most visible changes, however, were arguably borne out in the uniforms of the then 24 MLB clubs.

Between July 1970 and Opening Day of the 1973 season, every single club transitioned from flannel uniforms to new synthetic double-knits. Teams such as the Yankees, Tigers and Dodgers maintained the classic designs of their uniforms even as the material of them shifted away from natural fibers toward man-made fabrics. Others, including the Braves, Padres and Indians, opted to reimagine themselves wholly in ways that were truly revolutionary and astonishing to traditionalists.

A glance at images of ballpark crowds in the 1950s reveals a mostly male audience, many of whom are wearing fedoras and ties. Attendees of the late 1960s are more casually dressed. By the early '70s, we are seeing more

fans sporting ballcaps – but not one of them is dressed in a replica jersey.

The donning of authentic MLB team apparel used to be the exclusive privilege of a very exclusive group: Big league players. That all changed in the 1980s when MLB and its teams began to offer up replica jerseys for sale to fans.

It can be argued that this phenomenon helped connect fans to their teams in a way that was previously unthinkable. Fans were able to become, in a certain sense, members of the team, bound together by common threads. While interest in the design of big league uniforms dates back to the sport’s earliest days, the connection between fans and jerseys became truly solidified in the 1990s and is still going strong today.

The on-field look of MLB received a much-needed jolt of energy in 1963 when Kansas City Athletics owner Charles O. Finley garbed his team in “Kelly Green and Tulane Gold” uniforms. A man ahead of his time, Finley paved the path toward the modernization of the design of the Major League Baseball uniform that reached a crescendo more than half a decade later.

On the night of July 16, 1970, the Pittsburgh Pirates christened Three Rivers Stadium with a 3-2 loss to the Cincinnati Reds. In a surprise move, the Bucs unleashed a new set of uniforms for the occasion – pullover jerseys and beltless pants made of a synthetic stretch

material, 60 percent nylon and 40 percent cotton. The new outfits were radical in their appearance.

“There are no buttons on the shirts or pants, which resemble ski pants,” reported the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

The new uniforms made a positive impression, despite their decisive break from tradition. Players appreciated their comfort as well as their streamlined look, punctuated by bold striping around the waist, neck and sleeves. Equipment managers embraced the fact that they could be machine washed, as opposed to having to be dry cleaned. And fans and sportswriters were generally receptive to the bold new appearance, described by many as contemporary and progressive.

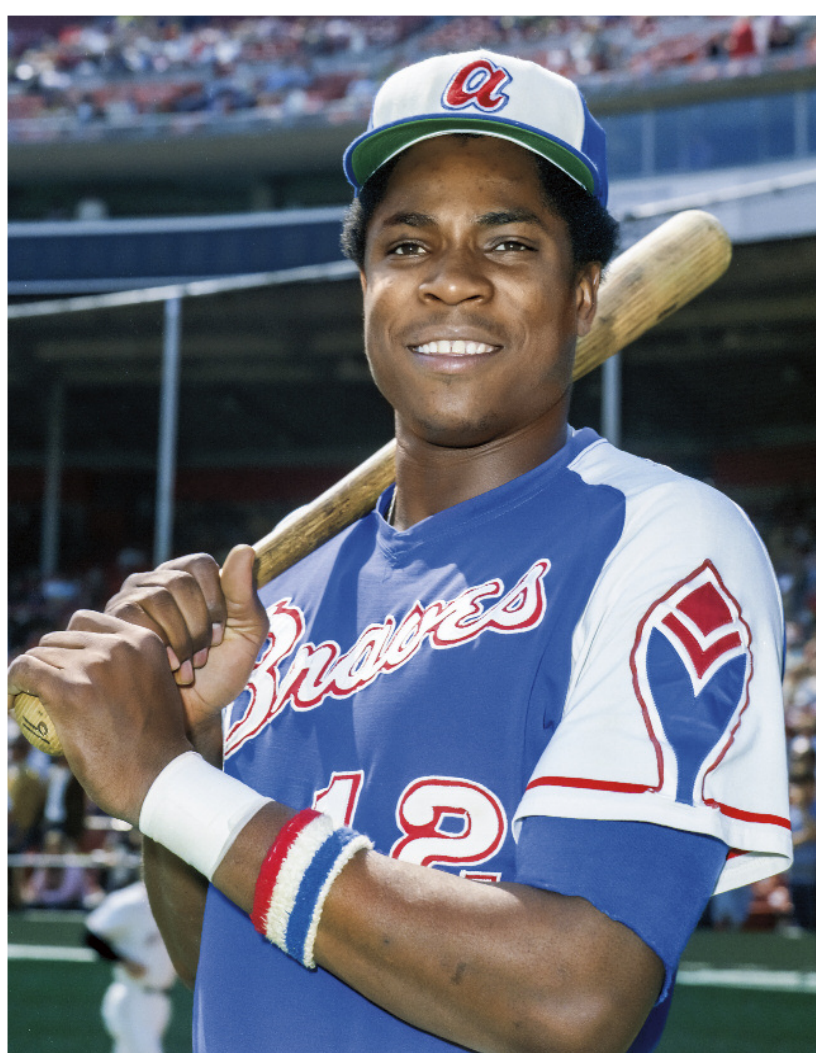
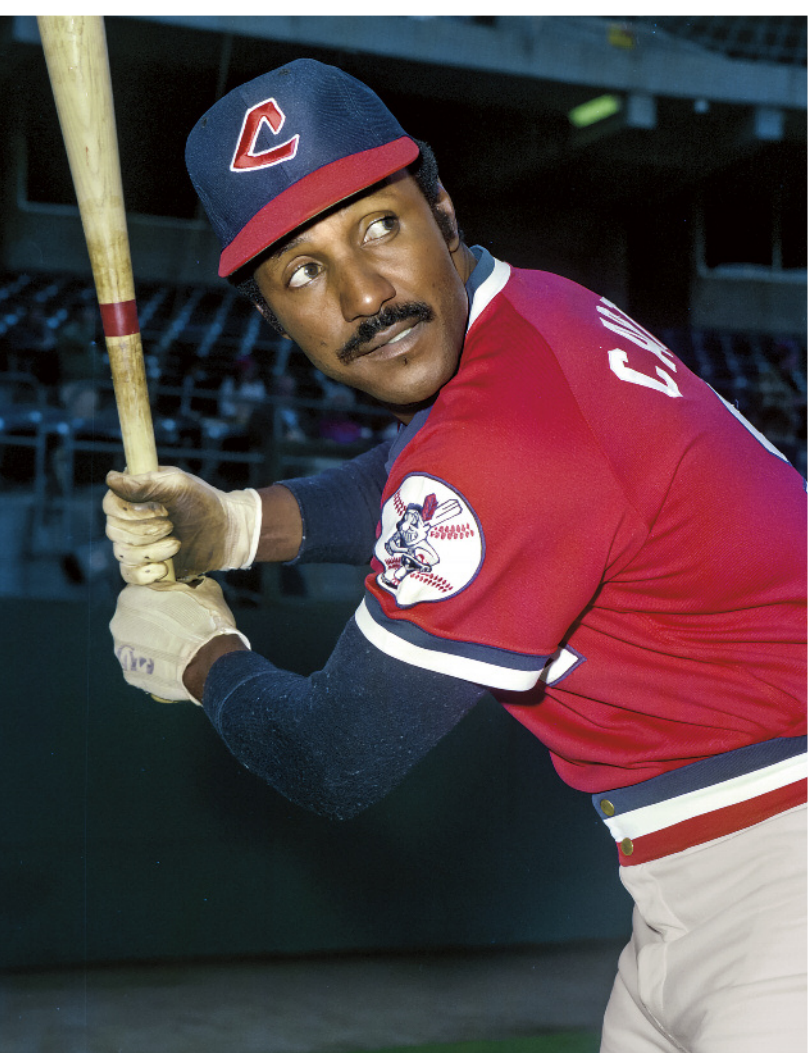
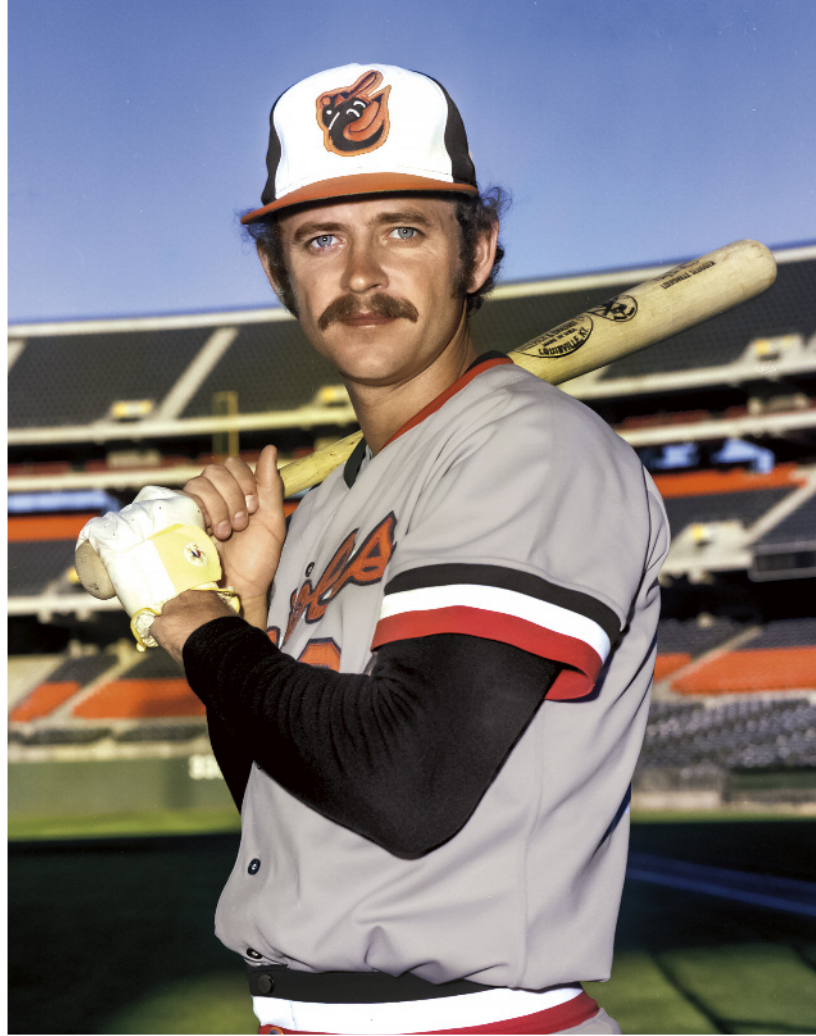
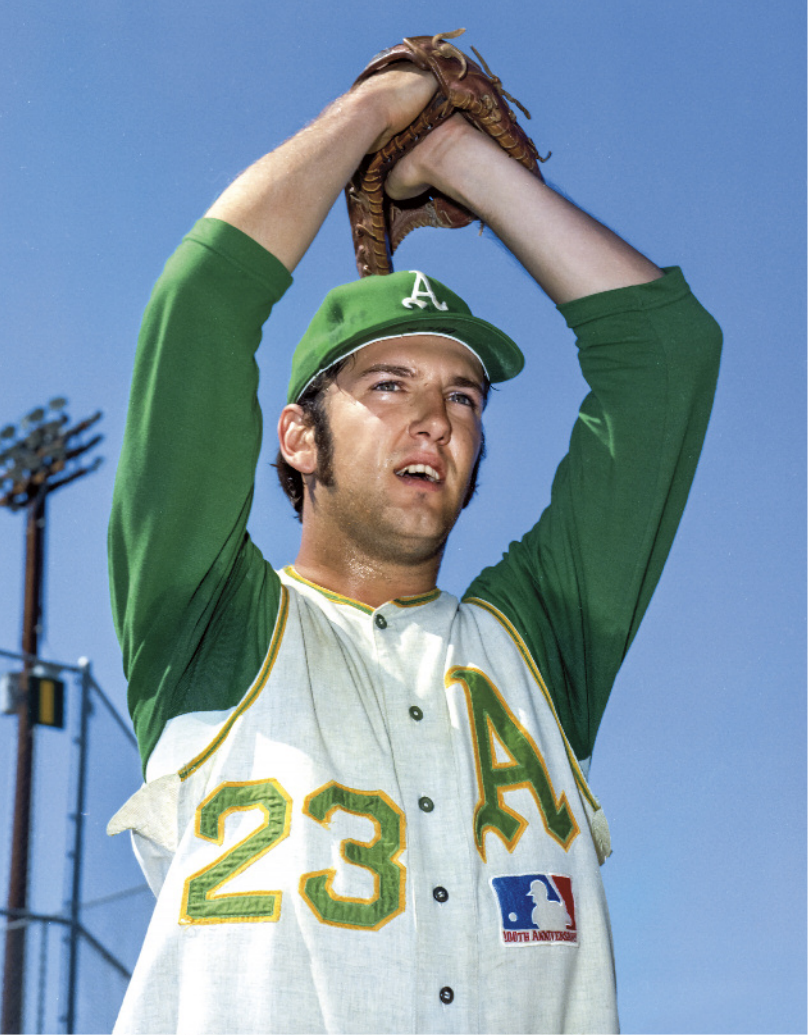
In January 1971, the St. Louis Cardinals, a club known for its sartorial steadiness, jumped into the deep end of the polyester pool. The club unveiled new synthetic uniforms that general manager Bing Devine described as “much brighter and more attractive than the old ones.” Pullovers and beltless pants were in, along with the same kind of bold striping that the Pirates introduced the previous summer. Liberated from vestigial buttons slicing down the middle of the jersey, the team’s signature “birds on bat” was displayed without interruption for the first time since being introduced back in 1922.

That September, the Baltimore Orioles debuted new alternate uniforms that consisted of orange jerseys and pants, manufactured by the Brooks Robinson Sporting Goods Company.

The Houston Astros’ 1971 move to synthetics included a wholesale shift to vibrant orange as the club’s primary identifying color, away from fusty old navy blue. The following year, the Minnesota Twins did likewise with

The 1970s featured innovative uniforms from teams that included (clockwise from top left) the Oakland A’s (pictured with minor leaguer Brien Bickerton), Baltimore Orioles (Rick Dempsey), Atlanta Braves (Dusty Baker) and Cleveland Indians (Rico Carty).











Within just a few years in the early 1970s, all big league teams transitioned from traditional button-down uniforms to more colorful jerseys that often featured pullover tops. Clockwise from top left, Fernando González of the Pirates, Dave Bristol of the Expos, Gary Alexander of the Athletics and Don Durham of the Rangers demonstrate the changing outfits of the time.

their new red-lettered uniforms, eschewing the navy script lettering and pinstripes that had dominated their appearance since their 1961 inaugural season.

Then in 1972, a sea of change swept through Major League Baseball. That year the vast majority of clubs converted to double-knits.

Atlanta busted out a set of “mod” royal blue and white uniforms with a stylized feather on the sleeves, created by Braves Graphics Director Wayland Moore. He viewed the entire uniform as a blank canvas and envisioned blocks of color on the club’s new paneled caps as well with contrasting jersey sleeves as a unique club identifier to accompany Hank Aaron as he powered his way toward Babe Ruth’s career home run record.

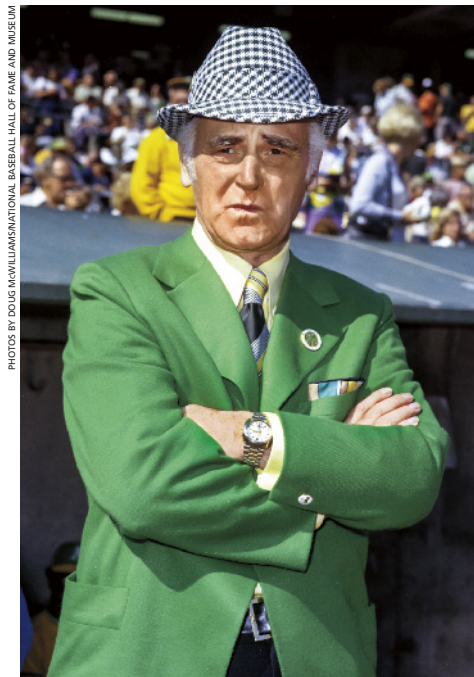
Both of Ohio’s big league clubs went with pullover jerseys and beltless pants in 1972. The Cleveland Indians finished in fifth place in the AL East, but the Cincinnati Reds won the National League pennant, dropping the World Series to the similarly clad Oakland A’s.

The Milwaukee Brewers and the tradition-bound Chicago Cubs both abandoned buttons and belts in 1972.

The new Texas Rangers, after having moved from Washington, played Spring Training games in recycled Senators uniforms with the former team moniker painstakingly stripped off and the new one sewn on. The Rangers, however, opened the season in fresh double-knits.

That season San Diego bedecked itself in yellow from head to toe – both at home and on the road – in a weird mash-up of buttoned jerseys and beltless pants. The Detroit Tigers retained their usual buttoned-up “Old English D” jerseys at home, but introduced new pullover road uniforms that featured clean arched lettering on the front and wide elastic orange and navy striping on the sleeves.

The San Francisco Giants wore their old flannels at home in 1972 but sported new synthetic unis while on the road. Pitcher Juan Marichal, noted for his signature high left leg kick, was a big proponent of the new fabric.



**Left:** Athletics owner Charlie Finley helped change the face of the game when he introduced Kelly green and Tulane gold uniforms in the 1960s. **Right:** The Astros’ “tequila sunrise” uniforms of the 1970s, like this one worn by Jose Cruz, brought new style to baseball.

Marichal told the *Sporting News* “double-knits will stretch and make it easier when I kick high. That’s very important.”

The Boston Red Sox, traditionalists through and through, switched from flannel in 1972, but retained the familiar core look that they had worn for decades. In midseason, however, they went all-in with new V-neck pullovers and beltless pants.

The Montreal Expos’ uniforms were some of the most forward-looking in the sport, but they still wore flannels through the end of the 1972 season. (Outfielder Ken Singleton became the first Expo in double-knits when he was granted a waiver by the Commissioner’s office in July of that year to wear synthetic uniforms due to a skin rash.)

Other holdouts included the still-new Kansas City Royals as well as the New York Yankees, baseball’s most classically clad club.

In 1973, the Yankees were a team in transition. Newly sold to a group headed by George M. Steinbrenner, the Yanks were in the midst of planning a massive renovation of their home stadium. When the Bombers opened the season at Fenway Park in Boston on April 6, they sported new gray double-knit uniforms that still featured block letters that spelled out “New York,” but whose sleeves were capped with navy/white/navy trim, a subtle yet noticeable change. The familiar

navy lettering was now outlined in white for the first time.

Ray Fitzgerald, writing in *The Boston Globe*, noted that the Yankees were “baseball’s last holdouts, the final bastion of sartorial conservatism in the grand old game.”

Baseball’s rapid, seismic shift to synthetic uniforms revolutionized the look of the sport. By 1972, sales of color televisions had long surpassed those of black and white sets. Vividly colorful uniforms and expansive graphics became a prime marketing tool for many clubs. The absolute peak of this movement would wait a couple of years, however, until 1975, when the Houston Astros debuted their uniquely memorable “rainbow” jerseys.

It’s been nearly a half century since the Pirates memorably reimagined the baseball uniform. Since then, technical innovations have constantly evolved and uniform graphics and embellishments have waxed and waned, but the revolutionary changes that took place in the early 1970s remain unchallenged in their breadth, scope and lasting influence. 📌

*Todd Radom is a graphic designer who specializes in branding for professional sports franchises and events. He is the author of “Winning Ugly: A Visual History of the Most Bizarre Baseball Uniforms Ever Worn.”*





# Hand-Me-Down World

Long before they were collectors' items, old big league uniforms were sent to the minor leagues for re-use.

BY STEVE BUCKLEY

**H**istory was made on April 6, 1973, when a brawny 24-year-old named Ron Blomberg stepped up to the plate at Fenway Park. It was Opening Day, New York Yankees against the Boston Red Sox, top of the first inning, and that's when fate – and manager Ralph Houk's lineup card – chose Blomberg to become the answer to a really cool trivia question:

*Who was the first-ever designated hitter in Major League Baseball?*

Blomberg drew a bases-loaded walk against Red Sox starter Luis Tiant and went to first.

His bat went to Cooperstown. The uniform, however, is unaccounted for.

As for the many other uniforms he wore during his eight seasons in the majors, Blomberg, based on personal observations, has some theories.

"They probably ended up in the minor leagues," he said. "That's what usually happened to our uniforms in those days."

Blomberg speaks with authority on this topic. The Atlanta, Ga., native made his home in the Riverdale section of the Bronx during his days with the Yankees, and in the offseason he would sometimes head into Yankee Stadium and pal around with Pete Sheehy, the legendary clubhouse attendant who got his start when Babe Ruth was in pinstripes.

"I'd be in there with Pete and he'd have this



**I played in my first Oldtimers Game when I was 31 years old, the year after I retired, and they gave me an old pair of pants. I looked closer and saw the name – Yogi Berra.**

Bobby Richardson



big pile of uniforms, and he'd be folding them and putting them in boxes, saying they were being shipped to Spring Training for the minor leaguers to wear," he said. "And from there, some of them would be sent on to minor league cities once the season opened. That's what the Yankees did with the old flannels in those days."

It's what most teams did with their old flannels in those days. Modern-day fans may find this difficult to comprehend, given that vintage uniforms are now looked upon as treasured and valuable collectibles, but there was a time when they were treated as little more than old clothes. And this is what we do with old clothes, then and now: We either throw them out or designate them as hand-me-downs.

Big league clubhouse attendants and equipment managers generally went the hand-me-down route. They'd gather up their team's uniforms at season's end and determine which ones could be repaired and which ones were cooked. Some were saved for posterity, some were tossed and some were given away; the rest would go to Spring Training farmhands and then on to some far-flung minor league port.

"For some reason, I have this vivid memory from the end of the 1965 season, when we were told our uniforms were going to the minors," said Jim Lonborg, a rookie pitcher with the '65 Red Sox who would go on to play 15 seasons in the big leagues. "Nobody thought anything about it. We just threw them in the pile. Who knew they'd be worth a lot of money some day?"

Blomberg agrees.

"We all would have become multimillionaires," he said. "I guess I should have held on to a few of them."

Selected by the Yankees as the first overall pick in the June 1967 amateur draft, Blomberg was especially pleased to be the recipient of a low uniform number – 12 – which he attributed to an organizational belief he was going to be a future big league star.

"And I don't think it hurt that I was one of the few Jewish players in baseball," he said.

Former New York Yankees Yogi Berra (left) and Bobby Richardson pose for a photograph during Old Timers Day on July 19, 2009, at Yankee Stadium. Richardson, a seven-time All-Star, got a hand-me-down uniform for his first Old Timers Day game in 1967 ... one that formerly belonged to Berra.



“I think they wanted to show me off a little.”

But Blomberg received an added surprise when he took a closer look at the uniform.

“It had Gil McDougald’s name written inside it,” he said, referring to the former All-Star infielder who played in eight World Series during his 10 seasons with the Yankees. “He wore No. 12 and I wore No. 12 – but this one was his No. 12.

“I don’t think a lot of players in the minor leagues paid attention to the uniforms they were wearing,” said Blomberg. “But when I was in the big leagues, I saw Pete Sheehy sending them out. It was the most incredible thing you ever saw, even if the young players didn’t know it.”

Sometimes it wasn’t just young players getting those uniforms. Sometimes it was old players. Bobby Richardson, the former Gold Glove second baseman who played for the Yankees from 1955 to 1966, has a story about that.

“I played in my first Oldtimers Game when I was 31 years old, the year after I retired, and they gave me an old pair of pants,” he said. “The pants had a little pocket for a watch, which is something they did for managers in those days. I looked closer and saw the name – Yogi Berra. The pants were from when [the Hall of Fame catcher] managed the Yankees a couple of years earlier.”

Unlike Blomberg and Lonborg, who



GETTY IMAGES

Former Red Sox pitcher Jim Lonborg was part of a generation of big leaguers whose uniforms regularly were passed down to minor leaguers the following season.

didn’t see much value in those old flannels, Richardson went in a different direction.

“They were Yogi Berra’s pants, so I decided to keep them,” Richardson said. “I still have them.”

It’s probable that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of former professional ballplayers, whether or not they played in the majors, have an old big league uniform tucked away in the attic. Maybe they know the name of the big leaguer who wore

it before they came along. Maybe they’ve never even looked. Maybe they should.

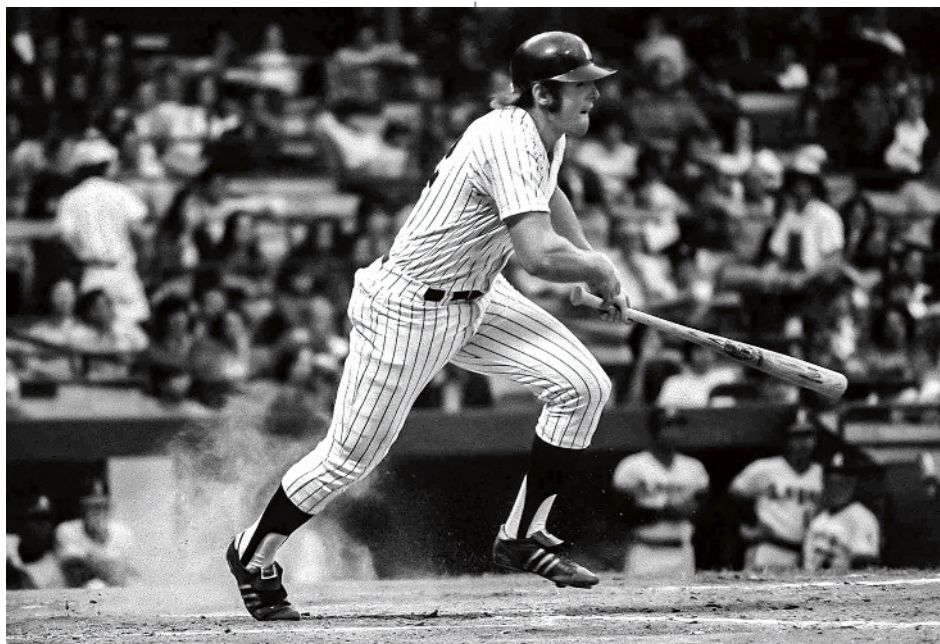
One former minor league ballplayer who did look was Paul “Lefty” Wennik, a diminutive pitcher from the University of Massachusetts who in 1961 appeared in exactly one game for the Middlesboro Senators of the Appalachian League.

The Senators were a farm club of the expansion Washington Senators. They were using the uniforms of the original Washington Senators, who had relocated to Minnesota and changed their name to the Twins. Before heading to the Twin Cities, they shipped their old uniforms to Middlesboro.

Lefty Wennik was allowed to keep the uniform from his one professional baseball game. Inside the shirt is stitched the name “Dan Dobbek.” That would be outfielder Dan Dobbek, who played parts of two seasons with the Senators in ’59 and ’60 and then played for the Minnesota Twins in their inaugural 1961 season.

“I’ll always be proud that I played professional baseball,” said Wennik, a successful businessman and philanthropist who remains heavily involved with his alma mater.

Judging from its pristine condition, he’s also proud of Dan Dobbek’s – and his – old Senators uniform. 🍌



HARRY HARRIS/AP IMAGES

Ron Blomberg became the American League’s first designated hitter in 1973. But his Yankees uniform that day may have been one of thousands that were re-used in the team’s minor league system following the season – a standard practice for that era.

Steve Buckley is a columnist for The Boston Herald.



# THE WIZ KID

## OZZIE SMITH FOLLOWED HIS DREAMS TO BECOME ONE OF BASEBALL'S BEST PLAYERS AND AMBASSADORS.

BY HAL BODLEY

**D**reaming. Ozzie Smith shut his eyes one day when he was 12 years old and could see a yellow brick road winding from his home in the tough Watts section of Los Angeles through hills and valleys to the fields of Major League Baseball.

And somewhere over the rainbow, after thousands of bouncing balls, backflips and base hits, he followed that road to become one of the game's greatest players, a true Hall of Famer.

Osborne Earl Smith, i.e. The Wizard.

Yes, Ozzie's road to Cooperstown is the stuff of dreams.

There were 13 consecutive Gold Gloves built around his acrobatic fielding, 15 All-Star Games, a long list of fielding records and even 2,460 hits and 580 stolen bases.

And, ultimately, the 2002 election to the Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility.

"I never played the game to make the Hall of Fame," Smith said. "I played the game because I enjoyed it. But I wanted to play well enough to be considered for the Hall of Fame. The rest is icing on the cake."

No one at Cooperstown on that mostly cloudy July afternoon in 2002 will forget his moving, emotional acceptance homily that left the large gathering spellbound.

He compared his incredible career, his unbelievable journey, to the movie classic *The*



Ozzie Smith won a record 13 Gold Glove Awards at shortstop over his 19-year big league career with the Padres and Cardinals.

*Wizard of Oz*. The roadmap of his trip was like "Dorothy's journey down the yellow brick road, with three delightful companions – the scarecrow, the tin man and the cowardly lion."

Swallowing hard, he offered: "The core of my journey to the Hall of Fame was a dream that took shape in my heart one day while sitting as a child on the front steps of our home ... That was the day I started dreaming about becoming a professional baseball player."

His first glove was a paper bag. He used to lie on the floor of his house, close his eyes and

toss a baseball and then catch it without looking at it. Over and over.

"I remember I was exhausted from playing yet another game ... I instead let the dream come into the playground of my mind," Smith recalled of his childhood wish to play big league baseball. "I embraced it. I embellished it to the point where I even selected the position I would play."

Softly, under his waning words that day in Cooperstown when he said his route to the game's pinnacle was so like Dorothy's, Judy Garland's recording of "Over the Rainbow" began playing as tears turned to applause.

Ozzie Smith is 63 now. His hair is cropped short and there are hints of gray around the edges, but there's no mistaking the contagious smile and warmth he has always portrayed with his words.

His numbers and achievements will withstand the test of time, and though they may define him, there's much more to this unique human being.

"Giving back is the ultimate talent in life," Smith professed. "That is the greatest trophy on my mantel. I want to be proud of the place where I live. You hear so much negative about communities and so forth. I tell people if you want your community to be better, you have to get your hands dirty. You have to get involved. I'm not going to change the world, change every life that's bad, but if I can touch one or two people and make a difference in their lives, it's all worth it."

He reaches deep inside when he adds, "Ozzie Smith was a boy who decided to look within, a boy who discovered that absolutely nothing is good enough if it can be made better, a boy who discovered an old-fashioned formula that would take him beyond that rainbow, beyond even his wildest dreams."

Not so coincidentally, several years ago he played the role of the Wizard in the St. Louis Municipal Opera's production of *The Wizard of Oz*.

Smith is on the Hall of Fame's board of directors and serves as the Museum's Education Ambassador. Each year since 2002, he's been hosting PLAY Ball with Ozzie Smith on the

LOU SAUR/INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Friday of Induction Weekend. The event has helped raise more than \$250,000 (including nearly \$40,000 this year) for the Museum's educational outreach programs and the Ozzie Smith Diversity Scholarships, presented annually to members of the Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development.

"What we try to do is keep fans engaged and give them the opportunity to spend time with their favorite players and raise money for the education fund," Smith said.

No sooner had Smith returned to St. Louis after this year's Induction Weekend than he was knee-deep in helping promote the 100th anniversary of the PGA Championship that was held in early August at Bellerive Country Club.

Smith is president of the Gateway PGA Foundation and was instrumental in bringing the PGA Championship back to the storied club for the first time since 1992. He couldn't have been more pleased with how the weekend played out. Brooks Koepka held off a sizzling charge by Tiger Woods to become just the fifth player to win the U.S. Open and PGA Championship in the same year. Every corner of the prestigious Bellerive course vibrated with roars as Woods, who couldn't even swing a club 11 months ago, shot a 64 on Sunday, his lowest final round ever in a major tournament.

Smith, who's let golf replace his competitive juices since retiring from baseball, is also president of the Gateway PGA Outreach Program.

"It is wonderful to see the city of St. Louis, which has been a major part of my heart for so long, connect with golf in such a significant way to bring hope to many who would otherwise not have that opportunity," he said. "We use golf as the hook, introducing kids to the game and the business of golf. But the most important thing is getting kids a good education. We feel the longer we can keep them in the classroom, hopefully the better citizens we will be able to produce."

Smith explains the hours he spends giving back now is an extension of the commitment it took to succeed on the field.

"As professional athletes, we talk about having the courage, the perseverance, the dedication it takes to be the very best at what we do. For me, it is and was a natural thing.

"What I did, I did every day. Anyone can make a great play every now and then. But what I did, I did every day. I might not have driven in 100 runs each year, but I prevented



Ozzie Smith led all National League shortstops in fielding percentage eight times and holds the record for most assists by a shortstop in a career with 8,375.

100 runs from scoring against us."

Smith's magical glove redefined the position of shortstop. But despite his gifted hands, people kept telling the 5-foot-11, 150 pounder that he was too small. He struggled to get noticed.

Eddie Murray, a classmate at Locke High School in Los Angeles, was signed by the Orioles and was soon on his way to a Hall of Fame career. Smith was overlooked and enrolled at Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo on a partial academic scholarship. He was then taken in the seventh round of the 1976 MLB Draft by the Tigers, but opted to return to school.

After graduating in 1977, he was drafted by the Padres in the fourth round and received a \$5,000 bonus. He spent four seasons in San Diego (1978-81) before being traded to the Cardinals in a deal that centered around Ozzie in exchange for Garry Templeton. In St. Louis, he blossomed and helped the Cards reach the World Series three times.

Whitey Herzog, himself a Hall of Famer, was the St. Louis manager and general manager at the time and coveted Smith.

"In December [after the 1981 season], Whitey actually got on a plane and came to San Diego to more or less recruit me," Smith said. "That was a breath of fresh air for me because the Padres weren't interested in re-signing me. They were looking for a much better offensive shortstop, which they got in Templeton. When Whitey talked to me, it meant there was somebody who believed in me.

He gave me the vote of confidence I needed."

Herzog's take: "It was the 26th of December and I met with [Ozzie] and his agent out there. Before I took the red-eye flight back, I told him I'd love to have him come to St. Louis. I said, 'If you do decide to come, I'll sign you to a one-year contract. If you don't like me or St. Louis at the end of the year, I'll give you your release. If you do like St. Louis and you do like the Cardinals, and you want to play for me, I'll sign you to a long-term contract.'"

Herzog said Smith promised "to let me know in a couple of weeks. On January 10, he and his wife came to St. Louis. It was about 17 below zero. They were wearing long fur coats and I thought, 'He's never going to come to St. Louis and leave San Diego, where it's 72 degrees every night when they play the national anthem.'"

Soon after, however, Smith called Herzog and said he was coming.

"That was probably the greatest thing that happened to the Cardinals during my time there," Herzog said recently. "He was the guy I needed."

Smith lived up to expectations, winning his third straight Gold Glove Award in his first year in St. Louis.

"We were much better at throwing and catching the ball and running the bases than a lot of the teams," Smith said. "Knowing that, we just did our thing."

The Cardinals opened 1982 with a 14-3 victory over Houston. They then lost three in a row, including an 11-7 thrashing by Pittsburgh.





Elected to the Hall of Fame in 2002, Ozzie Smith mesmerized the fans at the Induction Ceremony in Cooperstown with a speech that likened his baseball journey to that of Dorothy along the Yellow Brick Road in the movie *The Wizard of Oz*.

“I remember the ride home after that game,” Smith said. “We just decided as a team we would play the way we were capable of playing. And that’s what we did.”

The next day the Cards edged the Pirates, 7-6, the beginning of a 12-game winning streak. The team’s remarkable consistency became apparent: St. Louis wouldn’t lose more than four straight games the rest of the season. The Cardinals won their first National League pennant in 14 years – with the switch-hitting Smith batting .556 in a sweep of Atlanta in the NLCS – and then beat Milwaukee for their first World Series crown in 15 seasons.

“He made more diving plays than I’ve ever seen,” Herzog said. “I don’t see how it was possible to play shortstop any better than Ozzie played it. He was the glue of our team. How important was it? We wouldn’t have won any of it if we hadn’t gotten him.”

While his glove was never an issue – he took the defensive aspect of shortstop to another level – his hitting steadily improved in St. Louis. In 1985, Smith increased his batting average to .276 while helping the Cardinals to their second NL pennant in four years.

His bat was never bigger than in that year’s NLCS against the Dodgers. With the series tied at two games apiece and Game 5 tied, 2-2, in the bottom of the ninth inning, Smith faced righty Tom Niedenfuer at old Busch Stadium.

He launched his first career homer batting left-handed in 3,009 at-bats to win the game.

“That was the crowning moment for me offensively,” Smith said. “It wasn’t until that ball actually cleared the right-field fence that people started looking at me for more than defense.”

Smith would hit .435 – smashing a double and a triple among his 10 hits – in the Cardinals’ six-game series victory to earn the MVP Award. However, they were beaten in a dramatic seven-game World Series by the Kansas City Royals.

His third and final World Series appearance came in 1987 against the Minnesota Twins (the Cards again lost in seven games) after what was arguably his best offensive season. Smith finished with 43 stolen bases and boasted career bests in batting average (.303), hits (182) and runs scored (104). He also drove in 75 runs, numbers that earned him a runner-up finish to the Cubs’ Andre Dawson in NL MVP voting.

“If you couldn’t play for Whitey, you probably shouldn’t be playing,” Smith said. “He only had two rules – be on time and give 100 percent. I loved playing for him because he allowed me to do my job. That’s all I wanted.”

Smith announced his retirement on June 19, 1996, effective at season’s end. In July of that summer, he was chosen for his 15th All-Star Game, where he received a standing ovation from the 62,000-plus at Philadelphia’s Veterans Stadium. The Cardinals retired Ozzie’s uniform

No. 1 on Sept. 28 and he chose that occasion to perform his trademark backflip for one of the last times.

Philosophy?

“When you’re playing, you want to be considered the best at what you do. I went about doing that, setting myself apart from the rest of the crowd,” Smith said. “I didn’t want to be one of many, which you certainly are if you’re in the norm. But the guys who make the Hall of Fame are one of a few.”

Now it’s golf. And more golf.

“I try to play every day that ends in a ‘y,’” he joked. “For all of us (retired baseball players), once we get away from the game, we still have that competitive nature. That void you have is something you’re in search of filling. Golf fills that for most of us and that’s why we gravitate to it.

“Golf utilizes the skills we had when we played baseball – hand and eye coordination, timing. They’re all incorporated in the game of golf. For me, it’s one of the most fascinating endeavors I’ve taken up. Just when you think you’ve got it figured out, it jumps up and bites you. I can be in a good groove, and all of a sudden, it’s as if I’ve never played before.

“When I see a guy win a tournament, I have a lot of respect for him because I know he’s played well four straight days.”

Smith, who carries a 6-handicap, plays much of his golf at The Country Club of St. Albans, a suburb of St. Louis where he has a home.

“I also am a frequent player at Boone Valley Golf Club, which is in nearby Augusta,” he said. “One of the perks of being the PGA president, I get to play all over. And, luckily, I’m invited to play in many charity events around the country.”

He’s the father of three children: Sons Nikko and Dustin, and daughter Taryn.

And it was Smith who applauded Nikko, a popular singer and songwriter, when he cracked the top 10 finalists of the 2005 edition of *American Idol*.

Now the road is a lush green fairway, dogleg to the left, bunker by a velvety green. And you can hear it: Fore up there! Here comes Ozzie Smith! 📍

*Hal Bodley, dean of American baseball writers, is correspondent emeritus for MLB.com. He has been covering Major League Baseball since 1958 and was USA TODAY baseball editor/columnist for 25 years before retiring in 2007.*



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# Plaque Travels

After the plaques of the members of the Class of 2018 were installed in the Museum's Plaque Gallery during the July 27-30 Hall of Fame Weekend, each was removed for a brief time during August for travel to events celebrating Hall of Famers Vladimir Guerrero, Trevor Hoffman, Chipper Jones, Jack Morris, Jim Thome and Alan Trammell.



CLEVELAND INDIANS/MIKE MENDLIK



DUANE BURLESOM/GETTY IMAGES

**1.** The Cleveland Indians honored Hall of Famer Jim Thome by retiring his number at a ceremony Aug. 18 at Progressive Field. **2.** Alan Trammell acknowledges the crowd at Detroit's Comerica Park during a ceremony – featuring his Hall of Fame plaque – to retire his No. 3 on Aug. 26.

JOHN BAZEMORE/GETTY IMAGES



3





CARLOS ORODIAZ IMAGES



4



JOHN COORDIS/GETTY IMAGES

5



ANDY HAYTSAN DIEGO PADRES

6

**3.** The Atlanta Braves celebrated Chipper Jones' career Aug. 10 at SunTrust Park. **4.** The Detroit Tigers retired Jack Morris' No. 47 at an Aug. 12 event that featured his Hall of Fame plaque. The Twins also held events with the Hall of Fame plaques of Morris and Jim Thome. **5.** Vladimir Guerrero, the first Hall of Fame electee to feature an Angels logo on his Hall of Fame plaque cap, threw out the first pitch at a celebration in his honor Aug. 10 at Angel Stadium. **6.** Trevor Hoffman holds his Hall of Fame plaque in front of the team's exhibit honoring Padres who have been elected to the Hall of Fame on Aug. 18 in San Diego.





# 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.

## WHAT WE'VE DONE TOGETHER

### Joe DiMaggio's glove

Thanks to generous gifts from Peter Hand and Mike Thaller, a glove that was used by Joe DiMaggio during the 1938 and 1939 seasons will undergo much needed conservation work, ensuring that it is preserved here in Cooperstown for future generations.

### AAGPBL cap

Thanks to generous gifts from Clara Bartunek (in honor of Jean Orlandi), Thomas Boone, Bob Janetschek and Cecil Kennedy,

Betty Yahr's Rockford Peaches cap from the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League will undergo conservation work. This work will ensure that future generations of Museum visitors can enjoy this important artifact.

### Photos to be digitally preserved

Thanks to a number of generous donors, photographs of several Hall of Famers will be digitally preserved and added to the PASTIME online collections database at [collection.baseballhall.org](http://collection.baseballhall.org). They include:

- Richie Ashburn, Yogi Berra, Mickey Cochrane, Eddie Collins, Joe DiMaggio, Jimmie Foxx, Pud Galvin, Lou Gehrig,

Harry Heilmann, Connie Mack, Christy Mathewson, John McGraw and Brooks Robinson – Thanks to a gift from Tony and Nanar Yoseloff

- Home Run Baker – Thanks to a gift from Paul Lester
- Tom Glavine, Phil Niekro, Ozzie Smith and John Smoltz – Thanks to a gift from Mike Gallichio
- Alan Trammell – Thanks to a gift from John Boggs
- Harry Wright – Thanks to a gift from Carl Moyer

## WHAT YOU CAN HELP US DO

### Bob Feller spikes

Hall of Famer Bob Feller (Class of 1962) started his career as a young, hard-throwing pitcher with a high leg kick for the Cleveland Indians. He earned the nickname “Rapid Robert” because of his devastating fastball and high strikeout total, evidenced by his first major league start in 1936 – at the age of 17 – in which he struck out 15 batters.

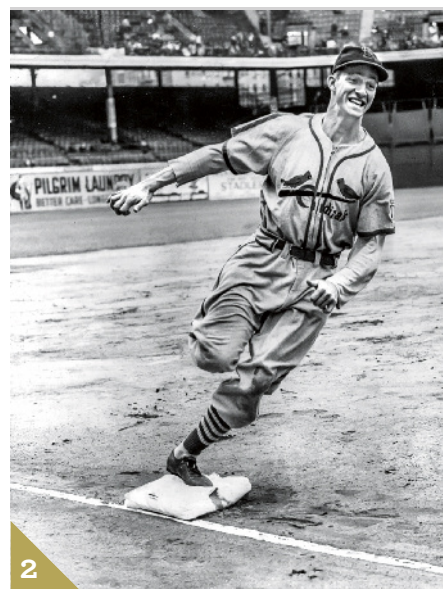
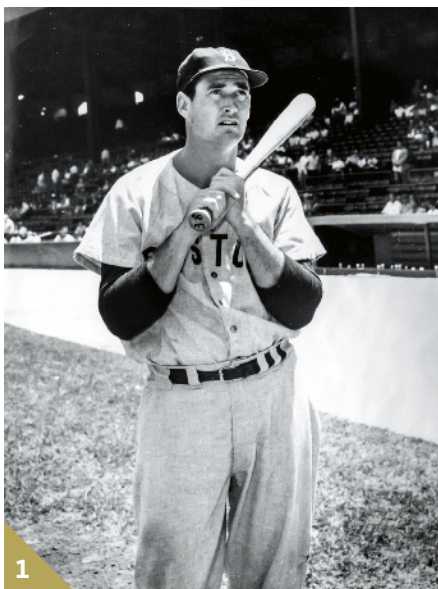
Two years later – on October 2, 1938, against the Detroit Tigers – Feller set a new modern-day record of 18 strikeouts. The spikes worn by Feller on that day (pictured on page 21 of this issue of *Memories and Dreams*) are among the many artifacts that allow us to share stories and moments of greatness on the field, as well as moments of character and courage off of it.

For instance, on December 9, 1941, two days after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Feller put aside his 3-C draft deferment status and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. With this selfless act, he became Major League Baseball's first player to enlist in World War II and, in the process, gave up nearly four seasons of baseball in the prime of his career.

Make a gift today toward the conservation work needed to ensure these spikes are preserved for future generations of fans.

*Estimate for conservation to be performed by B.R. Howard and Associates: \$2,100*

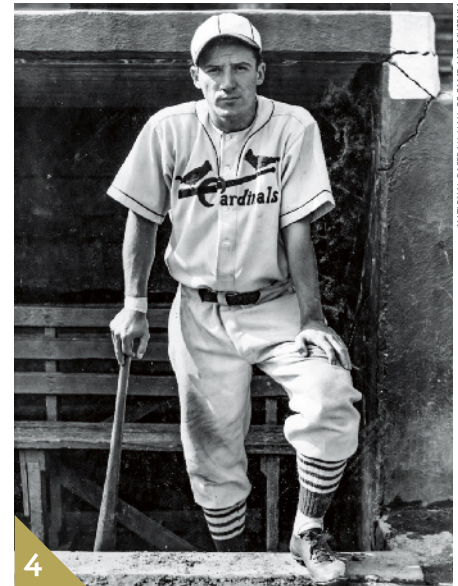
**1-7.** The Museum is working to digitally preserve images of inductees from the Hall of Fame Classes of 1966 through 1969, a group that includes legends Ted Williams, Stan Musial, Roy Campanella, Joe Medwick, Kiki Cuyler, Casey Stengel and Branch Rickey.







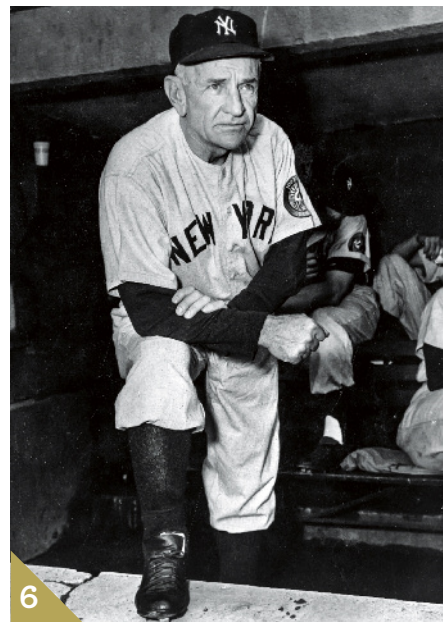
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## Digitally preserve historic photos of the Hall of Fame Classes of 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969

We need your help to continue our work to digitally preserve the Museum's photo collection, which contains more than 250,000 images. You can help us to preserve the images of the Classes of 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969.

Cost to digitally preserve images of:

### Class of 1966

- Casey Stengel (913 images): .....\$4,925
- Ted Williams (551 images):.....\$2,885

### Class of 1967

- Branch Rickey (117 images):.....\$585

- Red Ruffing (143 images): .....\$745
- Lloyd Waner (56 images): .....\$280

### Class of 1968

- Kiki Cuyler (44 images): .....\$240
- Goose Goslin (110 images): .....\$560
- Joe Medwick (187 images): .....\$975

### Class of 1969

- Roy Campanella (317 images):.....\$1,605
- Stan Coveleski (39 images):.....\$195
- Waite Hoyt (368 images): .....\$1,880
- Stan Musial (516 images):.....\$2,660

Total cost to digitally preserve all 3,361 images:  
\$17,535

## Additional projects online

We are grateful for all our donors and Museum Members who've helped us preserve baseball history. We have accomplished a lot together, but there is more to be done.

Explore additional projects – artifacts, photographs and Library documents – that are in need of care, conservation and preservation by visiting [baseballhall.org/museuminaction](http://baseballhall.org/museuminaction). 📌

For more information – or to make a donation of any amount toward one of these projects – please contact Becky Ashe of our Development Team at (607) 547-0310 or [development@baseballhall.org](mailto:development@baseballhall.org).



# COLORFUL FINGERS

From trendsetting to traditional, it's fitting how uniforms can match a team's personality.

BY ROLLIE FINGERS

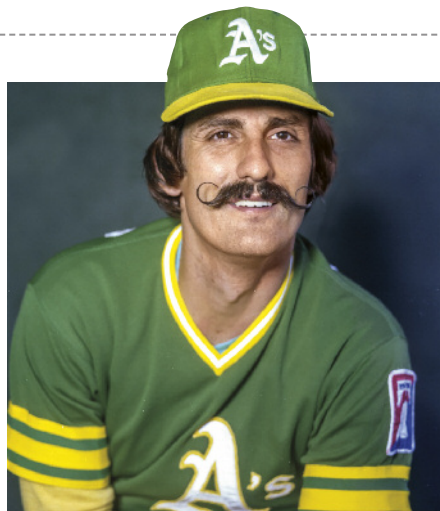
**I**n 17 years as a major league pitcher, I only played for three teams, but I wore a lot of different uniforms. But when you're playing, you don't care as much what the uniform looks like, as long as you're given the chance to wear one.

When I came up with the Oakland A's in the late '60s, they were already wearing sleeveless tops. It was somewhat unique, and the players didn't mind at all. When it was hot and humid, especially on road trips back east during the summer, they were nice to wear – cool and comfortable. But in Oakland, night games were cold, and we had to compensate with two sweatshirts.

In '71, we had a good team. We played well and reached the playoffs, but we got beat by Baltimore. Then in '72, we went from the flannel cut-offs to the colorful double-knit with sleeves. We were really the first team to go with the double-knit look with the changing colors on tops and bottoms. It was a bit of a surprise to us when it happened, but the players didn't think it was that big of a deal.

During Spring Training in '72, we were still wearing sleeveless flannels. But when we got up to Oakland, they had new, colorful uniforms waiting for us. These were the brand new uniforms with the bright colors. The first time we wore them was Opening Day 1972. We were wearing yellow tops, green tops, and white tops with white bottoms – which we called our wedding-gown whites – all with two-tone Kelly green hats and white shoes.

One game early on, our owner, Charlie



In Rollie Fingers' nine seasons with Oakland from 1968-'76, A's owner Charlie Finley helped usher in a new era of uniforms, featuring bold colors and double-knit fabrics.

Finley, came out with a dark green top and dark green bottoms. When we put those on, we looked like giant green beans running around the field! So we canned the idea of green pants and stuck with the white pants, no matter which top.

We wore the different colored tops every other day. If we wore gold tops with white bottoms on Monday, we wore green tops and white bottoms on Tuesday. The only exception was Sunday home games, when we always wore all whites. It was the same thing on the road – we never had any gray.

Whether coincidence or not, we switched uniforms in 1972, and that's when we started winning. The fans loved the strong colors and bought into the team. The brighter style seemed to fit our clubhouse personality. We were a colorful ballclub, and then we added the mustaches and long hair – we looked like

we came right out Berkeley, the whole group!

Charlie had some other interesting uniform ideas while I was with the A's through '76. He had the coaches wearing white caps to differentiate them from the players. It was actually a smart idea, making it easier for us to see the coaches from a long distance.

Honestly, we didn't mind looking different on the field. As long we were playing good ball – and we were – we weren't going to change anything. We were going to wear anything Charlie gave us.

The four years I played in San Diego (1977-80), I think we had four different uniforms – a new style every year! They kept changing the lettering, the color. The first year, we just had white uniforms with "Padres" in cursive on the front, which I thought looked pretty sharp. Then they moved to brown tops with bright orange colored letters and numbers, and orange tops – or a combination of those two colors.

The Brewers jerseys were great when I got to Milwaukee in 1981. We had the beautiful blue and white pinstripes, and the powder blue for the road.

A lot of people forget, but I was actually a member of the Red Sox for three days in 1976, lockering next to Carl Yastrzemski – until Bowie Kuhn nixed the deal and sent me back to the A's. It was a little different looking down and seeing "Boston" on the chest. I enjoyed wearing the colorful jerseys of the A's, Padres and Brewers, but it was special to wear the Boston Red Sox uniform – a more traditional style.

All in all, when I look back at my career, my favorite uniforms were the A's green tops and the powder blue road uniforms with the Brewers. My green 1974 A's and pinstriped 1981 Brewers jerseys are now hanging at the Hall of Fame – and that's one of the greatest honors for any player, no matter which style makes it to Cooperstown.

I do have my favorites, but trust me: I was in the big leagues – I would have worn a T-shirt and shorts if I had to! 🍌

*Rollie Fingers, who had 341 saves and 114 wins in 17 seasons, was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1992.*



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PASTIME includes images like this one of Hall of Fame third basemen (from left) Mike Schmidt, Wade Boggs, Brooks Robinson, George Brett and Chipper Jones from July 29 in Cooperstown.

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## AROUND COOPERSTOWN

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Class of 2018 inductees Jack Morris (left) and Alan Trammell share a moment on stage during the July 29 Induction Ceremony in Cooperstown.