



I Do



20月1日

Old Dominion is a proud partner of Major League Baseball.



At Old Dominion, we're excited to expand our commitment to baseball. Like Major League Baseball, we share a rich history of growth and deep connection with fans. We honor many of the same values—hard work, exceptionalism and performance. Follow this season's top performances at **#CαrryTheFreight**.

The Official Freight Carrier of Major League Baseball.



OD·**DOMESTIC**

OD·PEOPLE

OD·EXPEDITED

OD·GLOBAL

OD·**TECHNOLOGY**

HELPING THE WORLD KEEP PROMISES.



Old Dominion Freight Line, the Old Dominion logo, OD Household Services and Helping The World Keep Promises are service marks or registered service marks of Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc. All other trademarks and service marks identified herein are the intellectual property of their respective owners. © 2017 Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc., Thomasville, N.C. All rights reserved.

Major League Baseball trademarks and copyrights are used with the permission of Major League Baseball Properties. Visit MLB.com.



The Official Magazine of the Hall of Fame

THE NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM 25 Main Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326 (607) 547-0397

THE NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD Jane Forbes Clark VICE CHAIRMAN Joe L. Morgan TREASURER Kevin S. Moore Paul Beeston William O. DeWitt Jr. William L. Gladstone David D. Glass Robert D. Manfred Jr. Philip H. Niekro Jerry Reinsdorf Brooks C. Robinson Frank Robinson Dr. Harvey W. Schiller Ozzie Smith Edward W. Stack Thomas Tull

THE NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM SENIOR STAFF:

PRESIDENT Jeffrey L. Idelson

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT Jeffrey J. Jones OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

VICE PRESIDENT Sean J. Gahagan RETAIL MERCHANDISING AND LICENSING

VICE PRESIDENT Kenneth Meifert Sponsorship and development

VICE PRESIDENT Jon Shestakofsky COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION

VICE PRESIDENT Erik Strohl Exhibitions and collections

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

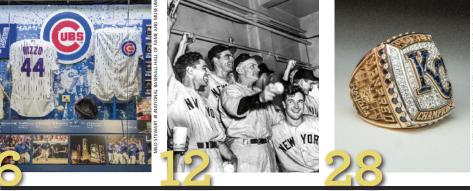


PUBLISHERJoshua A. Zimman ASSOCIATE PUBLISHERAdam Scharff CREATIVE/PRODUCTION DIRECTORChervi A. Lampert EDITORJohn Veneziano ASSOCIATE EDITORAndre Christopher DESIGN/PRODUCTIONChristina Capobianco, Susan Macdonald Cat Paszyc SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT.Neal Radding ADVERTISING SALES VICE PRESIDENT, Paul DeJoie **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT** DISTRIBUTION DIRECTOR/Mark Appleman VICE PRESIDENT, ADVERTISING SALES ADVERTISING SALESGreg Clements, Edward Dias FEATURED WRITERS Hal Bodlev. Matt Kellv. Scott Pitoniak, John Rosengrer MAGAZINE HISTORIAN Marty Appel

PHOTO CREDITS: All historical images, National Baseball Hall of Fame Library, unless otherwise indicated

H. C. ZIMMAN, Inc. Seaport Landing / 152 The Lynnway / Lynn, Massachusetts 01902 Email: info@hozinc.com / Website: hozimman.com Phone: (781) 598-9230 / Fax: (781) 599-4018





6 CLASSIC MOMENTS

The Hall of Fame's Autumn Glory exhibit captures the history and mystique of the World Series. MATT KELLY

12 FIVE-YEAR PLAN

With Casey Stengel at the helm, the Yankees went on a title streak that may never be matched. scott pitoniak

16 WINNER'S TOUCH

For 50 years, the Commissioner's Trophy has symbolized baseball's best team. BILL FRANCIS

18 CAST IN BRONZE

The Class of 2017 was inducted on a perfect day in Cooperstown. BILL FRANCIS

20 KIRBY'S GAME Hall of Famer Kirby Puckett carried the Twins in Game 6

carried the Twins in Game 6 of the 1991 World Series. JOHN ROSENGREN



23 BRAVE HEART

Atlanta legend Chipper Jones is among a star-studded list of 2018 Hall hopefuls. CRAIG MUDER

28 GIVE ME A RING

Hall of Fame collection features World Series rings dating back to their debut in 1922. PEYTON TRACY

32 SAVORING THE SERIES

Celebrated artifacts from past Fall Classics are preserved in Cooperstown. CADY LOWERY

34 VIDEO REVOLUTION

A Mannscope was among the earliest tools to use moving pictures to teach baseball. One is now in the Museum's collection. MEGHAN ANDERSON

36 LIVING BY THE CARDINAL RULE

Hall of Famer Whitey Herzog's passion for baseball still burns bright. HAL BODLEY

41 ULTIMATE MOMENTS

Each of the Hall of Fame's World Series last-out baseballs tells a special story. ALEX COFFEY

44 LEGENDS IN FOCUS

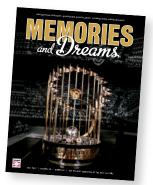
Photographer Jean Fruth was on hand at this year's All-Star Game for a ceremonial first pitch that featured a number of Hall of Famers.

46 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.

48 MAZ'S WORLD

A World Series hero reflects on his trips to the Fall Classic. BILL MAZEROSKI



ON THE COVER

For the past 50 years, the World Series champion has received a lasting symbol of excellence: The Commissioner's Trophy. Hall of Fame traveling photographer Jean Fruth captured this image of the '67 trophy, which lives in the Cardinals Hall of Fame and Museum.

FROM THE VICE CHAIRMAN $\sum JOE MORGAN$



'Il be indebted to the Houston Astros for eternity. The then-Colt .45s signed me in 1962 when I was 19 years old, brought me to the majors, and I wore a Houston uniform proudly for the start of my 22-year major league career. But playing in a World Series? That was not even a thought back then, as the best team I played on, the '69 team, won only 81 games.

All of that changed when I was traded to the Cincinnati Reds.

I was shocked – and a little hurt – to be a part of that eight-player trade after the 1971 season. But my dad said to me, "Now you'll have a chance to play in a World Series." That's when it first struck me that it might have been a good thing, going to the Reds, and it meant a lot to my dad, with whom I was very close. "Man, that would be great," I thought to myself.

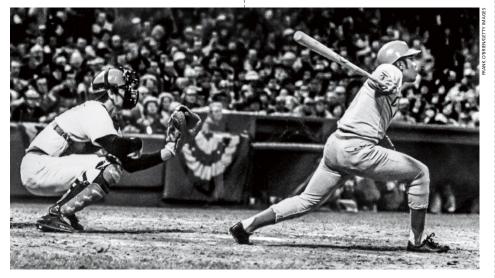
You see, growing up in Oakland, my dad, my sister Linda and I would make the five-block



Joe Morgan acknowledges the crowd during a ceremony honoring Cincinnati's 1975-76 World Series-winning teams, squads known as the "Big Red Machine."

walk often to Oaks Park to see the Oakland Oaks, the Pacific Coast League team I followed growing up. Baseball was so important to my family.

Wouldn't you know it, the Reds jumped from fourth to first place in 1972, and we made it to the World Series. It was extra special for me because it was against my hometown A's, and it meant my dad and sister could attend.



Joe Morgan singles to drive in the winning run in the ninth inning of Game 7 of the 1975 World Series against the Boston Red Sox. Morgan played in four World Series during his career – three with the Reds and one with the Philadelphia Phillies.

We played well, but not well enough, losing Game 7 at home. Although I didn't hit much in that Series, I'll always remember Game 5. I scored two runs – one from first base on a single by Bobby Tolan – but the game-ending double play throw I made to Johnny Bench is still the best one of my career. Nellie Fox taught me the importance of quickly transferring the ball from your glove to your throwing hand, and even though I slipped after catching the pop up, I was still able to get Blue Moon Odom at the plate for the final out.

I'm often asked if there's any solace in just making the World Series. There is. That year, when I realized there were 22 other teams sitting at home while we were playing, it made me understand that we had a special club. I wish we had won in '72, but I took pride in representing the National League.

1975 was a different story. We always felt we had the best teams when I was with the Reds. And once we reached the World Series, we had that confidence this time around to win it. Boston had a great club that year, but even after we lost Game 6 on Carlton Fisk's 12th-inning home run, we remained confident going into Game 7.

In that final game, we were down 3-0 after five innings in Boston, and it was then that our manager Sparky Anderson gathered the eight position players on the field on the top step of the dugout. I remember it like it was yesterday. He told us, "Guys, we have 12 outs to go. Let's use those 12 outs to the best of our ability. Someone needs to get on base, and then Bench, Pérez or Morgan can hit a home run."

That was Sparky's way of keeping things loose and putting the pressure on some of his veteran guys. When Tony homered in the sixth inning, we knew we would win the game.

I was fortunate enough to hit the gamewinning single in the ninth inning. It never entered my mind that I might not get a hit. When I was standing in the on-deck circle, all I thought about was hitting rocks in my back yard as a kid growing up in Oakland, and this was no different. And when we won it all, I thought about how proud I was and how excited my dad and sister were.

I'm so glad I was able to play in four World Series. Whether you win or lose a World Series, it's still an honor to get there. It's about as special as it can get for a player.

OUR MEMORIES WILL BECOME THEIR MEMORIES



Be a part of preserving baseball's history for generations to come. Together we are the keepers of the game.



Just like in baseball, we need a team to succeed. Your commitment to preserving baseball history is critical to ensuring that you, your family, your friends and future generations will always have the chance to relive baseball's greatest moments and honor its all-time greats.

BE PART OF THE TEAM AS A MEMBER AND DONOR

MAKE A GIFT TODAY visit baseballhall.org/give or call 607-547-0397

SHORT HOPS

@BaseballHall

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

World Series Gala

The excitement of the Fall Classic once again returns to Cooperstown. Enjoy Game 4 of the 2017 World Series on the big screen at the Hall of Fame on Saturday, Oct. 28, in one of the year's most popular annual family events. The evening is sure to entertain with refreshments, trivia, raffles, prizes and, of course, live coverage of Game 4 of the Fall Classic. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Participants in the Hall of Fame's Membership Program can reserve their tickets immediately by calling (607) 547-0397. Any remaining tickets will be available to non-members starting Monday, Oct. 23.

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 Tuesday, Oct. 31 - and the trick-or-treaters can enjoy an adventure through the Museum.

Extra Innings Overnights Returns to 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 baseball's greats. The evening includes all-access to the Museum's public areas after-hours, special hands-on programs, a late-night snack and a movie in the Bullpen Theater. Scheduled dates currently include Oct. 21-22 and Nov. 4-5. Learn more at baseballhall.org/visit/extra-innings or book your experience today by calling (607) 547-0329.

Give the gift of a **VIP Experience**

Fans have the opportunity to explore the Hall of Fame through a special program designed to give Cooperstown visitors a VIP Experience. The Museum has partnered with Cooperstown accommodations to offer this unique package, which includes behind-the-scenes experiences

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS

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

IN HONOR OF:	Paul Molitor	Anthony DeMarzo	Mickey C. Mantle				
Arnie Bakst	Jason A. Robinette	Gail Sacharczuk	Kevin P. Garvin				
90th birthday		Joe Eichman	Mel Ott				
Carol Stearns	IN MEMORY OF:	Michealene M. Redemske	Robert D. Linder				
Frankie Frisch and Family	Yogi Berra	Rick Hines	Dan Schlesinger				
Virgina McElroy	Jim Steinhaus	Gary Waitschies	James Davenport				
Terence G. Garvin	Bob Davids	Bill King	Stephanie L. Vibbert				
Kevin P. Garvin	Caber Consulting, Inc.	Dave Suico	Robert A. Vibbert II				

To make a gift in memory or honor of someone special to you, please call (607) 547-0310 or visit baseballhall.org/support.

STAFF SELECTIONS

Name: Helen Stiles

Position: Library Associate

Hall of Fame Experience:

I'm in my 31st year at the Hall of Fame. (Start date: April 27, 1987)

Hometown: Cherry Valley, N.Y.

Favorite Museum Artifacts: I'm fond of

the 19th century scorecards. I think the artwork is wonderful on them and I am amazed at the wonderful colors used on the covers. I guess I didn't think that



such vibrant colors could be produced in that time period.

Memorable Museum Moment:

Listening to Ted Williams and Joe DiMaggio talk baseball before an Induction. It was wonderful to sit, off to the side, and listen to two legends of the game discuss baseball. They remembered specific plays that took place in games years in the past. I have trouble remembering what happened yesterday, much less five, 10, 15 years ago. Great experience.

at the Museum, including a Hall of Fame Sustaining Membership (\$125 value), exclusive after-hours access to the Museum on Thursday evening, a Library archive tour, a Museum collections artifact presentation and concludes with a private late-afternoon reception with light refreshments served.

This special package is a great way to learn more about the Museum and baseball history, whether this is your first or your 50th visit to Cooperstown. The VIP Experience is only available for purchase through select Cooperstown Chamber of Commerce accommodations.

For more info and a list of participating accommodations, visit the Hall of Fame website at baseballhall.org/visit/vip-experience. Dates for upcoming packages include Oct. 12-13 and Nov. 16-17.

Preserve. Honor. Connect. For a Lifetime.

Lifetime Memberships Available

Lifetime Membership ensures the opportunity to relive baseball's most cherished moments through the Museum's collection. They also make great gifts for newborns, children, grandchildren or that special baseball fan in your life – ensuring that they will enjoy a lifelong connection to Cooperstown.

To join or for more information visit **baseballhall.org/lifetimemembership** or call (607) 547-0397.





National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum

TIME PASS

Jebb Care s.

CLASSIC MONTENTS THE HALL OF FAME'S *AUTUMN GLORY* EXHIBIT CAPTURES THE HISTORY AND MYSTIQUE OF THE WORLD SERIES.

0

BY MATT KELLY

he thunderous crowd on its feet. The manager leaning on the top step of the dugout. The pitcher staring solemnly in toward his catcher. The batter anxiously choking up on his bat.

These are the images of sports' biggest stage: The World Series. It's an event that has captivated fans and served as players' greatest motivation for more than a century. So much of baseball has changed in that span,

from the way we watch it to the way it's played, but the ultimate prize has remained the same. Indeed, as our country and the sport have grown together, the World Series has come to symbolize the American autumn; a last vestige of boundless summer joy before the long, hard winter sets in.

"That was a great American spectacle," Commissioner Emeritus Bud Selig said in his 2017 Hall of Fame induction speech, referring to the historic 2001 World Series.

Countless legacies and moments have been written over the first 112 iterations of the Fall Classic, many of which are relived every day at the home of baseball in Cooperstown. Encompassing a portion of the Museum's third floor, the National Baseball Hall of Fame's *Autumn Glory* exhibit features postseason artifacts and stories dating back to the first modern World Series in 1903. From the equipment used on the diamond to ephemera collected from the raucous crowds, *Autumn Glory* is the most visceral way for a baseball fan to walk down "Memory Lane" and relive the game's most indelible October moments.

In the beginning

It all began with a letter: "The time has come for the National League and the American League to organize a World Series...."

So wrote Pittsburgh Pirates owner Barney Dreyfuss to Boston Americans (now Red Sox) owner Henry Killilea in August 1903, thereby challenging the rival American League champion and setting up the World Series as we know it today. The inaugural Series succeeded, as the crowd watched Boston ace Bill Dinneen strike out future Hall of Famer Honus Wagner to clinch the title in Game 8. The ball that sailed past Wagner is now housed in *Autumn Glory* (see story on pages 41-42).

But when Hall of Fame manager John McGraw refused to have his Giants play the Americans the following year, the concept of a World Series was nearly finished just as quickly as it began. McGraw, however, relented in 1905, agreeing to play the AL champion Athletics, famously wearing an all-black uniform that can be seen in *Autumn Glory* as the Giants beat Philadelphia, four games to one.

Since then, the Series has seen just one other interruption (the players' strike in 1994) while lasting through multiple world wars and the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Still, the complexion of the Series has changed quite a bit over that time. Its seven-game format as we know it today was permanently instituted in 1922 – after an experiment with a nine-game series from 1919-21. Fans outside the competing cities could only read about the Series until Grantland Rice broadcast it on the radio for the first time in 1921, while the 1947 Subway Series between the Dodgers and Yankees marked the Classic's first foray into television. And the World Series was played exclusively in the afternoons until Oct. 13, 1971, when Game 4 between the Orioles and the Pirates at Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium was held under the lights (the first ball from that historic game now resides in *Autumn Glory* as well).



Hall of Famers (from left) Billy Williams, Ryne Sandberg and Fergie Jenkins pose with the 2016 World Series trophy and their World Series rings. The Commissioner's Trophy has been awarded to the World Series winning team since 1967.



Fall heroes

Players spend their entire careers trying to make it to this grand stage, and many of the ones we remember most raise themselves to another level when they get there. One hundred and thirty-six of the 220 former major league players currently enshrined in the Hall of Fame captured at least one World Series crown, and while baseball is a team sport first and foremost, the best individual performances have sealed legacies.

It's impossible, for instance, to tell the stories of pitchers like Christy Mathewson, Sandy Koufax and Bob Gibson without including their dominant World Series ledgers. Lesser-known names have also become heroes. Jesse Haines' Cardinal red "World Champions" jacket sits in *Autumn Glory* to commemorate St. Louis' 1926 upset of Babe Ruth's mighty Yankees. So, too, does a ball thrown by Johnny Podres to shut out the Pinstripes in 1955 and deliver the Dodgers their one and only championship to Brooklyn.

Of course, pitchers aren't the only heroes you'll find in *Autumn Glory*. Babe Ruth and the Yankees didn't prevail in '26, but the bat he used to

Above: The Hall of Fame's *Autumn Glory* exhibit celebrates the annual winner of the World Series with artifacts and ephemera. The exhibit is updated shortly after the end of the Fall Classic. **Right:** Sergio Romo of the Giants shows off his 2014 World Series ring. The right-handed reliever played for three World Series-winning squads in San Francisco.



THE "FIRST" WORLD SERIES

The World Series as we know it today began with a best-of-nine series between the National League's Pirates and the American League's Boston Americans (now the Red Sox) in 1903. But the concept of a championship series had already been in practice for many years.

Two decades prior in 1884, the press dubbed the National League's Providence Grays as "Champions of the World" after they defeated the American Association's New York Metropolitans, three games to none, and so began the first "World's Series." Baseball's oldest existing World Championship trophy is the beautiful Hall Cup (right), won by the Series champion New York Giants in 1888 and now housed permanently in Cooperstown.

The champions of the National League and American Association squared off in the "World's Series" from 1884 through 1890, but the format was rarely consistent. While the first Series in '84 featured just three games, the '87 Series included 15 contests (the Detroit Wolverines defeated the St. Louis Browns, 10 games to five). Two of the series (1885 and 1890) ended in ties, an unimaginable result today.

While the American Association folded after the 1891 season, the National League continued on with its own "championship" prizes. The Temple Cup was given to the winner of a postseason series between the first and second-place NL teams from 1894 to 1897, and the *Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph* graciously awarded a silver cup to the Brooklyn Superbas after the visitors defeated the hometown Pirates, three games to one, in 1900.

Though the modern World Series began three years later, the multi-flagged Commissioner's Trophy wasn't awarded until 1967, when the Cardinals defeated the "Impossible Dream" Red Sox in seven games. A replica of the 1976 Commissioner's Trophy won by Cincinnati's "Big Red Machine" is currently on display in the Museum's *Autumn Glory* exhibit on the third floor. – Matt Kelly



slug three home runs in Game 4 still carries special weight. Billy Hatcher had the week of his life in the Reds' 1990 upset of the A's, compiling a Series record .750 batting average with a bat now displayed in Cooperstown. And David Freese's jersey – well, one half of it, anyway – symbolizes one of the wildest nights the Series has ever seen when the Cardinals rallied back from their last strike two different times to win Game 6 in 2011.

Just focusing on pitchers and hitters doesn't cover all of the drama of course. The glove Willie Mays used to make the most famous defensive play of all time, "The Catch" in Game 1 of the '54 Classic, can be studied in detail in *Autumn Glory*. Right next to Mays' glove is the one that third baseman Brooks Robinson used to put on one of the greatest defensive displays in Series history against the Reds in 1970.

"I'm beginning to see Brooks in my sleep," Reds manager Sparky Anderson lamented during that Series. "If I dropped this paper plate, he'd pick it up on one hop and throw me out at first."

Fans look forward to the World Series just as much as managers and players, and a full-throated crowd has the potential to impact the game as much as any pitch, hit or play. Pirates fans visiting *Autumn Glory* will find a National League champion pennant from 1960, the year Bill Mazeroski shocked the Yankees with his Game 7 walk-off blast at Forbes Field. Twins fans can reminisce with a Homer Hanky from the franchise's first world championship in the Metrodome in 1987. And who could forget the Rally Monkey that symbolized the Angels' magical run to their first title in 2002? (The Thundersticks may still be rumbling in Anaheim.)

Memories and artifacts

Every pitch from the mound, every swing from the batter's box and every sprint in the outfield has come in pursuit of baseball's ultimate prize – though even the nature of that prize changed through the decades. The Boston Americans received a watch fob when they captured the inaugural Series in 1903, and winners in the years following received a variety of keepsakes, including pendants, pocket watches and medals. The 1922 Giants were the first team to receive the ring we're familiar with today, and an authentic ring given to each and every world champion since is displayed in *Autumn Glory*, thanks to generous donations from the Commissioner's Office (see story on pages 28-30).

It doesn't take a magnifying glass to see how the rings worn by McGraw's Giants in '22 look downright austere compared to the multi-diamond versions given out to the Steinbrenner-era Yankees of the late 1990s, the 2016 Cubs and the 2003 Marlins (the biggest of them all).

And, yes, speaking of those 2016 Cubs, one of the best aspects of the *Autumn Glory* exhibit is the fact that it changes with each passing year. The North Siders were able to proclaim themselves World Champions for the first time since the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum was



FROM YOUR ASTROS FAMILY
HOUSTON ★ASTROS.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HALL OF FAMERS

THE WASHINGTON NATIONALS ARE HONORED TO HAVE YOUR LEGACIES AS PART OF OUR FRANCHISE HISTORY



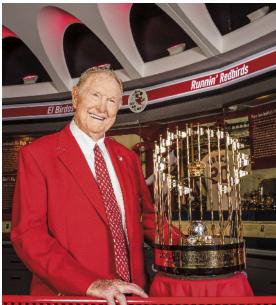
2017 NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

1967 CHAMPION CARDINALS TOOK HOME FIRST EDITION OF WORLD SERIES TROPHY

BY JEFF IDELSON

After winning 83 games and finishing in sixth place in the National League in 1966, the 1967 St. Louis Cardinals embraced change and evolved as a team. A half century ago, playing their second season in Busch Memorial Stadium with seven future Hall of Famers leading the way in the dugout and the front office, the Redbirds became champions. And with it, the team took home the inaugural World Series trophy, which today has a home alongside trophies from 1982, 2006 and 2011 inside the Cardinals Hall of Fame & Museum in Ballpark Village, adjacent to the current Busch Stadium.

Established stars Bob Gibson, Orlando Cepeda and Lou Brock carried the team on their shoulders.



Hall of Famer Red Schoendienst was the manager of the Cardinals when they won the 1967 World Series – the first year the Commissioner's Trophy was awarded. Schoendienst poses with the 1967 trophy at Busch Stadium.

Gibson, despite having his leg broken in July when Roberto Clemente lined a ball off of his right shin, won 13 games: Brock led the NL in runs and stolen bases; and Cepeda was the Senior Circuit's unanimous MVP after hitting .325 with a league-leading 111 RBI.

"I was so glad to have a guy like Cepeda hitting in the middle of the lineup. He was a big, strong guy who fit in nicely and drove in a lot of runs," said manager Red Schoendienst.

In his only season as the team's general manager, Stan Musial was in sync with his playing-days roommate and close friend Schoendienst. While Musial engineered key trades, including acquiring Roger Maris from the Yankees, Schoendienst managed the team with a calm demeanor and a steady hand.

The former standout second baseman and 1989 Hall of Fame inductee set expectations with Maris early that he was not counting on a lot of home runs from his aging star. He also

successfully converted Mike Shannon from right fielder to third baseman and juggled his starting rotation with aplomb, replacing the injured Gibson and "Little Al" Jackson with Nellie Briles and Dick Hughes, who combined to win 30 games. Twenty-two-year-old left-hander Steve Carlton earned 14 wins in his first full major league season.

The Cardinals won the National League pennant by 10.5 games and then beat the Red Sox in seven games to capture their eighth World Series title.

"Having Lou as my leadoff man put the pressure on Boston before the games even started," Schoendienst remembered. "They were consumed with trying to keep him off of the bases and also knew he had some pop in his bat." Brock hit a sizzling .414 with a team-best seven RBI in the Series.

Gibson started Games 1, 4 and 7, allowing a total of three runs in three complete-game victories, even homering off Jim Lonborg in Game 7. "There was no better pitcher on three days' rest than Gibby. He was always determined. Even when he wasn't pitching, he was determined.

"Cardinals fans are second to none," added Schoendienst, who until this season had worn a major league uniform in 72 consecutive seasons. "Winning it all meant so much to the players and the organization, and we were thrilled to do it for the fans of St. Louis."

Jeff Idelson is the President of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.



Royals first baseman Eric Hosmer wore this jersey in the decisive Game 5 of the 2015 World Series. The jersey was on display in the Museum's Autumn Glory exhibit throughout the 2016 season.

officially dedicated in 1939 (and well before then, of course), and their long-awaited triumph was commemorated with game-worn equipment, including the bat used by Series MVP Ben Zobrist to drive in the go-ahead run in Game 7, the home jersey worn by Anthony Rizzo in Game 4, the home jersey worn by Kyle Schwarber throughout the Series and the catcher's mitt used by David Ross. The equipment is surrounded by tickets from all seven games, the official Series program and numerous photographs from one of the most thrilling Fall Classics ever played.

However, glory in the Museum's champions display is as fleeting as it is on the field. Soon the case will be emptied and filled with new items from whichever team claims the title this fall.

Indeed, the immense variation of artifacts and teams found in Autumn Glory - from Dinneen's Americans to Rizzo's Cubs - is the perfect visual representation of why the World Series continues to capture our attention. Each and every one of the 30 MLB teams has participated in the postseason since 2001, and more than half have played in the Series in that span. Hope springs eternal in Autumn Glory, with reminders in every corner of how anyone can prevail - from dynasties to upstarts and superstars to bench players.

Every member of every team dreams of winning the World Series, and those dreams are kept alive forever in Cooperstown. 🐠

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

FIVE-YEAR PLAN WITH CASEY STENGEL AT THE HELM, THE YANKEES WENT ON A TITLE STREAK THAT MAY NEVER BE MATCHED.

BY SCOTT PITONIAK

he love of Casey Stengel's life wasn't thrilled with her husband's decision to accept the New York Yankees manager's job following the 1948 season.

Stengel was 58, and after four decades in baseball, his wife, Edna, was hoping the two of them would finally be able to kick back and enjoy their home in California. But mediocre big league managing stints with the Brooklyn Dodgers and Boston Braves had left Stengel unfulfilled.

"Edna, I had to," the late manager explained in best-selling author Marty Appel's splendid new biography, "Casey Stengel: Baseball's Greatest Character." "I owe it to myself to prove I'm a better manager than they've given me credit for. I have to prove I can win in the majors. I have that confidence in myself. But I have to prove it to others."

Edna was not the only person disappointed. Fans and sportswriters greeted the news with skepticism and ridicule. Many remembered Stengel's antics as a ballplayer, including the time he released a bird from beneath his cap during a game. He was widely regarded as a clown and a failure as a manager of big league clubs – none of which finished higher than fifth place in his nine seasons at the helm.

The most venomous of Stengel's critics was *Boston Record* sports columnist Dave "The Colonel" Egan, who proclaimed that the Yankees had been mathematically eliminated from the 1949 pennant race the moment they signed their new manager. Wrote Egan: "To paraphrase the remarks of Winston Churchill on another occasion, here is a man who has been brought in to supervise the dissolution of the Yankee empire."

How wrong Egan would be. And how pleased and proud Edna would become. Not only did the Yankees win the pennant and World Series in Stengel's first season as manager, but they repeated the feat again and again and again. This Casey would become mighty. He wouldn't strike out. Instead, he'd go five-for-five, overseeing the greatest championship run in baseball history.

New era in the Bronx

As America transitioned from World War II to peacetime to the Korean War, and from "Give 'em Hell" Harry Truman to Dwight "I like Ike" Eisenhower, Yankees fans adjusted to the end of the Joe DiMaggio Era and the beginning of the Mickey Mantle Era. There would be a one-year overlap of the Hall of Fame center fielders in 1951. DiMaggio's final three seasons and Mantle's first three each resulted in championships, but "Joltin' Joe" no longer was the sublime player he had been for most of his career while the "Commerce Comet" was just beginning to light up the baseball firmament.

Both, however, would contribute to that unparalleled World Series title streak, with significant contributions also made by catcher Yogi Berra, shortstop Phil Rizzuto and a bunch of interchangeable players that Stengel masterfully juggled in and out of the lineup and a pitching rotation led by Allie Reynolds, Ed Lopat, Vic Raschi and a brash southpaw from Queens named Whitey Ford.

None of Stengel's teams from 1949-53 would win 100 games, and three of his clubs wouldn't clinch pennants until the last weekend of the season. But each of those pinstriped squads capped seasons with Series titles, with three of the crowns coming against the Brooklyn Dodgers and one each against the New York Giants and Philadelphia Phillies.

The Bronx Bombers' four-games-to-two victory over the Dodgers in



From left: Billy Martin, Ed Lopat and Mickey Mantle are all smiles after the Yankees captured the 1953 World Series, New York's fifth straight Fall Classic title. No other team has ever won more than four consecutive World Series crowns.



Manager Casey Stengel (holding ball) celebrates with his Yankees team, including Phil Rizzuto (left), following the Bronx Bombers' defeat of the Dodgers in the 1949 World Series. Stengel's Yankees would go on to win four more World Series in a row, the longest stretch of dominance in the game's history.

1953 enabled them to break the record established by their Yankee predecessors, who won four consecutive Fall Classics from 1936-39. The closest any teams have come since to matching the feat are the 1972-74 Oakland A's and the 1998-2000 Yankees.

"It's funny, but our Yankees teams from the late '40s, early '50s probably don't get the historical credit they deserve," said Bobby Brown, one of a dozen players to play on all five of those championship teams. "We weren't considered dominant the way the '27 Yankees or the '61 Yankees or the '98 Yankees were. All we did was win championships.

"Joe was fading. Mickey was just starting to come into his own. But we had other great players – some Hall of Fame players, some All-Star players – and we had one heck of a pitching staff."

That they did. Raschi had three 20-win seasons while going 92-40 during the streak. "Steady" Eddie Lopat went 80-36 and "Super Chief" Allie Reynolds was 83-41. Ford, who was inducted with Mantle into the Hall in 1974, missed two years while serving in the Army, but posted a stellar 27-7 mark in parts of two seasons during the run.

"We also had a heck of a manager," said Berra, the late Hall of Fame catcher. "We didn't always understand what Casey was saying or doing, but he always wound up looking like a genius because at the end of the season, we were the ones drinking the victory champagne."

Berra and Stengel were kindred spirits, bonded by a love of baseball and a way with words. Yogisms such as, "It ain't over till it's over," and, "It's déjà vu all over again," were repeated by plumbers and U.S. Presidents alike. Stengel's convoluted and obfuscating language and his stream of consciousness monologues were dubbed by reporters as "Stengelese." The "Old Perfessor" delivered his share of head-scratching quotes, too, such as, "There comes a time in every man's life, and I've had plenty of them."

The two men became central figures in baseball's greatest run. Stengel called Berra "my assistant manager," allowing him to call all the pitches. "Why has our pitching been so great?" Stengel asked rhetorically. "Our catcher, that's why. He looks cumbersome, but he's quick as a cat."

And Berra could hit a little, too. The Hall of Famer's average season during the Yankees' five-year run: 26 homers, 102 RBI and a .294 batting

BROOKLYN STRUCK OUT IN THREE TRIES DURING YANKEES' STREAK

Best-selling author Roger Kahn dubbed the old Brooklyn Dodgers "The Boys of Summer." But in reality, they were men of championship caliber.

Led by Hall of Famers Jackie Robinson, Duke Snider, Roy Campanella and Pee Wee Reese and All-Stars Gil Hodges and Don Newcombe, they appeared in six World Series in a 10-year span. But their dynasty coincided with that of the New York Yankees, who wound up winning five of those Fall Classic matchups, including 1949, 1952 and 1953 when the Bronx Bombers reeled off a record five straight titles.



From left: Clem Labine, Jim Gilliam, Duke Snider and Billy Loes helped the Dodgers win three NL pennants from 1949-53. But Brooklyn fell in the World Series in each of those years to the Yankees.

"A few bounces this way or that way and historians may have been talking about us instead of them," said late Dodgers pitcher Ralph Branca. "They were our roadblocks, always in our way, and there were a few times when they got lucky."

One such break occurred in the bottom of the seventh of Game 7 of the 1952 World Series at Ebbets Field. The Yankees led, 4-2, but the Dodgers loaded the bases and Robinson came up with two outs. He popped up to the right side of

the pitcher's mound. The Yankees fielders seemed confused, and it appeared that no one was going to catch the ball. But second baseman Billy Martin raced in and snagged the ball at his knees to save the day.

"He drops that and we score two runs and tie the game," said Branca, who passed away in 2016. "And then who knows what might have happened?"

Instead, the Boys of Summer felt heartbreak in the fall. Their "Wait Till Next Year" lament wouldn't be answered until the 1955 World Series, when young southpaw Johnny Podres won two games, including a shutout in Game 7, as the Dodgers finally beat their nemesis and won it all.

"We should have won a few more rings," Branca said. "Sadly, it wasn't meant to be."

- Scott Pitoniak

average. No wonder Berra was one of the few names the platoon-loving Stengel would write on his lineup card almost every day. In 1950, the Yankees played 23 doubleheaders. Berra caught both ends of the twin-bills 19 times. Marveled Stengel of his durable, winning backstop: "He'd fall in a sewer and come up with a gold watch."

Rizzuto also played an integral role in the streak, but the Hall of Fame shortstop's relationship with Stengel was less chummy. The "Scooter" couldn't forget the time he tried out for Brooklyn and was told by then-Dodgers manager Stengel he was too small and should get a job shining shoes.

Rizzuto wound up having shining seasons during the run, peaking in 1950 when his 200 hits and .324 batting average earned him American League MVP honors. His fielding also stood out.

"My best pitch," said Reynolds, "is any time the ball grounds, lines or pops in the direction of Rizzuto."

Hall of Fame Connections

Nine Baseball of Hall of Famers contributed to the New York Yankees' record five consecutive World Series titles from 1949-53. This does not include Jerry Coleman, the Yankees second baseman who received the Hall's Ford C. Frick Award for Broadcasting Excellence in 2005:

> Bill Dickey, coach, elected to Hall of Fame in 1954 Joe DiMaggio, center field, 1955 Casey Stengel, manager, 1966 George Weiss, general manager, 1971 Yogi Berra, catcher, 1972 Mickey Mantle, outfield, 1974 Whitey Ford, pitcher, 1974 Johnny Mize, first base, 1981 Phil Rizzuto, shortstop, 1994

Casey's Midas touch

Stengel captured people's attention by employing a platoon system similar to the one used by manager John McGraw when Casey was an outfielder for the New York Giants in the early 1920s. Stengel matched right-handed batters vs. left-handed pitchers, left-handed batters vs. right-handed pitchers, and also made pitching changes or sent up pinch-hitters based on percentages and intuition. He often made defensive substitutions late in games to protect leads.

Although today these strategies are commonplace, they were considered innovative, even revolutionary, in Stengel's day. "I never saw a man who juggled his lineup so much and who played so many hunches so successfully," said Hall of Fame manager Connie Mack.

In the 1952 season, Stengel used a mind-boggling 95 different batting orders. "Some guys grumbled about that," Berra said. "But I guarantee they weren't grumbling when they were cashing their World Series checks."

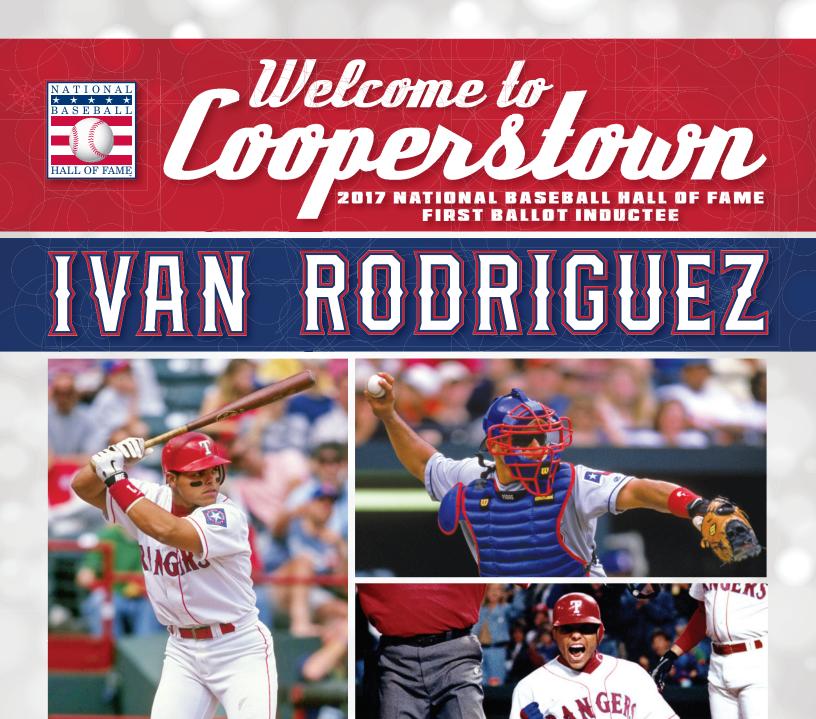
Many players became heroes in Stengel's revolving-door system. Bobby Brown batted .500 in the 1949 World Series when the Yankees beat the Dodgers, four games to one. As a cocky 21-year-old in the 1950 Fall Classic, Ford started and pitched 8.2 innings, giving up two unearned runs, in the clinching game of a sweep of the Phillies. The following October, Hank Bauer smashed a bases-loaded triple and made a diving catch in right field, and reliever Bob Kuzava clinched the title with three outs in the ninth inning after not having appeared in any of the previous five games.

The next year, Kuzava repeated his heroics when – after not pitching in the any of the Series' first six games – he retired eight Dodgers to preserve the Yankees' 4-2 victory in Game 7.

One of Stengel's all-time favorite players – pugnacious Billy Martin, whom he had managed in the minors – starred in the Fall Classic in both 1952 and 1953. Martin's heads-up catch of a Jackie Robinson pop up in Game 7 of the 1952 Series – with Kuzava on the mound – snuffed out a seventh-inning rally, enabling the Bronx Bombers to beat the Dodgers. In the next Fall Classic, Martin tied an MLB record with 12 hits in six games as the Yankees again beat their cross-town rivals and completed their "one-for-the-thumb" campaign.

The moves proved resoundingly that Stengel could win in the majors. The clown had become a genius. $\boldsymbol{0}$

Best-selling author Scott Pitoniak recently published his first children's book: "Let's Go Yankees: An Unforgettable Trip to the Ballpark." He resides in Penfield, N.Y.







Winner's Touch

For 50 years, the Commissioner's Trophy has symbolized baseball's best team.

BY BILL FRANCIS

t's often held aloft triumphant – a revered and emotional symbol of the ultimate achievement on the National Pastime's grandest stage. Introduced 50 years ago, the World Series trophy in quick succession became a baseball tradition, its magical memories encased in precious metal.

The World Series trophy, officially named the Commissioner's Trophy in 1985, was first presented in 1967. An impressive sight, it featured gold-plated pennants of the 20 big league teams at the time, in a climbing circle, surrounding a golden band topped by a crown and with a silver baseball – weighing over 10 pounds – implanted at the band's base. In front of the baseball, in solid gold with an enamel facing, were the World Series press pins of the two competing teams. The base was ebony.

Just prior to the start of that season's Fall Classic, a photo appeared in newspapers across the country showing the opposing managers, Red Schoendienst of the Cardinals and Dick Williams of the Red Sox, along with Commissioner William "Spike" Eckert, posing with the new World Series trophy. The trophy has since been presented annually, except for the strike-shortened 1994 campaign, by the Commissioner to the winning World Series team.

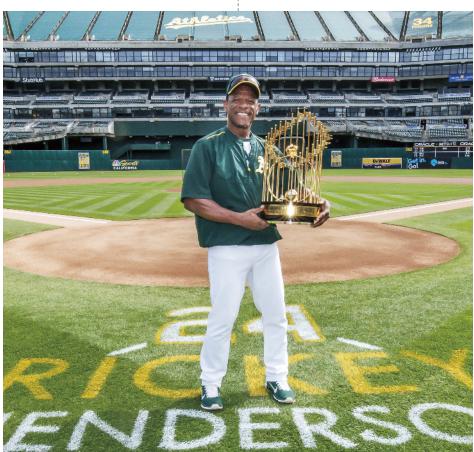
The World Series trophy was conceived by Eckert and designed and produced by the L.G. Balfour Co. of Attleboro, Mass., at a reported cost of \$2,500. The winning team would maintain possession of the trophy and a new trophy would be created each year, with only the press pins of the American League and National League champions changing. Hall of Fame slugger Willie Stargell, who won World Series titles with the Pirates in 1971 and 1979, once said, "A World Series trophy is a wonderful thing to behold."

Oddly, prior to 1967, there were no baseball championship trophies presented in over six decades. Previously, such trophies as the Dauvray Cup from the 1880s and the Temple Cup from the 1890s were awarded for the sport's championship teams. On the eve of a new millennium, the World Series trophy was redesigned for the first time in order to be ready for the 2000 Fall Classic. Created by Tiffany & Co., the new trophy, produced at a reported cost of \$15,000, features 30 gold-plated flags, one representing each major league team, with latitude and longitude lines symbolizing the world and 24-carat vermeil stitches representing those on a baseball. Etched on the base are the words "Presented by the Commissioner of Baseball" along with the signature of the commissioner.

"Like everything else in life, it was time for a change," said Commissioner Bud Selig. "We're in a new century, a new era for Major League Baseball."

The approximately 30-pound updated trophy stands 24 inches high, excluding the base, with a diameter of 11 inches, requiring more than three months of work and 198.12 troy ounces of sterling silver to create it.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has three full-sized replica World Series trophies – from 1976, 1996 and 1998 – in its permanent collection.



Hall of Famer Rickey Henderson poses with the World Series trophy he helped the Athletics win in 1989.



The Yankees have won seven World Series titles since the Commissioner's Trophy was created in 1967, including three in a row between 1998 and 2000 and their most recent in 2009.

"It's our new rock star," Giants President Larry Baer told *The New York Times* in 2011, referring to the World Series trophy the team won in 2010, the franchise's first in San Francisco. "It's our celebrity. It's the most popular member of our organization right now."

In recent years, after a team captures a World Series title, the accompanying Commissioner's Trophy often finds itself on an emotional victory tour.

In 2004, after Boston captured its first World Series title in 86 years, Red Sox President Larry Lucchino promised the trophy would go to all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts.

"As we traveled around New England and across the country, the response to the trophy from Red Sox Nation has been even more remarkable than what we could have imagined," Lucchino said.

In total, the 2004 trophy traveled more than 16,000 miles within Massachusetts and more than 37,000 miles overall.

Not long after Commissioner Rob Manfred presented the 2016 World Series trophy to Cubs Chairman Tom Ricketts in the visitor's clubhouse after Game 7, marking the franchise's first championship in over a century, the team announced a trophy tour throughout Chicago and the Midwest.

"We're excited to share our cherished trophy with fans this offseason as we celebrate such a historic World Series championship," Ricketts said. "This year's World Championship team is unparalleled, and so are our fans. We can't wait for them to experience the joy of seeing this piece of history in person."

Allen Hermeling, senior director of corporate partnerships for the Cubs who accompanied the World Series trophy on its tour, said: "It's almost becoming a religious artifact of some sort. There's such a strong demand to see it. It speaks to the really national following of the Cubs.

"We've had 108 years to prepare for it." In recent years, the winning team has brought the trophy to Cooperstown for an annual stop at the Hall of Fame. The 2016 Cubs trophy appeared in Cooperstown Aug. 26 and 27.

Bill Francis is a Library Associate at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

HALL OF FAME WEEKEND \rangle 2017

Cast in Bronze The Class of 2017 was inducted on a

perfect day in Cooperstown.

BY BILL FRANCIS

ntroductions were formally made on July 30 among a quintet of new Hall of Famers and their bronze plaques, a symbol of immortality that will forever reside in Cooperstown for generations of baseball fans to see.

It all took place under ideal weather, with blue skies and temperatures in the mid-70s, at the National Baseball Hall of Fame's annual *Induction Ceremony* on the grounds of the Clark Sports Center. That's where the Class of 2017 – slugging first baseman Jeff Bagwell, base-stealing master Tim Raines, five-tool catcher Iván "Pudge" Rodríguez, longtime front office executive John Schuerholz and former MLB commissioner Bud Selig – was presented for the first time their Hall of Fame plaques. They also addressed the audience, which included an estimated 27,500 at the induction site and hundreds of thousands more watching on MLB Network.

Hall of Fame Chairman Jane Forbes Clark opened the festivities by saying, "Every Hall of Fame Weekend has its own special look, its own special feel, but it's always defined by the Hall of Fame members who return each year to honor the newest members of baseball's ultimate fraternity."

The addition of this year's inductees raises the total number of Hall of Famers to 317, with 50 returning Hall of Famers on stage to welcome the Class of 2017.

Schuerholz, 76, who as a team architect built World Series winners with the Royals and the Braves, spoke first. And like any good leadoff hitter, he started the day off on a positive note.

"How very honored I am to be inducted,

joining baseball executive giants and teambuilding legends like Branch Rickey and Larry MacPhail and Ed Barrow, George Weiss and my good friend Pat Gillick, who sits behind me in these seats," Schuerholz said. "When my cell phone rang at 5:13 p.m. in my room at the Gaylord National Harbor Hotel on Dec. 4, 2016, and Jane Forbes Clark spoke these words: 'Hello, John. This is Jane. I'm pleased to inform you, you have been elected into baseball's Hall of Fame. Congratulations.'

"Wow. And here I am."

Up next was Bagwell, who spent his entire career, from 1991 to 2005, with the Astros. With a large contingent of fans from Houston in the crowd, he was soft-spoken, often funny, and humble.

"This is actually a really unbelievable day," said the 49-year-old. "I'm so humbled to be here, to be surrounded by some of the greats that ever played this game. The guys you see on TV, guys you read about and all that, and I'm standing up here and kind of sitting in the background just watching and just trying to figure out what's really going on.

"It's an honor to be with all these Hall of Famers, to stand up here and try and talk my story, which I'd much rather be sitting in some of these rooms and listening to stories that they tell. But you know, this is all part of it, and I love it, and I'm humbled and I'm grateful."

On his 83rd birthday, Selig spoke of his job as commissioner, both the challenges and successes. But the underlying sentiment was his appreciation for being recognized by the Hall of Fame.



Top to bottom: 2017 J.G. Taylor Spink Award winner Claire Smith was honored at the Awards Celebration during July's Hall of Fame Weekend. Ken Griffey Jr. (left) and Mike Piazza, members of the Class of 2016, returned to Cooperstown for this year's Induction Ceremony. Tim Raines and Andre Dawson walk through the Village of Cooperstown during Hall of Fame Weekend. **Right:** Class of 2017 members (from left) Iván Rodríguez, Bud Selig, Jeff Bagwell, John Schuerholz and Tim Raines pose with their Hall of Fame plaques following the July 30 Induction Ceremony on the grounds of the Clark Sports Center.

"The Hall of Fame is the soul of baseball and reaffirms its beauty and timelessness," Selig said. "The Hall of Fame is a baseball treasure.

"And, finally, to these Hall of Famers, I am honored to be in your presence. On your shoulders, this game became part of the fabric of our country, and we are forever indebted to you. For so many years, I sat right behind where I stand now and watched as each new member would stand here and deliver remarks with the kind of emotion that comes with



great happiness and fulfillment."

Rodríguez, the native of Puerto Rico who delivered a portion of his speech in Spanish, began with a self-deprecating story.

"This is such an incredible honor for me to be here in this place to play the game," Rodríguez said. "Never let anyone take your dream from you. Don't let anyone say your dream cannot be accomplished. Tell them about a short kid who was hanging from the rope when I was a little kid, dangling there, trying to stretch himself and hoping to become as tall as the other boys. And when I step on the side and look at my size, I can say I'm a very tall 5-foot-9. But I got a cool nickname out of it: Pudge."

With a good portion of the sea of cheering fans wearing Expos jerseys, Raines took the stage as the event's final speaker.

"First, I want to thank the people that are the reasons I'm here today, my parents, Ned and Florence," he said. "Without them, obviously I wouldn't be here, but to my dad, you know, he was a great player in his own right.

"He didn't get the opportunity to play professional baseball. I got an opportunity to see him play, and I was a proud little three- or four-year-old kid watching my dad roam in center field at some of the back playgrounds in Sanford, Florida."

Bill Francis is a Library Associate at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.



Twins in Game 6 of the 1991 World Series.

BY JOHN ROSENGREN

t's the stuff legends are made of – the kind of moment that engraves a player's name on a Hall of Fame plaque. On Oct. 26, 1991, with his team on the brink of World Series elimination, Kirby Puckett took it upon himself to win the day with the greatest single-game performance of his career.

The Twins had won the first two games of the '91 Series at home but then lost three straight in Atlanta, including a 14-5 disaster in Game 5. They returned to Minneapolis with momentum against them and their confidence shaken.

After batting practice, the Twins clubhouse in the Metrodome was quiet. Subdued. Puckett didn't like that. He believed they could still win. He told his teammates not to worry.

"Jump on my back," he said. "I'm going to carry us tonight."

It was a bold pronouncement followed by an even bolder performance. The kind only Puckett, it seemed, could make.

"If we needed a big hit or someone to win a game with his glove or his bat, he was the guy who would make those plays for us," said teammate Gene Larkin. "Puck was our leader."

The 31-year-old with the effervescent smile was in the sweet spot of his career. Six years into a 10-year consecutive All-Star streak, coming off his fifth Gold Glove Award season, Puckett was one of the fastest players to reach 1,000 hits in the majors and on his way to becoming only the second to notch 2,000 in his first 10 full seasons (after George Sisler). He was perhaps the most beloved player in Twins history and the heartbeat of the team.

"I just felt really good that day," he said in

an interview several years later.

Puckett had been good before in a Game 6. Four years earlier, in 1987, when the Twins won their first World Series, the team also faced elimination in that game. Down 5-2 in the bottom of the fifth, Puckett singled to spark a four-run rally. The next inning, he drew a walk and scored on Kent Hrbek's grand slam. He led off the eighth with another hit and scored again, contributing four hits and four runs to the Twins' victory that day.

Now in Game 6 of the '91 Series, batting third, his accustomed spot, Puckett came to bat in the first inning against the Braves with one out and teammate Chuck Knoblauch on first. The ever-eager Puckett laced the second pitch into left for a triple that brought home Knoblauch and gave the Twins an early 1-0 lead. He scored himself two batters later.

The Braves looked certain to score in the top of the third with a runner on first and Ron Gant's blast headed for the wall in deep leftcenter. But Puckett had other plans. The center fielder made a good turn upon contact and raced straight to the wall. He measured several quick stutter steps on the warning track, getting his timing down, and lifted his 5-foot-8 frame three feet or more off the ground while extending his left arm fully to backhand the ball, robbing Gant of an extra-base hit.

Two innings later, Puckett was back at bat, this time with a runner at third and one out in the bottom of the fifth. The Braves had tied the score 2-2 in the top half. Eager to put his team back in the lead, Puckett swung at the first pitch and lofted a deep drive to center field for a sacrifice fly that made it 3-2.

The Braves tied it again before Puckett batted in the eighth with one out. He singled to right and stole second but was stranded there. The score stalled at 3-3, and Game 6 headed into extra innings.

Puckett was due to lead off the bottom of the 11th for the Twins. Charlie Leibrandt, a left-hander who had struck out Puckett twice in Game 1, came in to pitch for the Braves.



The Twins' Kirby Puckett capped a spectacular Game 6 in the 1991 World Series by slamming an 11th-inning, walk-off home run to defeat the Braves and even the Series. One night later, Minnesota would win the World Series title.



Kirby Puckett is mobbed at home plate by his Twins teammates after hitting the game-winning home run in Game 6 of the 1991 World Series. During a 12-year career that ran from 1984 until 1995, Kirby was part of two World Series champions, batted .318 and slammed 207 homers. Inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2001, he passed away March 6, 2006.

Watching Leibrandt warm up from the on-deck circle, Puckett thought maybe he should bunt then steal second again. Chili Davis, who followed him in the order, could bring him around to score the winning run with a base hit through the infield.

But when he told Davis his plan, Davis did not approve. "These people didn't come to see you bunt," he said. "Wait for a hanging change and hit it out of here."

It was not like Puckett to wait. Famous for his free-swinging and ability to hit pitches from his shoe tops to his shoulders, Puckett admitted, "I haven't seen a pitch I didn't like."

But he took the first pitch, a strike low and away. He took the second pitch, high for a ball. He took the third pitch, low and inside.

The 55,155 fans inside the Metrodome were delirious in anticipation. Puckett had already played an amazing game: Two hits, a stolen base, a run scored, two runs batted in – he had accounted for all three of the Twins runs – and saved at least a run with that spectacular catch.

Leibrandt got the sign. Puckett tapped the far corner of the plate with his black Louisville Slugger, pulled it back and swirled the top end in little circles. Leibrandt delivered. An outside changeup. Puckett kicked up his left leg, the signature beginning of his swing, brought his bat around – and connected.

Twins radio play-by-play man John Gordon called it on WCCO radio: "Puckett swings" – his voice rose – "and he hits a blast! Deep left center, way back, way back!"

In one fluid motion, Puckett followed through, dropped his bat, and scampered out of the box. He was thinking double or, if the ball bounced crazily off the Plexiglass, triple. He ran hard.

His teammates leaped off their dugout seats, scrambled up the steps and followed the trajectory of his hit. They watched. Waited.

When the ball cleared the Plexiglass, the Metrodome crowd roared louder than an airplane taking off. They flailed their white Homer Hankies. He had done it for them.

"It's gone!" Gordon yelled. "The Twins go to

the seventh game. Touch 'em all, Kirby Puckett."

Leibrandt hung his head and walked off the mound.

Puckett slowed his pace and pumped his right fist. "Yeah!" he shouted. "Yeah!"

His teammates gathered at the plate. He ran toward them and disappeared into the bedlam of congratulations that awaited. The next night the Twins would win Game 7. They would celebrate with champagne and parades, but not yet. Now, there was just this one man who had told his teammates to climb on his back, and he had carried them from the brink of elimination to the point where they could see the summit, an easy day's journey from where they stood.

Puckett emerged, his batting helmet in one hand, and raised his left fist to salute the crowd. Their applause filled the night.

John Rosengren is a freelance writer from Minneapolis and the author of several baseball books, including "HANK GREENBERG: The Hero of Heroes."

TV'S BEST BASEBALL ANALYSTS KEEP YOU ON TOP OF THE POST SEASON



y



Atlanta legend Chipper Jones is among a star-studded list of 2018 Hall hopefuls.

BY CRAIG MUDER

or Braves fans, their team's run of 14 straight Postseason appearances from 1991-2005 put Atlanta on top of the sports world.

But in January, Atlanta could set a standard just as impressive. And this time, it will be forever.

Legendary Braves third baseman Chipper Jones debuts on the Baseball Writers' Association of America's Hall of Fame ballot this year, and his numbers suggest he make reservations for Cooperstown next summer. Jones, 45, retired following the 2012 season with 468 home runs, 1,623 RBI, a .303 career batting average, a .401 on-base percentage and a .529 slugging average.

No other player who appeared in at least 50 percent of his career games at third base has ever totaled all of those numbers.

If Jones is elected, it would mark the fourth



Chipper Jones, an eight-time All-Star and 1999 National League MVP who played 19 seasons with the Braves, debuts on the Baseball Writers' Association of America's Hall of Fame ballot this fall.

time in five years that a contributor from the Braves dynasty teams has earned Hall of Fame election. Pitchers Tom Glavine and Greg Maddux were elected along with manager Bobby Cox in 2014, and pitcher John Smoltz joined them as a member of the Class of 2015. This year, general manager John Schuerholz earned election.

But Jones is not alone on the list of firsttime, high-profile names on the ballot. Jim Thome, owner of 612 career home runs and a .956 OPS (which ranks No. 18 all time), also makes his debut on the BBWAA ballot – as does former Indians teammate Omar Vizquel, who won 11 Gold Glove Awards at shortstop and totaled 2,877 career hits to go with 404 stolen bases.

Also eligible for the BBWAA ballot for the first time are All-Stars Johnny Damon, Andruw Jones, Hideki Matsui and Johan Santana.

Among returnees on the BBWAA ballot, Trevor Hoffman and Vladimir Guerrero were part of a group of five players – along with Class of 2017 members Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines and Iván Rodríguez – who each received at least 70 percent of the vote last year. It marked the first time since 1947 – and only the third time ever – that at least five players each received 70 percent of the vote in any BBWAA election.

Hoffman missed earning election by only five votes with 74.0 percent, while Guerrero finished 15 votes shy with 71.7 percent. Each will return to the BBWAA ballot this year, along with 12 others who received at least five percent of the vote and have not yet exhausted their BBWAA eligibility of 10 years on the ballot: Edgar Martinez (who received 58.6 percent of the vote in 2017), Roger Clemens (54.1%), Barry Bonds (53.8%), Mike Mussina (51.8%), Curt Schilling (45.0%), Manny Ramirez (23.8%), Larry Walker (21.9%), Fred McGriff (21.7%), Jeff Kent (16.7%), Gary Sheffield (13.3%), Billy Wagner (10.2%) and Sammy Sosa (8.6%).

The BBWAA's Hall of Fame ballot will be announced later this fall.

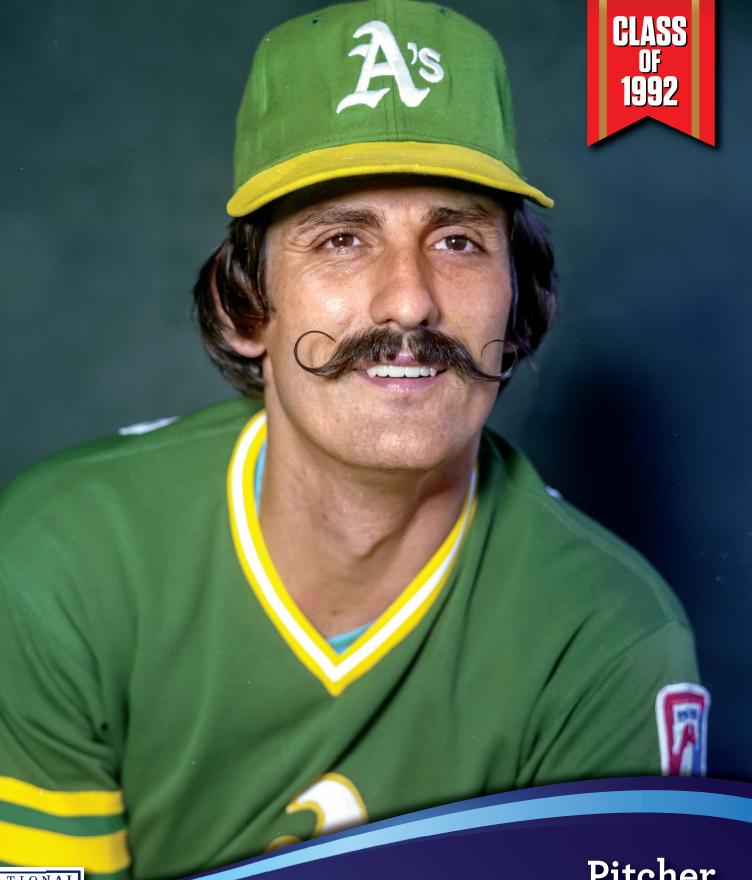
In addition, the Modern Baseball Committee will meet for the first time to consider candidates whose primary contributions to the game came between 1970 and 1987. The 10-person ballot will be announced this fall as well.

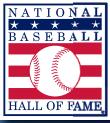
Craig Muder is the director of communications for the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

The Official Online Store of the Baseball Hall of Fame



Visit the Baseball Hall of Fame online shop today to find exlusive Hall of Fame merchandise, along with a wide assortment of apparel and collectibles of your favorite Hall of Famers and teams.





Pitcher ROLLE FINGERS



Elected 1992 • Born: Aug. 25, 1946, Steubenville, Ohio Batted: Right Threw: Right • Height: 6'4" Weight: 190 pounds Played for: Oakland Athletics (1968-76); San Diego Padres (1977-80); Milwaukee Brewers (1981-82, 1984-85)



31

38

÷

5

SHD

99

ŝ

H

ЪЭ

0	61	79	88	113	011	95	115	113	113	72	65	69	61	Ц		40	24	1299	
-	41	48	30	32	39	29	33	40	36	29	37	32	13	20		13	6	492	
4	49	60	43	31	27	35	42	37	44	30	42	32	6	23		10	31	549	
4	60	65	46	35	41	41	43	40	47	33	47	35	6	23		13	33	615	
4	116	137	94	85	107	104	95	118	123	84	91	101	55	63		38	59	1474	
11	119.0	148.0	129.1	1111	126.2	119.0	126.2	134.2	132.1	107.1	83.2	103.0	78.0	79.2		46.0	55.1	1701.1	
0	12	2	11	21	22	8	24	20	35	37	13	23	28	29		23	11	341	
0	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	2	
0	-	-	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	4	
0	80	19	æ	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	37	
-	60	45	48	65	62	76	75	70	78	67	54	99	47	50		33	47	944	
27.00	3.71	3.65	2.99	2.51	1.92	2.65	2.98	2.47	2.99	2.52	4.52	2.80	1.04	2.60		1.96	5.04	2.90	
000.	.462	.438	.400	.550	467	.643	.625	.542	A71	.316	.500	.550	.667	.455		.333	.143	.491	
0	7	6	9	6	8	2	9	Ħ	6	13	6	6	co	9	Not Play –	2			
0	9													2	- Did	-	-	114	
DAK	DAK	DAK	DAK	DAK	DAK	DAK	DAK	DAK	SDP	SDP	SDP	SDP	MIL	MIL		MIL	MIL		
1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	17 Years	

wards & Records: Three-time World Series champion and 1974 World Series MVP • Won four Rolaids Relief Man Awards and was the 1981 AL MVP and Cy Young Award winner 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



WHAT THEY SAY...

...that Rollie Fingers won or saved 11 of the Athletics' 21 Postseason victories during Oakland's run of three straight World Series titles from 1972-74?

ROLAND GLEN FINGERS

...that Fingers' 341 saves ranked first in MLB history at the time of his retirement following the 1985 season?

...that Fingers is one of only 10 pitchers to win the Cy Young Award and the MVP Award in the same season?

×

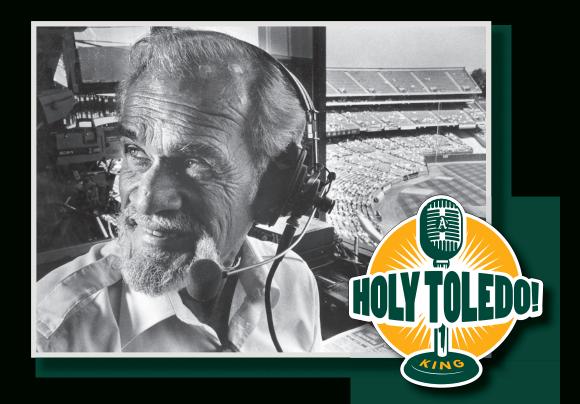
★ "He's the master. He always knows how to make the right pitch. He has an assortment of pitches. He can throw all of them for strikes."

- ALL-STAR RELIEVER DAN QUISENBERRY

×

"As far as closers go, I'd put Rollie Fingers up against anybody. If you took your greatest closer ever and gave me Rollie Fingers, I'd have no complaints." – GEORGE HENDRICK, FINGERS' TEAMMATE ON THE OAKLAND A'S

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



The Oakland A's congratulate Bill King on his legendary career and as the 2017 recipient of the Ford C. Frick Award.



GIVE MEA RING HALL OF FAME COLLECTION FEATURES WORLD SERIES RINGS DATING BACK TO THEIR DEBUT IN 1922.

BY PEYTON TRACY

he sentiment has been expressed for decades. But maybe never as succinctly as future Hall of Famer Gary Carter in 1986.

"The only thing on my mind now," Carter said, "is getting that World Series ring."

Taken literally, Carter seemed oddly excited for a single piece of jewelry, but

he wasn't just referring to a bejeweled metal band. A World Series ring, the individual player's trophy for his team's accomplishments on the field, is a glittering reflection of baseball championships past and present. The Hall of Fame's collection of World Series jewelry allows visitors to explore the evolution of the ring through the years from glamorous accessory to synonym for victory.

For the first 19 modern World Series, starting in 1903, winners often received lapel pins, engraved pocket watches or watch fobs as tokens to commemorate their championship. The earliest such award was given by a local business when *The Boston Globe* sponsored watch fobs for the victorious 1903 Boston Americans (now known as the Red Sox). Subsequent awards were given by the National

World Series ring designs, like this one from the 1955 Brooklyn Dodgers, have changed through the years. But the one constant is the passion of those chasing the Fall Classic title, which imbues the jewelry with a stature that outweighs its weight, size and luster.

Commission, the administrative head of baseball prior to the game's first Commissioner. The National Commission issued lapel pins embedded with a diamond, creating functional trophies players could wear to display their victory.

The first World Series rings were presented to the 1922 New York Giants the spring following their triumph over the New York Yankees. According to *The New York Times*, the Giants selected rings over other awards, including watch fobs and medals. The 14-karat gold rings contained a single diamond jewel in the center of a baseball diamond, flanked by crossed bats, a ball, glove and laurel leaves with the words "Giants World Champions 1922" sweeping across the sides. In many ways, this design became the basis for the next 50 years of rings: A gold band with a central diamond set either in gold or a field of semi-precious stone, with "World Champions," the club name, the year and team motifs engraved along the sides.

The use of rings for championship awards did not catch on immediately: The next three champions chose pocket watches or other jewelry. But in

> 1926, the St. Louis Cardinals defeated the Yankees in the Fall Classic and became the first to include their team's symbol in the design of their ring. A variety of awards continued to be presented until 1931, when the Cardinals won again and introduced color to the ring design with a ruby field beneath their diamond. From then on, it became tradition for every team that won the Fall Classic to receive a ring.

> However, a club's logo didn't appear as the central design on the top of a ring until 1974. That year, the Oakland A's placed a gold inlay of their "A's" logo atop their ring. Though the lack of a diamond may have disappointed players, the prominent logo appearing front and center became customary for future championship rings.

> Three years later, the New York Yankees revolutionized the design of championship jewelry again. After 19 very similar rings from

their first 20 titles (they received pocket watches for their first in 1923), the 1977 Yankees rejected the single stone in favor of the famed "NY" logo, created using an unprecedented 19 diamonds atop a blue stone field.

That ring ushered in a new "bling" era. The next season's Yankees victory ring contained 21 diamonds. From 1977 to the present day, only two teams reverted to the original single-diamond design: the 1981 Los Angeles Dodgers and 1982 St. Louis Cardinals. The trend reached its peak in 2003 when the Florida Marlins presented the most bejeweled ring in World Series history: a 3.5-ounce, 14-karat white gold ring encrusted with 229 diamonds, including a rare teal diamond, and 13 rubies. While subsequent champions have toned down the "bling," their rings are no less opulent.







Left to right: 1940 Cincinnati Reds; 1972 Oakland Athletics; 2003 Florida Marlins; 1985 Kansas City Royals; 1948 Cleveland Indians





1969 New York Mets

DESIGNING THE FIRST OFFICIAL WORLD SERIES RINGS

When New York Giants right fielder Ross Youngs caught a ninth-inning fly ball off the bat of the Yankees' Aaron Ward, it marked the end of Game 5 of the 1922 World Series. With the victory, manager John McGraw's National League club claimed their second straight championship title.

The work for the Giants was over. They had reached their goal. But just moments after the Fall Classic concluded, jewelry firms across the country began to work toward a different goal: The right to fashion the official mementos for the World Champions.

On Oct. 9, 1922, less than 24 hours after Youngs secured the final out of the Series, Leonard Fox, vice president of the Gustave Fox Company, wrote to MLB Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis that his firm would be happy to send drawings "for insignia to be given the World's Champion Players." That same day, New York City's Lambert Bros., "Makers of Fine Jewelry," offered "to submit designs for the Worlds' Championship souvenirs." November saw similar letters from other established jewelers such as Sigmund Berger in New York City and The Robbins Company in Chicago.

In previous years, players were awarded watch fobs, pendants and a variety of other bling to commemorate their Series title. But the 1922 Giants requested that they receive rings, and the club ultimately settled upon a design sent in by the jewelry firm of Dieges & Clust. With



the final decision made, the other jewelers were notified that their services were not required. And on April 26, 1923, in a ceremony held prior to the club's home opener, Commissioner Landis presented each member of the Giants with their individual awards: The first official World Series rings in big league history.

- Tom Shieber



The 1922 New York Giants were the first World Series winner to receive rings. The drawing above is an original rendering of the 1922 World Series ring sent to Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis by the jewelry firm of Dieges & Clust and is now preserved at the Hall of Fame.



The Giants' Javier López (left) and Pablo Sandoval try on their 2010 World Series rings during a pregame ceremony April 9, 2011, at AT&T Park in San Francisco.

Major League Baseball contributes about \$1,500 toward a ring for each player, coach, manager and general manager on the winning team. Clubs are allowed to make rings costing in excess of this amount and in greater quantity, but additional expenses must come from their own budget. They work closely with jewelry companies such as Balfour, Jostens, and Tiffany & Co. to design and create a ring that best represents the club and its season. These designs are closely guarded until they are awarded early the following season. Many teams in recent years have created smaller and less expensive designs to gift to some non-player personnel.

While rings are prized by their owners, ironically, their size and value have created new challenges. Some players lament the inability to wear the often unwieldy bling, with their large size and weight making them uncomfortable, and their value making them unsafe to wear for long. Many players keep their rings in safe deposit boxes in banks or in safes in their homes. In order to have a wearable ring, some players will also buy the lower-tier rings, which are more comfortable and less risky to wear in public.

The rings, valued by player and fan alike for representing the hardest-won victory in baseball, have increased the drive for the athletes pursuing them in the first place. Even today, "getting a ring" is synonymous with winning a championship, athletic greatness, and achieving a hallowed place in sports history.

Amid all the majestic exhibits at the Hall of Fame, the glittering display of rings in the Museum's *Autumn Glory* exhibit draws visitors to marvel over the jewels and remember the past moments of victory. The Hall of Fame's collection of World Series jewelry includes nearly 140 years of medals, watches, fobs, pins and rings.

Peyton Tracy is the Registrar at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

OWNER. COMMISSIONER. LEADER. VISIONARY. PIONEER. HALL OF FAMER.

HALL OF FAME



CLASS OF 2017

Congratulations, Bud, on your induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. You have devoted a lifetime to this great game of baseball—growing it, protecting it, guiding it—and there is no one more deserving of the honor than you.



Savoring the Series

Celebrated artifacts from past Fall Classics are preserved in Cooperstown.

BY CADY LOWERY

ome of baseball's biggest moments happen on baseball's biggest stage. "The Catch," an improbable perfect game and a walk-off home run to win it all – these moments have become synonymous with the Fall Classic.

And thanks to artifacts on display at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, they live forever in Cooperstown.

The glove worn by New York Giants outfielder Willie Mays while he was playing in his second World Series is one of the many artifacts the Museum has to showcase baseball's championship.

The distance from home plate to dead center at the Polo Grounds was 483 feet. The wall was so far away, only four players – Hall of Famers Hank Aaron and Lou Brock among them – ever hit home runs to that part of the park following its remodel in 1923. But while clearing the fence may have been difficult, hitting a ball over the center fielder's head wasn't nearly as hard. Unless, of course, that center fielder was Willie Mays.

And during Game 1 of the 1954 World Series, Mays was roaming his usual post.

The score was tied, 2-2, when Cleveland Indians slugger Vic Wertz came up to bat in the top of the eighth inning. Already with three hits in the game, Wertz was looking to put the Indians in the lead. He was a feared hitter, and with two runners on and nobody out, the Giants were in a jam.

Giants manager Leo Durocher decided to make a pitching change before Wertz hit. He brought in Don Liddle, a 5-foot-10 lefty whose best pitch was a curveball, allowing him to get hitters out on ground balls. Mays knew that, so he moved in several steps in center.

But Liddle didn't throw his curveball. Instead, he hung a fastball out over the middle of the plate for the left-handed Wertz, who promptly crushed the pitch an estimated 440 feet into deep center field. With Mays playing so shallow, catching the ball looked impossible.

Mays took off in pursuit, completely turning his back on the infield. Still in a full sprint, he reached out and caught the ball, then spun and threw a bullet back to the infield to keep the game tied.

The sensational grab later became known simply as "The Catch." Mays was already a baseball star, but the defensive feat helped catapult him into a national icon. "I'm just as amazed as everyone else," teammate Monte Irvin wrote in the *Washington Post* in Sept. 1954. "But in a different way. I believe Willie's just doing what comes naturally."

The Giants made it out of the inning unscathed and went on to win the game on a 10th-inning home run by Dusty Rhodes.

After the game, Mays was asked where he ranked the catch. He said, "I don't rank 'em. I just catch 'em."

The glove he used to make the famous catch is on display in the Hall of Fame, and Mays' Giants went on to sweep the World Series in what was his first season back in professional baseball after spending time in the service. He would win the NL's Most Valuable Player Award as well.

Two years later, the Yankees were playing in the World Series against the Brooklyn Dodgers at Yankee Stadium, the fourth time in five years that the two teams had met in the Fall Classic. The series was knotted, 2-2, with the Dodgers winning the first two games in Brooklyn and the Yankees answering back on their home field, including a 6-2 victory in Game 4.

It was Oct. 8, 1956, and Don Larsen was set to take the mound for the Yankees, squaring off against the Dodgers' Sal Maglie. While Maglie had gone the distance in a Game 1 victory, Larsen's Game 2 performance was anything but perfect.

In that outing, he faced 10 batters and



Bill Mazeroski used this bat and wore this batting helmet when he hit his walk-off home run in Game 7 of the 1960 World Series. Both artifacts are preserved at the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

allowed four walks and four runs in just under two innings of work. The Yankees lost, 13-8.

This time around, Larsen was just looking to get outs. He ended up doing a lot better than that. He sat down 27 Dodgers batters on just 97 pitches through all nine innings. In front of 64,519 fans, Larsen threw the first perfect game in World Series history.

"When it was over, I was so happy," Larsen said after the game. "I felt like crying. I wanted to win this one for Casey (Stengel). After what I did (in Game 2), he could have forgotten about me and who would blame him? But he gave me another chance and I'm grateful."

The only offense the Yankees needed came on a Mickey Mantle home run in the fourth inning and a single by Hank Bauer that scored Andy Carey in the sixth.

Larsen struck out the final Dodgers batter, Dale Mitchell, looking. For perspective on that last out, consider that Mitchell was a .312 career hitter who fanned just 119 times in 11 big league seasons, covering nearly 4,400 plate appearances. That's how good Larsen was in Game 5.

The Yankees won the game, 2-0. As soon as catcher Yogi Berra caught the final pitch, he took off toward the mound. Larsen picked up Berra in celebration of what had just happened.

In the postgame craziness, Larsen's hat fell off and ended up on the field. That hat was retrieved and later donated to the Hall of Fame.

The Yankees went on to win the Series in seven games, giving them their fifth title of the decade. There has not been another perfect game in the World Series since.

In 1960, the Yankees were making another World Series appearance. This time they were facing the Pittsburgh Pirates, who were playing in their first World Series since 1927 (when they lost to the Yankees).

The series had gone back and forth and was knotted at three games apiece, despite the fact that the Pirates had been outscored, 46-17. It all came down to a Game 7 on the Pirates' home turf of Forbes Field.

The Pirates grabbed the early lead, but the Yankees scored four times in the sixth inning – on a single by Mantle and a home run off the bat of Berra. Heading into the bottom of the ninth, the game was tied, 9-9.

Second baseman Bill Mazeroski was due up first for Pittsburgh. Just 24 at the time and in his fifth season with the Pirates, Mazeroski was known as much for his glove as his bat. He had

SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT GAME 6

World Series Game 6 heroics are nothing new. Whether it's a walk-off home run to force a Game 7, a late-inning blast to put your team on top or a homer that wins it all, some of baseball's most memorable World Series moments happened in the sixth game of the Fall Classic.

Almost 20 years to the day after Jack Buck called the dramatic Game 6 of the 1991 World Series between the Twins and the Braves – when Kirby Puckett's home run sent that series to a Game 7 (see story on pages 20-21) – Joe Buck uttered the same six words his father did.

"We will see you tomorrow night," the younger Buck proclaimed as St. Louis Cardinals third baseman David Freese rounded the bases in the bottom of the 11th inning, propelling the Cardinals to a victory over the Texas Rangers in Game 6 of the 2011 World Series.

In Freese's postgame celebration, his teammates greeted him at home plate and ripped his jersey off of him, shredding it in half during the excitement. Freese immediately donated that partial jersey to the Hall of Fame.

But that wasn't Freese's only heroic moment of the game.

The Rangers had the lead in the bottom of the ninth, but it didn't phase Freese. His two-run, two-out, two-strike triple over the head of Nelson Cruz is what forced the game into extra innings. Coupled with his game-winning homer, Freese gave his team the chance to go to a Game 7.

And when the Cardinals eventually prevailed in that deciding game, they became the first team to be three outs from Postseason elimination twice in the same game that would eventually go on to win the Series. Freese became the easy choice for World Series MVP.

Rewind nine years to when the Los Angeles Angels found themselves in a similar situation.

On Oct. 26, 2002, they trailed, 5-0, heading to the seventh inning against the in-state rival San Francisco Giants. On the brink of elimination, the Angels rallied.

Scott Spiezio stepped to the plate with two runners on base, looking for a pitch to drive. After fouling off four pitches, Spiezio deposited a ball over the fence for a three-run home run, pulling the Angels closer. They eventually took the lead in the eighth inning on Darin Erstad's home run and a Troy Glaus double.

But it was Spiezio's round-tripper that changed the atmosphere of the game and sparked the comeback victory. The team then went on to win Game 7 to capture the franchise's first World Series title. The bat Spiezio used to hit his Game 6 homer has called the Hall of Fame home ever since.

Go back another nine years to 1993, and the Toronto Blue Jays were on the hunt for their second straight World Series championship.

They held a three-games-to-two lead over the Philadelphia Phillies, but were in danger of being forced to a Game 7 when outfielder Joe Carter came to bat in the bottom of the ninth inning with his team trailing, 6-5, and two runners on base. On a 2-2 count, Carter lined a pitch off reliever Mitch Williams over the left field fence to win the game and Series, sending the SkyDome crowd into a frenzy. It marked just the second World Series-winning walk-off homer in MLB history.

"Touch 'em all Joe. You'll never hit a bigger home run in your life," Blue Jays announcer Tom Cheek said after the home run.

The bat Carter used remains at the Hall of Fame, another reminder of the dramatics that a World Series Game 6 can provide.

- Cady Lowery

been elected an All-Star that season and was on his way to winning his second Gold Glove Award.

He stepped into the batter's box to face Yankees pitcher Ralph Terry and took the first pitch for a ball. The second pitch was a different story.

Mazeroski clobbered the ball into the left field stands, giving the Pirates the ultimate "walk-off win." With one swing of the bat, Mazeroski clinched the Pirates' first World Series title in 35 years.

"Hell, I thought it would be just another hit

to win a ballgame," said Mazeroski, who batted .320 for the Series and drove in five runs. "It's bigger now, I think."

The bat Mazeroski used to hit the home run now resides in Cooperstown. And his home run remains the only walk-off homer in a Game 7 in World Series history.

Cady Lowery was the 2017 public relations intern in the Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

Video Revolution

A Mannscope was among the earliest tools to use moving pictures to teach baseball. One is now in the Museum's collection.

BY MEGHAN ANDERSON

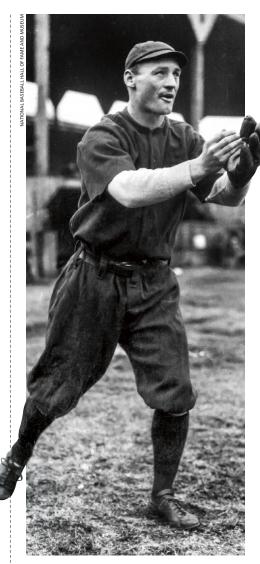
rom the Commissioner's office down through the amateur ranks, baseball executives believe the future of the game involves embracing the latest technological advances.

But the evolution of today's data analysis and video replay began over a century ago – in the earliest days of moving pictures. An example of that innovative technology is now preserved at the Hall of Fame.

Les Mann, a major leaguer in the early 20th century, predicted it all: "The sport must be introduced by explaining the science, skills and fundamental development both individually and collectively as a team." He proved to be ahead of his time.

Born in 1892, Mann was a four-sport athlete – in football, basketball, baseball and track – at Lincoln (Neb.) High School. After graduating, Mann moved east to attend Springfield College in Massachusetts, known then as the International Young Men's Christian Association Training School. While there, the right-handed outfielder excelled at basketball and played varsity football as a freshman, but found his niche in baseball.

Recruited by the Boston Braves, Mann debuted in 1913 and was a part of the 1914 World Series Champion "Miracle Braves," who went from last to first place with two months remaining in the season. Mann ultimately played 16 major league seasons with the Braves, Chicago Cubs, St. Louis Cardinals, New York Giants, Cincinnati Reds and the Federal League's Chicago Whales.



Les Mann played 16 seasons in the big leagues and was a starting outfielder on the "Miracle Braves" team that won the 1914 World Series. But it was his contributions to the game after his playing days, including the invention of the Mannscope camera, that helped take baseball all over the globe.

Mann dedicated himself to building amateur sports and spent his offseasons doing so. He worked as the director of physical education and basketball coach at the Rice Institute (now Rice University) in Houston, was the head baseball and basketball coach at Indiana University, and served as assistant football coach and head coach for baseball and basketball at his alma mater, Springfield College.

In 1924, he established the Leslie Mann Coaching System, based in Bloomington, Ind. He thought that if more people understood the appropriate basic skills of baseball, it would not only improve their health and physical fitness, but also shape their character. As a team sport, baseball was not about a single player, but about the honor and respect for the whole.

In a letter to August "Garry" Herrmann, President of the Cincinnati Reds, Mann said, "I teach the game and believe in its honesty. Great elements of character are imbedded in one's heart when he plays the game for the game's sake and not the dollar."

Mann believed that success in baseball was determined through not only skill, but also strength, passion and determination. Using his professional playing experience for observation, Mann focused on the qualities necessary to develop fundamentals. He created films to demonstrate correct and incorrect ways to play, enlisting the help of more than 85 professional baseball players, including future Hall of Famers Rogers Hornsby, Max Carey, Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker.

In 1925, Mann began assembling the player footage and added in titles and captions. These films were a way to build baseball skills by highlighting the finer details of batting, base running, sliding, pitching, defensive play and coaching. The instructional films consisted of 16 sections, each containing 40 minutes of material to develop a particular ability. Mann used 35mm cellulose nitrate film, which was standard at the time – yielding a higher-quality image than the more economical 16mm.

However, Mann decided it was not enough to develop only film content. He wanted to be able to play the reels in super slow motion, advance a frame at a time, pause and even reverse. Since these features were not readily available, he invented a new projector called a Mannscope.

Patented on Oct. 11, 1927, the Mannscope

was a combination motion picture and lantern projection machine. Rather than having an electric motor, the manually operated machine could work in either continuous motion or be held stationary. According to the patent: "The operator is then given plenty of time to thoroughly explain each play or movement shown on the screen before passing to the next one."

While held in a fixed position, the Mannscope contained water enclosed by two glass discs with a vent, which served as a cooling device and prevented the radiating heat of the electric lamp from damaging the film.

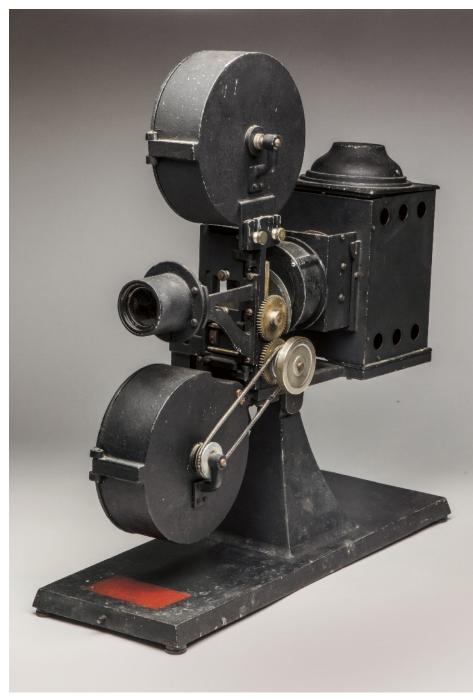
The Mannscope was not mass-produced; Mann marketed it himself. While on the road during his final big league seasons of 1927 and 1928, he used his films and projector for lectures at high schools and colleges. After his playing career, he continued to devote time to expanding and building the amateur game by utilizing the films, and in 1929 the owners of the National and American leagues hired Mann to tour the United States to publicize amateur development.

As the secretary-treasurer for the National Amateur Athletic Federation in 1931, Mann announced the formation of the United States Amateur Baseball Association (later known as the United States Baseball Congress). The organization's chief goal was to sponsor an international baseball tournament.

In October 1935, Mann traveled with an amateur team to Japan. As the world prepared for the next great war, Mann continued to popularize the game in small tournaments in Great Britain and Cuba, and during World War II, he served as the USO director of athletics in Hawaii. Through his work with the USABA, Mann would introduce baseball to 27 countries between 1931 and 1943.

"We have them thinking, promoting and playing our great game. Let's be sure not to lose them now," he wrote in a report to the NAAF. Mann did his part, continuing to work to expand and develop amateur sports throughout his lifetime.

Springfield College offered a Baseball Instructional Course in 1935 for freshmen, sophomores and coaches that was based on Mann's films. However, the use of film for the instruction of baseball fundamentals, while widely accepted, had a slower expansion than the game itself. During the 1940s, the



One of the earliest uses of film as a baseball training tool was popularized by Les Mann, whose Mannscope camera allowed moving pictures to be slowed for analysis without damaging the film itself. A version of the Mannscope was recently donated to the Hall of Fame.

National League sponsored a film bureau, which produced a series of films that combined fundamental instruction with promotional material. The 30-minute films targeted colleges, amateur clubs and Latin American countries.

After an interview in 1927, the Allentown, Pa., *Morning Call* said: "In the long run we would say that a fellow like Mann will do as much even as a Babe Ruth to further the great national game." While the *Morning Call* may have missed with its prediction, Mann's invention gave the sporting world a new tool. His character and his desire to teach and expand the game built part of the foundation for training and analytical video systems used today.

Meghan Anderson was the 2017 curatorial intern in the Hall of Fame's Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development.

AFTER THE FIELD WHITEY HERZOG

LIVING BY THE CARDINAL RULE

HALL OF FAMER WHITEY HERZOG'S PASSION FOR BASEBALL STILL BURNS BRIGHT.

BY HAL BODLEY



layer, scout, coach, player development director, manager, general manager, farm system director, Hall of Famer.

Where do you start when you're with Dorrel Norman Elvert Herzog?

"The Hall of Fame," said the man they call Whitey. "That's the ultimate. I've done about everything you can do in baseball – from being a horse-bleep player to a coach, a scout, a general manager, and then in St. Louis I wore both hats as manager and GM for a couple of years.

"But the Hall of Fame?"

There's a long pause...

"When I look back, I never ever thought I'd be a member of the Hall of Fame," he said, almost apologetically. "If you're in pro baseball, that's the highest honor you can get. I still pinch myself."

He's one of 23 managers with plaques hanging in Cooperstown; he was inducted in 2010.

"It never gets old there," he added. He and his wife, Mary Lou, drive the 989 miles from their home in the St. Louis suburb of Sunset Hills to Cooperstown each July for Induction Weekend "and we talk to each other more during the trip than when we're at home. It's a pleasant time for us."

Herzog is 85 now, much mellower than during those often-tense moments when his St. Louis Cardinals were playing in the World Series or trying to get there.

Yet his passion for baseball still burns in the belly "and when I'm not going to ball games, I watch them on TV. Today, I just returned from the cardiologist and she says I'm the picture of good health. I work out three days a week."

Then, with his trademark laugh, he added: "I manage both teams (when watching games) and love it. I win one and lose one every night, so I'm at .500!"

Of course, it was managing, especially with the St. Louis Cardinals, that propelled Herzog to the Hall of Fame.

He had brief managing tenures with the Texas Rangers and California Angels before landing in Kansas City, where he breathed life into a young franchise in the mid-1970s, winning three division titles in five years.

In 1980, Cardinals owner Gussie Busch hired Herzog. Not only did Whitey take the team to the World Series in '82 – their first trip to the Fall Classic since 1968 – but a close friendship between owner and manager was formed.

"I often look back to my 11 years with the

Cardinals and Gussie Busch," Herzog said, sadness in his voice. "I had a helluva relationship with him. He was 90 when he died, but when I got there, he only wanted to get back in the World Series one more time and he kept saying that."

It happened in Herzog's third season at the helm. The Brewers held a three-games-to-two Series lead, but the Cardinals – playing at home – thrashed Milwaukee, 13-1, in Game 6 and won the title the next night, 6-3.

"After the seventh game during the trophy presentation, Gussie looked at me and said, "We're pretty young. We ought to win it again next year.' I agreed."

Former second baseman Tommy Herr believes that when Herzog arrived in St. Louis, the entire culture of the team changed.

"What he did was get everybody focused on more team-oriented goals, instead of individual achievement," Herr said. "Obviously, with Whitey here, the thinking of the whole organization changed to go along with his philosophy."

The Cardinals returned to the Fall Classic in 1985, but lost to cross-state rival Kansas City in seven games. And in 1987, St. Louis fell to Minnesota in another seven-game classic.

So, August A. (Gussie) Busch Jr., who died in 1989 from pneumonia, was able to see his team return to the World Series two more times after Herzog ended the dry spell in 1982.

"He was the greatest owner I ever worked for," Herzog said.

Herzog managed for 18 major league seasons (1973-90), winning six division titles, three pennants and one World Series while compiling a 1,281-1,125 record.

"I'm most proud of what we did in '82," he said. "As a manager and general manager, winning the 1982 World Series over Milwaukee in seven games was the happiest time of my baseball life – until I was elected to the Hall of Fame.

"I've been a fortunate guy. I was able to manage three Hall of Famers in George Brett, Ozzie Smith and Bruce Sutter. I had some pretty good ballplayers play for me."



Whitey Herzog (left) was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2010 after a playing and coaching career that spanned five decades. In 18 seasons as a big league manager, Herzog led his teams to six division titles, three pennants and the 1982 World Series crown with the Cardinals, a team that featured future Hall of Fame shortstop Ozzie Smith (right).

Whitey also managed Frank Robinson when the Hall of Famer played for the Angels in 1974.

A key to the 1982 season was the trade that brought Smith from the Padres to the Cardinals, where "The Wizard of Oz" etched his fabulous Hall of Fame career.

"In December of '81, 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 Garry Templeton. When Whitey talked to me, it meant there was somebody who believed in me. He gave me the vote of confidence I needed."

As a manager, Herzog used his sense of humor to charm players and writers. Hours

spent in his clubhouse office before a game were priceless. He'd love to spin a yarn, or tell a joke and laugh harder than anyone in his audience.

Herzog, it turns out, was a direct descendant of another Hall of Fame manager: Casey Stengel.

After graduating from high school in New Athens, Ill., Herzog signed a \$1,500 bonus with the Yankees. He never made it to their big club – his eight years in the majors were spent with the Senators, Athletics, Orioles and Tigers – but it was in the Yankees system that he got to know the legendary Stengel and receive his nickname. Some of his teammates thought he looked like Yankees pitcher Bob (The White Rat) Kuzava, so the moniker was attached to the unsuspecting Herzog.

"Casey took a liking to me," Whitey said. "I was his Bobo. Casey said I was a great leader. I don't know why. He just did. He spent a lot of time with me talking baseball and even how important the media is."

Jokes and laughing aside, when the conversation turns to baseball, Herzog becomes dead serious.

And it is that trait that has made him so successful. He's always had a knack for getting the most out of his players.

"The mood of the team starts with the manager," he said. "Once I lose the will to win and my enthusiasm, the coaches lose it and then the players will lose it, too."

The late Hank Peters, who spent nearly four decades in senior management positions in baseball, once said: "Whitey Herzog is the best judge of talent I ever saw."

Mention this to Whitey and his answer is less than direct: "In 1982, we made that trade with San Diego to get Ozzie Smith, and Steve



After his playing days ended in 1963, Whitey Herzog entered the management ranks with the Kansas City Athletics. His first managerial post came with the Rangers in 1973, and he later managed the Angels, Royals and Cardinals.

Mura was in the deal, too. I put Mura in my rotation and he won 12 games.

"In 1985, I drafted Kurt Kepshire and he won 10 games for me as my fifth starter. After he left, he never won another game, so I said, 'Maybe I do know something.' Even in my year in Texas (1973) when I got fired, we didn't have much of a pitching staff, but the kids played their butts off.

"I used to follow a player from team to team and I'd study his stats and look for things, then grab him. I used to like to get a guy after a bad year because you can't touch him after a good one. The secret is to make trades that help the other team, too."

Herzog seemed to make everyone better.

"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. Yes, he changed the culture in the clubhouse."

And then there's "Whiteyball."

When Herzog took over the Cardinals, six of the 12 National League teams had artificial surfaces on their home fields.

"And the Dodgers and Padres fields were as

hard as AstroTurf," he said. "So, we really had only the Mets, Cubs, Giants and Braves with grass fields. What I tried to do was neutralize the home run with our speed and defense. We tailored our team for playing on the artificial surfaces."

Fact: The Cardinals hit only 67 home runs in 1982, but outlasted the Brewers, who had blasted 216 during that same season, in the World Series.

The addition of Gold Glove shortstop Smith and the 36 saves turned in by Sutter solidified Whiteyball. In '82, the Cardinals had seven players finish with double digits in steals and the team stole 200 bases overall.

Smith, "The Wizard of Oz," won 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.

"I remember talking to (center fielder) Willie McGee on the ride home after that game," said Smith. "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. As Smith says, it was their remarkable consistency that led them to their first NL pennant in 14 years and first World Series title in 15. They never lost more than three in a row the rest of the summer. And it was that season that defined Whitey Herzog.

Aside from baseball, Herzog now spends many days with his other favorite pastime: Fishing.

"I like to fish in the morning, but am not doing it as much as I used to," he said. "We had a lot of rain this spring and it was bad for fishing. Now it's pretty good, so I'll probably go out more."

Once an avid golfer, he has more or less put that sport on hold.

"Five years ago, I fractured my hip," he said. "They didn't replace it, just put in pins. When they finished surgery, I made up my mind at my age – I was never worth a damn on the golf course anyway – I was going to give it up. Now if I go to charity events, I just putt. It's amazing how well you can putt when you're on the same hole all day.

"Hey, that might be the way to play golf ... play the same hole 18 times!"

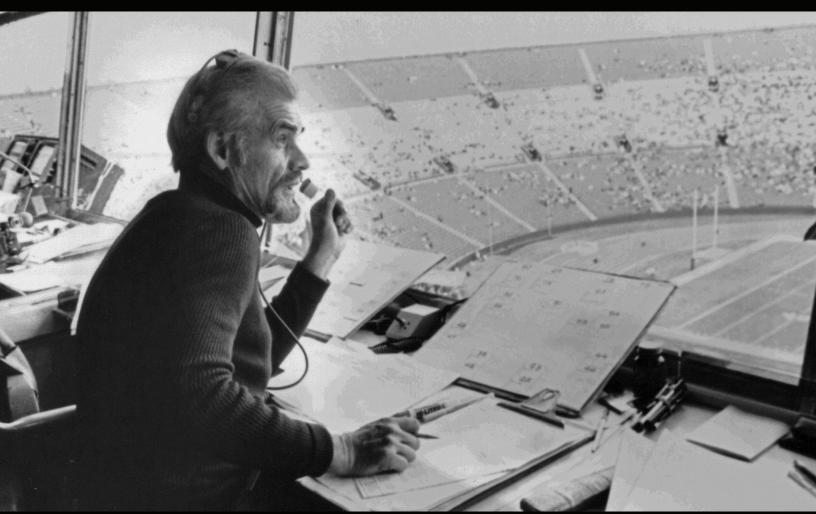
As he sits back and watches games on TV or in person, he's amazed at how baseball has changed.

"Everything is about analytics, computers and defensive shifts," he said. "If Ty Cobb had played in this era with the analytical defenses and all that, he'd probably hit .800. Musial would hit .500. No way they'd give in to those shifts. They'd hit the ball to the opposite field.

"Everything is with the computer today. I was always interested where the ball was hit against my pitchers. I kept charts of that. Today, it seems like every hitter is swinging from his tail. Man on second, no outs, they swing from their butts. They don't even think about hitting the ball up the middle or to the right side to advance the runner. They're all doing it and that's the game today."

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.

THE RAIDERS CONGRATULATE BILL KING



2017 RECIPIENT OF THE FORD C. FRICK AWARD

Presented annually for excellence in broadcasting by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum



COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE



Create your own Hall of Fame baseball cards today!

ENTER PROMO CODE HOF2016 FOR 10% OFF YOUR ORDER!



W Ultimate Moments Each of the Hall of Fame's four World Series

Each of the Hall of Fame's four World Series last-out baseballs tells a special story.

BY ALEX COFFEY

t is a cool October night in St. Louis, as Busch Stadium welcomes a packed house of 52,037 fans, some of whom have come to watch Game 4 of the 2004 World Series, and others to witness history for Boston. The game itself would be perceived as anti-climactic on any regular-season night – the Red Sox score three times and record nine hits, while the Cardinals' bats are silenced by starter Derek Lowe.

But by 10:39 p.m., Busch Stadium appears to be in a state of suspension, as the baseball world stops buzzing for just one moment, waiting anxiously to see if an 86-year thirst will finally be quenched.

Édgar Rentería is St. Louis' final hope. To a chorus of "Let's Go Red Sox" chants, Boston pitcher Keith Foulke delivers, Rentería grounds it back to the mound, Foulke flips the ball to first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz ... and hysteria ensues.

Catcher Jason Varitek leaps into Foulke's arms as their Red Sox teammates join them in a dogpile. Even though they aren't home, cameras are flashing all over the stadium and the crowd is on its feet.

For Red Sox fans, the final-out baseball of the 2004 World Series is akin to the Holy Grail. As was made abundantly clear in the 1986 World Series, the game isn't over until the final out is made. To Boston, that baseball represented the end of nearly a century of Postseason heartbreak. The curse was history.

Mientkiewicz and the Red Sox later donated that last-out ball to the Hall of Fame, where it will be preserved for all time. When on display, baseball fans can see that ball and remember how Mientkiewicz leaped as he caught it, how



This ball was used to record the last out of the 1889 World Series between the New York Giants and the Brooklyn Bridegrooms.

Varitek lifted Foulke in celebration.

But 115 years before Boston made history, the New York Giants made a comeback of their own – and while no photographs or videos exist to tell the tale, that series' last-out ball also survives in Cooperstown.

The year was 1889. The New York Giants of the National League, the reigning World Series champions, faced off against the Brooklyn Bridegrooms, winners of the American Association. In what was the first postseason series in a confined metropolitan area, Brooklyn was off to a strong start – but for "peculiar" reasons, per *The New York Times*. Two of the first four games were called early due to darkness, and Buck Ewing, then-Giants captain and future Hall of Famer, speculated that unfair tactics were employed.

"I am sick and tired of the methods resorted to by the Brooklyns," he told the *Times*. "We have played like men, but the Brooklyns have disported themselves like schoolboys. Their work throughout has been of the sneaky order. And the umpires! I don't know what to make of them. If the umpiring had been just, we should have won three games."

Ewing, and numerous other news outlets, believed that the umpires were calling the games early when Brooklyn was in the lead, for the purpose of throwing the game. After a meeting between captains, umpires and team owners established that "no more peculiar occurrences would be allowed," the series resumed. The Giants used their frustration as fuel, taking the next five games to become the first major league team to win consecutive championship series.

The last out of that game – which came when Bridegrooms left fielder Darby O'Brien tried to steal second – was caught by Giants second baseman Danny Richardson. It was passed down in the Richardson family, and donated to the Hall of Fame in 1968 by Richardson's widow on behalf of their grandchildren, Marc and Carin.

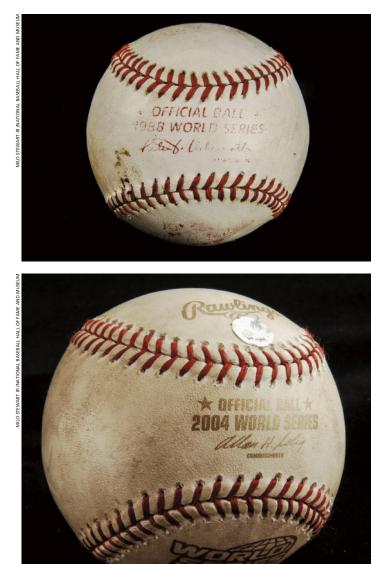
Of the 7,000 baseballs in the Hall of Fame collection, this is the oldest World Series baseball and one of the rarest, according to senior curator Tom Shieber.

"No matter what, there always is only one final-out ball in a World Series. Each Fall Classic features multiple bats, jerseys, caps and the like, but by definition, the final-out ball is unique," Shieber said. "In basketball, hockey and football, the clock ends the game. In baseball, the final out ends the game."

Fourteen years later, in 1903, came the first modern World Series, when Honus Wagner's Pirates squared off against the Boston Americans (today known as the Red Sox). Playing a best-of-nine series, what had started as a tight battle turned into a Boston landslide, as the Americans took Games 5, 6 and 7. Game 8, played at the Huntington Avenue Baseball Grounds in front of 7,455 fans, lasted only one hour and 35 minutes. The final out was a strikeout by Americans pitcher Bill Dinneen of none other than Wagner himself.

Lou Criger, who was behind the plate, saved the baseball and gave it to his son, Walter. Walter then donated it to the Hall of Fame in 1962, estimating its worth at \$5. Although it's been preserved, the ball appears discolored with several gouges and pitting to its leather cover. But it still serves as a relic of the early days of baseball's celebrated Fall Classic.

The Hall of Fame would receive another





Top left: Rick Dempsey was the catcher when Dodgers teammate Orel Hershiser struck out Oakland's Tony Phillips for the final out of the 1988 World Series. Dempsey gave the ball to team general manager Fred Claire, who then donated it to the Hall of Fame. Left: The Boston Red Sox won their first World Series in 86 years when they defeated the St. Louis Cardinals in the 2004 Fall Classic. This ball was caught by Red Sox first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz for the final out of the game, as pitcher Keith Foulke threw to Mientkiewicz following a grounder back to the mound. Above: The Boston Red Sox celebrate their 2004 World Series title at Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

World Series last-out baseball in 2005. And like its predecessors, this ball – donated 17 years after the fact – has a story behind it.

Fred Claire was hired as general manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1987, and after a season that saw the team finish 16 games below .500, he signed Kirk Gibson and Mickey Hatcher and traded for Jesse Orosco – the list goes on. But one acquisition that seemingly flew under the radar was of backup catcher Rick Dempsey.

Dempsey, who'd suffered a broken thumb after a home plate collision with Royals left fielder Bo Jackson, was released by the Indians following the '87 season. He needed work, and thought Claire would listen.

"I was in negotiation with someone and I told my secretary, Rosie, to tell Rick not to bother waiting, that I'd give him a call," Claire told *The New York Times*. "When I got out of my meeting at about 6 o'clock, Rosie said that Rick was still in the lobby. He had wanted to wait. I said, 'Have him come in."

Claire decided to give Dempsey a shot. That shot paid off, as he hit .251 with seven home runs in 77 games as a backup to catcher Mike Scioscia. In the 1988 World Series, the Dodgers' pitching staff ended up holding the Oakland Athletics' offense to a meager .177 batting average, allowing only 11 runs in five games. And when Orel Hershiser struck out A's second baseman Tony Phillips swinging for the final out of the Series, Dempsey was behind the plate.

"Dempsey came up to me in the Dodgers clubhouse, pulled the baseball out of his back pocket and said: 'Fred, this baseball belongs to you," Claire said. "He had promised me that if I signed him as a backup catcher, he would catch the final out of the World Series and give me the ball."

Claire kept the ball for several years, but ended up donating it to the Hall of Fame in 2005 so he could share that moment with baseball fans everywhere. Now, it joins three other final-out World Series baseballs preserved in Cooperstown, spanning four vastly different periods in baseball history.

"It's time for the baseball to be delivered to its proper home. It's the only resting place that makes sense," Claire said. "The baseball and the memories it carries related to the 1988 World Series can be shared with all of the fans of the game."

Alex Coffey is the Communications Specialist at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

WE DID IT!

SPORTS TRAVEL AND TOURS DEVELOPED A PROGRAM For fans that attend games at all 30 big league Ballparks on baseball road trips.

"We hear from avid baseball fans all the time that their dream is to see a game in every stadium," said Jay Smith, President of Sports Travel and Tours (STAT). "The National Baseball Hall of Fame agreed to help us honor these special fans after they complete their journey."

STAT travelers receive a custom Passport to Baseball and a "stamp" for each ballpark visited. Once a fan visits all 30 ballparks, they are eligible to be inducted into the Sports Travel and Tours Baseball Stadium Hall of Fame and can finally say 'We did it! We visited every ballpark.'

"We were delighted to go into the STAT Baseball Stadium Hall of Fame, and to be honest, we feel that this journey has been just as fun and exciting as the final destination was. We enjoyed all the trips and working our way through all the stadiums to this Hall of Fame," said Angelo Volpe who along with his wife Jennette completed their stadium list with an independent trip to Washington, DC. "Since our induction, we continue to take baseball trips with Sports Travel and Tours" added Volpe. "We were extremely excited about the number of Inductees for the most recent class," said Smith. "Looking ahead, there are several fans who are knocking on the STAT Baseball Stadium Hall of Fame's door, needing only two or three stadium visits to complete this feat."

Sports Travel and Tours is currently planning the next STAT Baseball Stadium Hall of Fame class of Inductees to be honored in 2021. To find out more about Sports Travel and Tours, visit sportstravelandtours.com/NBHOF or call 888-310-HALL.



"We did it!" Sports Travel and Tours Baseball Stadium Hall of Famers were honored in Cooperstown.



VISIT SPORTSTRAVELANDTOURS.COM/NBHOF OR CALL 888-310-HALL (4255) TODAY!





EXPERIENCE BASEBALL IN A WHOLE NEW WAY

Travel relaxed and hassle-free, knowing all your arrangements have been made for you by professional travel specialists. Check out these fantastic upcoming programs:

- Cooperstown Trips for Classic & Hall of Fame Weekend
- Baseball Road Trips across the United States
- Cuban Baseball Experience
- Spring Training Cruise
- Southwest / Spring Training Tour
- Short Stop Weekend Baseball Getaways
- Flexible Independent Travel Packages

t the July 11 All-Star Game in Miami, Latin-American Hall of Famers threw out the ceremonial first pitch at Marlins Park.

From left, Iván Rodríguez, Pedro Martinez, Roberto Alomar, Tony Pérez, Orlando Cepeda, Rod Carew and Juan Marichal are joined by members of the Clemente family - Roberto Clemente Jr. and Luis Clemente flank Vera Clemente, the widow of Roberto Clemente, the widow of Roberto Clemente, as they watch Roberto Enrique Clemente throw out a pitch. The catchers are (from left) All-Stars Francisco Lindor, Yonder Alonso, Carlos Correa and Marcell Ozuna.

With the induction of Rodríguez this summer, there are now 12 native Latin Americans with plaques in Cooperstown.







Sour 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

Ty Cobb's glove

Ty Cobb's glove that he used in 1912 while playing for the Detroit Tigers is undergoing much needed conservation work, thanks to a generous gift from former Tigers executive and retired Hall of Fame senior vice president Bill Haase.

Photos to be digitally preserved

Thanks to a number of generous donors, photographs of several Hall of Fame members and other former major leaguers will be digitally preserved and added to the PASTIME online collections database at collection.baseballhall.org. They include:



- Nellie Fox Thanks to a gift from Michealene M. Redemske in memory of her father, Joe Eichman;
- Steve Garvey Thanks to a gift from John Boggs and Mike Mantle;
- Tony Gwynn Thanks to a gift from John Boggs and Mike Mantle;
- Willie Keeler Thanks to a gift from Paul Lester, who also funded the digital preservation of photos of Buck Ewing and Eddie Collins;
- **Sandy Koufax** Thanks to a gift from Mike Mantle;
- Candy Cummings and Old Hoss Radbourn – Thanks to a gift from Phil Arem;
- Jimmie Foxx Thanks to a gift from Gail Sacharczuk;
- Red Faber Thanks to a gift from Luke Faber;
- Mike Krukow Thanks to a gift from Jon Monett;



• **Bing Miller** – Thanks to a gift from Charles Young.

Additionally, Steven Rothchild has made a gift toward the digital preservation of photos of both Lou Gehrig and Ross Youngs.

WHAT YOU CAN HELP US DO

"Cool Papa" Bell spikes

Conservation work is needed on shoes that were worn by James "Cool Papa" Bell during his career and donated by him in 1974 (the year of his election into the Baseball Hall of Fame).

Known for his legendary speed, Bell, who played from 1922 until 1946, may well have been the fastest man ever to play the game of baseball.

The shoes are in need of some reshaping and structural improvements. *Estimated conservation cost: \$2,250*

Digitally preserve historic photos of the Hall of Fame Classes of 1942, 1944 and 1945

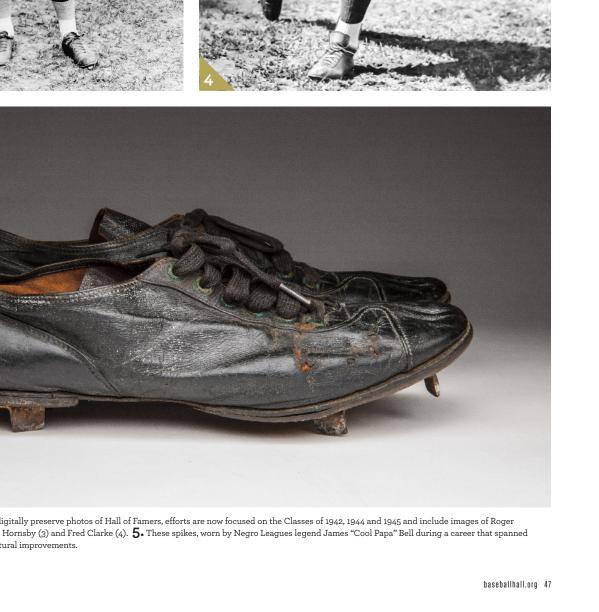
We need your help to continue our work to digitally preserve the Museum's photo collection, which contains more than 250,000 images. You can help us to preserve the images of the classes of 1942, 1944 and 1945.

Cost to digitally preserve images of:

Class of 1942

<i>Rogers Hornsby (370 images):\$1,930</i>
Class of 1944
Kenesaw Mountain Landis (154 images):\$860
Class of 1945
Roger Bresnahan (28 images):\$150
Dan Brouthers (13 images):\$85
Fred Clarke (25 images):\$125
James Collins (6 images):\$30
Ed Delahanty (1 images):\$5
<i>Hugh Duffy (17 images):</i> \$85
Hughie Jennings (38 images):\$200
<i>King Kelly (5 images):\$25</i>
James O'Rourke (8 images):\$40
Wilbert Robinson (40 images):\$200
Cost to digitally preserve all 705 images: \$3,735

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 bashe@baseballhall.org.



1.-4. As part of the Museum's efforts to digitally preserve photos of Hall of Famers, efforts are now focused on the Classes of 1942, 1944 and 1945 and include images of Roger Bresnahan (1), Hughie Jennings (2), Rogers Hornsby (3) and Fred Clarke (4). 5. These spikes, worn by Negro Leagues legend James "Cool Papa" Bell during a career that spanned 25 years, are in need of reshaping and structural improvements.

MAZ'S WORLD A World Series hero reflects on his trips to the Fall Classic.

BY BILL MAZEROSKI

hen you live your dream and hit a home run to win the World Series, that's pretty special. That's

something every Little League player dreams about doing.

I got to live that dream.

I was lucky to be a part of two World Series winners with the Pirates, but it's pretty hard to match what happened in 1960. Still, I was fortunate to play the whole Series in 1960 and then a little in 1971. It's the greatest stage there is in baseball. I remember when we knew that we had a chance to win the pennant in 1960. It seemed like we were about five games up on the rest of the National League all year, and that's the lead we had on St. Louis going into a five-game series against them on Aug. 11. We knew that if the Cardinals swept us, we'd be tied.

Well, they beat us in the first two games to get within three. But then we won the last three. That was the point when we realized we could win, because we did what we had to do.

So we made it to the World Series against the Yankees, and we said: "We're here, and we deserve to be here."



Bill Mazeroski won two World Series titles with the Pirates, and ended the 1960 Series with a walk-off home run in Game 7.

There were no nerves or anything like that. And when we won the first game, 6-4, we knew we could beat those guys.

Of course, when they wiped us out in Games 2 and 3 (by a combined score of 26-3), we began to wonder. But then we won the next two and knew that all we had to do was win one more game.

We lost Game 6 in another blowout (12-0), but I've always thought it was better to get blown out than to lose 3-2 or 5-4. When a team scores a lot of runs, it seems like the next day they don't score a lot of runs. Of course, we never scored a lot of runs in that series until Game 7.

It was back and forth the entire game. But when I hit the home run in the bottom of the ninth to win it, all I could think while I was rounding the bases was: "We beat the Yankees. We beat the great Yankees!"

I don't think I touched the ground all the way to home plate.

After the game, my wife and I went to a park in (a Pittsburgh neighborhood called) Squirrel Hill and nobody was there. Everyone else was going downtown to celebrate. It was still daylight, maybe 6 p.m. We were just sitting there, relaxing. And then we went home.

You know, I drove in the winning run with a home run in the first game, and I hit a two-run double in the fifth game that scored the winning run. Nobody remembers those, though.

By 1971, I wasn't a regular player and it wasn't quite the same. But winning the World Series is very hard. In 1971, it was Roberto Clemente's turn. He had a great World Series that year.

As time goes on, those World Series mean more and more to me, and I know the guys playing in it this year will be thrilled. When you're there, you realize that there are some players who never get the chance to experience it.

And if you've never played in the World Series, you've missed something. **(**

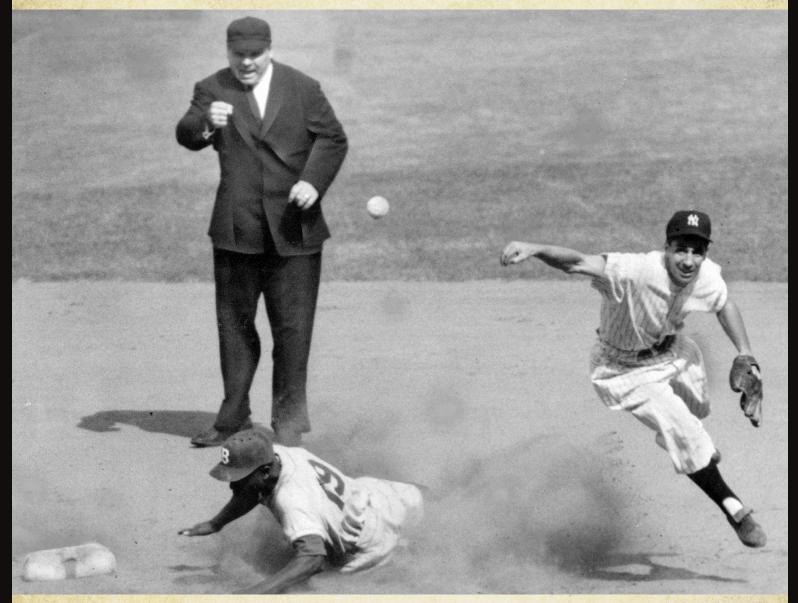
Bill Mazeroski was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2001.

THE PASTIME ONLINE COLLECTION

The team in Cooperstown is working to digitally preserve the Museum and Library collections. Artifacts, photographs, documents and audio and video recordings are regularly added to the PASTIME digital collection.

Visit

collection.baseballhall.org



PASTIME includes images like this one of Yankees shortstop Phil Rizzuto, seen turning a double play after forcing out Brooklyn's Jim Gilliam during Game 1 of the 1955 World Series. The umpire is Jim Honochick.

 \Box

To purchase an archival quality print of this image, please call (607) 547-0375. Hall of Fame Members receive a 10-percent discount.



National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum 25 Main Street Cooperstown, NY 13326



AROUND COOPERSTOWN

cooperstowngetaway.org

Rachel Robinson addresses the crowd at the July 29 *Awards Presentation* after receiving the Museum's Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award.