



# NEWS

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM, INC.

25 Main Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326-0590

Phone: (607) 547-0215 Fax: (607)547-2044

Website Address – [baseballhall.org](http://baseballhall.org)

E-Mail – [info@baseballhall.org](mailto:info@baseballhall.org)

Jon Shestakofsky, Vice President, Communications & Education

Craig Muder, Communications Director

PRESERVING HISTORY. HONORING EXCELLENCE. CONNECTING GENERATIONS.

## AROUND THE HORN

### *Opening Day Edition*

*News & Notes from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum*

March 28, 2018

volume 25, issue 4

### HALL OF FAME CLASSIC

Six Hall of Fame legends will be joined by a roster of 30 former major league players for the Hall of Fame Classic on Saturday, May 26 at Cooperstown's historic Doubleday Field... The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Classic, presented by Ford Motor Company, highlights a weekend of family entertainment programs designed to celebrate the timeless connection of baseball across generations... Recently retired players representing each of the 30 major league clubs are expected to join the roster and participate in the Classic – a seven-inning legends game – and weekend events... The Classic will feature the pre-game Home Run Derby at 12 p.m., while the first pitch of the game is slated for 1:05 p.m... Hall of Famers Rollie Fingers, Randy Johnson, Phil Niekro, Tim Lincecum and Ozzie Smith return as managers and coaches for the event... Players already committed to the Classic include Clint Barmes (Rockies), Michael Barrett (Nationals), Chris Gomez (Padres), Kevin Gross (Dodgers), Jeremy Guthrie (Royals), Terrence Long (Athletics), John McDonald (Indians), Craig Monroe (Tigers), Augie Ojeda (Diamondbacks), Juan Pierre (Marlins), A.J. Pierzynski (White Sox), Nick Punto (Twins), Kerry Robinson (Cardinals), Ryan Rowland-Smith (Mariners), Andy Sonnanstine (Rays), Shane Victorino (Phillies), Jack Wilson (Pirates), Steve Woodard (Brewers) and Todd Zeile (Mets)... **Tickets for the 2018 Hall of Fame Classic are on sale now at [baseballhall.org](http://baseballhall.org) or by calling 1-877-726-9028**... Tickets also remain for several other Hall of Fame Classic Weekend events including: The Museum's BASE Race, celebrating healthy living, on the morning of May 26, with the 10K race beginning at 9 a.m. and the 5K race starting at 9:15 a.m.; a bubble-gum blowing contest featuring Big League Chew during the Classic; and the Cooperstown Classic Clinic on Friday, May 25 from 4-7 p.m. at Doubleday Field for young fans ages 7-12... Tickets for the Classic are \$12.50 for infield seats, \$11 for outfield seats... For more info, visit [baseballhall.org/hofclassic](http://baseballhall.org/hofclassic).

**CLASSIC CREDENTIALS:** Credential applications for the Hall of Fame Classic will be available starting April 2 at [credentials.mlb.com](http://credentials.mlb.com)... For more media information on the Hall of Fame Classic, please visit [baseballhall.org/media-info](http://baseballhall.org/media-info).

**GOLF CLASSIC:** The Hall of Fame is giving fans yet another reason to return to baseball's home as the Museum presents the ninth annual Hall of Fame Classic Weekend Golf Tournament... Hall of Fame legends participating in the Classic will team up with fans for an experience of a lifetime at picturesque Leatherstocking Golf Course in Cooperstown on Sunday, May 27 – the day after the annual Hall of Fame Classic at Doubleday Field... A perfect gift or a chance to play with your favorite foursome, the Hall of Fame Classic Weekend Golf Tournament will feature a scramble format comprised of only 24 golfers... A fundraiser for the Museum, the tournament will be played on the same course Hall of Famers play during Induction Weekend... The festivities begin Friday night, with an exclusive cocktail reception in the Hall of Fame Gallery, featuring your chance to meet the Hall of Famers... A behind-the-scenes archival tour follows, taking you into the heart of the Museum's collections... On Sunday morning, a private breakfast precedes the tournament... All golfers will get the chance to golf with a Hall of Fame member... Each golfer also receives a Hall of Fame goodie bag, a golf shirt and a foursome photo along with two Grandstand seats for Saturday's Hall of Fame Classic... An awards luncheon concludes the event... For more information, call 607-547-0310.

**FROM CLASSIC TO INDUCTION:** Four future Hall of Famers have played in the Classic since the inaugural game in 2009... Pedro Martínez (Class of 2015), Iván Rodríguez (Class of 2017) and Jim Thome (Class of 2018) each played in the 2014 Classic, while Alan Trammell (Class of 2018) appeared in the 2016 Classic.

**NINE LIVES:** In the inaugural Hall of Fame Classic in 2009, 90-year-old Bob Feller started on the mound and led his team to a 5-4 victory...Former all-time saves leader Lee Smith picked up the win in relief...In the second Hall of Fame Classic in 2010, Mark Whiten hit two home runs to lead Team Feller past Team Killebrew 9-0...The third Hall of Fame Classic in 2011 featured an 8-6 win by Team Knucksie over Team Smith, powered by the Bob Feller Player of the Game performance by Dmitri Young...The 2012 Hall of Fame Classic resulted in a 5-4 win by Team Knucksie over Team Smith as Desi Relaford took home the Bob Feller Player of the Game Award...The 2013 Hall of Fame Classic legends game was canceled due to inclement weather...Hideki Matsui, Jack Wilson and Iván Rodríguez homered as rain brought the end to the 2014 Classic in a 4-4 tie between the Knucksies and the Wizards...In 2015, Aaron Rowand's two-run homer and Brady Anderson's two-run double led the Knucksies to a come-from-behind 7-5 victory...In 2016, Melvin Mora homered twice to lead the Knucksies to a 5-4 victory...And in last year's ninth annual Classic, Rowand became the first two-time winner of the Bob Feller Player of the Game Award by notching three hits in the Wizards' 5-1 win – the Wizards' first victory of the series.

## NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Following the Hall of Fame Classic on Saturday, May 26, the Hall of Fame will reprise its *Night at the Museum* program, now in its sixth season...Hall of Fame legends and former players will greet fans throughout the Museum on Saturday evening beginning at 6 p.m. Legends participants will canvass the Museum during the course of a two-hour event that will bring the Museum to life with special programs and interactions...While the *Night at the Museum* program is not an autograph session, fans should remember to bring their camera to capture their special family memories...This event is sold out.

## BASE RACE RETURNS TO CLASSIC WEEKEND

The Hall of Fame's popular BASE Race returns for a Memorial Day Weekend date as part of Hall of Fame Classic Weekend festivities...The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, along with Cooperstown's Clark Sports Center, will present the seventh annual BASE Race charity runs – a 5k fun run and competitive 10k events – on Saturday, May 26, starting and ending at historic Doubleday Field...The race events benefit the Museum's "Be A Superior Example" program promoting healthy lifestyle choices for individuals of all ages...Fans are encouraged to support their favorite major league team as part of the 2018 BASE Race, as selected former major league players are expected to be a part of the race activities, as the lead-off event to a full day of programming for the Hall of Fame Classic on May 26...Registration for the 2018 BASE Race is \$25 and \$55 for families...Signups are now being accepted online at [baserace.itsyourrace.com](http://baserace.itsyourrace.com)...Each registered runner will receive a race medal (for the first 300 runners to register), goodie bag and a free general admission ticket to the Hall of Fame Classic...On race day, registration will be \$30 for individuals and \$65 for families...Additional details are available by calling the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum at 607-547-0329 or the Clark Sports Center at 607-547-2800.

## HALL OF FAMERS ON OPENING DAY

Future Hall of Famers have left their mark on Opening Day throughout the years...Some of the highlights include:

**April 11, 1907:** The Giants' Roger Bresnahan played the game against Philadelphia wearing leg guards usually used in cricket, believed to be the first shin guards in major league history. The leg guards came in handy, protecting Bresnahan from a fifth-inning foul tip. Other catchers would follow Bresnahan's lead and wear similar shin guards.

**April 14, 1910:** William Howard Taft became the first U.S. President to throw out a ceremonial first pitch on Opening Day. Attending the game in Washington, D.C., President Taft tossed the first ball to future Hall of Famer Walter Johnson and that ball now resides in Cooperstown.

**April 11, 1917:** Boston's Babe Ruth pitched a three-hitter in shutting down the Yankees on Opening Day. Ruth's performance marked the start of good things to come: He would win 24 games in 1917, while leading the American League with 35 complete games.

**April 16, 1940:** Cleveland's Bob Feller hurled the first and only Opening Day no-hitter in major league history. Feller out-dueled Edgar Smith of the Chicago White Sox in winning a 1-0 decision at Comiskey Park. In the ninth inning, White Sox star Luke Appling drew a two-out walk after a 10-pitch at-bat. But Feller retired the next batter, Chicago's Taffy Wright, to end the game. The contest marks the only known game in big league history where one team's players all ended the game with the same batting average that they started: The White Sox all began and ended the day with batting averages of .000.

**April 15, 1947:** Jackie Robinson made a historic debut for the Brooklyn Dodgers, becoming the first African American to play Major League Baseball in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Robinson went 0-for-3 in his debut but scored a run and flawlessly handled 11 chances at first base against the Boston Braves.

**April 11, 1959:** The Dodgers' Don Drysdale hit his first Opening Day home run, accounting for the Dodgers' only run in a 6-1 loss to the Chicago Cubs. Drysdale would later homer on Opening Day in 1965 against the Mets, becoming the only pitcher to hit more than one career homer in Opening Day games.

**April 6, 1971:** Willie Mays of the San Francisco Giants blasted a home run on Opening Day, marking the start of a historic streak. The 39-year-old Mays would hit home runs in each of the Giants' first four games, setting a major league record.

**April 4, 1974:** Atlanta Braves slugger Hank Aaron blasted a historic three-run home run against Reds pitcher Jack Billingham. The home run, coming at Riverfront Stadium, was the 714<sup>th</sup> of Aaron's career, tying him with the legendary Babe Ruth for the most home runs in major league history. Four days later, Aaron would break Ruth's long-standing record by hitting a home run against Al Downing of the Los Angeles Dodgers.

**April 8, 1975:** Frank Robinson of the Cleveland Indians became the first African-American manager in the history of the major leagues, making his managerial debut at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium. Robinson not only guided the Indians to a 5-3 victory over the New York Yankees, but also hit the 575<sup>th</sup> home run of his illustrious career.

**April 5, 1983:** Tom Seaver made his first appearance for the New York Mets since 1977 and matched an Opening Day record in the process. For Seaver, it was his 14<sup>th</sup> Opening Day assignment, tying the then-major league record set by Walter Johnson. Seaver, who would go on to extend his record to 16 Opening Day starts, defeated the Philadelphia Phillies, 2-0, at Shea Stadium.

**April 6, 1993:** Jack Morris of the Blue Jays made his 14<sup>th</sup> straight Opening Day start to set an American League record. From 1980-93, Morris' 14 assignments on Opening Day are five more than any other pitcher in that span and include five complete games.

**March 31, 1996:** Randy Johnson struck out 14 White Sox batters in seven innings as the Mariners defeated Chicago 3-2 in 12 innings in the first Opening Day game to be held in the month of March.

**April 3, 2000:** Vladimir Guerrero hit two home runs and drove in all four runs in Montreal's 10-4 loss to the Dodgers.

**April 2, 2001:** Padres outfielder Tony Gwynn collected his 3,110<sup>th</sup> hit, tying him with Dave Winfield on the all-time list. With his appearance in the game against the Giants, Gwynn became the fourth player in National League history to spend 20+ years while playing his entire career with one team. The others are: Mel Ott (1926-1947 Giants), Stan Musial (1941-1944, 1946-1963 Cardinals), and Willie Stargell (1962-1982 Pirates), with Craig Biggio (1988-2007 Astros) later joining that list.

## HALL OF FAME WEEKEND 2018

As baseball's newest stars are set to begin the 2018 season, the National Baseball Hall of Fame is prepping for the game's biggest annual celebration when six legends will be inducted as the Class of 2018 this July in Cooperstown...With the election of **Jack Morris** and **Alan Trammell** by the Modern Baseball Era Committee on Dec. 10 and **Vladimir Guerrero, Trevor Hoffman, Chipper Jones** and **Jim Thome** by the Baseball Writers' Association of America on Jan. 24, the Class of 2018 brings the total number of Hall of Famers to 323, including a record 77 living Hall of Famers...Guerrero, Hoffman, Jones, Morris, Thome and Trammell will be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at 1:30 p.m. ET on Sunday, July 29 live on MLB Network at the Clark Sports Center in Cooperstown...2018 Ford C. Frick Award winner **Bob Costas** and 2018 Spink Award winner **Sheldon Ocker** will be honored during Induction Weekend at the *Awards Presentation* on Saturday, July 28 at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown.

**HOF WEEKEND CREDENTIALS:** Hall of Fame Weekend 2018 will be held July 27-30 with the annual *Induction Ceremony* scheduled to take place on Sunday, July 29...The Weekend will feature the annual *Awards Presentation* at Doubleday Field on Saturday, July 28 at 4:30 p.m....The ninth annual Hall of Fame *Parade of Legends* will follow the *Awards Presentation* along Main Street...Ozzie Smith's *PLAY Ball* Museum fundraiser will be held on Friday, July 27...Class of 2018 members Vladimir Guerrero, Trevor Hoffman, Chipper Jones, Jack Morris, Jim Thome and Alan Trammell will be honored during the Induction Ceremony...Admission to the Ceremony is free and the ceremony will be broadcast live on MLB Network...Media credential applications for Hall of Fame Weekend will be accepted starting May 1 at [credentials.mlb.com](http://credentials.mlb.com)... For more information, please visit [baseballhall.org/media-info](http://baseballhall.org/media-info).

## CLASS OF 2018

**VLAD TO BE HERE:** Vladimir Guerrero played 16 seasons for the Expos, Angels, Rangers and Orioles, earning nine All-Star Game selections and winning the 2004 American League Most Valuable Player Award...An eight-time Silver Slugger Award winner for his work in right field and at designated hitter, Guerrero hit .300-or-better 13 times, drove in 100-or-more runs 10 times and topped the 30-home run mark in eight seasons...The owner of two 30 home run/30 stolen base seasons, Guerrero is one of only eight players in big league history to have at least a .318 career batting average and a .553 slugging percentage, a list that includes Joe DiMaggio, Jimmie Foxx, Lou Gehrig, Stan Musial, Babe Ruth and Ted Williams...Guerrero never struck out more than 95 times in any season, and of all the players in baseball history with at least 449 career home runs, only Stan Musial, Ted Williams, Lou Gehrig and Mel Ott struck out less frequently than Guerrero...Those five batters are the only players in MLB history with at least 400 home runs and fewer than 1,000 strikeouts.

**WHAT A RELIEF:** Trevor Hoffman pitched 18 seasons for the Marlins, Padres and Brewers, spending 16 seasons in San Diego...The first pitcher to reach both the 500-save and 600-save milestones, Hoffman ranks second in MLB history with 601 saves and second with 856 games finished...A seven-time All-Star who finished in the Top 10 of the NL Cy Young Award voting four times, Hoffman led the NL in saves twice and saved 40-or-more games nine times, tied with Mariano Rivera for the most such seasons all time...Ranks seventh all-time – and first among relief pitchers – with a career average of 6.989 hits per nine innings pitched...His career WHIP of 1.058 ranks ninth all-time and fifth all-time among pitchers whose careers started after 1920.

**PUSHING IN ALL THE CHIPS:** Chipper Jones played 19 seasons, all for the Atlanta Braves, including 13 years where the Braves made the postseason...The first overall pick in the 1990 MLB Draft, Jones becomes the second No. 1-overall selection to earn Hall of Fame election, following Ken Griffey Jr. in 2016...An eight-time All-Star and the 1999 NL Most Valuable Player, Jones topped the 100-RBI mark nine times and had eight seasons with at least 100 runs scored...Among players who appeared in at least half their games at third base, Jones is the only major leaguer to record at least 1,600 RBI and score at least 1,600 runs... His 1,623 RBI are the most of any player whose primary position was third base...As a rookie in 1995, led the Braves to the World Series title...One of only nine players in big league history with at least 400 home runs, a .300 batting average, a .400 on-base percentage and a .500 slugging percentage, along with Jimmie Foxx, Lou Gehrig, Mel Ott, Stan Musial, Manny Ramirez, Babe Ruth, Frank Thomas and Ted Williams.

**JACK IN THE BOX:** Jack Morris pitched 18 seasons for the Tigers, Twins, Blue Jays and Indians, earning 14 Opening Day starts and four World Series rings...A five-time All-Star, Morris finished in the Top 5 of his league's Cy Young Award voting five times and led all pitchers in the 1980s with 2,444.2 innings pitched and 162 wins and all American League pitchers in strikeouts with 1,629...Among pitchers whose careers began after 1976, Morris recorded the most complete games with 175...In Game 7 of the 1991 World Series for the Twins, Morris pitched 10 shutout innings, earning the victory in the bottom of the 10<sup>th</sup> when Gene Larkin's single drove home Dan Gladden with the winning run...Morris was named the MVP after going 2-0 with a 1.17 ERA in three starts against the Braves.

**JIM'S GEMS:** Jim Thome played 22 seasons for the Indians, Phillies, White Sox, Dodgers, Twins and Orioles...One of nine members of the 600-home run club, Thome's 612 long balls rank eighth on the all-time list, and his 1,747 walks rank No. 7 all-time...Thome recorded 100-or-more RBI nine times and scored 100-or-more runs in eight seasons...Thome, who ranks fifth all-time in at bats per home run with a mark of 13.76, began his career as a third baseman before moving to first base...A five-time All-Star, Thome led the league in walks three times and in homers once...He is one of only five players in big league history – along with Barry Bonds, Mel Ott, Babe Ruth and Ted Williams – with at least 500 home runs, 1,500 runs scored, 1,600 RBI and 1,700 walks...Thome's six seasons with at least 40 home runs, 100 RBI, and 100 walks rank third all-time behind only Babe Ruth (10) and Barry Bonds (6) and his nine seasons with at least 30 home runs and 100 walks are tied with Lou Gehrig for third most all-time behind only Bonds and Ruth with 11 11 such seasons each...Thome recorded at least 30 home runs, 100 RBI, and 100 walks in six straight seasons from 1999-2004, joining Jeff Bagwell (1996-2001) as the only players to post six straight such seasons.

**TRAM'S TIME:** Alan Trammell played 20 seasons for the Tigers, earning six All-Star Game selections, four Gold Glove Awards and three Silver Slugger Awards at shortstop...A seven-time .300 hitter, Trammell scored 100-or-more runs three times, topped the 30-double mark six times and stole 20-or-more bases three times...His 2,139 games at shortstop rank 11<sup>th</sup> on the all-time list, and his .977 fielding percentage ranks sixth among shortstops with at least 2,000 games played...The clubhouse leader of the 1984 Tigers that won the World Series title, Trammell was named the Fall Classic MVP after hitting .450 with two homers and six RBI in Detroit's five-game victory...In 1987, Trammell – batting out of the cleanup spot – hit .343 with 28 home runs and 105 RBI, the first season by a shortstop in history with at least a .340 batting average, 25 homers and 100 RBI.

## VOTING RECAP

**THE 2018 BALLOT:** The BBWAA ballot featured 33 players, including 19 new candidates and 14 returnees...Candidates appearing on the necessary 75 percent of all ballots cast to earn election appear in bold below...Candidates receiving less than five percent of the vote are no longer eligible for BBWAA consideration and appear in italics below...Fifteen players will return for consideration in 2018...A total of 422 votes were cast, with 317 votes necessary for election and 21 votes necessary to remain on the ballot...Chipper Jones and Jim Thome became the 53<sup>rd</sup> and 54<sup>th</sup> players elected to the Hall on their first BBWAA ballot...The final results, in order of percentage received with number of years on the ballot:

NAME	YR	2018	NAME	YR	2018	NAME	YR	2018
<b>Chipper Jones</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>97.2%</b>	Fred McGriff	9	23.2%	<i>Hideki Matsui</i>	1	0.9%
<b>Vladimir Guerrero</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>92.9%</b>	Manny Ramirez	2	22.0%	<i>Chris Carpenter</i>	1	0.5%
<b>Jim Thome</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>89.8%</b>	Jeff Kent	5	14.5%	<i>Kerry Wood</i>	1	0.5%
<b>Trevor Hoffman</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>79.9%</b>	Gary Sheffield	4	11.1%	<i>Livan Hernandez</i>	1	0.2%
Edgar Martinez	9	70.4%	Billy Wagner	3	11.1%	<i>Carlos Lee</i>	1	0.2%
Mike Mussina	5	63.5%	Scott Rolen	1	10.2%	<i>Orlando Hudson</i>	1	0.0%
Roger Clemens	6	57.3%	Sammy Sosa	6	7.8%	<i>Aubrey Huff</i>	1	0.0%
Barry Bonds	6	56.4%	Andruw Jones	1	7.3%	<i>Jason Istringhausen</i>	1	0.0%
Curt Schilling	5	51.2%	<i>Jamie Moyer</i>	1	2.4%	<i>Brad Lidge</i>	1	0.0%
Omar Vizquel	1	37.0%	<i>Johan Santana</i>	1	2.4%	<i>Kevin Millwood</i>	1	0.0%
Larry Walker	8	34.1%	<i>Johnny Damon</i>	1	1.9%	<i>Carlos Zambrano</i>	1	0.0%

**THE VOTING ELECTORATE:** Of the 436 Hall of Fame ballots distributed to BBWAA voters for the 2018 election, 422 (96.8 percent) were returned...The most ballots ever cast in one BBWAA Hall of Fame election came in 2011 with 581...Voting privileges are extended to those BBWAA members meeting their organization’s Hall of Fame voting qualifications and in good standing with the BBWAA...Voters can select from zero to 10 names on their Hall of Fame ballot...Votes on 75 percent of all ballots cast are necessary for election.

**CAREFUL SELECTION:** 2018 marked the 74<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame election held by the BBWAA...Starting in 1936, the BBWAA has elected someone 66 times and on eight occasions it did not elect anyone (1945, 1946, 1950, 1958, 1960, 1971, 1996, 2013)...On nine occasions, no election was held (1940, 1941, 1943, 1944, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965)...The BBWAA membership has elected from zero to five candidates in each of its 74 elections...As quantified in the chart below, the BBWAA has voted in either one or two players more than any other quantity (26 times).

ELECTED	TIMES	LAST	CLASS
5	1	1936	Cobb, Johnson, Mathewson, Ruth, Wagner
4	4	2018	Guerrero, Hoffman, Jones, Thome
3	9	2017	Bagwell, Raines, Rodríguez
2	26	2016	Griffey Jr., Piazza
1	26	2012	Larkin
0	8	2013	----

**FIVE AND SEVENTY:** Five players on the 2018 BBWAA ballot received at least 70 percent of the vote: Chipper Jones, Vladimir Guerrero, Jim Thome, Trevor Hoffman and Edgar Martinez, tying the mark for the most in BBWAA election history...Only three times previously has a BBWAA election resulted in five candidates reaching the 70-percent mark: 2017 (when Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines, Iván Rodríguez were elected and Trevor Hoffman-74.0% and Vladimir Guerrero-71.7% cleared the 70 percent mark), 1947 (when Carl Hubbell, Frankie Frisch, Mickey Cochrane and Lefty Grove were elected and Pie Traynor received 73.9 percent of the vote) and the inaugural election of 1936 (when Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Honus Wagner, Christy Mathewson and Walter Johnson were all elected).

**SIX MILLION DOLLAR MEN:** The election of Vladimir Guerrero, Trevor Hoffman, Chipper Jones, Jack Morris, Jim Thome and Alan Trammell to the Class of 2018 marks the first time since 1971 that at least six former big league players were elected in one year...In 1971, former big leaguers Dave Bancroft, Jake Beckley, Chick Hafey, Harry Hooper, Joe Kelley and Rube Marquard were elected by the Veterans Committee, while Satchel Paige – who pitched in the big leagues following a stellar career in the Negro Leagues – was elected by the Committee on Negro Baseball Leagues.

**SWEET 16:** With the election of Vladimir Guerrero, Trevor Hoffman, Chipper Jones and Jim Thome, the BBWAA has elected at least two Hall of Fame candidates in five straight years and a total of 16 candidates during that time...No five-year period in history has resulted in as many BBWAA electees, with the previous high of 13 coming in the five-year period from 1952-56...That was also the last time the BBWAA elected at least two candidates five years in a row.

**LIVING HISTORY:** With six living electees in the Class of 2018, there have been 23 living Hall of Famers elected in the last five years, more than any other five-year period in Hall of Fame history...The previous record for most living Hall of Famers in any five-year period was 20 from 1969-73.

**54 AT FIRST:** The election of Chipper Jones and Jim Thome brings the total of first-year BBWAA inductees to 54 and marks the fifth straight year with at least one first-ballot inductee, the first such stretch since a run of five straight years from 2001-05.

**NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE:** A partial list of eligible first-time players for upcoming Hall of Fame elections includes: **2019:** Roy Halladay, Todd Helton, Andy Pettitte, Mariano Rivera; **2020:** Derek Jeter, Paul Konerko, Alfonso Soriano; **2021:** Tim Hudson, Torii Hunter, Aramis Ramirez, Barry Zito; **2022:** Prince Fielder, David Ortiz, Alex Rodriguez, Mark Teixeira; **2023:** Carlos Beltrán.

**RULES FOR ELECTION:** Voting criteria for BBWAA electors can be found at <http://baseballhall.org/hall-famers/rules-election/bbwaa>... Voting rules state that: “Voting shall be based upon the player's record, playing ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character, and contributions to the team(s) on which the player played.”

**THE GAME’S ELITE:** The Hall of Fame is comprised of 323 elected members...Included are 226 former major league players, 30 executives, 35 Negro Leaguers, 22 managers and 10 umpires...The BBWAA has elected 128 candidates to the Hall while the veterans committees (in all forms) have chosen 169 deserving candidates (98 major leaguers, 30 executives, 22 managers, 10 umpires and nine Negro Leaguers)...The defunct “Committee on Negro Baseball Leagues” selected nine men between 1971-77 and the Special Committee on Negro Leagues in 2006 elected 17 Negro Leaguers...There are currently 77 living members, the most at any time in Hall of Fame history.

**77 AMBASSADORS:** The 77 living members of the Hall of Fame are: Henry Aaron, Roberto Alomar, Luis Aparicio, Jeff Bagwell, Johnny Bench, Craig Biggio, Bert Blyleven, Wade Boggs, George Brett, Lou Brock, Rod Carew, Steve Carlton, Orlando Cepeda, Bobby Cox, Andre Dawson, Dennis Eckersley, Rollie Fingers, Carlton Fisk, Whitey Ford, Bob Gibson, Pat Gillick, Tom Glavine, Goose Gosage, Ken Griffey Jr., Vladimir Guerrero, Rickey Henderson, Whitey Herzog, Trevor Hoffman, Reggie Jackson, Ferguson Jenkins, Randy Johnson, Chipper Jones, Al Kaline, Sandy Koufax, Barry Larkin, Tony La Russa, Tom Lasorda, Greg Maddux, Juan Marichal, Pedro Martínez, Willie Mays, Bill Mazerowski, Willie McCovey, Paul Molitor, Joe Morgan, Jack Morris, Eddie Murray, Phil Niekro, Jim Palmer, Tony Pérez, Gaylord Perry, Mike Piazza, Tim Lincecum, Jim Rice, Cal Ripken, Brooks Robinson, Frank Robinson, Iván Rodríguez, Nolan Ryan, Ryne Sandberg, Mike Schmidt, Red Schoendienst, John Schuerholz, Tom Seaver, Bud Selig, Ozzie Smith, John Smoltz, Bruce Sutter, Don Sutton, Frank Thomas, Jim Thome, Joe Torre, Alan Trammell, Billy Williams, Dave Winfield, Carl Yastrzemski and Robin Yount.

**CONNECTING GENERATIONS:** Red Schoendienst, born Feb. 2, 1923, is currently the oldest living Hall of Famer at 95...Vladimir Guerrero, who was born on Feb. 9, 1975, is the youngest living Hall of Famer at 43 years of age.

**BETWEEN THE LINES:** Including Negro League players, the following is a breakdown by position of the 261 Hall of Famers who earned their election on the playing field...Also included is the last major leaguer to be elected at each position...Numbers in parenthesis indicate Hall of Famers elected by the BBWAA at each position.

<b>Pitchers</b> ..... 79 (42)	<b>Second Baseman</b> ..21 (11)	<b>Left Fielders</b> .....22 (12)
<b>Catchers</b> ..... 18 (10)	<b>Third Baseman</b> ..... 17 (7)	<b>Center Fielders</b> .....24 (8)
<b>First Baseman</b> ..... 23 (11)	<b>Shortstops</b> .....25 (11)	<b>Right Fielders</b> .....25 (14)
<b>Designated Hitter</b> .... 1 (1)		

PITCHER: Hoffman, Morris (2018)  
 CATCHER: Rodríguez (2017)  
 FIRST BASE: Thome (2018)

DH: Thomas (2014)  
 SECOND BASE: Biggio (2015)  
 THIRD BASE: Jones (2018)  
 SHORTSTOP: Trammell (2018)

LEFT FIELD: Raines (2017)  
 CENTER FIELD: Griffey Jr. (2016)  
 RIGHT FIELD: Guerrero (2018)

**FIRST THINGS FIRST:** With the election of Chipper Jones and Jim Thome, 54 players have now been elected in their first year of eligibility (16 pitchers, seven RF, six 3B, six LF, five CF, five SS, three 2B, three 1B, two catchers and one DH; position based on where electee played the majority of his big league games)...In 12 of the last 18 elections, at least one player has been elected in his first year of eligibility...Other than the inaugural Hall of Fame election, 1999, 2014 and 2015 are the only three years where as many as three first-year candidates were elected at once...NOTE: Lou Gehrig (who received votes in 1936 while active and then was elected by acclamation in 1939) and Roberto Clemente (by special election in 1973) were each elected through a non-traditional process and are not counted in the 54.

YEAR	NAME	YEAR	NAME	YEAR	NAME	YEAR	NAME
1936	Ty Cobb	1980	Al Kaline	1993	Reggie Jackson	2007	Tony Gwynn
1936	Honus Wagner	1981	Bob Gibson	1994	Steve Carlton	2009	Rickey Henderson
1936	Babe Ruth	1982	Hank Aaron	1995	Mike Schmidt	2014	Greg Maddux
1936	Christy Mathewson	1982	Frank Robinson	1999	Nolan Ryan	2014	Tom Glavine
1936	Walter Johnson	1983	Brooks Robinson	1999	George Brett	2014	Frank Thomas
1962	Jackie Robinson	1985	Lou Brock	1999	Robin Yount	2015	Randy Johnson
1962	Bob Feller	1986	Willie McCovey	2001	Kirby Puckett	2015	Pedro Martínez
1966	Ted Williams	1988	Willie Stargell	2001	Dave Winfield	2015	John Smoltz
1969	Stan Musial	1989	Johnny Bench	2002	Ozzie Smith	2016	Ken Griffey Jr.
1972	Sandy Koufax	1989	Carl Yastrzemski	2003	Eddie Murray	2017	Iván Rodríguez
1973	Warren Spahn	1990	Jim Palmer	2004	Dennis Eckersley	2018	Chipper Jones
1974	Mickey Mantle	1990	Joe Morgan	2004	Paul Molitor	2018	Jim Thome
1977	Ernie Banks	1991	Rod Carew	2005	Wade Boggs		
1979	Willie Mays	1992	Tom Seaver	2007	Cal Ripken		

**TRY AND TRY AGAIN:** The 72 men not elected by the BBWAA in their first year eligible were done so on a later ballot, taking from two to 16 elections...The length of time a player could stay on the BBWAA ballot has varied throughout history...From 1946-56, the rule was that a player must have been active at some point in the 25 years prior to the election – it was increased to 30 years from 1956-62, was 20 years from 1963-2014 and is now 15 years...When one walks through the Hall of Fame Gallery, though, the year or method by which players were elected are not noted...The 72 non-first year BBWAA electees: **2nd election** (Alomar, Berra, Fingers, Fisk, Ford, Guerrero, Lajoie, Speaker, Young); **3rd election** (Alexander, Biggio, Grove, Hoffman, Hubbell, Hunter, Jenkins, Larkin, Marichal, Ott, Perry, Sandberg); **4th election** (E.Collins, DiMaggio, Keeler, Killebrew, Piazza, Roberts, Sisler, Wynn); **5th election** (Campanella, Hornsby, Mathews, Niekro, Sutton); **6th election** (Aparicio, Carter, Cochrane, Frisch, Gehringer, P.Waner, B.Williams); **7th election** (Appling, Bagwell, Foxx); **8th election** (Pennock, Traynor, Wilhelm); **9th election** (Dawson, Gossage, Greenberg, Medwick, Perez); **10th election** (Boudreau, Cronin, Dickey, Drysdale, Lyons, Raines, Simmons); **11th election** (Snider); **12th election** (Dean, Hartnett, Heilmann, Lemon); **13th election** (Kiner, Sutter); **14th election** (Blyleven, Maranville, Terry); **15th election** (Rice, Ruffing); **16th election** (Vance).

**ONE-TEAM WONDERS:** There are 52 Hall of Famers who spent their entire career with one team, with 2018 electees Chipper Jones and Alan Trammell the most recent additions to this list...The list includes: Luke Appling, Jeff Bagwell, Ernie Banks, Johnny Bench, Craig Biggio, George Brett, Roy Campanella, Roberto Clemente, Earle Combs, Bill Dickey, Joe DiMaggio, Bobby Doerr, Don Drysdale, Red Faber, Bob Feller, Whitey Ford, Lou Gehrig, Charlie Gehringer, Bob Gibson, Tony Gwynn, Carl Hubbell, Travis Jackson, Walter Johnson, Chipper Jones, Addie Joss, Al Kaline, Sandy Koufax, Barry Larkin, Bob Lemon, Ted Lyons, Mickey Mantle, Bill Mazeroski, Bid McPhee, Stan Musial, Mel Ott, Jim Palmer, Kirby Puckett, Pee Wee Reese, Jim Rice, Cal Ripken, Phil Rizzuto, Brooks Robinson, Jackie Robinson, Mike Schmidt, Willie Stargell, Alan Trammell, Pie Traynor, Bill Terry, Ted Williams, Carl Yastrzemski, Ross Youngs and Robin Yount.

**NINE TENTHS OF THE LAW:** No individual has been elected to the Hall of Fame by the BBWAA as a unanimous choice, though there have been many close calls...Chipper Jones and Vladimir Guerrero became the 32<sup>nd</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> players to earn at least 90 percent in any one BBWAA election...Ken Griffey Jr., who received 99.32% of the vote in 2016, set a record for highest vote percentage received in a BBWAA election...The 33 players with at least 90% of votes cast in their favor:

YEAR	PLAYER	BALLOTS CAST	VOTES RECEIVED	% RECEIVED	OMITTED BALLOTS
2016	Ken Griffey Jr.	440	437	99.32%	3
1992	Tom Seaver	430	425	98.84%	5
1999	Nolan Ryan	497	491	98.79%	6
2007	Cal Ripken	545	537	98.53%	8
1936	Ty Cobb	226	222	98.23%	4
1999	George Brett	497	488	98.19%	9
1982	Hank Aaron	415	406	97.83%	9
2007	Tony Gwynn	545	532	97.60%	13
2015	Randy Johnson	549	534	97.27%	15
2014	Greg Maddux	571	555	97.20%	16
2018	Chipper Jones	422	410	97.16%	12
1995	Mike Schmidt	460	444	96.52%	16
1989	Johnny Bench	447	431	96.42%	16
1994	Steve Carlton	456	436	95.61%	20
1936	Honus Wagner	226	215	95.13%	11
1936	Babe Ruth	226	215	95.13%	11
2009	Rickey Henderson	539	511	94.81%	28
1979	Willie Mays	432	409	94.67%	23
1989	Carl Yastrzemski	447	423	94.63%	24
1962	Bob Feller	160	150	93.75%	10
1993	Reggie Jackson	423	396	93.62%	27
1966	Ted Williams	302	282	93.37%	20
1969	Stan Musial	340	317	93.23%	23
2018	Vladimir Guerrero	392	422	92.89%	30
1990	Jim Palmer	444	411	92.57%	33
1983	Brooks Robinson	374	344	91.97%	30
2014	Tom Glavine	571	525	91.94%	46
2005	Wade Boggs	516	474	91.86%	42
2002	Ozzie Smith	472	433	91.74%	39
2015	Pedro Martinez	549	500	91.07%	49
1936	Christy Mathewson	226	205	90.70%	21
1991	Rod Carew	443	401	90.50%	42
2011	Roberto Alomar	581	523	90.02%	58

## 2018 AWARD WINNERS

Bob Costas, winner of the 2018 Ford C. Frick Award for broadcasters, and Sheldon Ocker, the 2018 winner of the Baseball Writers' Association of America's J.G. Taylor Spink Award, will be honored at the 2018 Hall of Fame Awards Presentation on Saturday, July 28 at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown.

**BOB'S BOOTH:** Bob Costas, who has passionately and poignantly called games and narrated the baseball experience for four decades, has been selected as the 2018 recipient of the Ford C. Frick Award, presented annually for excellence in broadcasting by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum...Learning his trade at local stations while at Syracuse University, Costas graduated in 1974 and landed the play-by-play duties with the Spirits of St. Louis of the American Basketball Association on KMOX-AM...After handling regional NBA and NFL telecasts for CBS in the late 1970s, Costas moved to NBC in 1980...In 1982, Costas was paired with Sal Bando on the backup broadcast of NBC's Major League Baseball Game of the Week package, then teamed up with 2009 Ford Frick Award winner Tony Kubek in the same role from 1983-89...Along the way, Costas handled play-by-play of the American League Championship Series in 1983, 1985, 1987 and 1989 along with pregame duties at the All-Star Game those same years as well as pregame assignments at the World Series in 1982, 1984, 1986 and 1988...NBC and ABC formed The Baseball Network following CBS' handling of the MLB contract from 1990-93, and Costas worked the 1994 All-Star Game as well as the 1995 ALDS, ALCS and World Series for TBN...When TBN dissolved, Costas called the World Series for NBC in 1997 and 1999, the 1998 and 2000 ALCS, the 1999 NLCS and the 2000 All-Star Game...In 2009, Costas – a 28-time Emmy Award winner – returned to baseball when he joined the new MLB Network, where he has called games and served as a documentary host for nine seasons...Costas is the 42<sup>nd</sup> winner of the Frick Award.



**SHELL'S GAME:** Sheldon Ocker, who covered the Cleveland Indians for 33 seasons, was elected the 2018 winner of the J.G. Taylor Spink Award in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America...Ocker began covering the Indians for the *Akron Beacon Journal* after 10 years of covering the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers...He was one of only three Indians beat writers at the ABJ since 1930 and covered the team from 1981 through 2013...Ocker was national president of the BBWAA in 1985 and served as chair of the Cleveland Chapter 11 times...Ocker was named Ohio Sports Writer of the Year in 1997 and 2000 by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association...Ocker is the 69<sup>th</sup> winner of the Spink Award.

## MUSEUM NEWS FROM COOPERSTOWN

**ASTROS EXHIBIT OPENS IN AUTUMN GLORY:** The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's exhibit honoring the 2017 World Series champion Astros, which is part of the permanent *Autumn Glory* exhibit is now open and features artifacts, photographs and ephemera detailing the Astros' first-ever World Series title...Artifacts in the exhibit include:

- Glove used by Astros third baseman Alex Bregman throughout the series
- Orange road jersey worn by Astros pitcher Francisco Liriano in Game 7
- Cap worn by Game 7 winning pitcher Charlie Morton
- Road jersey worn in Game 6 by Justin Verlander
- Ball used in Game 7
- Helmet worn by Derek Fisher in Game 5 when he scored the winning run in the 10th inning
- On-deck circle bat weight used by Astros hitters throughout the World Series

Also included in the exhibit will be 2017 World Series tickets, press pins and a program, along with the following artifacts representing the National League champion Los Angeles Dodgers:

- Home jersey used by Chris Taylor in Game 2
- Road jersey worn by Joc Pederson in Game 4
- Cap and spikes worn by Brendan Morrow throughout the World Series when he became only the second pitcher to appear in each game of a seven-game World Series

Then in August, as the pennant races heat up, the symbol of the Astros' historic championship will come to Cooperstown...The Hall of Fame will host **Astros Weekend Aug. 4-5**, with the 2017 World Series Trophy on display at the Museum both days. Museum visitors will have the chance to relive the 2017 season and create new memories in Cooperstown, where artifacts of the Astros' World Series title will be preserved forever...The trophy will be on exhibit at the Museum from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 4 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 5.

## COOPERSTOWN CONNECTION

**VIP TREATMENT:** Fans have the opportunity to explore the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum through a special program designed to give Cooperstown visitors a Hall of Fame VIP Experience...The Museum has partnered with Cooperstown accommodations to offer this unique package, which includes behind-the-scenes experiences at the Museum...This special package is only available through participating accommodations...Your VIP Experience will begin with exclusive after-hours access to the Hall of Fame on Thursday evening and wrap up on Friday with a private reception...Upcoming dates include Sept. 6-7, Oct. 25-26 and Nov. 8-9...For more information, please visit [www.baseballhall.org/visit/vip-experience](http://www.baseballhall.org/visit/vip-experience) or call 607-547-0397.

**MUSEUM TEAMS UP WITH BIG LEAGUE CHEW FOR 'BEST BASEBALL DAY EVER':** Iconic bubble gum brand Big League Chew and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum are giving fans a chance to be a part of history...In 108 words or less (the number of stitches on a baseball), the duo wants to know about fans' "Best Baseball Day Ever" for a chance to win a trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown where the Hall of Fame's Class of 2018 will be formally inducted on July 29...The chosen finalist and up to three guests will receive round trip airfare and accommodations in Cooperstown from Friday, July 27, through Monday, July 30, as well as an Induction Weekend VIP Package which includes tickets to all public events...The winner and up to three guests will also receive a one year Hall of Fame Benefactor Membership and one \$250 gift certificate to the Baseball Hall of Fame store, terms and conditions apply...Contest details are available on select pouches of Big League Chew, as well as online at [www.bigleaguechew.com/essaycontest](http://www.bigleaguechew.com/essaycontest)...Entries close at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, May 1.

**TIME TO VISIT:** The Museum is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through Memorial Day Weekend, when summer hours begin...The Museum is open every day of the year, except for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day...Ticket prices are \$23 for adults (13 and over), \$15 for seniors (65 and over) and for those holding current memberships in the VFW, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and AMVets organizations, and \$12 for juniors (ages 7-12)...Members are always admitted free of charge and there is no charge for children 6 years of age or younger...For more information, visit our website at [baseballhall.org](http://baseballhall.org) or call 888-HALL-OF-FAME (888-425-5633) or 607-547-7200.