



NEWS

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AROUND THE HORN

BBWAA Election Edition

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

Jan. 13, 2017

volume 24, issue 1

ELECTION HEADQUARTERS

Induction Weekend 2017 at the Baseball Hall of Fame will be held July 28-31 in Cooperstown, with the Induction Ceremony scheduled for 1:30 p.m. ET on Sunday, July 30 at the Clark Sports Center...The Class of 2017 will feature longtime Braves general manager **John Schuerholz** and former MLB commissioner **Allan H. "Bud" Selig** along with any candidates who are elected by the Baseball Writers' Association of America...2017 Ford C. Frick Award winner **Bill King** and 2017 J.G. Taylor Spink Award winner **Claire Smith** will be honored during Induction Weekend at the *Awards Presentation* on Saturday, July 29 at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown.

CRUNCH TIME: 2017 Hall of Fame ballots have been returned to the BBWAA from eligible 10-year Baseball Writers' Association of America (BBWAA) members...Results will be announced **Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 6 p.m. ET**...MLB Network will air extensive coverage, interviews and analysis beginning at 3 p.m. ET, then televise the announcement live as Hall of Fame President Jeff Idelson delivers the results...The announcement will also be simulcast on **baseballhall.org** and **MLB.com**.

THE VOTING ELECTORATE: A total of 440 ballots were cast by BBWAA voters in 2016...A record 581 ballots were cast in the 2011 election...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.

CHANGE TO ELECTORATE: On July 28, 2015, the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors announced changes to the Baseball Writers' Association of America electorate for Hall of Fame voting...Hall of Fame voters must now meet requirements as active members who are still covering the game...A 10-year grace period will be provided for BBWAA members who are no longer active in baseball...BBWAA members previously holding Hall of Fame voting privileges who are no longer active in the game and are more than 10 years removed from active status will have the opportunity for annual reinstatement, based on their coverage of the game in the preceding year....This fall, approximately 450 ballots were mailed out to Hall of Fame voters.

CREDIT AN ASSIST: Thanks to the firm of Ernst and Young for its assistance in verifying the vote and the voting process, year-in and year-out.

THE 2017 BALLOT: The BBWAA ballot features 34 players, including 19 new candidates (in bold face in chart below) and 15 returnees... First-year candidates appearing on the 2017 ballot: Casey Blake, Pat Burrell, Orlando Cabrera, Mike Cameron, J.D. Drew, Carlos Guillen, Vladimir Guerrero, Derrek Lee, Melvin Mora, Magglio Ordonez, Jorge Posada, Manny Ramirez, Edgar Renteria, Arthur Rhodes, Ivan Rodriguez, Freddy Sanchez, Matt Stairs, Jason Varitek and Tim Wakefield ...In 2016, Ken Griffey Jr. (99.3 percent of the vote) and Mike Piazza (83.0%) earned election to the Hall of Fame...Alan Trammell received 40.9 percent of the vote in his final year of eligibility on the BBWAA ballot in 2016, while Mark McGwire received 12.3 percent of the vote in his final year of eligibility for the BBWAA ballot...Trammell will be eligible for consideration by the Modern Baseball Committee beginning in the fall of 2017, while McGwire was a finalist for the Today’s Game Era Committee in the fall of 2016...Jim Edmonds, Nomar Garciaparra, Mike Sweeney, Jason Kendall, David Eckstein, Garret Anderson, Troy Glaus, Randy Winn, Mark Grudzielanek, Brad Ausmus, Mike Hampton, Luis Castillo and Mike Lowell each received less than 5% of the vote in 2016 and are no longer eligible for consideration by the BBWAA...The 2017 candidates, the number of years on the ballot, and 2016 vote percentage:

NAME	YR	2016	NAME	YR	2016	NAME	YR	2016
Jeff Bagwell	7	71.6	Jeff Kent	4	16.6	Ivan Rodriguez	1	-
Casey Blake	1	-	Derrek Lee	1	-	Freddy Sanchez	1	-
Barry Bonds	5	44.3	Edgar Martinez	8	43.4	Curt Schilling	5	52.3
Pat Burrell	1	-	Fred McGriff	8	20.9	Gary Sheffield	3	11.6
Orlando Cabrera	1	-	Melvin Mora	1	-	Lee Smith	15	34.1
Mike Cameron	1	-	Mike Mussina	4	43.0	Sammy Sosa	5	7.0
Roger Clemens	5	45.2	Magglio Ordonez	1	-	Matt Stairs	1	-
J.D. Drew	1	-	Jorge Posada	1	-	Jason Varitek	1	-
Carlos Guillen	1	-	Tim Lincecum	10	69.8	Billy Wagner	2	10.5
Vladimir Guerrero	1	-	Manny Ramirez	1	-	Tim Wakefield	1	-
Trevor Hoffman	2	67.3	Edgar Renteria	1	-	Larry Walker	7	15.5
			Arthur Rhodes	1	-			

CAREFUL SELECTION: 2017 marks the 73rd Hall of Fame election held by the BBWAA...Starting in 1936, the BBWAA has elected someone 64 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 72 elections...As quantified in the chart below, the BBWAA has voted in one player or two players more than any other quantity (26 times apiece).

ELECTED	TIMES	LAST	CLASS
5	1	1936	Cobb, Johnson, Mathewson, Ruth, Wagner
4	3	2015	Biggio, Johnson, Martínez, Smoltz
3	8	2014	Glavine, Maddux, Thomas
2	26	2016	Griffey Jr., Piazza
1	26	2012	Larkin
0	8	2013	----

NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE: A partial list of eligible first-time players for upcoming Hall of Fame elections includes: **2018:** Chipper Jones, Jim Thome, Omar Vizquel; **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

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 314 elected members...Included are 217 former major league players, 30 executives, 35 Negro Leaguers, 22 managers and 10 umpires...The BBWAA has elected 121 candidates to the Hall while the veterans committees (in all forms) have chosen 167 deserving candidates (96 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 71 living members, the most at any time in Hall of Fame history.

71 AMBASSADORS: The 71 living members of the Hall of Fame are: Hank Aaron, Roberto Alomar, Luis Aparicio, Johnny Bench, Craig Biggio, Bert Blyleven, Wade Boggs, George Brett, Lou Brock, Jim Bunning, Rod Carew, Steve Carlton, Orlando Cepeda, Bobby Cox, Andre Dawson, Bobby Doerr, Dennis Eckersley, Rollie Fingers, Carlton Fisk, Whitey Ford, Bob Gibson, Pat Gillick, Tom Glavine, Goose Gossage, Ken Griffey Jr., Doug Harvey, Rickey Henderson, Whitey Herzog, Reggie Jackson, Ferguson Jenkins, Randy Johnson, 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, Eddie Murray, Phil Niekro, Jim Palmer, Tony Pérez, Gaylord Perry, Mike Piazza, Jim Rice, Cal Ripken, Brooks Robinson, Frank Robinson, Nolan Ryan, Ryne Sandberg, Mike Schmidt, Red Schoendienst, John Schuerholz, Tom Seaver, Bud Selig, Ozzie Smith, John Smoltz, Bruce Sutter, Don Sutton, Frank Thomas, Joe Torre, Billy Williams, Dave Winfield, Carl Yastrzemski and Robin Yount.

CONNECTING GENERATIONS: Bobby Doerr is the oldest living Hall of Famer in history, having surpassed Al Lopez (97 years, 71 days) on June 18, 2015...Doerr, who is also the oldest living former MLB player, was born on April 7, 1918, while World War I was still raging around the globe...Pedro Martínez, who was born on Oct. 25, 1971, is the youngest living Hall of Famer at 45 years of age.

BETWEEN THE LINES: Including Negro League players, the following is a breakdown by position of the 246 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.

Pitchers 77 (41)	Second Baseman ..21 (11)	Left Fielders21 (11)
Catchers 17 (9)	Third Baseman 16 (7)	Center Fielders24 (8)
First Baseman 21 (9)	Shortstops24 (11)	Right Fielders24 (13)
Designated Hitter 1 (1)		

DH: Thomas (2014)

PITCHER: Johnson, Martínez, Smoltz (2015)
 CATCHER: Piazza (2016)
 FIRST BASE: Murray (2003)

SECOND BASE: Biggio (2015)
 THIRD BASE: White (2013)
 SHORTSTOP: Larkin (2012)

LEFT FIELD: Henderson, Rice (2009)
 CENTER FIELD: Griffey (2016)
 RIGHT FIELD: Dawson (2010)

FIRST THINGS FIRST: With the election of Ken Griffey Jr. in 2016, 51 players have now been elected in their first year of eligibility (16 pitchers, seven RF, six LF, five CF, five SS, five 3B, three 2B, two 1B, one DH and one catcher; position based on where electee played the majority of his big league games)...In 10 of the last 16 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 51.

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

TRY AND TRY AGAIN: The 68 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 68 non-first year BBWAA electees: **2nd election** (Alomar, Berra, Fingers, Fisk, Ford, Lajoie, Speaker, Young); **3rd election** (Alexander, Biggio, Grove, 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, Foxx); **8th election** (Pennock, Traynor, Wilhelm); **9th election** (Dawson, Gossage, Greenberg, Medwick, Pérez); **10th election** (Boudreau, Cronin, Dickey, Drysdale, Lyons, 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 49 Hall of Famers who spent their entire career with one team...2015 inductee Craig Biggio is the most recent addition to that list...The others: Luke Appling, Ernie Banks, Johnny Bench, 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, 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, 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...Ken Griffey Jr. became the 31st player to earn at least 90 percent of the BBWAA vote in any one election...Griffey, who received 99.32% of the vote in 2016, set a record for highest vote percentage received in a BBWAA election...The 31 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
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
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

CLOSE, BUT NO CIGAR: Several individuals have come close to being elected to the Hall of Fame, but have missed by the slimmest of margins in a given year...2015 electee Craig Biggio, who missed by two votes in 2014, is the most recent example.

YEAR	PLAYER	BALLOTS CAST	VOTES RECEIVED	NEEDED/ELECTION	SHORT BY
2014	Craig Biggio	571	427	429	2
1985	Nellie Fox	395	295	297	2
1947	Pie Traynor	161	119	121	2
1986	Billy Williams	425	315	319	4
1988	Jim Bunning	427	317	321	4
2010	Bert Blyleven	539	400	405	5
1994	Orlando Cepeda	455	335	342	7
1967	Joe Medwick	292	212	219	7
1945	Frank Chance	247	179	186	7
1953	Bill Terry	264	191	198	7
1982	Juan Marichal	415	305	312	7
1951	Paul Waner	226	162	170	8
1968	Roy Campanella	283	205	213	8
2010	Roberto Alomar	539	397	405	8
1975	Robin Roberts	362	263	272	9
1997	Don Sutton	473	346	355	9
2002	Gary Carter	472	343	354	11

CLOSE, AND CIGAR: Meanwhile, 24 Hall of Famers have earned election by 10 votes or less:

YEAR	PLAYER	VOTES NEEDED	RECEIVED	MARGIN
1939	Willie Keeler	206	207	1
1953	Al Simmons	198	199	1
1975	Ralph Kiner	272	273	1
1991	Ferguson Jenkins	333	334	1
1937	Cy Young	151	153	2
1947	Lefty Grove	121	123	2
1948	Pie Traynor	90	93	3
1948	Herb Pennock	90	94	4
1962	Jackie Robinson	120	124	4
1972	Early Wynn	297	301	4
1987	Jim "Catfish" Hunter	310	315	5
1954	Bill Terry	189	195	6
1955	Gabby Hartnett	189	195	6
2005	Ryne Sandberg	387	393	6
1939	Eddie Collins	206	213	7
1942	Rogers Hornsby	175	182	7
1947	Mickey Cochrane	121	128	7
1956	Joe Cronin	145	152	7
1970	Lou Boudreau	225	232	7
2009	Jim Rice	405	412	7
1951	Jimmie Foxx	170	179	9
1991	Gaylord Perry	333	342	9
1974	Whitey Ford	274	284	10
2000	Tony Perez	375	385	10

BY THE NUMBERS: 2017 CANDIDATES

CATCHING ON: Ivan Rodriguez appeared in a record 2,427 games as a catcher during his 21-year big league career, and caught in 95.4 percent of the MLB games he played (2,427 of 2,543)...Among players who appeared in at least 50 percent of their games at catcher, Rodriguez has the most hits (2,844), runs (1,354), doubles (572) and total bases (4,451)...Rodriguez's 13 Gold Glove Awards are the most of any catcher and tie him with Ozzie Smith for the second most among position players at any position behind Brooks Robinson's 16 Gold Glove Awards at third base...Rodriguez recorded a record 14,864 putouts as a catcher, and his 1,227 assists as a catcher rank first all-time among backstops who debuted in the big leagues after 1922...Rodriguez led his league in caught stealing percentage a record nine times, including a record six years in a row (1996-2001), and finished with a career percentage of 45.7.

BATTER UP: A 12-time All-Star Game selection, Manny Ramirez is one of just 16 players in MLB history with at least 2,000 hits, a .300 career batting average, .400 on-base percentage and a .500 slugging percentage...Of those 16, only Babe Ruth has more career home runs than Ramirez's 555...Ramirez drove in 100-or-more runs in 12 seasons, and his career mark of 1,831 RBI ranks 18th all-time.

POWER AND AVERAGE: The 2004 American League Most Valuable Player, Vladimir Guerrero is one of only nine batters in MLB history with at least a .318 batting average and a .553 slugging percentage – a list that includes seven Hall of Famers (Joe DiMaggio, Jimmie Foxx, Lou Gehrig, Rogers Hornsby, Stan Musial, Babe Ruth and Ted Williams) and Miguel Cabrera...Guerrero is one of only 18 players with at least 10 seasons with 100-or-more RBI.

SIX PACKED: Jeff Bagwell posted eight seasons with at least 30 home runs, 100 runs scored and 100 RBI, tying him for eighth on that list all-time with Willie Mays and Jim Thome...Six of those seasons came in a row for Bagwell (1996-2001), making him one of just six players to reach that mark: Alex Rodriguez (11 straight seasons, 1998-2008), Lou Gehrig (9 straight seasons, 1929-37), Jimmie Foxx (9 straight seasons, 1932-40), Babe Ruth (7 straight seasons, 1926-32) and Albert Pujols (6 straight seasons, 2001-06)...Bagwell is one of only 11 players in MLB history with at least 440 home runs and 200 stolen bases.

HIT AND RUN: Tim Lincecum is the only player in big league history with at least 100 triples, 150 home runs and 600 stolen bases...He is also the only player to record four different seasons with at least 50 extra-base hits and 70 steals...Only Raines has stolen 70 or more bases in six straight seasons (1981-86), and among players with at least 400 stolen base attempts, Raines ranks first with an 84.7 percent success rate...Raines' 1983 campaign (183 hits, 97 walks, 90 stolen bases) is the only season in baseball's Live Ball Era (1920-present) in which a player tallied 180 hits, 90 walks and 90 steals...Hall of Famers Ty Cobb (1915) and Billy Hamilton (1894-95) are the only two players besides Raines to reach those marks in a season...Raines' 1983 season is also the only time in modern baseball history in which a player combined at least 50 extra-base hits and 90 stolen bases.

LAST CHANCE: Tim Raines appears on the BBWAA ballot for the 10th-and-final time this year, while Lee Smith, who is grandfathered under the previous set of eligibility rules, appears for the 15th-and-final time...Current election rules state that a player must have been active within the past 15 years to be on the BBWAA ballot, and for most players (except for grandfathered players, among whom Smith is the final one) that means a maximum of 10 chances on the BBWAA ballot after the mandatory five-year waiting period following their retirement...Jim Rice was the most recent player to be elected on his final try to the BBWAA ballot, earning election in 2009...Ralph Kiner was elected to the Hall of Fame on his final try on the ballot, but it came in his 13th try in 1975...Kiner retired after the 1955 season (and was made Hall of Fame eligible in 1960 after four years of inactivity), so 1975 marked his 20th year out of baseball...But in that time, there were only 13 BBWAA elections, due to years (1961, 1963 and 1965) when no election was held...Red Ruffing and Joe Medwick are the only other players to earn election to the Hall of Fame in their final year on the BBWAA ballot...Ruffing was declared Hall of Fame eligible in 1948, one year after his retirement, and was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1967...Medwick was elected in 1968.

THREE AND OUT: Trevor Hoffman's 601 career saves rank second on the all-time list...His 498 saves of exactly three outs rank first among all pitchers...Hoffman also ranks third in overall save percentage (88.8%) among pitchers with at least 300 saves...Beginning in September 1997 to the end of the 2006 campaign, the Padres went 364-20 (94.8 win percentage) when they handed the ball to Hoffman in a save situation.

12 STARS: Since the Mid-Summer Classic debuted in 1933, 35 position players have been named to All-Star Games in at least 12 big league seasons...Ken Griffey Jr. and Mike Piazza became the 27th and 28th players in that group to be elected to the Hall of Fame in 2016...Of the seven of the 35 12-time All-Stars not yet elected to the Hall of Fame, two – Manny Ramirez and Ivan Rodriguez – debut on the BBWAA ballot in 2017...Two of the other remaining players (Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez) are not yet eligible because they have not been retired for at least five seasons...Barry Bonds will make his fifth appearance on the BBWAA Hall of Fame ballot in 2017...The final two are Pete Rose, who is not eligible for the Hall of Fame, and Mark McGwire, who made his 10th and final appearance on the BBWAA ballot in 2016 and appeared on the Today’s Game Era ballot last fall:

PLAYER	ALL-STAR SEASONS	ELECTED TO HOF
Hank Aaron.....	21.....	1982
Willie Mays.....	20.....	1979
Stan Musial	20.....	1969
Cal Ripken	19.....	2007
Rod Carew	18.....	1991
Carl Yastrzemski	18.....	1989
Pete Rose	17.....	–
Ted Williams.....	17.....	1966
Mickey Mantle...	16.....	1974
Yogi Berra	15.....	1972
Tony Gwynn	15.....	2007
Al Kaline.....	15.....	1980
Brooks Robinson	15.....	1983
Ozzie Smith.....	15.....	2002
Johnny Bench....	14.....	1989
Barry Bonds	14.....	–
Reggie Jackson ..	14.....	1993
Alex Rodriguez ..	14.....	–
Ivan Rodriguez.	14.....	–
George Brett.....	13.....	1999
Joe DiMaggio.....	13.....	1955
Ken Griffey Jr. ...	13.....	2016
Derek Jeter	13.....	–
Roberto Alomar .	12.....	2011
Wade Boggs.....	12.....	2005
Roberto Clemente	12.....	1973
Nellie Fox	12.....	1997
Barry Larkin.....	12.....	2012
Mark McGwire ..	12.....	–
Mel Ott.....	12.....	1951
Mike Piazza.....	12.....	2016
Manny Ramirez	12.....	–
Frank Robinson..	12.....	1982
Mike Schmidt....	12.....	1995
Dave Winfield....	12.....	2001

TODAY'S GAME ERA COMMITTEE ELECTION

TODAY'S GAME ERA COMMITTEE RESULTS: Two electees emerged from voting by the Today's Game Era Committee on Dec. 4 at the Winter Meetings in National Harbor, Md...Former Royals and Braves general manager **John Schuerholz** and former commissioner **Allan H. "Bud" Selig** earned election in their first appearance on the Today's Game Era Committee ballot...Both will be inducted at the 2017 Induction Ceremony on July 30 in Cooperstown... **RESULTS OF TODAY'S GAME ERA BALLOT ELECTION (12 NEEDED FOR ELECTION):** John Schuerholz (16 votes, 100%), Bud Selig (15 votes, 93.8%), Lou Piniella (7 votes, 43.8%); Harold Baines, Albert Belle, Will Clark, Orel Hershiser, Davey Johnson, Mark McGwire and George Steinbrenner each received five votes or less.

BRAVE GENERAL: John Schuerholz becomes the sixth Hall of Fame electee whose primary job function was team building (among non-owners)...Schuerholz laid the groundwork for the Royals 1985 World Series championship team as farm director and general manager, then moved to the Braves...As general manager, and later president and vice chairman in Atlanta, Schuerholz built a club that qualified for 14 consecutive postseasons, advanced to five World Series and won the crown in 1995...He was the first general manager to lead teams to World Series titles in both the American and National Leagues, and in 25 of his 26 seasons as a GM Schuerholz's teams finished in third place or better.

DER KOMMISSAR'S IN TOWN: Allan H. "Bud" Selig was Major League Baseball's ninth commissioner...His tenure started in 1992 as acting commissioner before he was named commissioner in 1998...Selig oversaw two rounds of expansion, the creation of Wild Card playoff teams and interleague play as well as the creation of the World Baseball Classic...MLB enjoyed uninterrupted labor peace for the final 20 full seasons of Selig's tenure, which ended on Jan. 25, 2015...The same day Selig is inducted into the Hall of Fame on July 30 in Cooperstown, he will turn 83 years old and become the first living Hall of Famer to be inducted on his birthday...Selig, who is the fifth commissioner elected to the Hall of Fame, now serves as MLB's commissioner emeritus.

THE TODAY'S GAME ERA ELECTORATE: The 16-member Today's Game Era electorate featured Hall of Fame members **Roberto Alomar, Bobby Cox, Andre Dawson, Dennis Eckersley, Pat Gillick, Ozzie Smith, Don Sutton and Frank Thomas;** major league executives **Paul Beeston** (Blue Jays), **Bill DeWitt** (Cardinals), **David Glass** (Royals), **Andy MacPhail** (Phillies) and **Kevin Towers** (Reds); and veteran media members/historians **Bill Center, Steve Hirdt and Tim Kurkjian**...The Today's Game Era ballot was devised by the Baseball Writers' Association of America-appointed Historical Overview Committee, comprised of 11 veteran members: **Bob Elliott** (*Canadian Baseball Network*); **Jim Henneman** (formerly *Baltimore Sun*); **Steve Hirdt** (Elias Sports Bureau); **Rick Hummel** (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*); **Bill Madden** (formerly *New York Daily News*); **Jack O'Connell** (BBWAA); **Jim Reeves** (formerly *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*); **Tracy Ringolsby** (*MLB.com*); **Glenn Schwarz** (formerly *San Francisco Chronicle*); **Dave Van Dyck** (formerly *Chicago Tribune*); and **Mark Whicker** (*Southern California News Group*)...The HOC annually sets ballots for the Era Committee elections.

WHO'S ELIGIBLE: The Today's Game Era covers candidates among managers, umpires, executives and long-retired players whose most significant career impact was realized from 1988 through the present day...Eligible candidates include: Players who played in at least 10 major league seasons, who are not on Major League Baseball's ineligible list, and have been retired for 15 or more seasons; Managers and Umpires with 10 or more years in baseball and retired for at least five years; and Executives who have been retired for at least five years, with active executives 70 or older eligible for consideration.

FUTURE ELECTIONS: Four eras for committee consideration have been identified following the Hall of Fame Board of Directors meeting in July: *Today's Game* (for candidates who made their most indelible contribution to baseball from 1988 to the present); *Modern Baseball* (for candidates who made their most indelible contribution to baseball from 1970 to 1987); *Golden Days* (for candidates who made their most indelible contribution to baseball from 1950 to 1969); and *Early Baseball* (for candidates who made their most indelible contribution to baseball prior to 1950)...The *Today's Game* and *Modern Baseball* eras will be considered twice each in a five-year period, with the *Golden Days* era considered once every five years and the *Early Baseball* era considered once every 10 years...Eras considered for yearly induction are as follows: **2017** – Today's Game; **2018** – Modern Baseball; **2019** – Today's Game; **2020** – Modern Baseball; **2021** – Both Golden Days and Early Baseball; **2022** – Today's Game; **2023** – Modern Baseball; **2024** – Today's Game; **2025** – Modern Baseball; **2026** – Golden Days. *The Early Baseball era returns for induction consideration in 2031.*

2017 AWARD WINNERS

Bill King, winner of the 2017 Ford C. Frick Award for broadcasters, and Claire Smith, the 2017 winner of the Baseball Writers' Association of America's J.G. Taylor Spink Award, will be honored at the 2017 Hall of Fame Awards Presentation on Saturday, July 29 at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown.

CLAIRE CHOICE: Claire Smith, a pioneering voice among women sportswriters, has been elected the 2017 winner of the J.G. Taylor Spink Award in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America...Smith covered the New York Yankees for five years beginning in 1983 for the *Hartford Courant* and maintained a high profile as a columnist with *The New York Times* from 1991-98 and as an editor and columnist for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* from 1998-2007....A graduate of Temple University, Smith currently serves as ESPN's news editor of remote productions, responsible for the integration of news and analysis in live game broadcasts and the *Baseball Tonight* and *SportsCenter* studio programs....A two-time Pulitzer Prize nominee and winner of three New York Times Publishers' Awards, Smith was the New York Chapter Chair of the BBWAA in 1995 and '96 and has served on three Hall of Fame Era Committees...Smith is the 68th winner of the Spink Award.

KING OF THE AIR: Bill King, whose quarter-of-a-century run as the voice of the Oakland Athletics cemented his status as one of the Bay Area's iconic voices, has been selected as the 2017 recipient of the Ford C. Frick Award, presented annually for excellence in broadcasting by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum...Born Oct. 6, 1927, in Bloomington, Ill., King began his broadcasting career with the Armed Forces Radio Network during World War II, then returned home where he worked covering high school games...Moving to the Bay Area in the late 1950s, King was hired by KSFO-AM as a fill-in broadcaster on San Francisco Giants games – subbing for future Frick Award winners Lon Simmons and Russ Hodges – before landing the job as the play-by-play voice of the San Francisco Warriors of the National Baseball Association in 1962...In 1966, King added the duties of Oakland Raiders play-by-play to his schedule, becoming one of the signature voices of the National Football League when the Raiders and the American Football League merged with the NFL in 1970... King was reunited with Simmons when he joined the Athletics' broadcast team in 1981, and they worked together in the A's booth through 1995...Known for his signature handlebar mustache, passionate delivery and his ever-present "Holy Toledo!" exclamation, King called the revitalization of the Athletics during the "Billy Ball" years with manager Billy Martin in the early 1980s, then provided the narrative for the "Bash Brothers" teams that won three American League pennants and the 1989 World Series title from 1988-90...King, who passed away on Oct. 18, 2005, is the 41st winner of the Frick Award.

MUSEUM LAUNCHES ONLINE DIGITAL ARCHIVE

The Hall of Fame Digital Archive Project launched in 2016 with 25 volumes of 10 different Babe Ruth Scrapbooks in the collection available online for the first time...These one-of-a-kind scrapbooks, created by Ruth's agent Christy Walsh, provide a unique look at Ruth's career through letters, stories and photographs, and give a glimpse at the authentic Babe Ruth...Additional digitized material – including photos, audio, video and text – from the Museum collection will be published regularly as the Museum adds to the PASTIME (Public Archive System To Interact with the Museum Electronically) online collection, which is available at <http://collection.baseballhall.org>...Many of these materials will be available to the public for the first time, allowing fans to browse the Museum collection as they plan their visit to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, or continue their exploration of baseball history after they tour the Museum...With more than three million Library items, a quarter of a million unique images and 40,000 three-dimensional artifacts representing baseball's illustrious history, the Museum preserves an immense physical collection that brings baseball history to life...Through the Hall of Fame Digital Archive Project, the Museum, over the next several years, will continue to digitize its collections and Library archive, making PASTIME the online resource for baseball history...The goal of the Project is to provide online access to the precious artifacts and documents that are preserved in Cooperstown for fans and researchers around the globe, while ensuring that they are digitally archived for future generations of fans...PASTIME will become the online portal for fans and students of the game to relive baseball's greatest moments through the Museum's collection...The PASTIME digital asset management system has been developed based on open source standards that will be made available so that other cultural institutions can benefit from this leap forward in digital artifact preservation...Museums and educational institutions around the world will have access to this system built by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

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 March 23-24, Sept. 7-8, Oct. 12-13 and Nov. 16-17...For more information, please visit www.baseballhall.org/visit/vip-experience or call 607-547-0397.

APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2017 INTERNS DUE JAN. 31: The chance to spend the summer in Cooperstown is every baseball fan's dream...For college students aspiring to land a once-in-a-lifetime summer experience in the National Baseball Hall of Fame's 2017 internship program, only a handful of weeks remain before applications are due Jan. 31...The 2017 Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development will provide students the chance to join the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum team in a 10-week paid summer internship, offering meaningful, hands-on training in numerous professional career fields for those who are chosen from the hundreds of applications received in Cooperstown each year... To be considered for the program, students must be enrolled in a bachelor's or master's degree program at a college or university, having completed at least their sophomore year of studies, or must have just graduated in May of the year of their internship...Intern positions for 2017 are available in the following fields: Collections, Communications, Curatorial, Development, Digital Strategy, Education-Public Programs, Library Research, Library Manuscript Archives, Licensing & Sales, Multimedia, Photo Archives and Public Programs...Twenty internships will be awarded... All applications must be completed online at www.baseballhall.org/intern...In order to complete an application, candidates must attach a cover letter and resume to the online application...Only completed applications will be reviewed for acceptance into the program...Applications must be received no later than Jan. 31, 2017...Now in its 17th year, the Frank and Peggy Steele Internship Program has welcomed more than 300 interns in its first 16 years, equipping college students with the knowledge and experience necessary to work in their field of study.

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 www.baseballhall.org or call 888-HALL-OF-FAME (888-425-5633) or 607-547-7200.