



NEWS

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AROUND THE HORN

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

July 27, 2017

volume 24, issue 7

HALL OF FAME WEEKEND, JULY 28-31

HALL OF FAME WEEKEND 2017: The 2017 edition of Hall of Fame Weekend will take place July 28-31, with the Induction Ceremony occurring on Sunday, July 30, at 1:30 p.m. EDT...Baseball Writers' Association of America electees Jeff Bagwell, Tim Lincecum and Iván Rodríguez will join Today's Game Era electees John Schuerholz and Allan H. "Bud" Selig to be inducted as the Class of 2017...Admission to the ceremony at the Clark Sports Center is free...MLB Network and MLB Network Radio on Sirius XM will carry the Induction Ceremony live...It will also be simulcast on baseballhall.org...Saturday, July 29, will feature the Hall of Fame Awards Presentation at 4:30 p.m. at Doubleday Field...Rachel Robinson will receive the Hall of Fame's Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award, pioneering writer Claire Smith will receive the J.G. Taylor Spink Award for meritorious contributions to baseball writing and longtime Oakland Athletics broadcaster Bill King will be posthumously honored as the Ford C. Frick Award winner for excellence in broadcasting...For a complete schedule of Weekend events, see the list below or visit baseballhall.org/hofweekend.

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55 REALLY GOOD REASONS TO RETURN TO COOPERSTOWN: Fifty-five of the 73 living Hall of Famers, including the Class of 2017 (in **boldface**), are planning to return to Cooperstown for Hall of Fame Weekend...Those planning to attend as of July 27 include:

- | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Henry Aaron | Rollie Fingers | Tony La Russa | Brooks Robinson | Billy Williams |
| Roberto Alomar | Carlton Fisk | Barry Larkin | Frank Robinson | Dave Winfield |
| Jeff Bagwell | Whitey Ford | Greg Maddux | Iván Rodríguez | Robin Yount |
| Johnny Bench | Bob Gibson | Juan Marichal | Nolan Ryan | |
| Craig Biggio | Pat Gillick | Joe Morgan | Ryne Sandberg | |
| Bert Blyleven | Tom Glavine | Eddie Murray | John Schuerholz | |
| Wade Boggs | Goose Gossage | Phil Niekro | Bud Selig | |
| George Brett | Ken Griffey Jr. | Tony Pérez | Ozzie Smith | |
| Rod Carew | Rickey Henderson | Gaylord Perry | John Smoltz | |
| Orlando Cepeda | Whitey Herzog | Mike Piazza | Bruce Sutter | |
| Bobby Cox | Fergie Jenkins | Tim Raines | Don Sutton | |
| Andre Dawson | Randy Johnson | Jim Rice | Frank Thomas | |
| Dennis Eckersley | Sandy Koufax | Cal Ripken | Joe Torre | |

BOOK NOW FOR FUTURE WEEKENDS: Hall of Fame Weekend is typically scheduled for the last weekend in July, though there are exceptions...The 2018 Induction Weekend is scheduled for July 27-30, with the Induction on July 29...A partial list of eligible first-time players for upcoming Hall of Fame elections includes: **2018:** Andruw Jones, Chipper Jones, Jim Thome, Omar Vizquel; **2019:** Roy Halladay, Todd Helton, Andy Pettitte, Mariano Rivera; **2020:** Derek Jeter, Paul Konerko, Cliff Lee, Alfonso Soriano; **2021:** Tim Hudson, Torii Hunter, Aramis Ramirez, Barry Zito; **2022:** Prince Fielder, David Ortíz, Alex Rodríguez, Mark Teixeira.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION: The 2017 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will once again be held at the Clark Sports Center, located one mile south of the Museum on Susquehanna Avenue...This marks the 26th consecutive year at that location for the event...From 1966-1991 (26 years) except 1967, the ceremony was held in Cooper Park, on the east side of the Museum...Ceremonies were held on Main Street in front of the main entrance to the Hall of Fame, from 1939-1965 and in 1967.

BY AIR: MLB Network will broadcast the Induction Ceremony and other events throughout the weekend from Cooperstown...The Induction Ceremony will be broadcast live on MLB Network, which has televised the event every year since its launch in 2009, on Sunday, July 30, from 1:30-4:30 p.m. EDT...MLB Network Radio on Sirius XM will cover the ceremony nationwide...The ceremony will also be streamed live at baseballhall.org.

COME ONE, COME ALL: More than 40,000 fans have attended each of the past three Induction Ceremonies...In 2007, an estimated 82,000 fans packed Cooperstown, honoring the Hall of Fame induction of Cal Ripken Jr. and Tony Gwynn and setting a Hall of Fame Weekend attendance record...Following 2007, the top six estimated crowds for Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies: 50,000 (1999); 50,000 (2016); 48,000 (2014); 45,000 (2015); 40,000 (1995); 27,000 (2001 and 2005).

NOTEABLE NAMES FLOCK TO COOPERSTOWN: Many members of the baseball family are planning to be in Cooperstown for Induction Weekend to honor the newest electees...Among those scheduled to attend the festivities, as of July 27, include: Mets general manager Sandy Alderson; Moises Alou; Brewers owner Mark Attanasio; Enos Cabell; Bob Costas; Astros chairman Jim Crane; Jose Cruz; Cardinals chairman Bill DeWitt Jr.; Phil Garner; Royals owner David Glass; Tom Grieve; Jose Guzman; Braves general manager John Hart; Art Howe; Tigers president Chris Illitch; executive adviser to the Reds' CEO Walt Jocketty; Dodgers president Stan Kasten; Jim Leyland; Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow; Braves chairman Terry McGuirk; Phillies chairman David Montgomery; Royals general manager Dayton Moore; Roy Oswalt; Twins owner Jim Pohlad; Willie Randolph; White Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf; Twins president Dave St. Peter; Bob Uecker; and Red Sox chairman Tom Werner.

LIFE OF BRIAN: Emmy Award-winning anchor Brian Kenny, who hosts *MLB Now* and *MLB Tonight* on MLB Network while appearing across the network's studio programming, will be the Master of Ceremonies at the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in 2017...In 2011, Kenny, author of the bestseller "Ahead of the Curve: Inside the Baseball Revolution," joined MLB Network, which is televising the Induction Ceremony for the ninth straight year.

TRANSCRIPTS AVAILABLE: Transcripts from Sunday's Induction Ceremony will be available within five hours after the event at baseballhall.org/media-info.

NATIONAL ANTHEM: "The Star-Spangled Banner" will be performed at the Induction Ceremony by Milleta Marie Oldick of Richfield Springs, N.Y.

AWARDS PRESENTATION: The 2017 *Awards Presentation*, hosted by MLB Network's Greg Amsinger, will take place at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 29 at Doubleday Field...Pioneering writer Claire Smith will receive the J.G. Taylor Spink Award for meritorious contributions to baseball writing, while longtime Oakland Athletics broadcaster Bill King will be posthumously honored as the Ford C. Frick Award winner for excellence in broadcasting...Rachel Robinson will be presented with the Hall of Fame's Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award...The returning Hall of Famers will be present on the stage at Doubleday Field...Gates open at 3 p.m. and admission is free...The event will be Livestreamed at facebook.com/baseballhall and will be televised on MLB Network at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 30.

TROLLEY TRANSPORTATION: The Cooperstown Trolley will provide transit to the Hall of Fame and Doubleday Field from three different locations during the Weekend: the Red Lot on Route 28 (Glen Avenue) at Maple Street; the Blue Lot on Route 28 just south of Cooperstown; and the Yellow Lot on Route 80 at the upper parking lot of the Fenimore Art Museum...All-day passes are available (\$2 per person)...The Trolley will operate throughout Hall of Fame Weekend daily 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m...Follow the Trolley's progress at followthetrolley.com.

A BIG LEAGUE THANK YOU: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum extends special thanks to the following organizations for their support of Hall of Fame Weekend events: Big League Chew, Canon USA, Clark Foundation, Clark Sports Center, Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Cooperstown Central School, Curtis1000, Eastern Copy, Fernleigh Greenhouse, Ford Motor Company, Jostens, Leatherstocking Corporation, Matthews International, MIDTEL, MLB Network, Otesaga Hotel and Resort, P & J Corporation, Price Chopper Supermarkets, Ronco, Sports Travel & Tours.

EXTENDED STAY: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum is open for extended hours during Hall of Fame Weekend: Friday, July 28 – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, July 29 – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, July 30 – 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Monday, July 31 – 9 a.m. to 9 p.m...Participants in the Hall of Fame's Membership Program can enter the Museum one hour early on Saturday, Sunday and Monday...Plan your trip to Cooperstown for Hall of Fame Weekend by visiting the "Join Us" section at baseballhall.org/hofweekend...Special Hall of Fame Weekend travel packages are available at sportstravelandtours.com.

THE CLASS OF 2017

TALENT BY THE BAG-FULL: Jeff Bagwell played his entire 15-year big league career with the Astros, posting eight seasons with at least 30 home runs, 100 runs scored and 100 RBI...One of only 11 players in MLB history with at least 440 home runs and 200 stolen bases, Bagwell won the 1991 National League Rookie of the Year Award and was the unanimous choice as the 1994 National League Most Valuable Player...He is the 50th Hall of Famer to play for just one team throughout his career...A four-time National League All-Star, Bagwell won a Gold Glove Award for his play at first base in 1994.

ROCK SOLID: Tim Lincecum is one of the game's most prolific base stealers, having totaled 808 steals – the fifth-most all-time – in his 23-year MLB career...He is the only player in history with 70-or-more steals in six straight seasons (1981-86) and was successful on 84.7 percent of his attempts...Raines is the only player in big league history with at least 100 triples, 150 home runs and 600 stolen bases and he is also the only player to record four different seasons with at least 50 extra-base hits and 70 steals...He played for the Expos, White Sox, Yankees, Athletics, Orioles and Marlins, earning World Series rings with the Yankees in 1996 and 1998.

IVÁN THE GREAT: Iván Rodríguez 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, Rodríguez has the most hits (2,844), runs (1,354), doubles (572) and total bases (4,451)...Rodríguez's 13 Gold Glove Awards are the most of any catcher, and he was selected to 14-All-Star Games during a career that featured seasons with the Rangers, Marlins, Tigers, Yankees, Astros and Nationals...Rodríguez led his league in caught stealing percentage a record nine times, including a record six years in a row (1996-2001)...He earned a World Series ring with the Marlins in 2003.

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.

CAP CHOICES: Plaques representing Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines, Iván Rodríguez, John Schuerholz and Bud Selig will be revealed as the prelude to each electee's induction speech on July 30...The Hall of Fame plaque, which serves to reflect the totality of a career, details an individual's accomplishments in the game in approximately 90 words, while listing each team on which an individual played or managed...An artist's rendering of the individual being honored tops the Hall of Fame plaque, and in many instances, a cap, where a logo may or may not be featured, is included...In conjunction with the Hall of Fame, the three members of the Class of 2017 who earned their election on the field have made their selections for the logo inclusion on their Hall of Fame plaque: Jeff Bagwell – Houston Astros; Tim Raines – Montreal Expos; Iván Rodríguez – Texas Rangers...Bagwell and Rodríguez become just the second Hall of Famers to don an Astros cap and Rangers cap on his plaque, respectively, joining 2015 electee Craig Biggio (Astros) and 1999 electee Nolan Ryan (Astros)...Tim Raines is the third electee to have an Expos logo on his cap, following Gary Carter (2003) and Andre Dawson (2010).

2017 AWARD WINNERS

Bill King, winner of the 2017 Ford C. Frick Award for broadcasters; Rachel Robinson, the 2017 Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award winner; 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.

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 Basketball 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.

HERE'S TO YOU, MRS. ROBINSON: Rachel Robinson has been named the 2017 recipient of the John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award... Working with her husband, Jackie Robinson, during their 26-year marriage and after his passing in 1972, Rachel Robinson created the Jackie Robinson Development Corporation, founded to build and manage housing for people of moderate and low incomes...A year later, she formed the Jackie Robinson Foundation, which provides college scholarships and leadership training, and headed the Foundation's Board of Directors until stepping down in 1996...A career nurse who worked as a researcher at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Department of Social and Community Psychiatry, Robinson has received honorary doctorates from nearly a dozen colleges and universities...Robinson becomes the fourth winner of the Buck O'Neil Award, which was established in 2007 to honor an individual whose efforts broadened the game's appeal and whose character, integrity and dignity is comparable to O'Neil, who passed away in 2006 after eight decades of contributions to the game...O'Neil was honored as the first recipient of the Award in 2008...Long-time executive Roland Hemond was honored with the second Buck O'Neil Award in 2011, followed by Joe Garagiola in 2014...The Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award is presented by the Board of the Directors of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum at its discretion, though not more frequently than every three years...A permanent, life-size bronze statue of O'Neil is located at the Hall of Fame on the Museum's first floor and serves as the home for the Award.

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.

HALL OF FAME WEEKEND LINEUP

PLAN NOW FOR A HISTORIC WEEKEND: Hall of Fame Weekend 2017 will be held July 28-31 with the annual Induction Ceremony scheduled to take place on Sunday, July 30 at 1:30 p.m. EDT as the highlight of the weekend...The Induction Weekend schedule includes:

Friday, July 28

- Ozzie Smith's *PLAY Ball* Museum fundraiser will be held at 8 a.m. The annual fundraiser for the Museum's educational programs gives fans a unique opportunity to experience on-field moments and share stories with Ozzie and his Hall of Fame friends Randy Johnson and Ryne Sandberg. The event begins with an exclusive morning reception in the Hall of Fame Plaque Gallery, then moves to a Cooperstown-area diamond for two hours of interactive stories, instruction and fun. To register, please call 607-547-0397.

Saturday, July 29

- The Hall of Fame *Awards Presentation* will take place at 4:30 p.m. at Doubleday Field. Rachel Robinson will receive the Hall of Fame's Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award; Claire Smith of ESPN will receive the Baseball Writers' Association of America's J.G. Taylor Spink Award for meritorious contributions to baseball writing; and Bill King will be posthumously honored with the Hall of Fame's Ford C. Frick Award for major contributions to baseball broadcasting. Hall of Fame board member Thomas Tull will speak on the legacy of the film *A League of Their Own*, which was released 25 years ago this summer.
- The eighth annual Hall of Fame *Parade of Legends* will begin at 6 p.m. along Main Street. Hall of Fame members will participate in the parade, which will originate on Chestnut Street and conclude at the front steps of the Museum on Main Street. Hall of Famers will ride in trucks provided by Ford Motor Company en route to a private reception at the Museum.

Sunday, July 30

- The annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Clark Sports Center, located one mile south of the Hall of Fame. Baseball Writers' Association of America electees Jeff Bagwell, Tim Lincecum and Iván Rodríguez along with Today's Game Era Committee electees John Schuerholz and Bud Selig will be inducted on stage in front of more than four dozen returning Hall of Famers. Admission to the ceremony at the Clark Sports Center, which is expected to last three hours, is free.

Monday, July 31

- The Class of 2017 will share memories of their careers and reminisce about Induction Weekend as MLB Network's Peter Gammons hosts the *Legends of the Game Roundtable* at 10:30 a.m. at Doubleday Field. Tickets for this event are available to participants in the Museum's Membership Program and can be reserved by calling 607-547-0397.

BBWAA BALLOTING RECAP

THE 2017 BALLOT: The BBWAA 2017 ballot featured 34 players, including 19 new candidates and 15 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 442 votes were cast, with 332 votes necessary for election and 23 votes necessary to remain on the ballot...Iván Rodríguez became the 52nd player elected to the Hall on his first BBWAA ballot...Lee Smith received 34.1 percent of the vote in his final year of eligibility on the BBWAA ballot...The final results, in order of percentage received with number of years on the ballot:

NAME	YR	2017	NAME	YR	2017	NAME	YR	2017
Jeff Bagwell	7	86.2%	Larry Walker	7	21.9%	<i>Pat Burrell</i>	1	0.0%
Tim Lincecum	10	86.0%	Fred McGriff	8	21.7%	<i>Orlando Cabrera</i>	1	0.0%
Iván Rodríguez	1	76.0%	Jeff Kent	4	16.7%	<i>Mike Cameron</i>	1	0.0%
Trevor Hoffman	2	74.0%	Gary Sheffield	3	13.3%	<i>J.D. Drew</i>	1	0.0%
Vladimir Guerrero	1	71.7%	Billy Wagner	2	10.2%	<i>Carlos Guillen</i>	1	0.0%
Edgar Martínez	8	58.6%	Sammy Sosa	5	8.6%	<i>Derrek Lee</i>	1	0.0%
Roger Clemens	5	54.1%	<i>Jorge Posada</i>	1	3.8%	<i>Melvin Mora</i>	1	0.0%
Barry Bonds	5	53.8%	<i>Magglio Ordóñez</i>	1	0.7%	<i>Arthur Rhodes</i>	1	0.0%
Mike Mussina	4	51.8%	<i>Edgar Renteria</i>	1	0.5%	<i>Freddy Sanchez</i>	1	0.0%
Curt Schilling	5	45.0%	<i>Jason Varitek</i>	1	0.5%	<i>Matt Stairs</i>	1	0.0%
Lee Smith	15	34.1%	<i>Tim Wakefield</i>	1	0.2%			
Manny Ramírez	1	23.8%	<i>Casey Blake</i>	1	0.0%			

THE VOTING ELECTORATE: Of the 459 Hall of Fame ballots distributed to BBWAA voters for the 2017 election, 442 (96.3 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: 2017 marked the 73rd Hall of Fame election held by the BBWAA...Starting in 1936, the BBWAA has elected someone 65 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 73 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	3	2015	Biggio, Johnson, Martinez, Smoltz
3	9	2017	Bagwell, Raines, Rodríguez
2	26	2016	Griffey Jr., Piazza
1	26	2012	Larkin
0	8	2013	----

SEVENTY UP: Five players on the 2017 BBWAA ballot received at least 70 percent of the vote: Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines, Iván Rodríguez, Trevor Hoffman and Vladimir Guerrero, tying the mark for the most in BBWAA election history...Only twice before has a BBWAA election resulted in five candidates reaching 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).

ANOTHER DOZEN: With the election of Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines and Iván Rodríguez, the BBWAA has elected at least two Hall of Fame candidates in four straight years and a total of 12 candidates during that time...The BBWAA has only once before elected as many as 12 candidates in any four-year period by traditional voting procedures, as 12 candidates were voted in from 1936-39...Lou Gehrig was the 13th candidate elected by the BBWAA in the four years from 1936-39, but Gehrig was elected non-traditionally by acclamation late in 1939...The last time two or more candidates earned election in four straight years was 1989-92, which featured a total of nine electees (Johnny Bench and Carl Yastrzemski in 1989, Joe Morgan and Jim Palmer in 1990, Rod Carew, Fergie Jenkins and Gaylord Perry in 1991 and Rollie Fingers and Tom Seaver in 1992).

SECOND FIRST AT CATCHER: Iván Rodríguez becomes the second catcher in history to be elected by the BBWAA in his first year of eligibility, following Johnny Bench in 1989...Rodriguez is the 10th catcher ever elected by the BBWAA...Following Mike Piazza's election in 2016, Rodríguez's selection marks the first time since 1954-55 (Bill Dickey and Gabby Hartnett) that the BBWAA has elected catchers in back-to-back years.

YOUNG AT HEART: Iván Rodríguez becomes the youngest current Hall of Famer, having been born Nov. 27, 1971, 33 days after Pedro Martínez...At 45 years old, Rodríguez is one of six Hall of Famers in their 40s: Roberto Alomar, Frank Thomas, Mike Piazza, Ken Griffey Jr. and Martínez...The youngest elected Hall of Famer ever was Sandy Koufax, who was 36 when he was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1972.

RECORD CROWD IN COOPERSTOWN: The election of Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines and Iván Rodríguez brings the total of living Hall of Fame electees in the last four years to 17...The last time as many as 17 living Hall of Famers were elected in a four-year span was 1972-75...The record for living inductees in any four-year span is 19 from 1969-72.

52 AT FIRST: The election of Iván Rodríguez brings the total of first-year BBWAA inductees to 52 and marks the fourth straight year with at least one first-ballot inductee, the first such stretch since a run of five straight years from 2001-05.

TEAMING UP IN HOUSTON: 2017 Hall of Fame electee Jeff Bagwell and 2015 electee Craig Biggio played together on the Astros for 15 seasons, the entirety of Bagwell's career (1991-2005)...Among Hall of Famers who played on only one MLB team, Bagwell and Biggio are only the fourth pair of teammates to play at least 15 years together...Roberto Clemente and Bill Mazeroski hold the record for most seasons as teammates while playing for just one team, playing together for 17 seasons (1956-72) and each spending their entire career with the Pirates...Carl Hubbell and Mel Ott played together for 16 seasons with the New York Giants (1928-43), while Whitey Ford and Mickey Mantle played together on the Yankees for 15 seasons (1953-67).

RULES FOR ELECTION: Voting criteria for BBWAA electors can be found at 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 317 elected members...Included are 220 former major league players, 30 executives, 35 Negro Leaguers, 22 managers and 10 umpires...The BBWAA has elected 124 candidates to the Hall while the veterans/eras 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 73 living members.

73 AMBASSADORS: The 73 living members of the Hall of Fame are: Hank 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, 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, 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, Joe Torre, Billy Williams, Dave Winfield, Carl Yastrzemski and Robin Yount.

LOST LEGENDS: Since the 2016 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, the Hall of Fame has lost one of its members: Jim Bunning, who passed away on May 26.

BETWEEN THE LINES: Including Negro League players, the following is a breakdown by position of the 255 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 Basemen ..21 (11)	Left Fielders22 (12)
Catchers 18 (10)	Third Basemen 16 (6)	Center Fielders24 (8)
First Basemen 22 (10)	Shortstops24 (11)	Right Fielders24 (13)
Designated Hitter 1 (1)		

DH: Thomas (2014)

PITCHER: Johnson, Martínez, Smoltz (2015)

SECOND BASE: Biggio (2015)

LEFT FIELD: Raines (2017)

CATCHER: Rodriguez (2017)

THIRD BASE: White (2013)

CENTER FIELD: Griffey Jr. (2016)

FIRST BASE: Bagwell (2017)

SHORTSTOP: Larkin (2012)

RIGHT FIELD: Dawson (2010)

FIRST THINGS FIRST: With the election of Iván Rodríguez, 52 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, two catchers and one DH; position based on where electee played the majority of his big league games)...In 11 of the last 17 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	2017	Iván Rodríguez

TRY AND TRY AGAIN: The 70 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, Gehring, P.Waner, B.Williams); **7th election** (Appling, Bagwell, Foxx); **8th election** (Pennock, Traynor, Wilhelm); **9th election** (Dawson, Gossage, Greenberg, Medwick, Pérez); **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 50 Hall of Famers who spent their entire career with one team, with 2017 electee Jeff Bagwell the most recent addition 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, 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.

TEAMMATES IN COOPERSTOWN: Burleigh Grimes and Waite Hoyt share the record for most Hall of Fame teammates, based on playing on the same team in the same year...Both Grimes and Hoyt were on teams with 36 other future Hall of Famers...Grimes, whose big league career spanned 19 seasons with the Pirates, Dodgers, Giants, Braves, Cardinals, Cubs and Yankees, pitched from 1916-34 and was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1964...Hoyt pitched 21 seasons with the Giants, Red Sox, Yankees, Tigers, Athletics, Dodgers and Pirates and was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1969.

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...Trevor Hoffman, who missed by five votes in 2017, 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
2017	Trevor Hoffman	442	327	332	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, 25 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
2017	Iván Rodríguez	332	336	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 Pérez	375	385	10

NEW YORK, NEW YORK: Attempting to categorize Hall of Famers by team is complicated in those cases where an individual distinguishes himself with multiple organizations...For this chart, games played was the deciding factor for position players to suit up for more than one club; for pitchers, games won was the yardstick used... Executives and managers are included... By this method, the Yankees have better representation than any other club and the N.Y. Giants have placed the most former **players** in the Hall (20).

#	LG	TEAM	HALL OF FAMERS
28	AL	NYN	Barrow, Berra, Chesbro, Combs, Dickey, DiMaggio, Ford, Gehrig, Gomez, Gordon, Gossage, Hoyt, Huggins, Keeler, Lazzeri, Larry MacPhail, Lee MacPhail, Mantle, McCarthy, Pennock, Rizzuto, Ruffing, Ruppert, Ruth, Torre, Stengel, Weiss, Winfield
21	NL	NYG	Bresnahan, Connor, Davis, Ewing, T.Jackson, Hubbell, Irvin, Keefe, G. Kelly, Lindstrom, Marquard, Mathewson, McGinnity, McGraw, O'Rourke, Ott, Rusie, Terry, Ward, Welch, Youngs
18	NL	Cubs	Anson, Banks, Brown, Chance, Cuyler, Evers, Griffith, Jenkins, Hartnett, Herman, K.Kelly, Sandberg, Santo, Spalding, Sutter, Tinker, B.Williams, Wilson
18	NL	STL	Bottomley, Brock, Dean, Frisch, Gibson, Hafey, Haines, Herzog, Hornsby, La Russa, Medwick, Mize, Musial, *Rickey, Schoendienst, Southworth, Slaughter, Smith
14	AL	CWS	Aparicio, Appling, E.Collins, Comiskey, Faber, Fisk, Fox, Lopez, Lyons, Schalk, Thomas, Veeck, Walsh, Wilhelm
13	NL	Pit	Beckley, Carey, Clarke, Clemente, Dreyfuss, Kiner, Mazerowski, Stargell, Traynor, Vaughn, Wagner, P.Waner, L.Waner
12	AL	Cle	Averill, Boudreau, Coveleski, Doby, Feller, Flick, Joss, Lajoie, Lemon, Sewell, Speaker, Wynn
11	NL	Brook	Campanella, Durocher, Grimes, MacPhail, Reese, *Rickey, J.Robinson, W.Robinson, Snider, Vance, Wheat
11	NL	Cin	Bench, Giles, Larkin, Lombardi, McKechnie, McPhee, Morgan, Pérez, F.Robinson, Rixey, Roush
11	NL	Phil	Alexander, Ashburn, Bancroft, Carlton, Delahanty, Hamilton, Klein, Roberts, Schmidt, Thompson, Wright
10	AL	Det	Anderson, Bunning, Cobb, Crawford, Gehring, Greenberg, Heilmann, Kaline, Kell, Newhouser
9	AL	Phil	Baker, Bender, Cochrane, Foxx, Grove, Mack, Plank, Simmons, Waddell
10	AL	Bos	Boggs, J.Collins, Cronin, Doerr, Hooper, Martínez, J. Rice, T.Williams, Yastrzemski, Yawkey
7	NL	Bos	Clarkson, Duffy, Maranville, McCarthy, Nichols, Willis, Wright
6	NL	Atl	Cox, Glavine, Maddux, Niekro, Schuerholz, Smoltz
6	AL	Wash	Goslin, Griffith, Harris, Johnson, Manush, S. Rice
6	NL	LA	Alston, Drysdale, Koufax, Lasorda, O'Malley, Sutton
5	NL	SF	Cepeda, Marichal, Mays, McCovey, Perry
5	AL	Balt	Murray, Palmer, Ripken, B.Robinson, Weaver
5	AL	Oak	Eckersley, Fingers, Henderson, Hunter, R. Jackson
4	AL	Min	Blyleven, Carew, Killebrew, Puckett
4	NL	Mon	Carter, Dawson, Raines, D. Williams
4	AL	StL	Ferrell, Paige, Sisler, Wallace
3	NL	Mil	Aaron, Mathews, Spahn
3	NL	Bal	Hanlon, Jennings, J.Kelley
3	NL	Buffalo	Brouthers, Galvin, White
2	NL	Cle	Burkett, Young
2	NL	Hou	Bagwell, Biggio
2	AL	Mil	Molitor, Yount
2	NL	Mets	Piazza, Seaver
2	AL	Sea	Griffey, R. Johnson
2	AL	Tor	Alomar, Gillick
1	NL	Prov	Radbourn
1	AL	KC	Brett
1	AL	Cal	Ryan
1	NL	SD	Gwynn
1	AL	Tex	Rodríguez

*Branch Rickey spent an equal number of years with St. Louis & Brooklyn

**Randy Johnson's plaque features an Arizona Diamondbacks cap

CHAPMAN AND THE CROW: The team with the most Hall of Fame representation is the 1931-33 New York Yankees...With 75% of its everyday players plus three hurlers and the manager, 10 people from those three successful Yankee clubs are recognized in Cooperstown...Those in the Hall include Bill Dickey (C); Lou Gehrig (1B), Tony Lazzeri (2B), Joe Sewell (3B); Earle Combs (CF); Babe Ruth (RF); Red Ruffing, Lefty Gomez and Herb Pennock (P); and Joe McCarthy (mgr.)...From those teams, only the shortstop (Frank Crosetti) and left field (Ben Chapman) positions have not been elected to the Hall of Fame...Sewell entered the Hall as a shortstop, though he played third base for the Yankees at the tail end of his career.

MUSEUM UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, JULY 27: Authors' Series: Author Dan Scholssberg visits the Museum to discuss his book "The New Baseball Bible", a wide-ranging book covers the beginnings of baseball, rules and records, indelible moments in history, the language of the game, superstitions and traditions and today's game. A book signing will follow the 1 p.m. program in the Museum's Bullpen Theater with books available in the Museum's bookstore, located in the Library Atrium.

SATURDAY, JULY 29: An Inside Look at Big League Chew: Rob Nelson, the inventor of the iconic bubblegum Big League Chew, will share the story of the genesis of the gum and its pouches in a 10:15 a.m. program in the Museum's Bullpen Theater that is open to all Museum visitors. Afterward, head outside to the Museum's Sculpture Garden to learn the art of bubblegum blowing with Rob Nelson.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 2: Authors' Series: Author Bob Wirz visits the Museum discuss his book "The Passion of Baseball: A Journey to the Commissioner's Office of Major League Baseball." Mixing humor with nostalgia, longtime baseball executive Bob Wirz recalls a career that started as the first publicist in the history of the Kansas City Royals and included a long tenure as the chief spokesman for the commissioners Bowie Kuhn and Peter Ueberroth. Wirz' career within the game included regular visits to the World Series, the All-Star Game and the Hall of Fame's Induction Ceremony. A book signing will follow the 1 p.m. program in the Museum's Bullpen Theater with books available in the Museum's bookstore, located in the Library Atrium.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 9: Authors' Series: Author Nancy Finley visits the Museum discuss her book "Finley Ball: How Two Baseball Outsiders Turned the Oakland A's into a Dynasty and Changed the Game Forever." Nancy Finley tells the compelling story of a losing team that became a 1970s dynasty, thanks to the unorthodox strategies and stunts of two very colorful men. When Charlie Finley bought the A's in 1960, he was an outsider to the game – an insurance salesman with a larger-than-life personality. He brought his cousin Carl on as his right-hand man, moved the team from Kansas City to Oakland, and pioneered a new way to put together a winning team. A book signing will follow the 1 p.m. program in the Museum's Bullpen Theater with books available in the Museum's bookstore, located in the Library Atrium.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 16: Authors' Series: Author Ron Kaplan visits the Museum discuss his book "Hank Greenberg in 1938: Hatred and Home Runs in the Shadow of War." From his first day in the big leagues, Hank Greenberg dealt with persecution for being Jewish. The Hall of Famer always did his best to shut out the bigotry, but in 1938, that would prove more difficult than he could have imagined. Author Ron Kaplan examines Greenberg's 1938 season in incredible detail. A book signing will follow the 1 p.m. program in the Museum's Bullpen Theater with books available in the Museum's bookstore, located in the Library Atrium.

AUG. 26-28: Cubs Weekend: The Hall of Fame will host Cubs Weekend Aug. 26-27, with the 2016 World Series Trophy on display at the Museum both days...Museum visitors will have the chance to relive the 2016 season and create new memories in Cooperstown, where artifacts of the Cubs' world 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. 26 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 27. Visitors will be permitted to take pictures with the trophy. The Museum's exhibit honoring the 2016 Cubs, which is part of the permanent Autumn Glory exhibit, features artifacts, photographs and ephemera detailing the Cubs' first World Series title since 1908. Artifacts in the exhibit include: The bat used by World Series Most Valuable Player Ben Zobrist to drive in the go-ahead run in the 10th inning of Game 7; the home jersey worn by Kyle Schwarber – who played in only two regular season games prior to hitting .412 in the World Series – throughout the Fall Classic; the first-pitch ball from Game 7 at Cleveland's Progressive Field; the home jersey worn by Anthony Rizzo during Game 4; the mitt used by Cubs catcher David Ross throughout the World Series; and the second base bag used in the 10th inning of Game 7 when the Cubs clinched the title. Entrance to the Autumn Glory exhibit is included with Museum admission.

MUSEUM NEWS FROM COOPERSTOWN

COMING TO COOPERSTOWN: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has already received many treasures from the 2017 season, including: The pullover worn by Team USA manager Jim Leyland during the World Baseball Classic final March 22 vs. Puerto Rico...A cap worn by WBC Most Valuable Player Marcus Stroman during the tournament...A batting helmet used by Team USA's Brandon Crawford in the WBC...A cap and jersey worn by Adam Jones of Team USA at the WBC...A jersey worn by Puerto Rico's Javier Báez during the WBC...A lineup card and the baseball used for the first pitch during the championship game between the United States and Puerto Rico...The yarmulke worn by Team Israel's Dylan Axelrod during pregame ceremonies at the WBC...A game-worn cap from Team Israel's Josh Zeid, who pitched three scoreless innings in Team Israel's win in Game 1 of the WBC...A game-worn batting helmet from Ryan Lavarnway, who hit the first home run in WBC history for Team Israel in its Game 2 matchup in pool play...A bat used by Team Puerto Rico's Carlos Correa during the WBC...The batting helmet used by the Braves' Ender Enciarte when he recorded the first hit and first home run at Atlanta's SunTrust Park on April 14...The cap worn by Braves' starting pitcher Julio Teheran in the team's first game at SunTrust Park on April 14...The batting helmet worn by the Giants' Madison Bumgarner on April 2 when he hit two home runs against the Diamondbacks on Opening Day...The cap worn by the Pirates' Dovydas Neverauskas on April 24 when he became the first native of Lithuania to pitch in the big leagues...The cap worn by the Pirates' Gift Ngoepe on April 26 when he became the first player born in continental Africa to appear in an MLB game...A game-used ball marked "Ichiro 3,000" from the April 30 Pirates vs. Marlins game that commemorated Ichiro Suzuki's 3,000th hit...The batting helmet worn by the Rangers' Carlos Gomez when he hit for the cycle on April 29...The jersey worn by the Nationals' Anthony Rendon on April 30 went he went 6-for-6 with three home runs, a double and 10 RBI...The ball hit by the Rockies' Michael Cuddyer on Aug. 17, 2014 for an eighth-inning double to complete his second career cycle...Game-worn cap and spikes from the Marlins' Edinson Vólquez and a ball from his no-hitter on June 3...The bat used by the Reds' Scooter Gennett to hit four home runs on June 6 against the Cardinals...The bucket and sunglasses Pete Frates used during his Ice Bucket Challenge at Fenway Park in 2014, along with his glove and Boston College cap from his days as a player and captain with the Eagles' baseball team...The first base bag from Citi Field on May 20 when the Mets' Jose Reyes recorded the 2,000th hit of his career...A jersey worn by the Angels' Albert Pujols during the game in which he hit his 600th career home run on June 3...The cap worn by Brewers' closer Corey Knebel on June 30 against the Marlins when he set a new single-season MLB record for relievers with a strikeout in his 40th straight game...The stars-and-stripes socks worn by Charlie Blackmon of the Rockies on July 4...The cap worn by Futures Game MVP Brent Honeywell on July 9...The jersey worn by the Blue Jays' Russell Martin July 1 on Canada Day...The jersey worn by the Twins' Miguel Sano during the All-Star Home Run Derby on July 10 in Miami...And the jersey worn by All-Star Game MVP Robinson Canó on July 11 in Miami.

LET'S GET DIGITAL: The Hall of Fame Digital Preservation Project launched in 2016, providing the opportunity for fans and researchers to explore the Museum's unparalleled collection...Additional digitized material – including photos, audio, video and text – from the Museum collection will be published regularly as the Museum adds to the PASTIME online collection, which is available at 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 Preservation 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 preserved for future generations of fans.

COOPERSTOWN CONNECTION

VIP TREATMENT: This spring, 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. 7-8, Oct. 12-13 and Nov. 16-17...For more information, please visit baseballhall.org/visit/vip-experience.

SUMMER DAYS, SUMMER NIGHTS: The Museum's extended hours begin Memorial Day Weekend and will remain in effect through the day before Labor Day...Extended summer hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Sunday, May 28 through the day before Labor Day...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), \$12 for those holding current memberships in the VFW, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and AMVets organizations, and \$12 for juniors (ages 7-12)...Members and active or career retired military personnel 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.