



NEWS

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AROUND THE HORN

Opening Day Edition

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

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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 27 at Cooperstown's historic Doubleday Field... The Classic, presented by Ford Motor Company for the ninth straight year, 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 Wade Boggs, Rollie Fingers, Goose Gossage, Juan Marichal, Phil Niekro and Ozzie Smith return as managers and coaches for the event... Participating players will be announced in the coming weeks... **Tickets for the 2017 Hall of Fame Classic are on sale now at www.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 27, with the 10K race beginning at 9 a.m. and the 5K race starting at 9:15 a.m.; and the Cooperstown Classic Clinic on Friday, May 26 from 4-7 p.m. at Doubleday Field for young fans ages 7-12... Classic Weekend will also feature a tribute to THE SIMPSONS' episode "Homer at the Bat", with a roundtable featuring executives from the show from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in front of the Hall of Fame Library and then a pregame ceremony at Doubleday Field... Tickets for the Classic are \$12.50 for infield seats, \$11 for outfield seats... For more info, visit www.baseballhall.org/hofclassic.

CLASSIC CREDENTIALS: Credential applications for the Hall of Fame Classic will be available starting April 3 at credentials.mlb.com... For more media information on the Hall of Fame Classic, please visit www.baseballhall.org/media-info.

HOMER HOF: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum will pay tribute to THE SIMPSONS' place in American culture by honoring "Homer at the Bat" on **Saturday, May 27**... Wade Boggs and Ozzie Smith, who were portrayed in the unforgettable episode that featured Homer Simpson winning the championship softball game for the Springfield Nuclear Power Plant with a walk-off hit-by-pitch, will join in a roundtable discussion from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. outside the Library entrance to the Hall of Fame in Cooper Park... The discussion, which is free and open to the public, will also feature the episode's executive producers Al Jean and Mike Reiss, director Jim Reardon, executive story editor Jeff Martin, and casting director Bonnie Pietila... During the roundtable, Homer will be "inducted" into the Hall of Fame... This brief ceremony will be followed with the official ribbon-cutting on a SIMPSONS-themed exhibit display in the Museum... THE SIMPSONS will also be honored prior to the Hall of Fame Classic legends game taking place that afternoon at Cooperstown's historic Doubleday Field.

GOLF CLASSIC: The Hall of Fame is giving fans yet another reason to return to baseball's home as the Museum presents the eighth 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 28 – 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.

FIGURE EIGHT: 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...And in last year's Classic, Melvin Mora homered twice to lead the Knucksies to a 5-4 victory.

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 sixth annual BASE Race charity runs – a 5k fun run and competitive 10k events – on Saturday, May 27, 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 2017 BASE Race, as selected former major league players will 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 27...Registration for the 2017 BASE Race is \$25 and \$55 for families...Signups are now being accepted online at <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 20th 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 714th 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 575th 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 14th 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.

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 2, 2001: Padres outfielder Tony Gwynn collected his 3,110th 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 2017

As baseball's newest stars are set to begin the 2017 season, the National Baseball Hall of Fame is prepping for the game's biggest annual celebration when five legends will be inducted as the Class of 2017 this July in Cooperstown...With the election of **John Schuerholz** and **Bud Selig** by the Today's Game Era Committee in December and **Jeff Bagwell**, **Tim Lincecum** and **Iván Rodríguez** by the Baseball Writers' Association of America on Jan. 18, the Class of 2017 brings the total number of Hall of Famers to 317, including a record 74 living Hall of Famers...Bagwell, Raines, Rodríguez, Schuerholz and Selig will be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at 1:30 p.m. ET on Sunday, July 30 at the Clark Sports Center in Cooperstown...2017 Ford C. Frick Award winner **Bill King** and 2017 Spink Award winner **Claire Smith** will be honored during Induction Weekend at the Awards Presentation on Saturday, July 29 at Doubleday Field in Cooperstown.

HOF WEEKEND CREDENTIALS: Hall of Fame Weekend 2017 will be held July 28-31 with the annual Induction Ceremony scheduled to take place on Sunday, July 30...The Weekend will feature the annual Awards Presentation at Doubleday Field on Saturday, July 29 at 4:30 p.m...The eighth 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 28...Class of 2017 members Jeff Bagwell, Tim Raines, Iván Rodríguez, John Schuerholz and Bud Selig will be honored during the Induction Ceremony...Admission to the Ceremony is free and the ceremony will be broadcast live on MLB Network...Media credentials for Hall of Fame Weekend will be accepted starting May 1 at credentials.mlb.com... For more information, please visit www.baseballhall.org/media-info.

CAP CHOICES: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has announced the cap selections that will appear on the Hall of Fame plaques for the three players who are members of the Hall of Fame Class of 2017...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 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 will become the second Hall of Famer to have an Astros cap on his plaque, following 2015 inductee Craig Biggio...Rodríguez will become the second Hall of Famer to sport a Rangers cap on his plaque, following Nolan Ryan.

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 among players with at least 400 stolen base attempts, Raines ranks first with an 84.7 percent success rate...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.

VOTING 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%	Pat Burrell	1	0.0%
Tim Raines	10	86.0%	Fred McGriff	8	21.7%	Orlando Cabrera	1	0.0%
Iván Rodríguez	1	76.0%	Jeff Kent	4	16.7%	Mike Cameron	1	0.0%
Trevor Hoffman	2	74.0%	Gary Sheffield	3	13.3%	J.D. Drew	1	0.0%
Vladimir Guerrero	1	71.7%	Billy Wagner	2	10.2%	Carlos Guillen	1	0.0%
Edgar Martinez	8	58.6%	Sammy Sosa	5	8.6%	Derrek Lee	1	0.0%
Roger Clemens	5	54.1%	Jorge Posada	1	3.8%	Melvin Mora	1	0.0%
Barry Bonds	5	53.8%	Magglio Ordonez	1	0.7%	Arthur Rhodes	1	0.0%
Mike Mussina	4	51.8%	Edgar Renteria	1	0.5%	Freddy Sanchez	1	0.0%
Curt Schilling	5	45.0%	Jason Varitek	1	0.5%	Matt Stairs	1	0.0%
Lee Smith	15	34.1%	Tim Wakefield	1	0.2%			
Manny Ramirez	1	23.8%	Casey Blake	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 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 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...Rodríguez 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 seven Hall of Famers in their 40s: John Smoltz, 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).

NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE: 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, Alfonso Soriano; **2021:** Tim Hudson, Torii Hunter, Aramis Ramirez, Barry Zito; **2022:** Prince Fielder, David Ortíz, Alex Rodríguez, 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 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 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 74 living members, the most at any time in Hall of Fame history.

74 AMBASSADORS: The 74 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, 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, 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.

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 was born on April 7, 1918, while World War I was still raging around the globe.

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 Baseman .. 21 (11)	Left Fielders 22 (12)
Catchers 18 (10)	Third Baseman 16 (6)	Center Fielders 24 (8)
First Baseman 22 (10)	Shortstops 24 (11)	Right Fielders 24 (13)
Designated Hitter 1 (1)		

	DH: Thomas (2014)	
PITCHER: Johnson, Martínez, Smoltz (2015)	SECOND BASE: Biggio (2015)	LEFT FIELD: Raines (2017)
CATCHER: Rodríguez (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, 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 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 played 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, including 2017 electee Ivan Rodriguez:

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 Perez	375	385	10

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 NEWS FROM COOPERSTOWN

COMING TO COOPERSTOWN: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has already received treasures from the 2017 season, including: The pullover worn by Team USA manager Jim Leyland during the World Baseball Championship 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 worn by Adam Jones of Team USA at the WBC...And a bat used by Team Puerto Rico's Carlos Correa during the WBC.

CARE AND CONSERVATION WORKSHOP: Almost all fans of the game collect something to preserve our baseball memories and share them with friends and family...These collectibles might include baseball cards, autographed baseballs, jerseys, photographs or programs...Now you can learn from the experts at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum how to care for these special items and ensure that they are preserved for future generations of your family...On April 28-29, fans can get a unique look at the Cooperstown shrine with the Collection Care and Conservation Workshop... The Collection Care and Conservation Workshop provides fans with a behind-the-scenes look at the Museum, an in-depth learning experience and once-in-a-lifetime dining opportunity...Participants will enjoy seeing artifacts and items from our Museum and Library Archive through several unique seminars outlining how we care for our collections – along with principles to assist you in caring for your baseball collection or other cherished items...A few highlights of this experience include: a Museum Archive Tour and a private catered dinner within the iconic Hall of Fame Plaque Gallery... A Sustaining Membership (\$125 value) is also included with this package For more information, please visit <http://baseballhall.org/visit/collection-care-and-conservation-workshop>, or call 607-547-0397 or email membership@baseballhall.org.

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 <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 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 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

HALL OF FAME ARTIFACTS ON EXHIBIT AT ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM:

The Chicago Cubs and St. Louis Cardinals have forged more than 100 years of history as rivals on the diamond – with much of that history preserved at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum... This year, a city at the epicenter of the rivalry – Springfield, Ill. – will bring fans of both teams together through an exhibit featuring Hall of Fame artifacts at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum... Opened March 24, Cubs vs. Cardinals: The Rivalry at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum will treat visitors to rare artifacts, photographs and baseball cards from the celebrated histories of the Cardinals and the Cubs... Developed in conjunction with the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, The Rivalry also features artifacts on loan from both franchises in a unique partnership with all three organizations... Visitors will learn about legendary players ranging from Mordecai Brown and Rogers Hornsby to Jake Arrieta and Yadier Molina as well as interact with the exhibit by sharing their own Cards-Cubs memories, answering trivia questions and playing a home run derby as their favorite team... Items planned for the exhibit from the Hall of Fame's collection include:

- The second-base bag stolen by Cardinals star (and former Cub) Lou Brock on Sept. 10, 1974, to break the previous modern record for steals in a season
- The cap worn by Cubs pitcher Kerry Wood when he struck out 20 batters on May 6, 1998
- A chart kept by Cardinals manager Whitey Herzog to track the hitting trends of Cubs slugger Andre Dawson
- A watch fob owned by Mordecai "Three Finger" Brown with medallions for the Cubs' 1907 and 1908 World Series victories and 1906 pennant win
- Shoes worn by Cardinals outfielder Vince Coleman when he set the major league record for stolen bases by a rookie in 1985

The exhibit will be housed in the ALPLM's Illinois Gallery, a space dedicated to rotating exhibits on state history.

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. 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.

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.