

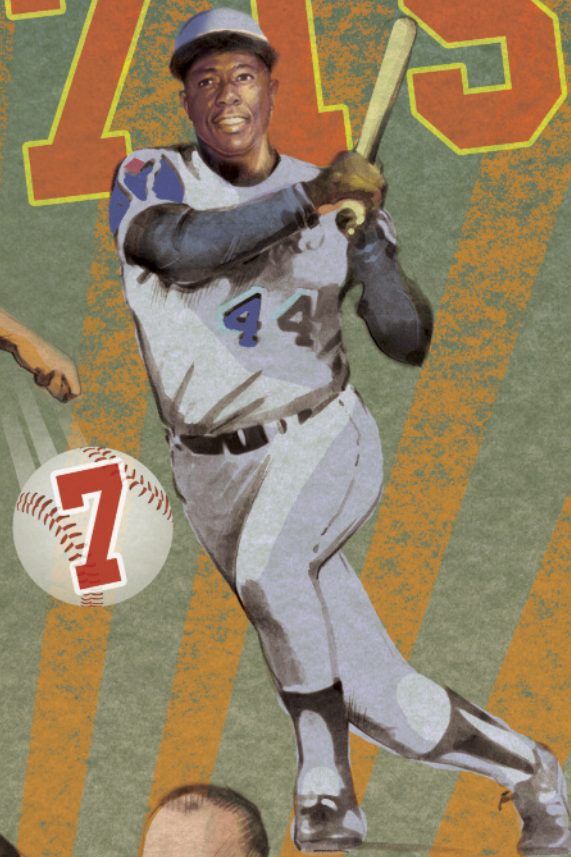
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SUMMER 2020 | VOLUME 42 | NUMBER 3 | THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE HALL OF FAME

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The Official Magazine of the Hall of Fame

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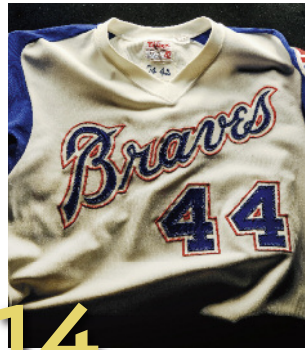
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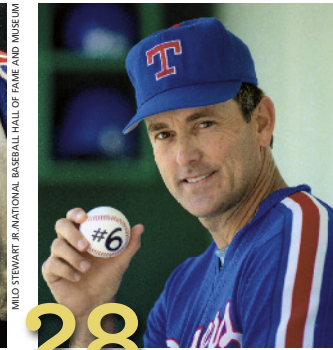
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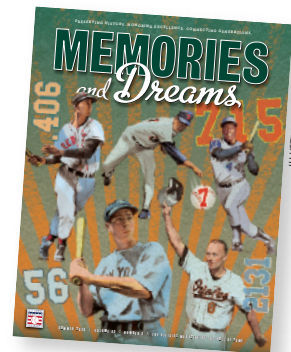
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Baseball is a game of numbers, and some of the most memorable ones are linked to Hall of Famers, including (clockwise from top left) Ted Williams, Nolan Ryan, Henry Aaron, Cal Ripken and Joe DiMaggio.

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ILLUSTRATION BY VAL BOCKOV

FROM THE PRESIDENT > TIM MEAD



First we learned that Major League Baseball would press pause on Spring Training amid the spread of the Coronavirus. Shortly thereafter, we made the decision to close the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum until it was deemed safe to reopen. And in the time since, we have seen our county, and the world, adapt as never before to a public health crisis of immense magnitude.

In late March, I received a note from Ed Henderson, a respected longtime scout and reporter from Colorado. Remaining in his home following social distancing guidelines, Ed penned some poignant thoughts about our great game in the context of its current interruption. His words expressed sentiments that I am sure millions of baseball fans share. These thoughts were heavy on his heart, and I believe they speak to our collective heartbreak in a spring without baseball:



I miss it. I really miss it.

Maybe I never fully understood what a wonderful game it is until it was gone.

Every year we wait. We wait through the long cold months of winter.

We know that when mid-February arrives we will get that brief glimmer of summer and warm weather as Spring Training gets underway.

Every year it's there. Every year we count on it. Then just as suddenly as it arrived, it's gone.

It seems petty (maybe even inappropriate) to be talking about baseball during a time like this, but I miss it. We all miss it.

It's not just the game itself that we miss. We miss the ballparks. We miss the sights. We miss the sounds. We miss the smells. We miss the unforgettable characters who have been so much a part of our National Pastime. We miss every facet of the baseball experience that makes it so incredibly unique and special.

We miss the laughter and the cheering and the electricity of being inside a ballpark that is vibrating with the collective energy of the fans.

We miss the camaraderie. We miss the competition. We miss the replays. We miss the history. We miss the rivalries and the great plays and the home runs. We miss the experience of being with family and friends. We miss baseball. We miss normal. We need baseball.

Sometime, hopefully soon, this horrible scourge will pass and we can all begin to re-emerge back into the lives we led before anyone ever heard of Coronavirus.

In front of us, standing ready and waiting, will be baseball.

Ed Henderson



As a society and a global community, each of us has been forced to face surreal challenges in recent months – challenges that will most likely continue in some manner for an undefined period of time.

We have seen the collaboration of many of the brightest minds in our country, and across the globe, devote every available minute to slay this invisible enemy. The word “hero” has been applied to our health care workers on the front lines, and redefined to include individuals in vocations to which we will long be grateful for their selfless dedication during these unimaginable times.

And each day, we have had a front-and-center seat to view the compassion of the human spirit in taking care of others. Especially during these most difficult times, acts of empathy and paying-it-forward take on an ever greater importance.

We frequently refer to the light at the end of the tunnel. While we each have our own definitions of what will represent that light, we long for the comforting experiences we could never have imagined being taken from us by this disease.

Baseball, the background music to our springs, summers and falls, will be one of those shining lights. And though the game’s return appears a little blurry, we can be sure that it will return. Baseball will again provide us with joy, camaraderie and high drama. It will remind us of a simpler time. That is the magic of our most American Pastime: to rekindle our fondest memories.

And that is why, even during these times of uncertainty, our staff has worked hard to continue to bring you stories of baseball’s history and its all-time greats. Through our web content, social media channels, virtual programming activities, educational activities and the stories told in this very magazine, we hope that we can play a small role in carrying us forward in a world in which the game on the field has paused.

We wait for the day that we meet a friend at Wrigley Field, listen to Joe Castiglione during a backyard barbecue or track the daily results of our fantasy team.

Our passion for baseball will be even stronger upon its return. For generations, this game has served as the heartbeat of America, and its resumption will mean so much more than the results of the games on the field.

Until that time, the Hall of Fame – our game’s holiest of grounds – will continue to tell the game’s stories, preserve its history and celebrate its greatness. 🏆

SHORT HOPS

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



The Museum's Education Department offers students and teachers free programs that provide interactive and meaningful learning experiences that align with national learning standards.

Connect to Cooperstown via free virtual programs

Connect with the Museum through all the Hall of Fame's online offerings via Safe at Home, which features educational and cultural resources that include:

- The Museum's Digital Collection at collection.baseballhall.org, which has historic photographs, scouting reports, audio oral histories and artifact images from the Museum collection;
- Free downloadable educational curriculum, which cover 15 different topics ranging from mathematics to character development and are tailored to three different school levels from elementary to high school;

- Historic and current videos at the Hall of Fame's YouTube Channel, featuring Hall of Famer biographies, in-depth interviews and highlights of past Hall of Fame Weekends;
- Online exhibits that provide a virtual tour of the Museum, as well as through Google Arts & Culture.

The Baseball Hall of Fame is dedicated to fostering knowledge of the game and its role in our history. The Museum's Education Department can help facilitate at-home learning through video presentations, fun activities and sharing the Hall's unparalleled collection.

We offer K-12 students and teachers programs that provide interactive and meaningful learning experiences that align with national learning standards, and also have free printable Hall of Fame activities that include games, coloring projects and reading lists.

An assortment of free lesson plans that use baseball to teach math, science, social studies and the arts for students from grades 3-12 are also available.

For more info, email our Education Department at education@baseballhall.org or call (607) 547-0349. Explore all the Museum's online offerings at baseballhall.org/discover/safe-at-home.

Experience the Museum as a VIP

Fans have the opportunity to explore the Hall of Fame through a special program designed to give Cooperstown visitors a VIP Experience. The Museum has partnered with Cooperstown accommodations to offer this unique package, which features behind-the-scenes experiences at the Museum, including a Hall of Fame Sustaining Membership (\$125 value), exclusive after-hours access to the Museum on Thursday evening, a Library archive tour, a Museum collections artifact presentation and concludes with a private late-afternoon reception with light refreshments served.

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

For more information and a list of participating accommodations, visit the Hall of Fame website at baseballhall.org/VIPexperience. Dates for upcoming packages include Sept. 10-11 and Nov. 5-6.

Party at the Hall

In beautiful Cooperstown in the heart of Central New York, the most well-known and first sports Hall of Fame sets the stage for sophisticated and stylish events.

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For more information, call the Museum's sales office at (607) 547-0312 or visit baseballhall.org/visit/facility-rentals.

We'd like to hear from you

We love hearing from our readers and about their connections to the stories in each issue of *Memories and Dreams*. Send your notes and letters to us at membership@baseballhall.org.

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BY THE NUMBERS

BASEBALL'S ICONIC STATISTICS ARE A PART OF THE GAME'S ENDURING FABRIC.

BY JACOB POMRENKE

1.12 ... 42 ... 56 ... 262 ... 383 ... 406 ... 511 ... 715 ... 2,632.

Baseball's numbers roll off the tongue easily. They are instantly recognizable to generations of fans, who understand their significance without any explanation necessary. The complete history of the game can be told through numbers like Bob Gibson's ERA (1.12), Cy Young's win total (511) and Cal Ripken's consecutive games streak (2,632).

From the Civil War to the sabermetric WARS, baseball's greatest players, teams and moments from its earliest origins to the modern era are captured in statistics that still catch our attention. Some stats may be as old as the infield dirt, while others are created with computers using complex mathematical formulas. But they all represent the same pursuit of excellence that drives the best ballplayers from the moment they pick up their first bat or glove.

When we trace the line of baseball's most treasured records, the numbers can connect us to players we never got to see with our own eyes. When Ichiro Suzuki surpasses George Sisler's single-season record with his 258th hit or Tony Gwynn spends a summer trying to equal Ted Williams' .406 batting average, it gives us a better appreciation for Hall of Famers

from many years ago – even when their names are no longer at the top of the record books.

The most meaningful numbers transcend greatness on the field to become cultural signifiers, a sign of baseball's hold on millions of fans throughout the world. Henry Aaron chasing Babe Ruth's total of 714

career home runs is not just a baseball story: Aaron's quest is an object lesson on equal opportunity and perseverance over injustice. It is the story of a specific time and place in American history, an African-American man succeeding in the Deep South during the heart of the civil rights movement. The number of home runs hit by the Atlanta Braves star represents so much more than how many baseballs he sent flying over the fence.

These numbers make the game's history come alive, giving each player's accomplishments a sense of gravitas and reverence that no other sport can match. How many football fans could tell you which player led the NFL in rushing yards last season? (Derrick Henry with 1,540.) How many basketball fans can rattle off Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's career points total without looking it up? (It's 38,387.) But we all know a baseball fan who is willing to engage in a friendly discussion about whether Sandy Koufax's 1.73 ERA in 1966 is more impressive than Pedro Martínez's 1.74 ERA in 2000.

Baseball fans have always cared deeply about statistics – we study



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Roger Maris hit 61 home runs in 1961 to break Babe Ruth's longstanding record of 60. Home run totals continue to hold a fascination among followers of the National Pastime. **Opposite page clockwise from top left:** Cy Young's 511 victories set a baseball standard that has stood for more than a century and may never be topped. Rickey Henderson's 939th career stolen base moved him past Lou Brock for first place on the all-time list. Henderson finished his career with 1,406 steals, a record that may last for generations. Henry Aaron set MLB's career home run mark when he slammed his 715th early in the 1974 season. He remained baseball's home run king for 33 seasons before being surpassed by Barry Bonds. Bob Gibson's 1.12 ERA in 1968 was so dominant that it led baseball to lower the pitcher's mound the following season.



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



BRAD MICHNER/REUTERS/HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



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GETTY IMAGES



Left: Babe Ruth is legendary for the many home run records he set, including his 714 career round-trippers. Often overlooked is his .342 lifetime batting average, 10th all time in MLB history. **Right:** In 1894, Cap Anson became the first player to reach 3,000 career hits, but, unlike today, his feat wasn't celebrated because statistics weren't as carefully maintained.

them, we analyze them, we argue about them endlessly – and these numbers are embedded in the lifeblood of what makes the game so special. No matter how popular other sports may be, only baseball has such a wide range of special numbers that tell the story of where we came from and what it might be possible to achieve.

Baseball's love affair with numbers goes back to the beginning. The first recorded box score was published in 1845 with just two simple notations for each batter: Runs scored and outs made, based on similar records kept for the sport of cricket. Soon, base hits were included, which led to the creation of batting averages. Some fielding statistics like putouts, assists and errors were added to box scores not long after. That basic statistical record of baseball survives to this day.

By the time the National League played its inaugural season in 1876, primitive forms of modern statistics were beginning to flourish: Earned-run average, on-base percentage, slugging average and even a fielding metric that sabermetric pioneer Bill James later called "range factor" were all invented before the end of the 19th century, although some took many more years to catch on.

According to James, the statistics made publicly available by the National League in its early years included: Games played, at-bats, hits,

runs, batting average, on-base percentage, putouts, assists, errors, total chances, fielding average, passed balls, batters facing pitcher, runs allowed, hits allowed, opponents' batting average, walks and wild pitches, plus various per-game averages based on the raw totals.

As baseball developed into the National Pastime, the game's growing statistical record fed fans' insatiable desire for more information. At the end of every season, sporting goods manufacturers Albert Spalding (a Hall of Famer elected as an executive who had been a star pitcher in his youth) and A.J. Reach were among those who published popular guidebooks that contained complete player statistics and team standings. This made it easier for fans to keep track of how their favorite players ranked against each other. Those numbers also made it possible for players to strive for statistical milestones such as a .400 batting average, 300 career wins or 3,000 hits.

Because the quality of record-keeping was very poor – all of these records were maintained in hand-written ledgers and subject to human error – not all statistical milestones were known at the time. When Cap Anson of the Chicago Colts (now the Cubs) became the first player to join the 3,000-hit club in 1894, there was little fanfare, in part because no one could find an accurate count of his career record. Ty Cobb's 3,000th hit in 1921 was barely covered in the Detroit newspapers. Sam Rice of the

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The Hall of Fame collection includes several items celebrating baseball's biggest statistical milestones, including (top to bottom) Henry Aaron's 715th home run jersey, Cy Young's 500th win baseball and Ichiro Suzuki's batting gloves from his 262nd hit during the 2004 season.

Washington Senators retired in 1934 with 2,987 hits, just 13 shy of the magic number.

"The truth of the matter is," he said later, "I did not even know how many hits I had."

That's a problem players of today could never imagine facing. Whenever someone is close to reaching a major milestone or about to break a record, his progress is tracked at every turn – with televised look-ins of each at-bat, intensive questions in postgame press conferences and instant updates for his stats online. His performance is dissected by fans and sportswriters eager to be a part of history when the moment arrives.

Before the widespread dissemination of baseball encyclopedias, some iconic numbers were little more than guessing games. The first statistical milestone to attract public attention, according to baseball historian Peter Morris, was Cy Young's 500th win in 1910, when the *Sporting Life* newspaper proclaimed it as "a unique feat requiring 21 years of continuous effort, which has no parallel in baseball annals and may never be repeated by any pitcher now before the public." More than a century later, Young's mark of 511 wins remains the one to beat.

On the other hand, when Ruth became the first player to reach 500 home runs, on Aug. 11, 1929, at Cleveland's League Park, his accomplishment was celebrated in newspaper headlines around the country. By then, every swing of Ruth's bat had been documented in excruciating detail for years, so there was no question as to how many homers he had actually hit. Ruth reportedly paid \$20 and delivered two autographed baseballs to the lucky fan who caught the home run ball on Lexington Avenue beyond the right field fence. Then he went right back to hitting more home runs, eventually finishing with 714.

While the 500-home run club has almost doubled in size in the past quarter-century, it remains an important milestone in charting the game's history. The story of baseball can be told by the players who have surpassed that mark, from Ruth to Aaron to Barry Bonds. However, reaching 500 home runs is no longer the "automatic" ticket to immortality it was once considered to be, and that evolution tells its own story, too.

Baseball fans have been blessed with a long and comprehensive statistical record, with numbers that are instantly accessible and easily understood. That makes it possible to compare players from different eras and to measure their accomplishments against the weight of history. The numbers we remember best, the ones we treasure most, are those that stand the test of time.

The most iconic numbers in baseball represent the most memorable players, teams and events from our time and those that have come before us. They have become our cultural shorthand, a shared language that unites baseball fans of all generations.

The records behind those numbers may be broken eventually, but that doesn't mean they'll ever be forgotten. 📌

Jacob Pomrenke is the Society for American Baseball Research's director of editorial content.

STREAK TIMES TWO

CAL RIPKEN'S CHASE OF LOU GEHRIG'S 'UNBREAKABLE' RECORD FOREVER LINKED THE IRONMEN.

BY SCOTT PITONIAK

Over the course of more than five decades, the number had achieved sacred status. It had become perhaps the most revered record of them all.

The mere mention of 2,130 instantly prompted almost any baseball fan to think about the number of consecutive games played by legendary New York Yankees first baseman Lou Gehrig. Those four digits and the man associated with them were so beloved that as Cal Ripken Jr. closed in on the mark in early September 1995, some actually suggested the Baltimore Orioles' Iron Man should pay homage to the late Yankees' Iron Horse by ending his streak upon tying the record.

They believed that sharing 2,130 would ensure the number remained etched in people's minds forever.

"From what I'd learned about Gehrig, I don't think he would have wanted me to stop," Ripken said. "He was one of the greatest ballplayers of all time. A fierce competitor. A guy who took great pride in seeing his name on the lineup card every day. Not, by any means, the type of guy who was interested in ties. I think it would have been insulting

to his work ethic had I not played on."

And so Ripken played on. And on. And on. His record of 2,632 consecutive games didn't diminish 2,130. Or erase it from the memory banks. Instead, it called attention to it, put the Bronx Bomber's achievement and legacy back in the spotlight.

"When you break someone's record, you don't make people forget them," Ripken said. "You make people remember them."

Today – a quarter century after Ripken's record-setting, faith-in-baseball-restoring night at Baltimore's Camden Yards – Gehrig's mark continues to be celebrated. We're reminded that records may be broken, but legends endure. Any mention of Ripken's streak automatically evokes memories of Gehrig's streak. The Iron Man and Iron Horse are forever linked.

Breaking the barrier

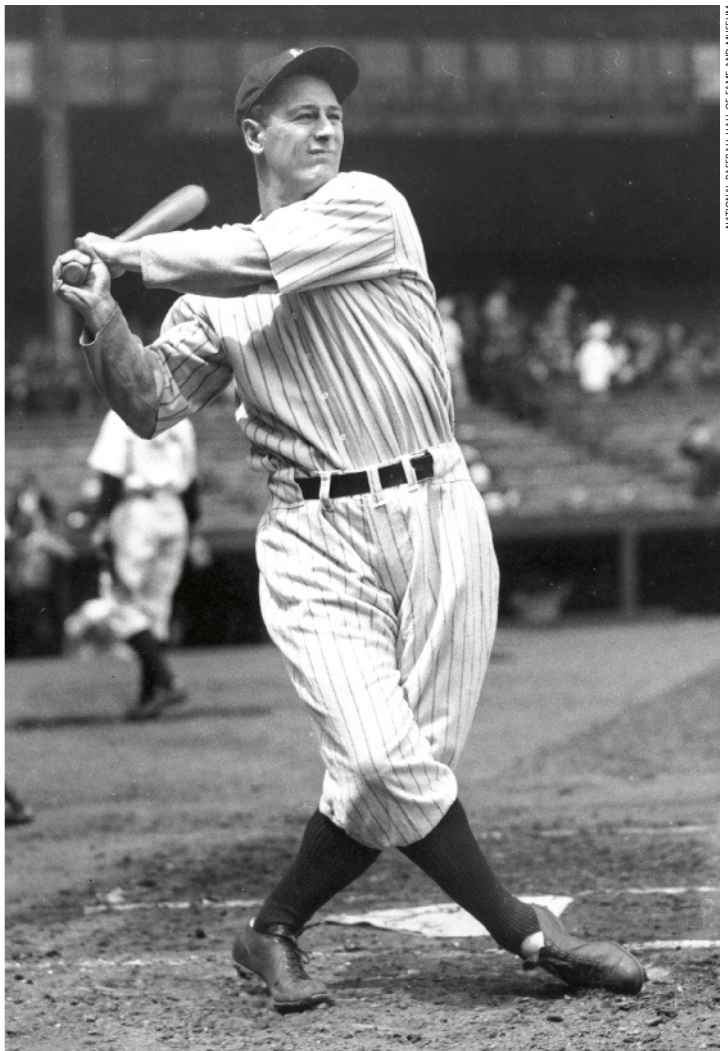
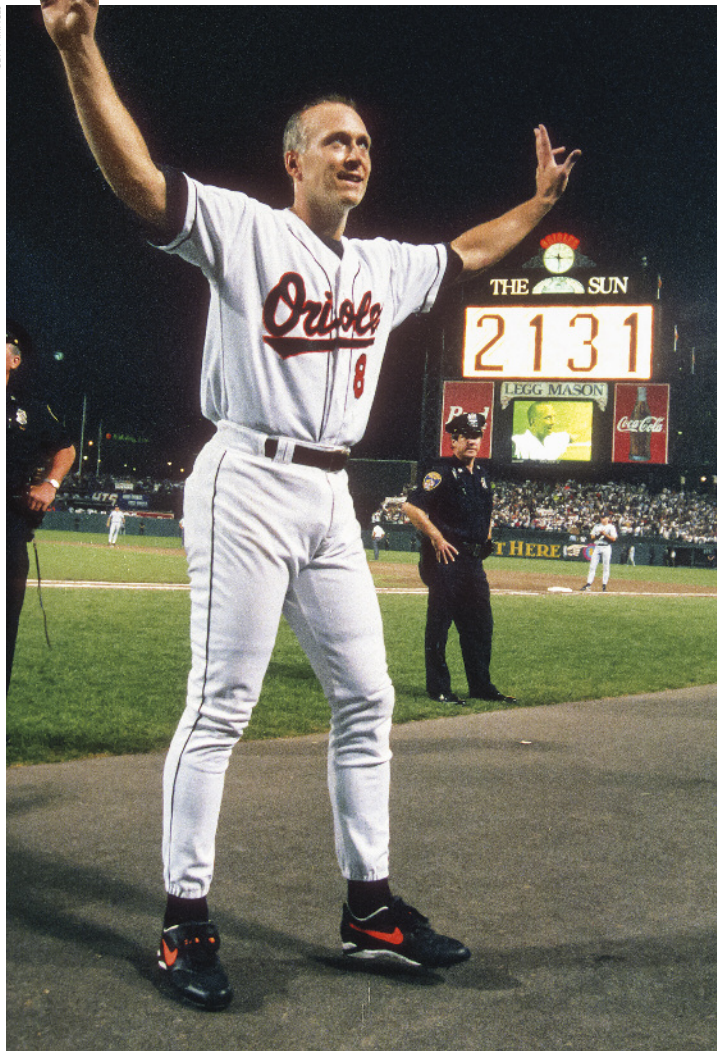
The reverence for Gehrig and his amazing streak is rooted in tragedy. We remember how his magnificent career and life were cut short by ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), a debilitating, fatal neurological disorder now known as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

But we also think of the Hall of Famer's courageous response to his death-sentence diagnosis, particularly on July 4, 1939, when he stepped in front of a microphone and proclaimed himself the "luckiest man on the face of the earth" in front of more than 60,000 fans who had packed Yankee Stadium for "Lou Gehrig



On Sept. 6, 1995, Cal Ripken officially became baseball's "Ironman," eclipsing Lou Gehrig by playing in his 2,131st consecutive game. Ripken's streak ran three more years and ultimately reached 2,632 games.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Hall of Famers Cal Ripken (left) and Lou Gehrig (right) are forever connected in baseball annals not only by their consecutive games played streaks, but because of their dignified and determined approach to their profession and their shared respect for the game. Gehrig was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1939, and Ripken joined him in Cooperstown in 2007.

Appreciation Day.” His poignant speech became baseball’s “Gettysburg Address” and would be recreated and immortalized by actor Gary Cooper in the film *The Pride of the Yankees*, which hit theaters across America in 1942, just a year after Gehrig’s death at age 37.

Over time, Gehrig’s remarkable streak took on mythic proportions. Like Cy Young’s 511 career victories and Joe DiMaggio’s 56-game hitting streak, 2,130 seemed unbreakable. It would take a supremely talented and driven ballplayer to make a run at it. He would have to play through injuries, illnesses, fatigue, slumps and desires to sit out games against dominating pitchers. He’d need an off-the-charts work ethic and to be consistently productive, game after game, season after season. And he would need mettle as tough as iron. In other words, he would need to be a modern-day Lou Gehrig.

“As a baseball fan, I knew about the record, but it’s not something I ever set out to break,”

Ripken said. “That would have been ludicrous to think about, starting out. It’s really just something that crept up on me, happened over time. It wasn’t until I was closing in on 1,000 games that I started becoming aware of my streak, and that was only because it was a nice, round number and reporters started asking me about it.”

And it wasn’t until he tacked on several more seasons’ worth of games without a day off that Ripken began thinking Gehrig’s mark might be within reach.

There were several moments when the streak appeared in jeopardy. The closest call occurred after Ripken twisted his right knee during a bench-clearing brawl with the Seattle Mariners on June 6, 1993. He woke up the next morning barely able to walk and called his parents to tell them his run probably was over after 1,790 consecutive games. But after undergoing lengthy treatments, his knee loosened up and he was back in lineup.

Ripken’s managers occasionally considered resting him, but the more they contemplated it, the more they realized how indispensable he was.

“There were times when I said, ‘OK, Cal, today’s the day to take a day off,’” said the late Frank Robinson, who managed him for four seasons. “Then, I started looking at the lineup and thought about all the things he did during the course of a game, and I said, ‘I don’t want to be without those things. Those are things that give this ballclub the best chance to win. It’s too big a hole to fill.’”

The impact of Ripken’s streak would be felt well beyond the record books. In fact, some have argued it saved the sport. Just as Babe Ruth’s prodigious home runs allowed the game to emerge from the darkness of the 1919 Black Sox World Series-fixing scandal, Ripken’s dignified pursuit of Gehrig’s durability mark attracted estranged fans back to the sport after labor strife had forced cancellation of the 1994 Fall Classic.



RICHARD LASHNER/INTERNATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Cal Ripken takes an impromptu lap around Oriole Park at Camden Yards to celebrate with fans moments after breaking Lou Gehrig's consecutive games played record.

Ripken's act of punching the clock every day clearly resonated with millions of Americans.

"My parents had ingrained in me the importance of a good work ethic," he said. "I just believed whether you were a ballplayer or a factory worker or a newspaper reporter that you had an obligation to show up to work each and every day and give it your best – even when you weren't feeling your best. It wasn't about the streak. It was about honor and responsibility to your job, and being a good teammate."

On Sept. 6, 1995, the unthinkable became reality. Nearly 50,000 fans – including President Bill Clinton – packed Camden Yards that night, and they, along with a robust national television audience, cheered on Ripken as he

played in his 2,131st straight game. Once the game became official, play was stopped so the moment could be celebrated. Several dignitaries spoke, including Joe DiMaggio – who had been a teammate of Gehrig's.

A huge banner at the iconic B&O Warehouse just beyond the ballpark's right field stands was unfurled to reveal the new number for most consecutive games. During a lengthy standing ovation, Ripken doffed his cap several times and repeatedly mouthed the words, "Thank you."

The formal festivities were followed by one of the most memorable victory laps in sports history. Orioles teammates Rafael Palmeiro and Bobby Bonilla pushed Ripken out of the dugout toward the right field line, and soon

he was shaking hands, doling out high-fives and gazing into the faces of fans fighting back tears.

"During that jaunt, it dawned on me what the streak really meant to people," he said. "I think fans wanted a reason to be able to fall back in love with the game after being turned off by the work stoppage and cancellation of the '94 World Series – and the streak gave them a reason to."

Ripken would play 501 more games in a row before removing himself from the lineup on Sept. 20, 1998. To put his achievement into perspective, 3,713 MLB players went on the disabled list during his 13-year streak. Ripken played his last game in 2001, ending a 21-season career that saw him compile undeniable Hall of Fame numbers: 3,184 hits, 431 home runs, 1,695 RBI, 19 All-Star Game selections and two American League MVP Awards. Fans in a nationwide poll taken at the turn of the 21st century voted the night he broke Gehrig's record as the greatest moment in baseball history.

A few months before his 2007 Hall of Fame induction, Ripken traveled to Cooperstown for his Orientation Tour. During that visit, his forever connection to Gehrig was driven home with the force of a line-drive home run. As he held the Yankees icon's old first baseman's mitt, Ripken grew introspective. He yearned to go back in time and chat with Gehrig.

"You wish you had the chance to ask him what he was thinking, how he went through it," Ripken said. "Was it an extension of his approach? Did the streak happen by accident or did he actually set out to do that? Here, you're able to hold his glove, get a feeling of who he was, but you still don't get to ask the question. From what I've learned, it seemed as though it was a sense of responsibility. It was a sort of an old-fashioned value that was your job, and that's what I hoped it would be."

Though Gehrig died 19 years before Ripken was born – and 40 years before he made his MLB debut – they've become kindred spirits: Two magnificent, doggedly determined ballplayers connected by the same thread.

Ripken may have broken Gehrig's record, but he didn't eclipse his legacy. Instead, he became a permanent part of it. It is a bond they will share for as long as the game is played. 🍊

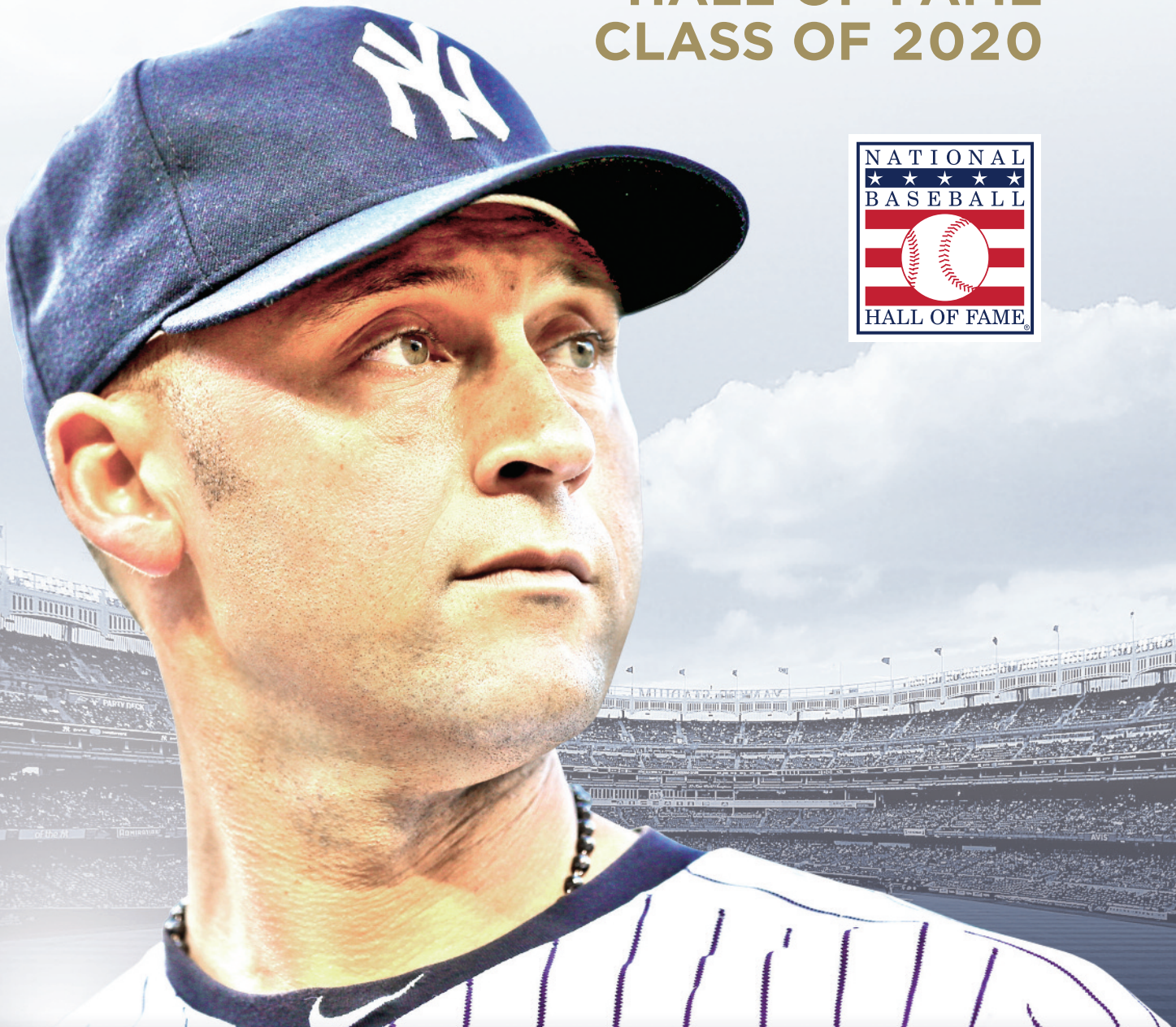
Best-selling author Scott Pitoniak resides in Penfield, N.Y. His latest book is "Forever Orange: The Story of Syracuse University."

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PREFERRED BY
New York Yankees



KING HENRY

IN REACHING 715 HOME RUNS, HENRY AARON ECLIPSED BASEBALL'S MOST CHERISHED RECORD.

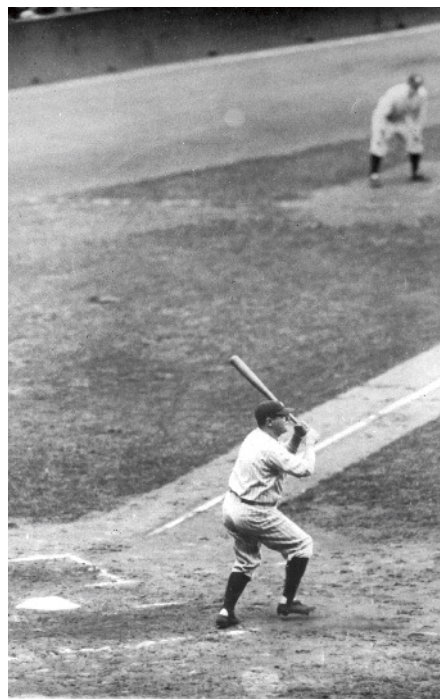
BY JOHN ROSENGREN

For nearly 40 years, 714 was the measure of a hitter's greatness. It was more powerful than 60 or 61 or .406, which were seasonal marks. Even 4,191, Ty Cobb's career hit total (later amended to 4,189 but not broken until 1985) bowed to 714. Not only was it easier to remember, 714 marked the number of times one man had thrilled fans with his power.

The number, of course, is synonymous with Babe Ruth. For baseball fans, no explanation is required. The three digits are woven into his legend, same as "The Curse of the Bambino," his generosity with children, even his appetite for hot dogs.

When Ruth retired in 1935 with 714 home runs, no one else had hit more than 353 (Lou Gehrig). Indeed, he had eclipsed Roger Connor's record of 138 in 1921 and reigned as the Home Run King while he played. For 14 years, every round-tripper he hit provided another jewel in his crown.

It would be five years after Ruth retired before anyone even reached 500 (Jimmie Foxx), and by 1970, only seven more major league hitters had slugged 500 career long balls: Mel Ott, Ted Williams, Willie Mays, Mickey Mantle, Eddie Mathews, Ernie Banks and Henry Aaron. Even as Mays and Aaron reached 600, they still were far behind Ruth's total. The number 714 had achieved iconic



For 53 seasons, Babe Ruth reigned as baseball's home run king. He shattered Roger Connor's record of 138 in 1921 and would go on to slug 714. At the time he retired in 1935, Ruth's home run total was over 350 more than the No. 2 player on that list, Lou Gehrig.

status and seemed untouchable. No other number in baseball inspired the reverence it did.

It is often lost on fans that Ruth had a .342 lifetime batting average over 22 seasons. And that he had 2,214 career RBI. After Roger Maris broke his single-season home run record of 60 (knocking out 61 in 1961), 714 stood alone as the number that defined Ruth's greatness. He hit the bulk of those (688) from

1919-1934, which means he averaged 43 home runs a season for 16 straight seasons. No other player had demonstrated such consistent mastery of the long ball. And, it was thought, no player ever would.

But then the unthinkable unfolded. During the summer of 1973, Aaron put himself within reach of 714, the mark many thought would stand forever. He began the season at 673 and steadily edged closer and closer, making the impossible seem possible. If anyone could break Ruth's record, it seemed Aaron could. Though he never hit more than 47 home runs in one season, Aaron matched Ruth's consistency, averaging 37 home runs per season over 19 years from 1955 through 1973.

By the time he had knocked out No. 700 on July 21, 1973, and joined Ruth in the rarified air only they inhaled as the greatest home run hitters of all time, Aaron had excited fans and electrified the nation. His pursuit created a media circus – such as it was in the days before the 24-hour news cycle, MLB.com and social media. Reporters from national magazines besieged him at the ballpark. An NBC-TV camera crew shadowed him for weeks. When he went fishing in Mobile on a day off, three boats full of reporters and photographers stalked him.

Letters poured in from all over the country, by the hundreds daily. The overwhelming majority were positive, from fans cheering him on. They recognized him as a great player making history and wanted to be witness to it. But some of the letters, about one in nine, were littered with racial slurs and death threats.

Seven-hundred fourteen wasn't a benign number. It represented the legend of a beloved white man now threatened by a black man. And that exposed bigotry.

"It was just amazing that the myth of Ruth and this home run number was a kind of white supremacy symbol for many people," Reverend Jesse Jackson observed.

When Aaron went public about the hate mail, he received an outpouring of support from other players and fans, but it did not stop the taunts from the stands or the steady flow of

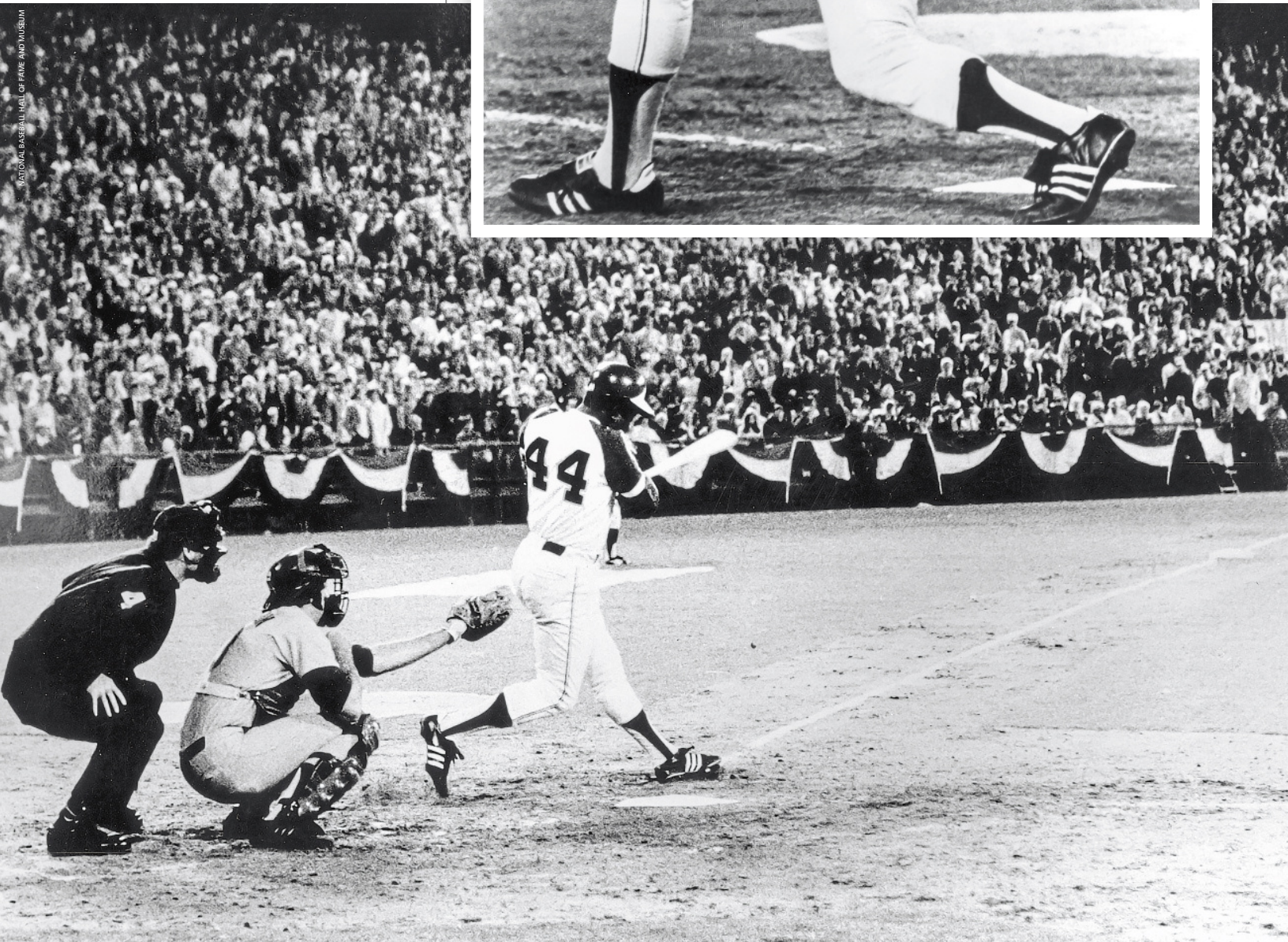
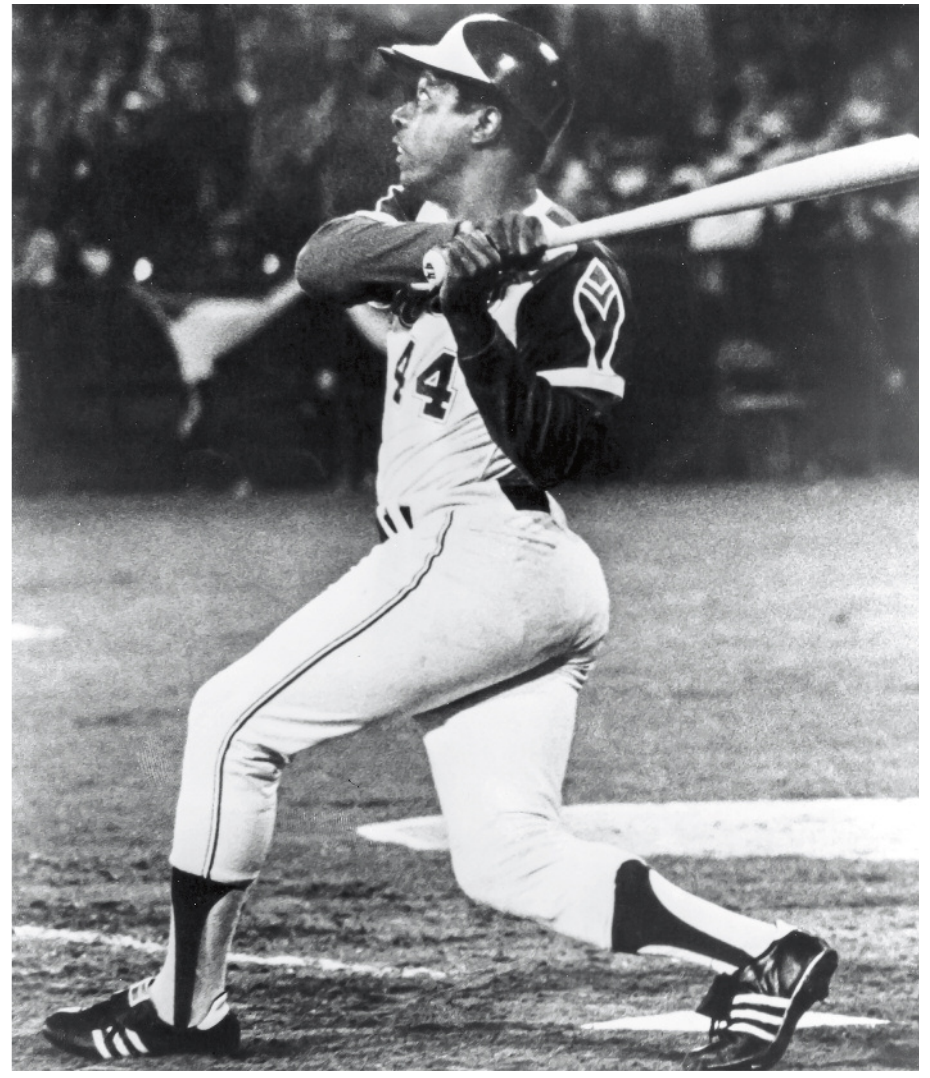
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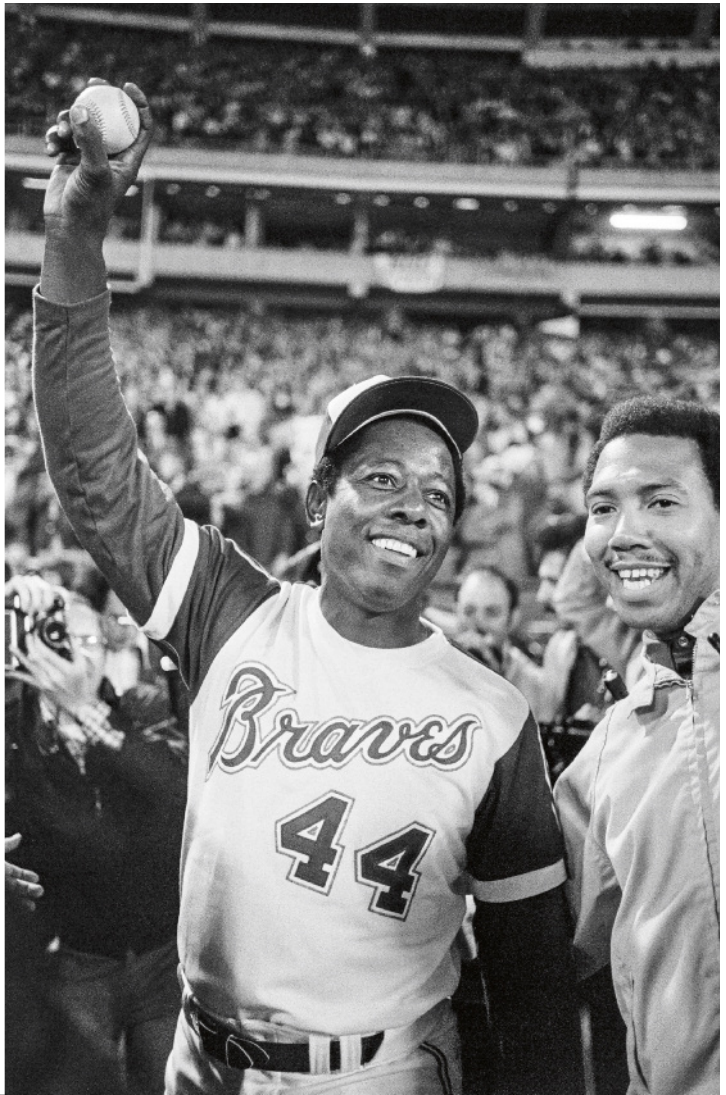
nasty letters. Nor did it squelch the threats to Aaron and his family. He traveled with two plainclothes policemen as bodyguards, checked into hotels under an alias on the road and feared for his children's safety.

But Aaron kept hitting. With every home run, he chipped away at ignorance and advanced the cause of a black American hero.

After reaching 700 in late July, however, his pace slowed. Under the glare of national media scrutiny and the daily onslaught of hate mail, he hit only one more dinger in July and five in August. He entered the final month of the 1973 season sitting at 706, eight shy of Ruth's milestone. It became a race against time, lengthening shadows, deeper bullpens and seasonal fatigue for the 39-year-old Aaron. He knew he didn't have to reach 714 that

Henry Aaron drives home run No. 715 out of the park in Atlanta on April 8, 1974. With that round-tripper, Aaron surpassed Babe Ruth as baseball's all-time home run leader. The catcher is the Dodgers' Joe Ferguson and the umpire is Satch Davidson.





Left: Atlanta Braves slugger Henry Aaron (44) is greeted at home plate after hitting his 715th career home run and breaking Babe Ruth's major league record. **Right:** Aaron (pictured with personal bodyguard Calvin Wardlaw) holds up the record-breaking home run ball he hit off Dodgers pitcher Al Downing. Aaron would retire following the 1976 season, having hit 755 career home runs.

season, but he wanted to so he could relieve himself of the pressure.

When he hit No. 712 on Sept. 22, with five games left to play, the record seemed within reach, maybe. All that month *The New York Times* ran a front-page count of Aaron's progress. NBC interrupted scheduled programming to show his latest home run. By the last week of the season, fans tuned into the heightened drama tensed with anticipation.

But then a week went by before he knocked out No. 713. And, when he hit three singles but no home runs in the Braves' final game, that's where he stayed, stalled for a long winter one shy of the mark. It seemed an eternity until he would get another at-bat.

Once he finally did – six months later on Opening Day of the 1974 season in Cincinnati – Aaron promptly satisfied the fans he had

tantalized and left suspended by swatting No. 714. Four days later at Atlanta Stadium, Aaron faced Al Downing of the Los Angeles Dodgers in a fourth-inning moment immortalized in the memories of fans of a certain age and preserved for younger ones on YouTube.

On April 8, 1974, when Aaron put a Downing pitch over the left field fence, he trotted around the bases with a brief escort from two young men and hugged his mother at home plate, stepping in front of Ruth and hailed as the new Home Run King.

"What a marvelous moment for baseball," Vin Scully said on the national broadcast. "What a marvelous moment for the country and the world. A black man is getting a standing ovation in the Deep South for breaking the record of an all-time baseball idol."

Forty-six years have passed since that night

in Atlanta. Aaron hit 40 more home runs to retire with 755. Barry Bonds reached 714 in 2006, passed Aaron a year later, and retired with 762 career home runs.

Yet it seems unlikely 755 or 762 – or some higher number in the future – will ever achieve the legendary stature their forebear the Babe did with his 714. 🍎

John Rosengren is a freelance writer from Minneapolis and the author of "THE FIGHT OF THEIR LIVES: How Juan Marichal and John Roseboro Turned Baseball's Ugliest Brawl into a Story of Forgiveness and Redemption."
Note: Parts of this article were adapted from John Rosengren's book "Hammerin Hank, George Almighty and the Say Hey Kid: The Year that Changed Baseball Forever," which chronicles the 1973 MLB season.

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Ted Williams hit .406 for the Red Sox at age 23 in 1941. No big leaguer has come closer than 12 points to that mark since.





Four Hundred Strong

Ted Williams' .406 batting average in 1941 set a standard still being chased.

BY BOB RYAN

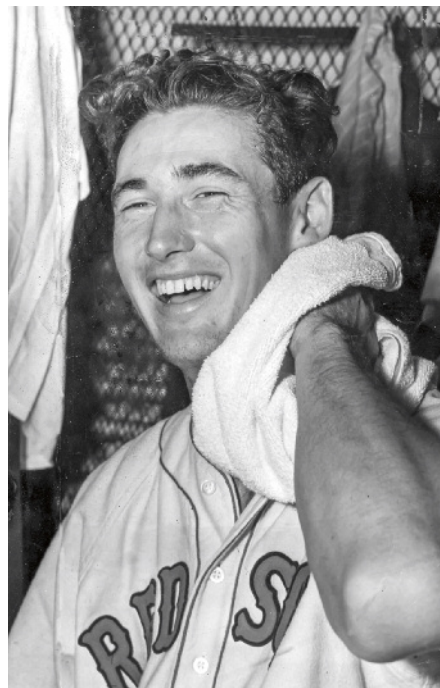
When the 1941 season began, baseball was America's unquestioned National Pastime. What no one knew was that within a year the United States would be engaged in a total World War, making 1941 the last "normal" season until 1946.

What fans also didn't know was that a pair of legends would write such indelible history that their achievements would resolutely withstand the test of time. For this was the season when the Yankees' Joe DiMaggio hit in 56 consecutive games and the Red Sox's Ted Williams batted .406.

The numbers remain some of baseball's most sacred. And while "56" is often mentioned among the "unbreakable" records in the game, ".406" – though not a record – may never be equaled.

Some 220 miles north of Yankee Stadium – where the 26-year-old DiMaggio was already a national star – a 23-year-old wonder named Ted Williams was putting together a season for the ages in the shadow of DiMaggio's streak. This was Year Three for the lefty hitter from San Diego, and he was hot from the start. By the All-Star Game, he was batting .405. And in that game, he hogged the spotlight with a two-out, three-run homer into the right field stands at Detroit's Briggs Stadium to give the American League a 7-5 triumph.

Batting over .400 was certainly notable, but it was only 11 years since Bill Terry had last crashed the barrier with .401 – and the pursuit just didn't have the national sizzle of DiMaggio's streak. Part of the reason was the simple fact



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Going into the final day of the 1941 season, Ted Williams was hitting .3995. He went 6-for-8 in a season-ending doubleheader against the A's, raising his average to .406.

that DiMaggio played for the Yankees. The Red Sox are now considered to be one of baseball's crown jewel franchises, but in 1941 they were a team that had not once seriously contended since winning their fifth World Series in 1918.

Yes, they had finished second in the AL in 1938 and 1939. But they were 17 games behind the Yankees in the latter season, when the Bronx Bombers went on to win their fourth straight Fall Classic. Boston would again finish in second place, 17 games behind the Yankees, in 1941.

Despite the absence of a pennant race, *The Boston Globe* ran a daily update tracking

Williams to Terry's .401 season back in 1930. But it was pretty much a local story.

Williams sustained an ankle injury right after the All-Star Game and by July 22 his average had "dipped" to .393. But he recovered and continued his amazing pace into September. When the Red Sox concluded their home schedule on Sept. 21, Williams was hitting .406. They would finish with games in Washington and Philadelphia, where the venerable Connie Mack would conceivably have something to say about the outcome.

Ted ran into a little trouble in Washington, his average dropping to .401 by the time he reached Philadelphia for the final three games. Perhaps with his eye on the gate, A's owner-manager Mack moved the scheduled Friday game to Sunday, creating a season-ending doubleheader.

Meanwhile, you'd think the folks back home would be agog. Not necessarily so. Dave Egan, the noted columnist of *The Boston Record*, scheduled himself to cover the Boston College football team playing at Tulane on Saturday and the heavyweight championship bout between Joe Louis and Lou Nova in New York on Monday night.

Meanwhile, Mack said he would indeed pitch to Williams, who was 1-for-4 on Saturday, dropping his average to .39955. But Williams wanted no part of a rounded-off .400. (*The Sporting News* quoted him as saying, "I want to have more than my toenails on the line.") He was going to play in both games on Sunday, period.

And so a modest gathering of 10,258 at Shibe Park was on hand to see Williams go 4-for-5 in the first game, with a home run. That brought him to .404 and pretty much guaranteed his quest. But he wasn't done. Williams went 2-for-3 in Game 2, thus finishing at .4057, rounded up to .406, a revered number in Boston – and all of baseball – to this day.

In the years since, the closest anyone has come to DiMaggio's hallowed streak was a 44-game run by Pete Rose in 1978. The closest anyone has come to Williams' .406 was Tony Gwynn's .394 in the strike-shortened 1994 season.

Incidentally, Joe D.'s average during those 56 games: .408. 🍎

Bob Ryan is an award-winning sports columnist for The Boston Globe whose love affair with baseball began in 1950 when he was present at Dunn Field in Trenton, N.J., for the Organized Baseball debut of a 19-year-old outfielder named Willie Mays.

KEEP 'EM COMIN'

JOE DIMAGGIO PRESSED WELL PAST THE MAJOR LEAGUE HITTING STREAK RECORD BEFORE STOPPING AT 56.

BY CHARLES EUCHNER

“D

id he get a hit today?”

“Two! A single and a double!”

Baseball fans did not need to say who “he” was in the summer of

1941: Joe DiMaggio, the 26-year-old center fielder for the New York Yankees.

And once he broke two records for hitting streaks – first, George Sisler’s 1922 American League modern era mark of 41 consecutive games; then Wee Willie Keeler’s 1897 major league in-season record of 44 – DiMaggio faced ever more pressure. The whole nation tracked his progress. Radio stations interrupted programming with news updates. Visitors craned their necks to see news scrolls at Times Square, as DiMaggio’s streak climbed past 50, up to its final tally of 56 games.

DiMaggio said he wanted the streak to last forever. A more realistic target may have been his own 61-game streak in 1933 for the San Francisco Seals of the Pacific Coast League. That feat, as Joe’s brother Dom noted, “might have been good preparation” to deal with the pressure. But it also added more.

Days after breaking Sisler’s record, as

DiMaggio’s streak grew past 50, The Yankee Clipper met the former Browns first baseman in St. Louis before a Yankees-Browns series.

“You try to forget [the pressure], but it can’t be done,” Sisler said. “It’s in your head every time you step to the plate.”

Teammates didn’t say much and neither did

DiMaggio. “He never showed any pressure,” Yankees right fielder Tommy Henrich said. “He never talked about it. From what I know of Joe, he wasn’t built that way. He never let us in on his inner thoughts.”

Meanwhile, the team kept things loose with its own hot play. On July 1, when DiMaggio tied Keeler’s in-season record, the Yankees completed a record 25 games in a row with a home run. Henrich and left fielder Charlie Keller were on their way to 30-home run seasons, and rookie Phil Rizzuto was establishing himself as the team’s shortstop of the future, batting .307 on the year.

DiMaggio got his share of soft hits early in his streak. He was also shaky in the field, making three errors in a 13-0 loss to the Red Sox on May 30. But as the stakes increased, he slashed the ball harder. From June 2 to June 20, when the streak climbed from 19 games to 33, his slugging percentage was .900.

“Joe D.” managed the pressure with an “empty mind,” the Zen term for staying in the moment. He sat in front of his locker before games and drank coffee. He accommodated the media, including reporters from national publications. He let bags of fan mail pile up.

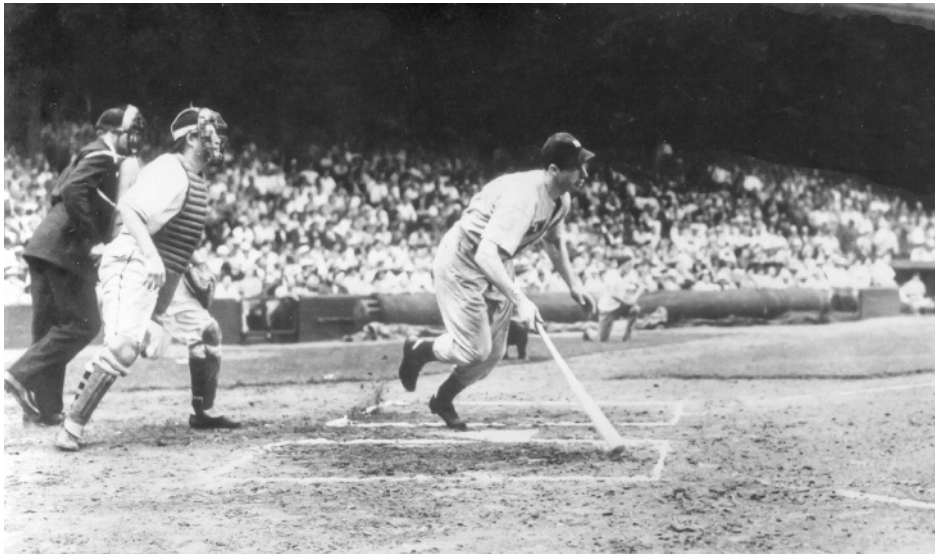


Joe DiMaggio broke Willie Keeler’s longstanding in-season record of 44 straight games with a hit on July 2, 1941. DiMaggio would extend his hitting streak to 56 games before it ended on July 17 in Cleveland.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



45
CRACKS
RECORD



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

After his 56-game hitting streak ended, Joe DiMaggio hit safely in his next 16 games, giving him a hit in 72 of 73 games from May 15 through Aug. 2, 1941. At the end of that string of games, DiMaggio was batting .381.

DiMaggio didn't even get upset when a fan stole his bat. He used his backup bat and kept getting hits. Someone found the bat in Newark and arranged for its return.

Unlike Ted Williams, in the midst of his history-making .406 season for the Red Sox, DiMaggio didn't theorize about hitting. He took an open stance, kept his head steady and drove his 36-inch, 35½-ounce bat forward. He moved his front foot just a few inches. Balance was the key.

"It doesn't pay to get excited in this game," DiMaggio told one reporter. "Whether I break that record or not, there will just be a lot of ball games. It's my job. I do the best I can."

His biggest asset was pitcher Lefty Gomez – like DiMaggio, a child of immigrants in San Francisco. Gomez countered DiMaggio's taciturn ways with his playful personality. They were constant companions. For home games, they commuted to the stadium together; Lefty waved a white towel from his apartment to signal that he would pick up Joe D. On the road, when reporters and photographers and fans knocked on their hotel room door, "El Gofo" told them Joe wasn't around – and then returned to their room-service dinner while DiMaggio read Superman comic books.

"Gomez kept me loose during the streak," DiMaggio said. "He kept people away from me, but was always there to needle me if I was getting too serious."

DiMaggio enjoyed bars and nightclubs, but usually sat with two or three teammates. In New York, he went to Toots Shor's, where he

blended in with other celebrities – and Toots protected him. To avoid attention, Toots guided him out a side door and walked the streets with him.

At Fenway Park, brother Dom got streak updates from his best friend – and Joe D.'s rival – Williams. The scoreboard operator updated Williams on DiMaggio's at-bats, and Williams relayed the news: "Dommie! Joe got a hit!"

Opposing pitchers usually worked hard to beat DiMaggio, some by avoidance. Earlier in the streak, the Athletics' Johnny Babich, a former Pacific Coast League rival, walked him twice and then went 3-0 before Joe D. reached across the plate to poke an outside pitch into the outfield. DiMaggio got revenge on Babich on July 6 with two hits as part of a 4-for-5 day that upped his streak to 47.

As he extended his record, DiMaggio needed luck only once. In Game 54, on July 14, he dribbled a ball down third that went for an infield single.

That day, New Yorkers started hearing a new song on the radio: "Joltin' Joe DiMaggio," by the Les Brown Orchestra, broadcast live from a nightclub in Armonk.

Also around that time, tabloids featured splashy headlines. *Life* and *The Saturday Evening Post* ran spreads. *The Chicago Tribune* imagined the gods on Mount Olympus welcoming DiMaggio. Hollywood released a quickie biopic.

Only later did DiMaggio acknowledge the tension that gave him ulcers. Speaking of the media frenzy, he wrote in a diary: "If I thought

this would be taking place, I would have stopped the hitting streak at 40."

He once glared back at the umpire after a strike call. "Honest to gawd, Joe, it was right down the middle," the umpire said. The apologetic tone, DiMaggio confessed, "eased the strain."

The streak ended at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium on July 17. With 67,468 fans on hand, Indians third baseman Ken Keltner twice snared hard slashes and threw out DiMaggio. The first time, Joe D. struggled to get a good jump to first base because of the muddy hitter's box.

With Keltner playing in shallow left field, DiMaggio could have bunted for a hit. But he never bunted during the streak, and he wasn't going to start then. In the eighth, Indians shortstop Lou Boudreau reacted quickly to a bad hop on a smash, grabbing it off his shoulder to turn a 6-4-3 double play. In the ninth, the Tribe almost tied the game – which might have allowed DiMaggio another at-bat – but fell short and lost, 4-3.

The Yankees clubhouse was quiet after the game. When DiMaggio acknowledged the broken streak, teammates pelted him with congrats. "When they take 'em away from you like that, there's nothing you can do," DiMaggio said. "Anyway, it's all over now."

Failing to extend his streak another day, he joked, cost him a \$10,000 promotional deal for Heinz 57 for its "57 Varieties" ketchup. He wondered aloud if his All-Star Game hit back on July 8 at Detroit's Briggs Stadium should count, which would leave his total at 57.

DiMaggio left the stadium two hours after the end of the game with Rizzuto. After walking blocks in silence, DiMaggio realized he forgot his wallet. He asked Rizzuto to lend him some cash. When Rizzuto started to follow him to a bar, DiMaggio said no; he wanted to be alone to think.

The next day, he got a hit against Bob Feller of the Indians to begin a 16-game hitting streak.

During the 56-game hitting streak, DiMaggio hit .408 (91 for 223) with 15 home runs, 21 walks and 55 RBI. He struck out just five times – and not once in his last 149 at-bats. 🍎

Charles Euchner, who teaches writing at Columbia University, has authored books about topics ranging from the art of writing to the civil rights movement to baseball, including "The Last Nine Innings" and "Little League, Big Dreams."



A TRUE BASEBALL LEGEND

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2020 INDUCTEES

DEREK JETER

The accolades for Derek Jeter began from the very first days of his big league career and continued virtually non-stop for 20 seasons.

But the legendary shortstop was ultimately judged by five championship rings and a Yankees dynasty he captained. And in the final analysis, the rest seemed like mere details.

Born June 26, 1974, in Pequanock, N.J., and raised in Kalamazoo, Mich., Jeter starred in high school and earned a baseball scholarship from the University of Michigan.

Yet when the Yankees — Jeter's favorite team as a youngster — selected him with the sixth overall pick in the 1992 MLB Draft, the path of the player and the team changed forever.

Jeter played his first game in the big leagues on May 29, 1995, then earned the job as the Yankees' starting shortstop in 1996. Sixth months later, he was the unanimous American League Rookie of the Year after hitting .314. His steady performance at the plate and in the field helped the Yankees win the World Series title for the first time in 18 years.

Over the next 11 seasons, the Yankees never missed the Postseason — winning World Series titles in 1998, 1999 and 2000. Jeter made the first of 14 All-Star Games in 1998, won the first of five Gold Glove Awards in 2004 and was annually among the league leaders in hits and runs scored.

The durable Jeter appeared in at least 150 games every year except one from 2001-10, was named captain of the Yankees in 2003 and claimed his fifth World Series ring in 2009 — after hitting .334 and finishing third in the AL Most Valuable Player voting at the age of 35.

He never played a position other than shortstop in his 2,674 games in the field, reached the 200-hit plateau in eight seasons and was named the 2000 World Series MVP.

Over a record 158 Postseason games — the equivalent of one full extra season — Jeter batted .308 with 111 runs scored, 200 hits, 32 doubles, 20 homers, 61 RBI and 66 walks.

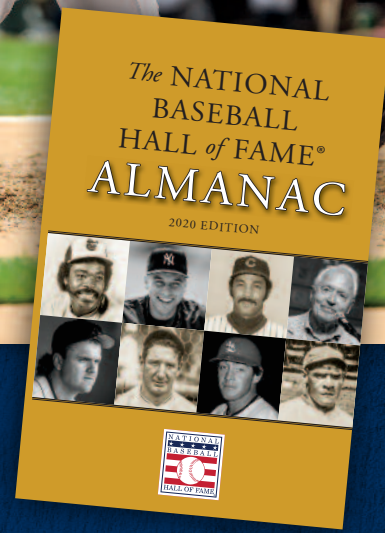
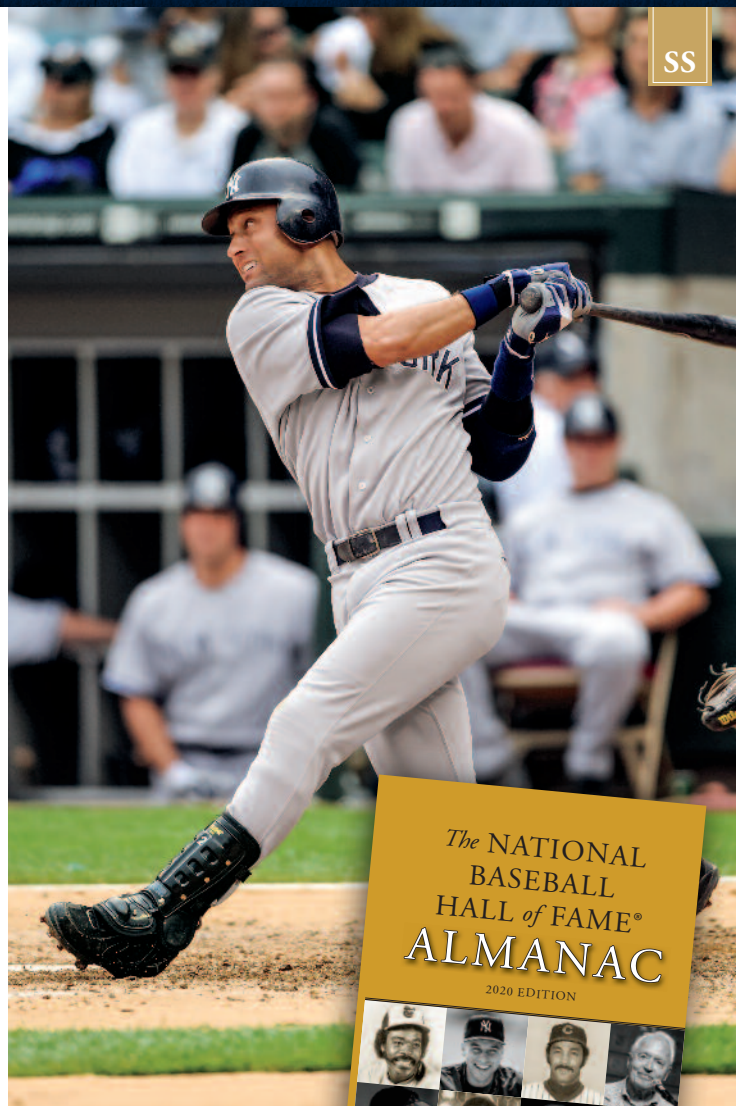
He finished his career with 3,465 hits, 1,923 runs scored and 4,921 total bases.



Elected To The Hall Of Fame: 2020
Born: June 26, 1974, Pequanock, N.J.
Height: 6-3 **Weight:** 195
Batted: Right **Threw:** Right
Debut: May 29, 1995
Final Game: Sept. 28, 2014
Team: New York AL, 1995-2014
Postseason: 5-Time World Series Champion (1996, 1998-2000, 2009); 7 AL Pennants (1996, 1998-2001, 2003, 2009); 16-Time playoff qualifier (1996-2007, 2009-2012)
Awards: 14-Time All-Star (1998-2002, 2004, 2006-12, 2014); A.L. Rookie of the Year (1996); World Series Most Valuable Player (2000)

YEAR	TEAM	LEAGUE	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BA
1995	NEW YORK	AL	15	48	5	12	4	1	0	7	0	.250
1996	NEW YORK	AL	157	582	104	183	25	6	10	78	14	.314
1997	NEW YORK	AL	159	654	116	190	31	7	10	70	23	.291
1998	NEW YORK	AL	149	626	127	203	25	8	19	84	30	.324
1999	NEW YORK	AL	158	627	134	219	37	9	24	102	19	.349
2000	NEW YORK	AL	148	593	119	201	31	4	15	73	22	.339
2001	NEW YORK	AL	150	614	110	191	35	3	21	74	27	.311
2002	NEW YORK	AL	157	644	124	191	26	0	18	75	32	.297
2003	NEW YORK	AL	119	482	87	156	25	3	10	52	11	.324
2004	NEW YORK	AL	154	643	111	188	44	1	23	78	23	.292
2005	NEW YORK	AL	159	654	122	202	25	5	19	70	14	.309
2006	NEW YORK	AL	154	623	118	214	39	3	14	97	34	.343
2007	NEW YORK	AL	156	639	102	206	39	4	12	73	15	.322
2008	NEW YORK	AL	150	596	88	179	25	3	11	89	11	.300
2009	NEW YORK	AL	153	634	107	212	27	1	18	66	30	.334
2010	NEW YORK	AL	157	663	111	179	30	3	10	67	18	.270
2011	NEW YORK	AL	131	546	84	162	24	4	6	61	16	.297
2012	NEW YORK	AL	139	683	99	216	32	0	15	58	9	.316
2013	NEW YORK	AL	17	63	8	12	1	0	1	7	0	.190
2014	NEW YORK	AL	145	581	47	149	19	1	4	50	10	.256
CAREER TOTALS			2747	12602	1923	3465	544	66	260	1311	358	.310

6 • The Baseball Hall of Fame Almanac



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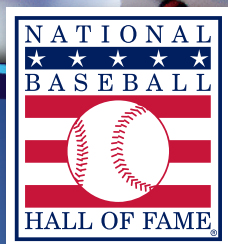
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**CLASS
OF
2018**



Third Base

CHIPPER JONES



LARRY WAYNE JONES

Elected: 2018 • Born: April 24, 1972, DeLand, Fla.
 Batted: Both Threw: Right • Height: 6'4" Weight: 210
 Played for: Atlanta Braves (1993, 1995-2012)

Year	Team	G	PA	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	BA	SLG
1993	ATL	8	4	3	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	.667	1.000
1995	ATL	140	602	524	87	139	22	3	23	86	8	73	.265	.450
1996	ATL	157	693	598	114	185	32	5	30	110	14	87	.309	.530
1997	ATL	157	679	597	100	176	41	3	21	111	20	76	.295	.479
1998	ATL	160	707	601	123	188	29	5	34	107	16	96	.313	.547
1999	ATL	157	701	567	116	181	41	1	45	110	25	126	.319	.633
2000	ATL	156	696	579	118	180	38	1	36	111	14	95	.311	.566
2001	ATL	159	677	572	113	189	33	5	38	102	9	98	.330	.605
2002	ATL	158	662	548	90	179	35	1	26	100	8	107	.327	.536
2003	ATL	153	656	555	103	169	33	2	27	106	2	94	.305	.517
2004	ATL	137	567	472	69	117	20	1	30	96	2	84	.248	.485
2005	ATL	109	492	358	66	106	30	0	21	72	5	72	.296	.556
2006	ATL	110	477	411	87	133	28	3	26	86	6	61	.324	.596
2007	ATL	134	600	513	108	173	42	4	29	102	5	82	.337	.604
2008	ATL	128	534	439	82	160	24	1	22	75	4	90	.364	.574
2009	ATL	143	596	488	80	129	23	2	18	71	4	101	.264	.430
2010	ATL	95	381	317	47	84	21	0	10	46	5	61	.265	.426
2011	ATL	126	512	455	56	125	33	1	18	70	2	51	.275	.470
2012	ATL	112	448	387	58	111	23	0	14	62	1	57	.287	.455
19 Years		2499	10614	8984	1619	2726	549	38	468	1623	150	1512	.303	.529

All statistics are from baseball-reference.com • All bolded marks are league-leading totals • Bolded and italicized marks are major league-best totals

Awards & Records: 1999 National League Most Valuable Player • 8-Time All-Star • 2009 National League Batting Champion

DID YOU KNOW...

- ★ ... that Chipper Jones is one of only nine players in history with at least 400 home runs, a .300 batting average, a .400 on-base percentage and a .500 slugging percentage?
- ★ ... that among players who appeared in at least half their games at third base, Jones is the only major leaguer to record at least 1,600 RBI and score at least 1,600 runs?
- ★ ... that when he retired, Jones' 1,623 RBI were the most of any player whose primary position was third base?

FRONT OF CARD BRAD MANGIN/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



WHAT THEY SAY...

- ★ "If he went 0-for-4 one night, he was in the cage hitting after the game. He seemed to just want it more than the rest of the hitters." – BRAVES TEAMMATE GREG MADDUX
- ★ "He had the desire to want to be great. He wasn't afraid of the moment." – BRAVES TEAMMATE DAVID JUSTICE
- ★ "I felt like he beat you with his mind more than his physical tools. He simplified the game." – MLB NETWORK ANALYST AND FORMER TEAMMATE MARK DEROSA



FRONT OF CARD BRAD MANGIN/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

IN MEMORIAM

AL KALINE 1934-2020

Al Kaline never saw the minor leagues. In fact, just after midnight on June 19, 1953 – the night of his high school graduation – Kaline was signed by Detroit scout Ed Katalinas and joined the Tigers directly.

Kaline debuted six days later on June 25 as a defensive replacement, and recorded the first of his 3,007 big league hits on July 8.

Kaline, who passed away on April 6, 2020, at the age of 85, was only 18 years old when he entered the major leagues. But he was ready for the challenge.

“Al Kaline was an icon, not only to the Tigers organization, but to all of baseball,” said Hall of Famer Alan Trammell, who played 20 seasons with Detroit. “He meant a great deal to me coming up through the Tigers organization. I was smart enough to watch and learn from the way he carried himself, both off the field and on it. He was as good as they come.”

Kaline became just the 12th player to join the 3,000-hit club and won 10 Gold Glove Awards in the outfield. On the field, there was little he could not do.

“Baseball is a great job,” Kaline said. “You play six months a year and people do everything for you.”

Albert William Kaline was born on Dec. 19, 1934, in Baltimore, Md., the only son of Nicholas Kaline, a former semipro catcher, and Naomi Kaline.

At the age of 20, he nabbed his first batting title with the 1955 Detroit team when he hit .340 – becoming the youngest batting champion in the history of Major League Baseball, a record that still stands.

“There’s a hitter. In my book, he’s the



Al Kaline, who spent his entire 22-year major league career with the Tigers, passed away on April 6, 2020.

greatest right-handed hitter in the league,” said Hall of Famer Ted Williams.

Along with all-time batting average leader Ty Cobb, Kaline is the only ballplayer to spend 22 seasons in a Tigers uniform, earning the nickname “Mr. Tiger.”

“He was a gentleman. It would have to be a real borderline pitch for him to even turn his head,” said umpire Larry McCoy.

But despite the accolades, Kaline found ways to remain humble.

In 1971, the Tigers offered him the club’s first six-figure contract of \$100,000 – which he declined until the next year.

“I don’t deserve such a salary. I didn’t have



MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

a good season last year,” said Kaline, after batting .278 in 1970.

“This ballclub has been so fair and so decent to me that I prefer to have [them] give it to me when I rate it.”

In his only World Series appearance, in 1968, Kaline rose to the occasion and hit .379 with a pair of home runs, helping the Tigers defeat the St. Louis Cardinals in seven games.

He recorded his 3,000th career hit late in the 1974 season and then retired, serving as a color commentator for Tigers television broadcasts from 1975-2002 and a Spring Training instructor for years after that.

“Al Kaline brought such dignity and grace to our game, and to the Hall of Fame,” said Jane Forbes Clark, Chairman of the Board of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. “As one of baseball’s greatest right fielders, every new generation of Hall of Fame Members were in awe of Al, not only as the player he was, but also as the true gentleman that he was. He will be missed throughout the game – and honored forever at the Hall of Fame.”

“We join the Detroit Tigers and the entire baseball community in mourning the passing of a true legend, and we extend our deepest sympathies to the Kaline family.” 🍓

DOUG MCWILLIAMS/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

SEVEN ZEROES

NOLAN RYAN SET THE STANDARD FOR NO-HITTERS OVER THE COURSE OF HIS REMARKABLE 27-YEAR CAREER.

BY TRACY RINGOLSBY

It was the spring of 1972. Major League Baseball players were on strike for the first time. Nolan Ryan, his career far from memorable at that point, had been traded from the Mets to the Angels during the offseason. His first son, Reid, was born the previous November. And Ryan had to make a life-defining decision.

“I had no money,” Ryan said. “You didn’t know how long the strike was going to last. We were in the position where the best thing we could do is get home.”

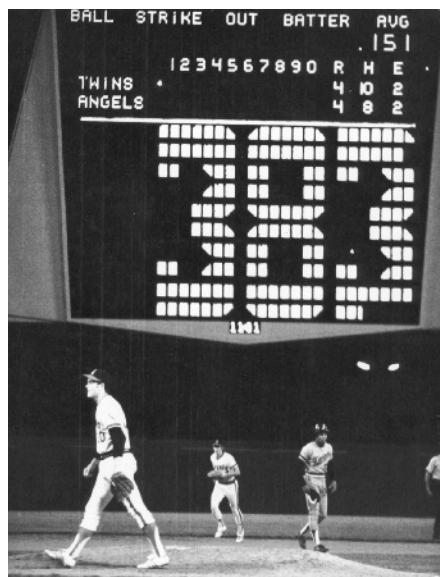
“I called my banker up and told him, ‘I have a tax refund coming,’” Ryan remembered. “And he lent me \$1,800 against my tax refund. If it hadn’t been for that, I probably would have had to go home.”

And the rest is history – baseball history.

With the tutelage of Tom Morgan, his first pitching coach with the Angels, Ryan went from a thrower to a pitcher and, eventually, a Hall of Famer. His 27-year career was filled with several record-setting efforts, including an incredible seven no-hitters, in which he had seven different catchers behind the plate.

That’s three more no-hitters than his boyhood favorite, Sandy Koufax, who is second on the all-time no-hitter list with four.

The last two came in the twilight of Ryan’s



Nolan Ryan set a still-standing modern big league record with 383 strikeouts in 1973, the same season he pitched the first two of his seven career no-hitters.

career, with the Texas Rangers, at the ages of 43 and 44, making him both the oldest and second-oldest pitcher to throw a no-hitter.

Each of Ryan’s seven no-hitters had their own memorable storylines.

No. 1: May 15, 1973 – Angels at Kansas City Royals, 3-0 (catcher Jeff Torborg)

“I wasn’t a no-hit pitcher,” Ryan said. “I had one in Little League and one in high school. That was the farthest thing from my mind. I think I was amazed as anybody that it happened.”

Just how unexpected was Ryan’s dominant effort? He was coming off a start against the White Sox in which he threw only 17 pitches and surrendered five earned runs over one-third of an inning of work.

“I would say that’s a pretty bad outing,” he said with a chuckle.

It was just one of those games.

“Nothing really sticks out,” Ryan said of the no-hitter. “It was one of those games that just kind of progressed as it went along. I don’t really remember a play in my mind where I thought, ‘Looks like they got a hit.’ With most of the others, I can remember situations where the ball left the bat and I thought it was a hit. But not this game.”

No. 2: July 15, 1973 – Angels at Detroit Tigers, 6-0 (catcher Art Kusnyer)

“When I came out of the [bullpen], I told Tom Morgan, ‘If I ever throw a no-hitter, it might be today.’ That’s the kind of stuff I had, the best command.”

There was a lengthy top of the eighth, however, with the Angels scoring five runs to take a 6-0 lead.

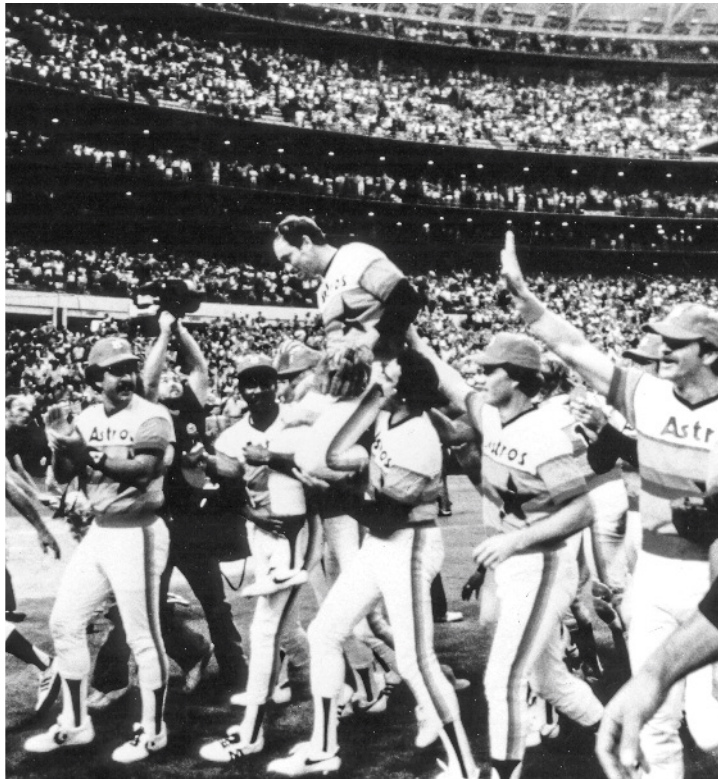
“When I went back out, I didn’t have the stuff I had the first seven innings,” he said. “They brought up Gates Brown (in the bottom of the ninth) and he hit a blind shot to Rudy Meoli at shortstop. If the ball is two or three feet either way, it’s a base hit, but it was right at him. And then Norm (Cash) came up for the last out of the game with a table leg.”

“I should have gone ahead and pitched to him, but I walked up to home plate and said to the umpire, ‘Ron (Luciano), he can’t hit with that.’ He said, ‘What are you talking about?’ I said, ‘Check his bat.’ He looked at the bat and Norm goes, ‘I can’t hit him anyway, what difference does it make?’”

No. 3: Sept. 28, 1974 – Angels vs. Minnesota Twins, 4-0 (catcher Tom Egan)

In his final start of the year, at Anaheim Stadium, Ryan struck out 15, but also walked eight. It was the final statement on a season in which he struck out 367 batters, becoming the

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Clockwise from above: When Nolan Ryan pitched his fourth no-hitter on June 1, 1975, he tied Sandy Koufax for the most no-hitters in big league history, accomplishing the feat in a span of just three seasons. Ryan is carried off the field by his Astros teammates on Sept. 26, 1981, following his record-breaking fifth career no-hitter. On June 11, 1990, at the age of 43, Ryan became the oldest pitcher in MLB history to throw a no-hitter. He would break his own record the following year.

first pitcher in the modern era with three consecutive 300-strikeout seasons, and struck out 19 hitters in a game three times.

He not only fanned Bobby Darwin, Larry Hise and Pat Bourque three times each, but he got Rod Carew, who struck out only 49 times that entire season and batted an MLB-leading .364, twice on strikes.

“Maybe because it was so late in the season, I have less recall of that no-hitter than any of them,” Ryan said.

No. 4: June 1, 1975 – Angels vs. Baltimore Orioles, 1-0 (catcher Ellie Rodríguez)

This one came to an end when – on a 3-2 pitch with two out in the top of the ninth – Ryan struck out Bobby Grich, looking, on a changeup.

Two years later, Grich became an Angels teammate of Ryan.

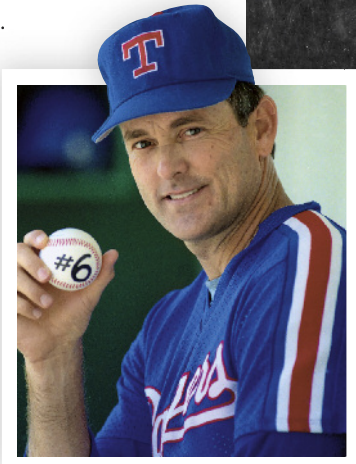
“How could you throw me a changeup?” Grich asked Ryan one day.

“What did you think I was going to throw?” Ryan replied.

“Fastball,” Grich said.

Ryan smiled. He had thrown two fastballs in that at-bat, and Grich fouled off both.

“I felt if I got the change over, I got him,” said Ryan, who retired Grich for the out that allowed him to tie Koufax’s record of four no-hitters.



Not only does Nolan Ryan hold the record with seven no-hitters, his 27-year career – spent with the Mets, Angels, Astros and Rangers – is tied for the longest in MLB history.



JERRY HOEFER/AP IMAGES

No. 5: Sept. 26, 1981 – Astros vs. Dodgers, 5-0
(catcher Alan Ashby)

In his second year with the Astros, Ryan broke the record for career no-hitters against Koufax's former team, which was also the team the Astros battled annually for the NL West title.

"We always had a lot of competition against the Dodgers, so that made it more rewarding, no-hitting them," Ryan said.

And they were Koufax's team.

"When I tied the record, I was very proud because I was a big Sandy Koufax fan in high school," Ryan said. "To tie a record like he had – and then to break that record – was really rewarding to me."

No. 6: June 11, 1990 – Rangers at Oakland, 5-0
(catcher John Russell)

Ryan caught the A's off-guard. He was known for his overpowering fastball.

But on that day in Oakland...

"I had an extremely good changeup," he said.

And he had two big defensive plays.

"One of them was (in the fourth inning)



TEXAS RANGERS

Rangers catcher Mike Stanley congratulates Nolan Ryan after his seventh career no-hitter on May 1, 1991. Each of Ryan's no-hitters featured a different catcher.

by Pete Incaviglia on a fly ball to left field that he ran down," said Ryan. "Willie Randolph hit it, and when the ball left the bat I thought it

was a double. Then in the ninth inning, Rickey Henderson topped the fifth pitch in the infield. Jeff Huson made as good a play as any shortstop could make to throw Rickey out at first. That's when I thought I was going to throw a no-hitter – with two out in the ninth."

No. 7: May 1, 1991 – Rangers vs. Blue Jays, 3-0
(catcher Mike Stanley)

"I had really good stuff that night," Ryan said, "and Toronto had quite a few right-handed hitters in that lineup."

It put the exclamation point on Ryan's Cooperstown-quality career.

"They do stand out," Ryan said. "The thing about no-hitters, you never anticipate being in that position. It's just one of those magical games where everything comes together. Because of that, they are really special."

Nobody knows how special more than Nolan Ryan. 🍎

Tracy Ringolsby, the winner of the BBWAA's J.G. Taylor Spink Award in 2005, has covered baseball since 1976.



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EARLY RETIREMENT

HISTORY OF RETIRED NUMBERS DATES BACK TO 'LOU GEHRIG DAY' AT YANKEE STADIUM.

BY JOHN ERARDI



Take it from a man who laundered six home versions of them – and an untold number of visiting ones – there is nothing quite like a retired jersey number.

“It’s the fans’ way, the franchise’s way, of saying, ‘We love you,’” said former San Francisco Giants clubhouse manager Mike “Murph” Murphy.

He’s right, of course. Election to the National Baseball Hall of Fame is baseball’s highest honor, but it is largely determined by the worthiness of the honoree’s numbers.

But the *number* – singular – is where honor goes to hang in forever glory in the honoree’s home ballpark.

“Look at that, good kid. I made it. Top of the World!” the late No. 20, the 91-year-old Monte Irvin, told Murph, who was the “good kid” that Monte first called him when they met in 1962 – and called him that again on the day the Giants retired Irvin’s number in 2010.

Irvin’s “20” is baseball’s most frequently retired number: 11 times. Baltimore’s Frank Robinson was first (Spring Training, 1972) – barely beating out Pittsburgh’s Pie Traynor (Opening Day, 1972) – and also the most recent (2017, Cleveland, where he was

baseball’s first African-American manager). In between, Robinson’s number was retired in 1998 (Cincinnati).

The other retired 20s include Luis Gonzalez (Arizona), Frank White (Kansas City), Don

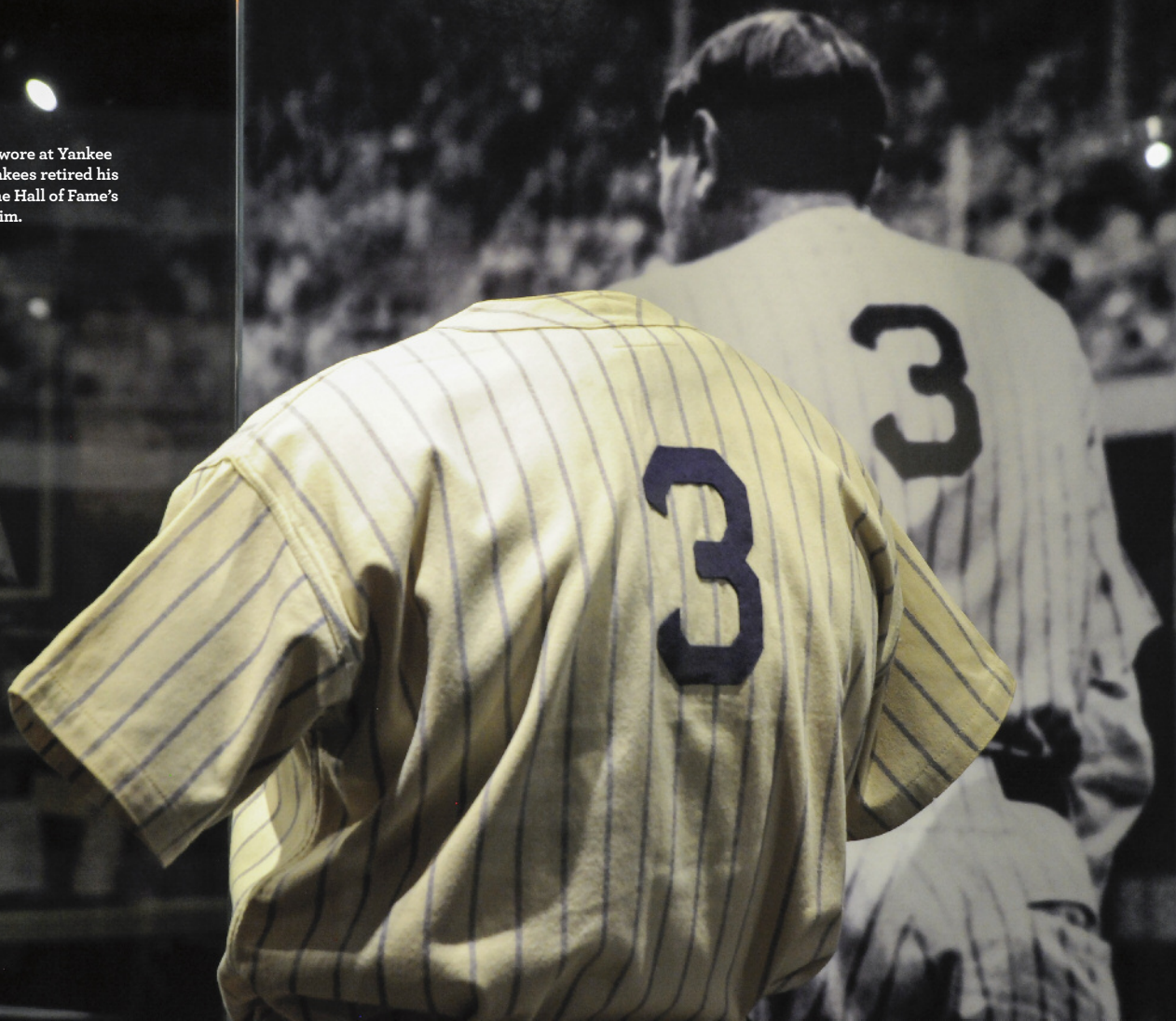
Sutton (Los Angeles Dodgers), Jorge Posada (New York Yankees), Mike Schmidt (Philadelphia), Lou Brock (St. Louis) and Irvin.

Back in the day, Willie Mays would order – by the bushel-load – the most famous No. 24



Lou Gehrig made his “Luckiest Man” speech on July 4, 1939, at Yankee Stadium, a little more than two months after amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) forced him from the game. **Inset:** His No. 4 was the first jersey number retired by a big league team. Gehrig wore this jersey during his final season of 1939.

The jersey Babe Ruth wore at Yankee Stadium when the Yankees retired his No. 3 can be seen at the Hall of Fame's exhibit dedicated to him.



MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

jersey of them all, and trade them for the No. 24 uniforms of visiting players, even offering to buy the number right off their backs for \$1,000 apiece.

No doubt Mays made that offer to Houston's Jimmy Wynn, who didn't take him up on it, but the late All-Star outfielder distinguished No. 24 nonetheless. The Astros retired his number in 2005.

Hall of Fame second baseman Joe Morgan, whose No. 8 was retired by the Reds, reflected on Wynn's passing in March to recognize his road roomie for the first seven years of his career as a "great person... and a true five-tool player."

Mays inspired at least two generations of young ballplayers, especially those who fancied themselves as center fielders, to wear the double dozen. Ken Griffey Jr. is the "24" today's players often emulate. The tradition lives on.

"Somewhere, Willie has a closet full of those 24s," said Murphy, chuckling at the memory.

"Players like their numbers," he added.

"You (used to) see players wear the numbers on a chain around their neck, fans with the



PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Above: Willie Mays wore this Giants jersey in 1957, and the team later retired his iconic No. 24. Mays also wore No. 24 as a player and coach with the Mets. **Right:** Joe DiMaggio presented this jersey, which he wore during the 1951 season, to the Hall of Fame when his No. 5 was retired on April 18, 1952.



numbers on their back. There's just something about baseball numbers. The number becomes who that player is to the fans and is forever associated with him."

Most baseball fans know that the first baseball number retired was Lou Gehrig's

No. 4, on July 4, 1939, the day of his famous "Luckiest Man" speech. But only the seam-iest of seamheads know – heck, not even many Cincinnati Reds fans know – that the second baseball number retired was that of former Reds catcher Willard Hershberger, who



BRAD MANNING/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Derek Jeter's No. 2 is one of 23 numbers retired by the Yankees, including No. 8, which was retired twice: In honor of catchers Bill Dickey and Yogi Berra.

committed suicide during the Reds' World Championship season of 1940. His No. 5 has since been overshadowed by the one worn by legendary catcher Johnny Bench.

The third number retired was that of New York Giant Carl "The Meal Ticket" Hubbell, No. 11, in 1944. Next, the Bambino, Babe Ruth, No. 3, in 1948; and fifth, fellow Yankee Joe DiMaggio, No. 5, in 1952, the Opening Day after he retired.

So revered and evocative are retired numbers that the National Baseball Hall of Fame often makes them the centerpiece of their displays. There may be, arguably, no more iconic non-action baseball "number" photo than the Bambino in No. 3 leaning on

his bat at Babe Ruth Day at Yankee Stadium in 1948 on the day the Yankees retired his number. The Hall has that No. 3, two Gehrig No. 4's (both from the 1939 season), a DiMaggio-delivered No. 5 in 1952 and a Mickey Mantle No. 7 that was donated to the Hall after his final season in 1968.

"The uniform collecting market has long been driven by the Yankees," said Dave Grob, a uniform authenticator born and bred in Cincinnati who has quite a collection himself. "The Mount Rushmore would be Ruth, Gehrig, DiMaggio and Mantle."

With the Yankees' retirement of No. 2 (Derek Jeter, 2020 Hall inductee), the Bronx Bombers have now retired all of their single-digit numbers plus Phil Rizzuto at 10. The others are: 1, Billy Martin; 6, Joe Torre; 8, Bill Dickey and Yogi Berra; and 9, Roger Maris.

Uniform numbers were introduced on a regular basis in 1929 and, at first, marked the wearer's spot in the batting order (thus Ruth's 3 and Gehrig's 4). The numbers were meant for people in the ballpark, not fans at home.

As newspapers began carrying more photos in the 1950s and TVs began proliferating, fans everywhere began absorbing the numbers almost by osmosis. By the 1960s and into the 1970s, they'd become second nature – actually first nature to schoolboys and, yes, schoolgirls.

Grob remembers the hold that Reds jersey numbers had on him and his friends playing Knothole baseball in Cincinnati in 1972.



STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGES

Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color barrier in 1947 and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1962. Twenty-three years ago, MLB retired No. 42 in his honor and all players now wear that number on April 15 of each year.



NUMBERS NOTES

- Frank Robinson's 20 (Orioles, Reds and Indians) and Nolan Ryan's 34 (Houston and Texas) and 30 (Angels) are the only two players (Robinson was player-manager with the Tribe) to each have their numbers retired by three different franchises.
- "44" is exclusively the province of sluggers (Henry Aaron, Willie McCovey and Reggie Jackson).
- The Yankees issued No. 8 to Yogi Berra before they retired Bill Dickey's No. 8, and so when they retired Yogi's 8, they retired Dickey's 8 the same day. Same for Ferguson Jenkins' and Greg Maddux's No. 31 for the Chicago Cubs.

"When we got our uniforms that year, we only got the pants, caps and stirrup socks because the jerseys were still being sewn for the sponsor, Thomas Funeral Home."

The coach told the players, "For the first game, just put a number on a white t-shirt."

For that first Saturday, "five of the nine players showed up in No. 14 (Pete Rose) and four in No. 5 (Johnny Bench)," Grob recalled.

The retired-number craze didn't kick in big-time until the 1970s. From 1939 through 1970, only 19 MLB numbers were retired. There are now 199 retired numbers, not counting executives, broadcasters and "The Fans" (Cleveland Indians).

"It started out as something only certain teams did, and the others didn't," wrote Chris Jaffe of *The Hardball Times*. "Once more and more franchises got into it... it became expected that all franchises got into the act."

And, yes, every franchise has retired Jackie Robinson's "42," but the Yankees (Mariano Rivera) and the St. Louis Cardinals (Bruce Sutter) have retired it twice, given that Rivera and Sutter wore the number before it was retired MLB-wide in 1997.

Sometimes it really is all about the numbers. 🍎

John Erardi has authored or co-authored eight baseball books, including one about No. 24, "Tony Pérez: From Cuba to Cooperstown," a Top 10 finalist for the 2018 Casey Award as baseball book of the year.

HALL of FAME
STARTING
NINE
 The Must-See Artifacts from Your Team
 COOPERSTOWN NEW YORK

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's collection of more than 40,000 three-dimensional pieces contains artifacts that tell the story of the game's legendary players, moments and triumphs. For a limited time through December 2020, the Museum will share some of those memorable artifacts through a new experience: *Starting Nine*.

Featuring the nine must-see artifacts from each of the 30 current MLB franchises, *Starting Nine* is being showcased in each of the six issues of *Memories and Dreams* in 2020. This issue features the AL Central.



American League Central



SHORT STOPS

When Bill Veeck returned as the Chicago White Sox owner in 1975, he promised to bring some excitement to a franchise that had posted only one winning season since 1967.

One of the first steps was a radical uniform idea that still makes fans smile more than 40 years later.

Veeck announced during Spring Training in 1976 that the White Sox would wear shorts as part of their uniform during games that season. In an Aug. 8 contest against the Royals at Comiskey Park, Veeck made good on his promise when his club wore navy blue shorts - along with the team's white shirt with an oversized collar - in the first game of a doubleheader.

Playing in front of a Sunday crowd of 15,997, the Sox defeated the Royals, 5-2.

The 62-year-old Veeck modeled the uniform before the game.

"Look at that," Veeck told the *Associated Press* while rubbing his artificial right leg. "Perfect contour."

Many White Sox players expressed their satisfaction with the uniforms, including second baseman Jack Brohamer, whose two-run single in the sixth inning extended Chicago's lead to 3-0.

"I like them, they're very comfortable," Brohamer told the *AP*. "Everybody seems to like them."

White Sox manager Paul Richards had his team return to their traditional uniforms in the second game of the doubleheader - and the White Sox lost, 7-1.

"From now on, it's up to Richards to decide when they'll wear them," Veeck said. "When it gets hot enough, I'm sure they'll want to wear them."

The Sox wore the shorts uniforms in two more games that season, going 1-1 in those contests. After that, they were retired for good.

An example of the uniform is on display in the Hall of Fame's *Whole New Ballgame* exhibit.

CHICAGO WHITE SOX

- 1 Short pants uniform top from three games in August 1976
- 2 Watch fob presented to Nick Altrock following 1906 World Series
- 3 Kid Gleason jersey from 1917 season
- 4 Nellie Fox jersey from 1959 AL Most Valuable Player season
- 5 Lighted pinwheel from Comiskey Park
- 6 Luis Aparicio jersey from 1970
- 7 Jermaine Dye jersey worn when he won the World Series MVP in 2005
- 8 Dewayne Wise glove used when his leaping catch preserved Mark Buehrle's perfect game on July 23, 2009
- 9 White Sox jacket worn by President Barack Obama while throwing out first pitch at 2009 All-Star Game

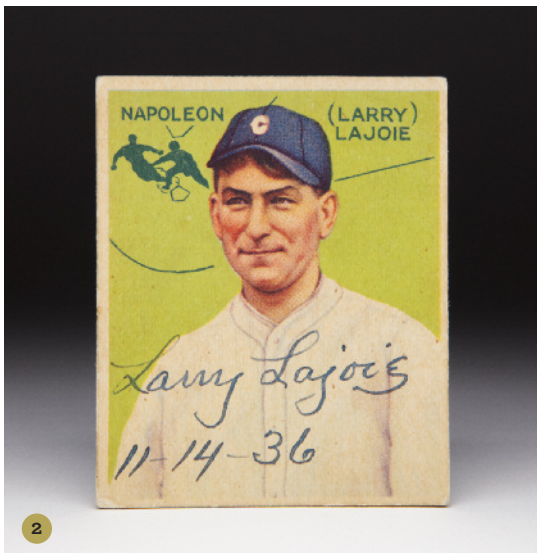
ALL PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART FOR NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



CLEVELAND INDIANS

- 1 45 rpm record "Go Joe Charboneau" celebrating the 1980 AL Rookie of the Year
- 2 "Missing" Nap Lajoie card from 1933 Goudy set
- 3 1948 World Series ring
- 4 Medal given to Indians shortstop Neal Ball following the first unassisted triple play in AL history on July 19, 1909
- 5 Ball thrown by Bob Feller during Opening Day no-hitter on April 16, 1940
- 6 Ball thrown by Early Wynn during his 300th victory on July 13, 1963
- 7 Frank Robinson jersey worn on April 8, 1975, during his debut as first African-American manager in big league history
- 8 Sandy Alomar Jr. bat used to hit his game-winning home run in All-Star Game on July 8, 1997
- 9 Base from Jay Bruce's walk-off double giving the Indians their 22nd straight win on Sept. 14, 2017

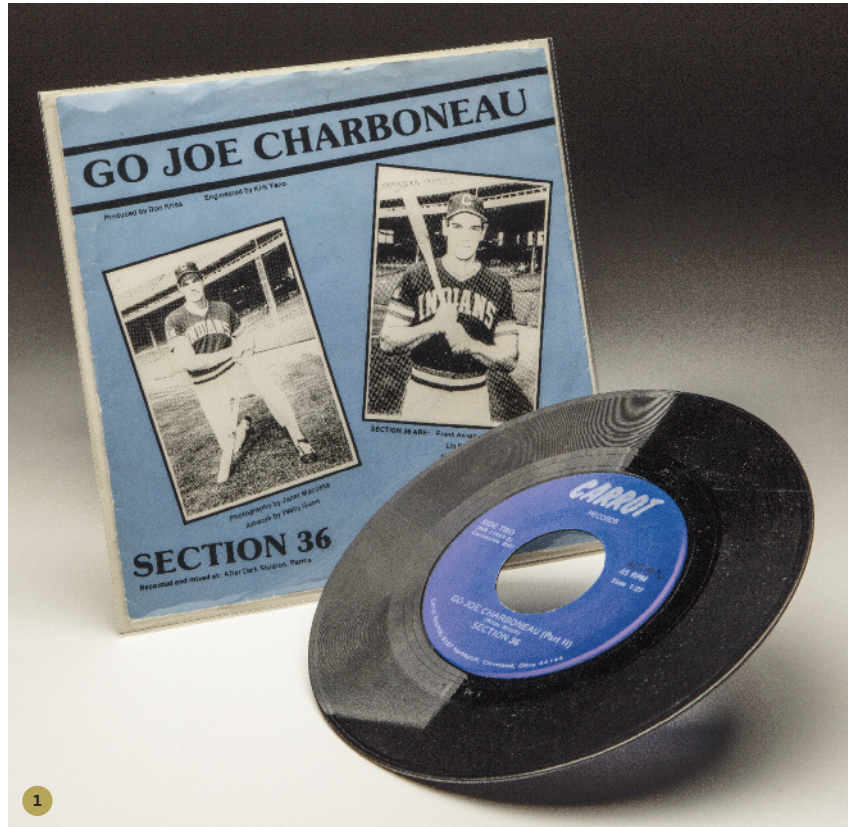
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3



1

RADIO STAR

Joe Charboneau appeared in 201 career games over three seasons for the Cleveland Indians, barely a footnote worth of production for a franchise that dates back to 1901.

But for a few months in 1980, there was no bigger star in Northeast Ohio - and few larger in baseball itself - than Super Joe.

A virtual afterthought when he reported to the Indians' Spring Training facility in Tucson, Ariz., in 1980, Charboneau was a second-round draft choice of the Phillies in 1976 who quit the game the following year when he felt he wasn't getting enough playing time. But he returned to the Phillies in 1978 and posted batting averages of better than .349 in Class A in 1978 and Double-A in 1979 - the latter season coming with the Chattanooga Lookouts after he was traded to the Indians following the 1978 campaign.

After a knee injury put Indians designated hitter Andre Thornton out for the season late in Spring Training in 1980, Charboneau took advantage and earned the job as Cleveland's Opening Day left fielder. By the end of April, Charboneau was batting .354 and had electrified a fan base that had endured 25 years without a pennant.

Stories of Charboneau's off-the-field antics began to spread as well, including a tale of him opening a beer bottle with his eye socket in college and pulling his own teeth (both confirmed by Charboneau).

"People got caught up in [the stories]," Charboneau told the *Associated Press*. "The fans really identified with them. And they identified with me."

Charboneau became so popular that a local group called "Section 36" put out a 45 rpm recording called "Go Joe Charboneau," which climbed into the Top 5 on the Cleveland charts. A copy of that record is on display in the Hall of Fame's *Whole New Ballgame* exhibit.

Charboneau was hobbled by a pelvis injury that limited him to a pinch hitting role for the final two weeks of the season, but he still hit .289 with 23 home runs and 87 RBI. He was the landslide winner of the American League Rookie of the Year Award, totaling 62 more points than runner-up Dave Stapleton of the Red Sox.

A back injury limited him to 48 games in 1981, and in 1982 he appeared in just 22 games before being sent to the minors in early June. He never returned to the big leagues.

But for those who remember the summer of 1980, Joe Charboneau remains part of baseball lore.



1

HOME RUN AND A TRIPLE

On his way to the American League Triple Crown, Miguel Cabrera joined some elite company in Detroit.

On Sept. 18, 2012, Cabrera hit two home runs in the Tigers' 12-2 win over the Oakland A's at Comerica Park. The second home run, an eighth-inning grand slam off the Athletics' Jesse Chavez, was Cabrera's 40th home run on the year.

With that, he joined Hank Greenberg (four times), Norm Cash, Rocky Colavito, Darrell Evans and Cecil Fielder (two times) as the only Tigers players to reach the 40-home run mark. "It's amazing," Cabrera told the *Detroit Free Press* following the game.

After his grand slam, Cabrera was greeted with a chant of "MVP" from the 31,243 fans in attendance. And with two weeks left in the season, it looked like a Triple Crown was in Cabrera's reach.

On Oct. 3, Cabrera fulfilled that destiny when he finished the season leading the American League in batting (.330), home runs (44) and RBI (139). He became the first player to win the Triple Crown since the Red Sox's Carl Yastrzemski led the AL in all three categories in 1967.

"All I could think of then was, 'Wow, I really did it,'" Cabrera told the *Free Press* after the Tigers' final game. "It was great that I could share it with my teammates. I don't do it without them."

Cabrera, who had also won the AL batting title in 2011, went on to capture his third straight batting crown in 2013. He was named the AL's Most Valuable Player in his Triple Crown season and the following year as well.

The bat Cabrera used to hit his 40th home run in 2012 is on display in the *Whole New Ballgame* exhibit at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.



2

DETROIT TIGERS

- 1 Miguel Cabrera bat used for his 40th home run of the season on Sept. 18, 2012
- 2 First base from Armando Galarraga's "Imperfect Game" on June 2, 2010
- 3 Justin Verlander jersey from his 20th win of the season on Aug. 27, 2011
- 4 Honey Boy Evans trophy presented to Ty Cobb following 1910 season
- 5 Pocket watch presented to Hank Greenberg by *Sporting News* after winning AL MVP in 1935
- 6 Denny McLain glove from his 30th win of the season on Sept. 14, 1968
- 7 Al Kaline bat used for his 3,000th hit on Sept. 24, 1974
- 8 World Series MVP trophy presented to Alan Trammell following 1984 Fall Classic
- 9 Microphone used by Frick Award winner Ernie Harwell in the 1960s

ALL PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART JR./NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



3

KANSAS CITY ROYALS

- 1 Bo Jackson cap from 1989 All-Star Game
- 2 Salvador Pérez mitt from 2015 World Series when he was named Most Valuable Player
- 3 2015 World Series ring
- 4 Darryl Motley bat used to hit two-run home run in Game 7 of 1985 World Series
- 5 George Brett bat used to hit his "Pine Tar Home Run" on July 24, 1983
- 6 Buck O'Neil Award statue
- 7 Justin Maxwell bat from walk-off grand slam on Sept. 22, 2013, that guaranteed the Royals their first winning season in a decade
- 8 Ned Yost jersey from 2014 when he led the Royals to a record eight straight wins to start the Postseason
- 9 Eric Hosmer jersey from Game 5 of 2015 World Series when his ninth-inning dash home sent the game to extra innings

ALL PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART FOR NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



1

BO KNOWS HOME RUNS

It was the bottom of the first inning at the 1989 All-Star Game in Anaheim, Calif., and NBC's Vin Scully was chatting with a special guest in the booth: Former United States President Ronald Reagan.

The Royals' Bo Jackson settled into the batter's box to lead off the frame, and took the first pitch from the Giants' Rick Reuschel low for ball one.

"That's a pretty interesting hobby he has for his vacation," President Reagan said, referring to Jackson's other pro career as a running back for the Los Angeles Raiders.

Reuschel then delivered his second pitch, which was also a bit low and slightly more inside, missing the outside target of Padres catcher Benito Santiago.

Jackson put his head down and swung.

"He's remarkable... and look at that one!" Scully said as Reds center fielder Eric Davis turned, took a few steps and then futilely watched the ball nearly clear the batter's eye in center field. "Bo Jackson says hello!"

For Jackson – who entered the game tied for the AL lead in home runs with 21 – it was another in a string of "wow" moments that defined his career.

Jackson was in the middle of his third full season with the Royals when he was named to his first All-Star Game in 1989. He put together his best MLB season that year, hitting 32 home runs, scoring 86 runs, totaling 105 RBI and stealing 26 bases.

In addition to his 448-foot home run, Jackson had a single and an RBI groundout in the All-Star Game, earning Most Valuable Player honors in the American League's 5-3 victory.

Though a severe hip injury he suffered with the Raiders interrupted his MLB career, Jackson played eight seasons – including two with an artificial hip.

The cap Jackson wore during the 1989 All-Star Game is on display in the Museum's *Whole New Ballgame* exhibit.



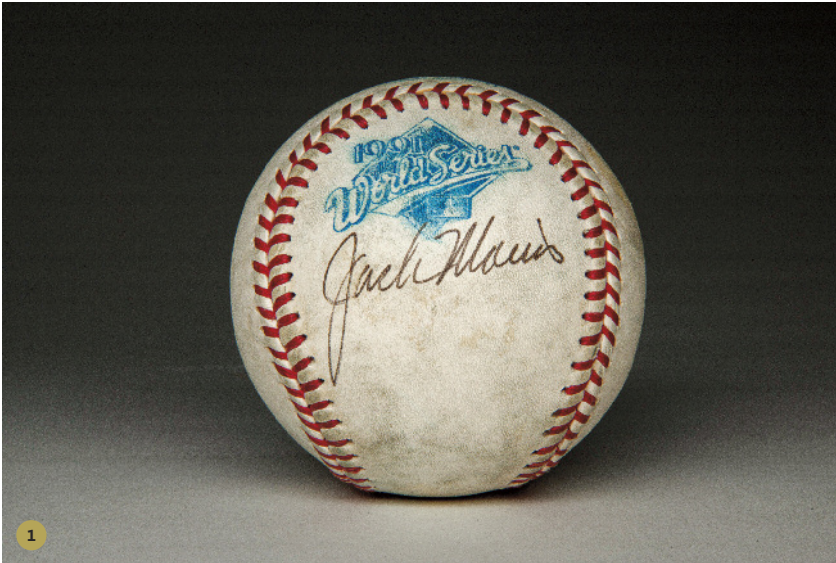
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4



TEN ZEROES

On Oct. 27, 1991, the Minnesota Twins' Jack Morris took the mound at the Metrodome in Minneapolis for Game 7 of the 1991 World Series.

The result would be one of the greatest performances in World Series history.

Morris and Atlanta Braves starter John Smoltz rolled through the first four innings before Morris ran into trouble in the fifth. Mark Lemke singled to lead off and advanced to third base on a Rafael Belliard sacrifice bunt and Lonnie Smith's bunt single.

But Terry Pendleton popped out to shallow left field and Ron Gant struck out looking on a 3-2 pitch to end the inning.

Later - as the tension built in a scoreless game - both teams had prime scoring chances in the eighth.

In the top of the inning, Morris allowed a leadoff single to Smith and Pendleton followed with a double. After Gant grounded out, Twins manager Tom Kelly visited the mound and decided to intentionally walk David Justice to pitch to Sid Bream.

With one out and the bases loaded, Bream worked the count to 1-2 before he hit a ground ball to Twins first baseman Kent Hrbek, who started a 3-2-3 double play to end the Braves threat.

In the home half of the inning, pinch-hitter Randy Bush led off with a single and was pinch-run for by Al Newman. Dan Gladden flew out, but Chuck Knoblauch singled to put runners on the corners with one away.

But after reliever Mike Stanton intentionally walked Kirby Puckett to load the bases, Hrbek lined out to Lemke at second base, starting a double play as Knoblauch was doubled off to retire the side.

Neither team could push across a run in the ninth, although Minnesota had two on with no outs before Atlanta turned a double play. After nine full innings, Kelly told Morris he was going to take him out, but after a dugout conference the decision was made to leave the 36-year-old workhorse on the mound.

"I want to know one thing: Who was going to take [Morris] out of this game? Who would have had the courage to say, 'Jack, you're done,'" Twins outfielder Randy Bush asked *Sports Illustrated*. "I don't think anyone would have done it. If it was [Tom Kelly], Jack would have punched him, kicked him - he might have killed him."

Morris retired the Braves in order in the top of 10th, and in the bottom of the inning Atlanta hurler Alejandro Peña allowed a leadoff double to Gladden. Knoblauch bunted Gladden to third and the Braves chose to walk Puckett and Hrbek intentionally to load the bases with one out.

Gene Larkin would step in as a pinch-hitter and hit the first pitch he saw to left field for a World Series-winning single, as the Twins won their second championship in four years.

Morris' pitching line for Game 7: 10 innings, seven hits, no runs, two walks, eight strikeouts and 126 pitches. A ball from the game - later signed by Morris - is on display in the Hall of Fame's *Whole New Ballgame* exhibit.

MINNESOTA TWINS

- 1 Ball from Game 7 of 1991 World Series signed by Jack Morris
- 2 Joe Mauer batting helmet from his 2,000th career hit on April 12, 2018
- 3 Homer Hankie from 1987 season
- 4 Ball hit by Gene Larkin to drive in the winning run in Game 7 of the 1991 World Series
- 5 1987 World Series ring
- 6 Johan Santana jersey from his 2006 Cy Young Award-winning season
- 7 Ball hit by Jim Thome for his 600th career home run on Aug. 15, 2011
- 8 Directional sign from Metropolitan Stadium, where the Twins played from 1961-1981
- 9 Ball from first hit at Target Field on April 12, 2010

ALL PHOTOS BY MILO STEWART FOR NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM





Five Star Quality

With the Hall of Fame election of Ted Simmons, a quintet of 1982 Brewers have a place in Cooperstown.

BY TOM HAUDRICOURT

As thrilled as fans were to get big league baseball back in Milwaukee with the birth of the Brewers in 1970, the first several years of the club's existence were, shall we say, a bit rough.

Fifty years later, however, five Brewers from a single team – the 1982 American League champions – call Cooperstown home. It is a testament to a squad that has long secured its place in Milwaukee history.

The '70 Brewers lost 97 games, and after slight improvement over the next couple of years, the '75, '76 and '77 teams dropped 94, 95 and 95 games, respectively. The talent level began to improve, however, with the arrival in 1974 of 18-year-old shortstop Robin Yount as well as infielder Paul Molitor four years later. Both were first-round draft picks who played just one season in the minors before being summoned to Milwaukee.

The tide began to turn in a big way when George Bamberger took over as manager in 1978. "Bambi's Bombers," as those power-laden teams became known, slugged opponents into submission. The Brewers won 93 games that season and 95 more in '79 before slipping back to 86 victories in '80.

Competing in the rugged American League East, those victory totals weren't enough to get Milwaukee to the Postseason. The New York Yankees won 100 games in '77 and '78, going



LOUISIANA NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Ted Simmons was traded from the Cardinals to the Brewers on Dec. 12, 1980. He helped Milwaukee advance to the Postseason for the first time in franchise history in 1981 and win the American League pennant in 1982.

on to beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series both years. Baltimore posted 102 victories under Earl Weaver in 1979, and the Yankees were back on top in 1980 with 103 victories under Dick Howser.

Brewers general manager Harry Dalton realized he needed a bold move to push his team over the top, and went to the Winter

Meetings in December 1980 with that in mind. He found a willing trade partner in St. Louis' Whitey Herzog, working out a seven-player deal that brought right-hander Pete Vuckovich, reliever Rollie Fingers and catcher Ted Simmons to Milwaukee.

Dalton believed those three veterans would make a huge difference, on and off the field, and their impact was undeniable. In the strike-split '81 season, the Brewers – now led by manager Buck Rodgers – captured the second-half division title and finally made the playoffs, though they bowed to first-half winner New York in a tightly contested five-game division series.

Fingers, who helped Oakland win three consecutive World Series titles in the mid '70s, proved to be a true difference-maker, posting a 1.04 ERA over 47 games and leading the AL with 28 saves. The man with the rubber arm and handlebar moustache not only was voted the league's Cy Young Award winner, he also claimed MVP honors, a rare daily double.

"We were a good team in '78, '79 and '80, but we didn't have a dominant closer," said Jim Gantner, the Brewers' savvy and gritty second baseman. "Getting Rollie was huge. When we had a late lead with Rollie, we knew we would win. And with that lineup, we had a lot of leads."

As it turned out, Dalton acquired two Cy Young Award winners in that trade. Vuckovich claimed that honor in 1982 by leading the Brewers to their first pennant and, to date, lone World Series appearance, against, ironically, St. Louis. Pitching down the stretch with a damaged shoulder, Vuckovich posted an 18-6 record and 3.34 ERA in 30 starts and continued to take the ball in the Postseason when many pitchers would have stayed in the trainer's room.

Simmons, 32 at the time, also did what was expected of him that season, on both sides of the ball. He started 120 games behind the plate, deftly handling an improved pitching staff, and was a steady contributor with the bat, smacking 23 homers and driving in 97 runs.

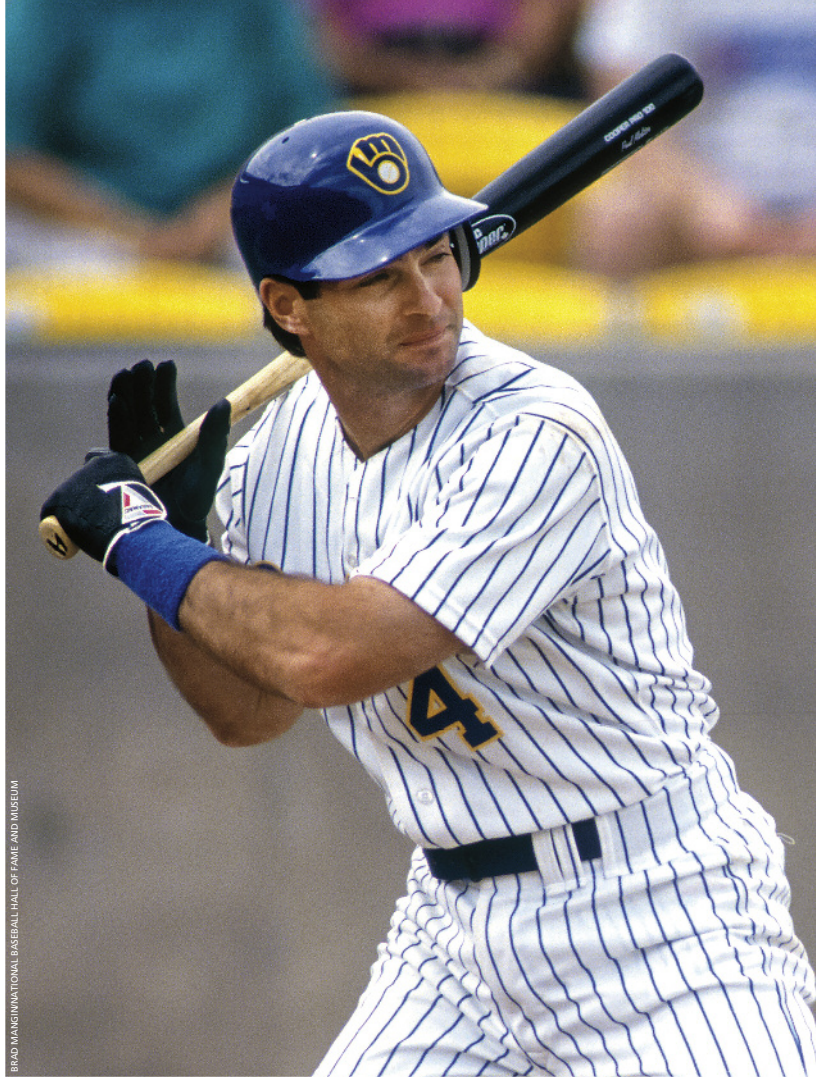
Asked about the trade that did exactly what the Brewers hoped, Simmons said: "It changed every one of us. 'Vuke' became the Cy Young Award winner. We went to the seventh game of the World Series. Rollie became what he became. It changed everything in Milwaukee. It was a wonderful, wonderful experience."

Opposite page clockwise from top left: The 1982 Milwaukee Brewers featured five future Hall of Famers:

Rollie Fingers, Paul Molitor, Don Sutton, Robin Yount and Ted Simmons (above). Milwaukee won its only American League championship that season.



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



BRAD MARSH/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



DOUG MARSH/NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

Before that '82 season was done, Dalton made one more deal that had a major impact. Looking for another experienced arm to add to his rotation, he traded for 37-year-old right-hander Don Sutton, who went 4-1 with a 3.29 ERA over seven starts down the stretch, none more important than the final day of the season in Baltimore when Sutton outpitched Jim Palmer and Yount homered twice in a 10-2 romp that secured the AL East crown.

Yount would give the Brewers yet another MVP that season with a brilliant offensive performance in which he batted .331 with 29 home runs and 114 RBI while leading the league with a .578 slugging percentage, 367 total bases, 210 hits, 46 doubles and .957 OPS.

Molitor, earning the nickname "The Ignitor" because of his impact as a leadoff hitter, led the AL with 136 runs scored while stealing 41 bases, collecting 201 hits and batting .302.

The season ended in disappointment for the Brewers, who took a three-games-to-two lead to St. Louis for Games 6 and 7 of the World Series, only to fall short. But Milwaukee still held a parade worthy of a champion down Wisconsin Avenue, the main thoroughfare of the city.

"You looked around on the field and you knew we had a lot of great players," Molitor said. "I don't know if you thought about future

Hall of Famers at the time, but we knew we had a lot of talent. We all had the same goal of trying to win the World Series. Unfortunately, we fell one game short.

"We had a couple of good years before Harry made that trade," Molitor added. "We were trending in the right direction. I was a big fan of Rollie already from what he had done in Oakland. I considered Teddy probably the best offensive catcher in the National League, other than maybe Johnny Bench. 'Vuke' was a little more unknown, but was starting to tap into what he would eventually become.

"It was nice to see a small-market team like the Brewers go out and bring in these big-name players. It gave us a big boost, all coming in one deal. The excitement it brought to the city was tremendous. When we came back (from two games down) to beat the Angels (in the ALCS) and win the pennant, the city went crazy."

Yount, who played all 20 of his big league seasons with Milwaukee, and Molitor, a teammate for 15 seasons, became the first players to represent the Brewers in Cooperstown. Members of the 3,000-hit club, Yount (inducted in 1999) and Molitor (2004) both were elected in their first year on the BBWAA ballot.

Fingers, who spent nine of his 17 seasons with the A's and was MLB's career saves leader

with 341 when he retired, entered Cooperstown in 1992. Sutton, who exceeded 300 wins and 3,000 strikeouts – with his biggest body of work with the Los Angeles Dodgers – was the lone player elected by the BBWAA in 1998.

The fifth member of the '82 Brewers to find his way to Cooperstown had the longest wait. Simmons fell off the BBWAA ballot after only one year in 1994 by not getting the requisite five percent of the vote to remain eligible. What many baseball insiders considered an injustice for one of the most productive catchers in the game's history was corrected last December when Simmons was elected to the Hall of Fame by the Modern Baseball Era Committee.

Former batterymate Vuckovich was on hand that day when Simmons was introduced at the Winter Meetings in San Diego and said "a travesty" finally had been corrected.

"I prayed for this to happen," he said. "He knows he belongs there. He's been waiting for years. He's happy the day finally came, and he's so deserving. I can't say enough about him.

"If you were pitching to him, you didn't have to think. Just bang the glove. He wasn't given enough credit for that."

As Molitor put it, "You realized when you talked with Teddy just how smart he was. He had a unique way of thinking. A lot of it was above most of us, to be honest. He influenced the game in a lot of ways.

"I played with Teddy and knew how he influenced the team, and his leadership, but it wasn't until I took a good look at his career numbers and how they compared to other players that I realized what a great career he had."

Yount, who became very close to Simmons over the years, echoed that sentiment, saying, "He was caught in the 'perfect storm' when he fell off the ballot after his first year. And when you fall off the ballot, you're forgotten about by a lot of people, really. People didn't realize Ted was Hall of Fame quality until it came back around to the Modern Era committee.

"The wonderful thing about this is he finally got his due. It just (took) a lot longer than it should have. He's finally in the Hall of Fame, where he belonged all along." 🍎



Ted Simmons hit 23 home runs for the 1982 AL champion Brewers, the sixth 20-home run campaign he had in the majors. He also hit a pair of round-trippers in the Brewers' seven-game World Series loss to the Cardinals.

A four-time Wisconsin Sportswriter of the Year, Tom Haudricourt covers the Brewers for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. He has written five books on the team, including this year's "Turning 50: The Brewers Celebrate A Half-Century in Milwaukee."



Our Museum in Action

These ongoing projects are just a few of the ways the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's mission is being supported today.

BASEBALLHALL.ORG/MUSEUMINACTION

WHAT WE'VE DONE TOGETHER

#COOPERSTOWNMEMORIES

We know your lives have been disrupted. From the routine day-to-day habits to the simple joys of gearing up for another baseball season, many things in the world are on pause.

And as history has shown us time and time again, baseball has a tremendous impact on families and friends everywhere, often serving to heal us during our challenges.

During these uncertain times, one thing that the entire staff at the Museum is sure of: Together we will continue to preserve the game's greatest stories – and our own baseball memories.

As baseball fans, we all have stories: Our first trip to Cooperstown, meeting a Hall of Famer during Hall of Fame Weekend, seeing an exhibit that brings our own memories flooding back, stepping into the Plaque Gallery and feeling the connection to the game's all-time greats – the memories are countless. We would love for you to share your #CooperstownMemories with us.

Simply send an email that includes your story and your name to development@baseballhall.org and we'll share selected ones with our "baseball family."

Here are a few recent stories shared with us from supporters like you:

>>> *To understand my Cooperstown story, you*

have to go back to my childhood. My father was an avid baseball fan. He followed the Reds growing up because that was the closest team to his hometown in Georgia (the Braves didn't come to Atlanta in 1966, which was the year I was born). I have never personally known anyone who loved baseball more than my father. He coached Little League for many years. He went to Spring Training. He listened to games on the radio. He LOVED baseball. And he passed that love down to me.

He taught me how to read a box score. He taught me how to calculate ERA. He taught me everything I know about baseball. Every year when Spring Training begins, I feel as though all is right with the world.

Because of my father, I, too, love baseball. So, visiting Cooperstown was on my bucket list.

Last June (2019), my husband made that dream come true. We, along with our 17-year-old son, came to Cooperstown.

When I entered those hallowed walls, I wept. I wept because it was a dream come true. But it was more than that. My father passed away in 2004 without achieving his dream of going to Cooperstown. So I wept for him. I wept because I was entering a place that I knew he would have

loved. I would have loved to have been able to share that experience with him.

I hope one day to return to Cooperstown because it was a magical experience for me. Yesterday would have been the Braves' home opener. With all that is going on in the world, I miss baseball. There is a void in my heart because the sport I have loved my entire life is on hold. But this, too, shall pass and baseball will return. Until then, I thank Cooperstown for all you have done and are doing to keep the legacy of baseball alive.

Ann Hunt

Member since 2019

>>> *My girlfriend and I have been members of the Hall since 2015. I'm a Red Sox fan, she is a Cardinals fan, so we have to alternate which team we choose for our membership card. Cooperstown is about a 3 1/2-hour drive from our New Hampshire home, so we try to make the trip once a year, usually in the spring. While every trip is memorable, last May I made the drive with an engagement ring in my pocket. I dropped to one knee in the Plaque Gallery, which is one step below a holy site for us. Luckily she said yes,*

and we continued our tour in a haze. Our wedding is planned for October of this year, with some good-natured bets on which of our teams might be still playing ball. The baseball theme is sure to be on display somewhere at the reception.

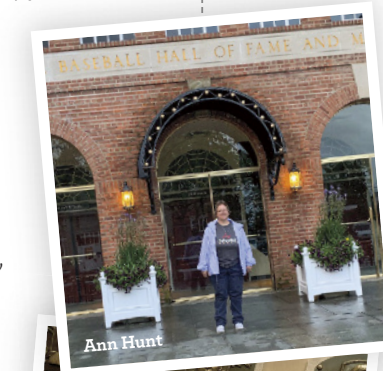
We are thankful for all the Hall does, and look forward to being able to travel there again soon.

Randall Rhoades

Member since 2015

>>> *The summer of 2018 began like any other summer, but would become one of the most memorable summers of our lives.*

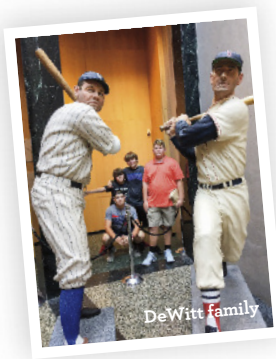
We started our journey in Pass Christian, Miss., our hometown. My husband and I embarked on the greatest baseball journey with our 16- and 11-year-old sons, as well as our two nephews, ages 16 and 13. The goal of our trip was to see as many MLB games as possible within a three-week period. The planning was extensive. We were able to see 13 games



Ann Hunt



Alyssa and Randall Rhoades



within that time to include the stadiums of the Nationals, Yankees, Mets, Red Sox, Orioles and Phillies. Our nephews had not been north of Tennessee prior to this time. All of

these boys are baseball players and their (and our) love for the game was evident throughout. It was just so much fun!

We also included Cooperstown in our trip. It was there that we learned that we were lucky to survive intact after wearing our Red Sox gear to Yankee Stadium. It was also there that we felt the importance of this great game called baseball, feeling an overwhelming sense of reverence in those hallowed walls.

These boys who "hate reading" spent hours reading every plaque, every stat, and asked for pictures to be taken with every hero.

I am a physician caring for patients during this difficult time of COVID-19. Being able to recall these memories has allowed me to escape the worries of today, if just for a moment. I will forever be grateful for the respite.

Take care. See you at the stadium.

Erin DeWitt, M.D.
Member since 2018

Photos to be digitally preserved

Thanks to a number of generous donors, photographs from our archive will be digitally preserved and added to our online digital collection, which you can browse at collection.baseballhall.org.

They include:

- **Jim Bottomley** – Thanks to a gift from John Rankin
- **Steve Carlton** – Thanks to a gift from R.G. Scherman
- **George Davis** – Thanks to a gift from B. J. Ferneau
- **Ned Hanlon** – Thanks to a gift from John Rankin
- **William Hulbert** – Thanks to a gift from John Rankin
- **Reggie Jackson** – Thanks to a gift from Thomas J. Frawley
- **Fergie Jenkins** – Thanks to gifts from Linda Cullen, Thomas J. Frawley and Steven Rothschild
- **Tommy Lasorda** – Thanks to a gift from Peter O'Malley
- **Bill McGowan** – Thanks to a gift from R.G. Scherman
- **Hal Newhouser** – Thanks to a gift from Elliott Trumbull
- **Gaylord Perry** – Thanks to a gift from R.G. Scherman
- **Red Ruffing** – Thanks to gifts from

Frank Basami, Brandon Borzelli, Steven M. Johnson, Paul Lauth, John Misaros, James W. Rook, Jonathan Waters, Gary Whaley and B-R-S Baseball Museum

- **Mike Schmidt** – Thanks to a gift from Ed Balderston
- **Tom Seaver** – Thanks to a gift from Michael Schucht
- **Don Sutton** – Thanks to a gift from Peter O'Malley
- **Paul Waner** – Thanks to gifts from Larry and Trish Buffkin, Robert Fiscus, Ian Laczynski and David L. McKinney
- **Billy Williams** – Thanks to a gift from Joy Harvey
- **Cy Young** – Thanks to gifts from Lou Boyd, Alan Brown, Michael Dempsey, William Ehrman, Jonathan Epstein, Bryan Fritz, Mike Lane, Chad LaPlante, Scott Longert, David L. McKinney, Joseph O'Connor, Kim Vennachio and William P. Waldron

WHAT YOU CAN HELP US DO

Baseball Card Collection Care Project

Baseball cards.

These rectangular pieces of cardstock have captivated fans of all ages for more than 125 years – simple treasures that are hunted, traded, pored over and organized.



The Hall of Fame is starting a new project to catalog and rehouse the Museum's baseball card collection. You can support this project to ensure these cardboard gems are preserved for generations of fans to enjoy.

MILO STEWART / NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



The history of these cards is amazing, and the exhibit is just great. Anyone who comes here is going to have something they remember.

Alan Trammell, who was on hand to help open *Shoebox Treasures*



Baseball cards connect us to the game we love. The Hall knows that first-hand based on the excitement around and the generous support toward the new exhibit that opened last year.

In May 2019, the Museum opened *Shoebox Treasures*, an exhibit that tells the story of the history of collectors' cards, dating back to the mid-19th century. The exhibit features more than 2,000 of the Museum's unparalleled collection of almost 200,000 baseball cards.

But the ongoing work to care for the card collection is not done.

Our team is ready to begin a new project to catalog and rehouse our entire baseball card collection. To do this, we need to secure funds to purchase new archival-quality materials that meet the highest standard in Museum collection care.

Make a gift today toward the new project to ensure these cardboard gems are preserved for generations of fans to enjoy.

Estimate for collection care materials for the entire project: \$28,175

Digitally preserve historic photos

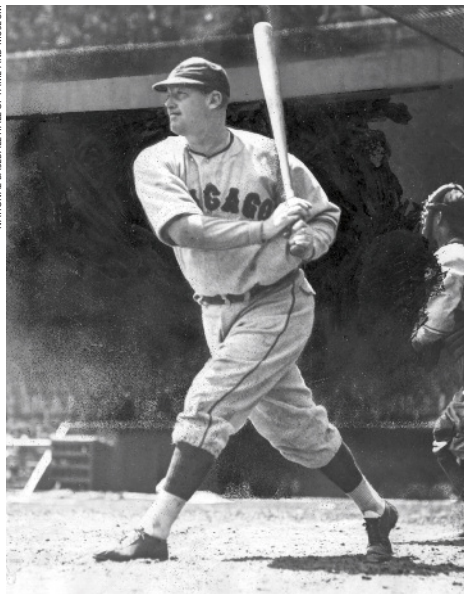
We need your help to continue our work to digitally preserve the Museum's photo collection, which contains more than 300,000 images.

Thanks to you, nearly 90 percent of the inductees from the classes of 1936 to 1969 have been funded in full. Below are the Hall of Famers that still need support.

Cost to digitally preserve images of:
1930s

Thanks to a number of generous donors, all Hall of Famer photographs from the classes of 1936, 1937, 1938 and 1939 have been funded in full.

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

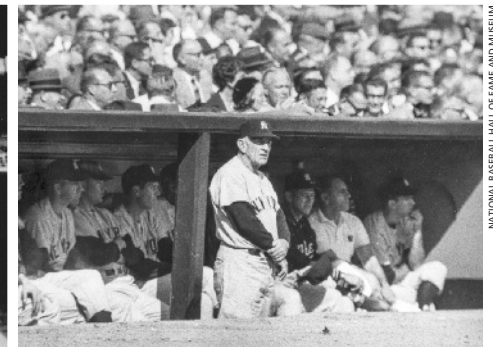


NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM



Clockwise from top left: Images of Gabby Hartnett, Kenesaw Mountain Landis, Casey Stengel and Ted Williams (shown with Hugh Duffy) can be preserved digitally with your support.

1940s

Frankie Frisch (398 images):.....\$1,904*
Kenesaw M. Landis (154 images):\$855*

1950s

Ed Barrow (85 images):.....\$445
Joe Cronin (251 images):.....\$974*
Gabby Hartnett (180 images):.....\$688*
Rabbit Maranville (78 images):.....\$305*
Joe McCarthy (256 images):.....\$1,370
Dazzy Vance (70 images):\$300*
Zack Wheat (94 images):.....\$440*

1960s

Red Faber (48 images):.....\$240
Waite Hoyt (368 images):.....\$1,855*
Heinie Manush (55 images):.....\$235*
Casey Stengel (913 images):.....\$4,625*
Ted Williams (551 images):\$1,386*

**Notes that the digital preservation project has received contributions toward the original goal. The amounts shown here are balances as of April 9, 2020.*

Additional projects online

We are grateful for all our donors and Museum Members who've helped us to preserve baseball history. We have accomplished a lot together, but there is more to be done.

Explore additional projects, including artifacts, photographs and Library documents that are in need of conservation and preservation, at our website. 📄

baseballhall.org/museuminaction

For more information – or to make a donation of any amount toward one of the projects – visit baseballhall.org/museuminaction or contact our Development Team at (607) 547-0385 or development@baseballhall.org.

Philial Love

The Hall of Fame honors David Montgomery as 2020 Buck O’Neil Award winner.

BY BILL FRANCIS

The late David Montgomery, who worked his way up in the Philadelphia Phillies organization to become one of the most respected and admired executives in baseball, will be honored with one of the sport’s most prestigious awards.

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum’s Board of Directors announced in March that it had selected Montgomery as the 2020 recipient of the Museum’s John Jordan “Buck” O’Neil Lifetime Achievement Award.

“It’s a well-deserved honor. I surely wish he could be here to accept it,” said Phillies third base legend and Hall of Famer Mike Schmidt. “Dave was one of the finest men I ever knew. Totally dedicated to his family and to his association with the Phillies. Loved people and people loved him.”

Presented not more than once every three years, the award pays tribute to the legacy of O’Neil, the Negro Leagues legend whose baseball contributions spanned eight decades.

It is given to “honor an individual whose extraordinary efforts enhanced baseball’s positive impact on society, broadened the game’s appeal, and whose character, integrity and dignity are comparable to the qualities exhibited by O’Neil.”

BUCK O’NEIL AWARD WINNERS

- 2008 – Buck O’Neil
- 2011 – Roland Hemond
- 2014 – Joe Garagiola
- 2017 – Rachel Robinson
- 2020 – David Montgomery



COURTESY: PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES



COURTESY: PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

The Award was first given in 2008, with O’Neil being the first recipient.

Montgomery, born and bred in the Philadelphia area, began his career in the Phillies’ sales office selling season and group tickets just prior to the opening of Veterans Stadium in 1971. Soon enough, he was the team’s marketing director and director of sales before becoming executive vice president following the 1981 season.

After being named chief operating officer in 1992, Montgomery was designated as co-general partner and acquired an ownership interest in the team in 1994. In June 1997, he succeeded Bill Giles as general partner, president and chief executive officer, then assumed the position of chairman in 2015.

“Dave was the kind of guy who could walk around the stadium during a game and say hello to the ushers and the vendors,” Schmidt said. “He knew them by name and it seemed like he knew something about everybody. He was the kind of man that I think we all want to be.”

Montgomery, who passed away on May 8, 2019, at the age of 72, will be honored as part of Hall of Fame Weekend 2020.

In his role as Phillies president and CEO, Montgomery not only became the face of the team’s front office, but under his leadership the

Left: David Montgomery poses with the World Series trophy following the Phillies’ triumph in the 2008 Fall Classic. **Below:** Montgomery (left) and Hall of Famer Pat Gillick celebrate during the ceremony presenting the Phillies with their 2008 World Series rings.



In 2008, the inaugural Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award was given to its namesake. The ceremony to honor O'Neil included the unveiling of a permanent statue and display in the Museum.

Phillies captured five consecutive National League East titles from 2007 to 2011, won two NL pennants and the World Series crown in 2008. He also led the construction of the team's current home, Citizens Bank Park, which opened in 2004.

"You just can't stop a guy like that. You can't stop Dave Montgomery because Dave Montgomery is so special," said Schmidt, selected by the Phillies in the 1971 amateur draft, the same year Montgomery began working with the team. "A guy like that seemed to have been in line for whatever position at the higher level opened up with the Phillies until he actually got right at the top.

"It sounds so simple, but all he wanted to be was a normal person. All he wanted to be was one of the citizens of Philadelphia dedicated to the city, his job and his family. The best way you can describe him is 'Citizen Dave.'"

Montgomery also was an active participant in issues facing and involving Major League



David Montgomery (right) shares a laugh with former Phillies general manager Rubén Amaro Jr. during a press conference. Montgomery helped build a Phillies team that won five straight National League East titles from 2007-11.

Baseball, serving on the organization's Executive Council, Business and Media Committee, Labor Policy Committee and Competition Committee.

"David's approach to running the franchise and serving its fans was to treat everyone like family. He set an outstanding example in Philadelphia and throughout our game," said MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred in a statement following Montgomery's passing. "David was one of my mentors in baseball and was universally

regarded as an industry expert and leader.

"I will remember David Montgomery as a gentleman and a man of great integrity."

Montgomery becomes the fifth winner of the Buck O'Neil Award, with the others, besides the namesake, being Roland Hemond (2011), Joe Garagiola (2014) and Rachel Robinson (2017).

"He's a very, very easy man to celebrate. It's challenged all of us to want to be the kind of person that Dave Montgomery was," a reflective Schmidt said. "When I pass, to be remembered in the same light as Dave Montgomery would be a great honor.

"I may be remembered for some other things, some home runs and some awards that I received, but I'd rather be remembered as Dave Montgomery is remembered than some athlete with a lot of sports accolades." ❀

Bill Francis is the senior research and writing specialist at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

LOU'S RUN

Lou Brock captured the nation's attention when he set a new stolen base record in 1974.

BY RICK HUMMEL

At age 34 going on 35, Lou Brock didn't necessarily aspire to steal 105 bases or more in 1974. A year earlier, he had swiped 70 – and that seemed quite enough.

But then, in April 1974, Henry Aaron broke Babe Ruth's home run record and Brock joked that the National League office implored him to create some "commotion" and try to break Maury Wills' mark of 104 stolen bases set with the Dodgers in 1962.

The "Base Burglar," as *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* sports editor Bob Broeg called him, started out with consistency. He stole 13 bases in April, then 17 in May, 18 in June and 17 in July. Unable to swing the bat with his full authority, Brock wasn't able to hit for extra bases as much as in the past. So he took the extra base himself.

Brock then went nuts in August, swiping four bases against Philadelphia on Aug. 4 and accumulating 29 for the month. The Phillies would become an important party-of-the-second-part about five weeks later.

At the end of August, the count was up to 94 and Brock seemed almost sure to fracture Wills' record. He then stole four bases against the San Francisco Giants on the first day of September. Sure, the Cardinals were in a race for a division title, but all eyes were on Brock.

As game time approached on Sept. 10, Brock, now just one off the mark at 103, had extra motivation. The Cardinals were starting a

three-city trip the next night and it appeared likely he would break the mark on the road.

"The only pressure was that which I'd put on myself – by saying I wanted to do this at home," Brock said.

The result of the Sept. 10 game, a score long forgotten, was an 8-2 win by the Phillies. Brock, as usual, "stole" the show. He singled



Lou Brock slides into second base safely in the seventh inning of the Cardinals' game vs. the Phillies on Sept. 10, 1974, with his record-setting 105th stolen base of the season. Umpire John McSherry gives the safe signal as Phillies shortstop Larry Bowa looks on.

to open the bottom of the first and swiped second base against a throw from catcher Bob Boone that hit Brock in the back and bounced into left field. He opened the bottom of the seventh with another single and was soon off to second base – and a new stolen base standard – as Boone's throw was in the dirt and wide of the bag.

"On 105, I felt my legs swaying just before I reached the base," Brock said. "I didn't even have enough energy to pop up with my slide.

I guess I was pretty well spent."

The game was stopped and Brock was honored in impromptu ceremonies. St. Louis native James "Cool Papa" Bell, a Negro Leagues speedster who had been inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame four weeks earlier, presented Brock with the second base bag, saying: "We decided to give him his 105th base because if we didn't, he was going to steal it anyway."

But there would be no No. 106 that night. In the ninth, Brock tried to steal second and Boone threw him out.

Brock, who also broke Max Carey's National League career record of 740 steals that night, would finish the season with 118 steals: 112 of second base with his patented, hard pop-up slide and six of third.

As the years went on, I became a close friend – and still am – of Brock, who has battled a diabetic condition that causes him an assortment of ills.

I saw him at the top of his career, then at the bottom when he batted .221 in 1978 and his manager, Ken Boyer, suggested that Brock might have reached the end of the line.

He allowed me to accompany him on his final ride – to 3,000 hits, a bounce-back batting average of .304, his sixth-and-final All-Star Game selection and adulation everywhere after announcing he'd retire following the 1979 season, when he would be

40 years old.

I accompanied him to Boys' Clubs around the National League. I watched as he singled off the leg of Chicago's Dennis Lamp for his 100th hit of the '79 season and 3,000th of his career. I observed him, as he was fond of saying, "orchestrate my own exodus."

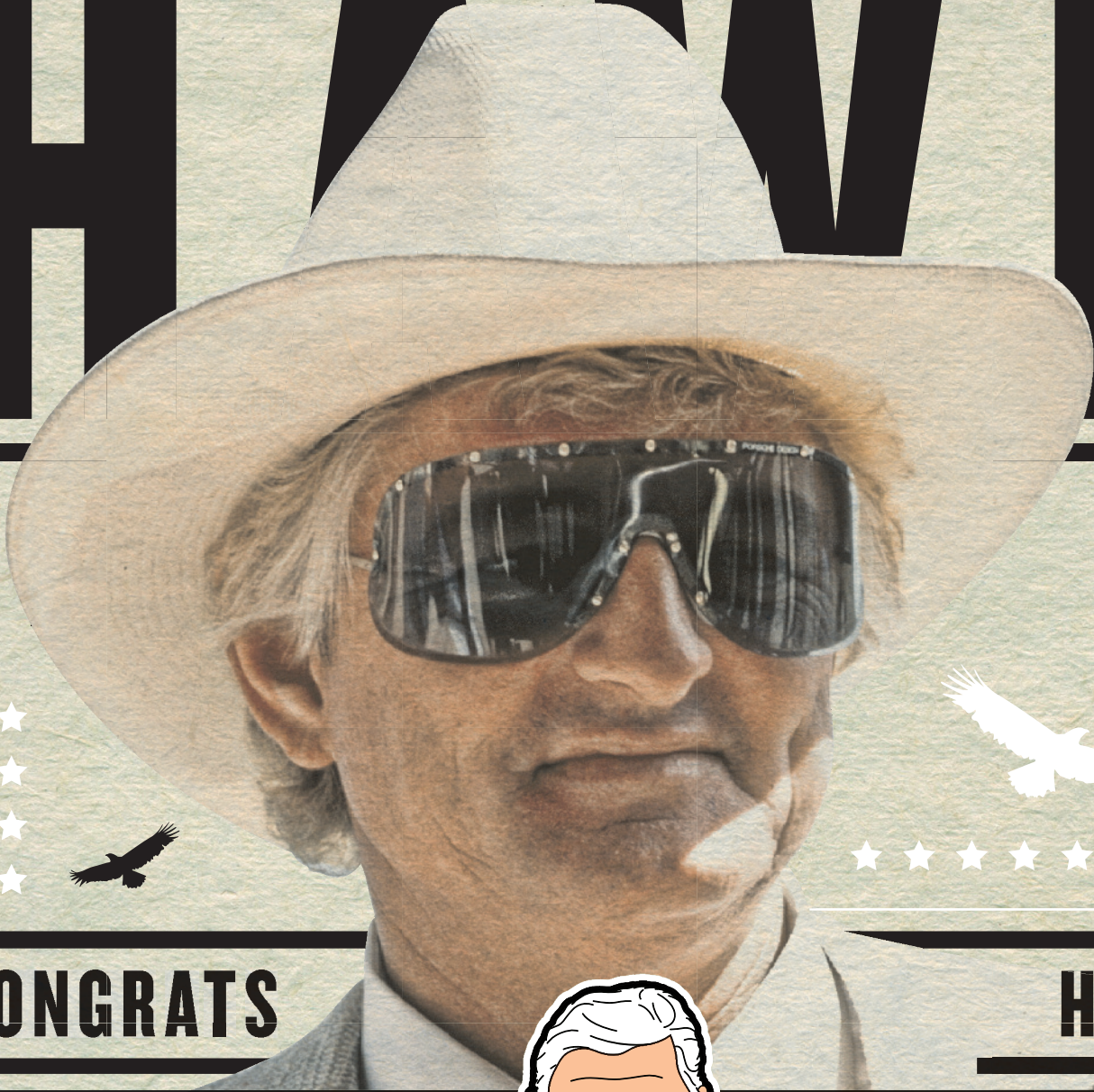
Sept. 10, 1974, was one of the biggest steps on that journey. 📍



CHRIS LEE/ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Rick Hummel covers the Cardinals for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and is the 2006 winner of the Baseball Writers' Association of America's J.G. Taylor Spink Award.

HAWK



CONGRATS

HAWK

**THE CHICAGO WHITE SOX
ARE PROUD TO CELEBRATE**

**KEN "HAWK" HARRELSON
2020 FORD C. FRICK AWARD**



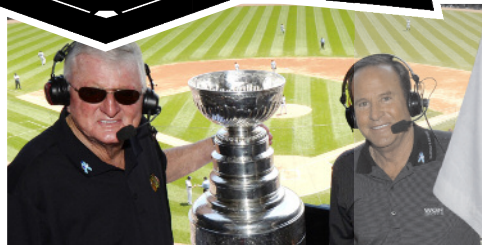
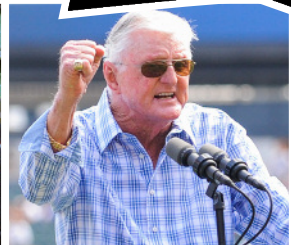
**KEN "HAWK" HARRELSON
FORD C. FRICK**

AWARD

20

WINNER

20





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AROUND COOPERSTOWN

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The return of spring brought daffodils
and blooming forsythias to Otsego County.