



NEWS

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AROUND THE HORN

*News & Notes from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum
2008 BBWAA Election Edition*

January 4, 2008

volume 15, issue 1

THE BALLOTS, PLEASE...

(STATISTICAL INFORMATION DOES NOT INCLUDE RESULTS FROM 2008 BALLOTING)

CRUNCH TIME: 2008 Hall of Fame ballots have been disseminated and returned to Jack O’Connell, BBWAA Secretary-Treasurer, from 10-year Baseball Writers’ Association of America (BBWAA) members...Results will be announced Tuesday, January 8 at 2 p.m. EST at www.baseballhall.org and a televised announcement with Hall of Fame President Dale Petroskey will be simulcast at the Hall of Fame’s Web site and at Major League Baseball TV on www.mlb.com.

ON YOUR DESKTOP: Tuesday’s results announcement will feature Hall of Fame President Dale Petroskey delivering the results live on MLB.TV to air at www.baseballhall.org at 2 p.m. EST...Should a press conference with any new electees be held Wednesday, the press conference will also be shown live at 12 noon at www.baseballhall.org.

THE 2008 BALLOT: The BBWAA ballot features 25 players, including 14 candidates not on the 2007 ballot (in bold face), including Jose Rijo, who previously appeared on the 2001 ballot, but came out of retirement to pitch in 2001-2002...The ballot contains 11 returnees from last year, with Dave Concepcion on the ballot for the 15th and final year...Only Harold Baines and Mark McGwire return to the ballot among 2007 first-year eligibles...Dante Bichette, Bobby Bonilla, Scott Brosius, Jay Buhner, Ken Caminiti, Jose Canseco, Eric Davis, Tony Fernandez, Wally Joyner, Paul O’Neill, Bret Saberhagen, Devon White and Bobby Witt each received less than 5% of the vote in their first year and are no longer eligible for consideration by the BBWAA...All will be eligible for consideration by the Veterans Committee beginning in 2023...Tony Gwynn (97%) and Cal Ripken Jr. (98%) were elected...The 2008 ballot, the number of years on the ballot, and 2007 vote percentage:

NAME	YR	2007	NAME	YR	2007	NAME	YR	2007
Brady Anderson	1	-	Rich Gossage	9	71.2%	Dave Parker	12	11.4%
Harold Baines	2	5.3%	Tommy John	14	22.9%	Tim Lincecum	1	-
Rod Beck	1	-	David Justice	1	-	Jim Rice	14	63.5%
Bert Blyleven	10	47.7%	Chuck Knoblauch	1	-	Jose Rijo	1	-
Dave Concepcion	15	13.6%	Don Mattingly	8	9.9%	Lee Smith	6	39.0%
Andre Dawson	7	56.7%	Mark McGwire	2	23.5%	Todd Stottlemyre	1	-
Shawon Dunston	1	-	Jack Morris	9	37.1%	Alan Trammell	7	13.4%
Chuck Finley	1	-	Dale Murphy	10	9.2%			
Travis Fryman	1	-	Robb Nen	1	-			

THE VOTING ELECTORATE: A record 545 ballots were cast by BBWAA voters in 2007, 25 more than the previous best of 520 in 2006...On five total occasions (also: 515-2001; 506-2004; 516-2005) more than 500 ballots have been cast...At least 400 ballots have been cast in every election since 1986...Voting privileges are extended to those BBWAA members meeting their organization’s Hall of Fame voting qualifications and in good standing with the BBWAA...Voters can select from zero to 10 names on their Hall of Fame ballot...Votes on 75 percent of all ballots cast is necessary for election.

CREDIT AN ASSIST: Thanks to Elias Sports Bureau for its assistance in verifying the names of the new players eligible for consideration, and to Ernst and Young for its assistance in verifying the vote, year-in and year-out.

CAREFUL SELECTION: 2007 marked the 64th Hall of Fame election held by the BBWAA...Starting in 1936, the BBWAA has elected someone 56 times and on seven occasions it did not elect anyone (1945, 1946, 1950, 1958, 1960, 1971, 1996)...On nine occasions, no election were held (1940, 1941, 1943, 1944, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965)...The BBWAA membership has elected from zero to five candidates in each of its 64 elections...As qualified in the chart below, it has voted in two players and one player more than any other quantity (23 times).

ELECTED	TIMES	LAST	CLASS
5	1	1936	Cobb, Johnson, Mathewson, Ruth, Wagner
4	2	1955	DiMaggio, Hartnett, Lyons, Vance
3	8	1999	Brett, Ryan, Yount
2	23	2007	Gwynn, Ripken
1	23	2006	Sutter
0	7	1996	----

NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE: A partial list of eligible first-time players for upcoming Hall of Fame elections includes: **2009:** David Cone, Mark Grace, Rickey Henderson, Mo Vaughn, Matt Williams. **2010:** Roberto Alomar, Barry Larkin, Edgar Martinez, Fred McGriff, Robin Ventura, **2011:** Jeff Bagwell, John Franco, Juan Gonzalez, Hideo Nomo, Rafael Palmeiro, Larry Walker.

FIRST THINGS FIRST: With Tony Gwynn and Cal Ripken Jr. elected on their first ballot in 2007, 43 players have been elected in their first year of eligibility (11 pitchers, seven RF, five LF, four CF, five SS, three second basemen, four third basemen, two first basemen, one designated hitter and one catcher)...In six of the last eight elections, at least one player has been elected in his first year of eligibility...Other than the inaugural Hall of Fame election, 1999 is the only year where as many as three first-year candidates were elected at once...NOTE: Lou Gehrig (who received votes in 1936 while active and then elected by acclamation in 1939) and Roberto Clemente (by special election in 1973) were each elected through a non-traditional process and are not counted in the 43.

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

TRY AND TRY AGAIN: The other 60 men elected by the BBWAA were done so on a later ballot, taking from two to 16 years (Dazzy Vance was elected at a time when he could have stayed on the ballot even longer...From 1946-56, the rule was that a player must have been active at some point in the 25 years prior to the election (it was increased to 30 years from 1956-62, and has been 20 ever since)...When one walks through the Hall of Fame Gallery, though, the year or method by which players were elected are not noted...The others: **2nd year** (Berra, Fingers, Fisk, Ford, Lajoie, Speaker, Young); **3rd year** (Alexander, Hubbell, Hunter, Jenkins, Marichal, Ott, Perry, Sandberg); **4th year** (E.Collins, DiMaggio, Grove, Keeler, Killebrew, Roberts, Sisler, Wynn); **5th year** (Campanella, Hornsby, Mathews, Niekro, Sutton); **6th year** (Aparicio, Carter, Cochrane, Frisch, Gehringer, P.Waner, B.Williams); **7th year** (Appling, Foxx); **8th year** (Pennock, Traynor, Wilhelm); **9th year** (Dickey, Greenberg, Medwick, Perez, Simmons); **10th year** (Boudreau, Cronin, Dean, Drysdale, Lyons); **11th year** (Snider); **12th year** (Hartnett, Heilmann, Lemon); **13th year** (Kiner, Sutter); **14th year** (Maranville, Terry); **15th year** (Ruffing); **16th year** (Vance).

COVERING GROUND: Of those 60 Hall of Famers who did not earn election in their first year, earning election required gaining extra votes during their election year...The Hall of Famer to make up the most ground from the previous year to earn election the next, percentage-wise, was Carl Hubbell, who gained 61.4 percent (65 votes) in his third year on the ballot, to earn election in 1947...The most votes gained in a year to earn election was Luke Appling, who received a 141-vote boost in his seventh year to earn election in 1964...Eighteen of 60 multiple-ballot Hall of Famers earned election when more than 400 or more votes were cast, with Luis Aparicio (17.2%, 89 votes) making up the most ground in a previous year to his election year, in his 6th on the ballot in 1984...Tony Perez (16.4%, 83 votes in 2000), Rollie Fingers (15.5%, 58 votes in 1992), Duke Snider (15.2%, 25 votes in 1980) and Ryne Sandberg (15.1%, 84 votes) were the only others to gain at least 15 percent in election years with 400 or more voters.

70% OF THE VOTE: Rich Gossage returns to the ballot in 2008 after garnering 71.2% of the 2007 vote, finishing 21 votes shy of election...Gossage becomes the 20th player to receive between 70 and 75 percent of a BBWAA vote in any given year...All previous 19 would go on to earn subsequent election to the Hall of Fame...Of the 19, 14 earned election to the Hall of Fame in the very next year after receiving 70% for the first time: Pie Traynor (1948), Paul Waner (1952), Bill Terry (1954), Joe Medwick (1968), Roy Campanella (1969), Robin Roberts (1976), Duke Snider (1980), Juan Marichal (1983), Harmon Killebrew (1984), Billy Williams (1987), Gaylord Perry (1991), Don Sutton (1998) and Gary Carter (2003)...On one occasion, a player earned 70% then took two more elections to get into the Hall of Fame by the BBWAA: Red Ruffing (1968), who totaled 70.15 in 1964 before falling to 68.87 in 1966...Four times a player has received at least 70% but not earned election by the BBWAA, instead earning election by the Veterans Committee: Frank Chance (1946, after receiving 72.47 in 1945); Nellie Fox (1997, after receiving 74.68 in 1985, his last year on the ballot); Jim Bunning (1996, after receiving 74.24 in 1988, then falling under 70% his final three years on the ballot); and Orlando Cepeda (1999, after receiving 73.63 in his final year on the ballot).

MOST VOTES TO FALL SHORT: The 2008 ballot features two players who have received the highest single-year vote totals not to earn election to the Hall of Fame...In 2007, Rich Gossage garnered 388 votes (71.2%), most ever to not earn election to the Hall of Fame, while Jim Rice received 346 votes (63.5%) in 2007...A record number of 409 votes were needed to earn election in 2007...Among candidates no longer eligible for consideration by the BBWAA, Gil Hodges received the most votes while falling short of earning election, 242 in 1979 (56.02%), while Hodges' 63.37% (1983, 237 votes) is the highest percentage among candidates no longer eligible not to earn election.

NINE TENTHS OF THE LAW: No individual has been elected to the Hall of Fame as a unanimous choice, though there have been many close calls... The 24 players with at least 90% of votes cast in their favor:

YEAR	PLAYER	BALLOTS CAST	VOTES RECEIVED	% RECEIVED	OMITTED BALLOTS
1992	Tom Seaver	430	425	98.84%	5
1999	Nolan Ryan	497	491	98.79%	6
2007	Cal Ripken Jr.	545	537	98.53%	8
1936	Ty Cobb	226	222	98.23%	4
1999	George Brett	497	488	98.19%	9
1982	Hank Aaron	415	406	97.83%	9
2007	Tony Gwynn	545	532	97.60%	13
1995	Mike Schmidt	460	444	96.52%	16
1989	Johnny Bench	447	431	96.42%	16
1994	Steve Carlton	455	436	95.82%	19
1936	Honus Wagner	226	215	95.13%	11
1936	Babe Ruth	226	215	95.13%	11
1979	Willie Mays	432	409	94.67%	23
1989	Carl Yastrzemski	447	423	94.63%	24
1962	Bob Feller	160	150	93.75%	10
1993	Reggie Jackson	423	396	93.62%	27
1966	Ted Williams	302	282	93.37%	20
1969	Stan Musial	340	317	93.23%	23
1990	Jim Palmer	444	411	92.57%	33
1983	Brooks Robinson	374	344	91.97%	30
2005	Wade Boggs	516	474	91.86%	42
2002	Ozzie Smith	472	433	91.74%	39
1936	Christy Mathewson	226	205	90.70%	21
1991	Rod Carew	443	401	90.50%	42

HALL OF FAME WEEKEND 2008...AND BEYOND: Hall of Fame Weekend is held over the last Sunday every July...In 2008, ceremonies will be held on Sunday, July 27, with the weekend running July 25-28...Future dates: **2009** – July 24-27; **2010** – July 23-26...A complete Hall of Fame Weekend 2008 schedule will be announced in the spring.

THE GAME'S ELITE: The Hall of Fame is comprised of 285 elected members, following the election of two managers and three executives by the Veterans Committee in December at the Winter Meetings...Included are 198 former major league players, 26 executives, 35 Negro leaguers, 18 managers and eight umpires...The BBWAA has elected 105 candidates to the Hall while the Veterans Committee (in all of its forms) has chosen 154 deserving candidates...The defunct "Committee on Negro Baseball Leagues" selected nine men between 1971-77 and the Special Committee on Negro Leagues in 2006, elected 17 Negro leaguers...There are currently 63 living members of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

HISTORY AT YOUR FINGERTIPS: Comprehensive voting data from every BBWAA election is available exclusively at baseballhall.org...Visitors can sort election results by player, year and by votes received...This definitive database of Hall of Fame election data allows the user to view cumulative election results of each year since 1936.

BETWEEN THE LINES: Including Negro leagues players, the following is a breakdown by position of the 227 Hall of Famers who earned their election on the playing field...Also included is the last major leaguer to be elected at each position.

Pitchers 70	Second Baseman 18	Left Fielders 19
Catchers 16	Third Baseman 13	Center Fielders 23
First Baseman 21	Shortstops 23	Right Fielders 23
Designated Hitter 1	DH: Molitor (2004)	
PITCHER: Sutter (2006)	SECOND BASE: Sandberg (2005)	LEFT FIELD: Yastrzemski (1989)
CATCHER: Carter (2003)	THIRD BASE: Boggs (2005)	CENTER FIELD: Puckett (2001)
FIRST BASE: Murray (2003)	SHORTSTOP: Ripken Jr. (2007)	RIGHT FIELD: Gwynn (2007)

CLOSE, BUT NO CIGAR: Several individuals have come close to being elected to the Hall of Fame, but have missed by the slimmest of margins in a given year...All were subsequently elected.

YEAR	PLAYER	BALLOTS CAST	VOTES RECEIVED	NEEDED/ELECTION	SHORT BY
1985	Nellie Fox	395	295	297	2
1947	Pie Traynor	161	119	121	2
1986	Billy Williams	425	315	319	4
1988	Jim Bunning	427	317	321	4
1994	Orlando Cepeda	455	335	342	7
1967	Joe Medwick	292	212	219	7
1945	Frank Chance	247	179	186	7
1953	Bill Terry	264	191	198	7
1982	Juan Marichal	415	305	312	7
1951	Paul Waner	226	162	170	8
1968	Roy Campanella	283	205	213	8
1975	Robin Roberts	362	263	272	9
1997	Don Sutton	473	346	355	9
2002	Gary Carter	472	343	354	11
1983	Harmon Killebrew	374	269	281	12
1984	Hoyt Wilhelm	403	290	303	13
1954	Joe DiMaggio	252	175	189	14

CLOSE, AND CIGAR: Meanwhile, 23 Hall of Famers have earned election by 10 votes or less:

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

CAPPING THE ISSUE: The choice of which team logo appears on a player's plaque is the Museum's decision...The inductees wishes are always considered...As a history museum, it's important that the logo be emblematic of the historical accomplishments of a player's career...A player's election is a career achievement, and as such, every team for whom he played is listed on the plaque; the logo selection is based on where that player makes his most indelible mark...For example, it would not be appropriate from an historical standpoint if Babe Ruth's cap had a Red Sox logo, if Ty Cobb's cap had a Philly A's logo, or if Hank Greenberg's a Pirates logo...However, when instances come up where a player's career achievements were fairly evenly divided, as was the case with both Dave Winfield and Carlton Fisk, we give the player more ownership in the decision, though the Museum retains the final one.

ONE-TEAM WONDERS: Forty-seven Hall of Fame players spent their careers with one major league team: Luke Appling, Ernie Banks, Johnny Bench, George Brett, Roy Campanella, Roberto Clemente, Earle Combs, Bill Dickey, Joe DiMaggio, Bobby Doerr, Don Drysdale, Red Faber, Bob Feller, Whitey Ford, Lou Gehrig, Charlie Gehringer, Bob Gibson, Lefty Gomez, Tony Gwynn, Carl Hubbell, Travis Jackson, Walter Johnson, Al Kaline, Addie Joss, Sandy Koufax, Bob Lemon, Ted Lyons, Mickey Mantle, Bill Mazeroski, Bid McPhee, Stan Musial, Mel Ott, Jim Palmer, Kirby Puckett, Pee Wee Reese, Cal Ripken, Phil Rizzuto, Brooks Robinson, Jackie Robinson, Mike Schmidt, Willie Stargell, Pie Traynor, Bill Terry, Ted Williams, Carl Yastrzemski, Robin Yount and Ross Youngs.

2008 HALL OF FAME ELECTEES AND HONOREES

VETERANS VOTE: The revamped Hall of Fame Veterans Committee met during the Winter Meetings in Nashville, December 2-3 and two committees elected two managers and three executives...Voters considered two ballots: one featuring seven managers and three umpires and the other featuring ten executives and pioneers...The five electees will be honored during Hall of Fame Induction Ceremonies, Sunday, July 27...More info on the five Veterans Committee electees:

BARNEY DREYFUSS: Barney Dreyfuss totaled 43 years of service in baseball as an influential team owner and policy maker, as the first owner of the Pittsburgh Pirates. Following a 10-year tenure as part-owner of the Louisville Colonels in the American Association, Dreyfuss brought 14 players with him to the Pirates, including Hall of Famers Honus Wagner, Fred Clark and Rube Waddell. Overall, his teams won six pennants and two World Series (1909, 1925), as he is considered one of the fathers of the modern World Series, brining the Series to reality in 1903 as the owner of the Pirates.

BOWIE KUHN: Bowie Kuhn served as Commissioner of Major League Baseball from 1969-'84, the game's fifth commissioner. During his tenure, MLB attendance tripled and lucrative television contracts followed, on the heels of the introduction of night-time baseball to the World Series. Kuhn is the first former commissioner elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame since Happy Chandler earned election in 1982.

WALTER O'MALLEY: Walter O'Malley is noted as perhaps the most influential owner of baseball's early expansion era, as owner of the Brooklyn and later, Los Angeles Dodgers. Gaining control of the Dodgers in 1950, O'Malley led the club to four pennants and a World Series title in his first seven years, before leading baseball's expansion west of the Mississippi, leading the charge to relocate the team to Los Angeles.

BILLY SOUTHWORTH: Billy Southworth managed for 13 seasons (1929, 1940-'51), including seven with the Cardinals and six with the Braves, posting a .597 winning percentage, fifth-best all-time, with a record of 1,044-704. Southworth guided his teams to four World Series appearances and two World Championships, posting a winning record in 10 of his 13 seasons, including three straight seasons of 105-wins or more, from 1942 to 1944 with St. Louis.

DICK WILLIAMS: Dick Williams managed for 21 seasons with six different teams, recording 1,571 wins against 1,451 losses, a .520 winning percentage, winning four pennants and two World Series. Williams guided the 1972 and 1973 A's to World Series titles, also taking the 1967 Boston Red Sox and the 1984 San Diego Padres to the World Series.

'SIDES' SNARES THE SPINK: Larry Whiteside, a pioneer among African-American sports journalists, was elected the 2008 winner of the J.G. Taylor Spink Award in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America on December 5...His memory will be honored with the award that is presented annually to a sportswriter "for meritorious contributions to baseball writing" during the 2008 National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum induction ceremony July 27 at the Clark Sports Center in Cooperstown, N.Y....Whiteside, who died June 15 of complications from Parkinson's disease, received 203 votes from the 415 ballots cast by BBWAA members with 10 or more consecutive years' service in becoming the 59th winner of the award since its inception in 1962 and named for the first recipient...Nick Peters, who retired this year from the *Sacramento Bee* after having been a traveling beat writer for three decades covering the San Francisco Giants, received 119 votes. Dave Van Dyck, a Chicago baseball writer for 25 years and an active member of numerous BBWAA committees, got 89.

FRICK FINALISTS: A record 122,505 fan votes were cast online at www.baseballhall.org throughout November, as fans chose three of 10 names to comprise the 2008 Ford C. Frick Award ballot, given annually by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum for excellence in baseball broadcasting...**Joe Nuxhall** (82,304 fan votes), **Bill King** (7,659) and **Joe Morgan** (6,065) earned spots on the ballot through the online vote, taking place exclusively at www.baseballhall.org...The three fan selections will be joined by broadcasters **Tom Cheek**, **Ken Coleman**, **Dizzy Dean**, **Tony Kubek**, **Graham McNamee**, **Dave Niehaus** and **Dave Van Horne**, who were selected by a research committee....The winner of the 2008 Frick Award will be announced February 19...Voting will be conducted by a 19-member electorate, comprised of the 14 living Frick Award recipients and six broadcast historians/columnists, including past Frick honorees **Marty Brennaman**, **Jerry Coleman**, **Gene Elston**, **Joe Garagiola**, **Ernie Harwell**, **Jaime Jarrin**, **Milo Hamilton**, **Harry Kalas**, 2007 Frick winner **Denny Matthews**, **Felo Ramirez**, **Vin Scully**, **Lon Simmons**, **Bob Uecker** and **Bob Wolff**, and, historians/columnists **Bob Costas** (NBC), **Barry Horn** (*Dallas Morning News*), **Stan Isaacs** (formerly of *NY Newsday*), **Ted Patterson** (historian) and **Curt Smith** (historian).

ONLY ONE O'NEIL: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum announced plans prior to Game One of the 2007 World Series to honor the legacy of the late John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil, the Negro leagues legend whose baseball contributions spanned eight decades before his death at age 94 one year ago, with the creation of the Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award, to be first presented during Hall of Fame Weekend 2008, with O'Neil the Award's first recipient...A permanent, life-size bronze statue of O'Neil will be dedicated in the Museum and will serve as the Award, accompanied by two plaques with the statue: One to educate Museum visitors about O'Neil's contributions to the game, and the other to list the recipients of the Award...The Award honors an individual whose extraordinary efforts to enhance baseball's positive impact on society, has broadened the game's appeal, and whose character, integrity and dignity are comparable to Buck O'Neil's...It will be bestowed by the Hall of Fame's Board of Directors at its discretion, though not more frequently than once every three years...For more information, please visit baseballhall.org.

VETERANS VOTING RECAP

THE VOTERS, PART I: The 16-member electorate charged with reviewing the Managers/Umpires ballot featured Hall of Famers **Jim Bunning**, **Bob Gibson**, **Fergie Jenkins**, **Al Kaline**, **Tom Lasorda**, **Phil Niekro**, **Tony Perez**, **Earl Weaver** and **Billy Williams**; former executive **Jim Frey**; current executives **Roland Hemond** (Diamondbacks) and **Bob Watson** (Major League Baseball); and veteran media members **Jack O'Connell** (MLB.com), **Tim Kurkjian** (ESPN), **Hal McCoy** (*Dayton Daily News*) and **Tom Verducci** (*Sports Illustrated*).

MANAGER/UMPIRE RESULTS (by voting percentage): ***Billy Southworth** (81.3%), ***Dick Williams** (81.3%), **Doug Harvey** (68.8%), **Whitey Herzog** (68.8%), **Danny Murtaugh** (37.5%) and **Hank O'Day** (25%). **Davey Johnson**, **Billy Martin**, **Gene Mauch** and **Cy Rigler** each received fewer than three votes. (* earned election to the Hall of Fame)

THE VOTERS, PART II: The 12-member electorate that reviewed the Executives/Pioneers ballot featured Hall of Famers **Monte Irvin** and **Harmon Killebrew**; former executives **Bobby Brown** (American League) and **John Harrington** (Red Sox); current executives **Jerry Bell** (Twins), **Bill DeWitt** (Cardinals), **Bill Giles** (Phillies), **David Glass** (Royals) and **Andy MacPhail** (Orioles); and veteran media members **Paul Hagen** (*Philadelphia Daily News*), **Rick Hummel** (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*) and **Hal McCoy** (*Dayton Daily News*).

EXECUTIVE/PIONEER RESULTS (by voting percentage): ***Barney Dreyfuss** (83%), ***Bowie Kuhn** (83%), ***Walter O'Malley** (75%), **Ewing Kauffman** (41.7%), **John Fetzer** (33.3%), **Bob Howsam** (25%) and **Marvin Miller** (25%). **Buzzie Bavasi**, **John McHale** and **Gabe Paul** each received fewer than three votes. (*earned election to the Hall of Fame)

BALLOT COMPOSITION: The final Managers/Umpires ballot was developed by a Baseball Writers' Association of America (BBWAA) appointed Historical Overview Committee, comprised of 11 veteran members, which considered umpires and managers with careers spanning 10 or more major league seasons: **Dave Van Dyck** (*Chicago Tribune*); **Bob Elliott** (*Toronto Sun*); **Rick Hummel** (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*); **Steve Hirdt** (Elias Sports Bureau); **Moss Klein** (*Newark Star-Ledger*); **Bill Madden** (*New York Daily News*); **Ken Nigro**, (formerly *Baltimore Sun*); **Jack O'Connell** (MLB.com); **Nick Peters** (*Sacramento Bee*); **Tracy Ringolsby** (*Rocky Mountain News*); and **Mark Whicker** (*Orange County Register*)...The final Executives/Pioneers ballot was developed by the Executives/Pioneers voting committee, which considered both retired executives and active executives age 65 or older.

FOUR BALLOTS: The Baseball Hall of Fame Committee on Baseball Veterans now has four ballots...The Managers/Umpires ballot and the Executives/Pioneers ballot are considered every other year starting with the 2008 Induction year...Players whose careers spanned a period beginning in 1943 will be considered every other year, starting with the 2009 Induction year...Players whose careers began before 1943 will be considered every five years, beginning with the 2009 Induction year.

NEXT ELECTIONS: All Hall of Fame members will vote on 1943-and-beyond players by mail in late 2008, with results to be announced at the 2008 Winter Meetings for the 2009 Induction year...A special 12-member committee, yet to be appointed, will vote on players whose careers began prior to 1943 at the 2008 Winter Meetings for the 2009 Induction year...Ballots for both the pre-1943 and 1943-and-beyond elections will be crafted and released in Fall 2008.

REVAMPING THE PROCESS: The Hall of Fame Board of Directors voted to restructure the Committee on Baseball Veterans and the procedures for electing long-retired players, managers, umpires and executives/pioneers at its July 2007 meeting...The changes maintain the high standards for earning election to the Hall of Fame, while the voting process has changed, becoming three separate ballots – players, managers/umpires, and executives/pioneers – reviewed by three separate electorates...In addition, a special committee will review the candidacies of players whose careers began prior to 1943..."Historically, the Veterans Committee has continually evolved since its inception in 1936," said Jane Forbes Clark, chairman of the board for the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. "These newest changes uphold our belief that players should have a Veterans Committee review, while also recognizing the unique analysis needed for managers, executives and umpires. We believe that these new procedures and restructured committees will allow for more open dialogue among those who vote, promoting a more intensive study of player candidacies. The Board has always maintained that the standards for election to the Baseball Hall of Fame must remain very high."

HISTORY OF THE VETS: The Veterans Committee has been a part of the Hall of Fame voting process since the first class of electees in 1936, with the first Veterans Committee electees coming in 1937: Morgan Bulkeley, Byron "Ban" Johnson, John McGraw, Connie Mack and George Wright, all either managers or executives/pioneers...In all its forms, the Veterans Committee has elected 149 individuals (93 major leaguers, 23 executives, 16 managers, nine Negro Leaguers and eight umpires) to the Hall of Fame, the most recent coming in 2001 with the election of Bill Mazeroski and Hilton Smith (Negro Leagues)...The Veterans Committee has reviewed candidates from 1936-1939, 1944-1946, 1949, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961-2001, 2003, 2005 and 2007, in various forms.

THE COMMITTEE ON BASEBALL VETERANS: In 1953, the Baseball Hall of Fame Committee on Baseball Veterans was formed, outlining parameters that were similar through 2001, though with some variance throughout its time...Voting was conducted every other year from 1953-1959, with annual votes from 1961 until 2001...From 1961 through 2001, the Committee elected 101 members in 41 meetings, electing a candidate on all but three occasions: 1988, 1990 and 1993.

THE LAST VETERANS COMMITTEE: Prior to this incarnation, the Veterans Committee last voted in February 2007, considering two ballots – one comprised of players and the other of managers/umpires/executives...It marked the third time for the Committee to consider players, also in 2003 and 2005, and the second time to consider managers/umpires/executives...From 2003 to 2007, the Veterans Committee was comprised of all living Hall of Fame members, all Ford C. Frick Award winners and all J.G. Taylor Spink Award winners...In each election, no candidate on either ballot was elected.

A NEW YEAR FOR BASEBALL HISTORY

ROBERTS TO SERVE AS MEMBER SPOKESMAN: Hall of Famer **Robin Roberts** serves as the Museum's Membership Spokesman for 2008...Roberts' likeness appears on all membership materials, including the personalized Membership card available for all members...An in-depth interview with Roberts will be featured in the 2008 Hall of Fame Yearbook.

MEMBER EXCLUSIVE CONTENT NOW ONLINE: Online visitors to baseballhall.org can catch a behind-the-scenes look at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's Members Only Content Area, with exclusive video, photos and online technology available only to Museum Members....A regular "Hall of Famer of the Month" segment, features original video with Hall of Fame members inside the Museum...Throughout November, **Mike Schmidt** shared tales of his memorable moments and discussed some of the items from his career on display in Cooperstown...Currently, **Nolan Ryan** serves as "Hall of Famer of the Month," with **Robin Roberts** on deck for February's Hall of Famer of the Month...Members in good standing have free access to the content area and individuals can become members by signing up when they visit baseballhall.org.

SUPPORTING THE HALL: Speaking of Membership, the Museum has crossed the 30,000 plateau in current participants of the membership program for the first time...Members support the Museum from more than 20 countries around the world, contributing from \$40 to help the Museum fulfill its mission of preserving baseball history...Members receive a subscription to *Memories and Dreams*, the museum's bi-monthly magazine, receive free admission to the Museum, earn a 10% discount and free shipping on purchases from the Museum store and exclusive access to events in Cooperstown and around the country...To become a member, visit baseballhall.org or call 607-547-0397.

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS ON DISPLAY: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum pays tribute to the 2007 World Champion Boston Red Sox with an exhibit in the *Autumn Glory* exhibit on the Museum's third floor...Among the items on display from Boston's sweep of the Colorado Rockies: the glove worn by **Jonathan Papelbon** during the Series; warm-up jersey worn by **Terry Francona** during Games 3 and 4; bat used by **Jacoby Ellsbury** in Game 3 to collect four hits, making him just the third rookie to do so in a World Series game; the spikes worn by **Daisuke Matsuzaka** in Game Three, when he became the first Japanese-born pitcher to start and win a World Series game; the cap worn by **Jon Lester**, Boston's Game Four starting pitcher; and the bat used by **Dustin Pedroia** to hit a lead-off home run in Game One of the series...Also part of the exhibit: the jersey worn by Colorado's **Todd Helton** in Game One and a bat from **Matt Holliday** used in Games 3 and 4, along with a ball from the humidors in Coors Field and dirt from the pitching mound as host to the first World Series game played in Colorado...Additionally, the cap worn by Series MVP **Mike Lowell** during the series will be added to *Baseball As America*...The Series exhibit will be on display through the 2008 postseason.

SPEND A SUMMER IN COOPERSTOWN, THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME: Applications are now being accepted through Jan. 31 for the 2008 class of the Frank & Peggy Steele Internship Program for Youth Leadership Development...Beginning its eighth year, the program hosts 25 college students from across the country, interning at the Museum, and receiving meaningful, hands-on training in numerous professional areas, including research, photos, technical services, exhibits, membership, education, collections, retail and much more...For information, visit baseballhall.org, or call 888-HALL-OF-FAME.

2007 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS: Among the artifacts in Cooperstown from the 2007 season: Helmets worn by **Barry Bonds** for home runs 755 and 756...Two baseballs from Game in which **Bonds** hit home run 756; one is signed by the Giants' starting nine and the manager, the other signed by the Nationals' starting nine and the manager...Balls and strikes indicator used by home plate umpire **John Hirschbeck** and baseball from 756 game signed by all four umpires: **Hirschbeck** (HP), **Wally Bell** (1B), **Laz Diaz** (2B) and **Bill Welke** (3B)...Second base from PETCO Park in August 4 game in which **Barry Bonds** his home run No. 755...Cap worn by **Mike Basik** when he gave up **Bonds'** 756th home run...A jersey worn by **Tom Glavine** on the night he won his 300th game in Wrigley Field on Aug. 5; also: a baseball from that game signed by **Glavine** and his catcher, **Paul Lo Duca**...Jersey and pants worn by **Sammy Sosa** when he hit his 600th career home run...Bat, cap, jersey and batting gloves used by **Craig Biggio** when he recorded his 3,000th career hit at Houston's Minute Maid Park on June 28 against Colorado Rockies...Helmet worn by **Alex Rodriguez** to hit his 500th career home run on Aug. 4...Jersey worn by **Frank Thomas** to hit his 500th career Home Run on June 28 at Minnesota's Metrodome...Jersey worn by **Omar Vizquel** on May 13, when he broke Ozzie Smith's mark for career double plays turned by a shortstop...Cap, jersey, spikes, glove and the final out ball from **Trevor Hoffman's** 500th career save, on June 6; he became the first reliever to achieve the milestone...Cap worn by Ichiro Suzuki, MVP of the 2007 All-Star Game; also: the ball he hit for the first inside-the-park home run in ASG history...Spikes worn by **John Smoltz** for his 200th win, achieved May 25 against the New York Mets...Game ball from Detroit Tiger pitcher **Justin Verlander's** no-hitter against the Milwaukee Brewers on June 12.

2008 SCHEDULE: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum will feature a number of special events throughout 2008, with a schedule to be announced in the next few weeks...The annual Hall of Fame Game, pairing two major league teams against each other in Baseball's only in-season exhibition game, will be held in May or June, with details and teams to be announced soon...The Museum will also reprise its fan-favorite *Voices of the Game* series featuring six Hall of Famers in specialty themed events to coincide with 2008 anniversaries and events...Full details will be announced soon at baseballhall.org.

EAST COAST TOURS THROUGH HISTORY: *Baseball As America*, the national exhibition tour which examines the relationship between baseball and American culture, opened its 13th tour stop on September 28 at the Museum of Nature and Science in Dallas, Texas...The exhibit will be in Dallas through January 13...*Baseball As America* will open in Philadelphia at the National Constitution Center on February 15 for a three-month run through May 11 before concluding the U.S. Tour in Boston at the Museum of Science in summer 2008...To date, more than 2.5 million people have visited the exhibit over the last five years...By comparison, the Museum welcomes about two million visitors to Cooperstown every seven years...The exhibit is sponsored nationally by **Ernst & Young**...For more information, visit baseballasamerica.org.