



NEWS

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM, INC.

25 Main Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326-0590

Phone: (607) 547-0215 Fax: (607)547-2044

Web Site Address – baseballhall.org

E-Mail – info@baseballhalloffame.org

Bradford Horn, Senior Director, Communications & Education

Craig Muder, Director, Communications

PRESERVING HISTORY. HONORING EXCELLENCE. CONNECTING GENERATIONS.

AROUND THE HORN

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

SPECIAL EDITION: JACKIE ROBINSON DAY 2011

April 15, 2011

volume 18, issue 5

REMEMBERING JACKIE

HIS PLACE IN COOPERSTOWN: Jack Roosevelt Robinson earned his spot in Cooperstown in 1962, as part of an Induction class featuring Bob Feller, Bill McKechnie and Edd Roush...Robinson earned election on his first ballot, joining Feller from that year as the first two first-ballot electees by the Baseball Writers' Association of America since the inaugural 1936 Hall of Fame vote...Robinson earned votes on 77.5 percent (124 of 160) of all ballots cast.

A CAREER REVISITED: Jackie Robinson burst onto the scene in 1947, breaking baseball's color barrier and bringing the Negro leagues' electrifying style of play to the majors...He quickly became baseball's top drawing card and a symbol of hope to millions of Americans...With Robinson as the catalyst, the Dodgers won six pennants in his 10 seasons, along with the 1955 World Series title over the New York Yankees...He dominated games on the base paths, stealing home 19 times while riling opposing pitchers with his daring baserunning style...Robinson was named National League MVP in 1949, leading the loop in hitting (.342) and steals (37), while driving in 124 runs.

ROBINSON FACTS:

- **Born:** January 31, 1919 in Cairo, Georgia
- **Major league debut:** April 15, 1947
- **Teams:** Kansas City Monarchs (1945) – Negro leagues; Brooklyn Dodgers (1947-1956)
- **Awards:** Six-time All-Star (1949-1954), National League MVP (1949), Rookie of the Year (1947)
- **Career Statistics:** .311 batting average, 1,518 hits, 137 home runs, 734 RBI, 740 walks, 947 runs scored, 197 stolen bases

Died: October 24, 1972, in Stamford, Connecticut

BEFORE YOU CAN SAY JACKIE ROBINSON: One of 15 education thematic units offered by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum's education department, "Before You Could Say Jackie Robinson," explores Civil Rights in the cultural development of America and baseball...Designed for students in grades 4-12, the module illustrates how baseball reflected and led critical social shifts in American history, keyed by Robinson's integration of Major League Baseball in 1947...The unit features stories of honor, courage and perseverance, brought to life through interactive multicultural lessons...For more information on the module and the Hall of Fame's education programs, please visit www.baseballhall.org.

JACKIE'S IMPACT AS A PLAYER: From Jackie's major league debut in 1947 until 1959, when the Boston Red Sox became the last of the 16 teams to integrate, African Americans won nine Most Valuable Player awards, nine Rookie of the Year awards, five Home Run titles, four league batting crowns and a Cy Young...The African-American players capturing major awards in this span: **Hank Aaron** (1956 BAT, 1957 HR, 1957 MVP, 1959 BAT); **Ernie Banks** (1958 HR, 1958, 1959 MVP); **Joe Black** (1952 ROY); **Roy Campanella** (1951, 1953, 1955 MVP); **Orlando Cepeda** (1958 ROY); **Larry Doby** (1952, 1954 HR); **Joe Gilliam** (1953 ROY); **Sam Jethroe** (1950 ROY); **Willie Mays** (1951 ROY, 1954 MVP, 1954 BAT, 1955 HR); **Willie McCovey** (1959 ROY); **Don Newcombe** (1949 ROY, 1956 MVP, 1956 CYA); **Frank Robinson** (1956 ROY); and **Jackie** (1947 ROY, 1949 MVP, 1949 BAT).

MORE JACKIE AVAILABLE: Additional information on Jackie Robinson's career, including his Hall of Fame plaque, a streamed video bio, statistics of Jackie's career, and much more information and entertainment on the Hall of Famer can be viewed at the Museum's Web site at www.baseballhall.org...More information on Jackie Robinson is also available at the Web site of the Jackie Robinson Foundation, www.jackierobinson.org.

TOP TEN: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum presents the Top 10 moments in the career of Jackie Robinson:

10: On **October 23, 1945**, Robinson was signed to a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers by Branch Rickey;

9: On **April 18, 1946**, Robinson debuted with the Montreal Royals of the International League as the starting second baseman, becoming the first African-American player in professional baseball since the turn of the century. Robinson won the International League batting title in 1946;

8: On **April 15, 1947**, 28-year-old Jackie Robinson made an historic debut for the Brooklyn Dodgers, becoming the first African American to play Major League Baseball in the 20th century...Robinson went 0-for-3 in his debut, but flawlessly handled 11 chances at first base against the Boston Braves;

7: On **Sept. 17, 1947**, Robinson was named the Rookie of the Year by *The Sporting News*, though the season had two weeks remaining. In his rookie season, Robinson hit .297 with 12 home runs and 48 RBI in 151 games;

6: On **Nov. 18, 1949**, Robinson was named the National League's Most Valuable Player, batting .342 with 16 home runs and 124 RBI.

5: On **Sept. 28, 1955**, at Yankee Stadium in Game One of the 1955 World Series, Jackie Robinson steals home in the top of the 8th inning to close the score to 6-5 Yankees...Frank Kellert was pinch-hitting for the Dodgers, with Whitey Ford pitching and Yogi Berra catching for New York...The Yankees would win Game One, 6-5, though the Dodgers would win the series in seven games.

4: On **October 15, 1972**, just nine days before his death, in his last public appearance, Robinson throws out the first pitch before Game Two of the 1972 World Series, and calls for Major League Baseball to hire a black manager;

3: On **April 15, 1997**, Major League Baseball universally retires Jackie Robinson's number 42 for every major league team;

2: On **June 25, 2008**, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum unveils a re-cast Hall of Fame plaque for Jackie Robinson, to reflect his role in breaking baseball's color barrier;

1: On **July 23, 1962**, Jackie Robinson is inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION SPEECH

IN JACKIE'S WORDS: Jackie Robinson delivered the following address on his Induction Day into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown on July 23, 1962...Robinson was introduced by Ford C. Frick:

"Thank you very much, Mr. Frick. First let me say how much of a thrill it is to be coming into the Hall of Fame with Bob Feller, Mr. McKechnie, and Mr. Roush. I want to also let you know that I feel quite inadequate here this afternoon, or this morning. But I think a lot of this has been eliminated, because today, it seems that everything is complete.

First of all, I want you to know that this honor that was brought up on me here could not have happened without the great work and the advice and guidance that I've had from three of the most wonderful people that I know. And if any of them weren't here today, I know that this day could not be complete. But, they're all here and I just hope you don't mind if I just pay a word of thanks and a tribute to my advisor and a wonderful friend, a man who I consider a father, Mr. Branch Rickey.

And my mother, who taught me so much of the important things early in life. I appreciate no end, my mother Mrs. Robinson. And lastly, ladies and gentlemen, my wife, who has been such a wonderful inspiration to me. And the person who has guided and advised me throughout our entire marriage. I couldn't have been here today without her help.

And then I...and I must thank the baseball writers...I never thought at all that I would have this wonderful honor coming to me so early in my lifetime. And to have the writers to elect me on the first time is a thrill that I shall never forget. We have been up in cloud nine since the election. I don't ever think I'll come down. But I want to thank all of the people throughout this country who were just so wonderful during those trying days. I appreciate it at no end and it's the greatest honor any person could have and I only hope that I'll be able to live up to this tremendously fine honor. It's something that I think those of us who are fortunate again, must use in order to help others. Because it's such a tremendous honor that we should be able to go out and do things to help. I'm just grateful and I'm sorry I've taken so long, but I just wanted to you know that I appreciate it so much. Thank you."

A NEW HALL OF FAME PLAQUE

On June 25, 2008, The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum unveiled a new Hall of Fame plaque for Hall of Fame member Jack Roosevelt “Jackie” Robinson in Cooperstown. Rachel Robinson, the widow of the 1962 Hall of Fame inductee, and their daughter, Sharon, were present for the event, which featured remarks by Hall of Fame Board Chairman Jane Forbes Clark.

“When he earned election to the Hall of Fame in 1962, Jackie Robinson totaled a career worthy of inclusion, based on performance alone,” Clark said. “He told baseball writers that when considering his candidacy, they should only consider his playing ability – what his impact was on the playing field. At his induction in 1962, his plaque reflected his wishes – it only recounted his magnificent playing career. But as we all know, there’s no person more central and more important to the history of baseball, for his pioneering ways, than Jackie Robinson. Today, his impact is not fully defined without mention of his extreme courage in crossing baseball’s color line. We are proud of the changes we have made.”

The new plaque is now on display in the Hall of Fame Gallery, replacing the original plaque in its same location, while the old plaque will remain a part of the Museum’s collections and will be used for educational purposes. Text from the new Jackie Robinson Hall of Fame plaque reads as follows:

ROBINSON’S NEW PLAQUE TEXT:

JACK ROOSEVELT ROBINSON

“JACKIE”

BROOKLYN, N.L., 1947-1956

A PLAYER OF EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY RENOWNED FOR HIS ELECTRIFYING STYLE OF PLAY. OVER 10 SEASONS HIT .311, SCORED MORE THAN 100 RUNS SIX TIMES, NAMED TO SIX ALL-STAR TEAMS AND LED BROOKLYN TO SIX PENNANTS AND ITS ONLY WORLD SERIES TITLE, IN 1955. THE 1947 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR, AND THE 1949 N.L. MVP WHEN HE HIT A LEAGUE-BEST .342 WITH 37 STEALS. LED SECOND BASEMEN IN DOUBLE PLAYS FOUR TIMES AND STOLE HOME 19 TIMES. DISPLAYED TREMENDOUS COURAGE AND POISE IN 1947 WHEN HE INTEGRATED THE MODERN MAJOR LEAGUES IN THE FACE OF INTENSE ADVERSITY.

ROBINSON’S ORIGINAL PLAQUE TEXT:

JACK ROOSEVELT ROBINSON

BROOKLYN N.L. 1947 TO 1956

LEADING N.L. BATTER IN 1949. HOLDS
FIELDING MARK FOR SECOND BASEMAN
PLAYING IN 150 OR MORE GAMES WITH .992.

LED N.L. IN STOLEN BASES IN 1947 AND
1949. MOST VALUABLE PLAYER IN 1949.

LIFETIME BATTING AVERAGE .311. JOINT
RECORD HOLDER FOR MOST DOUBLE PLAYS

BY SECOND BASEMAN, 137 IN 1951.

LED SECOND BASEMAN IN DOUBLE
PLAYS 1949-50-51-52.

FAMOUS QUOTES SPOKEN BY JACKIE ROBINSON:

- *"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."*
- *"I'm not concerned with your liking or disliking me. All I ask is that you respect me as a human being."*
- *"Life is not a spectator sport. If you're going to spend your whole life in the grandstand just watching what goes on, in my opinion you're wasting your life."*

ONE-TEAM WONDERS: Of the 295 elected Hall of Fame members (205 former major leaguers), Jackie Robinson is one of 47 players to spent his entire playing career with one club....The other 46: 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 Jr., Phil Rizzuto, Brooks Robinson, Mike Schmidt, Willie Stargell, Pie Traynor, Bill Terry, Ted Williams, Carl Yastrzemski, Robin Yount and Ross Youngs.

CHARACTER AND COURAGE: A bronze statue of Jackie Robinson welcomes visitors to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, as one of three symbols of character and courage in the Museum Lobby. The statue of Robinson is joined by similar likenesses of Lou Gehrig and Roberto Clemente, each of whom also possessed these model qualities. Dedicated in October 2008, these statues serve as a daily reminder of the legacy of each of the three men, and the themes of character and courage, which are celebrated every fall at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

MUSEUM NEWS FROM COOPERSTOWN

SWINGING AWAY: The national game of England meets America's National Pastime in a historic exploration of the relationship between two of the world's most popular sports, cricket and baseball, in an exclusive American exhibition, opening April 17 at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York...*Swinging Away: How Cricket and Baseball Connect* is the first major Museum exhibition dedicated to exploring the roots of both sports and their relationship, featuring game-used equipment from historic moments in both sports, while delving into the origins, history and cultural impact each holds on its respective nations where the games are most revered...Created in conjunction with the Marylebone Cricket Club of London, *Swinging Away* will be on display in Cooperstown through February 2012, in its lone visit to North America, following a successful run during the summer of 2010 at MCC, the world's most famous cricket club...The exhibit reveals some remarkable surprises, dispels some cherished convictions and sets out for the first time to explore these two great bat and ball sports side by side. The collection includes uniforms and equipment worn by the biggest names of each sport, including as Derek Jeter and Andrew Flintoff, Bengie Molina and Adam Gilchrist, Kumar Sangakkara, Paul Collingwood, Robin Wallace and Charlotte Edwards and Shahid Afridi...The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum will host two signature events in conjunction with *Swinging Away's* exhibition in Cooperstown this spring, and public programs throughout the summer will provide visitors a further insight into the exhibition and the relationship between the sports...On Sunday, April 17, special programs will feature the Haverford College varsity cricket team – the only one of its kind in the United States – in a variety of public demonstrations and presentations...Plans and programs are still in the development stages for the Hall of Fame's Cricket Weekend, June 3-5, with additional details to be announced soon.

ONE FOR THE BOOKS: The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum will unveil its new exhibit *One for the Books: Baseball Records and the Stories Behind Them* May 27-28 in Cooperstown...The state-of-the-art exhibit will feature a celebration of baseball records and the stories behind them...Special guest appearances will be announced this spring at www.baseballhall.org...A historic fundraising campaign to bring *One for the Books* to life is under way at www.hofclubhouse.com/1forthebooks...With your support, we will invest \$1.25 million to build this groundbreaking new exhibit, and ensure that every baseball fan around the globe will have the opportunity to learn more about baseball records through interactive technology, multi-media presentations and more than 200 artifacts from our National Pastime's most indelible moments...*One for the Books* will be the most interactive and technologically advanced permanent exhibit in the Museum's 71-year history. The 1,537 square feet of exhibit space will include sections focusing on batting, pitching, fielding, baserunning and team records...In addition to the artifacts, the exhibit will include in-case motion picture presentations, interactive trivia stations and the Digital Top 10 Tower.

TAKE A BREAK AT THE HALL OF FAME: School's out for many children during April break week in the Northeast, but learning continues in Cooperstown as the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum hosts Youth Baseball Week April 16-22 with educational programs for kids of all ages...Families can spend a night in the Museum with the Extra Innings Overnight program, learn about Hall of Famers Roberto Clemente, Effa Manley and Jackie Robinson, tour the Louisville Slugger Museum and even explore the link between cricket and baseball during Spring Break at the Hall of Fame...The Museum will also feature daily activities and demonstrations for families all week long...Seating for all events is available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on these and other programs, please visit www.baseballhall.org...All events, except Extra Innings Overnight, are included with Museum admission.

HARDWARE IN COOPERSTOWN: Celebrate the Giants' first World Series Championship in San Francisco May 7-8 as the 2010 World Series trophy makes a stop at the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown...Programs and special events related to the Giants' first Fall Classic title since 1954 will be held at the Hall of Fame...Details will be announced this spring at www.baseballhall.org.

PLAN YOUR VISIT: Learn about Cooperstown and plan your trip to Central New York with the newly updated Cooperstown Getaway website...Visit www.cooperstowngetaway.org for information on Cooperstown-area attractions and vacation ideas.