

BOMBER BITES

NEWS AND NOTES FROM AROUND THE YANKEES ORGANIZATION

LIVING HISTORY

New museum exhibits celebrate Yankees greatness, past and present

Museums often house relics from bygone eras, but you don't have to be a history buff to appreciate the latest additions to the New York Yankees Museum presented by Bank of America. Two brand-new exhibits examine aspects of the team's rich history through a present-day lens.

"Bronx Bombers: The New York Yankees' Home Run Heritage" is a stunning collection of artifacts that tells the story of the longball's place in pinstriped lore. Babe Ruth's "called shot" in the 1932 World Series and Roger Maris's 61st home run in 1961 remain two of the sport's most iconic home runs, and visitors can see the jerseys worn by both players when they launched those epic moonshots. The display gives fans an opportunity to see how nearly every decade has had at least one unforgettable home run moment, from the bat Chris Chambliss used to win the 1976 American League pennant — on loan from Chambliss himself — to the No. 99 jersey that Aaron Judge wore in 2017 while swatting his rookie-record 52nd home run.

"The Yankees are baseball's home run team," said senior museum curator Brian Richards, "and that heritage is very much alive."

This summer, two former Yankees pitchers reached baseball immortality, and "Welcome to Cooperstown: Mariano Rivera and Mike Mussina, National Baseball Hall of Fame Inductees" puts the achievements of those two hurlers into their proper context. Featuring items from the personal collections of both Rivera and Mussina, this exhibit encapsulates what made them each so special.

Both exhibits will remain on display through the end of this season and into 2020, with the home run exhibit slated to stay up through all of next year. The New York Yankees Museum is open to all ticketed guests during Yankees home games beginning 90 minutes before first pitch through the end of the eighth inning, as well as through Yankee Stadium tours.

—Nathan Maciborski



ONE MO HONOR

Yankees celebrate Rivera's Hall of Fame induction at Stadium

It has been a whirlwind summer for Mariano Rivera, but the first unanimous Hall of Famer in baseball history can finally relax now that he has been enshrined in Cooperstown and has had a day to celebrate at Yankee Stadium.

On Aug. 17, just four weeks after Rivera gave his induction speech to a crowd of some 55,000 in upstate New York, the legendary closer once again found himself with a microphone in his hand. Rivera gave another speech, this time to fans in the Bronx, after video tributes from former teammates Andy Pettitte, Jorge Posada and Derek Jeter were shown. Rivera was joined on the field by his former manager, Joe Torre, and Yankees managing general partner Hal Steinbrenner, who presented the Sandman with a \$250,000 check to benefit the learning center Rivera is building in New Rochelle, New York.

Prior to the on-field ceremony, Rivera took a tour of the New York Yankees Museum. While reviewing the new exhibit highlighting his career and historic selection to the Hall of Fame, he was asked what he was most proud of from his 19 seasons. He then pointed at the No. 42 pinstriped jersey in the display case in front of him and simply said, "The uniform."

A few hours later, as a hectic day and summer were finally winding down, Rivera took a moment to reflect.

"It has been tremendous. It has been great. I cannot complain about it. No one would listen anyway," he joked. "It's been busy, but it has been something special. For me, as a player, this is the culmination of a great career."

—Gary Phillips