



La Prensa del Béisbol Latino

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Reds Hall of Fame celebrate Latin heritage with béisbol exhibit

by Anthony Salazar

The Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame welcomed a new traveling exhibit from the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Baseball! ¡Béisbol!, an exhibit saluting the impact of Latino baseball on America's national pastime opened recently providing special programs that featured Reds Hall of Famer Leo Cardenas.

Cardenas, a native of Matanzas, Cuba, played for the Reds minor league affiliate, the Havana Sugar Kings, making his Major League debut in 1960. He played shortstop for the Reds for nine seasons and had a 16-year Major League career. He was elected to the Reds Hall of Fame in 1981.

The exhibit and program were free to the public, with regular admission to the Reds Hall of Fame. Baseball! ¡Béisbol!, is on display now through Jan. 3, 2007.

Sponsored by CITGO, the traveling exhibit has been making its way around the country at select locations.

Cardenas grew up in the Cuban province of Matanzas, where sugar cane factories and oil refineries were predominant, as were boys playing baseball and boxing.

When playing with Havana Sugar Kings in 1959, Cardenas had said Fidel Castro attended games, and took



Reds Hall of Fame shortstop and Cuban-native Leo Cardenas responds to a question from Reds Hall of Fame Executive Director Greg Rhodes during a program to mark the Hall's opening of an exhibit devoted to Latin American baseball. *Photo courtesy Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame.*

See *Cardenas*, page 6

Hall of Fame nominees include Latinos

by Anthony Salazar

By the of the November, fans will have voted for their favorite announcer, as part of the Ford C. Frick Award, from the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Latino announcers in the mix are:

Juan Alicea	Joe Angel	Billy Berroa
Rene Cardenas	Tito Fuentes	Jose Garcia
Mario Impemba	Buck Martinez	Gustavo L Moreno
Jose Mota	Eduardo Ortega	Alex Trevino
Maury Pi-Gonzalez	Orlando S-Diago	
Francisco Ernesto Ruiz	Mario Z Thomas	Ulpiano Cos Villa

While there is still time, vote at <http://www.baseball halloffame.org/>

While fans get to vote for announcers, the baseball writers and assorted members of the Hall of Fame, will select new members from the recently announced 2007 Hall of Fame ballot. Among them are Latinos Bobby Bonilla, Jose Con-seco, Dave Concepcion, and Tony Fernandez. Look for announcements later this Winter.

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Behind the Mike: Bill Kulik, President - Spanish Béisbol Network

By Anthony Salazar

How did you get started in Spanish-language baseball?

Way too long a story to write out how I got started but in short.... I was hosting a small TV program called "Forever Baseball" which aired on Sports Channel America. While working at Fenway Park on features and interviews, I got to know the people around the Park. I started to work with the Red Sox and Chart Productions on some Spanish radio stuff, and realized there was a big hole (and opportunity) in their reaching out to the Hispanic Community. Then, I presented a proposal to John Harrington and the rest is really history.

There are a lot of Dominicans in Boston, right? How did the market respond to baseball in Spanish?

Yes, there are plenty of Dominicans in the Boston area. Frankly, the audience is very Caribbean (Puerto Rican and Cuban as well). This Caribbean audience is what made this market ripe for the picking. Also, the fact that Dan Duquette had just traded for Pedro Martinez. Pedro's popularity crossed into both the general market and the Latino market. Nobody was capitalizing on this potential and we at the Spanish Béisbol Network though despite Boston's size of Latino market, we could build a business. The Latino audience responded to the broadcast almost immediately. We were a big hit and got rave reviews for our production. People love JP Villaman, Uri Berenguer and even the Gringo Malo (myself). We were an irreverent and savvy alternative to listening.

Do you feel the Latino players get more of a voice now than they did, say 20 years ago?

I'm not sure the players get more of a voice than before but they do get more respect. Something that I think came harder than you would have thought. Off the field is another story. There are several of ventures similar to mine. Many of us are struggling but things seem to be improving. If there is any fault it might be the lack of unity in the Latino Community itself. Disagree-

ments between populations (Puerto Ricans vs. Dominicans, Cubans vs. Mexicans etc.) At some point the community needs to unite and come together. Use their language as tie that binds them. Keep their loyalties to country and customs and traditions but unite as a Latino population. I've even seen some of this separation in Major League locker rooms. It just makes it harder for the average ballplayer and the teams themselves to find ways to incorporate the players into the community.

What other markets is Spanish Béisbol Network in? How is business in those markets?

SBN is now in Philly and Boston. We had an operation in Tampa but couldn't make a go of it there. 2006 was our best year and early projections for '07 are even better. Both cities have loyal fan bases and the business community is waking up to the opportunities to reach out and talk to a new audience.

What are the challenges of broadcasting in Spanish, versus English? Are there bigger obstacles?

Several challenges broadcasting in Spanish. Because of the different countries that represent our audience we need to be careful we don't alienate any of the groups. I tell all my broadcasters they are no longer Dominican or Puerto Rican or Panamanian... They are Latino. We can't have any one group saying don't listen to those guys all they talk about is Dominicans. We try our best to convert our listeners in Red Sox fans or Phillies fans. I want them cheering for Chase Utley as much as they routed for Bobby Abreu or Abraham Nunez. Root for Jason Varitek as much as David Ortiz. I think we do it well. I remember one night before the '04 playoffs with the Red Sox during our pre-game show... We were taking listener phone calls debating who should start game one of the playoffs Schilling or Pedro. While Pedro had his supporters it was clear the audience was very knowledgeable and very passionate. They

See *SBN*, page 9

CubaBall Tours to Head out Next February

With the recent release of the 2006-07 Cuban baseball schedule, the itinerary has been confirmed for the 2007 Cubaball Tour. The season will begin on December 3rd, one of the latest starts to the season in recent years.

Cubaball will travel to Cuba for 9 days and 8 nights from February 11 to 19, 2007. The tour features the following:

- Attendance at the 2007 Cuban All-Star game on February 11th
- National Series games in Pinar del Rio, Havana, Cienfuegos, Santa Clara and Matanzas. In addition to the All-Star game, participants will see 10 of the 16 teams in the league in 5 different ballparks.
- meeting with Conrado Marrero, 95-year old former Washington Senator and last major leaguer in Cuba
- meeting with Sigfredo Barros, Cuba's foremost baseball journalist
- visit to the Pena (Hot Corner), the baseball debating society in Havana's Parque Central
- visit to the Babe Ruth suite at the Plaza Hotel, where the Babe stayed while touring with John McGraw's Giants in 1920
- visit to the baseball monuments at Havana's Christopher Columbus Cemetery
- visit to the grave of Martin Dihigo in Cruces (new grave-site built because of Cubaball's visits), meeting with Martin Dihigo Jr., and visit to the Martin Dihigo exhibit at the municipal museum of Cruces.
- visit to La Tropical, the home park of the Cuban winter league from 1930-1946 and where many Cuban and Negro League greats played.
- visit to historic Trinidad, preserved colonial town and UNESCO World Heritage Site
- tour of historic old Havana
- visit to a baseball academy and youth baseball facility to see Cuban player development

The tour departs from Vancouver or Toronto (other points of departure can be arranged). Price is \$1795 US plus airfare. For more information and registration, log into www.cubaballtours.com or call Kit Krieger in the evening (Pacific time) at 604-266-4664.

With Fidel 80 and ailing and perhaps terminally ill, the future of Cuban baseball is uncertain. This is the year to visit Cuba and see the unique brand of baseball played in Cuba.

BÉISBOL TRIVIA CHALLENGE

1. Between 1964 and 1978, we earned 10 batting titles.

Who are we?

- a. Alou & Cepeda c. Carew & Oliva
b. Clemente & Alou d. Perez & Concepcion

2. I was the only Latino NL batting champ of the 1990s.

- a. Bobby Bonilla c. Sammy Sosa
b. Andres Galarraga d. Omar Vizquel

3. Who was the last Latino to win a batting title?

- a. Freddy Sanchez c. Edgar Martinez
b. Albert Pujols d. Roberto Alomar

4. What Latino won the batting title with the most HRs?

- a. Juan Gonzalez c. Sammy Sosa
b. Carlos Delgado d. Albert Pujols

DID YOU KNOW...

Per requirements from the U.S. government on immigration issues, foreign Major Leaguers are given a P-1 visa status, while foreign Minor Leaguers receive a H-2B status. The (quick) difference is:

P-1: US Section 1184 (c)(4)(a) (i) issued to internationally recognized individuals within chosen field or profession. Number of visa uncapped.

H-2B: low-waged seasonal work-ers. Landscapers, hospitality workers, etc. Number of visa limited to 66,000 per year.



Research Needs & Announcements

I'm doing a biographical study of Martin Dihigo for my college senior thesis. Essentially, I'm trying to portray his experiences in each of the countries in which he played during his long career. For example, in addition to his statistics in the United States, I'm also gathering information on how the New York Cubans were treated by the black media and how Dihigo might have lived in New York City.

I'd like to put a research request into the next newsletter for any sources on baseball in Venezuela and Puerto Rico prior to the establishment of their first official professional leagues in the 1940s. I know Dihigo spent several years playing in Venezuela during the early 1930s but I can't find any information on baseball in that country before the 1940s.

Thanks for your help,
Mike Silverman
mjsilverman@amherst.edu



Jose "Pepin" Pereira passed away on November 13 in New York City of Cancer. His funeral service was last Sunday. The body was cremated.

Pepin was born June 8, 1927 in Fajardo, PR. A right hander, he began his career with Santurce in 1946-47. He played one year in the Negro Leagues with the Baltimore Elite Giants in 1947.

On May 10, 1947 the Pittsburgh Courier reported that; "Pereira is considered one of the outstanding finds of the year. Those who have seen him say he throws a ball harder than Satchel Paige, has excellent control and is ice-cold under fire."

Although he only played one season with Baltimore he continued to pitch for Santurce until the mid 1950s. During the past ten years Pepin had enjoyed participating in a number a Negro League reunion events and had been reunited with many old friends and acquaintances.

He was a wonderful gentleman who will be missed.

- Todd Bolton

Latino Award Winners: 2006

By Tony Menéndez

AMERICAN LEAGUE CY YOUNG AWARD

Johan Santana, Minnesota Twins

NATIONAL LEAGUE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Hanley Ramirez, Florida Marlins

ROBERTO CLEMENTE AWARD

Carlos Delgado, New York Mets

DHL DELIVERY MAN AWARD

Mariano Rivera, New York Yankees

ROLAIDS FIREMAN OF THE YEAR-AMERICAN LEAGUE

Francisco Rodriguez, Los Angeles Angels

GOLD GLOVES AWARD

American League

C-Ivan Rodriguez, Detroit Tigers

National League

1B-Albert Pujols, St. Louis Cardinals

SS-Omar Vizquel, San Francisco Giants

OF-Carlos Beltran, New York Mets

OF-Andruw Jones, Atlanta Braves

SILVER SLUGGER AWARDS

American League

2B-Robinson Cano, New York Yankees

OF-Vladimir Guerrero, Los Angeles Angels

OF-Manny Ramirez, Boston Red Sox

DH-David Ortiz, Boston Red Sox

National League

3B-Miguel Cabrera, Florida Marlins

SS-Jose Reyes, New York Mets

OF-Carlos Beltran, New York Mets

OF-Alfonso Soriano, Washington Nationals

P-Carlos Zambrano, Chicago Cubs

PLAYERS CHOICE AWARD MAN OF THE YEAR

Albert Pujols, St. Louis Cardinals

AMERICAN LEAGUE OUTSTANDING PITCHER OF THE YEAR

Johan Santana, Minnesota Twins

BASEBALL AMERICA 2006 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Johan Santana, Minnesota Twins

THE SPORTING NEWS PITCHER OF THE YEAR

Johan Santana, Minnesota Twins

FIREMAN OF THE YEAR

Francisco Rodriguez, Los Angeles Angels

USA TODAY SPORTS WEEKLY NATIONAL LEAGUE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

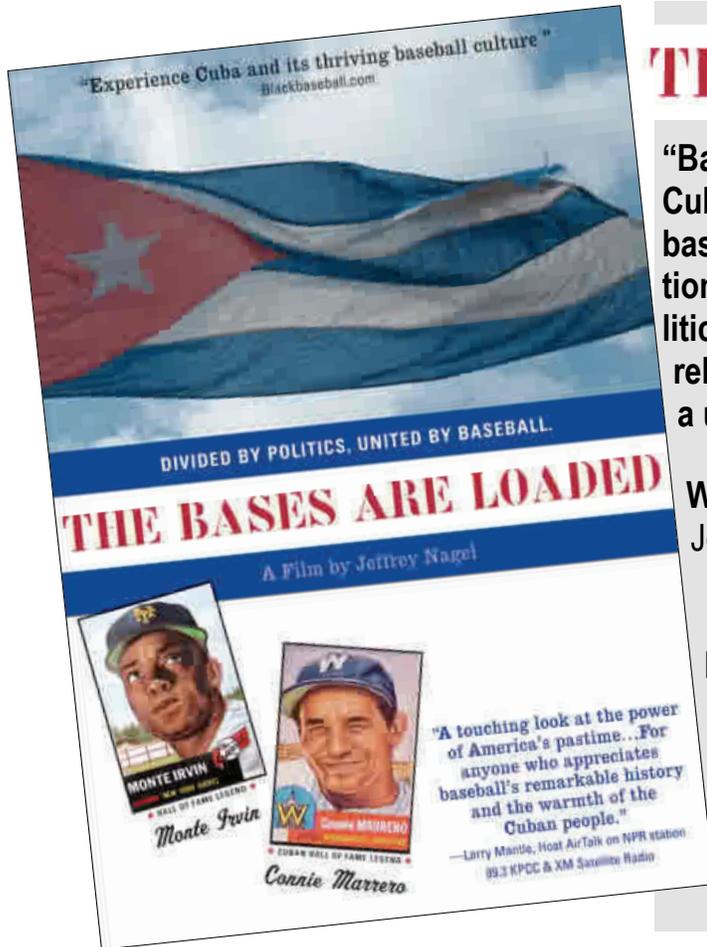
Albert Pujols, St. Louis Cardinals

AMERICAN LEAGUE TOP PITCHER

Johan Santana, Minnesota Twins



Movie Review: THE BASES ARE LOADED



THE BASES ARE LOADED

“Baseball Hall of Fame legend Monte Irvin returns to Cuba to reunite with former teammate and Cuban baseball icon Connie Marrero after a 50-year separation. The journey reveals the cultural, social, and political complexities of Cuban baseball and America’s relationship with the island nation, while highlighting a unique friendship.”

Written and Directed by
Jeffrey Nagel, 45th Street Films

Released: 10/31/2006

Retail price: \$24.95

Total running time: 65 minutes

For more info: www.thebasesareloaded.com

For over an hour, “The Bases are Loaded,” a wonderful new documentary, takes you on a fantastic voyage to Cuba, the ‘Forbidden Land.’ There, you will step back in time to a place where baseball is king and its subjects are loyal, passionate and knowledgeable.

Woven in the film is the meeting of former New York Giants star, Monte Irvin with Conrado “Connie” Marrero, a former pitcher from the Washington Senators. The two had been teammates with the Havana Sugar Kings of the old International League prior to 1960, and had not seen each other in decades. As their meeting draws closer, the film describes the reverence of which baseball is held by the Cuban people, from the youngest of ballplayers to the sport’s older participants.

Set mostly in contemporary times, we are taken throughout the streets of Havana, where games

of stickball in the streets are, as the film points out, reminiscent of images from scenes in New York City in the 1950s.

A very lively and jaunty soundtrack keep pace with the story as the meeting draws closer. Once the two old friends are reunited, their sense of camaraderie has not been lost over the years. Stories fly, as stories do when two old friends meet.

Throughout the film, we are treated to the program’s guide, Kit Krieger, who provides a very intimate look at baseball on the Island, almost with a behind-the-scenes feel. Krieger adds a wealth of knowledge to our understanding of the sport in Cuba. “The Bases Are Loaded” is a dynamic and enjoyable addition to baseball’s documentary collection, and should be added to your collection as well.



Notes and News



ESPN Deportes obtained the rights to broadcast games from the Venezuelan Professional Baseball League.

For the first time, the network will call games from Venezuela, airing one game per week, and select playoff games, with exclusive coverage of the league's championship series. The agreement also includes baseball coverage on ESPN Deportes Radio and ESPNdeportes.com

The Venezuelan Professional Baseball League includes eight teams in two divisions (east/west) Playing 62 games from October through December, with playoffs in January. The winner then heads to Caribbean World Series "Serie del Caribe" played in February.

ESPN Deportes now features three of four Caribbean Winter Leagues on the network.

The Houston Astros have announced that Al Pedrique has been appointed to oversee the team's baseball academy operations in Venezuela, Columbia and the Dominican Republic.

The Venezuelan native is a former major league player, coach and manager. Pedrique will be involved in the club's operation of the academies, which includes player development and scouting efforts.

A number of current major leaguers have come out of the Astros Venezuelan academy, most notably, Bobby Abreu, Freddy Garcia, Carlos Guillen, Richard Hidalgo, Melvin Mora and Johan Santana.

During the 2006 Major League Baseball season, 32 ballplayers tested positive for performance enhancing drugs. Their countries of national origin include:

- 13 – Venezuela
- 12 – Dominican Republic
- 6 – United States
- 1 – Canada, Columbia, Japan (each)

55% of pro ballplayers testing positive drug tests were Latin Americans.

Cardenas, from page 1

turns on the pitching mound. Castro, of course, loved baseball, and by most reports was a decent pitcher.



Reds Hall of Fame Executive Director Greg Rhodes and Reds Hall of Fame shortstop Leo Cardenas mark the official opening of the Baseball! ¡Béisbol! exhibit. *Photo courtesy Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame.*

When soldiers were celebrating the sixth anniversary of the 1953 Moncada Garrison storming, they shot bullets during a game. A bullet tore through Cardenas' uniform grazing him, tearing skin.

It wasn't too long before the Sugar Kings were transferred to Newark, NJ, as the Reds became the last organized club with a minor league team

in Cuba.

As the Reds celebrate their Latin heritage, they proudly note that they were the first club to visit Cuba, in 1908. Over the next half century, the team was one of the strongest organizations for scouting and signing players from Cuba.



Reds Hall of Fame shortstop Leo Cardenas signs autographs for some of the fans. *Photo courtesy Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame.*

Along with Cardenas, the Reds boast quite a Latino line up in the club's Hall of Fame, whose members include: Jose Rijo, Dave Concepcion, Tony Perez, Mario Soto, and Adolfo Luque.

One Tough Dominican

By Malcolm Allen

With the St. Louis Cardinals perched high atop the baseball world after the tenth World Series triumph in franchise history, it's worth remembering how a Latin American great helped them claim number nine back in 1982.

Twenty-nine-year-old right-hander Joaquin Andujar led the Cardinals out of second place in late July that season with a blazing regular season finish. It all started with a 3-2 victory in Pittsburgh on August 12, and St. Louis climbed back into first by the end of the month. He went 5-0 in September with a major league low 0.81 ERA, earning National League pitcher-of-the-month honors.

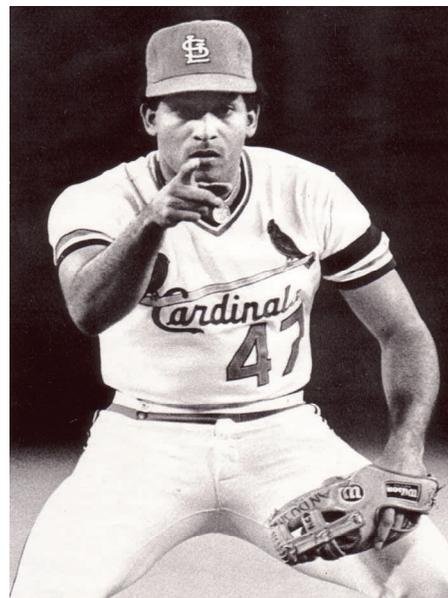
When a line drive drilled him above the right knee in one September start, he assured second baseman Tommy Herr he could finish the inning. "I'm one tough Dominican," Andujar told him. To reinforce his point, with the Redbirds clinging to a half-game division lead over the Phillies in his next start, he hurled a shutout on three days' rest in Philadelphia. Andujar beat them again five days later, and his 4-0 record and 1.43 ERA against the playoff-tested Phillies in 1982 was vital to the Redbirds winning the NL East by three games.

He started the NLCS opener against the Braves, but heavy rains in the bottom of the fifth wasted a strong start before the game became official.

Andujar wrapped up a St. Louis sweep in game three though, winning the first game of his career in Atlanta by smothering the league's highest scoring offense. The biggest problem he faced all night was a second inning line drive into his left shin, but he stayed in and didn't allow a runner past second base through the first six innings.

The game was well in hand by then, and Bruce Sutter came on in the seventh to save a 6-2 win. St. Louis was back in the World Series for the first time since 1968.

The Cardinals split the first two games at home with the Brewers, and turned to Andujar in a pivotal third game match up against 1982 AL Cy Young award winner Pete Vuckovich. On a frigid Friday night, Andujar was the only player on the field at Milwaukee's County Stadium not wearing long sleeves. He retired future Hall of

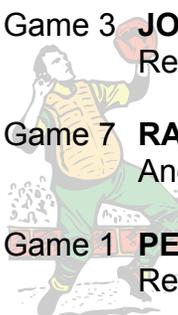


From Game 7, 1982 World Series.

See *Andujar*, page 8

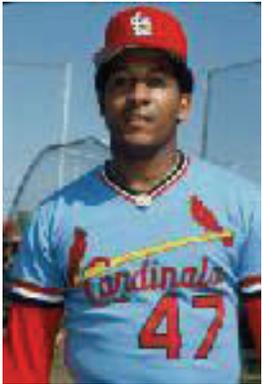
Starting pitchers from the Dominican Republic who won a World Series game

JOAQUIN ANDUJAR Cardinals @ Brewers	1982 Game 3	JOSE RIJO Reds @ A's	1990 Game 4
JOAQUIN ANDUJAR Cardinals vs. Brewers	1982 Game 7	RAMON ORTIZ Angels @ Giants	2002 Game 3
JOSE RIJO Reds vs. A's	1990 Game 1	PEDRO MARTINEZ Red Sox @ Cardinals	2004 Game 3



Andujar, from page 7

Famers Paul Molitor and Robin Yount with two runners in scoring position to escape third inning threat, and carried a two-hit shutout into the bottom of the seventh after St. Louis broke a scoreless deadlock in the middle innings. Ted Simmons' wicked one-hopper up the middle struck



From Spring Training, 1983.

be able to walk –much less pitch- again.

He reported to the ballpark on crutches the next two days, and the Cardinals lost twice to trail the series three games to two. The Redbirds blew the Brewers out in the sixth game when they got home, but still had no idea if Andujar would be able to take his scheduled turn in game seven. St. Louis skipper Whitey Herzog prayed for several days of rain and joked that his Redbirds would just forfeit if Andujar couldn't pitch.

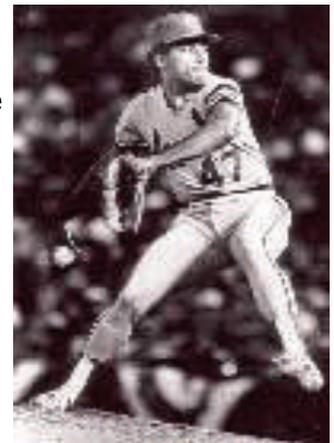
Andujar threatened to kill his manager if he didn't get the ball, but his status remained doubtful right up until game time. Rookie left-hander Dave LaPoint warmed up right beside him just in case, but after Andujar loosened up he told his mentor and pitching coach Hub Kittle that "This game is mine". His leg hurt from the opening inning, but he implored his teammates to get him just one run. If they did, he promised, they'd be World Champions.

Andujar just below the right knee though, and this time the pitcher went down and out. Writhing and screaming in the center of the diamond, he had to be carried off the field by two of his teammates. The Redbirds held on for the victory, making Andujar the first pitcher from the Dominican Republic to win a World Series game.

The joy of the moment was overshadowed by worries over when Andujar would

St. Louis did get him a run in the bottom of the third, but Andujar's first pitch of the fourth was clobbered for a game-tying homer. "I guess we need two runs," he joked when he got back to the dugout, but no Redbirds fans in Busch Stadium were laughing when the Brewers scratched out a two-run lead in the sixth. The Cardinals picked Andujar up like he'd done for them all season long though, scoring three times in the bottom of the inning to regain a 4-3 lead. Andujar completed a scoreless seventh by retiring Jim Gantner on a come-backer, and the Brewers second baseman nearly started a fight by cursing him and calling him a hot dog. Many of the Brewers were already sick of Andujar's antics on the mound, particularly the way he waved his index finger like a pistol.

Sutter got the last six outs to secure the Cardinals first championship since 1967, and Andujar became the first pitcher since the dawn of divisional play to win clinching games in both the LCS and World Series. He remains the only Latin American pitcher to start and win the seventh game of a Fall Classic. He finished the season with ten straight wins, including two with a 1.35 ERA against the



From Game 3, 1982 World Series.

Brewers. That performance earned him fewer votes than Milwaukee's Yount for World Series MVP (Andujar didn't even get one!). Still, Andujar lived up to his self-proclaimed nickname at every opportunity. Here's to Joaquin Andujar, truly "One Tough Dominican"!

--Malcolm Allen is the author of a forthcoming biography of Joaquin Andujar. All photos courtesy of authors

A BURNING QUESTION

Should Roberto Clemente's uniform number (#21) be retired by all Major League Baseball teams? Email me at salazar8017@yahoo.com. Results from this unscientific poll will be announced in Winter 2007 edition.



SBN, from page 6

wanted the Red Sox to win with or without Pedro. Schilling had plenty of supporters. And of course we all know what happened later that autumn.

However, the biggest obstacle is still the business side of this venture. Breaking stereotypes for Corporate America. Convincing radio stations to change formats. Things of that nature seem to occupy way too much of my time.

Who have been your favorite interviews?

My favorite interviews are by far Pedro Martinez and David Ortiz. Two very talented ballplayers who are articulate and thoughtful in their answers. What's more they understand this is a kids game and understand their role as leaders. Their role as heroes. Their role as icons. their role as role models for kids.

Now I must, also, admit covering Manny Ramirez has been fun. Talk about a big kid. But there is no baloney with Manny.

Now, maybe not quite as fun but I have had great conversations with Mariano Rivera, Bobby Abreu and Bernie Williams. Some very intelli-

gent men who I have lots of respect for.

Former players that come to mind are Tony Pena and Luis Tiant. I would have loved to have covered them when they were still playing. Both are articulate and fun. If you can get either of these guys comfortable, watch out. They can light up a room and will give you a notebook full of stories.

SBN was also involved in some interesting interviews... Jose Canseco and his steroids issue. Wil Cordero and his domestic abuse problems in Boston. Not to mention everything that went into that '04 World Series run in Boston.

What does the future of Spanish baseball broadcasts look like?

I'm not really sure what the future holds for Spanish Broadcasting. Not only has our demographic changed but the technologies are changing daily. Web cast, Podcast, HD radio, XM radio. What I can promise is SBN will do everything it can to stay in the game. I believe I have a good pulse of what my audience likes and will do my best to deliver it. I love my job. In fact I always say, "I don't go to work... I go to the park."

MEXICAN BASEBALL NOTES by Bruce Baskin

The winter Mexican Pacific League began the second half of its 2006-07 season last week after Hermosillo nipped Obregon for the first half title. Culiacan is off to a quick start with a 5-1 record, while Mexicali lags behind the pack with an early 1-5 record (losing their first five games). Playoffs are in January, with the postseason champ moving on to the Caribbean Series in Carolina, Puerto Rico during early February...Mexican baseball has a new High Commissioner. Jose Maiz, owner of the Mexican League Monterrey Sultanes, has been tabbed by the federal government to bring a sense of order to the sometimes-chaotic Mexican pro baseball scene. He will have to balance between being the top official in the game overseeing a group of owners used to getting their way and continuing as owner of one of the country's most successful teams himself. The Sultanes averaged a minor-league high 17,000 fans a game in 2006...Last winter's MexPac Pitcher of the Year, Spike Lundberg, will be leaving the Guasave Algodoneros next month to return to the United States for his wedding. Lundberg, who has struggled this year after standing the LMP on its head in 2005-06, also left Guasave last winter to take a physical and sign a free agent contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers. He surprised many observers by returning to the Algodoneros and leading them to the MexPac finals against Mazatlan, but won't be returning this time...Ex-major leaguer Erubiel Durazo is trying to use his stint this winter with Hermosillo as a springboard for a return to the Show. After shuttling between three Class AAA teams in what amounted to a "lost" season last summer, Durazo is making the most of his time with the Naranjeros, hitting over .350 and ranking among LMP leaders in several offensive categories...Royals pitcher Andy Sisco may have literally eaten his way out of the MexPac. Sisco was spotted by the Director of his Mazatlan team while munching on a couple of tacos in the ballpark concourse while his teammates were on the field during the first inning. This apparently didn't sit well with the Director, who released Sisco AFTER he won his start the next day with a six-inning, two-run outing with eight strikeouts...For more information on Mexican baseball, get a free subscription to the weekly four-page VIVA BEISBOL newsletter by emailing VivaBeisbol@hotmail.com.

Latino League Leaders: 2006

By Tony Menéndez

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BATTING

Home Runs- David Ortiz, Boston-54
 Runs Batted In- David Ortiz, Boston-137
 Slugging Percentage - David Ortíz, Boston-.636
 On-Base Percentage- Manny Ramírez, Boston-.439
 Total Bases- David Ortiz, Boston-355

PITCHING

Wins-Johan Santana, Minnesota-19
 ERA- Johan Santana, Minnesota-2.77
 Innings Pitched- Johan Santana, Minnesota-233.2
 Strikeouts- Johan Santana, Minnesota-245

Saves- Francisco Rodríguez, Los Angeles Angels-47

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BATTING

Triples- José Reyes, New York Mets-17
 Slugging Percentage- Albert Pujols, St. Louis-.671
 On-Base Percentage- Albert Pujols, St. Louis-.431
 Stolen Bases- José Reyes, New York Mets-64

PITCHING

Wins-Carlos Zambrano, Chicago Cubs-16
 Games Pitched- Salomon Torres, Pittsburgh-94

Best Latinos by Category (Batting & Pitching): 2006

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BATTING

Batting Average- Robinson Cano, New York Yankees-.342
 Home Runs- David Ortiz, Boston-54
 Runs Batted In- David Ortiz, Boston-137
 Hits- Miguel Tejada, Baltimore-214
 Doubles- Mike Lowell, Boston-47
 Triples- Jose Lopez, Seattle-8
 Runs Scored- David Ortiz, Boston-115
 Slugging Percentage.- David Ortíz, Boston-.636
 On-Base Percentage- Manny Ramírez, Boston-.439
 Total Bases- David Ortiz, Boston-355
 Bases on Balls- David Ortiz, Boston-119
 Stolen Bases- Orlando Cabrera, Los Angeles Angels-27

PITCHING

Wins-Johan Santana, Minnesota-19
 ERA- Johan Santana, Minnesota-2.77
 Games Pitched- Juan Rincón, Minnesota-75
 Innings Pitched- Johan Santana, Minnesota-233.2
 Strikeouts- Johan Santana, Minnesota-245
 Saves- Francisco Rodríguez, Los Angeles Angels-47

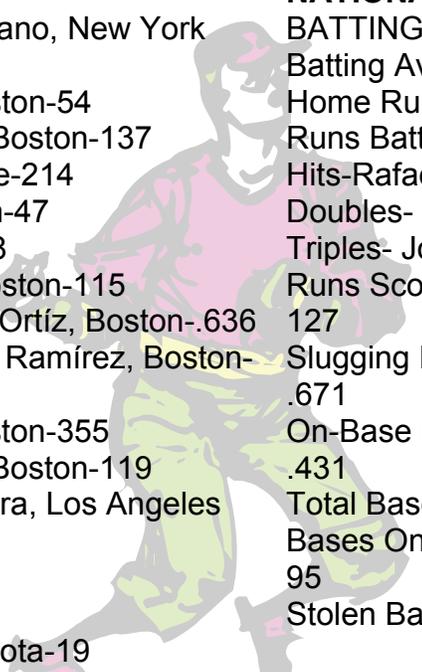
NATIONAL LEAGUE

BATTING

Batting Average- Miguel Cabrera, Florida-.339
 Home Runs- Albert Pujols, St. Louis-49
 Runs Batted In- Albert Pujols, St. Louis- 137
 Hits-Rafael Furcal, Los Angeles Dodgers-196
 Doubles- Miguel Cabrera, Florida-50
 Triples- José Reyes, New York Mets-17
 Runs Scored- Carlos Beltrán, New York Mets-127
 Slugging Percentage- Albert Pujols, St. Louis-.671
 On-Base Percentage- Albert Pujols, St. Louis-.431
 Total Bases- Alfonso Soriano, Washington-362
 Bases On Balls- Carlos Beltrán, New York Mets-95
 Stolen Bases- José Reyes, New York Mets-64

PITCHING

Wins-Carlos Zambrano, Chicago Cubs-16
 ERA- Carlos Zambrano, Chicago Cubs-3.41
 Games Pitched- Salomon Torres, Pittsburgh-94
 Innings Pitched-Carlos Zambrano, Chicago Cubs-193.0



Latino Leaders by Franchise: 2006

By Tony Menéndez

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Baltimore Orioles

Average Miguel Tejada .331; Home Runs Miguel Tejada 24; RBI Miguel Tejada 100; Runs Miguel Tejada 99

Boston Red Sox

Average Manny Ramirez .321; Home Runs David Ortiz 54; RBI David Ortiz 137; Runs David Ortiz 114

Chicago White Sox

ERA Jose Contreras 4.27

Cleveland Indians

Average Victor Martinez .316

Detroit Tigers

Average Carlos Guillen .317; RBI Magglio Ordonez 103; Runs Carlos Guillen 98; Stolen Bases Carlos Guillen 20

Kansas City Royals

Saves Ambiorix Burgos 18

Los Angeles Angels

Average Vladimir Guerrero .329; Home Runs Vladimir Guerrero 33; RBI Vladimir Guerrero 116; Runs Orlando Cabrera 95; Wins Ervin Santana 16; Saves Francisco Rodriguez 47

Minnesota Twins

Stolen Bases Luis Castillo 25 ; Wins Johan Santana 19; ERA Johan Santana 2.77

New York Yankees

RBI Alex Rodriguez 121; Saves Mariano Rivera 34

Seattle Mariners

Wins Felix Hernandez 12

Texas Rangers

ERA Vicente Padilla 4.50

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Arizona Diamondbacks

Saves Jose Valverde 18

Atlanta Braves

Average Edgar Renteria .29; 2 Home Runs Andruw Jones 41; RBI Andruw Jones 129; Runs Andruw Jones 107; Stolen Bases Edgar Renteria 17

Chicago Cubs

Home Runs Aramis Ramirez 37; RBI Aramis Ramirez 117; Runs Aramis Ramirez 92; Wins Carlos Zambrano 16; ERA Carlos Zambrano 3.41

Florida Marlins

Average Miguel Cabrera .340; Home Runs Miguel Cabrera 26; RBI Miguel Cabrera 114; Runs Hanley Ramirez 119; Stolen Bases Hanley Ramirez 51

Houston Astros

Stolen Bases Willy Taveras 33

Los Angeles Dodgers

Stolen Bases Rafael Furcal 37

New York Mets

Home Runs Carlos Beltran 41; RBI Carlos Beltran 116; Runs Carlos Beltran 127; Stolen Bases Jose Reyes 64

St. Louis Cardinals

Average Albert Pujols .330; Home Runs Albert Pujols 48; RBI Albert Pujols 136; Runs Albert Pujols 118

San Francisco Giants

Average Omar Vizquel .297; RBI Pedro Feliz 96; Runs Omar Vizquel 88; Stolen Bases Omar Vizquel 24; Saves Armando Benitez 17

Washington Nationals

Home Runs Alfonso Soriano 46; Runs Alfonso Soriano 119; Stolen Bases Alfonso Soriano 41; Wins Ramon Ortiz 11; ERA Ramon Ortiz 5.32



A note from the Editor

by Anthony Salazar

Each issue of this publication, I like to say, is better than the one before. This edition is no exception. You will find this publication filled with a number of great articles, features and nice photographs.

We are fortunate to have a group of folks who have followed their passion in bringing our committee a wealth of information and interesting things to read. I want to thank Malcolm Allen for his piece on Joaquin Andujar; Tony Menendez for his work on the Latino Lists sections; Bruce Baskin for the notes on Mexican League Baseball; and Bill Kulik for providing a very insightful look at Spanish baseball broadcasting.

As we head into the winter months, don't forget that there is still plenty of good beisbol going on in the Winter Leagues of Mexico, Puerto Rico, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic. A number of sites can keep you updated, such as ebeisbol.com.

Our next issue, Winter 2007, will feature a lot more great stories, articles and photos. Remember, you are the committee, and we look forward to your contributions.

By the way, we are working on a website, which should go live some time next quarter. Thanks for all you support!



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Vice Chair

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In This Issue

Cardenas at Cincy HoF, Andujar story, Latino lists & much more!