

By Thomas Ryan Stone

New York Yankees All-Time Team

Without doubt, the Yankees are the most successful and well-known team in all of professional sports. They've won 27 championships and 40 AL pennants. The franchise actually started as the Baltimore Orioles (believe it or not) with the birth of the American League in 1901. For the 1903 season they moved to New York and went by the name of the Highlanders until 1913 when they became the Yankees. They didn't win any pennants until 1921, the year after Babe Ruth joined the club. This means that they have won their amazing 40 pennants in only the past 84 years -- almost half of the time! Naturally, their all-time team will be loaded with talent, and some hard decisions will keep very deserving players off the roster. However, the Yankees have not been uniformly blessed with talent across all positions, so their all-time team does have some (relative) weak spots too.

1st Base

The greatest 1B of all time, who played his entire career in the bigs with one team, will be the starter for that team. **Lou Gehrig** (1923-39) was the Iron Horse, until ALS disease weakened and ultimately took his life. Virtually every baseball fan knows he played in 2130 consecutive games, the longest streak of its kind until Cal Ripken broke it in 1995. He batted cleanup behind the Babe, providing protection which no doubt aided the Bambino's HR numbers. Batting fourth for Murderer's Row also boosted Gehrig's RBI numbers: he averaged 153 RBIs for 11 seasons from 1927 to 1937. He won the triple crown in 1934, with 49 HR, 165 RBI, and a .363 average.

The backup to Gehrig really can't be contested either. As far ahead as Lou Gehrig is as starter, **Don Mattingly** (1982-95) is that far ahead of the other viable candidates for the backup spot. Mattingly played the second most games at 1B for the Yankees, and was MVP in 1985 with a .324 average, 35 HR, 145 RBI, and 48 D. He played his entire career with the Yankees, nabbing 9 gold gloves and having five 100+ RBI seasons. Although a back injury led in part to an early retirement, he does rank ninth in games played for NY.

There were several other candidates that I considered:

- Wally Pipp (1915-25) led the AL in HRs twice during the dead ball era, with 12 in 1916 and 9 the following year -- not exactly impressive accolades. Clearly he shouldn't have let Gehrig take over his job in 1925!
- Hal Chase (1905-13) was a consistent 1B who preceded Pipp, but he never accomplished much as a Yankee. His 248 career stolen bases rank fourth for the franchise.
- Bill "Moose" Skowron (1954-62) batted .294 for the Yankees, was an All-Star from 1957-61, and four times had over 20 homers.
- Joe Pepitone (1962-69) took over for Skowron in 1963, hit for a lower average, but managed 20+ HRs four times and was three times an All-Star.
- Chris Chambliss (1974-79) was the 1B for the Yanks during their strong 1970s campaigns, and his production was solid but not spectacular. He never hit 20 HRs during those years, but three times had 90+ RBIs.
- Taking over for Mattingly in 1996 after being acquired by trade from the Mariners, Tino Martinez (1996-01, 05) provided five seasons of 100+ RBI production. His best year was 1997, when he hit .296 with 44 HR and 141 RBI, coming in second in the AL MVP vote.
- And then taking over for Martinez was Jason Giambi (2002-08), who smashed 41 HR in both of his first seasons in New York.

2nd Base:

Murderer's Row wasn't all Ruth and Gehrig, as **Tony Lazzeri** (1926-37) was a slugging 2B not only for the famous '27 club, but well into the 1930s as well. He had moderate power, but was a regular RBI threat managing 100+ RBIs seven times. He regularly posted double-digit HR and SB in the same season. He hit for a pretty high average too, with .332 in 1928 and .354 in 1929 as his best.

Playing in more games at 2B, but less of an offensive force, is backup **Willie Randolph** (1976-1988). Consistent, but not particularly durable (he only once topped 150 G in 13 seasons for NY), Randolph was a five-time All-Star with a keen eye at the plate and some speed on the bases too (251 SB for the Yankees).

Joe Gordon's (1938-43, 46) career with the Yanks was not a long one, though we must acknowledge two years missing due to World War II. He put up some great numbers for a middle infielder, such as 18 HR, 103 RBI, and a .322 average in 1942. I think many were surprised when he won the MVP award that year – the same in which Ted Williams took home the Triple Crown. If you like Gordon's brief but brilliant numbers then you could make him the backup, but I'm going with Randolph.

Many readers will also think of Bobby Richardson (1955-66) as a good Yankee second baseman, as he was a seven-time all-star and won five gold gloves. But he played nearly 300 fewer games than Randolph and retired at the age of 31 in 1966. Horace Clark (1965-73) took over where Richardson left off, but didn't have a particularly impressive career.

Lastly, Gil McDougald (1951-60) split time at 2B, 3B, and SS. He made five all-star teams and was AL Rookie of the Year in 1951, but doesn't have quite enough credentials to make the team at any of these positions.

3rd Base

Third base is not a strong point for this team, though **Graig Nettles** (1973-83) is certainly no slouch. He was an All-Star five times for the Yanks and was well-known for his good glove at the hot corner (two gold gloves with NY). He regularly hit 20+ homers, topping a light league with 32 in 1976 and was runner-up the next year with 37.

The backup for now is a tougher call. **Red Rolfe** (1934-42). He had a short career, but managed to play in more games at 3B than any Yankee other than Nettles. He was an All-Star from 1937-40, and was a consistent run scorer for the powerhouse Yankee teams of the late 30s and early 40s. These are his run totals from 1935-41: 108, 116, 143, 132, 139, 102, 106.

If you prefer peak performance, then you could already give the backup spot on this roster to Alex Rodriguez (2004-09). In those six seasons he has hit 238 HR and 100+ RBI each year, though now with a bit of a steroids taint on his numbers. If continues to produce for the Yankees, he will easily supplant Rolfe and could even become the starter over Nettles.

Clete Boyer (1959-66) had a good glove and some pop in 1960s, but hit only .241. Joe Dugan (1922-28) manned 3B in the early years of Ruth and Gehrig, but was not a key part of those teams. Frank "Home Run" Baker (1916-20, 21-22) played out his declining years in NY, and

Wade Boggs (1993-97) played for NY for five years late in his career as well – but neither did enough to warrant much consideration here.

Shortstop

The rise of **Derek Jeter** (1995-09) in recent years keeps SS from being another weak spot on this roster. Jeter started out strong by winning the Rookie of the Year in 1996. A high average hitter, he has scored 100+ runs in all but two of his full seasons. He also provides a good combo of speed and power, with double-digit SB and HR every year. A ten-time All-Star, he has improved his defense such that he has now garnered four Gold Glove awards as well.

Until Jeter came along, the starter here would have been **Phil Rizzuto** (1941-42, 46-56). He was an All-Star five times (while losing three prime years to WWII), and won the MVP in 1950. He was a good fielder, but a light hitter. And although he regularly appeared amongst the league leaders in stolen bases, this was a notoriously slow era as Rizzuto never had more than 22 SB in a season.

I'd actually listen to arguments that Frank Crosetti (1932-48) deserves this backup spot over Rizzuto. He played in almost as many games at SS (more overall), and scored 100+ Runs four times (Rizzuto did so only twice). I think Rizzuto was the better fielder and has the superior overall resume, but any takers on Crosetti?

Deadball-era shortstop Roger Peckinpaugh (1913-21) deserves to be mentioned, as does Tony Kubek (1957-65) who played opposite Richardson in the 1960s. Kubek won the Rookie of the Year in 1957, but then like Richardson had a relatively short career, retiring in 1965 due to a back injury.

Catcher

The Yankees are without a doubt the most loaded All-Time team at the position of catcher. They have two players whose names are often mentioned in discussions of the best catcher of all-time. **Yogi Berra** (1946-63) regularly had seasons of 25 HR, 100 RBI, and a .290 BA. He's played in the fourth most games of any Yankee, though some in his later years were in the outfield. He won three MVP awards (1951, 54, 55) and was an all-star for an amazing 15 consecutive seasons from 1948-1962. One striking thing about his career though: he never led the league in any major offensive category (did you know that?). He certainly is the all-time leader in puzzling, accidentally humorous quotations.

Berra gets the starting nod, but that's not to take anything away from the man who taught him the ropes, **Bill Dickey** (1928-43, 46). Dickey regularly batted over .300 for powerhouse Yankee clubs of the 1930s, but never played more than 140 games in a season. From 1936 to 1939 he had 20+ homers and 100+ RBIs. His name has historically surfaced with Bench, Berra, Gibson, and Cochrane when the greatest catchers of all-time were being discussed.

But the quality doesn't end there, as Jorge Posada (1996-09) has also had an outstanding career as a Yankee. The five-time all-star regularly hits over 20 homers and has thus far amassed 243 dingers while being a key part of many championship clubs.

The Yankees depth at catcher goes further, with Thurman Munson (1969-79) being the next star left off the team. Although his career was tragically ended in 1979, his numbers were starting to slip by then. Three times he drove in 100 or more RBIs, but only once slugged 20 homers. He took home lots of trophies though: seven-time All-Star, 1970 Rookie of the Year, 1976 MVP, and the Gold Glove from 1973-75.

Also worth mentioning is Elston Howard (1955-67), who for a while formed a LF/C tandem with Yogi Berra, doing more catching as Berra grew older. Few might remember that he was an All-Star nine times, won two gold-gloves, was the MVP in 1963, and batted .348 for the juggernaut 1961 champions.

Outfield

The starting outfield for the Yankees is clear-cut. **Babe Ruth** (1920-34) single-handedly ushered in a new era in baseball. Paired with Lou Gehrig they anchored some of the best teams of all-time. A few sentences just don't do Ruth justice, so I suggest that you take the time now to look up his stats in a baseball encyclopedia and consider them anew. Of course his first several years for the Red Sox don't count here, nor does his final partial year for the Boston Braves. But his numbers from his prime Yankees seasons are mind boggling. During that span he only led the league in batting once, but came in the top-five seven other times. He led the league in slugging eleven times, runs scored seven times, RBIs five times, HRs ten times, walks eleven times, and even managed double-digit steals five times.

The second outfielder to make the team is the great **Mickey Mantle** (1951-68). His accomplishments are sometimes overshadowed (for non-New Yorkers) by those of Williams, Musial, Mays, and Aaron. But he was a 16-time all-star, won three MVP awards (1956, 57, 62), and

won the triple crown in 1956 with 52 HR, 130 RBI, and a .353 BA. He struck out a lot, but also walked a lot -- leading to a career .420 OBP which is 19th best all-time. He led the league in runs six times, during a stretch of nine consecutive years with 100 or more from 1953-61.

Another all-time great whose performances are sometimes momentarily forgotten is **Joe DiMaggio** (1936-42, 46-51). In fact, other than his 56-game hitting streak, the rest of his numbers are often less well-remembered than his persona and his celebrity status in America. But like Berra and Mantle, he too took home three MVP awards (1939, 41, 47) -- though one could argue that Ted Williams deserved the award in 1941 (when he batted .406) and in 1947 (when he won the Triple Crown). Regardless, Joltin' Joe's numbers are undeniable, and we can't forget that he lost three prime years to WWII. Perhaps it's enough to just note that he was named an All-Star in all of his 13 seasons in the majors.

Although not a completely obvious choice for the fourth spot, **Bernie Williams** (1991-06) is very deserving. Although his potential took a few years to actualize, starting in 1996 he could generally be counted on to produce 100 runs, 100 RBI, 25 HR, and a .300+ BA (he won a batting title in 1998). In the contemporary game such numbers won't blow you away, but they remain respectable star numbers. The five-time all-star was also great in the field, winning four Gold Glove awards in CF.

Earle Combs (1924-35), yet another lifetime Yankee, was a key part of the Murderers Row clubs. Combs had eight consecutive seasons with at least 113 runs (he had Ruth and Gehrig driving him in), and his lowest average in a full season was .299 leading to a career .325 average. He was a phenomenal triples hitter, three times leading the league by slicing 20 or more.

And so this leaves the really difficult decision for the sixth and final spot. I think I can pretty easily narrow it down to three guys, though I considered and will briefly mention many more. The first is Bob Meusel (1920-29), who played alongside Combs and Ruth for the powerhouse Yankees of the 20s. He had five seasons with 100+ RBI, five with 40+ doubles, and five with 10+ triples. He consistently batted between .290 and .340. And the year his average dipped to .290 was the year he led the AL in homers (33) and RBI (138) in 1925.

Another strong candidate to make this roster in the outfield is Dave Winfield (1981-90). Although many remember his abysmal pinstripes performance in the 1981 World Series, Winfield had many of his finest seasons for the Yankees. He had six seasons of 100+ RBIs, and surprised with a .340 average in 1984. Eight times an all-star with the

Yanks, and a five-time Gold Glove winner too, you can make a strong case for him.

But in the end I'm going to go with the longevity of lifetime Yankee **Roy White** (1965-79) for the sixth OF spot on this roster. His career was marked by consistent but not particularly remarkable performance: he had some speed and some power, but he wasn't a superstar player. But for me, on balance, he gets the nod over Meusel and Winfield.

The list of other Yankee outfielders that I considered is long and included the following:

- Some might first think of Roger Maris (1960-66) as having been deserving. While he had had three outstanding seasons, including two MVP years in 1961 and 1962, his other Yankee seasons were far from impressive.
- A similar lack of consistent longevity in pinstripes is the knock on Reggie Jackson (1977-81) in this context. He had four solid years, including a league-leading 41 home runs in 1980, but his strike-shortened season was poor and the next year he moved his show out west.
- Rickey Henderson (1985-89) also had four fine years, though one was shortened by injuries, before being traded back to Oakland nearly midway through the 1989 campaign. He was the definition of a leadoff hitter in 1985, 86, and 88, with run totals of 146, 130, 118 and SB totals of 80, 87, 93.
- Few would think of Wee Willie Keeler (1903-09) as a Yankee, but he did play several years for them late in his Hall of Fame career, and managed a .343 average in 1904.
- And another good but short Yankee career came from Ben Chapman (1930-36), who had six fine seasons for the club, hitting .305 and leading the league in stolen bases three times. His 1931 season deserves attention: .315, 120 R, 17 HR, 122 RBI, 61 SB.
- Tommy Henrich (1937-42, 46-50) came into his own as a star for the Yankees in the 1940s but missed three prime years to WWII. With those years given back, perhaps he'd have put together enough to make this roster. His 1948 season was solid, as he led the league in runs with 138 and also had 42 D, 14 T, 25 HR, 100 RBI, and a .308 BA.
- A teammate of Henrich and DiMaggio was Charlie Keller (1939-43, 45-49), who had three seasons of 100+ runs, three seasons of

30+ HR, and three seasons of 100+ RBIs (not all in the same three years).

- Overlapping a bit with Henrich and Keller was Hank Bauer (1948-1959). Bauer was consistent but far from spectacular, earning an all-star selection three times.
- Bobby Murcer (65-66, 69-74, 79-83) had two stints with the Yankees: several fine seasons to start his career as well as his aging period at its tail end. He had five consecutive seasons of 20+ homers, took home one gold glove, and batted .331 in 1971.
- Lou Piniella (1974-84) played in parts of 11 seasons for NY, posting a .295 average, but only three times got into 130 or more games, and displayed little power or speed.
- More recently, after coming to the Yanks from Cincy in 1993, Paul O'Neill (1993-01) posted some very impressive and consistent numbers. In those nine years Yankee fans regularly received 20 HR, 90+ RBI, and a .300+ average from O'Neill. The strike-shortened 1994 season was shaping up to be his best: .359 BA (led league), 21 HR, 83 RBI in 103 games.
- And Hideki Matsui (2003-09) brought excitement to New York from Japan and managed 100+ RBI four times and 100+ Runs three times. He ended his Yankee career as post-season hero, before moving his act to Los Angeles like Jackson did earlier.

Starting Pitching

Given the strength of the Yankees lineup, the uneducated reader will be disappointed by their pitching staff. That isn't to say it is poor, because it certainly is not. But there is a reason the Yankees are so often referred to as the Bronx Bombers – their hitting is what has led the way more often than not.

The All-Time Yankees staff starts with **Whitey Ford** (50, 53-67). He had only two 20+ win seasons, but they were great ones: 25-4 in 1961 and 24-7 in 1963. He won the Cy Young Award in 1961 and captured ERA titles in 1956 and 1958. He has more wins than any other Yankee in history, and his .690 career winning percentage is phenomenal -- though he obviously had plenty of support.

Red Ruffing (1930-42, 45-46) is next up, and his career W-L numbers are actually quite close to Ford's. He had four 20+ win seasons with the Yankees, and eight others with 15 or more. His career started

horribly with Boston, where he went 39-93 over five seasons. But he improved greatly in early 1930 when he joined the Yanks and later was named to six All-Star teams.

Lefty Gomez (1930-42) also won 20+ games four times, including 24-7 in 1932 and 26-5 in 1934. He twice won ERA titles with a 2.33 mark in both 1934 and 1937. In fact, in 1934 he captured the pitching Triple Crown by leading the league in strikeouts (only 158 is all it took), only to win the trifecta again in 1937 as well.

The fourth starter is lifetime Yankee southpaw **Ron Guidry** (1975-88). Louisiana Lightning won 20+ games three times, and captured two ERA titles and five Gold Glove awards. His famous 1978 season was one of the best performances ever: 25-3, 1.74 ERA, 6.15 H/9IP, and 248 Ks while winning the Cy Young Award.

Andy Pettitte (1995-03, 07-09) has by now earned the fifth spot on this roster, pitching all but three years for the Yankees. He has had two 21-8 seasons, but has never been a dominating, low-ERA kind of hurler.

Now I have some tough decisions to make, and they go beyond what, starting pitcher to choose next. For these all-time rosters I am limiting myself to ten total pitchers, but allowing freedom as to how many are starters and how many are relievers. As you will see, there are several starting pitchers and relief pitchers who are not obvious selections, but for whom one could make a reasonable argument in favor. What I've decided to do is go with eight starters and only two relievers (a tough choice). While that gives me three more SP spots to work with, I actually see seven live candidates for those spots!

That said, for the sixth starting pitcher I'll select lifetime Yankee **Mel Stottlemyre** (1964-74). He pitched for the club during a particularly lean period, and this contributed to his less-than-stellar .541 winning percentage (and notably his 12-20 record in 1966). But he still managed to win 20+ games three times, was an all-star five times, and started far more games than any of the other six I am seriously considering here.

The next three candidates were teammates from the 1920s, making it relatively easy to compare their careers. Unfortunately it is still hard to pick the two most deserving. I'll go with **Herb Pennock** (1923-33) and **Waite Hoyt** (1921-30), because of their higher winning percentages over Bob Shawkey (1915-27). All three actually had about the same number of starts for the Yankees, but Shawkey also pitched a lot as a reliever. Pennock had absolutely great control, three times leading the league in fewest walks per nine innings. Both Pennock and Hoyt won 20+ games twice, which admittedly doesn't compare favorably to Shawkey's four times. Shawkey led the league in ERA once, while Hoyt led in wins

once. This is a very close call, so I won't argue with you if you choose Shawkey instead of one of his teammates.

With the suspense over, now for the other three I seriously considered here. After four years in Cleveland, Allie Reynolds (1947-54) 131-60, 3.30, 5 AS) pitched for eight years in NY. He won between 16 and 20 games for the first six of these seasons, and then was used increasingly in relief the last two. He led the league in ERA once and strikeouts twice, and backed by the powerful Yankee lineup posted a 131-60 record (a .686 percentage).

Jack Chesbro (1903-1909) amazingly went 41-12 with a 1.82 ERA in 1904. And he won 20+ games twice more for the Yankees, but of course started 40+ games a year too.

Mike Mussina (2001-08) pitched the latter half of his career in New York, and finally capped it off with his only 20-win season in his final year. A 123-72 record is mighty fine, but not quite good enough to crack this all-time roster.

Four other pitchers have won 100+ games for the Yankees:

- Vic Raschi (1946-53) posted a 120-50 record for the club, including six strong seasons of 19-8, 21-10, 21-8, 21-10, 16-6, 13-6 from 1948 to 1953.
- Spud Chandler (1937-47) posted an equally impressive record of 109-43, and had two 20+ win seasons
- Eddie Lopat (1948-55) went 21-9 in 1951 and led the league with a 2.42 ERA in 1953. His 113-59 record for the Yankees translates to a .657 percentage.
- Fritz Peterson (1966-74) was Stottlemyre's teammate during the lean years, but managed one 20-win season, going 20-11 in 1970.

And some of you might be wondering about Roger Clemens (1999-03, 07) as well. He had some good seasons in New York, going 83-42 overall, and including a 20-3 campaign in 2001. But his ERA was 4.01 for the club as clearly his best years were behind him.

Relief Pitching

As if this team needs more positions of strength, this Yankees roster has arguably the greatest short-innings closer of all-time. After one year as a dominating setup man for John Wetteland, **Mariano Rivera** (1995-09) established himself as the top 9th-inning man in the game in

1997. He has had two 50+ SV seasons, and five others with 40+. Even more impressive are his nine seasons with an ERA under 2.00.

Dave Righetti (1979-90) was a top-notch reliever for many years in NY, seven times notching 25+ saves, but I sometimes forget that he began his career as a starter. He even pitched a no-hitter against Boston on the 4th of July in 1983. He led the league in saves in 1986 with 46, was Rookie of the Year in 1981, and won the Rolands Relief Award in 1986 and 1987.

Here is where my decision to include eight starting pitchers becomes painful. This is because two of the games dominating relievers in the 1970s and early 80s were from the Yankees. Sparky Lyle (1972-78) was at times dominating, with his best year arguably being 1972 when he tallied 35 saves with a 1.92 ERA. In 1977 he won the Cy Young Award with a 13-5 record, 26 saves, and a 2.17 ERA. The following year Gossage took over the primary closer duties, but Lyle remained an effective setup man, ending up with 141 saves and a 2.41 ERA for the Yankees.

Rich Gossage (1978-83, 89) was more than dominating he was at times downright feared by hitters around the league. The Goose pitched six masterful seasons in pinstripes from 1978-83. His ERA was never over 2.62 during that stretch, and in the strike-shortened 1981 season it was an amazing 0.77. He ended his Yankee career with 151 saves and 2.15 ERA.

The only other serious candidate was Johnny Murphy (1932-43, 46), a pioneer as a closer in 1930s and 1940s. He led the league in saves four times, with totals of 11, 11, 15, and 19. He was even an All-Star three times – a rarity for relievers in those days. You could make a case for any of these three great relievers, but choosing any of them over the many good starting pitching candidates is something I'm not willing to do.

Extra Spot

This floating, extra spot is a tough call, since so many good players were barely left off at their respective positions. I'll go with Jorge Posada, in part because you can always use a third catcher on a team. To my mind, the other primary candidates here included Thurman Munson (C), Elston Howard (C/OF), Joe Gordon (2B), Bob Meusel (OF), Dave Winfield (OF), Bob Shawkey (SP), Sparky Lyle (RP), Rich Gossage (RP), and Johnny Murphy (RP).

Team Captain

For this project, I am naming the captain based on performance only, and not on how he acted off the field or other such considerations (that might be relevant as "character qualities" in choosing the captain of a real team). So given this, the Yankees captain surely must be Babe Ruth. With only a potential argument in favor of Ted Williams or Barry Bonds, Ruth's per-at-bat numbers just tower above every other hitter of all time. The bulk of his seasons were with the Yankees of course, so on this criteria, he has to be team captain. If other factors were considered, then perhaps Gehrig or even Jeter would be chosen instead. But as things stand, it has to be Ruth.

Starting Lineup

A mythical starting lineup for this squad might look like this:

Derek Jeter SS
Joe DiMaggio OF
Babe Ruth OF
Lou Gehrig 1B
Mickey Mantle OF
Yogi Berra C
Graig Nettles 3B
Tony Lazzeri 2B
Whitey Ford SP

Are any other all-time teams as strong in the 1-5 spots in their lineup? If I were to pick a player from amongst the backups to be a DH, I'd probably go with Don Mattingly, and probably bat him sixth in this order.

Prospects for Current Players

What are the prospects of current Yankees players making this all-time team? Derek Jeter is already the starting SS, and Bernie Williams is the fourth outfielder. As noted, Alex Rodriguez could arguably already be on this all-time roster, so doesn't need to do much more to make it. I don't see Posada beating out Dickey or Berra to crack this roster, so the best he can do is make it as the "extra guy". Robinson Cano has had some

outstanding seasons already, so if sticks in New York long enough he could replace Randolph. We'll see...

Yankees Retired Numbers

Billy Martin (1), Babe Ruth (3), Lou Gehrig (4), Joe DiMaggio (5), Mickey Mantle (7), Yogi Berra (8), Bill Dickey (8), Roger Maris (9), Phil Rizzuto (10), Thurman Munson (15), Whitey Ford (16), Don Mattingly (23), Elston Howard (32), Casey Stengel (37), Reggie Jackson (44), Ron Guidry (49)

Selections From Other Authors and Fan Surveys

- 1949 *The Yankees: A Pictorial History of Baseball's Greatest Club*, by John Durant

On pg. 121 of this book an "All-Time, All-Star Yankee Team" is provided, and it is said that it was "selected by a consensus of experts", (whatever that means exactly). The results are 1B Gehrig, 2B Lazzeri, 3B Rolfe, SS Crosetti, C Dickey, RF Ruth, CF DiMaggio, LF Keeler, SP: Chesbro, Shawkey, Penneck, Ruffing.

Not a bad team, but before I comment I should note that the book listed the lifetime statistics for each player -- perhaps implying that more than just their Yankees accomplishments were considered. That could explain the choice of Keeler, who had a great career, but few of his good seasons were as a Yankee. I also don't understand leaving Lefty Gomez off this team, especially since his feats should have been fresh on the minds of the experts (he retired in 1943).

- 1953 50th Yankee Anniversary All-Time Yankee Team, as provided in *The Yankee Encyclopedia*, 4th edition, 2000, by Mark Gallagher and Walter Lebonte

This All-Time team was "selected by a poll of 48 veteran sportswriters, baseball officials and other experts." The results were (number of votes in parentheses):

1B: Lou Gehrig (46), Hal Chase (2)

2B: Tony Lazzeri (36), Joe Gordon (12)

3B: Red Rolfe (38), Joe Dugan (10)

SS: Phil Rizzuto (42), Frank Crosetti (3), Roger Peckinpugh (1), Everett Scott (1), Tony Lazzeri (1)

C: Bill Dickey (unanimous)

Utility Infield: Frank Crosetti (23), Joe Gordon (11), Tony Lazzeri (3), Joe Dugan (2), nine others (1)

OF: Babe Ruth (unanimous), Joe DiMaggio (unanimous), Bob Meusel (24), Earle Combs (14), Tommy Henrich (8), Willie Keeler (2)

RHP: Red Ruffing (28), Waite Hoyt (11), Jack Chesbro (4), Vic Raschi (2), Bob Shawkey (2), Spud Chandler (1)

LHP: Lefty Gomez (24), Herb Pennock (24)

RP: Johnny Murphy (25), Wilcy Moore (11), Joe Page (10), Waite Hoyt (1), Lefty Gomez (1)

I think Hal Chase was a fine player, but how could Gehrig not join Ruth, Joe D., and Dickey as unanimous choices? The other infield vote totals are more reasonable. And the pitching vote totals are sensible too, though I find it interesting that just two guys split the LHP vote while it was a bit more complicated for RHP.

- 1959: Sport magazine, February issue

As part of a running series, Sport magazine reported on all-time all-star teams picked by "big league publicity departments and the writers covering the clubs." Here is what they had to say:

First Base: Lou Gehrig, the immortal "Iron Man", took over first base on day in 1925 and played in 2,130 consecutive games before the crippling disease that was to kill him forced him to quit in 1939. He still holds the major-league record for grand-slam home runs, with 23, and is fourth on the all-time home run listing, with 494. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1939.

Second Base: Tony Lazzeri, one of the most popular Yankees during his playing days between 1926 and 1937, was an excellent fielder and an underrated hitter. With Ruth and Gehrig around, nobody noticed "Poosh 'Em Up's" bat, but he was always a spray-hitting threat and his .354 led the team in 1929.

Shortstop: Phil "Scooter" Rizzuto, one of the finest fielding shortstops ever to play in the American League, performed from 1941 to 1955 and still holds the league

record for consecutive games without an error, 58, and the major-league record for fewest errors in a season, 14 in 1950. His best years were 1950, when he set his fielding record and was Most Valuable Player; and 1951, when he won the Babe Ruth Award as the top World Series player.

Third Base: Robert "Red" Rolfe, a reliable, hard-hitting Yankee from 1934 to 1942, was a key factor in six Yankee pennants in that stretch. Five of those teams also won the World Series. His best years were 1939, when he hit .329, and 1936, when he hit .319.

Left Field: Bob Meusel, a hard-hitting outfielder who played the outfield in the shadow of Ruth from 1920 to 1929, was a consistent .300 hitter and would have been the top star on any other team of his era. In 1925, a year in which he hit only .295, he got 33 home runs and drove in 138 runs to lead the league in both departments.

Center Field: Joe DiMaggio, the great "Yankee Clipper" and idol of Yankee Stadium from 1936 to 1951, finished up with a fine .325 lifetime average and a long list of distinguished hitting and fielding achievements. His .381 in 1939 and .352 in 1940 were both good for batting titles and he led in home runs three times and in runs-batted-in twice. Named Most Valuable Player in 1939, 1941, and 1947, he was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1955. His hitting streak of 56 straight games, set in 1941, is still the longest in major-league history.

Right Field: Babe Ruth, the one and only Bambino, was the greatest hitter baseball ever has known. From 1920 to 1934, he was only twice under .300 and his Yankee lifetime average was .349. His 60 home runs in 1927 remains an unmatched major-league record. So is his slugging average of .847 in 1920, his 177 runs scored in '21, 170 walks in '23, and his 714 lifetime home runs. Although was a home-run champion for 12 years and runs-batted-in leader for five years, Babe won only one batting championship, with .378 in 1924. He was the Most Valuable Player in 1923 and was named to the Hall of Fame in 1936.

Catcher: Bill Dickey, whose career stretched from 1928 to 1946, still holds a longevity record for catching 100 or more games in 13 consecutive seasons. A consistent .300 hitter, he is best remembered for his fine defensive work

and his brilliant handling of a generation of Yankee pitchers. He was named to the Hall of Fame in 1954.

Righthanded Pitcher: Charles "Red" Ruffing, the wheelhorse of the Yankee pitching staff between 1930 and 1946, won 20 or more games in four seasons and holds the Yankee record of 231 career victories. In one three-year stretch, from 1937 to 1939, he compiled consecutive records of 20-7, 21-7, and 21-7.

Lefthanded Pitcher: Vernon "Lefty" Gomez gets the berth by a whisker over Herb Pennock of an earlier vintage. Occasionally erratic, Gomez often pitched brilliantly from 1930 to 1942 with the Yankees. He was a 20-game winner on four occasions and his 26-5 record of 1934, for an .839 percentage, is a Yankee record. He twice led the league in low earned-run average.

Back in 1959 this is an entirely reasonable roster. What interested me in reading the write-ups for each player was the almost quaint reference to records, such as Gehrig ranking fourth in all-time home runs, and also Ruth's 60 homers -- a record that would be broken just two years later. It also makes you appreciate again DiMaggio's incredible hit streak, which still stands as a record today.

- 1963 The All-Yankee Team: The First 60 Years: 1903-1963, as provided in The New York Yankees 1982 Official Yearbook

Only one 1B is listed, Lou Gehrig. 2B has Lazzeri, Gordon, Martin, and Richardson. SS has Crosetti, Kubek, and Rizzuto, which I think is not listing Rizzuto high enough. But for reasons that will become clear in a moment, perhaps the order they are listed in does not have significance in this book. 3B is Joe Sewell (who only played for the Yankees for three years, 1931-33), Baker, Dugan, and Boyer, which seriously ignores Rolfe in my opinion. There are seven outfielders: Ruth, DiMaggio, Mantle, Maris, Combs, Meusel, and Keeler. I think Keller is more deserving than Keeler, but don't say that really fast too many times. And like SS, the catcher list seems out of order with Dickey, Howard, and then Berra. But the biggest ordering problem is for pitchers: Chesbro, Pennock, Gomez, Ruffing, Chandler, Reynolds, and Ford. A good group, but obviously Ford should not be last, so likely order was not significant.

- 1969 The Sporting News Fan Poll

The July 5, 1969 issue reports the results of a fan poll for the long-standing franchises of the day. The results for New York were:

Lou Gehrig (1B), Tony Lazzeri (2B), Red Rolfe (3B), Phil Rizzuto (SS), Bill Dickey (C), Mickey Mantle (LF), Joe DiMaggio (CF), Babe Ruth (RF), Red Ruffing (RHP), Whitey Ford (LHP).

For 1969, all of these are good choices. *The Yankees: An Illustrated History*, by George Sullivan and John Powers, include in an Appendix the results of a 1969 fan survey whose results are identical, so I assume it is the same survey. However, they report a "second team" from that survey, as follows: Joe Pepitone (1B), Bobby Richardson (2B), Frank Crosetti (SS), Clete Boyer (3B), Charlie Keller (LF), Mickey Mantle (CF), Mickey Mantle (RF), Yogi Berra (C), Allie Reynolds (RHP), and Lefty Gomez (LHP). I prefer at least Skowron, and perhaps others, over Pepitone. The rest of the infield is fine, and of course Berra as the extra backstop since he wasn't chosen as the starter. Ruffing and Hoyt were both righties, so I prefer them over Reynolds.

- 1971 *I Hate the Yankees*, by John R. Bizzelle

This book provides the author's all-time teams for most of the long-standing teams of the day. This is what he wrote for the Yankees:

An All-Star Yankee team would be: Lou Gehrig, 1B; Bobby Richardson, 2B; Phil Rizzuto, SS; Joe Dugan, 3B; Babe Ruth, RF; Joe DiMaggio, CF; Bob Meusel, LF. The pitchers would be Waite Hoyt and Herb Pennock. Many readers will question the fact that I have left Mickey Mantle off this team. In the first place, Mantle was basically a centerfielder and should be compared with Joe DiMaggio. Mantle finally wound up with a lifetime batting average of below .300, and Mantle's strikeout record is amazing. Joe McCarthy would be the manager. The modern fan would prefer Whitey Ford over Herb Pennock. This writer always felt that Ford was not a consistent 9-inning pitcher.

Richardson at 2B isn't a horrible choice, but I certainly prefer Lazzeri. And I definitely think Rolfe is the more deserving at 3B. To exclude Mantle is a shame, but if you are a stickler for the OF positions, I won't argue. But Pennock and Hoyt shouldn't be the two pitchers. His stated opinion of Ford doesn't make a lot of sense to me. Granted, I wasn't even born when Ford was tossing, but he was in the top-ten in the

AL in complete games 8 times, and in the top-ten in shutouts 9 times, so his consistency over 9-innings doesn't seem in question to me.

- 1990 “All-Time All-Star Teams”, *The Baseball Research Journal*

In an interesting article, Robert C. Berlo used Thorn and Palmer's TPR (Total Player Rating) system to choose all-time teams. He selected players based on their best 800 consecutive games for the franchise, with a minimum of five years played. His results:

1B Lou Gehrig 27.7

2B Joe Gordon 20.1

SS Roger Peckinpaugh 12.2

3B Gil McDougald 16.7

RF Babe Ruth 41.0

CF Joe DiMaggio 24.6

LF Mickey Mantle 31.8

C Yogi Berra 19.2

SP Spud Chandler 21.2

SP Red Ruffing 20.7

SP Whitey Ford 19.0

SP Lefty Gomez 16.3

RP Rich Gossage 9.8

Interesting results. No surprises at 1B, C, and OF. Gordon takes 2B, since the approach used here rewards peak performance. But Peckinpaugh? He was a Yankee from 1913-21, batted over .300 once, and had 38 SB one season, but has no other statistics that catch my eye. I would have thought that Rizzuto's peak consecutive stretch would have come out ahead. And McDougald was a lifetime Yankee, playing from 1951-60, splitting his time at 2B, 3B, and SS. He was extremely consistent in terms of his HR production, hitting 10-14 in each of his first eight seasons. But Rolfe hit .300 or higher four times and scored 100+ runs for seven consecutive seasons, so I'm surprised he didn't rate higher. Seeing Chandler as the top pitcher is understandable since he didn't join the Yankees until he was 29 and had a relatively short (but strong) career. The rest of this staff is solid.

- 1992 *The All-Time All-Star Baseball Book*, Nick Acocella, and Donald Dewey

These authors go with the same starting nine that I would have in 1992, except Dickey over Berra at catcher. They also list as honorable mention Bobby Richardson, Red Rolfe, Bob Meusel, Earle Combs, Reggie Jackson, Yogi Berra, Red Ruffing, Herb Pennock, Lefty Gomez, and Ron Guidry.

- 1995 *Baseball Ratings* by Charles S. Faber

The Faber system as applied in 1995 creates a reasonable all-time team. Identical to my choices are Gehrig, Nettles, Berra, and the outfielders. Rizzuto was the best choice at SS in 1995, which just leaves 2B where Randolph comes out on top of Lazzeri. The pitching staff is also reasonable: Ford, Guidry, Ruffing, Gomez, and Pennock, with Righetti listed as the top reliever.

- 2001 *Few and Chosen: Defining Yankee Greatness Across the Eras*, by Whitey Ford with Phil Pepe

As with each book in this fun series, the authors choose a top five players at each position. For the Yankees, their lists in order are:

Catcher: Yogi Berra, Bill Dickey, Thurman Munson, Elston Howard, Jorge Posada

First Base: Lou Gehrig, Don Mattingly, Moose Skowron, Chris Chambliss, Tino Martinez

Second Base: Tony Lazzeri, Joe Gordon, Bobby Richardson, Willie Randolph, Jerry Coleman (with Gil McDougald chosen as a “utility” selection, noting he could be chosen at any of three positions)

Shortstop: Derek Jeter, Phil Rizzuto, Tony Kubek, Frank Crosetti, Mark Koenig

Third Base: Graig Nettles, Red Rolfe, Clete Boyer, Wade Boggs, Joe Dugan

Left Field: Dave Winfield, Bob Meusel, Charlie Keller, Roy White, Hank Bauer / Gene Woodling

Center Field: Joe DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle, Bernie Williams, Earle Combs, Mickey Rivers

Right Field: Babe Ruth, Reggie Jackson, Roger Maris, Paul O'Neill, Tommy Henrich

Right-Handed Pitcher: Red Ruffing, Allie Reynolds, Vic Raschi, Mel Stottlemyre, Waite Hoyt

Left-Handed Pitcher: Lefty Gomez, Ron Guidry, Herb Pennock, Eddie Lopat, Andy Pettite (Whitey Ford)

Relief Pitcher: Mariano Rivera, Goose Gossage, Sparky Lyle, Dave Righetti, Joe Page

With all due respect to Mr. Ford, I have no issues with his choices at C, but I think he misses by choosing Chambliss and Martinez at 1B while omitting Wally Pipp. At 2B, he clearly goes with peak performance by rating Gordon second and Randolph fourth. Ford admits that at this point Jeter didn't have a long resume, but he nonetheless felt he was deserving of the top spot at this relatively weak all-time Yankees position. I rate Baker over Boggs and Dugan at 3B.

Ford considers each outfield position separately, and this means that a top-three OF will not be listed as a starter. For LF I would order the players differently, but Ford clearly preferred peak performance over longevity by listing White fourth in the list. Choosing an order for Winfield, Meusel, and Keller is admittedly tough. Centerfield is where an all-time great must get snubbed, and Ford chooses to rate DiMaggio over Mantle – going in his words with his “head” over his “heart.” I have no issues with his RF choices, as Ruth is the obvious top selection and the other four can be reasonably debated as to order.

I won't presume to debate Ford's ordering of Reynolds, Raschi, Stottlemyre as the number two through four right-handed pitchers, though I do think Hoyt rates higher than any of those three and should be the one listed after Ruffing. For left-handed hurlers, Mr. Ford clearly has omitted himself from consideration, and he admits that at that time Pettite was still racking up accolades. For relief pitchers, Ford considers Rivera's dominance to already be deserving of the top spot. He then notes that you could re-order Gossage, Lyle, Righetti any way you like and he wouldn't argue. Although he speaks highly of Murphy, he nonetheless lists Joe Page as his fifth RP, noting that he “may have been the first high-profile relief pitcher in baseball because of his flamboyance.” That might be true, but Page really only had two strong seasons: 1947 when he went 14-8 with a 2.48 ERA and led the league with 17 saves, and 1949 when he went 13-8, with a 2.59 ERA and led the league with 27 saves.

- 2002 *Yankees Century: 100 Years of New York Yankees Baseball*, by Glenn Stout

In Appendix A, Mr. Stout provides two All-Time Yankee rosters, one for Pre-World War II (1903-1944), and one for Post-World War II (1945-2001). He also includes a brief write-up for each player, giving some indication of why they were chosen.

For the earlier squad, he has Gehrig and Chase at 1B, Lazzeri and Gordon at 2B, Crosetti and Kid Elberfeld at SS, and Rolfe, Baker, and Dugan at 3B. These are all reasonable, except perhaps Elberfeld. About him Stout writes "The 'Tabasco Kid' was one of the toughest players of the Dead Ball Era and a fan favorite at Hilltop Park." He might have been tough while on the field, but he never played more than 122 games in a season. And his seven partial seasons don't seem to compare well to the performance of Roger Peckinpaugh from 1913-21. Only one catcher is chosen, Bill Dickey, who is described as one of the greatest catchers of his generation "along with Mickey Cochrane and Josh Gibson."

The OF is loaded with Ruth, DiMaggio, Combs, Meusel, Henrich, Keeler, William "Birdie" Cree, and George Selkirk. Cree's career was from 1908-1915, but only included four seasons of 100+ games played. His only standout season was 1911, when he had 22 triples, 48 SB, and hit .348. Selkirk was also a lifetime Yankee, playing from 1934-1942, though he too only participated in 100+ games four times. He had a .290 lifetime average and was a two-time All-Star. His best season was 1936 when he hit 18 HR, had 107 RBIs, and batted .308. These two guys are not horrible choices, but I would have gone with Ben Chapman, or even Charlie Keller, whose career spanned the WWII divide.

The starting staff is solid with Red Ruffing, Jack Chesbro, Bob Shawkey, Waite Hoyt, Lefty Gomez, and Herb Pennock. And the two relievers are good choices too, Wilcy Moore and Johnny Murphy.

For the post-WWII club, I can't object to any of the infield selections: Mattingly and Martinez at 1B, Randolph and Martin at 2B, McDougald as a utility infielder, Nettles and Boyer at 3B, Jeter and Rizzuto at SS, and Berra, Howard, and Munson behind the plate. The OF is also sensible, including DiMaggio, Mantle, Williams, Henderson, White, Jackson, Maris, O'Neill, and Winfield.

The selections for starting pitchers are good ones, though I don't understand the order used: Reynolds, Stottlemire, Jim "Catfish" Hunter, Ford, Lopat, and Guidry. Surely Ford and Guidry should be listed as the first two here. And ditto for RP: great selections, but strange order with Joe Page, Lyle, Gossage, and Rivera.

- 2003 Rob Neyer's Big Book of Baseball Lineups

Neyer's choices are very similar to mine. The starting infield including catcher is the same. He has Ruth in RF, Mantle in CF, and Keller in LF, which means DiMaggio is only the backup CF. Given the OF split, that is fine of course. He has Roy White as the backup LF and Reggie Jackson as the backup RF. Since Williams played CF, he clearly loses out to Joe D. and the Mick. The backup infield and catcher are all the same as mine.

His top four starters are the same as my selections, just swapping the order of Guidry and Gomez. He chooses four more starters, and this is where I think he goes a bit wrong. He honors Allie Reynolds, Eddie Lopat, Bob Shawkey, and Mel Stottlemyre. I would have liked to have seen Hoyt and Penneck in there, though I admit Reynolds, Shawkey, and Stottlemyre are strong candidates. But Lopat I don't think deserves as much consideration. He went 18-8 in 1950, 21-9 in 1951 (his one year as an All-Star), and 16-4 in 1953 when he took the ERA crown (2.42). But his other 4+ years were not very remarkable. The two relief choices of Rivera and Gossage are strong picks.

Win Shares

Amongst other things, Bill James' innovative Win Shares system is helpful in comparing players across eras. Using my data sources, and listing players only at the position I considered and rated them at for this book, the win shares for players while playing for the Yankees are (95 or more):

First Base:

1. 489 Lou Gehrig
2. 263 Don Mattingly
3. 169 Wally Pipp
4. 141 Moose Skowron
5. 135 Jason Giambi
6. 128 Tino Martinez
7. 114 Hal Chase
8. 104 Joe Pepitone

9. 95 Chris Chambliss

The distance between Gehrig and Mattingly is striking, and it is interesting to see that Pipp garners more Win Shares than Skowron, and Giambi more than Martinez.

Second Base:

1. 251 Willie Randolph
2. 243 Tony Lazzeri
3. 194 Gil McDougald
4. 162 Joe Gordon
5. 138 Jimmy Williams
6. 132 Snuffy Stirnweiss
7. 127 Horace Clarke
8. 120 Bobby Richardson
9. 95 Aaron Ward

According to Win Shares, Randolph barely eclipses Lazzeri, a result that further points to the statistical differences between those two players' eras. Gil McDougald played at several positions, and cumulatively rates higher than Joe Gordon here. And Bobby Richardson surprisingly comes in below several other players.

Third Base:

1. 204 Graig Nettles
2. 171 Alex Rodriguez
3. 162 Red Rolfe
4. 107 Clete Boyer
5. 102 Wid Conroy
6. 100 Frank Baker

You can see that A-Rod has already passed Rolfe, and is creeping up on Nettles in Win Shares as a Yankee – one or two more seasons and he'll pass him by.

Shortstop:

1. 348 Derek Jeter
2. 231 Phil Rizzuto
3. 189 Frankie Crosetti
4. 158 Roger Peckinpaugh
5. 120 Tony Kubek
6. 106 Kirk Elberfield

Jeter is by far the leader, with only 42 Win Shares separating Rizzuto and Crosetti. It is also interesting to see that Kubek had exactly as many Yankee Win Shares as his double-play partner Richardson.

Catcher:

1. 375 Yogi Berra
2. 314 Bill Dickey
3. 247 Jorge Posada
4. 206 Thurman Munson
5. 195 Elston Howard

These results all feel about right to me: Berra above Dickey, Posada above Munson and Howard.

Outfield:

1. 574 Babe Ruth
2. 565 Mickey Mantle
3. 387 Joe DiMaggio
4. 312 Bernie Williams
5. 263 Roy White
6. 227 Earle Combs
7. 213 Charlie Keller
8. 208 Tommy Henrich
9. 191 Bobby Murcer
10. 175 Bob Meusel
11. 174 Hank Bauer

12. 174 Paul O'Neill
13. 171 Dave Winfield
14. 151 Tom Tresh
15. 148 Roger Maris
16. 126 Ben Chapman
17. 122 Rickey Henderson
18. 120 Hideki Matsui
19. 118 George Selkirk
20. 114 Reggie Jackson
21. 106 Willie Keeler
22. 103 Birdie Cree
23. 98 Gene Woodling
24. 95 Lou Piniella

Ruth's early (and impressive) seasons in Boston aren't included here, so that explains why he isn't further ahead of Mantle in this ranking. I think similar to Randolph vs. Lazzeri, here we see the difference in statistical eras as White comes out ahead of Combs. And I could say the same regarding Murcer and Meusel too. It is interesting to see O'Neill's Yankee Win Shares surpass Winfield's, and that Tresh's surpass Maris'. Reggie's post-season fame in The Big Apple eclipses his Win Shares ranking, as he comes in four below George Selkirk and only 11 ahead of Birdie Cree.

Starting Pitcher:

1. 265 Red Ruffing
2. 261 Whitey Ford
3. 201 Bob Shawkey
4. 185 Lefty Gomez
5. 177 Mel Stottlemyre
6. 174 Ron Guidry
7. 169 Waite Hoyt
8. 158 Andy Pettitte
9. 158 Herb Pennock
10. 141 Jack Chesbro

11. 130 Ray Caldwell
12. 128 Allie Reynolds
13. 127 Spud Chandler
14. 109 Mike Mussina
15. 109 Eddie Lopat
16. 107 Fritz Peterson
17. 104 Vic Raschi
18. 96 Tiny Bonham

It is quite interesting that Ruffing tops Ford by four Win Shares, but even more interesting that Shawkey comes in third in this ranking! See, I told you it was tough to leave him out while including Hoyt and Pennock: according to Win Shares, he should definitely be on my all-time roster. And I'm a bit surprised to see Allie Reynolds fair so poorly (only two below Ray Caldwell) and Vic Raschi as well.

Relief Pitcher:

1. 227 Mariano Rivera
2. 126 Dave Righetti
3. 99 Johnny Murphy
4. 98 Sparky Lyle
5. 95 Rich Gossage

No surprises here, though it is interesting to see where Murphy comes in since it is so hard to compare his numbers with the modern closers on the list.

Pos.	Name	Key Career Yankees Statistics
1B	Lou Gehrig	.340, 2721 H, 493 HR, 1888 R, 1995 RBI
1B	Don Mattingly	.307, 222 HR, 1007 R, 1099 RBI
2B	Tony Lazzeri	.293, 169 HR, 952 R, 1154 RBI
2B	Willie Randolph	.275, 1027 R, 251 SB
3B	Graig Nettles	.253, 250 HR
3B	Red Rolfe	.289, 942 R
SS	Derek Jeter	.317, 224 HR, 1574 R, 1068 RBI, 305 SB
SS	Phil Rizzuto	.273
C	Yogi Berra	.285, 358 HR, 1174 R, 1430 RBI
C	Bill Dickey	.313, 930 R, 1209 RBI
OF	Babe Ruth	.349, 659 HR, 1959 R, 1971 RBI, .711 SLG
OF	Mickey Mantle	.298, 536 HR, 1677 R, 1509 RBI
OF	Joe DiMaggio	.325, 361 HR, 1390 R, 1537 RBI
OF	Bernie Williams	.297, 287 HR, 1366 R, 1257 RBI
OF	Earle Combs	.325, 1186 R, 154 T
OF	Roy White	.271, 964 R, 233 SB
SP	Whitey Ford	236-106 W-L, 2.74 ERA
SP	Red Ruffing	231-124 W-L, 3.47 ERA
SP	Lefty Gomez	189-101 W-L, 3.34 ERA
SP	Ron Guidry	170-91 W-L, 3.29 ERA
SP	Andy Pettitte	192-109 W-L, 3.99 ERA
SP	Mel Stottlemyre	164-139 W-L, 2.97 ERA
SP	Herb Pennock	162-90 W-L, 3.54 ERA
SP	Waite Hoyt	157-98 W-L, 3.48 ERA
RP	Mariano Rivera	71-52 W-L, 2.25 ERA, 526 SV
RP	Dave Righetti	74-61 W-L, 3.11 ERA, 224 SV