ROY HOBBS WORLD SERIES
INSIDE PITCH
WEEK 4 | VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG | NOV. 9

Puerto Rico players pay homage to legend

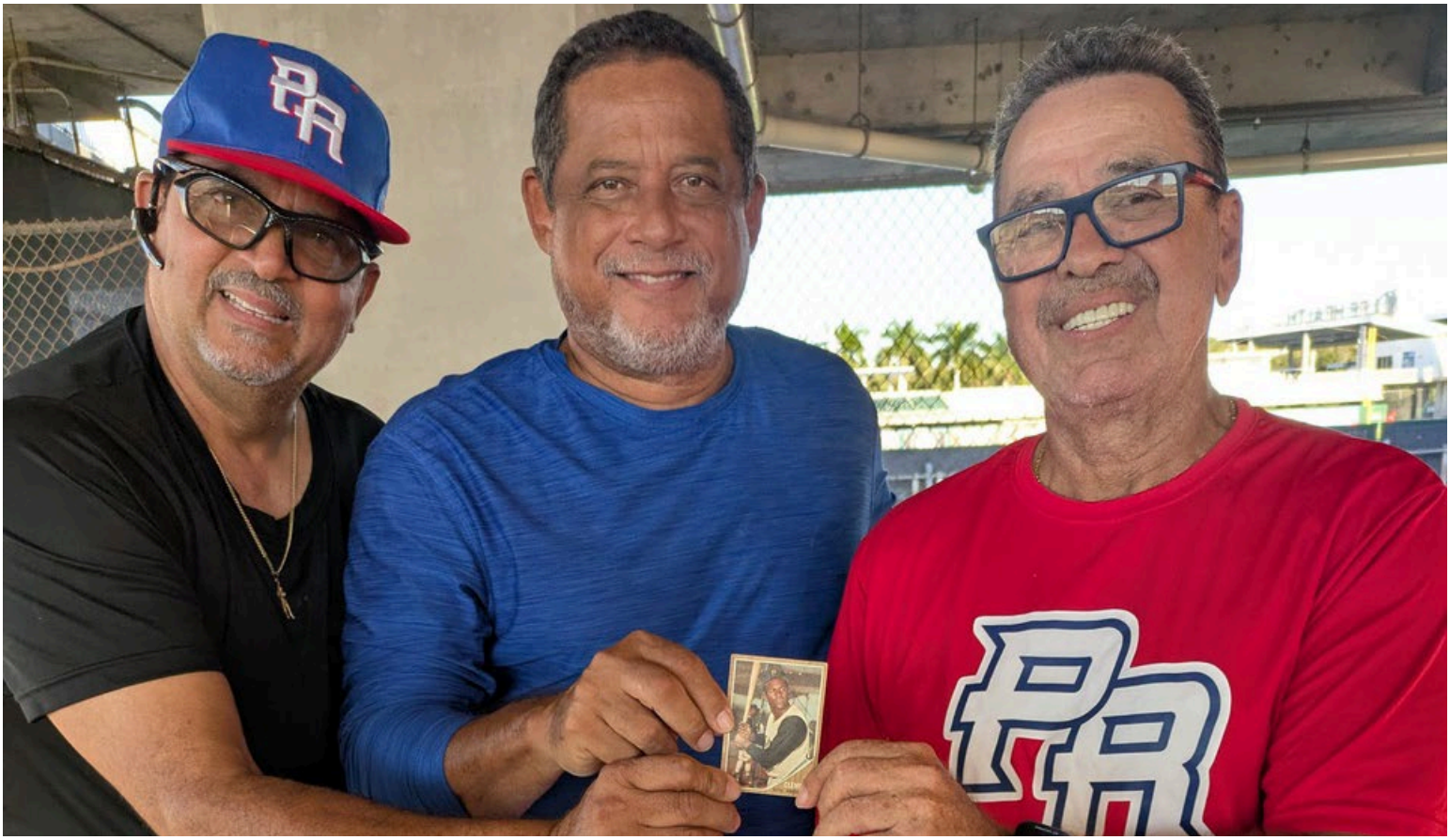


photo by Glenn Miller

Alfred Ayala, Felix Rodriguez and Carlos Vazquez of the Puerto Rico Orioles reflect on the impact Roberto Clemente had on their lives

BY GLENN MILLER
Roy Hobbs Baseball

Three Puerto Rican men gaped in awe and wonder at a 64-year-old piece of cardboard Sunday afternoon at Hammond Stadium.

But it wasn't merely a piece of cardboard. It was a sacred and historic artifact, a 1962 Roberto Clemente baseball card. It belongs to a Roy Hobbs staffer who let the players look at and hold the precious artifact.

Alfred Ayala, Felix Rodriguez and Carlos Vazquez of the Puerto Rico Orioles took turns with the card. They talked about the legend of the greatest Puerto Rican player ever, a man whose grace and regal elegance transcended the game.

They are all old enough to remember how Clemente died in a Dec. 31, 1972 plane crash. He had organized an earthquake relief mission for Nicaragua, but his plane crashed into the sea after taking off from the San Juan airport.

"My love for baseball was born from Roberto Clemente," said Ayala, the team manager and a member of the 2013 Roy Hobbs Hall of Fame charter class. "The way he worked, the things he did not just for the game but for society."

Clemente was more than a great player, a right fielder who won 12 Gold Gloves. He was a humanitarian.

Ayala, 70, recalls how he heard the news of the crash.

"I was at home," he said. "My father told me. He told me what happened and I was very sad. Tears in my eyes. He was a member of every family in Puerto Rico. He was in our homes. Everybody talked about him."

Ayala recalls the time he was in the presence of "The Great One." His father worked in the auto business and Clemente went to a facility near the docks to pick up a car.

"I was impressed more than anything by the clothes he had on," Ayala said. "He was very elegant."

That is perhaps fitting because Clemente personified elegance.

Ayala recalls the Pittsburgh Pirates right fielder wore a

see CLEMENTE on page 2

CLEMENTE

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white shirt that day and his hair was neatly trimmed.

"The thing I admired was his body because it's the perfect body for playing baseball," Ayala said.

Clemente was a sleek 5-foot-11 and 175 pounds.

He played before weight training and performance enhancing drugs.

Clemente's rookie year of 1955 was also the first year the Pirates had spring training at Terry Park. Every year through 1968 Fort Myers was where Clemente had spring training.

As the men talked their memories flashed back decades and they all said the same thing.

Vazquez and Rodriguez don't speak English, but Ayala translated and shared what they all felt.

"Everybody wanted to be like him. We all wanted to be like him," Ayala said.

But there was only one Roberto Clemente. There is nobody else like Roberto Clemente.



photos by Glenn Miller

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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG RESULTS

Monday Results

Vintage

Akron Brewers 19, NJ Dodgers 1
Americans Baseball 9, Greenville Cropdusters 8 (10)
Banana Sharks 22, St. Louis Dodgers 6
Bergen Yankees 20, Minnesota Goats/Twins 3
Bonedogs 21, Blue Ridge Rangers 12
Border City Brewers 18, JD's Jaguars 7
Border City Brewers 9, Raynham Baseball 2
ChicagoBay Warriors 15, USA Volkers Group 5
DC Rifles 22, SB Roadsters 4
Greenville Cropdusters 15, Long Island Express 3
Minnesota Bandits 8, Washington Titans 7
Mustangs Baseball 17, Fort Myers Cubs 5
Nova Scotia Monarchs 19, Aurora Islanders 15 (10)
Nova Scotia Monarchs 7, Long Island Express 6
Philadelphia Cutters 14, Americans Baseball 0
Philadelphia Cutters 15, Aurora Islanders 2
Puerto Rico Orioles 8, St. Louis Jets 0
Puerto Rico Orioles 9, Minesota Bandits 6
Raynham Baseball 14, St. Louis Patriots 2
Rhode Island Rockies 20, Cleveland Tribe 7
Rhode Island Salty Dogs 10, St. Louis Jets 0
Rhode Island Salty Dogs 15, Huntsville Havoc 1
Richmond Riverdogs 20, JD's Jaguars 13
Richmond Riverdogs 9, Midwest Nine 8 (10)
S. Maryland Blue Crabs 19, Carolina Rockies 16
St. Louis Patriots 16, Midwest Nine 6
Tampa Stars 16, Windy City White Sox 6
Team Albany 5, Lansing Blue Jays 3
Village Bison 27, Philadelphia Iron Pigs 3
Washington Titans 21, Huntsville Havoc 3

Forever Young

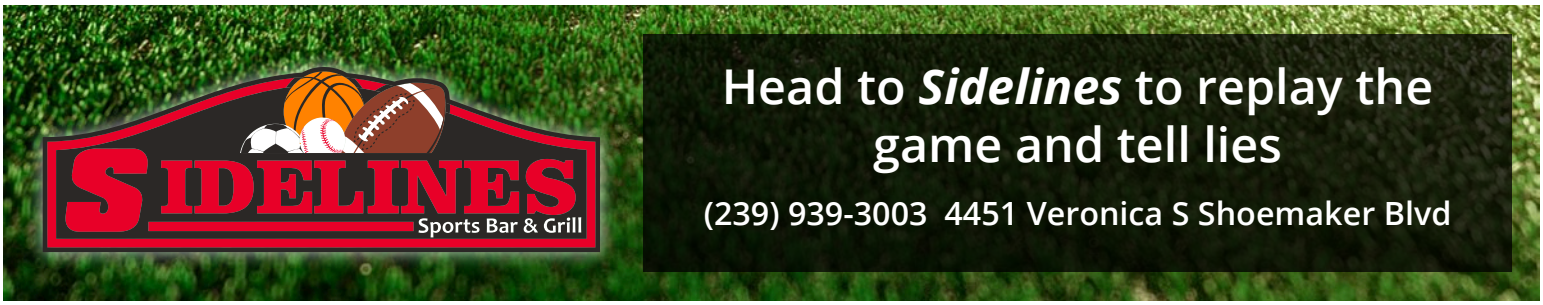
Detroit 75s 15, White Foxes 10



photo by Jeff Cogbill

Fire 18, Kent Mudhens 3
Fire 23, Midwest Nine 8
Maiden Titans 10, Team America 7
Maine Woods 13, Toledo Tigers 3
Potomac Senators 12, Huntsville Havoc 7
St. Louis Legends 18, New Jersey Dodgers 3
Team Cambria 15, DuPage Lugnuts 6





VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG STANDINGS

Vintage Division

Standings Thru Monday's Games

Team	W	L	Pct.	RA
Rhode Island Salty Dogs	3	0	1.000	7
Bergen Yankees	3	0	1.000	10
Border City Brewers	3	0	1.000	12
Banana Sharks	3	0	1.000	23
Akron Brewers	2	0	1.000	10
Mustangs Baseball Club	2	0	1.000	11
Southern Maryland Blue Crabs	2	0	1.000	23
Raynham Baseball Club	2	1	.667	12
Philadelphia Cutters	2	1	.667	15
Puerto Rico Orioles	2	1	.667	18
Village Bison	2	1	.667	20
Greenville Cropdusters	2	1	.667	23
Americans Baseball Club	2	1	.667	24
Fort Myers Cubs	2	1	.667	29
St. Louis Patriots	2	1	.667	31
Minnesota Bandits	2	1	.667	32
DC Rifles	2	1	.667	34
Nova Scotia Monarchs	2	1	.667	40
Richmond Riverdogs	2	1	.667	44
Tampa Stars	1	1	.500	15
Rhode Island Rockies	1	1	.500	17
ChicagoBay Warriors	1	1	.500	18
Windy City White Sox	1	1	.500	21
Team Albany	1	1	.500	22
Carolina Rockies	1	1	.500	24
Blue Ridge Rangers	1	1	.500	29
Washington Titans	1	2	.333	27
St. Louis Jets	1	2	.333	29
USA Volkers Group	1	2	.333	38
Cleveland Tribe	1	2	.333	40
Aurora Islanders	1	2	.333	41
Bonedogs	1	2	.333	54
Philadelphia Iron Pigs	1	2	.333	60
St. Louis Dodgers	1	2	.333	67
Lansing Blue Jays	0	2	.000	34
NJ Dodgers	0	2	.000	35
Midwest Nine	0	3	.000	39
Long Island Express	0	3	.000	39
SB Roadsters	0	3	.000	51
Huntsville Havoc	0	3	.000	54
JD's Jaguars	0	3	.000	62
Minnesota Goats/Twins	0	3	.000	64

Forever Young Division

Standings Thru Monday's Games

Team	W	L	Pct.	RA
Maine Woods Baseball	2	0	1.000	5
Team Cambria	2	0	1.000	6
Fire	2	0	1.000	11
Detroit 75's	2	0	1.000	15
Maiden Titans	2	0	1.000	17
St Louis Legends	1	1	.500	7
Team America 75s	1	1	.500	13
Dupage Lugnuts	1	1	.500	17
White Foxes	1	1	.500	20
Potomac Senators	1	1	.500	22
Toledo Tigers	0	2	.000	20
Huntsville Havoc	0	2	.000	24
Kent Mudhens	0	2	.000	30
Midwest Nine	0	2	.000	35
New Jersey Dodgers	0	2	.000	35





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VINTAGE / FOREVER YOUNG SCHEDULE

Tuesday Schedule

Vintage

10 AM

S. Maryland Blue Crabs @ NJ Dodgers, JB-S
Greenville Cropdusters @ Aurora Islanders, JB3
Nova Scotia Monarchs @ Philadelphia Cutters, JB4
Windy City White Sox @ Lansing Blue Jays, LH-S
Border City Brewers @ St. Louis Patriots, LH3
Puerto Rico Orioles @ Washington Titans, LH4
Minnesota Bandits @ @ Rhode Island Salty Dogs, LH6
St. Louis Jets @ Huntsville Havoc, PDC2
Blue Ridge Rangers @ USA Volkers Group, PDC3
Mustangs Baseball @ Rhode Island Rockies, PDC4
Fort Myers Cubs @ ChicagoBay Warriors, PDC5
Richmond Riverdogs @ Raynham Baseball, TP2
JD's Jaguars @ Midwest Nine, TP4

1:45 PM

NJ Dodgers @ Tampa Stars, JB3
Team Albany @ S. Maryland Blue Crabs, JB4
Philadelphia Iron Pigs @ St. Louis Dodgers, JB5
Bergen Yankees @ Village Bison, JB6
Akron Brewers @ Windy City White Sox, LH3
Lansing Blue Jays @ Carolina Rockies, LH4
Long Island Express @ Americans Baseball, PDC1
Bonedogs @ Rhode Island Rockies, PDC2
Cleveland Tribe @ Mustangs Baseball, PDC3
ChicagoBay Warriors @ Blue Ridge Rangers, PDC4
Banana Sharks @ SB Roadsters, PDC5
DC Rifles @ Minnesota Goats/Twins, TP2

5:30 PM

Tampa Stars @ Team Albany, JB-S
Carolina Rockies @ Akron Brewers, LH-S



photo by Jeff Cogbill

Forever Young

10 AM

Maine Woods @ Midwest Nine, JB5
St. Louis Legends @ Team America, JB6
White Foxes @ Fire, PDC1
Toledo Tigers @ Detroit 75s, TP-S

1:45 PM

Huntsville Havoc @ Team Cambria, JB-S
Potomac Senators @ New Jersey Dodgers, LH-S
DuPage Lugnuts @ Maiden Titans, TP-S

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Roy Hobbs WORLD SERIES 2026 A GAME FOR ALL GENERATIONS 37

NOTEBOOK

50/50 raffle

50/50 raffle tickets, to benefit the Roy Hobbs Foundation, are available each day at the Player Development Complex. Tickets are $1 apiece or 6 for $5. The drawing will be held in the patio area at the Player Development Complex at 5 PM Friday.

The Roy Hobbs Foundation was established to raise monies for research on finding a cure for Leukemia and to assist our Challenged Athlete friends.

Revenues from past RHWS have led to greater than $15,000 in contributions to MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, St. Jude Hospital in Memphis and to Southern Florida Challenger Athletes.

The ticket number will be posted on our website. You do not have to collect in person, just proof of the ticket.

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Results corrections

Please check the posted results and standings each day.

Managers should contact Tom at the Tournament Headquarters with corrections to scores: tg@royhobbs.com.

That's the best way to make sure that playoff seedings and pairings are as accurate as we can make them.

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No alcohol at sites

Roy Hobbs Baseball prohibits alcohol at all playing sites ... dugouts, inside fences and in the parking lots. Violators are subject to dismissal from the World Series, period.

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Parking

Please abide by parking guidelines, avoid no parking signs, fire lanes and curbs, and handicap spaces without a permit. Lee County Rangers are patrolling sites and will issue tickets to violators. They are not cheap.

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Water, Water Water

The heat in SW Florida can be debilitating, and overheating issues will sneak up on players. Get water every inning in the dugout!

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Playoff pitching guidelines

Roy Hobbs requirement is that all pitchers who will be starters or closers in save situations (3-run or less difference in the 8th and 9th innings) qualify for the playoffs by pitching at least 2 innings – 6 outs or 10 hitters – during pool play, if they are in the dugout starting Sunday. If they check-in after Monday's games, they must pitch 5 innings (15 outs or 25 hitters).

AAAA qualifier teams may not add pitchers to their lineup after Pool Play concludes; however, AAAA teams may bring in 2 position players after Tuesday's games, but they must play the entire first game of the playoffs with no shared lineup options.

Finally, in the playoffs, those "non-qualified" middle-inning pitchers will come to the mound from their normal defensive positions where they started the game. That is as important as the "spirit of the rule" that these *non-qualified* pitchers who are used as "inning-eaters" are players who ordinarily are playing other positions.

And, please remember that any players leaving the RHWS today (Monday) to return on Thursday MUST turn in their player ID Card and re-register upon their return. They must return before the quarterfinals of the playoffs, regardless of division.

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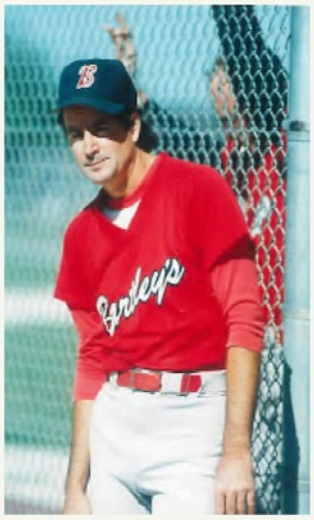
Run-rule games

Run rule is 10 runs at 7 complete innings or if home team is ahead in a scheduled 9-inning game. Scheduled 7-inning games are 15 at 5 innings.

NOTE, in the 70s & 75s divisions, if the score difference is 15 at 5 innings, umpires have been instructed to call both managers together and to offer the team on the short end of the score if they want 6 outs to bat.

As far as RH is concerned the team ahead has won, but any runs scored will count in RA, so that is an incentive to not just put anyone out there to pitch.

see NOTEBOOK on page 7

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NOTEBOOK



photo by Jeff Cogbill

continued from page 6

Both teams must agree if the game is not continued.

If you believe a game has been ended prematurely, don't leave and ask for a field manager; he will get in touch with headquarters for adjudication.

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Please help with dugouts

Roy Hobbs Baseball and the grounds crews need your help in the dugouts.

When your games are over and you are leaving the dugout, please police it for trash and cups, etc. Your assistance in cleaning up the dugouts each day will be greatly appreciated.

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First Aid

Two key First Aid items: Drink plenty of fluids while playing; don't just wait until the game is over. Water will be available at the fields.

Second, be sure to stretch and loosen up before playing, or even re-entering a game.

In case of an emergency, contact the field manager at your site. He has the First Aid supplies and will contact 911 services as needed.

Ice is available for injuries ... check with the field manager on duty or go to the nearest concession stand to have the appropriate personnel paged. Roy Hobbs requests that managers plan for pitchers needing ice for their arms and to supply it.

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Admission, $2 a game

Admission continues at the Roy Hobbs World Series.

Admission is $2 per game or $8 for a tournament pass. The player ID card grants players access to all games in which they are not playing. Spectators will pay $2 for entrance into each complex and are good for one day at all complexes.

The $8 tournament pass is available at RH Headquarters or from the Site Concierges at each security table; there is no family pass. The tournament pass is a plastic card that guarantees admission for that person for the duration of the RHWS. A loop comes with the tournament pass card for easy attachment to purses, beltloops, etc.

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PLAYERS OF THE GAME

Monday Players of the Game

Vintage Division

Akron Brewers: Charlie Pettertti 3x5 with 5 RBI in win over NJ Dodgers.

Americans Baseball: Willie Castro Pitched 10-inning Complete game in win over Greenville Cropdusters.

Border City Brewers: Rich Cleve Came in the 4th inning to preserve victory over JD Jaguars.

Mustangs: Jack Meola 4x4 in win over Fort Myers Cubs.

Nova Scotia Monarchs: Eric Anthony 2-1B, 2-2B with 2 RBI in win over Long Island Express.

Philadelphia Cutters: Mark Flemister Threw CG 4-hit Shutout with no BB, plus going 2+2 with 3 RBI in win over Americans Baseball.

Richmond Riverdogs: Joe Ainsworth 7 IP plus Gerry Huppmann, 2 IP in relief for the win over Midwest Nine; John Fellows had 11 consecutive hits over 3 games before his streak was snapped.

Forever Young Division

St. Louis Legends: Lou Troha pitched complete game to defeat New Jersey Dodgers.

Potomac Senators: John Cousins' defensive play at first base ended scoring threats by Huntsville Havoc.

Note: *Managers submit Player of the Game on the scoring App after each game. Please give details of their performance.*

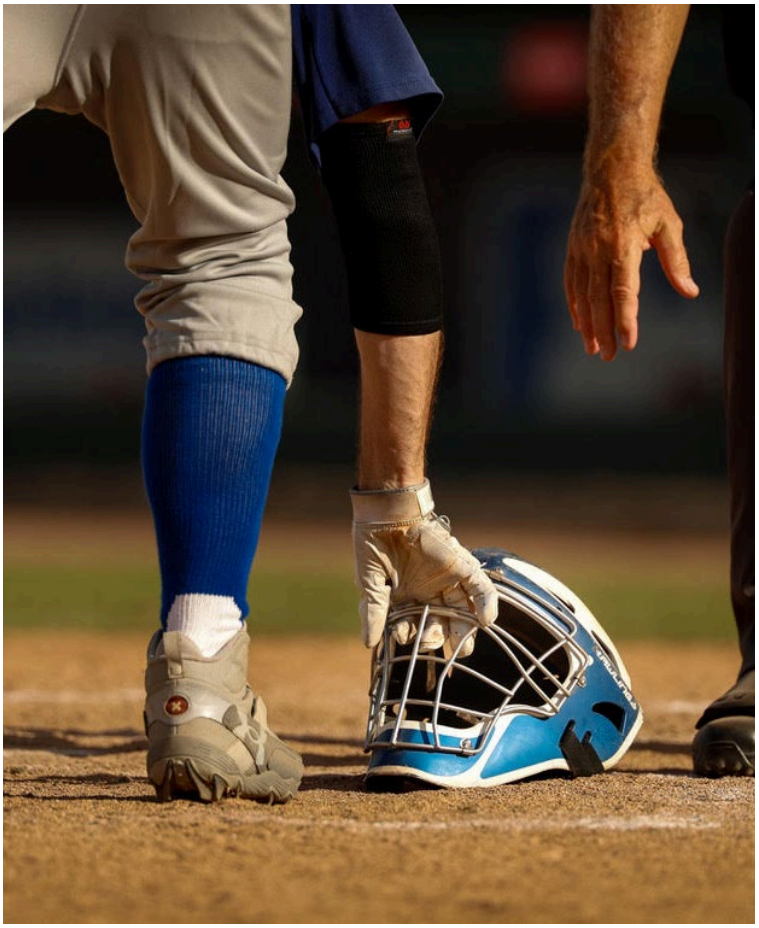


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