

Media Contact: John Mooney, (908) 720-6057 (cell) [johnrmooney@yahoo.com](mailto:johnrmooney@yahoo.com)  
Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant (212) 290-0080

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame Announces Nominations for 2010 Induction Class***

*Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant Recognizes Players, Executives, Journalists and Entertainers of Irish  
Descent*

**New York, NY (March 15, 2010)** – Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant (18 W. 33<sup>rd</sup> St.) today announced the nominations for 2010 induction into the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame. Voters include past inductees into the IABHOF and a panel of baseball historians. Results will be announced in April 2010.

### HALL OF FAMERS and LEGENDS

**Big Ed Walsh** – Baseball's All-Time ERA Leader

**Michael "King" Kelly** – "Baseball's First Superstar"

**Mighty Casey** of the "Mudville Nine" – Character in Ernest Thayer's famous poem

### CURRENT LIVING EX-PLAYERS

**Dale Murphy** – 1980s Atlanta Braves star, two-time NL MVP

**"Super Joe" McEwing** – Popular utility player, now a manager in the White Sox minor league system

### MANAGERS

**John McGraw** – Legendary NY Giants manager

**Tom Kelly** – Two-time World Series champion manager with the Minnesota Twins

### BROADCASTERS

**Tim McCarver** – Network TV analyst

**Bob Murphy** – Beloved Mets radio and TV broadcaster

### EXECUTIVES

**Brian Cashman** – GM, NY Yankees

**Bill James** – Statistician, Red Sox Consultant

### ENTERTAINERS

**John Fogerty** – Writer/Singer of "Centerfield"

**Bill Murray** – Cubs Fan, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" singer at Wrigley Field

**John Cusack** – Star of "Eight Men Out"

**Rosie O'Donnell** – Co-star of "A League of Their Own"

"It's a strong and deserving class of nominees for the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame this year. All of these men -- and one woman -- have made significant contributions to the game," said Shaun Clancy, owner of Foley's, which features one of the country's most extensive public displays of baseball memorabilia outside of Cooperstown.

With the blessing of the Baseball Hall of Fame, Foley's, a popular destination among baseball players, executives, umpires and fans, created the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame to recognize players, managers, executives, journalists, and entertainers of Irish descent. Inductees are chosen based on a combination of factors, including impact on the game, popularity on and off the field, contributions to society, connections to the Irish community, and, of course, ancestry.

The game of baseball has long welcomed immigrants from its earliest days, when an estimated 30 percent of players claimed Irish heritage. Many of the game's biggest stars at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century were Irish immigrants or their descendants, including Michael "King" Kelly, Roger Connor (the home run king before Babe Ruth), Eddie Collins, Big Ed Walsh and NY Giants manager John McGraw. Today, major league teams regularly sign players born in Latin America, Japan, Canada, and elsewhere.

Shaun Clancy, an amateur baseball historian, created the Hall after learning about the rich heritage of Irish Americans in the sport dating from its infancy – a legacy that has been overshadowed in recent years by other ethnicities. He decided to celebrate his roots and those who helped make the game great by creating a shrine to Irish Americans in baseball in 2008.

#### **"Starting Nine"**

The "Starting Nine" inductees were: the late Mets and Phillies reliever **Tug McGraw**, Yankee announcer **John Flaherty**, sportswriter **Jeff Horrigan**, NY Mets groundskeeper **Pete Flynn**, retired slugger **Mark McGwire** and **Sean "The Mayor" Casey**, **Kevin Costner**, star of *Field of Dreams* and *Bull Durham*, legendary owner-manager **Connie Mack**, and longtime official scorer and sports columnist **Red Foley**.

The 2009 inductees were: longtime Brooklyn and LA Dodgers owner **Walter O'Malley**, slugger **Steve Garvey** and **Paul O'Neill**, longtime umpire **Jim Joyce**, veteran sportscaster **Vin Scully**, and **Ed Lucas**, a blind reporter who has covered the Yankees and Mets for more than 40 years.

#### **About Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant**

A popular destination among baseball players, executives, umpires and fans, Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant is located at 18 W. 33rd St., across from the Empire State Building. The "Irish Bar with a Baseball Attitude" features walls adorned with 2,000 autographed baseballs, hundreds of bobbleheads, game-worn jerseys, stadium seats and other artifacts that make Foley's the best baseball bar in New York and one of the best sports bars in America. Foley's is home of the Irish American Baseball Hall of Fame and features one of the country's most extensive public displays of baseball memorabilia outside of Cooperstown. For more information, call (212) 290-0080 or visit [www.foleysny.com](http://www.foleysny.com) or [www.facebook.com/FoleysNYPub](https://www.facebook.com/FoleysNYPub).

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