



HONORING CHICAGO'S CONTRIBUTIONS
TO AMERICA'S FAVORITE PASTIME

Santo Fan Fest Was Life of Induction Party

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COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. – What I'll take back from the Hall of Fame weekend...

- Cubs Fan Fest. The tent party in honor of Ron Santo on Saturday afternoon received such positive reviews that I expect other teams to borrow the idea in the future. Credit team owner Tom Ricketts and his staff for a plan well conceived and executed.
- Vicki Santo's induction speech. Not only did Ron's widow deliver an emotional message on Sunday afternoon, but she did so with remarkable poise.
- Johnny Bench's Harry Caray impersonation. The Hall of Fame catcher even nailed the "Let's get some runs!" part at the induction ceremony.
- Carlton Fisk's appearance. The White Sox great is 64 going on 46. The ex-catcher still looks young and fit enough to play a back-up role.
- The absence of minorities. In two-plus days, I counted two African-Americans and not one Hispanic other than former players. The lack of diversity remains one of the most urgent issues in the game today.