# Yankee closer awaits his place in Hall of Fame

**By JOHN KEKIS** Associated Press

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. It never changed for Mariano Rivera — from his childhood in the fishing village of Puerto Caimito in Panama to the pitcher's mound at Yankee Stadium.

"I always wanted to be the last guy to kick the ball or took the last shot at the basket. Give me the ball," Rivera said. "I wanted to contribute to this victory. I wanted to help my team do whatever it took to win, and it worked many times."

With that mindset came

A lightly regarded pitcher when signed as an amateur free agent with the New York

struggled as a starter but found his niche as a reliever



Rivera

The Yanwon kees seven penand nants five World Series with

Rivera in the bullpen. His major league record of 652 saves was his ticket to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Not for nothing was nicknamed Sandman, after the Metallica song "Enter Sandman" that boomed across Yankee Stadium whenever he headed to the mound, ready to silence

His greatness on the

Yankees in 1990, Rivera mound and his humble spirit — win or lose — helped Rivera achieve another milestone. He's the only player in history to be elected unanimously, receiving all 425 votes in the January balloting.

"I feel humbled that I was the one that the Lord blessed," said the 49-year-old Rivera, who will be inducted Sunday. "It won't change my life, but it's something that you know that you were the first one. That is special."

Rivera joins Rod Carew as the only Panamanians elected to the Hall of Fame. He heads a class that also includes pitchers Mike Mussina, Lee Smith and the late Roy Halladay, and designated hitters Edgar Martinez and Harold Baines.

.490

.479

151/2

San Francisco

Thursday's Games

Friday's Games

(Happ 7-5), 4:05 p.m.

(Lyles 5-6), 4:05 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Miami 4, San Diego 3 Philadelphia 7, L.A. Dodgers 6 St. Louis 7, Cincinnati 4

San Diego (Lauer 5-7) at Chicago Cubs (Lester 9-6), 11:20 a.m.

Colorado (Freeland 2-6) at N.Y. Yankees

Philadelphia (Arrieta 8-7) at Pittsburgh

St. Louis (Wainwright 6-7) at Cincinnati

(Clarke 2-3), 6:40 p.m. Miami (Gallen 0-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Ryu

N.Y. Mets (deGrom 5-7) at San Francisco

Colorado at N.Y. Yankees, 10:05 a.m.

N.Y. Mets at San Francisco, 1:05 p.m.

Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 4:05 p.m. St. Louis at Cincinnati, 4:10 p.m.

Washington at Atlanta, 4:20 p.m.

Milwaukee at Arizona, 5:10 p.m.

San Diego at Chicago Cubs, 11:20 a.m.

(Mahle 2-10), 4:10 p.m. Washington (Corbin 7-5) at Atlanta

(Teheran 5-6), 4:20 p.m. Milwaukee (Chacin 3-9) at Arizona

Washington 13, Atlanta 4

San Diego

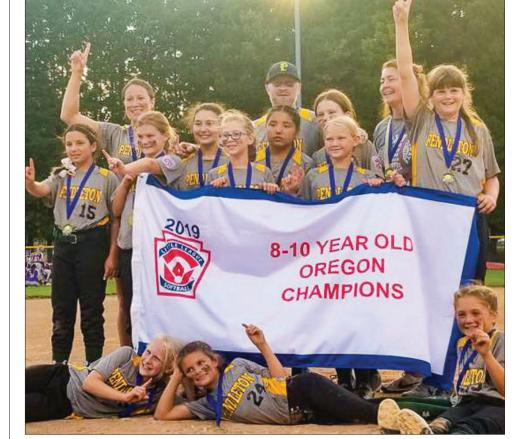


Photo contributed by Pendleton Little League

Pendleton's 8/9/10 Little League softball team celebrates their victory over Beaverton to win the state championship on Tuesday in Portland.

## **Softball:** All-Stars escape South Beaverton in state championships

Continued from Page A9

for the other team. That's what ultimately got us the

By the sixth inning. South Beaverton had threatened another tie, bringing the score up to 8-7. But Alanah Eagleheart kept Pendleton out front with a hard line drive into center field, good enough for a double and an RBI.

Eagleheart struck out two batters in the bottom of

the inning, and a groundout kept South Beaverton away from home, earning Pendleton their second consecutive state title. Despite the loss, Ash-

brook still managed to strike out 13 Pendleton All-Stars by the game's end, but she gave Pendleton nine of their runs. McKinley Lieuallen and Eagleheart combined for 10 strikeouts. 'Our pitching was excel-

lent," VanNice said. "They just kept throwing strikes, and their defense was right there behind them to help." Cambria VanNice,

Medrano, and Primus each scored two runs to lead Pendleton to the state title.

"It was a total team effort," coach VanNice said. "Everyone contributed. This paves the way for them when they get older. They'll make a run at the 12U state title when it's their turn. The future is bright for these young girls.'

#### SCOREBOARD

Kansas City (Montgomery 1-2) at Cleveland (Bieber 8-3), 4:10 p.m.

Toronto (Stroman 5-10) at Detroit (Zim-

Texas (Minor 8-4) at Houston (Verlander

L.A. Angels (TBD) at Seattle (Leake 7-8),

Saturday's Games Colorado at N.Y. Yankees, 10:05 a.m.

Chicago White Sox at Tampa Bay,

Kansas City at Cleveland, 4:10 p.m.

Oakland at Minnesota, 4:10 p.m.

L.A. Angels at Seattle, 6:10 p.m

Toronto at Detroit, 3:10 p.m.

Texas at Houston, 4:10 p.m

Boston at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m

Oakland (Bassitt 6-4) at Minnesota (Odorizzi 11-4), 5:10 p.m.

mermann 0-6), 4:10 p.m.

11-4), 5:10 p.m.

7:10 p.m.

### **BASEBALL**

**AMERICAN LEAGUE** 

#### New York .653 62 56 53 36 29 **W** Tampa Bay Boston Toronto .546

.305 Pct Baltimore Central .617 .579 Minnesota 58 55 42 36 29 **W** Cleveland Chicago Kansas City .452 .367 51 62 Detroit Pct West 55 50 50 39 Oakland .573 Texas Los Angeles Seattle

## Thursday's Games

Kansas City 6, Chicago White Sox 5 N.Y. Yankees 6, Tampa Bay 2, 1st game Cleveland 6. Detroit 3 N.Y. Yankees 5, Tampa Bay 1, 2nd game

Friday's Games Boston (Price 7-2) at Baltimore (Means

(Happ 7-5), 4:05 p.m. Chicago White Sox (Lopez 4-8) at Tampa Bay (TBD), 4:10 p.m

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Philadelphia	50	47	.515	7
New York	44	51	.463	12
Miami	36	58	.383	
Central	W	L	Pct	G
Chicago	52	44	.542	-
St. Louis	49	46	.516	2
Milwaukee	50	47	.515	2
Pittsburgh	45	50	.474	6
Cincinnati	43	51	.457	
West	W	L	Pct	G
Los Angeles	64	35	.646	

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