

# Guess the Yankee Player's Nickname!

*Answer these riddles to learn some great Yankees trivia.*

*Answers on Page 2.*

- Opposite of Mrs., and the name of a month?
- What do you get when you combine a feline and a trout?
- Yankee player with the same name as a Disney cartoon character?
- A type of goat?
- What did the greens keeper say to the grounds crew? The grass is too high, \_\_ it!  
Also, he has a nickname of a song sung to put you to sleep, Mr. \_\_\_\_ ?
- What we do to wrinkled clothes paired with Trigger?
- A type of hat paired with 2,000 pounds?
- Name of the gorilla on the top of the Empire State building?
- This player's nickname includes his real first name and the name of the sport he played.
- Name of a child's toy with a long board with wheels on the bottom and an upright handle bar?
- Most cities have a Chamber of ? paired with the name of a small Solar System body?
- Name of Paul Bunyan's legendary blue ox?
- What some serve for Christmas dinner?
- Some dream of this color for Christmas plus a "y".
- Only baseball player to have a cartoon named after him?

# The Answers



• **Mr. October - Reggie Jackson.** Thurman Munson gave Reggie Jackson his nickname for his outstanding play during the month of October. In game six of the 1977 World Series, Jackson hit three home runs. Babe Ruth is the only other player to match this feat.

• **Jim "Catfish" Hunter** – A representative of the Oakland A's waited several hours for Jim to return from fishing to sign his contract and the Oakland A's owner, Charles O. Finley, thought the name would increase interest. Jim was a Cy Young winner and All Star eight times. There is no insignia on the cap of his plaque in Cooperstown because Catfish couldn't decide between the A's and the Yankees.

• **Lefty Gomez "El Goofy"** won 26 games in 1934 and was a 20 game winner four times. He earned his nickname from his odd-ball behavior and clever wit. Gomez entered the Hall of Fame in 1972.

• **Billy - Alfred Martin** was called "Belo" (beautiful in Italian) by his mother and it evolved into Billy. As a second baseman he saved the seventh game of the 1952 World Series with a dramatic catch. As a manager he was hired nine times – five times by the Yankees.

• **Mo -Mariano Rivera** has two nicknames – Mo and Mr. Sandman. He is considered one of the greatest closers of all time. He was MVP in 1999, was named an All Star 13 times, and has won five World Series.

• **Iron Horse - Lou Gehrig** played in 2,130 consecutive games, a record which stood until 1995. After attending Columbia U. on a football scholarship, Lou switched to baseball. His #4 was the first number to be retired in baseball. Twice an MVP, he hit 23 career grand slams. Gehrig died in 1941 of a muscular disease which was named after him.

• **The Captain - Derek Jeter** was named the eleventh captain of the Yankees in 2003. He is the Yankees all-time leader in hits, games played, stolen bases and at bats. He is considered a central figure in the Yankees' success in the 1990s and the 2000s due to his hitting, base running and leadership.

• **Charlie "King Kong" Keller** was given that nickname due to his immense strength. He played left field at Yankee Stadium for 10 years. He was a five time All-Star and won three World Series. His chronic back problems forced him to retire.

• **Donnie Baseball – Don Mattingly.** The only player to have his real name for his nickname, Don Mattingly earned his nickname from his blue collar style of playing and his love of the game. He was a great fielder and won the Gold Gove award nine times.

• **Scooter - Phil Rizzuto** was called Scooter because of his quick feet and good hands. He later became an announcer and was famous for his "Holy cow" expression. A five-time All-Star, the MVP in 1950, Phil entered the Hall of Fame in 1994.

• **The Commerce Comet - Mickey Mantle's** nickname is derived from the city, Commerce, OK (where he lived) and because he was extremely fast. He was a three-time MVP and seven-time World Series winner, Mickey won the triple-crown in 1956.

• **Babe - George Herman Ruth** was signed by the Baltimore Orioles' owner Jack Dunn. Ruth was referred to as Jack's newest Babe. Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs in 1927 and he won 12 home run titles. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1936.

• **Richard "Goose" Gossage** got his nickname because it was said he looked like a goose when he was getting the sign from the catcher. He was a dominating relief pitcher for the Yankees from 1978-1983. He was a nine-time All-Star, and was elected to the Hall of Fame in 2008.

• **Ed "Whitey" Ford** was nicknamed for his blond hair. He won his first nine games as a Yankee in 1950. He was a Cy Young winner in 1961 when his record was 25-4. White was an eight-time All-Star and a six-time World Series Champion. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1974.

• **Yogi - Lawrence Peter Berra** got the name "Yogi" because as a boy, he sat with his arms folded and his legs crossed like an Indian snake charmer yogi. A war hero, Yogi participated in the D-day invasion. He was a 15-time All-Star and three-time MVP. Known for his Yogiisms, he is one of the most quoted people in America. The cartoon character "Yogi Bear" was named after him. Yogi was also a manager for both the NY Yankees and the NY Mets. Yogi was a 10-time World Series winner and entered the Hall of Fame in 1972.

*Yogi Berra*