



Bat Boy Helps Newsletter

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Jersey Boy Honors New Book

A few days after Super Bowl Sunday when the Boss, Bruce Springsteen performed the halftime show, another Jersey Boy made his way into Clearwater, Florida and showed everyone who's the Boss! Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons took the stage at Ruth Eckerd Hall and dazzled a sold-out crowd with their sounds which have been heard for five decades. With author Ray Negrón in the audience, coincidentally sitting right next to baseballs, Jeff Torborg, they clapped and bopped to hits like "Let's Hang On," "Grease," and "Rag Doll."

Valli sounded like velvet as he belted out hit after hit and even melted the crowd with, "My Eyes Adored You," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You." His four seasons were like a warm summer night on this February evening, and when the show ended, the party began.

Members of the band practically dragged Negrón to their dressing room when Director of Entertainment, Bobby Rossi, informed them that Negrón was in the house. They made him feel like part of the band as they exchanged Yankee tales. Valli appeared and exchanged pleasantries with Negrón and then fitted right into the conversation with tales about baseball legends Johnny Maize, Enos Slaughter, and sitting on a dais with Yogi

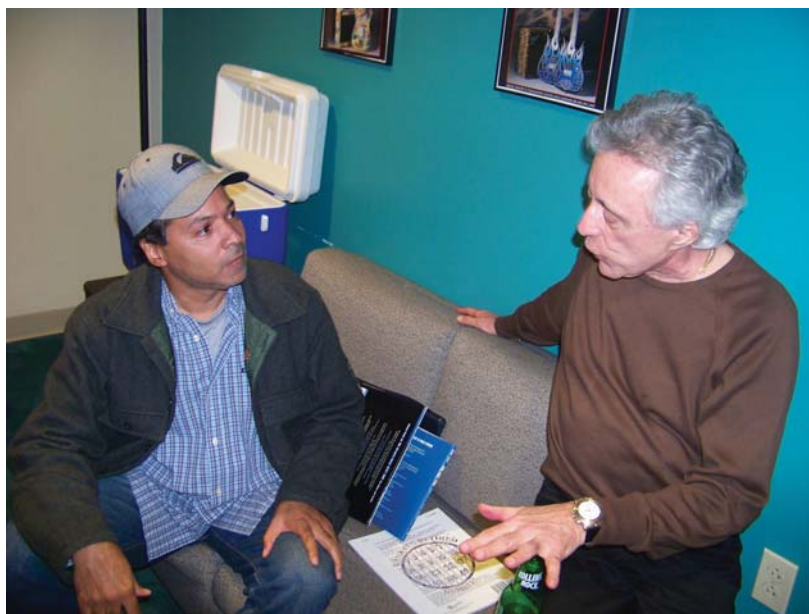
Berra and Joe DiMaggio. "I told Joe, I don't usually do this, but can you sign a napkin for my son?" Valli reminisced. "Joe left the dais and came back with a baseball that he signed for me," Valli continued.



He also told Negrón how he would love to perform "God Bless America" at the new stadium and was overly concerned about another "Boss," George M. Steinbrenner III.

Negrón gave Valli a preview of his upcoming book, **One Last Time: Good-Bye to Yankee Stadium** as the band members "oohed and aahed." Negrón shared a story about another musical legend he met one night with proud Yankee Billy Martin.

It was Valli's inspiration, Frank Sinatra, "I read something he once said, "You don't sing to the instrument, you sing to your heart,"" Valli said. He also shared his future plans about remaking his hit, "Can't take my Eyes Off of You" and mixing it with Lauren Hill's version, which will surely gather a new generation of listeners. Valli dedicated this night's performance to Negrón's upcoming book **One Last Time** for all it does to help the children.



Negrón will hopefully lead this Jersey Boy into the Bronx this summer, where he will fit right in with his aura and mystique.