Thomas Tull Donates Iconic 1960 World Series Artifacts to Heinz History Center

-Thanks to a generous donation from Alba and Thomas Tull, Bill Mazeroski’s iconic uniform and bat from Game 7 will be exhibited every day at the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum-

PITTSBURGH, April 5, 2017 – As the Pirates prepare for their home opener this weekend, baseball fans in Pittsburgh can now relive one of the greatest moments in sports history every day at the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum.

Thanks to a generous donation from Alba and Thomas Tull, Bill Mazeroski’s iconic uniform and bat from Game 7 of the 1960 World Series will be exhibited at the Sports Museum, part of the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center.

On Oct. 13, 1960, Mazeroski led off the bottom of the ninth inning and smashed the historic home run over the left field wall at Forbes Field, lifting the Pirates to a 10-9 victory over the mighty New York Yankees to clinch their third World Series championship. Maz’s legendary round-tripper remains the only walk-off Game 7 home run in World Series history.

Tull, founder of the Tull Investment Group and part of the Steelers’ ownership group, has adopted Pittsburgh as his second home. The Tulls support many charitable causes in the region, including Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, Pittsburgh Promise, and the Tull Family Theater in Sewickley. As an avid sports fan, Thomas wanted to share the iconic Maz items with his “fellow Pittsburghers.”

“We are thrilled that Pirates fans can relive Maz’s epic 1960 World Series home run every day at the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum,” said the Tulls. “With the excitement surrounding Pirates baseball in recent years, we felt the time was right to donate these objects to the History Center and educate a new generation of Pirates fans about this incredible moment in sports history.”

Mazeroski’s Pirates uniform and bronzed 35-inch Louisville Slugger bat will join several 1960 World Series items in the Sports Museum’s baseball exhibit, including the Forbes Field pitching rubber from which Yankees pitcher Ralph Terry served up the homer to Maz, as well as a life-like figure of Maz hitting “The Home Run.”

Maz’s bat and uniform will be immediately on view in the History Center’s fourth floor Special Collections Gallery, while it receives professional conservation treatment in preparation for its installation in the Sports Museum’s baseball exhibition.

Visitors to the 20,000 square-foot, two-floor Sports Museum can see additional items from Pittsburgh’s storied baseball past, including game-used jerseys and equipment from Pirates Hall of Famers such as Honus Wagner, Roberto Clemente, and Willie Stargell, along with a special section dedicated to the region’s rich Negro League Baseball history.
Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum Expansion

At the unveiling event for the 1960 World Series artifacts, Heinz History Center President and CEO Andy Masich announced a campaign to raise $3 million for the expansion of the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum, which will start this year and conclude by 2020.

“The 1960 World Series items will be the centerpiece of the new-and-improved baseball exhibition at the Sports Museum,” said Masich. “We want to thank Alba and Thomas Tull for providing baseball fans everywhere with the opportunity to see these important artifacts on display and connect with one of the most memorable moments from America’s pastime.”

The Sports Museum will feature expanded hockey, football, baseball, and Olympic sports exhibitions, along with new interactive experiences where children can learn about the region’s recent innovations in sports science and medicine.

The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is included with regular admission to the Heinz History Center: $16 for adults, $14 for seniors (age 62+), $6.50 for students and children (age 6-17), and free for children (age 5 and under). For more information on the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

The Senator John Heinz History Center, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region’s remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city’s Strip District, and are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center’s museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

Thanks to a donation from the Alba and Thomas Tull, the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum at the Heinz History Center will showcase artifacts from one of the greatest moments in sports history – Bill Mazeroski’s Game 7 walk-off home run to win the 1960 World Series (photo credit: Associated Press).
Mazeroski’s uniform (right) and bronzed bat will join several 1960 World Series items from the Sports Museum’s baseball exhibit, including the pitching rubber and a life-like figure of Mazeroski hitting the legendary home run.

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