On Tuesday, July 21, the Giants Community Fund hosted the annual Play Ball Lunch presented by Blue Shield in a virtual format.

The Giants defeated the Rockies by a score of 6-4 as Giants pitcher Rod Beck set a Major League record by converting his 25th save in 25 opportunities. Beck held the previous record of 24 saves.

The Giants beat the Rockies 9-4, as third baseman Matt Williams hit his 39th and 40th home runs of the year. The feat earned him a new National League mark for homers through July. The previous record was 36. The all-time record of 41 was set by Barry Bonds against Rick Sutcliffe in 1990.

The Giants outfielder Dusty Rhodes hit three consecutive home runs at the Polo Grounds to back Johnny Antonelli. Dusty was Antonelli's 10th consecutive win. Willie Mays smacked his 36th homer, a 447-foot clout to left field.

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200,000 cloth masks will be distributed in Northern California communities through a unique public health initiative announced by Dignity Health, the San Francisco Giants, the San Francisco 49ers and KNBR. This initiative brings together a healthcare company, two Bay Area professional sports teams and a radio broadcast station to support California Governor Gavin Newsom’s Wear A Mask public awareness campaign. Fans can enter to win a set of four masks by clicking here.

The full look at Giants home opener history will be online starting Thursday.

This week in Conversación Gigante we will have the opportunity to talk and get to know the newest member of your Giants, Wilmer Flores. Flores signed his first professional contract on his 16th birthday, August 6, 2007, and then made his Major League debut six years later on his birthday, August 6, 2013! Don’t miss this episode.

**Giants Player Spotlight | Brandon Belt**

- **As a senior at Hudson High, Belt earned district MVP, All-State and All-America honors. Standout pitcher – thought he’d make the major leagues in that position.**
- **Had a verbal agreement with Cubs coming out of high school to be drafted in high rounds and paid high-round money. But Cubs didn’t come through and Red Sox drafted him the 11th round. Disappointed, Belt went to college instead. “Everything I went through happened for a reason,” he says. “I’m so happy I went to college. I matured so much as a baseball player and as a person and I made so many friends.”**
- **Played one year for San Jacinto College in Houston before transferring to University of Texas. (Same two colleges Roger Clemens attended.) Majored in education. Helped propel Texas to the College World Series in 2009, where the Longhorns lost in the Championship game to LSU.**
- **Injuries as a junior at University of Texas forced him to give up pitching altogether. When his hitting dropped off – he was barely hitting .300 two-thirds into his junior year – Brandon sank to the lowest point in his life. He had always wanted to be a pro baseball player and now he was wondering if he would make it.**
- **Then his grandfather, James Petersen, died. His grandfather had been so instrumental in Brandon’s development as a baseball player by loaning Brandon the money, whenever he asked, to go to showcase camps and tournaments. **
- **When I was flying back from the funeral, I decided to play the rest of the season for him,” Brandon says. From that series on, he started to play better. He played well in the Big 12 tournament, which helped him get drafted. Another thing that helped was the veteran eye of Giants scout Doug Mapson, who had seen Belt hit a homer in the Cape Cod All-Star Game, turning around a 98 mph fastball. “It was in there,” Mapson said. “You can’t make that up.”**
- **He had been drafted twice (Braves and Red Sox) before signing in 2009 with Giants, who picked him in the fifth round.**
- **2010 rookie season: Advanced through three levels, hitting over .350 with 23 homers and 112 RBIs. In early 2011, he was ranked No. 26 among the Top 50 Prospects in baseball by MLB.com. (Contrast with a year earlier when Baseball America didn’t even have him in the top 20 among Giants prospects entering 2010.)**

**FAMILY INFORMATION**
- **Father, Darrell, is a geometry teacher at Hudson High (Brandon’s HS) in Lufkin, TX.**
- **Mother, Janice, which is pronounced Ja-neece, is a hairdresser.**
- **Has one younger brother, Cameron.**
- **Married Haylee Stephenson and they have two sons, Grayson Ellis (August 27, 2014) and August Kyle (July 20, 2018).**
- **Signed a six-year extension through 2021 during the first week of the 2016 season.**
- **Married Hudson High sweetheart Haylee Stephenson Dec. 3, 2010, at Providence Baptist Church in Lufkin. The groom’s cake was three tiers of chocolate with a Giants cap on top and alternating Longhorns and Giants logos on the sides. Haylee majored in business communications at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches.**

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**Beyond the Giants Vault**

- **Housed in a 5,000 square foot building, the Giants Archives consists of memorabilia and artifacts from our team’s 138-year history. As part of the Giants Fan Page, fans can now, for the first time, learn about and view memorabilia from our collection.**
- **The Giants have had several exciting home openers, with some well-loved players taking center stage.**
- **Robb Nen of the ninth inning and proceeded to set the Astros down with two strikeouts, three ground outs and a line out to right. When Rey Sanchez scored JT Snow with a single to center Giants fans went home with a win and Nen got his first of seven wins for the season.**
- **The full look at Giants home opener history will be online starting Thursday.**

**Giants Birthday This Week**

- **Wandy Peralta (29) July 27**
- **Darin Ruf (34) July 28**
- **Gabe Kapler (45) July 31**

**Giants YouTube Content**

**Conversación Gigante: Wilmer Flores**

Watch Beginning Wednesday, July 29

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