

POSTAL NEWS

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SBI = Stamps Batted In

Joe DiMaggio Takes Lead in Stamps Batted In Pennant Race All-Time Record Set with 1.5 Million Stamps Pre-Ordered

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WASHINGTON—Joe DiMaggio fans have stolen the lead from Ted Williams for the first time since the Stamps Batted In (SBI) pennant race began in April. The race—created to spark a friendly competition among rival sports fans—closes July 19 prior to the July 20-21 official First-Day-of-Issue dedication ceremonies for the Major League Baseball All-Stars Forever stamps.

Collectively, fans have hit a grand slam with a record 1.5 million stamps pre-ordered. Never before has the public ordered as many stamps prior to their introduction.

The Major League Baseball All-Star Forever stamps also include Cleveland Indian Larry Doby-the first African-American player in the American League—and Pittsburgh Pirate slugger Willie Stargell.

The SBI breakdown is as follows: DiMaggio, 421,266; Williams, 417,066; Stargell, 340,646; and, Doby with 332.566.

"This pennant race is getting more exciting," said Stamp Services Manager Stephen Kearney.

"DiMaggio has dethroned Williams—for now—and there's just a week left for Larry Doby or Willie Stargell fans to take the pennant. We're confident they'll step up to the plate."

Fans can still pump up the SBI for their favorite player by visiting <u>www.usps.com/play-ball</u>. Visit this <u>link</u> for additional details on the stamps and the dedication ceremonies.

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