



NEW ORLEANS



{ HOTEL }

The Saint of NOLA

{ BY KATE PARHAM }

After visiting dozens of hotels as an international pilot for American Airlines for more than 20 years, Mark Wyant developed his dream: **THE SAINT HOTEL**, which opened its doors in New Orleans' French Quarter in January. Louisiana's only Autograph Collection hotel — a high-end collection of independent (read: not part of a chain) hotels in the Marriott family — the Saint breathed life into the old Audubon Building on Canal Street. The \$45 million renovation converted the landmark structure into a 166-room, eight-story boutique hotel complete with luxurious amenities, a live-jazz speakeasy (Burgundy Bar) and a brasserie-style dining room (Sweet Olive) from famed NOLA chef Michael Stoltzfus of Coquette. *Rates start at \$189 per night, www.thesainthotelneworleans.com*



TRY THIS

A STRAIGHT SHOT

*Funny how golf works: You put so much effort into hitting straighter shots when all you really need is to play a straighter ball. Like, for instance, the self-correcting ball from **POLARA GOLF**, with a sidespin-reducing dimple pattern that reportedly minimizes hooks and slices by up to 75 percent.*

The first two versions were such a hit that the company has introduced two more designs (XD and XDS) to help ensure that players of all skill levels hit straight(er).

\$25 to \$35, www.polaragolf.com —J.S.



{ SPORTS }

Happy 50th Dodger Stadium

{ BY JOSH SENS }

Since baseball fans love stats, here's one for you, but it won't appear in the box score: **DODGER STADIUM TURNS 50** this year, making it the third-oldest stadium in the major leagues, after Fenway Park and Wrigley Field. To honor their home at its half-century mark, the Dodgers will stage an Opening Day celebration April 10 with special appearances by Dodger greats. And throughout the 2012 season, the team will wear 50th-anniversary patches commemorating a venue that has been the site of unforgettable baseball moments such as these:



APRIL 10, 1962: Dodger great Johnny Podres throws the first pitch in the stadium. During the game, a 6-3 loss to the Cincinnati Reds, Duke Snider becomes the first Dodger to get a hit in the team's new home.



AUG. 6, 1969: Pittsburgh Pirate Willie Stargell launches a 507-foot hit off Don Sutton. The ball, which clears the right-field bleachers (i.e., out of the stadium), remains the longest home run ever at Dodger Stadium.



OCT. 6, 1963: With a 2-1 win over fellow Hall of Famer Whitey Ford, Sandy Koufax completes a four-game World Series sweep of the New York Yankees. It's the only time in team history that the Dodgers have won the deciding game of the World Series at home.



OCT. 15, 1988: Kirk Gibson's full-count, two-out, one-on, bottom-of-the-ninth home run against Oakland A's closer Dennis Eckersley gives the Dodgers a dramatic victory in Game 1 of the World Series — a series Los Angeles would go on to win.



For a Q&A with Dodgers legend Tommy Lasorda, turn to page 24.

THIS PAGE DODGERS: COURTESY LOS ANGELES DODGERS (5) OPPOSITE PAGE: FROM LEFT: CAROLE SEGAL/AMC; MICHAEL MULLER/USA NETWORK