

# Turning the Tables

Scholarship recipients honor Yankees second baseman

By Nathan Maciborski

**F**or the past three years, the Yankees have proudly participated in the Bronx Dominican Day Parade by recognizing the hard work of local students and providing them with scholarships.

This year, the scholarship recipients wanted to reflect the spotlight on one of the Yankees' brightest stars, second baseman Robinson Cano.

After being named by public-address announcer Paul Olden during a July 23 pregame ceremony, the seven students welcomed Cano to the field and presented him with a plaque for being a positive role model to Dominican youth and for bringing pride to the community by winning the 2011 Home Run Derby. The students were accompanied by Bronx Dominican Day Parade executive sub-director Rosa Ayala and parade founder and executive director Felipe Febles.

"For this great community organization to honor Robinson Cano at the same time we were highlighting its important scholarship program was simply perfect," said

Yankees director of Latino affairs Manuel García. "It shows that our players really do touch the lives of so many, and we should always strive to be good role models. I commend the parade on this kind gesture, and I commend Robinson on all that he has done, both on and off the field."

Brenda Perea, Lyanne Mata and Cynthia Fernandez of Lehman College; Carlos Gonzalez, Yissel Liriano and Gretcher Hernandez of Hostos Community College; and Bronx Community College's Guillermo Pena were also treated to a tour of Yankee Stadium and to two tickets to that day's game in addition to scholarship money to continue or begin their schooling.

"The Yankees support these students, and that is very important for the Dominican community," said Febles, who started the Bronx Dominican Day Parade 22 years ago. "All of these students hope to finish college and become professionals, and they are the future, so I say thank you to the entire Yankees organization. We appreciate their support of young people. Without them, we wouldn't be here today." ❄



CANO [C] WAS RECOGNIZED BY LOCAL STUDENTS FOR BEING A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL IN THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY.