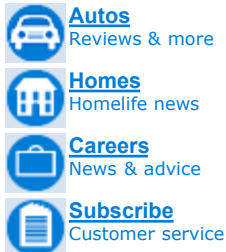


## White Sox



### White Sox

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## Need two? You'll need bucks

October 18, 2005

BY [MAUREEN O'DONNELL](#) Staff Reporter

Advertisement

If Sox park is a steak, then the first row of Section 142 is the filet mignon.

Right on the dugout, it promises a fabulous view of Game 1 of the World Series -- all for a cost of only \$10,265.

Per seat.

That's what *VIPSeats.com* is asking for one ticket to the Sox World Series game Saturday at U.S. Cellular Field.

For the rest of us serfs, there's TicketMaster.

Starting at noon today, TicketMaster offered somewhere between 2,000 and 4,000 tickets to each of four World Series games the Sox could potentially play at U.S. Cellular Field. The tickets sold out in 18 minutes.

### BLEACHERS FOR \$1,917

Asking prices from ticket brokers and online sites are up and down like a knuckleball. Here are examples.

- \$630 for a pair in upper Section 555 (eBay)
- \$1,917 for a pair in the "bleachers" (craigslist.com)
- \$2,500 for a pair in lower Section 162 (craigslist.com)
- \$10,265 each for tickets in Section 142, first row, on the dugout (VIPseats.com)

Championship Series tickets went on sale, 139,000 online customers had queued up for only 40,000 tickets, Boyer said.

Brooks Boyer, Sox vice president of marketing, recommended finding a fleet-fingered keyboardist to place orders.

Asked if fans stood a better chance of a lightning strike than scoring a ticket, Boyer thought about it and said: "I think better than struck by lightning."

It promised to be an online madhouse. Twenty minutes after American League



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A new limit may help spread the wealth, said Sox spokeswoman Katie Kirby. For the division series and ALCS championships, the Sox let fans buy four tickets to as many games as they wanted. This time, orders will be limited to four tickets for one game only, she said.

The Sox are also offering 2005 World Series tickets as a carrot to fans who buy 2006 season tickets.

"They can put down a 50 percent deposit on 2006 season tickets," Kirby said. "They'll have the right to purchase 2005 World Series tickets."

**Season ticket to World Series**

Next year's season ticket prices are \$1,000 for upper-deck seats, \$12,000 for club-level seats and \$14,580 for prime seats, Boyer said.

The exact number of available tickets was unclear Monday because the ballclub was processing orders from Major League Baseball, season ticket holders, Sox sponsors and corporate requests, Kirby said. "We just found out 12 hours ago that we're going to the World Series," she said Monday.

As for that \$10,265 ticket, "Being that it's in Chicago and they haven't been in the World Series since 1959, it's to be expected," said Nick Giammusso, president of Buffalo, N.Y.-based *VIPSeats.com*, which offers prime seats sold by season ticket holders.

EBay was crawling Monday with offers and pleas for tickets from people who claimed to be "born and raised on the South Side of Chicago." Four "amazing" tickets to Game 1 were going for \$11,999.

*Craigslist.com* was offering four Game 1 tickets in Row 6, behind home plate, for \$20,000, which drew some Chicago-style profanity from another customer, who messaged: "Your [sic] out of your f----- mind."

Another *craigslist.com* item asked for tickets in exchange for a 1991 Ford Tempo, or \$1,000 worth of salvaged architectural items, including fireplace mantels and chandeliers.

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