

American League's Best Teams

Chapter Ten

The 1969-74 Baltimore Orioles: None in AL Better Since the DiMaggio Yankees

As the Yankee dynasty was coming to its end, or at least its first prolonged interruption since 1921, the Baltimore Orioles were on the rise to become the American League's new model franchise. Transplanted from St. Louis, where as the Browns they won only one pennant (during World War II) and were decidedly the city's afterthought behind the Cardinals, the Orioles began building a winning tradition when they finished second to the Yankees in 1960 by eight games after being tied for first as late as September 14; they then lost four straight to the Yankees, who finished 1960 with 15 straight wins. In 1961, the Orioles won 95 games—good for only third, 14 games behind the 109-win Yankees—and in 1964, the Orioles won 97 games, finishing third by only two games as the Yankees won their fifth straight pennant for the second time in history.

After winning 94 games in 1965, finishing eight games behind the Minnesota Twins, the Baltimore Orioles won their first pennant in 1966 by nine games over the Twins and went on to shock the Los Angeles Dodgers by winning the World Series in a four-game sweep, despite Drysdale starting twice and Koufax once. The Orioles had the American League's best offense in 1966, leading the league in runs scored, and two established stars in third baseman Brooks Robinson and right fielder Frank Robinson. The Robinsons aside, however, the team's destiny was to be in the hands of young players like first baseman Boog Powell, second baseman Davey Johnson, shortstop-in-waiting (while veteran Luis Aparicio still held the job) Mark Belanger, center fielder Paul Blair, and catcher Andy Etchebarren, most of whom had yet to show they could play consistently well from year-to-year. And Baltimore's starting pitchers in 1966 were also either young and inexperienced (Jim Palmer and Dave McNally) or suspect because of arm problems and injuries (Wally Bunker and Steve Barber). So it was perhaps not surprising that a beaming that sidelined Frank Robinson for a month, the huge drop off in power production by Powell, and sore arms limiting several key pitchers in the rotation caused an Orioles' fall from grace to a sixth-place tie in 1967. This was followed in 1968 by 91 wins and second place, 12 games behind the Tigers, in the last year when first place by definition meant the pennant won. The most significant development of the year

was Earl Weaver becoming manager of the Orioles in mid-season, for he would be manager of the most dominating string of three consecutive seasons since Joe McCarthy won three in a row with the Yankees from 1941 to 1943.

With another round of expansion, each league now having 12 teams and divided into Eastern and Western Divisions, the Orioles immediately established their dominance of the new (and improved?) major leagues. The **1969 to 1974 Baltimore Orioles** won the first three AL Eastern Division titles from 1969 to 1971 by decisive margins of 19, 15, and 12 games. In 1969 and 1970, the Orioles were in first place to stay by the end of April. It took them until early June in 1971. In each of those years, one other Eastern Division team won at least 90 games—so the Orioles were not in a division of patsies. They won 109 games in 1969, 108 games the next year, and 101 games the year after that. Baltimore went on to sweep each of the first three American League Championship Series, beating Western Division winners Minnesota in 1969 and 1970 and Oakland in 1971 in a total of nine games.

The core position players on Baltimore's three-straight pennant winning teams included Powell at first, Johnson at second, Brooks Robinson at third, Blair in center, and Frank Robinson in right from the 1966 championship team. Belanger was now the regular shortstop, Etchebarren platooned with Elrod Hendricks at catcher, and Don Buford was new in left field, having been acquired from the White Sox in 1968. But the heart and soul of this team were the Robinsons, Frank and Brooks.

The Baltimore Orioles' rise to greatness was all about Frank Robinson, who arrived in a decidedly unequal trade with the Cincinnati Reds that was so memorialized in the movie, *Bull Durham*, that I shall not repeat Susan Sarandon's most remembered line in her career as an actress. "Robby" was to the Baltimore Orioles in their first four pennants from 1966 to 1971 what Joe DiMaggio was to the 1936-42 New York Yankees—an impact player who immediately made a competitive team a championship team. Like DiMaggio with the Yankees, Frank Robinson was *the* player who defined the Baltimore Orioles. The Orioles won the 1966 pennant and World Series in his first year, when Robinson led the league in batting, home runs, and runs batted in. Frank Robinson dominated the league. Besides the Triple Crown, he also led the league in runs scored, on-base percentage, and slugging percentage. From 1966 to 1971, the only player in the American League *possibly* better than Robby was Boston's Carl Yastrzemski.

Frank Robinson is a member of what I consider "Baseball's Greatest Generation"—guys like Mantle, Aaron, Mays, Banks, Mathews, Clemente, Drysdale, Ford, Wilhelm, Aparicio, and Kaline whose careers began and blossomed in the 1950s and remained great through much if not all of the 1960s. And they begat another "greatest generation" in the 1960s when players like Koufax, Gibson, Marichal, Jenkins, Gaylord Perry, Brock, Rose, Santo, Stargell, McCovey, Billy Williams, Yastrzemski, Killebrew, Oliva, Brooks Robinson, and Richie (the baseball player later known as Dick) Allen dominated the game—to be joined by the likes of Bench, Morgan, Perez, Seaver, Palmer, and Reggie Jackson by the end of the decade. Frank Robinson, however, is the only player who has a century-plus legacy in both the National League (for his best consecutive years of 1954 to 1964 with the Reds, based on the wins above replacement metric) and the American League (for his best consecutive years of 1966 to 1970 with the Orioles).

If Frank Robinson was the catalyst to the Orioles' greatness, Brooks Robinson was their soul, the most beloved player in Baltimore franchise history. (Cal Ripken, Jr., has a more recent claim to being the most popular Oriole, but his popularity is really based more on respect and admiration for his unfathomable work ethic.) Brooks is of course best known for his defensive brilliance at the hot corner, cementing that fame with one extraordinary play after another in the 1970 World Series against Cincinnati. When the Orioles began their string of three straight pennants to open the divisional era, Brooks Robinson was still a very good player but no longer even the best at his position in the league; that would be Oakland's Sal Bando. I base Brooks Robinson's legacy as one of the American League's best position players ever on his best consecutive years, as indicated by wins above replacement (WAR), being from 1964 to 1968—which does not count for this great Orioles team. But Brooks, because he began his career with Baltimore and was so beloved, was perhaps even more than Frank identifiable with these Orioles.

What most distinguished the Baltimore Orioles during these years, however, was a truly exceptional starting rotation that featured Jim Palmer (recovered from arm problems that sidelined him for most of 1967 and all of 1968), Dave McNally (himself recovered from 1967 arm problems), and Mike Cuellar (acquired before the 1969 season from the NL Houston Astros). Palmer was the only one of the three who failed to win 20 games in 1969 (he was 16-4 in only 23 starts), but the trio each won at least 20 the next two years, and in 1971 they were joined by Pat Dobson to give the Orioles four 20-game winners—only the second time in history that a team had so many 20-game winners (after the 1920 Chicago White Sox), and likely the last. The 1970-71 Orioles were only the fourth major league team in baseball history to have back-to-back seasons with three 20-game winners, after Boston in 1903 and 1904; the New York Giants in 1904 and 1905; and Cleveland in 1951 and 1952. They would be the last team to accomplish that feat in the twentieth century, and possibly for another century to come given the way starting pitchers are employed these days. Palmer, Cuellar, and McNally were the best threesome of starting pitchers in the American League since Cleveland's Lemon, Wynn, and Garcia in the 1950s. With the exception of Atlanta's Maddux, Glavine, and Smoltz in the 1990s, and possibly the 1950s Indians, they were probably the best starting rotation in major league baseball in the twentieth century.

While eight of the twelve core regulars on the 1969-74 Orioles were on the team all six years, one of those who was not was quite possibly the reason why Baltimore did not win a fourth straight division title in 1972. The Orioles began that season with a major handicap of their own doing by trading Frank Robinson to the Los Angeles Dodgers in a six-player deal that sent four unproven prospects to Baltimore. They quickly learned that Robby's productivity and leadership were impossible to replace. Without Frank Robinson and his fiery on-the-field leadership, the Orioles not only failed to extend their string of three consecutive division titles and pennants, they finished in third place with only 80 victories in a strike-shortened season—on a pace to win a mere 84 games had the 162-game season been played in full. Moreover, Brooks Robinson and Boog Powell began showing their age with a precipitate drop in their power production, and Don Buford never got untracked and retired at the end of the year.

But the Orioles recovered quickly in 1973, even in the midst of a rebuilding stage. Powell, Belanger, Brooks Robinson, and Blair were still regulars, even though Brooks was winding down a great career and Powell had lost much of his earlier offensive productivity. Key additions were Bobby Grich replacing Davey Johnson at second base (after a strong not-

officially-rookie season more often at shortstop in 1972), Don Baylor replacing Buford in left field, and outfielder Al Bumbry—playing in 110 games—winning AL Rookie of the Year honors. Palmer, Cuellar, and McNally still anchored baseball's best starting rotation, and Doyle Alexander—acquired from the Dodgers for Frank Robinson—did well to bolster that rotation. For much of the summer, the 1973 pennant race was a tight affair with Baltimore, New York, Detroit, and Boston all in contention through mid-August. But winning seventeen of nineteen, including 14 in a row, in the middle of August allowed the Orioles to open up a six-game lead by the end of the month, and winning 21 of their final 32 games in September gave Baltimore a total of 97 wins and an 8½-game margin of victory in the American League East. This time, however, they were unable to advance to the World Series, falling victim to the Oakland Athletics in the AL League Championship Series.

The 1974 Orioles' defense of their division title seemed doomed by a 13-18 stretch beginning at the end of July that left them in fourth place, eight back of the division-leading Red Sox, with a losing 63-65 record on August 28 and only 34 games remaining. They went on to win 28 of those games, including sixteen of their last eighteen and a nine-game winning streak to end the season, which they finished two games ahead of the second-place, rapidly improving Yankees. Baltimore accomplished this despite Palmer, in the midst of eight 20-win seasons in nine years, being plagued by arms problems—including nearly two full months on the disabled list—and going only 7-12. Cuellar won eight of his last nine decisions, all complete games, including all six in September, to finish at 22-10. Again, the Orioles' World Series hopes were derailed in the ALCS by the Athletics.

The Orioles were not as formidable an offensive team from 1972 to 1974 as they had been when winning the first three AL Eastern Division titles. After finishing second in scoring with only eleven fewer runs than the Western Division champion Twins in 1969 and leading the league in both 1970 and 1971, Baltimore was only the American League's eighth, third, and ninth-best of twelve teams in runs scored from 1972 to 1974. While outscoring their game opponents by an average of 231 runs the first three years—nearly 43 percent more runs than their opponents scored against them—the Orioles averaged only 110 runs more than their opponents the next three years, a scoring advantage of 21 percent. In 1974, the Orioles scored only 47 runs more than they gave up despite having the best record in the league. The offensive share of the Orioles' collective team WAR dropped dramatically from 57 percent for the years 1969 through 1971 to just under 50 percent (49 percent, to be exact) for the years 1972 to 1976.

Without Frank Robinson, and with dramatic declines in power outage by Boog Powell and Brooks Robinson, the Orioles lacked back-to-back home run threats in the middle of the line-up. Baltimore was third, third, and fourth in the league in home runs from 1969 to 1971, but no better than sixth best (in 1972 and 1974) in any of the next three years. In 1969, the Orioles had four batters hit at least 20 homers—two, Powell (37) and Frank (32), with over 30; in 1970, two with over 25 home runs (Powell with 35); and in 1971, Powell and Brooks with over 20 home runs. In 1972, however, Powell with 21 home runs was the only “Bird” in double-digits; in 1973, catcher Earl Williams had 22 home runs, but no one else had more than 12 (Bobby Grich) when the team was eighth in the league in the long ball; and in 1974, Grich led the team with only 19 home runs.

Manager Earl Weaver, of course, would become famous for asserting his undying faith in the “three-run home run” as baseball's best offensive weapon because home runs

automatically score the batter and clear the bases of any and all runners waiting to come home. Indicative of the impact the Orioles' declining long ball productivity had after 1971, they required nearly 10 percent more base runners for each run scored from 1972 to 1974 than they had the three previous seasons. In two of those years—1972 (when the Orioles were eighth in the league in scoring and paid in part for that with only the fifth best record in the American League) and 1974 (when every other AL team with a winning record scored more runs than the Orioles)—Baltimore required more runners on base for each run they scored than the AL average among twelve teams. The O's slugging percentage was below the league average in both of those years.

What kept Baltimore winning after 1971 were the superb pitching and defense that became trademarks of the "Oriole Way." The Orioles were the stingiest team in major league baseball in giving up runs every year from 1969 to 1973, and in 1974 were second in the AL in fewest runs allowed to the Oakland A's. Baltimore's pitchers led the league in adjusted earned run average—which takes into account offensive context at the time and a team's home park effects—in all but two of those six years and in fewest base runners allowed per nine innings in five of those years. Defensive excellence was always a major factor in the Orioles' stinginess in giving up runs, which was particularly important because, however excellent his pitchers were in getting outs, Weaver did not have one of baseball's premier staffs in toting up strikeouts, putting a premium on making plays in the field. Orioles' fielders were substantially better than the league average in defensive efficiency ratio—making outs on balls put into play—every year during their 1969 to 1974 run. They were the best in the league four times, including three of their five division titles, and second twice—when they won the 1970 and 1971 pennants.

While defensive ability accounted for 19 percent of the total player value for position players as measured by the WAR metric in the first three years of Baltimore's run, it increased to 26 percent the next three. More significantly, however, the pitching and defense share of the Orioles' collective team WAR increased from 42 percent for the years 1969 to 1971 to 51 percent for the years 1972 to 1974, making up for the 25 percent drop in the offensive component. Three-fourths of the Orioles' infield—every position but first base—won the Gold Glove Award as the best defender at their position when Baltimore took the AL East in both 1973 and 1974. (The same was true in 1971.) Gold Glove awards are not necessarily a true indicator of defensive excellence (since sometimes they seem to be given based more on past reputation), but second baseman Bobby Grich, shortstop Mark Belanger, and third baseman Brooks Robinson genuinely deserved the honor, and so did Paul Blair, who won the honor for his play in center field. Without their range, sure hands, and accurate throwing arms in the field, the Orioles might not have won those last two years because the collective WAR of Baltimore's pitching staff in 1973 and 1974 was *below* the average for American League teams. In 1973, when the Orioles' late-season surge broke open a four-team race and resulted in a blowout division title won by 8½ games, the team's collective 11.2 wins above replacement for defense nearly equaled the 13.3 WAR for its pitching staff.

Despite their legacy seeming tarnished because they won only one World Series—beating the Cincinnati Reds in 1970—the 1969-74 Baltimore Orioles displaced the **1954-58 New York Yankees** of Mantle, Berra, and Ford, who themselves won only two World Series in four tries, as the best American League team so far in the second half of the twentieth century, at least according to me. Take away their 80-74 record in 1972, and the Orioles winning percentage in the five other years was .628 (506-300), nearly a match for the 1954-58

Yankees' .631. Baltimore's five division championships and three pennants in six years were at least comparable to the Yankees' four pennants in five years, if not slightly more impressive because major league baseball's new divisional alignment meant finishing first *and* having to win a five-game league championship series to get to the World Series.

From 1969 to 1974, the Baltimore Orioles set the benchmark for dominance in the divisional era—five division titles and three pennants (plus one World Series triumph) in six years; winning their division by a margin of eight games or better four times; winning more than 100 games three times; posting the best record in the American League during all five of their division titles, and twice having a better record than the AL's Western Division champion by more than 12 games; leading the league in runs scored twice (1970 and 1971); and giving up the fewest runs in the league five consecutive years (1969 to 1973). In all of the twentieth century, only two teams—the **1936-42 New York Yankees** and the **1906-10 Chicago Cubs**—had a higher score relative to these dominance factors than the 1969-74 Orioles, according to my methodological approach.

5 BEST AMERICAN LEAGUE TEAMS, 1951-1974

	D-P-WS	W - L %	Ach	Dom	Play	Total
Baltimore Orioles, 1969-74	5 - 3 - 1	586-374 .610	38	58	24	120
New York Yankees, 1954-58	4 - 2	486-284 .631	32	45	31	108
New York Yankees, 1960-64	5 - 2	505-296 .630	34	35	22	91
New York Yankees, 1949-53	5 - 5	487-280 .635	40	20	21	81
Cleveland Indians, 1951-55	1 - 0	482-288 .626	22	25	36	83

P = Pennant WS = World Series Ach = Achievement Score
Dom = Dominance Factors Score Play = Players Score Total = Total Score

The 1969-74 Baltimore Orioles' dominance of the American League was remarkably similar to the **1928-32 Philadelphia Athletics**. Both teams won three consecutive pennants with more than 100 victories each year and cruised to their first place finishes by margins of at least eight games better than the runner up. Both teams had exceptional pitching. The Orioles were much better defensively, but the Athletics—with Jimmie Foxx, Al Simmons, and Mickey Cochrane—had a much more imposing offense. Over five years, the 1928-32 Athletics outscored their game opponents by an average of 232 runs annually; the 1969-74 Orioles did so by 170 runs over six years. That the 1928-32 Athletics were not more dominant than they were was only because they were direct contemporaries of the powerhouse 1926-32 Yankees.

The decisive factor for me, however, in considering the 1928-32 Athletics a better team than the 1969-74 Orioles comes down to the historical legacies of their core players for the years under consideration for their teams. In contemporary context, the two teams were about equal, according to me, with an ever-so-slight advantage to Baltimore. The Orioles had three position players—both Robinsons and Bobby Grich—who were among the AL's ten best in the surrounding decade based on the majority of their five or more best consecutive seasons falling within the years 1969 to 1974, and one pitcher—Jim Palmer—among the league's five best for that surrounding decade; the Athletics matched that with three position players—Foxx, Simmons, and Cochrane—and two pitchers, Lefty Grove and George

Earnshaw. And while the Athletics' first baseman Foxx, left fielder Simmons (as one of three outfielders), catcher Cochrane, and pitcher Grove (as one of five pitchers) were the best at their positions for the majority of years under consideration for their team, the Orioles matched that with first baseman Boog Powell and three starting pitchers—Palmer, Mike Cuellar, and Dave McNally, according to me. By this time in their careers, Brooks Robinson had been displaced as the league's best third baseman by the Athletics' Sal Bando; Frank Robinson's years as one of the three best outfielders in the American League extended from 1966 to 1970—only two years of which count for this team; and the up-and-coming Grich would not displace the Twins' Rod Carew as the league's best second baseman until 1976.

When it comes to the long view of history, however, the 1969-74 Baltimore Orioles cannot match the four century-plus legacy players on the 1928-32 Philadelphia Athletics—Foxx, Cochrane, Simmons, and Grove. In fact, the Orioles had three players among their core regulars with a century-plus legacy, but only Jim Palmer, according to me, earned his for his pitching performance for this team, which included four consecutive 20-win seasons from 1970 to 1973 (and he would have another four consecutive years from 1975 to 1978). Both Robinsons were instrumental to Baltimore's success during these years, but they were long-time veterans whose best consecutive years that merited their century-plus legacies—1964 to 1968 for Brooks and 1966 to 1970 for Frank—did not include any (for Brooks) or the majority (for Frank) of years under consideration for this team. Bobby Grich has a half-century legacy for this Orioles teams as one of the American League's 30 best position players between 1951 and 2000 for his best consecutive years of 1972 to 1976.

7 BEST AMERICAN LEAGUE TEAMS, 1901-1974

	D-P-WS	W - L %	Ach	Dom	Play	Total
New York Yankees, 1936-42	6 - 5	701-371 .654	34	78	51	163
Philadelphia Athletics, 1928-32	3 - 2	505-258 .662	30	45	39	114
Baltimore Orioles, 1969-74	5 - 3 - 1	586-374 .610	38	58	24	120
New York Yankees, 1954-58	4 - 2	486-284 .631	32	45	31	108
Philadelphia Athletics, 1910-14	4 - 3	488-270 .644	32	50	31	113
New York Yankees, 1926-32	4 - 3	677-400 .629	29	43	27	99
New York Yankees, 1960-64	5 - 2	505-296 .630	34	35	22	91

P = Pennant WS = World Series Ach = Achievement Score
Dom = Dominance Factors Score Play = Players Score Total = Total Score

With a strong minor league system that emphasized the “Oriole Way” to play baseball and shrewd trades, Baltimore remained highly competitive into the 1980s. The Orioles won a sixth division title and a fifth pennant under Weaver in 1979, and came close the following year when their 100 victories was three fewer than the Yankees. In 1982, a furious comeback drive for the division title came up short when they lost the last game of the year at home to the division-winning Milwaukee Brewers, but the Orioles came back under a new manager to win the division, the pennant, and the World Series in 1983. Since then, Baltimore has had some winning moments—a division title in 1997—but many more losing times as the Orioles lost their way; as of 2011, the Orioles have had only eight winning seasons since 1983, and none since their last division title in 1997.

TRANSPARENCY ANNEX

BALTIMORE ORIOLES, 1969-1974

5 AL Eastern Division Titles (1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1974)

3 Pennants (1969, 1970, 1971)

1 World Series Win (1970)

ACHIEVEMENT

1 st place (x 3)	2 nd place (x 2)	3 rd place (x 1)	World Series (x 1)	Score
5 x 3 = 15	0	1 x 1 = 1	1 x 1 = 1	
+ 3 pennants = 3				
+ 5 AL1 (x .5) = 2.5				
20.5	0	1	1	22.5

ACHIEVEMENT SCORE = 22.5 / 6 years x 10 = **37.5**

DOMINANCE

100 Wins	8 Games Ahead	AL1/Runs Scored	AL1/Fewest Runs Allowed	Score
3	4	2	5	14

DOMINANCE SCORE = 14 / 24 (4 x 6 seasons) x 100 = **58**

PLAYERS

CORE REGULARS	WAR 1969-74	BEST at POSITION	Decade 1967-76	2 nd 1/2 20 th C	20 th C +
1B Boog Powell, 1966-74 *	18.6	1968-72	no		
2B Davey Johnson, 1966-72	13.0	no	no		
ss-2B Bobby Grich, 1972-76	19.8	s/o	1972-76	yes	no
SS Mark Belanger, 1968-78	16.4	no	no		
3B Brooks Robinson, 1958-75	22.1	s/o	1967-71	^	^
LF Don Buford, 1968-72	14.4	no	no		
CF Paul Blair, 1965-76	24.0	no	no		
RF Frank Robinson, 1966-71	26.1	s/o	1967-71	^^	^^
P Jim Palmer, 1966-82	26.3	1970-78	1970-76	yes	yes
P Mike Cuellar, 1969-75	16.4	1969-74	no		
P Dave McNally, 1964-74	14.9	1968-72	no		
RP Eddie Watt, 1966-73	3.9	no	no		
TEAM WAR, 1969-74 = 273.8	215.9				
Core WAR= 78.9 % of Team War 45.6 Av. Team WAR + 78.9 %	81.6 / 10 8.2	5.5 / 12 4.6	4 x 1 4	2 x 2 4	1 x 3 3

* Powell began his career with Baltimore in 1962 as an outfielder.

^ Brooks Robinson has a century-plus legacy for his best consecutive years of 1964 to 1968.

^^ Frank Robinson has a century-plus legacy for his best consecutive years of 1966 to 1970.

PLAYERS SCORE = 8.2 (Base WAR) + 4.6 (Best at Position) + 11 (AL Best) = **24**

BEST PLAYERS IN SURROUNDING DECADE

(based on best consecutive years, informed by wins above replacement)

1969-74 ORIOLES	
10 BEST AL POSITION PLAYERS, 1967-76	
	Reggie Jackson, OF, 1971-76
	Sal Bando, 3B, 1969-74
	Carl Yastrzemski, OF-1b, 1967-71
	Rod Carew, 2B-1b, 1972-76
	<i>Bobby Grich, 3B, 1972-76</i>
	<i>Brooks Robinson, 3B, 1967-71</i>
	Graig Nettles, 3B, 1971-76
	Thurmon Munson, C, 1970-76
	<i>Frank Robinson, OF, 1967-71</i>
	Harmon Killebrew, 3B/1B, 1967-71
5 BEST AL PITCHERS + BEST RELIEVER, 1967-76	
	Bert Blyleven, 1971-76
	<i>Jim Palmer, 1970-76</i>
	Mickey Lolich, 1969-73
	Gaylord Perry, 1972-76
	Catfish Hunter, 1971-75
	Rollie Fingers, RP, 1971-76

BEST AT POSITION

1B	(61) Cash-----→ Powell -----→Scott-----→Murray-----→ (84)
2B	Carew-----→Grich-----→
SS	(63) Fregosi-----→Campaneris-----→Yount-----→
3B	(60) B.Robinson----→Bando-----→Brett-----→
OF	(63)Yastrzemski-----→White-----→Lynn-----→
OF	Oliva-----→Jackson-----→Wilson---→(84)
OF	F.Robinson-----→Otis-----→Singleton-----→
MP	(59) Killebrew, 3B/1B----→Yastrzemski, OF/1B-----→Molitor---→(89)
DH	McRae-----→
C	Freehan-----→Munson-----→Fisk-----→
P	(62) Chance-----→ Cuellar -----→Eckersley-----→
P	(63) Peters-----→McNally-----→Ryan-----→Stieb→ (90)
	McDowell-----→Blyleven-----→ Morris---→ (86)
P	Perry-----→
P	Stottlemyre-----→ Palmer -----→John-----→(83)
P	McLain-----→Hunter-----→Guidry-----→(85)
P	(61) Wilhelm----→ Fingers-----→ Gossage-----→(83)
RP	Wood, RP-SP-----\Lyle, RP-----→
	64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82