

# cubs second baseman history

Cubs Second Baseman History: A Journey Through the Heart of Chicago's Infield

**cubs second baseman history** is a fascinating tale of talent, resilience, and evolution within one of baseball's most storied franchises. The Chicago Cubs, with their rich heritage dating back to the 19th century, have seen a remarkable array of players man the keystone position, each contributing uniquely to the team's legacy. From early pioneers to modern-day stars, the role of the second baseman has been pivotal in shaping the Cubs' defensive and offensive strategies through the decades.

## The Early Years: Foundations of Cubs Second Base

In the early days of the Cubs franchise, which was originally known as the Chicago White Stockings, the second baseman position was often filled by versatile infielders who could adapt to the evolving game. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, baseball was still finding its identity, and the second baseman's role was more about agility and quick reflexes than power hitting.

One of the earliest notable Cubs second basemen was Johnny Evers, a member of the legendary double-play trio "Tinker to Evers to Chance." Evers' name became synonymous with defensive excellence and smart baseball. His ability to turn double plays and cover immense ground was a cornerstone of the Cubs' early successes, including their World Series titles in 1907 and 1908.

## Johnny Evers and the Golden Era

Johnny Evers is often considered one of the finest second basemen in baseball history, not just Cubs lore. His leadership on the field and knack for clutch plays earned him a place in the Hall of Fame. The "Tinker to Evers to Chance" double play combination remains one of the most celebrated in the game, illustrating the critical role second basemen play in defense.

Evers' tenure set a high standard for future Cubs second basemen, emphasizing the importance of defensive prowess and baseball IQ. This era laid the groundwork for how the position would be viewed within the organization – a blend of defensive reliability and smart situational awareness.

# Mid-Century Cubs Second Basemen: Transition and Talent

Moving into the mid-20th century, the Cubs saw a mix of players who brought different skills to the second base position. The role began to shift slightly, with more emphasis placed on offensive contribution alongside defensive duties.

One standout during this period was Don Kessinger, who played for the Cubs from 1964 to 1975. Kessinger was a six-time All-Star and a two-time Gold Glove winner, known for his smooth fielding and consistent bat. His leadership and steady presence helped anchor the Cubs' infield during a challenging era for the franchise.

## Don Kessinger: The Modernizing Influence

Don Kessinger's impact went beyond his on-field performance. As team captain, he was a stabilizing presence in the clubhouse and a mentor to younger players. His ability to combine solid defense with respectable offensive numbers made him a prototype for the modern second baseman.

Kessinger's career highlights how the Cubs valued a balanced approach at the position, looking for players who could contribute both with the glove and the bat. This balance would continue to evolve as the game itself changed through the 1970s and 1980s.

## The Contemporary Era: Cubs Second Basemen in the Spotlight

The recent decades have brought a new wave of talent to the Cubs' second base position, reflecting changes in baseball analytics, training, and player development. Modern Cubs second basemen are expected not only to be defensive stalwarts but also to bring offensive firepower and versatility.

## Mark Grace and the 1990s Resurgence

Mark Grace, although primarily known as a first baseman, spent some time at second base early in his career with the Cubs during the late 1980s and early 1990s. Grace's approach to hitting – characterized by a high batting average and excellent plate discipline – influenced the expectations for infielders, including second basemen, to be reliable hitters.

While not a second baseman by trade, Grace's impact on the Cubs' infield

culture helped shape the way the team developed their middle infielders moving forward, emphasizing contact hitting and on-base skills.

## **Starlin Castro and the Modern Keystone**

Starlin Castro, who debuted with the Cubs in 2010, quickly became one of the franchise's most exciting second basemen in recent memory. Known for his dynamic offense and solid defense, Castro brought energy and versatility to the keystone position. His ability to hit for power and average made him a valuable asset during his tenure.

Castro's time with the Cubs underscored the increasing importance of offensive production from second basemen. As baseball analytics gained traction, teams began to expect more from their middle infielders at the plate, complementing their defensive responsibilities.

## **Recent Developments and Future Prospects**

In the latest chapters of cubs second baseman history, the position continues to evolve with players who blend athleticism, defense, and hitting prowess. The Cubs have invested in developing young talent and acquiring players who embody the modern second baseman's multifaceted role.

## **Recent Standouts and Emerging Talent**

Players like Jason Kipnis and Nico Hoerner have contributed to the Cubs' middle infield in recent seasons. Kipnis, a veteran with a track record of solid offensive numbers and experience, brought leadership and depth. Meanwhile, Hoerner represents the future, showcasing great defensive instincts and a promising bat.

The Cubs' scouting and player development departments focus heavily on producing second basemen who can adapt to multiple roles, including shifting to shortstop or third base if needed. This positional flexibility is vital in today's game, where roster construction often demands players to wear multiple hats.

## **Why the Second Baseman Position Matters to the Cubs**

The history of Cubs second basemen is more than just a list of names; it reflects the broader evolution of baseball and the team's philosophy. The

keystone position is critical for defense, requiring quick hands, sharp instincts, and the ability to cover a lot of ground. Offensively, second basemen have transitioned from being primarily defensive players to integral components of the lineup.

Understanding this history helps fans appreciate not just individual stars but the strategic importance of the position. The Cubs' commitment to cultivating skilled second basemen speaks volumes about their dedication to building a competitive and well-rounded team.

## Tips for Aspiring Second Basemen Inspired by Cubs History

Reflecting on the legacy of Cubs second basemen offers valuable lessons for young players:

- **Master the Fundamentals:** Players like Johnny Evers demonstrate the value of impeccable defensive skills and awareness.
- **Balance Offense and Defense:** As seen with Don Kessinger and Starlin Castro, being a threat at the plate is as important as fielding.
- **Adaptability is Key:** Modern second basemen must be versatile, able to shift positions or adjust to new strategies.
- **Leadership Matters:** Many Cubs second basemen have served as team leaders, emphasizing the importance of clubhouse presence.

These insights highlight how the position has evolved and how players can thrive by embodying these qualities.

The storied history of Cubs second basemen is a testament to the enduring significance of the position within baseball and the unique role it plays in the identity of the Chicago Cubs. From legends of the past to promising stars of the future, the second baseman remains at the heart of the Cubs' infield narrative.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who was the Chicago Cubs' second baseman during their 2016 World Series run?

Ben Zobrist played second base for the Chicago Cubs during their 2016 World

Series run and was a key contributor to their championship victory.

## **Which Cubs second baseman holds the franchise record for most games played at the position?**

Ryne Sandberg holds the franchise record for most games played at second base for the Chicago Cubs.

## **When was Ryne Sandberg inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame?**

Ryne Sandberg was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2005, recognizing his outstanding career primarily as the Cubs' second baseman.

## **Who succeeded Ryne Sandberg as the Cubs' starting second baseman?**

After Ryne Sandberg, Mark Grace briefly played second base, but the position saw various players including Darwin Barney and later Ben Zobrist.

## **What notable achievements did Ryne Sandberg have as a Cubs second baseman?**

Ryne Sandberg was a 10-time All-Star, 9-time Gold Glove winner, and the 1984 National League MVP, establishing himself as one of the greatest second basemen in Cubs history.

## **Has any Cubs second baseman won an MVP award?**

Yes, Ryne Sandberg won the National League MVP award in 1984 while playing second base for the Chicago Cubs.

## **Who was the Cubs' second baseman before Ben Zobrist joined the team?**

Before Ben Zobrist joined the Cubs in 2016, Darwin Barney was the primary second baseman for the team.

## **Did any Cubs second baseman play a significant role in the 1908 World Series?**

Frank Chance played second base for the Cubs during their 1908 World Series championship and was a key player on that team.

## **What is the significance of Frank Chance in Cubs second baseman history?**

Frank Chance was not only a player but also a player-manager who led the Cubs to multiple World Series titles in the early 1900s, including playing second base.

## **Who is the current starting second baseman for the Chicago Cubs as of 2024?**

As of 2024, the starting second baseman for the Chicago Cubs is Christopher Morel, who has shown versatility and strong defensive skills.

## **Additional Resources**

Cubs Second Baseman History: A Deep Dive into the Legacy of Wrigley Field's Middle Infielders

**cubs second baseman history** traces a rich tapestry of talent, resilience, and evolution that mirrors the broader narrative of one of Major League Baseball's most storied franchises. From the early 20th century to the contemporary era, the second base position has been pivotal in shaping the Chicago Cubs' defensive strategy and offensive production. This article delves into the historical trajectory of Cubs second basemen, highlighting key figures, their impact, and how the role has transformed over decades in response to changing baseball dynamics.

## **The Evolution of the Second Base Position in Cubs History**

The second baseman's role has always been multifaceted, demanding defensive agility, quick decision-making, and offensive consistency. Within the Cubs' organizational framework, the position has seen a progression from traditional glove-first players to modern athletes who contribute significantly on the offensive front. Understanding the evolution of Cubs second basemen requires an examination of individual players, their statistical outputs, and how their presence influenced team dynamics.

## **Early Era: Foundations of Defensive Excellence**

In the early decades of the 1900s, Cubs second basemen were primarily valued for their defensive prowess. Players such as Johnny Evers, who played during the Deadball Era, epitomized this trend. Evers, a Hall of Famer, was renowned for his leadership and fielding acumen, anchoring the Cubs infield during

their World Series successes in 1907 and 1908. His ability to turn double plays and his baseball intelligence set a standard for subsequent Cubs middle infielders.

During this period, the offensive expectations for second basemen were modest; the emphasis remained on reliability and minimizing errors. The Deadball Era's style of play, characterized by small ball tactics, underscored the importance of infield defense, making second basemen like Evers invaluable assets.

## **Mid-Century Transitions: Balancing Offense and Defense**

As baseball entered the mid-20th century, the role of second basemen began to shift subtly. Players were increasingly expected to contribute offensively without compromising defensive responsibilities. The Cubs roster reflected this trend with men like Don Kessinger, who anchored the position from the 1960s into the mid-1970s.

Kessinger's tenure with the Cubs was marked by consistent defensive excellence, evidenced by multiple Gold Glove awards, as well as reliable offensive production. His ability to post respectable batting averages and provide leadership in the clubhouse made him a cornerstone of the Cubs' infield during a period when the team struggled to achieve postseason success.

## **Notable Cubs Second Basemen: Impact and Legacy**

The history of Cubs second basemen is peppered with figures whose contributions extended beyond mere statistics. Their influence can be measured by leadership, clutch performances, and how they helped shape the team's identity.

### **Ryne Sandberg: The Benchmark of Excellence**

No discussion of Cubs second baseman history is complete without Ryne Sandberg, arguably the most iconic figure to man the position in Chicago. Sandberg's career, spanning from the early 1980s through the mid-1990s, revolutionized perceptions of what a second baseman could achieve.

Offensively, Sandberg was a five-time All-Star and the 1984 National League MVP, known for his power-hitting, speed, and ability to drive in runs. Defensively, he won nine Gold Glove awards, exemplifying the ideal balance of offense and defense. Sandberg's leadership during the Cubs' competitive runs in the late 1980s and early 1990s helped restore hope to a fan base long

accustomed to disappointment.

Statistically, Sandberg posted a career batting average of .285 with 282 home runs and 1,061 RBIs, remarkable numbers for a middle infielder of his era. His combination of power and defensive skill made him a prototype for future Cubs second basemen to aspire to.

## Modern Era: Adaptation and New Challenges

The 21st century brought new challenges to the position, influenced by shifts in baseball analytics, player mobility, and evolving team strategies. Cubs second basemen in recent years have had to adapt to these changes, balancing traditional defensive duties with the increasing emphasis on offensive versatility.

Players like Darwin Barney and Javier Báez illustrate contrasting approaches within the Cubs' recent history. Barney, known primarily for his defense, earned a Gold Glove in 2012 but offered limited offensive output. Conversely, Báez brought explosive offense and dynamic playmaking to second base, contributing significantly during the Cubs' 2016 World Series championship season.

Javier Báez's versatility extended beyond second base, as he often shifted across the infield, yet his time at second was marked by aggressive baserunning, power hitting, and highlight-reel defense. His ability to energize the team and fanbase underscored the evolving profile of the Cubs' middle infielders in the modern game.

## Statistical Highlights and Comparative Analysis

Analyzing the statistical contributions of Cubs second basemen reveals trends in performance and player utilization. Key metrics such as Wins Above Replacement (WAR), on-base plus slugging (OPS), and defensive runs saved (DRS) offer insights into player effectiveness.

- **Johnny Evers:** Career WAR of approximately 55.9, reflecting his profound impact during the early 1900s.
- **Don Kessinger:** Career WAR around 31.0, with notable defensive metrics in his era.
- **Ryne Sandberg:** Career WAR exceeding 70.0, combining elite offense and defense.
- **Darwin Barney:** Lower offensive metrics but strong defensive contributions, highlighted by his 2012 Gold Glove.

- **Javier Báez:** Emerging career WAR above 15.0 with significant offensive and defensive versatility.

Comparatively, Sandberg stands as the outlier in the Cubs second baseman history, setting a bar that subsequent players have sought to reach or emulate. His ability to influence games on both sides of the ball remains a benchmark when evaluating the position within the organization.

## Pros and Cons of Cubs Second Basemen Through Eras

Examining the pros and cons of Cubs second basemen across distinct baseball eras provides a nuanced understanding of how the position has been staffed:

1. **Early Era Pros:** Exceptional defensive skills, strong baseball IQ, and leadership during championship runs.
2. **Early Era Cons:** Limited offensive production due to the style of play and equipment limitations.
3. **Mid-Century Pros:** Balanced contributions on offense and defense, increased athleticism.
4. **Mid-Century Cons:** Inconsistent team success overshadowed individual achievements.
5. **Modern Era Pros:** Enhanced athleticism, power hitting, positional versatility, and advanced defensive metrics.
6. **Modern Era Cons:** Increased pressure to produce offensively sometimes leads to defensive lapses; frequent position changes can disrupt consistency.

## Influence on Team Dynamics and Fan Engagement

Second basemen in Cubs history have often served as catalysts for team cohesion and fan enthusiasm. Players like Ryne Sandberg and Javier Báez transcended statistical contributions, becoming fan favorites whose energy and playstyle energized Wrigley Field.

Moreover, the position has often been a reflection of the Cubs' broader organizational philosophies. Periods emphasizing defensive solidity corresponded with more conservative team strategies, while eras favoring offensive dynamism saw second basemen with more aggressive batting profiles.

This interplay between player characteristics and team philosophy highlights the importance of the second baseman role beyond the box score, impacting clubhouse culture and overall franchise identity.

## Looking Ahead: The Future of the Cubs Second Base Position

As the Cubs continue to invest in player development and analytics, the future of the second base position appears poised for further evolution. Emphasis on multi-positional flexibility, advanced defensive shifts, and heightened offensive expectations will likely shape the next generation of Cubs second basemen.

Scouting reports and minor league prospects indicate that the franchise values athleticism and adaptability, traits that have been hallmarks of successful second basemen in Cubs second baseman history. The integration of data-driven approaches alongside traditional scouting promises a nuanced development pipeline aimed at producing well-rounded middle infielders capable of impacting the game on multiple fronts.

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The rich history of Cubs second basemen encapsulates broader shifts in baseball's strategic and cultural landscapes. From Johnny Evers' foundational defense to Ryne Sandberg's all-around excellence and Javier Báez's dynamic modern play, the position has remained integral to the Cubs' identity. As the team navigates the complexities of modern baseball, the legacy of its second basemen continues to inform and inspire the quest for sustained success at Wrigley Field.

## Cubs Second Baseman History

**cubs second baseman history:** *The A-To-Z History of Base Ball* Mark Cressman, 2008-05-20  
The A to Z History of Base Ball: Twentieth Century Baseball Players explores the careers of the finest professional baseball players who played during the 20th Century. You will discover the details of players' career, accomplishments and their career statistics as well as their rank amongst the all-time greats. You will learn about such baseball immortals as Hank Aaron, Ty Cobb, Lou Gehrig, Josh Gibson, Christy Mathewson, Satchel Paige, Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, and many more. Turn the pages and immerse yourself in twentieth century baseball players facts.

**cubs second baseman history: Cubs by the Numbers** Al Yellon, Kasey Ignarski, Matthew Silverman, 2016-09-06  
What do Dizzy Dean, Catfish Metkovich, John Boccabella, Bill Buckner, Mark Prior, and Jason Heyward all have in common? They all wore number 22 for the Chicago Cubs, even though eight decades have passed between the last time Dizzy Dean buttoned up a Cubs uniform with that number and the first time outfielder Jason Heyward performed the same routine. Since the Chicago Cubs first adopted uniform numbers in 1932, the team has handed out only 77 numbers to more than 1,500 players. That's a lot of overlap. It also makes for a lot of good stories. Newly

updated, *Cubs by the Numbers* tells those stories for every Cub since '32, from current staff ace Jake Arrieta to former third baseman turned division-winning manager Don Zimmer. This book lists the players alphabetically and by number; these biographies help trace the history of baseball's most beloved team in a new way. For Cubs fans, anyone who ever wore the uniform is like family. *Cubs by the Numbers* reintroduces readers to some of their long-lost ancestors, even those they think they already know. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Sports Publishing imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in sports—books about baseball, pro football, college football, pro and college basketball, hockey, or soccer, we have a book about your sport or your team. Whether you are a New York Yankees fan or hail from Red Sox nation; whether you are a die-hard Green Bay Packers or Dallas Cowboys fan; whether you root for the Kentucky Wildcats, Louisville Cardinals, UCLA Bruins, or Kansas Jayhawks; whether you route for the Boston Bruins, Toronto Maple Leafs, Montreal Canadiens, or Los Angeles Kings; we have a book for you. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to publishing books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked by other publishers and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

**cubs second baseman history: 100 Years of Great Baseball in St. Louis: A Photographic History** Pasquale De Marco, 2025-04-28 The St. Louis Cardinals are one of the most storied franchises in Major League Baseball, with 11 World Series championships and a rich history dating back to the late 1800s. This book tells the story of the Cardinals through stunning photographs that capture the team's greatest moments, its most iconic players, and its passionate fans. From the early days of the American Association to the current era of Albert Pujols and Yadier Molina, this book showcases the Cardinals' long and storied history. Relive the team's World Series victories, meet the Hall of Famers who have worn the Cardinals uniform, and see the Busch Stadium crowds erupt in cheers. This book is a must-have for any Cardinals fan, and it is also a great read for anyone who loves baseball history. With over 100 rare and iconic photographs, this book is a visual feast that will transport you back in time to the golden age of baseball. \*\*Here are just a few of the things you'll find in this book:\*\* \* Rare and iconic photographs of the Cardinals from the late 1800s to the present day \* The team's greatest moments, including World Series victories and individual achievements \* Profiles of the Cardinals' most iconic players, including Stan Musial, Bob Gibson, Albert Pujols, and Mark McGwire \* A look at the Cardinals' home stadium, Busch Stadium, and its place in baseball history \* A celebration of the Cardinals' passionate fans, who have supported the team through thick and thin Whether you're a lifelong Cardinals fan or just a casual baseball fan, this book is sure to entertain and inform you. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the story of the St. Louis Cardinals, as told through the lens of a camera. If you like this book, write a review on google books!

**cubs second baseman history: Meeting the Mets: A Quirky History of a Quirky Team** Thomas Droleskey, 2013-04-03 *Meeting the Mets: A Quirky History of a Quirky Team* is a volume one of a two-part retrospective on the history of the New York Mets, a team that is now in its fifty-second season of play. The author, Dr. Thomas A. Droleskey, attended over 1600 games at the Polo Grounds and William A. Shea Municipal Stadium between July 15, 1962, and July 16, 2002. While he has not attended games since that point for reasons that are described in the book, he was pretty visible in the stands as a very unofficial cheerleader for over a quarter of a century, known as The Lone Ranger of Shea Stadium. Droleskey provides a personal retrospective on the origins of the Mets, highlighting some of the quirks of a quirky team, including memories of utterly meaningless games that might put a smile or two on the faces of those who have followed the team over the years. The book contains lots and lots of trivia about the Mets and baseball, interspersed with personal many bits of cultural trivia and history.

**cubs second baseman history: Baseball History** IntroBooks, 2018-02-18 Baseball inspired millions of people in the United States. It evolved from the old bat and ball games which used to be played in England during the 18th century. The immigrants who came to settle in North America were the ones responsible to bring this game to the Americans. Eventually they came up with the modern version of the game and by the end of 19th century baseball was being recognised as the

National Sport of US. The first recorded American reference of baseball in US traces its way back to the year 1791, which was an ordinance passed in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. The uproar created by the cheering crowd was the reason on the game being banned from being played anywhere near 80 yards from the town meeting house.

**cubs second baseman history: Popular History: Biographical Sampler 1** Stephen Warde Anderson, 2019-08-14 For a general audience and for young readers, a selection of 52 short biographies ranging from the vary famous, Jesus, Socrates, Shakespeare, Einstein, to the lesser known, Lady Franklin, Shaka Zulu, Harriet Quimby, Christy Mathewson, to the notorious, Caligula, Blackbeard, Belle Starr, Ned Kelly and the legendary, William Tell, the Queen of Sheba, the Pied Piper of Hamelin. Written for easy and interesting reading, this is the first of a series of books on history for popular consumption by Stephen Warde Anderson, outsider artist and the author of The Anderson Revisionist Bible, a work in progress.

**cubs second baseman history: Chicago History for Kids** Owen Hurd, 2007-07-01 From the Native Americans who lived in the Chicago area for thousands of years, to the first European explorers Marquette and Jolliet, to the 2005 Chicago White Sox World Series win, parents, teachers, and kids will love this comprehensive and exciting history of how Chicago became the third largest city in the U.S. Chicago's spectacular and impressive history comes alive through activities such as building a model of the original Ferris Wheel, taking architectural walking tours of the first skyscrapers and Chicago's oldest landmarks, and making a Chicago-style hotdog. Serving as both a guide to kids and their parents and an engaging tool for teachers, this book details the first Chicagoan Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, the Fort Dearborn Massacre, the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, the building of the world's first skyscraper, and the hosting of two World's Fairs. In addition to uncovering Windy City treasures such as the birth of the vibrant jazz era of Louis Armstrong and the work of Chicago poets, novelists, and songwriters, kids will also learn about Chicago's triumphant and tortured sports history.

**cubs second baseman history: Great Teams in Baseball History** Hanna Altergott, 2005-12-14 Discusses ten of the greatest baseball teams ever and explains what it was that made each one so great.

**cubs second baseman history: Crossing the Line** Larry Moffi, 2006-12-01 From 1947, when Jackie Robinson joined the Brooklyn Dodgers, through 1959, when the Boston Red Sox became the last Major League team to integrate, more than a hundred African American baseball players crossed the color line and made it to the Major Leagues. Each of these players is profiled in this comprehensive book, which includes their statistics and capsule biographies, their triumphs and trials. Some of these players became superstars of the game and eventual Hall of Famers—Jackie Robinson, Ernie Banks, Hank Aaron, Roberto Clemente, Roy Campanella, and Bob Gibson; most were average players. All were pioneers, facing down the enormous difficulties of integrating organized baseball. The authors provide a new preface and appendix for this Bison Books edition.

**cubs second baseman history: Base Ball 11** Don Jensen, 2020-01-17 Offering the best in original research and analysis, Base Ball is an annually published book series that promotes the study of baseball's early history, from its protoball roots to 1920, and its rise to prominence within American popular culture. This volume, number 11, includes a dozen articles on topics ranging from the uses and abuses of mascots and batboys, attempts to revive the major league American Association, and the meaning of early club names to the founding of the National League, the finances of the Union Association, and the early years of future Giants magnate John T. Brush. The volume also includes thoughtful reviews of recently published books on women's baseball, the 1887 Detroit Wolverines, and the American League pennant race in 1908.

**cubs second baseman history: Small Ball in the Big Leagues** James D. Szalontai, 2014-01-10 The typical baseball fan yearns for one of two things: a strikeout or a home run. But most of the game takes place in between these electrifying moments, and this book discusses the importance of small ball to baseball. It examines the multitude of times small ball activities have secured victories through aggressive base running, sacrifice hits, squeeze bunts, stolen bases,

productive outs and hit-and-run plays, as well as games in which aggressive small ball activity led to defeat. The book covers the most important small ball players, managers and teams.

**cubs second baseman history:** Rob Neyer's Big Book of Baseball Lineups Rob Neyer, 2003-06-02 Presents a series of lineups from each baseball franchise and explores the careers of baseball players both famous and obscure.

**cubs second baseman history:** **Bill Veeck** Paul Dickson, 2012-04-24 Draws on primary sources and more than 100 interviews in a richly detailed portrait of the influential baseball team owner and promoter, providing coverage of such topics as his relationships with his Chicago Cubs president father, his struggles with formidable war injuries and his steadfast advocacy of integration. 40,000 first printing.

**cubs second baseman history:** *Baseball: An Illustrated History*, 200?

**cubs second baseman history:** **A History of the Baseball Fan** Fred Stein, 2015-01-24 From the genesis of baseball in the 1840s, when so-called kranks cheered the teams of their choice, fans have been an ever-present component of the sport. As the number of fans has increased over the years, their influence has increased proportionally. Following the evolution of the game and its fans over more than a century, this book examines the role fans have played in the formation of modern baseball and the part the sport has played in the lives of its devotees. How have fans influenced, reacted to, or been affected by baseball's changes through history? How do fans determine player popularity? Are there famous fans--and how do they manifest that interest? How has the evolution of baseball in the media, including newspapers, radio, and television, affected the fan base? The answers to these questions and more give a lively feel to this baseball history from a fan's perspective. The final chapter sums up the fan's importance to the sport of baseball.

**cubs second baseman history:** Baseball History eBook Gift Set Jonathan Weeks, Chris Enss, Howard Kazanjian, 2014-12-03 This three-in-one holiday gift set is the perfect gift for any baseball fan this season. Each with its own unique story, these books will thrill any fan of America's favorite pastime. The set includes class tales (At the Old Ballgame: Stories From Baseball's Golden Era), scandals (Mudville Madness: Fabulous Feats, Belligerent Behavior, and Erratic Episodes on the Diamond), and a unique portrait of baseball's early days (Death Row All Stars: A Story of Baseball, Corruption, and Murder). That's three strikes for this set!

**cubs second baseman history:** *162-0: Imagine a Cubs Perfect Season* Dan McGrath, Bob Vanderberg, 2011-03 Imagining a year in which the lovable losers never lose a single game, this idealistic resource identifies the most memorable victory in Chicago Cubs history on every single day of the baseball calendar season, from late March to late October. Ranging from games with incredible historical significance and individual achievement to those with high drama and high stakes, the book envisions the impossible: a blemish-free Cubs season. Evocative photos, original quotes, thorough research, and engaging prose and analysis add another dimension.

**cubs second baseman history:** The Baseball Hall of Shame Bruce Nash, Allan Zullo, 2012-03-06 From 1985 to 1992, The Baseball Hall of Shame series chronicled more than 100 years of baseball goofs and gaffes, selling more than 700,000 copies. Now, the authors of the most offbeat baseball books ever written are back, featuring their looniest lineup of classic stories and inducting their first new class of Hall of Shamers in twenty years. Bruce Nash and Allan Zullo cover everything from the battiest batters and craziest fielding fiascoes to the dumbest ballpark promotions and screwiest fan behavior. Hall of Shamers include outfielder Lou The Mad Russian Novikoff, who insisted his wife taunt him from the stands because it made him a better hitter... Pitcher Burleigh Grimes, who was so mean that he threw a beanball at the on-deck hitter... Outfielder Ping Bodie, who out-ate Percy the ostrich for the spaghetti-eating championship of the world... and Babe Ruth, who wore ladies' silk stockings for good luck. Among the new inductees are Ken Griffey Jr., who put a cow in manager Lou Piniella's office to pay off a steak dinner bet... Manny Ramirez, who abandoned left field to go to the bathroom during a game... and David Big Papi Ortiz, whose underwear was smeared with peanut butter as payback for the pranks he pulled on teammates. Filled with more than 200 stories and packed with photos, The Baseball Hall of Shame: The Best of

Blooperstown is the most hilarious homage to the national pastime ever assembled, and a fitting testament to the Hall's motto: Fame and shame are part of the game.

**cubs second baseman history: Baseball Hall of Shame™** Bruce Nash, Allan Zullo, 2012-03-06 From 1985 to 1992, The Baseball Hall of Shame series chronicled more than 100 years of baseball goofs and gaffes, selling more than 700,000 copies. Now, the authors of the most offbeat baseball books ever written are back, featuring their looniest lineup of classic stories and inducting their first new class of Hall of Shamers in twenty years. Bruce Nash and Allan Zullo cover everything from the battiest batters and craziest fielding fiascoes to the dumbest ballpark promotions and screwiest fan behavior. Hall of Shamers include outfielder Lou The Mad Russian Novikoff, who insisted his wife taunt him from the stands because it made him a better hitter... Pitcher Burleigh Grimes, who was so mean that he threw a beanball at the on-deck hitter... Outfielder Ping Bodie, who out-ate Percy the ostrich for the spaghetti-eating championship of the world... and Babe Ruth, who wore ladies' silk stockings for good luck. Among the new inductees are Ken Griffey Jr., who put a cow in manager Lou Piniella's office to pay off a steak dinner bet... Manny Ramirez, who abandoned left field to go to the bathroom during a game... and David Big Papi Ortiz, whose underwear was smeared with peanut butter as payback for the pranks he pulled on teammates. Filled with more than 200 stories and packed with photos, The Baseball Hall of Shame: The Best of Blooperstown is the most hilarious homage to the national pastime ever assembled, and a fitting testament to the Hall's motto: Fame and shame are part of the game.

**cubs second baseman history: A Nice Little Place on the North Side** George Will, 2014-03-25 Now with bonus material on the Chicago Cubs' World Series win, the New York Times-bestselling history of America's most beloved baseball stadium, Wrigley Field, and the Cubs' century-long search for World Series glory In A Nice Little Place on the North Side, leading columnist George Will returns to baseball with a deeply personal look at his hapless Chicago Cubs and their often beatified home, Wrigley Field, as it enters its second century. Baseball, Will argues, is full of metaphors for life, religion, and happiness, and Wrigley is considered one of its sacred spaces. But what is its true, hyperbole-free history? Winding beautifully like Wrigley's iconic ivy, Will's meditation on "The Friendly Confines" examines both the unforgettable stories that forged the field's legend and the larger-than-life characters—from Wrigley and Ruth to Veeck, Durocher, and Banks—who brought it glory, heartbreak, and scandal. Drawing upon his trademark knowledge and inimitable sense of humor, Will also explores his childhood connections to the team, the Cubs' future, and what keeps long-suffering fans rooting for the home team after so many years of futility. In the end, A Nice Little Place on the North Side is more than just the history of a ballpark. It is the story of Chicago, of baseball, and of America itself.

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