



TOTAL Baseball

The Ultimate Baseball
Encyclopedia 8th Edition



JOHN THORN, one of the country's foremost baseball experts, wrote his first baseball book thirty years ago and since then has created a great many more, including *Treasures of the Baseball Hall of Fame* and *The Armchair Book of Baseball*. He co-founded *Total Baseball* in 1989, has written for several periodicals and was Senior Creative Consultant to the Ken Burns documentary *Baseball*.

PHIL BIRNBAUM is editor of "By the Numbers", the statistical analysis newsletter of the Society for American Baseball Research. A native of Toronto, he currently resides in Ottawa where he works as a software developer.

BILL DEANE is a freelance baseball researcher and writer who spent eight years as senior research Associate for the National Baseball Library & Archive. He has published seven books and more than 200 articles for a variety of publications, and was a recipient of the 1989 SABR-Macmillan Baseball Research Award.

Front cover photo of Barry Bonds: AP photo / Eric Risberg

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What's Inside ...

- **NEW** . . . Bill James' analytical statistic, Win Shares, to complement our own Total Player Wins in baseball's most exhaustive statistical register of 16,003 players who appeared in the major leagues between 1871 and 2003.
- **NEW** . . . Year-by-year reviews of every season in major leagues history, highlighting the newsmakers, award winners, statistical leaders and champions from 1871 to 2003.
- **NEW** . . . In-depth profiles of several stars of the first half of the 20th century—Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and more—from the archives of *SPORT* magazine, as well as articles from *SPORT* that celebrate some of baseball's greatest teams.
- **NEW** . . . Original essays from some of America's most astute baseball writers, including: a lead essay by editor John Thorn that explores whether Barry Bonds is the greatest player ever; an eye-opening examination of the "Moneyball" phenomenon by Peter Wayner; and a ranking of the greatest teams in history by ESPN's Rob Neyer.
- **NEW** . . . More than 200 photographs that chronicle baseball's colorful past, including 24 pages of color in the *Total Baseball* Gallery.
- A comprehensive review of baseball's early history in essays detailing the invention of the game, its formative years, the Civil War era, pioneers of the game, and the creation of the major leagues. Plus several essays revised and updated from past editions of *Total Baseball*.
- A lively recounting of the Negro Leagues, America's minor leagues, college baseball and women's baseball, plus coverage of the international game, with a particular focus on Japan and the Caribbean, and a review of every Olympic Games tournament.
- Expanded year-by-year standings and leaders, plus lifetime and single-season record holders in dozens of batting and pitching categories, as well as postseason recaps and line scores of every postseason game since 1884, composite box scores of every World Series, plus career and annual statistics for every player to appear in the postseason.

Praise for 15 years of *Total Baseball* ...

"It's got everything you always wanted to know from a baseball encyclopedia but were not able to find." **NEW YORK TIMES**

"*Total Baseball* is the first reference book on the left side of my desk and its pages are dog-eared from daily use." **HAL MCCOY, HALL OF FAME HONORED BASEBALL WRITER**

"It is at once a superb encyclopedia, a wonderful place, indeed, a whole world, to get lost in." **KEN BURNS**

"This book will take its place among the great ones about the game." **BILL JAMES**

"*Total Baseball* is a grand slam in the home half of the ninth." **NEW YORK POST**

"The ultimate source for baseball information." **BASEBALL WEEKLY**

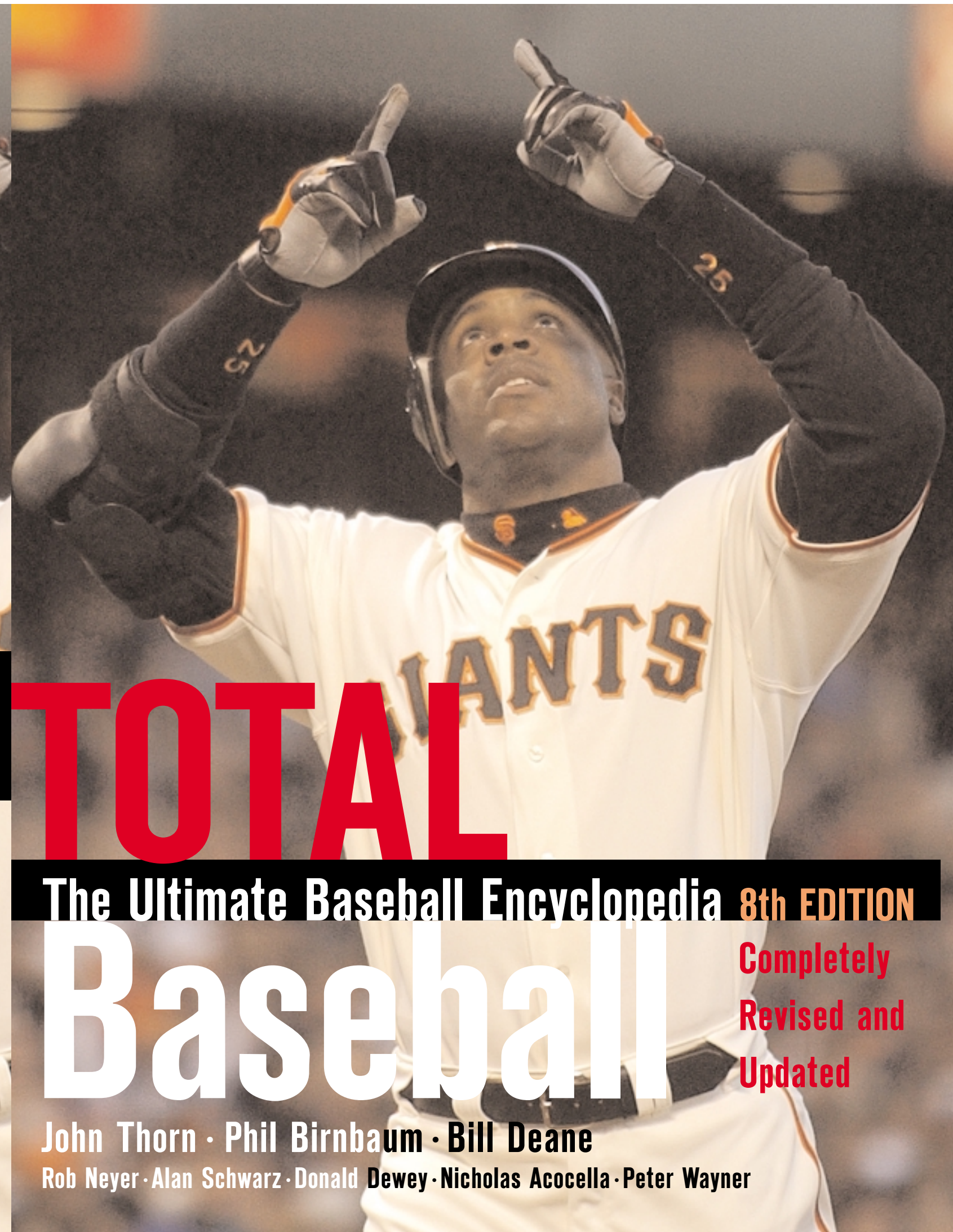
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John Thorn · Phil Birnbaum · Bill Deane

Rob Neyer · Alan Schwarz · Donald Dewey · Nicholas Acocella · Peter Wayner

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TOTAL Baseball 8th EDITION

Total Baseball, launched to universal acclaim in 1989, has been the most compelling and exhaustive reference series ever devoted to America's pastime. With this eighth edition, *Total Baseball: The Ultimate Baseball Encyclopedia*—totally revised and completely updated through 2003—has undergone a significant makeover and introduces a more visual design plus several fresh narrative and statistical features. Longtime readers will be delighted by the addition of several new essays and classic reprints from *SPORT* magazine, plus more than 200 photographs, including, for the first time, color, as well as the inclusion of Bill James' revolutionary statistic, Win Shares, to baseball's most respected statistical Player and Pitcher Registers.

At 2,688 pages and seven pounds, this is the largest *Total Baseball* ever, and a worthy successor to the line of encyclopedias hailed by *Baseball Weekly* as "the ultimate source for baseball information." As always, *Total Baseball's* Player and Pitcher Registers carry detailed career records for all 16,003 players in major-league history. There are also exhaustive lists chronicling every possible aspect of the game, among them baseball's all-time and season leaders in dozens of categories, individual award winners, all-time standings, all-star results, Hall of Fame voting, line scores and composite box scores from every postseason game and series, and much more. And new to this edition are year-by-year reviews of the major leagues—in prose, pictures and statistics—that highlight the newsmakers, award winners, stats leaders, and champions from 1871 to 2003.

Returning to this edition are updated team histories and provocative essays that touch all the significant historical bases, supplemented by several new essays that are sure to spark debate. Noted baseball historian and *Total Baseball* editor John Thorn assesses Barry Bonds as possibly the greatest player ever, author Peter Wayner takes an insightful look at the "Moneyball" phenomenon, ESPN writer Rob Neyer makes his case for the Greatest 100 Teams in history, and Thorn teams up with noted journalist Alan Schwarz to select the 100 most important figures in baseball history.

Another exciting new addition is the inclusion of feature articles from the archives of the former *SPORT* magazine that recapture the life and times of such immortals as Honus Wagner, Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Babe Ruth, Rogers Hornsby, Lou Gehrig, Charlie Gehringer, and Lefty Grove. Other reprints from *SPORT* tell the colorful stories of some of baseball's all-time greatest teams.

But perhaps the most striking upgrade for *Total Baseball's* faithful followers—all 300,000 of them since 1989—is the inclusion of photographs, including dozens of classic color shots, that tell baseball's rich history in pictures.

It all adds up to make *Total Baseball: The Ultimate Baseball Encyclopedia* a worthy successor in the reference family that Ken Burns called "a superb encyclopedia, a wonderful place, indeed, a whole world, to get lost in."