

MLB Guys: 2001

1. **In 2002 this man managed the minor league Norwich Navigators to a championship, but then resumed his major league career the following year, in which he played in both an Old-Timers Game and a regular season game. John Sterling called this man "the best .200 hitter ever." In a 1995 game, this man hit a bases-clearing double off Mark Langston to clinch the AL West division title for his team. This man drove in Jorge Posada with a RBI single off (*) Al Leiter, the go-ahead run in the deciding game of the 2000 World Series. For 10 points, name this utility player best known for some clutch hits with the Seattle Mariners and New York Yankees.**

ANSWER: Luis (Beltran Sojo) Sojo

2. **This two-time All-Star actually has the middle name "Guy." As a relief pitcher at UCLA with only one-at-bat, he was drafted by the Royals because John Schuerholz was told that he was the best hitter on the team. This man met his wife at a racquetball tournament and was an amateur racquetball player as a youth. This man was traded by the Orioles to a (*) Jack McKeon managed team for the stretch run in 2003, six years after winning a championship with the same team. For 10 points, name this man who won two World Series titles with Florida and is known as "Mr. Marlin."**

ANSWER: Jeff (Guy) Conine

3. **This man temporarily lost the custody of his children after a Shea Stadium employee noticed that his daughter was covered in bruises. This man once received a fine for grabbing his crotch while yelling at Jamie Moyer. He received a 10-game suspension after bumping heads with umpire Ron Kulpa. This player, who referred to Dan (*) Shaughnessy as the "curly-haired boyfriend" of a male reporter, won a World Series in 2005 after replacing Frank Thomas as DH. This man broke up Mike Mussina's perfect game in 2001. For 10 points, name this player nicknamed "Jurassic," who might be best known for not believing in the existence of dinosaurs.**

ANSWER: Carl (Edward) Everett (III)

4. **The Oakland A's traded Eric Byrnes for this player and Jay Witasick. This man is the first Rockies player in their history to post a sub 4.00 ERA in a season. When this guy debuted for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in 2001, he was the first left-handed starter the team used in over a year. Until he retired, Frank Thomas kept one of this man's gloves in his locker as a memory of him. While still playing, he went to Florida to serve as the best man at his friend's wedding, only to (*) collapse before the ceremony. For 10 points, name this lefty who is best known for abruptly dying of heart disease in 2007.**

ANSWER: Joseph (Darley) Kennedy

5. **While not a member of the Reds, this man used Cincinnati's team plane to fly to the 1988 All-Star Game after travel issues popped up. This man is the last Phillie to ever pitch at Veterans Stadium, where he struck out Ryan Langerhans. As far as I can tell, this man is the only reliever to ever serve as the guest host on the MLB show *Intentional Talk*. This man is the franchise leader in games played and saves for the (*) Milwaukee Brewers, where he pitched from 1986 to 1992 before beginning a long career as mostly a LOOGY type guy. For 10 points, name this longtime left-handed reliever, whose nephew, Zach, pitches for the Indians.**

ANSWER: Daniel (Thomas) Plesac

6. **This man's career basically ended after his tibia was broken after a Martin Prado line drive hit his leg. In 2009 this man won a game without throwing a pitch after he picked off Austin Kearns. During most of 2007 and 2008, this man filled in for an injured Huston Street by working as Oakland's closer. The year after winning a World Series, he pitched awful and ended up going to the Yankees, the team that this man got the (*) final out against in a memorable League Championship Series. For 10 points, name this lefty, best known for clutch pitching for the 2004 Boston Red Sox.**

ANSWER: Alan (Duane) Embree

7. **This man was the starting right fielder for Arizona in the very first game in Diamondbacks history. In his only season in Detroit, the final season for Tiger Stadium, this man hit a home run that cleared the right field roof. This man and Shane Spencer once got into an altercation with a pizza delivery man while both were on the Mets. Once traded to the Tigers for (*) Luis Gonzalez, this man joined Jeff Nelson in a bullpen fight with a groundskeeper. In 2003 a pitcher repeated this man's name and repeatedly asked "who are you?" while saying he didn't try to hit him intentionally. For 10 points, name this player, the subject of a rant by Pedro Martinez.**

ANSWER: (Gustavo) Karim Garcia (Aguayo)

8. **After his son nearly drowned in a 2002 accident, this man converted to evangelical Christianity. He played Dutch Leonard in the movie *42* and served as the consultant for the short-lived series *Pitch*. In a long yet undistinguished career, this man was twice traded with Brad Ausmus, going to the Astros from the Tigers in 1998 and then right back to Detroit in 1999. This man's blog documenting his playing career began as early as 1997, presaging his current presence on FS1 and MLB Network. For 10 points, name this left-handed pitcher who has the first name (*) "C.J."**

ANSWER: Christopher John Nitkowski

9. **In 2002 this man, who was not noted for his speed, stole home in a game against Andy Pettitte, the first time anyone on his team had done so since Fred Patek. In 2007 this man broke up Scott Baker's no-hitter in the ninth inning. While with the Mariners, this man threatened people to "stand up and fight me" if they accused Ken Griffey Jr. of napping in the clubhouse. This man finally made the postseason after replacing (*) Ryan Howard in the Phillies lineup in 2010. This man hit .340 in 2002, the highest anyone his team had hit for since George Brett. For 10 points, name this longtime first baseman for the Kansas City Royals.**

ANSWER: Michael (John) Sweeney

10. **In 2013 the Orioles claimed they would not sign this man after issues came up in his physical, which this man disputed. During his most successful relief stint, he replaced Brian Fuentes as closer and was temporarily replaced by Ryan Cook, before going on to save 41 straight games from 2012 to 2013. He tweeted that Victor Martinez gave him a "viral death stare" during an (*) altercation in the 2013 playoffs. Orlando Cabrera got into a shouting match with this man in the 2008 ALDS, not knowing this pitcher enjoys constantly shouting profanity to fire himself up. For 10 points, name this Australian reliever whose last name is usually what pitchers try to avoid.**

ANSWER: Grant (Robert) Balfour

11. **This man is married to the daughter of the author of the book *Who Rules America?*, the sociologist G. William Domhoff. While with the Indians, this man once committed a "phantom steal" by walking to second base while no one was looking during a disturbance in the outfield. While with the Giants, he was the first NL player to ever play as a DH during interleague play. While with the Cubs in 2000, he became the only player to hit a homer on the office building across the street from Wrigley. Noted for his (*) horrible defense, he is also infamous for an injury in which he cut himself and fell down the stairs at night. For 10 points, name this slugger probably best known for crashing into a table while having a dream that spiders were attacking him.**

ANSWER: Glenallen Hill

12. **In 1992 this man almost got into a bar fight with future congressman Connie Mack IV. This man and Joc Pederson both have the dubious distinction of hitting 25 or more homers and only driving in 54 runs. He broke his right leg in an ATV accident, causing him to miss all of 1994. This player, Willie Mays, and Bobby Bonds were the first three men to have back-to-back 30/30 seasons. While Kevin**

Tapani was trying to pick this man off during the (*) 1991 World Series, Kent Hrbek seemed to lift him off the base, causing him to be ruled out. For 10 points, name this man, an outfielder in the early 1990s with the Braves.

ANSWER: Ronald (Edwin) Gant

13. A Baseball Primer post in the early 2000s called this man "a magical little elf," referring to the success his teams seemed to have in a short two-year span. This man hit the first inside-the-park home run in Jacobs Field history, during his short stint with Cleveland in 1998. This man scored the 2002 NLCS winning run and would have (*) ran over Dusty Baker's son had not J.T. Snow saved the child in the World Series. This man and his grandfather both hit for the cycle in their careers. He was the third baseman on the 2001 Seattle Mariners. For 10 points, name this man who currently manages the Cincinnati Reds.

ANSWER: David (Michael) Bell

14. During the 1994 season, batting instructor Rod Carew said this man was selfish and "uncoachable." During his brief stint with the Indians, teammate Kevin Mitchell threw this man over a ping pong table, causing him to go on the DL. This man scolded Derek Jeter for fraternizing with Alex Rodriguez during an on-field fracas between the Yankees and Mariners. After hitting a walk-off home run in the 1999 playoffs, this man (*) refused to be interviewed by Jim Gray, snubbing Gray for an interview with Pete Rose. Despite having a reputation as an extremely aggressive evangelical, this man is known now for actions performed while he was coaching at a Michigan high school. For 10 points, name this former player currently serving a prison sentence for sexually assaulting underage girls.

ANSWER: Chad (David) Curtis

15. In 2009 this man had the dubious distinction of being traded to the Orioles for Chris Ray. During his generally undistinguished 2012 season, he picked up his 2,000th strikeout and threw a combined no-hitter with five other pitchers for the Seattle Mariners. This man threw the final no-hitter at Veterans Stadium. He once led the AL in ERA in 2005, yet only had a 9-11 record for the (*) Indians. This man was inexplicably traded to Philadelphia for Johnny Estrada, a few years after winning 18 games, far more than teammates John Smoltz and Tom Glavine. For 10 points, name this Braves pitcher who became a dominant "fourth guy" on their late 1990s rotations.

ANSWER: Kevin (Austin) Millwood

16. This non-pitcher and Carlos Beltran were once criticized for not visiting amputee soldiers in the hospital, with this man noting he didn't want to be horrified. In 2002

this man posted an impressive 35-game hitting streak, one of the longest in NL history. During a 2009 game, this man dropped an easy pop fly by Alex Rodriguez, leading to the Yankees--get this--beating the Mets. This man set a record in 2007 for going 143 games without an error at (*) second base. When this man was first called up, he formed a very youthful double play combo with Edgar Renteria. For 10 points, name this guy, best remembered as the second baseman on the 2003 champion Marlins.

ANSWER: Luis (Antonio) Castillo

17. This man's improbable success against Randy Johnson earned him the nickname "Little Unit." After he was traded, Tony LaRussa requested a pair of this man's spikes, since he admired him so much. During his rookie year for the Cardinals, he played every position but pitcher and catcher in 1999. When he was released in 2005 (*), David Wright was especially upset. Best known as a Met, he is now the bench coach for the Chicago White Sox. For 10 points, name this utilityman nicknamed "Super Joe."

ANSWER: Joseph (Earl) McEwing

18. While growing up in Teaneck, this man was a childhood friend of future Nets and Pistons coach Lawrence Frank. This man hit a game-winning triple in the 11th inning in the third game of the 2003 NLCS for the Cubs. He used an analogy of the "red" and "blue" pills from *The Matrix* in an article analyzing his decision not to use steroids. This author of the book *The Game From Where I Stand* was a systems engineer major (*) at Penn and is the first African-American Ivy League graduate to play in the majors. For 10 points, name this former outfielder, who now works for ESPN and writes occasional *New York Times* articles.

ANSWER: Douglas (Metunwa) Glanville

19. A *New York Times* article by Murray Chass helped scout Omar Minaya reunite this player with his father in 1997, his rookie year. After retiring in 2004, this man made a comeback in order to raise money to build a church in the Caribbean. He learned how to play the outfield in the minor leagues and ended up winning a NL *Sporting News* Comeback Player of the Year award in 2008 with the (*) New York Mets. This man's son is currently a shortstop in the National League. In 1999 this man torched Chan Ho Park for eight RBIs in one inning. For 10 points, name this player who hit two grand slams in one inning.

ANSWER: Fernando (Gabriel) Tatis (Sr.)

20. During this man's first game with the A's in 1996, this man tied a then-record by driving in 6 runs in one inning. He hit five doubles in five at-bats in 2007, the first ever Blue Jay to do that. This man hit the final home run ever called by broadcaster

Harry Kalas. This man, Terence Long, and Ben Grieve formed what Rob Neyer labeled the worst defensive outfielder ever. This position player appeared on (*) 12 MLB teams, a record, and as a Phillie, he hit a game-winning playoff home run off L.A.'s Jonathan Broxton in 2008. For 10 points, name this Canadian who holds the record for most pinch hit home runs.

ANSWER: Matthew (Wade) Stairs

21. After a three-year retirement, this man returned in 2001 for a few games with the Cincinnati Reds, before retiring again as a member of the Syracuse Chiefs. A blown call in a World Series play in which Kelly Gruber's tag actually got this man prevented him from being the third out in a triple play. He told Carlton Fisk "the days of slavery are over" after (*) Fisk told him to "run the fucking ball out" on a pop-up in a 1990 game. This man, who said "baseball is my mistress," once threw water over Tim McCarver after the latter criticized his decision to play for both the Braves and the Falcons. For 10 points, name this guy better known as a football player nicknamed "Prime Time."

ANSWER: Deion (Luwynn) Sanders (Sr.)

22. This man was released from his first MLB team shortly after he slammed his wife's head on a car hood in the ballpark parking lot. At one point during his 2007 season, he went a dreadful 0 for 31 at the plate. This man made several key infield errors during the 2001 NLDS in which his Astros lost to the Braves. He still holds a Boston club record for stealing 20 consecutive bases during a tenure that eventually led to him being replaced in the lineup by (*) Jed Lowrie and Nick Green. For 10 points, name this guy, the shortstop on the 2007 Boston Red Sox.

ANSWER: Julio (Cesar) Lugo

23. While a member of the Pirates in 2006, this man noted "I'm your highest-paid free agent," saying that said a lot about the team. This man and Matt Holliday once hit back-to-back home runs twice in the same game. This was probably the most notable non-pitcher acquired in a convoluted deal in which the Mets gave up Glendon Rusch, Benny Agbayani, and Todd Zeile. This man actually played for the Mets twice, and--get this--was pretty poor in both tenures, with fans mockingly (*) spelling his name by replacing the first three letters of his surname with many "K's." In 1999 he became the first man on his team since Paul Molitor to start an All-Star Game, and later had decent short tenures on the Rockies and Cubs. For 10 points, name this Brewers outfielder noted for his home runs and for striking out a lot.

ANSWER: Jeromy (Neal) Burnitz

24. **This man was not nicknamed "Wild Thing," but he was the winning pitcher in a 20-inning 1993 game won by the Phillies. In 1996 Pedro Martinez charged this pitcher after he threw a pitch behind Pedro. In an impressively backhanded compliment, this man's manager, Lloyd McClendon, said he "usually gets the job done" and is a (*) "poor man's closer" when defending him from critics. In 2003 this closer was notoriously named an All-Star despite having an ERA over 6 that season. For 10 points, name this Pirates closer in the early 2000s.**

ANSWER: Michael (Darren) Williams

25. **In an article, conservative columnist Charles Krauthammer referred to this man as "The Natural" and contrasted him with Barry Bonds. During a 2007 game, this player accomplished a feat not done in the majors by anyone since Clint Hartung. This man said his greatest accomplishment was joining Bonds in being the only two people to hit a playoff homer into McCovey Cove. Tony LaRussa said one of his biggest regrets was putting this man in the starting lineup in the (*) 2000 NLDS. This man toyed with coming back in 2019 for a new career as a "lefty reliever" before abandoning the idea, which would have given him a "third" act in his career. For 10 points, name this player who went from a control-plagued young pitcher to a power hitting outfielder.**

ANSWER: Richard (Alexander) Ankiel

26. **A 2006 *Wall Street Journal* article confusingly labeled one of this man's hits "the most significant clutch hit in baseball history." This man's only All-Star season was the first year of his career, in which he stole 60 bases for the Pirates. Robinson Cano got his first playing time by replacing this man at second base. This man hit a walk-off single off Steve Kline to defeat the Cardinals and win the NLDS in (*) 2001, but is also noted for a game-tying hit off Mariano Rivera in Game 7 of the World Series that year. For 10 points, name this man who was the shortstop for the 2001 Diamondbacks.**

ANSWER: Anthony (Darrell) Womack

27. **This man's final season, 2007, saw him end a dubious feat of playing 1,617 regular season games without reaching the playoffs. Throwing an impressive array of pitches for a non-pitcher, including a knuckleball and changeups, this man struck out Craig Counsell while filling in for Arizona's bullpen in 2007. He is not Adrian Beltre, but his numbers tanked upon joining Seattle in 2002, although his defense remained strong. This man is the more notable of the two players to play 99 consecutive errorless games at (*) third base. For 10 points, name this man, a third baseman for the Brewers and Rockies.**

ANSWER: Jeffrey (Howard) Cirillo

28. **In his only year at baseball powerhouse Arizona State, this man hit a team-record .446 in 1993. Joe West sued this man in 2019 after he told a story on a podcast about how West intentionally called a bigger strike zone for Billy Wagner. This man briefly retired in 2009 to work as a horse racing analyst before returning to end his career in Colorado. This man is extremely similar to Mike Piazza in that he had a bad throwing arm, was (*) Italian-American, and went to New York after tenures in Florida and Los Angeles. For 10 points, name this man, best known as a Dodgers catcher in the early 2000s.**

ANSWER: Paul (Anthony) Lo Duca

29. **When Barry Bonds was notified he had been indicted in federal court, he was out hunting with this player. During a World Series, his homer off Jose Mesa was almost caught by his mother in the stands. This man is surprisingly fourth all-time in slugging percentage for his franchise, even beating Eddie Mathews. This man was the home run leader on a team that won a division with a (*) pitiful 82-80 record in 2005. This man is the first player to hit three home runs in three consecutive World Series games, doing so in the 1995 series. For 10 points, name this power hitting outfielder for both the Braves and Padres.**

ANSWER: Ryan (Anthony) Klesko

30. **Bill James referred to this player as an "eternal rookie," and despite a decent .269 career average, he has the second-lowest on base percentage of any player with 4500 plate appearances. This man got his first starting job replacing Larry Bowa at shortstop in 1985. During Game 5 of the 1999 NLCS, this man had an extremely long, clutch-at bat to coax a single against Kevin McGlinchy. This man and Barry Bonds homered in (*) Game 6 of the 2002 World Series, in which the Giants blew a lead. He played his first 10 years with the Chicago Cubs. For 10 points, name this shortstop who shares his name with an orangutan from a 1995 family film.**

ANSWER: Shawon (Donnell) Dunston