

MLB

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**CRAIG SHIPLEY | IF | PARRAMATTA, NSW |
1986-1998**

Los Angeles, New York Mets, San Diego Padres, Houston Astros, Anaheim Angels

Shipley spent most of his career moving up and down the Major League ladder as a utility infielder with a strong defensive reputation. In 1996, he found a niche with the San Diego Padres, helping them win the NL West division title that season. He hit .271 in his 11-year career, which spanned 582 games and 1,345 at bats.



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**DAMIAN MOSS | LHP | DARLINGHURST,
NSW | 2001-2004**

**Atlanta Braves, San Francisco Giants,
Baltimore Orioles, Tampa Bay Devil Rays**

Moss rose through the Braves' Minor League ranks fairly quickly, reaching Double-A before his 20th birthday. He debuted for the Braves on 26 April 2001 and had his best season for them the next year, going 12-6 with a 3.42 ERA in 29 starts in 2002.



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**BRAD THOMAS | LHP | SYDNEY, NSW |
2001-2011**

Minnesota Twins, Detroit Tigers

Thomas originally signed with the Los Angeles Dodgers as an amateur free agent in 1995 but was released by the club two years later because of visa issues. The Minnesota Twins snatched up the lefty hurler, and he debuted with them three years later, pitching 1-2/3 innings against the Oakland Athletics on 26 May and earning his first career save in the process.



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**GRANT BALFOUR | RHP | SYDNEY, NSW |
2001-2015**

**Minnesota Twins, Milwaukee Brewers,
Tampa Bay Rays, Oakland Athletics**

The native Sydneysider signed with the Minnesota Twins as an amateur free agent in 1997 and debuted with them in 2001, two months after fellow Australian and Sydneysider Brad Thomas also made his Minnesota debut. Balfour's first few years of his career were relatively unremarkable, and he struggled to find a niche in the Twins' bullpen. Things came together for the righty in 2004, when he went 4-1 with a 4.35 ERA in 36 relief appearances.



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JOHN STEPHENS | RHP | SYDNEY, NSW | 2002

Baltimore Orioles

Stephens led the Minor Leagues in strikeouts in 1999 while playing for the Class A Delmarva Shorebirds and set a team record by striking out 17 batters in one game. While rising through the Minors, Stephens also won the Jim Palmer Award, given out each year to the Orioles' best Minor League pitcher, in 1999, 2001, and 2002. He posted an 11-5 record with a 3.03 ERA for Triple A Rochester in the first part of the 2002 season, and the Orioles called him up at the end of July.



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GLENN WILLIAMS | IF | GOSFORD, NSW | 2005

Minnesota Twins

Things finally came together for Williams with the Twins, beginning when he hit .303 with Triple-A Rochester in 2005. It took more than ten years, but Williams finally got his shot in MLB when the Twins called him up at the beginning of June. He debuted on 7 June, pinch-hitting and singling in the sixth inning of a 9-8 win over the Arizona Diamondbacks.



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RYAN ROWLAND-SMITH | LHP | NEWCASTLE, NSW | 2007-2014

Seattle, Mariners, Arizona Diamondbacks

His Olympic performance in 2004 helped Rowland-Smith's stock as a rising pitching prospect, and he began the 2007 season with Triple-A Tacoma. In the middle of the season, the Mariners called him up and he made his MLB debut on 22 June 2007, pitching 1 1/3 innings of a blowout 16-1 loss to the Cincinnati Reds. Rowland-Smith allowed just one hit and struck out two batters in his debut, and spent most of the rest of the season with the big league club. He finished the 2007 season with a 1-0 record and 3.96 ERA in 26 MLB games and began the 2008 season as a reliever in the Seattle bullpen.



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RICH THOMPSON | RHP | HORNSBY, NSW | 2007-2012

Los Angeles Angels, Oakland Athletics

After five seasons in the Minors, the Angels called Thompson up late in the 2007 season when rosters expanded. He debuted on 1 September, pitching the eighth inning of the Angels' 7-6 loss to the Texas Rangers and giving up one hit while striking out two of the four batters he faced. He made six more appearances in the Majors that season.



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**TRENT OELTJEN | OF | SYDNEY, NSW |
2009-2011**

Los Angeles Dodgers, Arizona Diamondbacks

After participating in the 2009 World Baseball Classic, Oeltjen began the 2009 season once again at Triple-A but earned his long-awaited Major League callup at the beginning of August. He made his MLB debut on 6 August, hitting a home run in his second big league at-bat and played regularly for the rest of August. The Diamondbacks returned him to the Minors at the end of the month but recalled him less than two weeks later, and he finished the season in The Show. In 70 MLB at-bats in 2009, Oeltjen hit three home runs and stole three bases. while finishing his Triple-A



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ALEXANDER WELLS | LHP | NEWCASTLE, NSW | 2021-2022

Baltimore Orioles

Alexander Wells entered in the seventh inning of Baltimore's 12-4 loss to Toronto at Buffalo's Sahlen Field on June 26, becoming the 36th Australian to play Major League Baseball. He tossed two scoreless innings for the Orioles, allowing one hit and two walks. The lefty collected his first MLB win in his second appearance on June 29 against Houston at Minute Maid Park.

