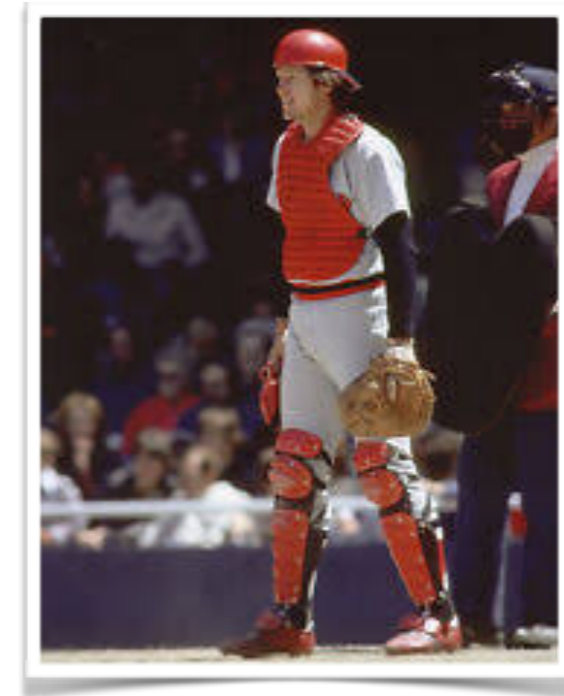
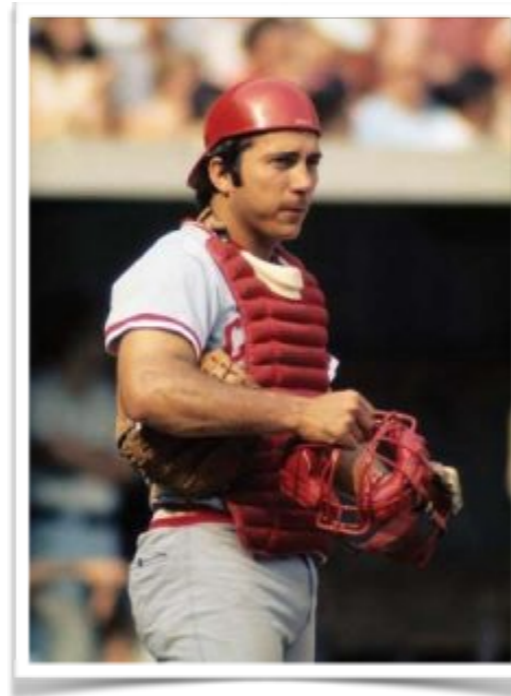


# APPENDIX B: COMPARISONS

THURMAN MUNSON... JOHNNY BENCH... CARLTON FISK...



## COMPARISONS AMONG MUNSON, BENCH AND FISK

Much like debates that consumed New York in the 1950s about who was the best centerfielder, the 1970's had a similar debate among fans, media, players and managers about who was the the best catcher in baseball: Munson, Bench or Fisk. And the statistics of the times confirmed those comparisons. With Bench and Fisk playing on and adding to their impressive Hall of Fame careers, what Thurman Munson accomplished during his stellar career began losing relevance.

But, we believe the advent of new metrics and their indicators has shed new light to Thurman Munson's Hall of Fame case, including *WAR*, *JAWS* and others. Numbers that stand out and are noticeable. Numbers that need another look.

And, like any statistic,, there is more. A comprehensive search by Munson HOF Committee Vice-Chair Tom Tunison has given us just that. Not only does his research reinforce the *WAR* and *JAWS* position of Thurman Munson, but it gives a deeper look Inside the numbers. And while Munson's offensive numbers are strong, Tunison's concentration on defense provide eye-opening results.

In 15 defensive categories, Thurman Munson ranked *1st in all 15*. On offense, he ranked 1st in 10 of 22 key categories. And while Johnny Bench was number one in the remaining 12 categories, it is interesting to note that Carlton Fisk wasn't ranked first in any category. Not one.

# COMPARISONS

THURMAN MUNSON... JOHNNY BENCH... CARLTON FISK...  
(1970-1979)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS	MUNSON	BENCH	FISK
<b>ACCUMULATED STATS</b>			
Innings Caught	10,890.1	10,772	7,566.8
Complete Games Caught	1,158	1,061	809
Complete Game % To Total Games Caught	92.48%	81.8%	92.45%
Games Started As Catcher	1,239	1,219	856
Assists	724	610	424
Runners Caught Stealing	413	340	258
<b>SEASONS</b>			
100+ Complete Games Caught	9	8	5
League Leader Assists	3	0	1
League Leader Games Caught	3	2	2
League Leader Double Plays	2	1	0
120 + Games Caught	8	8	5
140 + Games Played	7	7	2
League Leader Caught Stealing %	2	2	0
Leader Fielding %	1	1	0
1,000 + Innings Caught	9	9	5

OFFENSIVE STATISTICS	MUNSON	BENCH	FISK
<b>ACCUMULATED STATS</b>			
Hits	1,536	1,396	959
Doubles	228	264	182
Triples	30	18	30
Home Runs	112	290	144
Runs Batted In	692	1,013	506
Runs Scored	690	792	554
Batting Average	292	267	284
At Bats	5,344	5,229	3,382
<b>SEASONS</b>			
130 + Hits	8	7	3
180 + Hits	4	0	0
.300 + Batting Average	3	0	1
20 + Doubles	6	6	5
.350 + OBP	4	4	3
3 + WAR	9	10	6
5 + WAR	4	6	3
230 + Total Bases	5	7	3
120 + OPS	5	7	3
70 + Runs Batted In	5	9	3
100 + Runs Batted In	3	6	1
70 + Runs Scored	6	7	4
.425 + Slugging %	4	8	4

YELLOW HIGHLIGHTED areas  
denote NUMBER 1 RANKING