

Williams Had Memorable '72 Campaign Himself

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Posted on Monday, June 18

While the Chicago Baseball Museum pays tribute to White Sox great Dick Allen on this, the 40th anniversary of his Most Valuable Player season, let's not forget what a certain Cubs outfielder accomplished that same year.

Billy Williams finished with 37 home runs, 122 RBI, a .333 batting average and 1.005 OPS number. Allen checked in at 37, 113, .308 and 1.023, respectively. The Sporting News selected Sweet Swingin' Billy as its Player of the Year even though he was second to Cincinnati Reds catcher Johnny Bench in the MVP vote.

Allen and Williams also are attached at the hip for this reason: They were the first players to receive six-figure contracts in the history of their respective franchises.

Rarely have two Chicago players on different teams been as dominant as they were in the 1972 campaign.