

# DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

## Chapter 1 : Glossary of baseball - Wikipedia

*As the OP pointed out (albeit with not the best title), you can use either metric and probably get the same relative results as to who is a better hitter than who, since both rely on the same counting stats to reach their totals even if one doesn't mess with them and the other gives each one a static calculated weight.*

The Road to Victory: This edition of the Selection is no different. During the reception for the Canadian ambassador Prince Arthur eliminated the staple and expected ten plus a surprise person. Cenred King was accused of sabotaging another competitor and taken out of the consort ballot. But the real surprise came two days later. Ten more people were to go, leaving the numbers of possible future consorts down to nine. The outstanding eliminations are two. At first glance there seems to be no reason for this elimination since Olaf had both the pedigree and the beauty to make it. And yet an interview released by Cenred King suggesting a friendship between the two was enough to cast suspicion on fair Miss Olaf. More stunning was an other elimination: After the Hampton Court reception she released a statement purporting her will to leave The Selection. A first in the history of the time honoured tradition, Miss Smith was quoted as saying. Unfortunately, recent events have opened my mind regarding my fitness for this mode of participation. Some soul searching has led me to believe that the best option for me would be retiring. Nothing could be more flattering. Are your handkerchief ready to watch her official leave-taking this Saturday? Miss Sophia Tirmore is one of those candidates many would be eager to back. Despite a rocky start between the royal-commoner duo, Emrys was the one favoured by Prince Arthur to open the dance at Hampton Court. After the first number was over Mr Emrys, continued on waltzing with the Prince under the eyes of an intrigued crowd. Mr Emrys may be waiting in the wings to render a public declaration similar to that of his friend and ex-fellow participant, Guinevere Smith. This edition of the Selection seems to be even more fraught with game changing events than the one that preceded it two decades ago. With palace security tighter than ever before and rumours of a Princess Morgana sighting in the South leaks are highly unlikely. The Selection is down to the wire. With only nine contestants left, Kensington Palace empties itself of the majority of its guests. Those remaining will find it harder to stay on and will be held to the highest etiquette standards. Join the editor board of the Daily Mail to find out what happens with next week with our Selection Live Recap! He became short of breath and suffered from tremors and sweating. Despite that he had the chills and felt cold to the core. In despair he tucked his hands under his arms and lay on his side on the cold concrete, forcing the trembling down. He was aware of nothing but his own throbbing head and quaking chills. Involuntary muscle contractions with paroxysms of violent shivering took him over from time to time, nearly locking all his muscles and preventing his breathing, his body stiffening with them, providing a change from the constant aching that was always everywhere at once, weakening him in slow increments. He often found himself heaving with the effort to breathe. The pants that came out of him were short and shallow and made so much noise he was scaring himself. The blood coursing through his veins was like liquid fire. Merlin had never been aware of it pumping through his veins as he now was. It was unnatural and even more terrifying. He was being destroyed from the inside out. Not any more than he liked the throbbing in his leg. To take his mind off the big problems, he concentrated on the small stuff next. The matted hair stuck to his forehead bothered him. Sweat pooled in the hollows of his body, dampening his clothes, and running in slow rivulets down his chest to trickle through the smattering of hair there. He felt moist with it on his front and damp where his back and legs pressed against the hard floor. It was a minor annoyance distracting him from how much he hurt, how his insides were burning and how he was losing control of his mind, but it was still there. Desperately, he reached out to try and take back the reins of his physical being. It was as if he was struggling against the current of a powerful river that had seized him in its course, hurling him towards a rapid and a sure death. He felt himself being pulled away from his body and launched out into a bottomless void. He thrashed and cried and railed against it. But mostly he dreamed. His dreams were odd mixtures of reality and the by-products of a fantasy

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

turned morbid by illness. In his dreams, much like in reality, he was steeped in darkness. Instead of lying down though he was walking down corridors meandering endlessly. Blood ran down their features, their eyes were hollow and socket-less, their mouths open, mocking him, jeering at him. In another dream he was haunted by shrieking chimeras and thin shapless monsters, whipping back and forth in a frenzy, howling at a pale white sky, while they lumbered between jutting, rising stones that seemed to want to pierce the lowering horizon. After that dream, he startled himself awake, his heart beating so fast and hard in his chest he thought it would pierce his ribcage. His sense of reality was dimmed when he woke "voices and sounds carrying over from his nightmare" but he thought he could tell the difference. While his vision was blurry and everything looked distorted, walls listing, floor meeting ceiling, the bars of his prison cell twisting as if they were made of butter, there were no monsters in this reality. Just himself, four converging walls, bars limiting any attempt at flight, and pain. Every now and then he fell asleep again, which was both a blessing and a curse. A blessing because he could finally enjoy some respite from the pain, a curse because then he saw the monstrous faces and heard the cackling laughter. Plus, the more he dreamed the more he lost his sense of reality. In his lucid moments he thought he saw people being shoved in the cells opposite his. He squinted, trying to make out who they were while the air shimmered and the space around him tilted and went out of focus. At one time he thought he distinguished a battered Mordred, sporting a black eye that was swollen shut and a split lip, and Ruadan. I need oyu to have made it. You need to be safe. We need to find a way out before they torture the will to escape out of us. His distracted mind could lend even less credence to someone being there because of the circumstances surrounding their presence. He was ready to bet he was in a cell and not likely to ever be allowed visitors ever again. Or until he died. Then visitors might be allowed to visit his unmarked grave. Maybe lay a flower on his tomb. Merlin hoped people knew he liked daffodils. Still, in these moments he believed someone was grabbing his wrists and pinning them to the side. When Merlin stopped writhing the person would release him, and start smoothing a wet cloth over his face. He was in Belmarsh, magic user nightmare number one. The voice, a male one, murmured soothing words that made little sense, but that warmed Merlin and made him believe he was safe. Merlin swallowed against the pressure. He was a prisoner of silence. Merlin supposed that was so as to bring his fever down for a bit; regardless of whether that got the desired result, Merlin was grateful. He could kiss that cloth and have a love affair with it he loved it so much. His trembling eased, his muscles no longer straining to reel it in. Merlin sighed, body relaxing for the first time in what felt like aeons. Feeling better, Merlin sank into sleep again and this time it was untroubled. When he woke again there was a tray laden with bread and water waiting for him. Merlin crawled to it. He was sitting cross legged with his elbows on his thighs. His face bearing the signs of a beating. Not once they knew we were there. We need to find a way to communicate with her. It rattled him for minutes, racking his belly and hurting his ribs. He hunched, willing the pain deep inside his chest to die down. Try to sleep some more, Merlin. When he woke again there was no light but artificial illumination. Merlin blinked and saw Arthur sitting on a stool outside his cell. He had his head in his hands but when Merlin shifted he snapped back to attention so he was sitting upright, his hands locked together. There was no one. So Merlin was left wondering whether that scenarion would be gratifying for Arthur once it happened, considering he was angry for having been played. They took my magic. But thanks for the euphemism.

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

### Chapter 2 : The Baseball Guru - JAPAN'S TOP PLAYERS by Jim Albright

*"Well, I believe in the soul, the cock, the pussy, the small of a woman's back, the hanging curve ball, high fiber, good scotch, that the novels of Susan Sontag are self-indulgent, overrated crap.*

The rankings in this article are by "excellence plus points". For a further explanation of how these points were calculated, see this article. Oh has five seasons of 40 or more points, and ten more in the point range. If we look at position players, Oh becomes dominant once again. The men who attained two or more 40 point seasons other than Oh are: Inao 4 , Jiro Noguchi 3 , Starffin 2 and Wakabayashi 2. Further, his seasons are very much among the best ever in NPB history for position players. It is clear that Nagashima at his best was more brilliant than Nomura at his best. However, Nomura played in more games, had more at bats, more hits, more homers. Furthermore, he did all this at a more demanding defensive position. He also collected the only 2 Gold Gloves at third awarded during his career. His career average of .300. He is third in the most walks taken in a career. Obviously, he has to rank among the very best in Japan as a result. The fact Nagashima beats him out proves a player with a higher peak performance can do well in this rating system, given that Harimoto had a higher average in more at bats, more hits, 60 more homers. Also, Nagashima collected more awards than Harimoto, and those two factors put him ahead in my view. Also, he hit rather well for a pitcher, all of which combines to make me regard him as the greatest NPB pitcher of all time. Once pitched a perfect game, on August 21, 1905. When the Bolsheviks came to power, the family narrowly managed to escape to Japan. Victor was 6 feet 3 inches tall, so he towered over the Japanese of the day. He was a durable power pitcher for the Giants, but in 1942, Japanese wartime paranoia led to his being placed in a detention camp. After that doubtlessly unpleasant experience, he primarily pitched for the Stars. He refused to follow the rigorous training, deference to authority, and other traditional aspects of Japanese baseball. He started out as a second baseman, was shuttled between first and third during his peak years, and ended his career as a first baseman. He could easily rank even higher if we went back and figured out how many games he saved. After three excellent seasons with the Hawks, he was traded to the Giants, where he experienced even greater success. He was also a strong hitter for the era, playing over 60 games at first or in the outfield. Noguchi was quite capable with the bat, peaking with a 31 game hitting streak in 1938. He was an iron man, especially before the end of WW II, including a 1941 season in which he had some power, but especially after a talk with Ted Williams, he focused on hitting line drives for average. He still had good doubles power, though. His managing career is even more impressive than his playing career, with 11 pennants and Japan Series titles in only 14 seasons, none of which were under .500. He is the career leader in steals, and has more steals than anyone else in a NPB career. He also used his speed to good advantage in the field, winning 12 consecutive Gold Gloves in center field. He was durable, and even had some power, though not a lot. All in all, a very formidable package of talents. The system also sees him as the second best player retired at least 15 years who has not yet been inducted into the Japanese Hall of Fame. Finally, the fact a middle infielder ranks this highly shows why I believe this system is so much better than the one it is replacing. In the previous system, Katsuya Nomura was the only catcher or middle infielder in the top 39 players according to the ratings. In the Excellence Plus point system, Katsuya Nomura is 1 of 6 players whose primary position was catcher or a middle infield spot. The Excellence Plus point evaluation of the distribution of talent is clearly more on target. He also surpassed the magic hit mark despite missing the 1950 season to a ruptured Achilles tendon. After that injury, he was primarily limited to serving as a DH. He may have been moving in that direction anyway since he played more at DH than in the outfield in 1951. According to Fitts and Engels, after an off year in 1952, Enomoto bought a batting cage with a plastic roof in case of rain and put it in his backyard. The extra practice he put in there helped him to a league leading .300. A very intense player with a hot temper who was once suspended for physically abusing an umpire. He had homers among his hits, but because he played most of his career for one of the least popular teams, the Buffaloes, he rarely got as much recognition as he deserved. He might slip behind Ichiro again, though. Kinugasa is best known for his

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

consecutive game streak. Presumably, his manager usually the quite astute Koba thought he was better than the alternatives. One thing I find quite odd is how he split his time between third and first base. It looks like he started at third but would be switched to third for defensive purposes. Ordinarily, this would suggest his defense at third was a weakness, but he won his three Gold Gloves there. Without more data to help resolve the issue, it will have to remain a mystery. In , Wakabayashi toured Japan as a Nisei high schooler, and then attended a Japanese university. After finishing his schooling, he joined the Tigers and became a top-notch professional hurler in Japan. He was also known as an outspoken critic of Japanese society and Japanese baseball. In his Guide, Jim Allen called him the best defensive first baseman in Japan at the time. He advocated a batting style called "hit it towards the moon", which I gather involved uppercutting. His best season was his dominant campaign in which he led the Dragona to a Japan Series win. The rebellion forced a trade. Also of note is that in an admittedly small number of at bats, Fitts and Engels report he did quite well against major league pitchers, going 18 for . In fact, he is still best known in Japan for this accomplishment. By , this 5 foot 7 inch, pound fireballer had a sore arm, but he successfully coped by changing his delivery from over the top to sidearm and adding the slider to his repertoire. He was, according to Fitts and Engels, the first Japanese pitcher to use this pitch. He was also a good hitter for a pitcher, with a . He would rank even higher had he not missed about half the season in , right in the middle of his best years. Unfortunately, he only had at bats after the injury spread out over 11 seasons. He could still hit, as seen by the 54 homers he hit in those AB. The brilliance of his good years propels his rating this high, but the fact he had only career AB keeps him from going higher. He was an all-around player, with good averages, power and defense to go with speed he stole 20 or more bases in 5 different seasons. The only minor flaw I see is his walk totals were quite ordinary. He was formidable as a leadoff man, combining excellent averages, high walk totals and speed. He was also a strong defensive middle infielder. He also added good defense and some power career HR to complete the package. This lefty also rarely struck out. He won 3 Gold Gloves at short as well to go with his seven Best Nine Awards, six at short and one at first. All in all, a wonderful player. He had good size for a Japanese player a 6 foot 1 inch tall and pounds. He was traded in mid-career from the Tigers to the Orions for Kazuhiro Yamauchi. No one outhustles or outthinks him. The main question I have about his move to the majors is if he will accept a drastic reduction in homers. If he does, I think the rest of his game will stay intact. If not, there could be trouble. This lefty ruptured his Achilles tendon in , costing him half of that season and most of the rest. He rebounded well enough to win 4 of his 5 career Best Nine Awards and to finish with a career average over . There was a fierce battle among teams to get him to sign with them after he left high school, and this helped lead to the institution of the Japan pro draft in . This new rating system demonstrates to my satisfaction that if you give him due credit for the deadball play of the wartime years, the short seasons of that time, the suspended season of , his fine pitching in including a no hitter , and his excellent ability to get on base, he easily deserves the honor. He was the premier leadoff hitter of the one league era, with good stolen base numbers to support his superior ability to get on base. He caught almost games and hit for decent power, with homers. He won five Best Nines at catcher, despite frequently having Tabuchi for competition. He is best known for his defense around second, though. He has moved to third now, but has remained effective with the bat. By the time that was written, Matsunaga was 37 and had several serious injuries in the previous six years, so he no longer deserved those accolades, as Allen made clear. Still, I think his career merits induction into the Japanese Hall of Fame. This new evaluation persuades me the voters were fully justified in selecting him, and I was wrong to criticize them for doing so. He was a competent if unspectacular fielder who drew lots of walks and hit for power. His offensive contribution was better than one would think by looking at his.

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

### Chapter 3 : Yahoo Sports MLB

*Annie Savoy: These are the ground rules. I hook up with one guy a season. Usually takes me a couple weeks to pick the guy - kinda my own spring training. And, well, you two are the most promising prospects of the season so far, so I just thought we should kinda get to know each other.*

Valentine shifted among ten different Mets for five plate appearances. Cox ran through four different pitchers. Four beat ten, as the Mets scored absolutely zero. Or how about Loss Six? The Mets trailed entering the ninth. Shane Halter was sent in to run for Bonilla. Henderson, stealingest player who ever lived " thus implying speed " came up to face reliever Steve Montgomery. He tapped a slow ground ball to Doster at second. But surely Henderson, who would eventually outscore every man who ever played major league baseball, would beat out the return throw from Desi Relaford. Surely the Mets would pull even, with runners on first and third and Henderson was out at first for a sixth straight loss. Same as Scott Aldred. But they both outlasted David Doster, who, like the aforementioned Joe Grahe, would never see what adventures big league life held in the 21st century. That was at home, a blowout, the one the Mets were waiting for, it seemed. The Mets used eight pitchers. They lost for their seventh consecutive defeat. The division was long gone. The Reds had gotten so hot that they led Houston by 1 in the Central. There would be a John Olerud blast that would pass over the right field fence with the bases loaded and a Shea-sized outburst of exhilaration to go with it. As of Wednesday, September 29, with four games remaining, were still a game-and-a-half out, but now we were behind two teams which maybe meant we suddenly had twice as much chance as we thought. The Mets were fighting the Astros, the Reds, the Braves and, of course, themselves. Somehow, they almost succeeded in keeping up with all of them the next night. Atlanta had clinched the N. East days earlier, having run off a decisive winning streak while we were going in the other direction. Thursday, September 30, was a replay from Turner Field: Yoshii pitched well 6. Trailing in the eighth, however, there was a moment of clarity: Edgardo Alfonzo launched a no-doubt home run off Mike Remlinger. Shake Stadium could barely contain itself. Then nothing happened for a while, not if you like hitting, that is. Remlinger retired Olerud to end the eighth. Benitez mowed down the Braves in their half of the ninth. Rocker struck out Piazza, Ventura and Hamilton in our half of the ninth. Armando takes the Braves Fourteen up, thirteen down, nothing doing on the scoreboard. Still going to the eleventh. Octavio Dotel, the rookie who was alternately brilliant and brutal as a starter through the summer, comes on to face Brian Jordan. Jordan lifts a fly to deep right. From the right field boxes, it looks like a tough play. From a television replay later, it looks not all that challenging. Brian Jordan steams into third with a triple. Jordan trots home from third. The Braves lead Soon enough, the Braves win The Mets are two behind Houston and Cincinnati. Each team has three games remaining. Chipper Jones tells Mets fans to go home and put on their Yankee stuff. Regardless, the Mets ignore Mr. Instead, we go straight to black, rending our garments for effect. Mets fans had absorbed too many blows dating back to the sweep at Turner Field. Proximity sent us in large numbers to Veterans Stadium where we received another sweep for our troubled travels. It was Sunday afternoon of the living dead at whichever rest stop on the New Jersey Turnpike my friend Richie pulled into on the trip home. Mets fan after Mets fans exchanged glassy-eyed stare in the parking lot, by the vending machines, in the Roy Rogers. Friday night, we stayed away. Official attendance for the Mets and Pirates was 29, I had been to each Braves game and that last Phillies game besides. Physically, I was depleted. Practically, I had to work. Spiritually, I hung in there as best as I could. The Astros hosted the Dodgers. The Reds visited the Brewers. The Mets welcomed the Pirates. For seven innings on my office radio, it was beautiful. Jason Schmidt was pretty solid, but two solo homers Ventura in the fourth, Piazza in the sixth gave us a lead. Six outs separated us from, at the very least, not being done. Remember, if the Astros and Reds each won that night while the Mets lost, it would be over. Out went Kenny, in came Turk, who registered a strikeout and a walk. Out went Turk, in came Johnny Franco, allowing exactly the kind of single John Franco had been allowing since we got to know him at the beginning of the decade,

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

one of those irritating grounders that never made it to the outfield but resulted in a run anyway. Mets 2 Pirates 2. Franco still had loaded bases with which to contend, and boy did he contend with them. Adrian Brown was up. He went three-and-two on him. Three-and-two with the freaking bases loaded. The next pitch was reported on radio and later confirmed via television as unconscionably low yet for reasons known only to home plate umpire Mark Hirschbeck, it was called a strike. Franco and the Mets had wriggled from disaster. The Mets loaded the bases in the bottom of the eighth on a single, a walk and error that let Bobby Bonilla reach. Normally it would take a court order to let Bobby Bonilla reach. Yet even with that gift, there was nothing doing, as Melvin Mora grounded out. Armando Benitez struck out his three Bucs in the top of the ninth. The Mets commenced to do no damage to Scott Sauerbeck in the bottom of the ninth. Pat Mahomes faced a bit of trouble in the tenth, but escaped. The Mets continued to not bother Sauerbeck, tapping three consecutive grounders for three easy outs. Mahomes took care of Pittsburgh in the eleventh, leaving for a pinch-hitter in the home half of the inning. Shawon Dunston solved Scott Sauerbeck. He singled to center. Mora sacrificed him to second. Fonzie was walked intentionally. An Olerud grounder moved up each runner a base. Piazza was given four balls. The bases were loaded for Robin Ventura. I should point out that when the game began at 7: Somewhere along the way, working ceased and listening intensified. A sense had overtaken me that leaving the office while the Mets were in progress was a bad idea. That same sense had failed me often during the road trip, but that was then and this was an emergency. Loss of contact, I suppose. But it was getting later and later. I decided to make a break for it. Up Seventh Avenue, from 26th St. The difficulty was inside Penn Station. By the florist, you could hear Bob Murphy and Gary Cohen.

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

### Chapter 4 : [www.nxgvision.com](http://www.nxgvision.com) | The Official Site of Major League Baseball

*Goudey Gum Baseball Cards and the Missing Card Find this Pin and more on Cleveland Naps baseball by Rick Anderson. Goudey Nap Lajoie Baseball Card Value Price Guide Hunt Auctions will offer an original scrapbook collection of and baseball cards, including a rare Goudey Nap Lajoie, in its upcoming catalog.*

He was very strong, with hands that were different from the others. He would lie down in bed and throw a rubber ball against the wall “back and forth, back and forth. As he grew, he would look for other children in the barrio to play with. He would ask for la benedicion of his parents. They had a scale of priorities, and he was that way too. They are a quiet people! very close to their families. They give to each other. He was like that. I was treated real good. I learned the right way to live. I never heard any hate in my house. I never heard my mother say a bad word to my father, or my father to my mother. They always thought of us. She had to work and make lunches for these people that used to work in the sugar cane plantations. Now, my mother never went to a show. We would sit down to eat and make jokes and talk and eat whatever there was. That was something wonderful For more than twenty years Melchor worked with the Victoria mill in Carolina as foreman of the brigades of cane-cutters. He had a paso fino horse that he rode to the fields, and sometimes one of the employees would mount Roberto on the horse and ride him back and forth, from the house to the highway. When Roberto was a little older, Melchor had some trucks which he used for hauling sand and gravel for the construction trade. All the boys would help their papa, loading the trucks with shovels. Some of us were much older. For example there was his brother Matino, whose catches at first base were the sensation of the barrio. And Lorenzo, another brother, who gripped the bat cross-handed and whose line drives shook the zinc roof of the schoolhouse. And Andres, who threw underhand style. They were the Clemente brothers: Matino, Lorenzo, Andres, and Momen. All you had to do was look at Momen to know that he had been born to play baseball. Basically, he was a good kid. He did two things, played ball and stayed home. He never got into trouble. When he had grown up and become a star, no one could remember what the name meant. He was always quiet, never got whipped. We used to kid him about that. Once, when he was about 11, there was an automobile accident. In school he was a leader. When they needed to build a fence to protect the school, he organized a group of boys and, through various activities, they raised money to help build the fence. His father worked on a sugar plantation outside town. But then there are no rich children here. There never have been. I remember especially well the first day he enrolled in the local high school, where I taught history and physical education. The first day Roberto came to my class he was very shy. He went straight to the back of the room and chose the last seat. Most of the time he would sit with his eyes down. Despite his shyness and the sadness around his eyes, there was something poignantly appealing about him. We would talk for hours. And I teased him about girls because he was so good-looking, even then. He was an average student “intelligent but not a scholar. I gave him a B in history. Years later, his memories of Monte remained vivid as well as fond: He also field real good and throw like a bullet. But when he passed by I would turn around and look at him because I idolized him. In any case, Momen was ultimately afforded the opportunity not just to meet and greet but to hang with his hero. Roberto and Orlando Cepeda, they were always there together. When he got into the majors, we renewed our friendship. We used to reminisce about the good old days in Puerto Rico. And as a salesman for Sello Rojo, he would travel to different parts of the island. In , Roberto was driving around Barrio San Anton, and he told me many times that he saw a group of kids playing baseball, with guava tree limbs as bats. And they used cans “like for spachetti or other foods “as baseballs. The kids would crush them, and that would be the ball. One day driving around San Anton, he stopped to take a look at the kids. He saw this one kid in particular “who turned out to be Roberto “and just by watching him for a few minutes, he saw the athletic abilities that Roberto had. And that led Marin to contact Roberto and ask him to play softball on the team sponsored by Sello Rojo Rice. I see this one kid “he never strikes out. Tin cans all over the field! His cap would always fall off and the people loved him. After a couple of years, he decided

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

Momen needed a change of scenery: He was too slow for shortstop. In any case, his decision to move Momen would prove possibly more momentous than had been the happy accident of simply finding him in the first place. Everyone had their eyes on him. He was competing against top softball players, and as you know, a good softball pitcher is as about as hard to hit as a professional baseball pitcher. After the softball tournament, some teams in the Double A amateur baseball league became interested in Roberto. He was like an unpolished gem. So he began to play with the Juncos team in the Double A amateur baseball league. I told him I was going to take him to a tryout that a Brooklyn Dodger scout was going to hold in Santurce. Maybe seventy kids — seventy-two, I think. They lined up in center field and we hit fungoes to them, about feet from home plate. The first outfielder threw, the second — below-average arms. Threw the hell out of the ball. Then he threw another. Then Clemente came and ran a 6. And in a baseball uniform! He hit for 20, 25 minutes. So I tell the pitcher to pitch him outside, and the kid swings with both feet off the ground and hits line drives to right and sharp ground balls up the middle. He was the greatest natural athlete I have ever seen as a free agent. Fortunately, however, David Maraniss has provided rather compelling contemporary confirmation for all the retrospective raves. A reproduction of the original scouting report from the Campanis-conducted Dodger tryout gives RC high marks across the board: This has been attributed to various causes by the various biographies down through the years, all pretty much variations on a theme, i. He wanted Roberto to finish high school. Marin, however, was not so easily deterred. Shortly thereafter, he would take matters into his own hands: I always used to kid him that he was one of the few persons I knew who could wash his face and his head at the same time with just one hand! The next weekend, Juncos was going to play an exhibition game in Manati. The park was filled with young men, and among them was Roberto Clemente. We saw that he had a strong arm, hit hard, but we never imagined what he would do later. He was still just a boy, and we lost track of him. There were so many black American stars that the natives had to be darned good to play. In those days, the blacks played for little money. Right after Roberto signed, they put him on the bench.

# DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

## Chapter 5 : ESPN: The Worldwide Leader in Sports

*A shot from atop Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning during game 7 of the World Series. Taken moments after the Pirates defeated the Yankees with a walk off home run by Bill Mazeroski.*

Annie Oakley[ edit ] A free ticket to attendance at a ballgame or to first base a "free pass" or "base on balls". Appeals require the defense to make a verbal appeal to an appropriate umpire, or if the situation being appealed is obvious a player may indicate an appeal with a gesture. The onus is on the defense to make an appeal; umpires will not announce potential appeal situations such as runners failing to touch a base, batting out of order, or unchecked swings until an appeal is made. Arizona Fall League A short-season minor league in which high-level prospects from all thirty Major League Baseball clubs are organized into six teams on which players have the opportunity to refine and showcase their skills for evaluation by coaches, scouts, and executives. Such teams are referred to as "scout teams" and "taxi squads". Anthopoulos is just stockpiling arms in an attempt to lure a trade Typically, if an out is made at first base, the first baseman will throw to the shortstop , who throws to the second baseman , who throws to the third baseman , who returns the ball to the pitcher. Patterns vary from team to team, but the third baseman is usually the last infielder to receive a throw, regardless of the pattern. Throwing the ball around the horn is also done after a strikeout with no baserunners. The catcher will throw the ball to the third baseman, who then throws it to the second baseman, who throws it to the shortstop, who then throws it to the first baseman. Some catchers determine to whom they will throw based on the handedness of the batter to first for a right-handed batter because the line to the first baseman is not blocked and vice versa or whether the team is in an overshift, when the third baseman would be playing close to where the shortstop normally plays and would require a harder throw to be reached. An additional application of this term is when a or double play has occurred, which mimics the pattern of throwing the ball around the horn. Usually a pitcher who comes into the game with no one on base but proceeds to give up several runs. May additionally reference batters seeing a pitched ball as relatively smaller than normal, a potential psychological effect on batters who are in a slump. A fielder can receive only one assist per out recorded. A fielder also receives an assist if a putout would have occurred, had not another fielder committed an error. It implies that the record requires a footnote explaining the purportedly unfair advantage, with the asterisk being a symbol commonly used in typography to call out footnotes. In recent times it has been prominently used in the following circumstances: The record holder is widely believed to have used performance-enhancing drugs , whether or not such use is proven or admitted. The ball Bonds hit for the record-breaking home run was subsequently branded with an asterisk before it was sent to the Baseball Hall of Fame. A holder of a single-season record accomplished the feat in a longer season, and thus had additional opportunities to break the record.

# DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

## Chapter 6 : Baseball Quotes ( quotes)

*For some it will be that Iliad of an at-bat, when the other F-Rod finally gave in and came inside, and Spiezio took him out. (Oh, by the way, his band sucks (Oh, by the way, his band sucks.*

Even within a type of pitch, there can be variations. For instance, a pitcher may throw a curveball with a trajectory, or he may throw one with a These will be explained later. Pitchers often know many different types of pitches, but are only comfortable with throwing four or five different varieties during the course of an actual game. There are two basic approaches to successful pitching: Or you can attempt to strike out batters by over-powering them and putting batters in a reactive and defensive posture. Basics[ edit ] Velocity Velocity is the speed of the pitch. There are optimal velocities for different types of pitches. For instance, you want your change-up to be thrown at a slower speed than your fastball. Tim Wakefield , a knuckleballer of the Boston Red Sox , for instance, has a slow fastball, clocking in the high 70s at most. A fireballer like Nolan Ryan would throw in the high 90s and possibly touch Velocity itself is not as important, however, as is how fast your pitches appear when compared to the others. An 80 mph fastball complementing a 50 mph change-up would be much more effective than an 80 mph fastball backing up a 77 mph change-up. Trajectory Trajectory is the path the ball takes when compared with a clock. Different pitches have different trajectories. Standard Pitches[ edit ] Four Seam Fastball The four seam fastball is the standard pitch in baseball, and is almost always the fastest pitch in the arsenal of any pitcher who throws it. The four seam fastball has comparatively little movement, but exceptional four seamers may appear to have a rising or hopping motion. Pitchers who rely heavily on the four seamer may give up large numbers of home runs. Curveball The curveball is often the first breaking pitch a budding pitcher learns. Contrary to what most non-baseball people believe, a "perfect" curveball breaks straight down with essentially no sideways movement, i. It is often a slower pitch than most, hence it is sometimes referred to as an "off-speed breaking ball. Power pitchers often throw one in the 90s. It typically breaks or with less pronounced movement than a curveball. An effective change-up can make a hitter swing before the ball crosses the plate. Niche Fastballs[ edit ] There are many different types of fastball, each with a special quirk. Two seamers , splitters , and sinkers are used to induce groundouts, while cutters are used to jam hitters inside. Two Seam Fastball A two-seam fastball is thrown the same way as a four seam fastball, but with the fingers held along the seams rather than across them. This gives the two seamer more movement than the four seamer, but makes it a bit slower. The two seamer appears to drop compared to the four seamer, which results in ground outs and double plays. It is almost always thrown at the lower end of the strike zone. Sinker The sinker is often thrown low and in, or low and out of the strike zone, and is designed to appear as a strike before dropping out of the zone completely. Splitter A Split-finger fastball is similar to a sinker but has more of a downward break to it. The Split-finger can be thrown at high speeds but is less effective. The trickiness about a splitfinger is that batters tend to over-swing or swing over the ball. This pitch looks like a fastball as it heads to the plate then dives south. Some Split-fingers move like a two-seam fastball and others move like a knuckle-ball depending on how you grip and release the ball. Roger Clemens is known for a dangerous splitter. The pitch was popularized by the pitching staffs of Roger Craig in the s but led to many injuries and is less popular now. Cut Fastball The cut fastball is thrown inside on batters of the opposite-handedness of the pitcher righty vs. It comes inside closer than it appears to and jams the hitters. Lefties are more likely to throw this pitch than righties, for the simple fact that righty batters are more common in MLB. Mariano Rivera has one of the best cut fastballs in the game. Running Fastball The running fastball is thrown to move inside from a righty pitcher to righty batter or a lefty to a lefty. This is useful to use when you want to jam a batter of the same handedness as the pitcher. Like the cutter it can break the bat. Since lefties generally throw cutters because there are generally more right-handed batters, right-handers usually throw running fastballs to right-handed batters, but lefties can throw this pitch to a left-handed batter as well. Circle change A Circle Change is a change-up variant with lateral motion similar to a screwball. The trickiness

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

about the circle change is the movement and velocity. Pedro Martinez is known for a dominating circle change.

**Palmball** The palmball pitch is a type of changeup. It requires placing the baseball tightly in the palm and then throwing it as if throwing a fastball. This takes some of the velocity off the pitch, intending to make the batter swing before the ball reaches the plate. Like the splitter, the split change can be gripped with three fingers. This is especially useful for younger players or smaller handed people. Both of these drop straight down and are just different grips for a change-up.

**Gyrobball** The gyrobball is a pitch whose trajectory lies somewhere between a fastball and a curve, i. It achieves this unusual effect because it spins on an axis parallel to its trajectory, somewhat akin to a football being thrown with a perfect spiral. It was invented in Japan, and although Daisuke Matsuzaka is rumored to use it occasionally, it has yet to prove that it can be an effective pitch in Major League Baseball. The Gyrobball is thrown with bullet-like or football-like spin. Throwing this pitching with a four seam grip makes this ball decelerate less than a regular four seam fastball, so it arrives at the plate faster than the batter would expect. This makes the batter late on the ball. Also because of the spin it appears to be a breaking ball to the batter. The two seam Gyrobball is thrown the same way but because there is more friction in the air from this different spin it decelerates more than the four seam Gyrobball. This pitch seems like a breaking ball too, but like the other Gyrobball, it only drops a few inches making the batter swing under it. Both Gyrobballs drop a little but not nearly as much as a good curveball. The most renowned shuuto pitcher in history was Masaji Hiramatsu whose famous pitch was dubbed the "razor shuuto" because it seemed to "cut the air" when thrown. The pitch is mainly designed to break down and in on right-handed batters, so as to prevent them from making good contact with the ball. It can also be thrown to left-handers to keep them off balance.

**Knuckleball** The knuckleball was made famous by Hoyt Wilhelm and Phil Niekro, although it dates back to the beginning of the 20th century. It is tantalizingly slow but dances all over the place. Eephus also spelled "ephus" An eephus pitch, invented by Rip Sewell of the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 1930s, is impossibly slow, usually with a very high arching trajectory. It is basically a lob to the catcher. Steve Hamilton, who called this pitch the "folly floater," was probably its most successful practitioner. It is rarely thrown anymore, but pitchers like Carlos Zambrano, Casey Fossum, and Orlando Hernandez will throw them occasionally.

**Forkball** A forkball "tumbles" out of the strike zone rather than breaks out of it when thrown. The Forkball kind of looks like a fast dancing knuckle ball. If the wind is blowing in either direction, the forkball is a brain scrambler, meaning the ball is going to dance all over and sink. It is similar to the splitter, but is more of an off-speed pitch.

**Vulcan Change-up** This is similar to the forkball. Often called V change or the "trekkie" because of its unnatural grip. This pitch drops like a regular change-up, but just puts a little more friction on the ball. Basically it is a different way to grip a Change-up.

**Screwball** A screwball is a "backwards curveball. This pitch was conjured up because hitters have an easier time hitting pitches that break in on them than those that fade away. Lefties would throw this against righties, and righties against lefties. Christy Mathewson and Carl Hubbell are among the most famous screwball pitchers in history, and in recent times Mike Marshall and Fernando Valenzuela have had great success with this pitch.

**Slurve** A slurve is a slider thrown at curveball velocity.

**Sweeping Curveball** A curveball thrown from a slightly lower arm slot, which breaks from on a clock for a right-handed pitcher.

**Knuckle Curveball** A curveball thrown with one knuckle up, making the pitch slightly slower than a regular curveball, but still breaks for a right-handed pitcher.

**Spiked Curveball** A curveball thrown with one knuckle up, the grip is different from the knuckle curve, but still has the same effect.

**Knuckle Slider** A Slider thrown with the index finger knuckle up. It is a few mph slower but has the same break but with the slightly lower velocity it has about an inch to two inches more drop, but not quite a slurve.

**Yellow Hammer** This is an even slower Curveball. It has top spin plus a low speed, which makes it drop even more than a curveball. When a professional pitcher throws this pitch, it travels a mph.

**Pitching motions**[ edit ] Most pitchers are taught at the beginning of baseball to throw overhand. Overhand can be an effective pitching motion, but other motions can be equally or more effective once mastered. A few pitchers can vary their motion from pitch to pitch. There are 5 types of pitching motions: The pitcher pushes off the rubber and whips his arm for velocity. This means the batter will have to drop his shoulders in order to get under the ball.

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

### Chapter 7 : Giants place Mike Leake on disabled list, recall LHP Josh Osich - Giants Extra

*Faith and Fear in Flushing made its debut on Feb. 16, , the brainchild of two longtime friends and lifelong Met fans. Greg Prince discovered the Mets when he was 6, during the magical summer of*

Two months later, the AL declared itself a competing major league. In its first game in the American League, the team lost to the Detroit Tigers 14â€”13 after blowing a nine-run lead in the 9th inning. Louis Browns[ edit ] Main article: History of the St. Louis Browns After one year in Milwaukee the club relocated to St Louis, and for a while enjoyed some success, especially in the s behind Hall of Fame first baseman George Sisler. During this period the Browns only won one pennant, in the season stocked with wartime replacement players, and lost to the Cardinals in the third and last World Series ever played entirely in one ballpark. Instead, Veeck sold his franchise to a partnership of Baltimore businessmen. Baltimore Orioles[ edit ] The "Oriole Bird", which has been the official mascot figure since April 6, The name has a rich history in Baltimore, having been used by a National League team in the s. In , Baltimore and John McGraw [9] ] were awarded an expansion franchise in the growing American League, naming the team the Orioles. In , the franchise -- the remaining players, assets and debts, the corporation -- was transferred to New York where they were nicknamed the Highlanders until circa , by which time Yanks or Yankees had taken over as their popular moniker. Their large postseason crowds caught the attention of the major leagues, eventually leading to a new MLB franchise in Baltimore. In its first-ever home opener at Memorial Stadium later in the afternoon, they treated a sellout crowd of 46, to a 3â€”1 victory over the Chicago White Sox. The remainder of the season would not be as pleasant, with the team enduring losses while avoiding the AL cellar by only three games. Real estate developer James Keelty Jr. He laid the foundation for what would years later be called the Oriole Way. The instruction of baseball fundamentals became uniform in every detail between all classes within the organization. Players were patiently refined until fundamentally sound instead of being hastily advanced to the next level. For the remainder of the s, the Orioles crawled up the standings, reaching as high as fifth place with a 76â€”76 record in Unfortunately, Richards also had the tendency to recklessly spend money on individuals with dubious baseball skills. This became a major problem as bidding wars between the ballclubs to land the best amateur players escalated signing bonuses. The solution came on November 5, , when Lee MacPhail was appointed general manager, allowing Richards to focus on his managerial duties. MacPhail added much-needed discipline to the scouting staff by establishing cross-checkers who thoroughly evaluated young hopefuls to determine whether they were worthy of being tendered a contract. He also accepted the title of president after Keelty resigned in mid-December A year earlier , he succeeded in establishing the Orioles as a legitimate contender when they stood atop the AL standings as late as early September before finishing in second place at 89â€” In , the Birds , piloted by Hank Bauer in his first year of managing the ballclub, were involved in a tight pennant race against the Yankees and White Sox. They ended up in third place with a 97â€”65 record, only two games out. It has been suggested that they would likely have advanced to the Fall Classic had it not been for a minor wrist injury that sidelined Powell for two weeks in late August. With the benefit of a deep talent pool and superior scouts, the franchise continued to make improvements at the major league level. Three months before the start of the season, the Orioles stabilized its infield by acquiring Luis Aparicio in a transaction that involved sending a trio of homegrown players Hansen, Nicholson and Ward to the White Sox. On December 9, , the Orioles traded pitcher Milt Pappas and several others to the Cincinnati Reds in exchange for slugging outfielder Frank Robinson. It cleared the left field single-deck portion of the grandstand. A flag was later erected near the spot the ball cleared the back wall, with simply the word "HERE" upon it. The flag is now in the Baltimore Orioles Museum. Pappas went 30â€”29 in a little over two years with the Reds before being traded. Although he would go on to have back-to-back win seasons for the Chicago Cubs in and , including a no-hitter in the latter season, this did not help the Reds , who ended up losing the World Series to Robinson and the Orioles. This trade has become renowned as one of the most lopsided in

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

baseball history, including a mention by Susan Sarandon in her opening soliloquy in the film *Bull Durham*: I mean, who can forget Frank Robinson for Milt Pappas? This period included eighteen consecutive winning seasons -- a run of success that saw the Orioles become the envy of the league, and the winningest team in baseball. During this period, the Orioles played baseball the "Oriole Way", an organizational ethic best described by longtime farm hand and coach Cal Ripken Sr. It was based on the belief that if every coach, at every level, taught the game the same way, the organization could produce "replacement parts" that could be substituted seamlessly into the big league club with little or no adjustment. After a mediocre season, Hank Bauer would be replaced by Earl Weaver halfway into the season. The Orioles would finish second in the American League. The Orioles would miss the playoffs in 1969, but rebounded to win the division in 1970 and 1971. During this stretch, the Orioles began to phase out their veteran infield by replacing Davey Johnson and Brooks Robinson with younger stars Bobby Grich and Doug DeCinces, respectively. Although Williams had hit 63 home runs in two seasons with Atlanta, he would only hit 36 homers in two seasons with the Orioles. It was this season when the Orioles made a trade that brought them players such as Tippy Martinez and Rick Dempsey. This young foundation, along with the departures of the unhappy Jackson and Holtzman, would create the basis for the Orioles' success. After finishing fourth in 1972, the Orioles finally won the division in 1973 thanks to strong play from Ken Singleton and Cy Young winner Mike Flanagan. This started a short period of heartbreak for Baltimore that would nevertheless culminate in a championship. Although Baltimore had the best overall record in the AL East in 1974, they finished second in each half. As a result, they were out of the playoffs due to the postseason structure that year because of the strike. The campaign saw Baltimore eliminated on the final weekend of the season by the Milwaukee Brewers. In an unforgettable scene, despite the season-ending loss eliminating them from the playoffs, fans stayed to honor the retiring Earl Weaver, who would be succeeded by Joe Altobelli. During their most productive years and only World Series championships thus far, the Orioles saw three of its players named MVP: Additionally, Brooks Robinson was named Most Valuable Player in 1969, just two years before the Orioles' golden era began. In that year, the Birds went on to post a 101–61 record for their third-straight AL East title. The glory years of the Orioles effectively ended when the Detroit Tigers, a divisional rival at the time, went 103–59 to open the season on the way to winning the World Series, in which Hall-of-Fame pitcher Jim Palmer retired during the season. Final seasons at Memorial Stadium [ edit ] The Orioles hosting one of the final games at Memorial Stadium in 1991. After winning the World Series in 1983, the Orioles spent the next five years in steady decline, finishing in last place for the first time since the franchise moved to Baltimore. The team hit bottom in 1991 when it started the season 0–21, en route to losses and the worst record in the majors that year. The next two years were spent below .500. The Orioles wordmark Main articles: The stadium became the site of the All-Star Game. The Orioles returned to contention in those first two seasons at Camden Yards, only to finish in third place both times. Angelos takes over [ edit ] Also in 1993, with then-owner Eli Jacobs forced to divest himself of the franchise, Baltimore-based attorney Peter Angelos, along with the ownership syndicate he headed, was awarded the Orioles in bankruptcy court in New York City, returning the team to local ownership for the first time since 1954. Strike year [ edit ] Main article: The Orioles, who spent all of 1994 chasing the New York Yankees, occupied second place in the new five-team AL East when the players strike, which began on August 11, forced the eventual cancellation of the season. Almost all of the major league clubs held spring training using replacement players, with the intention of beginning the season with them. The Orioles, whose owner was a labor union lawyer, were the lone dissenters against creating an ersatz team, choosing instead to sit out spring training and possibly the entire season. Had they fielded a substitute team, Cal Ripken Jr. The replacements questions became moot when the strike was finally settled. The Ripken countdown resumed once the season began. This was later voted the all-time baseball moment of the 20th century by fans from around the country in 1999. Ripken finished his streak with 2,131 straight games, finally sitting on September 20, 1991, the Orioles final home game of the season against the Yankees at Camden Yards. The Orioles finished two games under .500. Playoff years [ edit ] Main article: Given the green light to spend heavily on established talent, Gillick signed several premium players like B. Under new manager Davey Johnson and on the strength

## DOWNLOAD PDF I HAND OUT BATTING TITLES AS IF BY MAGIC (OH, AND BASEBALL SUCKS)

of a then-major league record home runs in a single season, the Orioles returned to the playoffs after a year absence by clinching the AL wild card berth. He was later suspended for the first five games of the season, even though most wanted him banned from the postseason. The Yankees went on to win the game in extra innings on an ensuing walk-off home run by Bernie Williams. Beginning of a downturn [ edit ] Main article: Angelos brought in Frank Wren to take over as GM. After a second straight losing season, Angelos fired both Miller and Wren. In a rare event on March 28, , the Orioles staged an exhibition series against the Cuban national team in Havana. The Orioles won the game 3â€”2 in 11 innings. The Cuban team visited Baltimore in May Cuba won the second game 10â€”6. A fire sale occurred late in the season, where the Orioles traded away many veterans for unproven young players and minor league prospects. The Orioles called up many of their AAA players to finish the season. The only acquired player that would have a long-term career with the organization was Melvin Mora. This was Cal Ripken Jr. His number 8 was retired in a ceremony before the final home game of the season. Post-Ripken era and downfall [ edit ] seasons[ edit ] This version of the script logo has been on the front of the home jerseys since General manager Syd Thrift was fired and to replace him, the Orioles hired Jim Beattie as executive vice-president and Mike Flanagan as the vice president of baseball operations. After another losing season, manager Mike Hargrove was not retained and Yankees coach Lee Mazzilli was brought in as the new manager.

### Chapter 8 : Roberto Clemente - BR Bullpen

*What others are saying "By Ronnie Tellalian Napoleon Lajoie is the Indians all-time leader in hits and in along with Tris Speaker, was honored as the first Cleveland players inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame."*

### Chapter 9 : NFL, College Sports, NBA and Recruiting - [www.nxgvision.com](http://www.nxgvision.com)

*The Par'chin held up a hand, Drawing the magic back into himself. Jardir, dizzied by the sudden drain, stared at him. "We can do this all night, Ahmann," the Par'chin said, melting away.*