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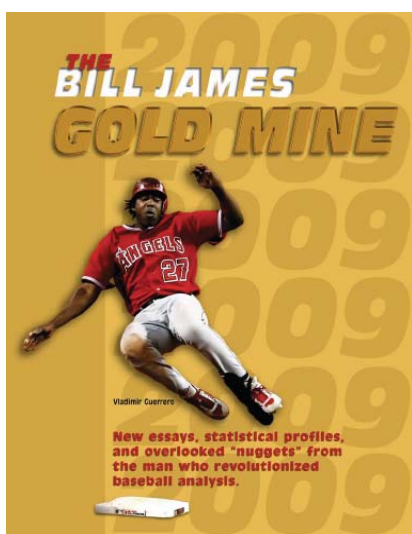
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The newest book by the man who has never been satisfied by what he *thinks* he knows

You'll be smarter at the water cooler just by holding it.

—Michael Marotta, *The Boston Herald*



Statistics are a dangerous thing. In the wrong hands, they can be spun to indicate absolutely anything—or nothing. Bill James understands this essential truth about statistics, and that's why **THE BILL JAMES GOLD MINE 2009** occupies a unique place among the piles of baseball annuals published each spring. There's nothing else like it.

Because statistics can be twisted, James has never taken them at face value or been charmed by what most people think the numbers say. Since the 1980s, he has challenged commonly-accepted baseball wisdom. His own innovative and sometimes quirky statistics, many of which have led to revolutionary approaches at the major league level, have created legions of Bill James fans. But it's never been enough for him to simply spout off fascinating numerical tidbits: The numbers have to mean something, and somebody has to care.

That's the standard he's set, and that's the standard by which all other statistical analysis is measured. **THE BILL JAMES GOLD MINE 2009** offers thirty chapters (one for each major league team) crammed with statistical nuggets and cutting-edge revelations for the average or the hardcore fan. And even if a reader isn't familiar with numerical measures like OPS or Win Shares, by using the book's straightforward definitions, these statistics are readily understood. No statistic is presented out of context or without explanation. Each table and chart, every profile, and all the numbers in this book reveal insightful information about players and teams with assumption-shattering analysis such as:

- Pitch Type Analysis
- Baserunning Analysis
- Pitcher's Record of Opposing Batters
- Performance by Starting Pitcher
- Productivity by Batting Order Position
- Fielding Bible Plus/Minus Data

*The Bill James Gold Mine is Bill as I know him—
random, funny, thoughtful, opinionated and yet not entirely convinced.*

—Joe Posnanski, *The Kansas City Star*

Of course, fans don't appreciate Bill James only for his statistics. They love his writing, too. No one else possesses his unique point of view or the unfailing way he becomes both lecturer and student while keeping a healthy dose of irreverence and his Kansas-bred sense of humor close at hand. In **THE BILL JAMES GOLD MINE 2009**, James continues to till the unturned soil of baseball's establishment with more than 15 articles that examine supposed baseball maxims:

- U Scores
- Gems
- Catcher Pride Points
- Pitch Load
- Wipeout Scores
- Gold Glove Sluggers
- 96 Families of Hitters
- Triple Crowns
- A What-If Fantasy

Not all questions lead to answers. Not all apparent truths are absolute. And not all statistics reveal something meaningful about the game of baseball. But those that do made it into this book.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bill James made his mark in the 1980s with his revolutionary Baseball Abstracts. He has been tearing down preconceived notions about America's pastime ever since. He is currently the Senior Baseball Operations Advisor for the Boston Red Sox.

*If you believe that a select few non-players belong in the Hall of Fame,
then Bill James certainly belongs.*

—Jed Hoyer, Assistant General Manager, Boston Red Sox

For more information on **THE BILL JAMES GOLD MINE 2009** and/or to schedule an interview with Bill James, please contact Charles Fiore at 847-676-2282 or cfiore@actapublications.com.

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