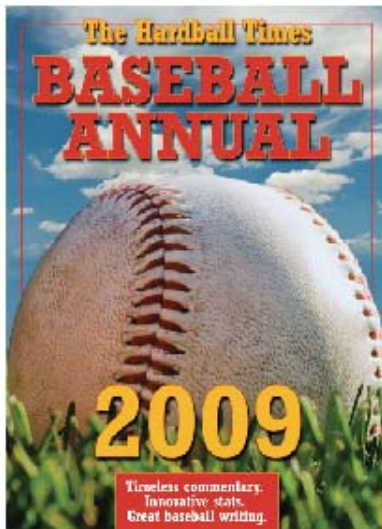


**Timeless Commentary. Innovative Stats.  
Great Baseball Writing.**  
*The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009*

---



*“The Hardball Times Baseball Annual:*

*It’s what we enjoy.”*

*—Peter Gammons, ESPN.com*

Runs are the currency of baseball. Not only does the team with the most runs win, but runs also have predicative value. If you want to know how many games a team might win next season, projecting their runs scored and runs allowed will give you a pretty good idea. The folks at The Hardball Times like to use a run estimation formula called Base Runs—the most accurate run estimation formula around. So how does it work? What do Base Runs predict for next season? Answers to these questions and more can be found in *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009*.

Now that the postseason has been over for a month, and with the Hot Stove League just warming up, it’s the perfect time to look back on the season that was and look ahead to what might be in store for 2009. Imagine a relay race where one runner passes the baton to the next. *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009* is that baton—a bridge between the season that was and the season that has yet to be written in the record books.

*The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009* is the most complete annual collection of brand new commentary, analysis and historical baseball writing by some of the best writers working today. This book contains reports on the hottest issues in baseball including:

- Who really deserves the Manager of the Year Award?
- Assessing the Mitchell Report one season later
- The story of the Tampa Bay Rays
- A profile of the World Champion Philadelphia Phillies’ GM Pat Gillick

This year’s *Annual* also finds overlooked stories of the past, present and future, including:

- A look ahead to the (greatest ever?) Hall of Fame Class of 2013
- What’s a prospect worth?
- How Pete Rose changed free agency
- How do players age?

“Informative articles from the most respected number crunchers in the game.”

—Bob D’Angelo, *Tampa Tribune*

Of course, *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009* would not be complete without the unique stats that The Hardball Times has become famous for. In addition to detailed batting, pitching and fielding stats for each team and each individual player, *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009* continues to break new ground in baseball analysis with stats such as:

- Base Runs—the best run estimation formula!
- Net Win Shares
- Win Probability Added
- Playing Time Constellations
- Batted Ball Results
- Detailed graphs charting the divisional races of 2008

“There are several baseball books that come out every year for the holiday season, but none as well-rounded and complete as *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual*.”

—Devin Clancy, *Sports Weekly*

**Contributing authors to this year’s edition include renowned baseball writers Rob Neyer, Joe Posnanski, John Dewan, Craig Wright and Will Leitch.**

**THE HARDBALL TIMES** is a baseball think tank of writers who create provocative, insightful and entertaining baseball analyses, as well as produce their own unique statistics, graphs and essays. They maintain a website, [www.hardballtimes.com](http://www.hardballtimes.com), that is updated daily throughout the year on all things baseball.

For more information about *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009*, or to schedule interviews with Dave Studenmund, production manager of *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009* and editor of [www.hardballtimes.com](http://www.hardballtimes.com), please contact **Charles Fiore**, ACTA Sports, via email at [cfiore@actapublications.com](mailto:cfiore@actapublications.com) or by calling 800.397.2282.

Copies will be available from booksellers nationwide, online, and directly from the publisher at [www.actasports.com](http://www.actasports.com).

Title: *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2009*

Publisher: ACTA Sports

Format: 8 ½" X 11", paperback, 384 pages

Retail Price: \$21.95

ISBN: 978-0-87946-368-7

**Publication date: November 26, 2008**