



Analytics Conference

March 13-15, 2014



Bloomberg
SPORTS



MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
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THE 2014 SABR
ANALYTICS
CONFERENCE



Welcome!

Welcome to the third annual SABR Analytics Conference.

In 2014, we have invited another top group of speakers from throughout the baseball industry, and we have also added new panels such as Medical Analysis and Injury Prevention; Which Numbers Athletes Love, Which Numbers Athletes Hate; The International Baseball Landscape; Prospect Analysis and Evaluation; Telling Stories in the Age of Sabermetrics; and SABR Defensive Index.

Each year, the top minds of the baseball analytic community gather to discuss, debate and share insightful ways to analyze and examine the great game of baseball. The event is a natural for SABR.

The Society for American Baseball Research has a long and storied history with baseball statistical analysis, evidenced by the link between our name and sabermetrics. While SABR is a multi-faceted organization involved in virtually every aspect of baseball, we have taken a major step to re-connect with our beginnings by producing and hosting our third annual SABR Analytics Conference.

This year's conference will be held from Thursday, March 13 through Saturday, March 15 at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix in downtown Phoenix. The schedule will consist of a combination of Guest Speakers, Panels and Research Presentations — plus the Diamond Dollars Case Competition. In this competition, graduate and undergraduate students will analyze and present a real baseball operations decision.

SABR's long history in this area of baseball research, coupled with our mission of advancing the understanding and the knowledge of baseball, makes us the perfect choice to coordinate and host such an important baseball industry event.

Once again, we want to thank all of our attendees and our sponsors, which include Major League Baseball, ESPN, Bloomberg Sports, Sportvision, Rawlings, Baseball Info Solutions, Topps, SmartKage, YarcData, Baseball-Reference.com, and the following MLB teams: the Arizona Diamondbacks, Chicago Cubs, Cincinnati Reds, Cleveland Indians, Colorado Rockies, Los Angeles Dodgers, Philadelphia Phillies, San Francisco Giants and Texas Rangers.

You can visit SABR.org/analytics during and after the conference for complete coverage of the 2014 SABR Analytics Conference, including stories and highlights, video and audio clips, and photo galleries.

Vince Gennaro, SABR President ♦ Marc Appleman, SABR Executive Director

Events Schedule

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

Thursday's programming will be held at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix, 122 N. 2nd St., Phoenix, AZ 85004.

♦ **8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.: Registration open at Hyatt Regency Phoenix**

You can pick up your SABR Analytics Conference registration packet in the Regency Ballroom Foyer (1st floor) of the Hyatt Regency Phoenix.

♦ **8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: Diamond Dollars Case Competition, presented by YarcData (Remington, Cassidy, Russell and Phoenix Ballrooms, 2nd floor)**

Presentations of the Diamond Dollars Case Competition. Introduction at 8:30 a.m. by SABR President Vince Gennaro in the Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor. *See page 22 for the full presentation schedule.*

♦ **1:45-2:00 p.m.: Opening Remarks: Vince Gennaro/Marc Appleman (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

SABR President Vince Gennaro and Executive Director Marc Appleman welcome attendees to the 2014 SABR Analytics Conference.

♦ **2:00-3:00 p.m.: Panel: Medical Analysis and Injury Prevention (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

Dr. Stan Conte, Los Angeles Dodgers; Dr. Glenn Fleisig, American Sports Medicine Institute; Chris Marinak, Major League Baseball. Moderator Buster Olney, ESPN.com.

♦ **3:00-3:15 p.m.: SABR Analytics Conference Research Award presentation: Historical Analysis/Commentary (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

The winner of a 2014 SABR Analytics Conference Research Award will be announced and presented.

♦ **3:15-4:00 p.m.: RP1— Vince Gennaro, “An In Depth Study of Team Chemistry: A Progress Report” (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

♦ **3:15-4:00 p.m.: RP2—TBA (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)**

♦ **4:30-5:30 p.m.: Panel: Which Numbers Athletes Love, Which Numbers Athletes Hate (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

Aaron Boone, ESPN; Eduardo Perez, ESPN; Manny Acta, ESPN; Kirk Goldsberry, Grantland.com. Moderator: John Walsh, ESPN.

♦ **5:30-6:30 p.m.: Diamond Dollars Case Competition, presented by YarcData (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

Final presentation of the Diamond Dollars Case Competition. **Note: Schedule change!**

Events Schedule

♦ **6:30-7:30 p.m.: Panel: Analytics from the Players' View**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Brandon McCarthy, Arizona Diamondbacks; Brian Bannister, former major league pitcher.

Moderator: Jon Sciambi, ESPN.

♦ **7:30-10:00 p.m.: Welcome/Networking Reception with Baseball Industry Network**

(Garden Terrace, 3rd floor)

The welcome reception will be an opportunity for conference attendees to meet some of our panelists, speakers, writers and others working throughout the baseball industry. Cash bar.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

Friday's programming will be held at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix, 122 N. 2nd St., Phoenix, AZ 85004.

♦ **8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Registration open at Hyatt Regency Phoenix**

♦ **8:30-9:45 a.m.: Panel: Decision-Making in the Front Office**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Jack Zduriencik, Seattle Mariners; Bill Geivett, Colorado Rockies; Bobby Evans, San Francisco Giants.

Moderator: Ken Rosenthal, MLB Network/FoxSports.com.

♦ **10:00-10:45 a.m.: One on One: Mark Attanasio**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Mark Attanasio, Chairman and Principal Owner, Milwaukee Brewers.

Moderator: Ken Rosenthal, MLB Network/FoxSports.com.

♦ **11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: RP3— Graham Goldbeck, "An Introduction to In-Game Biomechanics Data" (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

♦ **11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: RP4— Kevin Tenenbaum and Dave Allen, "Scouting Bayes: A Bayesian Forecast with Scouting Priors" (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)**

♦ **12:30-1:30 p.m.: Lunch**

(Atrium, 2nd floor)

Analytics Conference registration includes lunch.

♦ **1:45-2:30 p.m.: Panel: Inside the SABR Defensive Index**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Vince Gennaro, SABR; Sean Forman, Sports Reference LLC; John Dewan, Baseball Info Solutions; Kurt Hunzeker, Rawlings. Moderator: Jon Sciambi, ESPN.

Events Schedule

♦ **2:45-3:00 p.m.: SABR Analytics Conference Research Award presentation:**

Contemporary Commentary (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

The winner of a 2014 SABR Analytics Conference Research Award will be announced and presented.

♦ **3:00-3:45 p.m.: RP5— Ben Jedlovec, “The Anatomy of a Stolen Base”**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

♦ **3:00-3:45 p.m.: RP6— Jeff Zimmerman, “Using PITCHf/x Data to Help Determine Pitcher Injury Risk” (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)**

♦ **4:00-5:00 p.m.: Panel: Clubhouse Confidential**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Dave Cameron, FanGraphs; Ben Lindbergh, Baseball Prospectus; Rob Neyer, FoxSports.com; Vince Gennaro, SABR.

Saturday, March 15

Saturday’s programming will be held at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix, 122 N. 2nd St., Phoenix, AZ 85004.

♦ **8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Registration open at Hyatt Regency Phoenix**

♦ **8:00-8:30 a.m.: Baseball-Reference.com Q&A**

(Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)

Baseball-Reference.com founder Sean Forman will be on hand to answer questions and provide tips on getting the most out of his website and its research tools.

♦ **8:30-9:45 a.m.: Panel: How Fans Consume Baseball in the Digital Age**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

A discussion of how baseball is viewed through the eyes of today’s young fans.

Speakers: Hunter Gilbertson, NYU; Jake Sotir, Elon University; Lewie Pollis, Brown University; Olivia Wyatt, Tufts University. Moderator: Vince Gennaro, SABR.

♦ **10:00-11:00 a.m.: Panel: The International Baseball Landscape**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Leonte Landino, ESPN Deportes; Tyrone Brooks, Pittsburgh Pirates; Josh Rawitch, Arizona Diamondbacks. Moderator: Rob Neyer, FoxSports.com.

♦ **11:00-11:45 a.m.: RP7— Bill Petti, “Quantifying and Understanding the Consistency of Pitchers”**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

♦ **11:00-11:45 a.m.: RP8—Lewie Pollis, “If You Build It: Rethinking the Market for Front Office Personnel” (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)**

Events Schedule

♦ **11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: SABR Analytics Conference Research Award presentation:**

Contemporary Analysis (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

The winner of a 2014 SABR Analytics Conference Research Award will be announced and presented.

♦ **12:00-1:00 p.m.: Lunch**

(Atrium, 2nd floor)

Analytics Conference registration includes lunch.

♦ **1:15-2:15 p.m.: Panel: Prospect Analysis and Evaluation**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Jim Callis, MLB.com; Jonathan Mayo, MLB.com; Bernie Pleskoff, MLB.com.

Moderator: Barry M. Bloom, MLB.com.

♦ **2:30-3:30 p.m.: Panel: Telling Stories in the Age of Sabermetrics**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Howard Megdal, Sports on Earth; Emma Span, Sports on Earth; Mike Tanier, Sports on Earth.

Moderator: Steve Madden, Sports on Earth.

♦ **3:30-4:15 p.m.: Bloomberg Sports—Next Generation of Analytics**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Daniel Cohen, Bloomberg Sports; Kyle Evans, Chicago Cubs. **Note: Schedule change!**

♦ **4:15-4:30 p.m.: Conference wrap-up**

(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

SABR President Vince Gennaro and Executive Director Marc Appleman.

Please note: All speakers and panelists are subject to change due to availability.

Speakers/Panelists

Medical Analysis and Injury Prevention: This panel will discuss how Major League Baseball and its teams are working to better diagnose, track and prevent injuries in the future. **2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 13, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Dr. Stan Conte, Vice President of Medical Services, Los Angeles Dodgers:** Stan is the Vice President of Medical Services, where he manages the organization's Major and Minor League medical departments and also handles medical risk assessment and injury management. Regarded as one of the top experts in physical therapy and conditioning in professional sports, Stan joined the Dodgers in October 2006 following 15 seasons with the San Francisco Giants, including seven as head athletic trainer and physical therapist. Prior to his promotion in 2000, he served as the team's assistant athletic trainer and coordinator of strength and rehabilitation for the previous eight years. He received his B.S. in physical therapy at California State University, Northridge in 1978, and his Doctorate of Physical Therapy at Boston University in 2010. He has served on several MLB committees including the co-chairman of the Analytic Committee and member of the Injury Surveillance System as well as on the expert panel of the MLB Research Committee.

♦ **Dr. Glenn Fleisig, Research Director, American Sports Medicine Institute:** Glenn is the Research Director for the American Sports Medicine Institute in Birmingham, Alabama. He earned engineering degrees from MIT, Washington University, and UAB. In 1987, Dr. James Andrews founded ASMI and hired Glenn to head up the institute's research. During the past 25 years, Glenn has published more than 100 scientific articles, worked with thousands of athletes including from 20 Major League teams, appeared in countless television, print, and online stories, and presented his work all over the world. Glenn is also the chair of USA Baseball's Medical and Safety Committee, an adjunct professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and pitching consultant for Little League Baseball and Softball.

♦ **Chris Marinak, Vice President, League Economics and Strategy, MLB:** Chris is the Vice President for League Economics and Strategy at Major League Baseball. He manages a strategy division that provides internal consulting services to the 30 Major League Clubs and the Commissioner on issues including player contracts, league-wide economic policy, local media rights, and business development. He is also responsible for design and development of numerous technology systems, including player Electronic Medical Records and Injury Tracking System. He joined MLB in 2008 as the Director of Labor Economics, where he led a team responsible for player contract valuation, salary arbitration analysis, team payroll reporting, umpire performance reporting, and financial modeling related to revenue sharing. Chris led negotiations for the economic provisions of the 2012-2016 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Major League Baseball Players Association.

♦ **Moderator: Buster Olney, Senior Writer, ESPN.com:** Buster is a senior writer at *ESPN The Magazine*, reporter for ESPN's exclusive Sunday Night Baseball telecast and an analyst for Baseball Tonight. He joined ESPN in June 2003 to cover baseball for all ESPN entities, including ESPN Radio, ESPNEWS, and SportsCenter. He writes a daily column for ESPN.com and also hosts a popular Baseball Tonight podcast. Buster began covering baseball in 1989 for the *Nashville Banner* and later for the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, *Baltimore Sun* and *New York Times*. He is also the author of *The Last Night of the Yankee Dynasty: The Game, the Team, and the Cost of Greatness*.

Speakers/Panelists

Which Numbers Athletes Love, Which Numbers Athletes Hate

Baseball players-turned-broadcast analysts will explain how they use analytics to cover baseball from the booth. **4:30 p.m., Thursday, March 13, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Aaron Boone, Analyst, ESPN:** Aaron is an analyst for ESPN's "Monday Night Baseball" with frequent appearances on "Baseball Tonight" and other studio programming. He joined ESPN in 2010 after his retirement from professional baseball. He also served as a guest analyst on ESPN Radio during the 2009 National League Division Series. Boone played for six Major League franchises over 12 seasons. In 2003, Boone earned his first and only All-Star appearance before being traded from the Cincinnati Reds to the Yankees. Later that year, he famously hit a dramatic, series-clinching home run in the bottom of the 11th inning of Game 7 of the ALCS, giving the Yankees a 6-5 victory over their rival, Boston Red Sox.

♦ **Eduardo Perez, Analyst, ESPN:** Eduardo is an analyst for ESPN's "Baseball Tonight." He was the Houston Astros' bench coach in 2013 after two seasons as the Miami Marlins' hitting coach. He has served as manager of the Colombian national team and as manager and general manager of the Puerto Rican national team. In 2008, he earned Manager of the Year honors in the Puerto Rican Winter League and in 2009 he led the Ponce Lions to the Caribbean Series. From 1993-2006, Eduardo played parts of 13 seasons in the Major Leagues for the Angels, Cardinals, Reds, Devil Rays, Indians and Mariners.

♦ **Manny Acta, Analyst, ESPN:** Manny joined ESPN and ESPN Deportes as a baseball analyst in 2013. He served as manager of the Cleveland Indians from 2010 to 2012, leading the Tribe to a second-place finish in 2011 and an 11-game improvement. Previously, he was manager of the Washington Nationals from 2007 to 2009; at age 37, he was the youngest active manager in MLB at the time of his hiring. He finished sixth in the NL Manager of the Year voting in 2007. Manny played in the Houston Astros minor league system for seven years, eventually becoming a coach in the organization in 1991. In 2013, he was named general manager of the Tigres del Licey in the Dominican Professional Baseball League after managing that club to the Caribbean World Series championship in 2003-04.

♦ **Kirk Goldsberry, Staff Writer, Grantland.com:** Kirk is a staff writer at Grantland.com, a visiting scholar at the Harvard Center for Geographic Analysis and an assistant professor in the Department of Geography at Michigan State University. He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Geography at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

♦ **John Walsh, Executive Vice President and Executive Editor, ESPN:** Since joining ESPN in 1988, John's fingerprints are on many of the network's largest initiatives and launches. An executive vice president, Walsh has served as executive editor since December 1990 and oversaw the launch of *ESPN The Magazine* and ESPN Radio; been instrumental in developing the many news and information elements within ESPN, including networks and new shows; and led the editorial direction of ESPN.com and its properties. Currently he also serves as chairman of ESPN's editorial board.

Speakers/Panelists

Bloomberg Sports—Next Generation of Analytics

Daniel Cohen, Vice President of Business Development & Sales for Bloomberg Sports, will demonstrate the one-stop-shop system now being used by almost all Major League clubs for their front office operations, and discuss the new video solution being introduced by Bloomberg as part of that system. Daniel will also demonstrate some of the advanced and predictive analytics that Bloomberg is creating for MLB broadcasts. **Schedule change: 3:30 p.m., Saturday, March 15, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Daniel Cohen, Bloomberg Sports:** Daniel is Vice President of Business Development & Sales for Bloomberg Sports, which provides data, statistical analysis and visualizations for sports professionals and fans. Before joining Bloomberg in 2007, he worked for the Washington Nationals and the Washington Baseball Club Ownership Group.

♦ **Kyle Evans, Special Assistant to President & G.M. and Director of Video & Advance Scouting, Chicago Cubs:** Kyle is entering his third season with the Cubs; in his current role, he evaluates players at all levels of the Cubs organization, as well as both amateur and professional players being considered for acquisition by the Cubs. Previously, he was a Major League scout with the Boston Red Sox from 2008-11, evaluating players across the majors for potential acquisition. He spent 2006-07 as coordinator of advance scouting for the Red Sox. He spent parts of six seasons as a pitcher in the Cleveland Indians minor league system after being selected by Cleveland in the sixth round of the 2000 draft out of Baylor University.

Analytics from the Players' View

Listen to insight from MLB players on how they use analytics to help their performance on and off the field. **6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 13, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Brian Bannister, former major league pitcher:** Brian spent parts of five seasons in the major leagues with the New York Mets and Kansas City Royals from 2006 to 2010. He finished third in the American League Rookie of the Year voting in 2007, when he went 12-9 with a 3.87 ERA, and was once named by The Sporting News as one of the smartest athletes in sports. A native of Scottsdale, Arizona, and a Chaparral High School alumnus, Brian is the son of former pitcher Floyd Bannister; his uncle, Greg Cochran, and brother, Brett Bannister, also played professional baseball. As a walk-on at the University of Southern California, he helped the Trojans qualify for the College World Series in 2000 and 2001. He graduated from USC with a bachelor's degree from the School of Fine Arts. He is the founder of 19 Loft Studios, a photography studio complex based in Phoenix. His work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *New York Daily News*, and *American Photo*.

♦ **Brandon McCarthy, Arizona Diamondbacks:** Brandon is entering his second season with the Arizona Diamondbacks after signing a two-year free agent deal with the club in December 2012. He persevered through shoulder injuries in 2013 to finish 5-11 with a 4.53 ERA in 22 starts despite missing all of June and July. The highlight of his season was a three-hit shutout against the Miami Marlins on May 18. In 2012, he was the Oakland Athletics' Opening Day starter and finished 8-6 with a 3.24 ERA in 18 starts. His season was cut short in September when he took a line drive to the head and was forced to undergo surgery to relieve cranial pressure. He recovered to join his A's teammates in the dugout during their magical stretch run to an AL West title. Brandon had a breakout season in 2011, when he set career highs in wins (9), starts (25), complete games (5), innings pitched (170.2)

Speakers/Panelists

and strikeouts (123); he also shattered an A's franchise record with a 4.92 strikeout-to-walk ratio.

♦ **Moderator: Jon “Boog” Sciambi, Announcer, ESPN:** Jon joined ESPN full time in 2010 as play-by-play voice for MLB on ESPN Radio, while continuing the same role for college basketball and MLB on ESPN, which he has done since 2005. Sciambi contributed to ESPN Radio's World Series coverage as on-site studio host and provided post-game, on-field interviews for ESPN's SportsCenter. Previously, Sciambi was the lead play-by-play announcer for the Atlanta Braves on Fox Sports South and SportSouth from 2007-09, and host for 790 The Ticket in South Florida, and as voice of the Florida Marlins on WQAM from 1997-2004.

Decision Making in the Front Office

This panel will discuss how major league front offices are using analytics to develop a competitive edge and stay ahead of their competition. **8:30 a.m., Friday, March 14, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Jack Zduriencik, Executive Vice President and General Manager, Seattle Mariners:** Jack is entering his sixth season as GM of the Mariners. In his first year on the job, he re-organized the Mariners' Baseball Operations, Scouting and Player Development staffs, added talent to both the major league and minor league rosters and hired a new manager and coaching staff, all resulting in the Mariners vaulting from 61 wins in 2008 to 85 wins in 2009. Jack spent nine seasons with the Milwaukee Brewers, most recently serving as Vice President of Player Personnel. He was named Executive of the Year by Baseball America in 2007, the first non-GM to win the award. He also has worked in the front office for the New York Mets (1983-90, 1994-98), Pittsburgh Pirates (1991-93) and Los Angeles Dodgers (1999.)

♦ **Bill Geivett, Senior Vice President/Assistant General Manager, Colorado Rockies:** Bill is entering his 14th season with the Rockies organization. An active SABR member, he was named Senior VP of Major League Operations in August 2012, after previously serving two years as the Rockies' Senior VP of Scouting and Player Development. He oversees the day-to-day operations of the Major League club. Bill has spent 26 years in professional baseball. He broke into the Majors in 1991 as a scout and organizational instructor with the New York Yankees.

♦ **Bobby Evans, Vice President and Assistant General Manager, San Francisco Giants:** Bobby is entering his 21st season in the Giants baseball operations department, and his second year as the Vice President and Assistant General Manager. Previously the team's director of player personnel, he assists Brian Sabean in heading contract negotiations, waiver and rule compliance, budgets at both the major and minor league levels and is involved in all areas of baseball operations. Bobby has had an integral role in helping the organization win World Series titles in 2010 and 2012. In 2012, he received the Bowie Kuhn Award, which is presented annually at the Baseball Winter Meetings (since 1984) to an individual, team or organization who demonstrates support of the chapel program in professional baseball.

♦ **Moderator: Ken Rosenthal, MLB Network/FoxSports.com:** Ken is a Baseball Insider for MLB Network and regularly appears on MLB Tonight and Hot Stove. A sportswriter for more than 20 years, he also is FoxSports.com's senior baseball writer and a weekly contributor to the Fox Saturday Baseball Game of the Week. On-air since 2005, he serves as the field reporter during Fox Sports' featured baseball matchup.

Speakers/Panelists

One on One: Mark Attanasio

10:00 a.m., Friday, March 14, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor

♦ **Mark Attanasio, Chairman and Principal Owner, Milwaukee Brewers:** Mark is entering his 10th season as the Chairman and Principal Owner of the Milwaukee Brewers. The Brewers have qualified for the postseason twice during his tenure, advancing to the National League Division Series in 2008 and the NL Championship Series in 2011. The Brewers won the NL Central Division championship in 2011, their first division crown since 1982. Mark has been an accomplished investment management executive for more than 25 years. He is a co-founder and managing partner of Crescent Capital Group, Inc., an employee-owned Los Angeles-based asset management firm. He is also an investor in the Milwaukee Admirals of the American Hockey League. He earned his A.B. from Brown University and his J.D. from the Columbia University School of Law.

♦ **Moderator: Ken Rosenthal, MLB Network/FoxSports.com:** Ken is a Baseball Insider for MLB Network and regularly appears on MLB Tonight and Hot Stove. A sportswriter for more than 20 years, he also is FoxSports.com's senior baseball writer and a weekly contributor to the Fox Saturday Baseball Game of the Week. On-air since 2005, he serves as the field reporter during Fox Sports' featured baseball matchup.

Inside the SABR Defensive Index

This panel will discuss developments with the SABR Defensive Index, which beginning in 2013 is used to help select the winners of the Rawlings Gold Glove Award and Rawlings Platinum Glove Award, presented by SABR. **1:45 p.m., Friday, March 14, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **John Dewan, Owner, Baseball Info Solutions:** John is the owner of Baseball Info Solutions, which collects, analyzes and disseminates the most in-depth data in the industry with more than a dozen Major League Baseball teams as clients. He is also the co-publisher of ACTA Sports, a division of ACTA Publications, which publishes books on statistical baseball analysis, including the annual *Bill James Handbook* and other sports titles. John's three-volume set of *The Fielding Bible* books break new ground in an area that has been the least analyzed in baseball: defense. His Plus/Minus System and Defensive Runs Saved are a direct application of actuarial and sabermetric techniques. Before founding BIS, John was President and CEO of STATS, Inc., following a highly successful career as an insurance actuary.

♦ **Sean Forman, President, Sports Reference, LLC:** Sean is the President of Sports Reference, LLC, which includes Baseball-Reference.com, the game's premier statistical website which launched in 2000. Over the past decade, Sean has built and engineered what has become the go-to site to look up statistics for any baseball player or team, and he was a recipient of SABR's Henry Chadwick Award in 2011 to honor baseball's greatest researchers. He was also a co-founder of BaseballThinkFactory.org and has authored numerous sabermetric articles. Sean has a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematical and Computational Sciences from the University of Iowa, and was a tenured math and computer science professor at Saint Joseph's University before resigning in 2006 to focus full-time on the Sports Reference websites, which have grown to include pro and college football,

Speakers/Panelists

pro and college basketball, ice hockey and the Olympics.

♦ **Vince Gennaro, President, SABR:** Vince is the President of SABR and author of *Diamond Dollars: The Economics of Winning in Baseball*. He is a consultant to MLB teams, appears regularly on MLB Network, and he teaches in the graduate programs at Columbia University and Manhattanville College. He is also the architect of the Diamond Dollars Case Competition series, which brings together students and MLB team and league executives and serves as unique learning experience, as well as a networking opportunity for aspiring sports executives.

♦ **Kurt Hunzeker, Senior Director of Brand Marketing, Rawlings:** Kurt has more than 15 years of experience on both sides of the sports sponsorship equation and in a wide array of sports marketing positions. In his current role as the lead brand marketer at Rawlings Sporting Goods, he manages the progressive global growth for the 127-year-old brand, connecting it with next-level athletes worldwide. In 2011, Kurt launched the Rawlings Platinum Glove Award (now presented by SABR) to include baseball fans in the Rawlings Gold Glove Award platform, as they help select the best defender in each League. Last year, he spearheaded the addition of the SABR Defensive Index into the Rawlings Gold Glove Award process, to resounding success and accolades across the industry. Most recently, the University of Missouri School of Journalism graduate negotiated and signed the deal with Baseball Australia, designating Rawlings as the official baseball, batting helmet and catchers' protective gear of the national governing body.

♦ **Moderator: Jon "Boog" Sciambi, Announcer, ESPN:** Jon joined ESPN full time in 2010 as play-by-play voice for MLB on ESPN Radio, while continuing the same role for college basketball and MLB on ESPN, which he has done since 2005. Sciambi contributed to ESPN Radio's World Series coverage as on-site studio host and provided post-game, on-field interviews for ESPN's "SportsCenter." Previously, Jon was the lead play-by-play announcer for the Atlanta Braves on Fox Sports South and SportSouth from 2007-09, and host for 790 The Ticket in South Florida, and as voice of the Florida Marlins on WQAM from 1997-2004.

Clubhouse Confidential Panel

Our panelists appear regularly on MLB Network's signature analytics program, "Clubhouse Confidential" (airing at 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. daily.) The panelists will be discussing a wide range of analytics issues, and you will have the opportunity to ask them questions related to baseball analytics, value projection and other topics. **4:00 p.m., Friday, March 14, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor, Hyatt Regency Phoenix.**

♦ **Dave Cameron, FanGraphs:** Dave is Managing Editor and a Senior Writer at FanGraphs. He was the co-founder of the U.S.S. Mariner blog and previously worked at Baseball Prospectus.

♦ **Vince Gennaro, President, SABR:** Vince is the President of SABR and author of *Diamond Dollars: The Economics of Winning in Baseball*. He is a consultant to MLB teams, appears regularly on MLB Network, and teaches in the graduate programs at Columbia University and Manhattanville College. He is also the architect of the Diamond Dollars Case Competition series, which brings together students and MLB team and league executives and serves as unique learning experience, as well as a networking opportunity for aspiring sports executives.

Speakers/Panelists

♦ **Ben Lindbergh, Editor-in-Chief, Baseball Prospectus:** Ben is the Editor-in-Chief at Baseball Prospectus and a member of the Baseball Writers Association of America. He served as editor of the two-volume *Best of Baseball Prospectus* collection and contributes regularly at Grantland.com. He formerly worked as a baseball analyst for Bloomberg Sports, and has interned for multiple MLB teams.

♦ **Rob Neyer, Senior Baseball Editor, FoxSports.com:** Rob joined FoxSports.com in 2014 as its Senior Baseball Editor after serving as National Baseball Editor at SB Nation for the past three years. Prior to that, he spent 15 years covering Major League Baseball as a columnist at ESPN.com. Rob began his career as a research assistant for groundbreaking baseball author Bill James, and later worked for STATS, Inc. He has also written or co-written six baseball books, including *The Neyer/James Guide to Pitchers* (with Bill James), winner of the Sporting News/SABR Baseball Research Award.

How Fans Consume Baseball in the Digital Age

A discussion of how baseball is viewed through the eyes of today's young fans. Moderator: Vince Gennaro, SABR. **8:30 a.m., Saturday, March 15, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Speakers:** Hunter Gilbertson, NYU; Jake Sotir, Elon University; Lewie Pollis, Brown University; Olivia Wyatt, Tufts University.

♦ **Vince Gennaro, President, SABR:** Vince is the President of SABR and author of *Diamond Dollars: The Economics of Winning in Baseball*. He is a consultant to MLB teams, appears regularly on MLB Network, and teaches in the graduate programs at Columbia University and Manhattanville College. He is also the architect of the Diamond Dollars Case Competition series, which brings together students and MLB team and league executives and serves as unique learning experience, as well as a networking opportunity for aspiring sports executives.

The International Baseball Landscape

This panel will discuss how analytics have changed the landscape of international scouting and player development in baseball. **10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 15, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Tyrone Brooks, Pittsburgh Pirates:** Tyrone is Director of Player Personnel for the Pittsburgh Pirates. Before being named to his current position, he was the club's Director of Baseball Operation for two years. Previously, he was a Professional Scout for the Cleveland Indians in the Pacific Coast, Texas and California leagues. He worked with the Atlanta Braves for 11 years while serving as their Director of Baseball Admissions. Brooks is also the founder of the Baseball Industry Network, which covers the full gamut of people working in the industry of baseball.

♦ **Leonte Landino, ESPN Deportes:** Leonte is a Venezuelan journalist for ESPN Deportes who has covered baseball in the U.S. and Latin America since 1996. He has extensive experience in the media as a commentator and producer, and as a writer for many print and electronic publications. He has worked for Aguilas del Zulia of the Venezuelan League and the Tampa Bay Rays.

Speakers/Panelists

He currently produces all baseball properties for the ESPN Deportes Spanish-language network and continues to display his work on ESPNdeportes.com. Landino has done extensive research with SABR on the life of Luis Castro and contributed a biography of Hall of Famer Luis Aparicio for the book *Go-Go to Glory: The 1959 Chicago White Sox*.

♦ **Josh Rawitch, Senior Vice President of Communications, Arizona Diamondbacks:** Josh is entering his 20th season in Major League Baseball and third in his current role with the Diamondbacks, where he is responsible for the internal and external communication efforts of the organization, including baseball and business public relations, media relations, publications, social media, photography and fan feedback. The bilingual Spanish-speaker has overseen media relations during trips to Mexico City (2003), China (2008) and Taiwan (2010) and the team's 2014 Opening Series in Sydney, Australia while assisting at multiple All-Star Games. In 2009 and 2013, he served as venue press chief for the World Baseball Classic. Josh joined the Diamondbacks following 15 seasons with the Los Angeles Dodgers, where he was most recently the Vice President of Communications. The Los Angeles native attended Indiana University, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Sports Marketing and Management with a minor in Business. He has served as a guest instructor at his alma mater and was an adjunct professor at USC's Annenberg School for Communication for two years. In 2013, he began teaching a Strategic Sports Communications course at ASU's Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

♦ **Moderator: Rob Neyer, Senior Baseball Editor, FoxSports.com:** Rob joined FoxSports.com in 2014 as its Senior Baseball Editor after serving as National Baseball Editor at SB Nation for the past three years. Prior to that, he spent 15 years covering Major League Baseball as a columnist at ESPN.com. Rob began his career as a research assistant for groundbreaking baseball author Bill James, and later worked for STATS, Inc. He has also written or co-written six baseball books, including *The Neyer/James Guide to Pitchers* (with Bill James), winner of the Sporting News/SABR Baseball Research Award.

Prospect Analysis and Evaluation

This panel will discuss how analytics has impacted the scouting and evaluation of minor league prospects. **1:15 p.m., Saturday, March 15, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Jim Callis, Senior Writer, MLB.com:** Jim Callis is a senior writer for MLB Pipeline.com, a division of MLB.com that specializes in prospects and the draft. Prior to joining MLB Pipeline.com in September 2013, he worked 23 years in two stints at Baseball America. He served as the magazine's managing editor from 1993-97 before moving to suburban Chicago with his family and spending three years as a senior editor at STATS, Inc. Upon returning to Baseball America in May 2000 as executive editor, his main focuses were evaluating prospects (including editing BA's annual *Prospect Handbook*) and covering the amateur draft (including broadcast work with ESPN and MLB Network.) He began covering baseball in 1987 while at the University of Georgia.

♦ **Jonathan Mayo, Senior Writer, MLB.com:** Jonathan is a senior writer for MLB.com. He joined Major League Baseball's official website in April 1999 and has covered every facet of the game. He's been to three World Series and seven All-Star Games, as well as Opening Series in

Speakers/Panelists

Japan and Puerto Rico. In his time with MLB.com, he's also covered the Caribbean World Series in Mazatlan, Mexico and the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska. For several years, he hosted a variety of shows on MLB Radio, MLB.com's internet radio network, including *Around the Minors*, a daily show devoted to baseball prospects. Mayo has also done extensive video work ranging from studio analysis and in-game color commentary to sideline reporting at various special events.

♦ **Bernie Pleskoff, Columnist, MLB.com, Rotowire:** Bernie spent nine years as a professional scout for the Houston Astros and Seattle Mariners after graduating from the Major League Scouting Bureau. Since 2009, he has written regularly about baseball prospects and scouting at MLB.com and Rotowire.com. Previously, he was a Dean of Campus Life at Loyola University in Chicago following a long career in higher education. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Bowling Green State University and a Master's degree from the University of Massachusetts.

♦ **Moderator: Barry M. Bloom, MLB.com:** Barry has been a national reporter for MLB.com since 2002 and has more than 35 years of experience covering sports. He covered baseball and hockey for five years at Bloomberg News and also spent 16 years as a writer at the *San Diego Union-Tribune*.

Telling Stories in the Age of Sabermetrics

This panel will discuss how analytics has impacted the scouting and evaluation of minor league prospects. **2:30 p.m., Saturday, March 15, Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor.**

♦ **Howard Megdal, Contributing Writer, Sports on Earth:** Howard is a contributing writer for Sports on Earth and Writer At Large for Capital New York. He has also written for the *New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, ESPN.com, Salon and numerous other publications. His books include *The Baseball Talmud*, *Taking the Field*, and *Wilpon's Folly*.

♦ **Emma Span, Senior Editor, Sports on Earth:** Emma is a writer and editor at Sports on Earth and the author of *90% of the Game Is Half Mental: And Other Tales From the Edge of Baseball Fandom*. Most recently an associate sports editor at The Daily, she has also written for *The Village Voice*, *The New York Press*, Slate, Newsday.com and Baseball Prospectus. She graduated from Yale University.

♦ **Mike Tanier, Staff Writer, Sports on Earth:** Mike is a staff writer for Sports on Earth, with a focus on the NFL. He joined Football Outsiders in 2005 and co-authored *Pro Football Prospectus* from 2005-08 and the *Football Outsiders Almanac* from 2009-12. His weekly "Walkthrough" column was an eclectic mix of jokes, statistical analysis, strategy diagrams, historical research and pop-culture references. Mike wrote weekly NFL game previews for the *New York Times* from 2009-11 and FoxSports.com from 2005-07, in addition to a variety of humor pieces on football, baseball and basketball for the *Times*.

♦ **Moderator: Steve Madden, General Manager, Sports on Earth:** Steve is the General Manager for Sports on Earth, a joint venture between USA TODAY Sports Media Group and MLB Advanced Media, L.P. Steve is a two-time National Magazine Award winner who most recently served as Vice President of Digital Product Development for Rodale Inc.

Research Presentations

SABR and Sportvision are pleased to continue their collaboration to integrate the PITCHf/x Summit into the 2014 SABR Analytics Conference. Integrating these two popular gatherings of influential baseball analysts and thought leaders has further enhanced this event as the premier baseball analytics conference. Sportvision will manage a series of presentations specifically related to f/x data much like the PITCHf/x Summit. The presentations will be integrated with other SABR Analytics talks throughout the course of the event. These presentations are noted with italics below.



Here is the schedule of research presentations for the 2014 SABR Analytics Conference:

Thursday, March 13 Hyatt Regency Phoenix

3:15-4:00 p.m.: RP1—Vince Gennaro, “An In Depth Study of Team Chemistry: A Progress Report” (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

The topic of clubhouse chemistry is not one that easily lends itself to the type of quantified analytics that are routinely generated from contemporary data sources. However, there is strong evidence that team chemistry can be an integral part of winning and a true differentiator among teams with sufficient talent. This on-going study consists of interviews with current and former players, coaches, managers, and front office personnel to delve into issues such as, the characteristics of team chemistry, its catalysts and deterrents, the role of the front office and manager and ultimately the payoffs from a positive clubhouse environment. The impact of the player life-cycle—from rookie to veteran—on clubhouse roles is also examined. The ultimate goal is to combine interview data with organizational studies in business, to create a framework and model of how team chemistry works, laying the foundation for future study.

Vince Gennaro is the President of SABR, the author of *Diamond Dollars: The Economics of Winning in Baseball*, a consultant to MLB teams and a regular contributor to MLB Network’s “Clubhouse Confidential.” This follows a successful business career, which includes diverse roles — CEO of an early stage public company, president of a billion-dollar division of PepsiCo, and ownership of a women’s pro basketball franchise. He is on the Advisory Board of The Perfect Game Foundation, which is dedicated to helping young people build a career in sports.

3:15-4:00 p.m.: RP2—TBA (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)

Please check the pocket schedule for more details.

Research Presentations

Friday, March 14
Hyatt Regency Phoenix

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: RP3—Graham Goldbeck, “An Introduction to In-Game Biomechanics Data” (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

** Sportvision PITCHf/x Summit presentation*

For years baseball teams have sought after a new level of player performance data – biomechanics. Recent efforts to gather biomechanical data include outfitting players with motion tracking suits and sending them to pitch and hit in laboratories. But can these controlled environments produce data that’s truly indicative of how players will perform in actual games? We at Sportvision have started to collect in-game biomechanical data on pitchers and hitters, which we see as the next frontier in data capture. This presentation will explore data points such as the pitcher’s plant foot, shoulder, elbow, and hand at release, as well as several key areas of interest during a hitter’s swing.

Graham Goldbeck is the Manager of Data Analytics and Operations at Sportvision, the company behind PITCHf/x, HITf/x, COMMANDf/x, and FIELDf/x. In the past, Graham was a writer for the website Beyond the Box Score and also worked as a baseball operations intern for the Oakland Athletics and Tampa Bay Rays.

11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: RP4—Kevin Tenenbaum and Dave Allen, “Scouting Bayes: A Bayesian Forecast with Scouting Priors” (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)

The mainstream media, when talking about sabermetrics, often notes the tension between scouts and stats. Even though this tension is overstated, there is a tendency in the baseball community to treat these two types of information as independent entities. We use a bayesian framework to address this problem. Our framework combines quantitative scouting information (grades) with minor league performance to predict major league performance. This yields a distribution of predicted outcomes. We compare our predictions to those naive of scouting grades and to those of established projection systems.

Kevin Tenenbaum is a junior math major at Middlebury College. This past summer, he interned for the Baltimore Orioles. He is the co-founder of the Middlebury Baseball Analysis Club, and he spends his free time playing intramural sports, snowboarding, and log rolling. **Dave Allen** is a visiting assistant professor in the biology department at Middlebury College. He studies forest ecology. An avid baseball fan, Dave is also interested in the statistical study of baseball. His work has appeared at Baseball Analysts, FanGraphs, and *The Hardball Times Baseball Annual*.

Research Presentations

Friday, March 14
Hyatt Regency Phoenix

**3:00-3:45 p.m.: RP5—Ben Jedlovec, “The Anatomy of a Stolen Base”
(Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)**

One of baseball’s most exciting plays, the stolen base attempt has always been a complex showdown between the baserunner and the defense. Is the pitcher or the catcher more deserving of the credit or penalty when an opposing baserunner attempts a steal? Using Baseball Info Solutions data, we are able to break down the running game unlike ever before. With comprehensive pitcher delivery times, catcher pop times, and baserunner times, we have developed a model to accurately credit or penalize the pitcher, catcher, and basestealer for their contributions on the stolen base attempt. Taking it one step further, we will demonstrate a practical “Red Light/Green Light” model for stolen base strategy.

Ben Jedlovec is Vice President of Product Development & Sales at Baseball Info Solutions, where he guides the company’s Research and Sales efforts. With BIS President & Owner John Dewan, he co-authored *The Fielding Bible—Volume III* in Spring 2012.

3:00-3:45 p.m.: RP6—Jeff Zimmerman, “Using PITCHf/x Data to Help Determine Pitcher Injury Risk” (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)

** Sportvision PITCHf/x Summit presentation*

Pitchers have always been susceptible to injuries because throwing a baseball is an unnatural motion. However, PITCHf/x data now allows teams to know if a pitcher may be currently injured or in the future. Specific long-term injury causing traits can be detected. These include velocity, release points and command. Additionally, pitcher production can be examined during or just after a game to see if a player may be injured. With both the short and long term risks, metrics have been created to help monitor if a pitcher may be throwing hurt. While it is not possible to detect all injuries, some are easier to detect and therefore possibly prevent.

Jeff Zimmerman writes for FanGraphs, The Hardball Times and Royals Review, as well as at his own website, Baseball Heat Maps with his brother Darrell. In tandem with Bill Petti, he won the 2013 SABR Analytics Research Award for Contemporary Analysis. His injury-centric MASH articles were recently nominated for the 2013 Best Fantasy Baseball On-Going Series by the Fantasy Sports Writers Association.

Research Presentations

Saturday, March 15
Hyatt Regency Phoenix

11:00-11:45 a.m.: RP7— Bill Petti, “Quantifying and Understanding the Consistency of Pitchers” (Regency Ballroom A/B, 1st floor)

Talent evaluators and fans alike have long thought that there are differences in how players distribute their performances over the course of a season. Even if two players have identical statistics at the end of the year, how and when that production came about could be very different. It’s the basis for claiming that a player is good, but “streaky”. Or that you “never knew which player you are going to get” on a given day. While most tend to believe that such differences exist there have been few attempts to quantify this phenomena and better understand its causes, if any. The questions this research will seek to answer are: To what extent do pitchers differ in how consistent their daily performances are with their seasonal averages? And, if there are differences among pitchers in how their performances are distributed, what are the causes of consistency and volatility? Are certain types of pitchers more or less prone to being consistent?

Bill Petti is a consultant focused on analytics and helping organizations use data more effectively. In his free time, he writes for FanGraphs and The Hardball Times, speaks about baseball research and analytics, and consults for a Major League Baseball team. Occasionally, Bill appears on radio and television, including MLB Network’s Clubhouse “Confidential.”

11:00-11:45 a.m.: RP8—Lewie Pollis, “If You Build It: Rethinking the Market for Front Office Personnel” (Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor)

Most observers take it as given that the market for baseball operations personnel reflects a rational equilibrium for an industry with limited demand for labor and a high, inelastic supply of aspiring employees. In his senior thesis, Lewie Pollis deconstructs this model and questions the fundamental assumptions on which its economic rationality hinges. He then tests the most important justification for the way the current market works — that no single executive is worth significantly more to his or her team than his or her replacement would be — by estimating the variation in trading and free agent-signing skill among general managers. He concludes by discussing the implications of his findings and how they should change the way we conceive the market for front office employees.

Lewie Pollis is a senior at Brown University, concentrating in economics and political science. He is a freelance writer for ESPN Insider and has contributed to Baseball Prospectus, Beyond the Box Score, and several other publications. He worked as a Baseball Analytics Intern for the Cleveland Indians in 2013 and has accepted a position as a Baseball Operations Intern for the Cincinnati Reds starting in June.

Diamond Dollars Case Competition

Presented by YarcData

The SABR Analytics Conference is pleased to host the unique **Diamond Dollars Case Competition**, presented by YarcData. Undergraduate and graduate students from colleges and universities across the country, will compete against each other by preparing an analysis and presentation of a baseball operations decision — the type of decision a team's GM and his staff is faced with over the course of a season. The case was developed by Vince Gennaro, author of *Diamond Dollars: The Economics of Winning in Baseball*, and consultant to MLB teams. The Case Competition is the first national competition to be based solely on baseball operations issues.

Four- to five-person student teams will be asked to evaluate a baseball operations case problem. Once the student team has prepared its case, they will have the opportunity to present their analysis and recommendations to a panel of judges, which will include MLB front office executives. They will have a dialog, receive feedback and ultimately be evaluated based on the quality of their insights and analysis.

The competition will be divided into graduate/professional and undergraduate divisions. Awards will be presented to winners in each division. The competition will take place on Thursday, March 13 at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix and the competition winners will reprise their presentations on Saturday, March 15.

Winners will be selected in each of the following divisions:

Graduate and Professional School Division

- ♦ University of Alabama-Manderson School of Business (Tuscaloosa, AL)
- ♦ Carnegie Mellon-Tepper School of Business (Pittsburgh, PA)
- ♦ University of Chicago-Booth (Chicago, IL)
- ♦ Duke University-Fuqua School of Business (Durham, NC)
- ♦ Pepperdine University-School of Law and Graziadio School of Business (Malibu, CA)
- ♦ University of San Francisco-School of Management (San Francisco, CA)
- ♦ Santa Clara University-Leavey School of Business (Santa Clara, CA)
- ♦ Tulane University Law School (New Orleans, LA)

Undergraduate Division 1

- ♦ Cornell University (Ithaca, NY)
- ♦ NYU-SCPS Tisch Center (New York, NY)
- ♦ Ohio University (Athens, OH)
- ♦ Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ)
- ♦ St. John Fisher College (Rochester, NY)
- ♦ Tufts University Team 1 (Medford, MA)

Undergraduate Division 2

- ♦ Elon University (Elon, NC)
- ♦ Loras College (Dubuque, IA)
- ♦ Macalester College (St. Paul, MN)
- ♦ Rice University (Houston, TX)
- ♦ Tufts University Team 2 (Medford, MA)
- ♦ VCU-Maggie L. Walker Governor's School (Richmond, VA)

Diamond Dollars Case Competition

Presented by YarcData
Schedule of presentations
Thursday, March 13

Opening remarks by Vince Gennaro at 8:30 a.m. in the Phoenix Ballroom

Phoenix Ballroom, 2nd floor

- ♦ **University of San Francisco-School of Management** (San Francisco, CA), 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- ♦ **Pepperdine University-School of Law and Graziadio School of Business** (Malibu, CA), 9:35-10:05 a.m.

- ♦ **Carnegie Mellon-Tepper School of Business** (Pittsburgh, PA), 10:10-10:40 a.m.
- ♦ **Loras College** (Dubuque, IA), 11:00-11:30 a.m.
- ♦ **University of Chicago-Booth** (Chicago, IL), 11:35 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Remington Room, 2nd floor

- ♦ **Tufts University Team 1** (Medford, MA), 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- ♦ **Rutgers University** (New Brunswick, NJ), 9:35-10:05 a.m.

- ♦ **NYU-SCPS Tisch Center** (New York, NY), 10:10-10:40 a.m.
- ♦ **Ohio University** (Athens, OH), 11:00-11:30 a.m.
- ♦ **Cornell University** (Ithaca, NY), 11:35 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Cassidy Room, 2nd floor

- ♦ **Rice University** (Houston, TX), 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- ♦ **Elon University** (Elon, NC), 9:35-10:05 a.m.
- ♦ **VCU-Maggie L. Walker Governor's School** (Richmond, VA), 10:10-10:40 a.m.

- ♦ **Macalester College** (St. Paul, MN), 11:00-11:30 a.m.
- ♦ **Tufts University Team 2** (Medford, MA), 11:35 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Russell Room, 2nd floor

- ♦ **Tulane University Law School** (New Orleans, LA), 9:00-9:30 a.m.
- ♦ **University of Alabama-Manderson School of Business** (Tuscaloosa, AL), 9:35-10:05 a.m.
- ♦ **Santa Clara University-Leavey School of Business** (Santa Clara, CA), 10:10-10:40 a.m.

- ♦ **St. John Fisher College** (Rochester, NY), 11:00-11:30 a.m.
- ♦ **Duke University-Fuqua School of Business** (Durham, NC), 11:35 a.m.-12:05 p.m.

Judges

- ♦ **Brian Bannister**, former MLB pitcher
- ♦ **Joe Bohringer**, Chicago Cubs
- ♦ **Christopher Correa**, St. Louis Cardinals
- ♦ **John D'Angelo**, Major League Baseball
- ♦ **Mike DeBartolo**, Washington Nationals
- ♦ **Scott Freedman**, Philadelphia Phillies

- ♦ **Sarah Gelles**, Baltimore Orioles
- ♦ **Samuel Mondry-Cohen**, Washington Nationals
- ♦ **George Ng**, YarcData
- ♦ **Matt Obernauer**, Colorado Rockies
- ♦ **Dave Studenmund**, The Hardball Times
- ♦ **Tom Tippet**, Boston Red Sox
- ♦ **Victor Wang**, Cleveland Indians

SABR Analytics Conference

Research Awards

The **SABR Analytics Conference Research Awards** recognize baseball researchers who have completed the best work of original analysis or commentary during the preceding calendar year. Here are the 2014 finalists:

Historical Analysis/Commentary

Winner announced: 3:00 p.m., Thursday, March 13

- ♦ Russell Carleton, "Dating the Impulse to Protect Pitchers," *Baseball Prospectus*, December 2, 2013.
- ♦ Frank Jackson, "Papa Hemingway vs. Fireman Casey," *The Hardball Times*, January 31, 2013.
- ♦ Barry Krissoff, "Society and Baseball Face Rising Income Inequality," *Baseball Research Journal*, SABR, Spring 2013.
- ♦ Max Marchi, "Catcher Framing Before PITCHf/x," *Baseball Prospectus*, May 16, 2013.
- ♦ Alex Remington, "Why Aren't There More Muslims in Baseball?" *FanGraphs*, August 8, 2013.

Contemporary Baseball Commentary

Winner announced: 2:45 p.m., Friday, March 14

- ♦ Chris Jones, "When 772 Pitches Isn't Enough," *ESPN The Magazine*, July 22, 2013.
- ♦ Jonah Keri, "Grand Theft Baseball," *Grantland.com*, March 20, 2013.
- ♦ Ben Lindbergh, "The Rays' Changeup Revolution," *Baseball Prospectus*, June 26, 2013.
- ♦ Jon Roegele, "The Strike Zone in the PITCHf/x Era," *The Hardball Times Annual 2014*, November 2013.
- ♦ Wendy Thurm, "Dodgers Could Be Last Team to Strike Gold With Local TV Deals," *FanGraphs*, July 26, 2013.

Contemporary Baseball Analysis

Winner announced: 11:45 a.m., Saturday, March 15

- ♦ Andrew Ball, "2013 MLB Draft: How Valuable Are Draft Picks?" *Beyond the Box Score*, June 25, 2013.
- ♦ Dave Cameron, "The Myth of the Passive Hitter," *FanGraphs*, May 16, 2013.
- ♦ J.J. Cooper, "Just How Tough Is It To Throw Out Billy Hamilton?" *Baseball America*, September 19, 2013.
- ♦ Adam Kilgore, Sohail Al-Jamea, Wilson Andrews, Bonnie Berkowitz, Todd Lindeman, Jonathan Newton, "A Swing of Beauty," *WashingtonPost.com*, May 14, 2013.
- ♦ James Santelli, "Pirates Defensive Shifts: The Hidden Secret Behind Baseball's Best Team," *Pirates Prospects*, July 4, 2013.

Voting for the winners was conducted online at SABR.org, BaseballProspectus.com, FanGraphs.com, HardballTimes.com and BeyondtheBoxScore.com, with results weighted equally at 20%. Links to read the finalists can be found at SABR.org/analytics.

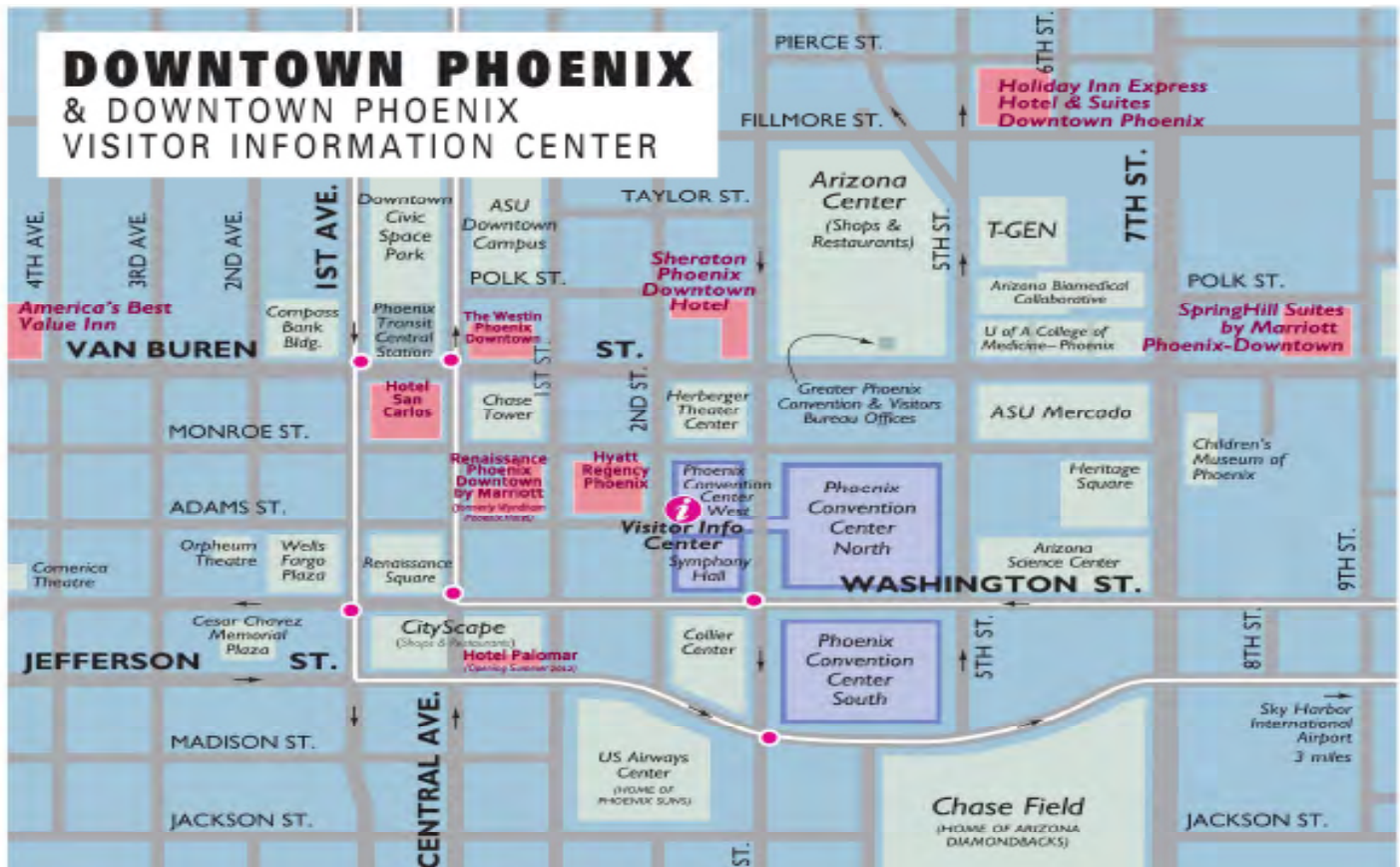
Venue

Hyatt Regency Phoenix
122 N. 2nd Street,
Phoenix, AZ 85004
(602) 252-1234



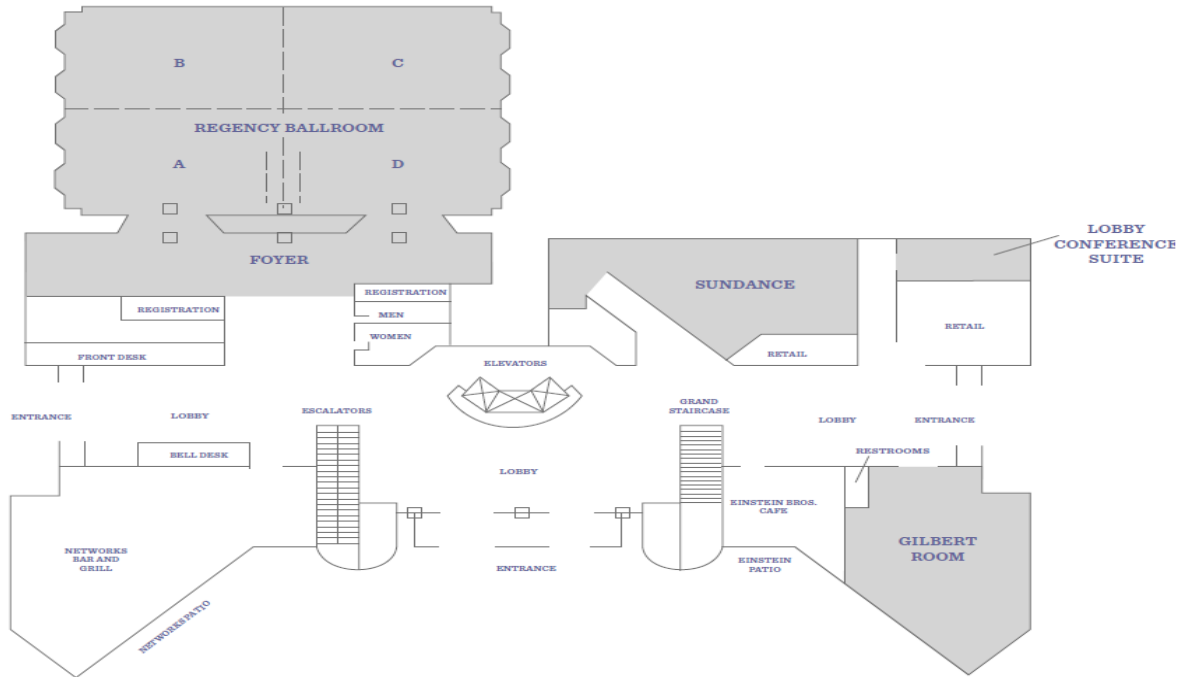
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- ♦ Conference guests
- ♦ Hyatt Grand Bed™
- ♦ Hyatt Express Check-In Kiosks
- ♦ Business Lounge and support services
- ♦ Compass Arizona Grill, Networks Bar and Grill, Terrace Cafe, and Einstein Bros. Cafe
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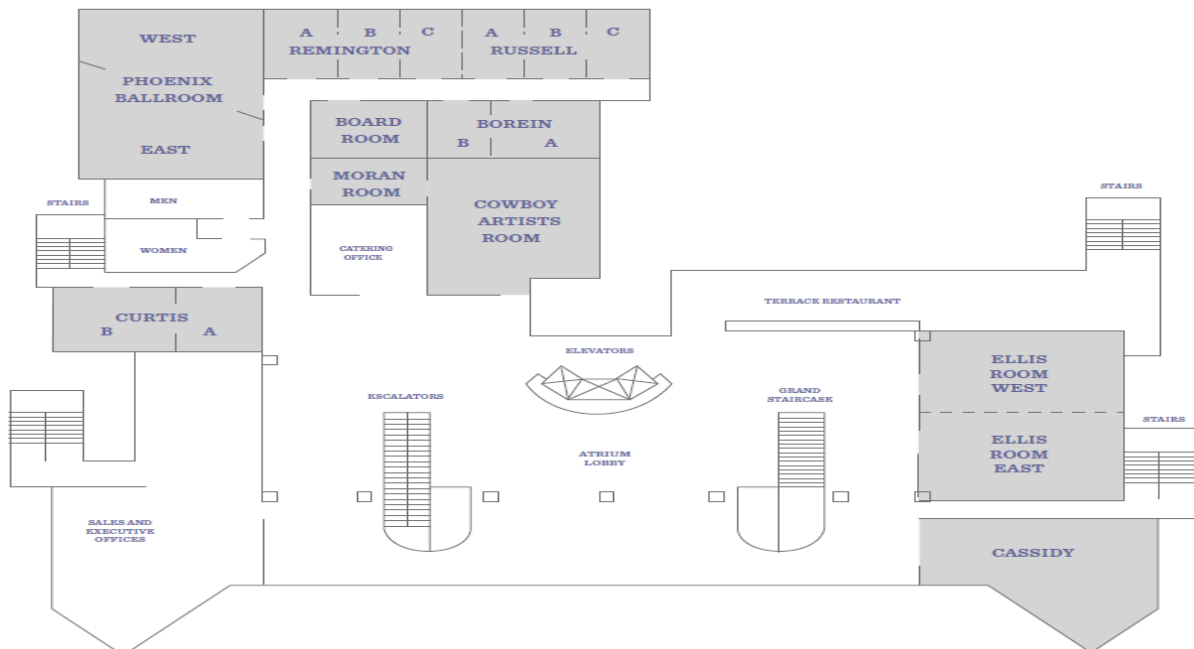


Venue

Hyatt Regency Phoenix First Floor



Second Floor



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