Eric Oropezaelwood

Front Running Capability

When a game is close in score or tied pitchers are under an immense amount of pressure. Every next pitch can lead to their team being behind on the scoreboard. Pitchers are evaluated on whether or not they can keep the game tied or just keep it close enough for their offense to make up the ground. What about another situation though, when the game is basically in hand. Not even in hand, what about when their team is up by at least three runs and it’s too early to bring in a closer? Situations like this are when a pitcher can put the game away and secure the win. I look to find a new statistic that can highlight pitchers who can be early game closers, who perform best in situations where they are given at least a three run lead.

The data I intend to use will be Statcast 2016 - 2018 data. Using this data, I will implement ERA and use it along possibly another one or two undetermined stats. The pitchers to be used in this data will be bullpen pitchers, or just not starters nor closers. After doing the work in a jupyter notebook I intend on presenting the data through power point showing graphs made in the notebook and a top 10 list of Front Running Capable (FRC) pitchers.

The way I envision this statistic being used is teams being up at least three scores and then bringing in one of their FRC pitcher. I will be working alone on this assignment.