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SI 311 HW 3 Analysis: Identifying Where Wins Really Came from on the 2006 Detroit Tigers

Without a shadow of a doubt, Detroit, by Jeff Sagarin's highly revered calculations, was carried by its bullpen in 2006. Finishing the regular season 95-67 (second in AL Central) and enjoying a notable postseason run that saw the team head all the way to the World Series before losing to St. Louis in 4-1 fashion.

The "Net Points" category can help us determine how many wins each player, or at a larger scale, all batters and all pitchers contributed to the overall record of the team. Per Sagarin, dividing net win points by 2000 yields an approximate number of games an individual player won.

Examining raw point totals we can see batters contributed 484 points whereas pitchers contributed 26937 points- a striking difference.

```
[180]: total_p_pts
[180]: 26937
[181]: total_b_pts = bat['NET_POINTS'].sum()
[182]: total_b_pts
[182]: 484
```

One may be surprised to find that despite this team's well celebrated successes on the season, using Sagarin-istic methods we find the combined expected win total with these numbers to come out to a measly 13.710500000000003.

So as it is clear and obvious that this team relied on its bullpen to win games over its bats, it is puzzling that the real win total and thereafter success of the 2006 Detroit Tigers is such a drastic contrast to what our numbers otherwise predicted.