NBA All Star Voting

In Predictive Analytics, one is to use data along with other techniques to find what might happen in the future. While assuming that the past is predictive of the future, the NBA All Star Voting process is a great example of Predictive Analytics.

The players with the most votes get to play in this prestigious game each year and they are voted on by the fans, other players, and the media. This will declare who makes the team and more specifically, who the captains, starters and reserve players are. After the fan voting was closed on January 21st, the voting leader of the Western conference was LeBron James with 3,770,807 votes and the voting leader of the Eastern conference was Giannis Antetokounmpo with 3,626,909 votes. If these players remain atop the others, they will be named the captains of their conference and get to choose their teams. This is where we can begin to use our predictive analytics. Who will they select next for the teams? Since they are both forwards, will they select guards next or best available? Will they select somebody from the same conference or reach over to the other conference (West v. East)? Will they select former teammates?

In the Western Conference Derrick Rose finished 4th in votes with 2,712,938. Although most would argue that Derrick Rose is not the 4th most talented in the West, when we use predictive analytics we could have foreseen him getting high praise for having a come back year from multiple injuries in the past. Same goes for Dwyane Wade in the Eastern Conference who finished 5th in votes with 1,738,043. He is in his final year of the NBA and has had a phenomenal NBA career so fans are paying their respect by voting him in one last time, which we could have “predicted” using predictive analytics.

Bobb, Maurice. “NBA All-Star Game 2019: Explaining Draft Format, Examining Latest Voting Results.” *Bleacher Report.* Bleacher Report, 24 Jan. 2019, bleacherreport.com/articles/2817383-nba-all-star-game-2019-explaining-new-format-examining-latest-voting-results.