

# SUMMARY: MOST VALUABLE PLAYER (MVP) RECOMMENDATION FOR THE 1986 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SEASON

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**Assignment Title:** Achilefu-Maduabughichi-Project2.Rmd

**Submission Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2023.

## Overview

In this analysis, we've delved into the 1986 Major League Baseball batting dataset to determine the most eligible candidate for the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award. The dataset encompasses various performance metrics of the players but omits pitchers. This report will present the findings of the analysis and conclude with a recommendation for the MVP of the season.

## Key Findings

1. Top Players by Performance Metrics: When analyzing the number of home runs (HRs), runs batted in (RBI), and on-base percentage (OBP), several players consistently outperformed others.
2. MVP Candidate Ranking: A cumulative ranking system was devised to evaluate players based on their performance in HRs, RBI, and OBP. The sum of these three ranks gives a TotalRank score, helping us identify the top performers.
3. Eligibility Criteria: To ensure a fair assessment, only players with a minimum of 300 at bats or appearances in at least 100 games were considered eligible for the MVP title. This step was vital to ensure that only consistent players throughout the season were evaluated.

Visualization: MVP Candidates Ranking

## Conclusion and Recommendation

Given the comprehensive analysis, it is evident that the player with the lowest TotalRank score consistently outperformed peers in crucial metrics. While pitchers play a pivotal role in any team's success, our analysis focused primarily on batting performance.

Based on the data-driven insights, we recommend Don Mattingly, Mike Schmidt as the Most Valuable Player for the 1986 Major League Baseball season. Their exceptional performance in HRs, RBI, and OBP, combined with consistency throughout the season, sets them apart as the top contender for the MVP title.

However, it's essential to note that while our recommendation is grounded in data, the MVP award also considers intangibles such as leadership, sportsmanship, and contribution to the team's overall success, which are beyond the dataset's scope.

## Citations

- Baseball-Reference.com. (n.d.). 1986 Major League Baseball Standard Batting. Retrieved from <https://www.baseball-reference.com/leagues/majors/1986-standard-batting.shtml>

- 2. Poulson, B. (2023). R for Data Science: Analysis and Visualization [Video]. LinkedIn Learning. <https://www.linkedin.com/learning/r-for-data-science-analysis-and-visualization>