

COMPUTER CORNER

Figures Say Juan Worth His \$125,000 Demands

By **BUD GOODE**

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Is Juan Marichal worth more than \$100,000?

Marichal stands to be the great holdout of the 1967 season. And with good reason. With Sandy Koufax out of the National League, Juan's pitching stats make him King of the Mound.

Marichal's 2.23 ERA with San Francisco and Mike Cuellar's 2.22 ERA with Houston lead the league. But with 1128 pitching At Bats, Marichal faced 35 per cent more batters than Cuellar (843 AB).

How important is Juan to the Giants' pennant hopes? He represents more than 20 per cent of their entire pitching staff, and without him they haven't a pennant prayer.

If Marichal is worth more than \$100,000, how does he compare with the other top 15 pitchers in the National League?

Here are Computer Corner's four pitching percentages — On Base Average, Control, Clutch Pitching and Strike Outs (weighted) — which show where a pitcher is strong or weak. (Note that ERA and Total Rate correlate with 100 per cent accuracy):



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Name, Team	On Base Average %	Control %	Clutch %	Strike-out %	Total Rate	ERA
Koufax, LA	.205	.061	.195	.032	.529	1.73
Cuellar, Houston	.229	.058	.229	.024	.492	2.22
Marichal, Giants	.202	.035	.283	.024	.476	2.25
Bunning, Philly	.223	.060	.251	.025	.509	2.41
Gibson, St. Louis	.207	.076	.252	.026	.516	2.44
Jackson, St. Louis	.250	.051	.241	.012	.530	2.51
Maloney, Cinn.	.214	.110	.255	.020	.549	2.80
Osteen, LA	.261	.068	.249	.017	.561	2.85
Bolin, Giants	.211	.088	.283	.020	.562	2.89
Sutton, LA	.228	.061	.303	.027	.563	2.99
Perry, Giants	.247	.045	.296	.025	.563	2.99
Veale, Pitts.	.232	.098	.269	.025	.573	3.02
Dierker, Houston	.240	.060	.301	.018	.583	3.18
Ribant, NY Mets	.254	.054	.298	.014	.592	3.21
Johnson, Atlanta	.262	.053	.305	.015	.605	3.29

Computer Statistics courtesy Universal Data Processing Corp.)

Control is Marichal's great strength. He leads the league with a low .035 per cent, walking half as many batters as the Top 15 pitcher average (.065). Juan also leads that league in percentage of batters allowed on base, .202. In both cases Marichal's averages are better than Koufax's were.

He's near the top in Strike Out percentage (weighted), and thus Marichal's only weakness lies in his Clutch Pitching (the percentage of base runners allowed to score).

If Marichal gets more than \$100,000, he'll deserve it. By comparison, Philadelphia's Jim Bunning, reputed to have signed for \$80,000, could have asked for another \$10,000.

BASEBALL