Michigan Sports Analytics Society

**Baseball** - Soon, the University of Michigan's baseball team will be getting a system called “TrackMan” installed in to their stadium. This is a system that exists in all MLB stadiums and is used to produce a lot of the stats on StatCast. With relation to hitting, these stats include exit velocity, launch angle, direction, hang time, spin rate. Basically, after a hitter hits a pitch, we can see what speed it came off the bat, what angle it came off at, what direction it went, how long it stayed in the air, and how fast it was spinning after it was hit. Conversely, we can see all of this for a pitcher as well. We can see velocity, spin rate, amount of break/curve. Along with this, we can see the angle of the pitcher’s arm, the pitcher’s extension, and other various factors related to the biomechanics of the pitcher himself. Athletics is interested in all of these because they can validate hitters in slumps vs hitters who are just getting unlucky. Also, they are very interested in monitoring their pitchers. More importantly, they just want to be innovative with their analytics and become one step ahead of the game. What our baseball research team has formulated is a plan to follow once the trackman system gets in. This plan included understanding of the parameters before they come in, and preliminary ideas to get started as soon installation is complete.