

Chass: "People play baseball. Numbers don't."

Written by Maury Brown

Tuesday, 27 February 2007 07:16



It seems that some are not all-together willing to move beyond some of the more traditional stats in baseball... And who knows if **Murray Chass of the NY Times** reads the boxscores to begin with?

Chass takes on [Baseball Prospectus](#) today, specifically **V**alue **O**ver **R**eplacement **P**layer ([V](#) [O](#) [R](#) [P](#)).

As [Chass writes](#) :

To me, VORP epitomized the new-age nonsense. For the longest time, I had no idea what VORP meant and didn't care enough to go to any great lengths to find out. I asked some colleagues whose work I respect, and they didn't know what it meant either.

Finally, not long ago, I came across VORP spelled out. It stands for value over replacement player. How thrilling. How absurd. Value over replacement player. Don't ask what it means. I don't know.

Chass, if you're reading, I'll be happy to send an email explaining such wild concepts as AVG, H, and AB. I say this as Chass closes by saying, "People play baseball. Numbers don't." Quite true, but then my colleagues simply don't stick their finger in the wind to determine how well those playing the game are performing. Hopefully Chass doesn't have it out for [Henry Chadwick](#) , as well.

Maury Brown is the founder of *The Biz of Baseball* and an author for [Baseball Prospectus](#) . He

Chass: "People play baseball. Numbers don't."

Written by Maury Brown

Tuesday, 27 February 2007 07:16

can be contacted

[here](#)

.