



PRESS RELEASE

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2008 ALL-STAR GAME STARTERS ANNOUNCED

Record 20 Million Ballots Cast; New York's Rodriguez Finishes as Leading Overall Vote-Getter; Philadelphia's Utley tops National League; Four Red Sox, Three Cubs Elected to Start

New York Yankees third baseman **Alex Rodriguez** and Philadelphia Phillies second baseman **Chase Utley** have finished as Major League Baseball's leading vote-getters in a record year for fan balloting and will start in the 79th All-Star Game, to be played on Tuesday, July 15th as a part of the final season at Yankee Stadium. MLB's All-Star Balloting Program is the largest of its kind in professional sports. This year, an all-time high 20 million votes were cast. The 2008 American League and National League All-Star Teams were revealed today on the "MLB All-Star Game Selection Show presented by Chevy" on TBS.

Rodriguez, now a 12-time American League All-Star who has been fan-elected 11 times, earned Major League Baseball's highest vote total for the second consecutive year with 3,934,518, surpassing his total from last year (3,890,515). Rodriguez is the first player to be MLB's overall balloting leader in consecutive years since Ichiro Suzuki of the Seattle Mariners took top billing three years in a row from 2001-2003. Utley, who was the National League's leading vote-getter throughout the entire balloting process, tallied 3,889,602 votes. The 29-year-old will be the N.L.'s starting second baseman for the third consecutive year.

Rodriguez's teammate, nine-time All-Star **Derek Jeter**, has won his fourth starting assignment at shortstop, finishing second in the A.L. with 3,737,437 votes. The Yankee tandem will start alongside one another in the Midsummer Classic for the fourth time in the last five years. Ranking third in the A.L. is Texas Rangers outfielder **Josh Hamilton**, whose 3,708,709 votes have produced a starting berth in the All-Star Game in just his second Major League season.

Four members of the Boston Red Sox won their positions, including first baseman **Kevin Youkilis** (2,858,130) and second baseman **Dustin Pedroia** (2,492,698), both of whom held on in extraordinarily tight races with Justin Morneau (2,801,307) of the Minnesota Twins and Ian Kinsler (2,458,455) of the Rangers, respectively. Boston designated hitter **David Ortiz**, who is currently on the disabled list, is among the A.L.'s balloting winners for

the fourth consecutive year and is now an All-Star for the fifth straight year with 3,554,209 votes. Red Sox outfielder **Manny Ramirez** has been named to the A.L. All-Star team for the 12th time – including his ninth election by fans – with 3,428,577 votes.

Hamilton and Ramirez will be joined in Terry Francona's A.L. outfield by eight-time All-Star **Ichiro Suzuki** (2,012,912) of the Seattle Mariners. Suzuki, last year's Ted Williams All-Star Game MVP presented by Chevrolet after he hit the first inside-the-park home run in Midsummer Classic history, has been elected to start for the seventh time in his Major League career. Behind the plate for the home side will be two-time All-Star **Joe Mauer**, who becomes the first catcher in Twins' history to be elected to start in the All-Star Game.

The National League All-Star starters include three members of the Chicago Cubs and four players who will be debuting in the Midsummer Classic. **Geovany Soto** (3,096,135 votes) will be just the second fan-elected starting rookie catcher ever, joining Sandy Alomar, Jr. of the Cleveland Indians in 1990, and the first fan-elected Cubs catcher since balloting returned to fans in 1970.

The Cubs also will send outfielders **Alfonso Soriano** (3,353,977), an All-Star for the sixth straight year, and **Kosuke Fukudome** (2,994,935), the first-year Major Leaguer who will become just the third Japanese position player to start in the All-Star Game, joining Ichiro and New York Yankees outfielder Hideki Matsui (a replacement in the A.L.'s starting lineup in 2003). Overall, Fukudome is the eighth Japanese native to make the Midsummer Classic. Fukudome, who was among the N.L.'s leading outfielders from the outset of balloting, edged out Cincinnati Reds veteran Ken Griffey, Jr. (2,907,746), the most popular player in the history of All-Star balloting.

Soriano and Fukudome will play alongside **Ryan Braun** of the Milwaukee Brewers in Clint Hurdle's starting outfield. Braun, who was as low as 10th among N.L. outfielders on June 3rd, capped a remarkable surge by not only joining the starting lineup in the final stages of balloting but also finishing as the leader at the position with 3,835,890 votes, second only to Utey's total among all N.L. players. The 2007 N.L. Rookie of the Year is the first Brewers outfielder ever elected by fans to start in the All-Star Game.

Joining Utey in the infield will be **Chipper Jones** of the Atlanta Braves, Major League Baseball's leading hitter, who won balloting at third base for the fourth time overall and the first time since 2001. It will be the sixth Midsummer Classic for Jones, whose 3,722,211 votes ranked third in the N.L. behind Utey and Braun. Across the diamond, five-time N.L. All-Star **Lance Berkman** (3,373,696) of the Houston Astros has won fan balloting for the first time in his career and will be the visiting side's starting first baseman. At shortstop, **Hanley Ramirez** (2,326,285) of the Florida Marlins has earned his first All-Star berth and becomes just the second player in franchise

history to win his position in fan balloting. The only other Marlin to be a fan-elected starter was Gary Sheffield, who was the N.L.'s third baseman in 1993. Ramirez held off 2007 All-Star J.J. Hardy (2,207,730) of the Brewers, four-time All-Star Miguel Tejada (2,025,995) of the Astros and Ryan Theriot (2,003,743) of the Cubs for the starting position.

Fans now have the opportunity to select the final player for each League's 32-man roster at MLB.com. Now in its seventh year, the Monster 2008 All-Star Final Vote will provide fans the opportunity to cast their votes from a list of five players from each League over a four-day period. For the fourth year, fans will be able to vote for their Final Vote selections on their mobile phone. Both winners of the Monster All-Star Final Vote will be announced after the voting has concluded on Thursday, July 10th. Finally, fans once again will have the opportunity to participate in the official voting for the 79th All-Star Game's Ted Williams Most Valuable Player presented by Chevrolet via the Monster All-Star Game MVP Vote on MLB.com.

The 79th Major League Baseball All-Star Game, being held at Yankee Stadium in its final season, will be televised nationally by FOX Sports, in Canada by Rogers Sportsnet and Sportsnet HD and televised around the world by Major League Baseball International, with pregame ceremonies beginning at 8:00 p.m. (EDT). The 2008 All-Star Game will be preceded by FOX's coverage of the "2008 All-Star Game Red Carpet Parade Presented by Chevy" along Sixth Avenue in Manhattan at 7:00 p.m. (EDT).

ESPN Radio will provide exclusive national radio coverage of the 2008 All-Star Game that will also be available on XM Satellite Radio, while MLB.com will provide extensive online coverage. For the sixth consecutive year, the outcome of the All-Star Game will have an impact on postseason play, as the winning League in this year's All-Star Game will have home-field advantage in the 2008 World Series.

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Contact: Richard Levin or Patrick Courtney, Major League Baseball, (212) 931-7878

N.L. Player	Club	Votes	All-Star	
			Selections	Elections
C Geovany Soto	CHI	3,096,135	1 st	1 st
1B Lance Berkman	HOU	3,373,696	5 th	1 st
2B Chase Utley	PHI	3,889,602	3 rd	3 rd
SS Hanley Ramirez	FLA	2,326,285	1 st	1 st
3B Chipper Jones	ATL	3,722,211	6 th	4 th
OF Ryan Braun	MIL	3,835,890	1 st	1 st
OF Kosuke Fukudome	CHI	2,994,935	1 st	1 st
OF Alfonso Soriano	CHI	3,353,977	7 th	5 th

A.L. Player	Club	Votes	All-Star	
			Selections	Elections
C Joe Mauer	MIN	2,885,246	2 nd	1 st
1B Kevin Youkilis	BOS	2,858,130	1 st	1 st
2B Dustin Pedroia	BOS	2,492,698	1 st	1 st
SS Derek Jeter	NYY	3,737,437	9 th	4 th
3B Alex Rodriguez	NYY	3,934,518	12 th	11 th
OF Josh Hamilton	TEX	3,708,709	1 st	1 st
OF Manny Ramirez	BOS	3,428,577	12 th	9 th
OF Ichiro Suzuki	SEA	2,012,912	8 th	7 th
DH David Ortiz	BOS	3,554,209	5 th	4 th



FINAL 2008 N.L. ALL-STAR BALLOTING RESULTS

July 6th



FIRST BASEMEN			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Lance Berkman	Astros	3,373,696
2.	Prince Fielder	Brewers	2,596,217
3.	Derrek Lee	Cubs	2,374,916
4.	Albert Pujols	Cardinals	2,225,932
5.	Ryan Howard	Phillies	1,062,958
6.	Mark Teixeira	Braves	839,022
7.	Conor Jackson	Diamondbacks	699,471
8.	Carlos Delgado	Mets	595,130

SECOND BASEMEN			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Chase Utley	Phillies	3,889,602
2.	Mark DeRosa	Cubs	2,039,576
3.	Rickie Weeks	Brewers	1,874,503
4.	Dan Uggla	Marlins	1,520,065
5.	Kazuo Matsui	Astros	1,428,899
6.	Orlando Hudson	Diamondbacks	834,453
7.	Adam Kennedy	Cardinals	708,472
8.	Luis Castillo	Mets	662,979

THIRD BASEMEN			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Chipper Jones	Braves	3,722,211
2.	Aramis Ramirez	Cubs	2,432,700
3.	David Wright	Mets	1,740,929
4.	Bill Hall	Brewers	1,689,156
5.	Ty Wigginton	Astros	943,655
6.	Troy Glaus	Cardinals	936,493
7.	Mark Reynolds	Diamondbacks	743,815
8.	Nomar Garciaparra	Dodgers	561,262

SHORTSTOPS			
#	Player		Votes
1.	Hanley Ramirez	20.	2,326,285
2.	J.J. Hardy	21.	2,207,730
3.	Miguel Tejada	22.	2,025,995
4.	Ryan Theriot	23.	2,003,743
5.	Jose Reyes	24.	1,309,137
6.	Jimmy Rollins		1,268,907
7.	Stephen Drew		879,615
8.	Cesar Izturis		679,567

CATCHERS			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Geovany Soto	Cubs	3,096,135
2.	Jason Kendall	Brewers	2,503,376
3.	Brian McCann	Braves	1,749,707
4.	Yadier Molina	Cardinals	1,682,828
5.	Bengie Molina	Giants	1,130,841
6.	Russell Martin	Dodgers	1,011,539
7.	J.R. Towles	Astros	814,836
8.	Chris Snyder	Diamondbacks	753,022

OUTFIELDERS			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Ryan Braun	Brewers	3,835,840
2.	Alfonso Soriano	Cubs	3,353,977
3.	Kosuke Fukudome	Cubs	2,994,935
4.	Ken Griffey, Jr.	Reds	2,907,746
5.	Corey Hart	Brewers	2,366,008
6.	Mike Cameron	Brewers	1,832,916
7.	Carlos Lee	Astros	1,760,663
8.	Matt Holliday	Rockies	1,750,970
9.	Rick Ankiel	Cardinals	1,662,402
10.	Ryan Ludwick	Cardinals	1,467,768
11.	Carlos Beltran	Mets	1,434,766
12.	Hunter Pence	Astros	1,361,893
13.	Pat Burrell	Phillies	1,290,761
14.	Justin Upton	Diamondbacks	1,031,991
15.	Nate McLouth	Pirates	1,018,659
16.	Michael Bourn	Astros	1,007,899
17.	Aaron Rowand	Giants	1,001,043
18.	Chris Young	Diamondbacks	864,041
19.	Jim Edmonds	Padres/Cubs	846,335
20.	Eric Byrnes	Diamondbacks	787,500
21.	Ryan Church	Mets	709,394
22.	Jeff Francoeur	Braves	708,893
23.	Xavier Nady	Pirates	693,648
24.	Shane Victorino	Phillies	671,488



FINAL 2008 A.L. ALL-STAR BALLOTING RESULTS

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FIRST BASEMEN			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Kevin Youkilis	Red Sox	2,858,130
2.	Justin Morneau	Twins	2,801,307
3.	Jason Giambi	Yankees	1,668,126
4.	Paul Konerko	White Sox	825,472
5.	Carlos Peña	Rays	797,705
6.	Carlos Guillen	Tigers	696,700
7.	Casey Kotchman	Angels	561,742
8.	Ben Broussard	Rangers	535,177

SHORTSTOPS			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Derek Jeter	Yankees	3,737,437
2.	Michael Young	Rangers	2,317,403
3.	Edgar Renteria	Tigers	987,147
4.	Orlando Cabrera	White Sox	975,433
5.	Julio Lugo	Red Sox	943,766
6.	David Eckstein	Blue Jays	580,641
7.	Jason Bartlett	Rays	562,506
8.	Adam Everett	Twins	547,075

SECOND BASEMEN			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Dustin Pedroia	Red Sox	2,492,698
2.	Ian Kinsler	Rangers	2,458,455
3.	Robinson Cano	Yankees	1,458,126
4.	Placido Polanco	Tigers	1,040,514
5.	Brian Roberts	Orioles	734,465
6.	Akinori Iwamura	Rays	659,306
7.	Mark Grudzielanek	Royals	654,756
8.	Asdrubal Cabrera	Indians	601,115

CATCHERS			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Joe Mauer	Twins	2,885,246
2.	Jason Varitek	Red Sox	2,216,344
3.	Ivan Rodriguez	Tigers	1,483,425
4.	Jorge Posada	Yankees	1,458,099
5.	A.J. Pierzynski	White Sox	957,169
6.	Gerald Laird	Rangers	784,384
7.	Victor Martinez	Indians	599,797
8.	Dioner Navarro	Rays	533,276

THIRD BASEMEN			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Alex Rodriguez	Yankees	3,934,518
2.	Mike Lowell	Red Sox	2,006,101
3.	Joe Crede	White Sox	1,175,229
4.	Miguel Cabrera	Tigers	970,005
5.	Hank Blalock	Rangers	682,587
6.	Mike Lamb	Twins	623,018
7.	Scott Rolen	Blue Jays	535,579
8.	Chone Figgins	Angels	526,998

DESIGNATED HITTERS			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	David Ortiz	Red Sox	3,554,209
2.	Hideki Matsui	Yankees	2,198,042
3.	Jim Thome	White Sox	1,417,796
4.	Frank Catalanotto	Rangers	864,550
5.	Jason Kubel	Twins	706,844
6.	Gary Sheffield	Tigers	625,916
7.	Garret Anderson	Angels	513,578
8.	Cliff Floyd	Rays	478,194

OUTFIELDERS			
#	Player	Club	Votes
1.	Josh Hamilton	Rangers	3,708,709
2.	Manny Ramirez	Red Sox	3,428,577
3.	Ichiro Suzuki	Mariners	2,012,912
4.	J.D. Drew	Red Sox	1,881,321
5.	Vladimir Guerrero	Angels	1,736,074
6.	Milton Bradley	Rangers	1,680,413
7.	Johnny Damon	Yankees	1,677,502
8.	Bobby Abreu	Yankees	1,676,096
9.	Melky Cabrera	Yankees	1,277,274
10.	Grady Sizemore	Indians	1,240,611
11.	Magglio Ordoñez	Tigers	1,238,597
12.	Torii Hunter	Angels	1,188,486
13.	Coco Crisp	Red Sox	1,122,950
14.	Jermaine Dye	White Sox	1,082,066
15.	Carl Crawford	Rays	1,021,632
16.	B.J. Upton	Rays	832,458
17.	Carlos Gomez	Twins	830,822
18.	Marlon Byrd	Rangers	727,011
19.	Michael Cuddyer	Twins	724,304
20.	Curtis Granderson	Tigers	714,915
21.	Nick Swisher	White Sox	690,317
22.	Carlos Quentin*	White Sox	526,282
23.	Jacoby Ellsbury*	Red Sox	515,883
24.	Delmon Young	Twins	506,881

* - Write-in Candidate