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Can The Phillies Keep the Brotherly Love Flowing?

The Eagles dominated The Super Bowl, led by a shut-down defense, and The Phils look to keep the mo going with a strong D entering April. After the Victory Tour last year, which saw The Phils keep a large core of the World Series Championship team intact, there are some big changes to the squad entering the 2025 season. Lets start with the offence, or as some faithful like to point to, the defense:

Behind the plate the trio of Fredy Fermin, Jake Rodgers, and Matt Thais all return this year. Defensive fundamentals improve at the top. Ratings go from: B/20/-1/B/C D/70/+1/A/B C/45/0/A/C
to: A/75/-3/A/C B/90/-1/A/A D/50/+1/A/C

None of the three compare to Molina's A/80/-2/A/A from the '23 team, but the offence production in '25 looks to improve on Molina's .246/.283/.374/.657 showing

At first, Christian Walker returns sporting his A+/95 rating. He is expected to play almost every inning every day, but this year the team actually has a capable backup in left-handed hitter Joey Gallo, with his B/90 rating.

The keystone crew is lead by Andres Gimenez after he was relegated to the bench last year to get Brandon Drury's offensive potential in the lineup. Gimenez stays consistent with a top-shelf A+/80/0 rating. His offensive production likely will continue to decline from the '23 season, but The Phillies might simply go with the best defender this year.

The changes to the infield came early and often in the draft. First-round pick Joey Ortiz, second-rounder Josh Smith, and third-rounder Edmundo Sosa are set to man the two spots on the left side of the infield, with all three eligible to spell Gimenez at second if needed. Ninth-round pick Brett Wisely could also see some action at second and short.

The Ratings:	2B	SS	3B
Gimenez	A+/80/0		
Ortiz	C/50/0	C/70/0	A/85
Smith	D/50/0	C/25/0	C/95
Sosa	C/55/0	B/85/0	C/95
Wisely	C+/80/0	B/100/0	C/50

Veterans Steven Kwan, Kevin Kiermaier, and Max Kepler are all still options on the grass. The outfield was supplemented with right-handed hitters Kevin Pilar, Tommy Pham, Luke Williams, and youngster Billy Cook. Lefties Jimmy Smith and Joey Gallo, also might play some in the corners.

The primary DH is again expected to be Jose Altuve.

The pitching staff will be the typical motley crew of has-beens and never-will-bes. The core starters go from Tony Gonsolin and Clayton Kershaw in 2023, to Javier Assad and Tiki Toussaint in 2024, and now the starter roles are murkier than ever. New-comers Jose Soriano and Joe Ross are early favorites to get the call to start games early in the season. Other than that, it will likely be 'next-man-up' with a collection of starters and spot-starters.

The pen looks a little stronger, keyed by right-handers Jason Adam, and Trevor Megill. Lefty Sam Moll is also expected to see action in key spots. Beau Briske and Jose Butto could act as both openers and key relievers. And then comes the assortment of 'just guys' that the team will need to find spots to get innings out of.

The Phillies with their upgraded infield, are hoping to make opposing hitters look a lot like Patrick Mahomes looked in the Super Bowl. Ring The Bell!