## Local Experts Have Spoken: It's Hamilton, Rangers in Six

Texas Rangers president Nolan Ryan likes his team to win the World Series in six games, and the Hall of Fame pitcher isn't alone here.

In a Chicago Baseball Museum poll of local baseball experts and celebrities, 13-of-24 participants predict the American League pennant-winners to capture their first World Series championship. And 10 voters believe they will make it happen in six games.

The Fall Classic figures to be a competitive one, though, as only one respondent says it will be decided in five games or fewer. Eight predict it will go the limit, and all except two say the Cardinals will win the decisive Game 7 at home.

Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton (seven votes) is the Most Valuable Player favorite. Cardinals first baseman Albert Pujols (four) and Rangers designated hitter Michael Young (three) and third basemen Adrian Beltre (two) are next in line.

Seven players have one vote each: Cardinals pitchers Chris Carpenter and Jason Motte, outfielders Lance Berkman and Matt Holliday, and Rangers outfielder Nelson Cruz, second baseman Ian Kinsler and pitcher C.J. Wilson.

The panel and their selections:

Brett Ballantini, Comcast SportsNet White Sox reporter: Cardinals in seven, Pujols.

Lou Canellis, WFLD-TV sports anchor: Cardinals in seven, Pujols.

Rick Gano, Associated Press Cubs-White Sox reporter: Rangers in six, Hamilton.

Dave Eanet, WGN Radio sports anchor: Rangers in six, Hamilton.

David Fletcher, Chicago Baseball Museum president: Rangers in seven, Young.

Marvin Freeman, Chicago Baseball Museum board member and former major league pitcher: Cardinals in six, Jason Motte.

Toni Ginnetti, Sun-Times Cubs-White Sox reporter: Cardinals in six, no MVP preference.

Mark Gonzales, Tribune White Sox reporter: Rangers in seven, Young.

Melissa Harris, Tribune business columnist: Cardinals in six, Holliday.

David Haugh, Tribune sports columnist: Rangers in six, Hamilton.

Laurence Holmes, WSCR Radio host: Rangers in five, Hamilton.

Sarah Kustok, Comcast SportsNet sports anchor: Rangers in six, Beltre.

Josh Liss, WBBM Radio sports anchor: Rangers in six, Cruz.

Scot Gregor, Daily Herald White Sox reporter: Cardinals in seven, Pujols.

Bill Melton, Comcast SportsNet White Sox analyst: Rangers in six, Young.

Bruce Miles, Daily Herald Cubs reporter: Rangers in six, Hamilton.

Dan Roan, WGN-TV sports anchor: Cardinals in seven, Carpenter.

Richard Roeper, Sun-Times at-large columnist: Rangers in six, Hamilton.

Phil Rogers, Tribune MLB reporter: Rangers in seven, Kinsler.

Patrick Rose, Associated Press Cubs-White Sox reporter: Cardinals in seven, Pujols.

Paul Sullivan, Tribune Cubs reporter: Rangers in six, Beltre.

Pat Tomasulo, WGN-TV sports anchor: Rangers in six, Wilson.

Daryl Van Schouwen, Sun-Times White Sox reporter: Rangers in seven, Hamilton.

Gordon Whittenmyer, Sun-Times Cubs reporter: Cardinals in six, Berkman.