

# 8 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE MARLINS



BY DAN UGGLA  
(AS TOLD TO MOLLY KNIGHT)  
PHOTOGRAPH BY JACK THOMPSON



**1. DONTRELLE WILLIS IS OUR FASHION COP ...** "He's always giving guys crap about their shirts not being ironed, and he tells me mine are too small. He says, 'Your little brother wants his shirt back.' Hey, they might be snug, but they work for me. When we haze our rookies—we make them wear Hooters waitress or cheerleader outfits—Dontrelle is in charge."

**2. ... BUT HE FLASHES MORE THAN HIS BADGE.** "Dontrelle and Aaron Boone make more money than most of the guys here, but the great thing is they spend some of it on us. Anytime you go to dinner or the movies with them, you know you're not gonna pay a dime."

**3. BOONE HAS STYLE TOO.** "No one can pull off clothes like he can. He can wear suits, because he's got that tall, lean look, and he looks as nice in a hooded sweatshirt as he does in a long-sleeve button-down. Plus he's from California, so he knows where to get the cool jeans and T-shirts. I don't know how he does it."

**4. WE'RE A BUNCH OF BABIES.** "We're a really young team, but people say I look the youngest. I'm 27, but I have a baby face. I get carded everywhere."

**5. NOT TO MENTION JACKASSES.** "We don't go out a lot during the season, because there isn't time. But we watch movies together. *Jackass* is probably the clubhouse favorite. When it's on, a lot more people than normal pull up a chair."

**6. ALFREDO AMÉZAGA IS UGLY—ASK HIM.** "He gave himself the nickname Feo. It means ugly in Spanish. But a lot of guys call me Ugly because of my name. So he's Ugly in Spanish, and I'm Ugly in English."

**7. SERGIO MITRE COULD BE A COMPETITIVE EATER.** "He'll down whatever you put in front of him. Last season, a few of us went to a diner in New York for breakfast, and our bill came to \$140 because Sergio had, like, five meals: omelets, waffles, whatever. It was nuts."

**8. WORKPLACE ROMANCE IS OUT.** "Other teams are distracted by our dance team, the Mermaids. People figure we date them, but we're not even allowed to talk to them. Or maybe they're not allowed to talk to us. I'm not sure."