

Ron Kaplan The Essential Baseball Library

• 2008 (1/4)

BASEBALL HAS OFTEN BEEN CALLED A METAPHOR FOR LIFE, BUT A MORE APT DESCRIPTION WOULD BE THAT IT'S A VALUABLE SOURCE OF EDUCATION. BOOKS ABOUT THE NATIONAL PASTIME ENCOMPASS A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS, INCLUDING ECONOMICS, HISTORY, MATH, SCIENCE, LITERARY STUDIES, EVEN PHILOSOPHY. HERE IS A LIST, HUMBL Y SUBMITTED, OF THE TOP TITLES IN SEVERAL OF THESE CATEGORIES.

RON KAPLAN IS A LONGTIME MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN BASEBALL RESEARCH. HE HOSTS A BLOG ON BASEBALL LITERATURE AT WWW.RKSBASEBALLBOOKSHELF.WORDPRESS.COM.

HISTORY:

THE BILL JAMES HISTORICAL ABSTRACT, BILL JAMES (FREE PRESS)

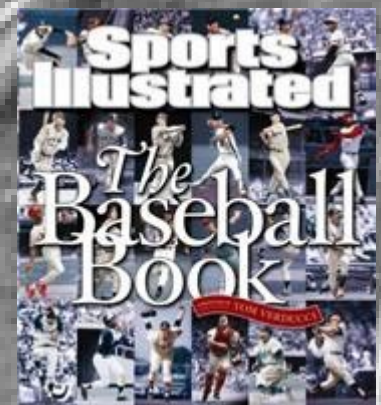
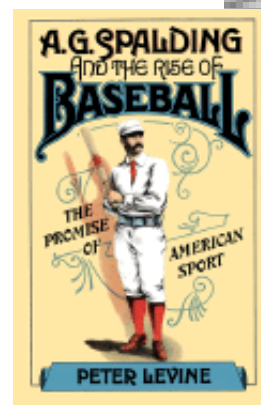
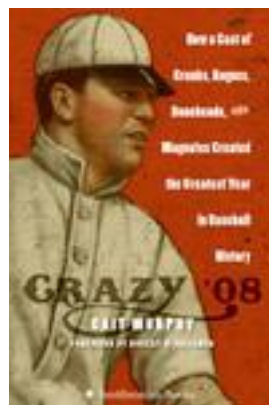
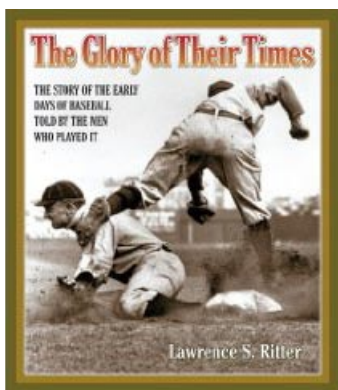
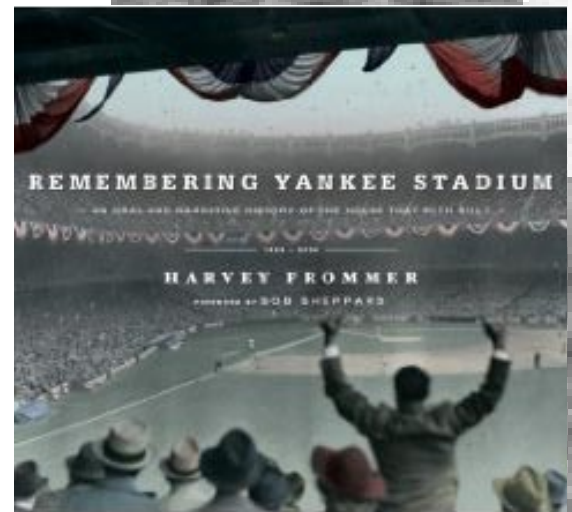
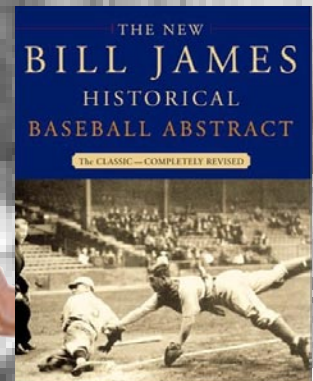
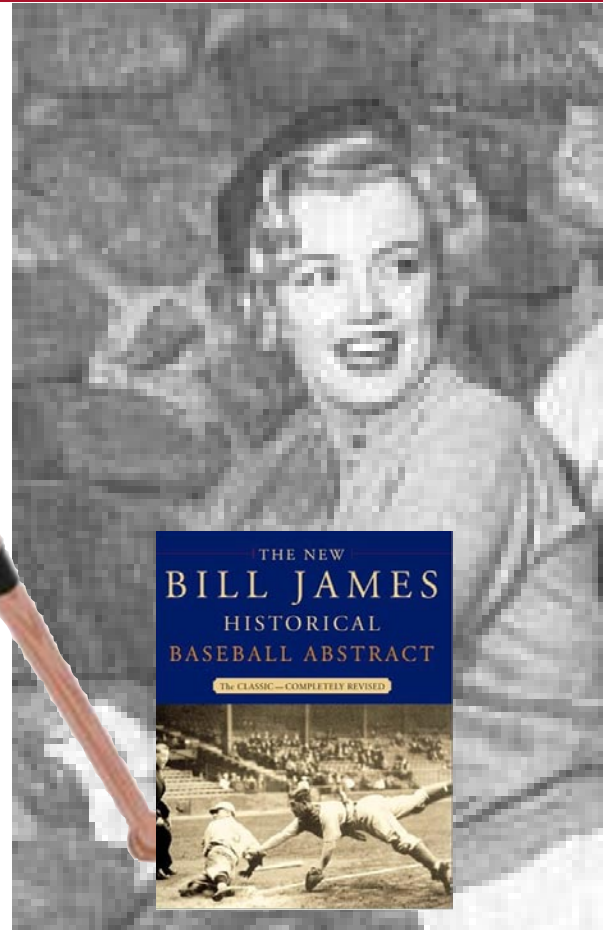
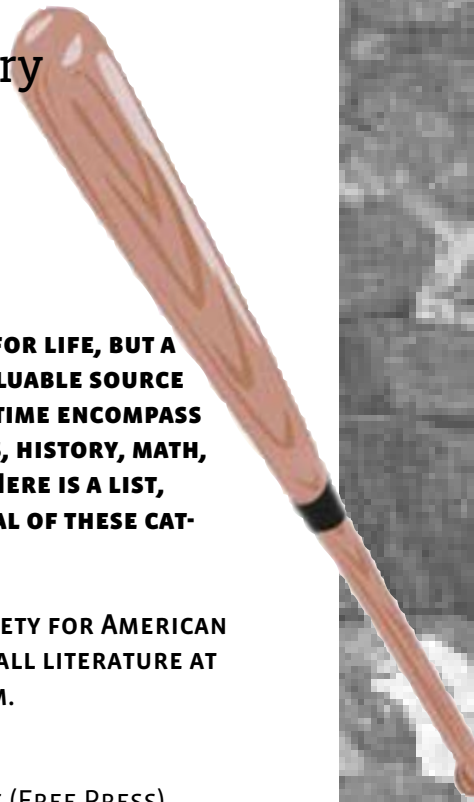
REMEMBERING YANKEE STADIUM, HARVEY FROMMER (ABRAMS)

THE BASEBALL BOOK, SPORTS ILLUSTRATED (LITTLE, BROWN)

A. G. SPALDING AND THE RISE OF BASEBALL: THE PROMISE OF AMERICAN SPORT, PETER LEVINE (OXFORD UNIVERSITY)

CRAZY '08: HOW A CAST OF CRANKS, ROGUES, BONEHEADS, AND MAGNATES CREATED THE GREATEST YEAR IN BASEBALL HISTORY, CAIT MURPHY (COLLINS)

THE GLORY OF THEIR TIMES. THE STORY OF THE EARLY DAYS OF BASEBALL TOLD BY THE MEN WHO PLAYED IT, LAWRENCE RITTER (HARPERCOLLINS)



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BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY:

BALL FOUR, JIM BOUTON (WILEY)

SANDY KOUFAX: A LEFTY'S LEGACY, JANE LEAVY (HARPERCOLLINS)

A WELL-PAID SLAVE: CURT FLOOD'S FIGHT FOR FREE AGENCY IN PROFESSIONAL SPORTS, BRAD SNYDER (PENGUIN)

THE TEAMMATES, DAVID HALBERSTAM (HYPERION)

COMMENTARY:

IMAGINING BASEBALL: AMERICA'S PASTIME AND POPULAR CULTURE, DAVID MCGIMPSEY (INDIANA UNIVERSITY)

THE THINKING FAN'S GUIDE TO BASEBALL, LEONARD KOPPETT (TOTAL SPORTS)

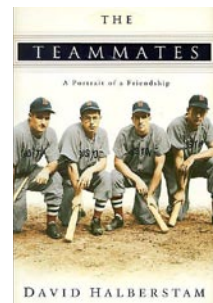
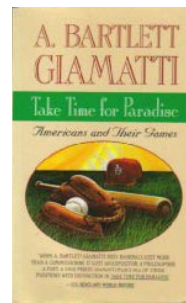
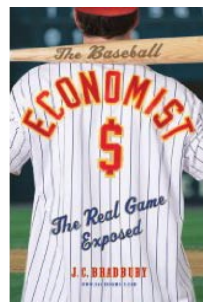
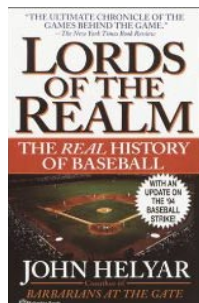
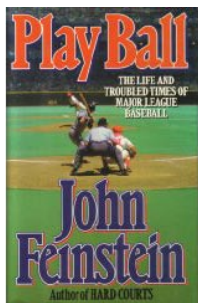
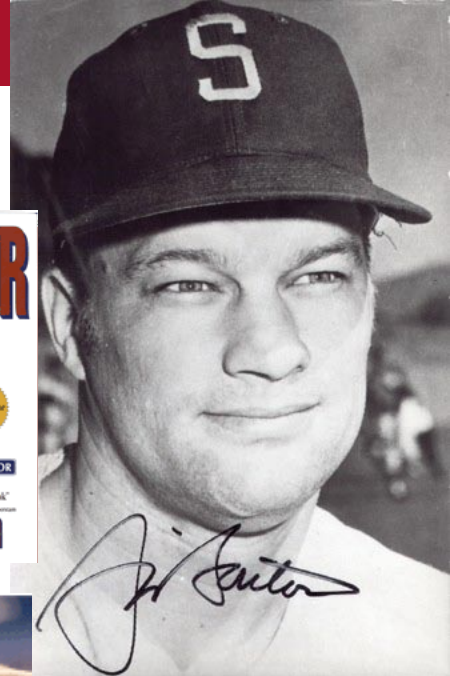
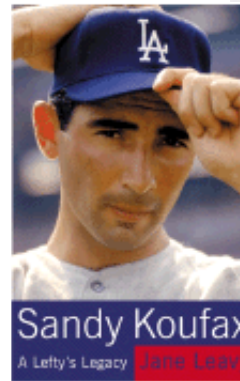
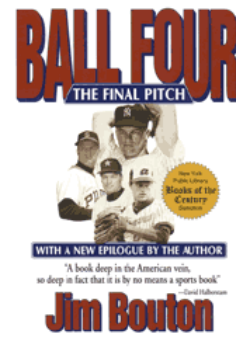
TAKE TIME FOR PARADISE: AMERICANS AND THEIR GAMES, A. BARTLETT GIAMATTI (SIMON & SCHUSTER)

BUSINESS:

THE BASEBALL ECONOMIST: THE REAL GAME EXPOSED, J.C. BRADBURY (PENGUIN)

LORDS OF THE REALM, JOHN HELYAR (RANDOM HOUSE)

PLAY BALL: THE LIFE AND TROUBLED TIMES OF MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL, JOHN FEINSTEIN (RANDOM HOUSE)



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PHOTOGRAPHY:

NEIL LEIFER: BALLET IN THE DIRT: THE GOLDEN AGE OF BASEBALL, GABRIEL SCHECHTER (TASCHEN)

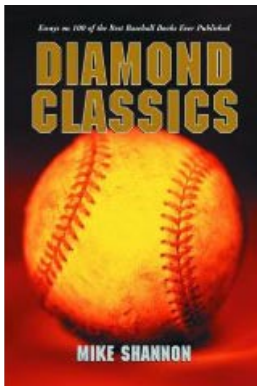
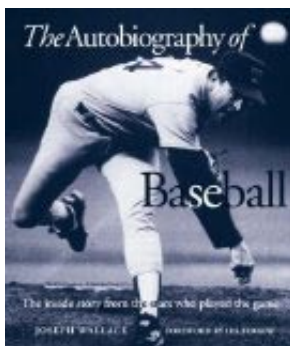
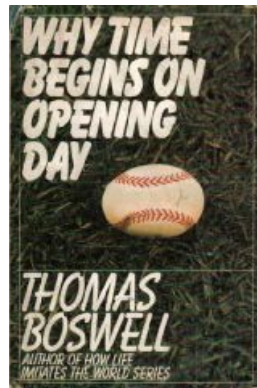
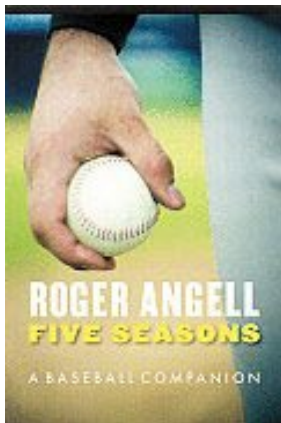
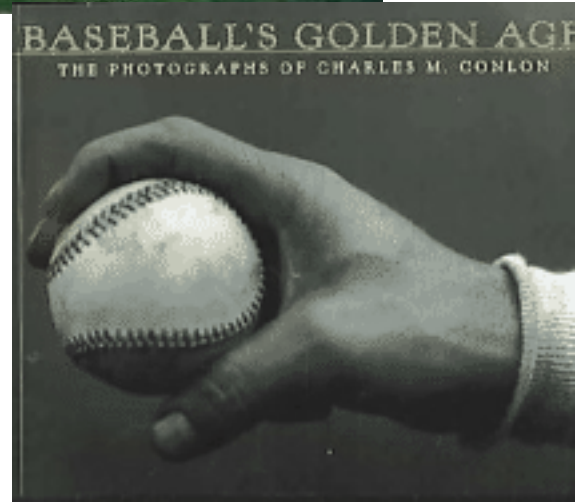
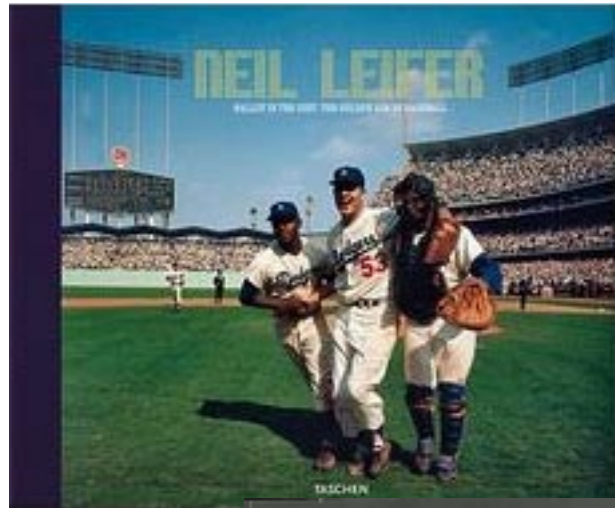
BASEBALL'S GOLDEN AGE: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHARLES M. CONLON, NEAL MCCABE (ABRAMS)

STATISTICALS:

BASEBALL BETWEEN THE NUMBERS: WHY EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT THE GAME IS WRONG, JONAH KERI (BASIC)

BASEBALL PROSPECTUS: THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO THE 2008 BASEBALL SEASON, STEVE GOLDMAN (PENGUIN)

THE NUMBERS GAME: BASEBALL'S LIFELONG FASCINATION WITH STATISTICS, ALAN SCHWARZ (ST. MARTIN'S)



ESSAYS:

FIVE SEASONS, ROGER ANGELL (UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA)
WHY TIME BEGINS ON OPENING DAY, THOMAS BOSWELL (PENGUIN)

MISCELLANEOUS:

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF BASEBALL: THE INSIDE STORY FROM THE STARS WHO PLAYED THE GAME, JOSEPH WALLACE (HNA BOOKS)

BASEBALL AND PHILOSOPHY: THINKING OUTSIDE THE BATTER'S BOX, ERIC BRONSON (OPEN COURT)

DIAMOND CLASSICS: ESSAYS ON 100 OF THE BEST BASEBALL BOOKS EVER PUBLISHED, MIKE SHANNON (MCFARLAND & CO)