

Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

From its colorful beginnings more than a century ago, baseball's annual Most Valuable Player Award has become the most prestigious (and contentious) individual honor in the sport. No accolade means more to players, fans or the media. No other award can claim a voting history so rich in alleged snubs, grudges, conspiracies and incompetence. Examining the most controversial ballots, this book attempts to settle some arguments and answer some compelling questions: Which of the so-called "worst MVPs" holds up to modern statistical analysis? Who cast the single worst vote in MVP history? Does racial bias influence the vote? Who really deserved the award in a given year?

An accessible compendium of essays on the broad theme of mathematics and sports. This study considers the importance of location for new and relocated major league franchises in the more than 130 years since the National League was founded. Included are an analysis of market differences and similarities, team performances and demographics and area economic comparisons. Market data are used to predict future expansions and relocations of major league teams.

The Hardball Times Baseball Annual 2008 is indispensable for serious baseball fans. It is the best place to innovative stats combined with accurate and piercing analysis. This comprehensive book covers the entire 2007 season from the first pitch to the last out, and it is also the first book of its kind to include a review of the postseason and World Series. It also

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

includes: Detailed reviews of how 2007 played out in each of baseball's six divisions Cutting-edge statistics such as Win Shares and Win Probability Added Comprehensive team stats and graphs Team-by-team individual hitting and fielding numbers Articles on Barry Bonds and the homerun milestone, racial integration in baseball, and an in-depth look at GM Dave Dombrowski of the 2006 AL Champion Detroit Tigers

Tells the story of the 1947 Brooklyn Dodgers in contextualized biographies of the players, managers, and everyone else important to the team.

This book illustrates basic methods of data analysis and probability models by means of baseball statistics collected on players and teams. The idea of the book is to describe statistical thinking in a context that will be familiar and interesting to students. The second edition of *Teaching Statistics* follows the same structure as the first edition, where the case studies and exercises have been replaced by modern players and teams, and the new types of baseball data from the PitchFX system and fangraphs.com are incorporated into the text. Most baseball traditions are wonderful. But not all of them. The games most basic elements have often been misrepresented, misunderstood, and misremembered through the years. All along, fiction has coexisted with fact, hyperbole has mixed with history, and exaggeration has been mistaken for explanation. Meanwhile, baseball's yen for tradition has left many fans and even baseball commentators unduly attached to stale ways of thinking. Peter Handrinos breaks from the past and provides an entertaining antidote to its outmoded ideas and excessive nostalgia.

In 1996, a brassy young team of fans produced a guide to baseball statistics. Printed on a photocopier, its distribution, which was in the low hundreds, was limited to friends, family, and

Access PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

die-hard stat heads. Sixteen years later, the Baseball Prospectus annual regularly hits best-seller lists and has become an indispensable guide for the serious fan. In *Extra Innings*, the team at Baseball Prospectus integrates statistics, interviews, and analysis to deliver twenty arguments about today's game. In the tradition of their seminal book, *Baseball Between the Numbers*, they take on everything from steroids to the amateur draft. They probe the impact of managers on the game. They explain the critical art of building a bullpen. In an era when statistics matter more than ever, *Extra Innings* is an essential volume for every baseball fan. The tape measure home run is the greatest single act of power in the game of baseball, and the tales of these homers are the most cherished legacies players and fans hand down through the generations. Fully illustrated with photos of the players and aerial ballpark photos showing the landing spots of each stadium's longest homers.

Baseball's roots lie deep in our ancestral past. The ancient arts of throwing (distance warfare), hitting (close quarters combat), and running (attack and retreat) were woven into the earliest forms of baseball. Early humans recognized the importance of the sun and sought to placate it with sacrificial offerings, imitating its movements and deifying it. Myths and relics of these foundational practices and beliefs were carried westward across the Old World by Indo-European peoples. Games for the early British and Continental Europeans (notably the Celts and Druids) served military, religious, social and educational

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

needs. As the Celts and Druids came under the control of the Roman Empire, and later the Christian Church, their customs and practices, including games, fell out of favor. Despite persecution, some folk games survived the millennia under such names as "stool-ball," "tut-ball," and "base-ball." Descendants of these peoples brought their variant games to the New World where the standardization of various informal rules led to their rapid spread. Baseball, with its underlying beliefs, superstitions and practices, still brings us together with familiar and comforting rituals as we assemble under the sun.

The definitive history of the Montreal Expos by the definitive Expos fan, the New York Times bestselling sportswriter and Grantland columnist Jonah Keri. 2014 is the 20th anniversary of the strike that killed baseball in Montreal, and the 10th anniversary of the team's move to Washington, DC. But the memories aren't dead--not by a long shot. The Expos pinwheel cap is still sported by Montrealers, former fans, and by many more in the US and Canada as a fashion item. Expos loyalists are still spotted at Blue Jays games and wherever the Washington Nationals play (often cheering against them). Every year there are rumours that Montreal--as North America's largest market without a baseball team--could host Major League Baseball again. There has never been a major English-language book on the entire franchise history. There also hasn't been a sportswriter as

Access PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

uniquely qualified to tell the whole story, and to make it appeal to baseball fans across Canada AND south of the border. Jonah Keri writes the chief baseball column for Grantland, and routinely makes appearances in Canadian media such as The Jeff Blair Show, Prime Time Sports and Off the Record. The author of the New York Times baseball bestseller *The Extra 2%* (Ballantine/ESPN Books), Keri is one of the new generation of high-profile sports writers equally facile with sabermetrics and traditional baseball reporting. He has interviewed everyone for this book (EVERYONE: including the ownership that allowed the team to be moved), and fans can expect to hear from just about every player and personality from the Expos' unforgettable 35 years in baseball. *Up, Up, and Away* is already one of the most anticipated sports books of next year.

Recent polls have placed football ahead of baseball in popularity. Does this reflect football's rise or baseball's decline? Why has the national pastime—a title perhaps becoming inaccurate—fallen behind other major sports? Is the trend reversible? This book identifies the most substantial and persistent issues that have impaired Major League Baseball's development. Chapters cover inflationary player, team and game costs; changes in baseball's fan base; congestion in urban areas that host big league ballclubs; the negligent and irrational actions (some of it criminal) of players, owners, league officials, and the

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

players' union; and the maldistribution of power among the major league franchises. Six major reforms needed to boost the popularity of baseball are identified.

"Baseball analysts criticize pitcher win-loss records as a poor measure of pitcher performance, as wins are the product of team performance. Fans criticize WAR (Wins Above Replacement), theoretical rather than actual wins. Player won-lost records bridge the gap. This book's play-by-play data examines won-lost records in Major League Baseball from 1930 through 2015"--

This book presents a scientific but easy to understand explanation of pitching power. Illustrated with anecdotes about baseball's greatest power pitchers, it describes how they were able to achieve phenomenal fastball velocity and record-breaking strikeout numbers. How was a 17-year-old rookie named Bob Feller able to strike out Major League batters in record numbers? How do the tendons, ligaments, and muscles of the arm and shoulder work to amplify power for greater pitch velocity? How was minor league pitcher Steve Dalkowski able to throw the most phenomenal fastball ever seen (or heard)? Why do young pitchers with exceptional velocity often issue walks at exceptional rates? Why do good pitchers occasionally pitch badly? Why is exceptional hand speed important? What is it about overhand throwing that causes elbow and shoulder

Access PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

injuries? How can a pitcher achieve greater endurance and durability? What is the most reliable way to increase fastball velocity? This book addresses these and other questions for pitchers, coaches, managers, trainers, and fans.

What happens when three financial industry whiz kids and certified baseball nuts take over an ailing major league franchise and implement the same strategies that fueled their success on Wall Street? In the case of the 2008 Tampa Bay Rays, an American League championship happens—the culmination of one of the greatest turnarounds in baseball history. In *The Extra 2%*, financial journalist and sportswriter Jonah Keri chronicles the remarkable story of one team's Cinderella journey from divisional doormat to World Series contender. When former Goldman Sachs colleagues Stuart Sternberg and Matthew Silverman assumed control of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in 2005, it looked as if they were buying the baseball equivalent of a penny stock. But the incoming regime came armed with a master plan: to leverage their skill at trading, valuation, and management to build a model twenty-first-century franchise that could compete with their bigger, stronger, richer rivals—and prevail. Together with “boy genius” general manager Andrew Friedman, the new Rays owners jettisoned the old ways of doing things, substituting their own innovative ideas about employee development, marketing and public relations, and personnel management. They exorcized the “devil”

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

from the team's nickname, developed metrics that let them take advantage of undervalued aspects of the game, like defense, and hired a forward-thinking field manager as dedicated to unconventional strategy as they were. By quantifying the game's intangibles—that extra 2% that separates a winning organization from a losing one—they were able to deliver to Tampa Bay something that Billy Beane's "Moneyball" had never brought to Oakland: an American League pennant. A book about what happens when you apply your business skills to your life's passion, *The Extra 2%* is an informative and entertaining case study for any organization that wants to go from worst to first.

Walk through any major or minor league park today and the sights, sounds, and smells of baseball overwhelm. Teams long ago figured out that this immersive quality is a powerful draw, and the "fan experience" has been a major force in their marketing plans. In recent years, advancing technology has altered not only that experience, which now includes LED video boards and blasts of digital music, but the marketing and revenue opportunities for the game. Fans all over the world can subscribe to video and audio streams, acquire credit cards emblazoned with team logos, and follow their favorite players through league-sanctioned blogs. Baseball's ambition and reach are now truly global. Focusing on the game's dual identities as pastime and economic engine, the authors

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

examine the ways that baseball is packaged, promoted and consumed in the United States and, increasingly, abroad.

Provides profiles of major league players with information on statistics for the past five seasons and projections for the 2015 baseball season.

"A collection of essays about baseball in other countries across the globe that explores a wide range of issues for each region"--

Roger Dale Loring is a genuine baby boomer who finds his existence in the rapidly-changing world rather perplexing. In his latest book, he once again offers a collection of lighthearted essays about his dilemmas from the perspective of his current "if-they-don't-have-a-senior-discount, I'm-not-going-there" age. Realizing that the aging process evolved in a way that his adolescent mind never envisioned, Loring now finds that his views on life changes are disturbingly similar to the views of the old people of his youth, people he frequently characterized as old fogies. His essays highlight his humorous take on life that include opinions about issues such as cell phone upgrades; a man's attention span while operating a television remote; seasonal purse shopping; the differing conversation patterns of men and women; the three hardest part-time jobs in America; the crazy world of politics where preaching to the choir dominates all campaigns; and, of course, the trauma of buying toothpaste.

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

This tribute to Professor J. A. (Tony) Mangan is well-deserved. Professor Mangan is a path-breaking scholar. Mangan's impact is measurable in the rarest of ways: institution-building. Under his leadership, a globally situated team has opened a new relationship between sport and the academy and I recommend *Manufacturing Masculinity: The Mangan Oeuvre -- Global Reflections on J.A. Mangan's Studies of Masculinity, Imperialism and Militarism* as, yet again, it offers a unique consideration of the relationship between sport and academy. Professor John D. Kelly - University of Chicago Professor Mangan has since the early 1980s been one of the foremost international scholars within his chosen field of cultural history. Over this period he has possibly more convincingly than any other international academic shown in his research how much sport and associated forms of competitive performance have not only reflected and reproduced but indeed sometimes also reformed and redirected fundamental political, cultural and social structures and ideological transformative forces in modern civilisation. Professor Henrik Meinander - University of Helsinki Professor Mangan is widely and greatly respected in China as a scholar of international distinction... he has made both direct and indirect contributions to Chinese scholarship especially regarding Chinese women and their long struggle for emancipation... Finally, and I cannot stress this point too strongly, a most

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

important contribution ... has been his crystal clear and nuanced writing style much appreciated by... Chinese who wish to write for the international scholastic world. Professor Dong Jinxia - Peking University No one has had a more influential role in, or made a greater contribution to the cultural history of modern sport than Professor J.A. Mangan. With his visionary, pioneering monographs and many seminal edited collections and as founding editor of the series Sport in the Global Society with its numerous volumes and most especially as founding editor and editor of The International Journal of the History of Sport for some thirty years -- which he took from the original three numbers a year to eighteen numbers a year, his contribution has been unparalleled. Professor Roberta J. Park - University of California, Berkeley

Often considered to be in opposition, American popular culture and popular religion are connected, forming and informing new ways of thinking, writing and practicing religion and theology. Film, television, music, sports and video games are integral to understanding the spiritual, the secular and the in-between in the modern world. In its revised second edition, this book explores how religious issues of canonicity, scriptural authority, morality, belief and unbelief are worked out not in churches, seminaries or university classrooms, but in our popular culture. Topics new to this edition include lived religion, digital technology, new

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

trends in belief and identification, the film Noah (2014), the television series True Blood, Kanye West's music, the video game Fallout and media events of recent years. Instructors considering this book for use in a course may request an examination copy [here](#).

Generally acknowledged as the preeminent gathering of baseball scholars, the annual Cooperstown Symposium on Baseball and American Culture has made significant contributions to baseball research and pedagogy. This collection of 17 new essays is selected from the approximately 100 presentations of the 2013 and the 2014 symposia, covering topics whose importance extends beyond the ballpark. Presented in six themed parts, the essays consider the congruence of culture and baseball, the importance of ballpark itself, the myths, legends and icons of the baseball imagination, international and ethnic game variations, the work of baseball museum curators and a context for the game's rules of play and labor.

Since 1997, Ducksnorts (ducksports.com) has been the home of Geoff Young's insights and analysis of the San Diego Padres. Now his first book examines the organization in detail, featuring a recap of the 2006 season; an in-depth look at the Padres' game of the year against Colorado on September 4, 2006; a retrospective of the Padres' 1998 World Series appearance and Tony Gwynn's

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

3000th hit; analysis of Kevin Towers' trades as Padres' GM; a look at the best by position through Padres' history; a deconstruction of pitching prospects; tips on how to succeed despite having limited resources, including the art of building a bullpen for cheap; and more.--Publisher's description

Baseball Between the Numbers Why Everything You Know About the Game Is Wrong Basic Books

This ambitious study of major league managers since the formation of the National League applies a sabermetric approach to gauging their performance and tendencies. Rather than focusing solely on in-game tactical decisions, it also analyzes broader, off-the-field management issues such as handling players, fans, and media, enforcing team rules, working with the front office, and balancing pressure versus performance.

In the numbers-obsessed sport of baseball, statistics don't merely record what players, managers, and owners have done. Properly understood, they can tell us how the teams we root for could employ better strategies, put more effective players on the field, and win more games. The revolution in baseball statistics that began in the 1970s is a controversial subject that professionals and fans alike argue over without end. Despite this fundamental change in the way we watch and understand the sport, no one has written the book that reveals, across

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

every area of strategy and management, how the best practitioners of statistical analysis in baseball-people like Bill James, Billy Beane, and Theo Epstein-think about numbers and the game. *Baseball Between the Numbers* is that book. In separate chapters covering every aspect of the game, from hitting, pitching, and fielding to roster construction and the scouting and drafting of players, the experts at Baseball Prospectus examine the subtle, hidden aspects of the game, bring them out into the open, and show us how our favorite teams could win more games. This is a book that every fan, every follower of sports radio, every fantasy player, every coach, and every player, at every level, can learn from and enjoy. Provides profiles of major league players with information on statistics for the past five seasons and projections for the 2011 baseball season.

Explores the myths and legends of baseball that have shaped the history of the sport, discussing who really invented baseball, ten Hall of Fame "mistakes," and five great things that never happened in a major league game

Tony Gwynn is the greatest hitter in the history of baseball. That's the conclusion of this engaging and provocative analysis of baseball's all-time best hitters.

Michael Schell challenges the traditional list of all-time hitters, which places Ty Cobb first, Gwynn 16th, and includes just 8 players whose prime came after 1960. Schell argues that the raw batting averages used as the list's basis should

Access PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

be adjusted to take into account that hitters played in different eras, with different rules, and in different ballparks. He makes those adjustments and produces a new list of the best 100 hitters that will spark debate among baseball fans and statisticians everywhere. Schell combines the two qualifications essential for a book like this. He is a professional statistician--applying his skills to cancer research--and he has an encyclopedic knowledge of baseball. He has wondered how to rank hitters since he was a boy growing up as a passionate Cincinnati Reds fan. Over the years, he has analyzed the most important factors, including the relative difficulty of hitting in different ballparks, the length of hitters' careers, the talent pool that players are drawn from, and changes in the game that raised or lowered major-league batting averages (the introduction of the designated hitter and changes in the height and location of the pitcher's mound, for example). Schell's study finally levels the playing field, giving new credit to hitters who played in adverse conditions and downgrading others who faced fewer obstacles. His final ranking of players differs dramatically from the traditional list. Gwynn, for example, bumps Cobb to 2nd place, Rod Carew rises from 28th to 3rd, Babe Ruth drops from 9th to 16th, and Willie Mays comes from off the list to rank 13th. Schell's list also gives relatively more credit to modern players, containing 39 whose best days were after 1960. Using a fun, conversational

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

style, the book presents a feast of stories and statistics about players, ballparks, and teams--all arranged so that calculations can be skipped by general readers but consulted by statisticians eager to follow Schell's methods or introduce their students to such basic concepts as mean, histogram, standard deviation, p-value, and regression. Baseball's All-Time Best Hitters will shake up how baseball fans view the greatest heroes of America's national pastime.

Explores the theme of "resources" in entrepreneurship, and examines entrepreneurs that persevere in uncertain times to build new businesses. The different perspectives gathered in this volume present new ways of thinking about how entrepreneurs acquire, borrow, and make use of resources in seemingly impossible environments.

With its flexible capabilities and open-source platform, R has become a major tool for analyzing detailed, high-quality baseball data. Analyzing Baseball Data with R provides an introduction to R for sabermetricians, baseball enthusiasts, and students interested in exploring the rich sources of baseball data. It equips readers with the necessary skills and software tools to perform all of the analysis steps, from gathering the datasets and entering them in a convenient format to visualizing the data via graphs to performing a statistical analysis. The authors first present an overview of publicly available baseball datasets and a gentle

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

introduction to the type of data structures and exploratory and data management capabilities of R. They also cover the traditional graphics functions in the base package and introduce more sophisticated graphical displays available through the lattice and ggplot2 packages. Much of the book illustrates the use of R through popular sabermetrics topics, including the Pythagorean formula, runs expectancy, career trajectories, simulation of games and seasons, patterns of streaky behavior of players, and fielding measures. Each chapter contains exercises that encourage readers to perform their own analyses using R. All of the datasets and R code used in the text are available online. This book helps readers answer questions about baseball teams, players, and strategy using large, publically available datasets. It offers detailed instructions on downloading the datasets and putting them into formats that simplify data exploration and analysis. Through the book's various examples, readers will learn about modern sabermetrics and be able to conduct their own baseball analyses.

It happens every summer: packs of beer-bellied men with gloves and aluminum bats, putting their middle-aged bodies to the test on the softball diamond. For some, this yearly ritual is driven by a simple desire to enjoy a good ballgame; for others, it's a way to forge friendships—and rivalries. But for one short, wild-haired, bespectacled professor, playing softball in New York's Central Park means a

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

whole lot more. It's one last chance to heal the nagging wounds of Little League trauma before the rust of decline and the relentless responsibilities of fatherhood set in. Professor Baseball is the coming-of-middle-age story of New York University professor and Little League benchwarmer Edwin Amenta. As rookie manager of the Performing Arts Softball League's doormat Sharkeys, he reverses softball's usual brawn-over-brains formula. He coaxes his skeptical teammates to follow his sabermetric and sociological approach, based equally on Bill James and Max Weber, which in the heady days of early success he dubs "Eddy Ball." But Amenta soon learns that his teammates' attachments to favorite positions and time-honored (if ineffective) strategies are hard to break—especially when the team begins losing. And though he rejects the baseball-as-life metaphor, life keeps intruding on his softball season. Amenta here comes to grips with the humiliation of assisted reproduction, suffers mysterious ailments, and finds himself lingering at the sponsor's bar, while his partner, a beautiful but baseball-challenged professor, second-guesses his book in the making. Can he turn his team—and his life—around? Packed with colorful personalities, dramatic games, and the bustle of New York life, Professor Baseball will charm anyone who has ever root, root, rooted for the underdog. Propounding his "small ball theory" of sports literature, George Plimpton proposed that "the

Acces PDF Baseball Between The Numbers Why Everything You Know About Game Is Wrong Jonah Keri

smaller the ball, the more formidable the literature." Of course he had the relatively small baseball in mind, because its literature is formidable--vast and varied, instructive, often wildly entertaining, and occasionally brilliant. From this bewildering array of baseball books, Ron Kaplan has chosen 501 of the best, making it easier for fans to find just the books to suit them (or to know what they're missing). From biography, history, fiction, and instruction to books about ballparks, business, and rules, anyone who loves to read about baseball will find in this book a companionable guide, far more fun than a reference work has any right to be.

Golf figures profiled include Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Tiger Woods. Tennis includes Jimmy Connors, Billie Jean King and the Williams sisters.

The unlikely worlds of sports fans and statisticians collide in this interesting and accessible collection of previously published articles on the use of statistics to analyze sports, which the editors have thoughtfully culled from a variety of American Statistical Association (ASA) publications. Heavily weighted in the areas of competition (rating players and teams, evaluating strategies for victory), the articles vary in mathematical complexity, but most will be accessible to readers with a general knowledge of statistics. Newly written material from the editors and other notable contributors introduces each section of the book, and a chapter with suggestions on using the articles in the classroom is included. Organized by sport to make it easy for readers to find the papers in their particular areas of interest, *Anthology of Statistics in Sports* contains separate sections devoted to the major North American team sports of baseball, football, basketball, and ice hockey. Two additional sections cover miscellaneous sports and more general issues related to sports and statistics. This book grew from the efforts of members of the ASA Section on Statistics in Sports, which is dedicated to promoting high

