
Scorecasting The Hidden Influences Behind How Sports Are Played And Games Are Won

The Economics of Sports
Cinderella Man
The Rookie Bookie
Trading Bases
Superbookie 2
Scorecasting
This Is Your Brain on Sports
Call an Audible
Running the Table
Sports Ethics
Strokes of Genius
Tackling Jim Crow
The Business of Sports
The Vandals' Crown
Sports from Hell
Sports in America
Mathletics
Data Analytics in Football
100 Opinions You Can Trust on Scorecasting
The Rookie Bookie - FREE PREVIEW (The First 5 Chapters)
15 Sports Myths and Why They're Wrong
Beyond Winning
Mathletics
The Cost of These Dreams
Analytic Methods in Sports
Game Over
Fantasy Life
Big-Time Sports in American Universities
Blood in the Cage
Baseball, Boys, and Bad Words
Sports Analytics
One on One
Teaching Statistics Using Baseball, 2nd Edition
You Can't Make This Up
The Real All Americans

When Gadgets Betray Us
Scorecasting
This is Your Brain on Sports
Glory Days

*Scorecasting The Hidden Influences
Behind How Sports Are Played And
Games Are Won*

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ELLEN NIGEL

The Economics of Sports Wiley-Blackwell

Offers a portrait of Danny Basavich, a pool hustler known as Kid Delicious, and his set-up man, Bristol Bob, as they embark on a four-year odyssey through the pool halls and billiard rooms of America, and go from hustlers to professional pool phenoms.

Cinderella Man Routledge

An inside look at the growing new sport of mixed martial arts chronicles the life and career of Pat Miletich, a pioneer of mixed martial arts and six-time UFC champion, against the backdrop of the rise of the Ultimate Fighting Championship, from its back-alley origins to its success as the fastest growing sporting enterprise in America.

The Rookie Bookie Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

New York Times Bestseller: This true Depression-era story of a down-and-out fighter's dramatic comeback is "a delight" (David Halberstam). James J. Braddock was a once promising light heavyweight. But a string of losses in the ring and a broken right hand happened to coincide with the Great Crash of 1929—and Braddock was forced to labor on the docks of Hoboken. Only his manager, Joe Gould, still believed in him. Gould looked out for the burly, quiet Irishman, finding matches for Braddock to help him feed his wife and children. Together, they were about to stage the greatest comeback in fighting history. Within twelve months, Braddock went from being on the relief rolls to facing heavyweight champion Max Baer, renowned for having allegedly killed two men in the ring. A brash Jewish boxer from the West Coast, Baer was heavily favored—but Braddock carried the hopes and dreams of the working class on his shoulders, and when he emerged victorious against all odds, the shock was palpable—and the cheers were deafening. In the wake of his surprise win, Damon Runyon dubbed him "Cinderella Man." Against the gritty

backdrop of the 1930s, Cinderella Man brings this dramatic all-American story to life, telling a classic David and Goliath tale that transcends the sport. "A punchy read with touches of humor." —The New York Times "A wonderful, thrilling boxing story, and simultaneously a meticulous look at Depression life." —Jimmy Breslin

Trading Bases Riverhead Books

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.

Superbookie 2 Penguin

The essays in this reader examine philosophical issues such as sportsmanship, violence, cheating, drug use, racism, sexism, and gender equity. Examines ethical issues in sports, such as sportsmanship, violence, cheating, drug use, racism, sexism, and gender equity. Includes essays by psychologists, sociologists, coaches, and sports writers. Gives the reader an understanding of the moral significance of sport, and how sports affect society.

Scorecasting Princeton University Press

How math can be used to improve performance and predict outcomes in professional sports *Mathletics* is a remarkably entertaining book that shows readers how to use simple mathematics to analyze a range of statistical and probability-related questions in professional baseball, basketball, and football, and in sports gambling. How does professional baseball evaluate hitters? Is a singles hitter like Wade Boggs more valuable than a power hitter like David Ortiz? Should NFL teams pass or run more often on first downs? Could professional basketball have used statistics to expose the crooked referee Tim Donaghy? Does money buy performance in professional sports? In

Mathletics, Wayne Winston describes the mathematical methods that top coaches and managers use to evaluate players and improve team performance, and gives math enthusiasts the practical tools they need to enhance their understanding and enjoyment of their favorite sports—and maybe even gain the outside edge to winning bets. *Mathletics* blends fun math problems with sports stories of actual games, teams, and players, along with personal anecdotes from Winston's work as a sports consultant. Winston uses easy-to-read tables and illustrations to illuminate the techniques and ideas he presents, and all the necessary math concepts—such as arithmetic, basic statistics and probability, and Monte Carlo simulations—are fully explained in the examples. After reading *Mathletics*, you will understand why baseball teams should almost never bunt, why football overtime systems are unfair, why points, rebounds, and assists aren't enough to determine who's the NBA's best player—and much, much more. In a new epilogue, Winston discusses the stats and numerical analysis behind some recent sporting events, such as how the Dallas Mavericks used analytics to become the 2011 NBA champions.

This Is Your Brain on Sports Penguin

Data Analytics in Football provides students, researchers and coaches with a firm grounding in the principles of modern performance analysis. It offers an insight into the use of positional data, exploring how it can be collected, modelled, analysed and interpreted. Introducing cutting-edge methods, the book challenges long-held assumptions and encourages a new way of thinking about football analysis. Based on data collected from the German Bundesliga and the UEFA Champions League, the book seeks to define the role of positional data in football match analysis by exploring topics such as: What is positional data analysis and how did it emerge from conventional match analysis? How can positional data be collected and which technologies can be used? What are the benefits of a data-driven approach to decision making in football? What Key Performance Indicators based on positional data should be used? How can

traditional match analysis be complemented by using positional data and advanced KPIs? How can these new methods evolve in the future? Accessibly written, packed full of examples from elite football and supplemented with expert interviews (Ralf Rangnick, Urs Siegenthaler and others), *Data Analytics in Football* is a thought-provoking, rigorously evidence-based guide to the use of data analytics in football performance analysis. As such, it is a vital resource for any student, researcher or coach interested in performance analysis and skill acquisition, or anyone interested in football more generally.

[Call an Audible](#) Rowman & Littlefield

The executive editor of *Sports Illustrated* offers an in-depth analysis and behind-the-scenes look at the historic 2008 match between tennis titans. In the 2008 Wimbledon men's final, Centre Court was a stage set worthy of Shakespearean drama. Five-time champion Roger Federer was on track to take his rightful place as the most dominant player in the history of the game. He just needed to cling to his trajectory. So, in the last few moments of daylight, Centre Court witnessed a coronation. Only it wasn't a crowning for the Swiss heir apparent but for a swashbuckling Spaniard. Twenty-two-year-old Rafael Nadal prevailed, in five sets, in what was, according to the author, "essentially a four-hour, forty-eight-minute infomercial for everything that is right about tennis—a festival of skill, accuracy, grace, strength, speed, endurance, determination, and sportsmanship." It was also the encapsulation of a fascinating rivalry, hard fought and of historic proportions. In the tradition of John McPhee's classic *Levels of the Game*, *Strokes of Genius* deconstructs this defining moment in sport, using that match as the backbone of a provocative, thoughtful, and entertaining look at the science, art, psychology, technology, strategy, and personality that go into a single tennis match. With vivid, intimate detail, Wertheim re-creates this epic battle in a book that is both a study of the mechanics and art of the game and the portrait of a rivalry as dramatic as that of Ali-Frazier, Palmer-Nicklaus, and McEnroe-Borg. "Deftly touches on all the defining factors of contemporary tennis." —San Francisco Chronicle "Illuminates a kingdom changing hands. An engrossing book." —Bud Collins

[Running the Table](#) Lennex

One of the greatest changes in the sports world in the past 20 years has been the use of mathematical methods to analyze

performances, recognize trends and patterns, and predict results. *Analytic Methods in Sports: Using Mathematics and Statistics to Understand Data from Baseball, Football, Basketball, and Other Sports*, Second Edition provides a concise yet thorough introduction to the analytic and statistical methods that are useful in studying sports. The book gives you all the tools necessary to answer key questions in sports analysis. It explains how to apply the methods to sports data and interpret the results, demonstrating that the analysis of sports data is often different from standard statistical analyses. The book integrates a large number of motivating sports examples throughout and offers guidance on computation and suggestions for further reading in each chapter. Features Covers numerous statistical procedures for analyzing data based on sports results Presents fundamental methods for describing and summarizing data Describes aspects of probability theory and basic statistical concepts that are necessary to understand and deal with the randomness inherent in sports data Explains the statistical reasoning underlying the methods Illustrates the methods using real data drawn from a wide variety of sports Offers many of the datasets on the author's website, enabling you to replicate the analyses or conduct related analyses New to the Second Edition R code included for all calculations A new chapter discussing several more advanced methods, such as binary response models, random effects, multilevel models, spline methods, and principal components analysis, and more Exercises added to the end of each chapter, to enable use for courses and self-study

[Sports Ethics](#) Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

The Business of Sports provides a comprehensive foundation of the economic, organizational, legal and political components of the sports industry. Geared for journalism, communication and business students, but also an excellent resource for those working in sports, this text introduces readers to the ever-increasing complexity of an industry that is in constant flux. Now in its third edition, the volume continues to offer a wealth of statistics and case studies, up to date with the newest developments in sports business and focused on cutting-edge issues and topics, including the many changes in international sports and the role of analytics in decision-making and tax rules that have a major effect on athletes and teams.

[Strokes of Genius](#) Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

Baseball, Boys, and Bad Words reveals the hilarity and magic of Little League baseball. Often called "the funniest tale ever told," this story will have you laughing until you cry, while warming your soul, reminding you of childhood and a simpler time. In 1970, eleven-year-old Andy Andrews and a group of friends began a Little League season they would never forget. All the usual ingredients were there—well-worn gloves, freshly cut grass, and new uniforms. But the addition of a coach who was "new to the area" is what made this season truly unforgettable for young Andy. Baseball fans and both current and former Little Leaguers will love the funny story, the age-old baseball wisdom quoted from some of the game's greatest players, and the vintage baseball photography.

[Tackling Jim Crow](#) Archetype

John Feinstein's illuminating recollections from two decades of interviews with sports legends. John Feinstein's career is a sports fan's dream—a lifetime of encounters with the great figures in sports, not just on the field, but in the locker room and behind the scenes with legends like Bob Knight, Dean Smith, Mike Krzyzewski, Jack Nicklaus, Tiger Woods, and John McEnroe. Since his days as a young *Washington Post* journalist, Feinstein has written twenty-eight books and countless magazine articles and newspaper columns, covering college basketball, golf, tennis, baseball, and very nearly every sport in between. He has told us of victory and defeat, of athletes and coaches we love—and love to hate. But some of his best stories have been left untold, until now. *One on One* is an incredible portal into the sports we love—from the box scores and the pageantry of game night and into the hard work and intensity that turn players and coaches into legends.

[The Business of Sports](#) Scorecasting

An ex-Wall Street trader improved on *Moneyball*'s famed sabermetrics and beat the Vegas odds with his own betting methods. Here is the story of how Joe Peta turned fantasy baseball into a dream come true. Joe Peta turned his back on his Wall Street trading career to pursue an ingenious—and incredibly risky—dream. He would apply his risk-analysis skills to Major League Baseball, and treat the sport like the S&P 500. In *Trading Bases*, Peta takes us on his journey from the ballpark in San Francisco to the trading floors and baseball bars of New York and the sportsbooks of Las Vegas, telling the story of how he created

a baseball “hedge fund” with an astounding 41 percent return in his first year. And he explains the unique methods he developed. Along the way, Peta provides insight into the Wall Street crisis he managed to escape: the fragility of the midnineties investment model; the disgraced former CEO of Lehman Brothers, who recruited Peta; and the high-adrenaline atmosphere where million-dollar sports-betting pools were common.

The Vandals' Crown Greenleaf Book Group

A rollicking guided tour of one extraordinary summer, when some of the most pivotal and freakishly coincidental stories all collided and changed the way we think about modern sports. The summer of 1984 was a watershed moment in the birth of modern sports when the nation watched Michael Jordan grow from college basketball player to professional athlete and star. That summer also saw ESPN's rise to media dominance as the country's premier sports network and the first modern, commercialized, profitable Olympics. Magic Johnson and Larry Bird's rivalry raged, Martina Navratilova and John McEnroe reigned in tennis, and Hulk Hogan and Vince McMahon made pro wrestling a business, while Donald Trump pierced the national consciousness as a pro football team owner. It was an awakening in the sports world, a moment when sports began to morph into the market-savvy, sensationalized, moneyed, controversial, and wildly popular arena we know today. In the tradition of Bill Bryson's *One Summer: America, 1927*, L. Jon Wertheim captures these 90 seminal days against the backdrop of the nostalgia-soaked 1980s, to show that this was the year we collectively traded in our ratty Converse for a pair of sleek, heavily branded, ingeniously marketed Nikes. This was the year that sports went big-time.

Sports from Hell Anchor

Painting a vivid picture of the new financial revolutionaries, the story of a powerful group of private investors reveals how they have outmaneuvered the world's most powerful nations in the burgeoning global financial markets. 35,000 first printing. \$35,000 ad/promo. Tour.

Sports in America Cambridge University Press

Bestselling author and ESPN star, Rick Reilly delivers a hilarious, unabashedly fun, and at times, skin-searing tour through some of the world's most amazing and outrageous sports. From the physically and mentally taxing sport of chess boxing to the psychological battlefield that is the rock-paper-scissors

championship, to the underground world of illegal jart throwing, Rick Reilly subjected himself to both bodily danger and abject humiliation (or, in the case of ferret legging, both) in order to personally find the world's strangest sporting event. Chronicling his adventures as only he can, Rick enters a world of bizarre characters, fierce competition, and exotic locals--with stops in Australia, New Zealand, Finland, Denmark, England, and even a maximum security prison at Angola, Louisiana--and the result is a laugh-out-loud book perfect for any sport's fan.

Mathletics Columbia University Press

This is *Your Brain on Sports* is the book for sports fans searching for a deeper understanding of the games they watch and the people who play them. Sports Illustrated executive editor and bestselling author L. Jon Wertheim teams up with Tufts psychologist Sam Sommers to take readers on a wild ride into the inner world of sports. Through the prism of behavioral economics, neuroscience, and psychology, they reveal the hidden influences and surprising cues that inspire and derail us—on the field and in the stands—and by extension, in corporate board rooms, office settings, and our daily lives. In this irresistible narrative romp, Wertheim and Sommers usher us from professional football to the NBA to Grand Slam tennis, from the psychology of athletes self-handicapping their performance in the boxing ring or the World Series, to an explanation of why even the glimpse of a finish line can lift us beyond ordinary physical limits. They explore why Tom Brady and other starting NFL quarterbacks all seem to look like fashion models; why fans of teams like the Cubs, Mets, and any franchise from Cleveland love rooting for a loser; why the best players make the worst coaches; why hockey goons (and fans) would rather fight at home than on the road; and why the arena t-shirt cannon has something to teach us about human nature. In short, this book is an entertaining and thought-provoking journey into how psychology and behavioral science collide with the universe of wins-and-losses, coaching changes, underdogs, and rivalry games. — Boston Globe, Best Books of 2016, Sports

Data Analytics in Football Basic Books

In the bestselling tradition of *Freakonomics* and *Scorecasting* comes a clever and accessible look at the big ideas underlying the science of football. Did you hear the one about the MacArthur genius physicist and the NFL coach? It's not a joke. It's actually an innovative way to understand chaos theory, and the remarkable

complexity of modern professional football. In *Newton's Football*, journalist and New York Times bestselling author Allen St. John and TED Speaker and former Yale professor Ainissa Ramirez explore the unexpected science behind America's Game. Whether it's Jerry Rice finding the common ground between quantum physics and the West Coast offense or an Ivy League biologist explaining—at a granular level—exactly how a Big Mac morphs into an outside linebacker, *Newton's Football* illuminates football—and science—through funny, insightful stories told by some of the world's sharpest minds. With a clear-eyed empirical approach—and an exuberant affection for the game—St. John and Ramirez address topics that have long beguiled scientists and football fans alike, including: • the unlikely evolution of the football (or, as they put it, “The Divinely Random Bounce of the Prolate Spheroid”) • what Vince Lombardi has in common with Isaac Newton • how the hardwired behavior of monkeys can explain a head coach's reluctance to go for it on fourth-down • why a gruesome elevator accident jump-started the evolution of placekicking • how Teddy Roosevelt saved football using the same behavioral science concept that Dreamworks would use to save Shrek • why woodpeckers don't get concussions • how better helmets actually made the game more dangerous Every Sunday the NFL shares a secret with only its savviest fans: The game isn't just a clash of bodies, it's a clash of ideas. The greatest minds in football have always possessed an instinctual grasp of science, understanding the big ideas and gritty realities that inform the game's rich past, as well as its increasingly uncertain future. Blending smart reporting, counterintuitive creativity, and compelling narrative, *Newton's Football* takes gridiron analysis to the next level, giving fans a book that entertains, enlightens, and explains the game anew. Praise for *Newton's Football* “It was with great interest that I read *Newton's Football*. I'm a fan of applying of science to sport and *Newton's Football* truly delivers. The stories are as engaging as they are informative. This is a great read for all football fans.”—Mark Cuban “A delightfully improbable book putting science nerds and sports fans on the same page.”—Booklist “This breezily-written but informative book should pique the interest of any serious football fan in the twenty-first century.”—The American Spectator “The authors have done a worthy job of combining popular science and sports into a work that features enough expertise on

each topic to satisfy nerds and jocks alike. . . . The writers succeed in their task thanks to in-depth scientific knowledge, a wonderful grasp of football's past and present, interviews with a wide array of experts, and witty prose. . . . [Newton's Football is] fun and thought-provoking, proving that football is a mind game as much as it is a ball game."—Publishers Weekly

100 Opinions You Can Trust on Scorecasting Simon & Schuster

In *15 Sports Myths and Why They're Wrong*, authors Rodney Fort and Jason Winfree apply sharp economic analysis to bust some of the most widespread urban legends about college and professional athletics. Each chapter takes apart a common misconception, showing how the assumptions behind it fail to add up. Fort and Winfree reveal how these myths perpetuate themselves and, ultimately, how they serve a handful of powerful

parties—such as franchise owners, reporters, and players—at the expense of the larger community of sports fans. From the idea that team owners and managers are inept to the notion that revenue-generating college sports pay for athletics that don't attract fans (and their cash), *15 Sports Myths and Why They're Wrong* strips down pervasive accounts of how our favorite games function, allowing us to look at them in a new, more informed way. Fort and Winfree argue that substituting the intuitive appeal of emotionally charged myths with rigorous, informed explanations weakens the power of these tall tales and their tight hold on the sports we love. Readers will emerge with a clearer picture of the forces at work within the sports world and a better understanding of why these myths matter—and are worthy of a takedown.

The Rookie Bookie - FREE PREVIEW (The First 5 Chapters)
Princeton University Press

Many are familiar with Jackie Robinson and the integration of Major League Baseball after all the years of separate black and white leagues, but fewer people know of the segregation and then integration of the National Football League. The timing and sequence of events were different, but football followed a pattern similar to that of baseball in regard to the beginning and end of racial segregation. This work traces professional football's movement from segregation to integration, beginning with a discussion of the various reasons why the game was first segregated. It describes the schemes that NFL owners came up with to ban African Americans from the league in the 1930s and 1940s, and tells how these barriers broke down after World War II. The author considers how professional football overcame the legacies of Jim Crow and how Jim Crow laws may still haunt the game.