

## ***Jews and Baseball – An American Love Story*** **Provides a Dynamic Aspect to the Exhibit**

In addition to the autographs, photos, helmets, shoes, bats and books, the Matthews Sports Exhibit offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy the award-winning documentary “*Jews and Baseball – An American Love Story*.”

The film, which plays throughout the exhibit, was narrated by actor Dustin Hoffman and written by Pulitzer Prize-winning sports columnist Ira Berkow. “*Jews and Baseball – An American Love Story*” provides a compelling look at the history of Jews and the sport, including an interview with Hall of Fame pitcher Sandy Koufax, who rarely appears in public. It also features Al Rosen, Kevin Youkilis, Shawn Green, Norm Sherry, Ron Blomberg and such stars as Yogi Berra and Bob Feller in interviews and stories that bring the incredible Matthews Collection to life.

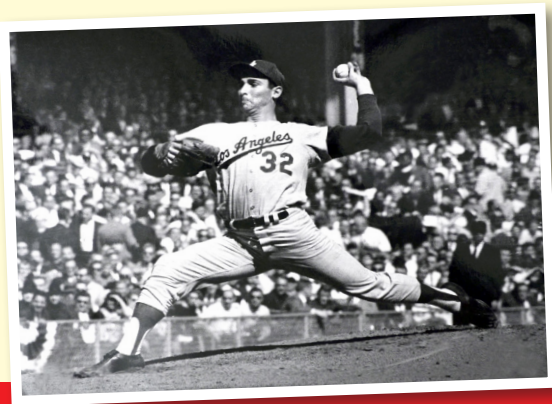
“A fascinating and moving film.” ~ *The Jerusalem Post*

“A warm and enthusiastic documentary.” ~ *The Los Angeles Times*

“An insightful, moving film that helps to shatter stereotypes and preconceptions, and reminds us of the power of this seemingly simple stickball game to bring us all together.” ~ *Ken Burns*, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker of “*The Civil War*,” “*Baseball*” and “*Jazz*”



A DVD of ***Jews and Baseball – An American Love Story*** may be ordered at [jewsandbaseball.com](http://jewsandbaseball.com).



**Sandy Koufax**



The Jewish Community Center  
of Metropolitan Detroit

D. Dan & Betty Kahn Building  
Eugene & Marcia Applebaum Jewish Community Campus  
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[jccdet.org](http://jccdet.org)

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# **THE MATTHEWS SPORTS EXHIBIT**

## ***Jewish Heroes & Other Legends***

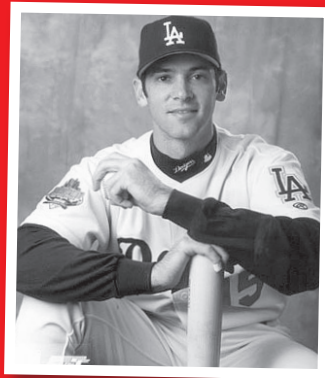
**Featuring rare and unforgettable autographs,  
photos, memorabilia and more,  
plus the award-winning documentary  
*Jews and Baseball – An American Love Story***



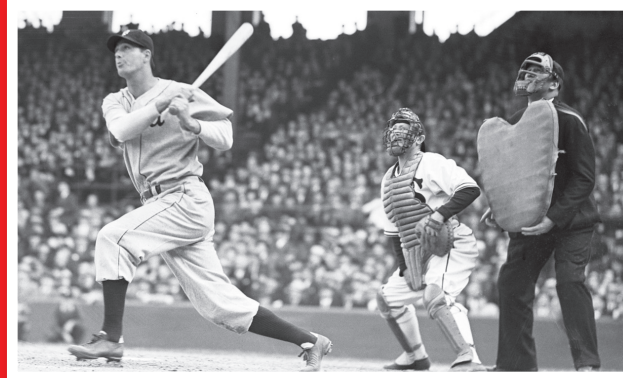




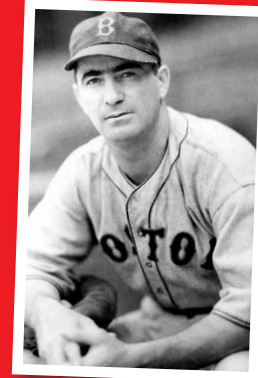
Al Rosen



Shawn Green



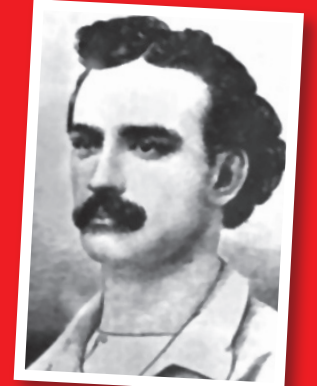
Hank Greenberg



Moe Berg



Ryan Braun



Lipman Pike

## THE MATTHEWS SPORTS EXHIBIT *Jewish Heroes & Other Legends*

For as long as he can remember, Dr. Robert Matthews always has loved sports.

Whether sitting in his Uncle Ernie's Pontiac and listening to a Tigers game or heading off to Briggs Stadium with his father to see the great Hank Greenberg play, Bob was enthralled.

His mother loved and collected antiques, so collecting came naturally to Bob. Today, an adjunct professor at the University of Detroit Mercy-School of Dentistry, he acquired his first sports memorabilia when he was 10. These included mementos of the Detroit Tigers and a few Jewish baseball stars.

Today, the collection gradually has expanded to include outstanding items from football, basketball, hockey and golf, but the centerpiece remains baseball.

From Abrams and Berg to Youkilis and Zosky, the exhibit includes memorabilia from Jewish baseball players from the 1870s to today. Jewish heroes including Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax feature prominently in the exhibit, as do Hall of Fame greats Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle, and local icons like Miguel Cabrera.

Bob finds his treasures in catalogs, at shows, on the Internet and in conversations with other fans. And because sports memorabilia can be valuable (in 2013, a baseball card of Honus Wagner of the Pittsburgh Pirates famously sold for more than \$2 million), Bob has had many of the items authenticated, purchased them with valid authentication or had them autographed in person.

Memorabilia in the collection is rotated periodically, with each sport being emphasized during its playing season.

"The best part of the whole experience," Bob says, "is knowing that others get a chance to see these one-of-a-kind items." This lifelong fan's philosophy is that "The joy is not in having the collection. The real joy is sharing the collection with people who appreciate it."

"Visiting the display is like taking a mini-trip to the Hall of Fame," he added. "Kids can learn about the superstars and appreciate their Jewish sports heritage, and adults can be reunited with their heroes and relive the joys of their youth."

### JEWS IN BASEBALL



## The Matthews Sports Exhibit Includes:

- A unique set of mounted baseball cards representing 142 Jewish Major League players.
- An extensive collection of rare, documented items relating to Morris "Moe" Berg, a Major League catcher who worked as a spy for the OSS (Office of Strategic Services) and the CIA during and after WWII. An acquaintance of Albert Einstein, Berg was a Princeton graduate whose 1934 films of Tokyo reportedly were viewed by military intelligence prior to the historic 1942 Doolittle air raid on Japan. Included in the Matthews collection is a 1923 yearbook from Berg's days at Princeton; his handwritten 1934 income tax return; Berg's WWII ration card; his only published article (in the *Atlantic Monthly*); a check signed by Berg; books from Berg's private library; and declassified Top Secret documents.
- An original work of art, depicting 26 current and former Jewish baseball players that includes autographs and personal inscriptions.
- An autographed copy of the 1948 first edition of Babe Ruth's autobiography.
- A 1953 Lafayette High School yearbook with Sandy Koufax's signature and notes.
- Two kippot signed by Sandy Koufax, from only a handful of such items known to exist. The kippot were to be given as awards to students at a Jewish religious school.
- Baseballs, a bat, a first baseman's glove and a 1927 James Monroe High School yearbook signed by Tigers legend Hank (born Hyman) Greenberg.
- Miguel Cabrera's signed baseballs, bats and batting helmet.
- A program and ticket from the first Super Bowl (1967).
- A football helmet signed by the 1972 Miami Dolphins, the only National Football League team to complete a perfect (17-0) season, including winning the Super Bowl.
- A check signed by legendary Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi.