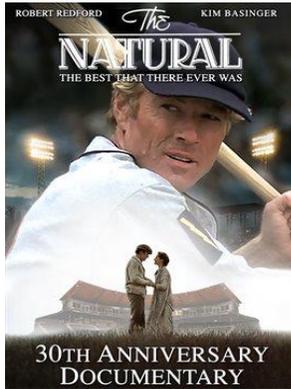


# It's Baseball Season!

Don't let the Coronavirus quarantine take away your enjoyment of a good sports story. You can still get baseball action through these family friendly movies. Fire up the barbecue, put the hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill, pop some popcorn and grab a cold drink. Get in the zone! Check these classics and not so well known gems from Hoopla, that can be found on the library's website <https://westnyacklibrary.org> Now go, put on your favorite team's hat, get your food, find a comfortable chair, sit back, and enjoy!



**The Natural** Drama/Sport 2 hr. 20 min PG

Nothing was going to stop Roy Hobbs from fulfilling his boyhood dream of baseball superstardom. 14-year-old Hobbs fashions a powerful bat from a fallen oak tree. He soon impresses major league scouts with his ability, fixing his extraordinary talent in the mind of sportswriter Max Mercy, who eventually becomes instrumental in Hobb's career. But a meeting with a mysterious woman shatters his dream. Years pass and an older Hobbs reappears as a rookie from The New York Knights. Overcoming physical pain and defying those who have a stake in seeing the Knights lose, Hobbs, with his boyhood bat, has his chance to lead the Knights to the pennant and to finally fulfill his dream. Considered one of the best sports films ever made. Included among the "1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die", **edited by Steven Schneider.**

## Trivia

- "Shoeless" Joe Jackson was an inspiration for the character of Roy Hobbs, particularly Jackson's connection to the Black Sox scandal. This can be seen when the Judge attempts to bribe Roy to throw the game. Also, like "Shoeless" Joe, Hobbs has a special name for his bat.

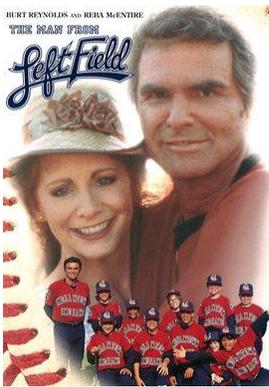
-The bat that bat boy Bobby Savoy gives Roy is called the "Savoy Special". The Savoy Special was a brand of beer in the 1930s, and was made by the United States Brewing Company. This bat is currently in the collection at the Baseball Hall of Fame in

Cooperstown, New York, and is displayed along with Roy Hobb's jacket in an exhibit titled "Baseball and the Movies".



**Chasing 3000** 1 hr. 42 min. Action/Adventure/Family PG

Ray Liotta recounts the cross-country journey of his 15-year-old self (Trevor Morgan) and his young brother, Roger (Rory Culkin), who suffers from muscular dystrophy, to see baseball player Roberto Clemente's 3,000th hit. Their mother (Lauren Holly) doesn't know where they went, so the cops track down the "stolen" car as they travel to Pittsburgh. Determined to see their idol's historic event, the boys will do anything to get to the baseball stadium, including hitch a ride on a train.



**The Man From Left Field** 1hr. 36 min. Comedy/Drama/Family

After taking a job managing a little league team, a homeless man (Burt Reynolds) inspires the kids to reach for it all and they inspire him to reclaim his life.

Trivia- This movie was filmed on Burt Reynold's Florida estate. The abandoned property still holds the dilapidated dugouts and concrete bleachers from the movie. Also stars Reba McEntire.



**Undrafted** Comedy/Drama/Family 1 hr. 40min.

When twelve ragtag teammates set out to play what should be a meaningless summer intramural baseball game, it ends up becoming the most important game of their lives. This collection of characters - the reliever turned starting pitcher, a hot dog power hitter, an outfielder with anger management issues, a player coach with clipboard envy, an over-eager catcher, the old guy who shouldn't be playing anymore, and the guy everyone forgot was on the team- truly gives new meaning to the phrase "amateur status." This collection of characters struggle to transition away from baseball and towards an uncertain future, the best player among them - who they all felt should have gotten drafted - has to deal with the news that his big league dreams were dashed, leaving him grappling with why he should still play. One game can be just another box score, but when it's played by a team galvanized around the love of the game, and for the pride they have in each other, it can define a lifetime.. **Trivia:** Based on a true story that happened to the writer/director's brother..



**The Perfect Game** Drama/Family Film 1hr 57 min.

From the director of Angels in the Outfield comes the incredible true story of the underdog foreign Little League team who inspired two nations. Cesar, who returns to his native Monterey, Mexico after his major league career is cut short and impoverished baseball-loving kids who recruit him to coach their rag-tag team. Together, they try to beat the odds and overcome hardships and bigotry to compete in the 1957 Little League World Series with Cheech Marin and Lou Gossett Jr. assisting.



**The Benchwarmers** Sports/Comedy 1hr. 20min. PG 13

For anyone who's ever been picked on, put down or pushed around, your heroes are here! Rob Schneider, David Spade and Jon Heder (Napoleon Dynamite) star as three older guys who know what it's like to be bullied. After catching some nasty neighborhood kids picking on a friend's son, they strike back by forming a three-man baseball team to challenge the state's best youth teams. Now, cheered on by every nerd, geek and misfit in town, these underdogs are about to have a field day in this slapstick hit comedy. **Be ready for some crude, sophomoric humor.**



**Is This Heaven?** Documentary/Drama/ History 1hr. 16 min.

Good enough for the Hall of Fame but without a headstone, Pete Hill has been nearly forgotten. Piecing together his story uncovers injustice, struggle, and one of the greatest ballplayers of all time. "Is This Heaven?" is the most complete telling of Pete Hill's life and storied baseball career in the Negro leagues. It's a full length documentary that will shed light on an amazing ballplayer whose talents are largely unknown and the intriguing posthumous story surrounding him. The film investigates the possible disturbance of his grave at Burr Oak Cemetery while watching on as historians look for his final resting place elsewhere. More layers to Pete Hill's story come to the forefront as further research uncovers errors on his National Baseball Hall of Fame plaque and the process of correcting it begins.



**Benched** Comedy 1hr 7min (NR)

Legendary baseball coach, gets an inexperienced new assistant coach. The two coaches are polar opposites as fiery Don loves to win no matter the cost and Michael is all about having fun. To make matters worse, their team leads the league in errors, strikeouts, and hurt feelings. Throughout a season of hilarity and heartbreak, Michael and Don must work together to help their underdog team. A sweet movie to pass the day and temporarily forget that the season may start later.

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**Baseball sites you might enjoy looking into:**

[Baseball reference.com](http://baseballreference.com): Stats on every player who ever lived, award winners, leaders through the years, and so much more.

[Retrosheet.com](http://retrosheet.com): Box scores for every major league game since 1953 and every post-season game ever played.

[MLB.com](http://mlb.com): The official site of major league baseball, links to every team site.

<https://baseballhall.org> Info and news about the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY

<https://baseballhall.org/discover/safe-at-home> Baseball Hall of Fame's digital collection

[Baseball almanac.com](http://baseballalmanac.com): The official baseball history site. "Where what happened yesterday is preserved today." Year-by-year history, NL since 1876.

[Ballparks of baseball.com](http://ballparksbaseball.com): Old fields, new fields, even future fields. Everything the baseball road warrior needs, complete with travel guides.

[Baseball library.com](http://baseballlibrary.com): Cool stuff such as this day in baseball, historical matchups, team year-by-year histories.

[Fangraphs.com](http://fangraphs.com): Daily reports, stat analysis, graphs. A terrific fantasy baseball tool.

<https://www.aaronslinks.com/baseball-directory> Welcome to the Web's most comprehensive collection of links to baseball resources. There are currently 12788 unique links indexed in the categories below. If you can't find what you're looking for, it probably doesn't exist.

<https://baseballparks.com> Ballpark reviews, rankings, essays, on all current stadiums.

<https://baseballtips.com/baseball-tips-blog-articles-training-equipment-buying-guides>

This instructional site teaches, coaches players and fans about winning baseball.