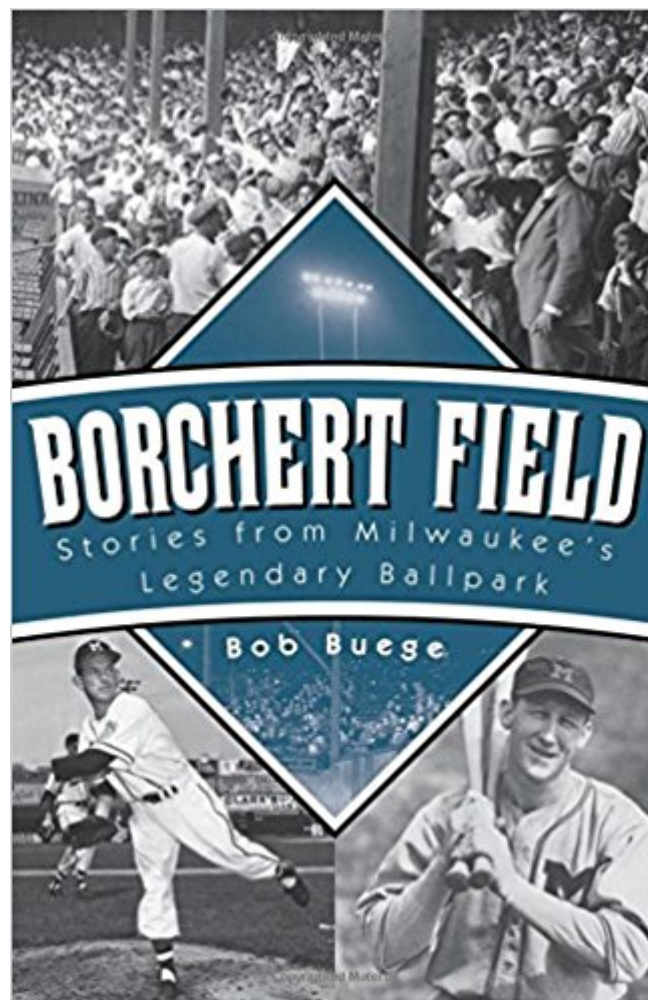




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Borchert Field: Stories From Milwaukee's Legendary Ballpark



Synopsis

Someone lucky enough to live on Milwaukee's near north side between 1888 and 1952 could experience the world without ever leaving the neighborhood. Nestled between North Seventh and Eighth Streets and West Chambers and Burleigh, Borchert Field was Milwaukee's major sports venue for 64 years. In this rickety wooden stadium (originally called Athletic Park), Wisconsin residents had a close-up view of sports history in the making, along with rodeos, thrill shows, and even multiple eruptions of Mount Vesuvius. In Borchert Field, baseball historian Bob Buege introduces the famous and fascinating athletes who dazzled audiences in Milwaukee's venerable ballpark. All the legendary baseball figures—the Bambino, Satchel Paige, Ty Cobb, Joltin' Joe, Jackie Robinson, the Say Hey Kid—played there. Olympic heroes Jim Thorpe, Babe Didrikson, and Jesse Owens displayed their amazing talents in Borchert. Knute Rockne's Fighting Irish competed there, and Curly Lambeau's Green Bay Packers took the field 10 times. Buege tells stories of other monumental moments at Borchert as well, including a presidential visit, women ballplayers, the arrival of television broadcasting, the 1922 national balloon race, and an appearance by scat-singing bandleader Cab Calloway. Borchert Field is long gone, but every page of this book takes readers back to the sights, sounds, and spectacle of its heyday.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bob Buege is the author of *The Milwaukee Braves: A Baseball Eulogy* and *Eddie Mathews and the National Pastime*. He is president of the Milwaukee Braves Historical Association, director of the

Wisconsin Old Time Ballplayers Association, and a member of the Society for American Baseball Research.

I was only in Borchert Field once, in 1952 to see the Brewers play. Little did we know at the time that within a year it would be rubble. And we would be cheering on the Milwaukee Braves. Back to the book. It is a well written account of what went on in the confines of Borchert's Orchard. It is a fun book for all who read it, but of course if you are from Milwaukee or the surrounding area it has a special meaning. It was an antiquated ballpark and it had to go, but what fun while it was still here.

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