



Ray Olson of Plymouth checks out some of The Old Ball Park's half million bubble gum baseball cards.

# At The Old Ball Park The good stuff's under glass

Continued from Page 1

"game-worn" baseball shoes, spit shined to a high gloss (\$49.95); a bat autographed in ink by Al Kaline (\$175); a row of four green Tiger Stadium seats (\$95).

SUPER BOWL XVI gave the place a big boost. The store, satisfying souvenir hunters, did \$700,000 worth of business in three weeks, according to Leahy. His, uh, turnstiles are humming to the point that he's been able to open a new store in Southfield's Northland Center and is "looking around" for a third location.

But, as attentive as I tried to be while all this was being explained by Leahy's lieutenants, my thoughts kept wandering back to that glass case housing the good stuff.

There's a 1937 Yankees program somebody had the brains not to toss. Costing 5 cents on that long-ago afternoon when the Bronx Bombers were to play Boston, the preprinted scorecard listed Crosetti, Rolfe and DiMaggio at the top of the Yankee lineup. Jimmy Foxx played first base and batted fifth for Boston. 1982 price: \$15.

There's a 1928 "Who's Who in Baseball" with Hack Wilson's likeness on the cover. Back then it cost a quarter

(an honest-to-goodness silver coin, one-fourth of a backed-by-gold dollar). Right now it's selling for \$40 (based on nothing but our president's winning smile).

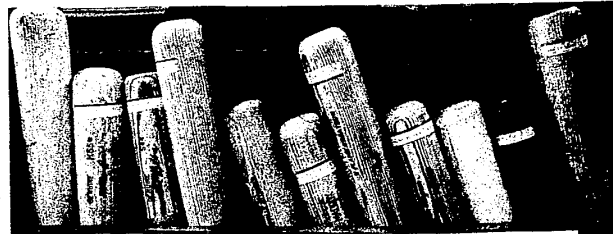
And there's something called "The Reach Official American League Baseball Guide." Printed in 1915, it contains

Babe Ruth's minor-league statistics. Price then: unknown, the cover's missing. Price now: \$35.

So, Mr. Leahy, keep on selling your Tiger hats and Pete Rose duds. I'm glad you're doing so well. But remember to keep that glass case filled with the good stuff, and I'll keep coming back.



Tom Baer



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BILL BRESLER/staff photograph

To the true baseball fan, it matters not that these bats are slightly used.

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2x6	3.99	4.99	5.99	6.99	8.82	9.80	10.77
2x8	5.37	6.71	7.99	9.40	11.58	12.99	14.46
2x10	7.88	9.85	11.99	13.98	15.99	-	-
2x12	9.82	12.28	14.74	17.20	19.85	-	-

### SOLID WESTERN RED CEDAR

	8'	10'	12'	14'	16'	18'	20'
2x4	2.40	3.42	4.11	4.90	6.15	6.92	7.90
2x6	4.57	5.71	6.85	7.99	9.80	11.63	12.92

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