Jeopardy Category: Baseball Personas

Respond with the appropriate question based on the scenarios depicted in Chapter 8 of Moneyball.

1. From the age of ten until Billy Beane recruited him on December 21, 2001, Scott Hatteberg’s identity as a baseball player was tied to this position.

2. Despite having bought a house on a golf course, Scott Hatteberg preferred playing this sport during the off-season.

3. Among the many players sent down to the minors or otherwise eliminated from the A’s starting lineup when Billy Beane realized Art Howe wouldn’t take his advice at starting Hatteberg, this player, whom everyone thought the front office held in special regard, got traded to the Phillies.

4. Outlawed by Official Baseball Rule 3.09, this practice found its most flagrant violator in the A’s new first baseman, Scott Hatteberg, who relished the opportunity to partake in it with neither “an ump hanging on [his] shoulder” nor “fans and cameras staring at [him].”

5. This childhood hero of Scott Hatteberg’s actually met him face-to-face at first base, on Hatty’s first big-league hit.
Short Answer

1. How did Scott Hatteberg and Jason Giambi differ in their ability to wear out opposing pitchers?

2. Give some examples of the studied approach to plate discipline that Scott Hatteberg brought to his at-bats.

3. What scandalous activity brought Jeremy Giambi the reputation that prompted Billy Beane to trade him for John Mabry?

4. Which way of getting on base was Kevin Youkilis especially strong at?

5. Which last-minute trade did Billy Beane announce to his new recruit, a relief pitcher taken from the Cleveland Indians, in the idiom of a Mexican immigrant?