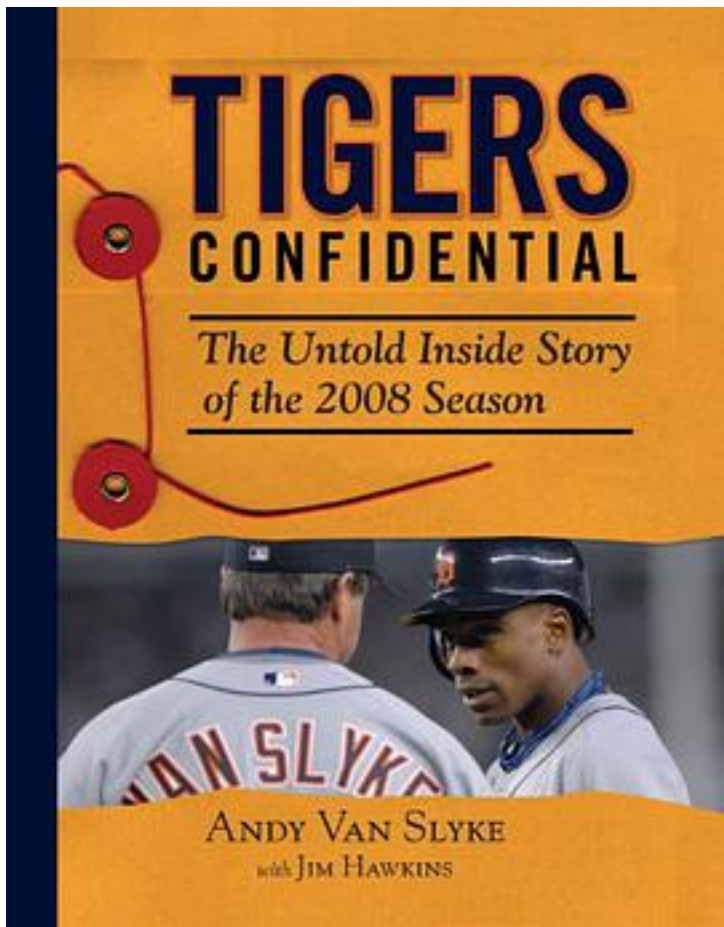


Tigers Confidential



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出版者:

出版时间:

装帧:

isbn:9781600781681

Former MLB All-Star and Gold Glove winner Andy Van Slyke, now the first-base coach of the Detroit Tigers, takes you into the dugout, the clubhouse, and onto the field throughout the 2008 season to give you a rare inside look at the most highly anticipated season in the Tigers' storied 108-year history--day by day, game by game,

as it actually unfolded. The book combines Van Slyke's insightful, introspective, sometimes humorous diary from the dugout and the playing field with veteran baseball writer Jim Hawkins' view from the press box in real time as the games actually occurred. Each entry is made without the benefit of hindsight, not knowing what the next game or the next day would bring. Stand beside Van Slyke in the first-base coach's box and sit beside him in the dugout to feel the emotions rise and fall with each win and each loss, as the Detroit Tigers, preseason favorites to win the 2008 American League pennant with their franchise-record \$139 million payroll, deal with the daily grind of the 162-game season. Beginning with the unexpected blockbuster trade that brought slugger Miguel Cabrera and pitcher Dontrelle Willis ("I had no sniff," Van Slyke admits), Van Slyke takes you inside the 2008 pennant race--from the Tigers' lofty expectations of spring training ("We want to win now"), through their perplexing early-season slump ("The strangest beginning to a season I've ever seen") and their much-awaited mid-year resurgence to climb back into the race ("That's why baseball is the greatest game"), all told with candor and insight. The outspoken, opinionated Van Slyke, who once battled homerun king Barry Bonds when the two were teammates in Pittsburgh, reveals the reasons behind the Tigers' successes and their failures, analyzing the performances of the players, including Curtis Granderson, Miguel Cabrera, Magglio Ordonez, Joel Zumaya, Carlos Guillen, Gary Sheffield, Justin Verlander, Marcus Thames, Brandon Inge, Jeremy Bonderman, and the others from the unique perspective of a coach.

作者介绍:

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