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New York City Baseball
The Last Golden Age, 1947–1957
by Harvey Frommer with a new preface by the author and a new foreword by Monte Irvin

Publication date: May 15, 2004

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“An excellent book that brings back the humanness of the Dodgers, the Giants and the Yankees. We shall not have such an era again except in such loving books as this one.”—Red Barber

What a time! In the heady days after World War II, a nation was ready for heroes and a great city was eager for entertainment. Baseball provided the heroes, and the Yankees, the Giants, and the Dodgers—with their rivalries, their successes, their stars—provided the show. Harvey Frommer chronicles how in those eleven remarkable years the Yankees, the Giants, and the Brooklyn Dodgers won a collective seventeen pennants and nine World Series; Joltin’ Joe DiMaggio stepped gracefully aside to make room for a young slugger named Mickey Mantle; and the Brooklyn (but not for much longer) Dodgers achieved the impossible by beating the Yankees in the 1955 World Series. This classic baseball book includes rare interviews with Monte Irvin, Rachel Robinson (Jackie’s widow), Walter O’Malley, former New York City Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Mel Allen, Duke Snider, Eddie Lopat, Phil Rizzuto, Jerry Coleman, and New York media figures.

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New York City Baseball: The Last Golden Age, 1947–1957 is available for sale from local and online booksellers, by phone at 773-702-7000 and online at www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress.
Baseball in October in New York City seemed like it would never come to an end. That is why this October of 2013 it seems strange that the New York Yankees and the New York Mets are finished with baseball, not able to make the play-offs. And the old cry of the old Brooklyn Dodger fan “Wait ‘til next year” seems appropriate. Also appropriate for me is the re-issue of my New York City Baseball 1947-1957. Published in 1980, my seventh book at the time, remains one of my favorites. It was written on a clunky IBM typewriter and the interviews were conducted with a big box cassette tape recorder.