There’s a well-worn claim that gets made about the rise of mathematics in domains ranging from archaeology to medicine, policing to education: mathematics enables forms of trust in people to be replaced with trust in numbers. Put differently, numbers displace subjective knowledge with objective knowledge. While there are certainly historical exemplars of this transition, many skillfully documented by Theodore Porter and others, this talk focuses on another way mathematics has been used historically: to make the subjective objective. Focusing on baseball, enology, and medicine, I will show the ways mathematics did not replace human knowledge but rather enabled its marshaling into new forms of reliable knowledge. The history of mathematics’ spread is not one of opposition to or displacement of human expertise; the concepts are in dialog with each other. The tools and technologies crucial to my examples are deceptively simple—scouting reports, rating cards, and medical records—and the mathematics hardly advanced—basic probability, sequential analysis, 2x2 tables—but the result has been a profound and often under-appreciated contribution to the ubiquity of mathematics in the modern world. (Received September 13, 2018)