TOPIC: Adventures in Sports Scheduling
SPEAKER: Michael Trick, Carnegie Mellon
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ABSTRACT

Major League Baseball is a multi-billion dollar per year industry that relies heavily on the quality of its schedule. Teams, fans, TV networks, and even political parties (in a way revealed in the talk) rely on the schedule for profits and enjoyment. Only recently have the computational tools of operations research been powerful enough to address the issue of finding "optimal" schedules. I'll discuss my experiences in scheduling college basketball, major league baseball, and other sports, and discuss major trends in optimization that lead to practical scheduling approaches.