

GRIDIRON GLORY!
FOOTBALL NONFICTION

Title: ALL THINGS POSSIBLE: MY STORY OF FAITH, FOOTBALL, AND THE MIRACLE SEASON
Author: WARNER, KURT, 1971 Original Date: 2000

Kurt Warner, St. Louis Rams quarterback, describes the 1999 football season, when his team won the Super Bowl. Warner explains how his Christian beliefs helped him meet the challenges of menial jobs, parenting a legally blind stepson and minor-league play as he climbed to the top of his profession. 2000.

DB 53814 DLD DX 53814

Title: BEST GAME EVER: GIANTS VS. COLTS, 1958, AND THE BIRTH OF THE MODERN NFL
Author: BOWDEN, MARK, 1951- Original Date: 2008

A play-by-play account of the December 28, 1958, NFL championship between the New York Giants and the Baltimore Colts, the first-ever overtime game to be broadcast on national television. Highlights players such as Frank Gifford and Johnny Unitas and describes the game's effect on football's popularity. Some strong language. 2008.

DB 67157

Title: BLIND SIDE: EVOLUTION OF A GAME

Author: LEWIS, MICHAEL (MICHAEL M.) Original Date: 2006

Sportswriter analyzes the National Football League's obsession with left tackles, exposes the machinations behind college athletic recruitment, and profiles African American football prodigy Michael Oher. Describes the homeless Memphis teen's adoption by a wealthy Evangelical white family and his development into a star high-school left tackle. Strong language. Bestseller. 2006.

DB 63689 DLD DX 63689

Title: CALLED TO COACH: REFLECTIONS ON LIFE, FAITH, AND FOOTBALL

Author: BOWDEN, BOBBY

Original Date: 2010

Autobiography of college football coach Bobby Bowden, who headed the Florida State University team for thirty-four years. Bowden discusses his childhood, strong Christian faith, and the career path that led him to coaching and evangelizing for his religion. Forewords by Tony Dungy and Joe Paterno. 2010.

DB 72114

Title: COLLISION LOW CROSSERS: A YEAR INSIDE THE TURBULENT WORLD OF NFL Football

Author: DAWIDOFF, NICHOLAS

Original Date: 2013

Reporter Dawidoff chronicles the year he spent with the New York Jets, when he attempted to portray day-to-day life in the National Football League. Describes scouting, the draft, practices, and strategy meetings. Discusses the personalities of the general manager, coaches, and players. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2013.

DB 77752

Title: COMING BACK STRONGER: UNLEASHING THE HIDDEN POWER OF ADVERSITY

Author: BREES, DREW, 1979-

Original Date: 2010

NFL quarterback—and Austin Westlake High School graduate—Drew Brees describes overcoming obstacles to achieve professional and personal success. Discusses his mother's suicide, the potentially career-ending shoulder injury he sustained while playing for the San Diego Chargers and his role in delivering the Saints' Super Bowl victory as New Orleans recovered from Hurricane Katrina. Bestseller. 2010.

DB 71908

Title: DRIVEN: FROM HOMELESS TO HERO; MY JOURNEYS ON AND OFF LAMBEAU FIELD

Author: DRIVER, DONALD, 1975-

Original Date: 2013

Former Green Bay Packers receiver discusses the hardships of his youth in Houston; his fourteen-year NFL career, including the Super Bowl victory that capped the 2010 season; family life; and winning TV's Dancing with the Stars. 2013.

DB 78683

Title: EARN THE RIGHT TO WIN: HOW SUCCESS IN ANY FIELD STARTS WITH SUPERIOR PREPARATION

Author: COUGHLIN, TOM (THOMAS RICHARD), 1946-

Original Date: 2013

Super Bowl-winning coach of the New York Giants offers strategies for success using examples from his football career. Posits that structure, character, communication, and motivation—along with hard work—will lead to personal and professional achievement. Young adult appeal. 2013.

DB 76595

Title: FIRST THINGS FIRST

Author: WARNER, KURT, 1971-

Original Date: 2009

Arizona Cardinals quarterback and his wife discuss parenting seven children and tending to their marriage and faith. Explains how Brenda's past inspired their charitable work: when they met, she was a poor, divorced mother raising a baby girl and a young son who had been blinded in an accident. 2009.

DB 70063

Title: GAME PLAN FOR LIFE

Author: GIBBS, JOE J

Original Date: 2009

A guide for men in applying Christian principles to life from former football coach and NASCAR racecar owner Joe Gibbs. Topics include finances, salvation, relationships, health, and triumph over sin and addiction. Includes commentary from athletes and ministers, with a foreword by Tony Dungy. Bestseller. 2009.

DB 69583

Title: GENIUS: HOW BILL WALSH REINVENTED FOOTBALL AND CREATED AN NFL DYNASTY

Author: HARRIS, DAVID, 1946-

Original Date: 2008

Author uses first-person interviews to portray the career of San Francisco 49ers football coach Bill Walsh (1931-2007). Details Walsh's 1979 hiring by team owner Edward DeBartolo, the coach's invention of the "West Coast offense," and his college-draft selections, including Joe Montana. Some strong language. 2008.

DB 68658

Title: HEISMAN: THE MAN BEHIND THE TROPHY

Author: HEISMAN, JOHN M

Original Date: 2012

Biography of John William Heisman (1869-1936), namesake of the trophy given annually to college football's best player. Traces Heisman's youth in Pennsylvania, undergraduate gridiron career, coaching success, and the innovations he brought to the game. Commercial audiobook. 2012.

DB 76076

Title: HOME TEAM: COACHING THE SAINTS AND NEW ORLEANS BACK TO LIFE

Author: PAYTON, SEAN

Original Date: 2010

Football coach Sean Payton explains the reasons his team, the New Orleans Saints, were able to win the 2009 Super Bowl championship—only four years after Hurricane Katrina devastated their city. Discusses rehabilitated quarterback Drew Brees and other players, beating the odds, and inspiring the fans. Some strong language. Bestseller. 2010.

DB 71476

Title: I BEAT THE ODDS: FROM HOMELESSNESS, TO THE BLIND SIDE, AND BEYOND

Author: OHER, MICHAEL

Original Date: 2011

Professional football player and the subject of the book and the movie The Blind Side (DB/DX 63689) describes his childhood in Memphis and his climb out of homelessness. Offers suggestions to kids in poverty and suggests ways adults can reach children who need help. Bestseller. 2011.

DB 73109

Title: JUNCTION BOYS: HOW TEN DAYS IN HELL WITH BEAR BRYANT FORGED A
Championship Team

Author: DENT, JIM

Original Date: 1999

Tells the story of Coach Paul “Bear” Bryant’s legendary training camp in 1954 in the small town of Junction, Texas. In a move that many consider the salvation of the Texas A&M football program, Coach Bryant put 115 players through the most grueling practices ever imagined. Only a handful of players survived the entire ten days, but they turned a floundering football team into one of the nation's best. Strong language. 1999.

DBC 04838 DLD DT 07156

Title: KING OF SPORTS: FOOTBALL'S IMPACT ON AMERICA

Author: EASTERBROOK, GREGG

Original Date: 2013

Explores the history and popularity of American gridiron football—the most popular spectator sport in the country. Details how football became deeply ingrained in United States culture and society and probes its darker sides, including corruption and player concussions. 2013.

DB 78797

Title: MORE THAN A GAME: THE GLORIOUS PRESENT AND THE UNCERTAIN FUTURE OF THE NFL

Author: BILLICK, BRIAN

Original Date: 2009

Super Bowl-winning Baltimore Ravens coach-turned-television analyst explains the inner workings of professional football. Discusses player selection, game strategy and tactics, and publicity, providing anecdotes from his own experience. Expresses concern about the sport's future because of the coming expiration of the player-owner collective-bargaining agreement in 2010 and other issues. 2009.

DB 70189

Title: NEVER GIVE UP ON YOUR DREAM: MY JOURNEY

Author: MOON, WARREN

Original Date: 2009

Retired National Football League (NFL) quarterback relates his LA childhood with six sisters, his high school and college experiences, his Canadian Football League career, and his NFL achievements. Describes overcoming racism and other hardships before becoming the first African American quarterback inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. 2009.

DB 70445

Title: NEWTON'S FOOTBALL: THE SCIENCE BEHIND AMERICA'S GAME

Author: ST. JOHN, ALLEN

Original Date: 2013

Journalist St. John and engineer Ramirez examine the game of football and discuss the behavioral and mechanical science concepts behind it. The authors explore the notion that chaos theory--as explained to them by MacArthur Fellow Stephan Wolfram--is the underpinning for Cincinnati Bengals' coach Sam Wyche's no-huddle. 2013.

DB 78800

Title: NFL'S GREATEST TEAMS, BOOKS 1-8

Author: ZAPPA, MARCIA, 1985-

Original Date: 2014

Collection of eight books highlighting the history of the National Football League, the legendary teams, and their star players. The first part of this series includes Chicago Bears, Dallas Cowboys, Green Bay Packers, Miami Dolphins, New England Patriots, New York Giants, Pittsburgh Steelers, and San Francisco 49ers. For grades 3-6.

DB 80196

Title: NFL'S GREATEST TEAMS, BOOKS 9-16

Author: ZAPPA, MARCIA, 1985-

Original Date: 2015

Collection of eight books highlighting the history of the National Football League, the legendary teams, and their star players. The second part of this series includes Denver Broncos, Indianapolis Colts, Minnesota Vikings, New Orleans Saints, New York Jets, Oakland Raiders, Seattle Seahawks, and Washington Redskins. For grades 3-6.

DB 80707

Title: PARCELLS: A FOOTBALL LIFE

Author: PARCELLS, BILL, 1941-

Original Date: 2014

Pro-football Hall of Fame coach Parcells (born 1941) reflects on his career and the teams he worked for, including the Air Force Academy, the New York Giants, the New England Patriots, the New York Jets, and the Dallas Cowboys. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2014.

DB 79828

Title: PATERNO

Author: POSNANSKI, JOE

Original Date: 2012

Biography of Penn State football coach Joe Paterno (1926-2012) chronicles Paterno's Brooklyn upbringing, education, and career. Highlights the success of the college's gridiron program, Paterno's family life, and the child-abuse scandal surrounding defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky that led to Sandusky's imprisonment and Paterno's firing. Some strong language. 2012.

DB 75474

Title: QB: THE MAKING OF MODERN QUARTERBACKS

Author: FELDMAN, BRUCE

Original Date: 2014

Sportswriter looks at the lucrative business of coaching quarterbacks and at the important trainers working today. Feldman also profiles some of the successful (and less successful) QBs coming on to the football field from these coaching programs. 2014.

DB 80798

Title: QUIET STRENGTH: A MEMOIR

Author: DUNGY, TONY

Original Date: 2007

Autobiography of the first African American coach to lead his team to a Super Bowl win, taking the Indianapolis Colts to victory in 2007. Dungy describes the priorities and attitudes that contributed to his winning experiences and emphasizes putting God and family first. Bestseller. 2007.

DB 65352 DLD DX 65352

Title: SCOREBOARD, BABY: A STORY OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL, CRIME, AND COMPLICITY

Author: ARMSTRONG, KEN, 1962-

Original Date: 2010

Seattle Times reporters detail their investigation into crimes—including rape, robbery, and attempted murder—committed in 2000 by University of Washington football players. The journalists document the arrests, evidence, and dismissal of charges against some of the athletes. Violence, strong language, and some explicit descriptions of sex. Edgar Allen Poe Award. 2010.

DB 74796

Title: SYSTEM: THE GLORY AND SCANDAL OF BIG-TIME COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Author: BENEDICT, JEFF

Original Date: 2013

Investigative journalists Benedict and Keteyian spent 2012 at some of the country's premier football colleges to document problems inherent in the sport. They discuss television deals, slush funds, recruiting wars, conference realignments, criminal activities, horrific injuries, and major rule violations. Violence, strong language, and some descriptions of sex. 2013.

DB 78315

Title: THROUGH MY EYES

Author: TEBOW, TIM, 1987-

Original Date: 2011

Autobiography of former University of Florida quarterback who won the Heisman Trophy his sophomore year in 2007. Highlights his religious upbringing on a working family farm and homeschooling with dyslexia. Describes his experience as a missionary in the Philippines and being Denver's 2010 first-round NFL draft pick. Bestseller. 2011.

DB 73458

Title: THROUGH MY EYES: A QUARTERBACK'S JOURNEY

Author: TEBOW, TIM, 1987-

Original Date: 2011

Autobiography of former University of Florida quarterback who won the Heisman Trophy as a sophomore in 2007. Highlights his Christian upbringing and homeschooling experience, efforts to deal with dyslexia, record-setting college career, and first pro season with Denver in 2010. For grades 5-8 and older readers. 2011.

DB 76243

Title: TOUCHDOWN: THE POWER AND PRECISION OF FOOTBALL'S PERFECT PLAY

Author: STEWART, MARK, 1960-

Original Date: 2010

Two-hundred-year history of American football includes descriptions of ten unforgettable touchdowns, profiles of outstanding players from Jim Thorpe to LaDainian Tomlinson, accounts of costly bloopers and amazing feats and touchdown records. For grades 4-7. 2010.

DB 71739

Title: TWELVE MIGHTY ORPHANS: THE INSPIRING TRUE STORY OF THE MIGHTY MITES WHO RULED TEXAS FOOTBALL

Author: DENT, JIM

Original Date: 2007

The Masonic Home, an orphanage outside Fort Worth, became a high-school football dynasty in Depression-era Texas. Despite having virtually no equipment or uniforms, and despite their linemen often being outweighed by 50 pounds, the Mighty Mites, as they came to be known, reached the Texas state semifinals three times and the championship game once. Dent produces a riveting narrative from the saga of the Mites and their innovative coach, Rusty Russell, who compensated for his team's physical shortcomings with imaginative formations and trick plays. Violence and some strong language. 2007.

DBC 00009 DLD DT 07025

Title: UNCOMMON: FINDING YOUR PATH TO SIGNIFICANCE

Author: DUNGY, TONY

Original Date: 2009

Retired NFL football coach and author of Quiet Strength: A Memoir (DB/DX 65352) Tony Dungy illustrates his philosophy of life using biblical quotations and personal experiences. Dungy suggests ways to love your friends and family and to reach your full potential. Offers advice on education, work, and integrity. Bestseller. 2009.

DB 68685

Title: WHERE MEN WIN GLORY: THE ODYSSEY OF PAT TILLMAN

Author: KRAKAUER, JON

Original Date: 2009

Author of Into Thin Air (DB 44525) chronicles the life of professional football player Pat Tillman, who enlisted in the U.S. Army after 9/11. Discusses the circumstances that led to Tillman's 2004 death in Afghanistan by friendly fire and the army's misrepresentation of the incident. Violence and strong language. Bestseller. 2009.

DB 69695

Title: WHY FOOTBALL MATTERS: MY EDUCATION IN THE GAME

Author: EDMUNDSON, MARK, 1952-

Original Date: 2014

A football player in high school, English professor Edmundson looks at what the game can teach young men. Chapters cover desirable traits such as character, courage, and loyalty, and show how the game of football fosters those traits. 2014.

DB 82221 IPN

Title: WINNERS MANUAL: FOR THE GAME OF LIFE

Author: TRESSEL, JIM

Original Date: 2008

The head coach of the Ohio State University Buckeyes football team presents a revised version of the manual he gives his players. Wanting to encourage and motivate people, Tressel discusses planning, dreams, goals, attitude, discipline, excellence, faith, work, love, responsibility, teamwork, hope, and handling adversity and success. 2008.

DB 67531