

Books About Sports and Athletes

Baseball Players

Ball Four, Plus Ball Five by Jim Bouton

“The author tells of his efforts to make a comeback as a professional baseball pitcher”
RC 17098

Bronx Zoo by Sparky Lyle

“Baseball’s celebrated and irreverent relief pitcher recounts what takes place inside the Yankee clubhouse”
RC 13971

Mick by Mickey Mantle

“An open, detailed autobiography by the miners son who became one of baseball’s most famous stars.”
RC 22999

Roger Maris: A Man for All Seasons by Maury Allen

“New York Post sportswriter Allen portrays baseball great Maris as victimized by his own shyness as well as by the press.”
RC 25575
DB 25575 (DLD)

Willie Mays: The Life, The Legend by James S. Hirsch

“Authorized biography of baseball outfielder Willie Mays, born in 1931 Alabama. Follows Mays from the Negro Leagues to the New York Mets.”
DB 70986 (IPN)

Babe: The Legend Comes to Life by Robert W. Creamer

“An editor of Sports Illustrated documents this biography of the famous sports hero with facts that are more intriguing than the legends.”
RC 49636
DB 49636 (DLD) 2

Meaning of Nolan Ryan by Nick Trujillo

CT 06851 IPT

I added this book to your request list on 12/21/2010.

Baseball Teams

Teammates by David Halberstam

“The saga of four Boston Red Sox players from the 1940s – Dominic DiMaggio, Johnny Pesky, Ted Williams, and Bobby Doerr – who remain friends for over sixty years.”

RC 56289

DB 56289 (DLD)

Invisible Men: Life in Baseball’s Negro Leagues by Donn Rogosin

“An account of black baseball from 1920 until 1949, when Jackie Robinson integrated the major leagues.”

RC 22042

Basketball Players

Giant Steps by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

“Candid, thoughtful autobiography of basketball superstar Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. He tells not only of his experiences on the basketball court, but also of his personal life and the controversies arising out of his racial, political, and religious awareness.”

RC 20795

I May Be Wrong But I Doubt It by Charles Barkley

“Memoir by former NBA star, who moved on to become a television commentator for TNT, about his success as an athlete and his beliefs about everything from politics to religion, role models, and racism.”

RC 55571 3

12. Shooting Stars by Lebron James

“NBA basketball player LeBron James and Buzz Bissinger, author of Friday Night Lights (RC 32152), describe James’s Akron, Ohio, Catholic high school team winning the 2003 national championship. James discusses his upbringing and group of friends (the Fab Five), who bonded on and off the court.”

DB 70324 (IPN)

13. My Life by Earvin Johnson

“Learning that he is HIV positive led Johnson to write a very different book from the one he had originally planned.”

RC 36163

14. Jerry West: The Life and Legend of a Basketball Icon by Roland Lazenby

“Biography of the Los Angeles Lakers basketball player, coach, and executive.”

DB 71254 (IPN)

Football Coaches

15. Bear: The Hard Life and Good Times of Alabama’s Coach Bryant by Paul Bryant

“Autobiography of the Alabama football coach, from his childhood on an Arkansas farm to his controversial career at various universities.”

RC 09501

16. Run to Daylight! by Vince Lombardi

“The late, fiery coach of the Green Bay Packers offers an insider’s view of pro football. His account highlights seven days in the life of the Packers as he shaped up his team for a crucial Sunday game in the 1962 season.”

RC 21456

DB 21456 (DLD) 4

Football Players

17. Manning by Archie Manning

“Dual autobiography of father and son football stars – Archie, quarterback of the New Orleans Saints and other teams in the 1970s and 1980s, and Peyton, drafted for the same position by the Indianapolis Colts in 1998. They discuss college and professional successes and frustrations, family ties, and football activities of Peyton’s brothers.”

RC 57573

DB 57573 (DLD)

18. Boots: on the Ground by Dusk: My Tribute to Pat Tillman by Mary Tillman

“The mother of the late NFL football player and U.S. Army Ranger Pat Tillman describes her search for the truth about her son’s April 22, 2004, death from “friendly fire” in Afghanistan. Relates the army’s apparent mishandling of Pat’s death notification after his mission went awry.”

RC 67736

DB 67736

19. In the Huddle With – Steve Young by Matt Christopher

“In this biography of Steve Young, quarterback of the San Francisco 49ers, the author emphasizes that the athlete had to struggle throughout his career to be number one.”

RC 46226

Hockey

20. Those were the Days: The Lore of Hockey by the Legends of the Game by Stan Fischler

“Colorful first-hand interviews with hockey greats of yesteryear and how the game was played as early as 1900. Includes such giants as Frank Boucher, Johnny Gagnon, Gordie Howe, and Glenn Hall.”

RC 11188 (TOS)

21. Gretzky: An Autobiography by Wayne Gretzky

“The „Great One“ chronicles his first three decades, with the help of a Sports Illustrated writer.”

RC 37278 5

22. Puck is a Four Letter Word by Frank Orr

“Zany adventures on and off the ice. Willie Milligan, farm boy turned professional hockey player, participates in a players’ strike and is traded to a hopeless expansion team where he plays hockey with a bunch of over-sexed weirdos and a cement-headed coach.”

RC 20538

Runners

23. Shining Season by William J. Buchanan

“Glowing tribute to Coach John Baker, a runner whose Olympic hopes yielded to cancer at age twenty-six.”

RC 15405

24. Flying Scotsman by Sally Magnusson

“The story of Eric Liddell, the Scottish runner who, because of his religious beliefs, refused to run on a Sunday and thus sacrificed a chance to win a gold medal at the 1924 Olympics. His action shook the British sporting community at the time and has become the subject of the film „Chariots of Fire.“”

RC 19169

25. What I Talk about When I Talk about Running by Haruki Murakami

“Author of The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle (RC 46636) explains his abrupt decisions to take up writing and then running. Describes practicing over the following twenty-three years, progressing from jogs to triathlons. Discusses ways his writing life differs from the “cozy, homemade void” of his sport. Originally published in Japanese.” (From the Talking Book Topics July –August 2010)

RC 67781

DB 67781