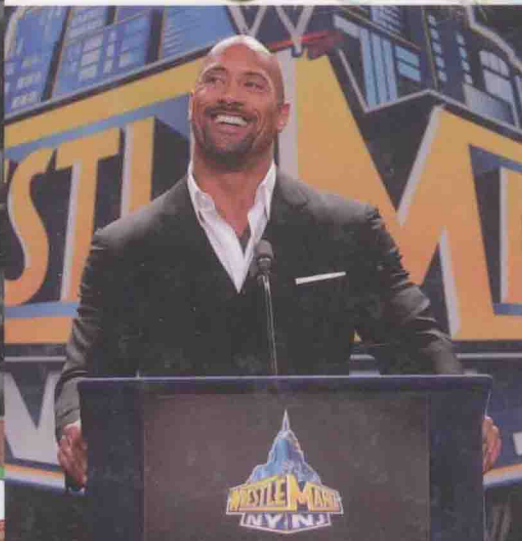


# American Sports

A History of Icons, Idols, and Ideas



MURRY R. NELSON, EDITOR

# American Sports

A HISTORY OF ICONS, IDOLS, AND IDEAS

Volume 4: S–Z

MURRY R. NELSON

*Editor*



AN IMPRINT OF ABC-CLIO, LLC  
Santa Barbara, California • Denver, Colorado • Oxford, England

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**Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data**

American sports : a history of icons, idols, and ideas / Murry R. Nelson, editor.

4 v. p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-313-39752-3 (hardcover : alk. paper) — ISBN 978-0-313-39753-0 (ebook)

1. Sports—United States—History—Encyclopedias. 2. Athletes—United States—History—Encyclopedias. I. Nelson, Murry R.

GV583.A637 2013

796.0973—dc23 2012039243

ISBN: 978-0-313-39752-3

EISBN: 978-0-313-39753-0

17 16 15 14 13 1 2 3 4 5

This book is also available on the World Wide Web as an eBook.

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Greenwood

An Imprint of ABC-CLIO, LLC

ABC-CLIO, LLC

130 Cremona Drive, P.O. Box 1911

Santa Barbara, California 93116-1911

This book is printed on acid-free paper ☺

Manufactured in the United States of America

# American Sports

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# Preface

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The four volumes that constitute *American Sports: A History of Icons, Idols, and Ideas* represent more than three years of planning, writing, editing, and proofing. The volume provides a current reference on important topics in modern American sports for high school and college students and for interested nonspecialists. *American Sports* contains over 480 entries on a mixture of contemporary topics that stretch in time from the present to the early 20th century, with the earliest topics still holding relevance today. The entries were selected for inclusion by a knowledgeable editorial advisory board. Each of the board members made suggestions that were then shared with the rest of the board for comments and advice on inclusion of those entries. In the course of this process, it became apparent that the greatest factor for inclusion was the sustainability of the entry, that is, does that entry seem to have applicability to today's culture and is it likely to retain that applicability in the near future? The editorial board also suggested authors for entries, contributors who had strong knowledge and insight into today's society and its view of sport. The limiting factor was the culture of the United States, thus providing historic and geographic parameters that were only violated a few times and for obvious reasons.

Most of the more than 140 individuals who contributed to these volumes are in higher education, but a number of highly respected independent scholars and other professionals in various fields are represented in these volumes. Many are historians, but there are also anthropologists, educators, artists, musicians, literary experts, and communication arts scholars. The contributors used a variety of books, archives, websites, and articles, as well as their own expertise, to shape a coherent, informative, and readable set of entries.

The entries, which cover people, events, organizations, ideas, movements, books, films, and other topics, are listed alphabetically across the volumes. Each entry concludes with a listing of further information resources, including books, articles, and websites. Most entries also contain a list of "See also" cross references that lead the reader to related entries in the volumes as well as a sidebar, which offers more in-depth insight into an interesting related topic or idea. A Guide to Related Topics helps readers quickly trace broad ideas of themes by organizing entries into general categories and relevant subcategories, such as Individuals/Tennis Players or Places/Racing Venues. A selected bibliography, found in the last volume, also lists important general information resources.

Such a massive undertaking could not have been successfully completed without the assistance of many people. At ABC-CLIO, my editor Christian Green provided

great and continual feedback. After he left near the end of the project, John Wagner came on board and saw this work through to completion. Barbara Patterson coordinated the project, assisting with contracts, contributor credits, and overall troubleshooting. The editorial advisory board of Ron Briley, Sarah Fields, Keith Harrison, Daniel Nathan, and Jaime Schultz provided insight, encouragement, and suggestions on authors and entries. A number of folks did yeoman work in completing many more entries than initially expected, including Ron Briley, Sarah Fields, Jaime Schultz, David Skinner, and Maureen Smith. The willingness of some authors to take on entries at short notice, after these had been returned by initial writers who were unable to complete the tasks in a timely manner, was really appreciated. Thus, I am deeply indebted to Matthew De-Fraga, Kevin Hagopian, Keith Harrison, Jarrod Jonsrud, Ric Jensen, Rich Macales, Fred Mason, David Skinner, Maureen Smith, Elizabeth Tobey, and Theresa Walton for their willingness to take on tasks at a late date and do them well.

*Murry R. Nelson, Editor*

# Introduction

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Sport has a long history in the United States; in fact, it predates the formation of the nation, for sports and games were a part of American colonial experiences. Rather than recapitulate that history, four volumes of *American Sports: A History of Icons, Idols, and Ideas* seek to highlight those people, places, events, ideas, books, films, and phenomena in sports that endure, that have become an accepted part of American culture. Many of the more than 480 entries in these volumes do look at the history of sports in this country, but many are also reflective of a contemporary snapshot of the place sport has in today's culture. In 50 years, most of the subjects of these entries will endure and will be part of another such work, but, certainly, there will also be some that would not be, that have much shorter half-lives, but burn so intensely in this period that they cannot help but be noticed and acknowledged.

Thus, *American Sports* tries to convey to students and general readers how sports and popular culture intersect in the United States today. The editor and contributors did not assume a deep knowledge of sports on the part of the reader, although that would not be a detriment; rather, they assumed that the reader is aware of his or her surroundings and is interested in how those compare with the general ideas of sport and culture in the public space.

A unique emphasis in these volumes is on various arts and sport. In terms of music, the entries include a number of songs, traditional ones like "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" and more recent ones like "Talkin' Baseball." Artists like Norman Rockwell and LeRoy Neiman, who have gained additional fans because of their iconic sports paintings, are profiled. And famous plays that have sport as a major or minor theme are also included, such as *That Championship Season* by Jason Miller, *Fences* by August Wilson, *Golden Boy* by Clifford Odets, and the recent revival on Broadway of *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller. Also covered are a number of novels with sport themes, including *The Natural* by Bernard Malamud, *Bang the Drum Slowly* by Mark Harris, and *North Dallas Forty* by Peter Gent. Some fine non-fiction pieces are also included, such as *Paper Lion* by George Plimpton and *Friday Night Lights* by Buzz Bissinger, as well as a number of sports memoirs like *Ball Four* by Jim Bouton.

Another aspect of *American Sports* concerns entries on well-known products that have become identified with sport or sports figures, such as "Hot Dogs," "Gatorade," "Wheaties—The Breakfast of Champions," and "Sports Food" and "Sports Drinks." This theme is extended by a general entry on "Sports Clothing" and specific entries on companies that have become part of the overall culture, like Nike, Adidas, and Puma.



In compiling *American Sports*, difficult decisions had to be addressed regarding which topics to include and which to exclude. Reflective of the notion of “sustainability” described above, it seems useful to provide some examples to illustrate the rationale used in choosing entry topics. Since there are so many topics, a few examples will have to suffice. Individuals, especially historical ones, often left the editor and editorial board with dilemmas. Thus, a baseball player like Babe Ruth or Joe DiMaggio would be included because they were “bigger than baseball.” Ruth’s visage and references to his name still are easily recognizable to even a casual sports fan. DiMaggio’s life and his likely unbreakable 56-game hitting streak make him a continued and recognizable part of American culture, not just of baseball or sport. So, too, with more modern players like Willie Mays or Mickey Mantle, but not so, unfortunately, for their great contemporary Duke Snider or Mantle’s Yankee teammate Whitey Ford.

Some players needed to be included both because of their talent and because of their social importance. These included the first African Americans in various aspects of sport, such as Jackie Robinson playing Major League Baseball, Frank Robinson as the first African American manager, Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax as Hall of Fame players and practicing Jews, Dana Torres as a medal-winning and over-40 Olympian, and Tiger Woods as a Grand Slam champion and mixed-race groundbreaker. There are a very few non-Americans, but their inclusion comes as a result of their athletic success and their common appearances in advertising or social circles in this country. Two of the best examples would be Roger Federer, the all-time Grand Slam champion, who has appeared in a number of advertisements in American magazines for, among other products, Rolex watches and Nike gear, and Wayne Gretzky, who not only made the Los Angeles Kings “fashionable” when he was traded there, but who also has been a hockey executive and coach with the Phoenix Coyotes and is married to an American film actress, making him a fixture in glitterati L.A. He has also appeared in numerous films and television shows, including a stint as a judge on *Dance Fever*.

Specific plays that have become famous are also included, such as “The Catch” of Dwight Clark on a pass from Joe Montana to win the NFC championship in 1982 and the “Immaculate Reception” of Franco Harris of the Pittsburgh Steelers in December 1972 to win the AFC crown. Plays and games that have become seared into Americans’ consciousness are included, although some people might include other plays, some of which might be found as sidebars or highlights in a player’s entry.

The sidebars that over 300 entries include are either relevant and logical extensions of the entry itself or some engaging, tangential topic inspired by or alluded to by the main entry. Examples of the former include the Arthur Ashe entry sidebar, which discusses his pioneering inspiration for other African Americans in tennis, the Yogi Berra entry sidebar, which highlights the Yogi Berra Museum and Stadium, and the Wilt Chamberlain sidebar, which focuses on his 100-point game. Examples of the latter, more esoteric sidebars include the Roger Maris sidebar, which is devoted to the Billy Crystal-produced movie *61\**, the James Naismith sidebar, which describes the results of a 2010 auction of the original 13 Rules of basketball, and the George Plimpton sidebar, which talks about the mythical Sidd Finch.

The volumes of *American Sports* are meant to convey the importance and ubiquitous nature of sport in American culture. Whereas the entire field of sports as an academic endeavor was once seen rather skeptically, there is no question that the various

aspects of sport in culture now constitute a legitimate and vital part of social science and literary research and study. The economics of professional sports franchises and the impact that they and big-time college sports have on a region's economy are readily acknowledged today, and many books, journals, and reports are devoted to analyzing and using these topics. Legal journals such as the *Harvard Journal of Sport and Law*, the *Journal of Sports Law and Contemporary Problems*, and the *Marquette Sports Law Review* are illustrative of this trend, and the Sports Lawyers Association produces three different publications on the topic of sport and law.

Certainly, sports have affected social mobility in this country, and that is an area of dynamic research in sociology, history, and geography, among the social sciences. Books and journals focused on sport and its impact on social growth and ethnic advancement have become commonplace.

Over the past two decades larger compendia have presented aspects of sport in American history or American society. Many have had an academic focus with the intended audience being students of sport history in higher education. More recently, there have been efforts to provide these same topics in a format readily available and understandable to high school and undergraduate students and to the general reader. Thus, works like *Encyclopedia of Sports in America: A History from Foot Races to Extreme Sports* (Murry Nelson, ed., Greenwood Press, 2009) have set a new standard for popular interest in the broader notion of sport in this nation. However, works that are much more historical in scope do not offer the same contemporary, popular attention that *American Sports* provides.

# Guide to Related Topics

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## EVENTS

### Baseball Events

All-Star Game (Baseball)  
Black Sox Scandal  
Disco Demolition Night  
Earthquake World Series  
Little League World Series  
Mazeroski Homer, Game Seven, 1960 World Series  
McGwire, Mark and Sosa, Sammy  
Pine Tar Incident  
Presidents and Opening Day in Baseball  
Shot Heard 'Round the World  
Spring Training  
World Series

### Basketball Events

CCNY 1950 Double Championships  
College Basketball Scandals  
Final Four  
March Madness  
Point Shaving and 1950s College Basketball  
Slam Dunk Contest  
Texas Western Wins the 1966 NCAA Basketball Title

### Boxing Events

The Long Count  
Thrilla in Manila

### Football Events

Bowl Games  
Bud Bowl  
“The Catch”  
Immaculate Reception  
Lingerie Bowl

### *Monday Night Football*

NBA Draft  
1972 Miami Dolphins  
Nipplegate  
Super Bowl  
“Super Bowl Shuffle”

### Horse Racing Events

Kentucky Derby  
Triple Crown

### International Events

America's Cup  
Boston Marathon  
Gay Games  
Iditarod  
Indianapolis 500  
1994 FIFA World Cup  
1999 FIFA Women's World Cup  
1958 NFL Championship Game  
1932 Olympic Games, Lake Placid  
1932 Olympic Games, Los Angeles  
1960 Olympic Games, Squaw Valley  
1968 Olympic Games, Mexico City  
1984 Olympic Games, Los Angeles  
1996 Olympic Games, Atlanta  
1975 World Series Sixth Game  
Paralympic Games  
Ryder Cup Matches  
2002 Olympic Games, Salt Lake City

### Other Events

ESPY Awards  
The Masters  
Spelling Bees

Strikes and Lockouts  
Westminster Kennel Club/Westminster Dog Show  
X Games

## GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

### Amateur/College Organizations/Teams

AAU Basketball  
Bowl Championship Series (BCS)  
Dream Team  
Fab Five  
Four Horsemen  
Magnificent Seven  
NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association)  
Notre Dame Fighting Irish Football  
2008 Redeem Team  
UCLA Basketball

### Media Organizations

*Chicago Defender*  
ESPN Channels  
Fox Sports  
*The Sporting News*  
*Sports Illustrated*  
Turner Broadcasting System (TBS)  
WGN Television

### Professional Organizations

All-American Girls Professional Baseball League  
(AAGPBL)  
American Basketball Association (ABA)  
American Football League (AFL)  
Arena Football  
The A's (Athletics)  
Big Red Machine  
Boston Celtics  
Boston Red Sox  
Brooklyn Dodgers  
Chicago Bears  
Chicago Bulls  
Chicago Cubs  
Cleveland Indians  
Dallas Cowboys  
Dream Team  
The Greatest Show on Turf, 1999–2001 St. Louis  
Rams

Green Bay Packers  
Harlem Globetrotters  
Homestead Grays  
Indianapolis Clowns  
Los Angeles Dodgers  
Los Angeles Lakers  
Murderers' Row  
NASCAR (National Association for Stock Car Auto  
Racing)  
National Basketball Association (NBA)  
National Football League (NFL)  
Negro Leagues  
New Orleans Saints  
New York Mets  
New York Rens (Renaissance)  
New York Yankees  
Philadelphia Phillies  
Pittsburgh Crawfords  
Rodeo  
Roller Derby  
St. Louis Cardinals  
Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) and Mixed  
Martial Arts (MMA)  
Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA)  
Women's Professional Basketball League (WBL)  
Women's Tennis Association (WTA)  
Women's United Soccer Association (WUSA)  
World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE)  
XFL

## IDEAS AND MOVEMENTS

### Physical/Sporting Actions

Chest Bump  
Concussion  
High Five  
Miniature Golf  
Skateboarding  
Tailgating  
Three-Point Shot  
Violence, Guns, and Sport

### Sociopolitical Movements and Ideas

Black Power Salute (1968 Olympics)  
Fantasy Leagues  
Ladies' Day

Legal Decisions  
 Mitchell Report  
 Rooney Rule  
 Soccer Moms  
 Title IX

### **Substances**

Dipping and Baseball  
 Sports and Drugs/Doping  
 Steroids  
 Substance Abuse

## **INDIVIDUALS**

### **Activists**

Scott, Jack

### **Baseball Players, Managers, Owners, Commissioners**

Aaron, Hank  
 Autry, Gene  
 Banks, Ernest “Ernie”  
 Berra, Yogi  
 Blue, Vida  
 Bonds, Barry  
 Brosnan, Jim  
 Clemens, Roger  
 Clemente, Roberto  
 Dean, Dizzy  
 DiMaggio, Joe  
 Feller, Bob  
 Finch, Jennie  
 Finley, Charlie  
 Flood, Curt  
 Gehrig, Lou  
 Gibson, Bob  
 Gibson, Josh  
 Greenberg, Hank  
 Griffey, Ken, Jr.  
 Gwynn, Tony  
 Hunter, Jim “Catfish”  
 Jackson, Bo  
 Jackson, Reggie  
 Jeter, Derek  
 Koufax, Sandy  
 Landis, Kenesaw Mountain  
 Mantle, Mickey

Marichal, Juan  
 Maris, Roger  
 Mays, Willie  
 Musial, Stan “The Man”  
 Paige, Satchel  
 Pujols, Albert  
 Ramirez, Manny  
 Ripken, Cal, Jr.  
 Robinson, Frank  
 Robinson, Jackie  
 Rodriguez, Alex  
 Rose, Pete  
 Ruth, Babe  
 Ryan, Nolan  
 Seaver, Tom  
 Selig, Bud  
 Steinbrenner, George  
 Stengel, Casey  
 Turner, Ted  
 Uecker, Bob  
 Valenzuela, Fernando  
 Veeck, Bill  
 Williams, Ted

### **Basketball Players, Coaches, Owners**

Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem  
 Auerbach, Arnold “Red”  
 Auriemma, Geno  
 Barkley, Charles  
 Barry, Rick  
 Bird, Larry  
 Blazejowski, Carol  
 Bryant, Kobe  
 Chamberlain, Wilt  
 Cooper, Cynthia  
 Cousy, Bob  
 Cuban, Mark  
 Durant, Kevin  
 Erving, Julius  
 Hawkins, Connie  
 Iverson, Allen  
 Jackson, Phil  
 James, LeBron  
 Johnson, Earvin “Magic”  
 Jordan, Michael  
 Knight, Bobby

Krzyzewski, Mike  
 Leslie, Lisa  
 Lieberman, Nancy  
 Maravich, Peter “Pete”  
 Mikan, George  
 Miller, Cheryl  
 Naismith, James  
 Olajuwon, Hakeem  
 O’Neal, Shaquille  
 Robertson, Oscar  
 Russell, Bill  
 Saperstein, Abe  
 Stern, David  
 Stringer, C. Vivian  
 Summitt, Pat  
 Swoopes, Sheryl  
 Taurasi, Diana  
 VanDerveer, Tara  
 Walton, Bill  
 West, Jerry  
 Wooden, John  
 Yao Ming

### **Boxers and Boxing Promoters**

Ali, Laila  
 Ali, Muhammad  
 Johnson, Jack  
 Louis, Joe  
 Tyson, Mike

### **Broadcasters and Journalists**

Allen, Mel  
 Caray, Harry  
 Cosell, Howard  
 Costas, Bob  
 Deford, Frank  
 Enberg, Dick  
 Facenda, John  
 Madden, John  
 Rice, Grantland  
 Scully, Vin  
 Smith, Red  
 Vitale, Richard J. (Dick)

### **Entertainers, Writers, Artists**

Burns, Ken

Fogerty, John  
 Harris, Mark  
 Imus, Don  
 James, Bill  
 Lardner, Ring  
 Lee, Spike  
 Neiman, LeRoy  
 Plimpton, George  
 Rockwell, Norman  
 Schulz, Charles and *Peanuts*  
 Shelton, Ron

### **Football Players, Coaches**

Belichick, Bill  
 Bradshaw, Terry  
 Brown, Jim  
 Bryant, Paul “Bear”  
 Butkus, Dick  
 Davis, Al  
 Davis, Ernie  
 Ditka, Mike  
 Dungy, Tony  
 Favre, Brett  
 Flutie, Doug  
 Four Horsemen  
 Grange, Red  
 Halas, George  
 Hayes, Bob  
 Hayes, Woody  
 Jackson, Bo  
 Lombardi, Vincent T.  
 Madden, John  
 Manning, Peyton  
 Montana, Joe  
 Namath, Joe  
 Owens, Terrell “T. O.” and Ochocinco, Chad  
 Paterno, Joe  
 Payton, Walter  
 Rice, Jerry  
 Robinson, Eddie G.  
 Rockne, Knute  
 Roethlisberger, Ben  
 Sanders, Barry  
 Sayers, Gale  
 Simpson, O. J.  
 Smith, Emmitt

Steel Curtain  
 Strobe, Woody  
 Thorpe, Jim  
 Tillman, Pat  
 Unitas, John  
 Vick, Michael  
 Walker, Herschel  
 Williams, Doug

### **Golfers**

Jones, Bobby  
 Lopez, Nancy  
 Nicklaus, Jack  
 Palmer, Arnold  
 Rodriguez, Chi Chi  
 Trevino, Lee  
 Woods, Tiger

### **Hockey Players**

Gretzky, Wayne Douglas

### **Horse Racing: Horses and Jockeys**

Citation  
 Krone, Julie  
 Man O' War  
 Seabiscuit  
 Secretariat

### **Olympians**

Armstrong, Lance  
 Benoit Samuelson, Joan  
 Blair, Bonnie  
 Chastain, Brandi  
 Coachman, Alice  
 Crabbe, Buster  
 Didrikson, Babe  
 Ederle, Gertrude  
 Fleming, Peggy  
 Griffith Joyner, Florence  
 Hamill, Dorothy  
 Hamm, Mia  
 Hayes, Bob  
 Heiden, Eric  
 Hyman, Flo  
 Jansen, Dan  
 Jenner, Bruce

Johnson, Michael  
 Johnson, Rafer  
 Jones, Marion  
 Joyner-Kersey, Jackie  
 Kahanamoku, Duke  
 Lewis, Carl  
 Louganis, Greg  
 Ohno, Apolo  
 Owens, Jesse  
 Phelps, Michael  
 Retton, Mary Lou  
 Rudolph, Wilma Glodean  
 Spitz, Mark  
 Street, Picabo  
 Thorpe, Jim  
 Tonya Harding–Nancy Kerrigan Scandal  
 Torres, Dara  
 Weissmuller, Johnny  
 White, Shaun  
 White, Willye Bertha

### **Race Car Drivers**

Earnhardt, Ralph Dale, Sr. and Earnhardt, Ralph Dale, Jr.  
 Gordon, Jeff  
 Johnson, Jimmie  
 Patrick, Danica  
 Petty, Richard

### **Tennis Players**

Agassi, Andre  
 Ashe, Arthur  
 Connors, Jimmy  
 Evert, Chris  
 Federer, Roger  
 Gibson, Althea  
 King, Billie Jean  
 McEnroe, John  
 Navratilova, Martina  
 Sampras, Pete  
 Williams, Serena  
 Williams, Venus

### **X-treme Sports Stars**

Hawk, Tony  
 White, Shaun

**OBJECTS AND ARTIFACTS****Awards**

Heisman Trophy  
*Parade Magazine* All-Americans  
 Stanley Cup

**Companies, Products, and Advertising**

Adidas  
 Advertising and Sport  
 Baseball Cards  
 Chuck Taylor All Stars  
 EA Sports  
 Gatorade  
 Hot Dogs  
 Jumbotron  
*Madden NFL*  
 Nike, Inc.  
 Puma  
 Sports Bars  
 Sports Clothing  
 Sports Drinks  
 Sports Food  
 Sports Memorabilia, Vintage and Autographed  
 Wheaties—The Breakfast of Champions

**Films and Television**

*Angels in the Outfield*  
*The Babe Ruth Story*  
*The Bad News Bears*  
*The Blind Side*  
*Breaking Away*  
*Brian's Song*  
*Bull Durham*  
*Caddyshack*  
*Champion*  
*Cinderella Man*  
*Coach*  
*Cobb*  
*Cool Runnings*  
*Cornbread, Earl and Me*  
*ESPN College Game Day*  
*Fear Strikes Out*  
*Field of Dreams*  
*The Fighter*  
*Finding Forrester*

*Friday Night Lights*  
*Golden Boy*  
*Happy Gilmore*  
*Hoop Dreams*  
*Hoosiers*  
*The Hustler*  
*I Spy*  
*Jerry Maguire*  
*A League of Their Own*  
*Love & Basketball*  
*Million Dollar Baby*  
*Miracle on Ice*  
*Monday Night Football*  
*Moneyball*  
*Murderball*  
*The Natural*  
*North Dallas Forty*  
*Paper Lion*  
*The Pride of the Yankees*  
*Raging Bull*  
*Remember the Titans*  
*Rocky*  
*Rudy*  
*Slap Shot*  
*Space Jam*  
*The White Shadow*

**Human Condition**

Cheerleading  
 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)  
 Dunk  
 Marching Band  
 Sports Agents  
 Tommy John Surgery

**Literature/Books, Short Stories, Poems**

“Alibi Ike”  
*Ball Four*  
*Bang the Drum Slowly*  
 “Baseball’s Sad Lexicon”  
 “Casey at the Bat”  
*Moneyball*  
*North Dallas Forty*  
*Paper Lion*  
 “Spahn and Sain and Pray for Rain”  
 Sports Metaphors



**Literature/Plays, Musicals, Songs, Routines***Damn Yankees**Death of a Salesman**Fences**The Great White Hope**Take Me Out*

“Take Me Out to the Ballgame”

“Talkin’ Baseball”

*That Championship Season**White Men Can’t Jump**The White Shadow*

“Who’s on First?”

*The Winning Team***Oddities**

Cheeseheads

Honus Wagner Card

Schilling, Curt, Bloody Sock of

**PLACES****College Stadia and Arenas**

The Big House (Michigan Stadium)

Death Valley, LSU Football

Happy Valley, Penn State Football

Ohio Stadium

The Pit

Rose Bowl

The Swamp

**Halls of Fame**

Baseball Hall of Fame

Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame

Pro Football Hall of Fame and Museum

**Other Legendary Sites**

Lake Placid

Las Vegas and Sports Betting

Rucker Park

**Pro Stadia and Arenas**

Astrodome

Cowboys Stadium

Fenway Park

Madison Square Garden

Superdome

Wrigley Field

Yankee Stadium

**Racing Venues**

Bonneville Salt Flats

Daytona International Speedway

Saratoga Springs, New York