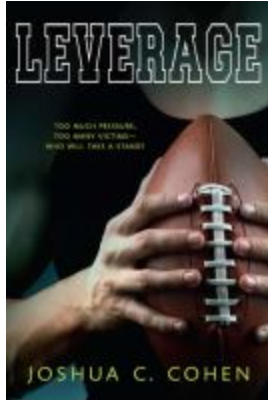


Sports Reads



Leverage by Joshua Cohen

High school sophomore Danny excels at gymnastics but is bullied, like the rest of the gymnasts, by members of the football team, until an emotionally and physically scarred new student joins the football team and forms an unlikely friendship with Danny.

Y FICTION Cohen

Recommended for Grades 9+



Payback Time by Carl Deuker

Overweight, somewhat timid Mitch reluctantly agrees to be the sports reporter for the Lincoln High newspaper because he is determined to be a writer, but he senses a real story in Angel, a talented football player who refuses to stand out on the field--or to discuss his past.

Y FICTION Deuker

Recommended for Grades 7+

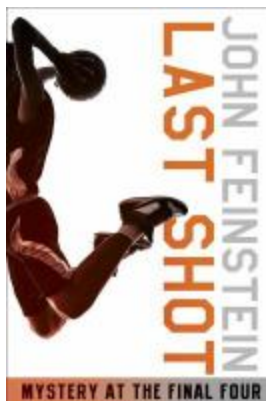


Foul Trouble by John Feinstein

College recruiters are clamoring to sign up Terrell Jamerson, the #1 high school basketball player in the country. But not all of these recruiters are straight shooters, and Terrell will have to think fast if he wants to stay in the game.

Y FICTION Feinstein

Recommended for Grades 8+



Last Shot: A Final Four Mystery by John Feinstein

After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan are sent to cover the Final Four tournament, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

Y FICTION MYSTERY Feinstein

Recommended for Grades 6-10



Rush for the Gold: Mystery at the Olympics by John Feinstein

Two teenaged aspiring journalists who are dating solve a mystery at the 2012 Olympic Games, while one simultaneously competes for a gold medal in swimming.

Y FICTION MYSTERY Feinstein

Recommended for Grades 6-9



Pinned by Sharon Flake

Adonis is smart, intellectually gifted and born without legs; Autumn is strong, a great wrestler, and barely able to read in ninth grade--but Autumn is attracted to Adonis and determined to make him a part of her life whatever he or her best friend thinks.

Y FICTION Flake

Recommended for Grades 6-10

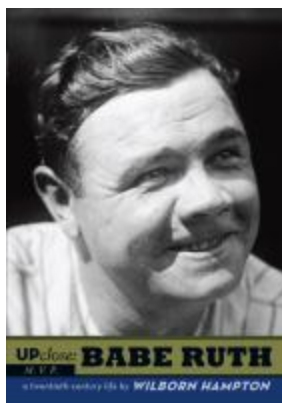


Lightning's Run by Gabriel Goodman

Bullied relentlessly, Hiram Goldfarb, a Jewish immigrant in nineteenth-century New York City, learns bareknuckle fighting from a former slave wanted for a heinous crime in the South.

Y FICTION Goodman

Recommended for Grades 9+



Babe Ruth: A Twentieth-Century Life by Wilborn Hampton

Born into a poor family in Baltimore, George Herman Ruth Jr. was sent to a Catholic reform school at age seven, where he learned how to play baseball. Initially a talented southpaw, the Babe went on to shatter every home-run record on the books--when fewer games were played in a season and a heavier ball was used.

Y796.357 RUTH, B. Hampton

Recommended for Grades 7+

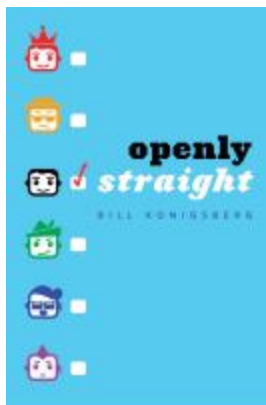


Stupid Fast by Geoff Herbach

Just before his sixteenth birthday, Felton Reinstein has a sudden growth spurt that turns him from a small, jumpy, picked-on boy with the nickname of "Squirrel Nut" to a powerful athlete, leading to new friends, his first love, and the courage to confront his family's past and current problems.

Y FICTION Herbach

Recommended for Grades 9+

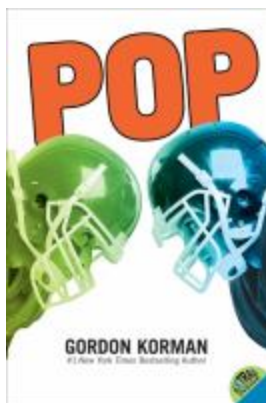


Openly Straight by Bill Konigsberg

Rafe is a normal teenager from Boulder, Colorado. He plays soccer. He's won skiing prizes. He likes to write. And, oh yeah, he's gay. He's been out since 8th grade, and he isn't teased, and he goes to other high schools and talks about tolerance and stuff. And while that's important, all Rafe really wants is to just be a regular guy. Not that GAY guy. To have it be a part of who he is, but not the headline, every single time. So when he transfers to an all-boys' boarding school in New England, he decides to keep his sexuality a secret -- not so much going back in the closet as starting over with a clean slate. But then he sees a classmate breaking down. He meets a teacher who challenges him to write his story. And most of all, he falls in love with Ben . . . who doesn't even know that love is possible. This witty, smart, coming-out-again story will appeal to gay and straight kids alike as they watch Rafe navigate being different, fitting in, and what it means to be himself.

Y FICTION Konigsberg

Recommended for Grades 9+



Pop by Gordon Korman

Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, sixteen-year-old high-school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with a retired professional linebacker who is great at training him, but whose childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water.

Y FICTION Korman

Recommended for Grades 7-10



Yellow Flag by Robert Lipsyte

Kyle does not mind that his older brother Kris is considered the natural heir to the family's racing legacy, but when Kris is injured, Kyle is forced to fill his seat and must decide if racing is something he would like to pursue.

Y FICTION Lipsyte

Recommended for Grades 6-10



Heat by Mike Lupica

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Y FICTION Lupica

Recommended for Grades 5-8

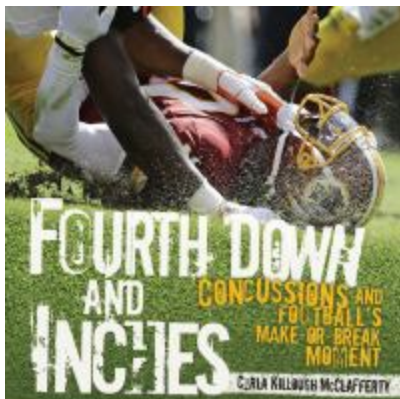


Girls Got Game: Sports Stories and Poems edited by Sue Macy

A collection of short stories and poems written by and about young women in sports.

Y810.8 Girls

Recommended for Grades 6+

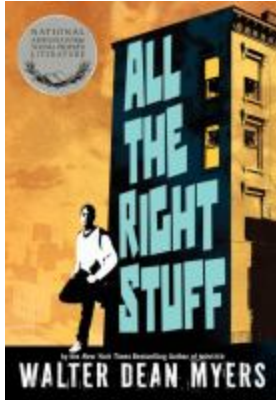


Fourth Down and Inches: Concussions and Football's Make-or-Break Moment by Carla Killough McClafferty

Offers a look at the origins of football and the latest research on concussion and traumatic brain injuries in the sport.

Y796.332 McClafferty

Recommended for Grades 5+

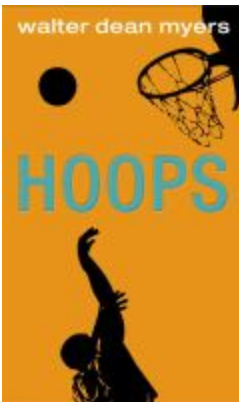


All the Right Stuff by Walter Dean Myers

The summer after his absentee father is killed in a random shooting, Paul volunteers at a Harlem soup kitchen where he listens to lessons about "the social contract" from an elderly African American man, and mentors a seventeen-year-old unwed mother who wants to make it to college on a basketball scholarship.

Y FICTION Myers

Recommended for Grades 8+

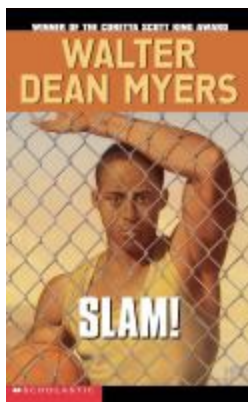


Hoops by Walter Dean Myers

A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake. Lonnie plays basketball in spite of his coach, a has-been named Cal. Followed by *The Outside Shot* (1987). All eyes are on seventeen-year-old Lonnie Jackson while he practices with his team for a city-wide basketball Tournament of Champions. His coach, Cal, knows Lonnie has what it takes to be a pro-basketball player, but warns him about giving in to the pressure. Cal knows because he, too, once had the chance--but sold out. As the Tournament nears, Lonnie learns that some heavy bettors want Cal to keep him on the bench so that the team will lose the championship. As the last seconds of the game tick away Lonnie and Cal must make a decision. Are they willing to blow the chance of a lifetime?

Y PB Myers

Recommended for Grades 8+

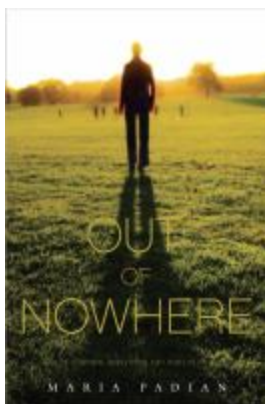


Slam! by Walter Dean Myers

Sixteen-year-old "Slam" Harris is counting on his noteworthy basketball talents to get him out of the inner city and give him a chance to succeed in life, but his coach sees things differently.

Y PB Myers

Recommended for Grades 8-12

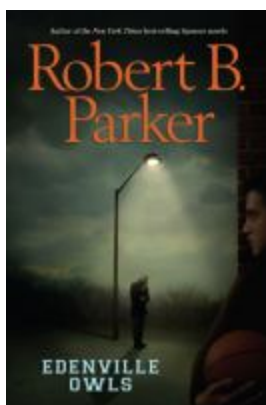


Out of Nowhere by Maria Padian

Performing community service for pulling a stupid prank against a rival high school, soccer star Tom tutors a Somali refugee with soccer dreams of his own.

Y FICTION Padian

Recommended for Grades 9+

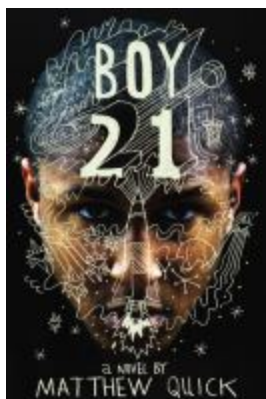


Edenville Owls by Robert B. Parker

Fourteen-year-old Bobby, living in a small Massachusetts town just after World War II, finds himself facing many new challenges as he tries to pull together his coachless basketball team, cope with new feelings for his old friend Joanie, and discover the identity of the mysterious stranger who seems to be threatening his teacher.

Y FICTION MYSTERY Parker

Recommended for Grades 6-9



Boy 21 by Matthew Quick

Finley, an unnaturally quiet boy who is the only white player on his high school's varsity basketball team, lives in a dismal Pennsylvania town that is ruled by the Irish mob. When his coach asks him to mentor a troubled African American student who has transferred there from an elite private school in California, he finds that they have a lot in common in spite of their apparent differences.

Y FICTION Quick

Recommended for Grades 8+



The Berlin Boxing Club by Robert Sharenow

In 1936 Berlin, fourteen-year-old Karl Stern, considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.

Y FICTION Sharenow

Recommended for Grades 7+



Winger by Andrew Smith

Two years younger than his classmates at a prestigious boarding school, fourteen-year-old Ryan Dean West grapples with living in the dorm for troublemakers, falling for his female best friend who thinks of him as just a kid, and playing wing on the Varsity rugby team with some of his frightening new dorm-mates.

Y FICTION Smith

Recommended for Grades 9+



Peak by Roland Smith

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Y PB Smith

Recommended for Grades 6+

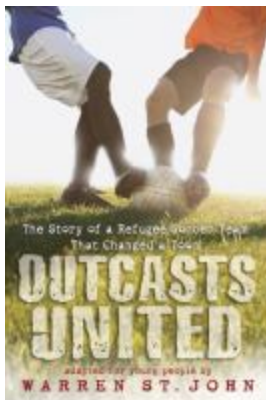


The Scorpio Races by Maggie Stiefvater

Nineteen-year-old returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, both trying to keep hold of their dangerous water horses long enough to make it to the finish line.

Y FICTION Stiefvater

Recommended for Grades 8+



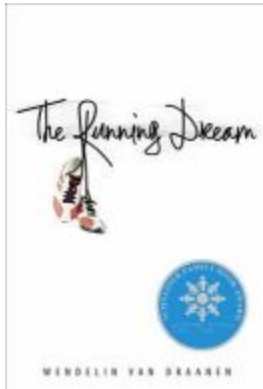
Outcasts United by Warren St. John

Clarkston, Georgia, was a typical southern town until it became a refugee resettlement center. Luma Mufleh, a young Jordanian woman educated in the United States and working as a coach for private youth soccer teams in Atlanta, was out for a drive one day and ended up in Clarkston. She was pleasantly surprised by the ethnic restaurants and by the sight of women wearing the hijab. Most of all, she was amazed and delighted to see young boys, black and brown and white, some

barefoot, playing soccer on every flat surface they could find. Luma decided to quit her job, move to Clarkston, and start a soccer team. This was where she needed to be, and this was where she made a huge difference in the lives of the Fugees and the small Southern town they came to call home.

Y796.334 St. John

Recommended for Grades 7+



The Running Dream by Wendelin van Draanen

When a school bus accident leaves sixteen-year-old Jessica an amputee, she returns to school with a prosthetic limb and her track team finds a wonderful way to help rekindle her dream of running again.

Y FICTION Van Draanen

Recommended for Grades 8+



Fakie by Tony Varrato

The Witness Relocation Program has changed the identities of Alex and his mother repeatedly, but they still need to keep running to stay one step ahead of his enemies. His latest identity as a skateboarder in Virginia Beach is no easy ride. Nosegrabs, ollies, and kickflips are all new to him. Alex has to catch on quickly to blend in, but the biggest trick he'll have to master is staying alive.

Y PB Varrato

Recommended for Grades 7–10

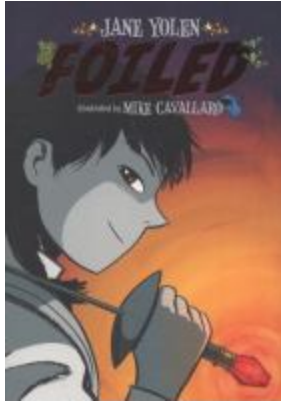


The Final Four by Paul Volponi

Four players at the Final Four of the NCAA basketball tournament struggle with the pressures of tournament play and the expectations of society at large.

Y FICTION Volponi

Recommended for Grades 8+



Foiled by Jane Yolen

Aliera is a star at fencing, but at school no one notices her--until her new lab partner Avery begins flirting with her. Aliera's mother just bought her a foil from a garage sale, and it has a strange jewel attached to the hilt. Will Aliera's first date be ruined when magical creatures try to steal her foil?

Y GRAPHIC NOV Yolen

Recommended for Grades 8+