

Your guide to

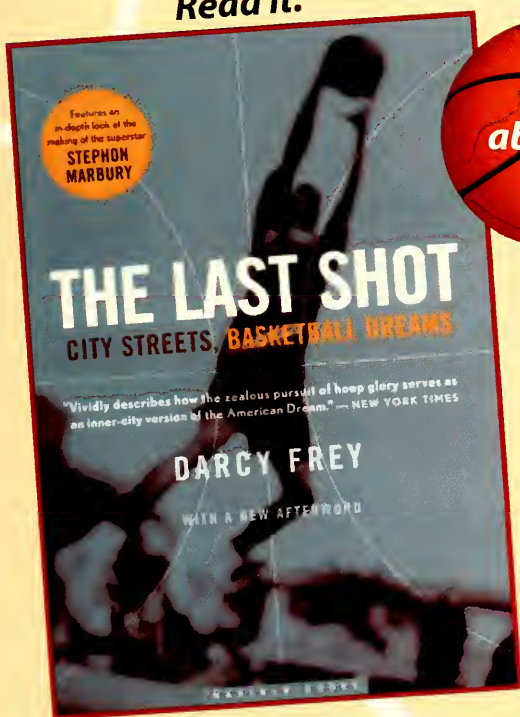
DURHAM

Reads Together | 2007

THE LAST SHOT

CITY STREETS, BASKETBALL DREAMS


Read it.



*Talk
about it.*

Meet the author.





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Your guide to DURHAM Reads Together | 2007



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What is Durham Reads Together?



The mission of Durham Reads Together is to strengthen the community through a celebration of reading the same book. By organizing Durham Reads Together, Durham County Library works with a number of community partners to provide the entire community with books, services and other resources that inform, inspire learning, cultivate understanding and excite the imagination.

Durham Reads Together encourages people from all walks of life, ages 13 and up, to read or listen to the same book and to participate in programs and events. *The Last Shot: City Streets, Basketball Dreams*, by Darcy Frey, is the book selected for Durham Reads Together 2007. The culmination of Durham Reads Together is a visit from author Darcy Frey (pronounced “Fray”) on May 4 and 5. See pages 8 through 10 for an interview with the author and his bio.

You’re invited to join everyone in Durham—individuals, community organizations, businesses, book groups, students, churches, synagogues, mosques, cafés and bookstores—to take part in Durham Reads Together by reading and discussing the book.

By participating in Durham Reads Together, you can:

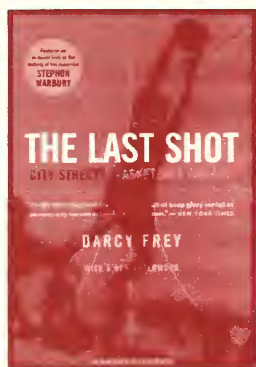
- discuss issues that are important to you with others in your community;
- build relationships with people you never expected to meet; and
- enjoy the true story of four talented student-athletes.

Join us for free programs that build on themes in the book, such as helping parents pay for college, sports ethics, integration in sports, building strong neighborhoods and closing the achievement gap in Durham. A calendar of programs appears on pages 11 through 15.

Read it.

The Last Shot

City Streets, Basketball Dreams



Named one of the top 100 sports books of all time by Sports Illustrated, *The Last Shot* follows four young athletes at Abraham Lincoln High School on Coney Island as they struggle under the pressures of poverty, crime, drugs and the expectations placed on them by their families, their coaches and the community. One of the youths chronicled in the book, Stephon Marbury, has gone on to become a basketball superstar, signing a multimillion-dollar contract with the New York Knicks.

Just to get to Coney Island from Manhattan requires an hour-long subway ride, since few of the neighborhood's residents own cars, and then a mile-long walk out to the projects. And once tenants arrive at the end of the peninsula, home to the largest concentration of buildings, they find none of the amenities that New Yorkers take for granted; there are no supermarkets or public libraries ...

(The Last Shot, pg. 104)



“[A] tomahawk dunk of a first book ... moves with the drive and poetry of a well-executed fast break.”

— People

Talk about it.

Possible Discussion Questions

By David Carr, associate professor, UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science

These are guiding questions, not required questions, for discussions of Darcy Frey's book, *The Last Shot*. Readers in groups might use a few of them to start a conversation, or individuals might use them for personal reflection after reading the book. We hope you will find some of them to be useful, and that readers will come up with their own questions as they read and gather to talk.

- 1 When you imagine the landscape of Coney Island, N.Y., what does it look like to you? What does this landscape have to do with the horizons of the young men in *The Last Shot*?
- 2 Even though *The Last Shot* lacks photographs, we create images of each player in our minds as we read. What do the portraits in your mind look like? How do they differ from each other?
- 3 Other than basketball, what is *The Last Shot* about? What themes do you think about (other than basketball) when you read it? Are any of these themes surprising to you? Why?
- 4 Darcy Frey writes with great knowledge and understanding of these young men. How do you think he gained their trust? What challenges do you think he overcame in order to write this story?
- 5 Everyone in *The Last Shot* has to overcome obstacles at times. What obstacles appear in the lives of these young men? Where do they come from? Family? School? Society? Elsewhere?
- 6 The four young men in *The Last Shot* are influenced by parents, teachers, coaches and scouts, and the writer Darcy Frey himself. Knowing what you know about these young men, what counsel or advice would you give to the adults who appear in the book? What is the best role for an adult to play in the life of a young athlete?

- 7** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has developed a code of sports ethics, an “ethical framework to combat the pressures in modern day society, which appear to be undermining the traditional foundations of sport.” Where might an “ethical framework” have made a useful difference in *The Last Shot*?
- 8** If you could give the young men at the center of *The Last Shot* two or three lessons to guide them in their lives, what would those lessons be about? Where did you learn them? How would you make the lessons clear?
- 9** Here are six nouns: HEART, TEAMWORK, COURAGE, GAME, DREAM, SUCCESS. How would you talk about any one of them as you describe *The Last Shot*? What other nouns would you use to explain the book?
- 10** Here are six adjectives: KIND, HOPEFUL, AWARE, STRONG, COMPLEX, CARING. Do they describe any of the people in *The Last Shot*, or do they describe any of your feelings as you read this book? What other adjectives would you use?
- 11** In *The Last Shot*, Darcy Frey uses the phrase, “basketball as an occasion for self-expression” (p. 91). What does this mean to you?
- 12** The word “play” is usually associated with a game. But it can also mean something dramatic on a stage, something amusing or fun to do, or a kind of conduct or quality (as in “fair play”), or even betting, as in “to play against the odds.” We also talk about something possible as being “in play.” What kinds of “play” do you see in *The Last Shot*?
- 13** What happens to players in a basketball game? What does a good player think about? How does a good player think about other players? What do good players think about themselves?

*Soars toward the basket ... a brilliant portrait
of what has gone wrong in our cities, and by
extension, in our country.*

— James North,
Chicago Tribune Books

Book Discussions

Tuesday, **March 27**, at 7 p.m.

(Facilitated by Dr. David Carr)

The Regulator Bookshop

720 9th St., Durham

Tuesday, **April 10**, at 7 p.m.

Southwest Branch Library

3605 Shannon Rd., 560-0290

Wednesday, **April 11**, at 7 p.m.

East Regional Library

211 Lick Creek Ln., 560-0203

Saturday, **April 14**, at 2 p.m.

North Regional Library

221 Milton Rd., 560-0231

Wednesday, **April 18**, at 7:30 p.m.

Broad Street Café

1116 Broad St., Durham

Thursday, **April 19**, at 7 p.m.

Parkwood Branch Library

5122 Revere Rd., 560-0260

Saturday, **April 21**, at 2:30 p.m.

Stanford L. Warren Branch Library

1201 Fayetteville St., 560-0270

Tuesday, **April 24**, at 7 p.m.

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

(New Hope Commons)

Thursday, **April 26**, at 5 p.m.

(Facilitated by Library Director Skip Auld)

Urban Ministries of Durham

(Multi-purpose room)

410 Liberty St., Durham

Sunday, **April 29**, at 3:30 p.m.

Main Library

300 N. Roxboro St., 560-0100



TEEN Book Discussions

Wednesday, **April 4**, at 6:30 p.m.

Barnes & Noble Café

(New Hope Commons)

Tuesday, **April 24**, at 4 p.m.

Southwest Branch Library

3605 Shannon Rd., 560-0290

Thursday, **April 26**, at 3:30 p.m.

Bragtown Branch Library

3200 Dearborn Dr., 560-0210

All book discussions are free and open to the public.

Meet the author.

Darcy Frey



The author is a contributing writer for *The New York Times Magazine*; he writes on a variety of topics, including science, medicine, technology, the environment and homelessness. Frey is also a former contributing editor at *Harper's Magazine* and has published articles in *The American Lawyer* and *Rolling Stone*. His writing has been anthologized in *Best American Essays* and *Best American Science Writing*. Frey's 1996 *New York Times Magazine* article about three New York City air traffic controllers

was made into the feature film *Pushing Tin*. He has been a fellow at the MacDowell Colony, the oldest artists' colony in the U.S. Frey graduated from Oberlin College in 1983 and currently teaches in the creative writing program at Columbia University. *The Last Shot*, his first book, was published in 1994 and released in paperback, with a new afterword, in 2004.

Author Q & A

1 How did you get the idea for *The Last Shot*?

Actually, though it's a book about basketball, what drew me to the subject in the first place was a desire to write about kids dealing with the challenges of inner-city life. I'd been doing a lot of inner-city reporting for magazines at the time, and I wanted to work in a longer format, so I started thinking up possible book scenarios: perhaps spending a year with the residents of one particular housing project, or hanging out on a particular street corner or playground. Then I realized that if I found the right group of kids who all played for the same inner-city high school basketball team, I'd have not only the environment I hoped to explore, but also the possibility for witnessing a lot of drama and excitement as the kids went through their school year, their team season, and the process of trying to win athletic scholarships to college. So, in short, I came up with the idea in the abstract, and then when I met the extraordinary young men at Lincoln High School, I found the specific story. I knew then that I had a book idea that I ardently wanted to pursue.

2 When you were in high school, who inspired you?

I was inspired by several English teachers I had in high school, but perhaps most of all by my best friend at the time, Jake Lamar, who has become a very successful novelist living now in Paris. Even in high school, Jake had a voracious appetite—for books, new and old movies, theater, journalism. I got as good an education just hanging out with Jake as I ever did in the classroom.

3 Did your life change after *The Last Shot* was published?

Yes and no. Yes, in that it became easier to do the kind of long-form, intensively-reported journalism projects that I'm drawn to; after *The Last Shot* was published, I became a contributing writer for The New York Times Magazine, and I've written for them on all manner of subjects—not just sports, but medicine, technology, music, the environment. But in a way, every new writing project makes you feel like a beginner all over again. The challenges of each project demand new skills and new solutions. I've found that being a writer is a lot about learning to be comfortable with one's own ignorance, with one's own ever-the-beginner status.

4 What is your favorite thing about being a journalist/writer?

I love the freedom that being a nonfiction writer gives me to follow my nose into a story and pursue it wherever it may lead. I love the intimate and privileged position one gets, as a writer, to see the inner workings of another life, another way of being, and I do love (despite the constant challenges of it) the obligation to find for each new story a voice that will most vividly and succinctly translate the experience I have had as a reporter onto the page for the reader.

5 What book is on your bedside table?

So Long, See You Tomorrow, by William Maxwell

6 How do you feel about *The Last Shot* being selected for Durham Reads Together 2007?

It's an amazing honor, frankly. And an amazing opportunity that I

will have to come to Durham to meet with students and readers and teachers. I love talking about the process of writing, especially to young writers, so I'm really looking forward to those interactions.

7 What are you working on now?

For the past three years, I've been working on a book about a renegade scientist who studies global warming from a remote field camp in the Alaskan Arctic. The scientist, George Divoky, is actually an ornithologist; he studies arctic seabirds. But through his work with black guillemots on Cooper Island, just off the northern Alaskan coast, he's learned some amazing things about the planet as a whole.

"... he just wants to know what's in it for him," Stephon says of his father. "He knows you don't get something for nothing. He knows if you write about the Marburys you're gonna make a lotta loot." Stephon rolls his thumb and forefinger together. "'Cause everybody knows about the Lincoln tradition and wants to read about us."

"What you mean?" Corey says. "No one reads books anymore."

"Then why is Darcy writing about us?"

"'Cause he just wants to write," Corey replies on my behalf. "I know what that's like."

(The Last Shot, pg. 224)

DRT Program Schedule



DRT “Tip Off” Party Saturday, March 31 1 – 4 p.m. Main Library

All are welcome – this party is not just for kids and sports fans! Join us as we celebrate the end of March Madness and the beginning of Durham Reads Together with games, book giveaways, free throw contests, basketball trivia and “game day” food.

Money For College

Informative workshops led by Rufus Johnson, outreach counselor with the Educational Opportunity Center.

Thursday, **April 5**, at 6 p.m.
Parkwood Branch Library
5122 Revere Rd., 560-0260

Thursday, **April 19**, at 6 p.m.
North Regional Library
221 Milton Rd., 560-0231

Thursday, **April 26**, at 6 p.m.
Stanford L. Warren Branch Library
1201 Fayetteville St., 560-0270

Saturday, **April 28**, at 10 a.m.
East Regional Library
211 Lick Creek Ln., 560-0203

Talk about it.

Building Strong Communities: How neighborhoods influence our lives

Wednesday, **April 4**, at 7 p.m.
Stanford L. Warren Branch Library, meeting room 2
1201 Fayetteville St., 560-0270

The isolated and poverty-stricken neighborhood of Coney Island, N.Y., provides the backdrop and barrier for the young men in *The Last Shot*. Dr. Isaac A. Robinson, director of the Social Work Program at North Carolina Central University, and Thomas Barrie, director of the School of Architecture, North Carolina State University, lead a community roundtable discussion about the impact of neighborhoods on individuals and communities.

Winning Results of Title IX: Women's sports in the Triangle

Monday, **April 9**, at 4:30 p.m.
East Regional Library
211 Lick Creek Ln., 560-0203

While *The Last Shot* focuses on young men, girls' and women's sports in the Triangle are nationally and internationally renowned. Stephanie Glance, assistant coach of NCSU's women's basketball team; Joe Sagula, UNC's volleyball coach; and Karen Sanford, head coach of NCCU's women's bowling team are on board for this event.

Movie Night at Motricity's Kitty Hawk Theater

Thursday, **April 12**, at 7 p.m.
American Tobacco Historic District

"Akeelah and the Bee," Rated PG (112 min.).

The Last Shot follows four young men who try to use their athletic gifts to get out of poverty. This movie is about a young girl who uses her intellectual gifts to escape south Los Angeles and make it to the National Spelling Bee. Laurence Fishburne and Angela Bassett are the stars of this 2006 film. *Space is limited. To reserve your space: 560-0268 or mfragola@durhamcountync.gov by April 9.*

Movie Night at Broad Street Café

Monday, **April 16**, at 7:30 p.m.
1116 Broad St., Durham, 416-9707

"The Heart of the Game," Rated PG-13 (97 min.).

Themes from *The Last Shot*, like education, race and sports, come alive in this 2005 documentary about the Roosevelt Roughriders, a women's high school basketball team from Seattle.

Wins, Losses and Fair Plays: A discussion of ethics and sports

Tuesday, **April 17**, at 11 a.m.
Durham Technical Community College Educational
Resources Center auditorium, 1637 Lawson St.

Some of the coaches portrayed in *The Last Shot* seem to be a little underhanded, but are they unethical? What role do ethics play in sports and should they play any role? These are some questions Barry Jacobs, sports writer for The Independent Weekly, and Jan Boxill, professor of philosophy and voice of the Lady TarHeels, will be addressing at Durham Tech. Join them and students from Durham Tech in a discussion about ethics and sports.

Beyond the Game: Pursuing your love of sports outside of the arena

Tuesday, **April 17**, at 4:30 p.m.
North Regional Library
221 Milton Rd., 560-0231

As we're reading in *The Last Shot*, getting a professional sports contract takes skill, dedication and a whole lot of luck. Of course, playing in the NBA isn't the only way to get a career in sports. Join us for a conversation with Edward Robinson, sports columnist at The News & Observer; Frank Dascenzo, sports columnist at The Herald-Sun; Dr. Michelle Joshua, sports psychologist and founder of Work It Out Consulting; and Rob Schneider, physical

therapist (specializing in athletic training) at Balanced Physical Therapy Center. Meet some of your favorite sports writers and learn what "other" opportunities are out there for people who want to work in sports.

Hoops Read-a-thon
Downtown Durham YMCA
215 Morgan St.



Saturday, April 21
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 28
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

- Read and play with local basketball stars—college, high school and AAU leagues.
- Play against library staff and family.
- Work out with the "pros" in a mini clinic.
- Enter a free throw contest.
- Win prizes and pick up giveaways.

*For more information: Karlene Fyffe,
560-0172 or kfyffe@durhamcountync.gov.*

Overcoming Obstacles: Integration in sports

Monday, **April 23**, at 6:30 p.m.
Stanford L. Warren Branch Library
1201 Fayetteville St., 560-0270

Join local sports writer and author Barry Jacobs from The Independent Weekly and UNC doctoral candidate Greg Kaliss as they discuss the integration of the ACC and its effect on integration around the country in schools, restaurants and businesses. Kaliss is currently researching and writing a dissertation in pursuit of a Ph.D. in history; the working title is "'Dark Clouds' and 'Rays of Hope': The meanings of race and the integration of men's college athletics, 1915-1973." The project is a cultural history that explores the ways people debated issues of equality and citizenship through discussions of race and athletics.

What Shade of Blue is Your Blood?

Tuesday, **April 24**, at 6:30 p.m.
Southwest Branch Library
3605 Shannon Rd., 560-0290

Join author Art Chansky for a discussion about the Triangle's obsession with basketball, "the rivalry" and those of us who love it. Chansky is the author of *Blue Blood: Duke-Carolina: Inside the Most Storied Rivalry in College Hoops*.

Building Strong Schools: Closing the achievement gap

Thursday, **May 3**, at 6:30 p.m.
Hayti Heritage Center, 804 Old Fayetteville St.

Education plays a big role in the lives of the student-athletes in *The Last Shot*, in determining whether they succeed or fail. How do we in Durham build our schools to be stronger and better? Join some local scholars and school administrators in a citywide discussion of education.

Meet the author.

Darcy Frey will meet with students at Hillside High School, Jordan High School and Durham School of the Arts

Friday, **May 4**

Darcy Frey will talk about the joys and challenges of in-depth journalism and "Finding the Story"

Saturday, **May 5**, from 4 – 6 p.m.
North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co. building auditorium
411 W. Chapel Hill St.

All Durham Reads Together programs are free and open to the public, unless otherwise specified. Space is limited for some activities, in which case pre-event sign up is required. Dates and times are subject to change—please call 919-560-0123 for the most up-to-date information.

Bibliographies

Selected Works of Darcy Frey

Rolling Stone

The Big Empty. April 18, 1991.

Examines the uncaring treatment of homeless people in Stamford, Conn., the richest city in the richest state in the United States.

The New York Times Magazine

Tasmania Is Out of This World. Nov. 19, 2006.

A history and travelogue of Tasmania, said to be the world's most mountainous island.

Her Lonely Voice. July 2, 2006.

Article about Katell Keineg, a singer-songwriter who was born in Brittany, raised in Wales and now lives in Dublin.

Betrayed By The Game. Feb. 15, 2004.

Article that calls into question whether basketball can give a better life to its young players, especially those who are poor and black.

How Green Is BP? Dec. 8, 2002.

Article that examines BP's \$200 million corporate rebranding effort under the leadership of CEO Lord John Browne.

Endangered Landscape. June 30, 2002.

Article that describes wilderness landscapes in the Rocky Mountain West that are threatened by government proposals for new oil and gas drilling sites.

George Divoky's Planet. Jan. 6, 2002.

Article on ornithologist George Divoky, who spends each summer on an island off Alaska's northern coast studying a rare colony of seabirds and who tries to warn the world about the threat of global warming.

Lucinda Williams Is in Pain. Sept. 14, 1997.

Article on critically-acclaimed singer Lucinda Williams and the difficulty she has experienced in trying to record her music.

Something's Got to Give. March 24, 1996.

Article about America's air traffic controllers and the Federal Aviation Administration. (Made into the feature film *Pushing Tin*.)

Does Anyone Here Think This Baby Can Live? July 9, 1995.

Article exploring the experiences of parents whose children need the services of a NICU, or newborn intensive care unit.

Compiled by Marian Fragola, Humanities Coordinator, Durham County Library.

... Hartstein stands by the door, discreetly handing out bus fare home to the players he knows to be most in need. Never in their lives would they be in possession of so little and on the brink of so much.

(The Last Shot, pg. 32)

Basketball, Sports, and Life in the City

Barney Polan's Game

By Charles Rosen

FIC Rosen, C.

Sportswriter Barney Polan sets out to uncover the truth behind the college basketball scandals of 1951. Set in a time before the huge marketing success of professional basketball and corporate sponsorship detailed in Frey's *The Last Shot*, Rosen fictionalizes a real event to tell the story of a number of college basketball players who were enticed to manipulate points and throw games by gangster Johnny Boy Gianelli.

The Conquering Heroes

By Peter Gent

FIC Gent, P.

Things have changed from the golden years of sports, and recruiting coach Pat Lee is no stranger to the corruption and questionable practices sometimes engaged in by college basketball teams. When his star player rapes a young female student, he finds himself recruited to engage in a cover-up. Lee can remember a time when basketball was not such a high-stakes enterprise, and as complications ensue, he has a chance to rethink his priorities.

Fat City

By Leonard Gardner

FIC Gardner, L.

Listed by Sports Illustrated as one of the "Top 100 Sports Books of All Time," *Fat City* tells the parallel stories of an older professional boxer and his young protégé, providing a cast of characters whose desperate attempts to overcome wretched circumstances have largely failed. Though bleak in tone, this novel addresses the issues of hopes and aspirations, and what role these should play in the lives of those who are not going to "make it big."

Foul Lines: A pro basketball novel

By Jack McCallum and L. Jon Wertheim

FIC McCallum, J.

Co-authored by two Sports Illustrated reporters, *Foul Lines* tells the story of Jamal Kelly, a brilliant inner-city teenager who won a scholarship to Yale. Just prior to graduation, he makes the career decision to abandon his scholarship and work with the Los Angeles Lasers as director of public

relations. He finds himself introduced to the glitzy and ego-driven world of professional basketball, but when a secret shared by three star players comes to light, Jamal must make some important decisions about how to handle the event. Although the novel is largely humorous in tone, the authors make use of their extensive knowledge of the industry to address issues of corporate sponsorship and racial identity that form part of the professional sport.

God's Gym

By John Edgar Wideman

FIC Wideman, J.

In this collection of short stories, award-winning author Wideman explores themes of basketball ("Who Invented the Jump Shot?"), courage and faith, race and family relations, and urban life. Always poetic, experimental and defying easy categorization, these stories offer insight into an array of fascinating characters.

GraceLand

By Christopher Abani

FIC Abani, C.

Winner of the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award in 2004, this novel introduces Elvis Oke, a young man coming of age in Nigeria in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Like other young men living in unbearable surroundings, Elvis cherishes his own hopes and dreams for escape, while struggling daily to survive in the unspeakable third-world ghettos of post-colonial Nigeria.

Murder at the Foul Line

Edited by Otto Penzler

Mystery FIC SC Murd.

Murder and basketball—these 14 short stories deal with subjects from street basketball games gone awry to corrupt recruiting practices, illuminating the darker side of basketball. Includes contributions from Mike Lupica, George Pelecanos and Lawrence Block.

The Necessary Hunger: A novel

By Nina Revoyr

FIC Revoyr, N.

Two teenage girls, one Japanese-American, the other black, strive to escape their inner-city lives through their dedication to basketball, while tackling issues such as sexual orientation, family relationships, race relations and college sports recruiting.

Night Journey: A novel

By Murad Kalam

FIC Kalam, M.

From the time that they are abandoned by their father in Phoenix, Ariz., in the early 1990s, Eddie and Turtle are raised in a dreary urban landscape by their single mother. Turtle takes to a street life of crime, but encourages his younger brother (always more introspective and thoughtful) to train as a boxer, in the hope that it will give him a way out from the inner city. Dreams of success keep Eddie afloat for a while, but a pointless murder and Eddie's own weaknesses send him down a very different road of trial and redemption.

Philadelphia Fire: A novel

By John Edgar Wideman

FIC Wideman, J.

Cudjoe is an expatriate black writer living in Greece who returns to his native Philadelphia in order to investigate the 1985 police bombing of a black militant group. As he struggles to understand the significance of the event, Cudjoe becomes increasingly obsessed with finding a young boy who was rumored to have survived the bombing and subsequent fire. Cudjoe's research takes him from the basketball courts of West Philadelphia to a series of reflections on his own failed dreams and aspirations. Winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award in 1990, this novel offers a searing portrait of urban life in the 1980s.

Pretty Birds: A novel

By Scott Simon

FIC Simon, S.

Growing up as a high school basketball star in Sarajevo, Irena Zaric and her Muslim family are forced to flee their home and live as refugees during the Bosnian War in the early 1990s. Irena is raped at the outset of the novel, but is left little time to come to terms with this as her family struggles to survive. Spotted by a former assistant principal who remembers her athletic skills, Irena is recruited as a sniper and becomes actively involved in the violent conflict. Her coming-of-age in such turmoil is vividly depicted, and as in Frey's *The Last Shot*, the ability of any young person to thrive in such a brutal atmosphere is central to the novel. Author Scott Simon served as a war correspondent in Sarajevo during this time, and this fictional account is based on his own observations and interviews.

The Street

By Ann Petry

FIC Petry, A.

In *The Street*, a landmark work of black American fiction, Lutie Johnson attempts to raise her son in the environs of 1940's Harlem. Lutie deplores the fact that blacks are consigned to live in urban nightmares—like the Coney Island projects depicted in *The Last Shot*—and struggles to make good choices in the face of social injustice.

Sula

By Toni Morrison

FIC Morrison, T.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Toni Morrison tells the story of Sula Peace and Nell Wright, who grew up as best friends in a segregated small town in Ohio between 1920 and 1940. Together they witness racism, social injustice and the struggle faced by their families to survive in a hostile environment. Bound together by a secret, Sula escapes their restrictive community and receives an education, while Nell remains behind.

Strivers Row: A Novel

By Kevin Baker

FIC Baker, K.

Concluding his City of Fire trilogy dealing with a historical New York City, Baker sets this final novel in the Harlem of the 1940s and follows the parallel stories of a young Malcolm X and a young preacher as they struggle for identity, direction and meaning at a pivotal point in New York and American history. Touching on issues of race and urban life, this novel provides a historical backdrop to the New York City and Coney Island detailed in Frey's *The Last Shot*.

The White Boy Shuffle

By Paul Beatty

FIC Beatty, P.

Gunnar Kaufman is a young basketball star and aspiring poet growing up in Los Angeles in the 1990s who wins a basketball scholarship to Boston University. With a wild and manic sense of humor that upends politically correct standards and wreaks havoc on racial stereotypes, he details his experiences living in, first, a predominantly white suburb, and then, in an inner-city neighborhood in West L.A. His satiric observations encompass a particularly wry view of his own family history and American culture and irreverently speak to the black experience in this country.

*Compiled by Victoria Caplinger, cataloger/editorial assistant
at NoveList (a division of EBSCO Publishing).*

Parenting and Coaching Teen Athletes

Boys Into Men – Raising our African American teenage sons

By Nancy Boyd-Franklin

649.132 Boyd-Franklin

Saving our sons: Raising black children in a turbulent world

By Marita Golden

305.235 Golden

Six lessons for Six Sons: An extraordinary father, a simple formula for success

By Joe Massengale

B Massengale, J.

The Skin We're In: Teaching our children to be emotionally strong, socially smart, spiritually connected

By Janie Victoria Ward

649.108 Ward

The Warrior Method: A program for rearing healthy black boys

By Raymond A. Winbush

649.157 Winbush

Compiled by Autumn Winters, Young Adult Librarian, Durham County Library.

They all want to learn the game, go to college, make something of their lives. I tell them, one bad injury can tear up your whole career, but no one can take away your brain. And they listen because it's the truth, and around here the kids don't hear the truth a lot.

(The Last Shot, pg. 108)

Films Related to *The Last Shot*

Akeelah And The Bee

DVD Feature AKEE

Akeelah Anderson is an 11-year-old girl from South Central Los Angeles who has a love for words. Despite some initial reluctance and the doubts of her overworked single mother, she begins to enter (and win) spelling competitions and gains a place in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Akeelah's coaches include a forthright English professor, her principal, and the increasingly proud residents of her neighborhood. Framed like a sports drama, this film rises above clichés to be an inspiring story of friendship, pride, fair play and the value of self-confidence.

Basketball Diaries

Video Feature BASK

Along with his buddies, street-tough Jim is part of a seemingly unbeatable high school basketball team. His life centers around the court, but pressures from his mom, his coach and school push him away from the game he loves and toward the streets and an unhealthy taste for heroin. This addiction consumes his life until, with the help of an older neighborhood friend, he begins to free himself from it.

Bend it Like Beckham

Video Feature BEND, DVD Feature BEND

This is a comedy about bending the rules to reach your goals—your soccer goals, that is! We follow two 18-year-olds through the world of women's football (soccer to us) from kick-about in the local park to free kicks in the final set of a national competition. Both of the athletes have their hearts set on professional careers, but for one the path is complicated by the fact that her parents wish she would forget all this foolishness, trade her soccer gear for a sari and concentrate on making the perfect chapati instead of the winning goal.

Coach Carter

DVD Feature COAC

When Ken Carter puts aside his successful business to return to his old high school as the boys' basketball coach, he is dismayed by what he finds. His players' poor attitudes are obvious in both their academic and on-court performance. He sets up a strict regime, including dress code and academic requirements, that meets with initial resistance. The strictness fades as the team begins to win games, but with success comes a return

to old, bad habits. Outraging his players, the school and the community, Coach Carter benches his entire undefeated team until the athletes' academic performance improves, determined to show the boys that they need to rely on more than sports to secure their futures.

Finding Forrester

DVD Feature FORR

Jamal Wallace (played by newcomer Rob Brown) is a writing prodigy and gifted basketball player whose skills have won him a place at a prestigious prep school, where he often feels out of place. On a dare, he sneaks into the apartment of William Forrester (Sean Connery), a famous and famously reclusive writer. What slowly develops is a friendship in which mutual respect and intelligence break down the walls of culture and generation, inspiring both characters to move past their own self-imposed barriers.

Friday Night Lights

DVD Feature FRID

Billy Bob Thornton plays a high school football coach who leads his team to the Texas state semi-finals in 1988. In Odessa, Texas, high school football is king, and the expectations of classmates, family and community exact a harsh toll on coach and players alike. The fierce intensity of feelings aroused by the games is heightened by economic and racial tensions.

Glory Road

DVD Feature GLOR

In 1966, Texas Western College coach Don Haskins went out to recruit the best male basketball players he could find and fielded a team with seven black players and five white players. Despite seemingly insurmountable odds, Haskins and his Miners came together as a team, fighting all the way to the National Championships.

The Heart of the Game

DVD Feature HEAR

This documentary follows the Rough Riders, a Seattle girls' high school basketball team, for several years as they strive to win the state championship. Coached by tax law professor Bill Resler, this "pack of wolves," this "tropical storm," takes on every challenge with enthusiasm. When Darnellia Russell, a talented player from a poor neighborhood, joins the team, her skills take the Rough Riders even closer to the their goal—until, unexpectedly, she is forced to quit. Far from losing momentum, the film (and the team) charges on to a nail-biting conclusion.

Hoosiers

DVD Feature HOOS

This small-town drama tells the true story of an underdog high school basketball team that made it all the way to the state championships. Gene Hackman portrays a coach with a checkered past who teams up with the alcoholic father of one of the players to coach the team and beat the odds. In so doing, the coaches find that they've risen above their own limitations, as well.

Love and Basketball

DVD Feature LOVE

Long before they loved each other, Monica and Quincy both loved basketball. From the playground to the pro leagues, they shared a passion for the game and, eventually, for each other. Luckily, they are both recruited for the same school, but unfortunately they don't find the same opportunities. Quentin is playing before huge crowds and on a fast track to the NBA, but Monica, in a time before the WNBA, finds herself relegated to smaller venues, with her only professional opportunities in Europe. The time comes when they have to make a choice between their passion for the game and their passion for each other.

Remember the Titans

Video Feature REME

In 1971, high schools in suburban Virginia have been segregated for generations. One black and one white high school have been closed and all the students sent to T.C. Williams High School, which is under a federal mandate to integrate. The year is seen through the eyes of members of the football team, where the man originally hired to coach the black team is made head coach over the highly successful white coach. Based on actual events, the film shows how the team becomes a unifying symbol for the community as the boys and adults gradually learn to trust and depend on one another.

The Ringer

DVD Feature RING

Pressured by a greedy uncle and a load of debt, Steve resorts to a desperate, highly dubious plan: rigging the Special Olympics and taking home the gold. His pretense of a mental disability has the organizers fooled, but not his fellow competitors, who become co-conspirators for reasons of their own. Things become even more complicated when Steve falls for one of the volunteers.

This documentary follows two young men from inner-city Chicago who dream of making the NBA. Created over five years, the film documents their struggles as they navigate the complex competitive world of scholastic athletics—first in high school, then in college—and struggle to overcome the pressures of family life and the city streets.

Compiled by Deb Warner, Staff Assistant 2, AV, Durham County Library.

In his first book, Frey, a contributing editor at Harper's and the New York Times Magazine, has composed a sensitive account of a year in the lives of four exceptional players (three seniors and one freshman), their coach and their families, and he shows that the game can indeed be a means of escape in spite of their school's poor academic reputation. But the way out is fraught with difficulties. For instance, Frey offers devastating anecdotes about dishonest college recruiters and about the NCAA. This excellent book is not only about basketball but about realizing a dream, and its appeal should be very wide.

—Publishers Weekly

Sports Fiction for Kids

Allie's Basketball Dream

By Barbara Barber

JF Barber, B.

Allie's always been hooked on basketball, but the boys she knows won't play with her. On the verge of giving up, Allie has one last go at it—and she makes the basket! Allie keeps trying even when the boys make fun of her.

Benched!

By David Halecroft

JF Halecroft, D.

Eighth-grader Woody is benched because of failing grades. When he can't play basketball, he finally comes to the realization that he needs a balance between athletics and academics.

Cruise Control

By Terry Trueman

YAF Trueman, T.

A talented basketball player struggles to deal with the helplessness and anger he feels because his brother has been rendered completely dysfunctional by severe cerebral palsy and because his father has deserted the family.

Hoop Crazy!

By Eric Walter

YAF Walter, E.

Height does not always make a good basketball player. Nick finds this out when he's forced to consider his nerdy cousin as a replacement for a three-on-three tournament. Ned might be 5 feet 8 inches tall, but he is clueless about the game and about teamwork.

Hoops!

By Walter Dean Myers

YAF Myers, W.

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.

The Real Slam Dunk

By Charisse Richardson

JF Richardson, C.

Marcus Robinson is excited. Tomorrow, his class is going on a field trip to a professional basketball arena to meet the one and only Jason Carter, Marcus' hero. Marcus usually ignores everything except for basketball, but this time he studies for hours to win the math contest—for the prize of being the official Jason Carter greeter! But when Jason tells Marcus some things he didn't expect to hear about professional basketball, Marcus is confused. He thought that all he'd ever need in life was basketball. Thanks to Jason, Marcus is about to learn the meaning of a real slam dunk.

Schoolin'

By Robb Armstrong

JF Armstrong, R.

Patrick's got a major game coming up. There's going to be a huge crowd, and all the players are inviting their families ... except Patrick. Ever since Patrick's mom passed away, he hasn't invited his dad to a Bulldogs game. It just feels strange to have only one parent watching from courtside. So he lies to his dad to keep him from coming.

Shoot for the Hoop

By Matt Christopher

JF Christopher, M.

Rusty Young has diabetes, so his parents want to keep him off the basketball court. Will the encouragement he receives from the coach—and his own determination to move back onto the court from the sideline—be enough for Rusty to change their minds?

Slam

By Walter Dean Myers

YAF Myers, W.

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

Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time

By Lisa Yee

JF Yee, L.

After flunking sixth-grade English, basketball prodigy Stanford Wong must struggle to pass his summer school class, keep his failure a secret from his friends and satisfy his academically demanding father.

Taking Sides

By Gary Soto

JF Soto, G.

Fourteen-year-old Lincoln Mendoza, an aspiring basketball player, must come to terms with his divided loyalties when he moves from the Hispanic inner city to a white suburban neighborhood.

Technical Foul

By Wallace Rich

YAF Rich, W.

Jared knows he's the best basketball player in school. He's got the talent, the touch and the shots. With him at center, the Hudson City Hornets finally have a chance at making the play-offs. But, Jared's also got a temper, and when the ref throws him out of the game, he watches his team's chances start to slip away. With some help from his friends, Jared begins to realize that he's got to be a better teammate in order for the Hornets to be a better team.

Travel Team

By Mike Lupica

JF Lupica, M.

After he is cut from his travel basketball team—the very same team that his father once led to national prominence—12-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of castoffs that might have a shot at victory.

Compiled by Wanda Rascoe, Senior Librarian, Durham County Library.

Sports, Basketball and "Coming of Age"

And Still We Rise: The trials and triumphs of twelve gifted inner-city students

By Miles Corwin

371.95 Corwin

From a crime-ridden neighborhood in South-Central L.A., reporter Miles Corwin introduces a group of advanced placement students from Crenshaw High School, with whom he spent the 1996–1997 academic year. Corwin not only details the heartbreaking challenges that these students face and overcome in the process of getting their diplomas and advancing to college, but also examines urban education and educational neglect, the remaining need for affirmative action, and racism as it is faced by young people in this country.

Big Game, Small World: A basketball adventure

By Alexander Wolff

796.323 Wolff

Sport Illustrated reporter Wolff explores the manifestation of the basketball phenomenon in different countries around the world, from its invention in Canada by James Naismith in 1891 to the way the game is played in modern-day Angola. Wolff argues that basketball is quickly forming a close second to soccer as the world's most-followed sport, and that the heart of the game can overcome nationalistic boundaries.

Blue Blood: Duke-Carolina: Inside the most storied rivalry in college hoops

By Art Chansky

796.323 Chansky

Chansky delivers an account of the college sports rivalry between Duke University and The University of North Carolina that encompasses the eras of coaches Dean Smith and Mike Krzyzewski. Told without bias and full of local color, this no-holds-barred read appeals to fans from either side of the rivalry.

Cross-X

By Joe Miller

808.53 Miller

For a change of pace from basketball, follow the inner-city teens of the Kansas City Central debate team as they make their way to the 2002 national championship in Atlanta. Gradually losing sight of his objectivity

(which he freely admits), author Joe Miller eventually becomes assistant coach for the team. He guides the students as they not only overcome their often-difficult home lives and the educational deficiencies within their high school, but also work to bring these same issues to the forefront of the debating process. The story is about high school debate, racial issues, coming of age and urban education.

Eagle Blue: A team, a tribe, and a high school basketball season in Arctic Alaska

By Michael D'Orso

796.323 D'Orso

Fort Yukon, Alaska, is just inside the Arctic Circle, and the young men who formed the talented 2004-2005 Eagles basketball team hail from a high school with only 32 students. Team members face a series of challenges ranging from alcoholism within their families to questions surrounding their own cultural identities and that of their town. Winner of a 2007 Alex Award, *Eagle Blue* delivers a fascinating portrait of a little-explored American Indian culture set against a backdrop of high school basketball, oil revenue settlements and the Alaskan wilderness.

A Home on the Field: How one championship team inspires hope for the revival of small town America

By Paul Cuadros

796.334 Cuadros

Reporter Paul Cuadros initially went to Siler City, N.C., to investigate the social changes brought about by the influx of Hispanic workers arriving to seek employment in the area's poultry-processing plants. Instead, he found himself encouraging Jordan-Matthews High School to create a soccer team for the immigrant Hispanic youth, overcoming resistance to and a prejudice against soccer itself in a town where football is traditionally the game of choice. Cuadros involved himself further in the lives of these young men when he became their soccer coach, guiding them through their experiences of racism and assimilation in the South.

Hoop Roots: Basketball, race, and love

By John Edgar Wideman

B Wideman, J.

Poetic and lyrical, part memoir and part social commentary, Wideman's meditations are thought-provoking, insightful and a pleasure to read. Wideman uses the basketball court to explore themes from black culture and folklore, the history of the game and its place within the black male psyche and, not least, his own family history and relationships.

In These Girls, Hope is a Muscle

By Madeleine Blais

796.323 Blais

Follow the Lady Hurricanes basketball team from Amherst High School in Massachusetts throughout their 1992-1993 academic year. The young women making up the team are fortunate in that they are mainly from upper- or middle-class families; however, they do face challenges in the form of sexual discrimination and harassment, and unequal support from their community. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Blais tells of a special year, in which the town did support its female athletes with the same kind of passion and enthusiasm usually shown only for male sports teams.

The Jump: Sebastian Telfair and the high stakes business of high school ball

By Ian O'Connor

B Telfair, S.

Sebastian Telfair, Stephon Marbury's cousin, signed a multimillion-dollar sneaker contract while still attending high school, and from there was drafted directly into the NBA. USA Today columnist Ian O'Connor followed Telfair throughout his senior year at Coney Island's Lincoln High, and his narrative fully corroborates the questionable recruiting processes and issues surrounding corporate sponsorship detailed in Frey's *The Last Shot*.

The Kings of New York: A year among the geeks, oddballs, and geniuses who make up America's top high school chess team

By Michael Weinreb

794.1 Weinreb

Chess is a very different sport than basketball, and this account follows the chess team of a Brooklyn high school as it competes for the national championship. Edward R. Murrow High School in New York City has a diverse student population that faces some of the same challenges as the students in *The Last Shot*, although due to strict admission requirements, the school's academic standards are far more demanding, and chess is almost the only organized "sport" within the school. Interesting and eccentric characters, the onset of adolescence and the spirit of competition in an atmosphere of adversity bring this narrative to life.

Michael Jordan and the New Global Capitalism

By Walter LaFeber

B Jordan, M.

This is not really a book about Michael Jordan; rather, journalist LaFeber investigates (with a critical eye) the effect of information-age

marketing on the global economy. Jordan's history as a media figure has coincided with the emergence of cable networks like CNN and ESPN and other technological advances, and this account is placed against a backdrop of America's social history and growing cultural imperialism.

The Miracle of St. Anthony: A season with Coach Bob Hurley and basketball's most improbable dynasty

By Adrian Wojnarowski

796.323 Wojnarowski

In his 31 years of coaching, Bob Hurley Sr. (father of a former Duke University point guard) led the St. Anthony High School basketball team to win 22 state championships and two national titles. Located in Jersey City, N.J., St. Anthony has a student body that faces many of the same challenges as Lincoln High students in *The Last Shot*: poverty, racism and few opportunities. Hurley was not initially impressed with the students making up his team in the 2003-2004 school year. However, through solid coaching and constant encouragement, he assisted his players in turning their year around and making it to the championships undefeated, with four players winning scholarships to Division I basketball programs.

Playing for Keeps: Michael Jordan and the world he made

By David Halberstam

B Jordan, M.

Biographies of Michael Jordan are not hard to find, but in this account, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Halberstam brings his insightful narrative skills to Jordan's extraordinary prowess on the basketball court and to his existence as a media phenomenon. This book acts not only as a history of one of the best basketball players of all time, but also of the NBA. With compelling prose, Halberstam examines this competitive, strong-willed athlete and his effect on basketball.

The Ticket Out: Darryl Strawberry and the boys of Crenshaw

By Michael Sokolove

B Strawberry, D.

Basketball is not the only sport that can act as a way out of a painful inner-city existence, and author Sokolove here examines the history of the 1979 Crenshaw High baseball team, including notable player Darryl Strawberry. As in *The Last Shot*, an astonishing array of talent is displayed in a particularly vicious urban area (this time in southern L.A.), and *The Ticket Out* demonstrates that for any young person to overcome such a situation is remarkable, and that failure to do so, if tragic, is not entirely unexpected.

To Hate Like This Is to Be Happy Forever: A thoroughly obsessive, intermittently uplifting, and occasionally unbiased account of the Duke-North Carolina basketball rivalry

By Will Blythe

796.323 Blythe

The title of this sports book/memoir should be no mystery to those native to this basketball-crazed area, and although the author is an unapologetic Tar Heel, the narrative encompasses enough general history (interviews with key players and coaches, recounting of pivotal games) that even Duke fans will find something to celebrate. Author Will Blythe celebrates the passion that is shared among family members and that makes for one of the most heated and colorful college sports rivalries in the country.

*Compiled by Victoria Caplinger, cataloger/editorial assistant
at NoveList (a division of EBSCO Publishing).*

"For many adolescents on Coney Island, basketball is their only escape from the urban hell of poverty, crime, and drugs. The Last Shot chronicles a group of teenagers playing for one of the best teams in New York, the Abraham Lincoln Secondary School Railsplitters. These young males continually cope with circumstances beyond their control in a society that has failed miserably to provide a safe environment and, more importantly, a good education."

— Library Journal

Sports, Race, Character, Parenting and Education

The Positive Influence of Sports on Character

Leading with the Heart: Coach K's successful strategies for basketball, business, and life

By Krzyzewski, Mike

796.323 Krzyzewski

Bk Tape 796.323 K.

Bk Disc 796.323 K

Mental Toughness: A champion's state of mind

By Karl Kuehl

796.01 Kuehl

Raising a Team Player: Teaching kids lasting values on the field, on the court, and on the bench

By Harry Sheehy

796.083 Sheehy

Sports can be a high-pressure activity for children, but they can also learn a variety of values that will help them throughout their lives. Sheehy's book is a guide for parents to help them teach their kids good sportsmanship.

The Smart Take from the Strong: The basketball philosophy of Pete Carril

By Pete Carril

B Carril, P.

Children's Sports

101 Ways to Be a Terrific Sports Parent: Making athletics a positive experience for your child

By Dr. Joel Fish

796.083 Fish

The Double-Goal Coach

By Jim Thompson

796.077 Thompson

Positive coaching has as its goal to "transform youth sports so sports can transform youth"—that is, to allow kids to have fun while learning lessons both about sports and life in general. The majority of this book is written for coaches, but there are sections aimed at parents, as well.

Go Girl!: Raising healthy, confident and successful girls through sports
By Hannah Storm **796.082 Storm**

This manual covers the benefits that sports give girls, basic activities for girls, how to evaluate coaches, and questions of health.

Raising Our Athletic Daughters: How sports can build self-esteem and save girls' lives
By Jean Zimmerman and Gil Reavill **796.082 Zimmerman**

Raising a Team Player
By Harry Sheehy **796.083 Sheehy**

Sports success Rx! Your child's prescription for the best experience: How to maximize potential and minimize pressure
By Paul R. Stricker **796.083 Stricker**

Whose Game Is It, Anyway? A guide to helping your child get the most from sports, organized by age and stage
By Richard D. Ginsburg **796.083 Ginsburg**

Why Johnny Hates Sports: Why organized youth sports are failing our children and what we can do about it
By Engh **796.083 Engh**

In this book, the president of the National Alliance for Youth Sports describes the problems and abuses associated with a winner-take-all attitude and provides some answers for parents on how to avoid them, as well as how to make sports more fun.

The NCAA and the NBA

How March Became Madness: How the NCAA tournament became the greatest sporting event in America
By Eddie Einhorn **796.323 Einhorn**

Inside Women's College Basketball: Anatomy of a season
By Richard Kent **796.323 Kent**

Last Dance: Behind the scenes at the Final Four
By John Feinstein **796.323 Feinstein**

The Men of March

By Brian Curtis

796.323 Curtis

A Season Inside: One year in college basketball

By John Feinstein

796.323 Feinstein

Values of the Game

By Bill Bradley

796.323 Bradley

Becoming a College Athlete

Athletic Scholarships for Dummies

By Patrick Britz

378.34 Britz

College Admissions for the High School Athlete

By Jack DiSalvo

378.161 DiSalvo

High School Athlete's Guide to College Sports

From College Bound Sports (organization)

378.161 High

Sports Scholarships and College Athletic Programs

Reference LIFT 378.34 Spor

Student Athlete Handbook for the 21st Century: A guide to recruiting, scholarships and prepping for college

By Christina Grimes

378.34 Grimes

Your Brain is a Muscle too: How student athletes succeed in college and in life

By Vince Fudzie and Andre N. Hayes

646.7 Fudzie

Two former college athletes who have been successful outside of the sporting world provide guidance on how to balance academics and athletics.

The Negative Influence of Sports on College Athletics

Beer and Circus: How big-time college sports is crippling undergraduate education

By Murray Sperber

796.043 Sperber

Sperber doesn't simply argue that there are problems within college athletics, but that the focus on athletics is harming undergraduate education as a whole, both by promoting the party scene that is associated with college sports and by giving less money to academics.

Sole Influence: Basketball, corporate greed, and the corruption of America's youth

By Dan Wetzel and Don Yaeger

796.323 Wetzel

Athletic shoe companies are looking for the next big athlete to promote their products, handing out money to student athletes and college athletic programs in exchange for restrictive contracts. Wetzel and Yaeger argue in this book that this produces a wide range of negative effects, from limiting which colleges a student may attend, to fine print in a contract that says that college employees may not criticize a particular company.

Unpaid Professionals: Commercialism and conflict in big-time college sports

By Andrew Zimbalist

796.043 Zimbalist

Are student-athletes really amateurs? Zimbalist presents evidence that college sports is, in many ways, a commercial enterprise, with student-athletes really acting as professional athletes. He goes on to explain how student-athletes are often cheated out of a real education and how this negatively affects the university system as a whole. The book concludes with suggestions for reform.

Sports and Black Athletes

\$40 Million Slaves: The rise, fall, and redemption of the black athlete

By William C. Rhoden

796.089 Rhoden

Black athletes can be wealthy, but are they really powerful? Rhoden's book compares the current team owner/athlete relationship (most team owners are white; their players are predominantly black) to that of plantation owners and their slaves.

Glory Bound: Black athletes in a white America

By David K. Wiggins

796.089 Wiggins

This book covers the ways in which the civil rights movement affected black athletes, and vice versa.

Hoop Dreams

By Paul Robert Walker

796.323 Walker

Out of the Shadows: A biographical history of African American athletes

By David K. Wiggins

796.092 Out

The Unlevel Playing Field: A documentary history of the African American experience in sport

By David K. Wiggins and Patrick B. Miller

796.089 Unle

The Strange Career of the Black Athlete

By Russell Thomas Wigginton

796.089 Wigginton

The Education Gap

Achievement Matters: Getting your child the best education possible

By Hugh B. Price

371.829 Price

Written by the former president of the National Urban League, this guide for parents covers many aspects of a child's education, from activities that can be incorporated into a family's home life to dealing with the school system.

The African American Student's Guide to Excellence in College

By Brian Peterson

379.198 Peterson

Beating the Odds: Raising academically successful African American males

By Freeman A. Hrabowski

649.157 Hrabowski

Black Students, Middle Class Teachers

By Jawanza Kunjufu

370.899 Kunjufu

Launching our Black Children for Success

By Joyce A. Ladner

649.157 Ladner

Learning While Black

By Janice E. Hale

371.829 Hale

No Excuses: Closing the racial gap in learning

By Abigail Thernstrom

371.829 Thernstrom

The poor performance of minority students is a major civil rights issue. What are its causes? What can be done?

***Overcoming the Odds: Raising academically successful
African American young women***

By Freeman A. Hrabowski

649.157 Over

Compiled by Naomi Parkhurst, Reference Librarian, Durham County Library.

Youth, Courage and Life Beyond Sports

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens

By Sean Covey

YA 158.003 Covey

Here's a step-by-step guide to improving self-image, achieving goals and dealing with tough issues. (The author is the son of self-help guru Stephen R. Covey.)

Beyond Basketball: Coach K's Keywords for Success

By Mike Krzyzewski

658.409 Krzyzewski

Career Opportunities in the Sports Industry

By Shelly Field

796.023 Field

Learn how to break in to sports management, training, medicine and other related careers.

Cool Careers Without College for People Who Love Movement

By Nicole Flender

331.702 Flender

Athletics isn't the only career option for people who are in great shape!

The Freedom Writers Diary: How a teacher and 150 teens used writing to change themselves and the world around them

By The Freedom Writers, with Erin Gruwell

305.235 Free

Read this book to find out the true story behind the new hit movie!

The Fundamentals: 8 plays for winning the games of business and life

By Isiah Thomas

158 Thomas

Basketball Hall-of-Famer Isiah Thomas shares his strategies for winning on and off the court.

Letters to a Young Brother: MANifest Your Destiny

By Hill Harper

170.842 Harper

Actor and Harvard Law School honor graduate Hill Harper advises young men on the principles of success.

Life Strategies for Teens

By Jay McGraw

158.083 McGraw

Jay McGraw, son of Dr. Phil McGraw, adapts his dad's 10 life laws for a younger audience

Streetball: All the ballers, moves, slams and shine

By Chris Palmer

YA 796.323 Palmer

Learn some "sick" moves from streetball superstars like Hot Sauce, High Octane and Shane the Dribbling Machine.

Tyrell

By Coe Booth

YAF Booth

With his dad in jail and his mom out partying every night, Tyrell has to be the man of the family. Can he raise enough money at his rent party to get his baby brother out of the shelter for good? This is a brand-new novel about life in New York City.

Your Brain Is a Muscle Too: How student athletes succeed in college and in life

By Vince Fudzie and Andre N. Hayes

646.7 Fudzie

Not everyone makes it to the pros. Learn how to balance athletics and academics from former college players who have been successful outside of the sporting world.

Compiled by Autumn Winters, Young Adult Librarian, Durham County Library.

"A classic. I wish I'd written it."

— David Halberstam

Media Resource Guide for *The Last Shot*

Many of the articles in the media resource guide are available through **www.nclive.org**. To access this site, you should have a Durham County Library card. Call or visit the reference desk at your library for the current password and for assistance finding a certain article.

Articles from Duke University's The Chronicle are available at **www.dukechronicle.com**.

Articles from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Daily Tar Heel are available at **www.dailytarheel.com**.

National Public Radio stories are available on **www.npr.org**; sometimes they have both transcripts and the audio, but usually only the audio is available.

WUNC resources are available at **www.wunc.org**.

Articles on Race

Ballen, Dwayne. **"What if Corporate America Adopted NFL's 'Rooney Rule'?"** *Marketplace*. American Public Media. Feb. 1, 2007. (<http://marketplace.publicradio.org/shows/2007/02/01/PM200702016.html>).

"Cullen Jones and Diversity in Competitive Swimming." *News & Notes*. NPR. Sept. 25, 2006. (<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6138754>).

Davis, David. **"More Gray Than Black and White; Thirty-six years after USC played an unintegrated Alabama football team, authors are still trying to gauge what kind of effect the game had on race relations in the South."** *Los Angeles Times*. Oct. 19, 2006. Page D1.

"More Challenges for Young African-American Men." *News & Notes*. NPR. March 22, 2006. (<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5294407>).

Reed, Travis. **"Races on Top Teams show Graduation Gap: Study indicates players in major bowls surpass national average in class."** *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. Dec. 5, 2006. Page D2.

Steinberg, Dan. **"MEAC's Minority Rule; In Historically Black Conference, Non-Blacks Fill Baseball Rosters."** *The Washington Post*. May 18, 2006. Page E1.

Walton, Anthony. **"Tackling Life."** *The News & Observer*. Nov. 19, 2006. Page G4. [Book Review].

Articles on Athletes and Gender

Daly, Jack. **"Panel: Ban on Use of Male Practice Players; NCAA committee says gender equality, Title IX violated."** *The Herald-Sun*. Dec. 16, 2006. Page A1.

DelVecchio, Rick. **"UC Berkeley Lacks Parity in Varsity Sports."** *San Francisco Chronicle*. Dec. 30, 2006. Page B1.

Robinson, Edward G. **"Girls Golf Enjoying Boom."** *The News & Observer*. Nov. 22, 2006. Page C8.

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Compiled by Jennifer Lohmann, LIFT Librarian, Durham County Library.

Scrambling from the start of freshman year to keep pace with their classmates, the players will then be called upon to spend an average of twenty hours a week in practice, another fifteen traveling to games. Fewer than half of them will graduate in even five years.
(The Last Shot, pg. 50)

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The title selection for Durham Reads Together was a democratic process that included representatives from Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Carolina Circuit Writers, Duke University, Durham Public Schools, Durham Technical Community College, North Carolina Central University, The Regulator Bookshop, Durham County Library and the community at large. The committee met between August and November 2006 to review almost 200 suggestions submitted from throughout the community and generated from committee members.

Most committee members read between six and 10 books to determine which titles best fit the criteria for Durham Reads Together: a well-written book with a wide interest level—teens, adults and seniors, male and female; suitable for book discussions; tie-ins for relevant community programs; current topics that are pertinent to Durham; and an author who is available and willing to visit Durham as part of the project. After 12 weeks of deliberation, the committee chose Frey's book, which it felt had strong storytelling, emotional impact and wide appeal. In addition to *The Last Shot*, the "Final Four" candidates included *Enrique's Journey*, by Sonia Nazario, *The Things They Carried*, by Tim O'Brien, and *The Glass Castle*, by Jeannette Walls.

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