

Riverside Branch Library Sports Book Club
Reading List 2007-2008

- Sept. 15, 2007 BYOB - book, that is!
Bring your favorite sports book to discuss!
- Oct. 13, 2007 Moving the Chains: Tom Brady and the Pursuit of Everything-
Charles Pierce
"Pierce offers a genial look at the unlikely rise of New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady from embattled Michigan player through draft afterthought to multiple Super Bowl MVP." *Publisher's Weekly*
- Nov. 10, 2007 Forty Million Dollar Slaves: The Rise, Fall, and Redemption of
the Black Athlete - William C. Rhoden
"New York Times columnist Rhoden offers a charged assessment of the state of black athletes in America, using the pervasive metaphor of the plantation to describe a modern sports industry defined by white ownership and black labor." *Publisher's Weekly*
- Dec. 8, 2007 Johnny U: The Life and Times of John Unitas - Tom Callahan
"In a book that is "as much about a certain time as a single player," journalist Callahan (In Search of Tiger) offers not only a biography of one of professional football's early legends but also a look at the nature of the sport in his day." *Publisher's Weekly*
- Jan. 5, 2008 The All Americans - Lars Anderson
"War and football are often used as metaphors for each other, and there is a rich legacy of connections between the gridiron and the battlefield in American history. Taking this legacy as his starting point, *Sports Illustrated* journalist Anderson uses the 1941 Army vs. Navy game as the anchor for a number of stories: of four American servicemen, of Annapolis and West Point, of the early history of college football and of America's armed forces during the 1930s and '40s." *Publisher's Weekly*
- Feb. 2, 2008 The Boys of Winter: the Untold Story of a Coach, a Dream, and
the 1980 U. S. Olympic Hockey Team - Wayne Coffey and Jim
Craig
"In this well-written and thoroughly researched story of the 1980 Olympic gold-medal winning hockey team, New York *Daily News* sportswriter Coffey does much more than simply evoke memories." *Publisher's Weekly*

- Mar. 1, 2008 Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster - Jon Krakauer
 "In March 1996, *Outside* magazine sent veteran journalist and seasoned climber Jon Krakauer on an expedition led by celebrated Everest guide Rob Hall. Despite the expertise of Hall and the other leaders, by the end of summit day eight people were dead. Krakauer's book is at once the story of the ill-fated adventure and an analysis of the factors leading up to its tragic end." *Publisher's Weekly*
- Apr. 12, 2008 The Rivals: Chris Evert vs. Martina Navratilova Their Epic Duels and Extraordinary Friendship - Johnette Howard
 "*Newsday* sports columnist Howard ably shows that the Evert/Navratilova rivalry was epic because both were the dominant players of the time, a title was usually at stake, together they elevated the game of tennis, and, perhaps most important, their sportsmanship toward one another fully transcended their on-court battles." *Booklist*
- May 2008 To be decided...
 We'll have a special program in May or possibly take our discussion to an evening or Saturday Paw Sox game.
- June 7, 2008 Clemente: The Passion and Grace of Baseball's Last Hero - David Maraniss
 "If ever a baseball player were deemed worthy of canonization, right fielder Roberto Clemente might be the one. Maraniss deftly balances baseball and loftier concerns like racism; he presents a nuanced picture of a ballplayer more complicated than the encomiums would suggest, while still wholly deserving them." *Publisher's Weekly*

The Sports Book Club meets in the Riverside Branch Library program room at 12:30PM. Mike Bender, a lifelong sports fan, leads the discussions which last approximately 1½ hours. Books are available at the library. Contact Adult Services Librarian Joyce May at the Weaver Library, 41 Grove Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914, 434-2453 or jmay@eplib.org for more information.