



Edge of Glory: the Inside Story of the Quest for Figure Skating's Olympic Gold Medals
By Christine Brennan

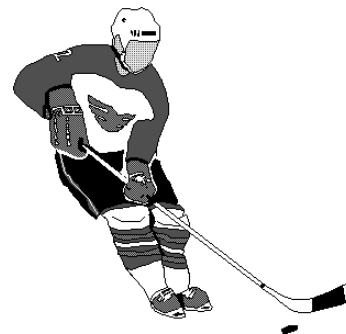
In *Edge of Glory* Christine Brennan tells the stories of the world's best figure skaters as they travel through the most intense year of their young lives. Brennan goes backstage at major competitions and behind the scenes at the practice rinks to chronicle the figure skaters' quest for victory at the 1998 Winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. The year opens with the 1997 U.S. national championships in Nashville, and in the 368 days from Nashville to Nagano, Michelle Kwan, Tara Lipinski and other women will vie for the gold. The men's competition has turned into an unprecedented jumping contest, led by Canada's controversial Elvis Stojko. Todd Eldredge of the United States and Russia's Alexei Urmanov and Ilia Kulik are chasing Stojko, as are some youngsters, including America's top jumper, Michael Weiss. On the way to the Olympics, Brennan catches up with the famous and infamous, including Tonya Harding, Nancy Kerrigan, Oksana Baiul, Brian Boitano, Scott Hamilton, Rudy Galindo, and the exquisite Russian pairs. She introduces us to the people behind the scenes: the edgy agents who are never far from their cellular phones; the attentive coaches and choreographers who have devised the intricate moves that will determine who wins the gold and who does not; and the stern judges, who control the sport from their rinkside seats.

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The Boys of Winter: the Untold Story of a Coach, a Dream, and the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team
By Wayne Coffey

A masterfully told narrative of the team's gold medal victory at Lake Placid, NY. The author's skilled depiction of personalities, breathtaking rendering of action on the ice, talent for capturing colorful regional hotbeds of hockey, and seamless segues between past and present are handled without loss of forward momentum in the story line. The saga of how coach Herb Brooks motivated a roster of 20 amateur, mostly college-age young men to orchestrate victory over an established Soviet team of seasoned, professionally trained skaters offers suspense, heroism, and a dizzying sense of the "full competitive combustion" that is a hallmark of this sport. A portrait of Brooks emerges as an irascible, obstinate, aloof, but savvy coaching genius who elicited singular creativity, grit, and a passionate teamwork ethic from his players. The 1980 setting for the XIII Winter Olympics, well before the age of blockbuster budgets and corporate sponsorship, is described in retrospect as having an "endearing, small-scale quality," where the potential for miraculous athletic performance resided in "a team full of dreamers" rather than a Dream Team. Vignettes of the Americans' hometown roots, as well as selective quotes and insights from members of the Soviet team's skating dynasty, nicely round out the coverage.

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Sick: a Cultural History of Snowboarding
By Susanna Howe

Susanna Howe traces the development of snowboarding from its roots beginning with those snow-revolutionaries that got the sport off the ground, right through the very best in the world today. It is the skill and expertise of those around the world who are the finest in the sport that got snowboarding its proper recognition and respect necessary for its inclusion as a full medal sport in Nagano. Ms. Howe also examines the fashion trends the sport has created, along with the various styles of snowboarding necessary, depending on the geographical location you're in throughout the U.S. This is the ideal, most complete examination of this sport for those already participating, those getting ready to take the plunge, and for those who are curious now and will be hooked once they see snowboarding at the Winter Olympics Games.

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The Complete Book of the Winter Olympics (1994 ed.)
By David Wallechinsky

Includes the final results of every Winter Olympic event since 1896, accounts of the Olympics' most memorable contests, profiles of famous sports figures, and complete coverage of the 1992 games and the upcoming 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway.

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Two Planks and a Passion: the Dramatic History of Skiing

By Roland Huntford

Roland Huntford's brilliant history of skiing begins 20,000 years ago in the last ice age on the frozen tundra. On these icy slopes skiing began as a means of survival. That it has developed into the leisure and sporting pursuit of choice for so many, in so many countries, bears testament to its elemental appeal. Its use in both polar exploration and wartime has changed the course of history. The origins of skiing are bound up with the emergence of modern man and the making of the world we live in.

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Curling: an Illustrated History

By David B. Smith

For centuries in Lowland Scotland the game of curling was played on loch, river or artificial pond, whenever there was ice. Games were arranged on a parochial basis and the curlers of one parish vied with those of the surrounding parishes. The aim of this book is to provide a full record of the long and interesting history of 'Scotland's ain game' and by the use of a comprehensive selection of illustrations to recreate the atmosphere of an era that has gone and help curlers to appreciate their great sport the more.

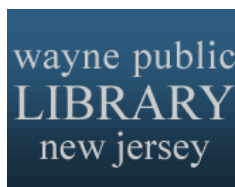
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Journey: the Autobiography of Apolo Anton Ohno

By Apolo Anton Ohno & Nancy Richardson

Apolo Anton Ohno won both a gold and a silver medal at the 2002 Olympic Games and became an instant hero. But his Olympic victory represents just one moment of his incredible, and continuing journey. And even as he succeeded on the ice, he felt the loneliness that comes with being at the top. Amid the pain, the fear, the uncertainty, Apolo asked himself again and again, *Why am I doing this?* And the answer came to him: He truly loved to skate. So with laser-sharp focus he pursued his number-one goal: to become a great athlete. From his personal struggles to his unwavering commitment and ambition, Apolo Anton Ohno is a true example of courage. He has battled his personal demons, toppled physical barriers, and clawed his way to the top—but even now he does not rest. Always, he looks within himself to hear his strongest critic, to face his fiercest competitor. And always, he continues to strive to be the best—not just for his team, not just for his country—but also for himself. And that is what makes Apolo Anton Ohno a true champion. This is his story.

Available at Wayne in Biography



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Winter Olympics 2010



I think my favorite sport in the Olympics is the one in which you make your way through the snow, you stop, you shoot a gun, and then you continue on. In most of the world, it is known as the biathlon, except in New York City, where it is known as winter.

~ Michael Ventre, L.A. Daily News

Snowboarding is an activity that is very popular with people who do not feel that regular skiing is lethal enough.... I now realize that the small hills you see on ski slopes are formed around the bodies of forty-seven-year-olds who tried to learn snowboarding.

~ Dave Barry