

BookFilter: A Billy Martin Bio, James Patterson at Augusta and More Sports Books

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BOOKFILTER NEW RELEASES IN SPORTS -- THE WEEK OF APRIL 6

Here's a look at some of the best books about sports just out this week. To find more great picks in every category (like [Days Of Rage](#), an acclaimed and gripping look at the FBI's years-long battle with the radical underground movements of the 1970s or the [first cookbook from Austin's legendary Franklin Barbecue](#)), along with ALL the releases in every genre, [head to BookFilter](#). You'll find dozens of favorites out this week, you can go back week by week if you want to discover more books ready to read and you can go forward week by week if you want to take a peek at what's coming out in the days and months to come.

BILLY MARTIN: BASEBALL'S FLAWED GENIUS

By Bill Pennington

\$30; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Hired and fired and hired and fired and hired again, Billy Martin is one of the fabled Yankee greats. A drinker, a scrappy player, a fighter and undeniably at the center of the Bronx Zoo, Martin made great copy for sports writers throughout his career. But above all he was a passionate winner. Pennington is a New York Times reporter who covered the Yankees during the dark days of the mid-80s through 1990 and he delivers the sprawling, epic tale Martin's career deserves in an biography that Publishers Weekly calls "a must-read for fans of the great American pastime."

MIRACLE AT AUGUSTA

By James Patterson & Peter de Jonge

\$28.00; Little Brown and Company

Anyone looking to lose themselves in a book can depend on the latest offering from the shockingly prolific James Patterson. Working with Peter de Jonge, he returns to the links to deliver a golfing fable about a late in life champion on the Senior Tour who finds true redemption by mentoring a teen with a natural swing that's a thing of beauty. If you're shanking balls into the water hazard, this one's for you.

MEB FOR MORTALS

By Meb Keflezighi with Scott Douglas

\$19.99; Rodale

I don't care what I eat, I'm never going to walk a marathon, much less run one. But if you're a running fanatic and want tips from one of the long-distance greats, this is the book for you. It tells about Meb's training for big races and then helpfully breaks it down for mere mortals, with tips on how everyday runners can model themselves on Meb.

BLOOD SPORT: AROD AND THE QUEST TO END BASEBALL'S STEROID ERA

By Tim Elfrink and Gus Garcia-Roberts

\$17 paperback; Plume

Well, Yankee fans cheered Arod on Opening Day. Forgive and forget? Or a cynical realization that they need Arod to perform at least decently if the Yankees are to have any (slim) hope of slipping into the post-season? Whatever the case, they might all enjoy the painful facts in *Blood Sport*, a widely praised look at the steroid era by reporters/editors from the Miami News Times and Newsday, respectively. It's clear-eyed, sobering and a riveting read for anyone who thinks steroids is no big problem or some of the players got a raw deal from the media and baseball's front office. Oh and it's funny in an awful sort of way, with critics comparing it to a telenovela and the comic novels of Carl Hiaasen.

For more great picks in [books about sports](#), [head here](#). For more picks in every category, as well as every release in every genre (like autobiography and history and mystery), [head to BookFilter](#).