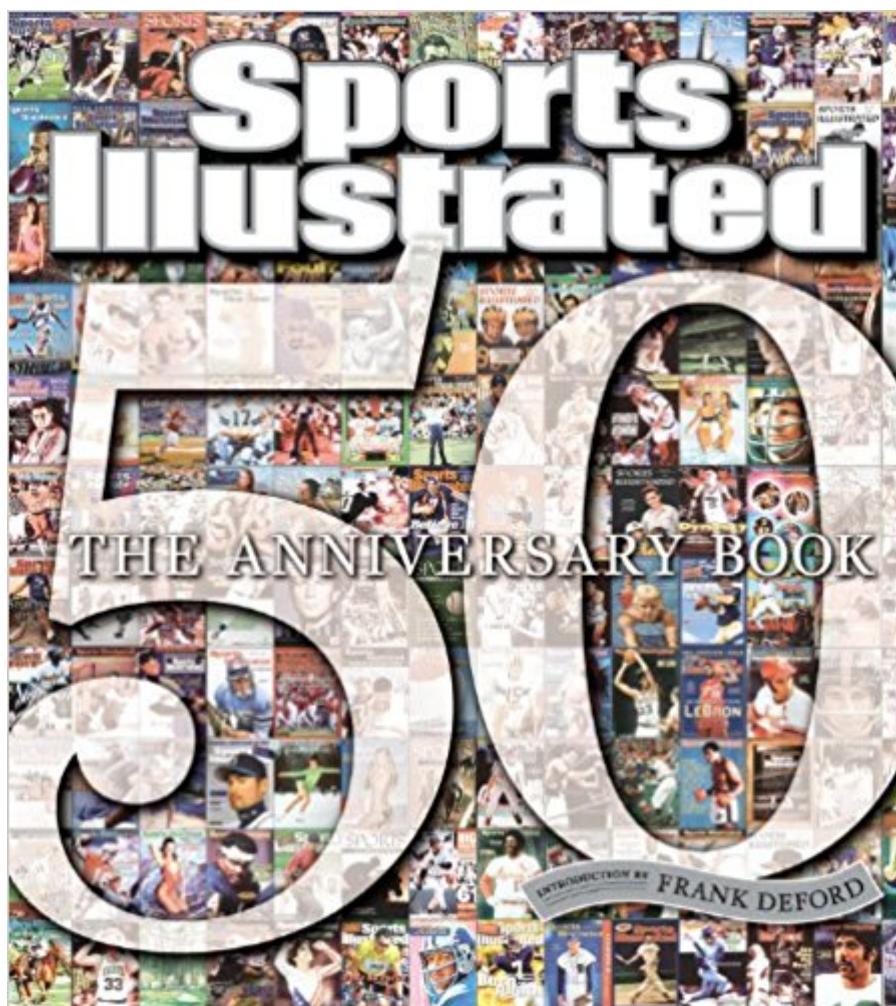


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# Sports Illustrated 50 Years: The Anniversary Book



## Synopsis

For 50 years, "Sports Illustrated has set the standard for sports writing and action photography. Now, for the culmination of the magazine's 50th Anniversary celebration, some of the finest writing and most memorable pictures (over 200) from "Sports Illustrated's archives have been collected in a lavish coffee-table book that will be treasured by the magazine's devoted readers for years to come.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: Sports Illustrated; 50 Anv edition (October 26, 2004)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 11 x 1 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #556,875 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Journalism #114 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Sports #400 in Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Sports

## Customer Reviews

This colorful book celebrating fifty years of America's most prominent sports magazine is certainly more practical than hoarding 2,500 issues. The six-part book plays to the strength of the magazine: "The Stories" and "The Photographs" sections are the largest. The 35 articles are truncated, often just whetting your appetite for more. The companion book *Fifty Years of Great Writing* offers many of these in their full glory. On the other hand, the pictures are often bigger than they were in the magazine (or could ever have been with the smaller size). Lose minutes staring at Michael Jordan or Walter Payton frozen in midair. Examine the juxtaposition of a close play at the plate with the bizarre styles of a 60s women's track team. Try not to be swept away at a shot of Bill Russell and Wilt Chamberlain defining basketball. If you have picked up the special issues released during SI's anniversary year, you already seen a decent portion of this book. The notable new writing is Richard Hoffer's essay about the world (both sports and at large) when the magazine began in 1954 and senior editor Frank Deford's pitch-perfect introduction about why the magazine is special and how it grew up in the age of television. The section most folks will spend their coffee table moments is "The Covers," a listing of the entire magazine's cover images, both in chronological order and

grouped in similar topics (Scandals, Presidents, Deja Vu). Punctuated by the best sport quotes, SI's "Signs of the Apocalypse," fascinating lists of athletes and teams that were on the cover the most times, and other sport tidbits through the ages, this area is sure to launch a thousand sport memories. Yes, all the swimsuit covers are in one place, too. One quibble: why is their "Sports Person of the Year" in the book not the same as their well-known "Sportsman of the Year?" --Doug Thomas

When Sports Illustrated first arrived in August 1954, its focus was fringe pursuits like yachting, bowling and dogs—yet it struck a nerve. America was in a postwar economic boom and at the dawn of the TV age. "Sports was suddenly so much more visible, so much more important," says veteran sportswriter Frank Deford in his introduction. This book shows how SI has continued to foster sports' visibility, offering an engaging celebration of the last 50 years of American sports (and of SI's own history), flush with fabulous photos: a toothless Jack Lambert; Muhammad Ali's wrinkled masseur, Luis Sarria; the Pittsburgh Pirates' Dave Parker enjoying a smoke after winning the 1979 World Series. What puts this book a notch above the average coffee-table book are the thoughtful sportswriting excerpts pulled from the magazine's archives. In one piece, up-and-comer Howard Cosell chastises the wimps and pretty boys who populate his profession. Another profiles former Chicago White Sox president and huckster Bill Veeck, who once sent a midget up to the plate to pinch-hit as a publicity stunt. Further chapters feature SI paintings—many of them caricatures, like the one of disenchanted fans pelting a bug-eyed Bud Selig with baseballs—and thumbnails of all 2,585 SI covers. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Bought this as a gift for my brother. It has some great pictures and I'd recommend it for any Sports fan.

I bought this for my boyfriend for Christmas and he was so excited to get it! This is a great coffee table book and full of all kinds of facts and information. Great for any sports fan

I was expecting some great photography and this book does have that. It also contains some writing about the athletes covered. Not really sure if they are DK or SI but they seem fine. There's also SI covers and timelines.

As described.

My collection of sports illustrated books are my pride and joy having a love for sports photography, this book is another fantastic collection of sporting greats.

Men love this book!

Great product and delivered as promised.

If you love the history of sports, then this SI book is for you. I love the way that they show how SI has covered sports over 50 years.

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