

Delve Deeper into "Speedo"

A film by Jesse Moss

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Penny Talbert of the Ephrata Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "Speedo" that premieres on August 24th, 2004 at 10 p.m. on PBS (check local listings)

This award-winning documentary looks at the promising racing career and troubled family life of Ed "Speedo" Jager, one of the nation's top demolition-derby drivers. Trapped in a failing marriage, Speedo channels life's frustrations onto the track, hoping to parlay his talents into a "real" racing career. "Speedo" captures the collisions and confrontations during one tumultuous year as he struggles to achieve his dreams on the track and succeed as a husband, a father and a man. When he falls for Liz, a racetrack official from New Jersey, his life takes a surprising turn.

ADULT NONFICTION

Assael, Shaun. *Wide Open.* New York: Ballantine Books, 1999.

Assael chronicles a year in the life, trials and tribulations of three drivers in the Winston Cup caravan.

Beckett Publications, Fathers & Sons: Stories of How Sport Builds Lifelong Bonds. Dallas, TX: Beckett Publications, 1999. Photographs and essays of famous athletes and their sons.

Bok, Sissela. *Mayhem: Violence as Public Entertainment.* Cambridge, MA: Perseus Books Group, 1995.

This book presents a well-researched look at violence in our media rich society using both historical records and present-day examples.

Brottman, Mikita. *Car Crash Culture.* New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2002.

A series of essays documenting car crashes, including celebrity car crash conspiracy theories and autobiographical descriptions from a myriad of drivers.

Burstyn, Varda. *The Rites of Men: Manhood, Politics and the Culture of Sport.* Buffalo, NY: University of Toronto Press, 1999.

Burstyn, a leftist and feminist, argues that men are drawn into the culture of violence that can only be changed if society is changed.

Cashmore, Ellis. *Making Sense of Sports.* New York: Routledge, 2000.

This book argues that the woes of sports are a reflection of society as a whole.

Cotter, Tom and Al Pearce. *Holman Moody: The Legendary Race Team.* St. Paul, MN: Motorbooks International, 2002.

Authors Cotter and Pearce detail the formation and evolution of the Holman Moody racing team.

Golenbock, Peter. *American Zoom: Stock Car Racing-From the Dirt Tracks to Daytona.* John Wiley & Sons, Inc, 1993.

American Zoom provides a great introduction for those unfamiliar with one of the fastest growing spectator sports in America.

Hilton, Christopher. *Inside the Mind of the Grand Prix Driver: The Psychology of the Fastest Men on Earth: Sex, Danger and Everything Else.* New York: Haynes Publications, 2001.

Hilton provides a revealing look into the racing world through interviews with drivers. Drivers of all popularity levels discuss what got them into racing and what keeps them there.

Horowitz, Roger. *Boys and Their Toys: Masculinity, Class and Technology in America.* Routledge, 2001.

Horowitz presents an interesting look at societal causes of gender formation.

Jacobs, David H. *How to Design and Build Your Auto Workshop (Power Tech).* Osceolo, WI: Motorbooks International, 1998.

This book provides a do-it-yourself instruction manual on building your own, or converting your existing garage into a dream workshop.

Menzer, Joe. *The Wildest Ride: Or How a Bunch of Good Ol' Boys Built a Billion Dollar Industry Out of Wrecking Cars.* New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002.

The Wildest Ride is a well-researched history of NASCAR in America.

Messner, Michael A. *Power at Play: Sports and the Problem of Masculinity.* Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 1995.

USC sociology professor Messner examines the role of sports in male society.

Pulin, Fred. *How to Make Your Car Handle.* New York: HP Books, 1976.

Sakkis, Tony. *A Fan's Guide to Circle Track Racing: Facts, Tracks and Stats on Nascar, Busch, Craftsman True, Arca, Asa, World of Outlaws and Other Regional Racing Series.* New York: HP Books, 2001.

This guide contains a multitude of information involving all things racing.

Schumacher, Michael, et. al. *Michael Shumacher: Driving Force.* New York: Ebury Press, 2003.

An intimate look at racer Michael Shumacher in his own words, along with great photography.

Yates, Brock. *Against Death and Time: One Fatal Season in Racing's Glory Years.* New York: Thunder's Mouth Press, 2004.

Yates brings us the real account of the fatal racing season of 1955.

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Agee, Jonis. *Acts of Love on the Indigo Road: New and Selected Stories.* Minneapolis, MN: Coffee House Press, 2003.

Twenty-five short stories which capture small town life.

Ballard, J.G. *Crash.* New York: Picador USA, 2001.

Ballard presents colorful characters whose obsession with car crashes sends him in a downward spiral.

Bolton, Clyde. *Turn Left on Green: A Novel of Stock Car Racing.* New York: River City Pub., 2003.

A novel about racing, NASCAR, drivers and their support structure.

Brown, Kurt, ed. *Drive: They Said: Poems about Americans and Their Cars.* Minneapolis, MN: Milkweed Editions, 1994.

A variety of poets share verse about America's obsession with the automobile.

Jennings, Jean Lindamood. *Road Trips, Head Trips, and Other Car-Crazed Writings.* New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 1998.

An anthology of writings from the road. Over 30 stories from well known writers.

Messer, Wendel. *The Sink: The Last Days of Driving.* New York: Brellor Books, 2002.

Set in 2010, this first person narrative by a driving instructor examines bad drivers and the social space of the road.

McLaughlin, Matthew P. *Eights and Aces: A Stock Car Racing Novel.* New York: Authorhouse, 2000.

McLaughlin tells a wonderful coming-of-age story woven with the excitement of the track.

Morrisey, Tom. *Turn Four: A Novel of the Superspeedways.* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing Company, 2004.

This is a story of Chance Reynolds, a driver who, after suffering an eye injury, becomes a chaplain to other drivers.

O'Neill, Hugh. *A Man Called Daddy.* Nashville, TN: Rutledge Hill Press, 1996.

O'Neill discusses the ups and downs of fatherhood in this collection of 40 short stories.

Rutherford, James Douglas. *Collision Course.* New York: Macmillan, 1978.

Wright, Kent and Don Keith. *Rolling Thunder Stock Car Racing: Race to Glory.* New York: Tor Books, 1999.

Much like *Speedo*, this novel takes a look at the personal as well as professional ups and down of living the life of a race car driver.

Wright, Kent and Don Keith. *Rolling Thunder Stock Car Racing: First to Flag.* New York: Tor Books, 2000.

The sixth book in the Rolling Thunder series, this installment looks in on the life of fictional driver "Rocket Rob" Wilder.

NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Benson, Michael. *Crashes and Collisions (Race Car Legends).* New York: Chelsea House Publications, 1997.

Benson offers readers an historical account of race car accidents, along with the ever-changing racing rules and safety equipment information.

Huff, Richard M. *Demolition Derby (Race Car Legends).* New York: Chelsea House Publications, 1999.

Margolis, Jeffrey A. *Violence in Sports: Victory at What Price (Issues in Focus).* Berkeley Heights, NJ, 1999.

This book looks into our attitudes towards violence in sports and possible solutions to reducing levels of violence.

Savage, Jeff. *Demolition Derby (Action Events).* Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Silver Burdett Press, 1998.

Demolition derbies and monster trucks are brought to life through photographs and interesting facts about how drivers keep their cars running.

Savage, Jeff. *Demolition Derby Cars (Wild Rides).* Mankato, MN: Capstone High-Interest Books, 2003.

Savage tells of the history, rules and other fascinating facts about demolition derbies.

FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Brouwer, Sigmund. *Sports Mystery Series: Scarlet Thunder.* Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1999.

Brouwer tells the story of a seventeen year old who is assisting his uncle in filming a racing documentary – only to begin to suspect sabotage on the set.

Crutcher, Chris. *Ironman.* New York: Laure Leaf, 1996.

This young adult book tells the story of a tri-athlete learning to control his anger.

Dean, Anabel. *Destruction Derby.* Lawrence, KS: Coronado, 1972.

Dixon, Frank W. *The Demolition Mission (Hardy Boys, 112).* New York: Pocket Books, 1992.

In usual Hardy Boys style, the boys need to solve a mystery about a race car.

Rex, Michael. *My Race Car.* New York: School & Library Binding, 2000.

Rex, the Painting Gorilla, puts children behind the wheel with both facts and imagination.

Seymour, Tres and S.D. Schindler. *The Smash-Up Crash-Up Derby.* New York: Orchard Books, 1995.

The story of a boy's first exposure to the demolition derby at a county fair.