

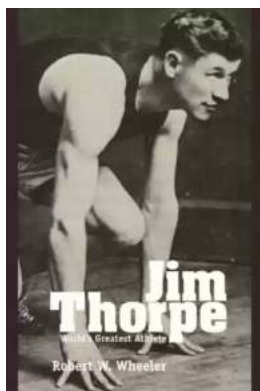
Jim Thorpe - The World's Greatest Athlete



Jim Thorpe, born on May 28, 1888, was an exceptional American athlete. He is widely regarded as the world's greatest athlete of the 20th century. Thorpe was a remarkable individual with exceptional talents in multiple sports. His achievements in track and field, football, and baseball set him apart from his peers and made him a sporting legend.

Early Life and to Sports

Jim Thorpe was born in Prague, Oklahoma, to Hiram Thorpe and Charlotte Vieux, who were of mixed Native American and European ancestry. His dual heritage from the Sac and Fox Native American tribe, as well as Irish and French roots, shaped his upbringing and influenced his athletic prowess.



Jim Thorpe: World's Greatest Athlete

by Robert W. Wheeler (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 12011 KB
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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Grade level	: 7 - 9
Item Weight	: 10.2 ounces
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His first encounter with sports came during his time at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Pennsylvania. Under the guidance of coach Glenn Scobey "Pop" Warner, Jim Thorpe soon became the shining star of the school's athletic teams. He excelled in track and field, football, and even showed promise in baseball.

Olympic Success

Jim Thorpe's crowning moment came at the 1912 Olympic Games held in Stockholm, Sweden. Representing the United States, he participated in both the pentathlon and decathlon events.

In the pentathlon, Thorpe showcased his skills in running, jumping, throwing, and hurdling, earning him a gold medal. He dominated the competition with his incredible speed, endurance, and agility, earning him the nickname "The American Hercules."

But Thorpe's remarkable achievements did not end there. In the decathlon, he continued to shine, winning another gold medal and setting a new world record by accumulating a total of 8,412 points.

Professional Sports Career

After his success at the Olympics, Jim Thorpe pursued his passion for football and joined the Canton Bulldogs, a team in the newly formed American Professional Football Association (APFA).

Thorpe's exceptional athleticism and versatility made him a force to be reckoned with on the football field. He was known for his speed, strength, and strategic thinking. Thorpe led the Canton Bulldogs to multiple championships and became one of the game's first superstars.

Aside from football, Thorpe also dabbled in professional baseball. He played for several teams, including the New York Giants and the Boston Braves. While his baseball career was not as illustrious as his feats in other sports, he still proved his capabilities as a multi-talented athlete.

Legacy and Impact

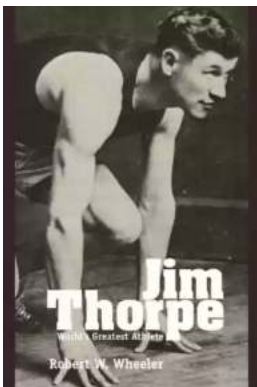
Jim Thorpe's athletic abilities were unrivaled during his time. His immense success in various sports solidified his title as the world's greatest athlete. His achievements on and off the field influenced countless athletes and redefined what it meant to excel in sports.

However, Thorpe's legacy goes beyond his athletic prowess. He faced numerous challenges due to racial prejudices and struggled with financial difficulties later in his life. Despite these hardships, Thorpe persevered and inspired many with his determination and resilience.

Recognizing his significant contributions to sports, the Associated Press named Jim Thorpe the "Athlete of the Century" in 1950. His remarkable story continues to inspire athletes around the world.

Jim Thorpe's exceptional talent, athleticism, and versatility make him the epitome of a true sporting legend. From his early achievements at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School to his historic Olympic success and professional sports career, Thorpe's impact on the world of athletics cannot be overstated.

His legacy continues to inspire future generations of athletes, reminding them that with dedication, perseverance, and determination, anyone can achieve greatness. Jim Thorpe will always be remembered as the world's greatest athlete, a true icon in the realm of sports.



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Born in 1888 in Oklahoma Territory, Jim Thorpe was a Sac and Fox Indian. After attending the Sac and Fox agency school and Haskell Indian Junior College in Lawrence, Kansas, he transferred to Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania. At Carlisle he led the football team to victories over some of the nation's best college teams-Army, Navy, Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Pennsylvania, and Nebraska. In 1912 he participated in the Olympic Games in Stockholm, winning both the decathlon and pentathlon. It was then that King Gustav V of Sweden dubbed him "the world's greatest athlete."

Between 1913 and 1919, Thorpe played professional baseball for the New York Giants, the Cincinnati Reds, and the Boston Braves. In 1915 he began playing professional football with the Canton (Ohio) Bulldogs. When the top teams were organized into the American Professional Football Association in 1920, Thorpe was named the first president of the league, which was renamed the National Football League in 1922. Throughout his career he excelled in every sport he played, earning King Gustav's accolade many times over.



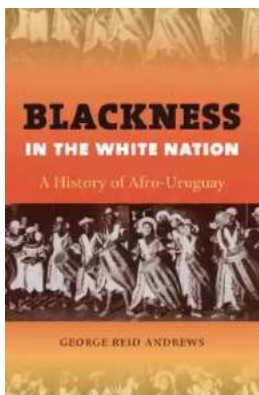
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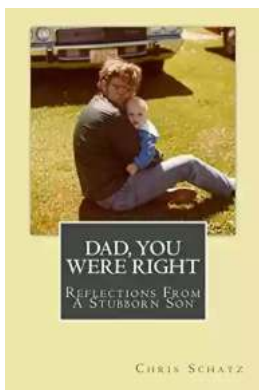
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