

Former Pros," "The Doctors and Scientists," and "The Politicians." Contributors include Sir Richard Branson, Denzel Washington, Bill Bradley, Bill Clinton, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Condoleezza Rice, Vera Wang, Billie Jean King, and Jack Welch. Each discusses experiences with sports ranging from an interest in a specific sport more or less as a hobby to Olympic champions and legendary sports figures. Readers learn that Clinton was interested in rugby while studying at Oxford and the lesson he learned was "never quit"; Rice, who was interested in figure skating, learned "discipline," which she applied to her professional life; and Welch, who tried sports, but to say the least did not excel, was taught "you've got to be a good loser." Many of those profiled also credit their parents for their support. **VERDICT** Containing gems of biographical information not available elsewhere, this presents inspirational readings on how sports can make a significant difference and teach "life lessons." Recommended not only to those who are running businesses but also to young adults. [See Prepub Alert, *LJ* 3/15/10.]—Lucy Heckman, St. John's Univ., Jamaica, NY

EDUCATION

Kaguri, Twesigye Jackson with Susan Urbanek Linville. *The Price of Stones: Building a School for My Village*. Viking. Jun. 2010. c.288p. ISBN 978-0-670-02184-0. \$25.95. ed

Growing up amid poverty and corruption in rural Uganda, Kaguri lost his brother to AIDS when the pandemic hit his community. To help his neighbors, he gathered funds and resources to build a school for children orphaned by the disease. Since 2002, the Nyaka AIDS Orphans School has provided free education, clean food and water, and a place for students to foster confidence and follow their dreams. But, as Kaguri writes, nothing worthwhile is easy. The school has encountered many obstacles, including community health concerns and bribe-demanding inspectors. His current goal is to find endowments to ensure secondary education for Nyaka graduates. The message is clear: we all have the capacity to make a difference, and no one should be discounted by circumstance. **VERDICT** Readers who enjoyed Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin's *Three Cups of Tea* will appreciate Kaguri's autobiographical account of courage and perseverance. His original perspective provides an inside look at how AIDS affects families. Highly recommended.—Karen McCoy, Farmington P.L., NM

HISTORY

Arthur, Anthony. *General Jo Shelby's March*. Random. Aug. 2010. c.288p. bibliog. index.

ISBN 978-1-4000-6830-2. \$27. HIST

Aside from Civil War buffs, most readers have probably not heard of Confederate Gen. Joseph O. Shelby and his extraordinary life during and beyond the Civil War. Arthur (literature, emeritus, California State Univ., Northridge), who died soon after finishing this book, relates Shelby's life in detail, including how his strong belief in states' rights led him to favor secession and to fight for the Confederacy, heading Missouri volunteers. The end of the war meant an end to the world Shelby knew; with about 1000 members of his Iron Brigade, rather than concede defeat after Appomattox, he headed to Mexico for extraordinary adventures and a proposal to Emperor Maximilian. **VERDICT** After a beginning whose details may trip up readers, Arthur draws us in as we see Shelby progress from rebellion to defeat to adventure and to reconciliation with the country he once loved. Recommended to anyone who enjoys biographically based Civil War or American history.—Sonnet Erin Brown, Univ. of New Orleans Lib.

Beinart, Peter. *The Icarus Syndrome: A History of American Hubris*. Harper: HarperCollins. Jun. 2010. c.496p. index. ISBN 978-0-06-145646-6. \$27.99. HIST

In *The Good Fight* (2006), Beinart (senior political writer, *The Daily Beast*; journalism & political science, CUNY) argued that American liberals need a foreign policy vision rooted in lessons from the Cold War. Here, he reviews U.S. foreign policy from Woodrow Wilson to George W. Bush and finds a parallel in the Greek legend of Icarus. As hubris of flight brought down Icarus, a "hubris of reason" afflicted Wilson after World War I, a "hubris of toughness" Lyndon Johnson and others, and a "hubris of dominance" the George W. Bush administration. Beinart shows the United States cycling between realism and idealism, power and restraint, isolation and engagement, as successive generations in hubris following prior success: World War I to Munich, World War II and the Cold War to Vietnam, Grenada and the Balkans and the Gulf War to Iraq. Like Icarus, we approached the sun and fell. **VERDICT** Beinart strings together a number of good insights in this popular history, but readers will find he often strains both diction and the central metaphor as in passages where John F. Kennedy "was still climbing up the hubris ladder," while for President George H.W. Bush "the hubris bubble had not yet fully swelled," and John McCain "had been surfing America's waves of hubris and tragedy."—Bob Nardini, Nashville, TN

☆ **Biddle, Daniel R. & Murray Dubin. *Tasting Freedom: Octavius Catto and the Battle for***

***Equality in Civil War America*. Temple Univ. Sept. 2010. c.656p. illus. ISBN 978-1-59213-465-6. \$35. HIST**

Killed in an 1871 Philadelphia Election Day riot to keep blacks from voting, Octavius Valentine Catto (1839–71) was a gifted schoolteacher, spellbinding classical orator, and first-rate second baseman. Most important, he was a civil rights activist. With fellow blacks who called themselves a "band of brothers," Catto pushed to desegregate streetcars, secure voting rights, and demand rigor in schools in Pennsylvania and its self-styled City of Brotherly Love during the turbulent Civil War era. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Biddle and his retired *Philadelphia Inquirer* colleague Dubin here recount Catto's life. In brightly written, accessible, detail-packed prose, they follow Catto from birth in Charleston, SC, through his family's move north, his schooling, and his camaraderie with the likes of black leaders such as Frederick Douglass. The captivating story illustrates the too often neglected street battles for black rights in northern cities long before the hot summers of the 1960s. **VERDICT** Biddle and Dubin have produced an entrancing portrait of a leading Renaissance man for equal rights; their book demands attention from students of the theme, time, and place. Nothing matches it at the moment as a prequel to Thomas J. Sugrue's much-noted *Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Civil Rights in the North*.—Thomas J. Davis, Arizona State Univ., Tempe

Dallek, Robert. *The Lost Peace: Leadership in the Time of Horror and Hope, 1945-1953*. Harper: HarperCollins. Nov. 2010. c.432p. bibliog. index. ISBN 978-0-06-162866-5. \$28.99. HIST

At first glance, this reviewer thought, "Oh, brother, another book on the origins of the cold war." But a thorough reading suggests this book is well worth considering. Dallek (*An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy, 1917-1963*), one of our most distinguished historians, who has written on Harry Truman, JFK, and LBJ, among others, has crafted an excellent synthesis of the current literature on President Truman's foreign policy and administration coinciding with some of the most nerve-wracking years of the 20th century. Although Dallek says very little that is new (despite what the book's blurbs declare), he demonstrates his deep knowledge of the history of this country in the postwar era and often takes his story into the 1980s and 1990s. **VERDICT** Dallek is an eminent historian, and though he is treading familiar ground here, his interpretation of the thinking and actions of American, Chinese, European, and Soviet leaders is worth the book's reasonable price. This is solid histori-

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