



Big Play Barra on Football

By Allen Barra

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Paperback. 320 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 5.7in. x 0.9in. In a follow-up to his Clearing the Bases Sports Illustrateds book of the year for 2002 syndicated columnist Allen Barra turns his eye from Americas pastime to Americas passion. In this collection of essays, Barra delves into the gridirons all-time greats, some of the sports enduring controversies, and suggests new ways to think about the game that holds our attention from August through January, every year. Barra turns his aggressively intelligent writing to the Heisman Trophy and its controversies and demonstrates why the Bowl Championship Series has not and cannot work. He explains how the infamous tie game between Notre Dame and Michigan State in 1966 changed football forever. He compares the careers of Bear Bryant and Vince Lombardi, George Allen and Don Shula, Bart Starr and Johnny Unitas, and Joe Montana and Steve Young, probing beyond the myths that surround each man and creating a new context to understand their achievements. He explains how Notre Dame embraced a destiny in pads, beyond the Gipper mystique and Rockne speeches. No other writer challenges a sports myths, untrue truisms, and legends the way Barra does in these essays....



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