

The Redskins Encyclopedia

By Spence | September 14, 2007

Michael Richman, a 45-year-old Rockville native and rabid Redskins fan spent years working on the love of his life: An exhaustive [encyclopedia covering the entire history of the Washington Redskins](#). It took over 7 years to complete.

A project like *The Redskins Encyclopedia* could not happen without the team's help, and Richman got plenty. For instance, Richman was able to use many interviews he'd done while stringing for the Redskins in the book. The team also furnished many records and stats that fill out the 420-page volume, not to mention some 125 photographs from the franchise archives.

In addition to the stats, Richman tells the story of the Redskins from the day league founder George Halas helped persuade a D.C. laundry-store magnate named George Preston Marshall to start a pro football team in the nation's capital through the team's golden era and on to Joe Gibbs' thus-far-inglorious second coming. Richman also wrote extended biographies of 15 "Washington Monuments"—the most prominent figures in Redskins history—plus capsule bios of dozens more and a series of sidebars detailing Redskins trivia.

There's no shortage of Skins literature out there, but Richman says the exhaustiveness of his volume sets it apart. "This is the most comprehensive journalistic account of the Redskins ever," he says.

So [what exactly is in this thing?](#)

*Coaches like George Allen, the eccentric, passionate man who left a legacy as an NFL pioneer, and Joe Gibbs, who formed a D-Y-N-A-S-T-Y.

*Players like star running back and all-time Redskins ground-gainer John Riggins, who once memorably told Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to "loosen up, Sandy baby," and Doug Williams, the first starting black quarterback to win a Super Bowl and Super Bowl MVP honors.

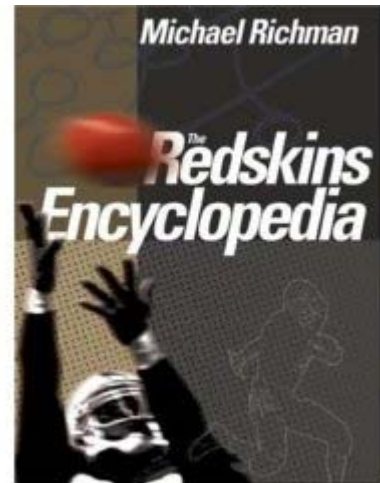
*The franchise's golden run of four Super Bowl appearances-and three wins-in the 1980s and early 1990s

*The legendary Redskins-Cowboys rivalry

*A year by year history of the team-from 1932 to the present, with stats from each season

*Individual profiles of more than 100 Redskins players-from Sammy Baugh to Darrell Green to Art Monk to Sonny Jurgensen to Charley Taylor to Joe Theismann

*A statistical chapter that provides all of the Redskins records-a complete roster and every



draft pick

Sounds like something a few of us [wouldn't mind owning](#).