

On The Court With Hakeem Olajuwon - Athlete Biographies

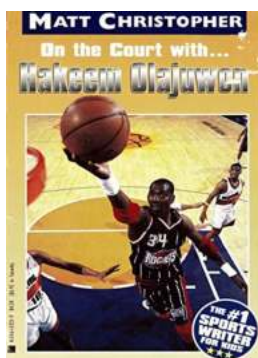


The Early Years

Hakeem Olajuwon, born on January 21, 1963, is a Nigerian-American former professional basketball player. He played the majority of his career for the Houston Rockets in the National Basketball Association (NBA). Olajuwon discovered his love for basketball as a teenager and quickly became a star player. His exceptional skills caught the attention of American scouts, leading him to secure a scholarship to the University of Houston.

College Success and NBA Career

During his time at the University of Houston, Olajuwon thrived under Coach Guy Lewis. His dominance on the court earned him the nickname "The Dream" and catapulted him into the national spotlight. In 1984, he led the Cougars to the NCAA Final Four, where they eventually lost to Patrick Ewing and the Georgetown Hoyas.



On the Court With... Hakeem Olajuwon (Athlete Biographies) by Matt Christopher (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2107 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 86 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



Despite the loss, Olajuwon's impressive performance in college attracted the attention of NBA scouts. He was selected as the first overall pick in the 1984 NBA Draft by the Houston Rockets. Olajuwon's professional career saw him revolutionize the center position with his remarkable skills and agility.

The Skills and Versatility

Hakeem Olajuwon possessed a unique combination of size, strength, and finesse. Standing at 7 feet tall, he had incredible footwork and speed. His signature move, the "Dream Shake," was nearly unstoppable, confusing defenders and leaving them in awe. Olajuwon's skills weren't limited to scoring; he was also an exceptional shot-blocker and rebounder. His defensive prowess earned him recognition as one of the best defenders in NBA history.

Championships and Legacy

Olajuwon's talent and hard work paid off in 1994 and 1995 when he led the Houston Rockets to back-to-back NBA championships. He showcased his leadership skills and determination, earning NBA Finals MVP honors both years. Olajuwon's championships solidified his place as one of the greatest centers of all time.

After his playing career, Olajuwon continued to make an impact on the basketball world. He became a mentor to numerous NBA players, including Kobe Bryant and LeBron James, helping them refine their skills through his post-player development.

Honors and Recognition

Throughout his career, Hakeem Olajuwon received numerous accolades. He was named an NBA All-Star 12 times and earned All-NBA Team selections nine times. Olajuwon also won the NBA MVP award in 1994 and was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2008.

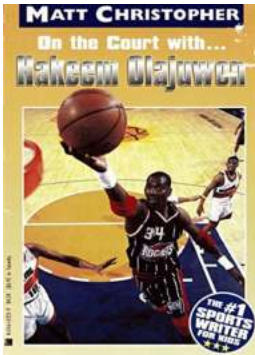
Off the Court

In addition to his success as a basketball player, Hakeem Olajuwon is known for his philanthropy and humanitarian efforts. He established the "Dream Foundation," which helps provide educational opportunities for young people and supports various charitable causes.

The Legacy Continues

Hakeem Olajuwon's impact on basketball is undeniable. His skills, versatility, and leadership made him a true icon of the game. Aspiring young players continue to study his moves, hoping to emulate even a fraction of his greatness. The

legendary "Dream" will forever be remembered as one of the most dominant forces to step foot on the basketball court.



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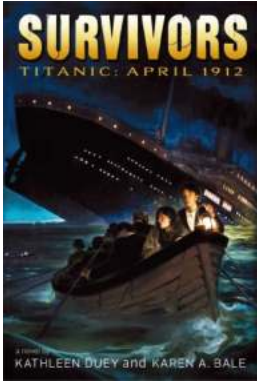


The star running back of the NFL. The All-Star center leading his team to the championship. Matt Christopher delves into the life of both of these sports stars, exploring the paths they have traveled, the hardships they have overcome, and the highs and lows of their careers. Each book contains exciting black-and-white action photos, the player's stats, and a list of his career highlights. Real-life sports action plus Matt Christopher's easy-to-read style equals a series not to be missed.



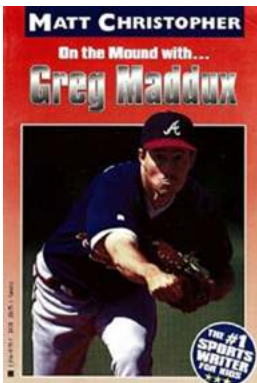
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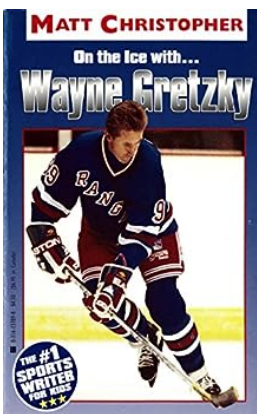
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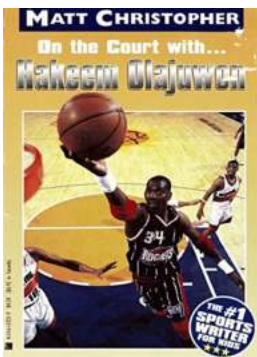
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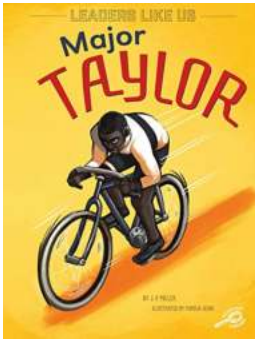
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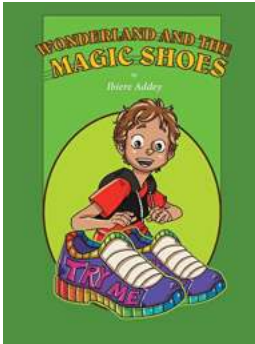
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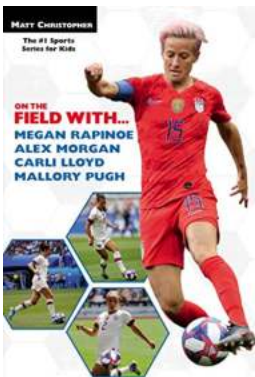
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on the court with stephen curry

on the court with lebron james

on the court with kevin durant

on the court with kobe bryant

on the court with

positions on the court in volleyball