

# ***Reader's Guide***

*Sports Stars*, Series 5, presents twenty-two new, full-length biographies of amateur and professional athletes, including Lindsey Davenport, Sammy Sosa, and Dawn Staley, as well as twelve updated, brief biographies of athletes previously profiled in *Sports Stars*, Series 1, 2, 3, and 4 such as Steffi Graf, Michael Jordan, and Tara Lipinski. Besides offering biographies of baseball, basketball, and football sports figures, *Sports Stars*, Series 5, provides increased coverage of athletes in a greater variety of sports, such as golf, soccer, and swimming, and features biographies of women, including Cammie Granato and Nikki McCray, who have broken the sex barrier to participate in the male-dominated sports of hockey and basketball.

Athletes profiled in *Sports Stars*, Series 5, meet one or more of the following criteria. The featured athletes are:

- Currently active in amateur or professional sports
- Considered top performers in their fields

- Role models who have overcome physical obstacles or societal constraints to reach the top of their professions

### **Format**

The thirty-four profiles of *Sports Stars*, Series 5, are arranged alphabetically. Each biography opens with the birth date and place of the individual as well as a “Scoreboard” box listing the athlete’s top awards. Every essay contains a “Growing Up” section focusing on the early life and motivations of the individual and a “Superstar” section highlighting the featured athlete’s career. The profiles also contain portraits and often additional action shots of the individual. A “Where to Write” section listing an address and a list of sources for further reading conclude each profile. Additionally, sidebars containing interesting details about the individuals are sprinkled throughout the text.

### **Additional Features**

*Sports Stars*, Series 5, includes a listing by sport of all the athletes featured in Series 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, as well as a cumulative name and subject index covering athletes found in all five series.

### **Comments and Suggestions**

We welcome your comments on this work as well as your suggestions for individuals to be featured in future editions of *Sports Stars*. Please write: Editor, *Sports Stars*, U•X•L, 27500 Drake Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48331-3535; call toll-free: 800-877-4253; fax 248-699-8066; or send e-mail via <http://www.gale.com>.