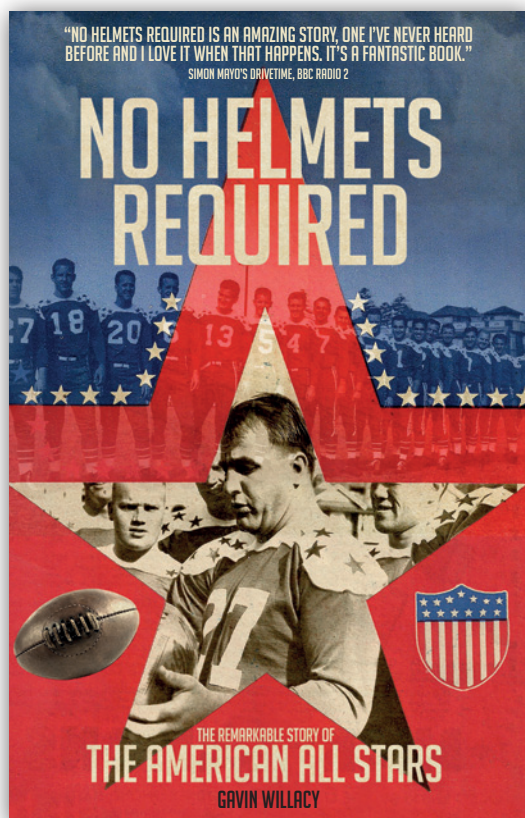




Title information



No Helmets Required

The Remarkable Story of the American All Stars

By Gavin Willacy

Key features

- A brilliant and forgotten story of international sport – as told by the men who lived it
- Paperback edition of the critically-acclaimed hardback, which was first published in 2013
- Described by BBC Radio 5 Live as, “A fantastic book. An absolutely fascinating story with some great cameos, and real characters among them. It’s a terrific book.”
- Written by Gavin Willacy, author of three previous sports books and a national broadsheet football and rugby reporter of 20 years’ standing
- Includes colour photo section, along with mono images throughout the book – including unseen pictures and original artefacts from the tour, to accompany the text

Description

It’s the type of story sport can throw up – one which reads more like a Hollywood film script. More than 60 years on from 1950s Los Angeles, *No Helmets Required* tells the absorbing tale of 20 young American footballers convinced by entrepreneur Mike Dimitro to fly around the world playing rugby league – a game they’d never previously heard of, let alone even played. Miraculously, the American All Stars competed with the best Australia, New Zealand and France had to offer, and shocked the locals with some stunning victories. The celebrity All Stars had fights and flings, suffered tragic illness and farcical court cases. Dimitro’s mission to establish rugby league in the United States failed spectacularly – though one All Star went on to win the Super Bowl, one became a Hollywood stuntman and another an Olympic champion. One player founded a church; another was murdered. Described by the *Daily Mail* as, “A terrific piece of work. Off-field scrapes are recalled in fascinating style, bringing the story to life in vivid fashion.”

Details

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