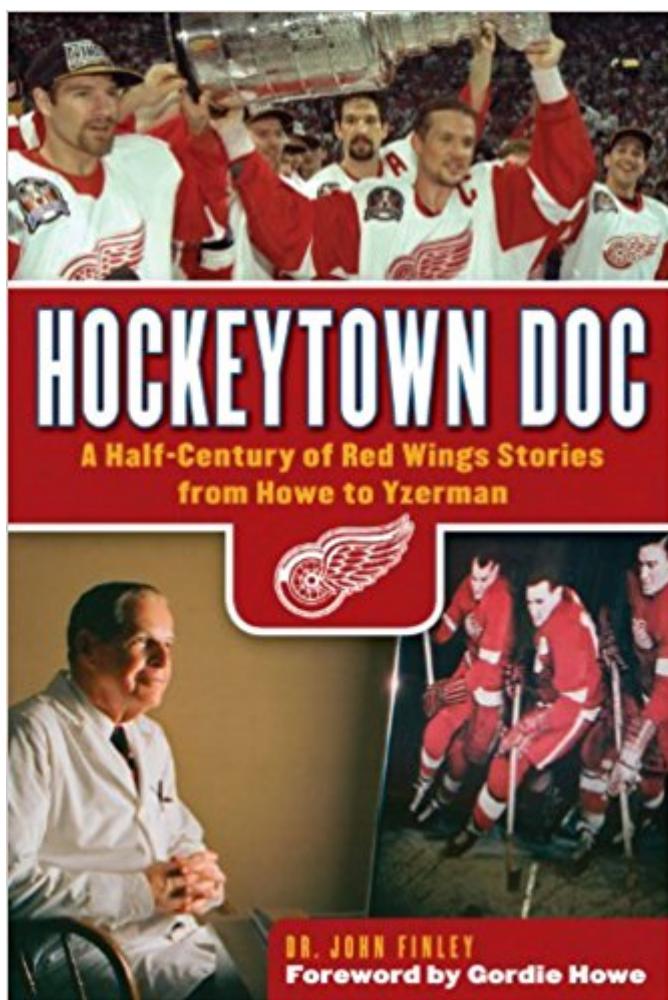


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Hockeytown Doc: A Half-Century Of Red Wings Stories From Howe To Yzerman



Synopsis

Reflecting on nearly five decades with the Detroit Red Wings, Dr. John Finley takes sports fans far beyond closed doors and into the trainer's room where cuts were bandaged, broken noses were reset, sore muscles were rubbed out, and casts made for broken bones. In this stellar memoir, Dr. Finley recounts his experiences with the stars on the revitalized Red Wings franchise in recent years, including Steve Yzerman and Nicklas Lidstrom, as well as heroes of previous generations, including 1972 Hockey Hall of Fame inductee Gordie Howe. Along the way, Dr. Finley shares some of the most vivid accounts ever written on the subject of sports injuries, including the hundreds of stitches he applied to Borje Salming's face after it was cut by Gerard Gallant's errant skate blade, as well as his recommendation on the knee injury sustained by a young Steve Yzerman that ultimately helped maintain his Hall of Fame career.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Hockeytown Doc is various parts Dr. Finley's life story, Red Wings history, entertaining lore, medical memoir, coverage of the game's evolution, and essay on the current state of the game. To a Red Wings fan, this book is a great addition to a literary collection. "Winging It In Motown," a Red Wings blog affiliated with SB Nation, "You don't need to be a Red Wings fan to enjoy Hockeytown Doc [it is] richly illustrated with dozens of photos spanning the decades." It is entertaining and recommended.

TheHockeyWriters.com

Dr. John Finley served as team physician for the Detroit Red Wings from 1957 to 2003 and is the former president of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons. He lives in Detroit, Michigan. Gordie Howe is a former NHL and WHA player. He is a four-time Stanley Cup champion and the recipient of six Art Ross Trophies, six Hart Trophies, and the first NHL Lifetime Achievement Award. He lives in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Dr Finley has written a fascinating account of Red Wing franchise history covering almost 50 years. There are many interesting anecdotes with a good dose of sports medicine from this pioneer "hockey doc". Massive lacerations, broken bones and vicious body checks are part of the game, thus, a qualified team physician was a necessity. Some of Dr Finley's facial repairs were as good as a board certified plastic surgeon. He explains how almost nothing could keep these warriors off the ice. The injury photos are amazing. An absolute "must read" for Red Wing fans and a very good read for NHL followers. Plenty of information on the great Gordie Howe. Hard to put down.

This is much more than a book for Red Wings' fans. Dr. Finley details mending an amazing list of the games great players over the last half century in this nicely indexed book. With many photos from his and the collection of others it's a journey through years of the evolution of the recent history of the league. He also discusses from the viewpoint of an MD, equipment issues, nutrition, drugs and drug legislation in the NHL and other pro sports. This would be a great read for any hockey fan, trainer or team MD, hockey mom or historian. In the interest of disclosure, while I admire the Red Wings organization as being one of the best in all of pro sports, I am NOT a fan of the Red Wings.

The book contained some interesting stories about legendary Red Wings from past and more recent eras, but some sections of the book were very repetitive. In fact, certain facts are repeated verbatim on several different occasions. I don't blame the author for this; I blame the editor who didn't seem to catch this. I'd recommend this book for hockey fans, but be prepared to have intense feelings of "I've already read this" déjà vu.

I bought it for my dad - he is a wings junkie and he loved it. perfect gift for the wings fan that loves the history and gossip of the past.

As described

A nice look at the inner workings of keeping a hockey team running. A little technical at times, but enjoyable to any Red Wings fan.

I enjoyed the great stories from earlier generations of hockey players and the modern era. Doc Finley knows medicine, hockey and the players.

Gave it to my husband (who really isn't a big reader). He saw the review in our Detroit News and was interested in the stories. Good read!

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