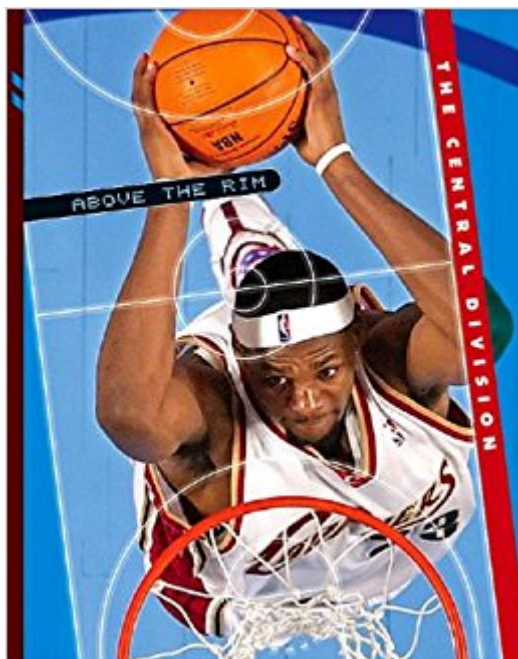


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The Central Division (Above The Rim)



Synopsis

From the early days of basketball to the young rising stars of today, this book provides a comprehensive look at the teams in the Central Division: The Atlanta Hawks, the Chicago Bulls, the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Detroit Pistons, the Indiana Pacers, the Milwaukee Bucks, the New Orleans Hornets, and the Toronto Raptors. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Series: Above the Rim

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Customer Reviews

Reviewed with Jim Gigliotti's *The Atlantic Division*. Gr. 2-5. Young readers seeking plenty of facts and season highlights of some of their favorite NBA teams will be well served by these short, colorful volumes from the *Above the Rim* series. Each book is divided into brief chapters that explore the history of a specific team, focusing primarily on key players and either exceptionally triumphant or dismally disappointing seasons. The page layout is eye-catching and inviting, while the text, with its rapid-fire descriptions, succinct overviews, and some play-by-play moments, will entice sports enthusiasts. Color action photos on most spreads will draw young readers as well, although the photographs in *The Central Division* are far superior to those in *The Atlantic Division*. Both books include statistical charts, a glossary of terms highlighted in color throughout the text, and a time line. Fine selections for elementary- and some middle-school collections. Roger Leslie
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The Detroit Pistons' stunning five-game upset of the Los Angeles Lakers in the 2004 NBA finals is about the only reason that this volume from "Above the Rim: The NBA Library Series" needs to be updated. There has not been as much turnover in the "Central Division" as there have been in the rest of the NBA (except for Rasheed Wallace joining the Pistons), but then the off season is still young and who knows what will happen before and during the NBA draft this week. In telling the history of the teams in this division one of the points of emphasis is winning championships and what the Pistons did would certainly qualify. The chief value of this series is that it gives young fans of the NBA a look at the history of each team in the league. "Central Division" tells the story of the Atlanta Hawks, Chicago Bulls, Cleveland Cavaliers, Detroit Pistons, Indiana Pacers, Milwaukee Bucks, New Orleans Hornets, and Toronto Raptors. Robert E. Schnakenberg provides a brief history of the division, the teams that make it up and their greatest coaches and players. Fans of the Chicago Bulls who grew up watching Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen get to learn about Bob Love, Norman Van Lier, and Jerry Sloan. Even long time NBA fans might learn something new (Red Auerbach coached Atlanta at some point?). Fans of each team will find that Schnakenberg does a good job of providing a basic history of the franchise so they can at least know the highlights. If you are a fan of the Atlanta Hawks and only know Sharif Abdur-Rahim and not Bob Pettit and Dominique Wilkins, then this book will explain why you need to expand your knowledge of NBA history. "Central Division" is illustrated with photographs of superstar NBA players, with both black & white shots of the likes of Bob Lanier and Oscar Robertson along with color shots including Reggie Miller and LeBron James. The back of this book includes all time team records, as well as the career leaders in points and rebounds for each franchise, and members of the Naismith Memorial National Basketball Hall of Fame from each team. There is also a Glossary of terms from "All-American" to "role players," along with a Time Line of when teams were founded and won championships, Books and Web sites for additional information about the Central Division and the NBA, and an Index.

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