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**Albert Einstein: A Biography**—Albrecht Fölsing. Fölsing's exhaustive research underpins this heavily documented mix of fact, history, insight, and anecdote drawn extensively from Einstein's own diaries, letters, and manuscripts. Fölsing carefully constructs his story to present the personal side of Einstein along with his accomplishments as scientist, teacher, and even patent officer. Fölsing illustrates the complexity of a man who is still regarded as the greatest physicist of this century. The details of relativity theory and Einstein's numerous other revelations are dissected as well. Viking, 1997, 882 p., b&w plates, hardcover, \$34.95.

**Fanfare for Earth: The Origin of Our Planet and Life**—Harry Y. McSween Jr. This broad yet thorough account of the history of Earth encompasses both what scientists now believe about our planet's geologic history and the proliferation of historical ideas put forth about its origins, including the creation myths of many cultures and that of the Bible. McSween's story begins dramatically with the explosion that led to the creation of the solar system and chemical elements. But then McSween focuses solely on our world, with its unique suitability to life. He examines the components that support life and dissects our planet from core to surface. St Martin, 1997, 252 p., b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$23.95.

**The Island of the Colorblind**—Oliver Sacks. The author of *Awakenings* and other examinations of neurological phenomena retreats to Micronesia to study two groups of native peoples: one, in Guam, suffers from a rare neurodegenerative paralysis somewhat resembling ALS; the other, in the tiny Pacific atoll of Pingelap, is afflicted by hereditary color blindness. Clearly taken with the natural beauty of the islands, Sacks weaves into his story a number of botanical references and fond remembrances of the cultures and surroundings of the people whom he visited. Knopf, 1996, 298 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$24.00.

**A Natural History of Parenting: From Emperor Penguins to Reluctant Ewes, A Naturalist Looks at How Parenting Differs in the Animal World and Ours**—Susan Allport. Drawing on her own experiences as a part-time shepherd and her observations of bat caves in Texas, the frosty domain of arctic wolves, and hundreds of other venues, science writer Allport provides a delightful examination of the parental habits of animals and humans alike and what can be gleaned from them. Some ties between mother and child last a lifetime while other females abandon their young at birth. This beautiful menagerie of creatures also includes seemingly odd behavior—penguins who balance their eggs on their feet, for example. Allport spans it all as she strives to discover what is behind parental instinct. Harmony, 1997, 238 p., hardcover, \$23.00.

**Prozac and the New Antidepressants: What You Need to Know About Prozac, Zoloft, Paxil, Wellbutrin, Effexor, Serzone, Luvox, and More**—William S. Appleton. After a brief discussion of the causes and symptoms of depression, Harvard clinician Appleton outlines practical information about how the drugs associated with the condition work and how they are applied, as well as side effects. Plume, 1997, 208 p., paperback, \$10.95.

**This Is Biology: The Science of the Living World**—Ernst Mayr. One of the world's most renowned biologists sets out to enlighten readers about the broad spectrum of biological sciences that is often lost on specialists. Mayr spans the multifaceted world of biology as it has arisen from the time of Aristotle to the modern day, discussing evolution, biodiversity, competition, extinction, adaptation, natural selection, and reproduction. Belknap, 1997, 327 p., hardcover, \$29.95.

**Visual Explanations: Images and Quantities, Evidence and Narrative**—Edward R. Tufte. The author of the renowned *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information* gives design strategies for presenting information about motion, process, mechanism, cause and effect. By first examining the logic of depicting quantitative evidence and then considering design strategies for arranging the images as narrative, Tufte provides examples of these processes, which are as broad as Richard Feynman developing space-time diagrams for quantum electrodynamics and magicians explaining their trade. Graphics Pr, 1997, 156 p., color/b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$45.00.

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Harold Klawans, the author who told us why Toscanini fumbled and why Newton raved, takes us on a tour of the great brains of great athletes. He shows how both accomplishment and tragedy may be the result of some unusual neurons.

Why did Michael Jordan, one of the world's greatest basketball players, turn out to be a merely mediocre minor league baseball player?

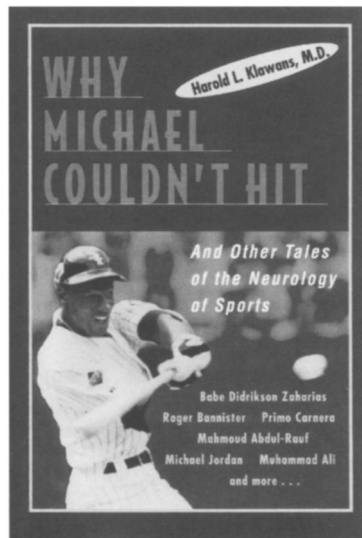
Why did the acromegaly that helped make Primo Carnera the heavyweight champion of the world also cause his death?

How did Roger Bannister use the neurological knowledge he acquired as a medical student to help him break the 4 minute mile?

How does the compulsive perfectionism of Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf's Tourette's syndrome actually benefit him on the basketball court?

In *Why Michael Couldn't Hit*, Klawans joins his two lifelong passions—neurological discovery and sports. His arguments about the way the two are linked will give every sports fan a new outlook on what happens on the track, the baseball diamond, or in the arena. A deft and fascinating exploration, the book reveals that the twists and turns of athletes' brains have at least as much to do with their stardom as the strength and coordination of their muscles.

—from W.H. Freeman



WH Freeman, 1996, 308 pages  
6 1/2" x 9 1/2", hardcover, \$22.95

What does neurology have to do with Michael Jordan's inability to hit a baseball? Everything. Can it explain why Muhammad Ali developed Parkinson's disease in 1984 while the man he knocked out 10 years earlier, George Foreman, kept fighting for another decade until he regained the heavyweight title? Of course it can.

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