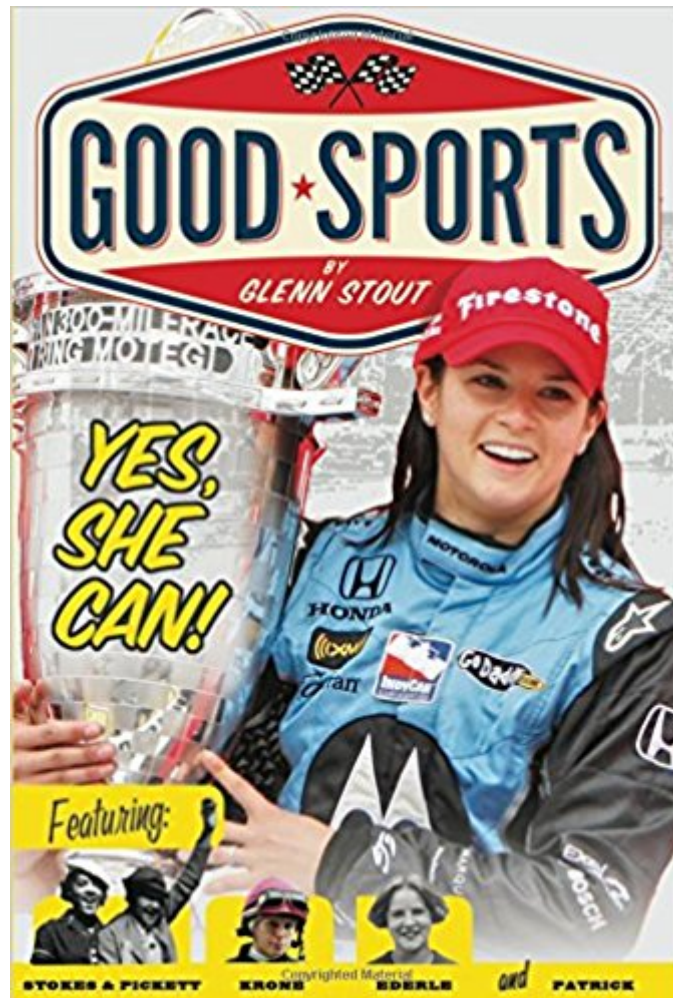




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# Yes, She Can!: Women's Sports Pioneers (Good Sports)



## Synopsis

Not very long ago, many people said girls and women were too weak and delicate to play sports. Fortunately, a lot of girls didn't listen. Trudy Ederle, Louise Stokes, Tidy Pickett, Julie Krone and Danica Patrick sure didn't. Trudy Ederle swam the English Channel, Louise Stokes and Tidy Pickett made it into the Olympics running track, Julie Krone became jockey, and Danica Patrick decided to drive Indy cars. *Yes, She Can!* tells the inspiring stories of these pioneers in sports. Thanks to them, everyone knows now that girls can do anything they want. Perfect for young athletes, ages 9-12.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1040 (What's this?)

Series: Good Sports (Book 2)

Paperback: 128 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

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Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

## Customer Reviews

"Accessible and inspirational." *—Publishers Weekly* "Full of fascinating information about fascinating women in sports history." *—Bookbabe blog* "Never patronizing, [Stout] captures both grit and glory in a fast-paced package that goes down easy even as it inspires." *—Kirkus Reviews* "An inspiring read for anyone who has been told that she can't, shouldn't, or won't do something because she is a girl." *—Booklist* Named to the 2012 Amelia Bloomer List

Glenn Stout is the series editor of The Best American Sports Writing and author of more than forty non-fiction sports biographies under the auspices of Matt Christopher. He is also the author of Baseball Heroes, the first title in the Good Sports series. He lives in Alburgh, VT. Visit Glenn at [www.goodsportsbyglennstout.com](http://www.goodsportsbyglennstout.com).

I liked the book it was good to see the inspiration. I would recommend it to young readers. Have fun

I feel it's important for every child to have a hero. Mine usually played for the Boston Celtics or had x-ray vision...and since times do change, I figured it was time for my daughter to hear about some female pioneers in the world of sports. This book was the perfect choice. It tells the stories of Trudy Ederle, Louise Stokes & Tidye Pickett, Julie Krone, and Danica Patrick. Each chapter goes into their beginnings, their inspirations, their trials and their triumphs. It's hard to topple the popularity of Judy Moody in our house, but my daughter took to this book like a duck to water. She loved hearing about how each woman got their start in their chosen sport, and the obstacles they had to overcome in order to succeed. For a solid week, she asked me to read with her each night after I got home from work. I asked my daughter how she liked this book and she was able to rattle off facts about Trudy Ederle swimming the English Channel and inadvertently inventing the first bikini, she felt that Louise Stokes and Tidye Pickett opened doors for other African-American Olympians, she thought Julie Krone was "good on tough horses" and she took a real shine to Danica Patrick getting over her fears, standing up for herself, and winning her 300 mile race. About a week after this book was finished, my daughter excitedly told me "Dad! Danica Patrick was nominated for 'Favorite Female Athlete' in the Kid's Choice Awards!" She was so proud to have read her story. I asked what she'd like to read next and she said "Maybe something on the first women who did tennis or gymnastics or basketball!" Clearly, this was a good reading choice. The book is only 110 pages long, so it's a very quick read - there are several references for further reading, and YouTube videos are recommended in the back. My child loved reading this...hopefully, yours will too.

Author Glenn Stout's latest book, titled YES, SHE CAN!, features five female athletes who have paved the way for girls interested in the world of sports. The five record-breaking females are swimmer Trudy Ederle, track stars Louise Stokes and Tidye Pickett, jockey Julie Krone, and Indy car racer Danica Patrick. Trudy Ederle learned to swim at an early age and only truly felt at home

while swimming and floating in sea water. Encouraged by family, friends, and coaches, she challenged herself to be the first female to swim the English Channel. After one failed attempt, she succeeded and even broke the record set by an earlier male swimmer. In the 1930's, two female track runners broke the racial barriers in their sport. Louise Stokes from Massachusetts and Tidye Pickett of Chicago became well-known in the sport of track and field and went on to qualify for two Olympic teams. They faced hard times and unexplained prejudice, but their courage and determination to compete just like everyone else made them instrumental in opening track to not only women but, more importantly, African-American women. Julie Krone was two years old when she rode her first horse and just a teen when she announced that she was going to be a woman jockey. With the support of her mother, Julie searched until she found a job at a race track. Her hard work and toughness helped her prove to trainers and owners that she could compete with the best male jockeys and win. Finally, Danica Patrick represents women in the sport of Indy car racing. YES, SHE CAN! tells of her first scary ride in a go-cart and how even a crash that threw her from the cart didn't stop her from getting behind the wheel to race again. Many called her too pretty to race and claimed that her actress good looks are what actually made her popular, but Patrick's performance on the race track tells a different story. YES, SHE CAN! is the second book in a new series, GOOD SPORTS, by Glenn Stout. He specializes in sports biographies for both kids and adults. Sports fans of all ages are sure to enjoy reading about these pioneers in sports history. Coming next in the series is SOLDIER ATHLETES in October 2011. Reviewed by: Sally Kruger, aka "Readingjunky"

I was thoroughly impressed with this book. It's geared toward 9-12 year olds but I had a hard time putting it down. My four year old daughter sat attentively through one and a half of the stories (about 35 pages) and was talking about how she was going to swim by herself during her next swimming lesson. I'm planning on reading the rest to her later. It is so well written the age range could easily be 4 to adult. I am personally really drawn to stories of triumph over difficult circumstances, and this book does a phenomenal job making those stories come to life. I especially appreciate the focus on the adversity that each person faced and how hard they worked to accomplish their goals. The author also did a great job including dates and information while keeping the story going. He also did an excellent job using terminology from that sport with sufficient explanations so that you could follow easily. There were two weaknesses I saw but they were minor. The first is that I didn't care for the introduction to each chapter. They focused on something that happened later in the story (such as crossing the finish line). It was clearly meant to draw you in but I found it distracting and a little disorienting. I would prefer a straight chronological sequence - especially since the author writes

well enough that you're drawn in anyway. The second is that I found the cover to be tacky. A more tasteful less gimmicky looking cover would suit the style of this book a lot better. Editorial notes of the advance copy: Page 16 last paragraph - "seen" instead of "see." Page 65 the word "remember" is omitted in the second paragraph. Page 90 "ever" instead of "every" in the third paragraph. This is an incredible book I would recommend to anyone.

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