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The duo behind the 'Girls and Sports' comic authors dating playbook

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If there were a playbook for girls, just like there is for sports, what guy wouldn't want one?

Andrew Feinstein and Justin Borus, two college friends and co-authors of "Opening Lines, Pinky Probes and L-Bombs: The Girls & Sports Dating and Relationship Playbook" are hoping they've provided that.

The comic strip that led to the book, called "Girls & Sports," currently appears in over 150 mainstream newspapers and 75 college newspapers nationwide, including The New York Daily News, The Denver Post, The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, and right here in the JG/T-C's Ch@ Room section.

"Girls & Sports" has even become a hit in Stars and Stripes, the newspaper distributed to the United States military worldwide. The comic strip now reaches over six million readers daily through the prominent Creators Syndicate.

For their first full-color, book-length work, Borus and Feinstein chose to tackle the issues most important to single people, including dating, sports, relationships, the bar scene, working out, parties, vacations, and much more.

Feinstein said the idea for the comic came about while he and Borus were on a study abroad trip in Denmark during college.

Feinstein said the group would do a lot of bus tours, leaving time for doing the "play by play" of the previous night's events.

"We talked about it just like we talked about the Broncos and Nuggets back at home," Feinstein said.

Finally, a classmate said she was sick of hearing about girls and sports all the time and the "light bulbs" went off for Feinstein and Borus, who decided to turn their artistic and creative writing abilities into the "Girls & Sports" comic strip.

"Comic strips are a G-rated medium, and you can't say a lot," Feinstein said. "There's also the space issue. There's only so many words you can have or no one will read it. The book is extra material we've been writing down over the years."

Feinstein said the book has theories, charts and ideas the twosome have "had in their heads" for years placed into the respective section of the book. Sections include everything from "Getting the Night Started" to "Getting Out of the Game (getting married)."

"I guess I feel like most dating books are written by so-called experts with PhD's," Feinstein said. "We've just had so many struggles in our own dating lives, rather than tell (men) what to do; we wanted to share insight so they can avoid the same pitfalls we went through."

And Feinstein said the book isn't only for guys.

"There's amazing women out there and a lot of time when a guy meets a terrific girl he cares about, he fumbles the ball so to speak," Feinstein said. "I hope women will love this book. It's like reading the opposing team's playbook. It never hurts to be armed with knowledge and everything we write is 100 percent true."

Feinstein said the pair is, of course, trying to inject some humor into the book, but they're basing everything on their own experiences.

"We see patterns and consistencies with dating and relationships," Feinstein said. "The mistake a lot of guys make is they meet a girl they really like and, instinctively, behave differently. They become nicer or sometimes bumbling idiots."

Feinstein said the moral of the story is instead of behaving differently; guys should behave the same and be the person that got the girl interested in the first place.

The title characters, Bradley, who is based loosely on Borus, and Marshall, based on Feinstein, take readers through the entire "game" with many laughs and a lot of "that makes sense" moments.

Feinstein said, if nothing else, the book is affordable if buyers want to give up a few drinks.

"It's $14.95 in the stores," he said. "That's two mixed drinks in L.A."

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