

Teacher's Rationale**School:**Arrowhead High School**Teacher:** Budzien / Balistreri / Judd / Frieberg**Title:** The Life of Reilly**Grade or Course:** Modern Literature**Approximate date(s) a book will be used:**

___XX___ Semester 1

_____ Semester 2

This book will be (check one or more): **X** studied by the whole class. (But students may choose a substitute text). studied by small groups. placed on a reading list. placed in a classroom library. recommended to individual students. part of a larger study of (explain): other (explain):**Ways in which the book is especially appropriate for student in this class:**

Rick Reilly, eight-time “National Sportswriter of the Year,” is the only contributor to Sports Illustrated who has his own weekly column. The Life of Reilly is a collection of his essays from SI, and his stories are at once humorous, serious, and /or moving, thus appealing to a wide readership. Though each story is ostensibly about sports, they only serve as a vehicle for Reilly to comment on Life’s larger truths. For kids who like sports, it is great. For those who do not care for sports, it is still great since the stories are also about Life.

Ways in which the book is especially pertinent to the objectives of this course or unit:

The book is a great stimulus for class discussion, essay prompts, and clarification of personal values. It vicariously expands real-world experiences in high school, college, and professional athletics.

Special problems that might arise in relation to the book and some planned activities that handle this problem:

The lifestyles of the rich and famous sports heroes and their moral behavior might be offensive to some who do not advocate the excesses that fame can bring and money can buy.

Some other appropriate books an individual student might read in place of this book:Friday Night LightsCounting Coup

Summary of the book:

The Life of Reilly – Rick Reilly

Witty, irreverent, opinionated, honest, laugh-out-loud funny -- these are just a few of the adjectives that have been used to describe the writing of Rick Reilly, the six-time National Sportswriter of the Year who has entertained the readers of Sports Illustrated for 15 years with his unique perspective on the world of sports and life in general. Now, in The Life of Reilly, Rick has selected 66 of his finest stories to create a collection that is sure to amuse, inform, and provoke sports fans and non-fans alike.

Reviews and/or awards of the book or author:

Rick Reilly has been voted eight-time National Sportswriter of the Year.