Breaking the Line
The Season in Black College Football that Transformed
the Sport and Changed the Course of Civil Rights

Samuel G. Freedman is an award-winning author of seven books, columnist for The New York Times, and professor at Columbia Journalism School. In Breaking The Line, he tells the story of two rival football teams, two legendary coaches, and two talented quarterbacks and how they broke the color line, revolutionized college sports, and transformed the NFL. Their story is a missing piece of sports history, black history, and American history. Freedman’s previous books include Small Victories: The Real World of a Teacher, Her Students and Their High School (1990); Upon This Rock: The Miracles of a Black Church (1993); The Inheritance: How Three Families and America Moved from Roosevelt to Reagan and Beyond (1996); Jew vs. Jew: The Struggle for the Soul of American Jewry (2000); Who She Was: My Search for My Mother’s Life (2005); and Letters to a Young Journalist (2006). He was a staff reporter for The New York Times from 1981 through 1987 and currently writes the column “On Religion.” From 2004 through 2008, he wrote the “On Education” column, which won first prize in the Education Writers Association’s annual competition.

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Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College Library

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