William Nack had been a senior writer at *Sports Illustrated* for nearly 23 years when he retired in 2001 to pursue a career as an author and freelance writer. His work has since appeared in *Sports Illustrated, Time, Gentleman’s Quarterly* and *Golf Connoisseur,* among other publications. His work has also been anthologized in numerous books, including David Halberstam’s *The Best American Sports Writing of the Century,* in seven editions of *The Best American Sports Writing,* and in *Sports Illustrated’s Fifty years of Great Writing.* He is the author of *My Turf: Horses, Boxers, Blood Money and the Sporting Life,* an anthology of his magazine writing; *Secretariat: The Making of a Champion,* the story of America’s greatest thoroughbred; and this year’s *Ruffian: A Racetrack Romance,* the story of the life and death of the swiftest female racehorse of modern times. *Ruffian* was turned into a made-for-TV film starring Sam Shepard as trainer Frank Whiteley. Actor Frank Whaley played Nack. Nack was a political and environmental reporter at *Newsday* newspaper from 1968 to 1972, the paper’s turfwriter from 1972 to 1975, and a daily sports columnist there from 1975 until he left for *Sports Illustrated* in 1979. He has won seven Eclipse Awards for excellence in turf writing and is the recipient of the A.J. Liebling Award for his coverage of boxing.