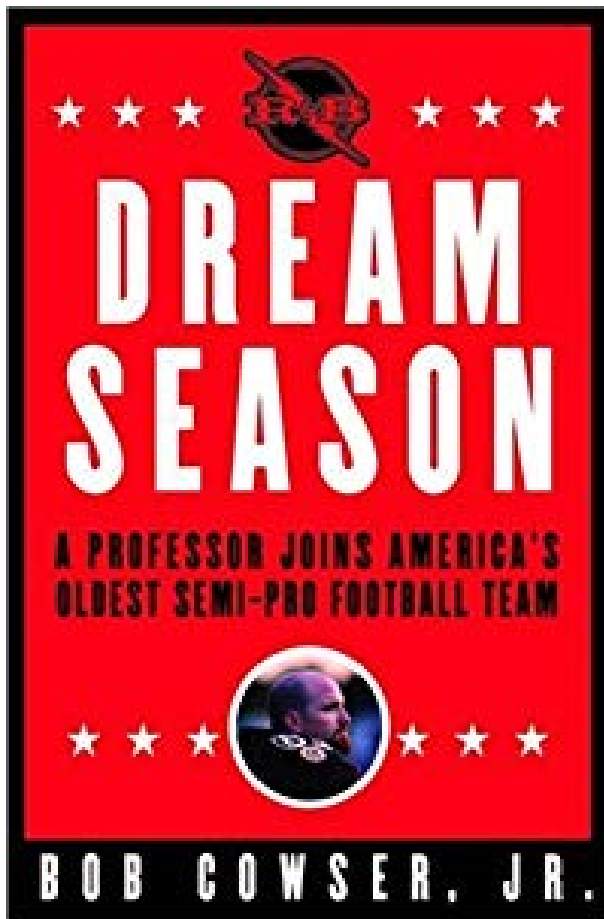


# Dream Season: A Professor Joins America's Oldest Semi-Pro Football Team



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| <b>Language</b>          | English                                    |
| <b>Pages:</b>            | 240  |
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| <b>ISBN13:</b>           | 9780871139238                              |
| <b>ISBN10:</b>           | 0871139235                                 |
| <b>Published:</b>        | August 31st 2004 by Atlantic Monthly Press |
| <b>Goodreads Rating:</b> | 3.50                                       |
| <b>Genre:</b>            | Sports and Games                           |

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At the age of thirty, Bob Cowser, Jr., is leading a happy life as a husband, father, and English professor in upstate New York. But he misses the exhilaration he felt as a young man when he took the field for high school football games. In what is every Monday morning quarterback's fantasy, Bob Cowser, Jr., revisits his days as a football star by joining the Watertown Red and Black, the country's oldest semi-professional football team. With the hesitant bing of his wife, Cowser drives the lonely sixty miles to try out for the team in Watertown, New York, a former mill town of soldiers, corrections officers, and blue-collar workers that is a far cry from his leafy campus. Over the next five months he will make this journey many more times as the Red and Black weathers everything from team feuds to agonizing losses to the deployment of some of its players to war. From the first kickoff, "Professor" realizes that he will have to work hard to earn the respect of his hard-edged teammates. The fulfillment of his boyhood dream will teach him some unexpected ons about real life as an adult.