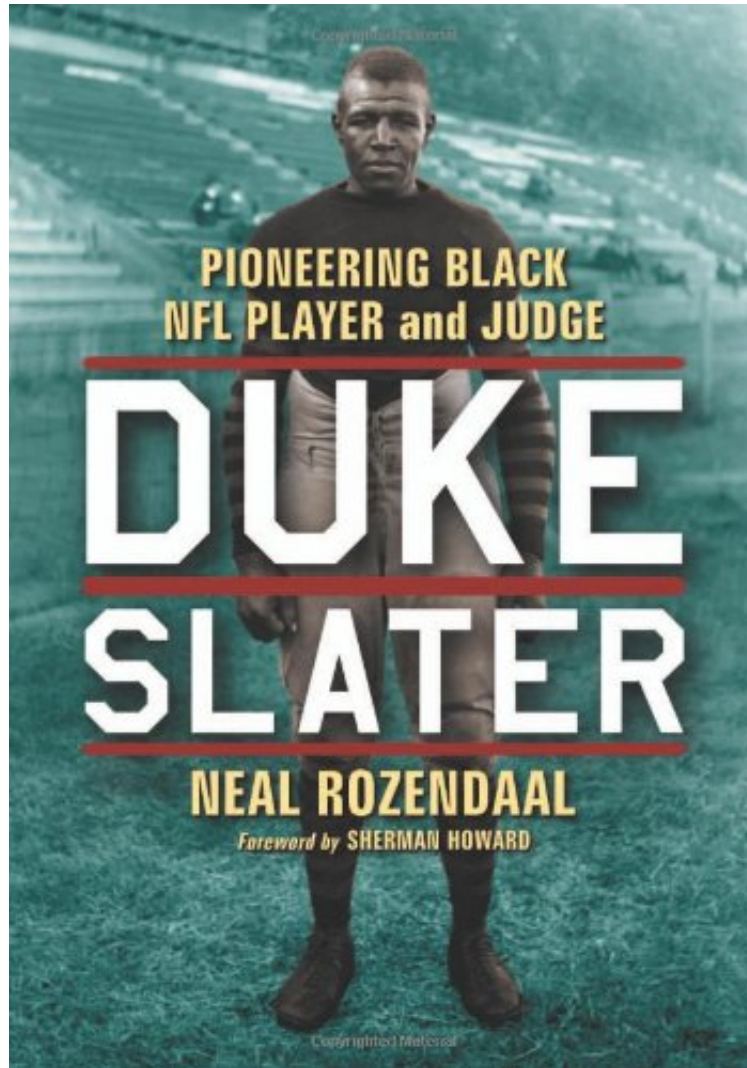


(Free) Duke Slater: Pioneering Black NFL Player and Judge

## Duke Slater: Pioneering Black NFL Player and Judge

*Neal Rozendaal*

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**Neal Rozendaal : Duke Slater: Pioneering Black NFL Player and Judge** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Duke Slater: Pioneering Black NFL Player and Judge:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. "Duke Slater..." is a Triumph!By CustomerNeal Rozendaal's book, "Duke Slater Pioneering Black NFL Player and Judge," is a phenomenal, ground breaking work. It's a biography about an African American who showed tremendous courage to blaze a trail toward greater equality for all. The book is full of inspiring incidents. One example- after a high football school game in 1914 some white students surround Slater, an African American football player from the team that won the game. The white students are angry because their team lost. They want to take out their frustrations on Slater. Slater encourages them to take him on one at a time. With a

good sense of humor Slater shows off his blocking and tackling skills as he faces each white student's challenge. By the end of the incident, the jeers turn to cheers for Duke Slater. This is must reading for anyone interested in football and/or the progress of racial diversity in America. John Terry McConnell

Fred "Duke" Slater was the greatest African American football player of the first half of the 20th century. Born into poverty, he developed into a two-time All-American tackle at the University of Iowa from 1918 to 1921. When the College Football Hall of Fame opened decades later, Duke was the only African American elected in the inaugural class. He then became the first black lineman in National Football League history in 1922, embarking on a remarkable ten-year career in the NFL. Incredibly, Slater was the only African American in the entire NFL for most of the late 1920s, yet he was widely recognized as one of the League's best linemen. But his pioneering influence extended beyond the gridiron. After retirement, he broke ground in the legal field as just the second black judge in Chicago history. On the field or on the bench, the inspirational life of Judge Duke Slater is a true American success story.

About the Author Neal Rozendaal is an economist for the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, D.C. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia.