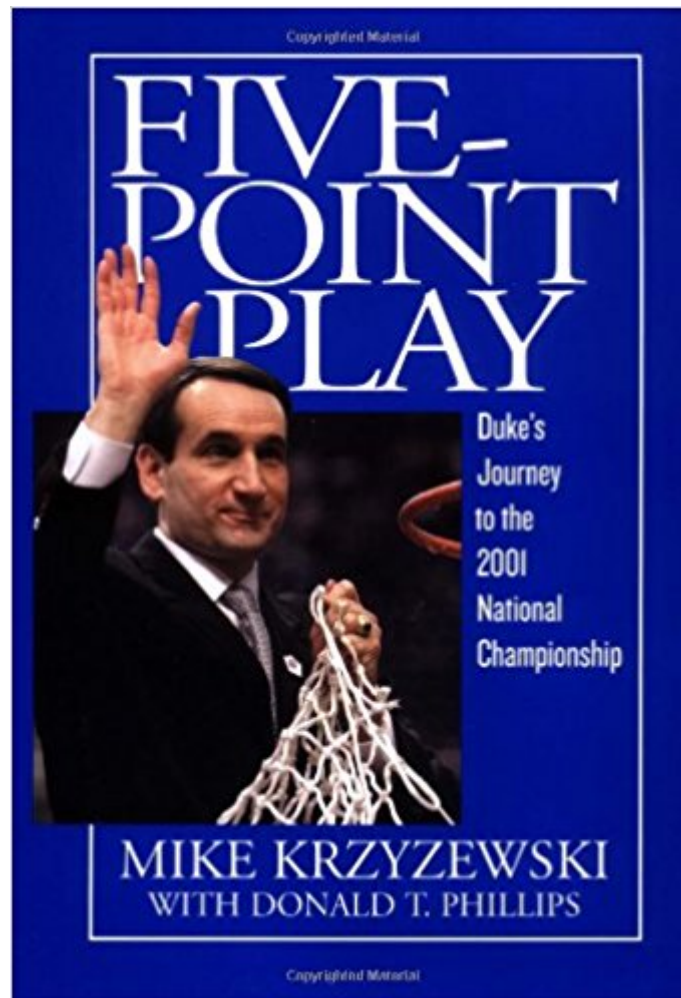




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Five-Point Play: Duke's Journey To The 2001 National Championship



Synopsis

During the 2000-2001 college basketball year, Coach K guided a very young Duke University basketball team through a turbulent season with many unexpected ups and downs but, eventually won the national championship.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Duke University basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski ("Coach K") is a legend-in-progress. He is respected by his peers, revered by his players, and has become an embodiment of the positive aspects of big-time college sports. A serious back problem a few years ago forced him to sit out a year, providing perspective. He's still a passionate competitor but doesn't measure his success solely in wins and losses. Understanding all that, he's still a helluva basketball coach, as evidenced by last season's national championship with an injury-riddled roster. This is an account of that championship season, with Coach K's insights complemented by those of the players and other coaches. It begins with preseason assessments of the players, noting their physical and mental readiness for the six-month grind ahead. It's fascinating to read Coach K's take on an athlete, then learn the player's perspective, and finally see how it all turned out. Watching how Coach K thinks, the reader gains a tangible understanding of the truism that coaching is more about teaching and counseling than it is about drawing plays on a chalkboard. This is an enriching glimpse into the dynamics of a basketball dynasty that values integrity as much as it does hang time. Wes Lukowsky

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Five Point Play is a must-have for any die-hard Duke basketball fan. The book depicts the 2000-2001 season in its entirety from not only Coach Krzyzewski's point of view, but also from the point of view of many of the players who made the national championship possible for the university. All the important highlights of the season are included, from Coach's 500th victory at Cameron Indoor Stadium, to the "Miracle Minute" that led to a surprise victory against Maryland. The book does not just talk about the highlights of the games, however. It accurately portrays Coach's "recipe" for success that helped land the team in the Final Four and, eventually, to the 2001 National Championship. Coach K (his nickname) makes sure that he imposes a low-pressure environment on his players. He attempts to remove any jealousy between the all-star members of the team and forces his players to openly admit their respect for their comrades and allow everyone to make a play, not just the starters or the Senior members (including Shane Battier). He also makes it known that he will not yell at any player who misses a shot (and he keeps that promise) but he will chastise a player who does not attempt a play when there is an opportunity. One of Coach's other important "ingredients" is his idea of "Next Play". In other words, he encourages the team to avoid becoming over-confident after a victory or to obsess about mistakes or misfortunes, and tells them instead to focus on what is coming up. Most importantly, Coach emphasizes his five-point idea of "The Fist": Collective Responsibility (Coach is constantly quoted using "It's our" instead of "It's your" as to imply that everything that happens is the result of the team and not an individual), Communication, Caring, Pride, and Trust. Five Point Play seems to be not only a book about Duke's incredible basketball season, but also a motivational "lecture" as many of the ideals used by Coach can easily be applied to everyday life. Anyone looking for an in-depth account of Duke basketball or for some inspiration from one of college's most respected coaches cannot go wrong with buying this book.

Duke is on TV almost as much as Sponge Bob. I've probably missed five games in twenty-five years (including my time at Duke). After reading this book, I've missed all of them. The behind-the-scenes, locker-room perspective on how Coach K motivates players is powerful and moving. His preparation for each game centers less on the opponent and more on singling out one player on his own team to lift that player's game. His simple, direct message gets through. "Next Play," "Confidence Breeds Courage," "Collective Responsibility" and other catch-phrases of K's apply not only to basketball but to business and to life. How many coaches after winning the National

Championship would bring their team back into the locker room two days later to remind them that the Lessons of the Fist (for what those are you have to read the book) apply not only to basketball but to life? How many, in the same meeting, would goad their players to excel not only on the basketball court but in the classroom and in life? This is a book to treasure.

In Five Point Play, Coach Mike Krzyzewski tries to teach the 2001 Duke basketball team about not only basketball, but life too. By setting examples for the team, Coach shows his players the results of communication, trust, care, responsibility, and pride, the same points that helped them win the national championship. "Coach K" has a crew of talented coaches and players that include Shane Battier, Jason Williams, Carlos Boozer and many more. I like the way that Coach Krzyzewski put this book together, by explaining every pep talk, describing every huddle, and giving the details of every game. Although I wouldn't recommend this book to a North Carolina fan, I hope that every other basketball fan gets a chance to read Five Point Play.

As an avid Duke fan I may be a bit biased, but I felt the book was great with a lot of good insight into the behind the scenes day to day operation of a big time college basketball program. Showing how Coach K relates to each individual in a unique way is interesting.

great book, read it quickly. shipped fast

Anyone that is a Duke fan should read this book. It a great look back on how the team handled issues in their season. Go Duke!!

Book review of "Five-Point Play" "Five-Point Play" by Mike Krzyzewski with Donald T. Phillips is an inspirational story of Dukes journey to the 2001 National Championship. Through the book you will find Coach K's schemes that helped lead the team towards their goals. Also the way he connects his players and his own emotions towards the journey in the book is very entertaining. There are many things I enjoyed about the book, but one thing I liked a lot about it was how often he used personal quotes from himself, other coaches, and players to connect you with there journey. Such quotes like at the end of the book after they have won the championship he says, "I just tried to sing my own song for this year's performance and not worry about things. It made me healthier and helped me coach for the right reasons. I had the most incredible year that I've had with a group of kids. I can't stop smiling." You can always get media and other people's opinions on what

happened, but when you get there personal quotes, you can actually see what they went through to reach their goals. Another reason I loved reading the book was discovering Coach K's elaborate plans and schemes to get players to build off each other and off their situations. But his main principle is the "Five-Point Play

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