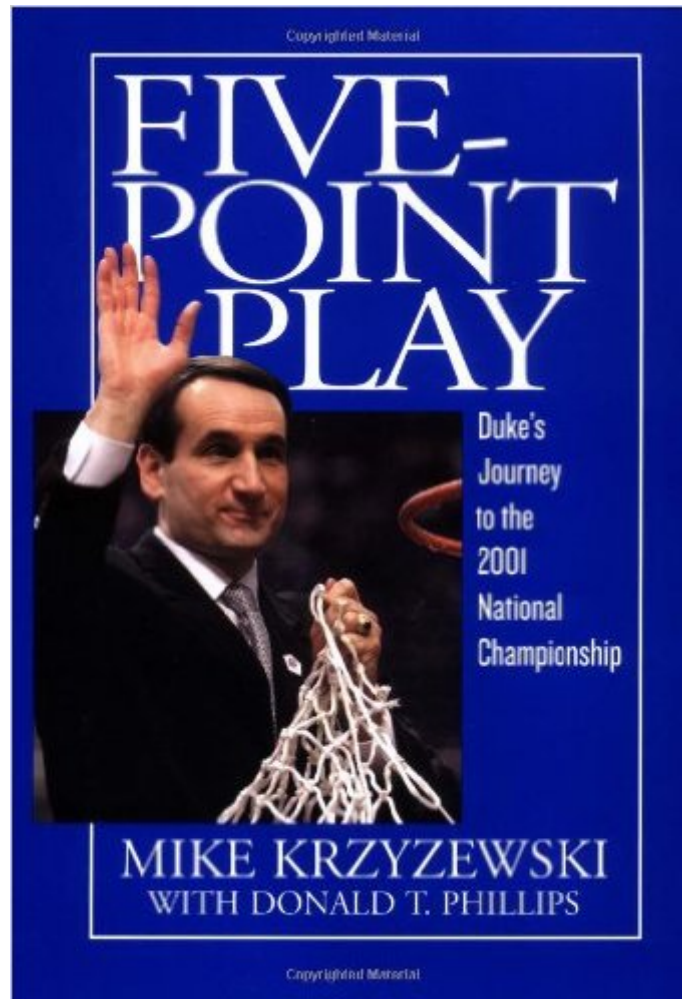


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Five-Point Play: Duke's Journey To The 2001 National Championship



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

Hardcover: 256 pages

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Customer Reviews

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.

Five-Point Play is the perfect companion to the 2000-2001 Basketball Season. I received the book from two days ago, and managed to read it in just a couple of hours. The book is a blow-by-blow account of how the Blue Devils grew and matured during its championship run. Five-Point Play is

written in the same style as the ESPNMAG article that was written from Coach K's perspective. Although I don't think one has to read "Leading with the Heart" to enjoy this book, I do think that one's enjoyment is definitely elevated by doing so. A lot of what Coach K emphasizes in Five-Point Play has distinct echoes from his previous book. Such important lessons as communication, trust, collective responsibility, caring, etc. are big themes that he re-emphasizes to the team. However, the primary difference is that in this book, Coach K follows the season in chronological order, with descriptions of practices and in-game situations. There are also several quotes from the players, coaches and staff that are inserted during these situations that further illuminate the different perspectives on the team. Perhaps one of the most interesting parts of the book describe, in great detail, the team's psyche when Carlos suffered his foot injury and the team's subsequent shift in offensive and defensive strategies. In reality, there was a significant amount of doubt that the team would be able to be competitive by practically everyone on the team-- including Coach K! Fortunately, the Duke Blue Devils overcame this obstacle (among many others) and surged towards the National Championship.

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.

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.

Coach K relives the 2000-2001 championship season. Future NBA players Shane Battier and Mike Dunleavy lead Duke to wins over Maryland and Arizona to win his third national championship. Sorry to be sparse on details, but it's been almost 15 years since I read it. Duke fans, it's just past Coach K's 1000th victory, why not get this now?

Book review of "Five-Point Play" "Five-Point Play" by Mike Krzyzewski with Donald T. Phillips is an inspirational story of Duke's 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 their 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 their 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"; Communication, Trust, Collective Responsibility, Caring, and Pride. He has many other amazing schemes, but to get into detail you would have to read it yourself. Those are just a few reasons why you could get to liking this book. It's a very inspirational journey and you can find tools that Coach K uses for yourself in everyday life. Also you're never going to lose background or information in the story because of all the personal quotes and information. It is a very enjoyable book and I recommend it.

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