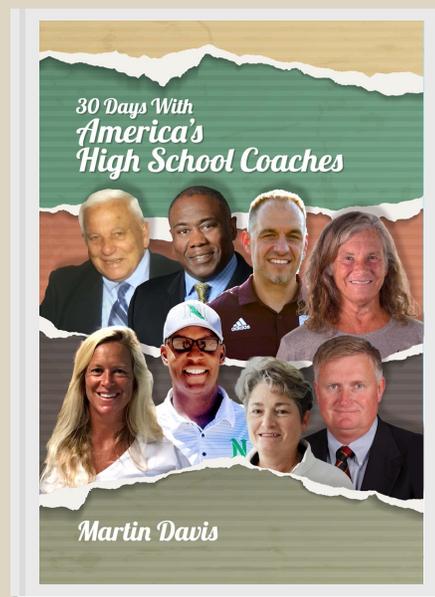


TITLE: 30 Days with America's High School Coaches**SUBTITLE:** True stories of successful coaches using imagination and a strong internal compass to shape tomorrow's leaders**AUTHOR:** Martin A. Davis, Jr**WEBSITE:** www.MartinDavisAuthor.com**PUBLISHER:** Read the Spirit Books, an imprint of Front Edge Publishing, LLC.**Publication:** Pre-sale: December 7, 2021
On-sale: January 25, 2022**FORMATS:** paperback, hardcover and eBook**PAPERBACK:** ISBN-13:978-1-64180-116-4**HARDCOVER:** ISBN-13: 978-1-64180-117-1**ePub:** ISBN -13: 978-1-64180-119-5**iBook:** ISBN-13: 978-1-64180-118-8**SUGGESTED RETAIL:** paperback \$19.99,
hardcover \$27.99,
eBook \$9.99

School coaches shape millions of lives. These 30 short and inspiring stories reveal how coaches do the critical work of building athletes' hearts, minds and bodies to form successful teams, strong individuals and future leaders. The coaches profiled in this book come from every corner of the nation, every socio-economic setting, and coach in more than a dozen varsity sports.

"From these interviews and vignettes come narratives that will keep coaches going—even on days when players are ready to quit," writes veteran journalist G. Jeffrey MacDonald in this book's Foreword. "They will quench the thirst of professionals eager to drink from a well of peers' stories. They pack practical insights for how to build the trust and confidence that teenagers deeply crave and need." Most importantly, he adds, "Although the book is explicitly about coaching high school sports, it delivers many a transferable insight for parents, teachers, pastors and others who'd like to engage the teens in their lives more effectively. Who couldn't use more of that?"

Duncan Newcomer, the Lincoln scholar who wrote the first volume in the 30 Days series - *Thirty Days with Abraham Lincoln* - also emphasizes this book's broad and timely appeal. "There is an audience of good people doing deep work with young people, their bodies and their spirits, that is character-building, virtue-raising and soul-making. They will find in this book and its stories the truths they live and would want told, and they will tell others."

That's because Martin Davis so thoroughly understands the challenges high school coaches, players and their families face every day, writes University of Denver professor Brian Gearity in his Preface to this new book. "For over a dozen years now, I've taught college students what, why and how to coach. Now, I'll be using the stories in this book to show what sport coaching is all about. We will discuss the culture, time period, and psychology of the coaches and the storytellers in this book." *Thirty Days with America's High School Coaches* also comes with a complete Discussion Guide that breaks down the book into themes and sections readers can discuss with friends, colleagues in sports, and people within their communities.



Martin A. Davis Jr. is a journalist who writes about sports for several national publications. He's also a high school football coach and teacher. His writings have appeared in PGA Tour Magazine, The Christian Science Monitor, US News & World Report and Philanthropy Magazine, among many others. When he's not writing, you can often find him on the football practice fields of Riverbend High School in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Available at: Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, Walmart.com and independent bookstores everywhere.

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INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What role have sports played in your life?
2. What inspired you to write this particular book?
3. You're a first time book author, how long did the project take you from beginning to end?
4. Tell us a little bit about how you have organized the chapters of this book.
5. How did you locate the individuals whom you profiled in the work?
6. When speaking with these coaches, what were some of the common themes that you discovered that makes a coach impactful upon the lives of young people?
7. In your opinion, what is the difference between a successful coach at the high school level as opposed to those in the collegiate or professional ranks?
8. Some of the coaches whom you profile were not experts (or even participated) in the sport that they coach, yet have nevertheless been highly successful in their career. How would you weigh the impact of craft knowledge versus the ability to teach and lead as qualities of successful high school coaches?
9. As a high school coach yourself, did you learn anything from these individuals that has impacted how you operate on the sidelines?
10. Is the book currently in distribution?
11. If someone is interested in purchasing a copy of the book for themselves or to use as a reading activity with their coaches, how could they do so?
12. Do you have any other writing projects on the horizon or is there possibly a sequel in the works?
13. If someone wants to talk to you further, how do they get in touch with you?

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ADVANCED PRAISE

"Martin Davis has written a book that highlights the impact that high school coaches have on the lives of their athletes. The key to success both on and off the field are the relationships that each of these coaches have with their players, which extends well beyond a student's high school career. This is a textbook on the value that high school coaches bring to a school community. This is a great read as well as a valuable resource for all coaches, athletes, parents and administrators."

Steve Young, CMAA, Director of Athletics, City School District of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, NY.

"Coaches and athletic administrators nationwide will find that this book can generate helpful conversations about how to hone our crafts and identify best practices in our profession. Although the stories behind the successes of the coaches profiled in this book are unique, they are nevertheless equally inspirational. Reading about these coaches, it becomes very clear how they have made a difference in the lives of the young people in their charge. Davis clearly illustrates the importance of relationships, program culture, community involvement and investment, and program philosophy in guiding these coaches. At its core, Davis's work reveals that the true essence of coaching is teaching and that the most effective coaches are those who forge connections with their student-athletes. The impact of each of the coaches described in this book extends far beyond the playing fields and courts; they are purveyors of lessons and skills that have transformed lives."

Gary Stevens, Athletic Administrator, Thornton Academy, Saco, Maine, and Assistant Director of the Maine Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

"I once knew a coach who failed—at swearing. When he got angry, he'd often blurt out this: "By damn ... " By damn? Instead of paying attention to what we players had just done wrong, we had to work hard to hold in our laughter. What this man needed was this new book by Marty Davis. Not that it would have taught him to swear. But it would have reminded him why he was a coach in the first place: Not to win games but to give healthy, generative direction to young lives. Any coach who can learn that from this book will—no matter his or her final won-loss record—be a great coach, by damn."

Bill Tammeus is the author of *Love, Loss and Endurance: A 9/11 Story of Resilience and Hope in an Age of Anxiety* and is a past president of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists.

"Martin Davis has a deep understanding of the lasting impression, both positive and negative, that a high school coach can have on teenage student-athletes. There is something to be learned from each coach Martin includes in this collection of 30 true stories. These are gems that show us how coaches can come to love and inspire their student-athletes. If you want to be inspired, this is a must read!"

Michael J. Groves is the President of EMC Planning Group, a land use and environmental planning firm and is Head Baseball Coach for Monterey High School.

ADVANCED PRAISE

"High school sports are an idea as unique as America itself. The dedicated men and women who coach our children live at the intersection of family, school, and community life. They are all over-worked, and in most cases underpaid. Their reward comes in the form of seeing young people reach their potential, in and out of sport. In his book, Martin Davis provides a never-before-seen insider's perspective of the power coaches can have on youth, schools, and communities in America. Through his reporting, Davis shares insight into what makes America's high school coaches successful across sports, school types, and communities. More than that, he highlights real-world examples of what allows coaches to excel across their many roles. This book is a must read not only for coaches, but for coach educators, school administrators, and community leaders as well."

Travis Dorsch, Ph.D., Founding Director Utah State University Families in Sport Lab.

"The vocation of being a coach is central to the life of so many young people. Coaches impact their players on so many levels, which in turn creates enormous responsibility. Martin Davis' book is an important read for anyone who possesses the job title: Coach. This book offers quick wisdom that will last a lifetime and impact many young athletes for years to come. You don't have to be an elite college or professional coach to make a difference and the stories of these coaches in this book remind us all of the vital role we play when add the word Coach to our name."

Jen Brooks, CMAA, Athletic Director, Ursuline Academy, Saint Louis, Missouri.

"*Thirty Days with America's High School Coaches* is a must read for all who hold dearly our formative years in sports. I personally appreciate and recognize the important role my coaches had as influencers and mentors. They left indelible imprints on my life, teaching me valuable lessons about teamwork, vision, decision-making, endurance, values of winning and the lessons of losing, honor, and sportsmanship."

Howard Brown, author of *Shining Brightly*.