

John Wooden Books, DVD, and Web Sites

[NOTE: Most of the comments below are copied and/or adapted from a variety of sources.]

Books:

John Wooden with Steve Jamison. Wooden: A Lifetime of Observations & Reflections On & Off the Court. (Contemporary Books), 1997. (An abridged version is available on audio CD, 2004.)

A compilation of the tenets and teachings of arguably the greatest basketball coach of all time. Wooden's codes are of the traditional kind, centering on family, faith, friends off the court and organization, dedication, and preparation on the hardwood. The former UCLA coach is above all a teacher, and the lessons he imparts here are derived from a lifetime of learning and achievement.

Andrew Hill with John Wooden. Be Quick – But Don't Hurry! (Simon and Schuster), 2001.

Former CBS television executive discusses leadership and life principles he learned from his college basketball coach - legendary UCLA head coach John Wooden. Hill also describes his renewed relationship with Wooden in touching and heartfelt terms. This is one of the best books on John Wooden's ideas. Highly recommended.

John Wooden and Jay Carty. Coach Wooden: One-On-One. (Regal Books), 2003.

This religious book of devotions has 60 daily readings. It is the result of one-on-one conversations between basketball's legendary coach and teacher, John Wooden, and Jay Carty, former Laker and one-time Wooden assistant. Each of the two-page readings contains life wisdom from Wooden, application and reflection from Carty, and a daily Scripture reading and prayer. While this book is from a conservative protestant point of view, those with other religious views will still find much benefit.

John Wooden with Steve Jamison and others. Inch and Miles: The Journey to Success. (Perfect Learning Co.), 2003.

For ages 4-8. An inchworm (Inch) and a mouse (Miles) have one last assignment before summer vacation begins. Their wise owl teacher (Mr. Wooden) has asked them the meaning of success. Using a magic silver whistle, Inch and Miles set out on a journey to discover the blocks of the Pyramid of Success and learn how to try 100 percent to be their personal best. Great for kids and parents. *For more adventures with Inch and Miles, check out Wooden's short paperback books, Adventure Underground (2006), Heroes of Beesville (2006), and Fiesta (2007)

John Wooden with Jack Tobin. They Call Me Coach. (McGraw-Hill), 2003.

New edition of Wooden's autobiography with a new forward by Bill Walton. John Wooden reflects on his record-breaking career, his inspired life behind the scenes, and how his top players went on to shape and change the NBA. With worldly wisdom, Wooden offers a very personal history of an unforgettable time in college basketball, answering the most-asked questions about his life, his career, and the players who made his team unbeatable.

John Wooden with Steve Jamison. My Personal Best: Life Lessons from an All-American Journey. (McGraw-Hill), 2004.

Coach Wooden reveals the educational journey he took throughout his legendary life, from his earliest days on a small Indiana farm to the glory of his historic record-setting UCLA dynasty. Wooden introduces us to the men and women who shaped him and the many important life lessons they taught along the way. Also included are rare and never-before-seen photos from Wooden's private collection.

Steve Bisheff. John Wooden: An American Treasure. (Cumberland House Publishing), 2004.

On the year of the 40th anniversary of his first national championship at UCLA, and more than 30 years after his autobiography, this new biography reveals why this kind, endearing, unbelievably intelligent coaching legend, even at age 94, remains one of the more fascinating, extraordinary, yet humble men of this, or any, generation. Ultimately he has become America's Teacher as much as its most celebrated coach.

John Wooden and Jay Carty. Coach Wooden's Pyramid of Success: Building Blocks for a Better Life. (Regal Books), 2005.

Another book of devotions. This one is based on Wooden's Pyramid of Success. The 32 daily readings take an in-depth look at the blocks and mortar of the pyramid.

John Wooden and Jay Carty. Coach Wooden's Pyramid of Success Playbook: Applying the Pyramid of Success to Your Life. (Regal Books), 2005.

Condensed version of Coach Wooden's Pyramid of Success: Building Blocks for a Better Life. It is a pocket-sized book that is easily carried.

John Wooden with Steve Jamison. Wooden on Leadership. (McGraw-Hill), 2005.

One of the lesser-known aspects of Wooden is the notebooks in which, beginning in 1948, he regularly recorded his thoughts, inspirations, and life lessons. In *Wooden on Leadership*, the legendary coach and his longtime collaborator Steve Jamison combine the best of those notebooks with Wooden's far-more-celebrated Pyramid of Success to create a leadership skills guide designed to help anyone develop character, conviction, and remarkable achievement. Highly recommended.

Swen Nater and Ronald Gallimore. You Haven't Taught Until They Have Learned: John Wooden's Teaching Principles and Practices. (Fitness Information Technology), 2005.

John Wooden was a great coach because he was a master teacher. What Wooden has learned from others in the classroom and perfected on the practice court are fundamental principles of effective teaching, which are conveyed in this book. Co-author Swen Nater, one of Wooden's former players at UCLA, provides insightful first-hand accounts on the many life lessons he learned from Wooden that he has applied to his life since becoming a teacher himself.

Pat Williams with David Wimbush. How to Be Like Coach Wooden: Life Lessons from Basketball's Greatest Leader. (Health Communications), 2006.

One of the Williams' "How to Be Like" books - character biographies that focus on drawing out important lessons from the life of their subjects.

John Wooden and Steve Jamison. The Essential Wooden: A Lifetime of Lessons on Leaders and Leadership. (McGraw-Hill), 2006.

In 200 short lessons, Coach Wooden offers his hard-won wisdom on building an organization that performs at its full potential under pressure, from preparing and training the team to instilling personal drive and dedication. He takes his famous Pyramid of Success to the next level, filling the entire book with his straight-shooting personality and keen insight on human nature. Wooden shares rarely seen preseason letters to his players and also includes previously unpublished analyses from former players, including Bill Walton and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. Highly Recommended.

John Wooden and Steve Jamison. Coach Wooden's Leadership Game Plan for Success: 12 Lessons for Extraordinary Performance and Personal Excellence. (McGraw-Hill), 2009.

New book due in March 2009! Based on the John Wooden Leadership Course.

DVD:

John Wooden. Values, Victory and Peace of Mind. (Santa Fe Ventures, Inc./Steve Jamison Productions), 2003 (DVD).

In this intelligently produced DVD, John Wooden presents his philosophy for success in life that transcends the world of basketball. Wooden, at the age of 90, sits before an intimate audience and presents his “Pyramid of Success.” Wooden, speaking in a gentle and articulate manner, offers anecdotes from his decades of coaching, and punctuates his lessons with vintage game clips showing some of the great players he coached. Bill Walton, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, and Phil Jackson appear in interviews to speak of how much they learned from Wooden. Besides imparting lessons, this is an insightful look at Wooden's remarkable personality. Highly recommended.

[NOTE: The books and DVD above are available at Amazon.com.]

Web Sites on the Internet:

www.coachwooden.com

The Official Web Site of Coach John Wooden. Large and intensive web site with lots of pictures, audio/video clips of Coach Wooden, etc.

www.andyhillspeaks.com

Andy Hill's motivational speaking web site. Includes articles and video/audio – including a great video segment with Wooden and Hill from HBO's “Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel.”

www.woodencourse.com

The John R. Wooden Course is a professional and personal development curriculum based on the principles of legendary basketball coach John Wooden. Developed in collaboration with Coach Wooden, the course delivers a teachable point-of-view on the most important fundamentals required to develop your players and empower your team to achieve and maintain extraordinary levels of performance.