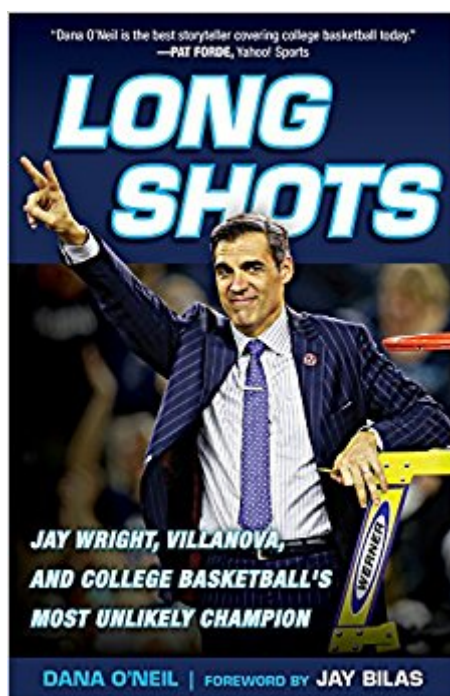


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Long Shots: Jay Wright, Villanova, And College Basketball's Most Unlikely Champion



Synopsis

31 years after the Perfect Game – Villanova's shocking national championship upset over Georgetown – Nova struck again with the Perfect Shot, taking down North Carolina in one of the most thrilling finishes in sports history. The shot and second national title in school history were the culmination of 15 years of Coach Jay Wright painstakingly building the unheralded program, through ups and downs, heartbreak and triumph. In Long Shots: Jay Wright, Villanova, and College Basketball's Most Unlikely Champion, ESPN senior writer Dana O'Neil uses exclusive access to Coach Wright and Nova basketball to delve into the inner-workings of a championship program. In the spirit of A Season on the Brink, O'Neil not only explores behind-the-scenes of the historic 2015-2016 NCAA championship season but also the improbable path that the Nova program took to college basketball immortality. In overcoming a disappointing NCAA Tournament track record, the breakup of the Big East conference as we knew it, and Nova's underdog status among traditional college hoops powerhouses, Jay Wright and his team provided the blueprint for how a “have-not” can prevail over the blue bloods the right way – the Villanova Basketball Way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jay Bilas has gained prominence as a national college basketball analyst for ESPN and is also a lawyer. He resides in Charlotte, North Carolina. Dana O'Neil is a senior writer at ESPN and one of the most respected college basketball writers in the industry. She has extensive experience covering sports and Villanova in the Philadelphia area and for a national audience on ESPN. She

lives in Newtown, Pennsylvania.

Excellent book, can't put it down. Makes you feel like you were there for this remarkable run. Go Nova Nation

A must read for any Villanova hoops fan, or, indeed, any serious college basketball fan. This book gives great insight into a very successful college basketball program. By this, I don't just mean wins and losses, but, more importantly, a winning and healthy culture. This is a program built with players who, for the most part, stay for four years and graduate. There aren't any lottery picks on this team. We get to learn about these players in this book. This is a program that focuses on process and being the best that they can be. A lot of coaches preach this, but you get the sense that Jay Wright really believes this--and that his players believe it too. Championships are "the icing on the cake," but what's really important is preparing and playing the right way and understanding the importance of commitment to one another on a team.

Terrific book on an amazing team's journey to a title. O'Neill's book doesn't just recount the season but provides great insight into the coach and players who made it all happen. Each chapter highlights a different individual or aspect of Villanova's season and shows why the team were winners both on and off the court. A fun and informative read

This is a a very good book about Villanova's 2016 National Basketball Championship, and the coaches, players and others who were a part of the event. It includes lots of details about how Coach Wright and the team became champions. If you like Villanova and college basketball you'll enjoy the book.

If you love college basketball this is a great book. Not only does it detail the championship game but there are chapters on the key players on the Villanova team. Personally I'm not a Big East fan but it is interesting to read about the beginning of the conference years ago to the breakdown of the conference then to the rebirth.

I'm a Villanova grad so I'm biased. If you're into the purest form of CBB; 4 year players, overlooked recruits, and a real team first philosophy than this is an excellent book. A nice reprieve from the sinister college sports landscape. Villanova won the right way, and Dana documents it very well!

Very interesting and solid book. Good stories about the players and the team to connect and win it all. Not a Nova homer but like the way they play: hard.

This book is a college basketball fan's dream. So well written and tells a story through many viewpoints. I cannot even count the number of times this book gave me goosebumps.

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