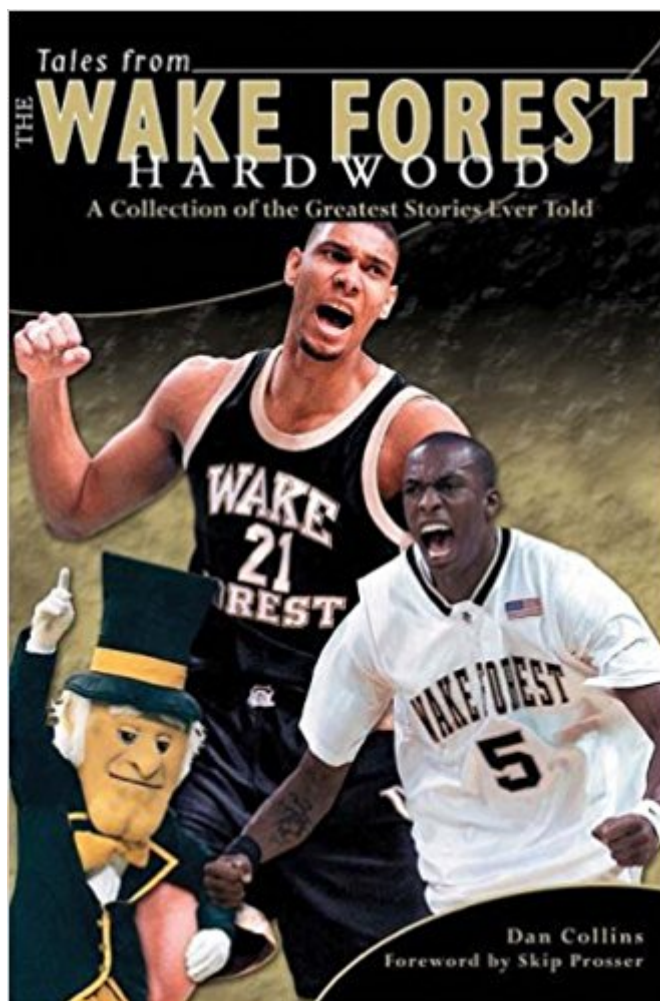




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# Tales From The Wake Forest Hardwood



## Synopsis

Based on the gold-standard currency of tradition and success, few college basketball programs are richer in history than Wake Forest University. An original member of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the Demon Deacons have provided the acclaimed league with much of its color and character, not to mention many of its colorful characters. *Tales from the Wake Forest Hardwood* traces that vibrant history back to the birth of the league and delves even deeper into a past that began with the first intercollegiate basketball game played in the state of North Carolina in 1906; back when the United States consisted of 45 states and the state of basketball was mostly a curiosity. The book looks at great coaches, like Richard Crozier, the director of the university gymnasium who introduced basketball to Wake Forest and served as the school's first basketball coach; Coach Murray Greason, whose love for the game of basketball was second only to his love for his beagle hounds; and Coach Bones McKinney, the hyperactive Baptist minister whose dual, and at times dueling, religions were based on the Bible and basketball. Author Dan Collins also provides stories about legendary players, like Muggsy Bogues, the 5'3" guard who defied the description of basketball as a big man's game, and the glory days of Tim Duncan, the onetime aspiring Olympic swimmer from the Virgin Islands who grew up to become one of the best basketball players on the planet. *Tales from the Wake Forest Hardwood* chronicles how Wake Forest basketball could survive the university's relocation from the quaint town of Wake Forest to the city of Winston-Salem without ever leaving behind the hearts of its many devoted fans and followers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dan Collins has been a fixture of ACC basketball since the early 1970s. He has worked for the Winston-Salem Journal since 1978 and has covered the Wake Forest beat for the newspaper since 1992. A 1974 graduate of the University of North Carolina, Collins has been fortunate enough to watch North Carolina State great David Thompson in his prime, cover every ACC Tournament since 1974, and report on every game of Tim Duncan's Wake Forest career. He lives in Winston-Salem with his wife and two children. In his spare time Collins plays croquet and guitar and writes country songs.

Great book for a Wake Forest basketball fan. Thanks Dan Collins for coverage of Deacon sports.

Great blurbs/insight/history and "funnies" about Wake players. Recommend to all Deac fans. The vendors were wonderful to ship securely, and as promised.

It's been almost a century since basketball started at Wake Forest (1906). And from that beginning, not long after basketball was invented, there has been time to develop a lot of history. A history of events, certainly, but especially a history of people: the team, the players, the coaches. Dan Collins has covered Wake Forest for the Winston-Salem Journal since 1978. He's collected a century worth of stories into this small book. It's clearly aimed at the Wake Forest fan. This is not basketball in general, this is Wake Forest basketball. Well maybe a little bit about North Carolina basketball, but not much. Beyond that, the writing is excellent, it flows quickly and is absolutely filled with amusing anecdotes. If you're a fan....

Collins not only does a superior job of telling the tales, but also characterizing the people who lived them. At Wake Forest it is not so much the story as the people. The university is one built upon relationships. This is a book for any generation of Wake Forest or ACC fan because one can open it and connect to the players and coaches with whom they are familiar. Collins offers an accurate and unbiased account. He has witnessed many of the events he described in this book first-hand as a veteran journalist and Wake Forest beat reporter for the Winston-Salem Journal, Wake Forest's hometown newspaper. Open to any page and enjoy!

This book is an excellent read, not just for Wake Forest fans, but for all sports fans. I recommend it highly!

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