

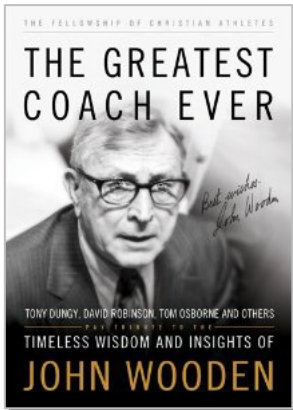
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Ben Laurro, Pure Publicity
818.753.4056 or Ben@purepublicity.com

Remembering the Legacy of Coach John Wooden

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Honors Legendary Coach with Tribute Book

Los Angeles, California - The passing of Coach John Wooden marked the loss of one of the greatest coaches in sporting history. Wooden coached 27 years at UCLA, finishing with a record of 620-147 and 10 national championships. His teams at Indiana State and UCLA over 29 seasons displayed athletic excellence, winning 47 NCAA tournament games. Coach Wooden himself is the only individual to have been inducted as both a college player and coach into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.



Decades after he retired and even after his recent death, Coach Wooden's legacy, faith and character continues to guide new generations of athletes, coaches, and people of all walks of life.

In *The Greatest Coach Ever*, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes features timeless wisdom from Coach John Wooden and 40 tributes of respect and admiration from athletes, coaches, and other influential leaders reflecting on how Coach changed their life and through his leadership principles found in his

Pyramid of Success.

David Robinson, Tony Dungy, Tom Osborne, Bobby Bowden, Joe Girardi, Sue Semrau, Keith Erickson, Tamika Catchings, Pat Williams, Mike Singletary and Jim Tressel are among the contributors who offer reminiscent reflections of Coach Wooden's impact and inspiration reflected in his professional and personal life. Wooden's core qualities included patience, respect for others, integrity, honesty and his dedication to his faith and family.

Writing in FCA's *Greatest Coach Ever*, **FCA's Executive Vice President of Ministry Programs, Dan Britton**, states, "Coach Wooden's greatness was reflected in focusing on others. He was committed to teaching, inspiring, and motivating others; he empowered his players to do great things....Coach Wooden has blessed us beyond measure because he used the game of basketball to coach people about life. As a result, we are all changed."

President and CEO of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and former NFL Head Coach Les Steckel writes of Coach Wooden, "His success transcends on-the-court achievement and speaks to larger issues such as integrity, personal relationships, and respect. What made Coach Wooden different? I believe the reason he was so successful was because Coach Wooden modeled his life after the example of Jesus Christ."

Additional contributions include **Gary Cunningham** (Former NCAA Forward and Head Coach UCLA), **Steve Alford** (Head Coach, Men's Basketball, University of New Mexico), **Doug McIntosh** (Former NCAA Center, UCLA), **Kyle Korver** (NBA Guard, Utah Jazz), **Jerry Colangelo** (Executive Director, USA Basketball) and **Sherry Coale** (Head Coach, Women's Basketball, University of Oklahoma).

Product Details: Paperback: 206 pages. Publisher: Regal (July 2010) ISBN-10: 0830755403. ISBN-13: 978-0830755400

###

Tributes from *The Greatest Coach Ever* Include:

- **Bobby Bowden, Former Head Coach, Football, Florida State University** – *God’s Playbook*: “Coach Wooden went through 14 seasons at UCLA before he hit the top. Just like Wooden, I’ve drawn my strength from the Bible...it’s been my faith that’s got me through tough times.”
- **Tony Dungy, Former Head Coach, Indianapolis Colts** – *Constructive Correction*: “Coach Wooden’s style of teaching and correction greatly influenced me as an NFL head coach. He taught me that the goal of correction is to change a player’s mindset and speak to his or her heart.”
- **Gary Cunningham, Former NCAA Forward and Head Coach, UCLA** – *Be Prepared*: “Coach believed it didn’t matter what the other team was doing, as long as his players were prepared to execute the game plan, good things would happen. That might not always mean winning, but in his opinion, doing one’s best was the true gauge of success.”
- **Joe Girardi, Manager, New York Yankees** – *Giving Up Control*: “So many of the things that have happened in my life wouldn’t have been what I would have picked...Coach trusted God for his future and remained a man of his word and stayed true to the path God had chosen for him.”
- **Doug McIntosh, Former NCAA Center, UCLA** – *Shaping Up*: “Coach Wooden aimed at getting us in the best condition possible, but not just to win a championship. He knew that such conditioning would help us later in life. He wanted to help his teams develop into great men, not just great players.”
- **Napoleon Kaufman, Former NFL Running Back, Oakland Raiders** – *Prayer Works*: “When it came to off-the-court matters, Coach Wooden encouraged his players to pray when they faced difficult times and tough decisions. That’s because Coach Wooden himself was a man of prayer and recognized its significance.”
- **Sue Semrau, Head Coach, Women’s Basketball, Florida State University** – *Noble Goals*: “Coach Wooden, like me, was highly competitive and had a strong desire to win. But his emphasis was first and foremost on improving as coach and helping his players improve as a team and as young men.”
- **Mike Singletary, Head Coach, San Francisco 49ers** – *Marked by Passion*: “Coach Wooden was passionate about investing in his players. He knew how to make them champions on the basketball court, but he also wanted to make them champions in the way they dressed, in the way they carried themselves, in the way they treated their girlfriends or wives, and in the way they made a contribution to their community.”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Ben Laurro, Pure Publicity
818.753.4056 or Ben@purepublicity.com

- **Tom Osborne, Former Head Coach, Football, University of Nebraska – *All for One*:**
“To have a great team, there must be a great deal of loyalty, mutual trust, genuine caring and love for other teammates. Perhaps that’s why Coach Wooden’s great success at UCLA continues to stand out in today’s impatient, fast- paced world. He did it the right way and he reaped the benefits of the loyalty he showed his family, his players and everyone he touched.”
- **Keith Erickson, Former NCAA and NBA Forward, UCLA and Los Angeles Lakers – *The Greater Good*:** “Coach Wooden was all business and he was very fair. If you could contribute and help, you would play, If you couldn’t contribute, you weren’t going to get a lot of playing time, but you were still part of the team. With that approach, Coach Wooden always managed to foster a remarkable spirit of cooperation.”

###

About FCA

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the heart and soul in sports, is touching millions of lives...one heart at a time. Since 1954, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ. FCA is the largest Christian sports ministry in the world and focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering, and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ.

Available for Interviews:

Dan Britton serves as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes’ Executive Vice President of Ministry Programs. He has been on FCA staff since 1991 first serving in Virginia for thirteen years. Dan oversees the ministry advancement, including Camps, Coaches Ministry, Campus Ministry, Community Ministry, International Ministry, Inner-City Ministry, Training, and Resource Development. Prior to FCA, Dan was a standout lacrosse player at the University of Delaware and then played indoor professional lacrosse for four years with the Baltimore Thunder.

The coauthor of recently published *WisdomWalks*. Dan is a frequent speaker at schools, churches, conferences, camps, conventions, and retreats. He is married to Dawn, and they reside in Overland Park, Kansas, with their three children.

Jay Carty has played for the Los Angeles Lakers, coached basketball at his alma mater, Oregon State, and been a part of John Wooden’s UCLA coaching staff. After hanging up his basketball shoes, Carty entered ministry. He was a traveling preacher for 27 years and has written eight books, including *Coach Wooden’s Pyramid of Success*, *Darrell Waltrip One-on-One* and *Playing with Fire*. Jay and his wife, Mary, live in Hawaii.

###

Suggested Interview Questions:

1. What were some of the qualities that are most reflective of Coach John Wooden?
2. How did FCA become involved with Coach John Wooden? How has he inspired FCA as an organization?
3. Why did FCA decide to release a book based on Coach Wooden's wisdom and his impact on others?
4. Coach Wooden has been recognized as the greatest coach ever. Why wasn't he comfortable with that title?
5. Do you believe Coach Wooden would be a success in sports today if he was just starting out?
6. What were some of the coaching attributes that made Coach a success and an inspiration to countless people?
7. What role did faith play in Coach's life - both on and off the court?
8. Who are some of the contributors to *The Greatest Coach Ever*? What impact did Coach have on their lives?
9. What are the four common attributes of a great coach?
10. How would Coach want others to remember him?
11. Who are some other athletes that are involved with FCA?