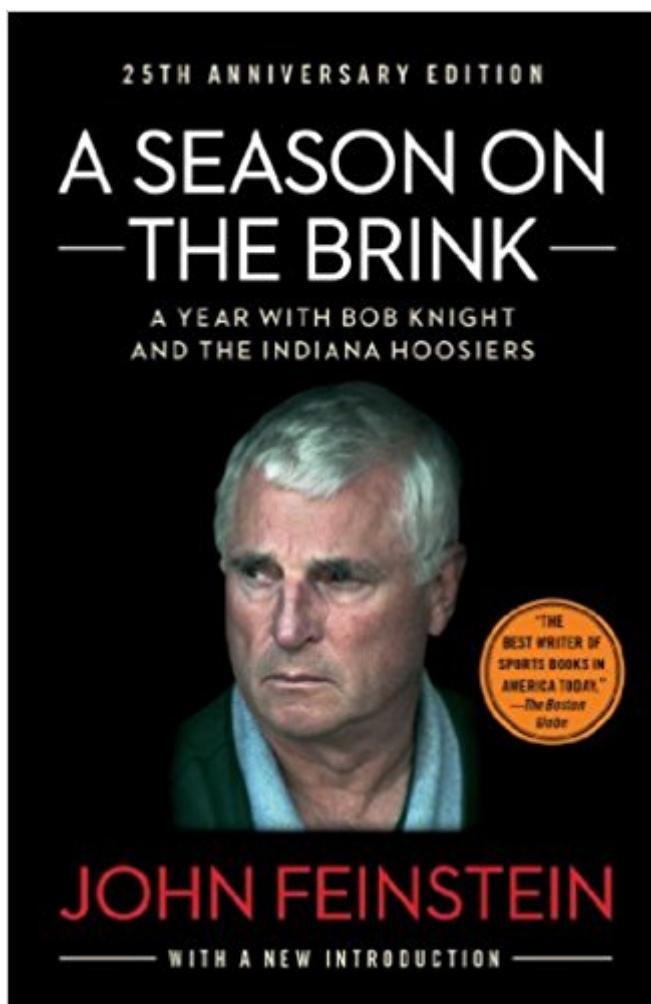


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# A Season On The Brink: A Year With Bob Knight And The Indiana Hoosiers



## **Synopsis**

Twenty-five years after it spent sixteen weeks at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list, John Feinstein's *A Season on the Brink* remains the classic of the genre and an unforgettable chronicle of his year spent following the Indiana Hoosiers and their fiery coach Bob Knight. This anniversary edition features an updated package and a new Introduction by Feinstein. Twenty-five years after it spent sixteen weeks atop the New York Times bestseller list, *A Season on the Brink* remains the most celebrated basketball book ever written. Granted unprecedented access to legendary coach Bob Knight and the Indiana Hoosiers during the 1985-86 season, John Feinstein saw and heard it all—practices, team meetings, strategy sessions, and midgame huddles—as the team worked to return to championship form. The result is an unforgettable chronicle that not only captures the drama and pressure of big-time college basketball but also paints a vivid portrait of a complex, brilliant coach as he walks the fine line between genius and madness.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Why is *A Season on the Brink* the bestselling sports book of all time? The answer is easy: Bobby Knight. Audaciously brilliant, exasperatingly volatile, and never boring, the Indiana University basketball coach is Greek drama and comedy neatly wrapped in a red sweater. Like all high-strung people, Knight is particularly interesting when things don't go according to his playbook. John Feinstein had the good fortune to follow Knight and his Hoosiers through a difficult 1985-86 campaign; that Feinstein could watch that season attached to Knight's hip gives *A Season on the Brink* its sights and its sounds. That such closeness allowed entry into Knight's heart gives the book

its fury. The combination is irresistible. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Washington Post sportswriter Feinstein spent the 19851986 season with the Indiana University basketball team. The season began under ominous circumstances because the 19841985 record had been a losing one, and its highlight (or, more accurately, nadir) had been coach Bob Knight's hurling a chair across the court in the Purdue game. His outbursts are central in this story, and it is not always clear when they are staged or if he is out of control. Feinstein writes that Knight believes in coaching through fear and, although those around him assert that he has learned to be more patient, he will not strike readers as noteworthy for his emotional control. So, despite his legendary loyalty to his friends and his acts of charity, Knight emerges here as an unlovely human being.

Photos not seen by PW. First serial to Sports Illustrated. (November Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I read A Season on the Brink and found it entertaining. It is the account of the 1985-86 basketball season of the Indiana Hoosiers. Feinstein is a colorful and straightforward writer and he shoots from the hip. Knight may not have been very happy with the resulting book, but surely he couldn't expect Feinstein to sugar coat him as a coach who never lost his temper, never made bad decisions, never crossed the line. I believe much of Knight's public has a love-hate attitude toward him. He can be a warm friend and it is evident that, when someone he cares about is in trouble, he goes to great lengths to comfort, encourage, help in any way he can. The man has heart, but he also has a dark side. Did he abuse players through the years? I would have to say yes. I'm amazed in one sense that he got so many blue chip players to play for him. I would have refused in a heartbeat, knowing that he would crush me with his screaming and his profanity. But I guess it speaks to his amazing reputation as a smart coach that so many players gravitated to his program. Players learned a great deal from him. I must admit I resented the constant psychological games Knight played with his team. He would curse, cajole, encourage, give pep talks, scream in-your-face dress downs, and then act as if nothing unusual had ever happened. But in regard to this book, I still say it was entertaining to read and it's a great basketball story.

I have long been interested in Bob Knight and what he is really like. This book certainly explained that. While I learned things that made me like, or maybe understand, Knight better, there was much that made me think he is a tyrant and bully. Maybe you have to be to win national championships. I

thought it was awful that Knight got away with temper tantrums in games because the refs didn't want to deal with his temper or have to eject him and have to deal with that. The parts about Knight and his psyche were interesting, but I felt too much of the book was a blow by blow account of games. I am a fan, but that really didn't interest me a whole lot, except for when it cast light on Knight or a player.

This is the 2nd Feinstein book that I have read and it was as good as the 1st one, Let Me Tell You A Story. His writing about Bob Knight didn't leave much out, besides some curse words. Its crazy to think about the access that he had to this team. He was able to paint a picture so real to the reader that it makes you relive, that college season as an Indiana Fan. Bob Knight truly is one of the best who ever coached the game. His mind games and temper tantrums are sometimes crazy but have proven to be effective and Feinstein was able to capture them in print. Amazing, if you are a sports fan you should get your hands on any Feinstein book. If you are a college basketball fan get your hands on A Season On The Brink

I am not a huge basketball fan and I found this book to be a wonderful read. I've heard about this book for years and now I know why. You will be hard pressed to find a book that contains this amount of detail. The basketball scenes described are riveting. Knight though flawed comes across as a principled and loyal man who's inability to control his temper is baffling. I'd recommend this book to anyone who's interested about the inner workings of a team.

I didn't much like Bobby Knight before I read this book and now I like him even less. He needs a lot of counseling (which he will never accept since he's so perfect. Just ask him.)

Thought it was pretty. Good redundant in parts. Some stuff over and over a bit like Bks personality I guess.

Great insight into the general and his world in the mid eighties...I watched much of the season on TV as a kid...the helped connect all of the dots and see how a mastermind works

My favorite book

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