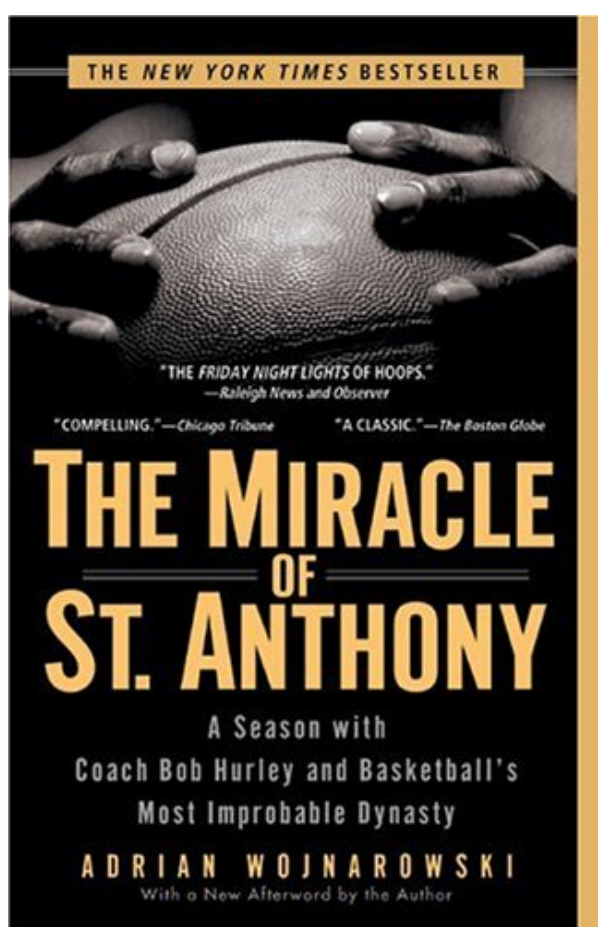
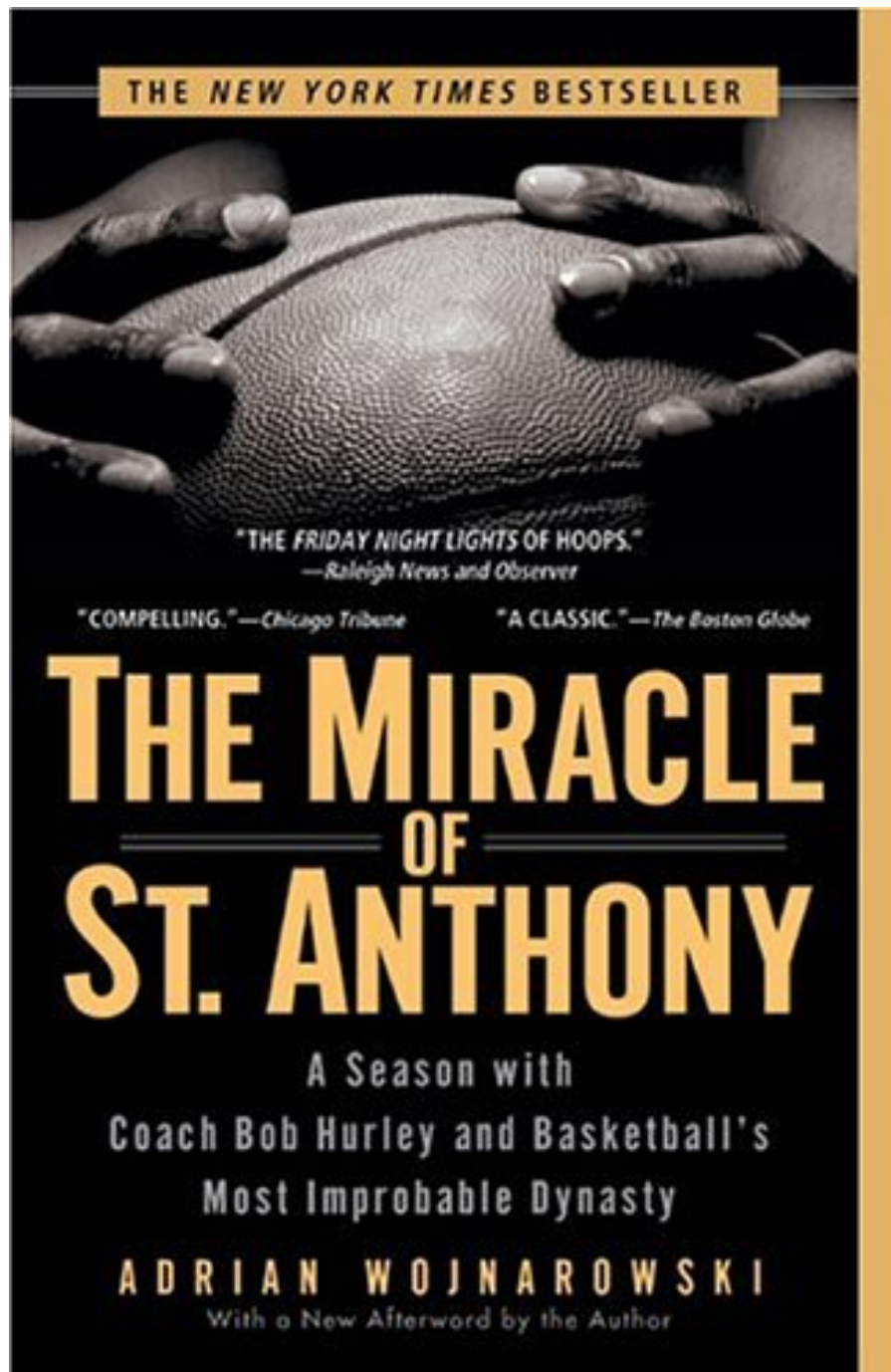


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In a city mired in endless decay, where the youth suffer through all the horrors of urban blight, hope comes in a most unassuming form: a tiny brick schoolhouse run by two Felician nuns where a singular basketball genius takes teenagers from the mean streets of Jersey City and turns them into champions on the hardcourt. Coach Bob Hurley had been working miracles at St. Anthony High School for over thirty years, winning state and national championships and offering his players rescue from their surroundings through college scholarships, when he met his most dysfunctional team yet. In *The Miracle of St. Anthony* Adrian Wojnarowski follows Hurley through a gripping and heartrending season as he struggles to lead a troubled team to glory through his unparalleled understanding of the game and his ceaseless determination to see no more children lost to these streets.

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A testament for all athletic coaches!

By Richard Lorenzo

This book is a testament to all those high school basketball coaches, who dedicate their lives to teaching kids to succeed in life through the discipline they endure while being coached by a tough coach. I read this book, and it brought back so many memories of growing up in Hudson County, NJ in the 1980s and playing for one tough basketball coach, Hank Morano, from Emerson High School in Union City, NJ. In fact, Coach Hurley mentions coach Morano in his book, when he yells at his players for not knowing the name of the coach for a high school team that was so eager to play them. He goes on to mention all the high school coaches of north Jersey and then south Jersey and is upset that his kids don't even bother to learn the names of the coaches from other schools. I remember coach Hurley very well. In 1982 we competed against St. Anthony for the county title, and we lost by 2 points at the St. Peter's college gym. We went on to win the state sectional title in 1982 and again in 1983. I went to coach Hurley's summer basketball camp in Pennsylvania twice, and his week long camp at St. Peter's college. There are so many names in the book that I remember from growing up. Too many to mention here. It was great to read this book, and if you grew up playing high school basketball, you would also enjoy this book. R. Lorenzo, Esq. Miami, FL.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

More than just basketball!

By thomas e. palecek jr

I love basketball and have been a big Duke fan even before my brother graduated from there in 1988. Bobby Hurley is our favorite player. He is our favorite because, like him, we played point guard, not real tall, white, quick and thought we lived to play the game. From the book and not just the Bobby part we were not even close to being committed. This is my second read and it is also from a parents view. As a parent, the consistency, or lack of in many players but what coach Hurley provided, is all important. Coach Hurley's days never ended and seasons ended but the next was immediately after. And you have the challenges of the school and the Sisters. Health, not wealth, helping kids and more it is the life many of us lead. Good way to approach life, as a person or a parent.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Although the narrative is a little choppy sometimes and it is ...

By D. G. Harris

Although the narrative is a little choppy sometimes and it is difficult to identify the players when they are sometimes referred to by nicknames and sometimes not, this is a story of sport as a metaphor for life with a coach who not only teaches fundamentals of sport but of life.

He lovingly bangs heads and curses and recreates the sport before it was all about the money.

Miracle shows that behind every saved life is a loving and gifted mentor with an eye on the future of his kids and his neighborhood school.

I was lucky. I grew up in such a system. I'm not sure there are many left.

Hats off to Coach Hurley.

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