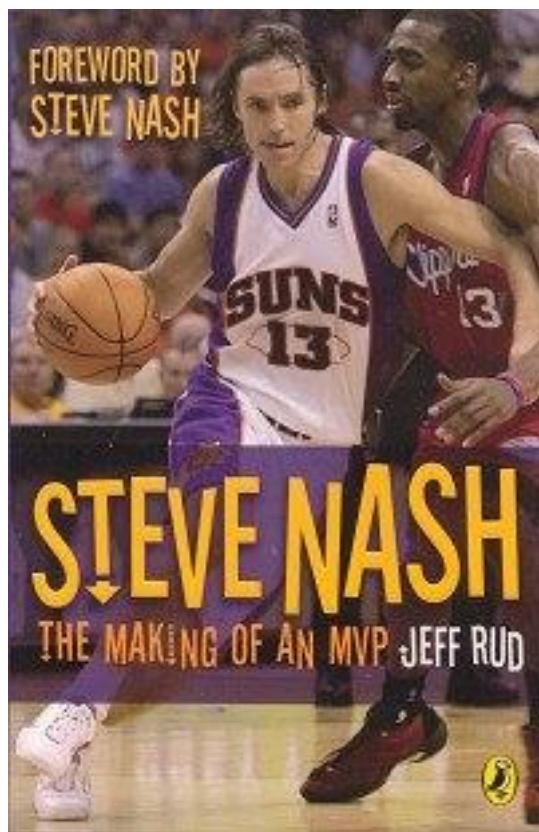


Steve Nash: The Making of an MVP



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In a country where many children dream of becoming professional hockey players, Victoria's Steve Nash was an exception. When he was in grade eight, he told his mother that he would some day play in the National Basketball Association. Having already authored Long Shot: Steve Nash's Journey to the NBA, Rud, a former sports columnist with the Victoria Times Colonist, was the natural person to continue Nash's amazing success story.

Readers need not worry if they have not read Rud’ s earlier book about Nash as Rud utilizes an essentially chronological approach, one that begins when Nash is in grade 11 and concludes with the close of the 2005-2006 NBA season, the point at which Nash won his second NBA Most Valuable Player Award, doing so in back-to-back years. In many ways, Nash’ s story is a double Cinderella tale. The first Cinderella tale involved Nash’ s even making it to the NBA, and, as Rud pointed out via the title of his first book, that happening was truly a long shot. The normal route to the NBA is via playing American college basketball for a Division 1 team, but, because Nash had to sit out basketball for his grade 11 year as he had transferred high schools, he was essentially overlooked by American college scouts who principally recruit high school juniors. Additionally, Nash, who was not that tall, was Caucasian and was playing basketball in Canada, did not fit the stereotypic US college basketball prospect. Though Nash was eventually recruited by Santa Clara University, a Division 1 team, the school was not considered a top-ranked basketball powerhouse, and so Nash had to play extremely well to get himself noticed by the NBA scouts. That Cinderella tale concluded on January 26, 1996, when Nash was drafted by the Phoenix Suns.

The last eight of the book’ s 15 chapters tell the second Cinderella story. While Nash had achieved his goal of becoming a player in the NBA, he was essentially starting all over again and needing to prove to his coaches and teammates that he was going to be more than just a journeyman player. After two years with the Phoenix Suns, Nash found himself traded to the Dallas Mavericks where he received a six-year 33 million dollar contract, but when that contract expired and Nash was a free agent, he found that the Mavericks did not appear keen to resign him, and so he accepted a six-year 65 million dollar contract from his former team, the Phoenix Suns. It was with the Suns again that the second Cinderella story found its conclusion with Nash’ s winning the league’ s Most Valuable Player Award, not once, but twice and in consecutive years. Despite all of Nash’ s individual recognition, Rud says that one goal still eludes Nash, and that is his being part of an NBA championship team. Possibly Rud will have yet a third book to write.

The book contains a 16 page section of black and white photos that show Steve at various periods in his life, from being a toddler through the 2005-2006 NBA season. The closing two pages consist of a chart of Nash’ s NBA career statistics and a listing of the NBA awards and recognitions he has received.

Rud’ s writing style will appeal to adolescents who want their nonfiction to read like a novel, and from the events in Nash’ s life, Rud constructs a “storyline,” one which incorporates quotes from Nash, his friends, fellow players and coaches. Overall, Rud presents a most positive picture of a modest professional athlete who has selflessly represented his country in the Olympics and who has established a charitable foundation. Steve Nash: The Making of an MVP is a fine addition to the recreational reading section of school and public libraries.

作者介绍:

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标签

Nash

篮球

Steve

传记

风之子

MVP

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Nash:

评论

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书评

第一场，凌晨3点半，周末。我想时间有点晚，我想总是会赢的。
于是我带着盲目的乐观在凌晨1点钟进入梦乡。
第2天的中午新闻，不小心漏看了比分，太阳115，马刺多少？我想肯定赢了吧。
可当我带着肯定的语气去向朋友求证结果时，
回答却是：输了，两个加时，邓肯投进一个关键3...

今天，马刺太阳这对冤家季后赛第五次交手，最终92-87，马刺拿下太阳，以四比一的比分晋级第二轮。
纳什十六投中四，只得11分，仅送出3次助攻，却有5次失误，最致命的一次是在终场前25秒：
其时太阳87-89落后，球权在手，本有机会扳平。可是，纳什在接贝尔界外发球时失误，被...

本来是不想写的，然而看到了之前的两篇，心有余念。就当是纪念我心爱的太阳队和我敬爱的Steve Nash吧。我已经记不清我看了几年了。等了几年了。4年，还是5年？
我将那期的《灌篮》拿出来，封面是洋溢着快乐与希望的橙色，13号站在中间，31和32（注：那时候Stoudemire身穿32...

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