

The Games Presidents Play: Sports and the Presidency

By Mark Kurlansky



The Games Presidents Play: Sports and the Presidency

by John Sayle Watterson

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3157 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 535 pages
Lending : Enabled



From George Washington to Barack Obama, sports have played a significant role in the lives of U.S. presidents. In his new book, *The Games Presidents Play*, author Mark Kurlansky explores how sports have shaped the character, leadership style, and public image of these men, and how their experiences on the playing field have influenced their decisions in the Oval Office.

Kurlansky begins by examining the role of sports in the early republic. He shows how Washington, Jefferson, and other Founding Fathers believed that sports were essential for building a strong and virtuous citizenry. In the 19th century, sports became increasingly popular, and presidents such as

Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt embraced them as a way to connect with the American people. In the 20th century, sports became even more important, as presidents used them to promote their agendas and to project an image of strength and vitality.

Kurlansky's book is full of fascinating stories about presidents and sports. He tells of how Dwight Eisenhower used golf to relax and to build relationships with other world leaders. He describes how John F. Kennedy's love of sailing helped him to cope with the pressures of office. And he reveals how Barack Obama's basketball skills have helped him to connect with young people and to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Kurlansky's book is not just a history of presidents and sports. It is also a meditation on the role of sports in American culture. He argues that sports are a reflection of our values and that they can teach us important lessons about leadership, teamwork, and perseverance. *The Games Presidents Play* is a must-read for anyone interested in American history, politics, or sports.

Reviews

"A fascinating look at the role sports have played in the lives of U.S. presidents. Kurlansky's book is full of fascinating stories and insights." - *The New York Times*

"A must-read for anyone interested in American history, politics, or sports." - *The Washington Post*

"Kurlansky's book is a valuable contribution to our understanding of the presidency. He shows how sports have shaped the character and

leadership style of our presidents, and how their experiences on the playing field have influenced their decisions in the Oval Office." - *The Wall Street Journal*

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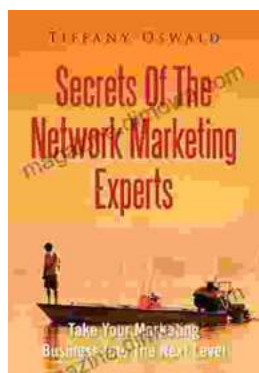


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