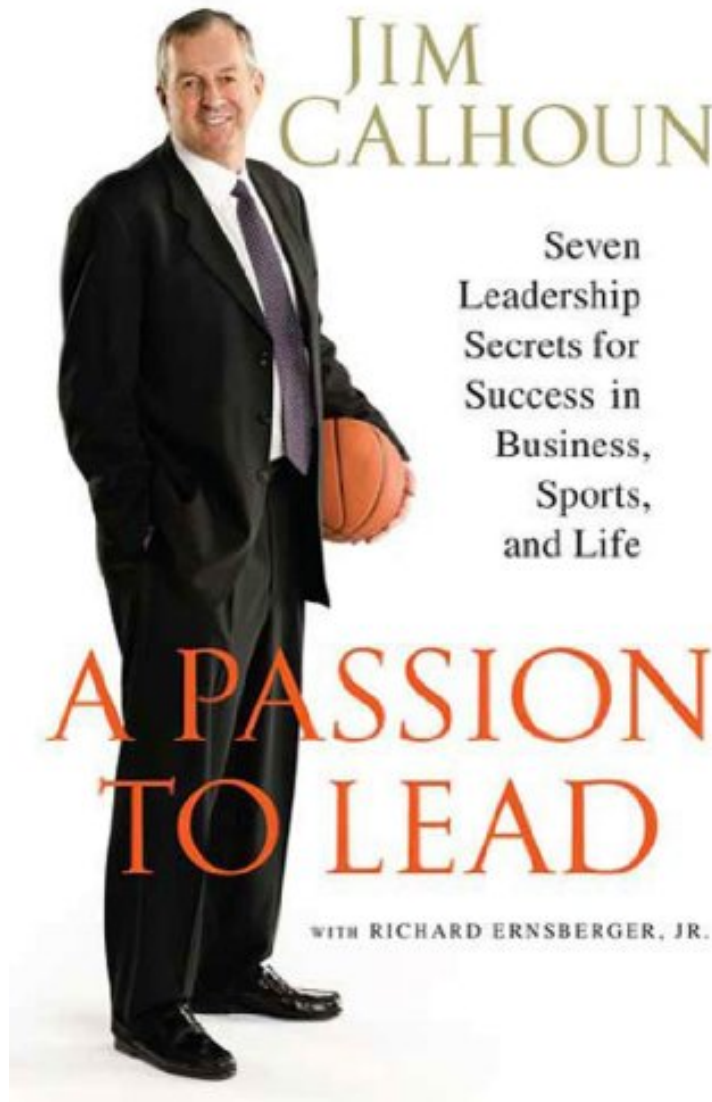


A Passion to Lead: Seven Leadership Secrets for Success in Business, Sports, and Life

Jim Calhoun, Jr., Richard Ernsberger

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Jim Calhoun, Jr., Richard Ernsberger : A Passion to Lead: Seven Leadership Secrets for Success in Business, Sports, and Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Passion to Lead: Seven Leadership Secrets for Success in Business, Sports, and Life:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Passion To LeadBy Donald L. HeiliA very good book if you enjoy anothers outlook to what it takes to be a leader. Well written.7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

Cliche, Unoriginal Coach-Speak
By trinityjon
Summary: Calhoun's *A Passion to Lead* draws practical leadership lessons from the basketball court and applies these to everyday life. Relying heavily on his experiences as a coach and the experiences of his players, Calhoun preaches the value of ambition and the virtue of hard-work. His book is roughly organized around seven broad leadership principles, such as the need for high standards, discipline, contingency plans, and tough mindedness in order to achieve success. To support these principles, Calhoun marshals a seemingly endless series of basketball anecdotes, each summarized with the rhetorical flare of a halftime pep talk. In this way, Calhoun exhibits at least as much passion for basketball as he does for leadership. The book concludes, strangely enough, with an informal catalogue of the author's accomplishments followed by a string of stirring exhortations, the whole of which reduces simply to the idea, "I did it, so can you!"
Assessment: Despite its aspirations, *A Passion to Lead* fails to contribute much original or meaningful thought to the ongoing leadership discussion in our culture. The work suffers from loose organization on major and minor levels. The reader finds himself adrift in each chapter, without the aid of logical thought progressions between sections. Moreover, the sheer volume of basketball related material in the book detracts from its primary purpose: namely, to elucidate leadership principles for life. The principles that do emerge often come across as cliché; or coach-speak. This all would lead a cynic to conclude the book was composed hastily in order to capitalize on the name recognition of its author and laud his success in coaching (not to contributing insight on leadership). While *A Passion to Lead* proves an entertaining read for the college basketball enthusiast or the University of Connecticut devotee, for the thoughtful leader it amounts to a waste of precious time.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Too repetative
By P. Wolf
I love college basketball, so this book was decent to read. I underlined a lot of information in the first few chapters, but towards the end I barely made any marks in the book. Too much information was repeated over and over again.
Did you know that UConn lead the nation in shot blocking the last six years (an AMAZING ACCOMPLISHMENT)? If you didn't, its noted about 15 times in the book along with how Hilton Armstrong and Meka developed, did you know there was a small scandal involving Mr. Price and Williams. These and many more things kept getting repeated and it brought down the quality of the book.
I didn't care for when the author made a transition from basketball to the "real world." I know coach Calhoun only knows about basketball since he's been in it for 35 years, but the one paragraph trying to relate basketball to the real life could have been better developed.
UConn is off to a great start this year - good luck

Motivation...;Success...;Leadership...;Passion. Hall of Fame college basketball coach Jim Calhoun shares his secrets for success for the first time ever.
Coach Jim Calhoun is one of the most successful coaches in college basketball history. Having sent countless players to the NBA, Coach Calhoun is known for producing not just great athletes but great human beings. He is both an exceptional leader and self-made man whose ability to motivate and inspire young men is unsurpassed. In *A Passion to Lead*, he shares the fundamental principles that have allowed him to have an impact on so many.
When he took command of the Connecticut Huskies, the team had had a losing record for five straight seasons. In twenty-one years of leadership, Calhoun has transformed a middling regional program into a national powerhouse with two NCAA championships.
But what makes Coach Calhoun such an excellent leader? How did he take a program with a modest tradition and turn it into a national champ and perennial title contender? What is his management style? What are his motivational techniques? Calhoun reveals them here and includes anecdotes about his life as a coach, family man, and, ultimately, a teacher--as well as the following key principles:
*Win Every Day: Talent determines what you can do in life. Motivation determines what you decide to do. Attitude determines how well you do it.
*Standards, Then Victories: To build a winning organization, establish a culture of winning and make everyone accountable. Out of high standards come victories.
*Tough Love: Pushing is only half the equation. Individuals perform best when they feel good about themselves.
*And much more. *A Passion to Lead* is for all those who are serious about making their dreams a reality. It's a motivational tool for achieving success both at work and in life, and it can help turn any adversity into an advantage.

About the Author
Jim Calhoun is the legendary coach of the University of Connecticut Huskies. He has guided them to twelve NCAA tournaments over the past fifteen years. His first book, *Dare to Dream*, was a national bestseller.
Richard Ernsberger, Jr. is a senior editor for *World Affairs* at *Newsweek* magazine and the author of two successful sports books.