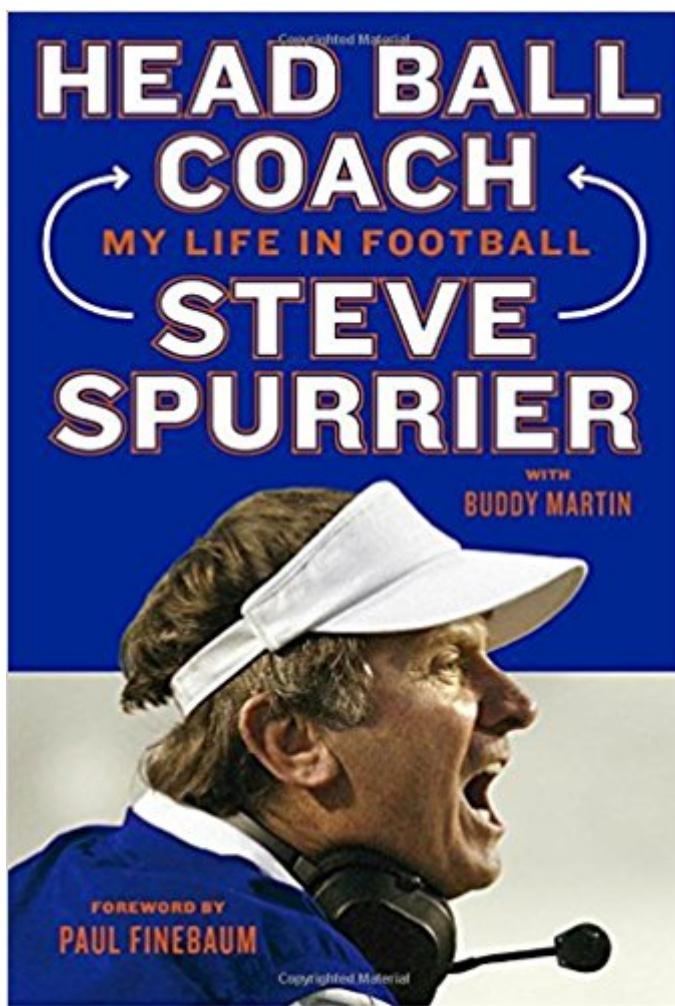


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# Head Ball Coach: My Life In Football, Doing It Differently--and Winning



## **Synopsis**

In this New York Times Bestseller, College football's most colorful, endearing, and successful pioneer, Steve Spurrier, shares his story of a life in football -- from growing up in Tennessee to winning the Heisman Trophy to playing and coaching in the pros to leading the Florida Gators to six SEC Championships and a National Championship to elevating the South Carolina program to new heights -- and coaching like nobody else. He's been called brash, cocky, arrogant, pompous, egotistical, and hilarious, but, mostly, he's known as the Head Ball Coach, a self-ordained term introduced to the lexicon of football by none other than the man, himself, Steve Spurrier. He is the only coach who can claim to be the winningest coach at two different SEC schools, and the only person who has won both the Heisman Trophy as a player and a national championship as a coach. Or who has won a Heisman and coached a Heisman winner. From the beginning, Spurrier didn't want to sound like other coaches, dress like other coaches, and, especially, coach like other coaches. As a controversial football pioneer, he ushered in a different style of leadership and play. Spurrier's press conferences were glorious -- he refused to lapse into coachspeak and was always entertaining, although he took his football very seriously. He was known for his fierce competitiveness, roaming up and down the sidelines, often throwing his signature visor to the ground in disgust. Now resigned from coaching at age 70 -- he doesn't like to say "retired" yet -- Spurrier has calmed down, but don't mistake that for a lack of fire. He can be just as feisty as the day he set foot on the East Tennessee dirt in Johnson City's Kiwanis Park, where he grew up to become one of the state's all-time greatest athletes, and went on to play for Florida where he launched one of sports history's all-time great careers. In his memoir, Spurrier talks for the first time about the circumstances under which he unexpectedly became a coach and why he resigned at South Carolina. He explains his unique style, the difference between winners and losers, his relationship with the media, why he follows the wisdom of ancient philosophers and warriors, his affinity everything taught by John Wooden, and the reasons behind his relaxed regimen for living well. Spurrier, as always, speaks candidly, bringing together his thoughts about his words, actions, and achievements, while telling countless wonderful anecdotes.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

"Spurrier's upbeat personality shines in this uplifting book that will appeal to anyone interested in college football." —Library Journal "The decorated football player and coach offers an overview of his upbringing and remarkable career.... plenty to chew on for fans of college football, especially the SEC." — Kirkus Reviews

Steve Spurrier is a former football coach and player. He played at the University of Florida, where he won the Heisman Trophy in 1966. Spurrier played in the NFL for ten years, and then worked as an assistant coach before becoming head coach of the USFL's Tampa Bay Bandits in 1983. He went on to coach at Duke University, and then Florida, where he lead the Gators to six SEC Championships as well as a National Championship in 1996. He coached the Washington Redskins from 2002 to 2003, and the University of South Carolina Gamecocks from 2005 to 2015. He was named SEC Coach of the Year seven times. He is now an ambassador and consultant for the University of Florida's athletic department. Buddy Martin is a columnist for GridironNow.com and SouthernPigskin.com, the host for Southern Pigskin Radio Network, an Emmy-winning network TV journalist and won numerous awards as a sports editor/columnist of three major newspapers. He is the anchor of Buddy Martin's Sports Page on his hometown station, WOCA in Ocala/North Central Florida. This is his seventh book.

anyone who is a football fan, not just a gator/gamecock fan, would love this book. He lets you into his personal life like never before. I learned more about him as a person then anything else. But since I'm a big fan of his, going down memory lane with where he coached and played was a gas.

I've been a fan of Steve Spurrier since his playing days at the University of Florida. This book as a

great peek into his life and what makes him tick. It was a great read!

If you ever enjoyed listening to Spurrier in his press conferences, then read this book. It's written in that voice. The complete history of Steve Spurrier: the family, the recruitment, college, pro, and the illustrious coaching career. Why did he make some coaching moves? Does he regret them? What drove him to be great?It's all in the book. It's a great book. READ IT!

Love him or hate him, the HBC has always been straight forward.....with a edge! This book is the same. Honestly written and insightful. As a memoir, it talks about this family and him playing in the park with his brother right up through his leaving the South Carolina Gamecocks. If you enjoy sports personalities, you'll enjoy Head Ball Coach Steve Spurrier.

Geez, coach is very straight forward and very humble. My wife baby sat Steve Jr. in G'ville a few times when he was at S.F.I loved the book and he said it very honestly and told how he motivates him and his players. I think he is one fine man/person.Oh yea..Go Gators. Yes, i like Tebow tooooo.

Great read. Lots of questions answered. We all have something in common with Coach Spurrier. If you want to know, you must read this book.

The best and an awesome author in Buddy Martin.

Written in the same style as he speaks, warm, sometimes humorous, review of his life from boyhood to the current time. A good read for anyone in sports who is, or hopes to be, in coaching. Good insight into his life and what he considers important.

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