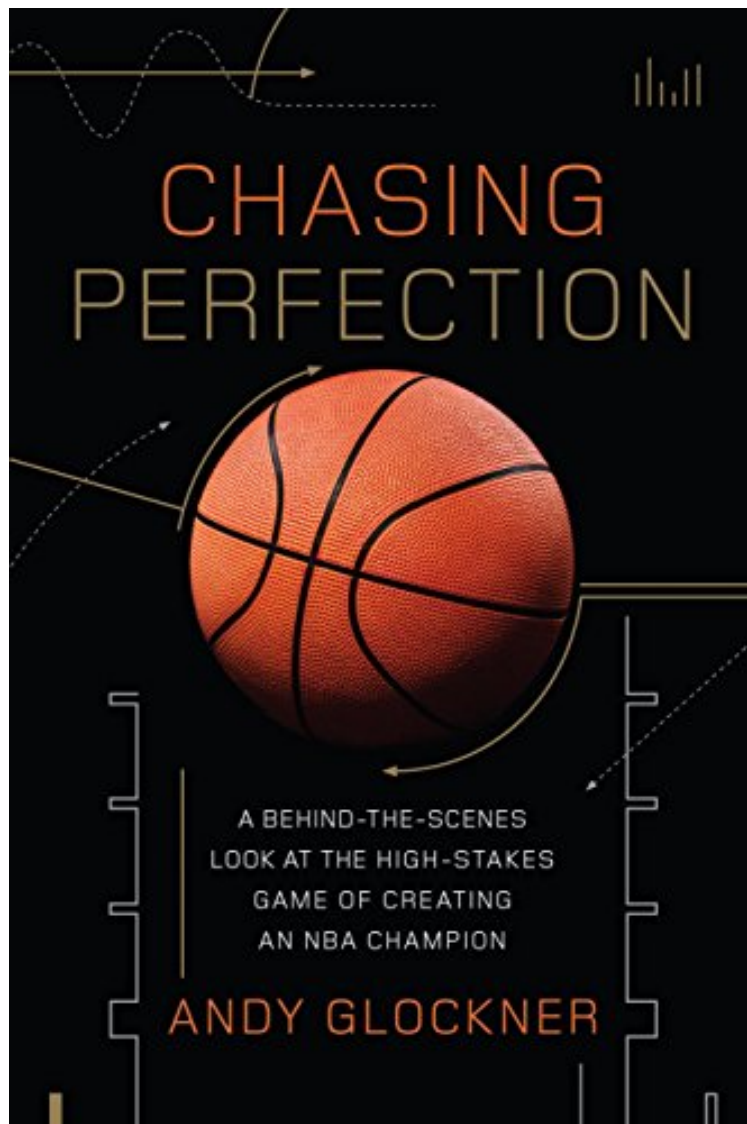


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Chasing Perfection: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the High-Stakes Game of Creating an NBA Champion

Andy Glockner

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Andy Glockner : Chasing Perfection: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the High-Stakes Game of Creating an NBA Champion before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chasing Perfection: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the High-Stakes Game of Creating an NBA Champion:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Awesome bookBy Jacob EisenbergThis book does an excellent job of illustrating the countless layers of analytics within the basketball world. Analytics influence the on-court product,

but also prevent injuries and inform business decisions. Glockner's prose is always a pleasure to read.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great read for NBA fans or those interested in performance improvement
By D.L. Baker
Five stars for a great first five chapters. The book provides new insights and color to the burgeoning technology and analytics movement in the NBA, and is thought provoking for anyone interested in applying similar developments in other fields. Unfortunately, the second half of the book is more narrative focused, covering stories that (probably due to the delay from writing to publishing) have been well covered in the sports press. Still, the first half makes it fully worth the read.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Must read for any coach or true basketball fan
By JASE
Excellent book. As a college basketball coach it really opened my eyes to a lot. It was the perfect blend of analytic theory and real life practice.

Chasing Perfection goes behind the scenes of the multi-million dollar, high-stakes world of basketball player development, research and analysis, and the often secretive, cutting-edge methods that NBA franchises use to turn less-expensive, supporting players into vital parts of championship teams. NBA superstars push as close to perfection as we're likely to see, but they are few and far between. The farther you get from the league's top echelon of talent, the more it's up to the players—and their teams—to develop and utilize their strengths while diminishing and masking their weaknesses as much as possible. There are no perfect basketball players, but there are plenty of perfected ones, who start with a basis of skill and physical ability and then are refined further and further in order to move closer and closer to their absolute potential. In Chasing Perfection, national sportswriter Andy Glockner reveals that, though the concept of player improvement is as old as basketball itself, the current era of Big Data analytics in the NBA is transforming that process more quickly and aggressively than anything we have seen before. Players are learning more and more about themselves through video and data visualization, seeing how things like diet and sleep can impact their performance, and learning how having healthy joints and role-specific workout plans are lengthening and improving their careers. Teams are internalizing the same lessons, as well as figuring out how to better implement optimal on-court strategies, how to refine their approaches to player acquisition and how to gauge the varying values and success rates of different, crucial team-building strategies. It's an absolutely fascinating time to be a fan, as the marriage of basketball and technology is bringing two of our most popular and competitive worlds together in compelling fashion. Using the 2014–15 NBA season as a prism to explore this mesh of sport and science, Glockner offers detailed perspective from NBA players, coaches, team management, and media, offering a comprehensive insider's view of how analytics are shaping the basketball we watch, and how those who are lagging behind in the technology race already are feeling the competitive hit.

Praise for Chasing Perfection
Jay Bilas, ESPN basketball analyst and author of Toughness "Every player hears about working and playing hard, but the game is rewarding those that work and play smart. Chasing Perfection is a terrific look at how every level of the game, from high school to the pros, is taking advantage of cutting-edge technology and new strategies to find and develop better players, teams, and game plans."
Fran Fraschilla, ESPN basketball analyst and former head coach at Manhattan, St. John's, and New Mexico "Andy Glockner takes you on a fascinating and entertaining look inside the world of basketball analytics. Whether you are 'old school' or 'new school', you will know a lot more about the game of basketball than you did before."
Doug Gottlieb, host of The Doug Gottlieb Show on CBS Sports Network "If you love basketball and you love learning about how basketball is evolving, this is the book for you. Throwing around the term 'analytics' sounds cool, but what if you really knew how math and science are playing roles in perfecting the game? Chasing Perfection nails this, in depth and in timely fashion."
Library Journal, 3/1/16 [A] balanced account
Highly recommended for NBA junkies who scour box scores.
Booklist, 3/15/16
Solid, and just in time for this year's playoffs.