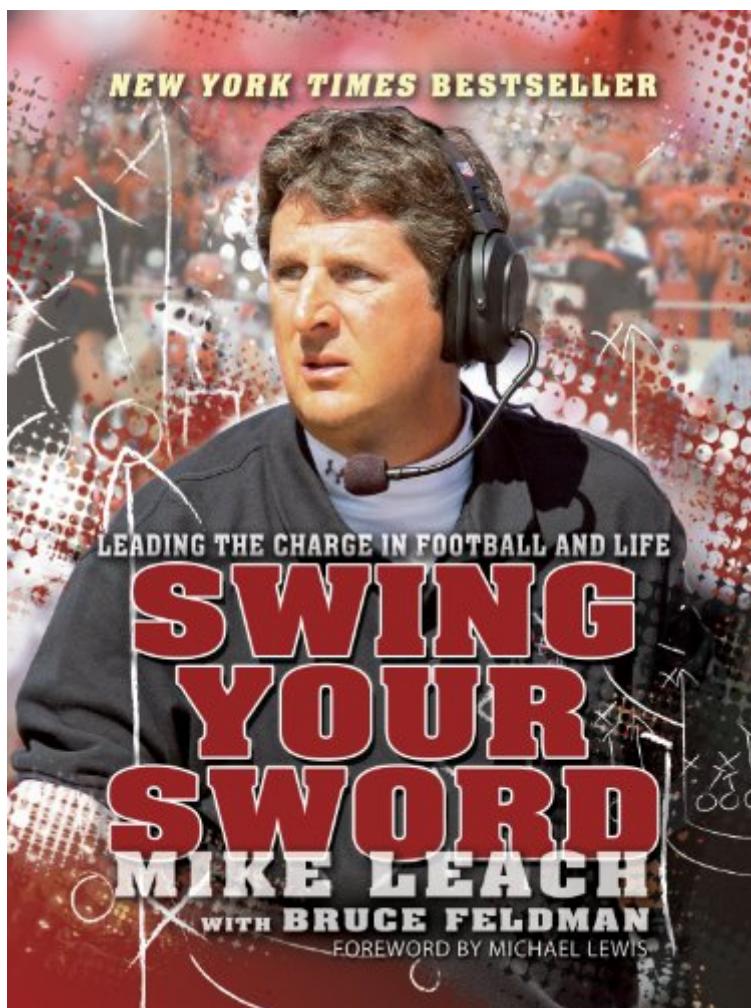


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# Swing Your Sword: Leading The Charge In Football And Life



## **Synopsis**

SWING YOUR SWORD is the first ever book by one of the most fascinating and successful coaches in sports today. A lover of the game who started creating formations and drawing his own plays as a kid, Leach took his Texas Tech Red Raiders to numerous bowl games, achieving the #2 slot in national rankings and being voted 2008 Coach of the Year before being unceremoniously fired at the end of the 2009 season. The scandalous nature of his dismissal created a media frenzy and began a personal battle between Leach and his accusers that remains unresolved.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Coach Leech pulled us into his world of taking on and changing how offensive football is played! It would be an honor to meet him some day. Further, his explanation of the craziness and abuse & lies he was a victim of and suffered through at Texas Tech is eye opening to say the least! And he backs it up with legal proof from Adam "the madam" James's own mouth during his deposition. Plus the lies he caught members of the university in.... Is simply stunning! Again all backed up by legal

evidence. And lie after lie from Craig James! Mr. Craig "Holier than thou, tea bag boy" James is an embarrassment to the State of Texas, football journalism and especially college football all across the United States! Little Adam "the madam" needs to pop both his momma and daddy's tit out of his mouth and be a man! Now Craig has no job and is completely broke! He is begging his former donors for hands outs to be able to feed his family!!! He needs to publicly admit he lied and tell how sorry and ashamed of himself for what he did to Mike Leech! I bet Leech would help him out, because he has integrity!! Don't get me wrong, they wouldn't hang out or anything, but Leech would kick in a few bucks under those circumstances..... Fun to consider anyhow lol !! I can't wait to read his next book about "Geronimo"! I will be buying it shortly :)

Coach Leach is a unique person, never mind football coach. His outsiders view of the game has made him successful wherever he has been. Sportscasters, writers, and football junkies have called him an out of the box thinker. My opinion is that Coach Leach has never been around the box As less in it. The one thing that sets him apart is his commitment to his beliefs, his character, and his application of seemingly unconnected information to the game of football. As a football coach, I found the book highly entertaining and very informative.

I was not sure what to expect from this book after reading many of the reviews. The cloud of controversy surrounding Mike Leach, Texas Tech and the James family was not something in which I was seeking more information or opinions. I have long found Mike Leach an interesting guy particularly with his perspective on football. Years ago I heard a reporter ask him why he doesn't run a more balanced offense to which Coach Leach responded the high number of backs and receivers that touched the ball and claimed that it was balanced... more balanced than most. I love that kind of stuff! In this book Mike Leach provides insight into his experiences and how they have contributed to his divergent thinking. Leach is all about generating creative ideas by exploring solutions from as many different angles as possible. He talks about surrounding himself with people who have different backgrounds and experiences because they have unique value to bring to the table. He walks the reader through his entire coaching career as well as the events that lead him to making the decision to become a football coach. He candidly discusses challenges he faced and obstacles he had to overcome. He identifies common obstacles faced by all people in all walks of life... fear of taking the risk. I found this to be inspiring listening to a guy with a law degree and a family stepping out and taking an assistant coaching position making \$3k a YEAR. His wife supporting him and both of them working together to make it work. The book is filled with quotes from mostly players and

coaches, but there are a few other interesting quotes from outside the football circle. Listening to Barry Switzer talk about the wish bone offense and how an offense that runs the ball 90% of the time, but spreads to ball to many different skilled players is what makes it balanced. I wonder how many called the wish bone a gimmick offense?? Hearing the story of Wes Welker and reading the quote from Kliff Kingsbury could have been a book all by itself. I've always had great admiration for Welker and getting the chance to read more about him was very inspirational. If you don't like football you probably won't like this book too much. Leach takes the time to illustrate in a fair amount of detail his view of coaching and of running an offense. He draws up a few X's and O's and talks percentage of success and how he weighed it with the risk. He covers preparation for each week and how you have to muddle through all the information to filter out the major components you are going to focus on. He talks about different types of players and that there is no substitute for hard work and confidence. There is about 10% of the book towards the end that discusses that events that took place at Tech. Leach certainly has his opinion and is not afraid to express what he thinks about Chancellor Hance, but all in all I felt he did a pretty good job of presenting facts and backing them up. It was all part of his experience and should be included. Hope you enjoy the read!

I have followed WSU for a long time and I was interested in how Mike Leach would do. I think he allayed many concerns this year-2015/2016. The Cougs are bowl bound. I had a friend recommend Swing Your Sword and I'm glad he did. This is a great read. It lets the reader in on the personality and life of Mike Leach. Leach's successes and downfalls are laid out in the open for the reader. It's an honest look at the football culture the public is often shielded from-like the Texas Tech fiasco. As he has indicated, doing things outside the box is his way. It's refreshing. Mike Leach is articulate, highly organized, competitive, a team player, dedicated family man and extremely intelligent. If you enjoy reads about sports and life, this one is for you.

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