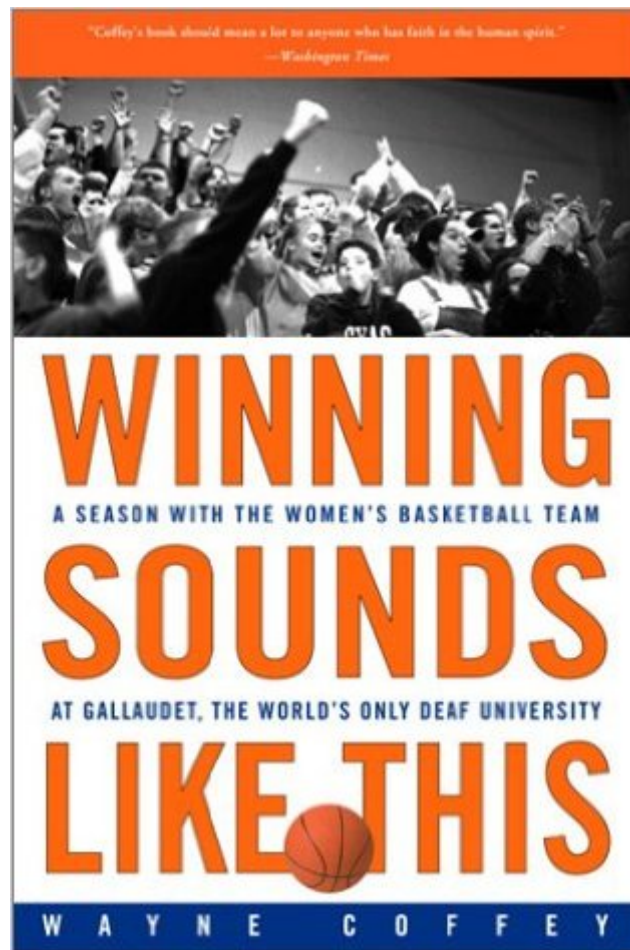


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# Winning Sounds Like This: A Season With The Women's Basketball Team At Gallaudet, The World's Only University For The Deaf



## Synopsis

The Gallaudet women's basketball team has just defeated the number one ranked team in the country, the College of New Jersey. A reporter, not wanting to be insensitive, delicately broaches the obvious question: "How can you play so well despite your hearing impairment?" Nanette Virnig, a forward for Gallaudet, puts him at ease. "We're not hearing impaired," she says. "We're deaf." •Winning Sounds Like This is the remarkable story of the nation's most unique and inspiring women's basketball team and its 1999-2000 season. It is the touching chronicle of players who don't hear buzzers or cheers, a coach who has never used a whistle, and a university that is a mecca for deaf culture throughout the world. Wayne Coffey offers an intimate and unsparing look at the players' lives on and off the court, their struggles to overcome mistreatment and misconceptions of the hearing world, and their deeply rooted connection to one another.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars • See all reviews (1 customer review)

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## Customer Reviews

I have very little to no interest whatsoever in basketball, but I do have a strong interest in deaf women that go against the odds. Thus, this book was half boring and half intriguing for me. Let's start with the intriguing. I really enjoyed the tidbits of deaf history. I never realized Ponce de Leon played a large role in the mass realization that deaf does not mean dumb. I liked reading about the girls' personal lives, namely Touria. (A few interesting pages are dedicated to this brave woman who is not only a deaf female, but a deaf female in a mostly hearing muslim household.) I was thrilled

with the information provided about the first deaf president of the school, King Jordan. I was touched deeply by Ronda's story about her speech being made fun of and her six years of silence due to the embarrassment of it. I also enjoyed the few pages that went in depth about the controversial cochlear implants and what the girls have to say about it, "Quit trying to make us like you." I was obviously moved numerous times. So why the low rating? I wanted more of the girls and their lives. The basketball is a HUGE part of the story, I won't deny that, but I don't need play by play details about every game. I will not remember who fouled, who free throwed, nor how many times somebody free throwed 2 pages later. My mind began drifting and I began skipping paragraphs to get back to the girls and their stories. I also felt there was a too much about Kitty, the coach. I simply did not take to her the way I did the team. A decent read. I recommend it for anybody who wants to know more about deaf culture and Gallaudet University.

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