

RWC

Politically Incorrect When the Lions Came to Town Here Come the Bokke! The Springboks and the Holy Grail Peter de Villiers Luke Alfred Zebra Press Dan Retief

Politically Incorrect When the Lions Came to Town Here Come the Bokke! The Springboks and the Holy Grail *Peter de Villiers Luke Alfred Zebra Press Dan Retief*

throughout his tenure as the first black springbok coach peter de villiers was in the news and not always for the right reasons his battle to be accepted and respected by the rugby fraternity started from the moment his appointment was announced when his new boss admitted that de villiers had got the job for reasons other than only rugby in his four years as bok coach de villiers experienced huge successes a series win over the british irish lions and a tri nations trophy but he also suffered the ignominy of coming last in the tri nations and seeing his world cup dream shattered by the controversial officiating of referee bryce lawrence in addition his outspoken nature and colourful application of the metaphor alternately amused and horrified south african rugby fans and his close relationship with his senior players begged the question who was coaching whom now in his autobiography de villiers answers this question and addresses many more how he managed to progress from the dusty streets of paarl as a rugby mad youngster to the highest job in south african rugby why his employers tried to manipulate him but failed why he stuck with john smit as captain in the 2011 rugby world cup and where his passion for rugby will lead him next if rugby fans thought they knew peter de villiers before reading this book they will think differently afterwards

the early 1970s in south africa were a time of economic boom political repression growing isolation and an unshakeable confidence that the springboks were the best rugby team in the world until the infamous 1974 british lions tour it was a tour in which a group of talented and long haired rugby players from the british isles played sang and drank their way across the country beating the springboks 3 0 in the four tests with the last one a dubious draw until then the lions hadn t beaten south africa at home in 78 years based on original research and interviews with players on both sides when the lions came to town vividly recreates a tumultuous

rugby tour that sent shockwaves through south africa it captures a bygone era a time before television a golden age of amateurism pranks and setting hotel rooms alight as the lions did after winning the series in pe insightful provocative and frequently amusing when the lions came to town casts a fresh eye on a divisive but undeniably colourful period in south african political social and sporting history

south africans love rugby and they love a good laugh here come the bokke combines two of south africa s favourite pastimes in one hilarious book guaranteed to tickle the reader s funny bone from witty one liners to classics of yore and up to date super 15 jokes this book has a laugh for everyone there are jokes about the front row and the backline about rugby blondes coaches captains and fans no one and nothing is sacred in here come the bokke it is guaranteed to put a smile on your dial

this is the epic story of south africa s amazing quests for the rugby world cup which resulted in triumph at ellis park in 1995 and in paris in 2007 while there was heartbreak in 1999 and shame in 2003 the springboks and the holy grail is no mere narration of matches and scores the author was closely involved in all four rwc campaigns while working for the sunday times and supersport and he provides behind the scenes reportage on the great cast and incredible incidents that made for such riveting drama this is a story of human heroism and frailty of great dignity and patent jealousy that transcends the mere realm of sport the book contains numerous interviews with key players and administrators as well as well known figures who were touched by these campaigns and provides a fascinating insight into an event which is now one of the biggest in the world of sport this is a candid glimpse behind the scenes that often reads like pure fiction

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