



## Soldiers First: Duty, Honor, Country, and Football at West Point

By Joe Drape

St. Martin's Griffin. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 304 pages. Dimensions: 8.2in. x 5.4in. x 0.9in. Bestselling author Joe Drape reveals the unique pressures and expectations that make a year of Army football so much more than just a tally of wins and losses. The football team at the U. S. Military Academy is not like other college football teams. At other schools, athletes are catered to and coddled at every turn. At West Point, they carry the same arduous load as their fellow cadets, shouldering an Ivy Leaguecaliber education and year-round military training. After graduation they are not going to the NFL but to danger zones halfway around the world. These young men are not just football players, they are soldiers first. New York Times sportswriter Joe Drape takes us inside the world of Army football, as the Black Knights and their third-year coach, Rich Ellerson, seek to turn around a program that had recently fallen on hard times, with the goal to beat Navy and sing last at the Army-Navy game in December. The 2011 season would prove a true test of the players mettle and perseverance. Drawing on his extensive and unfettered access to the players and the...

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