

Sportsmen and women aiming for something more than a win

Winning is Not Enough by Andrew Wingfield-Digby and Stuart Weir (Marshall Pickering, £4.99 pb)

"A reporter from *The Guardian* once said to me (professional golfer Kitrina Douglas) after I'd been talking to her about Jesus, 'Kitrina, if you feel that way, why don't you become a missionary?' I replied, 'I am one.'"

Such is the way of thinking of all the sportspeople whose stories are told in *Winning is Not Enough*.



Enthusiasm

With contrasting testimonies, yet all based on the same foundation, they share the same enthusiasm to be "part of God's plan, spreading the gospel of Christ" whether at the squash court, golf course, changing rooms or relaxing during the Olympic Games.

Their stories are real and don't hide the difficulties, temptations and frustrations of being a Christian in the limelight.



Essential

They have all found their faith in Jesus Christ to be not only relevant in their sporting lives, but also an essential factor contributing to their all-round physical, mental and spiritual well-being demanded by their discipline.

Apart from their testimonies of faith, a fair amount of detail is given on the sporting achievements of the stars of this book, who range from Kriss Akabusi in the world of athletics, the German professional golfer Bernhard Langer, professional footballer Garth Crooks, to former England cricketers Alan Knott and the late Wilf Slack.

The book is extremely readable and

offers good insight into the challenges faced by Christian sportspeople who have competed at the highest level. It should be an encouragement to all readers to recognise our own workplace as the mission field to which God has called us.

And no points for guessing who this quote is about — "He was training in America when he met the Lord. For three months he had been nearly ready to make his decision, and one night he prayed, 'Lord, if you are there, and I really don't know if you are, you'd better come and say "Hi" to Kriss.' And he did."

Kim Hayes