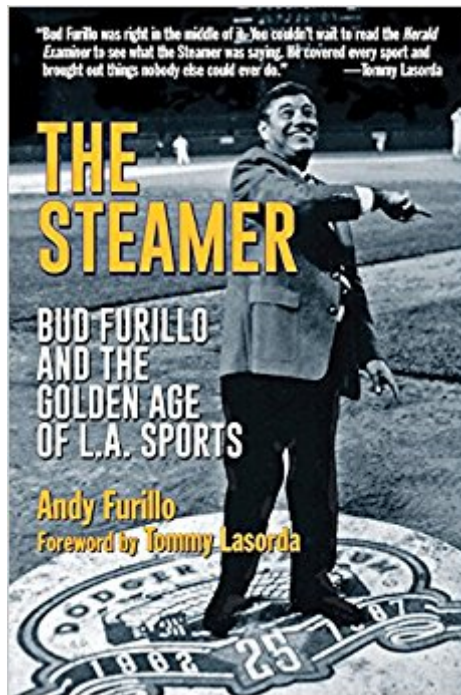


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The Steamer: Bud Furillo And The Golden Age Of L.A. Sports



Synopsis

For nearly sixty years, Bud Furillo wrote and talked about sports in Southern California. For fifteen of those years, he authored a popular column for the Los Angeles Herald Examiner called The Steam Room, which gave him the nickname that lasted him for the rest of his life: "the Steamer." As a reporter, columnist, editor, and pioneer of sports talk radio, the Steamer dished out insight and understanding to Southern California sports fans while Los Angeles grew into a sports empire. On his watch, L.A. acquired the Rams from Cleveland, the Dodgers from Brooklyn, and the Lakers from Minneapolis. He covered them all while they won championships for the city. In The Steamer: Bud Furillo and the Golden Age of L.A. Sports, Furillo's son, Andy, himself a longtime newspaperman, uses his father's lens to give focus to the city's rise as a sports empire. The Steamer is a history of a great sports town at its most dynamic, told from the point of view of a legendary reporter who used his phenomenal access to reveal the inside story of the greatest athletes and teams to ever play in Los Angeles.

Book Information

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If you grew up playing every kind of ball | every single day | and grew up being involved in some kind of fisticuffs every other week | and grew up | reading everything available about sports | whether in the newspaper | or in books | then you were extremely lucky to have your formative ages | of childhood through young adulthood | spent in Los Angeles | from the late 1950's through the 1980's | as I did. I must immediately clarify right here | that I grew to young adulthood | but very much like this book's subject Bud "The Steamer" Furillo |

sportswriterâ | â œpar excellenceâ •â | I never truly reached â œmatureâ • adulthood.â œThe Steamerâ •â | so namedâ | in homageâ | to his columnâ | â œThe Steam Roomâ •â | performed on a literary stage in Los Angelesâ | that had a full rosterâ | of really good sportswriters. Of them allâ | there were twoâ | that shone above them allâ | in my book. There was Jim Murrayâ | who was literally the poet laureateâ | of the sports writing field. Murray could make you cry at the drop of a hatâ | he could make you truly feelâ | with the deepest of emotionâ | and make you thinkâ | as either the tears or laughterâ | were emotedâ | from your soulâ | as a byproduct of his written word. And then there was â œThe Steamerâ •â | if your family came from nothingâ | without even a place to liveâ | and you were taught by your Father that sports was the great equalizerâ | that the most memorable quote from your Fatherâ | that you have now passed on to a third generation wasâ |. â œLET YOUR PLAYING DO YOUR TALKINGâ | PUT UP OR SHUT UPâ | TALK IS CHEAPâ | PERFORMANCE COUNTS!â •â | Well thenâ | â œThe Steamerâ • was your writer. He was where the kidsâ | teenagersâ |. young adultsâ | from the wrong side of the tracks wanted to be. In the barsâ | in the backroomsâ | in the alleysâ | in corners and shadows of the clubhouse.

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