



You Herd Me!: I'll Say It If Nobody Else Will

Colin Cowherd

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There are really two games, the one you see and the one you don't. The way I see it, the best way to use access to both worlds is to illuminate and reveal, not idolize and adore. It's better to be wrong than to be played for a fool. – Colin Cowherd

In this age of billion dollar athletic marketing campaigns, “feel good” philosophy with no connection to reality, and a Sports Media echo chamber that’s all too eager swallow whatever idiotic notion happens to be in vogue at the moment, it’s tough to find people who aren’t afraid to say what they’re really thinking.

But that’s where Colin Cowherd comes in. As his millions of fans on ESPN Radio and ESPNU already know, Colin is the rare sports analyst who’s brave (or crazy) enough to speak his mind—even if it pisses some people off. Of course, it helps that a lot of what Colin has to say is simply hilarious. Lots of writers can tell you about Boston’s storied sports history. But how many can tell you why the city of Boston is America’s five year old? Lots of writers will brag about the stuff they got right, but how many will happily list all the calls they got completely and utterly wrong? Whether he’s pointing out the stupidity of conspiracy theories, explaining why media bias isn’t nearly as big a deal as many assume, or calling out those who prize short term wins over sustainability, Colin is smart, thought-provoking, and laugh-out-loud funny. Some of the questions he’s not afraid to ask in You Herd Me! include:

Is Tiger Woods really a sex addict—or does he just have good PR?

Is “work-life balance” really the ideal we should all strive for—or is that just a way for people feel better about mediocrity?

Is talent really all it’s cracked up to be—or can too much talent actually be counterproductive?

Is the X games really a sport—or would we all be better off if we admitted it’s something else entirely?

Is Hell really a supernatural place of fire and brimstone—or is it actually just another word for living in Tampa?

Unapologetically entertaining and packed with behind-the-scenes insights you won’t get anywhere else, You Herd Me! is unlike any other sports book ever written.

You Herd Me!: I'll Say It If Nobody Else Will Details

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James says

If you watch his show on a regular basis then his book repeats much of what you have already heard. The good news is the show puts out insightful conversation and as such so does the book. Colin Cowherd is that rare sports commentator who goes beyond simply sometimes alluding to life beyond the sports realm to being an outright philosopher of sport and life. The Colin philosophy is “love your life, like your sports.” As with most jockosophers (jock philosopher) certain quotes are attributable to him. Witness the following Colinisms:

Colinisms

“In 2013, an N.F.L. team without a good quarterback is like a stripper without a good body.”

“Don’t allow someone with no life ruin yours.”

“Guys are consumed with being right, instead of getting it right.”

The Colin jockosophy (jock philosophy) permeates throughout his book.

Michael vs Le Bron: Swish or Swoosh

Colin ventures beyond the sports bubble to examine why M.J.(Michael Jordan) received so much favorable press coverage in his day contrasted to what L.J.(LeBron James) gets now. Colin uses fact based examples that bolster his theory of how one flawed yet wildly successful athlete is deified and his highly visible counterpart is demonized.

When Small Grows Up

Here, he examines why small schools have been so successful producing Super Bowl champion, above average quarterbacks. He provides a rational explanation supported by reason that cause one to understand why Eastern Illinois University had the same number of N.F.L. quarterbacks (1 Tony Romo Dallas Cowboys) as major college football factories Oklahoma (1 Sam Bradford St. Louis Rams) and U.S.C. (1 Carson Palmer Phoenix Cardinals) in the 2013 football season.

I enjoyed this book and still occasionally watch his show. The only issue I have with him is an elitist approach to life that comes out at times when he expresses his opinions. Yet and still, I recommend his book particularly to the intellectual sports fans.

Jim Trela says

Interesting sports anecdotes.

Terri says

GOODREADS GIVEAWAY :)

I did not understand the sense of humor... sorry. Wasn't for me.

Austin Poulsen says

I agree with cowherd more often than not, and this book is no exception. He's a little bit extreme on some points, but as a radio personality you kind of have to be.

Raymond Goss says

I'm not a big professional sports fan and don't watch football, baseball, or basketball on a regular bases. However, I thought the book was both entertaining and educational regarding the way things work for drafts, teamwork, etc. The topics included UFC, soccer and areas that did interest me. The book would best for those who are sports fans.

Phillip Metzger says

Much like politics, sports commentary has a short shelf life. At the time the book was written, this material was probably controversial or, at the very least, insightful. Unfortunately, many of Mr. Cowherd's predictions haven't held up over time. As the author has rightly said, LeBron James is a great player, but his struggle to win championships with elite teams has continued. Then, there's the NFL, which has undergone a spectacular change in the last couple seasons. No way for the author to have predicted it, but here we are again with a book that doesn't apply to sports today.

To sum up, if you're interested in sports, skip this title and find something more current.

Troy Farley says

Opening Rant

As usual Colin is great with his words. A lot of one liners in here worth quoting. Even though this book is 4 years old and a lot of what he talked about pertained to back then his points are all still very relevant no matter what year you pick up this book. Fun easy read. If you're a fan of Colin. Give it a read. You Herd it here first.

Brent says

One of the best books I read this year.

Jace says

I loved this book. Awesome views on sport subjects and life in general. It's one thing to listen to his show, this book is straight up legit. Loved it.

Gina Marcellin says

Nothing unique or insightful in this book. At some point it was just talking.

Arlo says

Colin Cowherd is a sports commentator/personality that tends to extracts sociological inferences from contemporary sports and issues based on his beliefs and experiences. I find his take on things and his radio show insightful and entertaining-his book likewise. A few of the sections(maybe more then a few)are insights that he shares almost daily on his radio show, so if you are a chronic listener you may feel let down, or it may cause you to dwell deeper on these particular rehashed subjects. If you are into sports and sociology(layman's) this is a fun and interesting read.

Chris K. says

I have listened to many of Colin Cowherd's radio shows and podcasts, and I saw that he wrote a book. I decided to read his book because I enjoyed them very much. This book wasn't any different. It gave incredible insight into the world of sports the perhaps no one in the whole world has. He has been to every state following and covering various different sports and sports teams. He makes interesting comments on a wide range of topics, all of which were equally intriguing. Everything Cowherd said triggered a debate in my head. I rated this book five stars because it kept me interested the whole time I was reading, and there are few books that do that. I would recommend You Herd Me to everyone who enjoys sports, especially football, basketball, and baseball.

Derry Wimer says

fun and fast read

five stars because many of the things he writes, non sports things, have actually come to fruition. his take on Boston fans is superb.

Fredrick Danysh says

A free advance read copy through Goodreads.com. It is an evaluation of American society obsession with sports and the near god-like status afforded to athletes. The author brushes aside the myths and looks at cold hard truths. It is well written and worth reading.

Cindy says

This was a slightly dated (written 2013 - so some of the sports info must be looked at through a slightly altered perspective) humorous look at some of the sports institutions and conventional wisdom. He puts much of this to the common sense test - as in 'does it really make sense to sell alcohol in college stadiums?' - and tells it like it should be. He talks about Tiger Woods' sex addiction - and comes up with a valid criticism (this so-called addiction did not interfere with his life and indeed during the time that he was supposed to be in the grips of this malady was at the top of his game). He looks at the dynasty that is SEC football. I've not listened to his sports radio show but his opinions are well thought out and entertaining.

Quotes to remember:

Two things make smart men stupid - beautiful women and sports.

I can make the case that a list of the GOP's maladies mirror, almost eerily, the same issues facing major league baseball. Number one, a struggle to attract minority participation. Number two, a loss of ground to their primary rival on digital and technological connectivity. Number three, inflexibility. Number four, appearance of a good old boys' club. Number five, loss of youth vote. And number six, a lack of new and energizing leadership....Both entities are fully capable of rebounding, with an influx of fresh ideas and progressive leadership. The overriding message is clear: Wealth, tradition, and historical relevance do not guarantee never-ending success.
