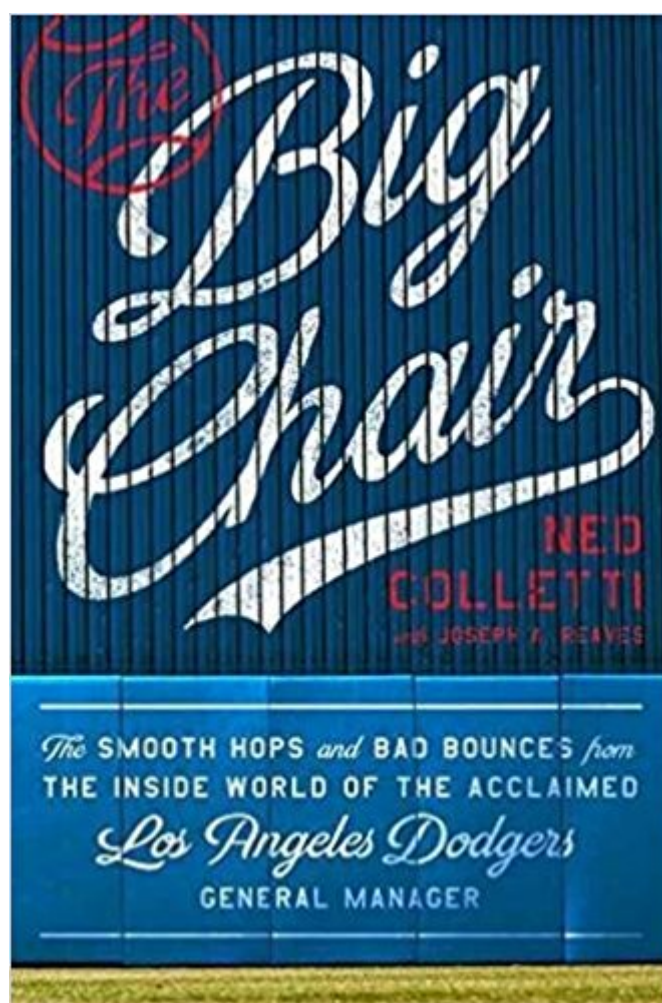


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The Big Chair: The Smooth Hops And Bad Bounces From The Inside World Of The Acclaimed Los Angeles Dodgers General Manager



Synopsis

An unprecedented, behind-the-scenes look at the career of famed former Los Angeles Dodgers General Manager (a position also known as "The Big Chair"), whose tenure spanned nine of the most exciting and turbulent years in the franchise's history. During his tenure with the Dodgers, Colletti had the highest winning percentage of any general manager in the National League. In *The Big Chair*, (co-authored by Joseph A. Reaves) he lets readers in on the real GM experience from his unique vantage point--sharing the inner workings of three of the top franchises in the sport, revealing the out-of-the-headlines machinations behind the trades, the hires and the deals; how the money really works; how the decision-making really works; how much power the players really have and why--the real brass tacks of some of the most pivotal decisions made in baseball history that led to great success along with heartbreak and failure on the field. Baseball fans will come for the grit and insight, stay for the heart, and pass it on for the wisdom. Ned Colletti began his MLB career with his beloved hometown team, the Chicago Cubs, more than 35 years ago. He worked in Chicago for a dozen years and was in the front office when the Cubs won the National League East in 1984 and 1989, after which he moved on as director of baseball operations for the SF Giants. By 1996, he became the Assistant GM for the Giants, before being hired as the GM in Los Angeles in 2006. There he oversaw the Dodgers through the highly publicized and acrimonious divorce battle between Frank and Jamie McCourt that culminated in the equally highly publicized sale of the team. He was present at the press conference where Don Mattingly, having just watched his team eliminated from the playoffs, used the post-season conference to vehemently discuss his lack of a contract extension. He brought marquee names like Greg Maddux and Clayton Kershaw to LA, as well as marquee drama with the likes of Manny Ramirez and Yasiel Puig; hired future Hall of Famer Joe Torre as manager; and oversaw fourteen Dodgers playoff wins. And these are just a few of the highlights. Colletti serves up a huge dish of first-hand experiences with some of the biggest names in baseball history (Barry Bonds, Greg Maddux, Don Mattingly, Don Zimmer, Tommy Lasorda, Scott Boras, Vin Scully, and more). From his humble early years living in a Chicago garage to his path to one of the most prestigious positions in professional sports, his very public and illustrious career has left a permanent handprint in the history of America's sport--and now he's ready to share the insight only those who have sat in The Big Chair have ever seen.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"As Ned helped me lead the baseball department for the Giants, he brought wisdom and perspective to our discussions. Now, in *The Big Chair*, readers will hear the wisdom and perspective that helped the organization change its culture and reach levels never before accomplished." •

• "three-time World Series champion Brian Sabean, Executive VP, Baseball Operations, San Francisco Giants" • Ned Colletti is a baseball treasure with fascinating stories to tell from inside the game. *The Big Chair* is your all-access pass. After reading this book, you will not only understand the job of a general manager better but also the game of baseball itself." • --Tom Verducci, author of *The Cubs Way* and co-author of *The Yankee Years* "Ned Colletti is the best kind of baseball lifer. With a storyteller's eye, he expertly pulls back the curtain on the games, the people, the days that made his journey unforgettable. *The Big Chair* is the worthy product of that life. Ultimately, it is a reminder that baseball and the people in it is not all about the numbers." --Tim Brown, Yahoo! Sports writer and New York Times bestselling co-author of *Imperfect* and *The Phenomenon* "Ned Colletti's terrific account of the inner workings of a baseball team is engaging, honest, accurate and a great read. Baseball fans hungry to understand what it's really like will devour this." • --Terry Francona, manager, Cleveland Indians and author of *Francona: The Red Sox Years* "Ned has been a baseball lifer since long before he climbed up his professional ladder that stretches from Chicago through San Francisco to Los Angeles. His stories, observations, and his baseball experiences ring nothing short of profoundly wise. Sharing in his journey is a must for any baseball fan, including myself." • "Chris Berman, ESPN Sportscaster" • Alternating among declarations of his unabashed love for baseball, neutral reportage, and score-settling (usually with a smile and a subsequent peace offering), Colletti provides a variety of insights [and] offers unforgettable, candid profiles of hundreds of players...A treasure trove of characterizations and

insights bound to entertain any MLB fan. • --Kirkus Reviews • [An] entertaining and insightful mix of memoir and behind-the-scenes anecdotes...with a touch of poignancy. • • "Publishers Weekly" • A fascinating behind-the-scenes account of his 35 years working in the front office of the Cubs, Giants and Dodgers....More than anything, Colletti shows how being a GM is a 24/7 thrill ride. • • "Chicago Tribune

Ned Colletti is the former General Manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers, where he had a widely successful tenure from 2006-2014. Before the Dodgers, he served as assistant General Manager of the San Francisco Giants, after getting his start with the Chicago Cubs, his beloved home team. He currently appears as a baseball analyst on Spectrum SportsNet LA before and after most Dodgers games.

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