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Publishers of quality books about the Mid-Atlantic region

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**New Book Chronicles the Life of Philadelphia’s “Dean” of Broadcasting**

MOORESTOWN, N.J. — Middle Atlantic Press has announced the May 2006 publication of *Bill Campbell the Voice of Philadelphia Sports*.

Written by *Philadelphia Inquirer* writer Sam Carchidi, the book chronicles Campbell’s seven decades as a professional sportscaster — beginning in Atlantic City, NJ in 1940 and continuing today with his sports commentaries on KYW 1060 AM in Philadelphia.

Campbell has had a Hall of Fame career — he was enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2005 — broadcasting for four professional sports franchises as well as for college football and basketball games. He has been Sports Director for both radio and TV and has witnessed all the memorable (the good, the bad and the ugly) sports moments in Philadelphia, including the night Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points in 1962.

Sam Carchidi has written sports stories for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* since 1976 and has written for many national publications. He is co-author of *Miracle in the Making: The Adam Taliaferro Story*, published in 2001.

Middle Atlantic Press is dedicated to publishing the best in regional publishing. Our goal is to publish quality nonfiction books that the residents of the Mid-Atlantic region and the residents of the East Coast of the United States can enjoy for years to come.

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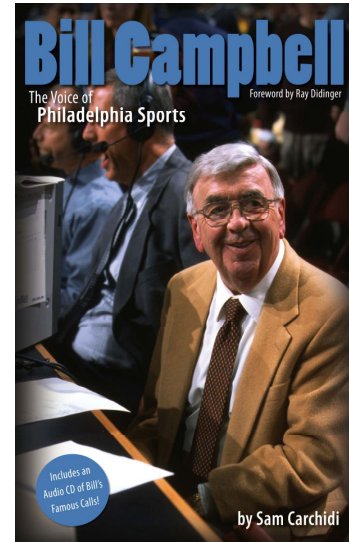
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## Bill Campbell's Colleagues on "The Dean"

"When I was a kid, I thought of Bill Campbell as The Voice of Philadelphia Sports—probably because he was. So the fact that I later became a regular guest on his radio show was one of the great thrills of my whole career. Talking baseball with Bill Campbell? I should have paid *HIM* to do that."

- Jayson Stark, *ESPN* baseball analyst



"When you think of Philadelphia sports, you think of Bill Campbell."

- Larry Shenk, VP Public Relations, Philadelphia Phillies

"Bill was doing the Phillies and 76ers, but I've never heard a broadcast as exciting as the Eagles' championship in 1960. His calls have stayed with me forever."

- Rich Wescott, baseball author

"Soupy always spoke the truth. If something controversial happened, he never avoided it."

- Tom Brookshier, former Eagle and ex-broadcaster

"I cannot tell you how much Bill has impacted on my own career, and that of many others in Philadelphia...in my lifetime, he's the single most impressive broadcaster I have ever heard."

- Angelo Cataldi, *WIP* talk show host

"Some of my most pleasant memories of covering the Phillies revolve around Bill Campbell singing at the Beachcomber restaurant in Clearwater Beach."

- Stan Hochman, *Philadelphia Daily News* columnist



“He didn’t hold a vendetta against me at all...for what had happened; he was always so nice to me over the years and I’ll never forget that.”

- Phillies broadcaster Harry Kalas

“For Philadelphia kids growing up in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, Bill Campbell was the sports voice for all seasons. His calls of Eagles, Phillies, 76’ers and Warriors games were always passionate, always clear and concise, and always enjoyable.

- Frank Fitzpatrick, *Philadelphia Inquirer* sportswriter

“This isn’t meant to be a putdown to anybody in today’s market, but there’s only one Bill Campbell. Maybe because I grew up in the radio age and he left such an impression. I can still hear him now, ‘*Van Brocklin, looking, looking, LOOKING....*’ He put the game in your mind with a vivid description. Nobody compares to him.”

- Harry Donahue, *KYW* sportscaster

He’s meticulous in his preparation; he’s the ultimate professional - with a great voice.”

- Jack Scheuer, *Associated Press* sportswriter

“For almost three quarters of a century, Bill Campbell’s familiar resonant, measured voice has come into our homes, as welcome as a visit from a favorite uncle. If it was a momentous sports event involving a Philadelphia team, chances are he was the one broadcasting it. Generations have grown up listening to Bill and have come to put their trust in him—a higher compliment a journalist cannot hope for.”

- Bill Lyon, former *Philadelphia Inquirer* columnist

“In my youth, Bill Campbell brought me vision in the dark, through a transistor radio that lay under my pillow long after bedtime. That vision soon morphed into lesson, both about the games and life. When I think of Bill Campbell now, I think of fairness and eloquence and a professional bar that few broadcasters will ever reach.”

- Anthony Gargano, *WIP* talk show host and author of *A Sunday Pilgrimage*

## ABOUT SAM CARCHIDI



When Sam Carchidi was nine years old, he suffered through the infamous 1964 collapse of the Philadelphia Phillies. Despite that trauma, he became hooked on sports at an early age. He has been writing sports stories for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* since 1976, and he has written for many national publications.

In 2001, Sam was the co-author of the critically acclaimed and inspiring story of Penn State's Adam Taliaferro, called *Miracle in the Making: The Adam Taliaferro Story*.

Sam lives with his wife, JoAnn, and their two children, SaraAnn and Sammy, in Wenonah, NJ.

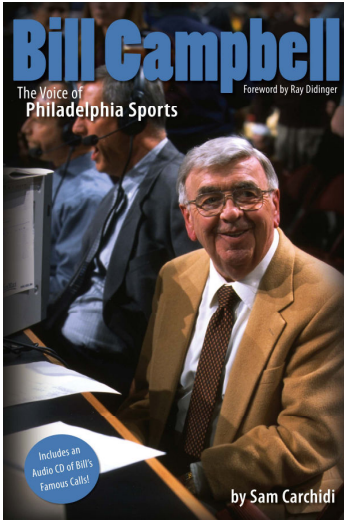
## ABOUT BILL CAMPBELL



Since the 1940's, through seven decades, Bill Campbell has been “The Voice of Philadelphia Sports.” Generations of Philadelphia fans have been enlightened by his familiar and comforting voice broadcasting games for four professional sports franchises and for collegiate football and basketball games.

Bill's legendary professional broadcasting career began in Atlantic City, NJ in 1940, but he actually began as an unpaid high school student broadcaster in 1939. Almost 70 years later, he is still broadcasting—doing sports commentaries for Philadelphia's KYW 1060 AM. He has broadcast games for the Eagles, Phillies, Warriors and 76ers as well as numerous college football and basketball games. He was there the night Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points in a game, he watched the infamous collapse of the 1964 Philadelphia Phillies, the unbelievable 9-and-73 season of the 76ers. He was there when the Philadelphia Eagles won their improbable championship against the Packers in 1960 and he was in the middle of the heyday of Philadelphia's Big 5 college basketball glory.

A recipient of the Legacy of Excellence Award from the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame, he received the ultimate honor in 2005 when he was named the recipient of the Curt Gowdy Media Award for Broadcasting at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA.



## An Interview With Bill Campbell

Recently, we sat down with Bill for some questions and answers. You have permission to use this interview, but please credit Sally Lindsay and Middle Atlantic Press.

**Question:** What is one word that would sum up your career?

**Bill Campbell:** Satisfying.

**Q:** Who was the greatest athlete you ever saw?

**BC:** Wilt Chamberlain—because he could do so many things—you know, track, basketball.....

**Q:** What was the highlight of your broadcasting career?

**A:** (with no hesitation) The 1960 NFL championship game and the Eagles winning...they won so many games they shouldn't have...

**Q:** What was the biggest disappointment?

**A:** The 1964 Phillies.

**Q:** If you could change one thing in Philadelphia sports history, what would it be?

**A:** The 76ers season (of 1972-73) when they went 9 and 73. It seemed as if that season would never end. They had a coach who didn't know the league and players who couldn't play. You came to every game knowing they didn't have a chance—It was not fun. I really did not enjoy myself that season.

**Q:** What athletes in Philadelphia did not play to the potential they came here with?

**A:** Von Hayes (the Phillies traded five players for him) and George McGinnis. He came here from the Indiana Pacers (when they were still an ABA team) where he played great, but he never quite played the same here.

**Q:** What athlete was consistently the best interview?

**A:** Pete Rose, no doubt about it. He was great with me, bailed me out a few times! I don't want him in the Hall of Fame, but he was a great ballplayer and a good guy to get quotes from. Robin Roberts was also great to deal with.

**Q:** What was the best Big 5 team you ever saw?

**A:** That's a tough one. Probably some of the LaSalle teams with Tom Gola. I'll tell you, though, this (2005-06) Villanova team is right there. They were a very good team.

**Q:** And the best Big 5 player?

**A:** Paul Arizin from Villanova. Very underrated player.

**Q:** What is the best thing about sports today?

**A:** It still is a great escape for awhile from everything going on in the world today.

**Q:** The worst thing?

**A:** The prices of the tickets. So many people can't afford to go to the games. That and the fact that the players make so much more money than the coaches. It makes it impossible for the coaches to have any control.

**Q:** Who was the best manager or coach you ever saw?

**A:** Gene Mauch.

**Q:** Who do you think is the best broadcaster of all time?

**A:** Vin Scully. No one can call a game like Vin Scully—and he is still doing it today.

**Q:** Tell me one thing about the following athletes and broadcasters:

**Jackie Robinson**

**A:** Mentally tough, disciplined.

**By Saam**

**A:** Preparation. Total preparation.

**Red Barber**

**A:** Determined.

**Wilt Chamberlain**

**A:** Multitalented.

**Chuck Bednarik**

**A:** Dedicated.

**Rich Allen**

**A:** A natural.

**Dr. J**

**A:** Majestic.

**Mike Schmidt**

**A:** Enigmatic.

**Rich Ashburn**

**A:** Total respect for the game.

**Bernie Parent**

**A:** (laughing) He writes his golf scores in French! I always ask him to see his scorecard, then I look at it and I can't understand it...it's in *French!*!

**Pat Burrell**

**A:** Underappreciated.

**Randall Cunningham**

**A:** Underrated.

**Q:** Bill, you've been a broadcaster for seven decades. Anything you want to say about changes or innovations in media during that time?

**A:** Things are much better today—BUT...I don't know why there has to be three guys in the booth. Why do people think they have to have guys talking over each other, not getting a word in. Sometimes listening to the games with just *two* guys I think "why can't they shut up!" I don't like three guys in the booth at all.

**Q:** Everyone was excited about Jimmy Rollins' hitting streak. Do you think anyone will ever beat DiMaggio's 56-game streak?

**A:** It would be very hard. I'm not sure it can be done.

**Q:** Thank you, Bill

**A:** You're very welcome. Thank you.

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