

The final chapter is an intervention musing on the 'where to from here' question as the disjuncture between club and elite rugby grows. It sets the scene clearly. He points to the parlous situation of club and rural rugby, an issue becoming more significant as the New Zealand Rugby Football Union grapples with its future and its base. He suggests that the changing ethnic composition of elite rugby needs to bring about changes in management and leadership practices (as Maori and Pacific Island players increase in proportion to their populations and the rugby playing population). He notes that women's rugby receives minimal support and profile from the NZFRU, while Maori media in particular lift its profile. All this, however, is lost in the valorisation of tradition that has not yet been obliterated by professionalism.

There are hints of something much better in this book, if only McConnell and his publishers had considered that it might be possible to get beyond rugby introspection to link the game and its management to its social context. The final chapter on the professional condition points to the issues, and McConnell has tantalising hints the whole way through. During a discussion of a Parliamentary reception on 3 June 1992 McConnell notes: 'There is red and white wine, beer and fruit juice. (It seems obvious to me that the Maori and Island players tend to stay in a group towards the entrance end of the foyer: Michael Jones, Inga, Robin Brook, Eroni Clake, Olo Brown.) The team is dressed for the parliamentary visit . . .' (p 34). There is no indication of what this parenthetical aside might mean or whether management should have seen and done anything. This is symptomatic of the entire book: McConnell seems so in awe of the team and so beholden to the NZRFU and the All Blacks for letting him, the impostor, in that he is unprepared to criticise. *Inside the All Blacks* is missing its subtitle: *The Semi-Official Don't-Rock-the-Boat History of the Making of a New Zealand Rugby Tradition*. Had he problematised his relationship with the NZRFU, with the team and with the text he could have produced a much stronger, more challenging and exciting book. Instead, we get bland beholden anti-intellectualism. Rugby fans deserve more.

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John Nauright and Timothy J. L. Chandler (Eds), *Making Men. Rugby and Masculine Identity*. London: Frank Cass, 1996. 260pp. Reprinted and updated 1999. £17.95; US\$24.95; A\$39.95pb; £35 hb.

This compact anthology is an impressive collection of essays that explore, in a loose but sensible chronological fashion, the historical links between

rugby and masculinity. There is a particular emphasis on the roots of the code in English public schools and its diffusion to a number of colonies, including South Africa, New Zealand and Australia. While the task of editing a volume with ten authors from five nations may have daunted lesser mortals, the effort in this regard by John Nauright and Tim Chandler is exemplary. Not only are typographical errors in the text and endnotes virtually non-existent, but the themes of the book and the changes and continuities that the game of rugby and its masculine traditions have undergone over the years, are appropriately identified in the introduction, 'Rugby, Manhood and Identity'. These themes and issues are skilfully woven into each case study, and then deftly summed up in the final two chapters, one of which, 'Sustaining Masculine Hegemony: Rugby and the Nostalgia of Masculinity' (authored by Nauright), contains a brief but illuminating discussion of the literature pertaining to the contested cultural terrain of history, sport and nostalgia.

Each of the chapters maintains its integrity as an independent article, but taken together they form an important commentary on the social, cultural and political significance of rugby in different societies over the past 150 years. While Nauright, in fact, contributes the lion's share of the material (he authors or co-authors, five of the thirteen chapters), Chandler's role (apart from co-authoring two chapters) is also pivotal for he sets the scene for subsequent discussion by examining, in his usual erudite style, the 'structuring' of manliness and the development of rugby in a chapter which considers the birth of the game in public schools and Oxbridge between 1830 and 1880. Other standout chapters include Jock Phillips's work on 'The Hard Man: Rugby and the Formation of Male Identity in New Zealand' (a revised version of material from his 1987 book, *A Man's Country*), and Murray Phillips's material on 'Football, Class and War: The Rugby Codes in New South Wales. 1907-1918'. These two chapters contain the clearest exposition of the major themes in the book and are pregnant with ideas for further investigation. For this reviewer, these two chapters are particularly noteworthy, for their discussions of rugby, particularly the gender dimensions of the game and the conflicts between various football codes, neatly juxtapose research by other scholars concerning developments in Australian Rules football in Melbourne. Both authors also make use of a diverse range of sources, with the tables concerning financial affairs, gate receipts and newspaper coverage provided by Murray Phillips adding depth and nuance to his analysis of League and Union at the time of the Great War. Phillips and Phillips also explore the links between masculinity and nationalism, while the same theme is also well developed by Albert Grundlingh in his chapter on rugby in South Africa from 1900 to 1970.

Deficiencies of the book are few, and mainly relate to personal preferences about what extra detail could have been included, rather than the existing content. In this respect, the chapter by David Andrews on masculine hegemony and Welsh rugby at the turn of the century seems overly burdened with

theoretical jargon, especially when compared to the prose of other contributors. This may, indeed, be a strength or weakness depending on one's predilection, but it is clear that the relative brevity of the chapter hinders the explication of many of the ideas put forward by Andrews. In terms of material excluded from the book, the editors quite candidly identify the geographical and thematic gaps in their study. When one considers the range of rugby research now being conducted by scholars such as Richard Light, Geoff Vincent, Alison Carle, Brent Macdonald, Brett Hutchins, Tom Hickie and Malcolm MacLean, then it is obvious that not only will these gaps be explored and debated in forthcoming publications (such as the second collection on rugby union by Chandler and Nauright, *The Rugby World* due to appear later this year), conferences and website discussion groups, but that the future of football studies in general is in a very healthy state. If the scope of such research can be broadened to include a greater range of methodologies, such as the ethnographical approach to the history of the All Blacks recently completed by Robin McConnell, along with information that gives voice to the experience of the male and female rugby fan, then this excellent anthology by Nauright and Chandler will rightly be considered as the book that started the ball rolling.

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Chris Taylor, *The Beautiful Game: A Journey Through Latin American Football*. London: Victor Gollancz, 1998. £16.99 (hardback)

The people of the world all consume food, but they consume it in different ways. Factors such as history, culture, the availability of natural resources and the emergence of imaginative chefs, or arbiters of taste, have combined to produce different, and ever changing, cuisines. The same can be said of football, that game known in Australia and elsewhere as soccer, which is played virtually in all countries and is popularly known as the 'world game'.

Soccer was originally codified by the English in the latter part of the nineteenth century and was more or less quickly adopted in other parts of the globe. Expatriate Britishers played an important role in introducing soccer to various parts of Latin America – though Spanish and German influences should not be discounted. Soccer quickly attracted the popular imagination and passionate support in Latin America. Latin America has produced a steady stream of leading players, club and national teams. Brazil has won the World Cup on four occasions (1958, 1962, 1970 and 1994), and both Uruguay and Argentina twice (1930 and 1950, and 1978 and 1986 respectively).