

II. NORTH AMERICAN SPORT

II-1

Salter, Michael A. "Play, Myth and History: The Huron Connection," *Quest*, 28 (Summer 1977), 49–57.

The historian interested in studying mass or popular culture is frequently faced with the problem of insufficient or inaccurately interpreted data. As a partial answer to this dilemma ". . . it was proposed that a content analysis of a society's mythology be undertaken to determine its value as an alternate and viable source of historical information." For a test case the mythology of the seventeenth-century Huron society was examined. As a result of the study new information regarding several new facets of Huronian society were uncovered: (1) The Huron's conception of play was a natural part of life, and leisure was distinct from work. (2) The nature of Huron play was highly institutionalized. (3) Societal values were interrelated with play in that the total community was involved in such activities with emphasis on victory. Such emphasis led to the acceptance of cheating. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 25 notes.

Richard A. Swanson

II-2

Struna, Nancy L. "Sport and Societal Values: Massachusetts Bay," *Quest*, 27 (Winter 1977), 38–45.

Struna examined changes in societal values and sport in Massachusetts Bay from 1630 to 1730. An influx of non-Puritans and an alteration in the interpretation of a "calling" contributed to a transformation from "God's plantation" to a worldly English enterprise. The first settlers justified sport, which renewed the spirit, mind, and body according to God's will. By 1730 economic success and social status superseded God's calling in the hierarchy of priorities; individual competitiveness and talent replaced service to God and community. The diversity of sport reflected a growing, complex, and af-

fluent society. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 17 notes.
June A. Kennard

II-3

Jable, J. Thomas. "Aspects of Moral Reform in Early Nineteenth-Century Pennsylvania," *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, 102, No. 3 (July 1978), 344–363.

After the Revolutionary War a movement for moral and religious reform, the Second Great Awakening, was particularly intense in Pennsylvania. This was reflected in legislation such as the 1794 Act for the Prevention of Vice and Immorality which forbade work and sport on Sunday, as well as outlawing cockfighting, horseracing and various other gaming activities. Reformers also sought to protect social morality by forming organizations, such as the First Day Society of Philadelphia, which perpetuated their religious and moral values. Pennsylvania's rapidly changing lifestyle and the advent of the Civil War nullified these reform attempts. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 75 notes.

Maxine G. Hunter

II-4

Bennett, Bruce L. "Sports in the South up to 1865," *Quest*, 27 (Winter 1977), 4–18.

The study of sport in the antebellum South has not been as thorough as in the North. Still ten sports were commonly played throughout the region. Horse racing and riding, hunting, shooting matches, fishing, cockfighting, rowing and boating, fives, billiards, bowling, and quoits are discussed briefly. Sports participation was limited by race, by social class, by sex, by geography, by climate, and by religious teachings in the nineteenth century. Schools in the South did not teach physical education prior to the Civil War. Baseball spread throughout the South after the war. Based on secondary works; 51 notes, biblio.

Harry Jebsen, Jr.

II-5

Fink, Ruth White. "Recreational Pursuits in the Old South," *Research Quarterly*, 23, No. 1 (March 1952), 28–37.

The white inhabitants of the “Old South”, 1607–1861, participated in dancing; outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, and sharp-shooting; the card and table games of poker, piquel, whist, bassel, gackgammon, billiards, dice and chess; racing and such other spectator sports as cockfighting and wrestling. Some active children’s games were found, but fewer than expected. People of the Old South differed little in their recreational outlets from modern-day Americans. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 70 notes.

Joan Paul

II-6

Voigt, David Q. “Myths After Baseball: Notes on Myths in Sports,” *Quest*, 30 (Summer 1978), 46-57.

Voigt urges us to not dismiss myths as lies because when we understand the myth’s reason for being we are better able to understand society. One of the most pervasive of our national beliefs is that since science can unlock truths about nature, scientists should be able to devise technology to control our existence. When combined with the American faith in human ingenuity our beliefs about science and technology explain the persistence of certain myths about baseball. For instance, it explains the myth that Abner Doubleday alone invented baseball by using scientifically symmetrical rules. The article also explores the existence of myth in other similar themes; the “national pastime”, the growth of baseball as a capitalistic enterprise, racial and sexual inequality, fans, the baseball commissioner, managers, and a belief in the excellence of the past. Based on newspapers and secondary works, 36 notes. Garold L. Cole

II-7

Voigt, David Q. “The Mission of America: Baseball Ambassadors,” *Quest*, 27 (Winter 1977), 28-37.

The author compares the effort to implant our national pastime into foreign countries with other attempts to remold alien cultures along American lines; e.g., manifest destiny, World War I and the war to end all wars, communist containment during the Cold War, and the Peace Corps. The article focuses on three unsuccessful barnstorming tours between 1874 and 1914 which baseball promoters designed to sell baseball and a little piece of America to the world. Voigt concluded that baseball has become modestly popular internationally, but not because of such formal attempts to transfer the sport intact.

He pointed out that baseball has taken root because locals watched American soldiers play during periods of occupation, or students who had enjoyed baseball in the United States brought the game home with them. In either case the game has undergone subtle local adaptations that reflect the foreign culture. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 19 notes.
Garold L. Cole.

II-8

Voigt, David Q. "Sex in Baseball: Reflections on Changing Taboos," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 21, No. 3 (Winter 1978), 389-403.

Until the late 1960s, baseball had been a patriarchal society. Women occasionally had a role in running the business. A woman owned the St. Louis Cardinals during the 1910s, and scout Bessie Langert signed two future stars, Smead Jolley and Luke Appling, during the 1920s. But the mythology that sexual activity and ballplayers were incompatible was widespread among baseball officials. Fans applauded a contending team in 1899 for announcing publicly that it would abstain from sex during the September stretch of the pennant race. Even as late as the 1950s, conventional baseball wisdom held that "dames wrecked more teams than bad liquor, big bonuses, or all the sore arms." But the trend of modern society, advocating equality for women as sexual beings, had spread to baseball during the last ten years. Sexual freedom is part of a new trend in all of American society, but there is no assurance that the mores of patriarchal society will not return. Based on secondary works, 32 notes.

Lee E. Lowenfish

II-9

Carter, Gregg Lee. "Baseball in St. Louis, 1867-1875: An Historical Case Study in Civic Pride," *Missouri Historical Society Bulletin*, 34, No. 4 (July 1975), 253-263.

Immediately following the Civil War St. Louis sought to regain her status as the most important city of the midwest by using every possible symbol to advance her claim and to denigrate Chicago, the new leading commercial center. Baseball became a microcosm of this rivalry; it was competitive, easily understood, and the victor was undeniable. However, until 1874 St. Louis had not formed a professional team because civic pride demanded that such a team could consist of only local players. But, recognizing that local talent was not good enough to compete successfully against cities whose players were not natives, J. B. C. Lucas in 1874 formed a more widely recruited team, the

professional St. Louis Brown Stockings. A victory over Chicago on May 6, 1875 left St. Louis' promoters ecstatic and provided sustenance for the city's claim. Based on primary sources and secondary works, 29 notes.
Garold L. Cole

II-10

Graber, Ralph S. "Baseball in American Fiction," *English Journal*, 56, (November 1967), 1107-1114.

Early baseball fiction was aimed at juveniles. The work of Gilbert Patten, written under the Burt L. Standish pseudonym; Edward Stratemeyer, using the Lester Chadwick pseudonym; and Ralph Barbour are heavily laced with extraordinary events, excessive moralisms, and unusual heroics. A second generation of writers beginning with Ring Lardner and Heywood Broun began to use baseball in a more sophisticated attempt to discuss serious aspects of life. This generation included Thomas Wolfe, James T. Ferrell, and Nelson Algren. The most sophisticated writers on baseball, Bernard Malamud and Mark Harris, have probed the human errancy question through the idiom of baseball. Based on literary sources, no notes.
Harry Jebsen, Jr.

II-11

Wettan, Richard G. and Willis, Joe D. "William Buckingham Curtis: The Founding Father of American Amateur Athletics, 1837-1900," *Quest*, 27 (Winter 1977), 28-37.

William B. Curtis, as a sickly child, was drawn to athletics as a youth and began a remarkable career as competitor, official, sports editor, organizer, and administrator. His competitive career extended from the ages of 17 to 43 with championship skills in gymnastics, rowing, weightlifting, and sprinting. At the same time he was a highly regarded official in each of these sports. His most lasting accomplishments, however, were related to his role in establishing amateur athletics in the United States. As co-founder of the New York Athletic Club, early leader of the Amateur Athletic Union, and editor of the *Spirit of the Times*, he was an outspoken and fearless advocate of strict amateurism. His premature, accidental death at the age of 63 brought forth an outpouring of testimonials from the sport world and recognition as the "father of American amateur athletics." Based on primary sources and secondary works; 23 notes.
Richard A. Swanson

II-12

Berryman, Jack W. "Historical Roots of the Collegiate Dilemma," Proceedings, 79th Annual Meeting of National Collegiate Physical Education Association for Men, 1976, 141-154.

This paper explored the historical backgrounds of collegiate sport. The debate on the role of sports in American universities dates back to the 1880s and evolved from the model which collegiate sports followed. When sport came to the colleges, there existed three models which it could follow: (1) big-business, (2) instructional, or (3) recreative. At Yale and throughout the Ivy League the big business model was adopted while other models were ignored. This occurred primarily because of the prevailing social ethic of the late nineteenth century. Boards of Regents or other controlling bodies of American institutions continue to perpetuate that system. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 42 notes.

Harry Jebsen, Jr.

II-13

Martin, John Stuart. "Walter Camp and His Gridiron Game," *American Heritage*, 12, No. 6 (October 1961), 50-5; 77-81.

The young, unmuscular Walter Camp undertook a stoic training program to build himself up for football when he entered Yale in 1876. Camp starred at Yale for six years, three of them as the team captain. Football, developed and popularized during the 1880s and 1890s, was revolutionized by Camp. The bulk of its teachers were Camp's former players, the most famous was Amos Alonzo Stagg. Among Camp's innovations were the line of scrimmage, the "backfield," and the yards and downs system. In 1889 Camp started his "All-American" list which publicized football nationally and established criteria for playing excellence. No notes. Illustrated.

June A. Kennard

II-14

Howell, Reet A., and Howell, Maxwell L. "The Myth of Pop Warner: Carlisle Revisited," *Quest*, 30 (Summer 1978), 19-27.

Glen S. "Pop" Warner is one of the legendary coaches in American football. He first gained fame at the Carlisle Indian School, humbling great collegiate powers between 1899 and 1914. Despite its successes, Carlisle was closed by

Congress in 1914. Documents from Congressional hearings in 1914 indicate excesses in athletics as the primary cause for Carlisle's demise. Sixty-one witnesses described financial dishonesty, abusive coaches, and professional athletes as undermining the morale of the school. These facts support neither the romantic legends of the school nor the myth of "Pop" Warner. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 11 notes.

Mary Lou LeCompte

II-15

Reising, Robert. "Jim Thorpe: Multi-Cultural Hero," *The Indian Historian*, 3, No. 4 (Fall 1974), 14-16.

Athletics is one of the few areas of communality in modern cultures, and superlative athletes have universal appeal. The only native American athlete to have multi-cultural impact has been Jim Thorpe. He is the only individual ever to win both the Olympic Pentathlon and Decathlon, and was also a star of college and professional football. He has been enshrined in numerous halls of fame, but his Olympic medals, revoked in 1913, have never been returned. Efforts to restore them are underway and hopefully will succeed, for Thorpe did no wrong. As befitting a multi-cultural hero, only a multi-cultural body, the International Olympic Committee, can return the medals. No sources indicated; three notes pertaining to introductory poetry and philosophy.

Mary Lou LeCompte

II-16

Gallagher, Robert S. "The Galloping Ghost: An Interview with Red Grange," *American Heritage*, 26, No. 1 (December 1974), 20-4; 93-9.

In this interview Grange is modest about his collegiate and professional football stardom. After his outstanding performance for Illinois against Michigan in 1924, he was forever labelled the "Galloping Ghost." Following his final collegiate game in 1925, Grange turned professional and became the first athlete to sign a six-figure contract. Playing for Chicago Bears, he attracted thousands of new spectators and received tremendous press coverage. Grange's personal thoughts about his career are also reported. No notes. Illustrated.

June A. Kennard

II-17

Lowrey, Burling. "The Dehumanization of Sports," *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, 52 (Autumn 1976), 545-558.

Sports used to reflect the happy side of America, but since the mid-1960s they have reflected the dark side. Prosperity and the decline of the work ethic created a "leisure vacuum" which entrepreneurs filled with professional sports. By the late 1960s university athletic programs only trained athletes for professional games. Sports thus became a dehumanizing rather than liberating force. Specialization, oversized players, exploitive contracts and player-management divisions, dirty tactics, and excessive sadism have caused the saturation of sport in America. The sport establishment has been able to survive thus far with minimum criticism from media. No notes.

Harry Jebsen, Jr.

II-18

Smelstor, Marjorie and Billman, Carol. "Ballyhoo and Debunk: The Unmasking of American Political and Sports Heroes," *North Dakota Quarterly*, 46, No. 3 (Summer 1978), 4-11.

Present-day Americans seem to have no national heroes in sports and politics, two areas which traditionally provided this country with figures for emulation. The culprit is the media which, in its effort to humanize and demythologize personalities (debunk), have functioned in such a carnival-like atmosphere (ballyhoo) that the idol's status has been eroded in the public eye. The authors charge that the media's attempt to reveal the "real" side of the hero is not totally derived from its desire to achieve objective reporting, but rather it has purposely cultivated a public mood which relishes gossip and vicarious experiences. Therefore, the details of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's sex life and Mickey Mantle's after hours drinking find ready-made audiences. However, some athletes have contributed to their own debunking by endorsing products on television and by exhibiting non-heroic behavior on the athletic fields. The resulting situations has left the public confused as to what constitutes a hero. Based on newspapers and secondary works; 17 notes.

Garold L. Cole

II-19

Phillips, Madge. "Sport Studies From An Historical Perspective: Parallels and Paradoxes," *Proceedings*, National College Physical Education Association for Men/National Association of Physical Education for College Women, 1977, 297-308.

The area of sports studies has emerged from a number of sources since the early 1960s. The UNESCO study of the place of sporting education, the be-

ginning of the scholarly publication, QUEST, inquiring book publications concerning the purpose of sport, and the Big Ten body of knowledge project are examples. The AAHPER expansion to specific interests in sport (as history, psychology, sociology, anthropology, philosophy) has helped mold an area—sports studies. These along with renewed interest and examination of the humanities will give a freedom and curiosity for new knowledge about the place of sport in society. Based on secondary works; 31 notes.

John R. Schleppi