

## II. MODERN SPORT AND RECREATION

II-1

Strickland, Alice. "Florida's Golden Age of Racing," *Florida Historical Quarterly*, 45, No. 3 (January 1967), 253-270.

From 1902 to 1935 the strip of hard-packed sand between Ormond and Daytona Beach, Florida was a race track for some of the fastest cars in the world. In the first race Ransom E. Olds's "Pirate" and Alexander Winton's "Bullet No. 1" were both timed at 57 miles per hour in the flying mile. Prominent businessmen formed the Florida East Coast Automobile Association. Because there were few roads, cars were shipped by train or boat to the races. The sand was uneven from the tides, car lamps were blown out by the wind, and crashes in the ocean were common. "Wild Bob" Burman set a world record of 141 miles per hour in a Benz in 1911. Other world records were set in 1919, 1920, 1927 and 1928. In 1935 Sir Malcolm Campbell drove the "Bluebird," 30 feet long and weighing 5 tons, a record 276.8 miles per hour. This signified the end to the golden age of racing because faster cars needed better tracks. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 48 notes, 1 picture.

Helen Fant

## II-2

Stockton, J. Roy, "Spring Training in Florida," *Florida Historical Quarterly*, 39, No. 3 (January 1961), 221-230.

Baseball spring training is primarily to condition athletes, to instruct them, and to select the final squad. Often unnoticed are important economic by-products of spring training. The State of Florida and the spring training sites receive important publicity. News column publicity is far more valuable than outright advertisements which readers may view cynically. Cities realize direct income from team expenditures for hotels, meals, and fields and from tourists and retired residents who follow their favorite teams. Based on author's experiences; no notes.

Helen Fant

## II-3

Monroe, Cecil. "The Rise of Baseball in Minnesota," *Minnesota History*, 19 (June 1938), 162-181.

Many amateur baseball teams were formed in Minnesota at the end of the Civil War. One of the most successful was the North Star Club of St. Paul. The North Stars played other local teams and also competed against clubs in Red Wing and Mankato. The North Star club was instrumental in the development of a state organization of baseball players and in 1867 won the first state tournament sponsored by the association. Baseball had become so popular in Minnesota by 1867 that a contemporary editor claimed that being a member of a starting nine was "nearly as honorable a position as a seat in the Legislature." Based on primary sources and newspapers; 33 notes.

David S. Matz

## II-4

Onigman, Marc. "No Playoff Game was Ever As Fouled up As Syracuse vs. Boston in 1953," *Sports Illustrated*, 50, No. 10 (March 5, 1979), 76.

The deciding game in the 1953 first round National Basketball Association playoff was plagued with fights, fouls, and a quadruple overtime. During the contest, which pitted Syracuse against Boston, twelve players fouled out. There was a scuffle involving the police. There had been one hundred and twenty-eight free throws attempted during the contest. The Celtics won by a score of 111 to 105. No notes.

Maxine G. Hunter

## II-5

Lewis, William F. "Man to Man: A History of Boxing," *Mankind: The Magazine of Popular History*, 3, No. 6 (1972) 32-41.

Boxing is man's most basic competitive activity and has attracted creative writers and artists since Homer. Throughout the ages both the dangers and the rewards have been great. Boxing was very popular in ancient Greece and declined with the fall of Rome. Boxing revived during eighteenth-century England when fencing's popularity waned. Broughten's 1743 rules attempted to make boxing a safe art, but Queensbury's 1866 rules had greater significance. International popularity peaked in the 1920s and then declined. Boxing returned to its present international prominence, largely through the efforts of the most popular, colorful and controversial champion of all time, Muhammed Ali. No notes.

Mary Lou LeCompte

## II-6

Anderson, Jervis. "Black Heavies," *American Scholar*, 47 (Summer 1978), 387-395.

Jack Johnson, Joe Louis, and Muhammed Ali were the three greatest black heavyweight boxing champions the sport has ever known. Each of these men were superbly gifted as boxers and each of them desired to be himself. But Louis "enjoyed a greater affection and wider acceptance among his fellow citizens" than Ali or Johnson because he never dissented publicly from the particular values held by white America. Always a shy and retiring man, Louis never expressed an opinion on public matters nor took any stands on vexed social questions. On the other hand, Johnson and Ali were colorful, assertive, and spirited men who often used their championship as a platform on which to express their views on a number of public issues. No notes.

David IS. Wiggins

## II-7

Wilson, Raymond. "Another White Hope Bites the Dust: The Jack Johnson—Jim Flynn Heavyweight Fight in 1912," *Montana, the Magazine of Western History*, 29, No. 1 (January 1979), 30-39.

In 1908 Jack Johnson became the first black heavyweight boxing champion of the world when he defeated Tommy Bums in a bout at Rushcutter's Bay, a suburb of Sydney, Australia. The boxing world became panic-stricken after

Johnson's victory because the color line, which up to that time had prohibited blacks from title fights, had finally been broken. An immediate search began for a "white hope" who could snatch the title away from Johnson. One of these "hopefuls" was Jim Flynn, who in 1912 fought the champion in a nine round match at Las Vegas, New Mexico. It is one of Johnson's lesser known bouts, and accounts of it have been laden with errors. The fight was advertised as "the battle of the century," but turned into nothing more than a travesty because of the horrendous showing by Flynn and sparse attendance. Based on newspapers; 11 notes and 10 photographs.

David K. Wiggins

## II-8

Cantwell, Robert. "The Great Dublin Robbery," *Sports Illustrated*, 50, No. 12 (March 19, 1979), 70-80.

The 1923 world light-heavy weight championship between Mike McTigue and Battling Siki has been wrapped in mystery. Rumors proclaimed that when McTigue was knocked down by Siki, the Irish referee gave him a slow count, even urging him to get up between counts. Some have stated that the two boxers really did not fight. A newsreel film has surfaced after fifty-six years to prove the rumors incorrect. In fact neither fighter, though fighting furiously, was knocked down. Although McTigue was given the decision, it appears on the film that Siki should have been the actual winner. Based on the film and secondary works. No notes.

Maxine G. Hunter

## II-9

Baker, William J. "The Making of a Working-Class Football Culture in Victorian England," *Journal of Social History*, 13, No. 2 (Winter 1979), 241-51.

Sport comprised an important element of British working class culture in the late nineteenth century. Professional soccer and rugby developed out of a class divided society and they tended to promote, rather than alleviate class divisions. The development of working class sport depended on such factors as urban growth, improved mass transit, mass schooling, and the half-day holiday. The elite viewed participation in the rituals of spectatorship as a safety-valve, but workers saw it as an enjoyable activity which provided them with escape from the routine and a sense of belonging, countering feelings of alienation and anomie. Based on contemporary periodicals and secondary works; 41 notes.

Steven A. Riess

## II-10

Korr, Charles P. "West Ham United Football Club and the Beginnings of Professional Football in East London, 1895-1914," *Journal of Contemporary History*, 13, No. 2 (April 1978), 211-232.

Using West Ham United as an example, Korr shows how professional football in England emerged from autonomous occupational groups and not from leisure time social groups as has been asserted. The club quickly evolved from a company recreational facility, which was the original purpose of the social-minded owner of the Thames Ironworks, to a business with shareholders. West Ham gained the allegiance of its East London community and achieved success because of local pride and civic minded businessmen. Based on primary sources and secondary works. 64 notes.

Garold Cole

## II-11

Cunningham, John T. "Queen of the Turf," *New Jersey History*, 96, Nos. 1-2 (Spring-Summer 1978) 43-48.

On October 28, 1841 a relatively unknown mare, Fashion, defeated "the invincible" Boston at Camden Race Track. This victory and a subsequent challenge victory over Boston catapulted Fashion to the apex of the racing world. Fashion became racing's first heroine and was thereafter called "Queen of the Turf." She remained undefeated for three years, then in 1845 she lost a close race to Peytona. Fifteen days later over 20,000 spectators jammed the Camden track to watch the rematch between Fashion and Peytona. The overflow crowd caused one grandstand to collapse, killing two and injuring many. Following the removal of the injured, the race began and Fashion once again proved herself "Queen of the Turf." She raced until she was eleven years old amassing 32 victories in 36 starts. Based on newspapers and secondary works. 3 pictures. No notes.

Roxanne M. Albertson

## II-12

Ostrem, Walter. "The Beginnings of Track and Field Sports in Minnesota," *Minnesota History*, 39 (Spring 1964), 18-23.

The first organized track meet in Minnesota was sponsored by Shattuck School of Faribault in 1872. Events included the 100-yard dash, half mile race, high jump, three-legged race, ball throwing, and wheelbarrow and don-

key races. Interscholastic high school competition became popular in the decades that followed. The first intercollegiate meet was held in 1882 between Hamline and Carleton. Eleven years later, the University of Minnesota participated in its first intercollegiate meet, but failed to score any points. Although there was some interest in professional track in Minnesota during these early years, the high school and college athletes had a more measurable impact on the development of the sport. Based on primary sources, secondary works, and newspapers. 17 notes.

David S. Matz

## II-13

Steinberg, David A. "The Workers' Sports International, 1920-28," *Journal of Contemporary History*, 13, No. 2 (April 1978), 233-251.

Workers' sports organizations, particularly the Socialist Workers' Sport International and the Red Sport International with over two million members total, used sport as a revolutionary tool. They hoped sport would not only bring workers together, but would also insulate them from bourgeois cultural influences. The sports organizations were eventually weakened by the political problems as social democrats and communists struggled for control. Based on primary sources and secondary works. 53 notes.

Garold Cole

## II-14

Wheeler, Robert F. "Organized Sport and Organized Labour: The Workers Sports Movement," *Journal of Contemporary History*, 13, No. 2 (April 1978), 191-210.

When the working class adopted sport, it was no longer an exclusive preserve of the upper class in Europe. Leisure time resulted from industrialization which produced spare time, extra money, and a need for satisfaction not found in capitalism. Government, business, and the church worked to ensure that workers' energies would be channeled away from pubs and dance halls and into sporting organizations. However, organized labor was most successful and it formed workers' sport organizations that served a valuable purpose in Europe between the two world wars. Based on primary sources and secondary works. 46 notes.

Garold Cole

## II-15

Danforth, Brian J. "Hoboken and the Affluent New Yorker's Search for Recreation, 1820-1860," *New Jersey History*, 95 (Autumn 1977), 133-144.

During the early nineteenth century, Hoboken served as an exclusive retreat for nearby wealthy New Yorkers. This scenic resort town provided tree lined paths where affluent New Yorkers leisurely strolled on Sunday afternoons. During the next two decades, the increasing prosperity of other New Yorkers made Hoboken accessible to middle class visitors. With the industrialization of northern New Jersey, Hoboken became a replica of other industrial towns surrounding New York, and its era as a recreation area came to a close. Based on newspapers, primary sources, and secondary works. 3 pictures. 22 notes.  
Roxanne M. Albertson

## II-16

Pellegreno, Ann Holtgren. "Iowa's First Balloon Ascension," *Annals of Iowa*, 45, No. 1 (Summer 1979), 58-62.

The "Science" of ballooning came to America in 1784 following the first manned ascension of a hydrogen balloon in Paris in 1783. Ballooning spread westward to Ohio in 1835 and to Illinois in 1855. Iowa's entry into the "era of balloons" began with the manned ascension of the balloon "Hercules," October 9, 1856, during the third Iowa State Fair at Muscatine. Although interest in ballooning lagged with the appearance of the aeroplane in Iowa, thousands of Iowans now attend the annual national competition held at Indianola every August. Based on newspapers. 5 notes.  
Yvonne L. Slatton

## II-17

Beinhauer, M. "The County, District and State Agricultural Societies of Iowa," *Annals of Iowa*, 20, No. 1 (July 1935), 50-69.

The greatest attraction of the first Iowa State Fair was the equestrian event for ladies, for which a gold watch was offered as a prize to "the boldest and most graceful" of the ten female equestrians entered. Each lady and her accompanying "cavalier" had to ride "in a gentle gait" once around the track, after which the lady would continue around four more times, at any speed chosen, unaccompanied. Each contestant's ride is described. Based on primary sources. 62 notes.  
Yvonne L. Slatton

## II-18

Spencer, Robert F. "Oregon Ball: The Evolution of a Game" *Western Folklore*, 7, No. 4 (October 1948), 342-348.

The development of a new game form is frequently the product of group processes or activities. Fad and folklore may also be instrumental in the development of this new entity. This contention has been documented in the case of Oregon Ball, a game growing from handball. Oregon Ball evolved as the University of Oregon constructed handball courts smaller than regulation size. The introduction of a new ball by Professor Harry Scott gave Oregon Ball impetus to become highly popular on the campus. Because of the physical limitations, Oregon Ball did not spread throughout the community or state, and by the late 1930s the fad on the campus seemed to be over. Based on primary sources and secondary works. 8 notes.

Lynne Emery

II-19

Donaldson, Lou and George Donaldson. "History of Children's Camping," *Journal of Physical Education and Recreation*, 51, No. 2 (February 1980), 84-85.

Children's camping was one of the important factors leading up to outdoor education and school camping. The remainder of the article gives names of the organizations sponsoring camps for children. A chronological listing of camps is also presented. 1 note.

Miriam L. Sheldon

II-20

Fallon, Dennis. "Disco Dance: A Brief Historical Sketch," *Journal of Physical Education and Recreation*, 50, No. 6 (June 1979), 76-77.

The author gives a brief history on the influences and roles dance played in different periods of history. The main focus of the article is the emergence of disco dancing in the 1960s, its decline in the late sixties and its rise again in the 1970s. 18 notes.

Miriam L. Sheldon