

Recent Dissertations

*Compiled by John Behee**

Baka, Richard S.P. "A History of Provincial Government Involvement in Sport in Western Canada," (University of Alberta, 1978).

Beamon, Harry. "The Rise and Demise of Physical Education at Fisk University: A Historical Analysis" (George Peabody College For Teachers of Vanderbilt University, 1979). This study examined the program of Physical Education at Fisk (Nashville, Tennessee) and concluded that the school measured itself by the highest standards of American education. The physical education social and major programs were eliminated due to the financial exigencies of the University.

Carter, Gayvon D. "The History of the Physical Education Program at Florida State University, 1901-1978"(Florida State University, 1980). The purpose of this study was to trace, reconstruct, and record the facts, which reflect the development, growth, and continuity of the physical education program at Florida State. Traditional methods of historical research were utilized to locate and investigate primary and secondary sources.

Chambers, Roger Ray. "Greek Athletics and the Jews: 165 B.C.-A.D." (Miami University, 1980). The discussion focuses on Paul's (a Jew) explicit athletic metaphors in his epistles to the church and asks the question: How can the apparent acceptance of Greek athletics by Paul be reconciled with the antagonistic attitude of the Jews toward the gymnasium. The thesis of this research is that there is a diachronic accommodation to Greek athletics by Jews at two identifiable levels: 1) positive assimilation, and 2) selective acceptance. The conclusion is that, because of this accommodation, Paul's literary imagery offended neither his tradition nor his readers.

Cohen, Steven David. "More Than Fun and Games: A Comparative Study of the Role of Sport in English and American Society at the Turn of the Century," (Brandeis University, 1980). Cohen examines several aspects of sport

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at the turn of the twentieth century including professionalism, sports entrepreneurs, church sponsorship of teams, acceptance of sport by psychologists, sociologists, and military-minded. He concludes that sport was a way to build up the United States, educate the younger generation, and amuse the population. It became an activity and an ideal.

Clumper, Roy A. "American Federal Government Involvement in Sport 1888-1973," (University of Alberta, 1976).

Cosentino, Frank. "A History of the Concept of Professionalism in Canadian Sport," (University of Alberta, 1973).

Cox, Alln Elton, "A History of Sports in Canada, 1868 to 1900," (University of Alberta, 1969).

Cunningham, Lee Calvert. "A History of the Southern Intercollegiate Gymnastic League from its Beginning in 1949 to its Demise in 1977," (Florida State University, 1980). The League was the initial, prime, and most often sole developmental and organizational body for all southeastern intercollegiate gymnastics during the period 1949-1977. This account traces its history and documents League championship competitive records, site of competition, administrative officers, elected coach of the year, order of team finish, and the results of individual performance by event.

Dickason, Jerry G. "The Development of the Playground Movement in the United States: A Historical Study," (New York University, 1979). Dickason found several motives for developing playground programs during the period of this study, 1885-1906: Self-interest made the upper classes use play as a tool to solve non-play problems; play was justified through social issues such as delinquency and strengthening the work force; and play was never valued in its own right. There was no relationship between play as a body of knowledge and the way play was used to strengthen society.

Eisen, George, "The Maccabiah Games: A History of the Jewish Olympics," (University of Maryland, 1979). This research examines the origins and development of the Maccabiah Games begun in 1932. It concludes that from the point of view of sport history, the Games have become one of the major festivals of the sport world. But seen from the perspective of Jewish history, the Maccabiah Games have transcended the confines of sport, offering a sentimental and emotional link between Israel and the Diaspora, and fostering a growing Jewish national awareness.

Hardy, Stephen H. "Organized Sport and the Search for Community: Boston, 1865-1915," (University of Massachusetts, 1980). In response to changes resulting from urbanization, immigration, and industrialization, Boston (1865-

1915) searched for community through sport. Hardy found two distinct but related patterns: the perception of urban disorder which resulted in conscious, social and environmental action to refashion the city and its social life to recapture the old sense of community; a passive and unconscious search for community which implied an acceptance of the urban reality. Hardy concludes that these active and passive modes of the search for community were related by several common themes that included wholesome alternatives to noxious amusements, and common notions of sport as a mode of escape, reform, and association.

Howell, David F. "The Social Gospel in Canadian Protestantism, 1895-1925: Implications for Sport," (University of Alberta, 1980).

Indrapnana, Nat. "Sport and Physical Education in Thailand, 1923-1966," (University of Alberta, 1973).

Jobling, Ian F. "Sport in Nineteenth-Century Canada: The Effects of Technological Changes in its Development," (University of Alberta, 1970).

Jones, Kevin George, "Sport in Canada, 1900 to 1920," (University of Alberta, 1970).

Keyes, Mary Eleanor. "The History of the Women's Athletic Committee of the Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, 1940-1973," (Ohio State University, 1980). The purpose of this study was to document the history of the Women's Athletics Committee (WAC) as a representative of a volunteer organization in a changing Canadian sport environment. Data was gathered from interviews and from library and archival materials. It was found that the major contributions of WAC were in the areas of basketball rules, officiating girls basketball and volleyball, and establishing and promoting policies and standards for girls' athletic programs.

Kyle, Donald Gordon. "A Historical Study of Athletics in Ancient Athens to 322 B.C.," (McMaster University, 1981). This collection and analysis of the relevant evidence from ancient authors, archaeology, vase-paintings, and epigraphy shows that athletics were very significant in the civic and political life of Athens. Athenian athletics are examined with respect to their rise, festivals, facilities, athletes, critics, and political significance. It was found that at Athens the polis and athletics affected the life and character of each other.

Kim, Young Hwan. "Buddhism and its Implications for American Physical Education," (Kent State University, 1979). Various Buddhist concepts were examined in an attempt to draw valid implications for American physical education, including philosophic and pedagogic concerns. It was concluded

that Buddhism has many commonalities with Pragmatism as well as with Existentialism in relation to physical education, and that some Buddhist values such as moral development can be beneficial for the development of those human qualities which some physical education teachers perceive to be a necessary part of the total program.

Lipping, Alar. "Charles W. Eliot's Views on Education, Physical Education, and Intercollegiate Athletics," (Ohio State University, 1980). Lipping's study was designed to provide insight into how a leading educational reformer, Charles Eliot, related physical education and athletics to education. Eliot served as President of Harvard for 40 years (1869-1909) and exercised an enormous influence on American education. He declared that the rising professionalism, commercialism, and fanaticism in intercollegiate athletics was not in line with the purposes of higher education. He became a staunch critic, advocating the abolishment of intercollegiate football.

Mott, Morris Kenneth. "Manly Sports and Manitobans, Settlement Days to World War One," (Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario, Canada, 1980). This dissertation shows that forms of "manly" sports were familiar to all people who inhabited the province of Manitoba, including the Natives and white men who lived in it before it was geographically defined, and that all of them appreciated these sports for the same reasons: they provided enjoyment, and through them qualities of character that were needed in all of life were dramatized and seemed to be inculcated. By the early twentieth century most Manitobans were becoming comfortable with the idea that serious athletes might be paid for their services.

Nadler, Sylvia Faye. "A Developmental History of the Wayland Hutcherson Flying Queens from 1910 to 1979," (East Texas State University, 1980). The purpose of Nadler's study was to present a history of the women's basketball program at Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, Texas. The school has produced numerous championship teams and All American players. Data were collected through various sources including interviews, archival materials, college newspapers, personal files of Wayland personnel, and government documents. It was concluded that from the Queen's beginning in 1910 and expansion to independent, intercollegiate, and international competition, they made a significant contribution to the history of women's basketball.

Oduyale, Amos Tinuayo. "Twenty Five Years History of the Olympic Movement in Nigeria, 1951-1976," (Penn State University, 1979). The purpose of this study was to focus attention on the involvement of Nigeria in the Olympic Movement and its philosophy—Olympism by analyzing the performances of the Nigerian athletes in the Olympic Games (from the entry of Nigeria in 1951 to 1976), the problems of the National Olympic Committee, and steps taken

by the Federal Government of Nigeria to promote success through sports competition.

Pendleton, Brian B. "The People's Republic of China and The Olympic Movement: A Question of Recognition," (University of Alberta, 1978).

Redmond, Gerald. "The Scots and Sport in Nineteenth Century Canada," (University of Alberta, 1972).

Salter, Michael Albert. "Games in Ritual: A Study of Selected North American Indian Tribes," (University of Alberta, 1972).

Saunders, Robert Charles. "The Life and Professional Contributions of Matthew Mann II to Competitive Swimming in the United States," (Ohio State University, 1980). This study documents the career of Matt Mann, one of the United States' most successful swimming coaches, whose teams at the universities of Syracuse, Yale, Michigan, and Oklahoma established outstanding records.

Sawula, Lorne W. "The National Physical Fitness Act of Canada, 1943-1954," (University of Alberta, 1977).

Schrodt, P. Barbara. "A History of Pro-Ret: The British Columbia Provincial Recreation Programme, 1934 to 1953," (University of Alberta, 1979).

Thompson, Charles Herbert. "The History of the National Tournaments for Black High Schools," (Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, 1980). Thompson traces the Tournament from the inception in 1929 to its dissolution in 1968 identifying the key figures and social forces responsible for its development.

Usher, Mildred Marie III. "A History of Women's Intercollegiate Athletics at Florida State University from 1905-1972," (Florida State University, 1980). The philosophical, sociological, and physiological factors influencing the development of the women's athletic program at Florida State were studied by Usher.

Wardell, Nancy Weltzheimer. "Rachel E. Bryant: Contributions to Physical Education and Girls and Women's Sports," (University of Toledo, 1979). The study chronicles the development of the National Section for Women's Athletics, the broadening interests of the National Section for Girls and Women's Sports, and the implication of divisional status for the Division of Girls and Women's Sports+ It examines Dr. Rachael Bryant's influence during 21 years as the AAHPER consultant for Physical Education and Girls and Women's Sport and concludes that her influence was significant.

Watkins, Glenn G. "Professional Team Sports and Competition Policy: A Case Study of the Canadian Football League," (University of Alberta, 1972).

Watson, Jan Carole. "Ethel Loroline Martus Lawther: Her Contributions to Physical Education," (University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 1980). This is a study of the contributions of Ethel Martus Lawther who served for 26 years as chairperson of the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation and later Dean of the School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. It found many lasting contributions of this "matriarch" in physical education.

Wiggins, David Kenneth. "Sport and Popular Pastimes in the Plantation Community: The Slave Experience," (University of Maryland, 1979). This research studied the sport and popular pastimes of slaves living on southern plantations prior to the Civil War. It was found that slaves engaged in these activities with much more intensity and regularity than most people commonly realize. Studying this participation affirmed that slave society was harsh and brutal. Master and slave were constantly interacting, but in the interstices slaves created their own community and culture.

Wright, Jerry Jaye. "A History of Sport, Games, and Amusements Among Pioneer Cultures in Indiana, 1670-1820," (Ohio State University, 1980). This study of sport, games, and amusements in Indiana during its early period of exploration and development identified several factors that influenced these pastimes, namely: geography, topography, climate, diverse cultures, socio-economics, politics, religion, and education.

Editorial Note: The list of recent dissertations will appear annually in the Winter issue. Dissertation titles, dates, and short abstracts should be forwarded to The Editor.