

Journal Surveys

I. Sport in the United States

I-1

Hardy, Stephen. "The City and the Rise of American Sport: 1820-1920," *Exercise and Sport Sciences Reviews*, 9 (1981), 183-219.

Traditionally it has been postulated that sport was either a reaction to certain deprivations of urban life or a product of the city's technological, economic, and social blessings'. In recent literature four dominant themes—voluntary associations, urban symbolism, urban escapism, and urban reform, control, and power—have attempted to account for the increased popularity of sport in nineteenth and early twentieth century America. Several questions are theorized for future research within the framework of recognition of the city as a process that demands the constant attention of sport historians. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 171 notes.

—Angela Lumpkin

I-2

Wiggins, David K. "Clio and the Black Athlete in America: Myths, Heroes, and Realities," *Quest*, 32, No. 2 (1980), 217-25.

Past historical studies done on American sport have either excluded the black athlete, simply been a chronicling of black sport heroes, portrayed sport as being one of the most democratic institutions in America, or accurately analyzed the discrimination that black athletes have continually had to face. Those historians who wish to write on this topic should remember to show the relationship that invariably exists between black athletes and American society, must be aware that black athletes are not necessarily a homogenous group, cannot afford to engage in hyperbole about the accomplishments of black athletes, should be willing to confront ethical questions, and have to be cognizant of the humor characteristic of black culture. The people who are needed to write about the experiences of the black athlete in American sport are those with the proper academic training, those who are sincerely interested in seeking the truth, and those genuinely enthusiastic about the subject. 28 notes. Copyright 1980 by Human Kinetics Publishers. Reprinted with permission.

—David K. Wiggins

I-3

Palmer, Melvin D. "Sports Fiction of the Sixties," *Quest*, 32, No. 2 (1980), 209-16.

Just as the 1960s was a transitional decade of far-reaching significance in American culture, the 1960s was also a time of major changes in the history of sports fiction. Several of the sports novels of the sixties reflected changes in and were perhaps motivated by social change in America. During this decade, the dominance of baseball in fiction was broken. Updike's *Rabbit, Run* (1960), for example, initiated a minor interlude of basketball fiction. More importantly, the year 1968 marked a major turning point in sports fiction through novels by Frederick Exley, Robert Coover, and Gary Cartwright. After 1968, writers turned primarily to football in their novels, but baseball stories enjoyed some popularity as a result of the seventies' interest in nostalgia. 31 notes. Copyright 1980 by Human Kinetics Publishers. Reprinted with permission.

—Melvin D. Palmer

I-4

Harrison, Walter L. "Six-Pointed Diamond: Baseball and American Jews," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 15, No. 3 (Winter 1981), 112-18.

Baseball has had a special meaning to American Jews and American Jewish writers. Philosopher Morris Cohen, a student of Harvard's William James, found in baseball a Jamesian "moral equivalent to war," a sport which provided "redemption from the limitations of our pretty individual lives and the mystic unity with a larger life of which we are a part." Among the immigrant Jews of America, scholarship was stressed, however. Novelist Abraham Cahan wrote that the "only physical exercise known to us was to be swinging like a pendulum in front of your reading desk . . ." The younger Jews coveted their athletic heroes be they the slugger Hank Greenberg, pitcher Sandy Koufax or Pittsburgh Pirates owner Barney Dreyfuss. Baseball captured the imagination of writers as diverse as Bernard Malamud, Chaim Potok, and Philip Roth. Roth wrote of "the mystic and aesthetic dimension" of baseball which played an important role in a boy's life, "particularly to one whose grandparents could hardly speak English." Based on novels and secondary works; 17 notes.

—Lee E. Lowenfish

I-5

Berger, Michael L. "The Great White Hope on Wheels," *The Michigan Quarterly Review*, 19-20 (Fall 1980-Winter 1981), 472-83.

In March of 1910, Barney Oldfield drove an automobile to the record speed of

131.7 mph. Jack Johnson, the black heavyweight boxing champion, defeated white contender Jim Jeffries on July 4. Oldfield and Jeffries were friends which prompted Johnson to challenge Oldfield to a race (three, five-mile heats). The race was held at Brooklyn in October. The race was significant, not because of who won, or the amount of money involved, but for three other reasons: (1) Racial attitudes associated with the event mirrored the prejudices of American society in general and in professional sports in particular. (2) The contest established racing as a professional sport, governed by enforceable rules and regulations. (3) It revealed the extent to which the media could create an event of national interest. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 6 notes.

—Phyllis Ocker

I-6

Palmer, Melvin D. "The Heyday of the Football Novel," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 1 (Summer 1982), 48-54.

By the end of the 1960s and the beginning of the 1970s football novels began to supplant baseball fiction as a favorite theme of American writers. As the Vietnam war dragged on and the culture of protest came to "full boil," football's violence and bureaucratic structures seemed to intrigue novelists more than baseball's patient and innocent rituals. Frederick Exley's *A Fan's Notes* chronicled the obsession of a ne'er-do-well who turned violent when he realized his destiny was only to be a fan. James Whitehead's *Joiner* looked at a sensitive scholar-athlete in a southern academic setting where winning counted more than the joining of the twin pursuits of sport and knowledge. Dom DeLillo's *End Zone* probed the parallels between football and war while Dan Jenkins' *Semi-Tough* presented a world around football where "drugs, booze, sex and dissipation are so profuse . . . that one wonders how the game could have been played at all." Based on novels and secondary works; 14 notes.

—Lee E. Lowenfish

I-7

Pearlman, M. "To Make a University Safe for Morality: Football and Military Training from the 1890s through the 1920s" *Canadian Review of American Studies*, 12 (Spring 1981).

The universities' concern for morality has existed for centuries. Since 1913 when Leonard Wood, Army Chief of Staff, initiated his famous citizen-soldier military training camp for students in Plattsburg, New York, the military has played a large role in shaping attitudes. Most university presidents welcomed military activities on campus, for they believed such activities would have a positive effect on student morality and behavior, something that reli-

gion and football had not yet done. During the late 1800s and the earlier 1900s such presidents as Henry Sturges Drinker of Lehigh, Jacob Gould Schurman of Cornell, and Arthur T. Hadley of Yale led the support for campus military programmes. During World War I student army programmes restored to the university the old Christian college religion, but eventually this disciplined style alienated many students and administrators. As a consequence the university system of electives, fraternities, and big-time football programs advanced into the 1920s stronger than ever. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 57 notes.

—John R. Kennedy

I-8

Smith, Ronald A. "Sport, Politics, and Harvard: A Little Lesson in Honor for Teddy Roosevelt," *The New England Quarterly*, 54, No. 3 (September 1981), 412-16.

In June, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt telegraphed Harvard President Charles Eliot requesting a lesser punishment for two members of the University crew who had been suspended on the eve of the Yale meet for illegally removing a book from the college library. Undaunted by Roosevelt's attempted influence on internal affairs in the name of athletics, Eliot supported the faculty's decision and upheld the moral integrity of Harvard. A national criticism erupted against Roosevelt when the content of the exchanged telegraphs was made public. In the race Harvard, minus two of its regular crew, emerged the unexpected winner to the pleasure of Roosevelt who at the same time was treated to a little lesson in honor. Based on primary sources; 13 notes.

—Angela Lumpkin

I-9

Phinizy, Coles, "We Know of Knute, Yet Know Him Not," *Sports Illustrated*, 51, No. 11 (September 10, 1979), 98-112.

The life of Knute Rocke, the legendary Notre Dame football coach, has been so romanticized by his biographers that it is difficult to separate the truth from fiction. His biographers are not entirely at fault, for Rockne himself had a flare for embellishing his stories and statements with the dramatic and the romantic. This characteristic did not appear in his actual coaching. His success as a coach can be attributed to his ability to get eleven players to function as one unit. He has been associated with Notre Dame since 1910, his freshman year in college. He died in a plane crash in 1931. No notes.

—Maxine Grace Hunter

I-10

Phinizy, Coles. "Win One for the Gipper," *Sports Illustrated*, 51, No. 12 (September 17, 1979), 40-48.

George Gipp, famed for his alleged deathbed request, "Win One for the Gipper," is as surrounded in legend as his coach, Knute Rockne. The aura of all-Americanism that cloaks Gipp is not born in fact. Though a talented athlete, he was often absent from or late to practices, and his class attendance was very infrequent. A gambler at heart, he earned extra cash literally by gambling. His untimely death in December, 1920, resulted from a streptococcus infection. No notes.

—Maxine Grace Hunter

I-11

Scherch, Henry J. "Clubs and Fairways: Golf Grows Up in St. Louis," *Gateway Heritage Quarterly Journal of the Missouri Historical Society*, 2, No. 3 (Winter 1981-1982), 22-23.

This article traces the development of golf clubs in the St. Louis area from 1892 to the present. The first golf club organized in the area was the St. Louis Country Club, founded in 1892. During the next two decades fourteen more private clubs were organized. The first public course was opened in 1912 in Forest Park. In June 1916, the St. Louis District Golf Association was founded to promote the game of golf in the St. Louis area through tournaments and cooperation among clubs. As interest in golf increased during the 1920s, there was a subsequent increase in the number of clubs. The golf clubs in the St. Louis area have hosted a number of prestigious tournaments, including the U.S. Open. Currently, there are 45 private clubs, 11 semi-private clubs, 10 public, and 11 municipal courses. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 21 illustrations, 1 map.

—Yvonne L. Slatton

I-12

Stump, Al J. "The Olympics that Almost Wasn't," *American Heritage*, 33, No. 5 (August/September 1982), 64-71.

Under the direction of the "Garland Group," plans for the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics proceeded smoothly in the 1920s. But, the Depression threatened to doom the Games. Funding cutbacks, massive withdrawals by participating nations, and long soup lines, which contradicted the lavishness of the Games, appeared to spell disaster for the 1932 Olympics. However, the Garland plan for a communal athletes' village costing only \$2 per person per day persuaded many nations to attend. Although the well-attended Games seemed extrava-

gant in the midst of breadlines, the Games provided a needed elan and forged a new image for Los Angeles. No notes; illustrated.

—J. A. Kennard

I-13

Westermeier, Clifford P. "Rodeo: The Cowboy Sport Abroad," *Colorado Magazine*, 56, No. 3, 4 (Summer/Fall 1979), 209-30.

Various promoters have tried to export the American rodeo, but found lack of understanding abroad and only meager success. The Buffalo Bill Wild West shows set a tone for pageantry that could not be overcome by the rodeo shows of the twentieth century. John Van "Tex" Austin introduced the British to rodeo in 1924 and suffered a court case by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. He met a similar fate when he tried again in 1934. A show in Venezuela in 1940 failed because of poor stock and theft of receipts. In 1948 a rodeo degenerated into a free-for-all between cowboys and police in Geneva, Switzerland. The rodeo group sent to the Brussels World Fair in 1958 went broke. In general, the actual cowboy failed to live up to the image of the wild west cowboy in the foreign mind. Based upon newspapers, magazines, and interviews; 10 photographs; 49 notes.

—David McComb

I-14

Benson, Jack A. "Before Skiing was Fun," *Western Historical Quarterly*, 8, No. 4 (1977), 431-41.

Between 1860 and 1920 skis were a prime means of transportation in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Doctors, mailmen and prospectors used skis which were then called "Norwegian snowshoes." These "snowshoes" made primarily of boards, were between eight and twelve feet long and the skier balanced by using a six to eight foot pole. Even as late as the 1920s skis were used for transportation during storms. "Only the development of a modern highway system relegated skiing to the status of a winter sport." Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 40 notes.

—Lynne Emery

I-15

Nash, Roderick. "The Confusing Birth of National Parks," *The Michigan Quarterly Review* (Spring 1980), 215-26.

A Centennial Commission, appointed to capitalize on the public relations opportunity of the scheduled 2nd World Conference on National Parks held at Yellowstone Park in 1972, sent pre-conference requests to various nations for documents pertaining to the origins of their own national park system. These

documents revealed that the United States no longer could claim title to “inventor of national parks.” It seems the actual use of the term “National Park” did not appear in American legislation until 1899, but Australia used this specific term as early as 1879. Legislation adopted by the United States in 1872 heralded the birth of national parks by protecting the Yellowstone region when it designated it as a “public park or pleasuring ground.” The United States, with action, and Australia, in name, can both lay claim as the “inventor of the National Park.” 27 notes, 1 illustration.

—Phyllis Ocker

I-16

Harper, William. “Teaching History With a Human Touch,” *Journal of Physical Education and Recreation*, 52, No. 4 (April 1981), 64-66.

Re-searching, re-creating, and re-presenting are three useful and practical approaches available to teachers of sport and physical education history. Having students investigate a particular sport history topic by going to the original or primary sources is an example of “re-searching” a topic. “Re-creating” simply means having students play sports or games by using original rules and equipment. In addition, teachers of sport history can “re-present” their materials by utilizing slides, music, and other sensory aids. With a little imagination, teachers can develop stimulating and interesting sport history presentations for their students. No notes.

—Robert W. Case

I-17

Clark, Mark W. “‘New Ground’ in the History of Sport,” *Journal of Physical Education and Recreation*, 50, No. 4 (April 1979), 78-79.

Possible topics for future investigation by sport historians were discussed in this article. For example, the influences that transportation facilities, migrant movements, political philosophies, and the mass media have had on the development of American sport were mentioned as areas requiring further investigation. In addition, the historical significance of ethnic group participation in sport was described as a research area with many unanswered questions. It was concluded that there are many varied and unexplored areas open for inquiry by individuals interested in the socio-historical aspects of sports in America. 6 notes.

—Robert W. Case

I-18

Osterhoudt, Robert G. “Sport History Through Art,” *Journal of Physical Education and Recreation*, 49, No. 6 (June 1978), 66.

The study of important dates and events associated with sport and physical education history can be enhanced also by studying the artistic achievements (i.e., architecture, sculpture, painting, and music) that are a part of each historical period. For example, the study of sport and physical education in ancient Greek culture could be supplemented by a presentation of artistic images selected from Minoan frescos, kouroi statuary, and the athletic sculpture of Myron, Polyclitus, and Lysippus. Likewise, artistic images selected from the paintings of Watteau and Fragonard and the music of Haydn and Mozart could enhance discussions of sport and physical education activities which took place during European Enlightenment culture. Such an approach allows the student to gain a better understanding of and appreciation for the many interrelated events which comprise a particular historical period. No notes.

—Robert W. Case