

## Journal Surveys

### I. North American Sport and Recreation

- I-1 Hardy, Stephen and Ingham, Alan G. "Games, Structures, and Agency: Historians on the American Play Movement," *Journal of Social History*, 17 (Winter 1982), 285-301.

This historiographical essay is a critical analysis of the debate over the development of the playground movement. This is a crucial subject because it elucidates the types of contests over control of space, time, and behavior that existed in American cities at the turn of the century. It is also significant because the playground can be regarded as a laboratory to measure acceptance or rejection of sport as a collection of behaviors and values. Three schools of thought are identified: (1) altruistic reformers, (2) social controllers, and (3) positive environmentalists. All are taken to task for failing to recognize the ability of the subordinate class to act as agents in determining playground policy. They were part of a general consensus regarding the need for parks, but a severe conflict existed over control of play space. This division was not just between the dominant and subordinate classes, but within the dominant class as well. The struggle for change dramatized how the historical process of agency functioned in and through social structures, and exemplified the complexity of the hegemonic process. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 59 notes.

—Steven A. Riess

- I-2 Core, George, "The Lower Mythology and the Higher Clichés," *American Scholar*, 48 (Spring 1979), 281-86.

This article is a review of four books on sport written by reputable academicians (Cady, Guttman, Isaacs and Novac). Much discussion relates to the attempt by the authors to be sportswriters and hence use a conglomeration of clichés to express this point of view. All four writers are said to express convincing opinions about corruption and moral issues in sport, but not on the mythical aspects of competitive games. The author condemns their sport writing by stating that some departments of human endeavor may not be studied using academic overtones. Based upon primary sources.

—David C. Higginson

- I-3 Lumpkin, Angela. "Sport and Human Values," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 4-10.

It is argued that American sports have diminished human values— "attitudes and behaviors which emphasize and enhance the dignity and worth of

man and his capacity for self-realization.” (p. 4) Competition, pressure to win, big business, and the exploitation of athletes by schools has resulted in a Watergate morality. Respect for opponents, referees, and rules has been lost along with the fun of playing the game. These abuses must be reversed before sport can be productive in improving human values. Based upon secondary works; 15 notes.

—David McComb

I-4 Kutcher, Louis. “The American Sport Event as Carnival: An Emergent Norm Approach to Crowd Behavior,” *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 34-41.

In the past ten years major spectator sports events have ended in riots; officials and players have been attacked. Some suggest this reflects a new era in sports. However, unruly conduct associated with sport permeates American history. “Kill the umpire” is an integral part of baseball history. Numerous efforts have been made to understand and explain crowd behavior. Discarding earlier efforts, this article suggests the emerging norm for behavior of sports crowds can be identified with carnival. The sporting event is the central focus of a larger whole. Surrounding the event is “feasting, masquerading, merrymaking and rule and role suspension” —the historic symbols of carnival. Food service is integral to stadium operation and tailgating is a modern version of an older form of feasting associated with sport. Costuming ranges from cheerleaders’ uniforms to spectators wearing identifiable symbols of dress. Human mascots masquerade as animals. Musical programs add to the merrymaking. Finally roles and rules are suspended. The most dignified have license to make fools of themselves. The sports carnival is an escape into fantasy and revelry. The sports’ spectator experiences freedoms lost in modern society. Restraint is needed, lest the crowd become too unwieldy (though promoters and owners often encourage some of this to stimulate attendance), but the good atmosphere of carnival needs to be preserved. Based upon secondary works; 21 notes.

—R. T. Bowen

I-5 Carter, John Marshall. “Sport History: Social History or Hack History?” *North Carolina Journal for the Social Studies*, 27, No. 2 (Winter 1981), 17-20.

The status of sport history as social history has frequently been questioned, especially in the absence of a viable definition of sport. Yet, in the last decade a profusion of sport history literature has shown both depth and diversity. Sport history research has also been published in scholarly journals. From an interdisciplinary perspective, sport historians have viewed sport within the broader background of society and thus their writings should be classified as important contributions to social history. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 11 notes.

—Angela Lumpkin

- I-6 Barnett, Robert C. "The Use of Oral History and Interviews as Research Techniques in Sport History," *The Physical Educator*, 39, No. 4 (December 1984), 187-89.

Oral history, as a means of gathering a person's recollection of an event, often provides information and insight unobtainable from any other source. Information from this technique must be analyzed and verified in a manner similar to the methods applied to the acquisition of knowledge gained in other ways. The interviewer must have obtained background information prior to the interview in order to know what type of probing questions to ask. Prior research to an interview not only gives the interviewer direction, but allows for clues to help jog the memory of the person being interviewed. Some examples are given for introducing the subject, as well as sample questions, and techniques for validating the information gathered. Novices are advised to talk with experienced persons in oral history techniques before beginning their research. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 5 notes; 6 references

—Joan Paul

- I-7 Banks, Samuel A. "Sport: Academic Stepchild," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 90-100.

Banks deplores the "adversary relationship" between athletics and academics which typifies the current college scene in America. He feels sport is too important to be viewed as a "stepchild." Making decisions in sporting contests can often serve to enable athletes to make sounder decisions in later life. Faculty members must realize that their classroom goals are similar to those of the coaching staff on athletic fields. Professors can also use sporting events as "anchors" for their ideas. Fortunately, the attempt is being made to end the "awesome breach" between athletics and academics. The intensive study of sport represents one such effort. Based upon secondary works; 11 notes.

—William A. Gudelunas

- I-8 Sojka, Gregory, S. "Evolution of the Student Athlete in America," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 54-67.

College students and student athletes have changed since an elite few divinity students attended Harvard during the seventeenth century. Declining Puritanism and increasingly heterogeneous society led to the proliferation of colleges with diverse and rebellious students. Despite the introduction of physical education, students preferred their own ball games and intercollegiate contests began in the 1850s. Recognizing that athletic superiority produced prestige, colleges hired professional coaches and recruited athletes. Cultural diffusion in athletics followed, as the Anglo-Saxon elite, moral hero-athletes were replaced by the ethnic, black, woman, media celebrity, paid gladiator, radical-activist, criminal-entrepreneur, foreign legionnaire, and Christian student-athletes. While most of these have been exploited by the

system, student-athletes may soon become the exploiters. Based upon secondary works; 60 notes.

—Mary Lou LeCompte

I-9 Rader, Benjamin G. "Compensatory Sport Heroes: Ruth, Grange and Dempsey," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 11-22.

In the 1920s sports heroes compensated the common person for his lack of success in life, erosion of values, and feelings of individual powerlessness in a world increasingly run by bureaucracies, large organizations, and scientific management. Ruth, Grange, and Dempsey all appeared to provide decisive, powerful, and quick solutions to problems on the playing field or in the ring. It was simple and uncomplicated. Their success was easy to measure in terms of knockouts, home runs, or touchdowns. To a large extent their image was created by a promoter, even though each man demonstrated natural skills at his sport. Based upon secondary works; 33 notes.

—David McComb

I-10 Beezley, William H. and Hobbs, Joseph, " 'Nice Girls Don't Sweat'—Women in American Sport," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 42-53.

In spite of the unsavory aspects of sport and partially because of the potential values of sport, women have attempted to overcome societal restrictions concerning athletic competition. Participation for all in "ladylike" sports and in play days and sports days comprised the woman leaders' philosophical platform in the late nineteenth century and over half of the twentieth century. The few outstanding women athletes who achieved success in their sports and the few who even challenged the men in the traditional male sports did so at the risk of society's disfavor. The 1960s, an era of civil rights legislation and gradual attitudinal changes in society, allowed women to question and to begin to remedy their second-class status. The Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women increased competitive opportunities while Title IX legislated that educational institutions must provide equitable athletic programs. Still, women achieved only modest advances in sport and in society as illustrated by the media's lack of publicity of women's sports accomplishments. Society still lacks full acceptance of the fact that indeed some women do sweat. Based upon newspapers and secondary works.

—Angela Lumpkin

I-11 LeCompte, Janet. "The Independent Women of Hispanic New Mexico, 1821-1846," *Western Historical Quarterly*, 12 (January 1981), 17-35.

Hispanic women before 1846 enjoyed a relatively free lifestyle. They were not subjected to the subservient role known to American women. They participated in such pastimes a cock pulls, cock fights, folk drama, fandangoes,

dances, and singing. They were "joyous social, kind hearted creatures, easy and graceful in manners." However, following the American conquest in 1846, Hispanic women lost most of their freedoms with the establishment of American family customs and mores. Based upon primary sources, legal descriptions, and secondary works; 80 references.

—Sharon Kay Stoll

- I-12 Tygiel, Jules. "Beyond The Point of No Return," *Sports Illustrated*, 58, No. 25 (June 20, 1983), 63-76 and "Those Who Came After," *Sports Illustrated*, 58, No. 26 (June 26, 1983), 40-57.

The first major breakthrough in the integration of baseball was the signing of Jackie Robinson to play for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Robinson's recruitment was masterfully planned by the Dodger's president Branch Rickey. The appointment of A. B. Chandler, who favored baseball's integration as commissioner of baseball also helped pave the way for Robinson as well as those who followed. Four other blacks appeared in the major leagues in 1946: Roy Campanella, Don Newcombe, John Wright, and Roy Partlow. The success of these players during the 1946 season contributed significantly to the campaign to desegregate baseball. However, only two teams followed Rickey's lead: The Cleveland Indians and the St. Louis Browns. Years would pass before blacks would play on every major league team. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; no notes.

—Maxine G. Hunter

- I-13 Weiss, William J. "The First Negro in 20th Century O.B." *Baseball Research Journal* (1979), 31-35.

Baseball's murky and dismal era of racial segregation is recalled by this account of black pitcher Jimmy Claxton's brief 1916 stint in the Pacific Coast League. Attempting to pass as an Indian, Claxton's "racial" heritage was quickly exposed; after appearing in two games he was dismissed. However, he scored a small coup in behalf of integration when his likeness appeared amongst the white players of the PCL as part of a 1916 baseball card series. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; no notes.

—David Q. Voigt

- I-14 Powers, Thomas E. "The Page Fence Giants Play Ball," *Chronicle, The Quarterly Magazine of the Historical Society of Michigan*, 19, No. 1 (Spring 1983), 14-19.

Thomas Powers, manuscript archivist at the Michigan Historical Collections, describes the brief four-year existence-of a midwestern black baseball team, the Page Fence Giants. The author implies that the Giants, headquartered in rural, white Lenawee County from 1894-1898/9 might have been *THE* best team of the period, but because baseball was almost completely segregated, the Giants had few opportunities to compete against white players

of high caliber. Special emphasis is placed on the 15-game championship series in the autumn of 1896 with the Cuban Giants, 3 illustrations; no biblio.

—Phyllis Ocker

I-15 Meister, Mark J. "The Championship Season: The Port Hurons of 1882," *Chronicle, The Quarterly Magazine of the Historical Society of Michigan*, 17, No. 1 (Spring 1981), 18-21.

A local team from Port Huron had been soundly beaten (July 4, 1882) by a club from Petrolia, Ontario. The ensuing civic interest resulted in the formation of the Port Huron Baseball Club Association. Funds were solicited, officers selected, a manager appointed, and new uniforms purchased. This newly constituted team "took the field" on August 14th and by mid-September was acknowledged as the Michigan Amateur Champions. However, the season was not yet completed. Games played and won against teams from Ft. Wayne and Pittsburgh, supposedly the strongest amateur clubs in their respective states, led to the claim that the Port Hurons were Indiana and Pennsylvania champions as well, 2 illustrations; no biblio.

—Phyllis Ocker

I-16 Reising, R. W. "Visions of Sport: The Gospel According to Yogi," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 68-74.

Reising notes how much the game of baseball has changed since 1971. Specialists such as designated hitters and relief specialists have capitalized on free agency rules to make the national game more corporate, legalistic, and impersonal. In short, today's game is "big business." Since sports are mirrors of societies, Reising feels this shift in emphasis is typical of most sports in America and the nation itself. Reising hopes the baseball in 1991 will be less "mercenary and secular" and that "happiness" will return to the game and its players. Based upon secondary works and interviews; 19 notes.

—William A. Gudelunas

I-17 Gerlach, Larry R. "Umpire Honor Rolls," *Baseball Research Journal* (1979), 80-90.

The leading historian of umpires traces the rise of the arbiter role from unpaid gentleman in 1846, the early professionalization movement of 1876, the enhancement of the role after 1900, to true professional status achieved under the Major League Umpires Association in the 1970s. A much scapegoated lot in the early years, the profession gained status from innovators like Billy McLean, Bob Ferguson, John Gaffney, John Kelly, and Bill Klem. Gerlach lists the long-serving umpers of 1876-1978 and additional charts list umpires who were selected for All-Star game and World Series service. Such compilations define the elite umpires of major league baseball history. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; no notes.

—David Q. Voigt

- I-18 Altschuler, Glenn C. and LaForce, Martin W. "From Brawn to Brains, Football and Evolutionary Thought," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 16, No. 4 (Spring 1983), 75-89.

By 1906 college football had changed from the laissez-faire game of the 1890s based on the Darwinian "survival of the fittest" approach to a more controlled game governed by rules and officials. Mounting injuries and deaths stemming from the game's brutality led to calls for reform or abolition. Leading publications from *The Nation* to the *New York Times* editorialized about the conflicting views of the need for change. Major opposition to change was led initially by Walter Camp whose position was that the players could clean up the game without outside interference. Expressing concern for the increasing brutality of the sport, Theodore Roosevelt in 1905 threatened to abolish the game by executive order if it were not reformed. This provided the impetus for the 1906 meeting. The rules changes opened up the game, but more important was the establishment of a central authority for rules and regulation of the game by officials. This change in football is depicted as paralleling the changes occurring in society and the increasing regulatory role of government in business. Based upon secondary works.

—R. T. Bowen

[NOTE: Guy M. Lewis, "Theodore Roosevelt's Role in the 1905 Football Controversy," *Research Quarterly*, 40, No. 4 (December 1969), 717-32 and John A. Lucas and Ronald A. Smith, *Saga of American Sport* (Philadelphia, 1978), 242-45 do not support the authors' contention that Roosevelt threatened to abolish football by executive order if it were not reformed. While the President's involvement kept the issue before the public, Roosevelt was neither a reformer nor an abolitionist.—JS Ed.]

- I-19 Ruck, Rob. "Soaring Above the Sandlots: The Garfield Eagles," *Pennsylvania Heritage*, 8, No. 3 (Summer 1982), 13-18.

The Garfield Eagles were a highly successful Black football team which competed on the Pittsburgh sandlots between 1928 and the late 1940s. The team's triumphs helped unify the black community. Many social activities of the Garfield area centered around the team. The Garfield Eagles Social Club helped to finance the team through various fund raisers. Overall, the team compiled a record of 98 wins, 47 losses and 19 ties. This included four undefeated seasons. World War II eventually disrupted the team. The Eagles "touched the lives" of virtually every black in the Garfield neighborhood athletically and/or socially. Based upon interviews; 6 photographs.

—William Gudelunas

- I-20 Hildebrand, J. H. "Duelling Skis," *California History*, 61, No. 4 (Winter, 1983), 276-81.

Introduced by Norwegian settlers in the 1850s, skiing became a popular diversion in many small, snow-bound Sierra Nevada communities. Using skis measuring between 10 and 15 feet long, downhill races were frequently held between citizens of neighboring towns. In 1869, J. A. "Snow-shoe" Thomp-

son published a letter in the *Alpine Chronicle* challenging all skiers to come to Alpine and race for a purse of \$1,000. The *Sacramento Daily Union* printed a refusal to the invitation by the president of a local ski club who said that Thompson had offered a braggadocio challenge which he knew no one would accept. Based upon newspapers; no notes; 3 illustrations.

—Lynne Emery

- I-21 Leckie, Shirley. "Sylvanus P. Jermain and the Establishment of Toledo's Park System, Part 2," *Northwest Ohio Quarterly*, 54, No. 1 (Winter 1982-83), 17-35.

Jermain nurtured many ideas for beautifying Toledo with boulevards, parks, and playgrounds. His appointment to the Board of Park Commissioners in 1897 influenced the development of children's playgrounds and the first municipal golf course west of New York City. Several of his projects were frustrated by financial, governmental and legal set backs. Not until several years after his departure from the park board in 1908, did many of his ideas come to fruition. This was due largely to a new municipal code and a mayor who believed in civic beautification. Jermain remained an influential advisor to the city until his death in 1935. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 2 photographs; 151 notes.

—John Schleppe

- I-22 Schmitt, Robert C. "Some Firsts in Island Leisure," *Hawaiian Journal of History*, 12 (1978), 99-119.

Having noted the impossibility of dating the earliest recreational fishing or the first hula, Hawaii statistician Robert Schmitt attempted to determine the origin of more recent developments in Hawaiian leisure pursuits such as the first park (1850), first theater (1834), and first zoo (1914). Included in the article was the first game of baseball (1840), football (1875), and basketball (1902). In 1889 Cap Anson's Chicago Americans was the first major league team to visit Hawaii while the first minor league professional baseball franchise was obtained in 1961. Other sports were also covered. Based upon primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 119 notes; 3 photographs.

—Lynne Emery

- I-23 Cunningham, Gary L. "Gambling in the Kansas Cattle Towns: A Prominent and Somewhat Honorable Profession," *Kansas History*, 5 (Spring, 1982), 2-22.

Gambling, the world's oldest obsession, was a way of life in Kansas cattle towns in the late nineteenth century. This was a period for acquiring money by any means and the wagering profession offered a life of zestful self-indulgence in an otherwise stolid environment. In those days, wealth meant status and power and the gambler's status derived from the southern tradition where it was the proper pursuit of a gentleman. Gamesters even held state office and

became vestrymen. However, gambling hall saloons with their ladies of joy and gentlemen of leisure finally collapsed when the towns became rural and agrarian. Based upon primary sources and secondary works.

—David C. Higginson