

III. Sport in the United States

III-1 Yost, Nellie Snyder. "Nebraska's Scholarly Athlete: Louis Pound, 1872-1958," *Nebraska History*, 64, No. 4 (Winter 1983), 477-90.

Louise Pound, the daughter of two college educated teachers of Quaker ancestry, grew up in Lincoln, Nebraska. Academically and athletically gifted, Louise excelled as a scholar and teacher, as well as a sportswoman, for nearly half a century. Her education began at home and continued at the Lincoln Latin School; the University of Nebraska, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees; and finally the University of Heidelberg, Germany, where she completed a doctorate in 1900. Paralleling her academic achievements were her athletic accomplishments particularly in tennis and golf. Dr. Pound, a pioneer in teaching American literature, became a full professor at the University of Nebraska in 1912. She continued to excel in various sports including cycling, basketball, and ice skating. A well-respected teacher and coach, Dr. Pound retired in 1945 and died in 1958. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 41 notes; 9 illustrations.

—Mary I. Avery

III-2 Spivey, Donald. "The Black Athlete in Big Time Intercollegiate Sports, 1941-68," *Phylon*, 44 (June 1983) 116-25.

Before World War II black athletes in American sport were few in number. Joe Louis, Jesse Owens, and Henry Armstrong were notable exceptions as black athletic

heroes. Even the most successful black athletes in white universities were cheered at game time, but otherwise segregated and/or discriminated against. Many were excluded from play when their school competed against white segregated schools. Occasional protests were made but no break-throughs occurred until World War II. The war opened the door to recruitment of the blacks. College athletics began full scale recruitment of skilled black athletes to achieve victory at any price. The 1950s and 60s produced many recruiting scandals and a disproportionate number involved blacks. Three contributing factors were: (1) the lower class background of the blacks produced greater need for financial aid; (2) blacks recruited were mainly highly sought blue chippers; and (3) racism. Based upon secondary works; 35 notes.

—R. T. Bowen

III-3 Naison, M. and Mangum, C. "Protecting the Educational Opportunities of Black College Athletes: A Case Study Based on Experiences at Fordham University," *Journal of Ethnic Studies*, 11, No. 3 (Fall 1983) 119-25.

The authors presented a commentary delineating concerns of Fordham faculty members, particularly those of the Black Studies Department, over a seeming push for more competitive athletic programs at the expense of minority students who often came from deprived backgrounds. Athletic officials who had recruited black student/athletes made little effort at fulfilling the promises of a sound education; yet, they increased the pressure upon the recruit to perform well athletically. Upgraded guidelines for recruitment, admission, and counseling were implemented through the collective efforts of faculty members of larger institutions experiencing similar problems along with information on resource organizations that provide help. No notes.

—Stephen I. St. Clair

III-4 Ruck, Rob. "Black Sandlot Baseball: The Pittsburgh Crawfords," *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*, 66 (January 1983), 49-68.

Many feel the Pittsburgh Crawfords were the greatest black baseball team ever assembled. The team originated as a sandlot squad consisting mainly of local players. The Crawfords began play in the mid-1920s when sandlot play was at its zenith. The Crawfords competed mainly for sport and were at first run basically by the players themselves. The team quickly became entirely black, recruited players from throughout the Pittsburgh area, and was able to challenge the legendary Homestead Grays by the end of the decade. Because success on the field did not bring the Crawfords great financial solvency, the team agreed to bring in Gus Greenlee as its owner in 1930. Greenlee "professionalized" the club and brought to it more and more outside players including Satchel Paige. By 1932 few locals remained on the squad. The Crawfords had thus become Gus Greenlee's professionals. Baseball greats including Paige, Papa Bell, and Josh Gibson played for the Crawfords. In the 1920s the team meant much to the social life of Pittsburgh's black community. Based upon secondary works and interviews; 32 notes; 8 illustrations.

—William A. Gudelunas

III-5 Tygiel, Jules. "The Court-Martial of Jackie Robinson," *American Heritage*, 35, No. 5 (August/September 1984), 34-39.

His athletic prowess already well established when he was drafted by the military in 1942, Jackie Robinson began a stormy Army career which culminated in his court-martial. In 1944 Robinson refused to go to the back of a military bus (which had been

de-segregated by the military), after which he argued for his rights with superior officers. In the court-martial, the Army disallowed the bus incident, but charged Robinson with insubordination regarding the confrontation with officers. Fearing embarrassment over their blatant discrimination, the military acquitted Robinson. Black Americans, called upon to fight racism abroad, had begun to fight it at home.

—June A. Kennard

- III-6 Trimble, William F. "Historical Notes and Documents-The Baseball Letters of John K. Tener," *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*, 65 (April 1982), 167-77.

John Kinley Tener eventually became governor of Pennsylvania (1911-15). He also served as president of the National League and director of the Philadelphia Phillies. In this series of letters he revealed much about the life of a professional baseball player in the late 1880s. In 1888 and 1889 he played for the Chicago Cubs of the National League following a brief career in other professional leagues. His letters reveal many grievances voiced by present day players including constant ownership interference with on-field activities. Tener appeared to realize the opportunities baseball afforded him and took in as many sights as possible in the cities through which he traveled. He seemed generally pleased with the accommodations players of the era were given. The letters indicate players of his day had rather hectic travel schedules especially when rain-outs necessitated the playing of doubleheaders. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 11 notes.

—William A. Gudelunas

- III-7 Gerlach, Larry R. "The Best in the West? Corinne, Utah's First Baseball Champions," *Utah Historical Quarterly*, 52, No. 2 (Spring 1984), 108-35.

People in Utah became interested in baseball after the Civil War with the spread of railroads and telegraph lines. The first game was played in Salt Lake City in October, 1869, and in 1870 there were nine clubs in the territory. Corinne, a railroad, frontier boom-town, won the first territorial championships in 1870 and 1871. Interest in the game quickly declined in Corinne after that due to changing town fortunes. For Corinne, as well as other frontier communities, baseball was a passing fad, and at Corinne the sport did not survive. Based on newspaper accounts; 79 notes.

—David McComb

- III-8 Cannon, Kenneth L., II. "Deserets, Red Stockings, and Out of Towners: Baseball Comes of Age in Salt Lake City, 1877-79," *Utah Historical Quarterly*, 52, No. 2 (Spring 1984), 136-57.

After the waning of an early interest in 1870, baseball revived in the latter part of the decade in Salt Lake City. Although there were seventeen teams in the city, the Deserets, a gentile team, and the Red Stockings, a Mormon team, dominated and approached the level of semi-professional. They competed against each other and against professional teams from California and the East. The Reds disbanded in 1879 and the Deserets declined the following year when the city denied them the use of its park.

Noise, gambling, and professionalism all added to the demise of the team. Based upon newspapers and secondary works; 70 notes.

—David McComb

III-9 Norris, Frank. "San Diego Baseball: The Early Years," *Journal of San Diego History*, 30, No. 1 (Winter 1984), 1-13.

Although the first recorded baseball game in San Diego occurred in 1871, it was not until 1878 that the first intercity game was played. In this three game series, San Diego's "picked nine" defeated the Los Angeles Academy Baseball Club 29-24, 34-9, and 35-14. By the late 1880s, San Diego merchants sponsored such teams as the Schiller and Murthas, and the birth of the California Winter League in 1897 created great interest in the game. Interest in baseball waned in 1903 when the newly organized Pacific Coast League omitted a team from San Diego. In 1936, however, the league's Hollywood franchise became the San Diego Padres, and baseball's popularity in San Diego rose never to fall again. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 43 notes; 6 photographs.

—Lynne Emery

III-10 Grenander, M. E. "Good Fencing Makes Good Neighbors," *Journal of American Culture*, 6, No. 2 (Summer 1983), 65-69.

Fencing, one of man's oldest sports, has experienced significant changes in the twentieth century. Not the least was the emergence of women in the sport. In 1968 a female fencer carried the flag for the United States Olympic delegation. In 1979 the Amateur Fencers League of America adopted common rules for men and women in foil matches and authorized open competition between the sexes. Competitive fencing has been prominent in societies since 1190 B.C. Throughout Europe fencing has been promoted as a sport by royalty since the middle ages. The fencing master was held in high esteem. Modern fencing using foil, sabre, and épée has developed highly specialized techniques requiring expert officiating and the use of sophisticated electronic scoring. Mixed-sex matches should create unique interest to spectators in the near future. No notes.

—R. T. Bowen

III-11 Benson, Jack A. "Skiing at Camp Hale: Mountain Troops during World War II," *Western Historical Quarterly*, 15, No. 2 (April 1984), 163-74.

In an attempt to develop trained military skiers and mountaineers, the U.S. Army created the 87th Mountain Infantry Regiment and constructed a Colorado training site. Camp Hale, 9200 feet above sea level, was first occupied in November 1942, and ski instruction began immediately. As the Army recruited many young skiers, the list of men training at Camp Hale read like a winter Olympic games roster. Following the war many who were trained at the camp returned to Colorado and were instrumental in creating the state's winter resort industry. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 46 notes.

—Lynne Emery

III-12 Paulson, Darryl. "Stay Out, The Water's Fine: Desegregating Municipal Swimming Facilities in St. Petersburg, Florida," *Tampa Bay History*, 4 (Fall/Winter 1982). 6-19.

Prior to 1954, St. Petersburg had segregated recreational facilities with minimal opportunities for blacks. In November 1955, when five blacks challenged the segre-

gated swimming facilities, city officials fought back, closing its public beaches on several occasions. This approach was not feasible in a tourist and resort community where many business and civic leaders supported compliance with the court decisions. Finally, in 1959, nearly three and one-half years after the initial suit, the beaches were reopened on a desegregated basis. Blacks had finally won the right to use public recreational facilities that they had always supported with their tax dollars. Based on primary sources, newspapers and secondary works; 46 notes.

—H. W. Emerson, Jr.

III-13 Bradshaw, Afton Bradford. "Tennis in Utah-The First Fifty Years, 1885-1935," *Utah Historical Quarterly*, 52, No. 2 (Spring 1984), 179-96.

The beginning is unclear, but a tennis tournament occurred at the home of a wealthy Salt Lake City citizen in June, 1885. As an elite and genteel sport, tennis spread to the major towns and even to out-of-the-way communities. Played at first on clay courts, then later on cement and asphalt the game was taken up by the colleges, high schools, and private schools. The Mormon Church as well as the United States Army contributed to its popularity, and the Salt Lake Tennis Club became the first western club to join the United States Tennis Association. The sport proved more popular than the numbers of people in the state would seem to warrant. Based upon interviews, newspapers, and secondary works; 39 notes.

—David McComb

III-14 Fielding, Lawrence W. and Wood, Clark F. "The Social Control of Indolence and Irreligion: Louisville's First YMCA Movement, 1853-1871," *The Filson Club Historical Quarterly*, 58, No. 2 (April 1984), 219-36.

The first attempt to establish a YMCA in Louisville, Kentucky began in the Protestant German community as an attempt "to promote the moral and intellectual improvement of young Germans." Two groups of Louisville leaders became involved in the movement. Businessmen saw the YMCA as a way to Americanize foreigners through promoting jobs and through teaching American values such as hard work, ambition, frugality, and discipline. The club atmosphere would give the immigrants a sense of community. However, church leaders, notably Presbyterians and Methodists along with the Lutherans, believed that problems in Louisville brought on by rapid growth and an influx of ill-trained immigrants could best be addressed by combatting irreligion. They saw the YMCA as emphasizing Christian virtues through out-reach mission and benevolence programs. These two groups vied for control and eventually decided on "compromise and cooperation." Their first efforts ended in 1871. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 55 notes.

—Helen Fant

III-15 Wilke, Janet Stoeger. "Jenner's Park, Loup City, Nebraska, 1900-1942," *Nebraska History*, 64, No. 2 (Summer 1983) 238-55.

Henry (1861-1955) and Robert (1863-1940) Jenner were born in London to wealthy parents. They settled in Loup City, Nebraska, in 1883 as part of a prominent segment of English farmers. As his family grew, Henry Jenner installed playground equipment on the creek land near his house. The Jenner brothers soon improved the area and established a park which they opened to the public around 1900. Henry Jenner envisioned the park as a recreational and educational center for families. It eventually

included games and rides, a zoo, detailed landscaping, specialized botanical features, a pavilion which served as a dance hall and museum, and a ballpark. The Fourth of July celebration with its various sporting events and contests was the main event. As the Jenner brothers grew older and less active, so did the park. It closed in 1942 and today the site contains only swings, slides, and picnic shelters. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 66 notes; 6 illustrations.

—Mary I. Avery

III-16 Peterson-Wood, Helen (ed.). "Uncle Johnnie, Honey Creek Correspondent, 1895-1903," *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains*, 3, No. 2 (Summer 1980), 113-136.

John H. Wood (1859-1903), a native of Syracuse, New York, settled in Greenwood County, Kansas, where he made his living as a farmer. A man with little formal education or material wealth, "Uncle Johnnie," as he was known to his readers, produced a record of local history through his Honey Creek column in the weekly *Eureka, Kansas, Messenger*. Historical and sociological aspects of this community are presented in an informative and entertaining manner. Excerpts from various columns are arranged chronologically under the following headings: education; religion; marriage, family, and women; cultural and social items; sports and outdoor recreation. Based on primary sources and newspapers; 12 illustrations.

—Mary I. Avery

III-17 Novich, Max M. "Early Developments in Sports Medicine," *The Journal of the Medical Society of New Jersey*, 79, No. 4 (April 1982), 309-13.

Since the pre-Christian era some physicians have been interested in health and its relationship to exercise and athletic activity. But it was not until the twentieth century that an organized interest on the part of the medical profession occurred. During the 1920s the Olympic movement provided impetus for the formation of several international sports medicine foundations and organizations. Americans were slow to join this movement as the first American sport medicine society, the American College of Sport Medicine, was not founded until 1954. In that same year Hans Kraus and Ruth Hirschland (Bonnie Prudden) published their research which documented a serious decline in physical fitness in America. Their study prompted President Eisenhower to convene several conferences which led to the establishment of the President's Council on Youth Fitness in 1956. Since then various groups in medicine, allied health professions, and physical education have established sport medicine organizations to exert pressure to halt "the alarming decline in health and physical fitness of our population." Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 15 notes.

—James Peckman