

## II. Australian Sport

- II-I Bennett, Scott. "The Canons and Canberra," *Sporting Traditions*, 3, No. 1 (November 1986), 2-22.

The relationship between sport and community is examined, focusing on basketball in the national capital, Canberra. Basketball in Australia has traditionally been a minor sport but has increased in popularity in recent years. The success of the Canons, a foundation member of the National Basketball League in 1979, has given Canberra a lot of pride. The role of coach Bob Turner, who introduced American marketing techniques and promotions, is crucial to the team's rise. Based on interviews, primary, and secondary sources; 46 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- II-2 Dabscheck, Braham. "The Wage Determination Process for Sportsman," *The Economic Record*, 51, No. 133 (March 1975), 52-65.

The economist's conventional neo-classical model and the assumption of profit maximization is viewed as being inappropriate to explain the wage determination process for professional team sportsmen. An alternative model based on utility maximization (winning as many games as possible), the wages fund concept, and hiring standards is developed. An optimal wage payment system for sportsmen is also explained. Based on interviews and primary and secondary sources; 33 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- II-3 Dabscheck, Braham. "Sporting Equality: Labour Market vs. Product Market Control," *The Journal of Industrial Relations*, 17, No. 2 (June 1975), 174-190.

Labor market controls, such as the reserve and transfer systems, which severely limit the economic freedom of professional team sportsmen, were developed by leagues and clubs with the ostensible object of promoting sporting equality. Simple statistical calculations of English soccer and Australian rules football clearly reveal that sporting equality has not been achieved. The goals of professional team sports and players could be more effectively achieved through a policy of labor market freedom and a redistribution of income from richer to poorer clubs. Based on interviews and primary and secondary sources; 24 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- II-4 Dabscheck, Braham. "Industrial Relations and Professional Team Sports in Australia," *The Journal of Industrial Relations*, 18, No. 1 (March 1976), 28-44.

The inaugural meeting of the Victorian Football League Players' Association was held on December 10, 1973. The background and factors which led to the formation of the association are examined, as well as its various activities during its first year of operation. Internal organizational problems are discussed as well as the association's

embryonic relationship with the Victorian Football League. Based on interviews and primary and secondary sources; 33 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck

II-5 Grow, Robin. "Nineteenth Century Football and the Melbourne Press," *Sporting Traditions*, 3, No. 1 (November 1986), 23-37.

The mutually beneficial relationship between the development of Australian rules football and the Melbourne press (metropolitan, local, and sporting) is examined in the second half of the nineteenth century. Australian football helped sell newspapers and press reports thus generating interest in the game. The press also acted as the self-appointed conscience of Australian rules, floating ideas and suggestions to aid in the development of the organization and rules of this embryonic game. Based on primary and secondary sources: 26 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck

II-6 Harriss, Ian. "Cricket and Rational Economic Man," *Sporting Traditions*, 3, No. 1 (November 1986), 51-68.

The changes that took place in English and Australian cricket in the period 1870-1939 are discussed and analyzed. It is argued that the change from aesthetics and style (playing cricket for its own sake) to scientific rationality and instrumental reason (the development of a professional or cost/benefit approach to cricket) resulted from broader changes which occurred in a capitalistic society. Based on primary and secondary sources; 29 notes. Adapted from Lawrence G. and Rowe, D. (eds.), *Power Play* (Sydney, 1986).

—Braham Dabscheck

II-7 Jobling, Ian F. "Australian Sporting Heroes," in *Sport: Nationalism and Internationalism, A.S.S.H. Studies in Sports History 2* (March 1987), 91-118.

That sport is important to many Australians is demonstrated by the frequent adulation of individual sportspersons, some of whom have attained celebrity or even hero status. The work of Swetman is utilized as a guide in a discussion of the hero-making process in Australian sport since 1880. Influential factors include the type of sport, the era, the gender of the athletes, the athlete's age and circumstances of death, and their attitude to the sporting establishment. An appendix provides career details of nineteen sports heroes. Based on secondary works; no notes.

—Wray Vamplew

II-8 Morely, Clive and Wilson, K. G. "Fluctuating VFL Attendances: Some Insights from an Economic Analysis," *Sporting Traditions*, 3, No. 1 (November 1986), 69-81.

Econometric techniques are used to inquire into the factors which have determined attendance at Victorian Football League (Melbourne) Australian rules football matches from 1950 to 1985. Seemingly, economic factors are more important than the game itself (e.g., the evenness of competition). Attendance is negatively correlated to income (consumers find alternative sport and leisure activities) and real price. The authors argue that the VFL needs to improve stadium quality. They surprisingly find that attendances increase when Collingwood, one of the most successful, yet either strongly loved or hated clubs (the New York Yankees might be an American equivalent), has a

poor season; Collingwood haters love to see them lose. Based on primary and secondary sources; 8 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck

- II-9 Parsons, T. G. "Labour, Rugby League and the Working Class: The St. George District Rugby League Football Club in the 1920s" *Teaching History* 12 (August 1978), 22-36.

Rugby League in Sydney, and in the St. George area in particular, has always been associated with working-class values. Throughout the 1920s there were intimate links between the St. George Rugby League District Football Club and the local proletariat. Winning matches was regarded as a victory in the class struggle and on-field violence was accepted as an ingredient in that success. Based on interviews, primary sources, and secondary works; 56 notes.

—Wray Vamplew

- II-10 Solling, Max. "Football in Sydney: 1870-1920," *Leichhardt Historical Journal*, 8 (1979) 24-31.

Australian Rules football was not taken up seriously in Sydney; instead, rugby union was imported as the first major form of organized football in the city. In 1900 the club system was replaced by a district scheme based on residential qualifications for players. As a consequence spectator interest soared but soon professional rugby league superseded amateur rugby union as the main crowd-drawing football code. Soccer was played only in those suburbs where working-class migrants from Britain settled in solid groups. Based on newspapers and secondary works; 28 notes.

—Wray Vamplew

- II-11 Turner, Ian. "Work and Play in Victorian Victoria," *Victorian Historical Journal*, 49, No. 1 (February 1978) 37-48.

Many nineteenth century commentators suggested that Australians had no sports obsession. Sport contributed to cultural continuity, providing a link with Britain, but was also advocated for its character formation and its pan-class appeal. Nevertheless, the availability of leisure and access to sporting institutions reflected the emerging class divisions in colonial society; the ideology of sport reinforced class privilege. Based on newspapers and secondary works; 42 notes.

—Wray Vamplew

- II-12 Turner, J. Neville. "Sport and the Law: A Guide to Recent Developments," *Sporting Traditions*, 3, No. 1 (November 1986), 39-50.

This paper examines the growing involvement of the law in Australian sport, although it also draws on English, New Zealand, and American examples. Areas of the law examined are criminal, assaults, negligence, nuisance, defamation, apartheid (sporting tours of South Africa—a continuing "political" issue in Australian sport),

and contract, administrative and sexual discrimination. Based on primary and secondary sources; 11 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck