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STAUDOHAR, PAUL D. *Playing for Dollars: Labor Relations and the Sports of Business*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1996. Pp. x, 216. Notes, name index, subject index, #39.95 cb., \$16.95 pb.

CHALIP, L., JOHNSON, L., and L. STUCHURA, eds. *National Sports Policies—An International Handbook*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996. Pp. xiv, 442. Index, \$99.50 cb.

In September 1996, the world was given an extraordinary reminder of the magnitude of the impact of economics on sport today. Tiger Woods, the 20-year-old ex-Stanford student, celebrated his third straight United States Amateur golf title by announcing his decision to turn professional. John Feinstein observed in the September 9 *Newsweek*, “Within a nanosecond, he’s a multimillionaire with contracts—more than \$40 million—from Nike and Titleist in hand and lots more to come.” The firing of the head football coach at the University of Illinois, Lou Tepper, is another recent situation in which economics were very much center stage. An Associated Press piece mentioned that Memorial Stadium has an average of 16,000 empty seats per game. The column stressed the fact that “Money is a big concern in the athletics department, which must make money with marquee sports like football and basketball to support all of its programs.” University of Illinois president James Stukel, in an interview with the *Champaign News Gazette*, commented that college athletics is “a business...You have to pay the bills.”

*Playing for Dollars* is the third edition (1986, 1989, 1996) of a book that was originally entitled *The Sports Industry and Collective Bargaining*. The author, Paul D. Staudohar, is a professor of business administration at California State University at Hayward. In his introduction, Staudohar makes the point that the book is written not for an academic audience but rather “the sports fan who wants to know more about labor relations” (p. ix). Nevertheless, sport historians will find several sections helpful.

Four sports are examined in depth—baseball, football, basketball, and hockey. They each have substantial chapters devoted to them, and each chapter opens with a short history of the sport. The early economic history of baseball is nicely fleshed out. On page one, Staudohar retells the apocryphal story of Babe Ruth, who in 1931, earned \$80,000 playing for the Yankees at a time when President Herbert Hoover’s salary was \$75,000. When asked if it was appropriate that he earned more than Hoover, Ruth is reputed to have said, “Why not? I had a better season than he did.” Staudohar also includes discussions of John Montgomery Ward and the establishment of the Brotherhood of Professional Baseball Players in 1885, the formation of the Players Protective Association in 1900, the Baseball Players Fraternity, and the 1912 Ty Cobb suspension leading up to the first ever players’ strike in baseball.

However, the analysis of football history is superficial and, arguably, flawed. Sweeping generalizations are made that demand corroboration. Is it completely true to say that professional football is the “nation’s premier spectator sport”? (p. 57). What of horse racing, the NASCAR circuit, the NBA? The author makes general observations such as, “The game of football was derived from rugby, which began around 1840 in England” (p. 57) and “Although the game played was essentially the same as rugby, over the years the association’s rules changed

the game into the football we know today" ( p. 57). Yet the evolution of football is not substantially explored.

The chapter on basketball is profusely illustrated with all manner of fascinating facts pertaining to league expansion, the role of television, antitrust issues, draft eligibility, franchise movement, operation of the salary cap, gambling, violence, and drugs. The phenomenal increase in NBA salaries is a dramatic testament to professional basketball's burgeoning economic power. In the 1967-1968 season, the average salary was 20,000. The 1994-1995 figure is \$1,800,000.

Although *Playing for Dollars* is not a sports history book, it is a valuable addition to the literature on contemporary sports in American society. Staudohar has put together an enjoyable read on the business dimension of sports with an enlightening assessment of the interactions among labor, management, and government. The book's central thesis underscores Casey Stengel's aphorism, "Baseball's business."

*National Sports Policies—An International Handbook* is primarily a reference source, and at a price of nearly \$100, it will likely be a library resource rather than a student text. This is a pity because the volume is a unique comparative study of different policies and programs of amateur and professional sports around the world. The work offers a scholarly cross-national analysis. The countries covered are Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, the former Soviet Union, Cuba, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Spain, United Kingdom, and the United States. The omission of New Zealand is puzzling, as it is mentioned in Laurence Chalip's introduction. A much more serious point is the omission of South Africa and, indeed, the fact that for the whole African continent there is not one entry. What does this reveal about the status of sport in the Third World?

This handbook appraises the relationships of sports organizations with government, describes important sports activities and organizations, places policies and programs in historical context, and points to current issues and future prospects.

The editors of *National Sports Policies* are well equipped to interpret the complex mosaic of public-policy making in different political cultures. Laurence Chalip has a doctorate from the University of Chicago and currently teaches at Griffiths University, Australia. For several years, he was a successful swim coach in New Zealand. Arthur Johnson is a professor of political science at the University of Maryland and the co-editor of the 1985 text *Government and Sport: The Public Policy Issues*. The third editor, Lisa Stuchura, is a Governor's Policy Fellow in Maryland.

*National Sports Policies* brings together a glittering array of internationally renowned experts with singular insights. For example, Jim Riordan, head of Linguistic and International Studies at the University of Surrey, is an expert on the former Soviet Union. He lived and worked for five years in the USSR and played soccer for the Moscow Spartak. The 1995 study *Sports in the Moral Order of the People's Republic* is the definitive study on sports in China. Its author, Susan E. Brownell, co-contributes an excellent chapter in this volume, as well. Another compelling chapter is Gyongyi Szabo Foldesi's *Sports Policy in Hungary*. She is a

pioneering sports sociologist in Eastern Europe and a prolific author. In terms of sports history commentary, however, this reviewer would have liked to see more material covered. Several examples are an examination of Hungary's sensational soccer victory over England in the early 1950s, the persona and placement of soccer maestro Puskas, and the odyssey of the Hungarian athletes as they attended the 1956 Melbourne Olympics while Soviet tanks pulverized the streets of Budapest.

The concluding chapter of *National Sports Policies*, written by Chalip and Johnson, is brilliant. It is a sparkling synthesis of government involvement in American sport, full of clever examinations of institutions like the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sport. And as always, the Greenwood Press did an exemplary job of turning out a volume that is beautifully bound and typeset.

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