

STANLEY, GREGORY KENT. *Rise and Fall of the Sportswoman: Women's Health, Fitness, and Athletics, 1860-1940*. New York: Peter Lang, 1996. Pp. 159. Notes, bibliography, index. \$24.95 pb.

In an attempt to shed light upon the image and condition of the 'sportswoman' at the turn of the century, Stanley uses a selection of popular periodicals such as *Godey's Ladies' Book*, *Living Age*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Collier's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, and *Good Housekeeping*, and books of the time, to identify the status and portrayal of women and sport. He states, "In large measure, the study seeks to understand how, during the period 1860-1940, the idea of women's exercise and athletics was presented to and accepted by the general public... and to explain the emergence and decline of the sportswoman as a cultural symbol" (5).

Stanley's intention in this slender volume is to provide alternative viewpoints and explain aspects that were incorporated into the perception and acceptance of the sportswoman. For these reasons, Stanley believes that by choosing the above mentioned titles to understand how the image of the sportswoman from a popular viewpoint will broaden the "historical inquiry" and "avoid the distortions of some earlier works. It seeks to place the sportswoman in greater historical context" (5). Unfortunately, he falls short of this goal, and barely discusses the 1930s and 1940s. There are other gaps and sloppy moments throughout the text. Most critically, Stanley missed a number of critical publications of this topic in the sport and medical literature. He did minimal updating of information from his thesis, continuing the noticeable exclusion of writings by authors like Roberta Park, Patricia Vertinsky, Gertrude Dudley, Elizabeth Blackwell, and Celia Mosher.

Other bothersome areas include his analysis of the scientific debate. He liberally uses Clarke's *Sex in Education, or, A Fair Chance for the Girls*, but pays scant attention to the uproar and responses generated by many, including (with some apparent effort) Julia Howe's *Sex and Education, a Reply to Dr. F. H. Clarke's "Sex in Education"*. "Referring to an article in the *Godey's Ladies' Book*, "they were exceedingly glad that a new book had been written in reply to Clarke's *Sex in Education*" (47). Then there is his cursory assessment of the issues in track and field competition and the Olympics, which falls short of the mark. He starts the discussion with the exaggeration of newspaper reports on the physical stresses of the women competing in the US Olympic trials. He then asserts that the physical educators and the National Amateur Athletic Federation (NAAF) used these reports to pressure women not to compete in the Olympics, Ironically, the Women's Division of the NAAF (which served to educate the public on the benefits of health and physical activities for all girls and women) and women athletic administrators worked together from 1923 on to control competition and the exploitation of women. Stanley neglects to mention that female college students were forbidden to sponsorship by collegiate associations in outside competitions, and that is why women have athletic clubs or other types of athletic associations listed by their names in most record books.

Particularly puzzling is the absence of analysis of the magazines Stanley chose for this study. Aside from one set of tables in which he looks at the number of ads in *Ladies' Home Journal* and a brief mention of trends for one period of time in one magazine only, where is the evidence? If he really wanted to provide a different perspective, why didn't he really evaluate the medium and the message? During what years did articles on women's health and fitness permeate the literature? What type and how many articles reflected the image(s) of

the sportswoman? Did the number of articles increase or decrease? What were some of the hot topics and issues of the day? Just using occasional quotes from articles does not provide any sense of the amount of information in these titles.

This book is short and easy to read. At the very basic level, Stanley does provide a basic overview of the social aspects and times and the representation of women, and does attempt to balance the various viewpoints that existed at the time. He does provide a satisfactory, albeit brief, discussion of dress reform, the business of fitness, and advertising in chapters 2 and 5. The brevity of this title may appeal to a general audience, but contributes minimally to the history of sport scholarship.

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FRISKIN, SYDNEY. *Going for Gold: Pakistan at Hockey*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997. Pp. xiii + 186. \$55 cb.

RUTNAGUR, DICKY. *Khans Unlimited: A History of Squash in Pakistan*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997. Pp. xix + 214. \$45 cb.

A famous English cricketer once said that Pakistan was a good place to send his mother-in-law. This reminds us of some of the complexities of Anglo-Pakistan relations since the British left a partitioned India in 1947. Pakistan has always felt that the British favored India and that this was reflected in financial issues and disputes over territory such as Kashmir. The British appeared to blame Pakistan for the breakaway and seemed to prefer the charming and colorfully diverse India to the more homogeneous, less tolerant, more dictatorial Pakistan. Although both countries share an enthusiasm for many of the sports brought to them by their former colonial rulers, cricketing relations between England and Pakistan have often reflected mutual suspicion and dislike.

Sport has been increasingly important for young countries in the twentieth century. Not only does it help provide excitement at home-as international sporting competition has grown in size and importance it has provided a further stimulus to national identity, as well as an arena for acceptance and visibility in the wider world. It is not surprising that successive Pakistani governments have promoted the three sports at which Pakistani sportsmen have shown themselves to be among the world's elite: cricket, field hockey, and squash. These two books were part of the Jubilee Series published by the Oxford University Press to celebrate fifty years of Pakistan in 1997. Dicky Rutnagur's account of the history and development of squash tells an interesting story both economically and well. Rackets, and later squash, had always been for the privileged. It was in the expatriate clubs and army bases all over India that racket courts were converted for squash in the first decade of the twentieth century. One of the largest bases was on the troublesome northwest frontier at Peshawar, where the British Army employed a large Pathan staff who were allowed to play squash and tennis when the courts were not wanted by the members. Many became good players and rose to be markers who would play with members if wanted and also keep the score. Abdul Majid Khan rose to be head marker, and for over fifty years prepared boys for a career as markers and eventually club professionals all over the continent. Abdullah Khan was chief steward at Peshawar and a player of some distinction himself. These two families, both from the nearby village of Nawakille, intermarried; their descendants have since won over sixty world, British and U.S. Open squash titles.