

unfounded, since she isn't familiar with what would be lost in the process. Still, this study deserves consideration. It is an impressive piece of thinking from a perspective rarely represented in sport history.

—JOHN PETTEGREW
Lehigh University

DEARDORFF, DONALD D. *Sports: A Reference Guide and Critical Commentary, 1980-1999*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2000. Pp. xi + 361. Appendices, index. \$85 cb.

Since its publication in 1982, Robert J. Higgs's *Sports: A Reference Guide* has been the standard expansive bibliographic essay of sport. Higgs recommended Deardorff, a professor of English at Cedarville College in Ohio, to author this update, and it has proven to be an excellent choice. This edition covers much of the same ground as its predecessor, although issues are sometimes bundled differently. Higgs dealt with the visual arts in greater depth, while Deardorff devotes more attention to scientific and technological aspects.

Deardorff states that his definition of sport is broad, one

that I believe corresponds with the way many Americans view them: as physical contests, sometimes individual in nature and sometimes within a team context, in which we engage for physical, emotional, spiritual, or psychological fulfillment. Baseball, mountain climbing, golf, auto racing, running, and fishing are good examples. By contrast, cards, darts, and dice games are just that, games, and not sports. I should note, however, that while I privilege sport over games, I also tend to give more coverage to competitive team sports than to individual sports, even if the individual athletic act takes place in a competitive context.
(ix-x)

Works were selected for inclusion based on a combination of quality of information presented, timeliness and significance, quality of research and documentation, and quality of writing and overall presentation. Only books are covered, and nearly all are written in English.

Deardorff presents his work in twelve chapters: Sport and American History; Sport: Business and Law; Sport and Education; Sport: Ethnicity and Race; Sport and Gender; Sport and Literature; Sport Philosophy and Religion; Sport and Popular Culture; Sport and Psychology; Sport Science and Technology; Sport and Sociology; and Sport and World History. He notes that the topics essentially selected themselves, because the sport research of the last twenty years falls into very identifiable categories. The focus is on American sport, which may explain the curious division of sport history into the first (American history) and last (world history) chapters of the work. There are two useful appendices: a chronology of important events in American sport between 1980 and 1999, and a list of halls of fame, libraries, museums, periodicals, and websites. The author-title-subject index unfortunately is not comprehensive, including only those works discussed in depth in the text; readers must also examine the bibliographies at the end of each chapter to locate all sources. One additional helpful feature, especially for the researcher new to the field, is the list of important journals covering the subject at the end of each chapter.

Sports: A Reference Guide and Critical Commentary, 1980-1999 is a narrative survey of major sport issues and the primary published monographic research on them. It is skillfully written, weaving together themes in a logical flow. The essays analyze complex issues clearly and concisely. One example is the summary of metaphysical, ethical, and aesthetic issues in sport, which guides the reader through the dominant philosophies and theories. It is obvious that the titles selected have been carefully examined. Comments on individual essays abound, and quotes are often used to make a point. Deardorff is occasionally lightly critical, but generally the text is descriptive and places research within the context of the broader topic.

The work is strongest in the surveys of business and social issues. The explication of the complexities of sport law is masterful and the coverage of education, race and gender, psychology, and sociology is thorough. The chapter on sport and literature is also excellent, reflecting the author's academic credentials and research interests. The survey of the burgeoning literature in sports medicine, including biomechanics, rehabilitation, and nutrition, is less complete. Certainly this is in part because scholars in the sciences publish primarily in journals. However, such essay collections as *Nutrition for Sport & Exercise* (1998) and *Nutrition in Exercise and Sport* (1998) are absent, and the *International Journal of Sport Nutrition & Exercise Metabolism* is omitted from the journal list at the end of the chapter although it is included in the appendix of periodicals devoted exclusively to sport.

There are a few minor errors. *SPORTDiscus* is repeatedly referred to as *SPORTSDiscus*, and the inclusion of both the SIRC and SPORTQuest websites in the list of Web sites is redundant—they come from the same company and offer the same search options, the SPORTQuest page bypassing some of the commercial information found on the SIRC home page. One can quibble with the omission of a work here and there. I would like to have seen coverage of *SBRnet* (*Sports Business Research Network*), a web service founded in 1996 which offers indexing and full text access to articles, reports, and statistics in the sporting goods and sports marketing industry); Alan Klein's excellent *SugarBall: The American Game, the Dominican Dream* (1991); and Sylvia Wilkinson's *Dirt Tracks to Glory: The Early Days of Stock Car Racing as Told by the Participants* (1983), a wonderful collection of first-hand accounts of the early days of the hottest sport around. A mention of *Sports Market Place Directory*, an annual publication that provides comprehensive sports contact information, would have been useful. The absence of Gretchen Ghent's outstanding web metasite, *Scholarly Sport Sites* (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/library/ssportsite/>) is particularly unfortunate.

Nitpicking aside, *Sports: A Reference Guide and Critical Commentary, 1980-1999* is a valuable contribution to the field and continues the scholarship of Jack Higgs in fine style. It should be on the desks of experienced scholars for quick reference and available to beginning students for expert guidance to the primary literature of sport. Get it and use it.

—SUZANNE WISE

Appalachian State University