
Journal Surveys

I. North America

SCHAEFER, ROBERT H. "The Lost Art of Fair-Foul Hitting." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 3-9.

One of the burning issues of early 1870s baseball concerned the rule for determining fair and foul hits. Initially, if a batted ball first bounced in fair territory, the ball was in play no matter where it rolled thereafter. This permitted a method of batting that became known as fair-foul hitting, a controversial art at the time. This is a look at how this type of hitting was accomplished, a history of the rule changes affecting the fair-foul hit, and the suggestion of including a tenth player (a right shortstop). Includes two sidebars: (1) how illness, not rule changes, ended the career of Ross Barnes, and (2) a discussion of who hit the first fair-foul hit.

—LARRY S. BONURA

ARDELL, JEAN HASTINGS. "Ila Borders, Pitcher." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 10-15.

While Ila Borders was not the first woman to sign a minor-league contract and appear in a game (Lizzie Arlington was), Borders has crossed baseball's gender line in a major way. This is the story of her start at age 10 in Little League competition to the completion of her third year (1999) in the minor leagues at age 24. Included are her junior high, high school, college, and minor league experiences. Includes one photograph and a chart of her career firsts and stats.

—LARRY S. BONURA

GERLACH, LARRY R., AND HIGHAM, HAROLD V. "Dick Higham." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 20-32.

Richard "Dick" Higham is the only umpire to be expelled from major league baseball because of alleged dishonesty. The authors (Harold is Dick's great-grandson) say historians have not treated Dick well and wish to correct this oversight. Gerlach provides an historical account of Higham's umpiring career and a historiographical perspective, while H.

Higham provides a lawyer's perspective on the case. Because Dick Higham had no legal representation during the hearing that led to his banishment, Harry now asks questions likely to have been raised by defense counsel—questions that might cause us to ponder the fairness of the proceedings and the validity of the case. Includes one photograph and 42 references.

—LARRY S. BONURA

THORNLEY, STEW. "The Polo Grounds." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 35-38.

There were four stadiums named the Polo Grounds in New York City, but polo was played at only one of them. Thornley gives a succinct history of these four stadiums, particularly the edifice that was associated with the baseball Giants. The last Polo Grounds was torn down in 1964. Includes sketches of Fenway Park, Wrigley Field, and the Polo Grounds. Contains two tables: (1) park factors (2) stats of Babe Ruth at the Polo Grounds and Yankee Stadium, and of Mel Ott and Willie Mays at the Polo Grounds.

—LARRY S. BONURA

ARDOLINO, FRANK. "The Hawaii Winter League 1993-1997." *The National Pastime*, No. 20 (2000), 42-45.

The Hawaii Winter league had a slow rise and quick fall in its five-year existence from 1993 to 1997. This article presents a year-by-year look at how the league grew from a fledgling organization with high hopes to one of international flavor by attracting top major league prospects. Its officials and players developed community support for the league, which was characterized by innovative promotional and ticket policies, improved facilities, and the introduction of a new team playing at a historic ballpark. Includes one table listing league leaders in eight categories.

—LARRY S. BONURA

BERMAN, JAY. "A Streetcar Named Obscurity." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 58-60.

No league in organized baseball history played fewer games than the Southern California Trolley League in 1910. The six-team league started play on April 3, a Sunday. All games were to be played on Sundays. After a month, the Pasadena Silksox and Los Angeles Maiers folded. That left the league with four teams: the Redondo Beach Wharf Rats, Santa Ana Yellow Sox, Long Beach Sand Crabs, and Los Angeles McCormicks. On June 13, the circuit disbanded. Of the 52 leagues organized in 1910, this one was the shortest-lived of them all.

—LARRY S. BONURA

BEVIS, CHARLIE. "Last Days of the New England League." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 61-65.

The New England League was the third minor league formed in 1877, established from a group of amateur and semipro teams that had played during the Civil War. By August 1899, there were only four teams left in the league, just half of the eight teams that had started the season. This is the story of that last season and the end of the league's long run. Includes one table, showing first- and second-half league standings; 25 references.

—LARRY S. BONURA

EDELMAN, ROB. "Bill Frawley and the Mystery Bat." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000). 66-68.

William Frawley, best known for playing Fred Mertz on the *I Love Lucy* television show, was a rabid baseball fan, consumed by a deep love of the game. He was a sports encyclopedia who had clauses written into his contracts that allowed him time off for attending baseball games. He was also a supporting actor in numerous baseball-related movies. This is the story of Frawley and his most treasured sport artifact—the bat Goose Goslin used to knock in the winning run in the ninth inning in the deciding sixth game of the 1935 World Series, which Goslin's Tigers won. Includes two photographs.

—LARRY S. BONURA

FIESTHUMEL, SCOTT. "Utica Indoor Baseball 1897-1902." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 70-71.

In March 1897, the hardwood floor of Utica's National Guard Armory was the site of several indoor baseball games in New York's Mohawk Valley. George Hancock invented indoor baseball in Chicago in 1887 as a way to play baseball in the winter. It is the forerunner of today's softball. This article discusses some of the games played from 1897 through 1902. Includes one picture of the 1898 Utica indoor baseball team.

—LARRY S. BONURA

WIGLEY, BRIAN J., ASHLEY, DR. FRANK B., AND LEUNES, DR. ARNOLD. "Willard Hershberger and the Legacy of Suicide." *The National Pastime* No. 20 (2000), 72-76.

The Cincinnati Reds won the 1940 World Series. Willard Hershberger, The Reds' second-string catcher, took his life on Aug 3, 1940, and remains the only player to take his own life during the baseball season. In Boston's Copley Hotel, "Hershey" meticulously laid towels on the bathroom floor, knelt before the tub, and with a safety razor belonging to his Reds roommate, opened his throat, ending a life of depression and melancholy. His father and other members of his family also took their own lives. This article looks at Hershberger's

early career, his father's suicide, and the aftermath and questions left in the wake of his suicide. Includes 21 references, 1 photograph, and catcher statistics for 1939 for both major leagues.

—LARRY S. BONURA

BRICHFORD, MAYNARD. "Avery Brundage: Chicago Businessman." *Journal of the Illinois Historical Society* 91 (Winter 1998), 218-32.

Avery Brundage's successful business career gave him the leisure time needed to become one of the great figures of the Olympic movement. While competing as a world-class decathlete in the 1910s he built the Avery Brundage Company into one of Chicago's top construction firms. Although the Crash of 1929 broke him, he restored his fortune by switching from construction to real estate. He used his image as a sportsman to advance his business career and boosted sports as a way to develop the character needed to become a prosperous businessman. Based on primary sources, 30 notes.

—DAVID WELKY

BACON, JOHN U. "Building a Sports Empire." *Michigan History Magazine* 84 (Sep.-Oct. 2000), 28-33.

Fielding Yost transformed the University of Michigan into a sports empire. His success as coach of the school's football team (1901-26) and as athletic director (1921-41) gave him the influence needed to finance a major field house, intramural building, and stadium for the school's campus. Yost's ego and high profile alienated him from much of the University's faculty, but his winning ways and abundant charm made him very popular among students and alumni. He was also one of football's great innovators and a firm believer in the sport's ability to build character.

—DAVID WELKY

MELVILLE, TOM. "A League of His Own: William Hulbert and the Founding of the National League." *Chicago History* 29(2) (Fall 2000), 44-57.

Chicago White Stockings president William Hulbert established the National League in 1876, overthrowing the National Association (baseball's first professional league). Hulbert, born in New York state and brought to Chicago at an early age, had been a successful coal merchant and respected member of the Chicago Board of Exchange. Recognizing the potential of the Chicago White Stockings for creating civic pride, he became involved with the club and later president of the organization. Hulbert shifted the center of baseball's development from the East to the Midwest. In the process of doing this, he created a relatively closed professional baseball league, which survives today. Based on primary and secondary sources, no notes.

—WILLIAM E. BESSLER

YAMAMOTO, ERIKO. "Cheers for Japanese Athletes: The 1932 Los Angeles Olympics and the Japanese American Community." *Pacific Historical Review* 69(3) (Aug. 2000), 399-430.

Excluded from citizenship by Congressional acts, Japanese who immigrated to the United States in the early twentieth century appeared *en masse* when the 1932 Olympics came to Los Angeles. As with many ethnic groups in the Los Angeles area, the Japanese community welcomed and strongly supported the athletes from their mother country. Local Japanese spent approximately \$100,000 on admissions during the Games and were ecstatic over the performances of the Japanese men's swimming team. The 1932 Olympics proved that Japan was an athletic and therefore highly esteemed nation. Also, second generation Japanese Americans gained a positive impression of their heritage. Based on primary and secondary sources, 91 notes; 3 photographs.

—LYNNE EMERY

KURUTZ, GARY F. "Popular Culture on the Golden Shore." *California History* 79(2) (Summer 2000), 280-315.

When miners flocked to California for the 1849 Gold Rush, Sunday became the day of relaxation and amusements. The most popular activity was gambling, with drinking in saloons running a close second. Blood sports such as bull and bear baiting helped relieve the tedium of gold panning as did horse racing, bare knuckle prize fighting, foot races and pedestrianism. The *Turnverein's* appearance in San Francisco in 1853 led to healthier pastimes. Based on primary and secondary sources, 121 notes; 5 drawings, 2 photographs.

—LYNNE EMERY

II. Europe

COLLINET-ALLIBERT, CÉCILE. "Le courant de la Ligue d'éducation physique: analyse des articles de Phillippe Tissié." *STAPS, Revue Internationale des Sciences du Sport et de l'Education Physique* No. 52 (Spring 2000), 95-112.

The Ligue Girondine d'Education Physique was created in 1888 by Philippe Tissié. It had a strong influence on the development of physical education in France for nearly a Century. Its journal, the *Revue des jeux scolaires*, still exists after several name changes. From 1890 to 1972, the articles published in this review were good indicators of favored topics, the type of physical education, the scientific, medical, and philosophical references, and the educational concepts of the organization itself. Based on primary and secondary sources, 84 notes.

—THIERRY TERRET