
Note from the Editor

I was humbled to be asked to serve as the sixth editor of the *Journal of Sport History* as we come to the end of our third decade. I was also deeply touched by the very kind words Dave Wiggins expressed about my commitment to our field in his final note as the journal's editor. I want to take this opportunity to articulate my most heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Wiggins for his years of service as *JSH* editor, some of which took place during trying times and when the emergence of an ever enlarging number of journals devoted to the study of sport history, albeit beneficial to the field, produced a series of challenges for our journal. As a NASSH member since its inception, I would be remiss at this moment if I did not express my gratitude to all the prior journal editors (Alan Metcalfe, Jack Berryman, Steve Riess, Joe Arbena and David Wiggins) for their valued stewardship and multiple contributions to making *JSH* the quality journal that it is.

While in most ways I will follow in the directions of my predecessors, a major reason why I accepted being *JSH* editor is because of a desire to evoke changes in the journal. In particular, I will make every effort to give *JSH* a greater international, non-North American flavor both in terms of content and in the background of authors, and I hope to create an environment in which our non-North American colleagues feel comfortable sending us their works for consideration. To symbolically enliven the *Journal of Sport History*, I decided that each issue will have a different, colorful and hopefully interesting cover. I will also be instituting two new sections, each modeled after ideas borrowed from other historical journals. One will be a forum section along the lines used in the *American Historical Review*, and I hope that we can have one forum in each issue. In the forum, the articles will revolve around a common theme, often broadly defined, although the style of how the forum will unfold will no doubt vary. A second section entitled "Looking Back" draws its inspiration from the kinds of articles that can be found in *Reviews in American History*. It is designed mainly to have us re-explore the classic works in our field (books must be at least a quarter of a century old). From time-to-time we will also have in the section historiographic pieces which investigate the works and contributions of our best practitioners, as well as examinations of how a certain theoretical work or historical study influenced sport history. It is my desire that this section serve to honor our pioneers, help mildly combat the consumer culture that

exists within the academy as well with its continual emphasis on the new, and help us analyze the ever ongoing linkages between the past and present in our scholarship. I invite the readership to propose topics in either section, as I believe that *JSH* has never been a closed shop. The sole criterion for these and other sections within the journal is that the work be of quality and be interesting.

I want to also inform the readership that I am working diligently to get *JSH* back on schedule. This cannot be done overnight, but I expect that it can be accomplished within a few years and without sacrificing quality. In making this a reality, the journal is exceedingly fortunate that Dr. Jodella K. Dyreson, with her professional training in history and experience in editing, has agreed to serve as its technical editor.

The Journal of Sport History has long been blessed by the presence of a dedicated and quality cadre of members of the editorial board. I want to take this opportunity to personally thank those members of this board who served under Dr. Wiggins' leadership for the thoughtful job that they did. I want to also thank those numerous individuals who kindly accepted my invitation to join the current editorial board. I have expanded the number of scholars on our editorial board as a response to my belief that *JSH* should have a more global perspective and presence and my expressed commitment (made to the Publications Board) to diversity within the selection of the editorial board in terms of various demographic variables, the subjects they study and the countries from which they come. I am most pleased with the results. The members of this board (and the other editors) represent these goals without pandering to "political correctness." Over half the members of the editorial board have been presenters of our Distinguished Lecture Award, while some of the others either have been a *JSH* editor or the winner of the NASSH Graduate Student Essay Award. As a result of this talented group, I feel comfortable in promising those who submit their work a quality review from experts in the field.

I would like to end my introductory remarks by echoing the concluding words Dr. Wiggins made in his prior note. He astutely pointed out that "the success of any journal is not so much about the Editor as it is about the quality of the research submitted for publication. My hope is that authors would remember that fact and continue to submit the best work to the journal."

—MELVIN L. ADELMAN