
NAUL, ROLAND AND KEN HARDMAN, EDs. *Sport and Physical Education in Germany*. London: Routledge, 2002. Pp. 224. Notes, index. \$124.95.

The lack of English publications on the history of physical education and sport in Germany inspired this book, which offers an "illuminating insight into how sport and physical education have helped to shape modern Germany" [on cover]. Most of its contributing authors are sport and physical education scholars from German universities, working in such areas as pedagogy, history, gender studies and sociology, with exceptions to this being co-editor Ken Hardman, who is a reader in physical education at the University of Manchester England, and Martin-Peter Büch, who is the Director of the Federal Institute of Sport Science (BISP) in Germany. All contributors are specialists on the topic about which they have written, including chapters on historical developments, organizational structures, and policies and programs of physical education teachers and sport coaches. The volume also touches upon themes such as the institutional development of elite sport, "sport for all" structures and policies, women and sport, and a final chapter on sport facilities.

The historically-oriented chapters, dealing mainly with the years after World War II until the German reunion in 1990, have both a West German and an East German focus. They consider the physical education system in schools and at the university level, covering the training of physical education teachers and coaches as well as the topic of elite sport. The authors compare and try to give objective statements about both systems without passing judgment on them in any way, as is sometimes done by West Germans when talking about East German sport. To better explain the German system, the various authors use tables, figures, and maps to support the written text. Abbreviations for German sport and physical education organizations and institutions are listed at the beginning, being translated into the English language for clarity. Readers will find bibliographic suggestions for further reading at the end of chapters as well as notes and an elaborate index.

This book gives good insight into the various aspects of sport and physical education mentioned above, although a few chapters could have been added, such as one on sport for disabled people (or "rehabilitation sport") that is becoming more and more popular in Germany. It offers more than a simple overview, as the authors often go into detail and present the reader with important facts that help facilitate comparisons. Roland Naul's contribution on "Physical Education Teacher Training" describes how physical education teacher training is structured in the German state of North Rhine Westphalia, explaining how many semester week hours the students have to take at the different school levels and recording the course content for physical education teachers trained at the University of Essen. Arnd Krüger's treatment of coaching as a profession offers insight into East and West German coaching qualifications and their programs and discusses the working conditions for coaches in the "new" Germany. In her article, Gertrud Pfister covers quite a long time period—from the Middle Ages until today—

including East and West Germany. Her treatment of contemporary developments is comprehensive. It includes competitive and high-level sports and examines the situation of girls and women, as well as the sport-for-all movement and "problem groups," such as ethnic groups or women with disabilities. In it, she shows that although German women today are no longer excluded from sport, they are still underrepresented in many sports and in many sport clubs. She relates this to a lack of sporting opportunities for females and the problem of the one-sidedness of the sports offered. But this absence may also have to do with social class, ethnic origin and experiences in physical education, and, last but not least, the predominance of men in all the decision-making bodies of sport and among the coaches.

One can only support publications like *Sport and Physical Education in Germany* which contribute to better cross cultural understandings of how sport and physical education developed historically and are organized today in other countries; something that is hard for people to comprehend without having spent some time in another country. Books like this one are instrumental in providing for a fruitful exchange between scholars and promoting future sport history projects internationally.

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