

# Journal Editor's Report

The *Journal of Sport History* received and reviewed 61 manuscripts for the two year period of May, 1980 through and including, April, 1982. The Editorial Board gave six (6) articles a conditional acceptance but asked authors to make specific changes before publication. All six (6) were subsequently returned and published. Twenty-four (24) manuscripts were placed in the "resubmission requested" category. Of these, four (4) were resubmitted and then published, one (1) received a conditional acceptance and was later published, one (1) required resubmission a second time and was later withdrawn by the author, two (2) required a third resubmission and are currently under review, four (4) were rejected upon resubmission, and, twelve (12) have not been resubmitted. Some articles submitted seemed more appropriate for the "Notes, Documents, and Queries" section of the *JSH* and in this category, three (3) were submitted and subsequently published. Finally, twenty-eight (28) articles were rejected outright. In sum, the *JSH* has accepted and published eleven (11) manuscripts as regular articles and three (3) as "Notes, Documents, and Queries." Thirty-two (32) manuscripts were rejected and twenty-four (24) remain in some form of "resubmission requested." (One (1) article, as noted earlier, was withdrawn from further consideration in the latter category.)

All publication decisions are made after an anonymous review of the manuscript by at least three members of the Editorial Board and are relayed to authors in one of four possible ways. (1) acceptance; (2) conditional acceptance pending revision; (3) revision and resubmission; or, (4) rejection. In the case of a decision to accept pending revisions, the Editor usually determines if the author's changes meet the Board's requests. In the case of "resubmission requested." the article is reread and reevaluated by the initial reviewers and another decision is rendered. Each contributor is provided with a written rationale for the decision reached. For conditional acceptances and resubmissions, the author is also given detailed instructions for improving the manuscript.

The time elapsed between the receipt of a manuscript by the *JSH* and notification of the author regarding a decision is usually six (6) to eight (8) weeks. Over the past two years, an article accepted usually appeared in print within the next six (6) months. A "turn around time" of this length is normally looked upon in a very positive way by prospective authors. In relation to this point, it should be noted that only one (1) article has been accepted for the Summer, 1982 issue (Vol. 9, No. 2).

In addition to the "Articles", the other two regular sections of the *JSH* are the "Journal Surveys" and the "Book Reviews". These two sections and their Editors, J. Thomas Jable and Lawrence W. Fielding respectively, operate fairly independently from the other parts of the *JSH*. Each Editor solicits materials, indexers, abstracters, reviewers, etc. and compiles their section of the *Journal*. In addition, on an irregular basis, Professor Fielding also provides "Review Essays" and a compilation of "Booknotes". The Editor of the *JSH* has relied on Professor John Behee to provide an annual compilation of "Recent Dissertations". In addition, the Editor assembles the "Announcements" section and works in conjunction with the Editorial Board evaluating the "Notes, Documents, and Queries" submissions as well as an occasional "Commentary" piece. Finally, advertisements, which have been few and far between, are handled in Canada by Professor Brian T. P. Mutimer and in the United States by Professor Marc P.

Onigman. This is an area of the *JSH* which has potential for revenue production and should be evaluated by the appropriate committee, council, or board.

Two previously troublesome areas of concern relating to the *JSH* were the increasing cost of production and the irregularity of distribution. Both of these problems, I believe, have been rectified. Further elaboration of the costs should be provided by the Secretary-Treasurer, since the Editor is not directly involved in these matters nor does he keep elaborate records of actual costs. All of these figures are documented with appropriate bills forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer for payment. It should be noted however, that the Editor has a separate checking account to pay for mailing costs, purchase supplies, pay for copyright recordings, and other minor expenses incurred during the publishing and distributing process.

The second concern, that of regular appearance, has been improved considerably, mainly due to streamlining the actual printing process and acquiring several publishable articles in advance of printing "due dates". Also, those responsible for major sections of the *JSH* have been adhering very closely to agreed upon submission dates. However, it should be noted here, that the Editor believes quality is more important than timely distribution.

A final concern expressed by some is the make-up of the Editorial Review Board, especially the length of service. The membership continues to be altered, depending upon specific circumstances and area needs, as was the case over the past six months. One member resigned and was replaced and two new members were invited and accepted to serve. During the upcoming year, it is anticipated that five (5) present members will be replaced by new individuals with similar areas of expertise. Here, I would hasten to add, that the Editorial Board members should be extended a sincere thanks for the detailed and thoughtful reviews they provided for every manuscript submitted to the *JSH*.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack W. Berryman  
Journal Editor