I. Sport
   A. Ancient
   B. European
   C. U.S. to 1900
   D. U.S. Since 1900

II. New Titles

III. Book Reviews

I-A-I

Van Dalen, D.B. (University of Pittsburgh); Sasajima, Kohsuke (Keio University, Japan), FOOTBALL GAMES IN ANTIQUITY, Quest, 4 (April, 1966) 69-77.

Sport has never dominated social activity in China but neither has it ever completely disappeared from the culture. Evidence indicates at least four types of football games. Football Equipped with Holes possibly began in the Western Han dynasty (202 B.C.—8 AD.) and ended in the early days of the Tang dynasty (618—907 A.D.) and was used widely in military training. Football Equipped with No Holes was probably promoted more for the amusement of courtiers than for training soldiers. It apparently appeared first in the middle of the Eastern Han dynasty (25—221 A.D.) and continued into the early 20th century. Football with New Balls and Two Goal Posts evolved about the time of the Tang dynasty (618 — 907 A.D.) and was played at least until the time of the Northern Sung dynasty (960—1127 AD.) Football with One Goal Post came into being about the end of the Northern Sung dynasty and was played to the middle of the Ching dynasty (1616—1911 A.D.). The evidence indicates that the Chinese were playing rather organized games of football at a time when only a rudimentary, free-for-all game was played in the British Isles and a more highly developed game existed in Italy. These oriental games were not totally unlike those later played in the West and this gives rise to the question of cross-fertilization of football knowledge. 13 references, secondary works.

Richard A. Swanson

Although the Greeks at no time officially distinguished between professional and amateur, the Peloponnesian War serves as an approximate division point between the age of the amateur and the age of the professional. The sixth century B.C. was the golden age of the great festivals, and the majority of competitors were probably noblemen and amateurs. However, while the prizes at the games were simple wreaths, some victors did receive monetary rewards from their cities during this period. The "heavy games" — boxing, wrestling and the pankration — were invaded by professionals at an early stage; the risk of disfigurement discouraged many amateurs of good family. During the fifth century B.C., general participation in athletics decreased. As professionals increasingly dominated the festivals, the accomplishment of a *periodonikes* — a victor in all four of the crown games — became a rarity. Criticism and condemnation of athletes increased, and many contestants were fined for bribery and other acts of dishonesty. The Olympic festival remained pure, but the administration of other festivals became very lax. During the Hellenistic and Roman periods, the number of games increased, and became popular spectacles, competing with the gladiatorial contests. The decay of Greek civilization can be seen in the later competitors in the athletic festivals: "... men with undeveloped brains and unnaturally developed bodies."

Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 58 references.

Barbara Schrodt


This article deals with contradictory references, both ancient and modern, that generated a half-century of debate over the authenticity of the ancient Olympic register and the date of 776 B.C. as the first celebration of the Olympic Games. Many modern historians and classicists have presented arguments either supporting or opposing the traditional acceptance of 776 B.C. as the starting date, and these arguments are summarized by Montgomery. References from ancient historians and recorders are also described. Montgomery concluded that while the accounts for Olympiads 1-50 are inconsistent and conflicting, no adequate proof was presented to show that the date of 776 B.C. should not be accepted. The descriptions of the arguments of modern scholars provide interesting and
important details about the early Olympic celebrations, and it is this aspect of the article that is of greatest value to the sport historian. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 68 notes.

Barbara Schrodt

I-A-4


Popular historical anecdotes based upon fiction, overlooked by critical scholars and supported by repetition in standard references, occasionally become accepted as fact. Suolahti believes that the legend of Pheidippedes, the message bearer who ran from Marathon to Athens to report the Greek victory over the Persians in 490 B.C., is an example of such a fictitious event that has become widely-accepted as a real event. Suolahti points to the absence of references to this famous Marathon run in early ancient sources, and traces its genesis to Lucien (120-180), an essayist and philosopher, and the first writer to tell of the legendary run. Lucien’s popular story was not forgotten, although scholars had doubts about its authenticity. With the re-establishment of the Olympic Games in 1896, Pheidippedes’s run became the inspiration for the marathon event and was presented as an established fact. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 26 notes.

Barbara Schrodt

I-A-5


The modern marathon race has no counterpart in the ancient Olympic Games, but there is evidence that the ancient Greeks did run long distances, far in excess of the marathon. These runners were known as *hemerodromoi* or “day-runners.” Able to cover exceptionally long distances in one day, they often acted as couriers during battles. Some of the distances covered by these runners were remarkable; a certain Euchides, for example, ran from Plataea to Delphi and back in one day, a distance of approximately 113 miles. Romans also performed feats of long-distance running, as both foot-couriers and as athletic performers. Pliny describes a run in the Circus Maximus of 320 laps, or approximately 145 miles; this was possibly a “non-stop” race, with participants running as far as possible without stopping. In general, the descriptions of ancient distance running are incomplete, but most of the recorded performances seem possible, when compared
to modern achievements. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 21 notes.

Barbara Schrodt

I-A-6


There were 25 seals and sealings from the Ashmolean collection that could be classified as evidence of sports and games. There is considerable debate as to whether actual sports and games are represented in these artifacts. Eighteen illustrations are included. The physical activities, sports, and games in the Minoan period were judged as: hunting, a table game, a ground game, bull vaulting, bull grappling, fishing, tumbling, dancing, and running. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 15 notes.

Paula Welch

I-A-7

Boslooper, Thomas, FOREMOTHERS: THE IMAGE OF WOMAN IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY, Women Sports, 2, No. 9 (September, 1975) 18-22.

Tradition, writings of Aristotle, Xeonphon, and Aeschylies, as well as numerous artworks indicate that women in Classical Rome and Athens were expected to remain at home, attending domestic chores without benefit of physical or intellectual education. Contrary to this tradition, four legendary heriones: Cyrene, Altalanta, Thetis, and Penthesilenia were celebrated by poets, artists and sculptors for their great strength, courage athletic prowess and beauty. Their feats included wrestling, running, fighting and hunting. The significant question raised is, “How are these larger-than-life figures related to history?” Women in classical Crete and Sparta did participate in sport. Socrates attempted to introduce the Spartan concept of equal education to Athens. Boslooper hypothesizes that the artistic and philosophical representations of successful women athletes were to expose fallacies and raise questions regarding sexual equality. 4 pages; 4 illustrations.

Mary Lou LeCompte

I-B-1

Moolenijzer, Nicolaas J. (University of Missouri), OUR LEGACY FROM THE MIDDLE AGES, Quest, 11 (December, 1968) 32-43.

By the eleventh century feudal reign in Europe was well
established with religious laws dominating. Agriculture had improved and was the dominant way of life. Hunting and fishing as recreational or practical pursuits ceased to be practiced by farmers as these activities were restricted to the nobility. Indigenous games which had been passed down through generations continued in popularity. Dancing and athletic skills including running, jumping, stone casting, wrestling and ball playing were popular at festivals and celebrations. The Christian Church had expressed its disapproval of sport, but the clergy did not always enforce the rules, and often interpreted them to their own liking. The priests, living in closer proximity to the people, were generally more tolerant than the monks. Activities with utilitarian value, such as militarily useful skills, were viewed with more favor than strictly recreational play although numerous exceptions are cited. The fraternity of knighthood encouraged the development of great strength and militarily useful physical skills. Horsemanship, swimming and diving, archery, climbing, sword fighting, wrestling, stone casting, jumping and dancing were necessary to learn. Later, a specialization developed which resulted in neglect of many skills and restricted emphasis largely to jousting as exhibited in the tournament. The burghers were the ascendent merchant class instrumental in developing cities and commerce. They participated in the traditional activities although many games were modified to meet the physical limitations imposed by the city. Some communities passed regulations on where play could take place and others provided play areas at city expense. Perhaps the most important contribution of the Middle Ages to our heritage of sport and physical education was the respect for democratic practices and self-esteem of the burgher combined with the desire for fair play. 18 references, primary sources and secondary works.

Richard A. Swanson


In 1618, James I released his Declaration to His Subjects Concerning Lawful Sports to be Used on the Sabbath Day. Affirming the people's right to play sports on the Sabbath, The King's Book of Sports — as the Declaration soon became known — was seemingly an innocuous document which made no radical departures from the existing realities of exuberant merrymaking on Sundays. Yet, the edict became a lasting and actively employed symbol of the cleavage between the State Church and the Dissenting Puritans. Statesmen and theologians debated on higher planes, but to the commoner the con-
The conflict was simplified into the question of Sunday observance: can I play games on Sunday afternoons? The Puritan position was “no”, the State’s, “yes”. All but completely forgotten in 18th-Century England, the King’s Book was resurrected into the political limelight by pro-revolutionary New England preachers in the 1760’s. American Presbyterian and Congregational ministers used the pulpit to publicize the fact that the widening gap between the Colonies and England was not only political but ecclesiastical. The document, propounded as a representation of the “libertine” nature of the Church of England, was contrasted to the supposed piousness of American Protestants, who were heralded as keepers of the faith by devoting the Sabbath to nothing but prayer and rest. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 24 notes.

Gregg Lee Carter


In the early 17th century, there were two types of Englishmen, gentlemen or non-gentlemen. Elegant play was a major mechanism for establishing gentility. Johan Huizinga’s theory of play as ordered activity different from ordinary life applies to seventeenth century England. Two particular forms, the manege and the masque, differentiated the superior status of the English gentleman. The manege was the training and riding of the great horse, a special kind of stallion prepared for its duties over several years. The masque was an intricate kind of theatrical performance, based on early English legends, performed at the court in London, “the most privileged of play groups”. The masque dissolved the distinction between player and spectator. “If manege was important as an expression of the prowess as well as the social distinction of the gentleman, the masque was even more significant”. For the gentleman, it offered “an unparalleled opportunity to act out his deepest beliefs about who and what he was”. In seventeenth century England, “a gentleman was indeed known by his pleasures”. Based on secondary works; 39 notes.

Lee E. Lowenfish

Wiles, R.M. (McMaster University, Toronto), CROWD PLEASING SPECTACLES IN 18th CENTURY ENGLAND, Journal of Popular Culture, 1, No. 2 (Fall, 1967) 90-105.

A survey of local newspapers in Bristol, York, Bath, and sixty other country towns in eighteenth century England reveals the variety of crowd-pleasing spectacles for the English pop-
ulation. Cock-fighting, bull-baiting by vicious dogs, public hangings, and floggings drew large crowds, but the more pleasant diversions also attracted throngs. A one-man orchestra, with the instruments imitated by voice, drew a large crowd. In 1784, the first “aerostatic experiments” brought a crowd of 150,000 in London to see Lunardi, secretary to the Neapolitan Ambassador to the Court of St. James, ascend in his balloon. He stayed aloft for over an hour and landed 35 miles from his starting point. In the next two years, several other balloonists, utilizing the possibilities opened by the discovery of hydrogen in 1766, went aloft, drawing large crowds and attracting considerable press attention all over England. Based on a lecture given by the author at Bowling Green State University.

Lee E. Lowenfish

I-B-5

Tennyson, Sir Charles, THEY TAUGHT THE WORLD TO PLAY, *Victorian Studies*, 2, No. 3 (March, 1959) 211-222.

The Victorians organized and promoted many sports and ball games. Specifically, Tennyson looks at ball games in which the British were clearly the promoters and organizers. In the English Public School or boarding school, the once crude game of football was refined. Its two main forms, soccer and rugby, were exported throughout the world. Field hockey, though never as popular, owed its spread to the organizing energies of the Victorians. The national pastime of cricket found its way wherever the British settled in substantial numbers. Modern lawn tennis, table tennis, and badminton originated in Victorian England, while golf was Scotland’s unique contribution to the world. The Victorians also developed fives and rackets. Tennyson concludes that the significance of this Victorian accomplishment is difficult to assess, but nevertheless, has undoubtedly provided physical and psychological benefits to the world. No notes.

June A. Kennard

I-B-6

Czula, Roman (California State University at Hayward), THE PIERRE de COUBERTIN AND MODERN OLYMPISM, *Quest*, No. 24 (Summer, 1975) 10-18.

The popular view of Pierre de Coubertin paints him as a romantic, idealistic spirit espousing a naive faith in the peace procuring powers of friendly competition among the youth of the world. Coubertin was, in reality, a practical autocrat when it came to establishing the modern Olympic Games, and he viewed the world from an aristocratic, militaristic, reactionary position. Furthermore, the idealistic mythology of the ancient Olympic Games was largely created by Coubertin and that the so-called “Greek ideal” of athletics placed all value on “winning”. Coubertin established the philosophy and princi-
ples of the modern games and the International Olympic Committee has been successful in maintaining the status quo. With a membership weighted heavily with age, nobility, and wealth, change in philosophy and procedure have been slow to come. If the Olympic Games are to adjust to contemporary conditions (which will be crucial to their survival), the Committee must extend its membership to include present and former athletes and officials. In addition, the following steps are called for: (1) a de-mythification of the ancient Games and athletes to depict more realistically the "Golden Age of Greece"; (2) an empirical assessment of the different meanings and interpretations of the conception of Olympic idealism; (3) an evaluation of the extent to which the philosophy of Olympic idealism exists as an unattainable ideal or as a functional value system; and (4) a reformulation of the Olympic Creed to reflect more directly the attitudes and beliefs of present and former athletes, officials, and spectators. 37 references; primary sources and secondary works.

Richard A. Swanson


A descriptive article written by a young undergraduate student who attended the first modern Olympic Games at Athens in 1898. It includes a first-hand impression of the sights, sounds and activities of Athens, from the time of the author's arrival at Piraeus through the completion of the marathon race, the only event won by the sponsoring Greek nation. The games were judged to be a great success and the hospitality extended to foreign athletes, especially Americans, was noteworthy. No bibliographic sources indicated.

Phyllis M. Ocker


No people has passed through greater changes in a single lifetime than did Americans in the generation which saw the closing of the old frontier. The new society sought new safety valves among which was the rise of sport. Between the race for the America's Cup in 1851 and the first American air show in 1917, the safety valve of sport was designed, built, and applied. These years witnessed the organization of professional sports, amateur athletics, the YMCA, country clubs, and other sports associations. The growing wealth of cities, the appearance of a leisure class, and the consequences of sedentary life could not have failed to develop organized provision for play nor to induce men to start athletic clubs in increasing num-
bers. The values connected with honest sport were inspiring a new Americanism. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 127 notes.

Lawrence B. Schafman

I-C-2

Betts, John Rickards (Formerly of Boston College), THE TECHNOLOGICAL REVOLUTION AND RISE OF SPORTS, 1850-1900, The Mississippi Valley Historical Review, 40, No. 2 (September, 1953) 231-256.

The main features of modern sport appeared only in the middle years of the nineteenth century. Organization, journalistic exploitation, commercialization, intercommunity competition, and sundry other developments increased rapidly after 1850 as the agrarian nature of sport gave way gradually to the influences of urbanization and industrialization. As the Industrial Revolution altered the interests, habits, and pursuits of all classes of society, it left a distinct impress on the development of sport. While athletics and outdoor recreation were sought as a release from confinements of city life, industrialization and the urban movement were the basic causes for the rise of organized sport. The urban movement was greatly enhanced by the revolutionary transformation in communication, transportation, agriculture, and industrialization. The technological revolution is not the sole determining factor in the rise of sport, but to ignore its influence would result in a more or less superficial understanding of the history of one of the prominent social institutions in modern America. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 75 notes.

Lawrence B. Schafman

I-C-3

Betts, John Richard (Tulane University), SPORTING JOURNALISM IN NINETEENTH CENTURY AMERICA, American Quarterly, 5, No. 1 (Spring, 1953) 39-56.

The growth of sport in nineteenth century America owes much to the magazine and newspaper editors who championed its cause. The greatest of the ante-bellum editors in the sporting field was William Trotter Porter, who published Spirit of the Times (first ed. December 10, 1831). This magazine featured the work of Henry William Herbert (Frank For- ester), the first nationally known sports writer. The New York Clipper, founded by Frank Green in 1853, became the prime popularizer of baseball. By mid-century, James Gordon Bennett's New York Herald was running sports stories. Soon other newspaper editors realized the news value of sports and began to emulate Bennett's policy. Between 1865 and 1900 an
athletic impulse swept over the United States and magazines and newspapers reflected its growth. *The Sporting News* appeared in 1886. *Harpers Weekly* and the *National Police Gazette* were widely read and three New York newspapers — the *Sun*, the *World* and the *Journal* devoted more and more newprint to sport. Based on primary sources, secondary works, and newspapers; 60 notes.

Ray Doyle

I-C-4


The good things about America, Santayana wrote Van Wyck Brooks, “are football, kindness, and jazz bands.” To Santayana, a nation’s public games provided a fair index of its sanity and stability. So long as athletics were left untouched, they might remain wholesome and pure. He feared the commercialism and professionalism that is “fatal” to them. His enthusiasm for football grew out of his sense of beauty and form. Santayana’s philosophy characterizes athletics as potentially noble and, like the fine arts, as self-justifying human activity that dignifies the participant and edifies the spectator. Athletics also frees the contestants’ spirits from the niggardly industrial functionalism of modern life. Santayana’s “Athletic Ode” poeticizes his philosophy of sport and reveals athletes as the last of the knights. Natural spontaneity and nobility are the important and lasting values of athletics. Primary sources and secondary works; 10 notes.

Lawrence B. Schafman

I-C-5

Wettan, Richard (Queens College) and Willis, Joe (City University of New York), EFFECT OF NEW YORK’S ELITE ATHLETIC CLUBS ON AMERICAN AMATEUR ATHLETIC GOVERNANCE — 1870-1915, *Research Quarterly*, 47, No. 3 (October, 1976) 499-505.

The athletic club movement of 1865-1915 accounted for much of the increased development and organization of the amateur athletic movement. During the early history of the governance of amateur athletics a few sporting clubs from New York had it within their power to make, break, or reorganize the national amateur athletic governing bodies. During this period of time, from 1870-1890 amateur sport was not truly ruled by a national body. In the following 25 years the power of the New York clubs declined. These clubs still maintained their influence on the Amateur Athletic Union governing board through the work of several of their representatives. The AAU, founded in 1888, largely through the efforts of the New York Athletic Club became the most influ-
ential association of athletic clubs. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; 30 notes, biblio.

Paula Welch

I-C-8

Witte, Carl (Western Reserve University), BASEBALL IN ITS ADOLESCENCE, The Ohio State Historical Quarterly. 61, No. 2 (April, 1952) 111-127.

Baseball was in its adolescence from 1850-1875. It was a difficult period for baseball because of a lack of consistent rules. It was obvious that baseball evolved from cricket and had difficulty in establishing its own identity. Although baseball was started in the East by gentlemen amateurs, it spread to all parts of the country after the Civil War. The first professional team was the Cincinnati “Red Stockings” which started a “momentous development in the history of baseball” in 1889. In their first season the “Red Stockings” did not lose a single game. Various attempts were made to establish a unified set of rules for baseball, which was still primarily a game for amateurs. However, baseball increased in popularity and in 1876 the establishment of the professional National League assured its future.

Robert J. Keefe

I-C-7

Lampe, Anthony, BACKGROUND OF PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL IN ST. LOUIS, Bulletin of the Missouri Historical Society, 7, No. 1 (October, 1950) 6-34.

Although baseball was played in St. Louis prior to the 1860s, it flourished during the years following the Civil War. In 1866, the diamond now known as Sportsman’s Park was laid out and later became the home of professional baseball in St. Louis. In April of 1888, the Missouri State Convention of Baseball Players met and laid the groundwork for a Missouri State Association. Its object was to “improve, foster, and perpetuate the American game of baseball and the cultivation of kindly meetings among the different Baseball Clubs.” Following this convention, charges of professionalism were hurled at various clubs, accelerating the move toward the development of professional teams. In 1874 the first professional team in St. Louis was organized by selling shares of stock. The capital subscribed was $20,000, consisting of four hundred shares at $50 each. The Missouri Historical Society has in its possession one of the original share certificates. The impact of the change from an amateur player’s association to the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs is discussed. Based on primary sources, newspapers, and secondary works; cover picture; 62 notes.

Yvonne L. Slatton

Harry Wright came from Sheffield, England as an infant and under the guidance of his father he became, at the age of 21 in 1856, a full member of the St. George Cricket Club at Staten Island, N.Y. Two years later he turned to the new fad—baseball—and joined the Knickerbocker Club of New York. His outstanding career as a player during the late 1850s and 1860s is reviewed. In 1866 he joined the Union Cricket Club of Cincinnati as a player-instructor. Many of its players helped to found the Cincinnati baseball club the same year. Wright was involved in the changes from amateur to professional status of this organization, and with local financial backing he and others formed the famed Cincinnati team in 1869. A “quiet, persuasive leader” and a shrewd businessman he saw the great possibilities of the professional game. He served in Boston, Providence, and Philadelphia; he wrote about play, management, organization, ground care and equipment. Appropriately, he early earned the title, “Father of the Game.” This article is based on newspapers, correspondence, primary sources and secondary works; 95 notes.

John R. Schleppi


Professional baseball was developed in the 1880’s by several teams prior to the first professionalism claimed by the Cincinnati team in 1869. Despite protests of amateurs and those fearing the gambling interests, professionalism was entrenched by 1868. The Red Stockings gained much attention as the first “western” team to go on tour. A good nine was secured by negotiating with players directly and the first all-salaried team was born. Promotion of a well-dressed, drilled and news covered team brought a new dimension to the game. The experiences of the team’s first year are given as well as anecdotes and their winning ways. The emulation of the Reds by other teams greatly aided the development of professional baseball. Based on newspapers, primary sources and secondary works; 26 notes; 5 photographs.

John R. Schleppi

Allen, Lee, **BASEBALL’S IMMORTAL RED STOCKINGS**, *Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio (Bulletin)*, 19,
No. 3 (July, 1981), 193-204.

The development of a few amateur baseball teams (their founders and playing site) in Cincinnati from 1860 to 1889 is given. Prior to 1869 the amateur game had moved to a semi-professional status. As an example, individuals were given jobs in business houses where they did very little real work. Harry Wright and associates recruited players from the eastern United States in early 1869 and this became the first all-salaried team that went on tour. Vignettes of this tour are given, which covered over twelve thousand miles coast to coast and over a six months period. Unique to the article is a description of the players’ activities after leaving the short-lived club in 1870. None of the players were especially prosperous; their activities and death dates are chronicled. Final disposition of the few 1869 club’s possessions took place at a public auction in 1918. Many were later destroyed in a fire at the purchaser’s home. Three photos; no footnotes or references.

John R. Schleppi

WPA, Writer’s Program of Iowa, BASEBALL! THE STORY OF IOWA’S EARLY INNINGS, Annals of Iowa, 22, No. 8 (April, 1941) 625-654.

Tracing the development of baseball nationally as well as within the state of Iowa, this article depicts the evolution of the amateur “town ball” game into the professional game of “baseball.” With the adoption of the first printed code of rules in 1844 by the Knickerbocker Club in New York the stage was set for rapid expansion of the game to every part of the country. Iowa’s first baseball game was played in Davenport in 1858, probably the first game played west of the Mississippi. Interest in baseball diminished during the Civil War, but it revived when the war ended and rivalries developed, new clubs organized, and tournaments were held. The Iowa State Baseball Association was formed in 1887. Gambling became associated with the game as rivalries intensified and spectator interest increased. During the 1870’s leagues were organized giving more constancy to the game. Charles Comiskey played for Dubuque at 650 per month. With the hiring of players, many teams experienced financial difficulties and were forced to disband; however, baseball did survive both as an amateur and professional sport in Iowa. Based on primary sources, newspapers, secondary sources; 78 notes.

Yvonne L. Slatton

Mebane, John, THE BONESHAKERS ARE BACK, Yankee, 29, No. 4 (April, 1965) 88-71; 120-125.

Old bicycles and accessories are becoming collectible an-
Bicycles considered of considerable value include the hobbyhorse, front-driver, high wheeler, bicycle-built-for-two, unicycle, and multicycle. Early valued bicycle makes include the Rambler, Imperial, Remington, Cleveland, Tribune, Crescent, Victors, American Rudge, Columbia, and Hartford and ranged in price when new from $40.00 to $150.00. The heyday of cycling occurred during the 1890's. In 1884 Albert Pope sponsored a cycling tour around the world with Thomas Stevens riding a high-wheeler with solid tires. The publicity of the Pope-Stevens feat aided in popularizing cycling for pleasure and sport. On Saturday afternoons crowds would assemble to shout encouragement to town speed demons who whizzed by on their wheels with turned-down handlebars. Mementos, autographs of champions and bicycle accessories became status symbols during the 1890's cyclemania and are valued collector's items today. Based on newspapers and secondary works; no notes.

Roxanne Albertson

I-C-13

Gleason, Gene, MAKE WAY FOR THE HIGH WHEELERS, America, 2, No. 4 (September, 1974) 2-7.

To accentuate the bicycle boom in 1971, Ed Berry, Jr. rode an 1888 Columbia high wheeler from San Francisco to Boston in forty-eight days. The high wheeler, called an "ordinary" in the 1880's, had a front wheel that measured four and one-half feet in diameter, and was one of the most uncomfortable, dangerous, and ungainly bicycle ever built. The present bicycle boom, which started in the 1960's, followed the first American interest in the bicycle by about one hundred years. Those early advocates of the high wheelers formed an organization, the League of American Wheelmen, that lobbied effectively for good roads. Ironically, those same good roads paved the way for the automobile which almost made the bicycle obsolete. A contemporary group, the Wheelmen, is dedicated to the lore of the old high wheelers as well as improving the modern aspects of cycling.

Robert J. Keefe

I-C-14


Indians tribes in America played variations of football games during the seventeenth century. Members of a team, consisting of two to ten players, tried to kick and carry a ball through goal posts located thirty feet to one mile apart. Some games took two to three days to complete. Betting on the outcome of games was common among the tribes. Participants disguised themselves with paint so they would not be recognized if they
accidently injured another player who would seek revenge later. The football games, which appeared to be gentler than English rugby, stressed skill and combativeness. They were usually played during festivals and tribal celebrations. Indians insisted on developing physical perfection and when they could conveniently combine exercise, enjoyment and ritualistic performance, they often played football. Based on primary and secondary travel accounts; 14 notes.

Dr. Roxanne Albertson

I-C-15

Reisman, David and Denney, Revel (University of Chicago), FOOTBALL IN AMERICA: A STUDY IN CULTURAL DIFFUSION, American Quarterly, 3, No. 4 (Winter, 1951) 309-325.

The method used in the article is to study the interrelations between the rules of the game and to analyze the parallel changes in football strategy and ethos. American football derived its cultural inheritance from England but has been transformed into something uniquely American. The historical development of the game is demonstrated, with particular emphasis on the relationship of rugby to the growth of the American collegiate game in the nineteenth century. Rugby presented ambiguities to Americans which they solved by redesigning the game to fit their own cultural needs. Because of an ever widening field of intercollegiate competition and the expansion of spectator interest, a standardization of the rules was necessitated. Machine-like precision, and the division of labor which entered the game, was not unwelcome to Americans and complimented their industrial folkways. Americans fear and enjoy aggression at the same time. They need to define, limit, and conventionalize the symbolism of violence in sports. Football also has been an avenue of upward mobility for various ethnic groups. Based on secondary works; 14 notes.

Ray Doyle

I-C-16

Dains, Mary K., UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI FOOTBALL: THE FIRST DECADE, Missouri Historical Review, 70, No. 1 (October, 1975) 20-54.

The intercollegiate football program began at the University of Missouri in 1890 when a team consisting of students and faculty played a challenge game with Washington University. The football team evolved from several student-organized teams which played each other on campus. During the first decade, the University football team joined the Western Inter-state University Football association and developed a strong rivalry with the University of Kansas. During this period, Clark W. Hetherington was hired as director of men's and women's physical training and intercollegiate athletic programs.
The article is richly footnoted and contains pictures of some of the teams players mentioned.

Aimee M. Loftin

I-C-17

Chance, Elbert (Director of Alumni and Public Relations, University of Delaware), FAST HORSES AND SPORTING BLOOD, *Delaware History*, 11, No. 2 (October, 1964) 149-181.

This article examines formal and informal, legal and extra-legal, horse racing in Delaware from the seventeenth century through the nineteenth century. Included is information concerning flat, harness, steeplechase, and sleigh racing. Early races were held often in connection with fairs. In the nineteenth century the formation of agricultural societies advanced the cause of horse racing. By the end of the nineteenth century, harness racing was paramount in Delaware. Attendance at meetings was enhanced by train and in some instances steamboat transport. Most of the problems throughout Delaware racing history involved illegal gambling, sale of strong liquors and disorderly conduct, Based on primary sources and secondary works; 90 notes.

June A. Kennard

I-C-18


The developments in horse racing in Kalamazoo are traced through several milestones, beginning in 1837, the date the Kalamazoo Jockey Club was organized, through 1859, when the first mile under 2:20 trotted by any horse in the world was recorded, to 1908, when Kalamazoo broke into the “Grand Circuit” of racing, the smallest city in that organization. Blood lines of several well-known trotters are traced, and the claim is made that this small western Michigan community would be known in racing circles even if a horse race had never been held there because of a single horse named Peter the Great. “Certainly today more standard-bred horses carry the blood of Peter the Great than that of any other horse that ever lived.” No notes.

Phyllis M. Ocker

I-C-19


The American rodeo is a professional sport that grew out of the daily labor of the nineteenth century cowboy. The skills of roping and bronco-riding originated with the Mexican ranch-
Eros and was borrowed by Anglo-Texan cowboys. Early contests were held as diversions by the cowboys themselves. In time, however, these shows would be staged for the delight of the paying public. William (Buffalo Bill) Cody saw the great business potential of the rodeo and organized his famous 'Wild West Show.' For three decades he thrilled audiences throughout the United States and Europe. Public expressions of praise by such prominent figures as Theodore Roosevelt and Mark Twain, coupled with enthusiastic and vivid press coverage, did much to create the image of the cowboy as folk-hero. Eventually rodeo performers formed professional organizations, adopted a detailed code of ethics, enacted highly specialized rules and established championships in various events. Although a professional sport, the rodeo re-enacts the taming of the West and symbolizes man's conquest of nature. Therein lies its popularity. Based on secondary works. 28 notes.

Ray Doyle

I-C-20

Studer, Carl., THE FIRST RODEO IN TEXAS (1888), Southwest Historical Quarterly, 48, No. 3 (January, 1945) 370-372.

The first rodeo in Texas was a two-day event held in the town of Canadian in the summer of 1888. Called the "Cowboys Reunion," it was organized primarily to settle a dispute of roping superiority between cowboys from two local ranches. However, events were open to all comers, black and white, and it marked the first known effort to hold a public celebration featuring the primitive western contests common on ranches. Events included roping and tying down, bronc riding, horse racing, tournament racing, and in the evenings, dancing. All activities were held in the streets and few rules governed competition. Bronc riding continued until either man or horse prevailed, frequently plunging into buildings and spectators in the process. Betting was heavy, but there were no reports of violence or disorderly conduct. Despite the success of the event, efforts to perpetuate the custom failed. The modern, community-sponsored rodeo did not appear in the area until 1920. Based on oral history; no notes.

Mary Lou LeCompte

I-C-21


Col. Henry L. Kinney, founder of Corpus Christi, began the fair to attract settlers and avert bankruptcy. Advertising began in October 1851 with 20,000 handbills and hundreds of personal letters promising valuable prizes, lavish entertain-
ment, as well as sale of cattle, horses, farm equipment and land. Crowds in excess of 30,000 were anticipated. The two-week fair opened in May 1852, attracting a motley crowd of Americans, Texans, Mexicans, Lapians and Comanche Indians, and “darkies.” Sports events included bullfights featuring famous Mexican Matadors, cockfights, horseracing, and, in conjunction with the cattle show, events anticipating the rodeo. Wild bull riding, throwing a bull by twisting its tail while men rode full speed on horseback; and attempting to pick a silver dollar from the turf while riding full speed attracted most publicity. Despite the success of the sporting exhibitions, the fair was a financial failure, drawing fewer than 3,000 spectators and leaving Col. Kinney bankrupt. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 25 notes.

Mary Lou LeCompte

I-C-22

McCarthy, Tom, AROUND THE WORLD ON ROLLER SKATES, Yankee, 30, No. 10 (October, 1966) 86-87; 137-143.

In 1866 William H. Fuller embarked on a journey around the world demonstrating and performing intricate moves on roller skates. This trip, three years after the invention of “parlor skates” by James Plimpton, aided in popularizing roller skating in such places as Melbourne, Bombay, Constantinople, Moscow, Berlin, Rotterdam, and hundreds of small towns and cities. Performing primarily in theaters or circus tents Fuller demonstrated his intricate and graceful turns in a comedy routine. Fuller skated before enthusiastic audiences including czars, nobles and princes. His trip was financed in each country by donations and gate receipts often leaving Fuller with little money to continue his travels. After returning to America from his world tour in 1869, Fuller moved into almost total obscurity. Based on travel records, newspapers, and secondary works; no notes.

Roxanne M. Albertson

I-C-23


John Fiske (1842-1901), nineteenth century historian, attended Betts Academy in Stamford, Connecticut from 1855 to 1857. The Academy, located on a sloping hill north of town, was surrounded by extensive grounds and gardens including a two and a half acre playground, outdoor gymnasium, and garden lots. During recess each afternoon the boys exercised on the apparatus including parallel bars, ladder and leaping bars. When Fiske began attending the Academy he preferred staying indoors studying languages and mathematics but was soon ordered outdoors by Mr. Betts to exercise with the other boys.
Twice a week students in good academic standing were taken to the Long Island Sound for swimming, fishing, and games. Though Fiske never became enthusiastic about organized games he enjoyed practicing on the gymnastic apparatus and swimming. Based on letters; no notes.

Roxanne M. Albertson

I-C-24


German-born Eugene Sandow, the “strongman of the ’90s.” elevated “feats of strength” to the status of “superb artistry.” Sandow focused attention upon the benefits which could be obtained from the systematic use of barbells and dumbbells. The author describes Sandow’s “sensational and entertaining” show, which included posing to display his muscular development and various feats of strength, and notes the staged “fight” with a lion which Sandow included in his 1893-94 San Francisco appearance.

Roberta J. Park

I-C-25


The memories of Nellie Ticknor McGraw’s girlhood in San Francisco during the decade 1878-88 are described. The reminiscences, written down when Mrs. McGraw was about 80 years of age, cover her childhood from age 4 to 14. A lengthy section entitled “How We Played” covers a variety of childhood games. Included are such things as: velocipedes, roller skates, swings, rocking-horses, tops, jacks, stilts, jump ropes, kites, tag games, hopscotch, playing “buttons.” Also included are brief references to holidays spent at picnics, circuses and amusement gardens.

Roberta J. Park

I-C-26

Whitfield, Joanne, BYRON HOT SPRINGS, *Pacific Historian*, 20, No. 2 (Summer, 1976) 143-146.

Byron Hot Springs was one of California’s more famous resorts at the turn of the twentieth century. Rich and famous people from all over — even Europe — would come to take mud baths, swim in the sulphur swimming pool (“Gas Plunge”) and “take the waters” for a variety of ailments. Among the recreations available to guests were: tennis, croquet, billiards, shuffleboard, riding and walking. The brick hotel was built in 1914, two earlier wooden structures having burned. The resort closed in 1930, but during World War II it was known as
“Camp Tracy” and very quietly used as an interrogation center for high-ranking German and Japanese P.O.W.'s. An unsuccessful attempt was made in 1960 to turn the old resort into a modern country club. A restoration is currently being attempted.

Roberta J. Park

I-C-27

Weinstein, Robert A., THIS ISLAND SANTA CATALINA WAS A JEWEL IN THE SEA . . . , California Historical Society Quarterly, 51, No. 3 (Fall, 1972) 244-251,

In the late 1800s Santa Catalina Island, twenty-one miles southwest of Los Angeles' seaport, San Pedro, became a vacationland for southern Californians. Originally, entertainment consisted mostly of hiking over the island's barren hills, swimming, sailing, fishing, boar hunting and camping. Promoters began to build hotels and other accommodations and by the mid-twentieth century Avalon had become a prosperous beach resort with dance pavilions and other tourist attractions. Avalon, Santa Catalina had become “the poor man’s South Sea island.” Article consists of a short text and nine excellent photographs.

Roberta J. Park

I-D-l

Danoff, Eric (University of California, Berkeley), THE STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF AMATEUR TRACK AND FIELD IN THE UNITED STATES, Canadian Journal of History of Sport and Physical Education, 6, No. 1 (May, 1975) 43-85.

The struggle for control of amateur athletics in the United States, including track and field, dates from the late nineteenth century when the United States Amateur Athletic Union stood almost alone as an authority agent for domestic and international amateur sport. With the emergence of the NCAA in 1905 and the meteoric rise of college sport during the early part of the twentieth century, natural conflicts arose with the AAU in terms of controlling the destiny of institutional athletics. The conflict and resulting disputes between the two organizations (AAU and NCAA) have continued up to the present time. In Part I of a two part article, Danoff lays the historical basis of the study by (1) recounting the structural development of amateur athletics in the United States, and (2) describing the long and, at times, vitriolic stalemate between the AAU and the NCAA. Danoff then attempts to interpret the structural causes for the unrest between the two factions. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 183 notes.

Robert K. Barney
Robicheaux, Laura (Southeastern Louisiana University), AN ANALYSIS OF ATTITUDES TOWARD WOMEN’S ATHLETICS IN THE U.S. IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY, Canadian Journal of History of Sport and Physical Education. 6 No. 1 (May, 1975) 12-22.

Early twentieth century trends in attitudes towards women’s athletics depicted two basic schools of thought: (1) extensive competition along the lines of the model set by and for men, and (2) low key experiences promoting social interchange and promulgation of a “feminine” image. Nineteenth century roles for women in exercise were geared towards graceful movement, good posture, and correction of physical deficiencies, but the early 1900 attitudes towards women in sport reflected an immersion into the rapidly developing sport competition models for men. This attitude was subject to severe censure by a majority of women physical educators in America, which led to sports days and play days and other experiences emphasizing cooperative play rather than competition. The attitudinal pendulum towards competition has begun to swing the other way during the second half of the twentieth century creating a new era for women in sport. Based on secondary works; 67 notes.

Robert K. Barney


Peter Gavuzzi, competing in both the 1928 and 1929 American Transcontinental Races, almost proved that he was one of the finest distance runners the world had ever produced. With victory clearly in his grasp in both races, he lost each race due to a bizarre set of circumstances. In the 1928 race, Gavuzzi was ahead of the other competitors by nearly six hours, with only 600 miles of the 3400 mile race to go. A dental problem caused Gavuzzi to stop eating and the race doctors forced him to withdraw from the competition. Determined to redeem himself, he trained for the next race scheduled for 1929. His training brought results because halfway through the 1929 race, Gavuzzi opened up a six hour lead. With only 230 miles left, race promoter C.C. Pyle forced Gavuzzi to slow his pace and let John Salo, in second place, move closer; otherwise the race would be a financial disaster because spectators would not pay to see the finish if the winner was known. Gavuzzi cut his lead down and was only ten minutes ahead of Salo on the last leg of the race. Due to a mix up, Gavuzzi was late to the starting area the last morning of the race. When he arrived, he found himself now 5 minutes behind Salo, but he believed he still had a five minute cushion because of his ten-
minute lead. The judges, however, figured the time differently and declared Salo the winner. Gavuzzi won $10,000, the second place purse. Tax officials, unfortunately, swept in on promoter Pyle who owed a huge tax debt and impounded all the gate money. None of the runners received anything. Gavuzzi continued to run professionally until World War II, but there were no more Transcontinental runs. (Interviews.)

Maxine Grace Hunter

I-D-4


Wilma Rudolph was the 17th of 18 children born to an impoverished Black family in 1930. Always sickly and often near death as a child, she was also partially paralyzed and unable to walk without orthopedic shoes until age 11. Family dedication and personal determination enabled her to overcome the handicaps and by high school she was a champion basketball and track star. Coached by the famed Ed Temple of Tennessee State University, she earned numerous national titles, and won a bronze medal in the 1956 Olympics. In 1960, Wilma Rudolph became the first American woman to win three Olympic Gold Medals. An extremely popular champion, she was then invited to numerous meets in the U.S. and Europe. Following the 1960 track season, she retired from competition, married and completed college, stating that she could never top her 1960 performance, and wanted to be remembered “... for when I was at my best.” No notes.

Mary Lou LeCompte

I-D-5


Reliability runs and automobile races were extremely popular in the early 1900s. In 1907 the Peking-to-Paris race covered 10,000 miles. On February 12, 1908, six cars representing the United States, Germany, France and Italy left New York’s Times Square for a 23,000 mile land/sea race to Paris. The journey would take the competitors across the U.S., to Alaska by ship, across the ice of the Bering Strait to Russian Siberia, into European Russia and on to Paris. Although the German car reached Paris on July 26th, four days ahead of the American car, the Race Committee declared the Americans the winners by 26 days after figuring the “elapsed time.” Until this date, no car had crossed the U.S. in the dead of winter, much less made such an extensive trip. The author makes ex-
tensive use of local Nevada sources and also describes several of the tribulations which the competitors experienced on their journeys. Particular attention is given to events which occurred in Nevada. Warner Brothers “The Great Race” was a highly fictionalized movie version of the event. 77 notes.

Roberta J. Park

I-D-6

Catton, Bruce, THE GREAT AMERICAN GAME, American Heritage, 10, No. 3 (April, 1959) 16-20; 86.

Baseball is the American game because it reflects certain aspects of the American character that no other sport quite portrays. The game is an unchanging pageant and ritualized dreams, and although it is wholly urbanized it still speaks of the small town and the simple, rural era that lived before the automobile. There have been no important modification of its rules for well over half a century. Baseball is still faintly disreputable and rowdy. Its players chew tobacco, many of them do not shave every day; and they argue bitterly with each other, with their opponents, and with umpires just as they did in the early days of the game. Baseball in its modern guise has not changed in its essentials. It is a rough, tough game, a game that never quite became entirely respectable, a game in which nobody wants to do anything but win. It will undoubtedly be around for a long time. No notes.

Paula Welch

I-D-7

Crepeau, Richard (Florida Technological University, Orlando), URBAN AND RURAL IMAGES IN BASEBALL, Journal of Popular Culture, 9, No. 2 (Fall, 1975) 315-324.

During the 1920s, the baseball establishment, represented in the influential weekly The Sporting News, stressed the rural, small-town roots of baseball, “the national game.” Except for Babe Ruth and Frank Frisch, TSN argued that most of the stars came from small midwestern towns. It explained the skills of star pitchers Grover Cleveland Alexander, Dazzy Vance, and Walter Johnson as derived from the ax-swinging pioneer heritage of their forbears. Sporting News opposed bonuses to college players in the 1920s, feeling they discriminated against the small-town boy who was the backbone of the game. When 10,000 fans greeted the New York Giants after a road trip during the 1933 pennant chase, Sporting News applauded the gesture of support, “proving, after all, Gotham is only a great big village.” But New York, king of the cities, usually bore the burden of regular criticism in The Sporting News. The all-New York world series of the early 1920s was criticized as not representative of the national importance of baseball. When sophisticated New Yorkers in 1930 pooh-poohed the
awarding of the Edward Bok humanitarian award to Philadelphia manager-owner Connie Mack, Sporting News rose to Mack's defense, saying that baseball was a vital part of the culture of the average American. Let New Yorkers wallow in "its night clubs, operated by gunmen and their lady friends," retorted The Sporting News. Based on newspapers and secondary works; 28 notes.

Lee E. Lowenfish


Between 1919 and 1935, Babe Ruth had all the attributes of a national celebrity: "spontaneous homage, formal recognition, commemoration, and legend formation." Even high-brow critics found him "irresistably compelling and dramatic." He was an orphan boy made good, one of the great American traditions. His exploits were often described in military terms, his bat referred to as a "war club." But it was less his military prowess than his "largely, amoral uniqueness and superiority" which explained his fame in an age of prosperity and expansion. Grantland Rice, a great admirer of Ruth, saw his triumph as one of might over right, brawn over brain. The New York Times editorialized about the "beneficent" influence of Ruthian home runs. "It makes sound and vigorous men." The Literary Digest summed up the appeal of the brawny, amoral Ruth: "He has all our faults, and in spite of them, all the material success we should like to have." Based on secondary works and newspapers; 71 notes.

Lee E. Lowenfish


In the years following World War I, Pennsylvanians joined the rest of America in an unprecedented sports boom. Sports participants found Sunday a convenient day for engaging in activity, though their desires conflicted with the Commonwealth's 1794 blue law which prohibited sports and amusements on the Sabbath. During the twenties and early thirties, Pennsylvanians in urban areas defied the Commonwealth's ban on Sunday sport, while Sabbatarian and religious groups insisted on rigid enforcement of the 1794 statute in order to preserve Pennsylvania's Sabbath. The forces responsible for modifying Pennsylvania's blue law were economic pressures, religious beliefs, political tendencies, and the social
conditions following World War I. Based on primary sources, newspapers, secondary works; 39 notes.

Paula Welch

I-D-10

Petersen, William J. (Editor), GIRLS’ BASKETBALL IN IOWA, Palimpsest, 49, No. 4 (April, 1968) 113-160.

The entire issue is devoted to girls' basketball in Iowa. The first segment “Beginnings of Girls’ Basketball” reviews the development of the game. Women’s basketball was first played in Iowa at Dubuque in 1898. It grew in popularity and by 1920 the first state tournament was held in Des Moines. Early team members, scores, costumes and major rules changes are discussed. “Iowa Girls’ High School Athletic Union” discusses the development and leadership of this group — rules, publication of rules and other services of the Union are presented. “State Tournament” traces the development of this spectacle up to 1968. Scores of games, stars of teams, Hall of Fame inductees, and coaches and other pertinent records of the tournaments as well as numerous pages of pictures are included. The last segment “Girls Basketball 1950-68” highlights players and outstanding achievements of these players. The leadership of Wayne Cooley who became executive secretary of the Girls Union in 1954 as well as numerous coaches are credited with the development of style of play and players who have gone on to win recognition as AAU or college all stars.

Aimee M. Loftin

I-D-11


During the early 20th Century, bowling and bowling establishments were almost exclusively male. By 1922, there were only 2,000 members of the WIBC, most participating in Family Recreation Center Lanes such as YMCA’s. In 1923, 35 year old Floretta McCutcheon bowled her first frame in such a facility. Four years later, she challenged the “Greatest Exhibition Bowler of All Times,” Jimmy Smith. Bowling without a handicap, she won 704 - 697 and earned nationwide fame. She immediately embarked on an exhibition tour in hopes of financing her daughter’s education. In the process she set many records which still stand. More importantly, in 1930 she began a program of nationwide bowling schools through which she personally instructed more than a quarter of a million women in the sport before retiring in 1954. She was elected to the WIBC Hall of Fame, the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame, and rolled her lest exhibition bell at age 70. It was a strike. (No notes.)

Mary Lou LeCompte

Ernest Hemmingway's youthful experiences as a boxer had a great influence on him which carried over into his adult writings. Of all Hemmingway's pugilistic characters, that of Jack Brennan, in the short story "Fifty Grand," gives the best insight into the author's appreciation of professionalism. Brennan, a fading champion, is the epitome of the true professional. His desire to put on a good show to the end shows the relationship of courage to professionalism. This was important to Hemmingway. In 1935, Hemmingway wrote an article for Esquire about the Joe Louis-Max Baer heavyweight fight. He took Baer to task for being afraid. Fear is unprofessional, and "Max Baer never bothered to learn his trade." The relationship of fear and courage to professionalism was essential in Hemmingway's writings. One must understand the morality and creed that boxing represented to him in order to understand the rest of his writing. Based on primary sources, secondary works and newspapers. 13 notes.

Ray Doyle


William Lawrence Stribling, Jr., better known as Young Stribling in boxing circles during 1920's and 30's, was considered by many to have all the qualities needed to become a champion boxer. Young Stribling's boxing career was the dream of his father and his first boxing experience was part of his family's vaudeville act. In 1917, Pa Stribling retired the family from vaudeville and settled in Macon, Georgia. Young, under his father's guidance, continued to prepare for his boxing career at the local Y.M.C.A. By the time he had graduated from high school, he had fought 75 bouts, losing but three. On October 4, 1933, Young fought a bout which gave him a three-hour championship. Mike McTigue, the light-heavy weight champ, was invited to Macon to fight Young Stribling for the title. McTigue was the better fighter, but Young was a heavy favorite. The fight lasted ten rounds and was ruled a draw. However, due to the frenzied crowd, the referee, as a self-protective measure, raised Young's hand as the winner. Three hours later and safely away from the Macon crowd, the referee announced the real outcome of the fight. Stribling's title was so short-lived that it was never recorded in the record books.

Maxine Grace Hunter

Chicken-fighting dates back to the domestication of the animal, as early as 3,000 B.C. In 1957 the business of raising and contesting game cocks was worth over $10,000,000, and is probably worth far more today if the number of entries and the complaints about overcrowded pits are any indication. Three magazines with a circulation of 6,000 each reveal the extent of national interest in the sport, although only six states, in the South and border South, allowed cockfighting without legal restriction. Opponents contend the sport is cruel and demoralizes its audience. Supporters claim that prize-fighting is far more bloody, and the fans of that sport love it, and are hypocritical in opposing cock-fighting. Abe Lincoln and earlier Presidents all liked the sport; Benjamin Franklin even suggested the gamecock as a national symbol epitomizing courage and commitment. Lincoln reportedly said if war between humans was allowed, "it is not for me to deprive the chicken of the same privilege." The controversy boils down to a choice between public morality and private freedom. Backers insist American voluntarism should allow the sport to survive. In practice, even in states where laws prohibit cock-fighting, sheriffs and judges are often seen in attendance. Based on magazines and secondary works; 36 notes.

Lee E. Lowenfish


At the beginning of this century, intercollegiate football was tremendously popular, but contests were dull and dangerous affairs in which offensive players rushed the ball through massed defenses. Efforts to improve the sport for spectator and participant met with failure because the Intercollegiate Football Rules Committee refused to adopt reform legislation. In 1905, dissident elements again challenged the authority of the Rules Committee but the movement was in jeopardy until President Theodore Roosevelt used his influence to secure for it the necessary recognition. President Roosevelt's role in the 1905 football controversy, probably the single most important event in the history of intercollegiate sport, was a significant but not a crucial one. His action did determine the direction of football, but he did not save the game, because its existence was never threatened; nor did he bring about re-
form in either rules or conduct by issuing an ultimatum.

Paula Welch

I-D-16


Earnie Seiler is the “mad genius” that has made the Orange Bowl one of the biggest extravaganzas in sport today. After his arrival in Miami in the 1920’s, Seiler became the football coach at Miami High School. One of his contributions to high school football was a football field with a palm tree located on the 20 yard line. During one game Seiler had a player hide behind the tree, and then run out unexpectedly to receive the pass. High school football soon proved too tame for Seiler’s soaring imagination, so he took a position with the Miami recreation department. Through this position he sought ways to promote the city of Miami, and “football in the tropics” became his promotional scheme. His idea came into fruition in 1933, when a football match entitled the Palm Festival was played. The festival evolved into the Orange Bowl in 1935 and in 1939 the new Orange Bowl became a prestigious sporting event. The Orange Bowl Festival now covers eighteen days and hundreds of hours of games and events, and each year Seiler claims “It’ll be the greatest.” Based on interviews.

Maxine Grace Hunter

I-D-17


Kay Rohrer was an extremely gifted softball player who developed her talents working out with major league baseball teams during spring training. At age 13, while taking infield practice with the Chicago White Sox, she was “discovered” by an MGM scout and eventually signed to a seven year contract. Eventually promoted as a “glamour girl” she was forced to choose between her film career and her softball hobby. She chose the latter, and during the 1930’s and 40’s played for many famous teams. During World War II she was a member of the first Women’s Professional Baseball League. At age 33, she was found to have cancer. Despite great pain and three unsuccessful operations, she continued to play for five more years. Her last appearance, soon after release from the hospital, was in an all-star game which lasted 18 innings. She died March 17, 1962 at age 39.

Mary Lou LeCompte

Fairfield, County Seat of Jefferson County, Iowa, hosted the First Official AAU Outdoor Individual Swimming and Diving Championship meet in 1936. The events were held at the Fairfield Boy Scouts pool, constructed in 1925 from contributions of the citizens in the community. Widely known and respected officials were present, among them C.E. “Jake” Daubert, swimming coach at Iowa State University and Chairman of the Midwestern AAU Swimming Committee. Bill Thomas was Head Judge; Irving B. Weber, 1922 All-American back-stroker at the University of Iowa, was the starter; and Max Hemingway of Mason City served as head timer. The meet director was J.R. “Jack” Gobble, the author. Since there were no previous marks, the winner of every event was a state champion and was awarded an AAU gold medal. Walter Maciejewsky of Cedar Rapids was the individual high point winner, his three firsts giving him 15 points, and Mable Hall of Des Moines was the 12 point runner-up with two firsts and a third.

4 illustrations; 1 summary of events.

Yvonne L. Slatton