Peter McIntosh (1915-2000) was an important pioneer in sport history studies. A physical educator, he combined interests in history, philosophy, and sociology, and a range of periods from ancient to modern. His first book, published in 1952, was a history of English physical education. His later work continued this theme, as well as sport in society and fair play. Interest in McIntosh’s work should be revived because of its breadth and balance of study, his emphasis on middle class contributions to sport, and his explorations over a wide range of historical times and societies. Based on secondary sources, 27 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGEHEE

V. Latin America


Cultural relativism should be considered in studying modern sport. Growth and development of sport-aided social emancipation in Latin America. Although European influences were important in the early development of Latin American sport, a more eclectic approach is needed for clarification of the past rather than relying on theories of hegemony. Although Brazil has been a leader in sports history, more needs to be done by other Latin American scholars. Based on secondary sources, 40 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGEHEE


Latin America is diverse in standards of living, culture, and ethnicity. Political instability and authoritarian government have adversely affected sport. British and other European influences were important in the earliest development of Latin American sport. North American influence appeared later. Sport development is uneven in modern Latin America; Cuba excels in both popular and elite sport, and Brazil is a leader in post-graduate education in sport science and practice. International organizations have a role in promoting sport research and development in the region. Based on secondary sources, 70 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGEHEE
During the twentieth century Brazil became identified with soccer. Racial integration and professionalization of the sport (in 1933) were keys to its role in promoting national unity. Multiple World Cup victories and the idea of a Brazilian "style" of play were attributed to its democratization of racial and social elements. After the 1974 World Cup victory, Brazilian soccer experienced a decline in spectator attendance and quality of play that has been attributed to increasing commercialization the sport and weakness of the national economy. Globalization removes much of the romantic and nationalistic aura that formerly characterized Brazilian soccer. Based on primary and secondary sources, 50 notes.

—RICHARD V. MCGEHEE
Argentinean soccer originated with activities of British (mainly English) residents. Around 1912, Argentineans began to dominate the sport, and connections developed between soccer clubs and the social and political life of their neighborhoods. Club officials are elected by members, often based on political party adhesions. The National government financially aids the soccer association and individual clubs and, in turn, receives their political support. Militant fan groups are backed by their clubs and use violence and blackmail for political purposes. The Perons and the military government from 1976-1983 were especially close to soccer. Based on primary and secondary sources, 24 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGHEE

Baseball was carried to Latin America by U.S. workers and by Latin American students and other visitors to the U.S. It became an important cultural element, especially in Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Nicaragua, and Mexico. American football has limited impact in Latin America but is played in Mexico and elsewhere. Basketball has become one of the most widespread sports in Latin America. Volleyball is less widespread but highly developed in Cuba, Brazil, and Peru. Latin American baseball players and boxers have contributed significantly to their sports within the U.S. Based on primary and secondary sources, 61 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGHEE

The English middle class played an important role in introducing modern sport in Latin America. English and other British residents in Argentina in the mid 1800s founded clubs and competitions for cricket, soccer, rowing, rugby, and other sports, but they largely kept to themselves rather than teaching the Argentineans. St. George’s College was established in Buenos Aires in 1898. Open to English-speaking boys from Argentina and nearby countries, it was modeled on English public schools and emphasized sport participation. Although remaining aloof from the surrounding community, St. George’s and other British institutions served as agents of diffusion of English sport in Argentina and other Latin American countries. Based on primary and secondary sources, 140 notes.

—RICHARD V. McGHEE
Modern sport, an important element in the lives of many Latin Americans today, came to the region as a part of Western European, and especially English, imperialism. United States influence in the introduction of modern sport also was significant in some areas. Latin Americans embraced this new cultural element with little pressure from its bearers. In the case of sport, world globalization of culture involved reciprocal interactions as Latin Americas eventually became innovators, especially in soccer. Based on secondary sources, 20 notes.

—RICHARD V. MCGHEE

VI. America


The success and profitability of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games was because the organizing committee (LAOOC) was a private entity which developed an innovative set of guidelines known as the LAOOC Approach to Management. Based on an analysis of previous Olympiads, the guidelines dealt with architecture, government, commercialism, finance and protocol among other items. Olympiads after 1984 have not followed the Los Angeles example, and each has posted a substantial loss. Based on primary and secondary sources, 42 notes, 10 photographs.

—LYNNE EMERY


Despite the recommendations of the 1999 National Gambling Impact Study Commission and Senator John McCain's Athletic Integrity Bill that gambling on college sports be illegal, it appears this will not happen. Nevada’s sports book which began with boxing has grown to a multibillion dollar industry. Of even more concern to the National Collegiate Athletic Association is the rapid growth of Internet sports books which numbered more than 700 in 2001. Based on primary and secondary sources, 37 notes, 4 photographs.

—LYNNE EMERY