

Sport And Spectacle In The Ancient World

A provocative, must-read investigation that both appreciates the importance of—and punctures the hype around—big-time contemporary American athletics. In an increasingly secular, fragmented, and distracted culture, nothing brings Americans together quite like sports. On Sundays in September, more families worship at the altar of the NFL than at any church. This appeal, which cuts across all demographic and ideological lines, makes sports perhaps the last unifying mass ritual of our era, with huge numbers of people all focused on the same thing at the same moment. That timeless, live quality—impervious to DVR, evoking ancient religious rites—makes sports very powerful, and very lucrative. And the media spectacle around them is only getting bigger, brighter, and noisier—from hot take journalism formats to the creeping infestation of advertising to social media celebrity schemes. More importantly, sports are sold as an oasis of community to a nation deeply divided: They are escapist, apolitical, the only tie that binds. In fact, precisely because they appear allegedly “above politics,” sports are able to smuggle potent messages about inequality, patriotism, labor, and race to massive audiences. And as the wider culture works through shifting gender roles and masculine power, those anxieties are also found in the

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experiences of female sports journalists, athletes, and fans, and through the coverage of violence by and against male bodies. Sports, rather than being the one thing everyone can agree on, perfectly encapsulate the roiling tensions of modern American life. Michael Serazio maps and critiques the cultural production of today's lucrative, ubiquitous sports landscape. Through dozens of in-depth interviews with leaders in sports media and journalism, as well as in the business and marketing of sports, *The Power of Sports* goes behind the scenes and tells a story of technological disruption, commercial greed, economic disparity, military hawkishness, and ideals of manhood. In the end, despite what our myths of escapism suggest, Serazio holds up a mirror to sports and reveals the lived realities of the nation staring back at us.

Verschillende aspecten van de Griekse spelen die in de loop van duizend jaar iedere vier jaar in Olympia werden gehouden (776 v.Chr.- 261 n.Chr.).

Explores the history of sport from earliest beginnings to global competitions to the future world of virtual reality when the spectator becomes the player.

Explains why cities dig deep in their pockets to host the Olympics and countries breed teams for success on the world soccer stage.

Now available in paperback, this vital handbook marks the development of sports studies as a major new discipline within the social sciences. Edited by the leading

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sociologist of sport, Eric Dunning, and Jay Coakley, author of the best selling textbook on sport in the USA, it both reflects and richly endorses this new found status. Key aspects of the Handbook include: an inventory of the principal achievements in the field; a guide to the chief conflicts and difficulties in the theory and research process; a rallying point for researchers who are established or new to the field, which sets the agenda for future developments; a resource book for teachers who wish to establish new curricula and develop courses and programmes in the area of sports studies. With an international and interdisciplinary team of contributors the Handbook of Sports Studies is comprehensive in scope, relevant in content and far-reaching in its discussion of future prospect.

Sport and Spectacle in the Ancient World John Wiley & Sons

This Handbook presents innovative research on sport and spectacle in ancient Greece and Rome, exploring historical perspectives, contest forms, and civic and social aspects such as class, spaces, health, gender, and sexuality. Greek and Roman topics are interwoven to simulate contest-like tensions and complementarities between the two cultures.

Sport, Spectacle, and NASCAR Nation critically interrogates stockcar racing's ascendance into the upper-echelon of the North American sporting popular.

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While most contributions to the public discourse gloss over NASCAR's exclusively white racial identity politics, its underlying patriarchal gender politics, its overtly conservative political commitment, its hyper-Christian orthodoxy, and its omnipresent commercialism, this book connects the dots and critically analyzes the problematic nature of this non-natural, strategically-orchestrated sporting spectacle.

Presents a historical survey of sports from its beginnings to the present, examining the historic conditions and technology at each stage.

Over the past few years, the popularity of soccer has exploded throughout the United States. The World Cup is followed with the same religiosity -- if not more -- as the Super Bowl or the World Series. Every four years, the top soccer teams of the world come together in one country to offer one of the most viewed spectacles in modern-day sports. Written in a friendly tone and filled with the humor and expertise of Univision sports anchor Fernando Fiore, *The World Cup* includes information about all the key players, the history of the Cup, the teams to watch, and an interactive component allowing readers to keep track of each country's performance, making this guide the essential resource for soccer fans around the world.

Sport and spectacle have long been part of human affairs. We associate

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gladiatorial combat with the Romans, but it actually originated with the Etruscans, who held such combats and chariot races as part of religious observances. Study the exciting world of Etruscan sports and find out the context surrounding different types of games.

A provocative and personal study of professional wrestlers in training and in performance

This landmark work explores the vibrant world of football from the 1920s through the 1950s, a period in which the game became deeply embedded in American life. Though millions experienced the thrills of college and professional football firsthand during these years, many more encountered the game through their daily newspapers or the weekly Saturday Evening Post, on radio broadcasts, and in the newsreels and feature films shown at their local movie theaters. Asking what football meant to these millions who followed it either casually or passionately, Michael Oriard reconstructs a media-created world of football and explores its deep entanglements with a modernizing American society. Football, claims Oriard, served as an agent of "Americanization" for immigrant groups but resisted attempts at true integration and racial equality, while anxieties over the domestication and affluence of middle-class American life helped pave the way for the sport's rise in popularity during the Cold War. Underlying these threads is

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the story of how the print and broadcast media, in ways specific to each medium, were powerful forces in constructing the football culture we know today.

Combining rich period detail, gripping narrative and thrilling hockey action,

Putting a Roof on Winter brilliantly explores the changing identity of a game that has become, for those who love it, the meaning of life in winter.

Broad questions that will be explored through the examination of a wide range of textual material concern the nature and different forms of both 'spectacle' and of 'the real' (along with 'reality', 'realism' and 'authenticity'); and, especially, the points of conjuncture between the two.

Le sport occupe une place considérable dans notre société. C'est devenu un spectacle universel grâce à la télévision et à la mondialisation des Jeux Olympiques, du football, du cyclisme, de la Formule 1, du tennis, du rugby, etc. C'est aussi un business gigantesque avec ses acteurs; les sportifs les mieux payés au monde, les clubs, les contrats de sponsoring, l'inflation des droits TV, etc. Nous pénétrons dans les coulisses du sport business : stars, équipes cosmopolites, transferts, hooliganisme, dopage.

"Lifts the analysis out of the nuts and bolts of sports policy and into some really thought-provoking areas which will equip the policy maker for the challenges of the 21st century" - Dominic Malcolm, Loughborough University "This is an

excellent analysis of the significance of globalisation for national sport policy and especially of the impact of global processes at the local socio-cultural level" - Barrie Houlihan, Loughborough University Drawing upon a range of empirical case studies, Catherine Palmer situates sports policy within a broader consideration of global processes, practices and consequences, exploring the relationship between: the local and the global globalization and governance new technologies human rights the environment corporate responsibility. In doing so she sets out the ground for an understanding of policy making in sport and how this affects society. Covering both theory and practice, it is a detailed and thought provoking resource for students of sports policy, sports development, sports management and sports studies.

Mexico City's staging of the 1968 Olympic Games should have been a pinnacle in Mexico's post-revolutionary development: a moment when a nation at ease with itself played proud host to a global celebration of youthful vigour.

Representing the Nation argues, however, that from the moment that the city won the bid, the Mexican elite displayed an innate lack of trust in their countrymen. Beautification of the capital city went beyond that expected of a host. It included the removal of undesirables from sight and the sponsorship of public information campaigns designed to teach citizens basic standards of civility and decency.

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The book's contention is that these and other measures exposed a chasm between what decades of post-revolutionary socio-cultural reforms had sought to produce, and what members of the elite believed their nation to be. While members of the Organising Committee deeply resented international scepticism of Mexico's ability to stage the Games, they shared a fear that, with the eyes of the world upon them, their compatriots would reveal Mexico's aspirations to first world status to be a fraud. Using a detailed analysis of Mexico City's preparations for the Olympic Games, we show how these tensions manifested themselves in the actions of the Organizing Committee and government authorities. This book was published as a special issue of the International Journal of the History of Sport.

From mascots to half-time shows to media coverage, *Beyond the Cheers* critically and honestly assesses the role of race in big time college sports. *A Companion to Sport and Spectacle in Greek and Roman Antiquity* presents a series of essays that apply a socio-historical perspective to myriad aspects of ancient sport and spectacle. Covers the Bronze Age to the Byzantine Empire Includes contributions from a range of international scholars with various Classical antiquity specialties Goes beyond the usual concentrations on Olympia and Rome to examine sport in cities and territories throughout the Mediterranean

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basin Features a variety of illustrations, maps, end-of-chapter references, internal cross-referencing, and a detailed index to increase accessibility and assist researchers

Lively account of an ancient sport ably describing the techniques used by these giant wrestlers, some weighing 400 pounds, as they attempt to throw their opponents off balance.

The second edition of *Sport and Spectacle in the Ancient World* updates Donald G. Kyle's award-winning introduction to this topic, covering the Ancient Near East up to the late Roman Empire. • Challenges traditional scholarship on sport and spectacle in the Ancient World and debunks claims that there were no sports before the ancient Greeks • Explores the cultural exchange of Greek sport and Roman spectacle and how each culture responded to the other's entertainment • Features a new chapter on sport and spectacle during the Late Roman Empire, including Christian opposition to pagan games and the Roman response • Covers topics including violence, professionalism in sport, class, gender and eroticism, and the relationship of spectacle to political structures

Professional wrestling is one of the most popular performance practices in the United States and around the world, drawing millions of spectators to live events and televised broadcasts. The displays of violence, simulated and actual, may be the obvious appeal, but that is just the beginning. Fans debate performance choices with as much energy

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as they argue about their favorite wrestlers. The ongoing scenarios and presentations of manly and not-so-manly characters—from the flamboyantly feminine to the hypermasculine—simultaneously celebrate and critique, parody and affirm the American dream and the masculine ideal. Sharon Mazer looks at the world of professional wrestling from a fan's-eye-view high in the stands and from ringside in the wrestlers' gym. She investigates how performances are constructed and sold to spectators, both on a local level and in the "big leagues" of the WWF/E. She shares a close-up view of a group of wrestlers as they work out, get their faces pushed to the mat as part of their initiation into the fraternity of the ring, and dream of stardom. In later chapters, Mazer explores professional wrestling's carnivalesque presentation of masculinities ranging from the cute to the brute, as well as the way in which the performances of women wrestlers often enter into the realm of pornographic. Finally, she explores the question of the "real" and the "fake" as the fans themselves confront it. First published in 1998, this new edition of *Professional Wrestling: Sport and Spectacle* both preserves the original's snapshot of the wrestling scene of the 1980s and 1990s and features an up-to-date perspective on the current state of play.

Sport has been practised in the Greco-Roman world at least since the second millennium BC. It was socially integrated and was practised in the context of ceremonial performances, physical education and established local and international competitions including, most famously, the Olympic Games. In recent years, the continuous re-

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assessment of old and new evidence in conjunction with the development of new methodological perspectives have created the need for a fresh examination of central aspects of ancient sport in a single volume. This book fills that gap in ancient sport scholarship. When did the ancient Olympics begin? How is sport depicted in the work of the fifth-century historian Herodotus? What was the association between sport and war in fifth- and fourth-century BC Athens? What were the social and political implications of the practice of Greek-style sport in third-century BC Ptolemaic Egypt? How were Roman gladiatorial shows perceived and transformed in the Greek-speaking east? And what were the conditions of sport participation by boys and girls in ancient Rome? These are some of the questions that this book, written by an international cast of distinguished scholars on ancient sport, attempts to answer. Covering a wide chronological and geographical scope (ancient Mediterranean from the early first millennium BC to fourth century AD), individual articles re-examine old and new evidence, and offer stimulating, original interpretations of key aspects of ancient sport in its political, military, cultural, social, ceremonial and ideological setting. This book was previously published as a special issue of the International Journal of the History of Sport.

Analyzes the mass media's portrayal of women's sports with a focus on female Olympians.

Ze hebben elkaars boeken altijd met grote waardering gelezen, maar ze hadden elkaar

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nog nooit ontmoet. Dat veranderde toen Paul Auster samen met zijn echtgenote, de schrijfster Siri Hustvedt, uitgenodigd werd voor het Adelaide Literary Festival in Australië. Niet lang na zijn terugkeer in Brooklyn ontving Auster een brief van Coetzee: `Ik wil je een voorstel doen dat je wel of niet zal interesseren. Zou je iets gezamenlijks willen doen dat wat meer om het lijf heeft dan onze bijdragen aan de Beckett-editie? Ik heb nooit eerder met iemand samengewerkt maar met jou, denk ik, zou het plezierig kunnen zijn, en misschien zouden we zelfs, als God het wil, vonken op elkaar kunnen laten overslaan. Als het je in principe een goed idee lijkt, zou ik wel met een paar voorstellen kunnen komen. Het lijkt me één manier om een vriendschap gestalte te geven als men ver van elkaar verwijderd is. Paul Auster was geïntrigeerd. In zijn antwoord aan Coetzee stelde hij een onbegrensde dialoog voor die over ieder mogelijk onderwerp of thema kon gaan, over alles wat voor hen beiden interessant was. `In feite een discussie zoals we die zouden voeren als we in dezelfde stad woonden. Na twee jaar, de afgesproken periode, schreef Paul Auster: `De gedachte om nu te stoppen maakt me verdrietig, na twee jaar zie ik in jou een vriend, met wie ik het contact niet wil verliezen. Waarop Coetzee antwoordde: `Natuurlijk zijn we nu echte vrienden. We kunnen ook bloedbroeders zijn, als je dat wilt. Met een echte ceremoniële bloedmenging, wanneer wij elkaar de volgende keer zien. Het lijkt geen toeval dat deze bijzondere uitwisseling van gedachten, ideeën en opvattingen begint met een discussie over de vriendschap.

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Volume 1. From the Minoan bull-leaping to the ancient Olympics and the enigmas of their contests, this first volume of *Sport in the Greek and Roman Worlds* contains nine articles and chapters of enduring importance to the study of sport in ancient Greece, a field located at a crucial intersection of social history, archaeology, literature, and other aspects of Greek culture. The studies have been updated with addenda by the original authors, and two of the articles that were originally published in German or French have been translated into English here for the first time. The studies, selected for breadth and importance of historical topics, include: Greek sport in its epic, heroic, and Bronze Age origins; the ancient Olympics in its relation to religion, politics, and diversity of competitors; Greek events in track and field and equestrian events.

The conventional history of sport, as conveyed by television and the sports press, has thrown up a great many apparent turning points, but knowledge of these apparently defining moments is often slight. This book offers readable, in-depth studies of a series of these watersheds in sport history and of the circumstances in which they came about.

The *Routledge Handbook of Sport, Gender and Sexuality* brings together important new work from 68 leading international scholars that, collectively, demonstrates the intrinsic interconnectedness of sport, gender and sexuality. It introduces what is, in essence, a sophisticated sub-area of sport sociology, covering the field comprehensively, as well as signalling ideas for future research and analysis. Wide-ranging across different historical periods, different sports, and different local and global contexts, the book incorporates

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personal, ideological and political narratives; varied conceptual, methodological and theoretical approaches; and examples of complexities and nuanced ways of understanding the gendered and sexualized dynamics of sport. It examines structural and cultural forms of gender segregation, homophobia, heteronormativity and transphobia, as well as the ideological struggles and changes that have led to nuanced ways of thinking about the sport, gender and sexuality nexus. This is a landmark work of reference that will be a key resource for students and researchers working in sport studies, gender studies, sexuality studies or sociology.

The two-volume *A Companion to Sparta* presents the first comprehensive, multi-authored series of essays to address all aspects of Spartan history and society from its origins in the Greek Dark Ages to the late Roman Empire. Offers a lucid, comprehensive introduction to all aspects of Sparta, a community recognised by contemporary cities as the greatest power in classical Greece Features in-depth coverage of Sparta history and culture contributed by an international cast including almost every noted specialist and scholar in the field Provides over a dozen images of Spartan art that reveal the evolution of everyday life in Sparta Sheds new light on a modern controversy relating to changes in Spartan society from the Archaic to Classical periods

Performing the Nation in Interwar Germany argues that political aesthetics and mass spectacles were no invention of the Nazis but characterized the period from the mid-1920s to the mid-1930s. In so doing, it re-examines the role of state representation and propaganda in the Weimar Republic and the Nazi dictatorship.

This is a sourcebook in English of Roman documents pertaining to sports and spectacles in the Roman world, the types of entertainment the Romans favored and the way they organized and

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funded their spectacles.

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