

public places. Now I think I understand in a tiny way the resentment they feel because I was the one being rejected" (p. 142). His father responded by defending segregation, saying that black people should not use facilities reserved for white people. Craft then challenged his father to consider that black fathers feel similarly furious when they see their sons forcibly removed from public places. The conversation did not alter his father's views, but it shows the profound effect Craft's time with the Stars had upon his worldview.

As Craft notes, he was not the reverse Jackie Robinson. *Our White Boy*, however, is a welcome addition to the literature on the slow yet steady process of racial integration in American sports.

Rivals: Legendary Matchups That Made Sports History

Edited by David K. Wiggins and R. Pierre Rodgers. Published in 2010 by University of Arkansas Press (465 pp., includes footnotes and index, \$29.95 US).

Reviewed by Murry R. Nelson, Pennsylvania State University

When one thinks of great games or matches, the usual starting point is a long-term rivalry, one with a history and close, competitive contests where the outcome is in doubt and the winner is not always the same. This book presents 16 of those, divided into three categories—individuals, team games, and international competitions. Many of the choices are traditional and predictable, but readers will certainly propose others that could have been included, which does not diminish the choices that Wiggins and Rodgers have made.

There are six chapters in the first section, dealing with six different sports, making this the section most likely to have alternative rivalries proposed. The battle between C.K. Yang and Rafer Johnson for the Olympic decathlon title in 1960 at Rome and the Debi Thomas–Katarina Witt battle for figure skating gold in 1984 in Sarajevo and 1988 in Calgary were not as long term as most of the other chapter foci. Nevertheless, they were extremely competitive and both were fraught with political battles behind the scenes. The latter was the Communist system, both of life and of sport, versus the capitalist models, while Yang's battles played on a world stage unsure of how to treat the "two Chinas." Both the personal and political events are addressed in these two chapters. The remaining chapters in the section address the rivalries of Palmer–Nicklaus (golf), Ali–Frazier (boxing), Bird–Magic (basketball), and Evert–Navratilova (tennis). I especially enjoyed the tight writing of George Kirsch (Palmer–Nicklaus) and Gerald Early (Ali–Frazier), who managed to minimize footnotes, while maximizing interest and information.

Tennis is probably the most illustrative of rivalries, where these are really head to head over long periods of time, within a year and over years. McEnroe–Borg–Connors, Sampras–Agassi, Lenglen–Wills Moody, and Federer–Nadal are just some of the alternative choices to the selected pairing, of Evert and Navratilova, but the choice was a good one. The rivalry also includes the period of the great transition from amateur to open tennis, and the great longevity of both players circumscribes some of the greatest years in the rise of women's tennis.

Section two, on team games, covers baseball (Red Sox–Yankees), hockey (Canadiens–Maple Leafs), pro football (Redskins–Cowboys), college football (Ohio State–Michigan), high school football (Canton–Massillon, Ohio) and women's college basketball (UConn–Tennessee). These are all wonderful reads, but the various personal perspectives that follow these chapters are most interesting. Ryan White-King chooses to follow the Red Sox–Yankees in a narrative, almost newsreel manner. Brian Soebbing and Daniel Mason do a two-city comparison, relying on economic and data analyses. Jaime Schultz focuses on the leaders (Geno Auriemma and Pat Head Summit) as the embodiments of their teams in the UConn–Tennessee chapter. The late Lawrence Hugenberg and Brian Pattie examine their economically declining cities and the importance of high school football on the respective communities in their chapter. Despite these diverse approaches, they all work, and make each new chapter a new adventure.

The last section, on international rivalries, focuses on a continuing rivalry (i.e., the Ryder Cup), a long-time one that has diminished (USA vs. Britain in the Davis Cup), a rivalry that affected world politics (the USA vs. USSR in various sports, though mostly track and field) and one that was new and exciting (USA Women's soccer vs. the world since 1999). The Davis Cup chapter (by Stephen Pope) emphasizes a bygone era of a rivalry that was white hot in the 1920s and 30s. John Nauright examines the changing aspects of the Ryder Cup from American dominance over England to a new experience, with the broadening of the parameters (USA vs. Europe), which began the old way with U.S. dominance, but has now shifted to at least parity, if not a European bias. Chris Elzey's chapter on the USA–USSR rivalry presents a strong narrative of the dual track meets as well as the Olympic battles that symbolized more than athletic superiority to the nations involved. The increased politicized nature of these contests, fomented by the Kennedy administration and their Soviet counterparts, carried through to basketball and the 1972 Soviet triumph in the last three seconds, reprised three times as a result of the interference of Olympic officials present.

This is a well-written and well-edited volume. Errors of fact are few and excitement is high. It has use as a possible supplemental text for sport history or sport business classes, but it is simply fun to read. If rivalries are the essence of sport, this volume captures well some of those great rivalries.

Dropping the Torch: Jimmy Carter, the Olympic Boycott, and the Cold War

By Nicholas Evan Sarantakes. Published in 2010 by Cambridge University Press (340 pp., \$28.99 US).

Reviewed by Toby C. Rider, University of Western Ontario

The study of the United States government and the 1980 Olympic boycott has been treated differently by diplomatic and sports historians. The former have tended to overlook the issue, never viewing the episode as something central or of great concern in an era that saw the demise of superpower détente. Sport historians, however,

have put the Moscow boycott at the very forefront of political incidents that have stricken the Olympic Games. In sum, the latter group has attached to the boycott far more importance than the former. To date, no one has been able to synthesize the boycott through the eyes of the U.S. government and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) with the appropriate historical sources.

It is here that Nicholas Sarantakes's book offers a new and fascinating perspective with documents drawn from multiple archives, especially the Carter Presidential Library and the IOC archives. The author uses this material to reveal how U.S. President Jimmy Carter tried not only to generate an international boycott of the 1980 Summer Games, but also took steps that could have destroyed the Olympic Movement altogether. In a scathing critique, Sarantakes drops the guillotine on the Carter administration's handling of the episode. He argues that Carter's policy on boycotting the Olympics was riddled with "fundamental flaws"; the American president never understood the Olympic Movement, nor did he manage to influence it as he had wished to. The boycott was a "final blow" to détente. This conclusion is used to demonstrate that "popular perceptions" of the Carter administration are correct; namely, that "Carter was mediocre in his handling of U.S. foreign policy" (p. 12).

According to Sarantakes, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in December 1979 gave Carter an opportunity to display more confidence and conviction in matters of foreign policy. Having been "prodded" into action by his National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Carter attempted to punish the Soviets for their military indiscretion. Lacking effective options that could actually remove Soviet troops from the country they had invaded, Carter used other methods (such as a grain embargo), including the threat of an Olympic boycott of the Games scheduled for Moscow in 1980. Having decided to use the Olympics as a weapon to embarrass the Soviet Union, the Carter White House then attempted to push through a number of related policies, most of which failed dismally. Among the litany of failures, the Carter administration tried to organize alternate Games; postpone, cancel, or move the Moscow Games to another site; get the Games permanently settled in Greece; and, of course, to compel American allies to boycott the festival. The only strategy that worked entirely was the blatant pressure and coercion used to convince the United States Olympic Committee to boycott.

Sarantakes accuses the Carter White House of completely misunderstanding the organization of international sport and the workings of the IOC. Carter and his advisors thought that by using traditional diplomatic channels and contacting the leaders or governments of countries they could stimulate a widespread boycott. They never quite grasped the fact that most National Olympic Committees do not answer to the government of the country in which they reside. Even more obtusely, the Carter White House could not understand that the IOC was an independent transnational organization that acted as it wished to the behest of no nation or political leader. The IOC president, Lord Killanin, refused to comply with the pressure applied by the U.S. government, and never succumbed to altering the IOC's decision on Moscow. Sarantakes questions the success of the boycott, concluding that the 1980 Summer Games were not the failure that Carter hoped for. Furthermore, the situation in Afghanistan remained unaltered by the boycott.

For all his magnificent research and deep historical enquiry, there are several flaws to this book, some more aggravating than others. It needed a further editorial glance. Numerous spelling mistakes, inconsistencies, and typographical errors in the main body of the text and its endnotes make for constant distraction. Lord Killanin, for example, suffers from having his name misspelled in not one, but two ways ("Killnanin" and "Kilanin"). There is also a regular misuse of certain terms. When Sarantakes discusses the problem of the two Germanies, he refers to their "participation in the Olympiads" (p. 22). An Olympiad is a four-year period; the Games of an Olympiad are what you participate in.

Finally, there is something lacking in the early chapters that does the book a slight disservice. A section on how the U.S. government used sport in the early years of the Cold War would have been beneficial, as would a larger battery of secondary sources. This might have provided a chance for Sarantakes to compare the Carter administration with that of his predecessor's policies on sport. This comparative opening would have driven home how unusual it was for the U.S. government to involve itself in sport in the overt and aggressive manner that it did. Even more useful might have been some background on the historical evolution of the Cold War up to the years of détente. The reader is abruptly launched into the atmosphere of the late 1970s rather than being eased in gently. Those who are unsure as to what détente represented would not get a detailed answer in this book, and that is a central factor to understanding the author's arguments.

Without question, however, the all round scope of this study makes it the foremost work on the Olympic boycott from the U.S./IOC perspective and, furthermore, the best book that deals with the intersection of the Olympic Games and the Cold War.

The Manly Art: Bare-Knuckle Prize Fighting in America (Updated Edition)

By Elliott J. Gorn. Published in 2010 by Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY (328 pp., \$19.95 US).

Reviewed by Stacy L. Lorenz, University of Alberta

Elliott J. Gorn's *The Manly Art* is one of the most important and influential books in the field of sport history. First published in 1986, Gorn's multifaceted examination of the culture of nineteenth-century prize fighting explores the complex, nuanced, and fluid meanings the sport had for its practitioners, followers, and critics. In particular, *The Manly Art* is a model for analyzing how different social and cultural identities are lived simultaneously. Boxers and their fans belonged to various social groups at the same time, and Gorn demonstrates how class, gender, ethnic, neighborhood, and national identities intersected, overlapped, and changed over time.

The Manly Art has now been released in an updated edition with a new afterword and selected bibliography. However, the original text and citations remain the same. Gorn has not revised the book in light of more recent literature, and he