

Opportunities in Athletics. The authors discuss some of the major concerns from both Title IX supporters and opponents because neither side was satisfied with the makeup and charge of the Commission.

In summary, *Title IX* presents a critical and unbiased overview of the law, is well written, and provides a logical flow and sequence. It can be used as both a quick reference for a specific question or as an in-depth overview to broaden the understanding of Title IX and its application. Any student, academician, or practitioner interested in learning more about Title IX should consider adding this text to their library.

## **References**

- Gavora, J. (2002). *Tilting the playing field: Schools, sports, sex, and Title IX*. San Francisco: Encounter.
- Pemberton, C. (2002). *More than a game: One woman's fight for gender equity in sport*. Boston: Northeastern University Press.
- Porto, B. (2003). *A new season: Using Title IX to reform college sports*. Westport, CT: Praeger.
- Thomson. (2005) U.S. Constitution: Eleventh Amendment. Retrieved May 18, 2005, from <http://caselaw.lp.findlaw.com/data/constitution/amendment11/>

### ***Red Line, Blue Line, Bottom Line: How Push Came to Shove Between the National Hockey League and Its Players.***

By Marc Edge. Published in 2004 by New Star Books Ltd., 107-3477 Commercial Street, Vancouver, British Columbia (160 pp., \$12 USD/\$16 CDN).

*Reviewed by William M. Foster, Alberta School of Business and the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, University of Alberta.*

In *Red Line, Blue Line, Bottom Line: How Push Came to Shove Between the National Hockey League and Its Players*, Marc Edge attempts to explain why the National Hockey League (NHL) and its players' union (the NHLPA) are currently engaged in one of the most bitter labor battles in North American professional sport. Edge provides the reader with an interesting and informative account of the history and the issues of the current labor dispute. He also puts this labor dispute into perspective by comparing how the other major North American professional sport leagues have dealt with their labor issues. Despite these strengths, however, Edge's contribution lacks new insights that could have made this book a strong addition to the current literature on labor issues in professional sport.

Edge begins the book by speculating that the current labor dispute could lead to the demise of the NHL as it is currently conceived. He notes that the Stanley Cup was originally a challenge cup. If there is a prolonged lockout, many players will look for work on teams outside of North America. This could affect who qualifies to play for the Stanley Cup and how a champion is determined. New

challengers for the Stanley Cup could appear from non-NHL clubs. As Edge argues, this could trigger the emergence of non-North American hockey as the dominant version of the professional game.

In the following five chapters, Edge discusses the issues at the heart of the labor dispute. In chapter 2 he examines the historical impact of the reserve clause on NHL free agency and player movement. Next, in the third chapter, the different causes and effects of past labor stoppages are discussed. The impact of salary caps, or the lack thereof, on teams and players is the focus of his discussion in chapter 4. Chapter 5 examines how team revenue sharing influences the decisions made by players and owners. Finally, in the sixth chapter, the impact of player salary disclosure is addressed.

In each of the aforementioned chapters, Edge first provides a clear and simple explanation of the appropriate terms that are necessary for a discussion of the topic. He then proceeds to discuss how the other major North American professional sport leagues (i.e., the National Football League, Major League Baseball, and the National Basketball Association) have dealt with these issues. This is followed by a discussion of the consequences that each course of action had on each league's operations and its labor relations. Finally, at the end of each chapter, Edge returns his focus to the NHL labor dispute.

In the book's final chapter, Edge attempts to predict how long the lockout will last and who might emerge as the victor. For this analysis, Edge draws on media theory, game theory, and labor theory. He uses these theories to support his belief that the NHL will look vastly different after this labor dispute.

A strength of the book is that it provides the reader with a solid evaluation of the different issues of this particular labor dispute. Although not as in-depth as some other notable books on the NHL and its labor issues (i.e., *Game Misconduct: Alan Eagleson and the Corruption of Hockey*, Conway, 1995; *Net Worth: Exploding the Myth of Pro Hockey*, Cruise & Griffiths, 1991; *Money Players: How Hockey's Greatest Stars Beat the NHL at Its Own Game*, Dowbiggin, 2003), Edge provides the reader with the knowledge necessary to formulate an opinion about the topic. Another strength of the book is how Edge includes different theories and connects them to the labor dispute. This smattering of theory is what distinguishes Edge's book from many of the other books that have dissected the labor battle between the NHL and the NHLPA. Labor theory is used predominantly, but there are references to management theory (e.g., equity and expectancy theories) and media theory.

In addition to its strengths, the book also has some limitations. The first is that it is too short to explore any one issue in detail. Furthermore, for a book that discusses the "ins" and "outs" of the NHL labor dispute, vast amounts of the book do not deal with the NHL. Another limitation of the book is that, other than the brief discussion of academic theories, not much that is new is presented in the book. Other authors (i.e., Conway, 1995; Cruise & Griffiths, 1991; Dowbiggin, 2003), many of whom are used as sources in the book, have discussed these issues in far greater detail. Edge does a good job of summarizing what has been written about the topic, but unlike his predecessors, he does not add to the debate.

Overall, I believe Edge provides a good summary of the labor dispute in the NHL. For those individuals who are unfamiliar with the labor history of the NHL, this is an excellent introduction to the topic. Furthermore, because there is some theory in the book, it could be an appropriate background text for an undergraduate class on professional sport. On the other hand, for those individuals who are familiar with either the labor history of the NHL or the theories applied to professional sport, the book has limited appeal.

Edge was in a unique position to weigh in on the current dispute. Some of his predictions have already come to fruition. For example, the mass exodus of players to Europe and the owners' manipulation of the media are two such cases. It is Edge's foresight about the labor dispute that could have made his book a definitive text on this historic labor impasse. Edge's evaluation of the dispute, however, does not differ significantly from those who have previously examined the topic. It is for this reason that, in my opinion, the book fell short of its potential.

### ***References***

- Conway, R. (1995). *Game misconduct: Alan Eagleson and the corruption of hockey*. Toronto, ON: Macfarlane Walter & Ross.
- Cruise, D., & Griffiths, A. (1991). *Net worth: Exploding the myth of pro hockey*. Toronto, ON: Viking.
- Dowbiggin, B. (2003). *Money players: How hockey's greatest stars beat the NHL at its own game*. Toronto, ON: McClelland & Stewart.

Copyright of Journal of Sport Management is the property of Human Kinetics Publishers, Inc. and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.