Appendices. As well, the bibliographic essay is a very good resource on rodeo-related and western secondary literature as well as on repositories for primary source materials. The extensive research notes are well-documented and are often quite interesting reading in themselves. They cite an impressive range of sources: interviews with athletes; literature from rodeo-related periodicals; newspapers from rodeo towns; and documents from rodeo organizations. The nearly forty photographs illustrating the book are evocative and well-placed. Thoughtful commentaries enhance their value for the reader.

LeCompte's chapters flow nicely and they are well organized into period treatments (1880s-WWI; 1919-29; 1930-47; 1948-67; 1967-present). These analyses are preceded by an overview chapter which situates the rise of the Rodeo within the context of Western ranch life and the history of American women in sport and women in the West. Unfortunately, with this organizational structure, the book ends on a chronological note, rather than an analytic one. There is no concluding chapter. A revisiting and reappraisal of the themes brought up in the overview in such a chapter would enhance this volume, affording LeCompte, for example, the opportunity to move beyond her data into perhaps a more speculative realm. This, though, would be icing on a very good cake.

LeCompte's Cowgirls ought to, and likely will, reach a wide audience. LeCompte has made a strong contribution in an area typically overlooked by historians of sport. Her analysis of the physically-demanding rodeo events, her treatments of colourful rodeo personalities derived from the memories of rodeo women, and her evocative descriptions of the pageantry surrounding this often overlooked sport all render her volume a worthwhile and interesting read. She has done much to raise the stature of cowgirls from "chippies" to athletic women.

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ON THE FRINGES OF SPORT.
Reviewed by M. Ann Hall, University of Alberta.

On the Fringes of Sport is an engaging yet frustrating book as one would expect from 25 historians, sociologists, philosophers, anthropologists, and ethnographers representing more than a dozen different countries. All but three of the papers in the volume were originally
presented at an international conference on "Sport and Cultural Minorities" sponsored by the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport, and held in Turku, Finland in June 1992. The seminar was hosted by the Finnish Society for Research in Sport and Physical Education who also took on the task of publishing this volume.

Although the theme of the conference was about cultural minorities in sport, the book itself claims to be about "minorities in physical culture" more specifically voices on the margins of mainstream sport such as those of minorities, women, children, and the Third World. Physical culture in this context signifies forms of emerging alternative cultures "that are seeking to revive old traditions and to promote new concepts of the human body which have been excluded from the mainstream of sport, relegated to the fringes, and assigned a minority status. These trends, argues editor Lee Laine, "imply a new politicization of the body, an emergence of minorities which the world of modern sports will have to respond, sooner or later" (5). This relatively new interest in the body and corporeality, and a multidisciplinary approach to physical culture, represent a major challenge to traditional sport history which, asserts Laine, has failed to incorporate any theoretical notion of the "body."

It is difficult to know what to make of these criticisms because from the reviewer's perspective on sport history they are simply not true. However, all but three of the contributors to On the Fringes of Sport come from outside North America, and of these more than one third are based in Finland, so it may well be that their outlook on sport history reflects a distinctly European body of scholarship for which these criticisms are valid.

The book is divided into four major sections: Who Am I?; Who Is My Body?; Where Is Our Past?; and Resistance-Integration? The five papers in the first section, Who Am I?, are among the most interesting in the book because they are first-person accounts of body experiences in sport and physical activity. Particularly valuable is the memory work of Finnish researcher Ulla Kosonen on the "body of a running girl" where she recounts her story of a clumsy girl, big for her age and ridiculed because of it, who found solace and escape in running. In an accompanying essay, Kosonen argues for the importance and validity of individual memory work suggesting that it is "the ultimate example of subject and object collapsing into each other in research" (p. 51). Also in this section are two accounts by males, one by a Finnish researcher on how the body's "memory" is surprisingly resilient when prompted by childhood photographs, and the