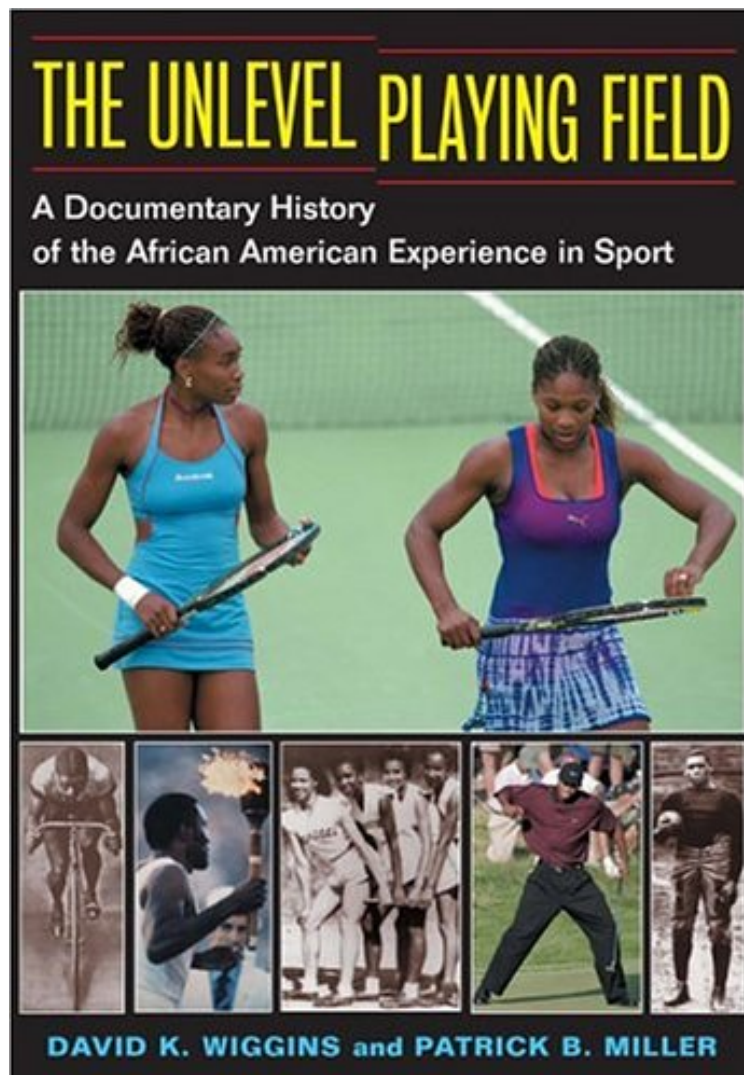


[Pdf free] The Unlevel Playing Field: A Documentary History of the African American Experience in Sport (Sport and Society)

The Unlevel Playing Field: A Documentary History of the African American Experience in Sport (Sport and Society)

David K. Wiggins, Patrick B. Miller
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the following review helpful. Great primary documents. By Customer One of my daughters was doing a National History Day project on Jesse Owens. This thick book includes primary sources for many sports, all well-researched and fairly analyzed.

This extraordinarily rich compendium of primary sources charts the significant, intertwining history of African Americans and sport.

From Booklist The African American sports experience in America has been the subject of dozens of books that range from serious historical analyses to as-told-to autobiographies of star performers. The authors of this volume, both university history professors, do readers a great service by emphasizing the importance of original source material rather than their own interpretations of it. They provide a context for each selection and offer some opinion--why the piece is significant--but generally the reader is given the opportunity to form his or her own thoughts. The selections are presented more or less chronologically, which helps give the reader a sense of the journey African Americans have made in the sports world. Among the highlights are essays on Tom Molineaux, a boxer who competed in the early 1800s and is regarded as the first black sporting hero. There is an article by W. E. B. Du Bois, written in 1897, in which the great civil rights leader argues that sports can offer black Americans an avenue for amusement and recreation. Eldridge Cleaver weighs in on the Muhammad Ali-Floyd Patterson fights of the mid-sixties, and a transcript of Ali on television's Face the Nation is included from 1976, displaying again his remarkable media savvy and wit. Also included are articles on Arthur Ashe, racism in the NFL, and the current marketing of black athletes. A fascinating cultural document and a great addition to any general collection. Wes Lukowsky Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "The authors of this volume... do readers a great service by emphasizing the importance of original source material rather than their own interpretation of it. They provide a context for each selection and offer some opinion--why the piece is significant--but generally the reader is given the opportunity to form his or her own thoughts... A fascinating cultural document and a great addition to any general collection." -- Booklist (starred review)