

**Schiavone, Michael. Sports and labor in the United States. SUNY Press, 2015. 220p
bibl index ISBN 9781438456812, \$80.00; ISBN 9781438456836 ebook, \$80.00.**

Schiavone (visiting lecturer, Univ. of Illinois Urbana-Champaign) includes four chapters (2 through 5) in this book that review labor-management history in baseball, football, basketball, and ice hockey, respectively, in the US. These four stand-alone chapters offer interested readers a flavor of the sport-specific evolution of labor relations over time in four professional leagues (while ignoring entirely non-US leagues, college athletics, soccer, women's sports, and individual sports such as boxing, tennis, golf, and auto racing). However, the seemingly endless stream of consciousness listings of names, incidents, legislation, and legal wranglings—not to mention the author's tone, prose, and phrasing (*struggle, solidarity*) throughout—should make anyone suspicious of the validity of his claims and detract significantly from the volume's intentions and worth to scholars. To assert that on one side of the table sit saintly players who “are often exploited by ownership and fight for matters of principle” is, well, one-sided, and limits the book's value; in addition, the coverage of sports per se is inadequate to excite the armchair fan. The endnotes and bibliography are plentiful and solid; the index is skimpy and mediocre. Summing Up: Optional. General readers.