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The Hundred Yard Lie: The Corruption of College Football and What We Can Do About It

By Rick Telander
Simon and Schuster
223 pp., \$17.95

By David Jacobson

RICK TELANDER IS A BULL IN A china shop, swinging accusatory horns at the sturdy yet vulnerable mythology that is both a cause and effect of the sorry state of big-time college football. In *The Hundred Yard Lie: The Corruption of College Football and What We Can Do About It*, Telander lays to waste several myths of big-time "amateur" athletics.

In a chapter titled "You Can't Let a Few Isolated Incidents Ruin the Sport for You," Telander outlines his outrage at the hypocrisy he experienced firsthand as a football player at Northwestern University in the late '60s, and later as the college football beat writer for *Sports Illustrated*. He does not relent until he has debunked the myth of "There's Nothing We Can Do," in which he

Rick Telander lays to waste several myths of big-time "amateur" athletics.

offers a 28-point plan for the creation of an Age Group Professional Football League.

By that time he has proven that big-time college football players are not amateurs, and that historically amateurism has served as little more than a class divider, anyway. By admitting that, Telander argues, there is a basis for dismantling the exploitative apparatus that essentially forces "student-athletes" to labor for free while the athletic de-

Hitting hard at the point of attack

partments (and, he carefully points out, *not* the university as a whole) rake in millions of dollars.

Telander freely admits the book is a diatribe, but his lapses into name-calling are nonetheless bothersome. Clearly, he is emotional

It is an admirable protest, but not as important as he seems to think in his frequent mentions of it.

Those lapses aside, he constructs strong arguments, supported by sources as disparate as psychologist Bruno Bettelheim and Richard Kieckhefer's *Unquiet Souls: Fourteenth-Century Saints and Their Religious Milieu*. Even his argument about the importance of his argument is on target.

"Oh, I know I'm wrapped up in this thing and blinded by my closeness

to it and that there's a revolution going on in China and clear-cutting of the rain forests in Brazil and hyperinflation in Argentina and starvation in the Sudan and very strange times indeed in the USSR, and that on the canvas of the big ethical picture the scale of college football's shadow is very small. But what goes on in college football is important, very important. Even if you're like so many professors at so many universities who simply turn their noses from the stench and say, "Sports are

dumb, I will ignore them," you are affected by the corruption all the same. Big-time college football proves to all students—and, ultimately, all of us—that no matter what anybody says, winning, money and entertainment are our gods. Knowledge, truth, integrity? They're OK—in their place. But let's not let them get in the way of what's really important."

That's no bull.

David Jacobson is a writer living in Chicago.

SPORTS

about his subject. Like Howard Cosell, who quit announcing boxing out of disgust, Telander claims he will no longer cover college football:

NOTEBOOK

You Can Do Something About AIDS

Various authors, various publishers
Sasha Alyson, editor
126 pp., \$1

Books that move a million copies tend to be either glitzy trash novels or religious giveaways à la Gideon. But one recent exception to this rule of thumb offers good news for modern man (and woman) without a shred of glitz.

This million-seller—*You Can Do Something About AIDS*—is aimed at those intent on marshaling their resources to combat the disease. The 126-page paperback contains short essays by AIDS activists, government officials and media figures. The collection includes celebrity calls to action as well as recommendations for conducting locally-based medical research. Taken together, the pieces plead for compassion, tolerance and education—small but necessary steps for communities about to confront the disease.

In one essay former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop outlines the need for long-term caution and education while reducing social paranoia. But the book also goes beyond such measured generalities to include more specific information, such as a piece

on prejudicial media buzzwords penned by Carter White House press secretary Jody Powell. *You Can Do Something About AIDS* also suggests possible organizing and educational strategies for people in various trades—teachers, school boards, clergy, health workers, journalists and artists.

The book offers valuable appendices that list national, state and local organizations involved in AIDS issues and the various publications produced on the subject. They direct readers to experienced organizations that can provide direction and warn of pitfalls.

Alyson Publications in Boston coordinated the participation of larger publishers and distributors for this public-service venture. A second printing will make it available in January in bookstores across the country at a symbolic price of \$1.

—Ray Walsh

War at Home: Covert Action Against U.S. Activists and What We Can Do About It

By Brian Glick
South End Press, 92 pp., \$5

When the news broke in 1988 that the FBI had been infiltrating and disrupting offices of the Committee in Solidarity With the Peo-

ple of El Salvador from 1981 to 1985, it seemed like déjà vu all over again. Sadly, routine felonies committed by the FBI against citizens practicing their constitutional right to dissent have been a bad habit since at least the early '60s. Besides widespread breaking and entering, personal threats and vandalism, government operatives have long specialized in rumor-mongering and bogus leafletting (and a host of psychological mind games) to keep "progressives" in disarray (as if we needed any help).

In this slim activist primer, Brian Glick sprints through the history of U.S. government harassment and offers a handful of rules for radicals. And while *War at Home* careens at times toward diatribe, it doesn't aim to be an elegant polemic—just a useful handbook for tactics.

Chilling government documents included at the end of the book outline the U.S. assault on black dissenters and the New Left in the '60s (and beyond). Although all of this information has been available before, it is no less appalling for being well known. And despite ample justification for activists' fears, Glick ends up accentuating pragmatism, not paranoia.

—Jeff Reid

Cat Lovers Against the Bomb

1990 Calendar
New Society Publishers, 12 pp., \$7.95
(From Nebraskans for Peace,
Suite 426A, 129 North 10th St.,
Lincoln, NE 68508)

Only a few animals—humans and cats among them—are known to kill for sport. So it is perhaps perversely appropriate that these two intermittently malevolent species should team up. (Though I find it suspicious that they've come together for the greater good—remember, these are the diabolical creatures who brought you Canadian postal codes and *Police Academy* sequels on the one hand, and coughed up fur balls and nearly dead mice on the other.)

Maybe it's just a case of two negatives making a positive. But even if you're not fond of *felis* (sort of) *domestica*, you've got to love this calendar's anti-war sentiment. And it's cute to boot.

But what's next? Cats Across America? Don't hold your breath. If you think it's tough to get humans to loiter in the desert touching strangers for a dubious propaganda benefit, how about replaying the same scenario featuring 15 million finicky Morris? Better bring a ton of catnip.

—Jeff Reid

Cold War

Continued from page 9

Besides changing their name, the Communists should "say openly that Leninism was a complete disaster, a tragedy," said Gardner, who was especially unforgiving of the Italian Communists' opposition to the deployment in Italy of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles and, more recently, of dual capable U.S. F-16 fighter bombers forced to leave Spain.

The U.S. opposition seems more and more ludicrous as non-Communists govern Poland and the Italian Communist (or whatever) Party drifts ever further from the left. The end of the Cold War means that the U.S. veto has lost its teeth: the implicit threat of a CIA-backed coup against any Italian government with Communists in it. The next step is for someone like the Socialist Party leader Bettino Craxi to want to display his heroism by defying Uncle Sam to make a coalition government with a tamed and renamed PCI.

Time may be running out to surprise anybody with such a grandstand play, as NATO ceases to be an anti-communist alliance and becomes a stabilizer of European transformations, in coordination with the Warsaw Pact.

The U.S. Ambassador to Bonn, Gen. Vernon Walters, in the course of a French radio interview, said the cascade of changes in the East were "a stroke of luck" for the U.S. "I was afraid our presence would be an issue in the West German elections next year," he said. "It may still be, but to a much slighter degree."

For the moment, the protests against low

training flights and other intrusive signs of foreign military presence are forgotten in West Germany. NATO is scarcely controversial, but only because it seems more and more safely anachronistic. Any return to insistence on modernization of short-range nuclear missiles (remember them?) seems out of the question. In a Europe that is feeling more and more like the economic and political center of the world—thanks very largely to Gorbachov—the U.S. seems more and more like a quaintly outdated power whose specialization in the military can still come in handy, like Swiss guards at the Vatican.

In France, there is great consternation and confusion over how to react to the rapidly approaching prospect of German reunification. The Socialist government says everything is fine. The conservative opposition, more nervous, is making divergent suggestions. Some urge emergency measures to tie the Federal Republic of Germany into the European Community (EC) with a monetary accord. There are those who would like to see the EC develop its own military force to give French—and British—nuclear weapons some sort of role. Others, like former Economics Minister Edouard Balladur, suggest that France should stress its Atlantic ties, cling to NATO and even welcome U.S. NATO forces back onto French soil, as an implicit counterweight to the Germans. Seeking his counterweight elsewhere, former Prime Minister Raymond Barre speaks of reviving France's traditional alliance with Russia.

With so many choices, France for the moment seems to be doing nothing. Meanwhile, history speeds ahead into its new unfamiliar and uncharted phase. □

Defense

Continued from page 3

dissipate existing resources or ignore workers and defense-dependent communities. For example, Grumman Corp. diversified to build new postal-service vehicles in Pennsylvania and Florida, rather than at their endangered defense plant on Long Island. But with advanced planning, most communities gained jobs after military-base closings in the '60s and '70s, Eugene Chollick of the Council on Economic Priorities argues.

Conversion partisans say planning can have the same benefits for factories, but there are virtually no recent conversion success stories. After World War II, many companies returned to prior civilian work, stimulated by pent-up consumer demand. But Reddick's survey of defense manufacturers found that most are "defense junkies [who are] quite reluctant to face the need for

change, still tilting to defense markets."

Yet Michael Closson, director of the Center for Economic Conversion, cautions that "conversion advocates overemphasize the ease of converting. I think it will be more like three to five years [to convert], and even then they might not be able to do it. The typical response is not to convert but merge or sell out. The majority of military-oriented firms will have significant difficulty converting even with federal legislation that mandates advanced planning."

Because it's hard to reorient defense managers and retrain engineers, successful adjustment requires government "getting fingers into the industrial structure to prod companies to do changes and planning they need to do," argues economist Lloyd Dumas of the University of Texas at Dallas.

The battle has only begun—first, to create a substantial peace dividend, and second, to invest it wisely. □

Namibia

Continued from page 11

Muyongo was once SWAPO vice president, and he said in 1979 that South Africa was planning to subvert Namibia's independence by installing a "regime of quislings"—meaning the DTA. Muyongo left SWAPO in the early '80s during a power struggle in which he was accused of embezzlement. He is now the DTA's assembly speaker, while Mudge does its legal research.

The elections' advertised purpose under Resolution 435 was to allow Namibians to democratically decide their future under free and fair conditions. But the elections were neither free nor fair since South Africa continued to govern Namibia during the campaign. The South African security forces, especially the notorious counterinsurgency unit known as Koevoet, were responsible for law and order during the campaign, despite the fact that these same security forces systematically arrested, beat and killed Namibians for decades.

South Africa ruled Namibia by intimidation. If and when the South African security state is dismantled, those who collaborated will lose a support base and fear will no longer buy votes—a situation likely to bring SWAPO consolidated power.

Spin control: What to do about the police force is a major issue. The South African administrator general (AG) has announced that former Koevoet members, who were finally removed from the police force in October under UNTAG pressure, can reapply for positions with the force. Nujoma says former Koevoet members will be banned from police work and retrained for development projects. Meanwhile the AG, with the hope of cleansing the police image, authorized a massive public-relations campaign in the media. The smarmy ads play several times an hour on every station of state-controlled radio, Namibia's most influential medium.

Elsewhere, apartheid's absurdity continues. Road crews have recently repaved perfectly smooth streets in white Windhoek, while in the black townships dust storms rise up at rush hours when trucks and taxis roar over the unpaved roads. The AG still controls the treasury, and many fear he will devise costly projects—such as the non-stop police public-relations campaign—that will leave the cupboard bare for the new SWAPO government.

Namibian independence will focus southern Africa's gaze exclusively on Pretoria,

which will be isolated among hostile neighbors. Nujoma has pledged that Namibia will join the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference, the anti-apartheid economic cooperative. His visits to Lusaka, Zambia, to address the Front Line States two days after the election results were announced suggest he will join the six other nations.

Nujoma must tread warily, however, because Namibia currently imports 75 percent of its goods and services from South Africa, and Walvis Bay, Namibia's only deep-water port, remains part of South Africa. The bay's transport link, called Namibia's umbilical cord, will aid South Africa's continued stranglehold on regional trade. The bay's return could make Namibia a service link to the landlocked Copper Belt countries of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Zaire, while the Benjuela railway in Angola and the Beira corridor railway in Mozambique remain inoperable because of destabilization by South African-backed guerrilla forces.

The bay is also a military lily pad for the South African army, being an easy jump to Angola or back inside Namibia. South Africa keeps between 4,000 and 10,000 troops in Walvis Bay, plus 1,500 that were recently withdrawn from Namibia. SWAPO demands that the bay be returned to Namibia, but South Africa seems intent on a lease arrangement. The U.N. Security Council sides with SWAPO and will probably take up the matter after independence.

Even without Walvis Bay, Namibia has the potential to develop a strong economy. South Africa leaves a well-built infrastructure unscarred by war. The multinational diamond and uranium companies will now be forced to pay taxes rather than just cite deductions. The exotic landscape, the cool Atlantic beaches and Namibia's Etosha Wildlife Park should attract considerable tourist revenue. Africa's last colony could become a model nation after independence.

For that to happen the peace must hold. With Namibia's tribal divisions strained by apartheid, South Africa could find a willing military surrogate if the constitutional assignment raises tensions and leads to frustration, instead of creating a consensus as now seems probable. Since nationalism and unity are so new to Namibia, the political order will remain fragile. SWAPO appears to recognize the delicate moment for what it is: a chance to beat the odds that independence will lead to internal conflict, as has been the experience in so much of Africa. □

Eric Gravley is on assignment in Namibia.

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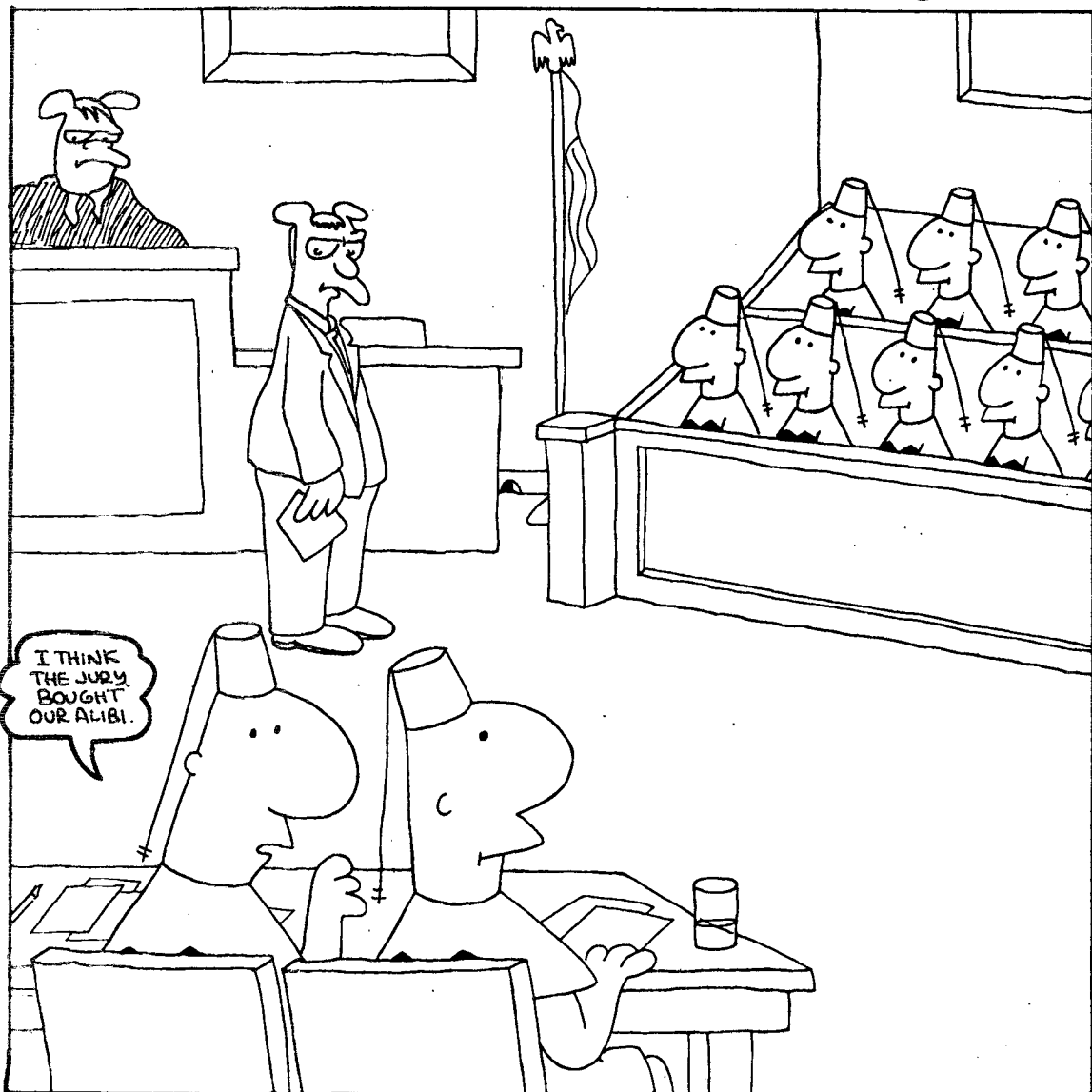
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W BY MURRAY L. BOB
HY ARE ADULTS SPENDING MORE TIME playing games, while the young play less than at any time since the '50s? The games adults are indulging in offer some clues. They tend to be either simple, relatively non-competitive TV- and movie-derived party games, or else pop-psychology offerings of the tell-all type.

The game "Adverteasing" tests trivia players' "knowledge" of slogans, jingles and commercials. Fast food for the mind, this game has a "just open the box and play" character. You have neither to sit down nor pay attention. Indeed, you can do several other things while playing. "Dr. Ruth's Game of Good Sex" and "A Nightmare on Elm Street" depend on mass-media tie-ins for their appeal, while "Scruples" has you tell fellow partygoers about your most intimate "relationships."

Adults just wanna have fun: The speed and ease with which we learn these games and their brief duration reflect a push-button culture concerned with convenience rather than challenge. Contrast almost any recently devised game with chess, which takes you out of yourself because it demands close attention, and you will see what I mean.

Pop-psychology games mirror the narcissism of the "me" decade. On the other hand, games like "Pictionary" are party games—thus, the self-absorption is not solipsistic. People do socialize. But the undemanding character of the play, its focus on the personal and on "having fun," make winning and losing less important. Like the mass media that inspires so many of them, these games are designed to entertain rather than to challenge.

A spokesperson for Parker Brothers says, "Thirty years ago games were considered childish. Today ... it's become perfectly acceptable for adults to play games." Does this mean that now that games have become childish, adults are more apt to play them? Are adults becoming childish, while children turn adult? It almost seems that way when we learn that college students, who make up a big part of the market for board games, are now increasingly saying that they "don't have time" to play or that they are "into studying."

The clinical psychologist A.S. Longo, developer of the game "Red Letter," says, "Basically we're all out of control in the work environment. When you play a game, the structure of the game gives you control. You understand the parameters." In that context, the contrasting behaviors of working adults and college students vis-à-vis games becomes more explicable, as does the reversal in their respective attitudes over the last three decades.

If work is more "out of control" than it once was, it is understandable that workers will crave the structure that can be found in safe, predictable games. Today's games are entertaining and non-adversarial enough to offer relief from the pressures of increasingly competitive and unpredictable work environments, where the philosophy seems to be that "rules are for fools" or are made only to be broken, bent or stretched.

Unruly reality: By contrast, college students, though worried about their futures, presently have relatively safe, structured and subsidized lives. They have less need now for the release that games bring. Legitimate career concerns lead them to believe they haven't time to play around and had better study instead. Thus, the same economic uncertainty that makes adults flee from reality

WHAT'S IN A GAME?

FALL OUT OF BED Hold

- Play against one other couple. The male loses 2 Arousal Points, the female loses 1 Arousal Point.

GONORRHEA SCARE Play Immediately

- All players lose 2 Arousal Points.

TELEPHONE CALL FROM MOM Play Immediately

OW! THAT HURT! Play Immediately

- You and your partner each lose 1 Arousal Point.

SEXUAL DEVICE Play Immediately

- You and your partner gain 3 Arousal Points, which you can split up as you wish. You can move your Arousal markers up or down the Arousal Tracks.

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- You and your partner lose 1 Arousal Point.



into simple games makes students turn from games to preparation for a threatening reality. For the adult the flight is from real uncertainty to playful structure; for youth it is from the temporary safe structure of playland to preparedness for a Hobbesian war of all against all.

One may quarrel with such perceptions, but since feelings are facts, they should be taken into account—and not only by the marketing mavens of gamesmanship. The pressures on the young may be greater and begin earlier than at any time in the last 40 years: get good grades, get into the right schools, meet the right people, make career decisions

in order to do well in a job market more mercurial with every passing decade. It isn't just in teaching and engineering that personnel shortages change to surpluses every four years; the same thing holds true of stockbrokers, doctors and other professions. And socio-economic uncertainty isn't confined to jobs: affordable housing is notorious by its absence, marriages are more than ever a gamble and, as a consequence, families have assumed almost unrecognizable and incomprehensible shapes—by the standards that used to prevail.

But it isn't just students who have problems. Poor working stiffs have to deal with

the reality that the factory, business or service that employs them may be sold out from under them virtually overnight, jeopardizing all aspects of their existence. Workers must come to terms with a situation wherein competitors from across the globe are more of a menace than those half a mile away. Nor are those in public employ more secure, subject as they are to the vagaries of an increasingly irrational budget process at every level of government.

It's easy to see why many adults choose to spend their lives playing games, since games are being played with their lives.

Murray L. Bob is a writer in Jamestown, N.Y.