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## Editor's Overview

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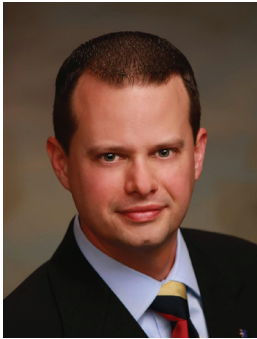
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# Editor's Overview

Benjamin D. Goss



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When Colby and I hatched the idea for this journal, I only thought I knew what to expect.

I thought, *A few emails and phone calls here and there, build up a Web site, twist the arms of some colleagues to help as reviewers...how difficult can it be?*

Well, it wasn't quite that simple or that easy, but we did get it done, and I'm very happy with the results.

Given the scope and quality of the articles published, I remain convinced that *JSAS* can deliver on its visionary premise to bridge the gap between academic theory and industry practice in sport management. The more I talk with practitioners, the more need I sense for the kind of critical information that academicians can provide for them if academicians are simply willing to present their findings in a format that can be effective for that purpose. *JSAS* will continue to be an outlet of that kind.

I want to thank our authors for entrusting their quality submissions to us. I hope they will feel as proud to see them published as we are to publish them. I also want to thank our reviewers, who invested a considerable amount of time and energy in their reviews. For many of the practitioners, such a task was a brand-new one for them, and I appreciate their willingness to step outside their comfort zone for the good of the industry.

I am convinced *JSAS's* review board is one of the best in the business, and without their commitment, *JSAS* would simply not exist. I want to emphasize their elite qualifications to all those who have submitted and will submit manuscripts to us. Rest assured that, while their standards of quality are high, they are reviewing with a positive, helpful approach and not seeking to randomly and arbitrarily screen.

As I stated, I am indeed happy (as well as relieved) with the results of this first issue, but

I know we can do it better and better as the future. This issue was as much of a learning process as anything, and I intend to help streamline our processes for quicker manuscript turnaround in the future.

To that end, we are working on an author submission mechanism for the next call for papers that will help the process. I've also learned a few things (I think) about timing of the processes, so I believe that will help move things along better next time.

Very soon, we will also soon be seeking to fulfill our promise of aggressive indexing, which we could not do until we had our initial issue published. We think this will be an important, multifaceted initiative that can boost the credibility of our authors by boosting the reach and scope of our journal.

For those of you interested in such statistics, we received 18 manuscripts and are publishing 6 of them for a publication acceptance rate of 33%.

However, I want to emphasize that *JSAS* will not concern itself with this statistic whatsoever, either now or in the future. Nor will we be seeking to establish some sort of normal percentage benchmark. In fact, the only reason I'm disclosing it is for reporting purposes for those seeking tenure and/or promotion.

One of the reasons we founded *JSAS* was because we believed that too much solid, practical research was not being published for one reason or another. We will remain committed to publishing quality pieces as judged by a quality review board because we do not believe that low acceptance rates equate to publication quality.

Simply stated, in the next review period, if we receive 10 manuscripts for review, and eight of them are deemed acceptable, we will publish

eight articles. If two of them are deemed acceptable, we will publish two articles.

As with most things related to an inaugural issue of a journal, we were also a bit nervous about the quality of the manuscripts we would receive and subsequently publish. However, I think you'll agree that the six articles published reflect a solid level of practical scholarship.

One way we will seek to enhance the quality of submissions is the Editor's Choice Award, given to what our editorial staff feels is the most outstanding manuscript within the issue.

The choice was a difficult one, but we kept coming back to Robert Clark and Paul Batista's article "Do BCS National Championships Lead To Recruiting Violations?"

Clark and Batista do a fantastic job of examining one of the most intriguing dilemmas of intercollegiate athletics and offer some insight into the issue through their empirical examination of the fruit of the win-at-all-cost mentality in college sports.

Another great aspect of *JSAS* is that we formulated it to allow for some other creative elements that will allow us to accomplish our mission and fulfill our vision. In this issue, we are featuring two elements that we feel will enhance the journal: an excerpt from the book *A Nation of Wimps*, written by Hara Estroff Marano, and the inclusion of an article from College Athletics Clips ([www.collegeathleticsclips.com](http://www.collegeathleticsclips.com)) published by Nick Infante.

Ms. Marano's book takes a riveting look at a phenomenon that (sooner or later) affects all levels of sport: hyper-concerned, micro-scrutinizing parents who go to ludicrous lengths to take the lumps and bumps out of life for their children. As a result, their well-intended efforts have the opposing effect of making kids more fragile and create a platform upon which parents seek status and meaning for themselves through the achievements of their children.

Mr. Infante's site does an outstanding job of distilling tons of information about intercollegiate athletics to provide executive summaries of college athletics news and issues with value-added commentary. If you're even remotely interested in keeping abreast of intercollegiate athletics issues but (like me) don't have time to read everything that's published about it, CAC could be the perfect resource for you, just as it is for dozens of college athletic directors and presidents (and some fairly enlightened professors, too!). I encourage you to check into it.

In closing, as *JSAS* editor, I want to encourage anyone who has any suggestions for improvement to please contact me at [bgoss@jsasonline.org](mailto:bgoss@jsasonline.org). Our purpose is to be the best journal we can possibly be, and that will remain a collective effort.

Please enjoy our first issue, and feel free to distribute its contents far and wide.