

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

The 1924 Paris Olympics saved the Games. Can this year's event repeat that success?

The Guardian, David Goldblatt, Sun 21 Apr 2024

Paris 1924 was the sixth and last Olympics presided over by Baron de Coubertin, the modern movement's founder. [...]

Above all, the Games remained the preserve of amateur athletic gentlemen – aristocrats, college kids and military officers – performing what the baron eulogised as “a display of manly virtue”.

But therein lay a problem. At the 1920 Antwerp Games, the public had stayed away in droves from the amateur efforts of the gentlemen athletes, swimmers, gymnasts and the rest. The exclusion of women had led to the creation of a whole new movement, which had staged its own women's Olympics every year since 1921. The workers' sports movement, four million strong across the industrialised world, would stage its own inaugural Workers' Olympics in Frankfurt in 1925... [...].

The significance of Paris 1924 was that, in all of these domains it offered a sporting riposte to the growing challenges.

Women made up less than 5% of the 3,000 athletes in Paris and were permitted to compete only in swimming, diving and tennis. But for the first time they grabbed some headlines and reshaped perceptions of women and sport.

The American Sybil Bauer, for example, smashed the men's world record in the 440-yard backstroke prior to the Paris Games, and across America there were calls for her to take on the men at the Olympics. It didn't happen, but she took the women's gold medal and broke the Olympic sprint record. [...]

There were plenty of gentlemen athletes at the Games, but now they had challengers. Harold Osborn, whose gold medals in the high jump and decathlon made him the athlete of the Games, came from a farming family in rural Illinois. American swimmer Johnny Weissmuller, born in Romania, grew up in the slums of Chicago before three gold medals in Paris and a turn in Hollywood as Tarzan took him to Beverly Hills.

The British runners Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell [...] broke the model of British aristocratic athletics. Abrahams, despite a privileged middle-class background, including the army and Oxbridge, was Jewish and therefore a victim of prejudice. Liddell was from more lowly clerical stock...[...]

Today the Olympic movement faces challenges greater than in 1924: declining TV ratings, a lack of interest from the world's youth, a track record of urban and environmental disasters. Today's athletes are considerably more diverse, no less superhuman, and in the best of their performances, no less accomplished. It remains to be seen whether that will be enough for a second Paris Games to save the Olympics, but I doubt it.

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Épreuve orale d'ANGLAIS

Sujet n° 3

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

Less than half of Australian children who experience violence in sport tell an adult, world-first study finds

The Guardian, Natasha May Sun 22 Oct 2023

[...] Research led by Victoria University, *Telling adults about it*, which was published on Monday in the journal *Sport in Society*, found that of children who had experienced interpersonal violence from their coach, peers or parent in Australian community sport, only 46% told an adult about it. Dr Mary Woessner, the co-lead author of the study, said interpersonal violence refers to psychological, physical, sexual, or neglectful violence, bullying and harassment that happens in and around the sporting environment. [...]

In a study released last year based on the same survey results, the researchers revealed the high rates of interpersonal violence among 82% of children playing community sport in Australia. To understand how often children told adults about these experiences, the researchers added a question after each of the survey's sections divided based on perpetrator (peer, coach, and two on parents) that asked participants if they had disclosed that experience to anyone over the age of 18.

Those who had experienced peer violence were the most likely to tell an adult about it (35%), followed by coach (27%) and those who had experienced it from a parent were least likely (13%). One example of interpersonal violence experienced from a parent included children who were completely ignored on the drive home after a poor sporting performance, Woessner said.

The study also included a second component interviewing six participants [...] to explore how children's disclosures of these incidents occur.

The researchers found there were two processes children went through. The first was an internal one as children decided whether to make the disclosure. "They're weighing up is this bad enough? How is everyone else responding to this? Is this normal?" Woessner said. "They don't want to speak up because they're worried what will happen to their sport, their sport family. They're also worried what will happen to the person that they report." The study found when an adult – either a parent or the coach – were the perpetrator of the violence, participants found it more challenging to address dissatisfaction, often because they were authority figures in the child's life who they viewed with a lot of respect.

The second part was the external process of the child telling the adult. "The majority of participants shared that their disclosures to parents or a coach were often dismissed, disbelieved or diminished with the adult pushing the child to take responsibility for themselves and be 'resilient'," the study found.

Dr Aurélie Pankowiak, the other co-lead, said the normalisation of violence in sports emerged as a theme of the study, discouraging children from speaking up and making it more likely adults would dismiss the disclosure.

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Épreuve orale d'ANGLAIS

Sujet n° 4

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

MeToo exposed the abuse of women in Spain. It took football and #SeAcabó to spark a revolution

The Guardian, María Ramírez
Mon 28 Aug 2023

“*Se acabó*” (in Spanish, “it’s over”). Those words were used by Alexia Putellas and other Fifa Women’s World Cup champions on social media just before all of them announced they would not return to play for the national team if the current leadership remained in place. By Sunday night, #SeAcabó was on the jerseys of Sevilla men’s football team and was a hashtag used by the UN, Spain’s government and athletes around the world to show support for the Spanish team. #SeAcabó was also used by women speaking up about abuse and bullying they have experienced.

Football players, politicians, singers and ordinary people showed solidarity with Jenni Hermoso [...] who received an unwanted kiss on the lips from her boss, the head of the Spanish football federation, Luis Rubiales, during the World Cup trophy ceremony. [...]

The team said “se acabó” after a beleaguered Rubiales ranted against Hermoso, the “scourge” of “fake feminism”, the Spanish deputy prime minister, the equality minister, journalists and inclusive language. Rubiales also said that touching his genitals after the win against England was a gesture of support for the team’s male coach (it is actually not a normal gesture in Spain, and he apologised for doing it when standing next to the queen and her 16-year-old daughter). All this happened after he and his team pressured Hermoso and her family, gave a version of events that she described as “categorically false” and denounced on live radio as “dumbass” and “dickhead” anyone who criticised him. The reverberations continue. Today, the authorities announced a preliminary sex abuse investigation.

“Se acabó” was a long time coming, after years of private and public complaints. In 2022, 15 players refused to play for the team after they confronted the coach, Jorge Vilda, over his approach, amid allegations of bullying, but failed to remove him. Rubiales called the players “extortioners” and “brats”, and 12 of them were not selected for the World Cup. [...]

Finally, this time was different. Male colleagues, coaches and sponsors supported the team. Chants asking Rubiales to resign were heard in stadiums around the country. Political leaders from left to right condemned Rubiales’ actions and asked for him to step down in an unusual display of consensus. Even the leader of the far right supported the calls for Rubiales’s resignation.

In Spain, we never saw with #MeToo what we are seeing now with #SeAcabó. Journalists uncovered abuses, as some women dared to speak out in strawberry-picking plants, universities, science labs and opera theatres, but the impact was not the same as it was in the US. People being abused were very reluctant to speak up, and media attention for those stories was often scarce.

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Épreuve orale d'ANGLAIS Sujet n° 5

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

Women in Sport's 40 years mark both progress and need to end inequality

Louise Taylor

The Guardian, Sun 2 Jun 2024

In what year were women allowed to compete in an Olympic marathon for the first time? The answer, 1984, may not only come as quite a shock but may help explain why a gamechanging charity was formed that spring.

As Women in Sport marks its 40th birthday, its chief executive, Stephanie Hilborne, is eager to celebrate the real progress over the past four decades while also emphasising why anyone assuming that sporting inequality belongs to the past is, sadly, very much mistaken.

The need to address inequality between the sexes in that particular sphere explains why a quintet of pioneers founded what was initially known as the Women's Sport Foundation. The term "male ally" had yet to enter feminist conversation, but the former England rugby union player Derek Wyatt, a future Labour MP, was already a powerful advocate of women's rights and convened a meeting with a quartet of influential women to establish a vehicle for change.

Dr Anita White, the 1975 World Cup-winning England hockey captain, is still heavily involved in Women in Sport and Baroness Sue Campbell, the England netball player and GB pentathlete turned outgoing head of women's football at the Football Association, has helped make England's Lionesses household names.

Professor Celia Brackenridge, once an outstanding GB lacrosse player, and the leading academic Dr Margaret Talbot have since died but their legacy lives on in the increased child protection measures for which Brackenridge campaigned so hard and the opportunities for disabled athletes promoted by Talbot.

All five helped transform a world that, in 1984, invariably involved horse racing mares gaining more mentions than female humans on the national sports pages. [...]

"We want this anniversary to increase understanding of the cruel exclusion of the past, to recognise the great people involved in making things better for women and to add momentum to the changes we still need," says Hilborne. [...]

The underlying difficulty is that gender stereotyping remains an inhibiting factor, responsible for persuading far too many young girls that team games are not for them. "Compared to a boy, the number of times a girl hears the words 'be careful' as they're growing up is amazing," says Hilborne. "If you say 'be careful' irrationally it instils fear." "Society needs to recognise under-11 gender stereotyping and understand how negative and widespread it is. One of our biggest challenges is educating parents, teachers and coaches to recognise stereotyping within themselves. We're making real progress, but it's amazing how slow it is. The stereotyping and misogyny need addressing. One solution is legislation against misogyny."

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Épreuve orale d'ANGLAIS

Sujet n° 6

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo Has a Lot Riding on the 2024 Olympics

By [Vivienne Walt / PARIS](#)

Time, May 2, 2024 7:05 AM EDT

When Paris kicks off the Olympic Games on July 26, it will be with athletes floating on an armada of boats down the Seine River, rather than marching in a stadium as it has always been. That will be the first of many breaks with Olympic tradition. Keenly aware that previous Games left cities like Rio de Janeiro and Athens deep in debt from white-elephant stadiums and arenas, Paris officials instead are turning adored monuments into competition sites, with equestrian events in the chateau of Versailles, beach volleyball under the Eiffel Tower—and most notable, diving and swimming in a newly cleaned-up Seine River, from which bathing has been banned for a century because of pollution. Seven years after Paris won the Olympics bid, it's ready to welcome about 15 million spectators.

A key figure behind the vision is Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, who, in 2015, drove Paris' fourth attempt to host the Olympics, clinching the deal on the promise of a sustainable, eco-friendly Games. The Spanish-born Hidalgo, 64 and a decade into her tenure, was determined to use the Olympics to push her environmental agenda, policies that have won plaudits around the world. Despite that, Hidalgo has faced biting criticism among many Parisians, who detect arrogance, and an inability to grasp workaday struggles. Taxi drivers fume at her decision to favor bicycles over cars, while others see Paris as increasingly a haven for the global rich. Hidalgo's presidential run in 2022, as the left-wing Socialist Party candidate, won a minuscule 1.75% of votes, and last month, about 68% of Parisians said they were dissatisfied with her performance; she regularly polls near the bottom on politicians' popularity ranks. "I don't care," she tells TIME.

To her critics, she points to the fact that she has accomplished what three predecessors—all men—failed to do: she has brought the Olympics to Paris. "A woman was needed," she says, literally cocking a thumb at her nose. "The feminist that I am is very happy with this." Sitting in her vast City Hall office on a sunny April afternoon, Hidalgo mused on how the Games can transform her internationally beloved city—as well as her own career.

Will the Olympics be your legacy as mayor?

It has allowed me to accelerate the city's transformation, to respond to environmental challenges. We have new tram lines, thanks to the Games, and all the trees and flower beds that go with that. [..]

And then there is the Seine [River], a swimmable, clean Seine. If there had not been the Games, we would not have that.

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Épreuve orale d'ANGLAIS

Sujet n° 7

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

As a queer sports fan, the World Cup was an incredible time. Why is the AFL* so different?

Rebecca Shaw

The Guardian, Thu 24 Aug 2023

**The AFL = The Australian Football League*

As a queer sports fan, the past few weeks have been incredible. I mean “queer sports fan” in both senses, by the way. I am queer, and I am a sports fan. I am also a fan of queer sports. Never in my 40 years of lesbian living on this Earth have I ever witnessed a more “queer sports” event than the Women’s World Cup (...).

Along with queer fans whipped into an absolute frenzy [...], this World Cup also had huge queer player representation. According to Outsports, at least 13% of athletes who attended the WC were out, along with three head coaches. [...]

As someone who has voluntarily watched a lot of men’s sport as well, the vibe of the World Cup was unmatched. This was for various reasons, but part of it was the effect of having an environment so completely accepting of queerness. For one, I never once felt in danger of hearing a gay slur be shouted in a crowd. It was a lovely reality to live in for a while, one where we allow athletes to be themselves and everyone is normal about it.

Unfortunately we all came crashing back down to Earth this week with the end of the World Cup, (...) and the release of a Four Corners investigation into the fact there has never been an openly queer player in the AFL. (...) I’m not going to get bogged down in the details, but during the report, ex-AFL player and now real estate agent Jason Akermanis said this about the situation: “Look, I personally don’t care one way or the other. As long as you don’t sort of throw it in my face or tell me where I’m not interested. I don’t go around telling people what I do in my private life.”

First of all, Jason, if you really didn’t care, you wouldn’t be asking gay people not to talk to you about their lives. If people really didn’t care, the AFL would be an environment where players felt OK to come out. But Akermanis summed up a bit of what I have been seeing in comment sections. *Who cares? Maybe the players are just private! Maybe they don’t want to talk about their sexuality at work?*

Let’s get something clear: being closeted is not the same as being private. It is not normal for people to have to hide their relationships. It is not fair that queer athletes in this situation have to decide to remain closeted, or be secretive or, alternatively, put themselves into the spotlight where they inevitably become a target of the culture wars and cop huge amounts of homophobia.

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Épreuve orale d'ANGLAIS

Sujet n° 8

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

Spain's fight for change after World Cup is bigger than sport – it's for all women

Suzanne Wrack

The Guardian, Sun 24 Sep 2023 09.00

In Spain more than 1.4 million people watched the RTVE broadcast of the world champions' first match since their triumph over England in Sydney 33 days ago. (...)

The impact of the Spanish women's team's fight has gone far beyond their shores and borders though, and that was reflected in a very visual way in the opening round of Nations League and other international fixtures. Wrapped around the wrists of many players were bands of tape with "*Se acabó*" (it's over) written on them in marker.

It was a coordinated effort; players clearly asked the Spaniards how they could show solidarity with their fight for respect and meaningful change in the federation after their World Cup win and the ensuing fallout resulting from the lewd actions of Luis Rubiales, the former Spanish football federation (RFEF) president. (...)

Players have protested, held sit-ins, defied bans, boycotted matches and used their voices in any way they can to push back on a plethora of issues that have arisen because history says women don't and shouldn't play football. The struggle of the Spanish players feels like a key moment in this rich history of struggle, the colliding of their "enough is enough" moment with a broader reckoning in society over women's rights.

Their struggle is a decades-long fight, but it took the footage of Rubiales planting a kiss on the lips of Jenni Hermoso, grabbing his crotch in celebration and lifting Athenea del Castillo over his shoulder being seen across the globe for their voices of dissent to be taken seriously. Why were they not taken seriously sooner? Why were they dismissed as axe-grinders, of holding vendettas, of it being similar to a manager losing the dressing room in the men's game, dismissed as a battle of wills?

Last week Channel 4's *Dispatches* broadcast horrific accusations of sexual assault and rape made against Russell Brand, which he denies. Littered in comments on social media and more broadly was the question: "Why didn't these women come forward sooner?" Just how joined up do the dots need to be? Look at Spain, look at what is happening right now, look at what it took for the Spanish players to have their complaints about the culture around the women's team to be believed. They have been consistently raising concerns publicly since the 2015 World Cup and have been exiled and pilloried over and over again.

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Épreuve orale d'ANGLAIS

Sujet n° 9

Résumez et commentez le texte ci-dessous

Inside anti-doping's civil war: anger and suspicion spill into the open

The Guardian Sean Ingle
Sun 28 Apr 2024

At its glitzy 25th anniversary gala in Lausanne last month, the World Anti-Doping Agency screened a slick montage highlighting how it had changed sport for the better. There were images of Muhammad Ali defying Parkinson's to light the Olympic flame and Pelé lifting the World Cup, before a history lesson – and a promise. “Today Wada is a more representative, accountable and transparent organisation,” explained its director general, Olivier Niggli, “that truly has athletes at the heart of everything we do.”

Not everyone in the room was buying it [...]. However, frustrations with Wada were largely limited to corridor conversations. It turned out to be the relative calm before the thermonuclear storm.

Everything then changed last Saturday when an ARD/New York Times investigation revealed that 23 Chinese swimmers had tested positive for the banned heart drug trimetazidine (TMZ) before the Tokyo Olympics – only to be quietly cleared after the Chinese Anti-Doping Agency found their hotel kitchen had been contaminated. If that wasn't explosive enough, the chief executive of US Anti-Doping, Travis Tygart, then turned the finger of blame on Wada and Chinada for having “swept those positives under the carpet by failing to fairly and evenly follow the global rules that apply to everyone else in the world”.

Tygart has form for speaking his mind – most notably on Russia – and Wada has tended to ignore him or issue an anodyne response. Not this time. Instead it retaliated by accusing Tygart of “outrageous, completely false and defamatory remarks”.

And with that, years of pent-up frustrations, suspicion and anger – on both sides – spilled out into the open. A week on, anti-doping's civil war is showing no sign of abating. And increasingly there is a sense that this row is not just about the fate of 23 Chinese swimmers, but the heart and soul of the anti-doping movement too.

First, though, those swimmers – and why Wada didn't challenge the findings by the Chinese authorities. Here Wada's position is clear but contested. It says it had “no evidence to challenge the environmental contamination scenario that led to Chinada closing these cases in June 2021” – and that it was advised by external counsel that it would lose any appeal at the court of arbitration for sport (Cas) based on such a challenge.

However, Tygart's Usada and its allies argue that Wada is not being transparent and hasn't shown enough investigative zeal, and question why it didn't press the Chinese intelligence services over why it took two months to find TMZ in the hotel kitchen.