

THE HISTORY OF SPORTS

776 B.C. - Year of the first Olympics Games in Olympia, Greece.

1876 - Spalding Sporting Goods, founded by Albert Spalding, becomes the most iconic sports brand for equipment today and has been for 137 years.

1942 - Wat Misaka becomes the first Asian American to play in the NBA during World War II. Being one of the few Japanese released from the internment camps, Misaka follows his passion becomes an NBA player, serving as a role model for Asian-American youth.

1947 - Jackie Robinson is the first African American admitted into Major League Baseball, resulting in the rise of more minorities inspired to enter the league. His number was retired in 1997.

1964 - Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) wins the world boxing title after being banned for nearly 3 years for not drafting into the army. Clay became the harbinger of civil rights by refusing to enter the draft.

1970 - Honduras and El Salvador play in the preliminary round of the FIFA World Cup, fueled existing tension between each country. This sparked the outbreak of a war that resulted in 1000 deaths.

1971 - China invites the U.S. Table Tennis team to play to show sporting events are capable of being a diplomatic tool.

1972 - Palestinian terrorists seize and kills 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympic Games, leading to retaliation and bloodshed that results in 11 deaths, one of which was innocent life.

1999 - The U.S. Women's soccer team wins the World Cup after playing against China, emphasizing the importance of women playing in sports during the feminist movement.

2012 - Michael Phelps wins his 22nd medal, making him the most decorated athlete in recorded history.

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MOOR graphic by GEN THIPATIMA

Every country has its own traditional sports that bring pride, passion and joy to its people. Originating over three thousand years ago, sports provides nations opportunities to break cultural boundaries and allows its people to focus on what unites them.

The world of sports has changed greatly throughout the years. For example, early sports began as chariot races, sword duels and discus competitions that evolved into contemporary forms, such as basketball, baseball, swimming and other sports. There are currently 442 recognized sports in the world and, even though the numbers have continued to increase, the effects sports has on people remains the same.

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Bare Feet to Sweet Cleats Sports Around the Clock

Over the course of history, humans have learned how to create fire, cultivate land and adapt to different harsh climates. Along with evolution, humans began to use their skills sets to demonstrate their physical capabilities in athletic events.

Sports are one of mankind's first forms of entertainment. The earliest forms of sport, depicted in thousand-year-old cave paintings in the Middle East, included activities such as swimming, sprinting and wrestling. Over time, more sporting events were created. In ancient Greece, the first recorded Olympic Games were held in 776 B.C.

"It is the inspiration of the Olympic Games that drives people [to] not only to compete but to improve, and to bring [...] inspiration to those lucky enough to witness the athletic dedication", 1960 Olympic gold medalist Herb Elliot said.

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-Herb Elliot

Children and adults alike began to find creative ways to play the games to develop beloved sporting games. In fact, most of today's sports were created during the 1800s. According to a legend, the modern game of rugby was created when William W. Ellis picked up a football during a match and began to run with it. The game of baseball was invented in 1845 by Alexander Cartwright and is known as America's national pastime. The game of basketball was first played with a soccer ball and peach basket.

For the next century, athletics underwent many developments that shaped them into the games we enjoy today. Rubber bladders would become Adidas soccer balls. Converse would become Air Jordans. However, the future of athletics is uncertain as new technologies introduced to the sports world.

Sports are humanity's way of creating friendly competition while building character and dedication. They help people gain a sense of accomplishment and establish a lasting impact on future generations.

As human history progresses, the future brings exciting changes and innovations. The sports world is no exception. From baseball to lacrosse and tennis to soccer, sports are constantly improving and gaining more prominence.

The dynamism and pageantry sports have is what ultimately draws in viewers and fans. For example, the endless action that college football brings is making it quickly catch up to professional baseball as America's second most popular sport behind professional football. Soccer is proving to be a "high-demand" sport in the United States as the Major Soccer League is expanding with the additions of international players and thrilling match ups. Also, being recently dubbed as one of America's fastest growing sports, lacrosse's participation rate has increased 218.1 percent in the last decade because it appeals to both males and females, according to *Yahoo! Sports*. Moreover, the addition of golf and rugby as Olympic sports them highly participated for the

ing 2016 summer Olympics in Rio. These sports are growing explosively and attracting more and more supporters. As the world's attention turns to sports, popularity and worldwide enthusiasm will only continue to grow.

Through the years, advancements in athletic medicine, technology and equipment have improved the play of sports. makes both a n - events com -

Throughout the years, advancements in athletic medicine, technology and equipment have improved the way sports are played. It is important that athletes are being treated with great care since they are prone to injury. According to *Forbes* magazine, Canadian doctors have found more efficient ways to manage concussions, one of the most common sports injuries. In other fields of technology, Major League Baseball is currently working on revising the replay system that will give managers more power in giving calls. A recent advancement in sports equipment includes a high-tech tennis racket that uses fewer cross strings to control how a racket gives off more spin, power and force. These advancements enhance how athletes can compete and prove to be gateways to each sport's future success.

The evolution of each sport has helped the sports world thrive, improve and flourish. Empowering and entertaining fans along the way, it is only a matter of time for what is to come.

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MOOR graphics by SYDNEY LI and SIMON ZHAO

DEAR READERS,

The Moor is returning to its roots of being a weekly publication (wish us luck)! However, we will only distribute hard copies every other week. For the weeks in between,

please visit www.themoornewspaper.com for that week's current issue. Thank you for your continued readership and support! We look forward to a wonderful year.

Sincerely,
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