

Battle of Sexes

Capitalism, Hegemonic Patriarchy, and Transphobia in Sports

Aaron A. Toscano

Associate Professor of English

University of North Carolina at Charlotte



Women in Southern Military Academies

Mid-1990s Flashpoints

- The Citadel
- Virginia Military Institute

T-Shirts and Bumper Stickers

- “Better Dead Than Coed”
- “Women at VMI...What’s Next Men at UVA?”

Arguments Against Integrating Women

- Water down military readiness
- Hurt morale
- Physiological Differences

Women in Armed Services

Clockwise from Top Right

- Ukrainian Soldiers
- Israeli Soldiers
- US Marines



Sports in Culture

Major Sports Leagues—Big Business

- National Football League (NFL) — \$13 Billion
- Major League Baseball (MLB) — \$10 Billion
- National Basketball Association (NBA) — \$7.4 Billion

Source: Dusan Randjelovic <https://apsportseditors.org/others/most-profitable-sports-leagues/>

Top Salaries National Basketball Association (NBA)

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| • Stephen Curry, PG | Golden State Warriors | \$45,780,966 |
| • James Harden, SG | Philadelphia 76ers | \$44,310,840 |
| • John Wall, PG | Houston Rockets | \$44,310,840 |

Top Salaries Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA)

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| • Loyd Jewell, G | Seattle Storm | \$228,094 |
| • Breanna Stewart, F | Seattle Storm | \$228,094 |
| • Diana Taurasi, G | Phoenix Mercury | \$228,094 |

Sources: NBA Player Salaries - 2021-2022. ESPN.com. <http://www.espn.com/nba/salaries>
WNBA Salary Rankings. Spotrac.com. <https://www.spotrac.com/wnba/rankings/>

Lia Thomas, UPENN Swimmer

- Ivy League Championship Wins (February 2022)
 - 100-yard Freestyle
 - 200-yard Freestyle
 - 500-yard Freestyle
- NCAA Championship Win (March 2022)
 - 500 Freestyle...that's it
 - Time—4:33.24, which is 9 secs behind the record
 - Stanford's Katie Ledecky holds the record of 4:24.06 (2017)

WOMEN'S NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS – TOP 3 FINISHERS

	1ST	2ND	3RD
50 Freestyle	Kate Douglass (Virginia), 20.84*	Gretchen Walsh (Virginia), 20.95	Maggie MacNeil (Michigan), 21.38
100 Freestyle	Gretchen Walsh (Virginia), 46.05	Morgan Scott (Alabama), 46.78	Katharine Berkoff (NC State), 46.95
200 Freestyle	Taylor Ruck (Stanford), 1:41.12	Isabel Ivey (Cal), 1:41.59	Kelly Pash (Texas), 1:42.38
500 Freestyle	Lia Thomas (Penn), 4:33.24	Emma Weyant (Virginia), 4:34.99	Erica Sullivan (Texas), 4:35.92
1650 Freestyle	Paige McKenna (Wisconsin), 15:40.84	Erica Sullivan (Texas), 15:45.94	Kensey McMahon (Alabama), 15:47.60
100 Backstroke	Katharine Berkoff (NC State), 48.74*	Gretchen Walsh (Virginia), 49.00	Regan Smith (Stanford), 49.96
200 Backstroke	Regan Smith (Stanford), 1:47.76	Phoebe Bacon (Wisconsin), 1:49.29	Rhyan White (Alabama), 1:49.36
100 Breaststroke	Kaitlyn Dobler (USC), 56.93	Alexis Wenger (Virginia), 56.97	Sophie Hansson (NC State), 57.01
200 Breaststroke	Kate Douglass (Virginia), 2:02.19*	Anna Elendt (Texas), 2:04.31	Sophie Hansson (NC State), 2:04.76
100 Butterfly	Kate Douglass (Virginia), 49.04**	Torri Huske (Stanford), 49.17	Maggie MacNeil (Michigan), 49.18
200 Butterfly	Alex Walsh (Virginia), 1:50.79	Olivia Carter (Michigan) / Regan Smith (Stanford), 1:51.19	–
200 IM	Alex Walsh (Virginia), 1:50.08*	Torri Huske (Stanford), 1:51.81	Isabel Ivey (Cal), 1:53.02
400 IM	Alex Walsh (Virginia), 3:57.25	Brooke Forde (Stanford), 4:00.41	Ella Nelson (Virginia), 4:02.45

*8th Place in 100 Free at 48.18

Friedrich Nietzsche

Acknowledging the problematic legacy of Nietzsche...

- Misogynistic Statements—for effect or core to his philosophy?
- Seen as wanting to stamp out “weaklings”—or is it weak thinking?
- Defaulting to Male Pronouns
I’m trying to preserve his language and not advocating a generic “he” pronoun.

- Supporting Hypermasculine Misreadings

DC’s Superman

Tyler Durden in *Fight Club* (1999)

Nazism

- Will to Power...God is Dead...



Übermensch, Überfrau, Überperson

Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for All and None (1883)

- “They have left the regions where it was hard to live; for one needs warmth” (13)
- “A little poison now and then: that makes pleasant dreams. And much poison at last for a pleasant death” (14)
- “One still works, for work is a pastime. But one is careful lest the pastime should hurt one” (14)
- “Everyone wants the same; everyone is the same: whoever feels different goes willingly into the madhouse” (14)
- “Is your soul not poverty and pollution and wretched self-contentment? Truly, a polluted stream is man” (10)

Scholars...Comfortable People

Thus Spoke Zarathustra: A Book for All and None (1883)

- “I love freedom and the air over fresh soil....” (109)
- “[Scholars] sit coolly in the cool shade: they want to be mere spectators in everything and they take care not to sit where the sun burns on the steps” (109)
- “They are good clocks: only be careful to wind them up properly! Then they indicate the hour without mistake and making a modest noise” (109)
- “it is time for man to set himself a goal....to plant the germ of his highest hope” (13)

Many hold onto the “comfort” of the male-female gender binary.

Is there a chance for collectivism without conformity?

Competitive swimming is an interesting metaphor for this because of the individual events and overall team score.

Future Directions

- Deeper Capitalist Critique
- Rhetorical Analysis of Transphobic Comments
- *Title IX* Alongside the Anti-Transgender Sports Laws
- Assumptions about the Magic of Testosterone
- Funding College Sports—especially for the South
- Women's Human Rights Campaign's (WHRC)
Declaration on Women's Sex Based Rights
<https://womensdeclaration.com/en/declaration-womens-sex-based-rights-full-text/>

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