Annual Meeting in Montreal, March 26 To 28; Be There

Program chair Jay Mechling is putting the finishing touches on arrangements for the TASP annual meetings to be held in Montreal, Quebec in conjunction with the Popular Culture Association. TASP sessions will begin on the morning of Thursday, March 26 and will conclude by 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 28. A wine and cheese reception will be held on Wednesday evening for those who arrive early.

As usual, the sessions will cover a variety of topics related to play, games, recreation and leisure. Appropriately for meetings being held in Montreal, there will be several sessions featuring research on urban traditions and festivals. Other sessions deal with everything from animal play to the study of toys and games.

Headquarters for the conference is Le Chateau Champlain, 1 Place du Canada, Montreal, Quebec H3B 4C9. Rates are $90 Canadian for single rooms, $105 Canadian for doubles. (The current rate of exchange is 72 cents on the dollar). When making travel plans to Montreal, keep in mind that there are two airports: Dorval is close to the city center, while Mirabel is

Schechner To Deliver Keynote Address In Montreal

A highlight of the Montreal meetings should be the keynote address to be delivered by Richard Schechner, Professor of Performance Studies at New York University and author of the recent book Between Theatre and Anthropology (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1985). The topic of the address will be "Play and the Performative Genres." TASP keynote addresses in the past have been delivered by such diverse scholars as Sir Edmund Leach, Robert Coles, and Gershon Legmon, and Professor Schechner may be counted upon to provide us with still another perspective on the study of play. He has experience as a theatre director, and he has worked with anthropologists in playscripting ethnographic texts. In addition to delivering the keynote address, Professor Schechner will direct a performance of "Clothes," using our own members as his dramatis personae. One can only anticipate with delight the acting talents of Sutton-Smith, Mechling, Blanchard, Manning, et al..

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Montreal Meeting...

much more distant from the city center.

Registration for the conference is $25, and pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Send your registration fee to TASP Treasurer Garry Chick, Children's Research Center, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL 61820.

Registration through TASP also allows one to participate in the PCA sessions which cover an incredible variety of topics from AIDS in society, to literature, mass media, outdoor recreation, and pets.

TAASP Becomes TASP

The TAASP Council has voted to change the name of our organization to The Association for the Study of Play (TASP). The new name reflects more accurately the multi-disciplinary nature of our membership. Council members feel the new name will present a broader base for the organization as we launch our journal. (See related story this page.)

TASP To Publish Journal Beginning In 1988; Chick Appointed Editor

President Frank Manning and other members of the Editorial Board have been in negotiation over the past six months with Rainer Martens of Human Kinetics Press concerning publication of a new journal. As those negotiations are nearly complete, it seems safe to announce with confidence that the TASP journal, to be entitled Play & Culture, will be published by Human Kinetics Press with Volume 1, Number 1 scheduled for publication in early 1988. Garry Chick has been appointed editor of the journal. Garry is in the process of setting up an editorial board in consultation with the TASP Council and Human Kinetics Press. He promises to supply us with a progress report at the Montreal meetings.

Hilliard Takes On Role Of Newsletter Editor

In 1985, TASP Newsletter Editor Anne Marie Guilmette only somewhat facetiously expressed concern over whether the Newsletter would be published in 1986. In 1986 she expressed great joy in the fact that the Newsletter would not be published under her editorship and reported that Dan Hilliard had been named to a three year term as editor. In recent months some of you may have looked longingly in your mailboxes and wondered if the Newsletter would make it to Volume 13 under Hilliard's editorship. Well, Volume 13, Number 1 is finally before you, and both its appearance and content are quite different from the volumes that preceded it. I will not bother you with an explanation of the delays, but I do feel the need to assure you that a regular schedule of Newsletter production can and will be established. I also want to take this opportunity, before the Montreal meetings, to express my opinion

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TASP Proceedings Volume 10
Now In Print

*Cultural Dimensions of Play, Games, and Sport*, edited by Bernard Mergen, is the latest edition of TASP proceedings available from Human Kinetics Press. It contains nineteen contributions, ranging from studies of children's play to travel to athletics, and including Bernard DeKoven's keynote address on video games.

TASP Annuals In Production

Beginning in 1985, TASP replaced published proceedings of its annual meeting with an annual publication, inviting submissions from those doing research in the field of play, regardless of whether the research was presented at the annual meetings. Two volumes in this series are now in the publication process. The 1985 TASP annual, *Playful Meaning, Meaningful Play*, edited by Gary Alan Fine will be released soon, having passed the galley proofs stage. The 1986 Annual, edited by Frank Manning, is also well along. Submissions were reviewed and contributions selected during the summer. Both volumes will be published by Human Kinetics Press. Watch for publication announcements.

Catalog of Canadian Leisure Research

In keeping with a tradition established at past Canadian Congresses, a Catalogue of Canadian Research from 1984 to 1986 is being compiled. If you have done research which should be included, contact Dr. T. L. Burton, Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada T6G 2H9.

New Book On Children's Play

Gordon and Breach has recently published a set of articles on children's play originally appearing in the journal *Early Childhood Development and Care*. The anthology entitled *Children's Play: Research Developments and Practical Applications* is edited by Peter K. Smith of the University of Sheffield. It includes articles on exploratory play, symbolic play, and play therapy, as well as many others.

Books From The Continent

Brian Sutton-Smith has brought to my attention two interesting books on play from European sources. The first, *Traditional Games and Children Today*, is edited by Ivan Ivic and published by the University of Belgrade in Yugoslavia. Brian reports that this book is the first attempt by the World Organization for Early Childhood Education to review the issues that exist in trying to form a canon of world games. The book includes materials from the Flemish folk game file and examples of games from Japan, Finland, and Africa.

The second, *Spele Weerom*, is a booklet on children's games containing handsome illustrations and edited by Erik De Vroede and Bart Eelborde; it is published in Belgium by Uitgeverij Pelckmans, De Nederlandse Bokhandel, Kapelsestraat 222, 2080 Kapellen.
Indiana University Conference

Joyce Hendrixson, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University at Indianapolis is serving as program chair for the conference "Sports and Leisure in Culture," to be held March 5-7 at the Hilton on the Circle Hotel in Indianapolis. The program features Harry Edwards, Arthur Ashe, Anya Peterson Royce, Richard Lapchick and our own Kendall Blanchard, Garry Chick, Frank Manning, and Brian Sutton-Smith, among others. Registration is $25. Interested persons may contact Professor Hendrixson at (317) 274-2152.

Canadian Congress on Leisure Research

The Fifth Canadian Congress on Leisure Research will be held May 20-23 at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Included will be a special student program on May 19-20. Keynote speakers for this international Congress will be Ken Roberts of the University of Liverpool, Theo Beckers of the University of Wageningen, The Netherlands, and Mihalyi Csikszentmihalyi of the University of Chicago. John C. Pooley is serving as chair of the organizing committee. He can be reached through the Division of Leisure Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3J5, phone (902) 424-2152. If interested in the student program, contact Ken Bagnell at the same address and phone number.

Illinois Seeks Cultural Kinesiologist

The University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana is seeking applications for a tenure track position at the rank of Assistant Professor for a person with primary interest in the socio-cultural area of movement studies. The position entails both teaching and research. Applicants should have training in the socio-cultural analysis of physical activity in both primitive and advanced societies; the Ph. D. is required. Applications must be received by February 15, 1987. Applications, including resume and names of three references, should be sent to: John W. Loy, Department of Physical Education, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, 129A Freer Hall, 906 S. Goodwin Ave., Urbana IL 61801. Professor Loy's phone is (217) 333-1083.

WHIM Conference In April

Those who remember fondly last year's TASP conference in Tempe, Arizona in conjunction with WHIM (World Humor and Irony Membership) will be interested to know that WHIM will be holding another conference on the Arizona State campus, this one April 1-5, 1987 on the topic "Humor -- The World's Common Language." If you dare spend April Fool's Day with these pranksters, head straight from Montreal to the Arizona sun. Registration is $25. For program information contact Don Nilsen, English Department, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287.

PLAY THINGS: Professional Activities in Play Study
Sport In The Third World

Sociologist Eric A. Wagner, who has studied sport in Cuba and Central America, is editing a book on sport in the Third World. He is seeking contributions on sport in Africa and Asia. The book will contain chapters on sport in individual nations; chapters should contain material on the history of sport, organization, levels of participation, and international competition. If interested in contributing to this work, please contact Professor Wagner, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701.

Editor's Views...

of the role of the Newsletter and its Editor in our organization. Before doing that, however, I want to pay a brief tribute to Anne Marie Guilmette for her service to the organization, the degree of which I did not fully appreciate until I tried to take on the job myself.

In recent years, with the growth of interest in play studies but in the absence of a journal devoted to the subject, our Newsletter has served a dual role. It has served as a newsletter but also as a quasi-journal, containing not only organization news but also scholarly pieces ranging from book reviews to full length articles. As a result our newsletter was more lengthy than most. The job of the editor was to get before our members a great deal of material that could not be included in our proceedings or annuals. This the editor was asked to do with limited budget and staff. If we look back at the quantity and quality of materials conveyed to us in the Newsletter over the past few years, I think we must conclude that Anne Marie served us above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you, Anne Marie, for a job well done. Thanks also to Kendall Blanchard, who has handled the printing and mailing tasks.

I referred earlier to the changes in both substance and appearance in this issue. The change in substance is in part accidental -- in the change of editorship, few people knew to send me contributions, and not knowing exactly what to expect, I did not solicit any. However, the change is also in part intentional and reflects my view of what the Newsletter should become as we move toward the publication of a journal in 1988. Eventually, it should become a newsletter in the more conventional sense. It should be printed in a style that is easy to read; it should be brief but should give the reader a complete and clear picture of TASP activities; its focus should be on materials that would not appear in the journal. This volume represents a transition, however, and I hope to have some more scholarly and less "newsy" content in the remaining issues this year. In the long run, I hope to develop a newsletter that will contain concise information in four areas: 1) TASP business and activities, especially our annual meeting, 2) publications in the field of play studies, 3) activities in related fields such as recreation and leisure, and 4) reports on the researches and activities of TASP members. The latter would rarely be fully developed scholarly articles, but might be reports on work in progress, requests for communications, or letters responding to the works of others. I would also like to report on teaching innovations, consulting activities, and coverage of members by the mass media.

The current issue is an attempt to move in the direction described above. My intention is certainly not to substitute form for substance. I hope readers will find the new newsletter attractive and enjoyable to read.

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Editor's Views...

I must admit that I have no formal training in either journalism or graphic design. I did study architecture for two years as an undergrad, but my instructors helped me to decide that my talents must lie elsewhere. I will be talking with as many TASP members as possible during the Montreal meetings, both to solicit material for future issues of the Newsletter and to get your suggestions about format. I welcome all manner of comments, from content to typeface to color of paper.

Finally I must say that there is the possibility that we will lose in this editorial change some of the humor that has been a hallmark of the organization. Anne Marie's own sparkling wit contributed greatly to the quality of the Newsletter in the past, as did the humor of Frank Manning, Kendall Blanchard, Brian Sutton-Smith, and others.

I'm afraid I'm not much of a bard; my own experience with poetry is limited to dirty limericks composed after rugby matches. I hope I may feel free to call on various of you to lend a touch of levity from time to time.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with contributions or suggestions; address and phone are listed below:

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