



The Gandhian Forum *for Peace & Justice*
William Paterson University

presents

Dave Zirin

Sports Writer, Columnist, and Radio Host

speaking on

Sports and Resistance

Tuesday, March 4, 2014, 12:30-1:45 pm

Shea Auditorium

William Paterson University

Sports—from the school yard, to college athletics, to professional teams, to the Olympics—provide exercise and entertainment to millions. But sports are also big business. And sports is a social institution that both reflects and confronts many of our most pressing social problems, like racism, sexism, homophobia, and corporate domination.

Sports is thus a social justice question and an arena in which social justice struggles take place. Do sports treat people of all races equally? Are women's sports funded and promoted in the same way as men's sports? Are gays and lesbians second-class athletes? Do team owners subordinate the enjoyment of sports to their profits? How have athletes been able to challenge injustice in sports and in the larger society?

No one is better equipped to discuss these sorts of issues than Dave Zirin.

Dave Zirin is a sports writer, sports columnist, and sports radio host. He is the author of seven books:

- *Game Over: How Politics Has Turned the Sports World Upside Down* (2012). *Sports Illustrated* said this book “will make you think about what we’re really seeing when we watch the games we love.”
- *The John Carlos Story: The Sports Moment that Changed the World* (2011). Co-authored with John Carlos, nominated for the NAACP Image Award.
- *Bad Sports: How Owners are Ruining the Games We Love* (2010).
- *A People's History of Sports in the United States: 250 Years of Politics, Protest, People, and Play* (2008), which forms the basis of a documentary co-written and narrated by Zirin called *Not Just A Game: Power, Politics and American Sports*. He has a second documentary called *Race, Power, and Politics in American Sports*.
- *Welcome to the Terrordome: The Pain, Politics, and Promise of Sports* (2007).
- *The Muhammad Ali Handbook* (2007).



• *What's My Name, Fool? Sports and Resistance in the United States* (2005).

Dave Zirin writes about the politics of sports for the *Nation Magazine*, for *SLAM Magazine*, and for the *Progressive*. He is the winner of Sport in Society and Northeastern University School of Journal-

ism's 'Excellence in Sports Journalism' Award, and has been called “the best sportswriter in the United States,” by Robert Lipsyte. Zirin is also the host of Sirius XM Radio's popular weekly show, *Edge of Sports Radio*.

Dave Zirin knows sports and he knows about social justice.

All Are Welcome! Free Admission

Following the talk: A panel at which students comment on the presentation and Dave Zirin responds (Shea 101, 2:00-3:00 pm)

For more information, please contact Prof. Steve Shalom at 973-720-3433, shaloms@wpunj.edu

Co-sponsored by the Departments of Kinesiology, Political Science, Africana World Studies, and Women's & Gender Studies, the Race and Gender Project, the Women's Center, the Latin American and Latino/a Studies Program, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, the College of Education, the Cotsakos College of Business, and the Office of the Provost