

Homework Assignment #1: Economics of Sports 229

Due Tuesday, January 29

Assignment #1 is a combined homework and in-class assignment known as a “Jigsaw Reading.”

Each student in the class will select one of three journal articles. The titles and authors of the articles are listed below.

The homework portion of the assignment is as follows:

- You should read your selected article.
- You will turn in a two page summary of the article which answers the basic questions of what is the main idea of the article and what do you feel the author wants his audience to learn.
- Your summary should also include your own opinions about the conclusions of the author. Do you think the assumptions and the conclusions of the author are correct?

The in-class portion of the assignment is as follows:

- During class we will break up into eight groups. Each group will include at least one person from each article.
- Each member of the group will make a brief presentation (about ten minutes) outlining the main point of their article to the other members of the group. Each presenter should leave a little time for questions from the group.
- After the small group session is done, each person will turn in paper which briefly explains the issues raised by each other article and the conclusions of each author.
- The in-class portion of the assignment is worth ½ of the points on the assignment, so you want to make sure you show up for the in-class portion of the assignment on Thursday, January 24.

You have your choice of the following articles which are available on the class website.
(<http://www.holycross.edu/departments/economics/vmatheso/>)

Walter Neale, 1964, “The Peculiar Economics of Professional Sports,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 78:1, pp. 1-14.

Gerald Scully, 1974, “Pay and Performance in Major League Baseball,” *American Economic Review*, 64:6, pp. 915-930.

Simon Rottenberg, 1956, “The Baseball Players’ Labor Market,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 64:3, pp. 242-258.

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What are the important issues raised by each article and what are the author's conclusions?

Neale:

Presenter: _____

(over)

Rottenberg:

Presenter: _____

Scully:

Presenter: _____