

Keith Rathbone '04 recently published his book *Sport and Physical Culture in Occupied France: Authoritarianism, Agency, and Everyday Life.*

The book offers a scholarly and reader-friendly account of the golden age of French sport during the Vichy regime. Keith says the book is based on wide and quite deep research in primary sources conducted in three regions of France: Paris and its environs, the Nord-Pas-de-Calais, and the Midi-Pyrénées.

In *Sport and Physical Culture in Occupied France*, Keith explores the growth of wartime French sports as a top-down and bottom-up

phenomenon. Between 1940 and 1944, the Vichy regime expanded the government's physical education and sports expenditures. Government ministers placed physical culture at the center of the state's ambitious program of national regeneration. A new Sports Ministry, the Commissariat général à l'éducation générale et aux sports, flourished under the leadership of the charismatic tennis superstar, Jean Borotra. Local and regional officials spent lavishly: hiring new gym teachers, sponsoring sporting associations, and building athletic facilities.

The state's dramatic investment inaugurated a golden age, but if the regime's growing intervention into physical culture suggests an expansion of state power, its reliance on local and regional stakeholders empowered ordinary people to organize, contest the political goals of the regime, acquire state resources, and use those funds for their own ends.

In looking at both state efforts to politicize sports as part of the National Revolution and individual and groups agency to complicate those state efforts, this book reveals an 'Innovative France' in which individuals and organizations learned to survive, and even thrive, despite the dual authoritarian regimes of the German Occupation and the Vichy government. You can learn more about Keith's book at https://manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/9781526153289/

Kouri Akagi '07 has been busy these past few years. In 2019, he was commissioned by the US Army as a Captain to be a Behavioral Health Officer. In 2020, Kouri completed his doctorate in clinical psychology. Recently Kouri completed his post-doctoral residency at Tripler Army Medical Center, where he gained specialized training in military psychology, trauma therapy, and consultation. He will be stationed in Kansas at Fort Riley, where he will be the Behavioral Health Officer for a brigade of 4,500 soldiers. In addition to treating soldiers, Kouri will also serve as the behavioral health consultant and subject matter expert on all things mental health for over 45 commanders within the brigade. He also bought a house!





Sara Mays '08 and her husband, Tim Rimnac, welcomed their second daughter, Nora Mays-Rimnac, on March 16, 2022 in Chicago, IL. Their two year old, Rory, has mixed feelings about being a big sister.



Samantha (Potoczak) Lindsay '12 and her husband, Scott, welcomed their daughter, Alexandra Marianne Karen Lindsay, on December 23, 2021 at 8:51PM. She measured 20 inches and weighed 7.0lbs. She gets her namesake from her late uncle, Alexander

Potoczak, as well as her two grandmothers. Her favorite color is pink ,and

just like both of her parents, already loves soccer! She has hazel eyes and her hair is turning red! When she's not napping, Alex loves to watch her favorite Disney movie, The Little Mermaid. She loves to giggle and babble...now we're waiting to see if she ends up with a British accent like her dad!





Alyssa Kubec '17 recently graduated magna cum laude from Youngstown State University with her Bachelors of Applied Science and Certification in Forensic Science. Alyssa will be attending Cleveland Marshall School of Law, Class of 2025. Aside from studying, Alyssa will also be spending much of her time planning her wedding. Alyssa will marry her boyfriend of six years, Darryl Chajon, who proposed on December 24th. The couple is hoping to be married in June 2024 and could not be happier.