

skillfully placing baseball within the larger framework of U.S. history. This work is recommended for academic library collections in support of both the general undergraduate curriculum and advanced programs in sports history. Other libraries with strong baseball or sports history collections will also want to consider this solid, yet modest work.—*Ken Burhanna, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Kent State University, Ohio*

Encyclopedia of Measurement and Statistics. Ed. by Neil J. Salkind. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2006. 3 vols. acid free \$395 (ISBN 1-4129-1611-9).

The stated objective of the editor of this set is to provide the general reader with a source of information on statistics as applied to the social sciences, particularly psychology. The encyclopedia contains entries on experimental methods, techniques, sampling, analysis, and statistical tests. Nearly one hundred psychometric assessment tests, such as the Myers-Briggs Inventory and Clinical Assessment of Depression, have individual entries describing their history, the test forms, and uses.

The entries are written by academics in the fields of psychology and statistics and range in length from several paragraphs to several pages depending on the complexity and importance of the subject. The clarity of the entries varies according to the subject and author; the level of writing is uneven. For example, the entries on Eigenvalues and Fourier Analysis include dense discussions of high-level mathematics, which is not in keeping with the level of the audience targeted by the editor and evident for the majority of the entries. In contrast, the entry for *z* scores, a much simpler topic, is clear and easily understandable. In any case, the general reader is more interested in the meaning of the values that statistical software generates, such as probability *p*, than the detailed mathematics that produced them.

The nonmathematical topics are generally well written and lack excessive jargon. These topics also include those more interesting to the general public, such as ethics in testing and IQ testing. Most entries include suggestions for further reading. Additional material includes appendixes for Internet sites, critical values, a glossary, and master bibliography. The set is appropriate for undergraduate and large public libraries.—*Sara Parsons, Reference Librarian, Oregon, Ohio*

The Encyclopedia of the American Revolutionary War: A Political, Social, and Military History. Ed. by Gregory Fremont-Barnes and Richard Alan Ryerson. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-CLIO, 2006. 5 vols. acid free \$485 (ISBN 1-85109-408-3).

[Ed. note: Also see the review of *American Revolutionary War: A Student Encyclopedia*, ed. by Gregory Fremont-Barnes and Richard Alan Ryerson (ABC-CLIO, 2006), page 81.]

This encyclopedia demonstrates the value of books in the Internet age. It comprehensively and authoritatively presents the people, battles, and issues of the American Revolution,

plus scores of primary sources, in an attractive and highly usable format.

The first four volumes contain more than one thousand signed entries on subjects as expected as a biography of John Adams and as obscure as the fight at Tarrant's Tavern, North Carolina. Coverage includes creation of the U.S. Constitution four years after the war. These volumes each provide an alphabetical list of all the encyclopedia's entries, a list of maps, a set of general maps, and an index. The first volume includes a preface, "Putting the American Revolution in Perspective," and two essays on the origins of the revolution and the military operations in it. At the end of the fourth volume are a comparison of army ranks, a chronology, a glossary, a list of editors and contributors, and a long general bibliography. Each subject entry also includes a bibliography.

The last volume is a treasure, especially for students learning how to do research in primary sources. It has 154 original documents as varied as "Letter of a Boston Loyalist (1774)" and "Nathanael Green's View on Quaker Pacifism (1775 and 1777)," and as momentous as the "Stamp Act (1765)" and the "Virginia Declaration of Rights." The documents are preceded by introductions.

The Encyclopedia of the American Revolutionary War: A Political, Social, and Military History should be compared with the student version of the same material, *American Revolutionary War: A Student Encyclopedia*, from the same publisher and editors (see first review in this section). *The Encyclopedia of the American Revolutionary War* is, in many respects, similar to *The American Revolution 1775–1783: An Encyclopedia*, edited by Richard L. Blanco, (Garland, 1993). The new set does have numerous black-and-white illustrations lacking in the older work, but libraries with tight budgets that own Blanco's wide-ranging encyclopedia can get by with it. More to the point these days may be comparisons to Wikipedia. Some of the less-famous subjects found in *The Encyclopedia of the American Revolutionary War* are not included in the popular Web-based encyclopedia. On more famous subjects, Wikipedia's strengths include color illustrations and the links it provides to related subjects, but the paper encyclopedia holds its own with longer articles, as well as with the bibliographies and the authority of authors. All in all, the new encyclopedia is a worthy project and, if they can afford it, deserves purchase by librarians looking for a good resource about the birth of the United States.—*Evan Davis, Librarian, Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana*

Encyclopedia of Western Colonialism Since 1450. Ed. by Thomas Benjamin. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2006. 3 vols. alkaline \$395 (ISBN 0-02-865843-4).

This new reference work focuses on the colonial empires of West European nations and the United States, but it also gives space to the colonial expansion of Japan, the Ottomans, and Russia. The editors, led by historian Thomas Benjamin, organized an international corps of scholars to contribute more than four hundred articles on a broad range of topics