

**Sport and the Spirit of Play
in American Fiction**

**Sport and the Spirit of Play
in American Fiction**

Hawthorne to Faulkner

Christian K. Messenger

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS
New York**

For Janet, Carrie, and Lucas

Excerpts from *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway reprinted by permission of Charles Scribner's Sons. Copyright 1926 by Charles Scribner's Sons; copyright renewed.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Messenger, Christian K., 1943–

Sport and the spirit of play in American fiction.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. American fiction—History and criticism.
2. Sports in literature. 3. Athletes in literature.
4. Play in literature. 5. Sports stories—History and criticism. I. Title.

PS374.S76M4 813'.009'355 81-4843

ISBN 0-231-05168-9 (cloth) AACR2

ISBN 0-231-05169-7 (paper)

Columbia University Press

New York Guildford, Surrey

Copyright © 1981 Columbia University Press

All rights reserved

Printed in the United States of America

Clothbound editions of Columbia University Press books are Smyth-sewn and printed on permanent and durable acid-free paper.

Second cloth and first paperback edition.

