

more a private act conducted in the public world" (p. 3). At the same time young men and women increasingly rejected the concept of "playing the field" for a rather intense need to "go steady."

A brief review cannot do full justice to this complex and densely packed work. Bailey is especially effective and provocative in building her central model: that dating conventions were deeply tied to an essentially commercial relationship. One of the author's favorite words is "commodification," as she argues that the whole concept of dating as it evolved in the twentieth century in essence allowed men to "purchase" women by asking for dates and paying for the experience. Indeed, the quite non-economic word "love" seldom appears in this study. As Bailey puts it, "love was not so much the province of convention. . . . I will leave love to lovers in private and examine the public conventions of desire" (p. 12).

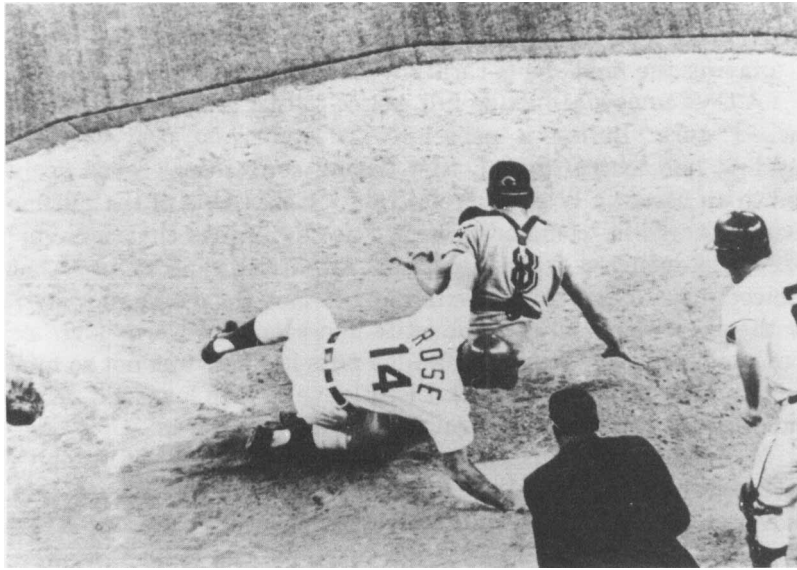
This fine study expands beautifully on the work of Joseph F. Kett and Paula S. Fass, but it is not without flaws. Bailey tends to overwork the new jargon; words like "privilege" used as a verb, "discourse," and "subtextually" dot the text. The topical organization is sometimes confusing. And Bailey could profitably write a second book on the subject—one in which she broadens her scope beyond the young, the white, and the middle class. Next time she might even try to show what, if anything, love has to do with it.

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*Cincinnati and the Big Red Machine.* By Robert Harris Walker. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1988. Pp. xvi, 158. Illustrations, note on sources, index. Clothbound, \$19.95; paperbound, \$8.95.)

For Cincinnati Reds fans a new book about their favorite team is always welcome, and Robert Harris Walker has written a different kind of Reds volume. Other books concentrate on the history of the Reds as a baseball team; Walker places the history of the team within the context of the city of Cincinnati and its geographical region, which includes the southwestern part of Indiana.

Walker's book grew out of a series of interviews with players, managers, owners, and Queen City residents. The first chapter opens with the All-Star game in 1970 when Pete Rose slid into home plate to score the controversial winning run. A history of professional baseball in Cincinnati follows, and a brief history of the city highlighting its German heritage gives an insight into the character of the town and the region. Walker credits the building of Riverfront Stadium for revitalizing Cincinnati's downtown area. Further testimony to the importance of baseball to the Queen City was the emphasis given the 1988 All-Star game in Cincinnati's



PETE ROSE BOWLS OVER CATCHER RAY FOSSE TO SCORE THE WINNING RUN IN THE 1970 ALL-STAR GAME

Reproduced from Robert Harris Walker, *Cincinnati and the Big Red Machine* (Bloomington, 1988), 3. Courtesy Archives and Rare Books Department, University of Cincinnati Libraries, Cincinnati, Ohio.

bicentennial celebration. In addition, the Cincinnati Historical Society devoted an entire issue of its *Queen City Heritage* to baseball.

Walker grew up in Cincinnati, and his early life revolved around the success or lack of success of the Reds. He attended his first game at age eight and still treasures the scorecard from that memorable game. "The Big Red Machine" noted in the title of his book refers, of course, to the Reds teams of the 1970s. A large portion of the text and many pictures are devoted to analysis of those teams. Interviews with players, coaches, and other persons who were closely involved with the glory years of the Cincinnati Reds will be dear to the heart of any fan.

For the baseball fan *Cincinnati and the Big Red Machine* gives a bit too much civic history; for the historian the role of baseball in the town's history is overemphasized; but for a person who is fan of both baseball and history, this book is recommended for an evening's entertainment.

RUTH DORREL, a Cincinnati Reds fan since 1958, is editor of *The Hoosier Genealogist*, which is published by the Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis.