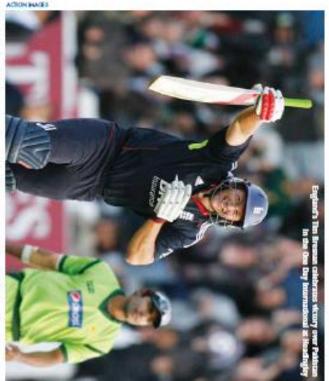
## When Did Sport Become So Unsporting?

what will be the enduring memories of proceedings this year, I wonder? Will it be Mo Farah's momentous European Gold in the 10,000m? Maybe the Great Britain swimming team's best ever performance at the European Swimming Championships? I suspect not. My money's on this summer's sporting proceedings being remembered for all the wrong reasons

that could potentially be used in ilegal betting the England men's team's 3-1 series victory of glory were to be had, with fars celebrating to Pakistan, as a potentially competitive series breeding ground for criminal activity? So how has an honest sport turned into a a sport with high moral and ethical standards gentleman's game" and held up historically as scams. Cricket has been long cited as deliberately bowing "no-bals"; information allegedly accepting money in return for four players from the Pakistan team were involve competitive cricket. As it transpires Pakistan had other priorities, which didn't for England's apparent dominance was that Little did we know that the actual explanation was about to be contested. Only a few days courtesy of cricket. England was playing host The first sporting revelations of note came

cheating in Pakistan. Maybe the acceptance and regularity of such events within the Pakistani those with fat pay packets? In 2009, Nelson Figuret Junior was found guilty of Formula I original values? the desire to win and arousing passion amongst cricketing community means that these actions are considered unremarkable. Fixed games, are wide-ranging. Are we, in effect, saying that low-paid athletes are more likely to cheat than for a game that has deviated so widely from its players and spectators alike. What future then Sport is about the competition, the spectade, no matter to what degree, are meaningless toss a couple of no-balls is viewed as a form of be considering is whether paying players to race fixing, so perhaps the question we should this is a tenable suggestion, the implications Formula I drivers and tennis players. Whilst paid a great deal less than footballers, enticed by financial "incentives," as they are (expecially on the Indian subcontinent) are easily There is an argument claiming that cricketers

The next question, intiggred by the summer's 'sporting' activities is: Where does one draw the line between one's professional and personal life! Not a difficult query to answer for the majority of us, unless of course you are a Promier League footbaler. Being paid gargarituan sums of money a week for kidding a ball around a field apparently permits what you do in your spare time to be splashed all over the newspapers. We all enjoy the spectade of



the skill and technical proviess of our national sports stars, but should we really be wornled about what they do off the pitch? Well, I suppose we should if it affects what they do on it, John Terry's alleged extramarkal affair led to his unprecedented sacking as the national capitain because the matter directly affected a teammatic (Wayne Bridge). Yet, when Wayne Rooney allegedly decided to travel down the same route (in exchange for money), the exposure of said story actually improved his performance as he found the back of the net against the Swiss in the Euro 2012 qualifier in September.

It is widely recognised that Rooney put in lacituative displays in the earlier World Cup campaign, with speculation that his "extracurricular" activities are to blame. Added to the infidelity are further examples of deplorable behaviour, observed this

In my mind, the summer's proceedings



year alone. Aneodotally, there have been reports of Rooney awearing 100 times in a 90-minute match. By my calculations, that's 1.11 obscensies per minute. Then there's the smoking, the drinking, the fixtion with material weath, the apparent visits to massage parlours, the list goes on. It is no secret that professional footballers are widely recognised as having a positive impact on young people whether they like it or not. I have no doubt that Rooney would acknowledge this, however, this adulation does not come without responsibility. The clear distinctions between admittees on and off the pitch are no longer mutually exclusive. What view of sport is the portraying to the young a distrateful lesson in selfstness, immorality and cheating?

heralded the destruction of the Conintrian ideals that once characterised sport. It's time the relevant organisations took a stand before these sports are permanently scarred by players' intolerable actions. As sport and exercise professionals, the question we should be addressing is whether the demise of the true nature of sport may be putting our roles at risk or whether it is adding a new dimension.

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