Preface

Common Procedures—Common Problems: It's Complicated

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Editor

Several years ago, I put together an Instructional Course Lecture (ICL) entitled “Common Sports Medicine Procedures: Hero and Goat.” The idea was that the faculty would present their best and worst cases for each commonly performed sports medicine procedure. The course was a success, but the ICL organizers wanted more on complications. I struggled with this at first because no one wants to broadcast their failures. Nevertheless, I ultimately recognized that if others could learn from my mistakes, then they wouldn't have to learn the same lesson the hard way. Will Rogers is credited with the following observation: “There are three kinds of men. The ones that learn by readin'. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves.” It is our hope that this issue of *Clinics in Sports Medicine* will help you avoid the latter!

This issue is a top to bottom approach to sports medicine complications, with an emphasis on the shoulder and the knee, which represents the majority of our practices. Please recognize that although the authors are not responsible for all of the complications presented, it is a humbling experience to “air your dirty laundry” and in some cases, the authors have included their own complications. Shoulder instability, rotator cuff repair, and coracoclavicular reconstruction are covered in the first three articles. This is followed by elbow and wrist/hand complications. Hip arthroscopy, a relative newcomer to the sports medicine world, has its own unique complications, many associated with a tight space and a steep learning curve, and merits its own article. Four articles on knee procedures follow: anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction, multiple ligament knee injuries, meniscal treatment, and articular cartilage repair/reconstruction. The issue concludes with articles on foot and ankle surgery, pediatric sports medicine procedures, and complications related to rehabilitation.

As Consulting Editor for *Clinics in Sports Medicine*, I usually ask experts in each area to serve as the Guest Editor for each issue. Although I certainly don't want to be

considered the expert in surgical complications (especially among my patients), in the spirit of Will Rogers, I volunteered to put this treatise together myself. So...start readin' and watch out for those electric fences!

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