

FOOTBALL, FALCON FIGHTING AND EQUESTRIAN SPORTS IN ZAJEČAR AND NIŠ THROUGH GAMES AND ENTERTAINMENT

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SUMMARY

Games and entertainment, as part of the social milieu, gave the kind of contribution to some civilizational trends, which in many ways determined the directions of history, not only in the field of sports. Namely, viewed through the prism of falconry, equestrian sports and football, games and entertainment went hand in hand with the sports branches that we will talk about here. It is the period of the first half of the twentieth century, when they had a privileged place in the mentioned sports, permeating all the simplicity and naivety of the game and entertainment with strict rules and codes of conduct that the actors in the three mentioned sports branches adhered to. Therefore, it is somewhat easy, but at the same time difficult, but it is certainly a pleasure, to deal with the concepts of play and fun in synergy, with competitive results and the enthusiasm of the audience and the wider sports public. Citizens who, in some way, were dedicated to sports, deserved something like that.

Keywords: football, falconry, equestrian sport, Zaječar, Niš, games and fun.

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INTRODUCTION

When in this everybody's and somewhat nobody's world, a man, immersed in his own torment of existence, searches the details of his better self, then in that research he discerns new, but also old paths, through which he came to the

realization itself. One way is the game and the other is fun, which permeates the game, creating a better picture of reality.

The representation of games and entertainment, which has been the closest to me for some time, is certainly the carousel, which in a kind of slides alternates between images of old Zaječar and old Niš, in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, and shows falcon flights, academies and matiee, football matches until 1944. year and parts of the equestrian program called "Konkuripik" of the Timočki and Moravian round of riders. And I like those pictures so much more, because on them are important fragments of my homeland - the Banovina of Moravia, one of the nine banovinas of the time, the administrative administrative areas of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and then the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. That banovina, in addition to the abundance of civic, supportive and patriotic societies and organizations, had football clubs: "Pobeda", "Sindelić", "Građanski", "Radnički" and about thirty more in Niš, "Jedinstvo", "Timok", "Železničar". and "Pobeda" in Zaječar, falcon youth in two parishes, Timočka and Moravska, and two "Knez Mihailo" riders - Moravsko and Timočko, also in the same banovina, which was not the case elsewhere. From this body of sports subjects, I allow myself to look at play and fun, looking at a serious social moment of the interwar period that hints at the culture of living and healthy lifestyles in the mentioned Banovina of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. So, from these cubes, we will assemble a part of the mosaic, immersing ourselves in the world of play and fun, interwoven with the love of every child and young man who incorporated himself into an endless series of trainings, matches, rhythmic performances, equestrian races and parades. They offered us researchers, the best a part of ourselves embedded in medals, diplomas, certificates of appreciation, goals, victories and prize money, allowing our intellectual imaginations to run wild, to analyse, comment and pass scientific judgement, stimulated by their joys, laughter, roars and mischief, which are inevitably, went hand in hand with the aforementioned successes.

This written endeavor obviously has three connected units, they are connected by a territorial and temporal thread, social and economic environment, patriarchal upbringing, and everything else has an admixture of the local and its own. The fact that in children's and youth's heads and unscrubbed thoughts was rolled and brainstormed, nuanced, boyishly and girlishly washed and stained at the same time, each of these three parts of the whole, connects and unites one youth and older generations in, above all, an interesting topic already of the vanished duration of the state, which has long since moved to historical reading books and encyclopedias. And the increasingly rare memories of rare witnesses of time, who even today, through conversation, inherit exactly those values, which, miraculously, have not yet expired, even though football and equestrian sports have long since looked different than in the times we are talking about and write about in this paper, and falconry today, it exists only in traces, transformed into

modern gymnastics, without distinct Slavic, libertarian, monarchist and those epithets and indications forever retained in the first half of the last century.

We will start from the football games on the pitches in Niš and Zaječar, to compare through rivalries, the sweetness of victory and the bitterness of defeat, where and how the "more than the game" overshadowed and suppressed the game itself, but also where the entertainment followed "the most important secondary thing on to the world" exposing her to the "bones" and "bare skin".

FOOTBALL "PUZZLES" IN GAMES AND ENTERTAINMENT

The fans and their perception of the local derby in Zaječar, within the competition of Timočka župa, which was part of the competition in the Niš football sub-association, between "Timok" and other clubs, are a particularly interesting topic. Two traditions established for cheering in the town under Kraljevica are particularly interesting - fighting with umbrellas and betting. Most often, it was carried on the back. Namely, the one who loses the bet carries the other one on his back from "Timok's" playground to the market in the city center, which is about a kilometer and a half away from each other. In a friendly match between "Jedinstva" and "Timok" (4:3, 1:2) played on April 9, 1939. year, in the report of Nikola Lilic, from the "Book of reports of the football section of SK "Timok" - Zaječar 29.4. 1935 - February 16, 1941" reads:

Already at the beginning of the first half, our player Omerović (Božidar Omerović Grza, author's note) fouled Jedinstva player Caković "Miška". The opposing player Caković was not satisfied with the awarded foul and punched Omerović in the eye, so that his eye was closed after a short time due to swelling. This behavior of the player Caković entails exclusion from the game. In order not to, both on the field and in the audience serious fouls, I asked the referee to let the player Caković back into the game after five minutes and he did it..."¹

This prevented the atmosphere that led to incandescence. The leaders in betting were Barbul the butcher and Cvetko Beli from the printing house, who bet..."² as noted by Miodrag Ceković, in his book "Hurricane from Kraljevica" "... in shaving and carrying to the square..."³, as well as Steva Lalović and the same

¹ "Report book of the SK "Timok" football section - Zaječar 29.4. 1935 - February 16, 1941" - IA "Timočke Krajina" in Zaječar

interview with Budimir Anđelković (1920-2009), a former sports worker from Zaječar, published in the column "Fikus's portrait", show "Fikus" ("Physical culture on Saturdays") of Radio Zaječar, 2007

² Miodrag Ceković "Six decades of football club "Timok" in Zaječar" "Razvitak" November-December 1979 No. 6, p. 105

³ Miodrag Ceković "Hurricane from Kraljevica" Zaječar 2002.

printing worker - typographer Cvetko Beli, an ardent supporter of "Jedinstva" (and guardian of that club's playground), who bet, again according to Ceković's notes, "... that if Timok wins the match, the one who loses the bet will have his hair cut in half" mustache and beard and to carry on his back the winner of the bet from "Timok's" playground to the square in the center of the city. And it really was like that."⁴

According to the memories of the witnesses of those events, "... the matches were attended, among others, by prominent citizens of Zaječar, such as Dr. Đurović, Dr. Spalajković, prominent merchant Canet Petković from Hajduk Veljkova Street..."⁵, along with members of the management of the aforementioned clubs who were well-known and respected in I will build on two Timoks. How much interest there is in the matches of "Timok" and "Jedinstva", at the old Timok playground (near the hospital), is evidenced by another statement of our interlocutor, Budimir Anđelković, about the cloud of dust through which the spectators and fans of both clubs passed while coming to or leaving the game from her. "...the biggest dust arose on the dusty road from the last Zaječar houses to the playground near the hospital, just when these two teams were playing. There was so much interest in those matches."⁶

Jovanka Marković (1923 - 2018) is one of the few witnesses of the matches of "Jedinstva" in Zaječar, which we found during the research about these events in 2015. One could not imagine any meeting of this team without her presence in the audience, because in the ranks of "Jedinstva" was her older brother Borivoje Marković-Borče Baron. In her short talk about her support for "Jedinstva", she presented a detail from the visit of "Pobeda" from Niš in Zaječar.

"It was played on the Timoka playground. At one point a Victory player jumped on my brother from behind and grabbed him by the hair. I jumped out of the audience and threatened that player, I simply caught him with my legs around the waist. I wasn't alone, my sister Kaja, also a supporter of Jedinstvo, reacted as well, as did the people from Timokovo who watched that game, but on this occasion they cheered for Jedinstvo"⁷.

Our research during the winter and spring of 2015 unambiguously leads to the conclusion that Jovanka Marković was the most ardent supporter of "Jedinstva",

⁴ Miodrag Ceković "Six decades of football club "Timok" in Zaječar" "Razvitak" November-December 1979 No. 6, p. 105

⁵ of Dr. Miomir Vasić (1931-2016), retired dentist and former supporter of Jedinstva

⁶ interview with Budimir Anđelković (1920-2009), a former sports worker from Zaječar, published in the column "Fikus's portrait", show "Fikus" ("Physical culture on Saturdays") of Radio Zaječar, 2007

⁷ interview with Jovanka Marković, held in March 2015. year, for the purposes of the newsletter "Glas sporta" of the sports association of the city of Zaječar and the feuilleton "Zaječar's three football hearts"

perhaps even more temperamental than Vladislava Disa Stajković Radojković, who was devoted to the football team "Timoka". There is another interesting thing that we noticed in the conversation with Jovanka Marković. Miroslav Mirko Dimitrijević (1924-2015) was a football player of "Jedinstva", and his father Veljko Dimitrijević Armija, butcher and butcher, member of the board of "Timoka". However, when "Timok" and "Jedinstvo" met, the elder Dimitrijević supported the club where his son played. What are you going to do, parental weakness for children's tears.

HOW IT WAS TRAVELED

The players and management of "Jedinstva" from Zaječar managed to reach nearer and further destinations, where they played matches, only by their ingenuity. We financed the trips "from voluntary contributions, we went from store to store before the trip. In terms of equipment, it was quite difficult. Each player wore a jersey and shorts, and washed them at home. The shoes were bought for one season, and then they were patched. I remember the shoemaker, he was a native of Miničevo. When "Unity" went to Pirot, Vlada (Milic) Đin drove us in an old car. He "loaded" the whole team, we got wet on the way, pushed the car through the mud. We went to Boljevac and some nearby places by bicycle, and to the surrounding villages on foot."⁸

Miroslav Dimitrijević, also remembered by the nickname Mirko Armija, remembers an interesting moment related to traveling to matches:

"It was interesting that on the way back from Bor, we had a free ride to Metovnica in vans." We went from Metovnica to Zaječar on foot, running and kicking the ball."⁹

Accidents and accidents in clubs also existed during the German occupation in 1941-44. "...during the occupation, Žika Jović Pinter and Slobodan, a refugee, played for Timok, and Vanja Lalović, the president of Jedinstvo, threatened them that if they did not switch from Timok to Jedinstvo, they would be liquidated by the Dražins(soldiers of the general Dragoljub Mihailović)."¹⁰ . One of the best football players from the "Jedinstvo" generation from the period before the

⁸ Interview with Radoj Miljković Giba (1919–2009), former football player of "Jedinstvo" and "Dinamo" ("Timok") in the column "Fikus's portrait", the program "Fikus" („Physical culture on Saturdays") of Radio Zaječar, published in 2007 (this interview, as well as the others used in the book prepared and managed by Srđan M. Tomić).

⁹ Interview with Miroslav Dimitrijević - Mirko Armija (1924-2015), former football player of "Jedinstva" and "Timok", in the section "Fikus's portrait", "Fikus" program of Radio Zaječar, published in 2005.

¹⁰ Tales of Aleksa Taraskijan (1924 - 2021), former football player of the second team of ZSK "Timok".

Second World War and during the German occupation, Milorad Caković "Mišketa", a barber by profession, had offers from "BSK" and "Yugoslavia", the leading clubs in Kingdom, to join their ranks. However, he did not do so at the urging of his home club's fans. As Radoje Miljković Giba testifies: "Fans and players bought him furniture for the barber shop as a sign of gratitude for staying in the club, although he was satisfied at the trial at SK "Yugoslavia", but he refused to leave Zaječar"¹¹. However, Miskheta was sometimes arrogant towards his teammates. Namely, Aleksa Taraskijan, a former football player of the second team "Timoka" and one of the regular visitors to football matches in Zaječar before and during the Second World War, remembered,, that in one game with "Timoka", Jovan Colović, the goalkeeper of "Jedinstva" received goal, Mišketa Caković slapped him, so after that game goalkeeper Colović changed his club colors and moved to "Timok".¹²

ACCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS IN NIŠ FOOTBALL

An article in Niš's "Revia" (an independent body of public opinion) from 1937 showed us what accidents the elderly residents of Niš encountered regarding football, as children's games, and what were the repercussions of football in the church yard, in relation to on the environment.

"We were surprised when a few days ago we saw children playing football in the church garden right next to the church itself." We thought, have we come so far that football is being played next to the church? We have come a long way.

Something else. There are several wild chestnuts in the church gate. There, abandoned children throw stones all day long, and a lot of garbage is piled up under those trees. Is there anyone who takes care of this. Village churches are much better; more attention is paid to them than to these townspeople, especially where the bishop is.

Some time ago, these same abandoned children wrote such ghastly words in the registration book located in the ossuary that they had to tear up the pages and burn them. We thought they would pay some attention, but nothing. We hereby pay attention to the children's parents and to the competent church authorities to stand in the way of this. Parents, yes attract their abandoned children, and the church authorities, if the parents do not want to take away the child, then deliver

¹¹ Interview with Radoje Miljković Giba (1919–2009), former football player of "Jedinstva" and "Dinamo"/,"Timok", in the column "Fikus's portrait", show "Fikus", Radio Zaječar, published in 2007.

¹² Tales of Aleksa Taraskijan (1924 - 2021), former football player of the second team of ZSK "Timok".

them to the competent authority to punish them. If he lets it stay like that, then there can be an even greater miracle and penance."¹³

In Niš, football was played out of love, and sometimes, what one would say "for fun". "Football was considered to be a short and fleeting pleasure. In order to live, one had to work and earn money, and that is not possible without completing a vocational school. As a rule, only the wealthiest or those who were gifted and could count on the help of various humanitarian organizations or individuals graduated from higher education."¹⁴

However, football, as the game of the future, encountered various obstacles throughout its history. In 1925, a small war against football was fought in Nis. The football team Sindelić won over the youth, especially the school youth, but the professors of Niš Gymnasium seriously rebelled. It is a rough game, they said, which separates students from the book, from the manners of good behavior and predisposes them to rude and aggressive personalities. Others said it was a fast-paced game and could result in deaths.

Among the opponents of football was Milan Banić, a professor and strict director of the Gymnasium. The people of Nišlije remember the writer Banić as one of the founders of the magazine Gradina, and his students by ordering the students to be banned from playing football and the beatings they received. In the meantime, the news even spread in Niš that the Ministry of Education had passed a similar ban. - Impossible - reacted one sports journalist - if there was such a ban, we would immediately be the champions of the world."¹⁵

And during the four-year German occupation, although Bulgarians were also present in Niš, "playgrounds were places where the youth gathered. There, young men and women (there were significantly fewer of them) agreed on anything and everything. On the playgrounds, young people made decisions that, for them, were of vital importance. Some, so to speak, went directly from the playground to the "forest".¹⁶

In Niš, in the 1920s, opinions were divided about football and in connection with it. Football had collective and individual opponents. The first were embodied in the "Soko" organization, and individual opponents were spread all over Nis. They were mostly pedagogues and more conservative citizens of Niš.¹⁷

¹³ „Revia“ newspaper, independent body of public opinion no. 37, Niš, from Thursday 16.9.1937. - can be found in IA in Niš

¹⁴ Miladin Ilić Master „Železničar“ („Railwayman“) - Niš 1928-1995" Niš 1995. p. 50

¹⁵ „High school students and football" Encyclopedia of Niš, volume "Sport", p. 514

¹⁶ Miladin Ilić Master „Železničar“ („Railwayman“) - Niš 1928-1995" Niš 1995, p. 119

¹⁷ Miladin Ilić Master „Železničar“ („Railwayman“) - Niš 1928-1995" Niš 1995, p. 74

Namely, "time worked for football, the more freedom and well-being there was, the more football gained an increasing number of supporters, she would make goalposts out of clothes and schoolbags and books, take out a ball or "patchball" from the bag and play a "match" until her father came home from work. Since Niš was divided into a number of mahals (Nišians called them "male"), each mahal had a football team. The team was made up of the best players from individual streets and alleys - the neighborhoods rarely met, there were more matches between individual streets. If the street had more apartments, then it had two crews. It was played on the field, and since the posts were made of stone, bricks, bags and the like, arguments broke out over whether the ball "hit" the post or whether a goal was scored. There were arguments about whether the ball went "out", crossed the goal line and the like. It was rare, however, that the "match" ended in an argument, and even less often in a fight, but there were also such cases. Since they played in shoes that they wear every day, and often without them, it is difficult for individuals who "scratch" a lot to be accepted into the team.

When she played "small" against "small", then it was not played on the field. A meadow was sought. More detailed preparations are made for such matches. There were also fans. Care was taken to ensure that a large number of fans came so that they could be on the spot in the necessary cases. Matches were scheduled in Kriva livada, "figurčet", and also on other meadows in the vicinity of Niš. (now the wider city center). The match was played "in pairs", but more often "in a cracker", lunch, a basket of grapes, etc. ". That's what caused him to quarrel and envy."¹⁸

FALCON FIGHTING – GAME, ENTERTAINMENT OR A DIFFICULT SOCIAL OBLIGATION

The knightly organization "Soko" was synonymous with order, work and discipline, zeal, self-sacrifice and dedication from children to adult members. However, both in Niš and Zaječar. Regarding the falcon life in Zaječar, in the late twenties and early 30s of the last century, in a conversation with Budimir Anđelković, a falconer and former football worker, we recorded, among other things, the following:

"In addition to gymnastics, we were able to learn swimming in the falcon club, and over time, the falcons also played volleyball and tennis." All this thanks to great enthusiasts like Svetozar Ugrinović - "brother" of Toza, Nenad Jovanović - "brother" of Neša and Jovan Stanisavljević - "brother of Jove" Štampar (because he was a graphic artist in the mentioned period). They organized a camping trip in

¹⁸ Miladin Ilić Master „Železničar“(„Railwayman) - Niš 1928-1995" Niš 1995, p. 74

Kraljevica, and for us it was a vacation. Because going to the sea required a lot of money, we didn't have the means for that and who from Zaječar could see any fellow citizen at sea, if the majority could not be present and testify about it, but we were most concerned about the falconry devices, actually how to work on them and familiarize ourselves with falconry exercises."¹⁹

To our question, asked in an interview from 2003, about the relationship between the Sokol and scout organizations that were present among elementary and high school students of that era, Budimir Anđelković, a long-time sports worker from Zaječar, answered us:

"There were good guys among the scouts as well." They were our comrades, but the leaders of these two organizations could not stand each other. The place for arguing, that is, for bickering, was on Dudara, on Kraljevica. Because the scouts practiced in Bagrenjar, and we practiced on the fields towards the Pavilion. The scouts even had shooting training, which we falconers, at least at the time when I was in "Sokol", did not have."²⁰

Falconry in Niš, as a movement that left neither old nor young indifferent, where due to its good organization and massiveness it left behind scouts, football players, shooters and other athletes from the interwar period, it even managed to include fun in its official program activities. So, for example, we take a research look and focus on the news about the landing of the Moravian falconry parish in Nis, held on June 12 and 13, 1927, and we notice this: "On the first day - in the morning, the welcome of the falcons and guests from the side, in the afternoon the game at the summer training ground, and in the evening a festive party in the new Sokolana. On the second day, before noon, rehearsals of all classes for the performance in the afternoon. At 10 o'clock. forming a procession with the falcon cavalry at the head. In the afternoon at 5 o'clock. public performance, and in the evening, the Sokol's magic night."²¹

A CENTURY AND A HALF OF TROTTING AND GALLOPING AT CHAIR AND KRALJEVICA

Equestrian sport manifests, but at first glance also hides many details of entertainment. The game itself is a given in this area. It is depicted through the

¹⁹ Srdjan M. Tomić „Under the wing of a falcon" (manuscript) - interview with Budimir Anđelković (1920-2009), former football worker and falconer from Zaječar

²⁰ Srdjan M. Tomić „Under the wing of a falcon" (manuscript) - interview with Budimir Anđelković (1920-2009), former football worker and falconer from Zaječar

²¹ „News" Newspaper "Niški glasnik" from June 12, 1927. Digital Library "Stevan Sremac" National Library in Niš biblioteka@nbss.rs accessed in the period November 2016 - January 2017.

competition of various categories, the carousel - quadrille on horses and soccer on horses²², and all three elements were nurtured by the Moravian Kolo of Riders "Knez Mihailo" in Niš, as the leading organization in this sports discipline in the then Moravian Banovina, whose precisely Niš was the seat and center. Fortunately, for us from this part of Serbia, the same manners of games and fun in equestrian sports were nurtured by the Timočka regional circuit of riders "Knez Mihailo" in Zaječar, as a younger sister and another equestrian sports unit on the territory of the mentioned banovina. Some of those skills, which left the audience breathless, were demonstrated at the event on the occasion of the centenary of the liberation of Timočka Krajina from the Turks, in Zaječar's Kraljevica on May 15. in 1933. On that occasion, "on the part of the Timočko racecourse, the riders staged a "big game" on horses, in which "Hajduk Veljkov's breakthrough through the Turkish camp" was improvised.²³

A special impression was made on King Alexander the First Karađorđević, ministers and other high dignitaries, as well as other visitors. , which, according to unofficial estimates, numbered ten thousand from Zaječar, the surrounding villages, but also the entire Timočka Krajina, were left behind by the "Hajduk Veljkovi bečari". They captivated with their skill on horses and magnified this event to the maximum.

"WAR GAMES" WITH AND WITHOUT FUN

In the Second World War, as in any great disaster, there is little fun, and the game is sometimes "paying with your head". Falconry and equestrian sports, at least in the territory we deal with in this work, during the German occupation of Serbia, and therefore Niš and Zaječar, could not actively organize and implement their activities due to the bans set by the occupier, but football was kept and maintained from June 1941 to the beginning of September 1944. This is the period when football was a game and "more than a game". For many actors of social life during the occupation, football became the meaning of mere survival, because the sports fields in Niš and Zaječar, for example, were the scene of knightly games, correct cheering, but also sporting insolence, a place for running away from home but also forging a plan for going to the "forest".

The impression is that the events at the football events were a kind of array of social events and almost all the eyes of the public were focused on the matches. In Niš or Zaječar, a large number of audiences also flocked to the playgrounds of

²² „Memorial on the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Moravian round of riders "Knez Mihailo" in Niš 1890-1940. "p. 62 – can be found in the Historical Archive in Niš

²³ Stevan Veljković "Horses and crows were playing" Zaječar 2001. p. 77

"Sindelić", "Pobeda" (in the first year of occupation), "Građanski", "Železničar" in Niš, i.e. "Timok", "Jedinstva" and "Železničar". in Zaječar.

When we say that sport was "more than a game", we primarily mean that "sport during the occupation (and not only then) was not outside of politics. Sportsmen, like all other citizens, made political choices. Some for one, and others for another party or side, but they were all patriots. The athletes also knew which of their comrades would "escape" and when they would escape and to whom they would escape. However, they did not give themselves away. The honor of the athlete did not allow them to do that. Sport, and that can be a problem, was above politics. There is really no reason for athletes to be ashamed of their activities during the occupation."²⁴

The example of the "Big Sports Day" in Niš is a true illustration of the fact that games and entertainment were used to overcome everyday problems and find solutions for how to continue through life.

The "Big Sports Day in Nis", in July 1943, was conceived as a manifestation of patriotism and nobility in war-torn and occupied Serbia. The goal of this action was that from the tickets "the revenue that will be collected is intended for the purchase and preparation of packages for our prisoners-Nishlije in Germany."²⁵ The program designed by Đorđe Đorđević, the then head of the police and the president of the city administration, Jovan Čemerikić, provided for games and entertainment in the function of philanthropy.

1) football match between the two youngest and most advanced clubs: Hajduk - Obilić at 4:30 p.m.;

2) a bicycle race of 10 laps in which the drivers of "Serbia" and "Pobede" from Niš participate

3) Folklore group of the Moravian National Theater, whose participation will enhance this performance; and finally

4) football match between the Police Administration and the City Administration, as the main point of this program."²⁶

Finally, we will finish the story about the importance of games and fun with fans' accidents and incidents on the eve of the Second World War in Zaječar. We talked about shaving half the mustache and half the beard in the first part of the text. "Two traditions established for cheering in the town under Kraljevica are especially interesting - carrying an umbrella to betting matches, and most often,

²⁴ Miladin Ilić Master "Železničar/Railwayman - Niš" 1928-1995. Niš 1995. G - p. 119-120

²⁵ "Sport" "Big sports day in Nis" Newspaper "Novo vreme" dated 7/29/1943.

²⁶ "Sport" "Big sports day in Nis" Newspaper "Novo vreme" dated 7/29/1943.

the one who loses the bet carries the other one on his back from the sports club "Timok" playground to the market in the city center."²⁷

Our tellers did not tell us any particular reasons why fans and other spectators of the "Timok" - "Jedinstvo" derby carried umbrellas to the matches, except maybe when it was raining or the sun was strong near the "Timok" and "Jedinstvo" fields. It seems that each of the football fans had their own reasons for wearing an umbrella: status symbol, custom, fashion and the like.

Only, this story, I believe, was not told in vain. "It proves the spiritual aesthetics of civil Serbia and the interwar style of social life in Zaječar..." and, I should add, in Niš. "It is up to us to follow that path in search of the truth, because the future obliges us to do so."²⁸

CONCLUSION

Games and entertainment in the field of sports are an inseparable part of the social environment that adorned these spaces in the period from the end of the First World War to the end of the Second World War. Throughout that quarter of a century, on the field of football, falconry and equestrian sports in Zaječar and Niš, pride and sadness, carefreeness and tragedy of life, pleasure and struggle for survival, philanthropy and cruel recklessness were intertwined, in a word, a whole life translated into a very important but minor things in the world. However, there were days when these things were the main thing, and when their secondaryness faded into the background.

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²⁷ Miodrag Ceković "Six decades of the Timok football club in Zaječar" "Razvitak" November-December 1979, no. 6, p. 105.

²⁸ Srdjan M. Tomić "Three football hearts of Zaječara" Main library "Svetozar Marković" near Zaječara, 2017. p. 24

9. The newspaper "Revija", an independent organ of public opinion, Niš in 1937.
10. The newspaper "Novo vreme" in 1943.
11. Srdjan M. Tomić "Under the wing of a falcon" manuscript
12. Interviews: with Radoj Miljković Gib (1919–2009), former football player of "Jedinstva" and "Dinam"/„Timoka", program "Fikus" ("Physical culture on Saturdays"), Radio Zaječar, published in 2007.
13. with Budimir Anđelković (1920-2009), former sports worker from Zaječar, program "Fikus" ("Physical Culture on Saturdays") of Radio Zaječar, 2007
14. with Miroslav Dimitrijević - Mirko Armija (1924-2015), a former football player of "Jedinstva" and "Timok", in the column "Fikus's portrait", the program "Fikus" of Radio Zaječar, published in 2005.
15. Memories and sayings:
16. Aleksa Taraskian (1924 - 2021), former football player of the second team of ZSK "Timok".
17. Jovanka Marković (1922 - 2018), former fan of ZSK "Jedinstvo", "Timok" and "Železničar", i.e. in the clubs where her brother Borivoje Marković played football in 1938-1944.
18. Dr. Miomir Vasić (1931-2016), dentist and former fan of ZSK "Jedinstvo"

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