**Game Changer: The techno-scientific revolution in sports, by Rayvon Fouché**

Is there anything new in technological advantage adding to sporting prowess, asks Lincoln Allison

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By Lincoln Allison (/author/lincoln-allison)

A starting claim of Game Changer is that the impact of technology on sport in the past 30 years is on a scale different from anything seen previously. A great deal of the book covers familiar issues of doping and the weaknesses of testing procedures, but there are also chapters on hydro-dynamic swimwear in particular and on changing sports technology in general. The careers of three individuals are discussed in detail: Lance Armstrong and two South Africans, Oscar “Blade Runner” Pistorius and the allegedly intersex runner, Caster Semenya.

Thus the parts and much interesting material. As for the whole, Rayvon Fouché’s thesis hangs on the assertion that technological change threatens some essential core to the value of sport, defined by the belief that “an athletic body will always be vastly more important than any device in the final outcome of a sporting event”. This belief is threatened by
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