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Coaching Environment 1

Given the importance and high public profiles of coaches such as Vince Lombardi, Sparky Anderson, Scotty Bowman, and John Wooden, it is surprising that researchers have paid little empirical attention to the coaching domain. Instead, academics have historically directed efforts towards expert athletes rather than expert coaches (i.e., Barnes, Sime, Dienstbier, & Plaki, 1986; Krane, Greenleaf, & Snow, 1997; Tammen, 1996). The purpose of this paper is to review research in the area of talent development. In particular, three empirical studies which focused on the rise to prominence of elite performers, along with the coaches and teachers who helped these performers excel in their fields, will be examined. It will become clear that if an athlete wants to reach his/her potential, he/she will need more than innate ability, he/she will need a highly competent and experienced coach.

Bloom

Bloom's (1985) work focused on the process of talent development of world class