

Born in Los Angeles, Gail Rowe was raised in Mariposa, California where, early on, he became interested in sports, history, and writing. He earned his BA in history at Fresno State University and his MA and Ph.D. in American History at Stanford University. For more than three decades he was a member of the Department of History at the University of Northern Colorado where he taught courses ranging from the American Revolution and Civil War to the History of Baseball. He has published three books and more than four dozen articles on various aspects of early American legal history. During his tenure at UNC he received the University's highest awards for both teaching excellence and scholarship and he remains a valued speaker at public events in Greeley and northern Colorado. Since his retirement in 2002 he has written four baseball mysteries featuring Will Beaman, Beaman's quirky friends, and the baseball world of late 19th and early 20th century Boston. As one reviewer put it, "Rowe does a great job of putting the readers in the streets and meeting halls and saloons and the Beaneaters' ballpark. The sounds and sights and political life of the times come alive with scrupulous accuracy and colorful detail."

BEST BET IN BEANTOWN (2003)

SUMMARY

The year is 1897. The place: Boston, Massachusetts. Someone has just assaulted star shortstop, Herman "Germany" Long of the Boston Beaneaters, and he is prostrate on the dressing room floor. Witty, womanizing Will Beaman, the book's protagonist, is vying for a front office job with the team. He discovers Long. To win over the curmudgeonly Boston owners, Beaman must crack the mystery of who wants to harm Long—and why. The book features a complex plot, wondrous game action, tales of baseball betting and player greed, duplicity by owners and gamblers, and a compelling late nineteenth-century feel. Readers will be right there as the Beaneaters battle the Baltimore Orioles for National League supremacy.

REVIEW

--"In the rough-and-tumble milieu of 19th Century pro baseball, Will Beaman makes for a rich protagonist. Brash, cynical, ultimately human, he's one of a parade of well-defined characters in G. S. Rowe's new mystery novel from Pocol Press. You can't help love the guy! Against the backdrop of America's game at the turn of the century, Beaman battles the seamy side of Boston's scam syndicates I have to admit I loved this book. The best elements of an historical baseball novel combined with the thrills and chills of a great mystery. And peppered with wondrous, classic ball-park heckling Congratulations to Rowe for a book I couldn't put down."

--Brian R. Ames, author of Head Full of Traffic

SQUEEZE PLAY IN BEANTOWN (2004)

SUMMARY

Will Beaman is back—and once more up to his eyes in knotty problems. He's lost his job with the 1897 National League's Boston Beaneaters and a handsome collector of Frederic Remington's art is pursuing his beloved Claire. Will's relationship with Claire is further undermined by an intoxicating feminist who bedevils him with her political causes and amorous proposals. All the while, he is being seduced by Beaneater owner Arthur Soden and mayoral wannabe John F. (Honey Fitz) Fitzgerald to discover who attacked two Beaneater players, and to find and return a pilfered historical manuscript treasured by the state. To keep Claire's love, regain his job in baseball, guarantee the return of the manuscript, and to make baseball fans of the city's working people, Will Beaman pressures leaders inside and outside baseball to embrace an eye-popping solution—Sunday baseball in Boston.

REVIEWS

--"**Squeeze Play in Beantown** is a splendid tale of murder, mayhem, free love and baseball in Boston in 1897"—Roger I Abrams, Richardson Professor of Law at Northeastern University School of Law, and author of **The First World Series and the Baseball Fanatics of 1903** (2003)

--[**Squeeze Play in Beantown** offers] "plenty of twists and turns along the way, all wrapped around the exciting last month of the baseball season, a year when the Boston baseball club would not fade in the stretch."-- Roger I Abrams, Richardson Professor of Law at Northeastern University School of Law, and author of **The First World Series and the Baseball Fanatics of 1903** (2003).

--[**Squeeze Play in Beantown** protagonist] "Will Beaman strikes me as an engaging and effective fictional creation. A bit bratty, very smart, rather more vulnerable than he at first seems, and surprisingly (if flexibly) principled. . . . Would I recommend the book? You bet."—Reed Browning, author of **Cy Young: A Baseball Life** (2000) and **Baseball's Greatest Season: 1924** (2003)

--[Rowe] "deftly weaves intrigue of mystery surrounding a ballplayer's murder and the theft of an historical artifact with Boston historical reluctance to allow baseball to be played on Sunday."—Charlie Bevis, author of **Sunday Baseball: The Major Leagues' Struggle to play Baseball on the Lord's Day, 1876-1934** (2003)

--"A great job of putting the readers in the streets and meeting halls and saloons and the Beaneaters' ballpark . . . The sounds and sights and political life of the times come alive with scrupulous accuracy and colorful detail."—Norman Macht, author of a forthcoming biography of Connie Mack.

--"A cliffhanger and pennant race all in one makes **Squeeze Play in Beantown** hard to put down." -- Hank Brown, former United States Senator from Colorado

DOUBLE PLAY IN BEANTOWN (Coming in 2005)

SUMMARY

It's 1901, and baseball enthusiast and amateur detective Will Beaman is in a quandary, torn between his ties to Boston's National League baseball team and the city's fledgling franchise in the upstart American League. Although he's being pressured by fiancée Claire Denihur to pursue a more conventional lifestyle and put aside his casual sleuthing, Will is hounded by his conscience to find Claire's missing cousin, and to discover who's murdering and dismembering young women throughout the city. His ambition and sense of adventure also propels him to cast his lot with the foundling league. Resolving family problems and rooting out a maniacal killer at the same time he's struggling to ensure the success of Boston's new American League franchise against formidable odds keeps Will Beaman and his quirky pals as harried as one-legged outfielders. It's tense times inside and outside Boston's ballparks as Will Beaman battles to salvage his personal and professional lives.