

statesmanship. Nor do they realize the quantity and quality of his literary output, some 33 books. Usually Hoover's foreign policy message is given short shrift, distorted by a preoccupation with his perceived failure as a Depression-era president. This manuscript will help rectify that. Given Hoover's reputation for intellectual honesty and his stature as an ex-president, *Freedom Betrayed* is a fresh contribution, a piece of serious scholarship by a man with a serious purpose.

*Six: A Football Coach's Journey to a National Record*, by Marc Rasmussen. Pierre: South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 2011. xv, 155 pp. Illustrations, maps, appendix, bibliographical essay, index. \$16.95 paper.

Reviewer Terrence J. Lindell is professor of history at Wartburg College. His research has included a variety of topics in the history of Iowa and South Dakota.

First-time author Marc Rasmussen tells the engaging story of Bill Welsh, a phenomenal high school coach whose six-man football team compiled a national record 61-game winning streak between 1947 and 1953. Welsh, a native of Aberdeen, South Dakota, earned a spot on the 1923 football team at the University of Illinois, where he was coached by the legendary Robert Zuppke and practiced with "Red" Grange. Injury and illness ended his career there after one year, but he completed his education and earned accolades in sports at Northern Normal College in his hometown. After successful multi-sport high school coaching runs at Kimball and Webster in his home state, Welsh took a post at Forest City, Iowa, where his young son died in a tragic accident. Grief-stricken, Welsh and his wife returned to northeastern South Dakota, starting a game lodge in the small community of Claremont. There he rediscovered his passion for coaching and introduced six-man football, a fluid and high-scoring version of the game developed for small schools. His Claremont Honkers—a moniker derived from the Canadian geese that filled the fall skies—dominated the sport in the region, winning their first game and sixty more to follow. Rasmussen's father played on Welsh's last Claremont team.

*Six* ably tells the story of midwestern small-town football in the post-World War II era, before school consolidations made larger teams possible. The book also conveys the power of an extraordinary coach to inspire his players and mobilize a community.