13th International Association for Sport Information World Congress 11-13 March, 2009 - Canberra, Australia

The distribution of sports news in sports pages of newspapers in the Turkish context.

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Changing profiles

- Quick and expansion-oriented movements following the "Industrial Revolution" had imposed a great influence on many fields, and newspapers were not an exception to this trend.
- Having the potential to reach more people having different backgrounds and world views, newspapers felt the urgent need to make necessary changes according to considerably changing reader profile.

Sports branches

Continuously changing and developing world order led to the industrialization(commercialization) of sports branches and therefore, sports newspapers started to emerge in the world of press.

Sports page

- Readers showed an increasing great interest on sports news starting from the first appearances of such news on newspapers which later published special pages under the title of "sports page"s.
- As a result of this great interest by a large number of readers on sports news, newspapers gave more attention and interest for this type of news.

Industrialized sports

- The first appearances of sports news on world press date back to 1820s in American newspapers and magazines.
- Industrial Revolution had great impact on this emergence since workers started to be interested in sports in their free times.
- As you know, industrialization led to a considerable increase in the number of machines and fewer people worked in factories accordingly.
- As a result of this interest, the news about these industrialized sports was placed on newspapers more and more.

Turkish sports newspapers

- Emerging in 1910 with the introduction of "Futbol Dergisi" (Football Magazine) and expanding with the addition of a sports page to "Haber Gazetesi" in 1930s, this sports news mentality continued to appear on the back page of "Vatan Gazetesi".
- This tendency led to sports news' taking place in Milliyet and Hurriyet newspapers in 1950s as well,

Scope of this study

- Although the concept "sports" includes a various branches of sports, it is a reality that not all the developments related to the world of sports are considered as news.
- In this respect, the scope of this study is to investigate the distribution of sports news according to sports branches in sports pages of daily press in order to determine which sports are given more importance.

Research covers

- Within the scope of this study, the sports news published during the first weeks of January, April, July and October 2007 in newspapers, Zaman, Hurriyet and Sabah, the ones with the highest circulation rate in Turkey, will be analyzed through content analysis method.
- The results will present detailed data about
 - sports news such as the space they cover,
 - their percentages in domestic/international news,
 - the photographs used and
 - distribution according to sports clubs.

Analyzed dailies



800.000 circulation 500.000 450.000

Sports Industry and Press

- The increasing advertisement potential of some sports due to their industrialization and commercialization has been attracting newspapers, which are also business enterprises.
- A detailed analysis of sports pages of Turkish sports press clearly shows a predominance of certain sports branches on the pages.
- Based on the assumption that the news about industrialized sports branches are more likely to appear on sports press, it would be interesting to investigate the percentage of such sports among all sports branches available.

Football is predominant

- When the situation in Turkey is analyzed, where sports newspapers have considerably high circulation rates, it is observed that news about football clubs are predominant in such newspapers and even certain pages are reserved for popular clubs and colored with their colors and logos.
- The most important reason for this situation is that football has the most important economic potential among other sports branches available in Turkey.
- Similarly, other newspapers owned by different individuals and holdings and continuously highlighting their independence and objectivity also give more space to football news in their sports pages to a great extent.

Sports = Football

- The most important reasons of the emergence of sports as a separate section in today's press are increasing interest in sports activities by a large number of people and the industrialization of sports.
- The concept "sports" is associated mainly with "football" in Turkey, and, therefore; the sports press acts like a "football press".

Social processes and power

- Having a highly commercialized and professional structure integrated into entertainment industry, sports activities with a considerable number of audiences highly interact with social processes and power relationships.
- Since sports activities are an important representation level during the process of establishing social and political identities, their importance in press has increased considerably as a result of the professionalization of sports.

Presence of sports news

- Industrialization, commercialization and professionalization of sports as well as the increase of "interaction" among sports people and audiences facilitated the presence of sports news in newspapers and the establishment of sports departments in the world of press.
- This trend undoubtedly led to the emergence of specific newspapers with only sports news as of 1990s in Turkish press.

Circulation of sports newspapers

- The circulations of national sports newspapers and their standings in the overall circulation rates in Turkey are as follows:
- → 7. Fanatik (209.000)
- **23.** Fotogol (45.000)







Findings

- In the present study, content analysis was applied to a total of 84 issues and 2117 news of three national daily newspapers.
- Zaman, Hürriyet, and Sabah
 - (all having different ownership structure)
- reserving at least two pages for sports news
- in February, April, July and October 2007.

Sport branches on first page

200	Zaman	Hurriyet	Sabah	Total
Football	13	12	5	30
	(77%)	(100%)	(100%)	(88.2%)
Other	4			4
sport branches	(33%)	(0%)	(0%)	(34%)

Headlined sport branches on sports pages

	Zaman	Hurriyet	Sabah	Total -
Football	100	113	93	306
	(81,3%)	(83,7%)	(74,4%)	(80%)
Basketball	4	9	10	23
1	(3,3%)	(6,7%)	(8%)	(6%)
Horseracing		7	3	10
	(0%)	(5,2%)	(2,4%)	(2,6%)
Bicycle	3	1	1	5
	(2,4%)	(0,7%)	(0,8%)	(1,3%)
Other sport	16	5	18	39
branches	(13%)	(3,7%)	(14,4%)	(10,1%)
	123	135	125	383

The Distribution of Sports News

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	Zaman	Hurriyet	Sabah	Total	
Factball	416	505	667	1588	
Football	(79,5%)	(73%)	(73,9%)	(75%)	
Basketball	55	48	95	198	
Basketball	(10,5%)	(7%)	(10,5%)	(9,4%)	
Horocrosing		32	41	73	
Horseracing	(0%)	(4,6%)	(4,6%)	(3,5%)	
Handball	3	3	5	11	
Папирап	(0,6%)	(0,4%)	(0,5%)	(0,5%)	
Vallayball	2	12	9	23	
Volleyball	(0,4%)	(1,8%)	(1%)	(1%)	
Tonnio		19	18	37	
Tennis	(0%)	(2,8%)	(2%)	(1,8%)	
Automobile	3	9	10	22	
Automobile	(0,6%)	(1,4%)	(1,2%)	(1%)	
Motorcycle		3	5	8	
Wotorcycle	(0%)	(0,4%)	(0,5%)	(0,4%)	
Bicycle	3	4	4	11	
Dicycle	(0,6%)	(0,6%)	(0,4%)	(0,5%)	
Other sport branches	41	56	49	146	
other sport branches	(7,8%)	(8,2%)	(5,4%)	(6,9%)	
4 4	523	691	903	2117	

National and International Sports News

	Zaman	Hurriyet	Sabah	Total
National sport	437	544	712	1693
news	(83,5%)	(78,7%)	(78,8%)	(80%)
International	86	147	191	424
sport news	(16,5%)	(21,3%)	(21,2%)	(20%)
	523	691	903	2117

Use of photographs

Ž.	Zaman	Hurriyet	Sabah	Total
No Photograph	203	363	370	936
No Photograph	38,8%	(52,5%)	41%	44,2%
Dia da assas la	269	259	449	977
1 Photograph	51,5%	(37,5%)	49,7%	46,2%
2 Dhotographa	33	42	60	135
2 Photographs	6,3%	6,1%	6,6%	6,4%
A D L L L L L L L L L L	9	8	9	26
3 Photographs	1,7%	1,1%	1%	1,2%
4 or more	9	19	15	43
Photographs	1,7%	2,8%	1,7%	2%
	523	691	903	2117

Theme categories in sports news

	Zaman	Hurriyet	Sabah	Total
Advance	153	213	199	565
information	(29,2%)	(30,8%)	(22%)	(26,7%)
△	22	44	101	167
Transfer	(4,2%)	(6,5%)	(11,2%)	(7,8%)
Tetomiou.	79	114	156	349
Interview	(15,1%)	(16,5%)	(17,3%)	(16,5%)
(A) a 4 a 1 . a a a	99	156	179	434
Actual news	(19%)	(22,5%)	(20%)	(20,5%)
	15	27	41	83
Research	(2,8%)	(4%)	(4,5%)	(4%)
NAC:	112	98	153	363
Winning	(21,4%)	(14%)	(17%)	(17,1%)
5 5	22	25	32	79
Defeat	(4,2%)	(3,7%)	(3,5%)	(3,8%)
Equalization	6	2	5	13
	(1,2%)	(0,3%)	(0,5%)	(0,6%)
Othor	15	12	37	64
Other	(2,9%)	(1,7%)	(4%)	(3%)
4 A	523	691	903	2117

25

Representation of major sports clubs

Football team	Zaman	Hurriyet	Sabah	Total
	62	82	121	265
Besiktas	(15%)	(16,2%)	(18,1%)	(16,7%)
Fenerbahce	71	90	127	288
renerbance	(17%)	(17,8%)	(19%)	(18,1%)
Calatanaras	66	94	149	309
Galatasaray	(15,8%)	(18,6%)	(22,4%)	(19,5%)
	36	37	56	129
Trabzonspor	(8,7%)	(7,3%)	(8,4%)	(8,1%)
Other team	158	178	171	507
	(38%)	(35,3%)	(25,6%)	(32%)
General	23	24	43	90
football	(5,5%)	(4,8%)	(6,5%)	(5,6%)
1	416	505	667	1588

Major football clubs



1905

- It is quite interesting that 1588 of the total 2117 news analyzed are about four major football clubs in Turkey; namely Beşiktaş, Fenerbahçe, Trabzonspor and Galatasaray.
- The distribution of this news is as follows:
 Galatasaray (309 news), Fenerbahçe (288 news), Beşiktaş (265 news) and Trabzonspor (129 news) respectively.

CONCLUSION

- There are some reasons for the predominance of football news in sports news available in newspapers.
- First of all, it has the power to socialize masses since all the sorrow and happiness is experienced together among supporters in various contexts.
- Similarly, supporters of the same team might suddenly start sincere relationships during the matches or celebrations.

Newspapers' agenda

- This situation is rarely observed in other sports branches and never observed in individual sports.
- For instance, the success of an archer does not affect masses unless it is an international achievement, a subject of honor for the nation.
- Therefore, football is a sports branch which is and will always be on newspapers' agenda.

Presented with large photos

- The analysis reveals that wins are subjects of sports news more than defeats.
- While the news about wins is presented with large photographs, the news about defeats is given little spaces on the pages and is less noticeable.
- The reason for this might be the reluctance to read about upsetting events by readers.
- When there are no matches, sports pages present news about teams regarding preparations, trainings and footballers to keep the interest high for this football world.

Give information about horses

- The most important reason of including horseracing news is that people bet on the winners.
- The content of the this news does not include comments about future races but rather they give information about favorite horses, race schedule and the horses to run in each race.
- This great interest leads to the increasing popularity of horseracing on sports pages.

Thank you for attendence...

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