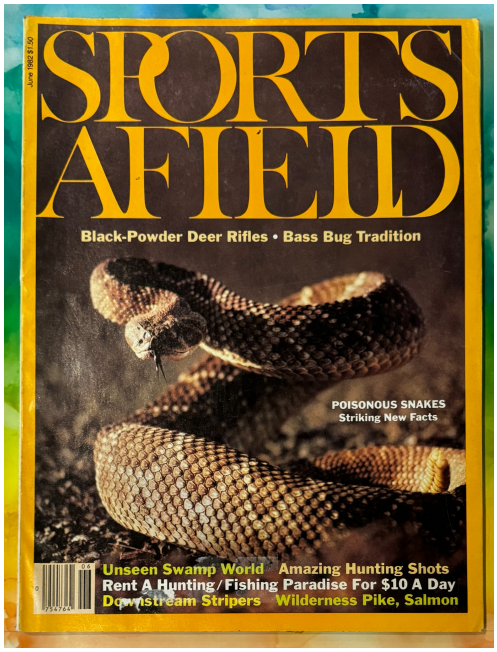
Sports Afield

Magazine Research Record



June 1982. Representative photographed cover from the snake related Sports Afield issues preserved in the collection.

Publication Identification

Field	Information
Country	United States
Publisher	Hearst Magazines / Hearst Corporation during the represented period
Publishing address	Pending research update
Magazine title	Sports Afield
Publication status	Historical print title founded in 1887, with the first issue appearing in January 1888. Current end date or later continuity beyond the scope of this record is pending research update.
Publication run	The overall magazine began in 1887 and the physical issues represented here date from June 1982, June 1985, and June 1990. Complete run details beyond this documented evidence remain pending research update.
Editor	Pending research update
Printer	Pending research update
ISSN	0038-8149
Language	English
Publication type	General outdoor magazine covering hunting, fishing, shooting, natural history, and conservation
Collection coverage	Three photographed snake related issues from 1982, 1985, and 1990
Earliest photographed issue used in this record	June 1982
Latest photographed issue used in this record	June 1990

Preservation Significance

These issues have preservation significance because they document how snakes were presented to a large general outdoor readership during the 1980s and 1990s. They preserve photographs, cover design, article subjects, prices, and the editorial language used to market snake related features to readers of a major American outdoor magazine.

They are especially useful because the 1982 and 1990 issues prominently use the phrase “poisonous snakes.” Preservation matters not only for accurate information, but also for historically inaccurate or simplified terminology. Keeping these issues together makes it possible to study how scientific information was communicated, and sometimes misstated, in mass market outdoor publishing.

The three issue group is also useful as a small chronological set. The 1982 and 1990 covers emphasize danger and emergency treatment, while the 1985 cover presents a broader “Giant Snakes of the World” feature. Taken together, they show more than one mode of snake coverage within the same long running publication.

Publication Metadata and Masthead Documentation

The working file documents Sports Afield as a long running American outdoor magazine founded in 1887 by Claude King, with the first issue appearing in January 1888. The title later developed into a major publication covering hunting, fishing, shooting, natural history, and conservation. Hearst acquired the magazine in 1953 and owned it throughout the years represented by the physical copies used in this record.

A full masthead review has not yet been incorporated into this record. For that reason, fields such as publishing address, editor, and printer remain marked “Pending research update.” This wording does not indicate that the physical magazines are missing. It means only that the masthead specific details have not yet been transcribed into the current record.

The available evidence still establishes several core facts. The represented issues are June 1982, June 1985, and June 1990. The publication’s history describes it as an outdoor monthly during this era, and the ISSN is independently recorded as 0038-8149.

International Distribution

The current photographed evidence confirms United States publication and United States cover pricing. The representative June 1982 copy is priced at $1.50. Specific distributor networks, foreign pricing structures, or international subscription arrangements are pending research update until masthead and distribution pages are reviewed.

Issues Represented in the Photographed Record

Field	Information
June 1982	Representative photographed cover. Cover feature: “POISONOUS SNAKES. Striking New Facts.” Other visible cover subjects include black powder deer rifles, bass bug tradition, unseen swamp world, hunting shots, a hunting and fishing paradise, downstream stripers, wilderness pike, and salmon. Cover price: $1.50.
June 1985	Cover feature: “GIANT SNAKES Of The World.” Other visible cover subjects include deer hunting, bass fishing, western whitetails, blackpowder history, bluegill fishing, smallmouth bass, and the Sports Afield Almanac. Cover price: $1.95.
June 1990	Cover feature: “POISONOUS SNAKES: How Dangerous Are They? New Emergency Treatment.” Other visible cover subjects include bass tournament fishing, walleyes, shotgun hunting, and the magazine’s hunting, fishing, guns, tackle, and environment coverage. Cover price: $1.95.

Research Reliability Note

These Sports Afield snake issues should not be treated as stand alone scientific research sources. The June 1982 cover prominently advertises “POISONOUS SNAKES,” and the June 1990 cover again uses “POISONOUS SNAKES,” eight years later. In standard zoological usage, a snake that delivers toxin by biting and injecting it is described as venomous. Poison is generally delivered when a toxic substance is ingested, inhaled, or absorbed.

The repeated use of “poisonous” in prominent snake cover features therefore raises a legitimate concern about the scientific vetting of material presented to readers. For research purposes, claims in these issues should be checked against appropriate scientific or herpetological sources before being relied upon or cited. The criticism of the 1982 and 1990 terminology should not be automatically extended to the 1985 issue, whose visible cover does not present the same poisonous versus venomous error.

Website and Catalog Placement

Field	Information
Primary section	Magazine Preservation
Country grouping	United States
Publication title	Sports Afield
Publisher	Hearst Magazines / Hearst Corporation during the represented period
Language	English
Collection note	Three snake related issues represented: June 1982, June 1985, and June 1990
Preservation emphasis	Snake representation in a mass market outdoor magazine, terminology reliability, and continuity across the 1980s and 1990s

Sources Used in this Record

Field	Information
Physical covers	Primary evidence for the magazine title, issue dates, cover prices, article promotion, and the visible snake related cover language.
Photographed mastheads	Pending research update. A masthead review has not yet been incorporated into the current record, so masthead specific fields remain marked “Pending research update.”
Collection information supplied with the photographed issues	Used to identify the represented three issue set and preserve the special note about terminology and research reliability.
Additional verified publication history	Sports Afield’s published history identifies Claude King as founder, dates the first issue to January 1888, and places Hearst ownership over the represented period. The ISSN is independently recorded as 0038-8149.

Verification Notes

The issue dates, cover prices, and quoted snake related cover language are taken directly from the photographed physical copies. Publication history, Hearst ownership during the represented period, and monthly publication during that era are carried forward from the working research text. The ISSN is independently recorded as 0038-8149. More detailed masthead information remains pending research update until those interior pages are separately reviewed and transcribed.