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# JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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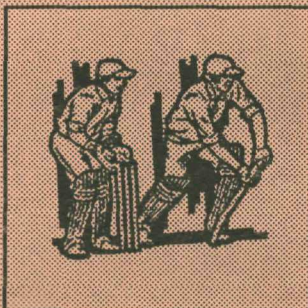
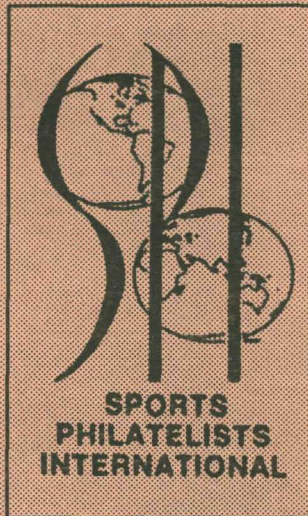
NUMBER 4

## The 1928 Spartakiad: Politics, Sport and Philately



Rare postmark for the 1928 Spartakiad in Moscow

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MAR-APR 1994**

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## SPORTS PHILATELISTS INTERNATIONAL

**PRESIDENT:** Mark C. Maestrono, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122  
**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Sherwin D. Podolsky, 299 Whitworth Street, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360  
**SEC.-TREASURER:** Robert L. Mummert, 601 Greendale Road, York, PA 17403  
**DIRECTORS:** Edward B. Epstein, 570 Fort Washington Avenue, New York, NY 10033  
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**AUCTIONS:** Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993  
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## JOURNAL of SPORTS PHILATELY

**PUBLISHER:** John La Porta, P.O. Box 2286, La Grange, IL 60525  
**EDITOR:** Mark C. Maestrono, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122  
**ASSOCIATE EDITORS:** Brian Bjorgo, 3220 Forest Drive, Bremerton, WA 98310  
 James Bowman, 3459 Township Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063  
 Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993  
 Sherwin D. Podolsky, 299 Whitworth Street, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360  
 Dorothy E. Weihrauch, P.O. Box 5955, Scottsdale, AZ 85261  
 Stephen Rock, 3300 Waterman Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
 Robert L. Mummert, 601 Greendale Road, York, PA 17403  
 Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993  
**AD MANAGER:** B. Stahl, B. Tomkins, J. Trgovac, C. Vokoun  
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## Nominations Open For SPI Elections

Nominations for the officers and board of directors of SPI are now open. Those members in good standing who would like to run for one of these positions should contact the Nominations Chairman, Mr. Bernie McGovern, at 2107 Marianna Street, Tampa, FL 33612-7555.

The offices being contended are: President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer (combined position), and members of the board of directors.

Do not delay. Nominations must be *received* by April 15, 1994.

Our auction manager, Glenn Estus, is being overwhelmed with consignments for the bimonthly SPI Auctions. Many consignors are entering material which is extremely common and which does not sell. In an effort to maintain control, Glenn is asking consignors to please group their material into lots with minimum bids of at least \$1.00.

As always, please make sure that each lot is packaged in a separate envelope or glassine and properly labeled. Correct descriptions and estimated or minimum bids must accompany all material submitted to the auction. If this is not done, the lots will not be entered and the consignor will be charged for the return postage.

Please help our Auction Manager out by following these simple rules!

Specially cacheted first day covers of the new U.S. Winter Olympic stamps are now available. Be advised, however, that these were created in very limited numbers. Once sold, there will be no more.

For information on how to place an order, please see the advertisement on page 25 of this issue.

New sport and Olympic philatelic societies seem to be springing up around the world, a development we applaud!

The newest addition to our growing family is PODIUM, which was founded this past September in Argentina. Devoted to sports thematics, the group is part of the Argentine Thematic Philately Association.

PODIUM's goals include membership lists, reports on sports philately from Argentina and its neigh-

bors, new cancellation information, listings of reliable thematic dealers, and participation in philatelic exhibitions.

SPI members wishing to find out more information may write to: Mr. Jorge Armando Casalia, PODIUM, Casilla de Correo No. 30, Sucursal No. 19, (1419) Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The Board of Directors of SPI is presently examining a proposal from one of our members to provide a "Rapid Notification Service" for new cancels, both in the U.S. and overseas. Periodically, the operator of the service would send out bulletins to subscribers, hopefully in sufficient time for them to obtain examples. The cost would be minimal: likely only SASEs would be required. Please let your President know your thoughts on this potential new SPI service.

### Johan Jørgen Holst 1937-1994

Johan J. Holst, Norway's Foreign Minister and a long time member of SPI, passed away on January 13, 1994 at the age of 56. The cause of death was a stroke.

Minister Holst was an outstanding servant of his country. Before becoming Foreign Minister in 1993, he served a number of years as the Minister of Defense. His most noteworthy achievement was the secret talks he led between Israel and the PLO which resulted in last year's historic peace accord.

A devoted member of our society, his contributions to Olympic philately will be sorely missed. Our society's deepest condolences are offered to his wife, Marianne, and his children.

More On The World University Games

I would like to correct the article presented by Mark Maestrono and Bob DuBois titled "Origins of the World University Games" which appeared in the July-August 1993 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*. I am not a specialist in the World University Games. Nevertheless, I would like to enlarge upon some of the facts culled from two excellent sources: *First Polish Sports Yearbook* (Warsaw, 1925, in Polish) and an article by noted Italian sports philatelist (and SPI member) Luciano Calenda titled "Universiade e ... Filatelia" (published in the journal *Sport Universitario*, March 1992, No. 78, in Italian).

Messrs. Maestrono and DuBois, describing the Universiade, wrote: "As Table 1 indicates, these games have gone by different names, which explains the variation in numbers." However, does it accurately explain it?

In the next sentence, the authors relate that "the first eight games (1923-1939) were contested under the title 'International University Games.' They were organized by the International Confederation of Students (CIE), ..." Do the authors know that between the first and second games, very similar games were organized by the CIE in Warsaw, Poland in 1924 and in Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1925?

In September 1924, Warsaw hosted the IInd Congress of the CIE. On that occasion, the International Academic Games were organized. Students from Estonia, France, Great Britain, New Zealand and Poland competed in five sports: athletics (track and field), fencing, rowing, tennis and football. Why was there no mention of these games in the summary provided in Table 1? Can the authors provide more details on the unlisted games and explain why the official numbering system does not recognize them?

In the same article, the chapter on Early Universiade Philately must be revised to reflect the postal cancellations commemorating the International Academic Games in Warsaw in 1924 (Figure 1) and Italy in 1927 (Figure 2).

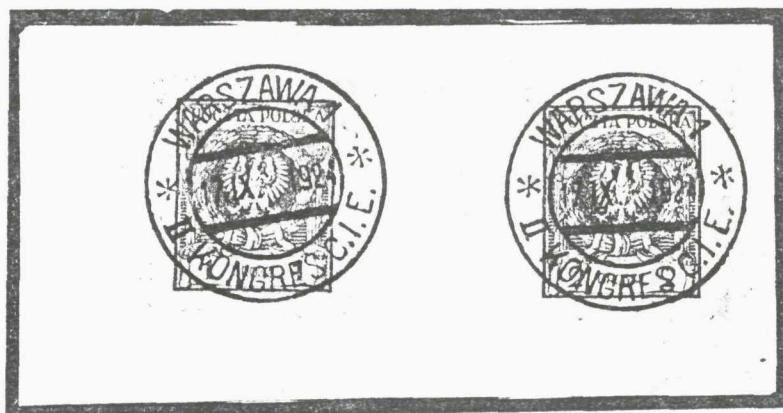


Figure 1. This scarce Polish sports cancel commemorates the 1924 CIE Congress in Warsaw.



Figure 2. Although a stamp was not issued for the 2nd Universiade in Rome, Italy in 1927, a special slogan meter does mention the event.

Both these cancellations are extremely rare and sought after by European sports philatelists. Hopefully, American collectors will now be interested in them as well.

For a long time, experts in traditional Polish philately were unable to explain the Figure 1 cancellation inscription "Congress CIE." Could it have been a political congress? Or perhaps a congress for the Salvation Army? Quite by accident, the cancel was eventually identified as sports related. Today, this is recognized as the most important cancel in Polish sports philately; only a few copies on piece are known to exist.

On a more personal note, why was 99.9% of the text of "Early Universiade Philately" devoted to labels?

Dr. Roman Babut  
Warsaw, Poland

According to a translation of Mr. Calenda's article cited in the letter above, "on both occasions [Warsaw, 1924 and Prague, 1925] there were no 'Games' but just an International Soccer Tournament." Mr. Calenda makes no mention of competitions in track and field, fencing, rowing or tennis. Mr. Calenda's list of competitions, which was reproduced in our article, did not include the Warsaw and Prague soccer tournaments — and rightly so.

Originally, the article "Origins of the World University Games" was conceived as a means of explaining the complicated numbering system, rather than an in-depth study. Until the 1937 games in Italy, there were no stamps, only labels ... and two cancellations, as Dr. Babut correctly points out. So, it is hardly surprising that the bulk of the article discusses labels.

We do want to thank Dr. Babut, though, for bringing these two additional cancellations to our attention!

Bob DuBois and Mark Maestrono

# The 1928 Spartakiad: Politics, Sport and Philately

by Vsevolod Furman

The 1928 Olympic year will go down in sports history as a year in which sport was employed as a political tool.

As the Winter Olympic Games in Saint Moritz, Switzerland neared their conclusion, the First International Winter Workers' Spartakiad got underway in Oslo (February 17-28). Among the participants were 63 Soviet athletes competing in skiing, speed skating, wrestling and boxing. Yakov Melnikov (Russian champion in 1915 and 1917) was very successful. He set new records on the "Bishlet" skating rink with times of 17 minutes, 38.7 seconds in the 10,000 meters and 8:44.2 in the 5,000. The latter event time bettered that of Saint Moritz Olympic champion Ivar Ballangrude's 8:50.5. Melnikov would continue his speed skating success with five more USSR championships.

From the philatelic point of view, these events can be documented with mail postmarked from Oslo on the dates of the events.

In 1928, the headline "proletarian" sporting event was the First All-Union Spartakiad in Moscow. This competition, which was announced in 1926, celebrated the 10th anniversary of the October (1917) Bolshevik Revolution as well as the first Soviet five-year plan. All foreign worker-athletes were invited to participate at this Spartakiad.

Construction began on a large stadium with a capacity of 36,000 spectators. Located in the center of Moscow's Petrovsky Park, the Dynamo Stadium later received Olympic athletes for the 1980 Olympic Games after an extensive renovation in 1978-1979.

Preparations for the 1928 Spartakiad were accompanied by extensive political ballyhoo. The press took every opportunity to publicize the tenth anniversary of Lenin's signing of a decree creating the Vsevoluch Universal Military Train-

ing for citizens. Physical development played an important role in military training, marking the beginning of Soviet physical culture.

The Spartakiad organizing committee was composed of a number of political and state leaders. These included A. Enukidze (1877-1937), a secretary of the Central Executive Committee (TsIK) of the USSR; M. Tskhakaya (1865-1950), a member of the Transcaucasian Central Executive Committee; N. Semashko (1874-1949), chairman of VSFK — the Supreme Soviet of physical training; and N. Podvoisky (1880-1948), chief of the Universal Military Training. The head of the organizing committee was Mikhail Kedrov (1879-1941), Lenin's and Dzerzhinsky's comrade, and a VSNH (Supreme Soviet of the National Economy) executive.



Figure 1. N. Semashko (left, Scott #2937) and N. Podvoisky (right, Scott #4813), both leading sports figures in the USSR, served on the 1928 All-Union Spartakiad organizing committee.

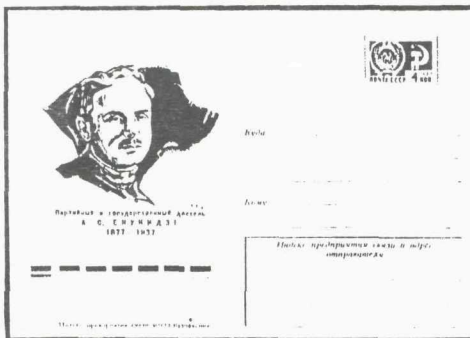


Figure 2. Another Spartakiad organizing committee member, A. Enukidze, was commemorated on a USSR postal stationery envelope.

All these men are commemorated in Soviet philately. Two appear on stamps: N. Semashko (Scott #2937 in 1964) and N. Podvoisky (Scott #4813 in 1980), reproduced in Figure 1. Three others are portrayed on USSR postal stationery: A. Enukidze (Figure 2), M. Tskhakaya, and M. Kedrov (Figure 3).

At its 1927 Congress in Helsinki, Lucern Sport International (LSI), a rival of Red Sport International, prohibited its members from participating in the 1928 All-Union Spartakiad. However, many LSI athletes broke ranks and attended the Moscow competition anyway.

The 1928 Spartakiad opened on August 12, closing day of the IXth Olympic Games at Amsterdam. Moscow's opening ceremonies were so ostentatious that they outshone the Olympic fete.

Some lucky collectors possess covers and postcards with the special cancellation marks and famous pentagonal Olympic postmark from Amsterdam (Figure 4). What is even more rare is the round Spartakiad cancel dated 12. VIII 1928! The Amsterdam postmarks can be found, but the Moscow Spartakiad cancel with that date is all but invisible.

So, what happened on that day in Moscow? At noon, 25,000 athletes — representatives of all the republics of the USSR — marched past the Lenin Mausoleum in Red Square dressed in their bright national costumes. 612 foreign athletes from 17 countries walked with them. The parade was a striking and unforgettable show. Vladimir Mayakovsky, a romantic poet of the revolution, was so impressed by what he saw that he exclaimed, "The muscles of factories! Go, Spartakiad!" He later wrote a long trumpet-rhymed report on the parade which was used by the propaganda machine of the Soviet totalitarian regime for many years to come.

M.I. Kalinin, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the USSR, accepted the salute of the

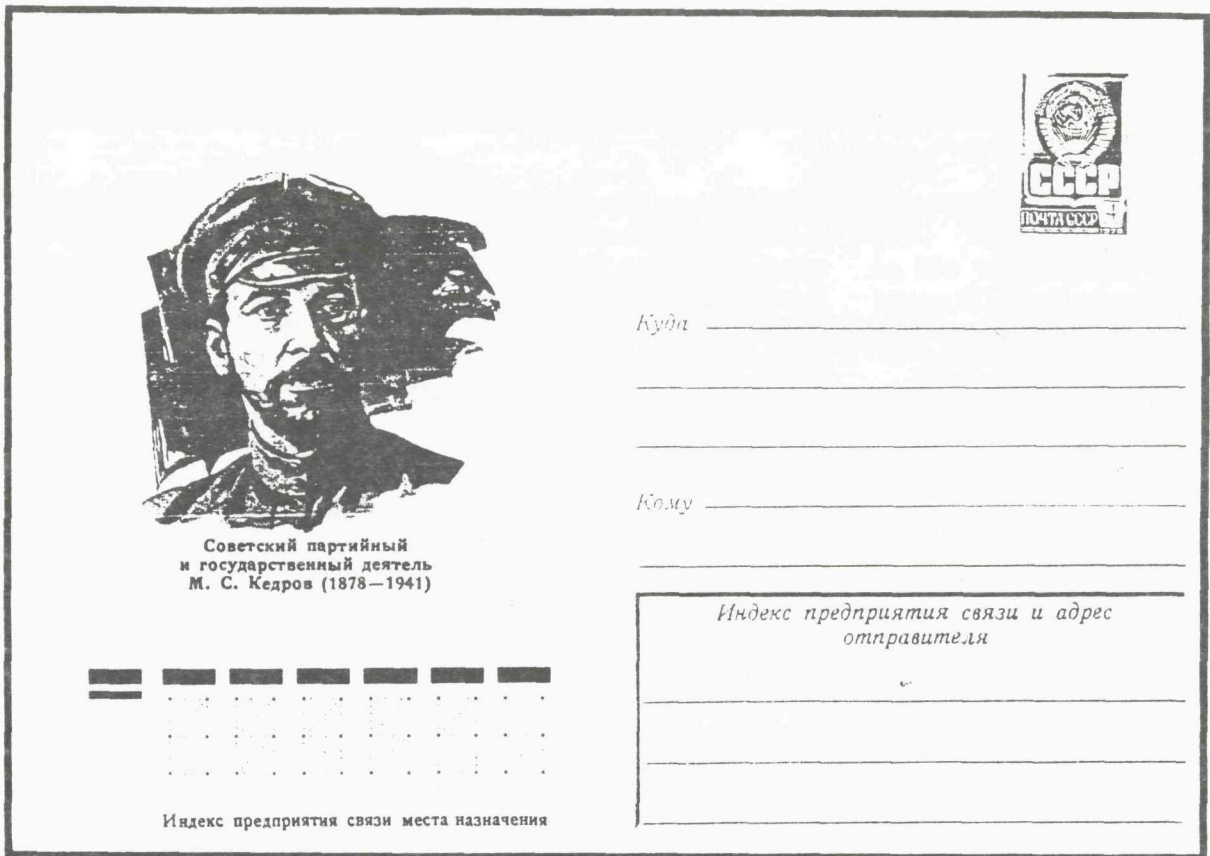


Figure 3. M. Kedrov, head of the Spartakiad organizing committee, appears on this postal envelope.



Figure 4. August 12, 1928 was not only the opening day of the Spartakiad, but also the closing day of the IXth Olympic Games in Amsterdam, as represented by this registered cover from Amsterdam to Zurich bearing the well-known pentagonal Olympic cancel.

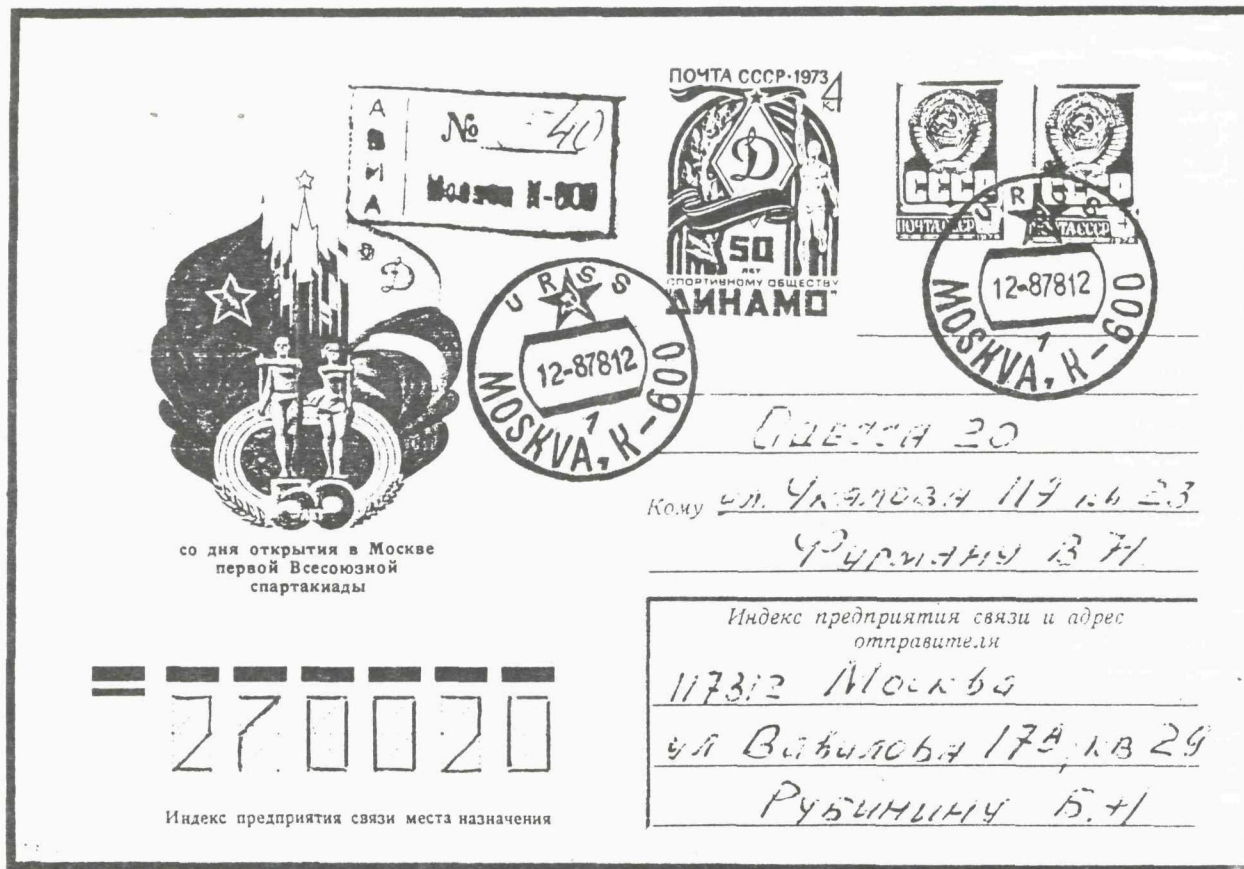


Figure 5. The 50th anniversary of the 1928 Spartakiad was commemorated on this postal envelope sent from post office K-600 near Red Square. The date (August 12) and time (noon) coincide exactly with the beginning of the Spartakiad parade a half-century earlier.

parade of athletes. By evening, a chorus of many thousand youths joined in, performing the workers' hymn, the "International," on the Vorobyev Hills (Red Square). The conductor of the chorus was the composer himself, Pierre Degeyter.

We shall speak in more detail about the Moscow Spartakiad postmark a bit later. At this point, it is appropriate to discuss and comment on the jubilee illustrated stamped cover issued in 1978 (Figure 5). The cover commemorates the 50th anniversary of the First All-Union Spartakiad. It saw extensive use, and is therefore not particularly rare. However, very few copies were sent from the K-600 post office at noon on August 12, 1978 (post office K-600 is located at the Intourist Hotel on Tverskaya Street, just 250 yards from Red Square). In this great square in central Moscow exactly 50 years earlier, columns of parade participants were gathering for the 1928 Spartakiad parade.

This philatelic find is an interesting element illustrating the development of the theme. The cachet conveys additional thematic information. The standard bearers at center carry banners representing the two oldest sports societies in the Soviet Union: Central Sport Club of the Armed Forces (TsSKA) and Dynamo. Together, they united officials and servicemen from the totalitarian regime's power structure: the Armed Forces, Ministry of Home Affairs, and the KGB (Committee of State Security).

Both societies were founded almost simultaneously in 1923: Dynamo on April 12 and TsSKA on April 29.



Figure 6. Buryat archery, a sport unique to Asia, was demonstrated at both the 1928 Spartakiad and 1980 Moscow Olympics (Scott #2770).

With vast financial capabilities and the patronage of the state's leaders, these societies were able to assemble together the majority of the elite athletes of Soviet sport. Postage stamps were issued in their honor in 1973 (see Scott #4081 on cover in Figure 5), along with illustrated stamped envelopes. Special cancellations commemorating their anniversaries appeared in both 1973 and 1983.

In scope, the 1928 All-Union Spartakiad surpassed the Amsterdam Olympic Games. 7,125 athletes (some sources say 7,248) competed in 21 sports. In addition to the standard disciplines (track and field, Greco-Roman wrestling, boxing, basketball, volleyball, football, tennis, cycling, motorcycling, swimming, water polo, diving, rowing and folk-rowing, handball, fencing, gymnastics, weightlifting and shooting), the program included gorodki (a form of skittles) and military hurdles. Yachting events were held in the vicinity of Leningrad: at Sestroretsk, Razliv and Peterhoff.

Demonstration sports such as persh-ball, Buryat archery and folk dancing aroused great interest.

It is necessary to note some differences in certain events that were specific to the Spartakiad. For example, gymnastics included team competition in floor exercises, beam, 100 meter dash, vaulting and rope climb. Another unusual gymnastics event was the running high jump. In this event, competitors took a long run-up to two bars set a certain distance apart, the object being to clear both bars. Following these events, the gymnastics competition included exercises on the bars and beam. [Editor's Note: although the running high jump may have been unique to the Spartakiad competition, sprinting and climbing events were not. Many gymnastics competitions in Europe and the United States included these additional events until after World War II.]

The competition in shooting was clearly militaristic in nature. The sportsmen-sharpshooters fired dummy machine guns simulating field conditions. In addition, they had to discern between "observer" and "enemy" targets which appeared and disappeared on the range. Athletes were scored according to their keenness of vision and the number of cartridges used in hitting the targets.

The Buryat archery competition is quite an exotic sport. Its formal name is "surharban." "Sur" refers to the target consisting of a sandbag or sack of sawdust or grass. Five targets are arranged in a square on the ground or grass field (one target at each corner, plus one in the center). The archers stand at a distance of 50 meters from the targets. Each shoots 10 arrows in turn. Points are earned by hitting the "surs": 10 for the center target, and fewer points for the corners. The skill of this sport is to shoot one's arrow with the proper trajectory. An incorrect flight path will cause the arrow to miss the "sur" or fly over the targets entirely. Figure 6 depicts a USSR stamp commemorating Buryat archery issued in 1963 (Scott #2770).

Buryat archery may elicit great expositions of emotion from the audience. In one case, a winner, Khaiyano, was lifted by the spectators and carried out of the stadium. The sport



**Figure 7.** Werner Seelenbinder of Germany was one of the many notable athletes who participated in the Spartakiad. His achievements in the sport of weightlifting and strong stand against fascism are commemorated on this 1963 stamp and cancel from the German Democratic Republic (Scott #B99).

was one of the demonstration disciplines at the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games.

The winners' results at the Spartakiad were rather high. In total, 80 USSR records were set. The Spartakiad Prize, which was awarded to the best team, went to the athletes from Moscow. Ukraine was second, and the team from Byelorussia took third place.

Worth noting are the various Olympic stars who took part in the Spartakiad. A. Lukhayer, a weightlifter from Estonia, won a silver medal in Amsterdam followed by a first place finish at the Spartakiad.

Finnish athlete, V. Iso-Hollo, a future 3,000 meter hurdles champion and silver medalist in 10,000 meters at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics, was a double winner in Moscow. At the Spartakiad, he won both the 3,000 meter and 5,000 meter runs, with a second place finish in the 10,000 meters.

Werner Seelenbinder of Germany, who would go on to win his wrestling weight class at the Berlin Olympic Games of 1936, was also present. An eyewitness account relates his ability to skillfully throw his opponent overhead, regardless of his position on the mat. Seelenbinder is depicted execut-

ing this maneuver on the label attached to a 1963 German Democratic Republic stamp honoring him (Figure 7). Collectors are likely to be aware of special cancellations of the GDR commemorating this sportsman and anti-fascist whose lucky star in sports was in ascendance at the Moscow Spartakiad.

Many participants at the 1928 Spartakiad achieved fame later in life. Sulamyth Messerer, a double Spartakiad champion in freestyle swimming (50 meter and 4 x 100 meter relay), became a well known ballet dancer and choreographer.

Vladimir Dyachkov, a Spartakiad champion in the high jump, later became a coach of V. Brumel. Brumel, won an Olympic silver medal at Rome in 1960, followed by an Olympic record setting performance in Tokyo where he won the gold.

An all around track and field athlete, and a Spartakiad champion in the 400 meter hurdles, Valily Polikarpov developed a talent for sports arena construction. He contributed in designing the Luzhniki Stadium in 1955, as well as stadiums in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, and Bamako, Mali.

From the philatelic point of view, Valentin Granatkin, a goal keeper for the Moscow combined team that won first place at the Spartakiad, was most fortunate. In due course, Granatkin achieved status as a great figure in Soviet sport, becoming a vice-president of FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) in 1955. Following his death in 1979, an international football tournament was established in his name. Initially, this was a youth tournament sponsored by the newspaper Nedelya (Week). Since 1988, the competition has been conducted with the patronage of the USSR Football Federation. On numerous occasions, special cancellations on commemorative postal stationery envelopes have been used for the tournament (Figure 8).

As previously mentioned, a special hand cancel was created specifically for the Spartakiad. The cancel had a moveable date with text reading "Moscow Spartakiad" in Cyrillic characters. This postmark was the eighth such special hand cancel created in the USSR (see *JSP* cover).



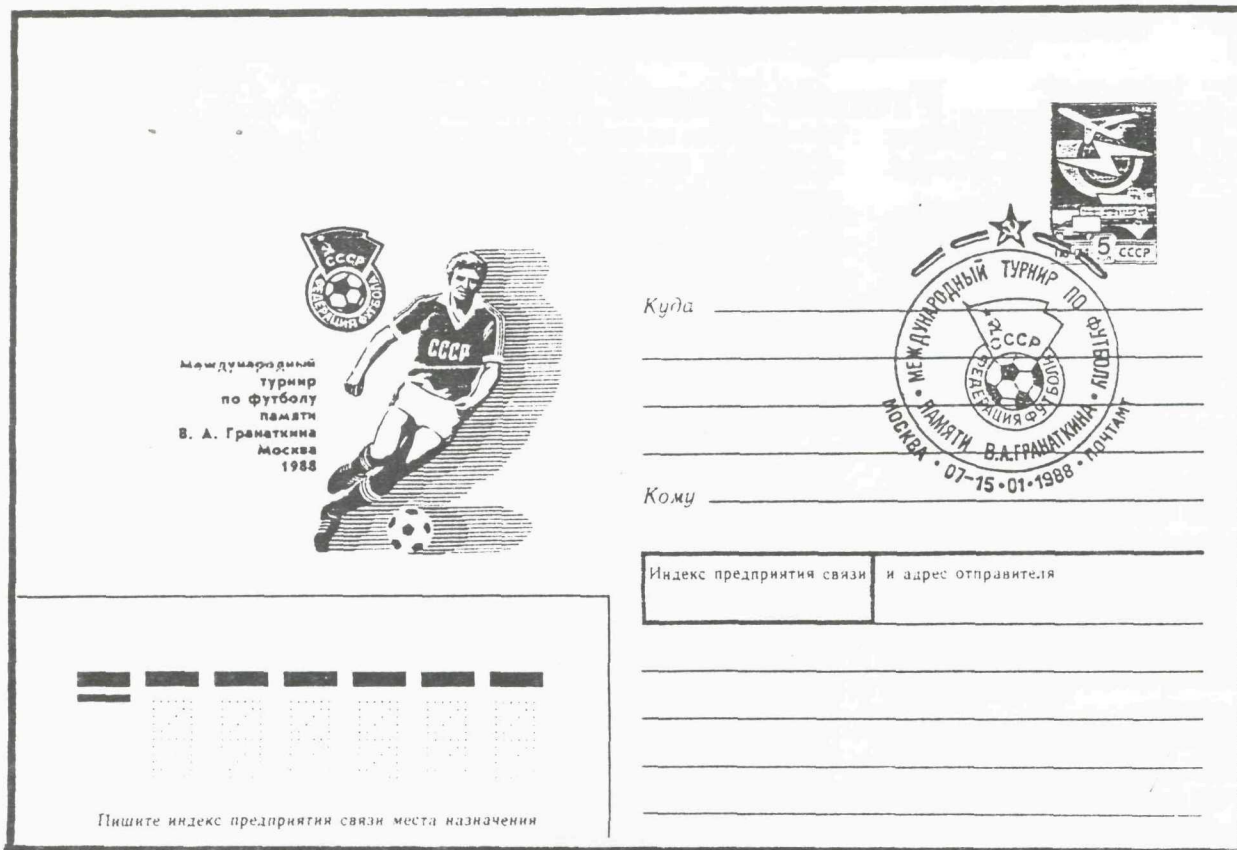


Figure 8. Valentin Granatkin, a soccer star at the 1928 Spartakiad and eventually a vice-president of FIFA, was posthumously honored with an annual soccer competition in his name. Both the cachet on this 1988 postal envelope and the special cancel note the event.

There is still disagreement over the locations at which the cancel was used. According to information published in the magazine *Soviet Collector* (Number 3, 1928), the postmark was available at three venues: Tchernyshev's Barracks (residence for Soviet participants); Third House of the Soviets (foreign delegations and teams were accommodated here); and Pishchevik (Food Industry Workers) Stadium.

Extensive research by Ya. Bovin, M. Levin, V. Yakobe and the author yielded the following conclusions and suggestions:

- There were two similar cancelling devices created — a primary cancel and one for backup.
- The cancel was not used at the venues mentioned above. Mail was collected at those locations and transported to Moscow's General Post Office where processing took place with the primary cancelling device.

- The backup cancel was seldom used. An analysis of the imprints of the primary cancel and the backup version indicates that the text of the latter had thinner characters.

Infrequent use of the backup cancel is confirmed by comparing the quantities of each type found in a batch of covers. Of the 10 to 12 covers and postcards examined, only one of the Spartakiad cancels had been applied by the backup device. Either type is far more rare than such well-known scarce 1912 Olympic cancels as the "STOCKHOLM/STADION" and "STOCKHOLM/LBR/STADION" postmarks.

Illustrated postcards with sport motifs were also issued for the All-Union Spartakiad. While they were not postal stationery items, these postcards are nevertheless very popular with collectors. In unused condition, they are difficult to find — even more so with the special Moscow Spartakiad cancel.

The Spartakiad was conducted from August 11 through 24, 1928. For some reason, the August 22 postmark is found more often. It would be interesting to know the dates of the various sporting events, as they may indicate why certain postmarks are more prevalent. Unfortunately, I can only list a few of them: swimming (August 11-17); fencing (August 15-21); football (August 17-23); and weightlifting (August 24-28).

The closing ceremonies were held at the Bolshoi Theater on August 24, 1928. Ideological propaganda aside, the All-Union Spartakiad was a great sporting event. □

#### What's Your Favorite Sport?

Your editors are looking for articles on sports rarely covered in these pages. Show your knowledge — write an article!

# University Games of 1957 Honor French Sports Enthusiast

by George E. Killian

Many of us who collect philatelic material involving the World University Games (Universiade) have long wondered why a portrait of a relatively unknown international sports figure appeared on a French stamp issued to commemorate the World University Games held in Paris in 1957.

The portrait is of Léo LaGrange who was born in Bourg sur Gironde, France, in 1900. He eventually became a lawyer, a member of the Socialist Party and, above all, an avid sports enthusiast.

LaGrange pursued a career in politics, and in 1932 was elected Deputy of Avesnes (a department in the north of France). On June 6, 1936, he was nominated to be the Secretary of State for Youth and Sports by Leon Blum, President of the first government of the "Popular Front."

That same day, LaGrange declared: "The organization of leisure is a term which needs to be defined according to the meaning one wants it to have. In a democratic country, leisure, distractions and the pleasure of the people should not be militarized, and the joy which is resourcefully spread should not be transformed in a way without thinking."

French law, at that time, dictated a 40-hour work week, with 15 days of paid holiday per year. LaGrange wanted all leisure time spent productively, instead of being considered simply "non-work" time.

In a comment to an American reporter, LaGrange stated: "Our objective in France is to recreate the meaning of joy and dignity. All types of leisure must be made available to the people, so that everyone can choose for himself. Every door must be opened so that everyone can participate in the free and fair game of democracy."

In carrying out his objectives regarding leisure, LaGrange obtained

an agreement from the French railroad companies that once each year, each employee and his family would receive a 40% reduction on the price of transportation to encourage them in their pursuit of enjoyable leisure activities.

With turmoil in Europe during the late 1930s, LaGrange became an officer in the French Army. In the

early months of 1940, he was killed in combat.

In 1957, the French government, on the occasion of the University Games in Paris, issued a stamp in his honor. Figure 1 illustrates the stamp bearing the portrait of La Grange with a stadium in the background. A tribute well deserved. □



Figure 1. Léo LaGrange, a noted proponent of sports for everyone, was honored with a French stamp (Scott #845) commemorating the 1957 World University Games in Paris.

# Varieties on the Greece 1896 Olympic Issue

by Otello Bortolato

*(This article is an edited excerpt from the author's booklet "La Prima Olimpiade dell'Era Moderna" ["The First Olympiad of the Modern Era"] published from his report given at the International Philatelic Congress at Madrid on April 9, 1975. Permission to translate was granted by the author. Translation from the Italian was provided by Dorothy Weihrauch with the assistance of the American Philatelic Society Translation Committee. Edited by Sherwin Podolsky.)*

On the occasion of the great international exhibitions of sports and Olympic philately — "Toward Tokyo 1964," "Toward Mexico 1968" and "Toward Monaco 1972," organized in Italy by the International Center of Sports Philately, I had the opportunity to examine the most important collections of Olympic Games material then existing. This is my research summary, without any pretense of completeness, of the varieties found on the stamps of the Greek 1896 Olympic Games issue.

(Editor's Note. Because of the lack of illustrations, several of the descriptions may not be completely clear or precise. It is hoped that readers may have enough guidance from the description to find the varieties. Please report your discoveries with enlarged photocopies that can be published.

The descriptions for varieties 6 and 7 of the 2 lepta, and 1 of the 10 lepta, refer to positions found in Figure 1 which shows the layout of a sheet of six panes. This layout applies only to the four small-size low values. Each pane has 25 stamps. Numbering for the positions is identified by counting across within the pane.

Figure 2 shows an actual sheet of the 5 lepta value. Cutouts at the left are typical of printing by the Paris printers. Note the solid color bars on the gutters between the panes. There are also possibilities of collecting gutter pairs and blocks in different formats.

Figure 3 shows an actual sheet of sixty stamps of the 60 lepta and is typical of any of the larger stamps in the set. There are six panes of ten stamps each. Note the cutouts are at the right and that color bars in the gutters are lacking.

Figures 2 and 3 are taken from *La Filatelia Ellenica nel Regno Olimpico* by Spiro Raftopoulos. Published by Edizioni D'Urso, 1964.

Bortolato's original article numbered the varieties consecutively from 1 to 46, without a break for each denomination. In this edited article, the numbering system is changed, starting with 1 for each denomination. The changed system allows for adding new varieties for each denomination and numbering them. New varieties reported by Sherwin Podolsky are

marked by an asterisk [\*]. Color information is from the Scott catalog.)

## 1 Lepton (ocher) Scott #117

1. Bottom lines broken at upper left (Editor's note: presumably an ornament at the upper left has broken bottom lines)
2. Spot (from extraneous material on the plate) in the lower left corner
3. Upper frame partially missing

## 2 Lepta (rose) Scott #118

1. Frame interrupted (broken) in the lower left corner
2. Face of the fighter at the left lacking facial features

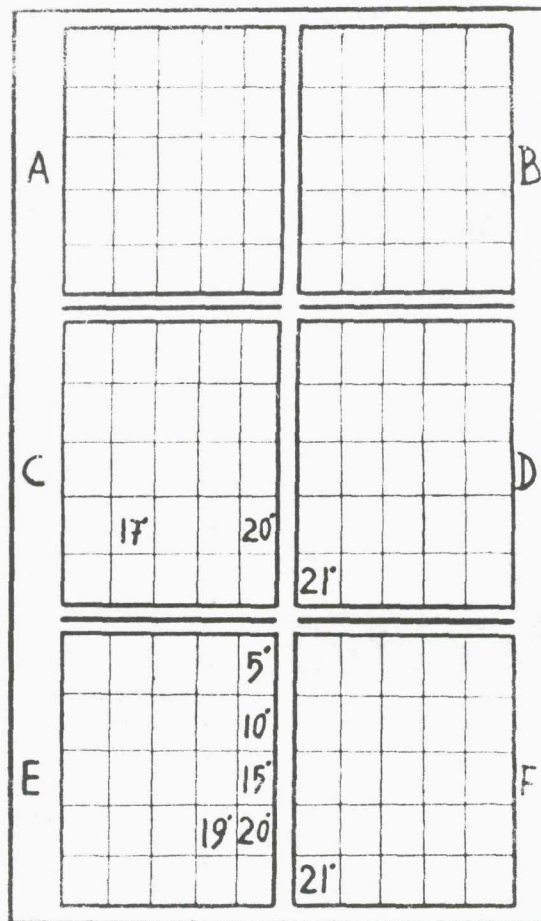


Figure 1. A simplified illustration of the complete sheet of a low value, printed in panes of 6, each pane marked from A to F. Each pane contains 25 stamps (5 x 5). Stamp position is numbered separately for each pane, starting at upper left. Varieties have been found at the numbered positions.

3. White line due to extraneous material
4. Upper frame broken in the right corner
5. Upper frame broken in the left corner
6. Engraver Mouchon's name missing in the following positions of sheet of 150 copies: A/10, C/5, C/10, E/7, E/107 (Scott No. 117a)
7. Engraver Mouchon's name partially missing in the following positions: A/7, B/10, C/7, D/5, E/5, F/5, F/10
8. Internal circles (hoop) containing "1896" fades (i.e. comes and goes)
9. \*Outer circle of the "18" broken
10. \*Entire top frame of design missing.

**5 Lepta (lilac) Scott #119**

1. Figure "8" of "1896" broken in lower part
2. Upper frame broken in the right corner
3. Upper frame broken in the left corner
4. Upper frame fades a great deal

**10 Lepta (sl. gray) Scott #120**

1. Frame breaks at lower left corner may be found in the following positions of the large sheet of 150 copies (Figure 1): C/17, C/20, D/21, E/15, E/19, F/21)
2. Frame broken at lower right corner (Figure 4)
3. Frame broken at upper right corner
4. Frame broken at upper left corner

**20 Lepta (red brn) Scott #121**

1. Upper frame broken at the left corner
2. Upper frame broken at the right corner
3. Spot (from extraneous material) on the right column

**25 Lepta (red) Scott #122**

1. Engraver Mouchon's name partially missing

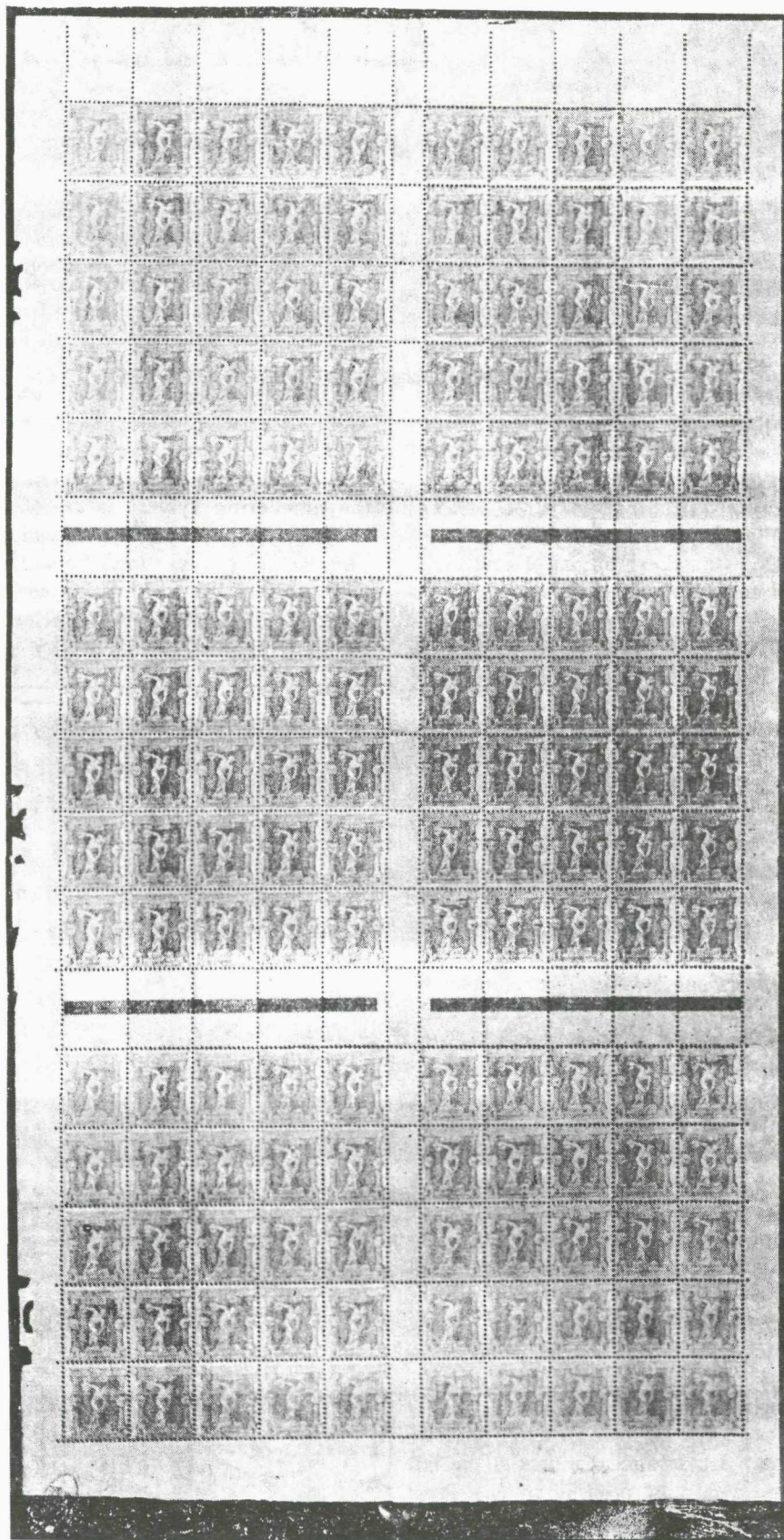


Figure 2. The sheet of six panes, each containing 25 stamps (5 x 5) of the 5 lepta value. The format is typical for any denomination of this size.

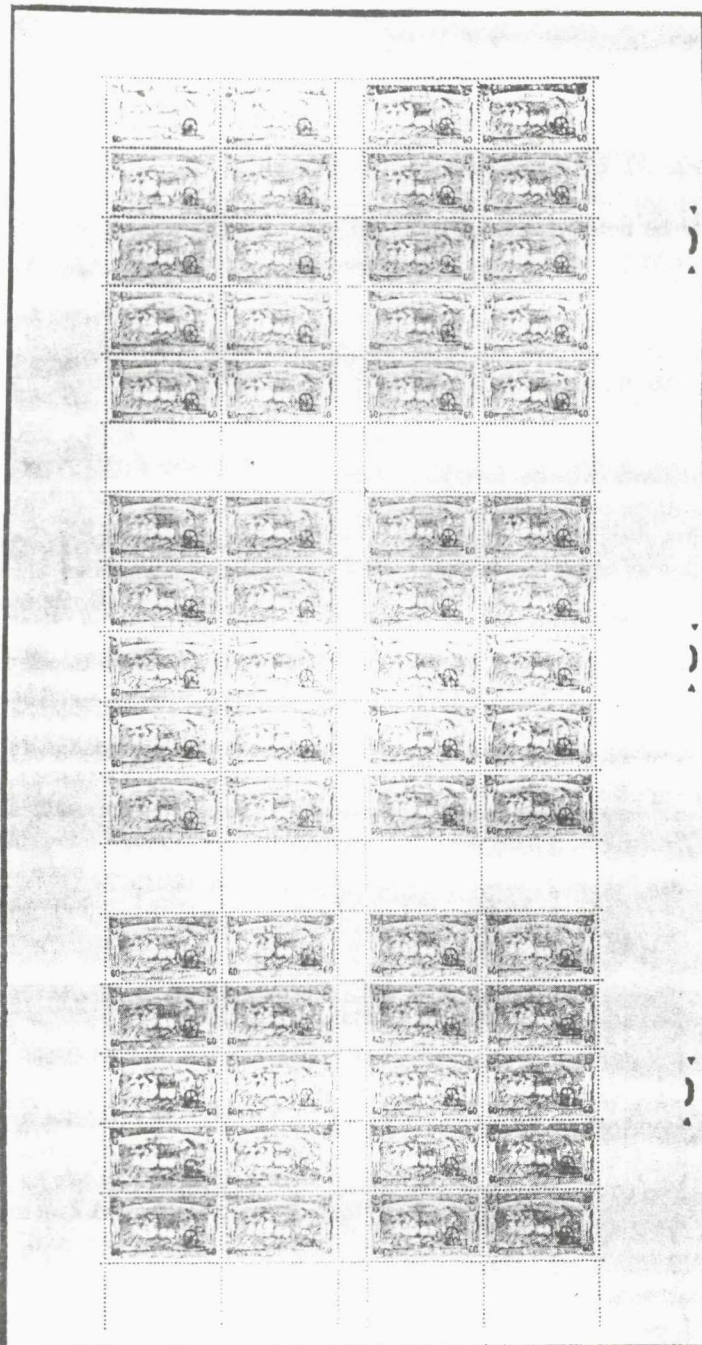


Figure 3. The sheet of six panes, each containing 10 stamps (2 x 5) of the 60 lepta value. The format is typical of any denomination of the large stamps.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Engraver Mouchon's name missing</li> <li>3. Spot on the figure 5 at the lower right</li> <li>4. Side frame broken at lower right</li> <li>5. Side frame broken at upper left</li> <li>6. Side frame broken at upper right</li> <li>7. Light retouching over the capital of the right column</li> <li>8. Nike with a beard</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Deep stroke below on the right capital, outside likewise.</li> <li>10. Frame broken in half at the right capital, at the height of decoration</li> <li>11. Retouching of the right column</li> <li>12. Small break in the upper frame</li> <li>13. Bridles of the horses tied to the waist of Nike</li> <li>14. Black stroke joins Nike's arm to her waist (Editor's note: this is more</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

likely a strong dark red line, not black as the translation indicates. Examples have been seen.)

15. Bottom lines more marked

16. Profile continues onto the right column

**40 Lepta (viol) Scott #123**

- 1. Upper frame broken at the right corner
- 2. Upper frame broken at the left corner
- 3. Spot on the right column
- 4. Spot on the amphora

**60 Lepta (black) Scott #124**

- 1. White stain (spot) due to extraneous material, on the third horse

**1 Drachma (blue) Scott #125**

- 1. Upper left side frame broken
- 2. Upper frame broken at left corner
- 3. Perforation variety: block of 4 with horizontal perforations very weak or missing in the pair at right
- 4. \*Clouds and distant mountain at left nearly missing

[No varieties were reported for the 2 drachma (Scott #126), 5 drachma (Scott #127) and 10 drachma (Scott #128)].



Figure 4. The missing corner in the lower right (10 lepta, variety #2) as found on pane "C".

# Notes on the Varieties on the Greece 1896 Olympic Issue

by Sherwin Podolsky

The translation of Otello Bortolato's research opens up a new vista for collecting this classic Olympic issue. Otello Bortolato distributed copies of his booklet at Romolympil '82. The National Olympic Committee of Italy invited a select group of Olympic collectors, including Mr. Bortolato and this editor, to be their guests and exhibit their collections. I long desired to have Mr. Bortolato's slim work translated.

Other aspects of Bortolato's published research have been substantially covered by other authors in a variety of articles and books over the years. However, his research on printing varieties and proofs appears to be

unique. Later, the translated excerpt dealing with proofs will be published.

It should be noted that Bortolato does not describe the varieties as plate varieties. Plate varieties suggest that the flaw will be constant (or frequently found), but Bortolato does not make this claim. The flaws are based on observations and are not necessarily constant.

Constant flaws will be found in the same positions on the same sheet or pane. However, flaws may not necessarily appear on all the sheets or panes. The flaws may be due to wear on the printing plates.

The following is a list of the number of stamps printed for each value of the 1896 Olympic set (from the Vlastos catalog):

1 lepton	3,933,750
2 lepta	2,949,150
5 lepta	2,992,500
10 lepta	1,981,440
20 lepta	3,999,950
25 lepta	1,929,700
40 lepta	70,620
60 lepta	86,380
1 drachma	120,550
2 drachma	82,060
5 drachma	56,050
10 drachma	16,060

The quantities printed information suggests that the varieties are more likely to be found on stamps with the largest printings.

Bortolato's study did not extend to the three highest values. This does not necessarily mean that no varieties exist. A clue to what should be sought

## Position E5

Variety 7, Engraver Mouchon's name missing.

## Position E10

Variety 1, frame broken in lower left corner. Variety 5, upper frame broken in left corner. Variety 6, engraver Mouchon's name missing. Variety 9, outer circle of "18" is broken. (See 1A)

## Position E15

Variety 1, frame broken in lower left corner. Variety 2, face of fighter at left is missing. (See 1B)

## Position F1

## Position F6

## Position F11



Figure 1. Block of six of the 2 lepta with vertical gutter.



Figure 1A. Enlargement of the Position E10 stamp illustrated in Figure 1.



Figure 1B. Enlargement of the Position E15 stamp illustrated in Figure 1.

can be gleaned from the list of varieties for the lower values. Many of them relate to broken or weak corners, broken or weak frame lines, and spots (white or dark). Readers may want to examine their copies for these flaws and report them. New finds are possible.

Figure 1 shows the 2 lepta in a vertical block of six with vertical gutter. Seven varieties listed by Bortolato could be found, plus one not listed. The latter is the broken outer circle of the "18."

Figure 2 shows the 2 lepta with nearly all the top frame line missing.

Figure 3 reproduces two copies of the 1 drachma value. One has the clouds and distant mountain at left nearly missing. The other shows these features prominently. Examination of other stamps of this denomination disclosed printing gradations in these features exist. The one showing the nearly missing features seems quite distinct and exceptional.

The Scott catalog lists the 2 lepta without the engraver's name. Bortolato also lists the 25 drachma with this variety.

This editor gives special thanks to Mr. Bortolato, Dorothy Weihrach and the Translation Committee of the American Philatelic Society for their able assistance. □



Figure 2. 2 lepta - entire upper frame nearly missing.



Figure 3. The 1 drachma at left has clouds and mountains almost missing. In the 1 drachma at right, clouds and mountains are sharp and intact.

## Bodyline — The Plan To Stop Bradman

by Peter N. Street

### Prologue

**T**he day: 14 January 1933. The scene: the Third Test cricket match between England and Australia at Adelaide, Australia.

On the last ball of his second over, Harold Larwood, the English fast bowler, pitched the ball short of a length. Bill Woodfull, the Australian captain, shaped to make his stroke, missed and was hit on the chest, collapsing onto the pitch.

When Larwood started his long run to bowl the first ball of his third over to Woodfull, now partially recovered, Jardine, the English captain, moved several of the off side fielders onto the leg side. The Adelaide crowd, already agitated by the tactics of the English team, roared in anger feeling that Jardine and Larwood were taking advantage of Woodfull's injury.

Who had initiated this situation which eventually precipitated an international incident and is still discussed in cricketing circles some sixty years later? The short, one word, answer to this question is "Bradman."

Don Bradman was the Australian team's premier batsman.

### The Plan Is Formulated

In 1930, Bradman, then only twenty-one years old, toured England with the Australian team. To describe his tour as successful would be an understatement. He was dismissed thirty-two times during that summer. In those innings he scored four centuries, five double centuries and one triple century. In the five Test matches against the English national side he

scored 974 runs at an average of 139. In May, the Australian team played Surrey and Bradman scored 252 runs not out. On the Surrey team was Douglas Jardine, the second member of the trio which was at the heart of the "Bodyline Controversy."

When the English selectors gathered to discuss the team to tour Australia in 1932-1933, the dominant topic under discussion was what to do about Bradman. Could his run output be curtailed and if so how?

Jardine, who has been a successful captain of the English teams in New Zealand (1931) and India (1932) was chosen to lead the tour. It was thought at the time that Bradman was susceptible to a fast, short pitched ball on the leg side. Jardine decided that this type of bowling, so called leg-theory, was the way to neutralize his nemesis. In order to do this successfully however a very fast, very accurate bowler was needed. Enter, then, the third member of the trio, Harold Larwood.

Larwood, an ex-miner, joined the English County team, Nottinghamshire in 1924. Although of only average

height, he was broad shouldered and strongly built. His eighteen yard run up was one of controlled, rhythmic hostility. In addition, he was capable of bowling accurately for long periods of time.

It is pertinent at this point to discuss briefly a comparison between orthodox fast bowling and leg-theory.

In cricket bowling, the ball is delivered from a run up, overarm and on the half volley. The ball normally bounces just in front of the batsman and reaches him somewhere between the knee and hip. Shorter pitched balls, usually meant to intimidate the batsman, can be chest or head height.

In orthodox fast bowling, the ball is delivered in excess of 90 mph and relies on pace and swing to deceive the batsman. The fast bowler normally bowls on the line of, or just outside, the off stump. By the use of inswing and outswing he induces the batsman to mishit, causing him to give a catch to the slip fielders.

Figure 1 illustrates the field setting for this type of bowling. Immediately behind the batsman is the wicketkeeper with the arc of slip fielders

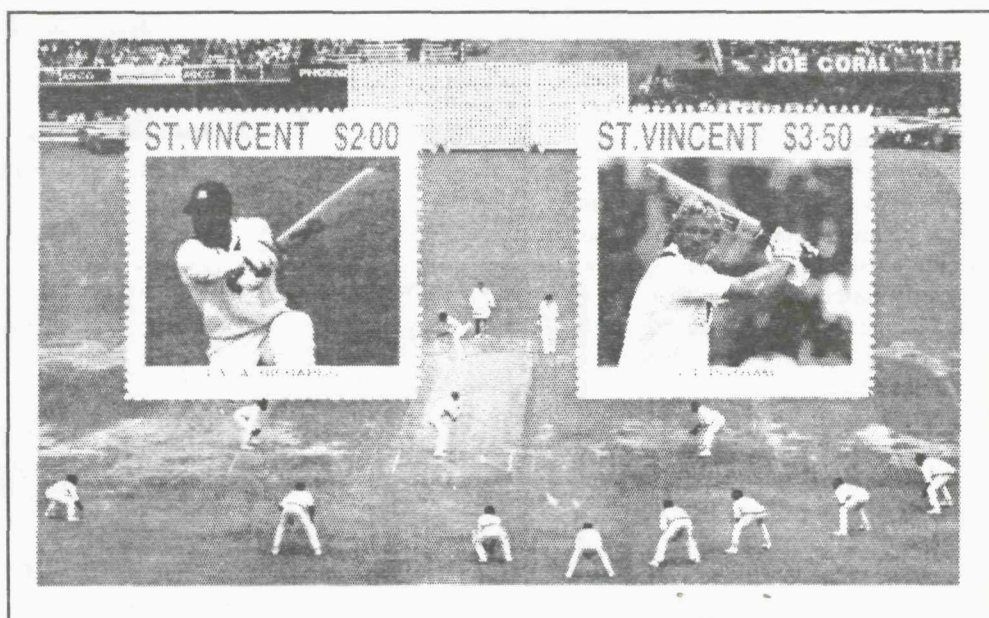


Figure 1. Field setting for orthodox fast bowling.





Figure 2. Bottom left stamp shows newspaper discussing "bodyline" controversy and cigarette cards of principals (Bradman and Larwood).

on the off side. This souvenir sheet was issued by the Caribbean island of St. Vincent to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the West Indies elevation to Test Cricket status.

By contrast, in leg-theory bowling the ball is directed at the other side of the wicket, the leg side. The arc of fielders is now on this side anticipating the batsman's mishit and catch.

The team that Jardine took to the tour included three additional fast bowlers: Bill Voce, Bill Bowes and Gubby Allen.

Fast bowling which intimidates the batsman by sheer speed has always been a feature of first class cricket. However, Jardine decided to carry this intimidation a step further. His bowlers would bowl at the batsman rather than at the stumps. This modification of leg-theory bowling was quickly dubbed "bodyline" (an abbreviation of "on the line of the body") by the Australian press.

These, then, were the tactics which caused the uproar at the Third Test Match.

## The Tour

Earlier in the tour, on 18 November 1932, the English touring side played against "An Australian XI" which included Don Bradman. The English side included all four fast bowlers. Initially, Larwood bowled to Bradman using an orthodox field. On the fourth ball of the over, all but one of the slip fielders moved to the leg side. Larwood now bowled on the line of the leg stump.

Although Bradman made 36 runs in 45 minutes he never looked comfortable. R.E.S. Wyatt, captain of the English team for this match, was able to report to Jardine that Bradman appeared susceptible to leg-theory bowling.

Cricket competition between England and Australia is one of the great rivalries in sports. This rivalry reaches its zenith in the Test Match Series for the "Ashes."

In the first Test Match, Bradman did not play due to illness and England won by ten wickets.

The pitch for the second Test Match at Melbourne was too slow for bodyline to be used effectively. Australia, mostly due to their spin-bowlers, won.

## The Third Test Match

On 13 January 1933, the two teams met at Adelaide for the pivotal Third Test with the series tied at one each.

England batted first and made 341 runs. Australia started their first innings at 3:00 p.m. on the second day with Woodfull and Fingleton. Fingleton failed to score before being bowled by Allen. Bradman then took his place at the wicket.

On the last ball of Larwood's second over, the incident described in the prologue occurred.

Woodfull eventually was bowled for 22 runs and returned to the dressing room bruised and angry. During an interview in the early evening Woodfull made some remarks which included the statement: "There are two teams out there, one is playing cricket and the other is not."

Unfortunately these comments were leaked to the press and made headlines in all the Australian Newspapers. As a result the atmosphere at the Adelaide Oval was extremely tense when play started at noon on the third day.

Jardine, not about to be intimidated by the Australian press, set the bodyline field for Larwood's first over. The tactics were successful — Bradman was out to Larwood for 8 runs. Other Australian batsmen were also subjected to the bodyline tactics. Ponsford was hit many times as he turned his back to the short pitched ball to avoid giving a catch to the leg trap. Oldfield was hit on the forehead and had to "retire hurt." Australia was finally all out for 222 runs giving England a lead of 119 runs. During the entire time that the English team were fielding, the partisan crowd directed a continuous stream of verbal abuse at the English players.

The next act in the drama was about to unfold. During the match on 18 January, the Australian Cricket Board of Control sent a telegram to the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC),

the governing body of English cricket, which read as follows:

“Bodyline bowling has assumed such proportions as to menace the best interests of the game, making protection of the body by the batsmen the main consideration. This is causing intensely bitter feelings between players, as well as injury. In our opinion, it is unsportsmanlike. Unless stopped at once, it is likely to upset the friendly relations between Australia and England.”

It was probably the word “unsportsmanlike” which caused the most trouble. To accuse the English of unsporting conduct was tantamount to questioning their national honor.

It must be remembered that this controversy was taking place in pre-television days. Were such incidents to occur today, Cable News Network (CNN) would immediately project it into everyone’s living room. In those days the only source of information was the daily press accounts of the matches.

Initially, the Australian press reaction to Jardine’s bodyline tactics was down-played in reports sent back to England, so this telegram probably came as something of a shock to the MCC.

At this stage, the controversy moved from the sporting to the political arena. The *London Daily Mail* carried the headline “Downing-St. Talk on Body Line” and the lead paragraph discussed the meeting of the MCC with the British Secretary of the Dominions. Downing Street is the residence of the British Prime Minister.

This headline is reproduced at the bottom left hand corner of the souvenir sheet issued 11 July 1988 by Tonga to commemorate the Australian Bicentennial (Figure 2). Superimposed on the newspaper are cigarette cards of two of the principals — Bradman (with cap) and Larwood. Jardine is also featured on a Tongan Souvenir sheet. On 22 August 1989 a sheet was issued to celebrate the South Pacific Mini Games. It consists of a strip of five stamps; one shows cigarette cards of cricketers (Figure 3). The first card is of the English captain.



Figure 3. English captain, Douglas Jardine, appears at bottom left.



Figure 4. Headlines from the *London Times* Sporting News Section, 18 January 1933, discussing the controversy.

The more staid *London Times* discussed the issue in its Sporting News section (Figure 4) and also on its editorial pages. In addition, people wrote letters to the editor mostly explaining how to play bodyline bowling.

England made 412 runs in their second inning which meant Australia needed 532 runs to win. Jardine kept up his intimidation tactics and continued to use bodyline against Bradman.

Although Bradman was more successful against this type of attack and made 66 runs the Australians were all out for 193 runs. This gave England the victory by 338 runs and a 2 to 1 lead in the Test series.

Meanwhile back in England the MCC was composing its reply to the

Australian Cricket Board of Control. This was sent on 23 January and as was expected rejected the use of the word “unsportsmanlike.” The text was as follows:

“We, Marylebone Cricket Club, deplore your cable. We deprecate your opinion that there has been unsportsmanlike play. We have fullest confidence in captain, team and managers, and are convinced that they would do nothing to infringe either the laws of cricket, or the spirit of the game. We have no evidence that our confidence has been misplaced. Much as we regret accidents to Woodfull and Oldfield, we understand that in neither case was the bowler to blame. If the Australian Board of Control wish to propose a new law or rule, it shall receive our careful consideration in due course. We hope the situation is not now as serious as your cable would seem to indicate, but if it is such as to jeopardize the good relations between English and Australian cricketers, and you consider it desirable to cancel remainder of programme, we would consent, but with great reluctance.”

On 30 January the Australian Board of Control sent a reply which was much more reasonable in tone:

“We appreciate your difficulty in dealing with this matter without having seen the actual play. We unanimously regard bodyline bowling, as adopted in some games in the present tour, as opposed to the spirit of cricket, and unnecessarily dangerous to the players. We are deeply concerned that the ideals of the game shall be preserved, and we have therefore appointed a committee to report on the means necessary to eliminate such bowling from Australian cricket, beginning with 1933-34 season. We will forward its recommendations for your consideration and hope for your co-operation in their application to all cricket. We do not consider it necessary to cancel the remainder of the programme.”

The MCC’s reply on 2 February again called into question the accusations of unsportsmanlike conduct:

“We, the Committee of the Marylebone Cricket Club, note with pleasure that you do not consider it necessary to cancel the remainder of the programme, and that you are postponing the whole issue until after the present tour is completed. May we accept this as a clear indication that the good sportsmanship of our team is not in question? We are sure you will appreciate how impossible it would be to play any Test match in the spirit we all desire unless both sides were satisfied there was no reflection upon their sportsmanship. When your recommendation reaches us, it shall receive our most careful consideration and will be submitted to the Imperial Cricket Conference.”

Six days later the Australian Board of Control sent its third and final telegram. The general consensus was that the Australians thought that bodyline bowling was unsportsmanlike but that the sportsmanship of the English players was not in question:

“We do not regard the sportsmanship of your team as being in question. Our position was fully considered at the recent Sydney meeting, and is as indicated in our cable of 30 January. It is the particular class of bowling referred to therein which we consider



Figure 5. English fast bowler Harold Larwood.

not in the best interests of cricket, and in this view we understand we are supported by many eminent English cricketers. We join heartily with you in hoping the remaining Tests will be played with the traditional good feelings.”

Jardine was satisfied and the fourth Test started on time at Brisbane on 10 February. The English captain still used his bodyline tactics but the crowd reaction was much more subdued. Bradman again was unsuccessful by his standards making 76 and 24 runs in the two innings. England won by 6 wickets and were thus 3 to 1 in the Test Series.

Jardine had obtained his objective. He had curtailed Bradman’s run output and had regained the “Ashes.”

As the “Ashes” were no longer in dispute the fifth Test match was somewhat of an anti-climax. Jardine persisted with the bodyline attack and again Bradman had only moderate success (48 runs in the first innings and 71 in the second). Australia, once again, did poorly in their second innings and England won the match.

Discussions about bodyline continue to this day. Jardine’s original objective was to regain the Ashes from Australia (Australia had taken them from England in the 1930 series in England). The English captain felt to do this he had to neutralize Bradman and he did this successfully.

However to achieve this he used questionable tactics which were probably not illegal but clearly on the edge of being unsporting. Was it worth it?

## Epilogue

Australia toured England the next summer (1934) but Jardine declined the English captaincy. He probably surmised that bodyline tactics would not be allowed. He seldom played first class cricket again.

Larwood continued to play for his county team Nottinghamshire for five

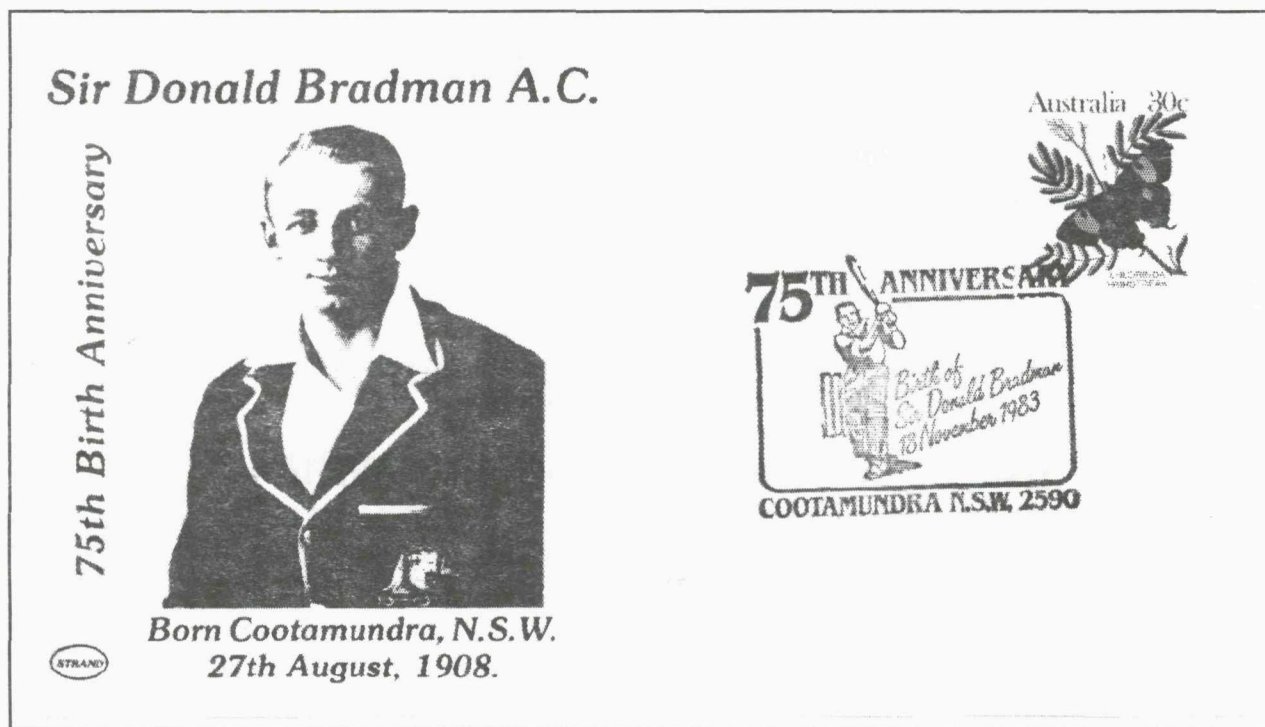


Figure 6. Cover and cancel celebrating the 75th birth anniversary of Sir Donald Bradman.

more years but never played in another Test match. Ironically he emigrated to Australia in 1950 and currently lives in Sidney. Now 88 years old he was awarded the Member of the British Empire (MBE) in the 1993 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

He was featured in the Leaders of the World series of stamps issued by the Caribbean island of St. Vincent in November 1984 (Figure 5).

For Bradman, then only 24 years old, it was the start of a remarkable career which extended over 21 years. Altogether he made 117 centuries averaging one every three innings. Twenty-nine were made in Test Matches. In addition he was six innings over 200. He first captained the Australian national team in 1936/1937 and never lost a series.

Upon his retirement from first class cricket in 1948, Bradman became the first Australian cricketer to be knighted for his services to cricket. Sir Donald became a successful businessman and writer and to this day he is certainly the most famous Australian sportsman of all time.


The Australian policy of not featuring living people, with the exception of royalty, on it stamps excludes Sir Donald Bradman from appearing on one. However a special cover was produced with both the cachet and the postmark celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of his birth (Figure 6). In addition when South Africa issued a stamp in March 1976 to mark the centenary of organized cricket in that country, the designer used a photograph of Bradman as a model for the batsman on the stamp (Figure 7).




Figure 7. Don Bradman used as model for batsman.


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Figure 1. The 1987 Youth Olympiad in Geleen, The Netherlands, was an early manifestation of the European Youth Olympic Days. A machine cancel from Geleen commemorates the event.

## 1993 European Youth Olympic Days

by Laurentz Jonker

One of the fastest growing multi-sport international competitions are the European Youth Olympic Days (EYOD), held this past summer from July 3 through 9, 1993, in Valkenswaard, The Netherlands. More than 2300 athletes from 42 European countries took part in various sports events. The ten sports were: athletics (track & field), basketball, cycling, football, gymnastics, field hockey, judo, swimming, tennis and volleyball. To compete, athletes had to be between the ages of 12 and 17.

The European Youth Olympic Days were the idea of Jhr. Rob von Bose, past director of the Dutch National Olympic Committee. First begun in 1984, this sporting celebration for youth had a provincial and national character. The town of Geleen, also in The Netherlands, hosted the 1987 Youth Olympiad competition, as it was then known. By that time, other countries in Europe joined the Dutch athletes: Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, Italy and West Germany. Figure 1 reproduces a postal card with a machine cancel from Geleen commemorating the competition.

The popularity of these youth sports festivals increased. Brussels, Belgium conducted the first European Youth

Olympic Days in 1991 for *all* European countries. 2100 athletes from 33 countries attended. England will conduct the 1997 EYOD.

Most of the competitions at the 1993 Valkenswaard event were conducted in the Valkencourt sports complex. Athletes were housed at the Kempervennen Olympic Village. An Opening Ceremony was conducted at which Dutch Crown Prince Willem Alexander declared the Games open. Elvira Becks, a finalist in women's gymnastics at the Barcelona Olympic Games, was given the honor of lighting the Olympic flame. In a country famous for its flowers, it was not surprising that the cauldron for the flame was tulip-shaped.

The EYOD organizers published a newspaper, *The Villager*, during the week-long celebration. The mascot and logo for the Games was the Dutch Lion, who appeared carrying a torch. A poster created by renowned artist Corneille was produced, depicted abstract renditions of pigeons or doves over the stadium, an athlete, and the Olympic Rings.

The EYOD was a huge success with a total of 137,000 spectators viewing the sporting competitions. Likely this was due to the free admission to all events



Figure 2. Se-tenant pair of stamps issued by The Netherlands for the 1993 European Youth Oly. Days.



Figure 3. The town hall in Valkenswaard publicized the 1993 EYOD with a meter depicting the mascot-logo, the Dutch lion running with a torch.

and the lack of excessive security. Many of the athletes are expected to participate at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, and possibly win medals as well!

The organizing committee, the Dutch National Olympic Committee, initially had enormous financial problems. At the last moment, they managed to fully capitalize their budget of five million florins (about \$2.8 million). One of the primary sponsors was the Dutch post office, the PTT. On June 1, 1993, they issued two stamps (Figure 2). The 70c and 80c values reproduce pictograms of the ten sports in which competition was held. Designed by Toon Michiels, Norbert Croonenberg, and Den Bosch, the stamps were printed in blue, black, red, yellow ochre and green. No special venue post offices were set up during the Games, so as a consequence, no pictorial cancels of any kind were available. The PTT did have a booth set up on the exposition grounds, but they only sold the two stamps, a FDC with a Den Haag cancel, and illustrated covers with the EYOD mascot-logo. The latter were postmarked with a standard Valkenswaard hand cancel. Official postcards were not produced, however one enterprising bookseller, Priem B.V. in Valkenswaard, had a private post card printed. A special pictorial slogan meter imprint was available for some months preceding the Games (Figure 3). The town hall at Valkenswaard were the only ones to use the special meter slug. □

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# Winter Olympic Stamps Issued In New Format

by Mark Maestroni

**J**ust in time for the 1994 Olympic Winter Games, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) issued a se-tenant strip of five Winter Olympic stamps on January 6 (Figure 1). The quadrennial international celebration begins on February 12 in Lillehammer, Norway. For 16 days, athletes will slip, slide and glide on snow and ice in search of an Olympic gold medal.

The USPS selected Lon Busch of Saint Louis to design the stamps depicting alpine skiing, luge, ice dancing, Nordic skiing and ice hockey. Busch is not a newcomer to sport stamp design, having contributed both the 1991 Basketball centennial stamp and the 1992 Winter Olympics issues.

The stamps are rendered in colors that approximate those of the Olympic Rings — blue, yellow, black, green, and red. At least one of each color is found on the flags of nations recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The predominant color of each stamp is: blue (alpine skiing), orange-yellow (luge), violet (ice dancing), turquoise (Nordic skiing), and magenta (ice hockey).

## New Format

Post office panes contain 20 stamps, a number reserved, until recently, for high value stamps only. Normally, commemoratives are produced in panes of 50. But at \$14.50, few collectors spend the money to sock away a full pane. Undoubtedly, the postal service hopes collectors will spend \$5.80. In addition, the pane measures roughly 5.95 inches wide by 7.6 inches high — a size easily accommodated on album pages.

As with previous commemoratives, both Olympic and non-Olympic, brief descriptions of each sport are given in the top margin adjacent to the respective stamp. The full text, and other technical details, are contained in Table 1, above. According to the

Table 1  
29¢ Winter Olympic Stamps

**First Day:** January 6, 1994 in Salt Lake City, Utah

**General Sale:** Beginning January 7, 1994

**Designs (left to right):** Alpine skiing, luge, ice dancing, Nordic skiing, ice hockey

**Scott Number:** Not yet assigned

**Format:** Se-tenant strip of five in post office pane of 20 stamps (4 rows of 5 stamps each), vertical format

**Perforation:** 11

**Process:** Offset, by Ashton-Potter

**Colors:** Black, cyan, magenta and yellow

**Stamp Size:** Vertical 0.84" x 1.41" (image); 0.99" x 1.56" (overall)

**Quantity Printed:** Not known

**Plate Number:** Four sets of four offset digits preceded by the letter "P"

**Marginal Markings:** "©United States Postal Service 1993"; plate position diagram

**Marginal Inscriptions:** Descriptions of each sport appear in the top margin of each pane, regardless of the pane's position in the sheet: "ALPINE SKIING Slalom places a premium on speed and skill. Skiers must race down unforgiving mountainsides through a maze of flagged gates."; "LUGE Participants, known as "sliders" careen down a course of banked, and hair-pin turns at speeds up to 65 m.p.h."; "ICE DANCING Form and grace, elaborate costumes and charismatic melodies combine to make ice dancing an Olympic favorite."; "NORDIC SKIING Perhaps the most grueling of the skiing competitions, cross-country racers endure taxing trials over rolling natural terrain."; "ICE HOCKEY The "goalie", protected by more than 40 pounds of padding, must react in a flash to stop approaching shots."

**Designer:** Lon Busch, St. Louis, Missouri

**Art Director:** Phil Jordan, Arlington, Virginia

**Typographer:** John Boyd, Anagraphics Inc., New York, New York

**Project Manager:** Terry McCaffrey, USPS.

**Modeler:** Joe Sheeran, Ashton-Potter

USPS, marginal descriptive text will be eliminated from stamps in the near future. No explanation has been given for such a move, though it may be due to a number of factual errors in marginal descriptions that have been discovered on past issues. Personally, I find the descriptions useful, especially on stamps commemorating individuals of whom I am not familiar. It seems to me that with a little more attention to detail, the postal service would not have to "throw the baby out with the bath water."

Other marginal markings on the pane of Olympic stamps represent the new standard in typeface and size to which the USPS is moving. These include the copyright information and pane position on the printed sheet of six panes. For example, the pane shown in Figure 1 comes from the middle right position, which appears shaded in the box in the right margin.

As with previous small panes, plate numbers appear adjacent to all four corner stamps, with each number facing outward. In this case, the four





Figure 1. A new 20-stamp-per-pane format makes the Winter Olympic stamps affordable as a complete sheet. The USPS introduced new standards for its marginal markings on this first issue of 1994. Type styles and sizes are different, the ZIP code inscription has been removed, plate numbers appear in all four corners, and the pane position within the full sheet of 6 panes is indicated. The descriptive text in the top margin of this issue will be eliminated from future new commemoratives, according to the USPS. The above pane is shown at full size.

digit number is preceded by the letter "P" for Ashton-Potter, the printer.

According to an article in the January 3, 1994 issue of *Linn's Stamp News*, the postal service announced that, beginning with this issue, panes of stamps would also bear the face value of the pane in the margin. Many other countries have been doing this for years as an aid to postal employees in inventorying their stock. However, if my pane is any indication, this additional inscription has yet to be included.

Last, but not least, microprinting of the words "WINTERSPORTS" and "1994" has been included on each stamp. For many years, collectors in the U.S. have pointed out that it would be far easier to identify stamps if they included the year of issue somewhere in the stamp margin. Again, many other countries include this helpful information. So far, the USPS has resisted such a move, claiming that including the year date clutters the stamp design. Their answer is to hide the date in the design, which, of course, defeats the purpose. Microprinting does provide security against counterfeiting, which is probably the primary reason that the USPS has begun using it.

Table 2 identifies the location of the black microprinting on each stamp.

## First Day Ceremonies

The 1994 Olympic Winter Games will be the first edition in the IOC's new staggered schedule. The 1998 Winter Olympics have been awarded to Nagano, Japan, while the 2002 Games' host has yet to be selected.

One of the contenders for the first Winter Olympics of the next millennium is Salt Lake City, Utah. Having lost at their first attempt, Salt Lake is putting together an even stronger bid. Appropriately, the city launched its campaign by hosting the first day of issue for these new stamps.

Figure 2 illustrates the special dual purpose blue cancel used for the first day. The Salt Lake Olympic Bid Committee logo, stylized mountains with the Olympic Rings below, forms the left portion of the cancel. The lines have been extended to create cancelling bars. Above the bars is text reading: SALT LAKE CITY 2002 STATION "AMERICA'S CHOICE"/ JANUARY 6TH 1994 SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111.

A standard, non-pictorial first-day-of-issue cancel was also available.

Presiding over the ceremony at Gallivan Plaza was Robert F. Harris, USPS vice-president for legislative affairs. Harris was an All-American in track and field, and a qualifier for the 1964 Summer Olympic Games.

In addition to Harris, Utah Governor Michael O. Leavitt was in attendance along with SPI member John Krimsky, Jr. of the United States Olympic Committee and Thomas K. Welch, president of the Salt Lake Olympic Bid Committee.

Some interesting collectibles are also available. The Salt Lake post office produced a stamp folder measuring 7½ inches by 10 inches with two pockets inside. Referred to as a "kit folder," the color souvenir depicts the alpine skiing stamp on its cover. The five Olympic stamps are affixed to the left-inside pocket and cancelled with either the pictorial bid committee cancel shown in Figure 2, or with a standard first-day-of-issue cancel.

The right pocket is reserved for other collector-obtained souvenirs or first day covers.

Another postal service collectible produced for this issue is a "sheet saver" envelope. From the description, it seems a rather strange product. Measuring 6¼ inches by 8 inches, the envelope is printed on the front and back in a vertical orientation. The envelope opens at right rather than at top. The front also has a die cut window covered with clear plastic. I suspect that the envelope's purpose, as inferred by its name, is to hold a full sheet of the stamps.

**Table 2**  
**Location of Microprinting**

Stamp	"WINTERSPORTS"	"1994"
Alpine skiing	Behind skier's right boot	On edge of left ski under boot
Luge	Next to sled near slider's left hand	On sled next to slider's inside right thigh
Ice dancing	On blade of female skater's left boot	Vertical center support of male skater's left boot blade
Nordic skiing	Below skier's right boot	Top stripe of skier's left pole
Ice hockey	Middle strap of goalie's right shin guard	Just below the middle of goalie's right arm guard (in shaded area)

The front of the envelope is printed with the words "1994/Winter Olympics/Commemorative Stamps" above the window. The area below the window carries the following additional text: January 6, 1994/Salt Lake City, Utah/America's Choice 2002. The new USPS logo appears at bottom.

The reverse of the envelope bears text about the stamps' design and some of the technical details. At center, the marginal text from the stamps is reproduced, below which a strip of the stamps has been affixed. Again, the stamps are cancelled with either the pictorial or non-pictorial first day cancel.

Collectors wishing to order either or both of these items should write to: Postmaster, Olympic Stamps, 1760 W. 2100 St., Salt Lake City, UT 84199-9991. The Kit Folder is \$3.50. Each Sheet Saver is \$2.75. Both come with the strip of stamps attached. Please designate whether you wish the pictorial or non-pictorial cancel for each item.

Not to be outdone, the Salt Lake Olympic Bid Committee got into the act with its own specially-commis-

sioned set of first day covers. Six different covers were produced for the committee by Commemorative Design. Five face-different covers are No. 6 3/4 sized, while the sixth is a standard No. 10 envelope. A single stamp matching the cachet is affixed to each of the No. 6 3/4 envelopes. They are available for \$1.50 each or \$6 for the set of five. A full strip is attached to the No. 10 envelope which may be

obtained for \$3 each.

The cacheted covers are available from the Salt Lake Olympic Bid Committee, Box 271332, Salt Lake City, UT 84127-1332. □

[The following issues of Linn's Stamp News were used to compile this report: January 3, 1994; January 17, 1994; January 24, 1994; and January 31, 1994.]

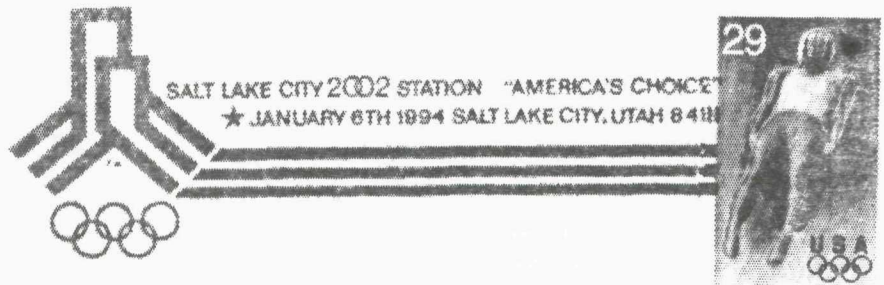


Figure 2. A special pictorial first day cancel in blue was used to launch Salt Lake City's bid to host the Olympic Winter Games in 2002.

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## Tennis in the Olympic Games — Venue, Local Organizations, and Advertising Covers

The Atlanta Olympic Committee's (AOC) original bid proposal for the 1996 Olympic Games identified Blackburn Park in DeKalb County as the proposed Olympic tennis venue. Located in northeast Atlanta, Blackburn Park is a suburban public tennis facility with easy access by the majority of the local tennis-playing community. Construction plans called for additions of a 10,000 seat main stadium and two subsidiary 5,000 seat stadia. However, as early as March 1990, the local newspapers reported that the tennis site was in jeopardy. Local homeowners were concerned about the potential for increased traffic and the possible use of the stadium for concerts once the Games were over. On September 26, 1990, only a week after the Olympic Games were awarded to Atlanta, the *DeKalb News/Sun* reported that DeKalb County's master plan did not include a tennis stadium in Blackburn Park. Without a vote of the people, the master plan could not be changed. Some area residents did support the venue location. Nevertheless, on October 15, 1990, AOC President Billy Payne officially abandoned Blackburn Park as the tennis venue. This was the first major venue change and served as a signal to other proposed venues that the AOC would act quickly and unilaterally to avoid becoming embroiled in local community politics. By March 1991, the renamed Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) received no less than 14 bids from around the Atlanta area for the Olympic tennis venue. The candidate sites included a high school, a planned community, colleges, several local tennis centers, and Stone Mountain Park.

Stone Mountain Park is a 3,200 acre park that includes the world's largest exposed granite formation, on which is carved a Confederate memorial. The park includes a skylift, lakes with fishing and swimming, tennis, golf, a recreated Southern Plantation to tour, antique car museum, and skating rink. Originally, Stone Mountain was to be the venue for archery, canoeing, cycling, equestrian events, the modern pentathlon, rowing, and shooting. The bid proposal called this "The Olympic Park at Stone Mountain." With seven Olympic disciplines, the park would provide a quieter, greener, more peaceful major focus of sports activity than the frenetic downtown areas. A post card depicting Stone Mountain and its lake was produced during the AOC's candidacy period. These postcards are out of print and so far the ACOG has not issued a second series using the newer logo for the Atlanta 1996 Games.

The 14 new tennis venue candidates were reviewed by ACOG. The best were forwarded to both the United States Tennis Association (USTA) and the International Tennis



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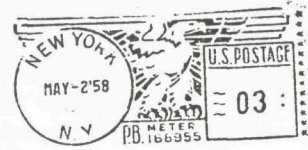
**Figure 1. The United States Tennis Association and its member groups in Georgia will be involved in the Olympic tennis competition in 1996. These groups all use the same USTA logo in their corner cards, as shown above.**

Federation (ITF) for review. On June 6, 1991, Stone Mountain was selected to host the tennis events, with both USTA and ITF endorsing this venue. After the Games, the tennis stadium will become a permanent public tennis center capable of hosting major tennis events. Stone Mountain was selected even though it was the only venue candidate that offered no funding to ACOG, just cleared land for the facility. The proposed tennis center, to be located on the northeast side of the park, will likely have its own entrance and parking.

To understand the advertising covers that I have included in this article, one must know a little about the organization of recreational tennis in Atlanta. Like many large U.S. cities, Atlanta has an active affiliation with the USTA. In Atlanta, the adult recreational leagues are run by League Atlanta, a branch of the Georgia Tennis Association (GTA). The GTA is responsible for USTA-sanctioned Georgia tournaments, junior player development, and computer rankings. The Southern Tennis Association (STA), which oversees the southern division of USTA, also happens to be located in Atlanta. All of these organizations, except League Atlanta, send out correspondence using a USTA advertising logo as shown in Figure 1. Unfortunately, none presently use an advertising meter slug such as the

UNITED STATES LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION  
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NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

for a sound  
INVESTMENT IN YOUTH  
promote tennis



IRA SEEBACHER, SPT. ED.  
NEW YORK TELEGRAPH  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

18

Figure 2. Unfortunately, none of the tennis organizations are presently using a slogan in their meter machines such as this 1958 publicity meter from the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association promoting youth tennis.

old USTA meter in Figure 2. I have recently written to all three organizations providing them with samples of meter ad slugs and the information necessary for ordering them. I will alert SPI members if any of these organizations begin using this advertising format. In 1988, the USTA national office used their seal logo, shown in Figure 3, on their envelopes.

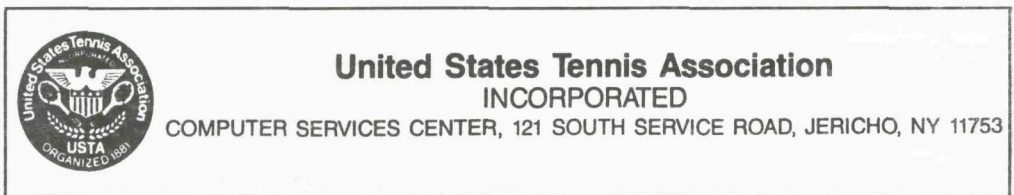


Figure 3. Another corner card used by the USTA in 1988 depicts their old emblem.

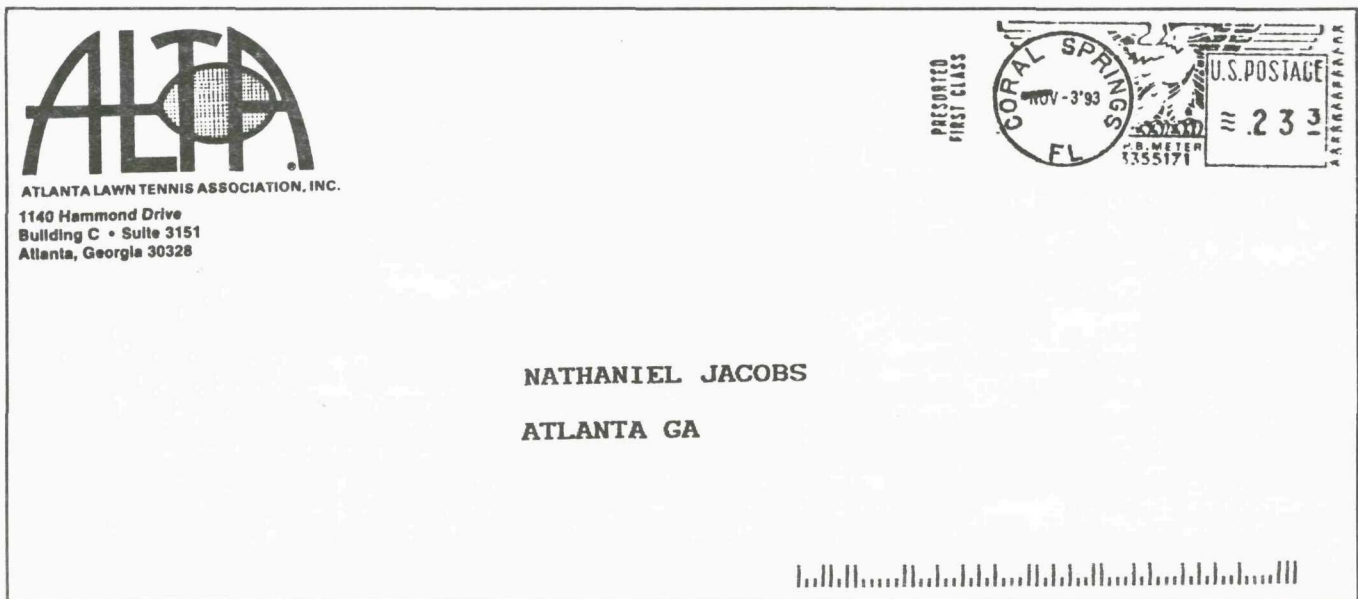


Figure 4. ALTA, the Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association, oversees league play for adults and juniors in the five-county Atlanta metropolitan area. Their distinctive tennis racket logo appears on their stationery corner card.

Unique to Atlanta, however, is another tennis organization which brings competitive tennis to thousands of local players. ALTA, the Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association, exists to organize league play for both adults and juniors in the five-county metro area. ALTA began league play in 1971 with less than 1,000 members, and has grown now to over 73,000 active players, the largest local tennis organization in the United States. Many adults play simultaneously in ALTA and USTA leagues on different days of the week. ALTA is a member of the STA, and sponsors numerous USTA-sanctioned tournaments in addition to league play. Their distinctive tennis racket logo shown in Figure 4 is used on all correspondence.

How do all these organizations fit into the Olympic tennis picture? Planning of the tennis center is under the direction of Bob Cowhig, director of planning and development of Stone Mountain Park for the 1996 Olympic Games. The Atlanta tennis community has participated in the planning sessions with the goal of building a facility which will be just as useful after the Games are over. John Callen, Executive Director of the Southern Tennis Association, John Niemeyer, the STA Olympic Facilities Committee Chairman, and representatives of League Atlanta and ALTA have all participated, as has Bob Smith of the USTA Olympic Committee. The hard court surfaces will be a contrast to the clay courts of Barcelona. Originally, the tennis center was

to have included 35 courts, but budgetary constraints may reduce that number to as few as 18 when the final plans are approved. In December 1993, the governing board of Stone Mountain Park officially voted to build the Olympic Tennis Center, with an estimated budget of \$19.5 million, including a 12,000 seat main stadium and two smaller stadia holding 5,000 and 3,000 spectators. The Olympic Facilities Committee of STA has played an advisory role, and is considering developing a permanent site at the new tennis center to house the STA Hall of Fame exhibits. Although much of the staffing of the tennis center during the Games will be coordinated by ACOG using the Olympic Volunteer Force, the local tennis organizations are planning a hospitality effort directed toward the various national governing bodies and tennis federations. (As an international sports federation, the ITF is automatically part of the Olympic Family). Event scheduling for tennis during the 1996 Olympic Games is primarily the responsibility of the ITF.

I can't resist showing one last cover (Figure 5). This one was sent to Jeffrey Babcock, Director of the Cultural Olympiad, and franked with three of the U.S. Summer Olympic stamps of 1991, including the Hazel Wightman tennis stamp. This is the closest thing to a commercial cover connecting tennis with the 1996 Olympic Games that I have seen so far.



Figure 5. The Hazel Wightman tennis stamp on this commercial cover to Jeffrey Babcock at ACOG ties the sport to the upcoming 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

*"Philately on Olympic Suomi"* by Vsevelod Furman. Soft cover. 68 numbered pages plus note pages, A4 size. Published by The Association of Olympic and Sport Philatelists of Ukraine (AOSFU), Odessa Regional Society of Philatelists, 1993. In Russian and English. Multicolored outer cover, with numerous black and white illustrations. Price not stated. Write the author for information at Chkalov St. 119/23, 270020, Odessa-20, Ukraine.

Vsevelod Furman has produced a fine book. The title is a bit confusing. It should have been "Philately of Olympic Finland" or "Finland, Philately and the Olympic Movement."

The print type is large and easy to read. The quality of the illustrations, which seem to be all full-size, is excellent. The pages are glossy. There are numerous footnotes and several tables. I am impressed that such a high quality production was possible for a country in dire economic turmoil.

The author's approach is basically thematic. The four chapters are titled: (1) the National Olympic Committee, (2) If there had not been the World War, (3) Thanks, Suomi! and (4) Olympic Glory. Note that there is no philatelic terminology in the chapter titles.

Yet, Furman lays out a clear narrative for the philatelist who wishes to develop a collection or even an exhibit on the subject of Finland and its contribution to the Olympic Movement. Anyone wishing to develop a similar collection or exhibit devoted to any other country will find many clues and ideas.

The depth of philatelic and thematic research is impressive. Furman is a writer and philatelist who enjoys "a continuous process of investigations, meditation, search and finds." His stretch of imagination leads to philatelic material that one would not realize to be relevant. For example, a London Olympic Games cancel dated 24.07.48 can document the election of Finnish IOC-member Erik von Frenckell. The history of the famous Olympic stadium dates from 1920 and the Postal Service issued illustrated envelopes. (See also the article "Finland's Great Arena" by Risto Pitkanen, *JSP*, July-August 1992).

The second chapter deals with the Olympic Games to have been held in Finland in 1940. There is much new information. There were three types of illustrated publicity envelopes and the sites shown are explained. Furman provides additional information on the essays. A fourth type of the continuous publicity cancellation with "II" at the left and right sides of the date bar is reported but not illustrated. There is some new information on the slogan meters (Figures 1 and 2).

The chapter titled "Thanks, Suomi!" salutes the Finnish philatelic contribution to the 1952 Olympic Games held at Helsinki. Besides reporting meters and stamp printing

statistics, there is information on sheet margin inscriptions, imperforate varieties, and the torch route. Details of the attractive double ring hand cancel include places and duration of use, according to the letter subscript that appears below the date. Olympic winners from many countries are philatelicly honored and reported.

The last chapter, "Olympic Glory," tells the philatelic story of the Olympians of Finland. The most famous, of course, are Paavo Nurmi and Hannes Kolehmainen, but there are many others. The accomplishments of the winners are presented.

This book, and particularly Chapter 4, is also useful to those documenting the philately of a particular sport or even an Olympiad other than 1940 and 1952. Furman has done an excellent job of searching for stamps and postmarks that relate to Finland's Olympians.

There is a very brief bibliography, however none of the citations are standard English-language references. A detailed index would have been helpful. While there are misspellings and the English language is not quite idiomatic, the weaknesses are inconsequential. This is a well researched and printed book.



Figure 1. Two types of meters showing meter machine numbers 688 (top) and 680 (above), which appear at bottom right. The 680 meter machine impression has the letters "S" and "P" flanking the Olympic rings. The significance of these letters is not known.



Figure 2. A fourth type of meter, number 609, advertising the Games. It is not known who this meter was used by.

# On Sports and Olympic Exhibiting

by James Bowman

January 17th of 1994 will long live in my memory as the day of the Northridge (California) earthquake. Living only 10 or so miles from the quake's epicenter, we were abruptly awakened in the early morning darkness by an eerie and loud noise and violent shaking of the 6.6 Richter scale earthquake. Furniture was up-ended and glasses and dishes were ejected from the cupboards. The contents of my "stamp room" and office were piled in the middle of the floor. Fortunately, our home came through the "event" with minor damage, but we still haven't put everything back in place. It will take some time to do so. Because of this, I have elected to interrupt my series on preparing a sports exhibit to instead discuss some general items related to sports philately.

To start with, I will address two items sent to me by Sherwin Podolsky which I am long over due responding to. Rather than writing directly to Sherwin who only lives about a 20 minute drive away, I thought it worthwhile to share his inquiries with the readers of this column.

Sherwin's first question relates to Figures 1 and 2. He asks if the sender of the card might happen to be an Olympic athlete. Before answering, I would like to make the point that a philatelic item can mean different things to different people. The point I am attempting to make here is that one person might choose to exploit the athlete when using this item in an exhibit while others might utilize the "Berlin 1936/Ausstellung/Deutschland" slogan cancel, the picture of the Olympic Village, or even the "Frauenheim (Friesenhaus)" stamped imprint on the message side of the card.

In my thinking, I would definitely capitalize on the "Frauenheim (Friesenhaus)" rubber stamp imprint. The imprint is very difficult to find and it provides the first clue that "Alice" must be an athlete since the "Friesenhaus" was the place where the women athletes were housed. In the 1936 Games, only men were housed at the Olympic Village. Properly, the women's housing was the Frederick Friesen Haus which was a dormitory located in the Reichssportfeld.

The second clue used to identify "Alice" were her references to Eleanor Holm and the fact that "swimming is coming along fine." For those not familiar with Holm, she was a gold medal winner in the 1932 Games and was expected to take golds at Berlin. However, she liked to party. During the trip to the Games on the S.S. Manhattan, she lived it up royally, thereby incurring the wrath of Avery Brundage [President of the American Olympic Committee] who duly had her dropped from the team. Returning to "Alice," by all indications, she must have been a swimmer.

Noting that the card was addressed to Saugus, Massachusetts, I consulted the team roster and found Alice Bridges from Uxbridge, Massachusetts. She took a bronze medal in the 100-meter backstroke. So...now we have



Figure 1. 1936 Berlin Olympic Village postcard cancelled at the Deutschland Exhibition during the Games.

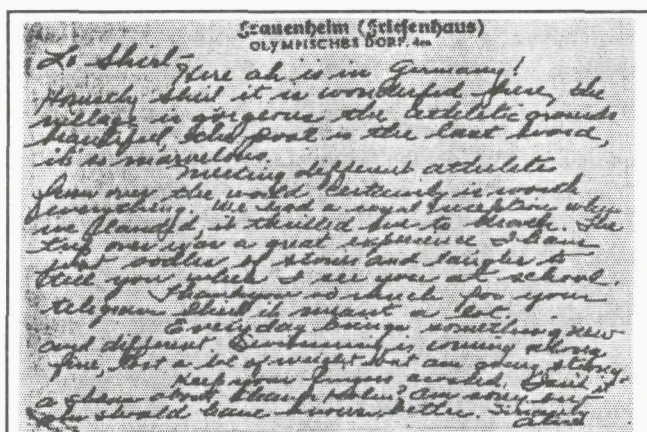


Figure 2. The card in Figure 1 was mailed by Alice Bridges who won a bronze in the 100 meter backstroke. The Frauenheim (Friesenhaus) rubber stamp at top is rare, and perhaps the only thematic connection to the residence for women Olympic athletes at the Games.

identified Alice. And by the way Sherwin, would you like to make a trade????

Before leaving this item, the slogan cancel is also of import to a 1936 Olympic exhibit. The Deutschland Exhibition ran concurrently with the Games and had some of the elements of the present day Olympic Art Festivals and Competitions. The cachet depicting the Olympic Village is interesting but definitely is not exploitable for thematic purposes in an exhibit.

Technically, the Friesenhaus stamped imprint served no purpose in carrying the mails. One could also make the point that it is not proper to make use of this aspect of the card. However, this imprint is the only way I am aware of that one can address the housing of the women athletes. I would choose to use it in that manner without question.

Now, on to Sherwin's second inquiry which came to him by way of Roman Babut in Poland. It is related to the



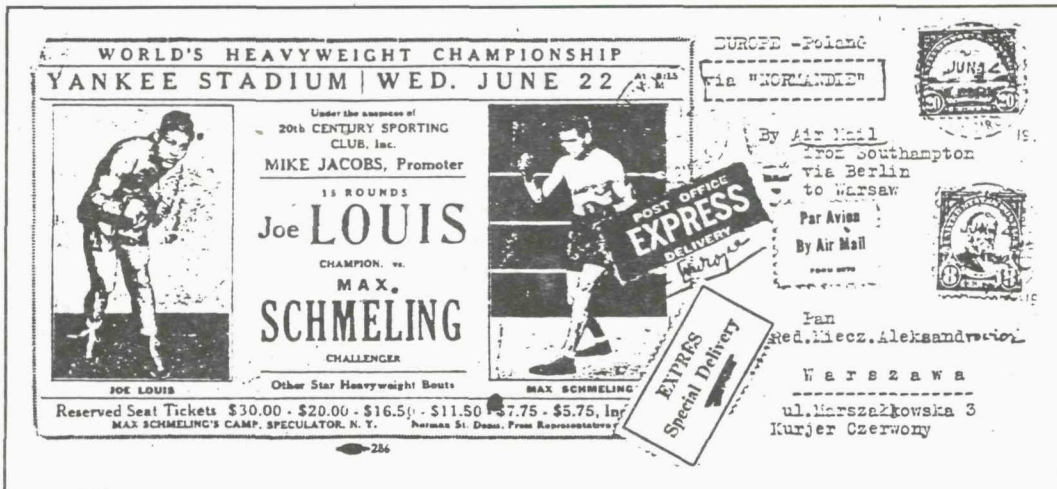


Figure 3. While there are no boxing thematic philatelic elements on this cover commemorating the second Louis-Schmeling fight, its interest would be appreciated on the title page, which is perfectly acceptable.

item depicted in Figure 3. They wanted to know in what year the Joe Louis vs Max Schmeling bout took place and how could the item be used in a boxing exhibit.

The date on the cover is not readable but records show that June 22, 1938 was the date of the second Louis-Schmeling fight. The two fighters first fought in June of 1936. In a tough and brutal bout, Schmeling finally dropped Louis in the 12th round for a 10 count. The return bout, which is the subject of this cover, saw Louis felling Schmeling in only 124 seconds. Max landed only 2 blows

before being put down for the count.

Using this item in a boxing exhibit poses a problem. There is nothing philatelic on the cover that can be used thematically in developing the theme. However, the usage and routing are very interesting. Unfortunately, they do not relate to the theme either. If I had this item and was preparing a boxing exhibit, I would try to work it in somewhere. One or two "little sins" in an

exhibit are generally tolerated as long as one toes the line in the balance of the exhibit development. There is absolutely nothing wrong in using it on the title page of the exhibit.

I want to thank Sherwin and Roman for supplying the items on which the above comments were based. I invite others to submit items for comment but I can't guarantee that I will always have the answer.

Well, I was able to complete this column without another aftershock. Hope it stays this way until time for my next column. See you all then.

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XVIIe OLYMPIADE

## *Filatelía Sport-Olimpica*

Issue #33 of this publication was reviewed in the July-August 1993 *Journal of Sports Philately*. At that time, the split of the Italian sports collectors into two groups, with competing publications, was explained. As might be expected there has proven to be insufficient money and manpower to support two publications. Therefore, this issue of *Filatelía Sport-Olimpica* (#34), will be the last.

In this issue a number of examples of different first day covers for the Philippines sports set, picturing baseball, tennis and basketball (Scott #380-82), are reproduced. Among them is one with a Washington D.C. circular date stamp of 3:30 p.m. April 14, 1934 and a printed cachet indicating the stamps were placed on sale at both Manila and Washington on that date. In fact, as author Luciano Calenda points out, 3:30 p.m. in Washington was 5:30 a.m. the following day in Manila, an inconsistency in dating which has apparently not previously been noted.

The Soviet Union's 6th summer Spartakiade, held in 1975, brought forth considerable philatelic activity. These included 17 different postal stationery envelopes imprinted with 4 kopeck stamps which were valid for internal postage. The envelopes — all of them pictured — differ from each other only in that the cachets each show the name of a different Soviet republic's capital city.

The 1993 site for the Games of the Small States of Europe was Malta, an island country 60 miles south of Sicily in the Mediterranean Sea. First day cancellation of the four stamps and souvenir sheet (Scott #815-818A) which Malta issued to celebrate these Games was authorized at all 50 operating post offices. Each cancellation includes the post office's name and thus differs in this detail from the other 49. According to Scott, the population of Malta is about 330,000 and its total area 122 square miles. The availability of 50 different cancellations for one set of stamps does seem like philatelic over-kill.

Also included are reproductions of 12 different sports cancels issued by the Peoples' Republic of China for the First East Asian Games held last May. Also reproduced are 27 Spanish meter imprints related to the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

- Dorothy Weihrauch

## *IMOS Bulletin No. 80*

The November 1993 issue of this German language journal features a Norwegian cover with special pictorial postmarks for the Sixth World Championships of Women's Wrestling. One wonders if this sport will become an Olympic event.

A trip to Lausanne, headquarters of the International Olympic Committee is planned for December 1993. Numerous other trips and exhibitions are reported. One new

member is the Korean Olympic-Sports Philatelic Club.

"Postcards of the XVIth Winter Olympic Games in Albertville" is a book by Bob Farley, 14 Limewalk, Acton, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 OUL, England. It has 160 pages and is priced at 20 Pounds. Orders may be placed with Mr. Farley.

Many articles are installments in a series. Others are complete in themselves. Subjects include: handball (stamps, special cancels, postal stationery); Olympilex '92 at Barcelona (stamps, labels, cancels, covers of participating postal administrations, photographs of the exhibition facilities); German Sport Museum (excerpts from its journal); Sport Postal Stationery catalog (includes printed to private order material); Cycling, the last 125 years; Balkan Games (includes names of participating countries and their final point scores); World Athletics Championship at Rome 1987 (final scores by event, cover with special stamps and cancel registered at OLYMPHILEX '87); Juan Antonio Samaranch, Jr., son of IOC President Samaranch ("The Name Opens Doors"); the special issues of the Balkan Olympiade 1933 (some remarkable covers illustrated); a Saar 1939 Turners special cancel; special meters for the candidate city of Berlin for the Olympic year 2000; an article on the Olympic Museum; Wilfried Dietrich, wrestler; broad jump.

Annual membership in IMOS (International Motivgruppen Olympiaden und Sport) is 45.00 DM from Herbert Huber, at: J. v. Liebigstrasse 14, D-6707 Schifferstadt, Germany.

- Sherwin Podolsky

## *Torch Bearer*

In the February 1994 issue of *Torch Bearer*, Manfred Bergman continues his commentary on exhibiting the philatelic material of recent Olympic Games. His observations are in response to Bob Wilcock's remarks in the previous issue of this periodical. Bergman also notes that the new Mophila Class now available in international FIP exhibitions may meet the needs of those whose collections are more heavily weighted toward stamps.

Among the other longer articles in this issue is one titled "Melbourne 1956," reprinted from the Australian magazine *The Stamp Collector*, which discusses Australian stamps, stationery and cancellations of the 1956 Games. Another provides an account of the Olympic history of the marathon. Other articles deal with: "Lausanne, Olympic City"; biathlon; and an astrologist's correct predictions of some of the winners in the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics. Finally, an elderly German recounts his experiences when, as a young man, he attended the 1936 Berlin Games.

For membership information about the Society of Olympic Collectors, contact the secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, England.

- Dorothy Weihrauch

## New Members

1940R Martin Toly, P.O. Box 2101, Syracuse, NY 13220. Martin is an epidemiologist who collects sports in general. (Jones)

1941R John T. Slater, 76 Sunset Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14304. John is self-employed with an interest in baseball, football, basketball, and hockey philately. (Maestrone)

### Correction

Sherwin Podolsky's new zip code was incorrectly listed in the January/February 1994 issue. The correct zip code is 91360-1826.

### Resignation

1461R Frances Pendleton

**Total Membership, December 31, 1993** **448**

## Sports & Olympic Exhibits Awards

### International Shows

HAFNIA '94, the International Exhibition of Philatelic Literature under the auspices of the FIP, was held in Copenhagen, Denmark from January 27-30, 1994. The *Journal of Sports Philately* was entered in competition, and received a Large Silver. The editor of the journal would like to thank all of you who have given so freely of your time to make our society's publication such a success!

### Local and Regional Shows

SYRAPEX '93, held last October in Syracuse, NY, was sponsored by the Syracuse Stamp Club. Three youth exhibitors of sports material won awards. Jill Mawbey won the Youth Grand and the ATA ribbon for "Horseshow." The Syrapex '93 Youth award and H.E. Harris medal went to James Osika-Micheles for "Olympics." Jaylenn Tinker's exhibit — "Let's Go Diving" — was named the most popular junior exhibit and also won a bronze.

## Looking For Marbles On Stamps

Can any member add to the following list of stamps showing children playing with marbles: Kuwait (1977), Macao (1989), England (1991), Monaco (1991), Yugoslavia (1991), Belgium, and Dominica (1980). Please write: Bertram M. Cohen, 169 Marlborough Street, Boston, MA 02116-1830.

## DELPEX '94 Offers Special Baseball Cancel & Cover

DELPEX '94 will offer a cacheted cover and pictorial cancel saluting the "Wilmington Blue Rocks" baseball team (a farm team of the Kansas City Royals) and the 125th anniversary of professional baseball. The show cancel (illustrated below) pictures a baseball emblazoned with the team's logo. The cancel will be used for two days: April 9 and 10. The cacheted cover features a replica of the 6¢ baseball centenary stamp of 1969. Show covers are available for \$1.50 each plus a #10 SASE from: Annette Gruber, P.O. Box 1073, Newark, DE 19715. Only checks or money orders will be accepted.



## Previously Listed New Issues Assigned Scott Numbers

Scott Catalog has now assigned numbers to the following sports sets previously listed in the New Stamp Issues column. This editor has used the 1994 Scott Catalog Volumes 1-5 and Scott *Monthly Journal*, issues September, October and November 1993, to obtain the information listed below.

- Aitutaki:** 29 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #460-3.
- Albania:** 15 Feb 1992, Albertville WOG. #2398-2401.  
10 June 1992, Europe Soccer Ch. #2408-11.
- Algeria:** 24 June 1992, Barcelona OG. #958.
- Andorra (French):** 13 Mar 1993, Ski Resorts. #423-4, 424a-c.
- Angola:** 26 July 1991, Barcelona OG. #808-11.
- Antigua:** 20 June 1991, Martial Arts. #1436, 1439, 1441-2.  
16 Mar 1992, Barcelona OG. #1529, 1532, 1534-5.
- Antigua and Barbuda:** 19 Aug 1991, Barcelona OG. #1466-75.
- Australia:** Mar 1990, Lawn Bowling. #1106a.  
15 Oct 1992, Cricket Anniversary. #1301-2.  
2 July 1992, Olympic and Paralympic Games. #1268-70.
- Austria:** 14 Jan 1992, Barcelona OG. #1555.  
19 March 1993, Special WOG in Salzburg. #B367.
- Bahamas:** 2 June 1992, Barcelona OG. #755-9.
- Bahrain:** 25 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #384-7.
- Bangladesh:** 25 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #414, a-d.  
No DOI 1993, Soccer. #425.
- Bolivia:** No DOI 1992, Lillehamar 1994 WOG. #862.  
No DOI 1992, 12th Bolivianos Games. #869.
- Botswana:** 7 Aug 1992, Barcelona OG. #536-9, 539a.
- Brazil:** 21 March 1993, Water Sports. #2399, a-c.
- Bulgaria:** 15 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #3691-5.  
18 Dec 1992, Sports. #3743-8.
- Cameroun:** No DOI 1992, Soccer. #874-7.
- Canada:** 9 Oct 1992, Hockey. 1443, a, 1444, a, 1445, a.
- China P.R.:** 25 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #2397-2401.
- Colombia:** 4 June 1992, Barcelona OG. #C851.
- Congo Rep.:** No DOI 1992, Oly. Gold Medalists 1992. #984-8 (WOG), #989-995 (OG).
- Cook Islands:** 24 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #1108, a-c, 1109, a-c, 1110.
- Cuba:** 24 Sep 1992, 6th World Track and Field Cup. #3457-62.
- Cyprus (Turkish):** 24 May 1992, Anniversaries. #813 and 815.
- Czech Republic:** 21 May 1992, Barcelona OG. #2851.  
30 June 1992, Table Tennis. #2862.
- Dominica:** 30 June 1992, Cricket. #1420, 1426, 1429.  
No DOI Sep 1992, Sports. #1494, 1497, 91499-1500, 1502.
- Djibouti:** 24 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #697.  
22 July 1992, Soccer. #701.
- Dominican Rep.:** No DOI 1992, National Sp. Games. #1128-30.
- Egypt:** 20 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #1491-2.
- Estonia:** No DOI 1993, Baltic Sea Games. #241-3.
- Finland:** 14 June 1993, Art. Boy on Skis painting. #916.
- French Polynesia:** 15 May 1993, Sports Festival. #620.
- Gabon:** 25 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #742-4.
- Gambia:** No DOI Feb 1993, Baseball. #1348, 1348a-h, 1350.
- Grenada:** 11 Feb 1992, Thrill Sports. #2037, 2040-1, 2044.  
No DOI Oct 1992, Yachting. #2129, 2132, 2134-5, 2138.
- Guinea-Bissau:** No DOI 1992, Barcelona OG. #935-8.
- Guyana:** No DOI 1992, Barcelona OG. #2556 Ovpt on #23990.
- Hong Kong:** No DOI 1992, Barcelona OG. #628e (s/s).
- Hungary:** 5 May 1993, Motorcross. #3387.
- Iceland:** 10 March 1993, Sports. #710-11.
- Indonesia:** 1 April 1993, Runner. #1532.
- Isle of Man:** 3 June 1993, Motorcycling. #562-6 and 566a (s/s).
- Israel:** 29 June 1993, Maccabiah Games. #1171.
- Italy:** 24 May 1993, Sports. #1933.
- Kenya:** 24 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #578-582.
- Korea (South):** 10 Oct 1992, Barcelona OG. #1684-5, a-b.
- Laos:** No DOI 1992, Albertville WOG. #1052-7.  
1 May 1992, World Cup Soccer. #1067-72.

**Malagasy:** 29 July 1992, Sports Festival. #1061.

**Malaysia:** 25 July 1992, Badminton. #459.

**Maldives:** 1 Jan 1992, Albertville WOG. #1722-5.  
No DOI 1992, Barcelona OG. #1747-56.

**Mali:** June 1992, Barcelona OG. #C565.  
June 1992, World Cup Soccer. #585.

**Malta:** 4 May 1993, 5th Small States Games. #815-8, 818a (s/s).

**Monaco:** 20 Oct 1992, Coubertin Centennial. #1834.  
24 March 1993, Golf. #1854.

**Nauru:** 17 May 1993, Runners on one stamp. #400.

**Netherlands:** 5 Jan 1993, Couple on bicycle. #821.

**Nicaragua:** 17 Sep 1992, Albertville WOG. #1918-25.  
17 Sep 1992, Barcelona OG. #1926-33.

**Norway:** 9 Oct 1992, Lillehamar 1994 WOG. #1029-30.  
23 Feb 1993, Gold Medalists WOG. #1035, a-d.

**Poland:** 29 March 1993, Knights Tournament. #3146-9.

**Portugal:** 28 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #1926-30.  
15 Aug 1992, Bull-ring Picadors. #1931-5.

**Romania:** 17 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #3749-57.

**Russia:** 5 June 1992, Barcelona OG. #6084a, 6085a, and 6086a.

**St. Vincent:** 25 May 1992, Albertville WOG. #1641, a-c. (s/s)  
No DOI June 1993, Skiing. #1789, 1798-9.

**Samoa:** 12 May 1993, Rugby World Cup. #823-6.

**San Marino:** 26 March 1993, Track. #1280a.

**Saudi Arabia:** No DOI 1993, Soccer. #1175-6.

**Sierra Leone:** 8 Sep 1992, Albertville WOG. #1521-3.  
8 Feb 1993, Masters of the Ring (Boxers). #1611, a-h.

**Slovenia:** 27 Feb 1993, Mountain Climbing. #157-8.

**Sri Lanka:** 8 Sep 1992, Cricket. #1053.  
18 Sep 1992, Barcelona OG. #1052a (s/s).

**Switzerland:** 16 Mar 1993, Lausanne Olympic Museum. #929.

**Syria:** 25 July 1992, Barcelona OG. #1275a-d, 1276.  
4 Sep 1992, Seventh Arab Games. #1279.  
7 Nov 1992, Special Olympics. #1283.

**Tanzania:** No DOI 1992, Traditional Hunting. #935-9.

**Tonga:** 16 Mar 1993, Health and Fitness Week. #837-9.

**Turkmenistan:** 15 Dec 1992, Barcelona OG. #22, a-b, 23.

**United Arab Emirates:** No DOI 1993, Sports. #415.

**Uganda:** 6 June 1992, Lillenthal Hang Gliding. #976.

**Virgin Islands:** No DOI Aug 1992, Barcelona OG. #757-61.

**Zambia:** No DOI 1992, Barcelona OG. #582-5.

## Specialist Information

For those SPI members who specialize in various printings, papers, perforations or colors of sports stamps, the following data has been received from the Australian Stamp Bulletin No. 222 (Oct-Dec 1993). The current "Sport Definitive Series" has various re-prints. Note that the number of "koalas" in the margin denote the number of printings. Differences in paper, perforations, or colors might be detected upon close inspection. These denominations are currently available through the Australian Philatelic Bureau in Melbourne:

1c Lawn Bowls: 2 koalas	85c Diving: 1 koala
2c Ten Pin Bowling: 2 koalas	\$1 Fun Run: 2 koalas
2c Ten Pin Bowling: 4 koalas	\$1 Fun Run: 3 koalas
3c Football: 1 koala	\$1.10 Golf: 2 koalas
5c Kayaking: 3 koalas	\$1.10 Golf: 3 koalas
10c Sailboarding: 3 koalas	
20c Tennis: 2 koalas	
55c Kite Flying: 1st reprint	
55c Kite Flying: 2 koalas	
65c Rock Climbing: 1 koala	
65c Rock Climbing: 2 koalas	
70c Cricket: 1st reprint	
70c Cricket: 3 koalas	
70c Cricket: 4 koalas	

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by Mark C. Maestrono

## THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Catalogue numbers are shown at left, such as 88101-911. In this example:

88=Year [1988]

1=Month [January]

01=First day of use

-911=First 3 ZIP code digits

Because the months of October, November and December are 2-digit months, they are expressed as O, Y, and Z respectively.

The place of use is listed next, followed by the dates of use. All cancels are in black unless otherwise specified.

The numbering system is from the Commemorative Cancel Catalog published by General Image, Inc., PO Box 335, Maplewood, NJ 07040, and is used with their kind permission.

[Note: The following entries and accompanying illustrations, when available, have been assembled from *Linn's* "Postmark Pursuit" column and USPS Bulletins.]

## SPORTS CROSS INDEX DEC '93-FEB '94

BASEBALL: 93Z13-775.

BASKETBALL: 93Z30-028, 94207-191.

BOBSLED: 94107-152.

FISHING: 94115-486, 94122-823.

FOOTBALL: 94107-070.

HOCKEY, ICE: 93Z04-928, 94107-152.

OLYMPIC BID CITIES: 93406-841.

OLYMPICS, WINTER: 93Z04-446, 94106-841.

SKATING, ICE: 93Z20-452, 94203-908, 94107-152.

SKIING, ALPINE: 94107-152.

SKIING, CROSS-COUNTRY: 94213-550, 94107-152.

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4-5

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93Z13-775 ALVIN, TX

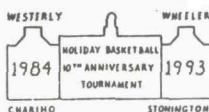
13

Kids on Ice  
Festival  
Station  
Dec. 20 1993  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
45202



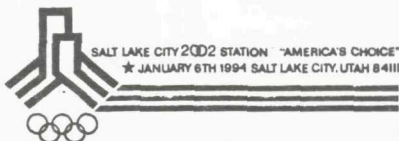
93Z20-452 CINCINNATI, OH

20



93Z30-028 WESTERLY, OH

30



(cancel in blue)

94106-841 SALT LAKE CITY, UT

6



RAMS  
VS  
GIANTS

JAN. 7, 1990

EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ 07070  
PLAYOFF STATION

94107-070 E. RUTHERFORD, NJ

7



94107-152 PITTSBURGH, PA

7



94115-486 HOUGHTON LAKE, MI

15-16,

22-3

Artwork Unavailable

"Saratoga Ice Fishing Derby"

94122-823 SARATOGA, NY

22



94203-908 LONG BEACH, CA

3-6



94207-191 PHILADELPHIA, PA

7



94213-550 MORA, MN

13

ADDENDA

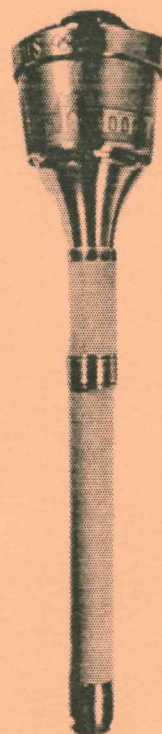
The "Women in Sports" cancel reported on in the November/December 1993 issue (#93909-926) was also used at:

93909-92618 IRVINE, CA

9

93909-92658 NEWPORT BEACH, CA

9



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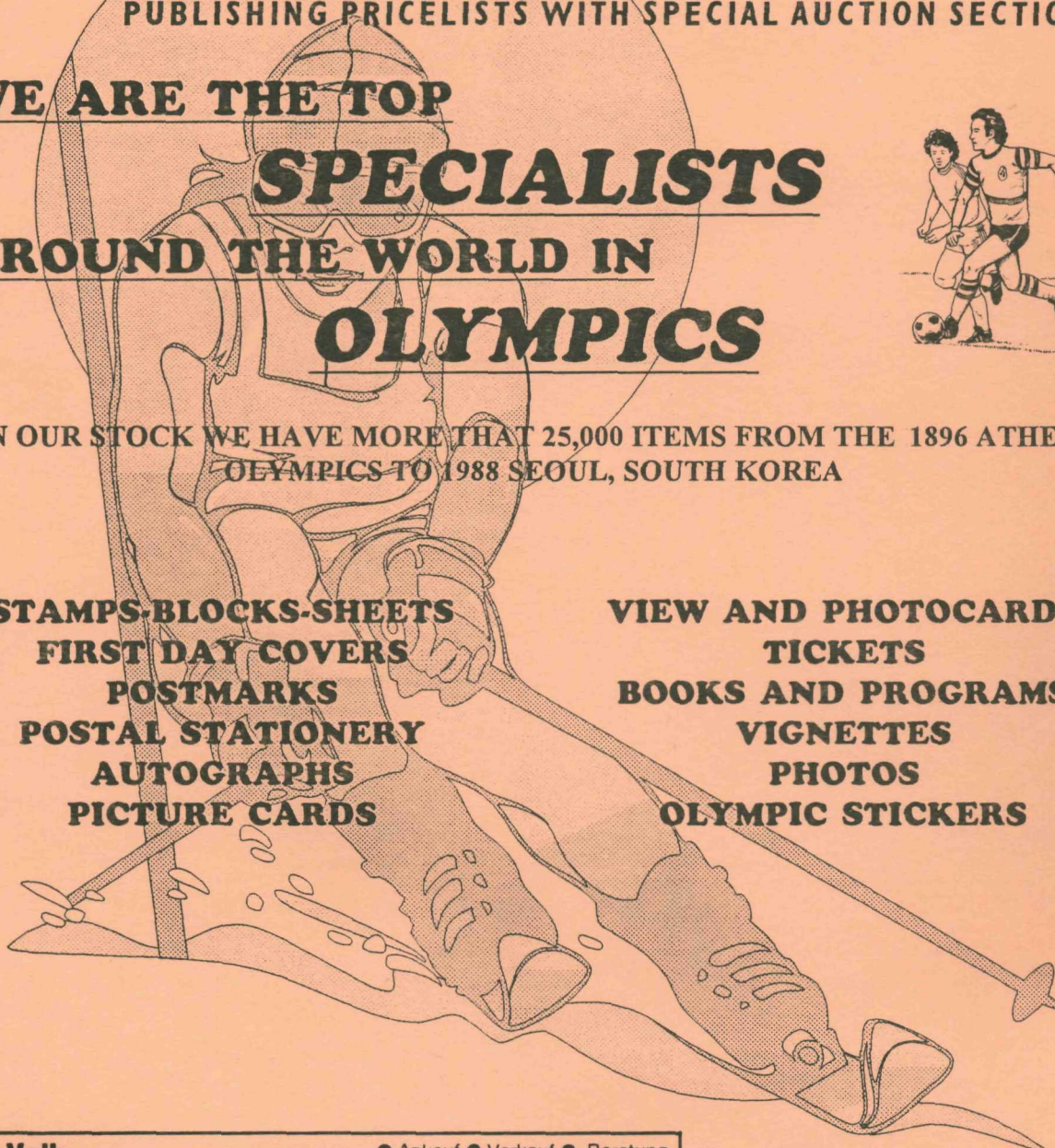
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