

REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme: Jean-Pierre Picquot, 172 Bd. Berthier, 75017 Paris, France. [In French]

October 2017 (#85). To kick off this issue of *Esprit*, Christophe Ait-Braham reviews the 23rd World Olympic Collectors' Fair held in September 2017 in Bratislava. André Zanirato examines the various Olympic plaques awarded in his article on the numismatics of the 1900 Paris Olympic Games. Canoe and kayak philately is reviewed by René Christin with an emphasis on the world championships held in France in 1987, 2000, and 2002. A maximum card honoring a 1994 stamp for sailor, Alain Colas, the first man to circumnavigate the world solo in multi-hull boat, is presented by Michel Leclancher. Serge Laget hypothesizes that Pierre de Coubertin's inspiration for the five rings logo of the Olympic Movement may have come from images on the facade of (what is today) the BNP-Paribas bank building in Paris' rue Bergère. Lastly, Claude-Denis Renard looks at tennis pins.

December 2017 (#86). With the formal announcement on 13 September 2017 in Lima, Peru, Paris was officially named host of the 2024 Olympic Games. This issue of *Esprit* celebrates with "The Olympic Dream Becomes Reality," an article by René Christin on the 2024 philatelic emissions to date. Jean-Claude Gontier follows that up with a study of the printing and plating of the 1924 Paris Olympic Games stamps. Longue paume, a version of jeu de paume, which later led to the development of tennis and other racquet sports, was played at the 1900 Paris Olympic Games. Jean-Marc Fontaine of the Société de Longue Paume de Paris explains the sport in more depth. Pascal Bedenes then treats readers to a selection of tennis autographs featuring such luminaries as Roger Federer, Bjorn Borg and Rod Laver. This issue concludes with a maximum card for the 2002 America's Cup yachting competition by Michel Leclancher.

March 2018 (#87). Winter sports are front center, as René Christin looks back 50 years to the "Olympic Games of Grenoble." Leaping forward a half-century, Catherine Salaün entertains us with a fun look at PyeongChang 2018 in "The Olympic Games

of the Land of Morning Calm." Tennis great Pancho Segura was identified as the model for the tennis player on the Ecuador 1939 stamp honoring the 1938 Bolivarian Games which took place in Colombia. Jean-Pierre Picquot shows a striking signed die proof of the stamp from the American Bank Note Company archives. Roger Viersou discusses French cyclist Roger Walkowiak who passed away in 2017 at the age of 89.

June 2018 (#88). France will host this year's Ryder Cup in September. Bernard Bergeret and Jean-Bernard Kazmierczak present a pair of articles relating the historical background and philately of this biennial golf event between the US and Europe. In "Paris 2012: the Lost Bid," René Christin reviews the philately surrounding the Paris candidacy and loss to London at the 2005 IOC Session in Singapore. Roger Viersou takes on another cycling great, Louison Bobet. Wrapping up this issue, Claude-Denis Renard shows us a nice selection of golfing pins with an emphasis on the Ryder Cup.

IMOS Journal: Veiko Brandt, Hauptstr. 8, 98634 Oberweid/Rhön, Germany. [In German]

November 2017 (#176). Peter Leinemann presents an overview of history and philately of the 2017 FIFA Confederations Cup, a test event for the 2018 World Cup. Italy celebrated the 100th running of the Giro d'Italia in 2017, the country's premier annual road cycling race. Veiko Brandt traces the race route through Italy. Armin Haug reviews the Handball World Championships for Women which have been contested since 1957. This year's event was in Germany. Thomas Lippert takes a look at the sports philately of islands in the Indian Ocean, including Mauritius and the Seychelles.

February 2018 (#177). In anticipation of the 2018 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games, Thomas Lippert reviews the philately of the Korean bid and subsequent issues through 2017. The 3D stamp sheets by Brazil for the Rio 2017 Olympics are the focus of another article by Lippert, followed by a review of the Taipei 2017 Summer Universiade as reported by Kwok-Yiu Kwan. Stadia immortalized

on coins caught the eye of Armin Haug, while Wolfgang Marx focused his attention on small fakes on GDR stamps. Greetings postcards from the Olympic Games have always been popular, whether sent by visitors or athletes. Christian Kurtz presents some interesting pieces from the Stockholm 2012 Games. Also covered in this issue: 2017 Macabiah Games; basketball in Slovenia; the new ice hockey joint nation stamps from the USA and Canada; and the British & Irish Lions 2017 Tour to New Zealand.

May 2018 (#178). The May mailing included both the regular IMOS journal and the supplementary special booklet for the 2018 IMOS Congress in Hamburg.

With World Cup just around the corner, the majority of articles in the regular issue dealt with this quadrennial football event. Armin Haug viewed the World Cup through the lens of numismatics in one article, then provided a prediction that World Champion Germany would again be world champion in 2018. Using philately, he reached back to Germany's first win in 1974 to support his thesis. Peter Leinemann picked up the World Cup story with Russia's extensive philatelic emissions as host of this year's competition.

The Congress booklet opens with a look back 110 years to the Winter Olympics of 1908 to discuss famous figure skaters, among them Panin of Russia and Salchow of Germany. The 1928 Olympics are featured in two articles: the 1928 Portuguese Olympic issues by Manfred Bergman (see *JSP* Winter 2013-Summer 2014), and modern sports and Olympic postmarks by Laurentz Jonker and Thomas Lippert. As this year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1968 Mexico City Games, Rüdiger Fritz reviews the many records set at this high-elevation Olympics. This special booklet concludes with Thomas Lippert's article on the 2018 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games (see page 3 of this issue).

Phila-Sport: UICOS, c/o CONI Servizi, Piazza Lauro de Bosis 15, Foro Italico, 00135 Rome, Italy
[In Italian]

October 2017 (#104). The final issue of 2017 of the Italian Olympic and sports collecting group's journal opens with Part 2 of Andrea Francesconi's World Cup collection. This installment covers the period from 1936 to 1938. Mauro Gilardi investigates the 1937 European Championship of Basketball held in Riga, Latvia and won by Lithuania. These

were the 2nd championships in the series which now go by the name EuroBasket. Valeriano Genovese touches upon the Laver Cup, named after Australian tennis great, Rod Laver. This annual indoor tennis tournament, which began in 2017, is between teams from Europe and the World. Alessandro Di Tucci continues his periodic series on collectible sports with an article on "women and men who have written pieces of history with their rackets." The story begins with Dwight Davis of Davis Cup fame and concludes with Andy Murray, men's singles winner at the 2012 Olympic Games. Shorter articles in this issue cover water polo, hurling, cycling, and bobsled at the 1968 Grenoble Olympic Winter Games.

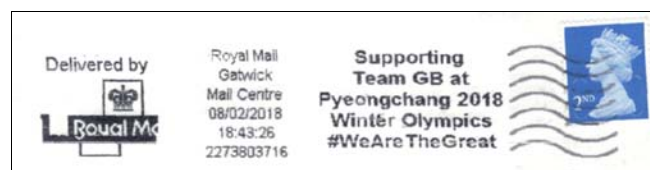
Torch Bearer: Miss Paula Burger, 19 Hanbury Path, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RB, U.K.

April 2018 (Vol. 35, #1). The Chairman of the Society of Olympic Collectors, Bob Wilcock, reported the sad news that SOC will be disbanding due, primarily, to the recent passing of so many key members who ran the society. Delivered electronically, this is the penultimate issue of *Torch Bearer*. The final issue is scheduled for July 2018.

Bob Wilcock presents Part 5 of the series on British Olympic Postal History from 1956-2008. This installment begins with an addendum to Birmingham's candidature for the 1992 Games and continues through the 1996 Atlanta Games period. Included are not only stamps and related philatelic items, but also postcards, vignettes, phone cards, beer mats, pins and other ephemera.

Next is an update to the London 2012 Gold Medal Trials sheets which hit the eBay auction market a couple of years after the 2012 Olympics, were then withdrawn when Royal Mail intervened, and now appear to be back on the auction block.

Additional news items: British slogan postmarks "Supporting Team GB at PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics #WeAreTheGreat"; Japanese Medal Winner stamps from PyeongChang; Japanese Postal Stationery Cards for PyeongChang and Tokyo 2020; and Paris 2024 covers and cancels.



Royal Mail slogan machine postmark promoting Team GB at the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games.