

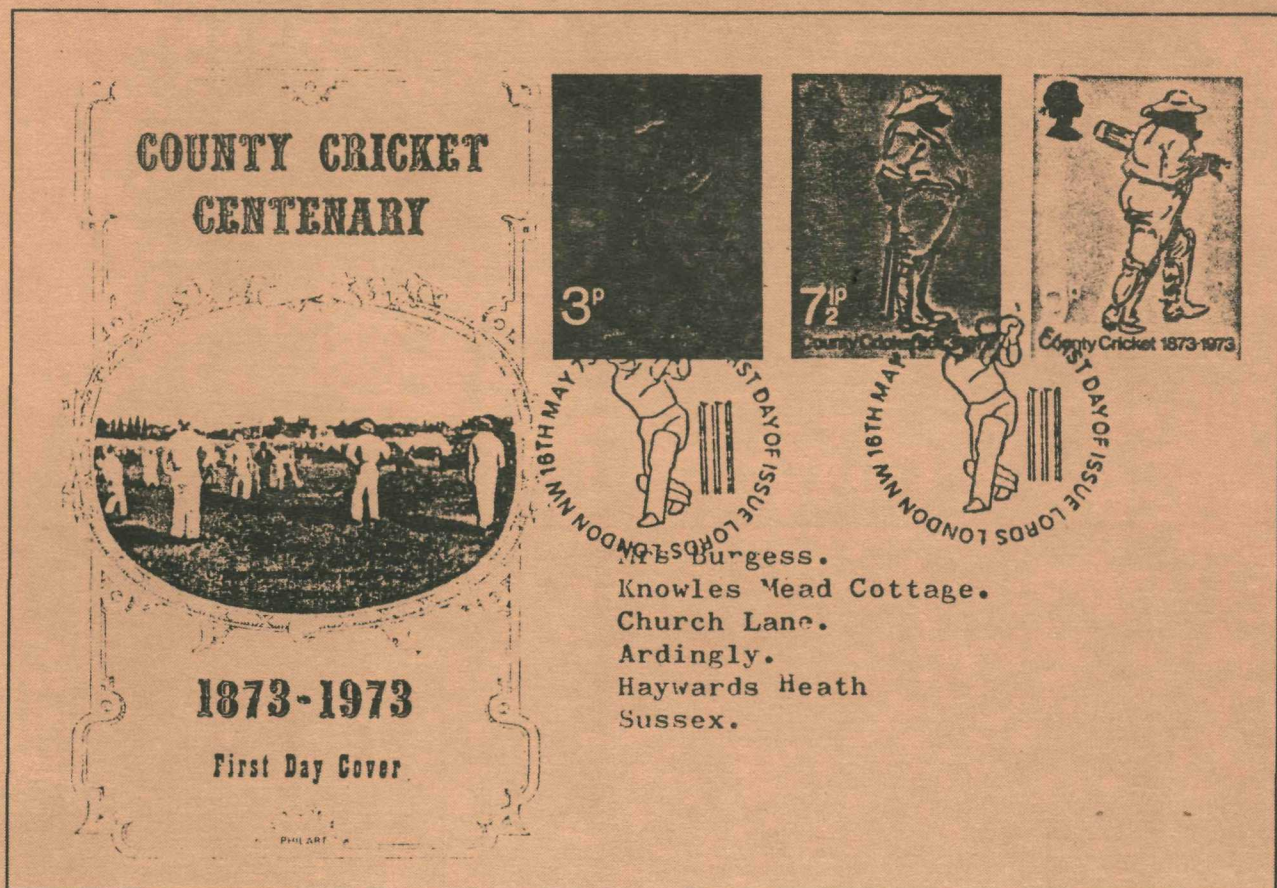
JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 29

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1990

NUMBER 2

Cricket and Philately: W.G. Grace & His Contemporaries



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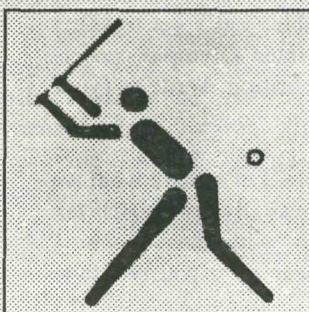
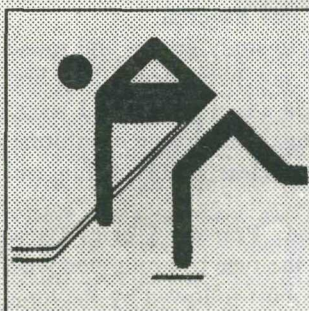
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**VOL. 29 NO. 2
NOVEMBER 1990**

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Study Groups and Round Robins

[When I received the following article from our V-P, Sherwin Podolsky, I felt that the subject deserved its own spotlight. So, I have turned over my column this month to Sherwin. I hope you enjoy it and I look forward to many of you starting specialized study groups or round robins! - Mark Maestroni]

by Sherwin Podolsky

In their responses to the society questionnaire, it became clear that many members are confused as to the purpose and role of study groups and round robins. Many other societies have successfully used them to promote exchanges of information among members with fairly narrow common interests or goals.

A study group is composed of members who wish to conduct research on a particular topic. Their purpose or goal is often to generate an article, monograph or even a book to be published by the society, although this is by no means a requirement.

To get started, a member must offer to be a study group leader. That person must develop a typed notice announcing that he or she wishes to start a study group on a particular subject. No specific goal need be set at this time. Members wishing to join the study group can contact the study group leader and let them know of their interest in participating.

The study group leader initiates the correspondence and the form of contact among the participants. Specific research areas are suggested and discussed. In the event that more than one research area is identified, the group can be split up to establish circles of cooperation within it. In any case, the group leader oversees the progress and periodically produces a report that is published in the society journal. A report lets the general membership know what is happening, which often encourages new members to join the study group.

It is important that a study group leader be established. However, a person wishing to be a member rather than a leader of a study group can make that desire known in a *JSP* notice as well. It is possible that a list of potential members may stimulate someone to volunteer as a leader. There are no hard and fast rules for study groups. As a group develops, it can fashion its own rules to suit its needs.

Round robins are groups that simply rotate packets of information related to the subject of the round robin. The packet material is normally photocopied before being placed in circulation, and may consist of letters, questions and answers, clippings from newspapers and magazines, or anything else related to the round robin's topic of interest. There should be a round robin leader. He or she will

prepare a list of names and addresses of all participants. That list will accompany all mailings to members of the round robin. When a packet arrives, the member should first withdraw the material he or she placed in the packet on the previous circuit. Then, new material from other members can be read and/or photocopied. Finally, the member can add fresh material before forwarding the packet on to the next person on the list. Those of you who have participated in sales circuits run by the APS or SOC will be familiar with the procedure.

The costs of a round robin are minimal - your time, photocopies and postage. Every member in a round robin should pass on the packet within ten days. Sometimes there is enough interest in a round robin that a study group develops with the goal of publishing something.

To give you an example, a round robin could be developed around the topic of tennis philately. Questions could be asked about the earliest tennis postmarks and postage stamps, tennis players, tennis sponsors and championships, checklists, meter slogans, and philatelic varieties (proofs, essays, imperfs). Auction realization information is another very popular item for inclusion, as are member notices seeking to trade, sell or buy material.

Perhaps the main drawback to study groups and round robins is that they are usually not permanent. The first persons to start and participate in study groups and round robins usually get the best pickings in exchange of information. These activities are nevertheless a lot of fun and stimulating.

Here is how to get started. Prepare a brief typed announcement for *JSP* that lists the type of group you wish to start (study group or round robin) followed by the topic of interest. You might try one of the following:

Study Group Leader available. Let's get together and research the 1960 Winter Olympic cancellations and update our information. Write to (your name and address) and get on board.

Round Robin leader available. Let's share what we know about the 1928 Portugal Olympic postal tax stamps. If you have covers with these items, I particularly would like to hear from you. Write to (your name and address).

Send your typed draft to the editor of *JSP*, John La Porta. He will prepare the proper headings.

By no means are study groups and round robins limited to philatelic areas. Collectors of memorabilia and medals are welcome to create and join them, too. □

New format: roses

Received my copy of the new journal yesterday. **Congratulations!!!**

[The] committee did an outstanding job. I have just read it from cover to cover and enjoyed every page.

Of course, I'm an old-fashioned guy and I liked the old journal, but this is much more than I imagined.

The format is excellent, the information is easily found, and much, much more.

George Scheffel
Concord, CA

Congratulations! The new format and content of our Journal is excellent. A great first effort and I can appreciate the time and work involved. No doubt it will continue to improve.

Paul Tissington
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

Excellent job on the "new" *JSP*. I really like the cancellation column addition. Hopefully, we can raise the level of non-Olympic articles.

Clem Reiss
Huron, OH

I received my copy of *JSP* only a few days ago and was very much pleased about the new format and the range of articles contained therein. Congratulations to SPI and all who worked so hard to make it happen.

The changes bring the publication more in line to what I believe the readership desires. In future publications, it will be important to maintain a balanced approach to selecting articles since the readers are widely varied in their interests. As you know, I would happy to see the entire issue dedicated to the 1936 Olympics, but I am also certain that most SPI members would disagree with me.

It will be a challenge to solicit from the readership a continuing flow of articles that relate to all aspects of sports. Possibly we could encourage some of our IMOS (Internationale Motivgruppen Olympiaden und Sport) friends to provide English translations of selected articles of interest.

Again, congratulations on a fine start!

James Bowman
Simi Valley, CA

I received the *Journal of Sports Philately* in it's new format on Saturday and was very impressed. It is a fine journal. You are to be congratulated. I read it from cover to cover and really enjoyed all the articles. My only concern for the future is, will we have enough new articles for every issue. I don't think a number of reprints will

satisfy the membership. Publishing a monthly magazine as we do in the NJCAA [National Junior College Athletic Association] makes me very aware of your problems with new articles.

I would like to suggest that there are articles published in Italy, France, Greece and Germany that, if translated, would really make good reading for us here in the states.

George Killian
Colorado Springs, CO

Many thanks to all of you for your kind comments; the JSP Committee certainly appreciated them. But we can't imagine that the picture could possibly be this "rosy"; aren't there any "onions" that any member may wish to throw?

As many of you correctly pointed out, the biggest problem that we must confront is generating original articles, especially sports-related, for each edition. I stress the word "articles," as we have sufficient checklist-type material to last a lifetime! Won't some of our foreign members contribute translated articles from their national sport/Olympic philatelic journals? As we've said before, we can't print it if we don't receive it.

While we're at it, a special congratulations to George Killian, who has recently been named President of FIBA [International Basketball Federation] for the 1990-1994 term. We do, indeed, have some illustrious members in the ranks of Sports Philatelists International!

Attention All Members

The JSP Committee is planning a special "theme" issue for the March 1991 *JSP*. The subject: the St. Louis Olympic Games of 1904.

Any member possessing unusual philatelic material, postcards, articles, or information on the results is encouraged to write us. If you can author an article, so much the better.

In particular, we need information and illustrations on the various postcards from the Games, 1904 Olympic memorabilia, and bibliographic references (philatelic and non-philatelic).

Please send your material to John La Porta, Sherwin Podolsky or Mark Maestrone. Don't delay, the deadline for material is January 1, 1991!

SPI Annual Financial Statement

September 1, 1989 - August 31, 1990

National Liquid Reserve Account	Sept. 1, 1989	\$15,328.00
Checking Account Balance	Sept. 1, 1989	322.97
Cash Balance	Sept. 1, 1989	10.76

INCOME

Dues		\$1740.45	
National Liquid Reserve Interest		883.00	
Covers		398.40	
Simplified Handbook of Sports Stamps		223.00	
JSP Ads		171.00	
JSP Back Issues		101.50	
Auction			
Income	\$2689.55		
Expense	2017.57		
		671.98	
Olympic Handbook			
Income	\$66.00		
Expense	28.75		
		37.25	
Tennis Handbook			
Income	\$316.00		
Expense	85.17		
		230.83	
TOTAL INCOME			\$4506.21

EXPENSE

JSP Printing		\$1895.00	
JSP Postage		1021.99	
Postage		565.93	
Computer & Supplies		2555.26	
Printer, editor		1000.00	
General Printing		431.51	
President's Correspondence		209.18	
Basketball Handbook			
Expense	\$852.00		
Income	50.00		
		802.00	
Binders		189.00	
Supplies		97.87	
TOTAL EXPENSE			\$8767.74
NET LOSS			\$4261.53

National Liquid Reserve Account	Aug. 21, 1990	\$10,960.25
Checking Account Balance	Aug. 31, 1990	288.53
Cash Balance	Aug. 31, 1990	151.42
Current Life Membership Liability		[\$2,630.00]
Prepaid Membership Liability		[\$2,705.00]
1932 Olympic Handbook Cash Flow		[-\$134.31]
1989 Tennis Handbook Cash Flow		[-\$1418.68]
Basketball Handbook Cash Flow		[-\$802.00]

respectfully submitted: Clem A. Reiss, Secretary/Treasurer

Dr. W.G. Grace and His Contemporaries

by Peter N. Street

The notice outside the grounds read "Admission 6d -- If Dr. Grace plays 1 sh." Although this story is probably apocryphal, who was this extraordinary cricketer whose appearance could double the entrance fee?

One measure of a man's stature is that of greatness in his own lifetime. According to a cricket contemporary, Gilbert Jessop, the two most recognized men in Victorian England between 1894 and 1904 were William Gladstone, the Prime Minister, and Dr. W.G. Grace.

William Gilbert Grace was born 18 July, 1848, at Downend, a village four miles from Bristol in Gloucestershire (Figure 1). He came from a large family; several of his brothers also became eminent cricketers.

His progress as a cricketer was rapid. By age fifteen he was playing against an All England XI and three years later, in 1866, he appeared as an amateur for the English national team. A fine all-round athlete, that same year he scored 224 not out in a match against Surrey. During the match he was allowed to run in a hurdles championship at Crystal Pal-

ace track, which he won. After his retirement from first class cricket he captained the English lawn bowling team.

For the next thirty years "W.G.," as he was affectionately known, dominated English cricket. Although he was an all-rounder (he took 2876 crickets in his first class career) it was as a batsman that he is best remembered. Modern batting style is an invention of W.G. Grace's. He disproved the theory that the faster the bowling, the more effective the bowler; he widened the repertoire of strokes and he combined forward and back play into a comprehensive tech-

nique.

Between the years 1868-1874, he headed the batting averages for seven consecutive seasons. His dominance as England's premier batsman is best shown in the 1871 season when his average was 79, almost double that of the second man on the list. Between 1880 and 1899, he captained England in thirteen Test Matches against Australia.

In a first class career from 1868-1904, mostly with Gloucestershire, he scored 54,896 runs at an average of 39.55 including 126 centuries.

During his career he achieved all the milestones by which modern first class batsmen mark progress:

- First to score 1000 runs in May.
- First to score 1000 runs and take 100 crickets in a season.
- First to score a century on debut against Australia.
- First to reach one hundred centuries.

Dr. Grace played many times for the Gentlemen of England versus the Players. The term "gentleman" in Victorian England defined an amateur, a person rich enough not to have to be paid to play. In that bygone era, a gentleman was defined not necessarily by wealth, but more by social position and style of education. While Grace had not attended an exclusive private



Figure 2. Centenary of British County Cricket (Scott 694-6) depicting W.G. Grace.

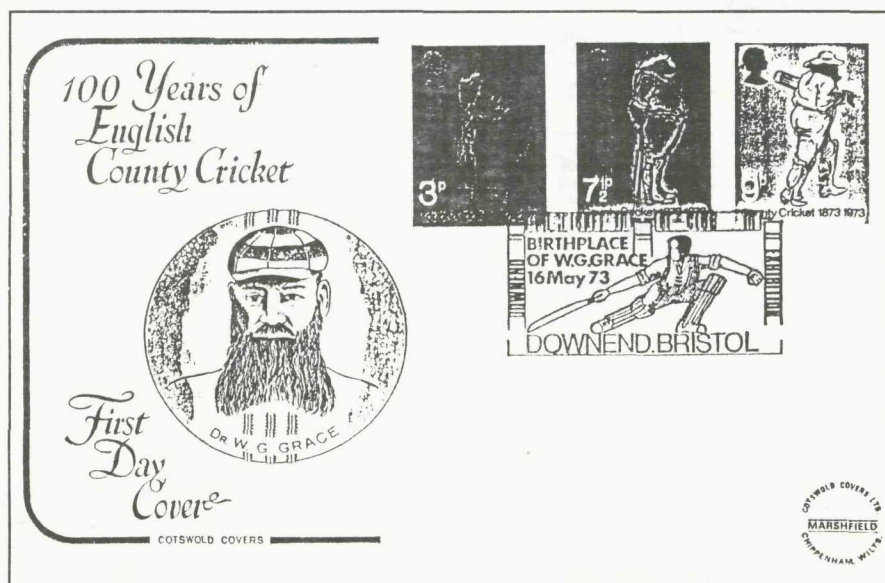


Figure 1. FDC for the 1973 Centenary of County Cricket in Great Britain.

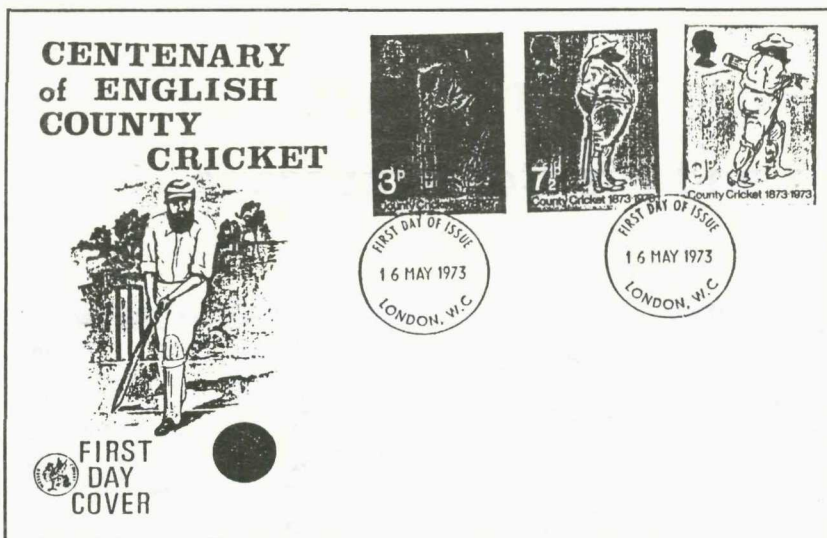


Figure 3. One of several cachets honoring Dr. Grace on FDC of Scott 694-6.



Figure 4. Commemoratives featuring W.G. Grace: Grenadines of St. Vincent, above; the Australian Bicentenary, below left; and, the Australian-Great Britain Joint Issue for the Australian Bicentenary, below right.



Figure 5. Dr. Grace playing cricket at the age of 42.

school, nor was he a University graduate, he was a medical doctor and thus deemed a gentleman.

Dr. W.G. Grace is the only cricketer, to date, to have appeared on English postage stamps. On 16 May, 1973, Great Britain issued three stamps to commemorate the centenary of County Cricket (Figure 2). They are based on caricatures by Harry Furniss and show a mature Grace who incidentally represented Gloucestershire at the original meeting in 1873. In addition, several cachets on First Day Covers for this issue feature Dr. Grace (eg. Figure 3). One of the Leaders of the World Series from the Grenadines of St. Vincent also shows Dr. Grace (Figure 4).

In 1988, Australia celebrated its Bicentennial. Postally, Great Britain and Australia issued a group of four almost identical stamps with Dr. Grace featured on the highest value of each (Figure 4).

A cachet of the Australian First Day Cover is a portrait painted by Archibald Stuart Wortley in 1890 when Dr. Grace was 42 years old showing him at the wicket and wearing his MCC cap (Figure 5). Later that year, the special postmark for the Benson and Hedges Final shows "W.G." making a forward stroke (Figure 6).

Several of Dr. Grace's contemporaries have been featured on postage stamps. Arthur Shrewsbury (1856-1903) was the greatest professional batsman of his day, combining an impregnable defence with steady scoring. He earned the classical tribute from W.G. Grace's traditional answer as to who was his greatest contemporary as batsman: "Give me Arthur." Shrewsbury was a precise man who, because of his baldness, was reputed to always wear a hat -- a cricket cap on the playing field, a bowler off the field and a night cap in bed.

In a first class career for Nottinghamshire and England he scored 26,439 runs with 59 centuries including 10 double hundreds. He committed suicide in the mistaken belief that he had an incurable disease. He is featured on a Tuvalu stamp (Fig 7).

Robert Peel (1857-1941) was another cricketer who appeared with Dr. Grace in several Test Matches in

both England and Australia. He was a small, sturdy, left arm bowler with immaculate length. He exceeded 100 wickets nine times in sixteen seasons. His first class career came to an abrupt end in 1887 when Lord Hawke, his captain, dismissed him from the Yorkshire side for walking onto the playing field drunk (Figure 7).

A casual stroller across Parker's Piece in Cambridge in 1888, would have been surprised at the size of the crowd watching a batsman named Smith playing for the Cassandra Club. Smith, or to give his correct name, Kumar Shri Ranjitsinhji (1872-1933) was an Indian prince who had been taught cricket in India and had recently entered Trinity College, Cambridge University.

An elegant, inventive batsman, especially of the leg glance, Ranjitsinhji eventually won a place on the 1893 University side against Oxford. By 1895, he was playing for Sussex and was their captain from 1899-1903 (Figure 8). "Ranji" was chosen to play for England in 1896 and became the second batsman, after Dr. Grace, to score a century on his initial Test appearance. He was also the first Indian to play Test Cricket.

By the end of the summer of 1896, Ranjitsinhji had scored 2780 runs to beat Dr. Grace's 1871 record of 2739 runs. In 1899 and 1900 he scored over 3000 runs and in 1904 he led the English batting averages.

In 1907, the old Jam died and Ranjitsinhji returned to India to become the new Jam Sahib of Nawanganar and spent the next few years being a diplomat in his native India. He served on the Western Front in World War I, and after the war was with the League of Nations. In 1934, the year after his death, the Ranji Trophy was initiated. It was named after him and is the major championship of Indian domestic cricket (Figure 9).

In 1972, an Indian stamp was issued to celebrate the centenary of Ranjitsinhji's birth date, and St. Vincent issued one in its Leaders of the World Series (Figure 10).

The Test averages for 1886 show Arthur Shrewsbury and W.G. Grace topping the batting averages, and



Figure 6. 1988 Benson & Hedges Cup commemorative cancel depicting W.G. Grace making a forward stroke.



Figure 7. Tuvalu featured Arthur Shrewsbury on its Leaders of the World stamp....



while the Grenadines of St. Vincent depicted Robert Peel on their issue.

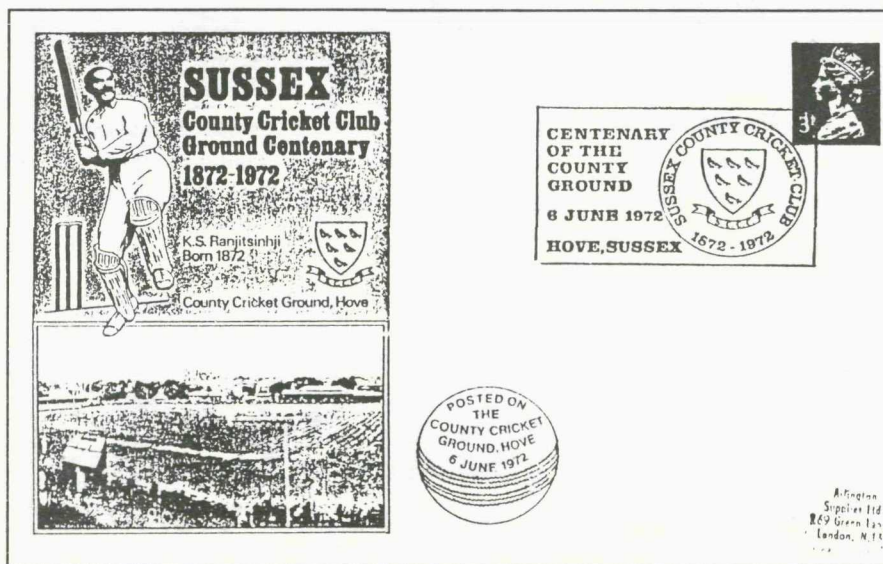


Figure 8. K.S. Ranjitsinhji was honored with a 1972 cachet by the Sussex County Cricket Club, which he captained from 1899-1903.

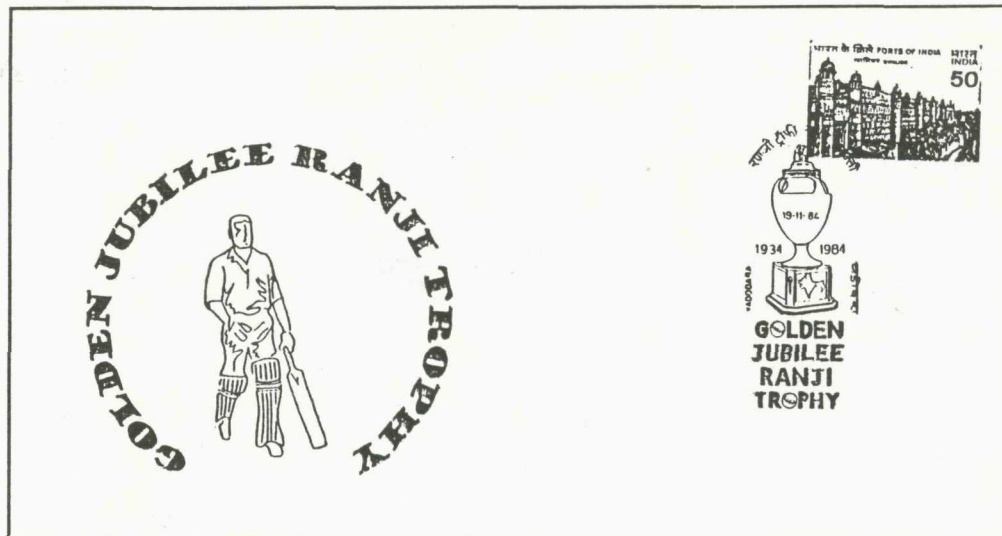


Figure 9. The Ranji Trophy, instituted in 1934, is the premier cricket event in India. It honors favorite son, Kumar Shri "Ranji" Ranjitsinhji.

J. Briggs the bowling averages with seventeen wickets at 7.76.

Johnny Briggs (1862-1902) was one of the finest all-rounders of his day. He was an aggressive right hand batsman and left arm bowler full of guile. He played for Lancashire from 1879 to 1900 and appeared in 33 Test Matches for England. Probably his best performance was in 1888-9 in South Africa in the Capetown Test. C. Aubrey Smith, who later became a Hollywood film star, was the English

captain and Briggs took 7 for 17 and 8 for 11.

In 1899, Briggs had an epileptic seizure during the Test Match against the Australians at Headingley in Leeds, Yorkshire. Although he again appeared for Lancashire the following year, he had a further breakdown and eventually died in an asylum (Fig.11).

At the end of his career, W.G. Grace appeared in matches with two

remarkable cricketers. Both would become legends of the game and one would surpass many of his records.

The Australian team which came to England in 1899 included Victor Trumper (1877-1915). The first Test Match at Trent Bridge in Nottingham was Trumper's debut and Dr. Grace's last for England. In his lifetime, Trumper was the most charismatic figure in Australian cricket. He was a right hand batsman who always seemed at ease at the wicket and made his strokes with perfect balance and without apparent effort. A stamp was issued in 1981 showing Trumper at bat, one of four featuring Australian Sporting Personalities (Figure 11).

In 1905, Dr. Grace was again the captain of the Gentlemen of England. The match was against Surrey, and Jack Hobbs (1882-1963) made the first of many appearances for his county. The "Master," as he was subsequently called, scored 61,237 runs in a career that spanned nearly thirty years. He scored 197 centuries, the most of any cricketer to date, 98 of these after the age of forty. He was knighted in 1953 for his services to cricket, the first professional cricketer to be accorded this honor (Figure 11).

Dr. W.G. Grace died on October 23, 1915, and a nation at war paused briefly to remember one of its greatest sports heroes. □



Figure 10. Centenary of "Ranji's" birth on India Scott 591, and . . .



. . . Ranjitsinhji on a Grenadines of St. Vincent stamp in the Leaders of the World series.



Figure 11. Johnny Briggs,



Vic Trumper,



and, Jack Hobbs.

Trial Colors, Proofs, and Other Varieties of the U.S. 1932 Olympic Stamps

by Sherwin Podolsky

Many collectors may not be aware that, covers aside, there is philatelic life beyond the three simple 1932 Olympic Games stamps. The 2¢, 3¢ and 5¢ stamps are so commonly seen that it is easy to forget there is anything else. A tour of the *Scott 1990 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps* and other references reminds us of these interesting and sometimes very expensive varieties. One of the other references is *The United States Postage Stamps of the Twentieth Century - Volume II Commemoratives 1923-1933* by Beverly S. King and Max G. Johl, First Edition, 1934, published by H. L. Lindquist, New York. This is commonly attributed to Johl.

The 2¢ Lake Placid stamp was printed in a sheet format of 400 subjects with top and bottom plate numbers. Sheets of 400 subjects were each cut into four panes of 100 stamps or subjects. Each pane has one plate number at top or bottom. The cuts, along colored lines called "guide lines" (Scott, p. xix), caused straight edges that themselves create collectible varieties. Single stamps and even blocks of 4 with straight edges along two sides can be found to reconstruct the center of the four adjacent panes. Corner blocks of 4 can be collected to reconstruct the marginal corners of a plate or plates. A miniature composite sheet can be constructed with plate number blocks of six with top and bottom numbers (preferably the same plate number), center blocks of four (each with two different adjacent straight edges and showing the guide lines), corner blocks of four and additional marginal strips or single stamps to complete a

unified composite. A plate block costs only about \$10, so the cost of this challenge is not unreasonable.

Plates used for the 2¢ Olympic stamp were numbers 20815 through 20826 for a total of twelve different. Plates from the upper right pane will have an "F" preceding the plate number (Scott, p. xx).

For the 2¢ Olympic stamp, the *Scott Specialized* also lists three printing flaws and their location in a sheet by position and plate number. A careful study of this information may be useful, but it could lead to breaking up complete sheets in order to create blocks and other pieces suitable for album page mounting. I recommend searching for existing broken blocks.

A knowledge of the causes of cracked and scratched plates can be obtained by studying the *Scott Specialized*, page xxii. You also will find an explanation of gripper cracks.

On the 2¢, a long rocking in the upper pane of plate 20823 caused prominent cracks that exist on the upper right pane, positions 41 and 42 and, on the upper left pane of the same plate, positions 48, 49 and 50. A recut variety exists on the upper right pane of plate 20823, position 61. According to Johl, only 9,025 full sheets of plate 20823 were issued and

few were saved.

A "colored snowball" variety exists on the upper right pane of plate 20815, position 64. This interesting variety appears as a small red dot approximately one millimeter to the left of the skier's left hand (Figure 1).

A page from the collection of Alvin Meissner, a former Bureau of Engraving engraver, is illustrated in Figure 2. It shows the blocks of stamps with the "peach of a crack" on plate 20823 upper panes. Also, there is an excerpt from a journal with an article by Beverly S. King. The article describes the Lake Placid Cracked Plate.

The Johl handbook lists no less than twenty plate flaws and, except for those listed by Scott, they are minor. The flaws are scratches, dots, and dashes; but Johl describes them as constant varieties.

How do you interpret plate positions? Each position is numbered starting with the first stamp at upper left and numbering each stamp across. Thus, a sheet of 100 stamps is printed ten stamps across and ten stamps down. The top row would have stamps 1 to 10. The second row would be numbered 11 to 20.

There are also shade varieties of the Lake Placid stamp but they are not listed by Scott. The Johl handbook lists three shades: carmine rose, bright carmine rose, and deep carmine rose. Sometimes the shades are obvious in the same large block or sheet. While single stamps showing strong shade variety are acceptable, I would think large blocks showing the same thing would be more impressive. The shades seem to be due to the density of the ink.

Johl lists only two shade varieties for the 3¢ stamp: violet and

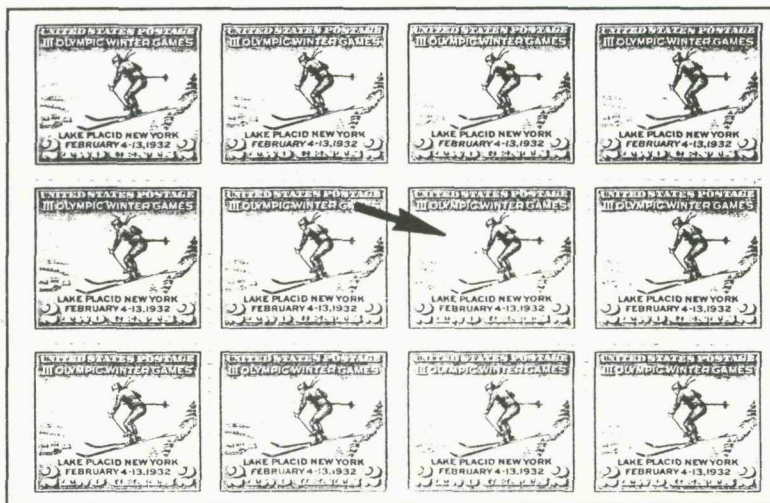


Figure 1. Snow Ball Variety: A red snowball appears just to the left of the skier's left hand on the stamp in the middle row, second from right. The variety is constant on the 64th stamp, U.R. pane of plate number 20815.

deep violet. For the 5¢ stamp, three shades are listed: blue, bright blue and deep blue. Have any readers succeeded in finding these shades with any certainty about their distinctiveness?

The 3¢ and 5¢ Olympic stamps can be collected in matching sets of plate blocks. Matching sets, also called "clocks," have the same plate number in each of four corners. The 2¢ Olympic stamp was a flat plate printing with plate numbers centered on the top and bottom selvedge. The 3¢ and 5¢ Olympic stamps were printed by rotary press; the plate numbers appear vertically along the sides at each outside corner. Another way to collect the 3¢ or 5¢ plate blocks is to obtain the complete series of plate numbers all in the same corner position. Laid out overlapping and in sequence on an album page or two, the display can be impressive.

There are only six plate numbers for the 3¢ stamp: 20864, 20865, and 20906 through 20909. Four plate numbers are found for the 5¢ stamp: 20868 through 20871.

The Scott *Specialized* lists cracked plate varieties of the 3¢ and 5¢ Olympic stamps. Johl reports that the 3¢ plate 20906, position 1 has a cracked plate found only on late printings. In all, Johl lists only seven plate flaws on the 3¢ Olympic stamp. For the 5¢, Johl lists twelve plate flaws, but only those noted for plate 20868 are also listed in the Scott *Specialized*. Scott lists gripper cracks on the upper left and upper right panes of this plate. However, Johl says that the flaws are on the lower left and upper right panes. I believe that Scott is correct because the 1934 Johl handbook was the first edition and therefore could have contained some errors.

Assuming that Johl meant the upper left pane of plate 20868 of the 5¢ Olympic stamp, the positions showing cracked plate flaws are: 1, 4-5 and 7-8. A similar crack exists in the upper right pane, position 10. All other plate flaws exist on other plate number panes and Johl describes them as dots, scratches or spots.

If you would like to see drawings of the Scott-listed flaws, you will find them in Johl. The drawings will make recognition of the flaws much easier. However, you also could do it the hard way by comparing every stamp for each denomination with each other. After all, that was how philatelists in the 1930s did their flyspeck hunting. Panes or blocks with plate number margins make the hunt easier. A strong magnifying glass would be necessary.

It is sometimes possible to find auction lots of plate blocks or sheets of the Olympic stamps. These lots may be an inexpensive way to start specialization in plate blocks and perhaps printing varieties. Beyond that, one probably will have to contact specialized U. S. dealers and scout local bourses. A diagram could be made of the composite(s) sought and as each part is found, it can be crossed out.

Large and small die proofs exist of all three 1932 Olympic stamps. The Scott *Specialized* lists the die proofs in the same colors as those of the respective issued stamps. However, actual examination indicates that the die proof colors are fresher and slightly different. The U. S. Essay-Proof Society defines a proof as "any impression, the design of which was approved for use on an issued stamp of an established government or private post, from any die, plate, stone or type, printed for the purpose of (1) examination or reference, (2) for determination of satisfactory quality of design, color, ink or imprinted surface, or (3) for determination of the effect of cancellation or method of separation." (*Linn's World Stamp Almanac*, Fifth Edition, Amos Press, 1989, p. 546-547).

There are two varieties of the large die proofs differentiated by type of paper used. They are india paper and white wove paper. The Scott catalog describes india paper as a thin, soft, opaque paper that varies in thickness and shows particles of bamboo. White wove paper is defined as fibrous in nature. These descriptions are not very helpful. How can something

be thin and vary in thickness as in the case of india paper? How can a fibrous paper not contain particles? Perhaps the best way to make a distinction is to examine other U.S. die proofs of the 1920s and 1930s that also come in these papers. In the 1990 Scott *Specialized*, the large die proofs are listed at about \$1100 each on india paper and \$850 each on white wove paper.

Large die proofs were printed on paper about the size of the engraver's die block (*Linn's*, p. 546). The small die proof has margins large enough to show that it was not the ordinary stamp with perforations trimmed and gum washed off. The catalog says that the small die proof may be on white paper or yellowish wove paper. It isn't clear whether the small die proof may be found in both paper varieties for all three Olympic stamps.

A trial color proof exists only for the 3¢ Olympic stamp; the color is carmine. It exists as a large die only; the type of paper is not described. The 1990 Scott value is \$1,000.

Generally, rare proofs are likely to show up at U.S. auctions about once each decade. I can recall seeing proofs in auction catalogs about as often in the last twenty years. However, I have never seen the trial color proof of the 3¢ Olympic stamp placed on the auction block. Do any readers know better?

While the plate block varieties offer affordable and rarely seen opportunities, the proofs will remain a formidable challenge for most of us. One possibility is to try for any type of proof as even one example will enhance a collection or exhibit.

The Johl-listed varieties do offer a by-way that I have never seen presented in an exhibit or collection. One problem is that the Johl handbooks are auction fodder. The serious collector should try to obtain photocopies from a philatelic library. A well prepared presentation on exhibit pages should earn much interest and recognition from judges and fellow collectors. □

Olympic Winter Games
Laked Plate variety

—UNITED STATES—

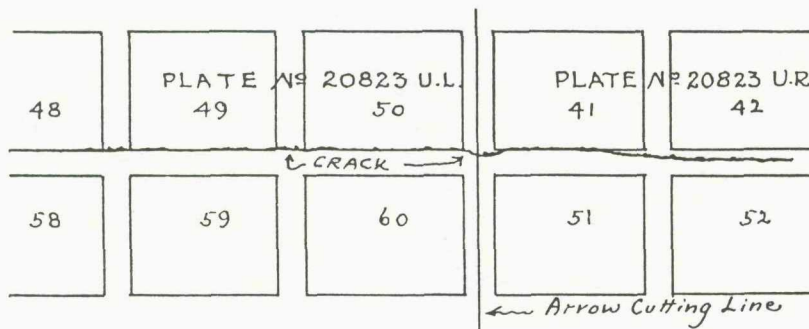
1932

Lake Placid, N.



Notes on General Issues

By BEVERLY S. KING



Lake Placid Cracked Plate

A LONG horizontal crack has been discovered on plate 20823, which occurs in the gutter under stamps 41 and 42 of the right hand upper pane and runs west across the vertical arrow cutting line into the bottom frame of stamps 48, 49 and 50 of the upper left pane, (illustrated). It is a peach of a crack, caused doubtless by the transfer roll hitting a hard spot on the plate. These stamps were rocked in side-wise and cracks usually follow the line of the transfer. On this same plate, U. R. stamp No. 61 shows a recutting of the lower frame line. Might say that I have examined practically all of the Placid plates and that this is the only crack so far discovered.

On plate No. 20815 U. R. stamp No. 64 shows a sizable red dot in the vignette directly in front of the ski jumper, this was called to my attention by Max Johl; he also showed me No. 82 on plate No. 20824 L. L. where there is a defective "S" in "CENTS".

Plate No. 20824 U. L. seems to have more than its share of oddities. Here I found what looks like a shift on stamp No. 7, where a position line shows up strongly in the white space just inside the right frame line. Stamp No. 12 has what looks like a recut top frame line and No. 82 has a hooked line of red in the tail of the right numeral. Stamp No. 29 from plate No. 20826 L. L. has a short dash under the lower frame line, to the left. I do not think that this is a shift, although it may be.

17

Figure 2. Original album page from Alvin Meissner's collection, exhibiting the cracked plate varieties on the 2¢ Lake Placid stamp. At bottom is the article by Beverly King explaining the flaws.

Jozef Rössler-Ořovský

by Jaroslav Petrášek
translated by Joe Lacko

Jozef Rössler-Ořovský was born on June 29, 1869 (Figure 1). As a youngster, he had a great interest in a variety of sports, which at that time were in their infancy. Because participating in sports was forbidden for students, he used the pseudonym, Ořovský, which he later attached to his proper name.

As a thirteen year old, he was a co-founder of the first skating club in Bohemia, now part of Czechoslovakia. His athletic interests increased as sports appeared in his country, such as light athletics, canoeing, rowing, football, skiing, ice hockey and so on. Rössler was not only active in sports as a participant, but also an avid worker in propagating sports and translating the rules of various games that he became acquainted with during his travels. Through his efforts in Bohemia, Czech sporting teams became known to the rest of the world.

In 1893, he became a member of the London Vesta Rowing Club and also trained with the Oxford Eight. In that year he became interested in tennis, forming the CLTK, the Czech Lawn Tennis Club. The Czech Yacht Club was also formed by Rössler in the same year. In 1905, he brought the first canoe to Bohemia which he paddled on the rivers of his homeland. He yearned for football (soccer), and after joining the English Black Friars Club of Fulham, as well as the Paris White Rowers, he organized the first football match in Bohemia in 1896.

Despite the strong opposition from the Austrian Empire's sporting bodies, he succeeded in linking the Czechs with noted international sports federations. He never failed to uphold the Czech existence.

In 1897, Rössler and his co-workers formed the Czech Amateur Athletic Union, with Rössler taking the office of vice-president. At that time, he, Dr. Guth-Jarkovský (Figure 2), and their friend Baron Pierre de Coubertin formed the International Olympic Committee. Natural-

ly, Rössler was instrumental in forming the Czech Olympic Committee in 1899, thus becoming one of the founding fathers of the Czech Olympic movement. From 1900 to his death, he represented his country as a delegate to every Olympic Games. At the 1912 Olympics, his diplomatic talent was instrumental in having the Czech

flag and country sign carried into the stadium for the opening ceremony, despite Austrian protests. Certainly, he played an important role in preparations for the 1925 Olympic Congress held in Prague, now Czechoslovakia.

Rössler-Ořovský died on January 17, 1933. □

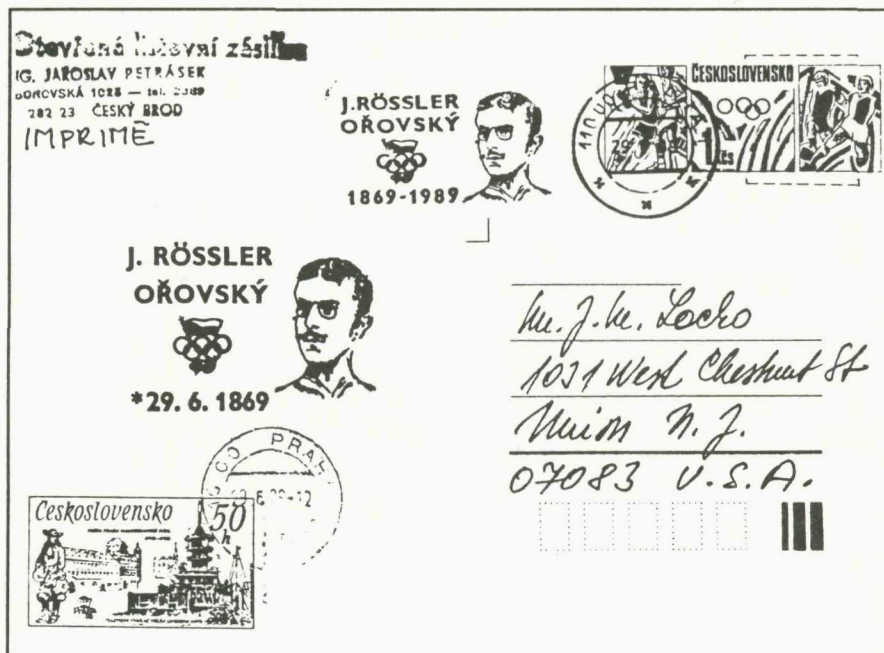


Figure 1. Czechoslovakia commemorated the 120th Birth Anniversary of Jozef Rössler-Ořovský with a special cancel in Prague on June 29, 1989. A similar cachet, with the date "29.6.1869" appears at left.

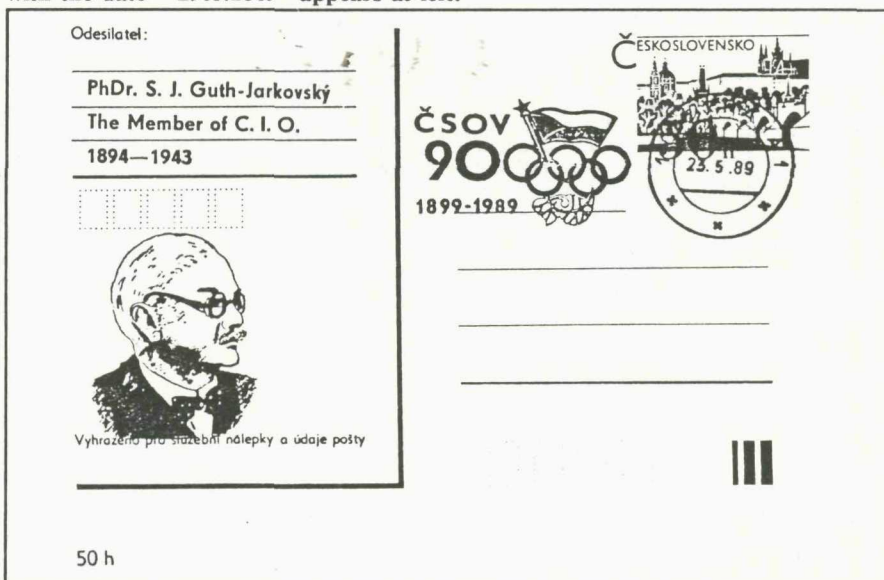


Figure 2. The 90th Anniversary of the Czechoslovak Olympic Committee was commemorated by a special cancel in Prague on May 23, 1989. At left, is a cachet depicting Dr. Guth-Jarkovský, a founder of the IOC.

Super Sunday Series: Part V

Super Bowls XXII & XXIII

by Donald B. Crisman

From an entertainment and drama point of view, Super Bowls XXII and XXIII were as different as day and night. In the 1988 Super Game, the Washington Redskins, behind quarterback Doug Williams, overcame a quick start by the Denver Broncos and literally blew them away with 35 points in the second quarter. The outcome of Super Bowl XXII was never in doubt by the time the half time show commenced.

In contrast, Super Bowl XXIII was a classic game that went down to the wire. The San Francisco Forty-niners took the lead and the victory on a Joe Montana pass to John Taylor with only 34 seconds left in the contest. The American Conference Cincinnati Bengals had taken the lead less than three minutes earlier, but the Forty-niners prevailed 20-16 in one of the most competitive and entertaining games in Super Bowl history.

A contrast similar to that described above was also clearly evident in the Super Bowl XXII and XXIII philatelic activities. In 1988 (Super Bowl XXII), the San Diego Post Office and local collectors created a great atmosphere for sports cover

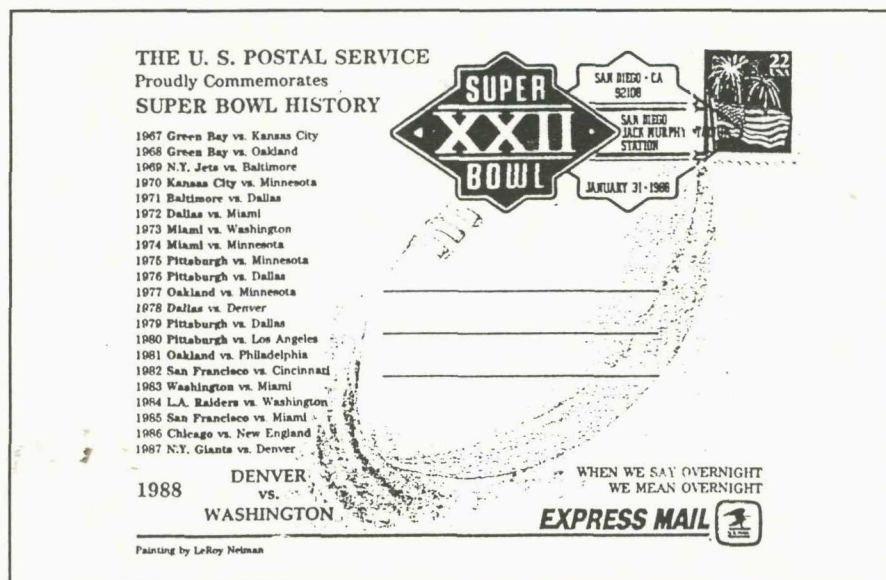


Figure 1. USPS Super Bowl History post card with special Super Bowl XXII cancel. The front of the card is a painting of a football player by Leroy Neiman.

collectors. A special post card commemorating the Super Bowl and providing a history of the NFL Championship Game since 1967 attracted much attention (Figure 1). Visits to the main Post Office and the special postal station at Jack Murphy Stadium created some good trading opportunities with both local and out-of-state collectors. In addition to the special post card, which displayed a Leroy Neiman print on the opposite side, the traditional special game day pictorial

cancellation was also offered. The first such special pictorial Super Sunday Cancellation was created for Super Bowl XVI in Pontiac, Michigan and the competitors were the same two teams that participated in Super Game XXIII (San Francisco prevailed that time also, 26-21). Among my most popular items are a cacheted cover autographed by the Redskins MVP quarterback Doug Williams (Figure 2), and a local cachet postcard depicting a bronco kicking a redskin (Figure 3). The latter cachet maker obviously had to be disappointed with the outcome: Redskins 42 - Broncos 10.

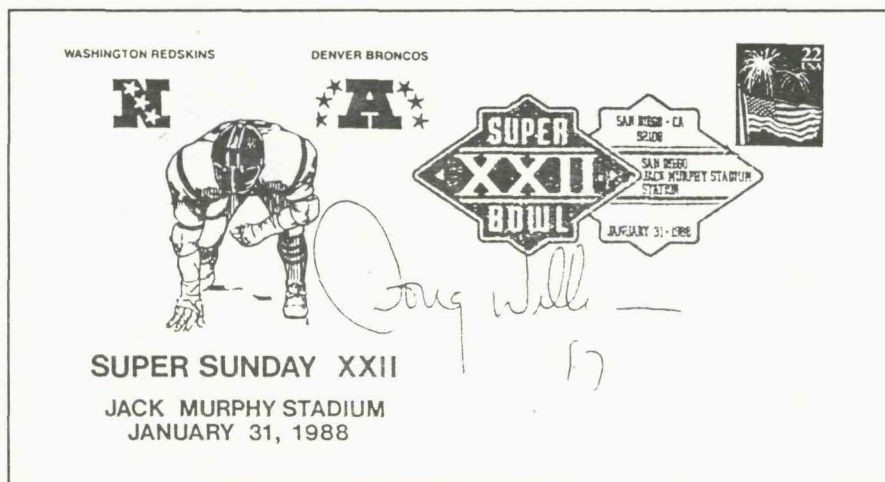


Figure 2. Super Bowl XXII cacheted cover autographed by the game's most valuable player (Doug Williams, quarterback for the Washington Redskins).

Super Bowl XXIII provided a classic game, but the philatelic activities in Miami must rank as a bust. For the first time in eight years the Postal Service did not offer a commemorative pictorial cancellation and very few Super Game XXIII cachets were uncovered. Discussions with Miami Post Office officials indicated that they did not offer a Super Bowl Logo cancellation because of the NFL licensing cost. They further noted that the Super Bowl XXII promotion in San Diego did not prove to be profit-

able. Lets hope that some compromise can be worked out for future Super Sundays.

My favorite cover from Super Bowl XXIII has my own cachet and it is autographed by 13-year veteran 49er center Randy Cross, who announced his retirement just prior to the game (Figure 4). Another favorite, yet to be autographed, is the same cachet with the 1989 Montana Statehood stamp (Figure 5). Joe Montana was not the MVP of Super Bowl XXIII (Jerry Rice was), but he certainly has been most instrumental in the 49ers success story, and in the eyes of many he is the greatest quarterback in the history of the game. Part VI of this series will cover his amazing performance in Super Bowl XIV. □

A Note To Contributors

While putting together these past two issues of *JSP*, I have noticed that a number of our regular contributors have been sending in typed copy that is aligned along the right hand side. This leads me to believe that many of you have computers, and are using them to compose articles for *JSP*.

Far from complaining, we encourage this, but how about submitting a copy of your articles on disk along with a print out. This will save us a great amount of time retyping your material.

We are using IBM systems, along with WordPerfect 5.0/5.1 to put the journal together. If possible, save your articles (unformatted, please) as a WordPerfect file. Should this option not be available with your word processing program, then save it as an ASCII file.

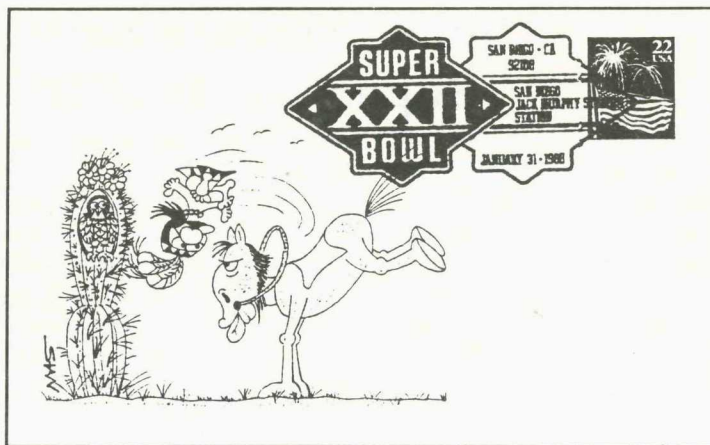


Figure 3. Cacheted post card designed for Super Bowl XXII by a local collector.

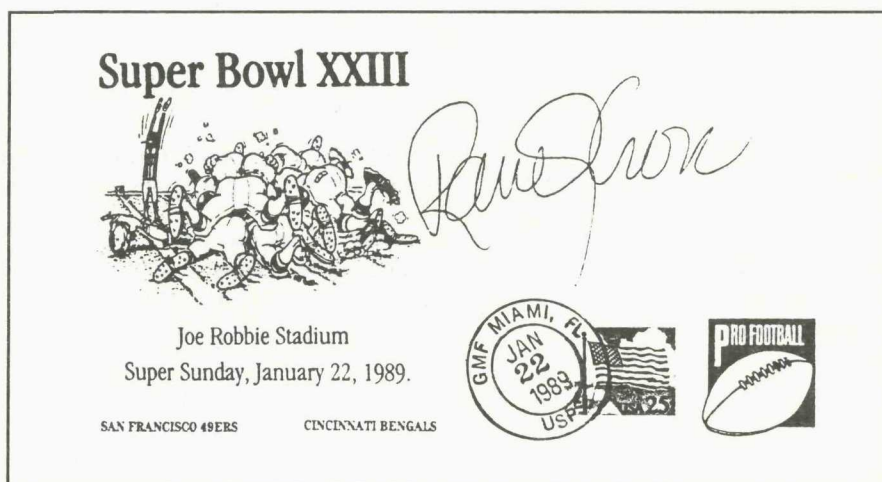


Figure 4. DBC cachet for Super Bowl XXIII, autographed by Randy Cross, veteran center for the champion 49ers.

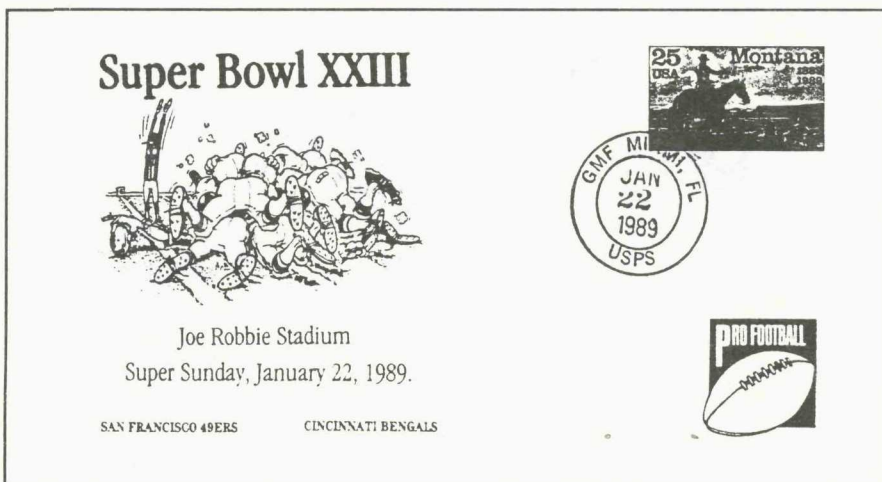


Figure 5. Cacheted Super Bowl XXIII cover with the then recently issued Montana Statehood stamp (hopefully awaiting a Joe Montana autograph).

Ice Hockey Cavalcade

by Joe Lacko

[With ice hockey season already upon us, it seemed an opportune time to tackle (or should I say, *body check*) this winter sport. Joe Lacko, our hockey enthusiast, has submitted a *hat trick* of short articles which have been synthesized and presented, below, in as coherent an order as possible.]

1983 World Ice Hockey Championships

The World Ice Hockey Championships were held in the Federal Republic of Germany from April 16 to May 2, 1983. During the event, a number of meter tapes and cancellations were available.

A special cover (Figure 1) was used by the Organizing Committee with a cancellation applied at Munich 65, January 26, 1983, that includes publicity for the championships. It has the tournament emblem in the upper left hand corner of the cover.

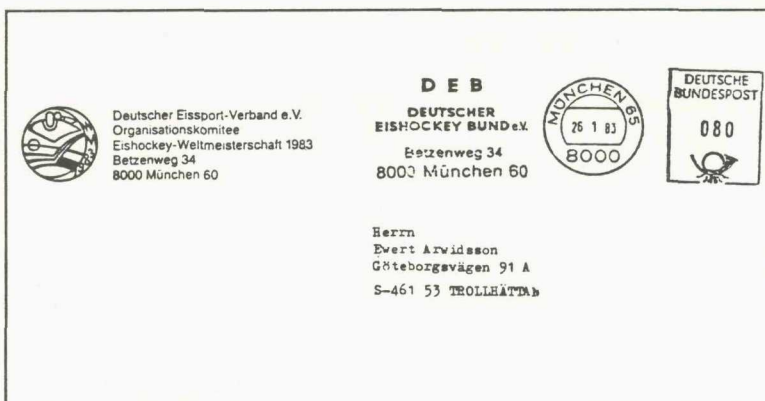


Figure 1. World Championship Organizing Committee cover.

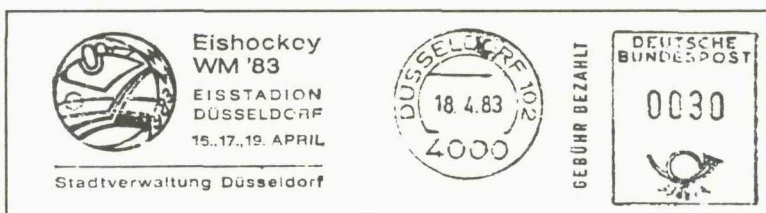


Figure 2. Dusseldorf meter promoting the World Ice Hockey Championships at the Dusseldorf Stadium.



Figure 3. Official First Day Card franked with the West Berlin semi-postal commemorating the Championships.

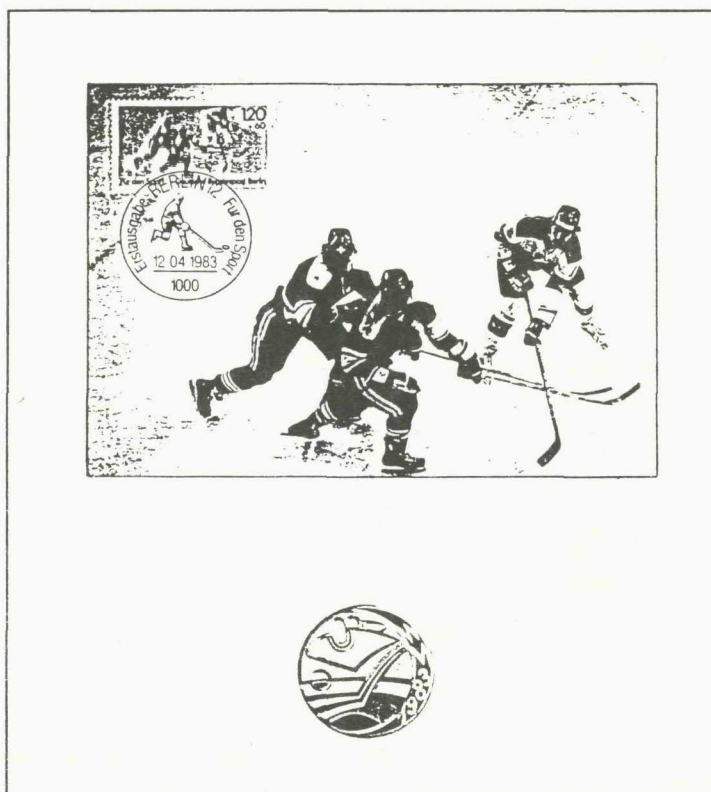


Figure 4. Private post card reproducing the design of Berlin commemorative issue for the World Ice Hockey Championships.

I have five meter tapes used by the City of Dusseldorf. Since all are very similar and seem to be from the same meter machine, I've shown only one (Figure 2). Four were postmarked April 11 and one on April 18, 1983. The meter slogan on all promotes the Ice Hockey Championships at the Dusseldorf Stadium, and also shows the emblem of the tournament, which appears to be a stylized hockey player in action.

Figure 3 illustrates the Official First Day Card with two stamps from the special series of semi-postal sport stamps. One shows ice dancers, while the other depicts ice hockey players. The surtax on the stamps was for the German Sports Foundation. The card is postmarked in Berlin on April 12, 1983; a hockey player is featured within the cancellation circle.

A private post card (Figure 4) was also issued reproducing the three hockey players that appear on the stamp. The card was produced from the original photograph used for the hockey stamp. It bears the same Berlin postmark as the official first day card. 16,000 of these private post cards were printed.

Besides the thematic first day cancel and meters, Dortmund, West Germany, used a special cancel on April 16 and 17 that included the emblem of the tournament within the cancellation (Figure 5). A similar cancel was used in Munich, April 30 and May 2, 1983. □

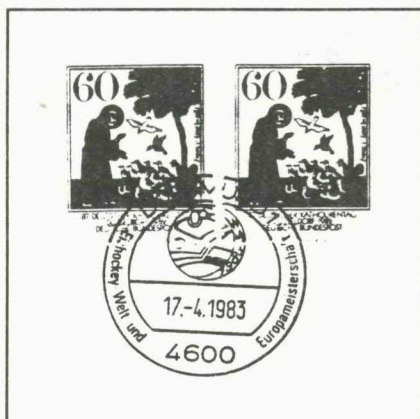


Figure 5. Special Dortmund handcancel marking the Championships.

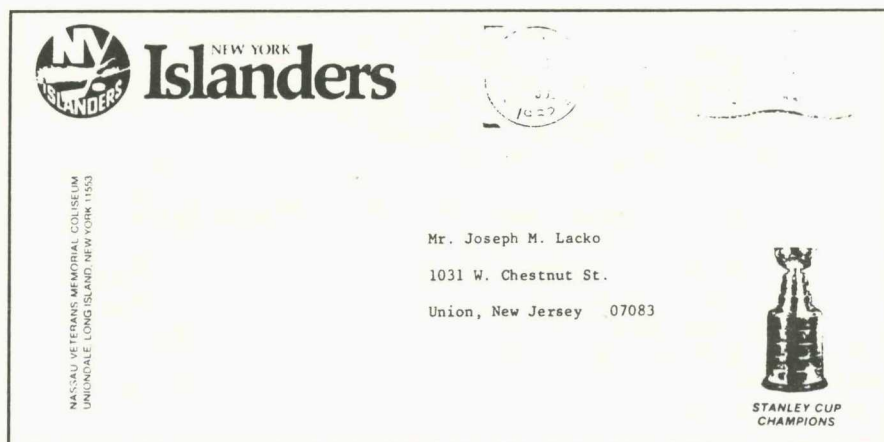


Figure 6. 1982 Stanley Cup Champion, New York Islanders special cover.

Ice Hockey Notes

In 1982, the New York Islanders won the Stanley Cup for the third consecutive time. The feat merited a slogan in the club's meter machine, but the best they could offer to philatelists was their official envelope with an imprint (Figure 6) of the coveted trophy with the wording STANLEY CUP/CHAMPIONS.

The Göteborg, Sweden Ice Hockey Federation used a meter (Figure 7) with the slogan "Ice Hockey, a young man's sport," showing a puck in flight.

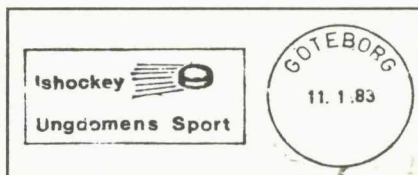


Figure 7. 1983 Göteborg Ice Hockey meter.

Another Swedish city, Stockholm, utilized a meter cancel honoring the 1983 Ice Hockey World Championships. A box in the cancel (Figure 8) shows a single ice skate with an appropriate inscription in Swedish. This was probably used for some period of time since several dates are in my possession.



Figure 8. 1983 Stockhölms meter.

I also have two covers (Figure 9) from Sweden, where the finals of the Junior World Ice Hockey Championships were held. The first, from Nyköping, is postmarked 25.12.83. The second, cancelled 3.1.84, is similar, but bears a distinctive "N" within the circle -- the emblem of Norrköping's Sixth Centennial.

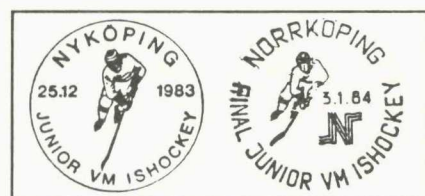


Figure 9. Two Swedish cancels noting the Junior World Hockey Championships from Nyköping, left, and Norrköping, right.

In 1982, Füssen, West Germany's local ice hockey club, E.V. Füssen, used a meter in red ink showing the city with an outline of the mountains in the background. The inscription states that Füssen is the German Ice Hockey City (Figure 10).

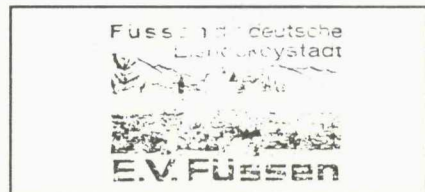


Figure 10. E.V. Füssen (FRG) ice hockey club's meter imprint.

1989 U.S. Baseball Postmarks: Part III

by Norman Rushefsky

This was a busy year for those collecting baseball related cancels. The concurrence of the 150th Anniversary of the invention of the game by Abner Doubleday, the 50th Anniversaries of the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York and the founding of Little League Baseball.

Figure 38. In August, Little Rock, Arkansas used a postmark to note the 150th Anniversary of Baseball. This postmark was sponsored by the Pinnacle Stamp Club of Arkansas.

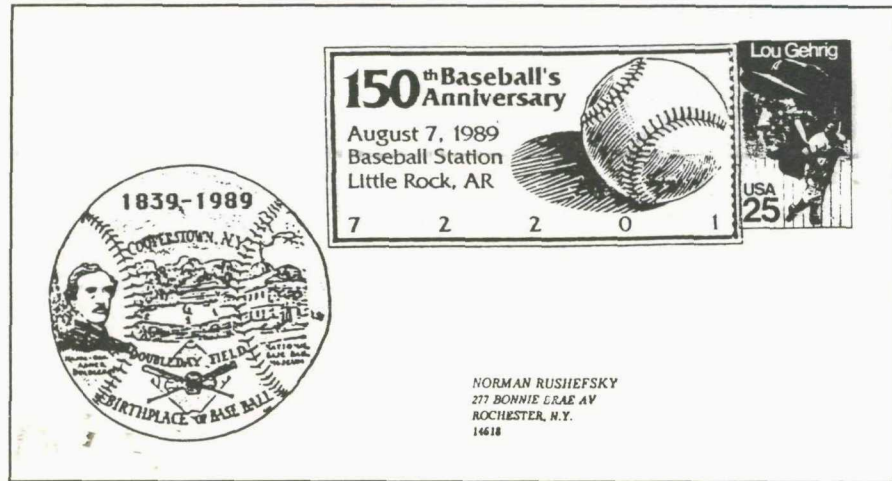


Figure 39. A baseball card show held in White Plains, New York used a postmark illustrating a baseball card.

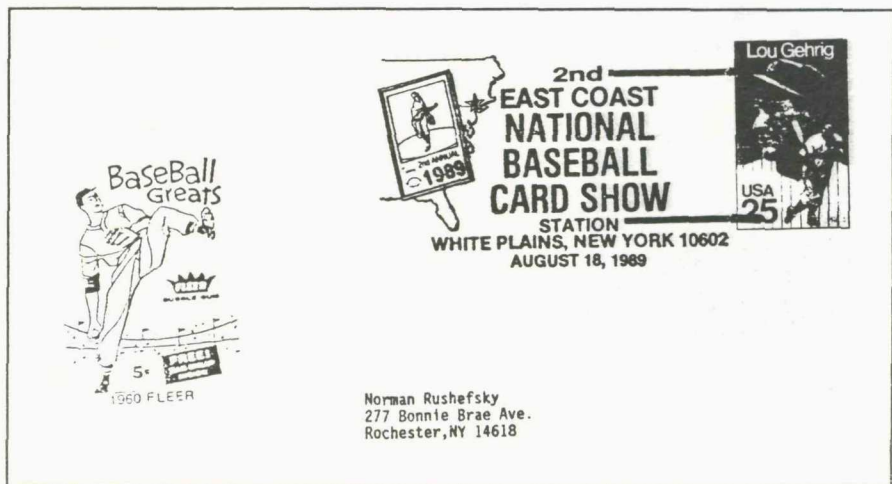
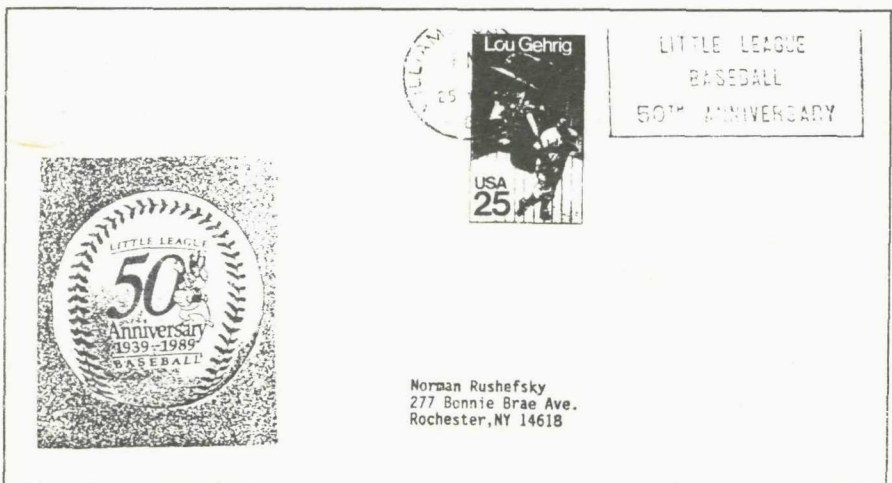


Figure 40. The 50th Anniversary of Little League Baseball was noted with a machine cancel in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



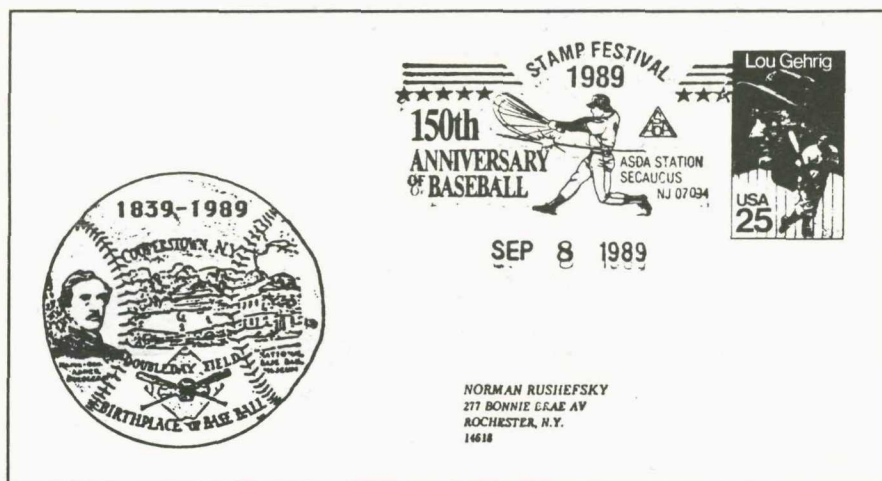


Figure 41. In September, the American Stamp Dealers Association stamp show held in Secaucus, New Jersey, noted the 150th Anniversary of Baseball with this postmark.

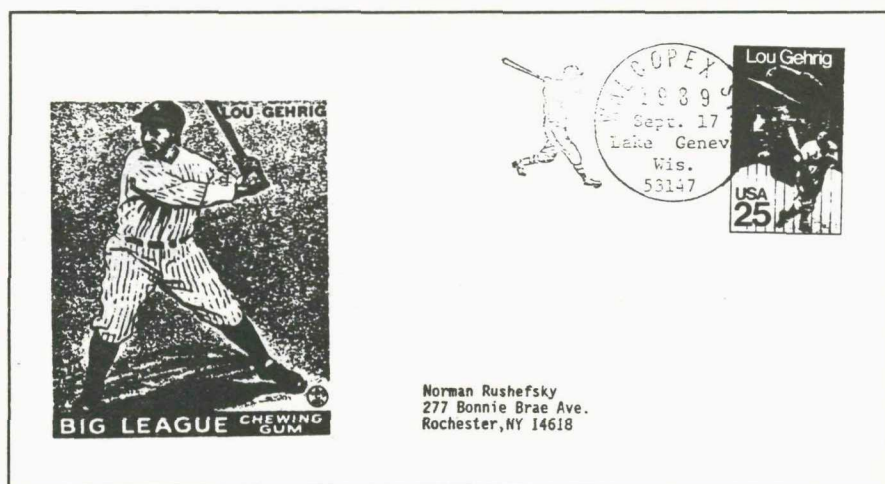


Figure 42. Lou Gehrig was honored with a postmark at WALCOPEX held in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. [Henry Louis "Lou" Gehrig (1903-1941), is remembered for playing 2,130 consecutive games during 14 seasons for the New York Yankees. His lifetime batting average of .340 with 150 or more batted-in runs in seven different seasons, makes him one of America's most distinguished baseball players.]

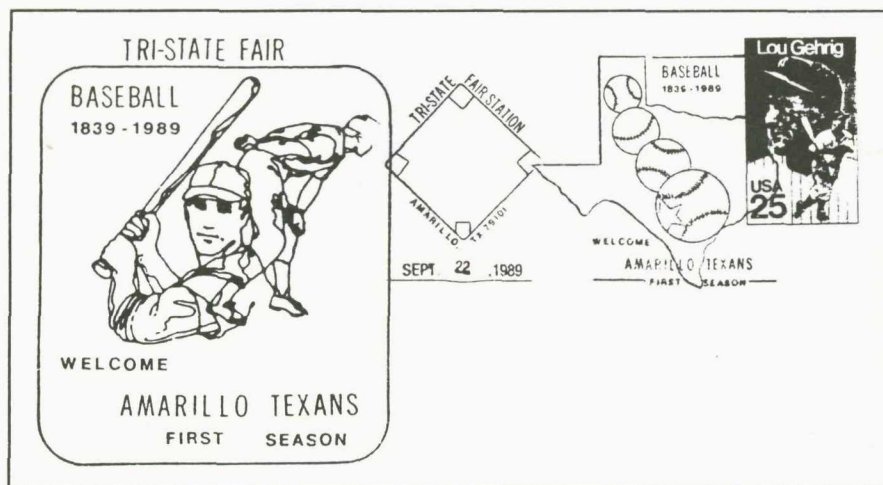


Figure 43. A postmark used in Amarillo, Texas notes the 150th Anniversary of Baseball and the first season of the Amarillo Texans Baseball Team.

Figure 44. The 150th Baseball Anniversary was further noted with five other cancels, including PROFILEX VII held in Littleton, New Hampshire;

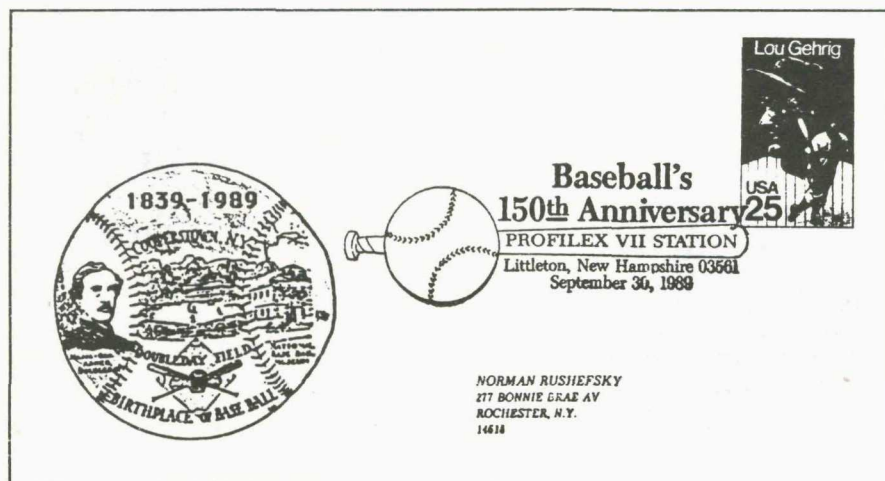


Figure 45. and, at SYRAPEX in Syracuse, New York;

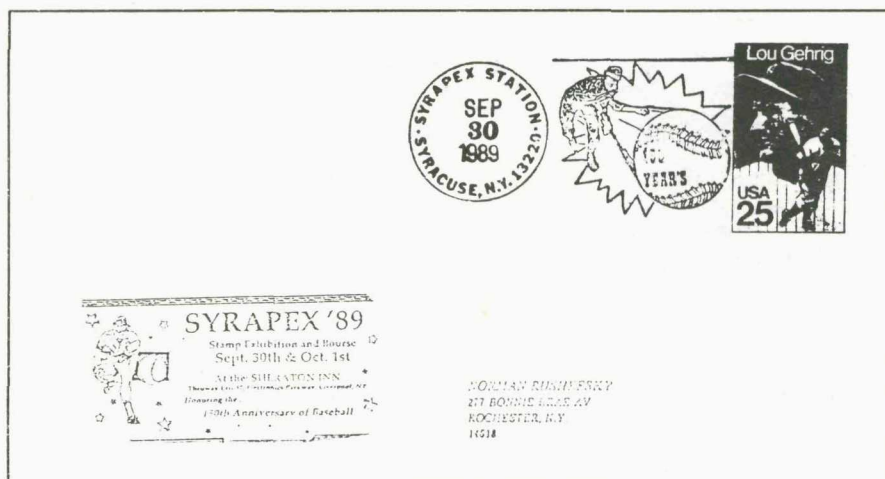
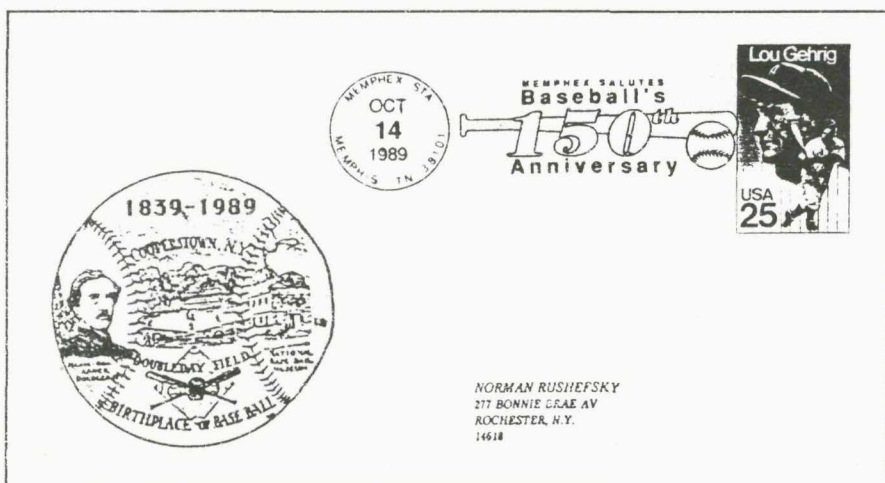


Figure 46. In October, MEMPHEX, in Memphis, Tennessee, used two different cancels for the 150th Baseball Anniversary. The first shows a single bat and ball.



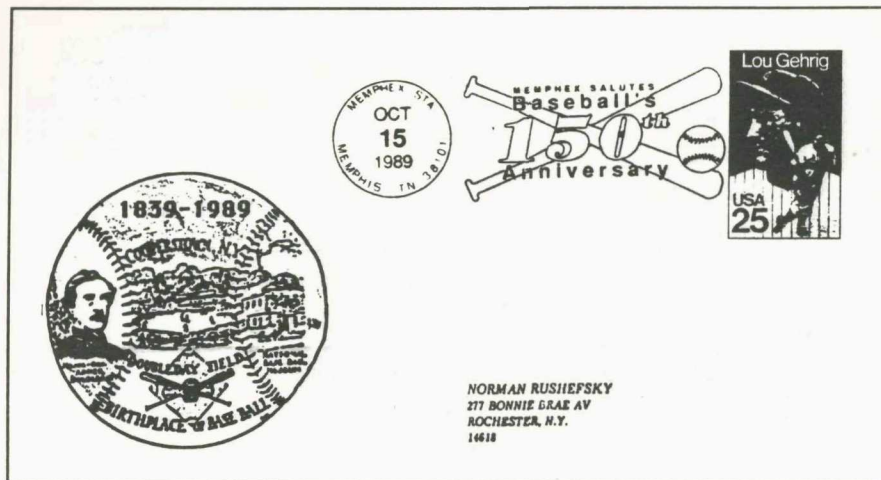


Figure 47. The second MEMPHEX cancel illustrates two crossed bats.

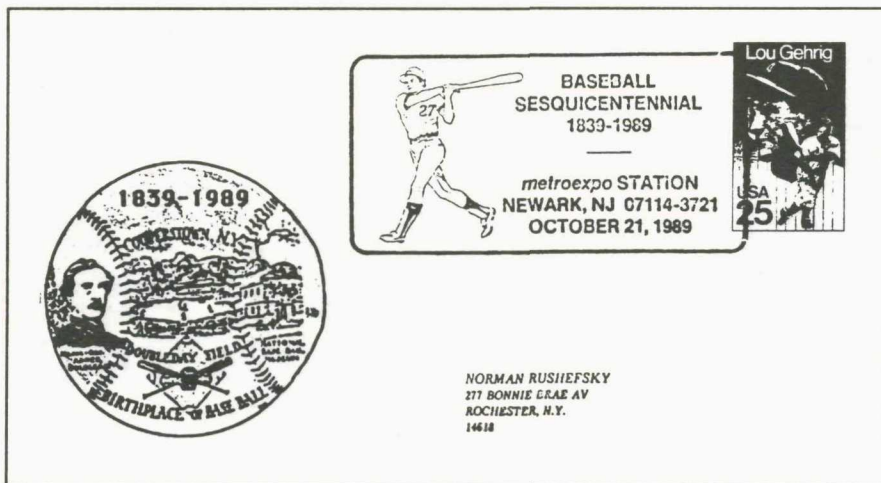


Figure 48. METROEXPO, in Newark, New Jersey, was the final commemorator of the 150th Anniversary of Baseball.

(To be continued in the January 1991 issue of JSP.)

Special *JSP* Issue on the 1904 St. Louis Olympics

Strangely enough, we seem to have accumulated a number of articles dealing with the St. Louis Olympic Games of 1904. As these Games of the IIIrd Olympiad have never really been explored in any great detail, the *JSP* Committee has decided to publish a special "theme" issue of the journal dedicated to these Games. Publication is presently scheduled for the March-April 1991 issue.

Our present outline includes: a historical overview of the Games; results from the three primary sources - Spalding, Lucas and Wallechinsky; human interest pieces on various athletes or teams; the all-important philatelic aspects (primarily Expo cancels); collateral material such as post cards of the athletic competitions; memorabilia; and, finally, a bibliography of primary references.

We want to encourage all members to scour their collections, references, etc. for interesting material. If you have an idea for an article, please write us about it. Any and all suggestions will be most welcome. Please note that we especially need information on collateral material, memorabilia, and bibliographic references.

Obviously, we are working on a fairly tight deadline, so please don't delay in writing either John La Porta, Sherwin Podolsky, or Mark Maestroni. We want to do a really "bang-up" job

Evolutions in Thematic Philately

by Dr. Manfred Bergman

Collecting is an instinct: Human beings always collected things out of necessity, to start with. Nowadays, collecting is for pleasure and/or financial reasons. Psychologically, collecting is a manifestation of the possessive instinct of man.

Philately.

The advent of postage stamps has given people a new field of collecting: philately.

Thematics and the evolution of philately.

Like all phenomena in our universe, philately is subject to evolutionary processes. Evolution, in the case of thematic philately is linked to, and provoked by, the secondary aim of the issuing authorities (government). In fact, the purpose of stamps was limited, in the beginning, to facilitate the financial transactions of postal communications. Very early, however, postal authorities discovered that stamps could be used equally well for free propaganda for their countries: telling its history, immortalizing their famous persons, telling of their achievements, their geography, fauna, flora, architecture, art, and, of late, advertising the special events, activities and their political philosophies. This evolution, namely the accessory purpose of stamps, has given rise to themes, and consequently to thematics. Thematics could not have been born without this evolution. Consider for a moment if we still had, today, only stamps with heads of state, like in the beginning. I admit that, theoretically, we could start a thematic collection with the theme (it was tried in the last century): Heads of State. Early stamps showing numbers or emblems of states, could be the origin of several other themes. But the limited number of themes would have caused the extinction of homo philatelicus thematicus. This is a law of evolution.

We should, thus, be conscious of the fact that it is the variety of themes appearing on stamps that has permitted thematics to appear and evolve. Certainly, a kind of cross fertilization started between the thematician and the postal authorities. The more thematics evolved, the more it influenced the postal authorities to issue stamps with thematic content. This is also the law of evolution.

Psychological reasons for collecting thematics.

There are two main reasons for collecting thematics:

1. The inherent instinct of people to innovate and diversify. Whenever new things appear on earth, people try to use those things in various ways. This applies to philately as well. The existence of themes on stamps would have, sooner or later, provoked the appearance of the thematic collector (and it did). Thematics correspond to the natural desire of people to diversify and to be different.
2. A further psychological reason is the link between a person's general interest, and the themes. A person interested in art, finds another way in satisfying that interest -- namely collecting stamps with art themes. A person interested in religion, politics, history, sport and what have you, finds a new way of satisfying those interests -- thematic philately.

Thematics -- philately for the poor?

I believe that this is the place to analyze the belief of many thematic collectors (enhanced and encouraged, by the way, by "frustrated" thematic exhibitors) that thematics is philately for the poor. This, my dear friends, is

sheer nonsense, and should be dismissed.

Philately is a hobby for everybody, poor or rich. Every philatelist collects according to his or her financial means. There are thousands and thousands of traditional collectors that are poor, and their traditional collections reflect their financial means. I have never heard any of these collectors define their way of collecting as the poor person's philately.

The same applies to thematics. There are collections assembled with small financial means, and others that are collected with large means. Thus, thematics is in no way different from traditional philately.

I am convinced that this belief was created and propagated during the time when thematics was still immature and this immaturity was reflected in the low level of the awards obtained by thematic collectors in exhibitions. The thematician was frustrated and tried to mature rapidly (to obtain higher awards) by inventing the following philosophy:

1. Thematics calls for the use of creative capacities of the human brain (doesn't every activity of the human being?);
2. Creative mental efforts should be compensated (by more points in exhibitions); and,
3. The main purpose of a thematic collection is the creative genius. The philatelic material used is of secondary importance -- cheap material can be used as well.

This philosophy is erroneous and propagated by false prophets. Certainly thematics requires mental efforts. But the instrument is still the stamp. Imagine yourself a musician. You may have the best creative ideas, but if you use the wrong notes, or defective, second-hand instruments, you'll never get a first prize in a musical competition, or be accepted in a philharmonic orchestra.

To conclude this chapter let us

consider some other aspects.

1. Imagine that you started thematic collecting 30-40 years ago. You bought your material at a reasonable price. Today your material has more value (as all philatelic material). You have also invested, according to your means, over the years. What do you consider yourself?
2. Imagine you start your thematic collecting today. Again you acquire your material according to your means, and invest for the next 20-30 years. What will you consider yourself in 20-30 years, if your collection has grown in financial value?

The value of any philatelic collection, whether thematic or traditional, is a function of its age, and the means invested. There is no poor or rich philately. Poor today is rich tomorrow; rich today is richer tomorrow.

So, let's forget about this false prophecy and concentrate ourselves on how to progress, how to do better.

The evolution of the thematic family.

Let me not waste time describing the "hows" and "whys" of the two branches in thematics. (The "hows" and "whys" are history, and, with a high degree of probability, are linked to the amount of thematic philatelic material available). The fact is that two branches have evolved.

1. The thematic collection per-se (in French "proprement dites").
2. The subject collection.

By the way, I can't understand why the first branch is more proper than the second, but, again, let's leave this discussion to the thematic historians. So we have two brothers under the same roof. And, as is very common in a family, the brothers start to fight, each claiming his superiority. I believe sincerely that the fight started not amongst collectors, but because of exhibitions and awards. In the begin-

ning the subject collector was the poor, disliked offspring, and, since 1972, the tables have been turned and thematic collectors think that they are being discriminated against and that the subject collector has better chances.

This permanent jealousy (because of awards) is starting to cause deep divisions amongst collectors: from mild criticisms, to requirements of having special mentions in an exhibition catalogue for each branch of thematics, to prophecies that a "holocaust" is near for thematics, and finally, to the open demand to expel one kin (the subject collector, of course) from thematic philately. This my friends, I consider to be dangerous. Let's get back to the definition of thematics: it is a collection according to a **theme**. It is of no importance whether the collector has decided to imagine a theme and build it up by means of philatelic material (the thematic collector), or whether the theme exists due to the philatelic material issued for the purpose of the theme (the subject collector). The moment the collector elects to collect according to a theme -- that person is a **thematic collector**, and belongs to the same family.

So both branches are thematic collections and should stay as such.

Thematic philately -- a new style or a new dimension in philately?

Philately can be compared to a building constructed with philatelic bricks. The bricks are determined, on one hand, by the creation of the stamps (including proofs and varieties), and, on the other hand, by their usage (postal rates, cancellations).

Thematic philately is a new architectural style using the same bricks to construct the building in a new way. It is not a **new dimension** like Einstein's theory that swept away Newton's physics. I am afraid that the majority of the so-called pure thematists have a tendency to think that thematics is a **new dimension**: constructing a building with second hand bricks, yet with marvelous plans of how to dispose of these bricks. Such a building can't

withstand the force of gravitation. The building will only stand up, and last, if good building material is used.

Thematic collecting and its future.

Our major efforts should be directed to give guide lines to the thematic collector. Let us not forget that only 2% of thematic collectors exhibit internationally and about 5% nationally. What are the efforts for the 95% of thematic collectors that never exhibit? Almost nil. I am always surprised when I read thematic bulletins and journals, or thematic guide books. The former dedicate a large proportion to the analysis of past exhibitions and exciting collectors to future exhibitions, while the latter are more or less (between 50-100%) guide books on how one should exhibit. I appreciate the value of these publications with respect to their depth for better exhibiting, but I deny their value as guide books for better thematic collecting.

Unfortunately, I am conscious that my "sermon" is like shouting in a desert. The majority of the important thematic collectors are only interested in exhibitions and care very little about the simple thematic collector. Still I want to warn them: if thematic collecting becomes only a matter of exhibiting and the obsession to get a higher award, if thematic collecting is limited only to material that will make an impressive page in an exhibit, then thematics will die out.

Thematic exhibits.

Nevertheless, there still is hope for thematics, even if we concentrate our efforts on exhibiting. This hope is proportional to our understanding of a good thematic exhibit, and, even more, upon our respect for each other by ending the eternal fights and feuds between the thematic and the subject collector.

This can be achieved if the thematic collector admits that creative genius is not enough to win the highest awards.

Let us compare the thematic collector to a hurdler who creates a

new style to better pass the hurdles (thematic development). But our athletes do not have enough speed (thematic knowledge) to arrive at the finish line amongst the first three. Can a medal be claimed just because of the style? Never!

Fosbury invented a new style in high jumping. But if his style had not helped him to pass a certain height, he would never have become an Olympic champion.

On the other hand, the subject collector must admit that the style is also of major importance. Let us again consider our hurdler. The subject collector has the speed (philatelic knowledge and rare material), but no style. He will hit the hurdle, slip or fall, and not finish amongst the best, or even not at all. So, style (thematic development) is important. Only the combination of style and speed will help the hurdler to finish amongst the first. This was the reason why we insisted, in our symposium, on the importance of thematic elements in subject collections (style) and on philatelic elements in thematic collections.

I shall go further. I am convinced that our judging criteria should be modified. The same terminology (with very minimal nuances) should be used and the same points should be given for both branches of thematics. It can be done, and I have submitted a proposal to this effect to the Thematic Commission.

Thematic exhibiting can be compared to a multi-disciplinary sport. Let us call it a Lexathlon (6 events):

1. Presentation
2. Thematic or systematic development.
3. Originality or research.
4. Size.
5. Philatelic knowledge.
6. Rarity.

Like in sports, one can excel in one discipline and be weaker in another. But if the disciplines are the same and the maximum possible points identical, then all participants have the same chance.

If the jealousy amongst exhibitors disappears, if we admit that the chances are the same, then the medal fever will diminish and we shall have

more time for collecting and for collectors.

We must find the way to harmony and peace. We must stand united. As Churchill said: "United we stand, divided we fall." □

Attention! Ad Editor Needed

In the past, advertising has not been a primary element of *JSP's* format. However, with the new "look" comes added interest from our existing and potential advertisers. We feel that philatelic advertisements provide vital information and services for our members, and should be encouraged.

We need an Advertising Editor to solicit new clients, service existing ones and handle record-keeping and billing. Please contact John La Porta if you can help.

Why buy **TENNIS** ? ? ?

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The Sports Arena

by Mark C. Maestroni

A pair of new topical catalogues, or more correctly one new and one revised edition, have recently appeared in the philatelic marketplace.

The first, the *Trachtenberg Sports Catalogue 1990*, is a well established publication from France covering sport, Olympic and scouting stamps. When the author, Henri Trachtenberg, died a couple of years ago, I was certain that the 1987 edition of his work (of which I possess a copy) would be the end of the line. Happily, I was wrong.

Although I have not seen the new edition, the press release seems to indicate a continuation of the previous format. Organized alphabetically country-by-country, each issue is catalogued according to the Yvert & Tellier (French) numbering system, and therefore quite useful in cross-referencing from French auction catalogues and price lists. It is also one of the few convenient sources for printing quantities. Descriptions of each issue are in French, but this shouldn't pose much of a problem for non-French speaking collectors.

Unlike previous editions, which had to be ordered directly from the author in France, this edition is conveniently available here in the U.S.A. from: A. de Lisle, PO Box 2333, Sun City, AZ 85373-2333. The cost of \$16.95 includes surface mail to the US and Canada.

The second catalogue may prove to be a real "sleeper." The Scott Publishing Company, the same people who give US collectors their annual philatelic "bible," have now produced a topical handbook: *1990 "By Topic" Stamp Annual*. The thrust of this publication is to provide a convenient topic-by-topic listing of the previous year's (1989) worldwide issues. The body of the publication is divided into 83 topical headings. The format for listing each stamp issue is identical to what is printed in each issue of the *Scott Stamp Monthly* magazine, from which, in turn, the annual Scott catalogues are updated. In addition, this new publication provides handy checklists, at the end, for each topic.

I've had a subscription to *Scott Stamp Monthly* for a number of years in order to keep up with new issue information on Olympic and gymnastic stamps. Then, I purchase a new set of Scott catalogues every four years (two years after an Olympics) to give me a permanent record. A bit of simple arithmetic tells me that this new topical publication is a real bargain: an annual subscription to 12 issues of *Scott Stamp Monthly* costs \$18.00, yet the *1990 "By Topic" Stamp Annual* sells for \$9.95, almost half price. While I enjoy the articles in the former, I rarely have time to read them (it's this darn information overload world we live in). So, I'm going to give this new topical annual a spin! It's available from your favorite Scott dealer or directly from Scott Publishing Company, Box 828, Sidney, OH 45365.

Fellow SPI Member, James Smith, has volleyball stamps and covers for trade and sale. Many foreign cancels are also available as well as a huge stock of Dominican

Republic sport items. James will service your want lists, and needs volleyball material for his own collection. Please contact Lt. Col. James W. Smith (USA Ret), 431 George Cross Drive, Norman, OK 73069, U.S.A.

For the collector of 1980 Lake Placid Olympic material, *JSP* Editor, John La Porta, has a number of items available. A set of 9 different venue cancellations on two-colored JLP Cacheted covers is available for \$10.00 per set plus a #10 SASE. Only 100 sets were made. Lake Placid Olympic Torch Run cancellations from 10 different cities on two-colored JLP Cacheted covers are also available, for \$12.00 per set plus a #10 SASE. Only 50 sets were made. You may obtain them by writing: Custom Impressions, PO Box 2286, La Grange, IL 60525.

A new item of particular interest to our foreign members has recently been introduced by the USPS. In February of this year, a new International Express Mail envelope appeared, with the Olympic Rings printed on the front in drop-out white (Figure 1). This is obviously in response to the USPS sponsorship of the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona and Albertville.

Those of you dealing with companies in the United States may wish to have your secretaries or mail rooms keep an eye out for these envelopes. Properly used covers will probably be difficult to find.

US collectors may have trouble finding this item in mint condition, at least initially. I had to visit the Express Mail administrative headquarters here in San Diego to secure examples. Neither my branch Post Office, nor the Main San Diego Post Office had, as yet, been given supplies of these. The envelope measures 12" x 15½". The stock number (?) printed on the reverse is EP-13E-FEBRUARY 1990.

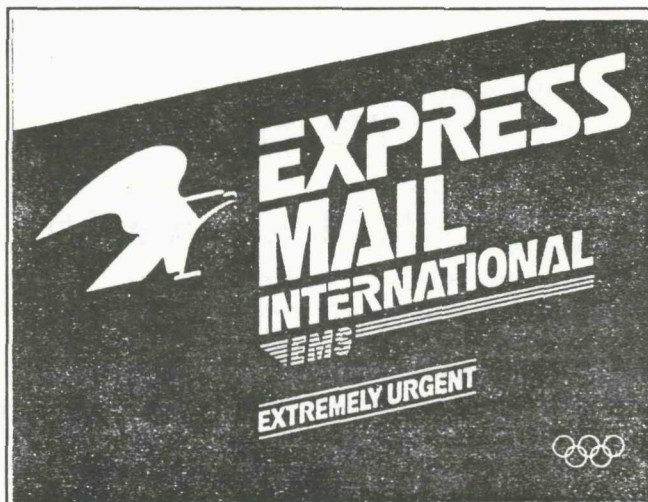


Figure 1. New USPS Express Mail International envelope.

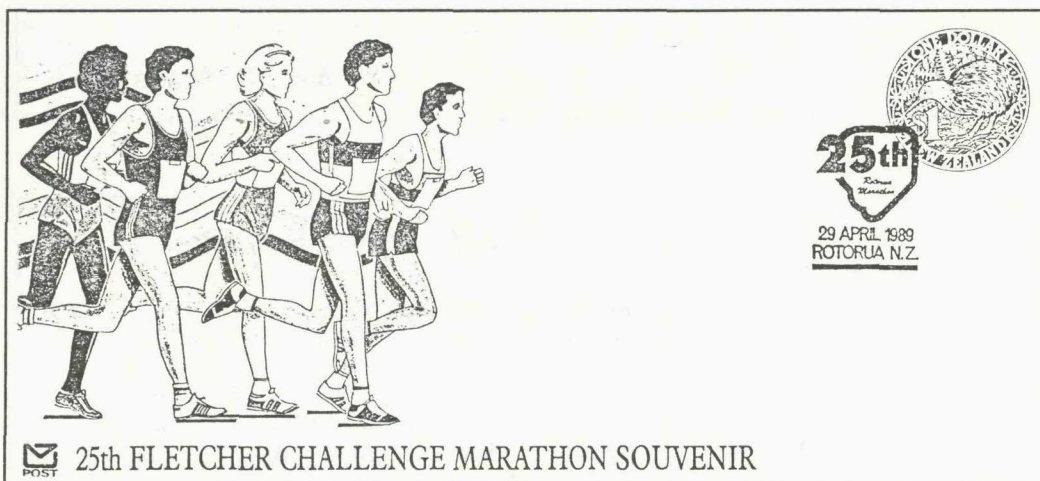


Figure 2. 25th Fletcher Challenge Marathon Souvenir.

The Figure 2 cover, sent in by Brian Vincent, commemorates the 25th Fletcher Challenge Marathon held at Lake Rotorua, New Zealand on April 29, 1989. Brian writes that "the Fletcher Challenge is not only the oldest, but also the largest marathon in New Zealand."

"The special postmark commemorating the event is based on the official marathon logo which depicts the shape of the course around Lake Rotorua."

"I have been informed that the sale of these covers near the finish line on race day was very popular. New Zealand Post was most pleased with the demand and it is understood that available stock sold very quickly."

The USPS has just announced its stamp program for 1991, which will include a multi-stamp Olympic issue. *Linn's Stamp News*, in its September 3, 1990 issue, quoted Frank Thomas, acting director of the USPS Stamp Product Development Branch, as saying that "the issue is not completely worked out and could feature as few as four, or as many as 10, designs."

JSP will advise you of developments as soon as they are published. In the meantime, we would like to hear from our international members about special Olympic sponsorship arrangements that their countries may have, either with the USPS or with the IOC.

Your columnist, who was too busy when the U.S. Olympic Festival took place this past July, missed getting an example of the Men's Gymnastics cancel for this competition. The cancel features a hand holding a still ring, and is inscribed "Gymnastics/St. Paul/MN 55102/(date). If any reader has an extra example on cover, I would be interested in either purchasing or trading for it. Please write: Mark Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122.

The last issue of *JSP* (September 1990) carried a list of the USPS 1992 Olympic Sponsorship Machine Cancels. This list was compiled from the official USPS press release; actual examples from every listed city have not been confirmed, to the best of my knowledge. In fact, some additions have recently come to light. Member Conrad Klinkner

confirms the use of this cancel from two other post offices: Marina Del Rey, CA 90258; and, Industry, CA 917-2A and 917-2B.

The use of number-letter combinations as suffixes or prefixes to the first three digits, creates some varieties. Normally, the ZIP Code for post offices is indicated only by the first three digits, the last two being carrier route designators. I therefore have to assume that when number-letter combinations exist, they are

used to identify the machine and die number. The cancelling machines now used at most US post office processing centers have two cancelling stations, in other words two dies, in each machine. Therefore the Industry, CA cancels that are listed above are processed through machine number 2, with both cancelling stations (A & B) equipped with the Olympic slogan die.

I have discovered that Hartford, CT uses the prefix 1A, and Santa Barbara uses the suffix 4A.

In checking my San Diego cancels, I have found a die variety (the machine/die numbers are not differentiated on San Diego cancels): one circular date stamp is 22 mm across with the wording close together (always remaining in the upper half of the cancel). The other variety is 24 mm in diameter with the lettering more spread out so that it extends into the lower half of the cancel.

Sherwin Podolsky had questioned the existence of a Van Nuys, CA cancel, as he was told by that post office that the Olympic slogan was not in use. However, Bob Wilcock confirms that that city did use the die, as he has a copy of it.

Please check your meters and let us know of any unlisted cities or varieties. In fact, has anyone come across the real prize -- an Atlanta, GA machine cancel dated September 18, 1990? If so, send us a photocopy for illustration in a future issue of *JSP*!

Last, but definitely not least, SPI is planning to hold its very first national convention in 1991! We will be assembling at BALPEX '91 in Baltimore over the Labor Day Weekend. Details have yet to be worked out, but we hope to have a certain number of exhibit frames reserved for Olympic and sport exhibits, and with a bit of luck we'll be able to secure a thematic judge, if not a sport thematic one. SPI Member Morris Rosen, an international gold medal winner for his 1936 Olympics exhibit, is President of the organizing committee, so expect a good show.

Any member wishing to sell, trade, or purchase material should drop me a line with the particulars. If you have a question or can provide an answer to someone else's, let me know. □

Atlanta Gets '96 Centennial Olympics!

by Mark Maestroni

Unless you've been stranded on a desert island for the past two months, it would be almost impossible for you not to have heard of the upset that occurred in Tokyo, Japan on September 18, 1990. Namely, that Atlanta, Georgia, heart of the U.S.A.'s New South, beat out such worthy opponents as Athens, Belgrade, Manchester, Melbourne, and Toronto for the Games of the XXVIth Olympiad.

The announcement of the 86-member International Olympic Committee's decision was made just before 8:00 am EST (New York). While a crowd of 2000 eager Atlantans looked on, courtesy of wide screen T.V.s erected at the entrance to Underground Atlanta (a subterranean Atlanta shopping and nightclub district), I.O.C. President, Juan Antonio Samaranch, mounted the steps of the podium. The full membership of the Olympic Game's governing body were gathered around him as, with a sense of the dramatic that would have put an Oscar Night presenter to shame, President Samaranch slowly opened the sealed results and announced to the world that the host of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games would be "the City of ATLANTA!" The voting was hectic, as illustrated in the accompanying table of results, with Atlanta pulling ahead of the sentimental favorite, Athens, as late as the fourth round. Following the elimination of Toronto, fully three-quarters of the "loose" votes went to Atlanta.

IOC Ballot Results

Five rounds of ballots were cast. The city with the least votes was eliminated at the end of each round.

First	Athens 23, Atlanta 19, Toronto 14, Melbourne 12, Manchester 11, Belgrade 7.
Second	Athens 23, Melbourne 21, Atlanta 20, Toronto 17, Manchester 5.
Third	Athens 26, Atlanta 26, Toronto 18, Melbourne 16.
Fourth	Atlanta 34, Athens 30, Toronto 22.
Fifth	Atlanta 51, Athens 35.

The only philatelic item to come out of Atlanta on that auspicious day is a cover from SPI Membership Director Peg Jones with a sport theme machine cancel (Figure 1). Other covers with an Atlanta circular date stamp on that day may exist, so collectors should keep their eyes open.

Information from Tokyo regarding special IOC Session cancels is sketchy. SPI Director Bob Wilcock has written that "each of the postal administrations for the 1996 candidates produced a postmark and a cover, the whole lot were included in a pack put out by USPS as co-ordinating authority by virtue of [its] 1992 sponsorship." He also noted that these were supposedly given away. I have not been able to confirm the existence of these IOC Session Packs with the USPS, however an example of the Manchester cover and postmark are illustrated in Figure 2.

Now that the candidacy period is over and the host city for the centenary of the Modern Olympic Games selected,

Margaret A. Jones
Georgia State University
Department of Health, Physical Education,
Recreation and Dance
University Plaza
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3083
USA



AIESEP/NAPEHE WORLD CONGRESS
Congres Mondial - Congreso Mundial
January 4-7, 1991 (Janvier - Enero)



Mark C Maestroni
2824 Curie Place
San Diego
California 92122

Figure 1. SPI Membership Director and Atlantan, Peg Jones, mailed the illustrated cover bearing a sports slogan meter, that reads ATLANTA GA/SEP 18 '90, the day of the IOC's announcement.

it is feasible to review the philatelic material that has been issued by the various bid cities.

Of the six cities submitting bids, only the Athens, Manchester and Melbourne candidacies can be directly documented with philatelic items. I have not seen any material from Belgrade or Toronto. While the Atlanta Organizing Committee did utilize a postage meter on their outgoing mail (P.B. 5140699), a slogan die hub was never utilized.

Of the three other candidate cities, Athens was obviously the most prolific producer of philatelic material. Three separate stamp issues bore Olympic themes along with the Athens Organizing Committee's logo of a laurel branch symbolizing the wreath of laurel that crowned a victor's head in the Ancient Olympic Games.

The first (Scott #1625) was one of a strip of five commemorating the Seoul 1988 Olympics, issued May 6, 1988. However, the 30 Drs value stamp bore the candidate committee's logo. This set was printed in panes, with a certain number broken into booklet panes of five.

The second set (Scott 1653-6), released on March 17, 1989, consisted of four stamps depicting the high jump (30 Drs), wrestling (60 Drs), swimming (70 Drs), and a bird's eye view of a model of the proposed Olympic Complex in Athens. Unlike the 1988 stamps, this set was issued in miniature panes of 20, as well as in booklet panes of five with imperforate margins on top and bottom. The imprinted selvedge also differs: the committee logo appears on both margins of the pane; the booklet selvedge bears the logo on one edge and the printers name on the other. The booklet covers illustrate one of the proposed complexes of Olympic venues.

The third, and final, issue (Scott 1700-1704) consisted of a strip of five stamps again using the candidate committee's logo in tandem with sport pictographs. The 20 Drs



Figure 3. Manchester slogan machine cancel, in black, dated September 18, 1990, the day Manchester lost the bid.

low value depicts sailing, while the remaining four stamps show wrestling (50 Drs), sprinting (80 Drs), basketball (100 Drs), and soccer (250 Drs).

First Day of Issue cancels for the second and third sets also note Athens' bid. Both reproduce the bid city logo. Other commemorative handcancels may exist, but I have not seen or heard of them. To my knowledge, the Athens '96 Olympic Bid Committee did not have publicity dies in their meters.

Manchester, England has obliged the Olympic philatelist with a slogan machine cancel noting Manchester's candidacy (Figure 3). The meter was introduced on May 14, 1990. The boxed slogan repeats the committee's motto and unusual graphic device: *DRIVING THE DREAM/ MANCHESTER 1996/THE BRITISH OLYMPIC BID*. The first three letters of the word "driving" are in upright characters, while the remainder of the phrase is in italics. The left leg of the "v" in "driving" is represented by an Olympic Torch. A nice touch, especially for the Olympic Torch thematic collector!

Two color varieties of this cancel exist. Collectors will usually find this cancel in red (as all British cancels were in 1990) to mark the sesquicentennial of the Penny Black.

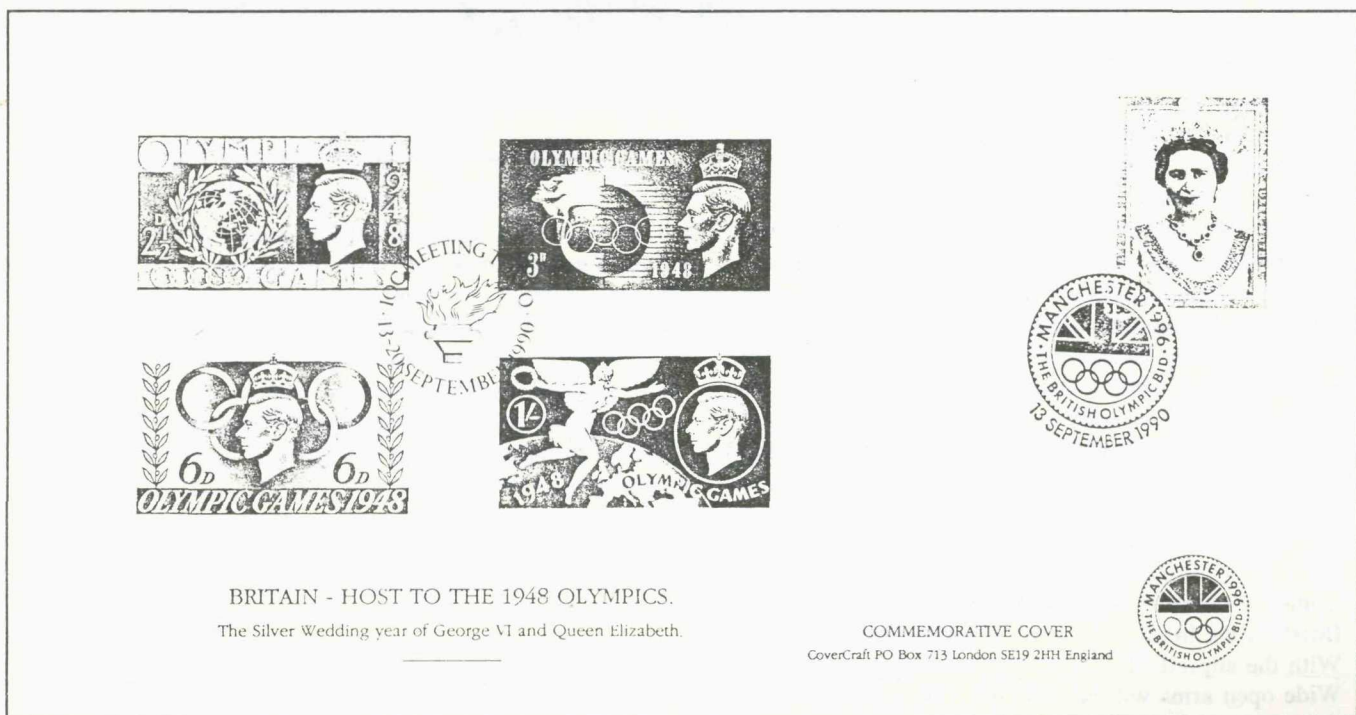


Figure 2. Special commemorative cover prepared for the Manchester 1996 bid committee. The special handcancel bears a September 13, 1990 date - the opening day of the IOC Session in Tokyo.

British cancels reverted to black on September 17th, so by an interesting twist of fate, this slogan appeared in black on the day Manchester lost the bid to Atlanta (September 18th)! Thanks to Bob Wilcock for the added information on this interesting machine cancel.

Australia Post supported Melbourne's candidacy for the 1996 Summer Olympics by issuing three postal cards (Figure 4) on June 22, 1990. Each card carries a postage pre-paid imprint in three lines reading "POSTAGE PRE-PAID AUSTRALIA/FOR POSTING IN AUSTRALIA/AND DELIVERY WORLDWIDE." A globe and the 5-color logo of the Melbourne Olympic Committee appear between the first and second lines of text.

The postal card comes in three types illustrating various proposed sporting venues for Melbourne: the Melbourne Cricket Ground (site of the existing Main Stadium where Athletics, Equestrian Finals, Football Finals and Ceremonies will be conducted), the National Tennis Centre (venue for Gymnastics, Handball Finals, and Tennis), and the Royal Exhibition Building (site of Boxing, Fencing, Judo, and Wrestling events).

John La Porta submitted the card in Figure 4, which bears a special First Day Cancel centrally inscribed "Olympics/for/-Melbourne/1996."

Australia Post has announced that it would issue a special commemorative aerogramme if Melbourne was successful in its bid. Obviously, this postal stationery item will not be issued.

The August 1990 issue of *Torch Bearer*, the journal of our British sister society, SOC, reported on an interesting private meter machine slogan advertising Melbourne's bid. The publicity meter was being used by an Australian member, Noel Almeida of Dandenong, Victoria. A horizontal rectangle simulating a perforated stamp bore, at center, a depiction of the Olympic Stadium. Vertically along the left and right sides were the words MELBOURNE and OLYMPICS. At bottom appeared the numbers "56*96." The author of the *Torch Bearer* piece also notes that the cacheted cover on which the meter is used appears to be an Australia Post emission for the Sports Series of stamps that Australia has been issuing over the past 2 years. This cover also has an Olympic theme. Printed in the upper left corner is a poem entitled "Song of Farewell 1956 Melbourne Olympics":

Come to Australia, back to Australia,
(Mist on the hills and the sun breaking through)
With the sliprails down and the billy boiling merrily,
Wide open arms will be waiting for you.
On that poetic note, we end this retrospective of philatelic

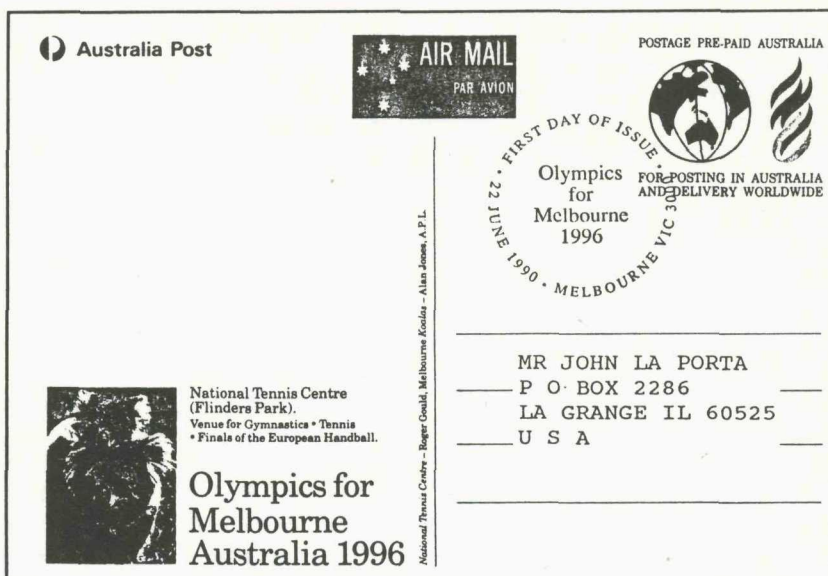
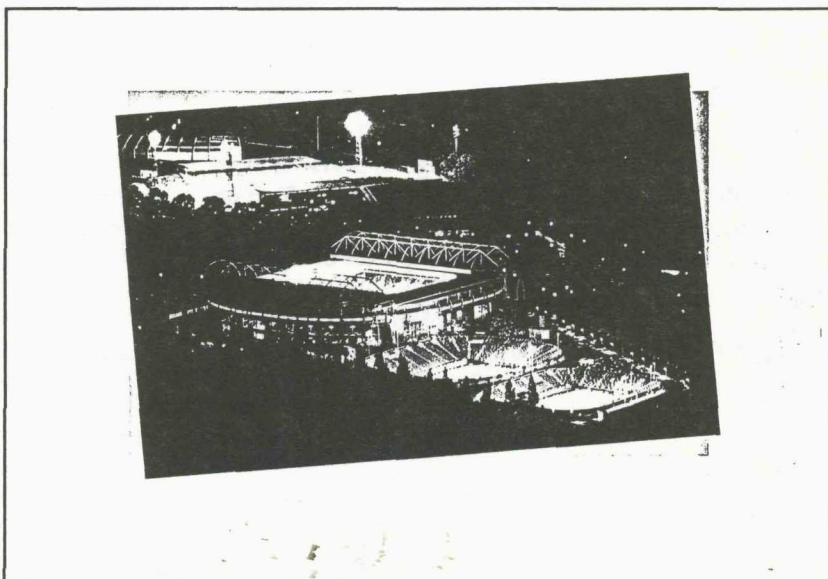


Figure 4. Australia Post postal card and First Day Cancel in support of Melbourne's candidacy for the 1996 Olympic Games, above. The reverse side, below, depicts the National Tennis Centre.



telic items issued to support the various candidature committees for the Games of the XXVth Olympiad! There may be more material out there to be discovered, but for the meantime, we will be looking for the inevitable commemorative philately for Atlanta 1996.

A Special Note: On September 19, 1990, I appointed Norman F. Jacobs, Jr. as the Special Representative of Sports Philatelists International to the Atlanta Olympic Organizing Committee. Norm, an SPI member living in Atlanta, will be our liaison with the organizing committee. Through his good offices, we will hopefully enjoy a mutually beneficial relationship that will keep us in close touch with Atlanta's philatelic plans. As we enter the XXVth Olympic Quadrennial following the Barcelona Games, SPI should see an opportunity to help organize various philatelic events, especially OLYMPHILEX '96. □

News of Our Members

by C.A. Reiss & D. Weihrauch

New Members

- 1735R Robert J. Michels, N. 139 Arrowhead Rd., Fremont, WI 54940-9708. He is employed by USPS and collects both the Summer Olympics and World Cup Soccer. (Estus)
- 1736R Joe Cimmarrusti, 519 E. Palmer, Addison, IL 60101. He is a plant superintendent and fluent in Italian. Joe only collects soccer. (Jones)
- 1737R Winston Brown, 2410 N. 66th St., Wauwatosa, WI 53213. He is a lawyer who is fluent in French. Winston collects all baseball - stamps, covers, plate blocks & cancels. (Reiss)
- 1738R Herb Brown, POB 1382, Media, PA 19063-9998. He is a USPS letter carrier and a general collector who has an interest in Olympics, baseball, special events and covers. (APS)
- 1739R David Przepiora, 187 Meadowbrook Pkwy., Cheektowaga, NY 14206-2422. A police sergeant who is interested in Olympics only. (Reiss)

- 1740R V.G. Polizos M.D., 427 Moreland Av., Suite 400, Atlanta, GA 30307. He is fluent in Greek and collects only Olympics. (Jones)
- 1741R Davida Kristy, 515 Ocean Av. #608 S, Santa Monica, CA 90402. She is a writer and writes a newsletter on her collecting interest, women athletes. (Jones)
- 1742R Robert M. Devine, Box 12643, Jackson, MS 39236-2643. He is in sales, and a general collector, specializing in golf. (Reiss)

Address Changes

- Carol A. Costa, 104 White St., Charleston, WV 25302
- Francis Daziniere, 5 Rue de la Republique, 24260 Le Bugue, France

Total current membership as of July 22, 1990 = 429.

Sports and Olympics Exhibit Awards

Local and Regional Shows

EMPEX '90 - Organized by the Central New York Philatelic Societies, and hosting the annual convention of the American First Day Cover Society. Held August 31-September 3, 1990 at Liverpool, New York. In the competition for FDC exhibits, a gold and the Thompson award went to Glenn A. Estus for his exhibit entitled "IIIrd Olympic Winter Games," and a bronze to L.R. Moriarty for his exhibit "Basketball First Day Covers."

HOUPEX '90 - Organized by the Houston Philatelic Society, held September 14-16 at Houston, Texas. A vermeil medal, ATA silver and SPI award went to Vic Manikian for "Olympic Games, 1896-1956." An exhibit entitled "Scuba" by A. D. Jones also won a vermeil. A silver medal, as well as the ATA Youth award, went to Jay B. Green for "Sailing through the Centuries." Rhodes K. Scherer received a silver-bronze for "Firearms, Hunting and Shooting on Stamps."

National Shows

1990 OMAHA STAMP SHOW, sponsored by the Omaha Philatelic Society, held August 31-September 2, 1990. Donald Beuthel received a vermeil award and the ATA silver for "Nordic Skiing."

BALPEX '90, sponsored by the Baltimore Philatelic Society and held September 1-3 at Hunt Valley, Md. A silver was awarded to G.J. Shully for "1936 Summer Olympics."

GENEVE '90, the Swiss National Philatelic Exhibition held in Geneva in September. Jean Michel received a large vermeil for his tennis exhibit.

Other Exhibiting News

Members should note that PANAMFILEX '91, an international exhibition of Olympic and Sports Philately, will be held August 4-14, 1991, in Havana, Cuba, in connection with the XI Panamerican Games being held in Cuba during the summer of 1991. PANAMFILEX '91 is sponsored by the Cuban Ministry of Communications, the state enterprise COPREFIL and the Cuban Philatelic Federation. The organizers are now soliciting applications from known U.S. exhibitors of sports and Olympics material. Participation in this exhibition by U.S. exhibitors is forbidden because of the U.S. government-mandated embargo against Cuba. Non-U.S. SPI members interested in exhibiting at PANAMFILEX '91 may contact the organizers at the following address: PANAMFILEX '91, Apartado Postal 6147, 10600 Havana, Cuba.

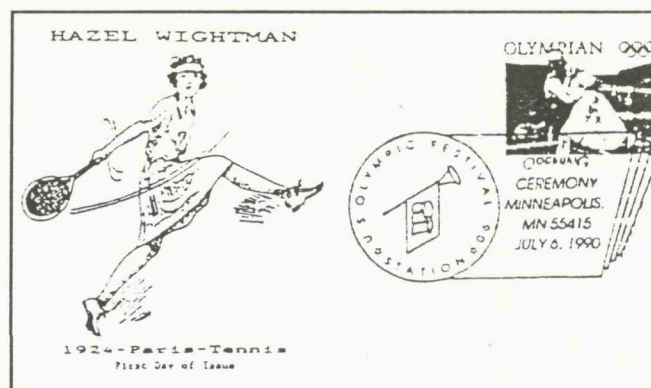
See Awards on Page 30

MATCHPOINT

The September, 1990 issue (#20) features a long article on Hazel Hotchkiss Wightman, one of the 5 Olympians portrayed on the recently issued U.S. Olympic stamps, and on the history of the Wightman Cup matches. This annual tennis competition between U.S. and British women players dates from 1923, its silver vase trophy having been donated by Mrs. Wightman. Ironically, now that she has been honored on a U.S. stamp for her doubles victories in the 1924 Paris Olympics, the Wightman competition, for which she is better known, is itself being suspended due the inability of the British in recent years to field a competitive team.

A cover cachet (pictured here) honoring Mrs. Wightman was designed and produced by *MATCHPOINT* subscriber Ron Alexander and serviced with the unofficial First Day of Issue cancel at the U.S. Olympic Festival in Minneapolis, Minnesota on July 6, 1990.

This issue of *MATCHPOINT* also includes a listing of new stamps, cancels and meters relating to tennis as well as a description of the new Australian postal stationery cards



(one pictures the new National Tennis Center) issued to promote Melbourne's unsuccessful bid to host the 1996 Olympics.

Membership in the tennis study group, which includes 4 issues of *MATCHPOINT*, costs \$4 for U.S. subscribers and \$6 for those living outside the U.S. Write Les Yerkes, P.O. Box 55, Tome, NM 87060. □

Awards

Continued from Page 29

Organizers of U.S. stamp shows - local, regional or national - wishing to award the SPI "Best of Show" certificate should contact SPI Secretary-Treasurer C.A. Reiss for a statement of the conditions under which the award may be presented, and for a copy of the certificate.

Among his awards are two U.S. Olympic Committee Commendations (received in 1976 and 1980), election to the National Junior College Athletic Association's Basketball Hall of Fame (1988) and receipt of the John W. Bunn Award in 1989 from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame for contributions to basketball and sports in general.

Mr. Killian is Executive Director of the National Junior College Athletic Association and edits the newsletter "Basketball Philatelic News" which is reviewed regularly in this journal. □

George E. Killian Elected FIBA President

At the XIV World Congress of FIBA (International Basketball Federation) held in Buenos Aires August 5-6, 1990, SPI member George E. Killian was elected its president for the 1990-1994 term of office. He succeeds Robert Busnel of France who served as FIBA president from 1984-1990.

Mr. Killian, a vice president of FIBA since 1980, has been an Executive Committee Member of the U.S. Olympic Committee since 1967. He has also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Naismith Basketball Hall of fame since 1969. Mr. Killian was president of the American Basketball Federation from 1983 to 1987.

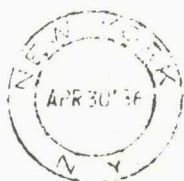
On Sports & Olympic Exhibiting

by Jim Bowman

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Having brought up the issue of the documentary exhibit in my last installment, I will continue with a few more thoughts on the subject. In my specialty, the 1936 Olympic Games, there are nearly 40 different meter frankings relating to the subject . . . thus a great opportunity for a documentary treatment. However, this will not set well in the Thematic exhibiting world.

Pictured with this column is one of those meters. In this instance, I chose to use this item in a sub-section of my exhibit titled "Pre-Game Advertising/Publicity." This particular item originated from the German Railroads Office in New York City and encouraged travel to Germany for the Olympics. The point I want to stress is the importance of looking critically at each item and determining the purpose of its issue and how to work it into your exhibit plan in a thematic sense. Maybe next time, I will take this same item and include it in a sub-section titled "Transportation."

I strongly suggest that those who aspire to exhibiting sports acquire the current edition (3rd edition - 1990) of the "Manual of Philatelic Judging" from the American Philatelic Society.

As I promised in the last issue of this column, the current installment will be devoted primarily to Joan Bleakley's original article titled "Tips on Exhibiting a Sport Thematic." I want to thank Jo for permitting me to use it in this column.

Jo stresses RESEARCH. With RESEARCH, one can develop a sense of creativity in preparing a Plan of Exhibit. Now, on to our guest columnist . . .

Tips on Exhibiting a Sport Thematic

by Jo Bleakley

If you read the list of exhibits for stamp shows to find the Sport themes among them, you will usually be disappointed. From local shows through international shows, Sports seldom appear. On the rare occasion when one does, it seems to be listed with the lowest awards.

Why? Because it is a tough challenge to 1) assemble a philatelic Sport story, and 2) do it well enough to get the higher awards.

Any thematic exhibit must have a diversity of information and philatelic elements. A thematic "tells a story" using essays, proofs, specimens, stamps, cancellations, postmarks, postal markings, meters, errors, freaks and oddities, watermarks, covers and postal stationery. All elements must be philatelic, i.e. they must have something to do with the business of moving the mail and collecting revenue for the postal service.

There must be a "balance" of these elements: not too many of any one. For example, one French area proof or deluxe sheet is okay, but proofs produced in very limited quantities -- and for their intended purpose -- are better (and for a Sport, there is no danger of your finding "too many").

For most Sports, the stamps have all been issued in the past 50 years, putting them in the "modern era." There is no "difficulty of acquisition" for most, other than finding a dealer who has them. The terms "scarcity and rarity" cannot be applied to these issues. To gain increased

revenue, many countries produce a super-abundance of popular topics every year. Sport topics are among the most popular.

Proofs and specimens are in abundance from some countries. Easily found are "collector-made" first day covers and "cancelled to order" on-piece cancels which are either overfranked or underfranked and virtually useless in a philatelic exhibit.

With today's modern equipment and quality control, errors and freaks are in very limited quantities and rarely occur on sport commemoratives.

Sounds pretty hopeless, doesn't it? Why bother to start an exhibit when all the material will be looked at as "common stuff"?

The solution is RESEARCH. Please remember that the chosen topic does not have to appear on every element used in the exhibit. Most Sport exhibits I've seen have been limited (by the exhibitor) to only those items which show the theme. That exhibitor has predetermined the level of his award.

For almost all Sports there are forerunners. That is, other activities leading up to the formalized method of play. There are known people on pre-modern era stamps who were responsible for making the game interesting and challenging enough to lure more players and spectators. Others helped to establish the rules, and bring the games to international recognition.

For some Sports, the participants have been immortalized on stamps. Some, not as well-known worldwide, have been honored with pictorial or slogan cancellations or on meters. Cancellations and meters commemorating special games and their locations exist.

Some Sports such as running, throwing and wrestling can trace their roots back to the Spartans, tribal survival, or the early Olympics. The Martial Arts -- fencing, judo, archery, etc. -- evolved from the fighting and/or farming methods of the Orient. Many winter Sports began as modes of travel or means of survival.

So, I repeat, the route to better awards for Sport exhibits is RESEARCH. Find out the who, what, when, where, why and how of your chosen Sport. Seek out those items that will help you to tell the history of the people and places involved. Philately is History.

Now some will say that the foregoing is not possible for their Sport. That's true. I exhibit Volleyball -- a game created in 1895 -- without roots or forerunners. There are a few other Sports that fall into the same category. But the method of research still works. By using all possible elements and showing, philatelically, the rules and regulations that helped Volleyball evolve into an Olympic Sport, I have achieved a national vermeil and an OLYMPHILEX large silver. True, I don't have gold, but really folks, who says everything has to attain the gold? □

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Bolivia: 5/18/90--ITALIA '90--2b s/s.

Burkina Faso: 6/14/90--ITALIA '90--50fr, 65fr, 1000fr s/s.

Congo: 6/26/90--ITALIA '90--120fr, 240fr, 500fr, 600fr (various soccer scenes).

Cook Islands: 6/15/90--1992 OLYMPICS--se-tenant triptych of \$1.85 stamps (runner, coin, skier).

Dominican Republic: 3/21/90--NATIONAL GAMES--10¢ (cycling), 20¢ (running), 50¢ (basketball).

El Salvador: 6/25/90--ITALIA '90--55¢ (2), 70¢ (2), 1 col (2) (flags), 1.50 col (map of Italy).

Equatorial Guinea: 6/8/90--ITALIA '90--100fr, 250fr, 350fr.

Greece: 7/13/90--ATHENS '96--20dr (sailing), 50dr (wrestling), 80dr (running), 100dr (basketball), 250dr (soccer).

Korea, North: 6/20/90--DUSSELDORF '90--20ch (Steffi Graf), 30ch (emblem), 70ch (K. H. Rummenigge).

Malagasy: 7/17/90--ALBERTVILLE '92--5000fr s/s.

Malta: 6/8/90--ITALIA '90--triptych of 5¢, 10¢, 14¢ (various scenes and soccer balls).

Monaco: 9/4/90--POWERBOATS--2.30fr.

Netherlands Antilles: 6/13/90--ANTI-DRUG--65¢+80¢ (soccer ball and net), 115¢+55¢.

New Caledonia: 5/31/90--ITALIA '90--240fr (soccer players, head of Michelangelo's David).

New Zealand: 7/25/90--HEALTH STAMPS--40¢+5¢ (runner, Jack Lovelock), 80¢+5¢ (rugby player, George Nepia) plus \$2.60 s/s (containing two of each stamp).

Niger: 3/6/90--ITALIA '90--130fr, 210fr, 500fr, 600fr.

Paraguay: 3/1/90--ALBERTVILLE '92--se-tenant strip of four stamps: 1g (Alberto Tomba), 2g (Vreni Schneider), 3g (Luc Alphand), 5g (Matti Nykaene), plus 60g (Marina Kiehl), 100g (Frank Piccard).

Poland: 3/29/90--SPORTS--100zl (sailing), 200zl (rugby), 400zl (high jump), 500zl (figure skating), 500zl (diving), 1000zl (rhythmic gymnastics).

Romania: 3/19/90--ITALIA '90--50b, 1.50 lei, 2 lei, 3 lei, 4 lei, 5 lei, 10 lei s/s (flags and match scene).

St. Pierre & Miquelon: 6/23/90--RUNNING--5fr (runner over map).

Tunisia: 5/29/90--NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE-150m (runner).

USSR: 5/25/90--ITALIA '90--se-tenant strip of 5 kop, 10 kop, 15 kop, 25 kop, 35 kop.

Yemen: 4/30/90--ITALIA '90--5f, 10f, 20f, 35f, 50f, 60f, 500f, 340f s/s.

Zambia: 1990--ITALIA '90--1.20k, 18.50k, 19.50k, 20.50k, 50k s/s.

Olympic Candidate Cities

[The following list of Candidate Cities was compiled by Bill Mallon in his 1984 book The Olympics: A Bibliography (New York: Garland, 1984). Mr. Mallon's list, which ends with the 1988 Olympics, has been augmented to include the 1992, 1994 and 1996 Games. Verifiable corrections, additions or comments are enclosed in brackets []. Cities selected as hosts are underlined, even if later supplanted by another city. Mr. Mallon's book, a superb reference item for the Olympic Library, is still in-print. Your local bookseller should be able to order this for you. - Mark Maestroni]

by Bill Mallon

Games of the Olympiad

- 1896 - Athens
- 1900 - Paris
- 1904 - Chicago, St. Louis (Chicago was originally selected, but the site was later moved to St. Louis.)
- 1908 - Berlin, London, Milan, Rome (Rome was originally selected, but the site was moved to London.)
- 1912 - Stockholm
- 1916 - Alexandria, Berlin, Budapest, Cleveland (The Games did not take place.)
- 1920 - Antwerp, Budapest, Lyon
- 1924 - Amsterdam, Barcelona, Los Angeles, Paris, Prague, Rome
- 1928 - Amsterdam
- 1932 - Los Angeles
- 1936 - Alexandria, Athens, Barcelona, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Cologne, Dublin, Frankfurt/Main, Helsinki, Nuremburg, Rome
- 1940 - Alexandria, Athens, Barcelona, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Dublin, Helsinki, Toronto or Montreal (Tokyo was originally selected but withdrew on 16 July, 1938. The site was later moved to Helsinki, but did not take place.)
- 1944 - Athens, Budapest, Detroit, Lausanne, London. (The Games did not take place.)
- 1948 - Baltimore, Lausanne, London, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Philadelphia.
- 1952 - Amsterdam, Athens, Chicago, Detroit, Helsinki, Lausanne, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Stockholm
- 1956 - Buenos Aires, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Melbourne, Mexico City, Minneapolis, Montreal, Philadelphia, San Francisco
- 1956 - Equestrian Events: Berlin, Buenos Aires, Los Angeles, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Stockholm
- 1960 - Athens, Brussels, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Chicago, Detroit, Lausanne, Los Angeles, Mexico City Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, San Francisco, Tokyo
- 1964 - Brussels, Detroit, Tokyo, Vienna

- 1968 - Buenos Aires, Detroit, Lyon, Mexico City
- 1972 - Detroit, Madrid, Montreal, Munich
- 1976 - Los Angeles, Montreal, Moscow
- 1980 - Los Angeles, Moscow
- 1984 - Los Angeles
- 1988 - Athens, Melbourne, Nagoya, Seoul
- 1992 - Amsterdam, Barcelona, Belgrade, Birmingham, Brisbane, New Delhi, Paris
- 1996 - Athens, Atlanta, Belgrade, Manchester, Melbourne, Toronto

Olympic Winter Games

- 1924 - Chamonix
- 1928 - Davos, Engelberg, St. Moritz
- 1932 - Bear Mountain, Denver, Duluth, Lake Placid, Minneapolis, Montreal, Yosemite Valley (two separate application)
- 1936 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Montreal, St. Moritz
- 1940 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Oslo, Sapporo, St. Moritz (Sapporo was originally selected but withdrew and the site was later moved to St. Moritz. St. Moritz withdrew on 9 June, 1938 and the site was then moved to Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The Games did not take place.)
- 1944 - Cortina d'Ampezzo, Montreal, Oslo, St. Moritz (The Games did not take place.)
- 1948 - Lake Placid, St. Moritz
- 1952 - Cortina d'Ampezzo, Lake Placid, Oslo
- 1956 - Colorado [Springs ?], Lake Placid, Cortina d'Ampezzo, Oslo
- 1960 - Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Innsbruck, Karachi, St. Moritz, Squaw Valley
- 1964 - Calgary, Innsbruck, Lahti
- 1968 - Calgary, Grenoble, Lahti, Lake Placid, Oslo, Sapporo
- 1972 - Banff, Lahti, Salt Lake City, Sapporo
- 1976 - Lahti, Grenada, Vancouver, Denver (Denver was originally selected but the site was later moved to Innsbruck which did not originally make an application.)
- 1980 - Lake Placid
- 1984 - Gothenberg, Sapporo, Sarajevo
- 1988 - Calgary, Cortina d'Ampezzo, Falun
- 1992 - Albertville, Anchorage, Berchtesgaden, Cortina d'Ampezzo, Falun, Lillehammer, Sofia

[After 1992, the Olympic Winter Games will occur on a mid-Olympiad schedule two years prior to the Games of the (Summer) Olympiad. In other words, the Winter Games celebrated during the XXVth Olympiad will be contested in 1994 instead of 1996.]

- 1994 - Anchorage, Lillehammer, Östersund, Sofia
- 1998 - Aosta, Jaca, Nagano, Östersund, Salt Lake City, Sochi

Commemorative Sports Cancels

by Mark C. Maestrone

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BASEBALL: 408-106, 409-611, 412-921, 414-142, 416-921, 603-681.

BASKETBALL: 402-641, 612-480, 630-170.

BOXING: 423-113.

FISHING: 429-496, 610-261.

FOOTBALL (American): 416-152, 423-600.

GOLF: 515-767, 523-430, 530-208, 616-021, 617-021, 618-021, 619-021, 620-021.

GYMNASTICS: 618-243.

HIGHLAND GAMES: 603-421.

HUNTING: 612-080.

KAYAKING: 618-544.

OLYMPICS (Summer): 423-113, 507-492.

OLYMPICS (Winter): 409-530, 507-492.

POLICE OLYMPICS: 619-933.

RUNNING: 625-956.

SKATEBOARDING: 618-243.

SKIING (Snow): 430-894, 430-956, 618-953.

SKIING (Water): 624-266.

TENNIS: 402-752.

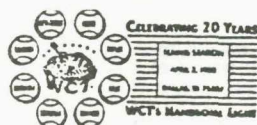
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OLYMPICS

88409-530 SHEBOYGAN, WI

9-10



ROCKFORD
VS.
BELOIT

88409-611 ROCKFORD, IL

9



88412-921 SAN DIEGO, CA

12



88414-142 BUFFALO, NY

14



88416-152 PITTSBURGH, PA
[BLUE]

16-17



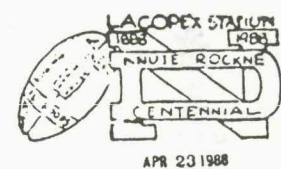
88416-921 SAN DIEGO, CA

16



88423-113 BAYSIDE, NY

23-24



88423-600 WAUKEGAN, IL

23-24



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88429-496 KALKASKA, MI
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GENOA, NV 89411 APRIL 30, 1988

88430-894 GENOA, NV

30



PLACERVILLE, CA 95667 • APRIL 30, 1988
88430-956 PLACERVILLE, CA

30



88610-261 ST. MARY'S, WV

10-11

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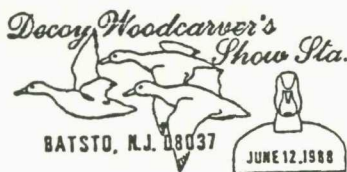


88619-933 BAKERSFIELD, CA 19-26



88507-492 ALBION, MI

7



88612-080 BATSTO, NJ

12



88624-266 SUTTON, WV

24-25



88515-767 TYLER, TX [RED]

15-16



88612-480 PONTIAC, MI

12,14,16



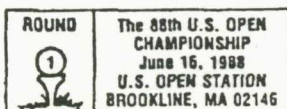
88630-956 FORESTHILL, CA

25



88523-430 DUBLIN, OH
[RED & GREEN]

23



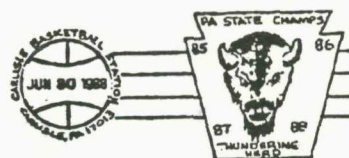
88616-021 BROOKLINE, MA (RD 1) 16

88617-021 BROOKLINE, MA (RD 2) 17

88618-021 BROOKLINE, MA (RD 3) 18

88619-021 BROOKLINE, MA (RD 4) 19

88620-021 BROOKLINE, MA (FINAL) 20



88630-170 CARLISLE, PA

6/30-7/1



88529-462 INDIANAPOLIS, IN

29



88530-208 POTOMAC, MD

5/30-6/5



88618-243 WYTHEVILLE, VA

18-26



88603-421 GLASGOW, KY

3-5



88618-544 WAUSAU, WI

18-19



88603-681 OMAHA, NE

3-11



88618-953 MODESTO, CA

18-19

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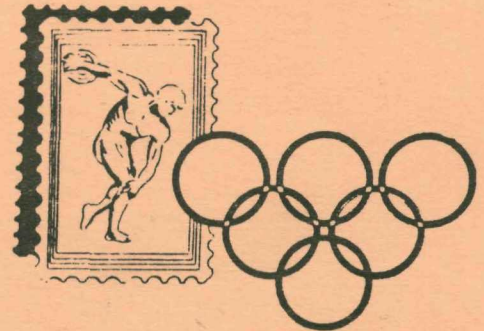
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