

# JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 30

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1991

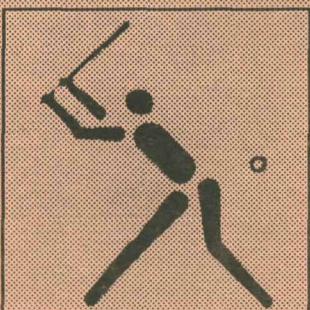
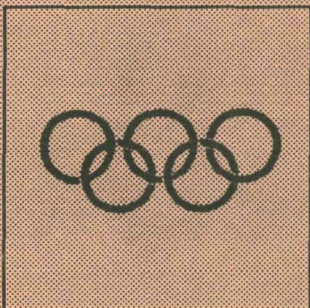
NUMBER 1

## Seven New U.S. Olympic Stamps Issued



29¢ Olympic Track & Field First Day Ceremony Program





**VOL. 30 NO. 1**  
**SEPT-OCT 1991**

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### The USPS: philatelic friend, not foe!

Following the recent first day ceremony in San Diego for the \$2.90 Priority Mail stamp, I had the opportunity to meet with Kim Parks, Program Manager for the USPS's Office of Olympic Marketing. It was most illuminating.

Over the past few months, the USPS has received considerable criticism for a variety of reasons. Most of these perceived ills have either been thoroughly discussed in the philatelic press, or are of little consequence to us as sport and Olympic philatelists. That is, except for one topic — Olympic Marketing.

Unfortunately, I believe that the goal of the USPS Olympic Marketing Program has been very misunderstood. A lack of a frank discussion has led most of us to believe that their only aim was how to best gouge the philatelist. In a way, we can't be blamed for our narrow view. We have had little more on which to base our opinions than the appearance of very high value stamps with the Olympic Rings incorporated as a design element.

Yes, fellow members, the USPS has always been the public's favorite whipping boy. I would bet that even old Ben Franklin, our first Postmaster General, came in for his share of verbal and editorial abuse. Human nature being what it is, we tend to think the worst of highly public figures or organizations.

We are wrong, in this case, primarily because we have been jumping to conclusions without having all the facts. Let's examine the questions.

1. *Is the USPS acting reasonably by placing the Olympic Rings on its Express Mail and Priority Mail stamps?* Absolutely. The USPS has paid a hefty sum to be a World-wide Olympic Sponsor of the 1992 Olympic Games. Like all other "product" sponsors, it is assigned exclusivity in a specific category—in this case, Expedited Mail. Just like any other sponsor (i.e. Coca-Cola, Visa, Kodak, etc.) it has a perfect right to advertise its sponsorship on the product(s) for which it is licensed. In this case, the products are Express Mail and Priority Mail services (and therefore the stamps that pay for those rates of service).

2. *What is the goal of the USPS Olympic Marketing Program?* In any business (and make no mistake, the USPS is in business), the object is to provide a service or product while making a profit, or at least breaking even. Over the past decade or two, the USPS has seen portions of its more lucrative divisions going to private delivery companies (UPS, Federal Express, etc.). Notwithstanding these losses, the USPS must still fulfill its primary duty which is the delivery of the mails to *all* addresses, not just the most profitable ones.

Philatelic sales are an increasingly important source of revenue. To survive in today's, and tomorrow's, more deregulated atmosphere, their goal must be to maintain, and if possible increase, sales in this area.

3. *How is the USPS planning to achieve this goal?* The USPS, like all of us who are already in the philatelic fold, realizes that new collectors are critical for sustaining the hobby. As we continually read in the philatelic press, it is the young collector who represents the future of philately.

The USPS is, quite correctly, directing much of its marketing energy toward getting kids interested in stamp collecting. I have already reported on the Pen Pals Club that the USPS and some thirty other postal administrations have cooperated in creating. This is a sound project that will hopefully teach our own geographically-ignorant young something of the world around them. The same group of postal administrations also conducted an Olympic stamp design contest for all ages, the subject of which would be the sport that best represented that country's Olympic contribution. Baseball was selected as the US subject. Anthony DeLuz of Boston won the US contest, receiving a USPS design contract and trip for two to Barcelona. What better incentive?

In addition to these two worthy projects, I was privy to two new ones that had not yet been announced as of the time I spoke with Ms. Parks. To compete with the baseball card mania, the USPS has created a set of five cards for the recently issued Olympic Track & Field Stamps (see further details elsewhere in this issue). Each card provides a space on the reverse side for the appropriate stamp to be affixed. The cost of the package of five cards is \$2.50, well within the weekly allowance of most youngsters. These cards were to be introduced in July during the U.S. Olympic Festival-'91 in Los Angeles.

For sports enthusiasts, the USPS would be providing a Philatelic Passport (\$3.40) for events at the U.S. Olympic Festival. I can personally testify to the popularity of these items. When I attended the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, it seemed that everyone had an Olympic Passport which they dutifully had cancelled at each stop. And I'll bet that, for many, this was their first brush with philately.

Anyway, the point I'm trying to make is that by achieving their goal, the USPS Olympic Marketing Program will bring new collectors into the hobby by providing them with innovative and exciting philatelically-related products.

For our part, SPI should support, encourage, and when possible, advise, the USPS Office of Olympic Marketing in their endeavor to further our hobby. Their efforts should be applauded. □



## More Basketball Triple Crown Winners

In the May-June issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*, a sidebar on page 27 mentioned the four players who had won the triple crown by winning an NCAA Basketball Championship, an NBA Championship, and an Olympic basketball gold medal. I assume this information came from the U.S. Olympic Committee's *Media Guide* prior to the 1988 Olympics. Many of the sidebars which they used came (without credit) from a book I co-authored (with Ian Buchanan) in 1983, *Quest for Gold: The Encyclopaedia of American Olympians*. The original source of this unusual feat was definitely *Quest for Gold*, as we were the first to point out this fact.

Unfortunately, the U.S. Olympic Committee not only used the fact without crediting us, they failed to check with us for an update, and did not check themselves. There are now (and were in 1988) five players who had won this basketball triple crown, as follows:

Clyde Lovelette (USA [1952], University of Kansas [1952], Minneapolis Lakers [1954] and Boston Celtics [1963-64])  
 Bill Russell (USA [1956], University of San Francisco [1955-56], Boston Celtics [1957, 1959-66, 1968-69])  
 K.C. Jones (USA [1956], University of San Francisco [1955-56], Boston Celtics [1959-66])  
 Jerry Lucas (USA [1960], Ohio State University [1960], New York Knicks [1973])  
 Quinn Buckner (USA [1976], Indiana University [1976], Boston Celtics [1984])

With the 1991 NBA play-offs still underway, Michael Jordan may well add his name to this list, if the Chicago Bulls can win the championship.

As a new member of Sports Philatelists International, I must say I truly enjoyed the first two issues (Volume 29, Nos. 4-5). Keep up the good work.

Bill Mallon, M.D.  
 Durham, North Carolina

*Yes, we use the 1988 edition of the USOC's Media Guide for our "Did you know?" trivia material. As the Bulls won the NBA Championships, we can add Michael Jordan to this select group of basketball players. Thanks for the update, Bill.*

## Foosball Defined

Every little while, I re-read my back issues of stamp journals to refresh my memory.

Going through the September, 1990, *JSP* (page 30), I

noticed a meter about Foosball. You wondered if anyone could [describe] that sport. I wouldn't call Foosball a sport, but rather a game. Here, I have seen it at a local youth center and sometimes in bars.

Basically, it's a board "soccer" game where teams of players try to spin flippers to get the ball through a goal. It's hard to explain without seeing it.

Glenn Estus  
 Westport, New York

*You're quite right, Glenn. In fact, I remember playing this quite often in college. I suspect its popularity, like pinball machines, has flagged considerably with the advent of video games. Hope this helps our European correspondent who posed the question.*

## Binding JSP Volumes

Since SPI is no longer providing [3-ring binder] holes in *JSP* (as per May 1991, page 2), I have a solution for the long-time savers of issues. Obtain a roll of cord or heavy string. Open one issue at its center page. You might wish to place transparency tape at the top and bottom of this center page to avoid wear-and-tear on the page from the cord. Snugly wrap the cord once or twice around the issue, depending upon the heaviness of the string. Tie the cord at the bottom and cut the cord. Repeat the process for each issue.

Obtain a ringed notebook, large enough to hold one or two volumes. (I prefer a three-ringed notebook.) Open the rings and place the outside of the cord of each issue on the inside of all rings. To avoid excess slippage of the "bound" issues, loop the cord around one or more of the rings. Close the rings. Place a label noting the *JSP* volume number(s) on the spine of the notebook.

While the home-made version is not perfect, it helps to keep the issues in order. I have used this method since the 1950's for a number of my professional journals, and this method is satisfactory.

Another suggestion is to find a journal of the same size whose company sells binders for their volumes and buy these. Add the *JSP* volume number to the spine and you are in business. Commercial binders usually have a metal stay that fits inside the center page of an issue and attaches to the top and bottom of the binder. The latter method is more secure, but costs more.

Margaret A. Jones  
 Atlanta, Georgia

*Sounds like a good way to store your JSPs. Another suggestion is to purchase plastic or cardboard magazine holders that stand up vertically on a shelf. I suspect that one of these could easily hold two volumes (12 issues) of JSP without any problem.*



# Seven New U.S. Olympic Stamps Issued

by Mark C. Maestroni

This was a busy month for Olympic collectors in the U.S., as the USPS favored us with seven new issues in the space of only 26 days. Two of these, the \$9.95 Express Mail stamp and \$2.90 Priority Mail stamp, have generated considerable criticism from the press. This was due to the use of the Olympic Rings on very high value stamps, an action that many felt was an attempt to "pick the pockets" of the philatelic public. Personally, I found this to be a specious argument [see my President's

Message on page 1 of this issue].

On the other hand, the set of five Olympic track & field commemoratives have been greeted with much praise. Their vibrant background colors and snappy graphics were created on a computer, a new approach to stamp designing.

The release of these stamps was timed to coincide with the U.S. Olympic Festival-'91 and events surrounding that annual celebration. The USPS was a Gold Patron of the festival, which began with the start of the Torch Run (also sponsored by the USPS) in Sacramento, California on

June 16, and continued through the 10-day period of the festival, July 12 through 21. A full report on the Torch Run and U.S. Olympic Festival-'91 will appear in the next issue of *JSP*.

Each of the three issues is discussed in more detail, below. Collectors should, however, take note of a special post card that the USPS produced to announce these three issues plus the 29¢ Flag with Olympic Rings stamp booklet [*JSP*, July/August 1991, page 9] that was released on April 21. The obverse of the card, illustrated in Figure 1, is a multi-color photograph of a lit torch being held aloft by two hands—a white male athlete and an African-American female athlete. The reverse side of the card (Figure 2) bears the USPS logo and Olympic Rings at the top, the 1991 Olympic stamp issuance schedule in the middle, and the U.S. Olympic Festival-'91 logos at the bottom. The right two-thirds of the card seems reserved for a stamp, cancel and address, leaving little space for writing a message. It should be pointed out that at least one more Olympic issue is planned for 1991: a \$1.00 definitive stamp to be released sometime in September.

I found these cards, which sold for a modest 50¢ apiece, to be excellent items on which to collect the Festival Torch Run cancels, Festival sport cancels, and first days of the various Olympic stamps. I'd like to see the USPS issue more of these post cards over the next year.

## \$9.95 Express Mail Stamp

To mark its Olympic Sponsorship in the category of Expedited and Priority Mail, the USPS issued a new Express Mail stamp on June 16, 1991, in California's capital, Sacramento. The \$9.95 face value of the stamp pays the next day and second day post office-to-addressee domestic Express Mail rate that became effective on February 3. The package may weigh up to eight ounces. The USPS provides special card stock mailers for

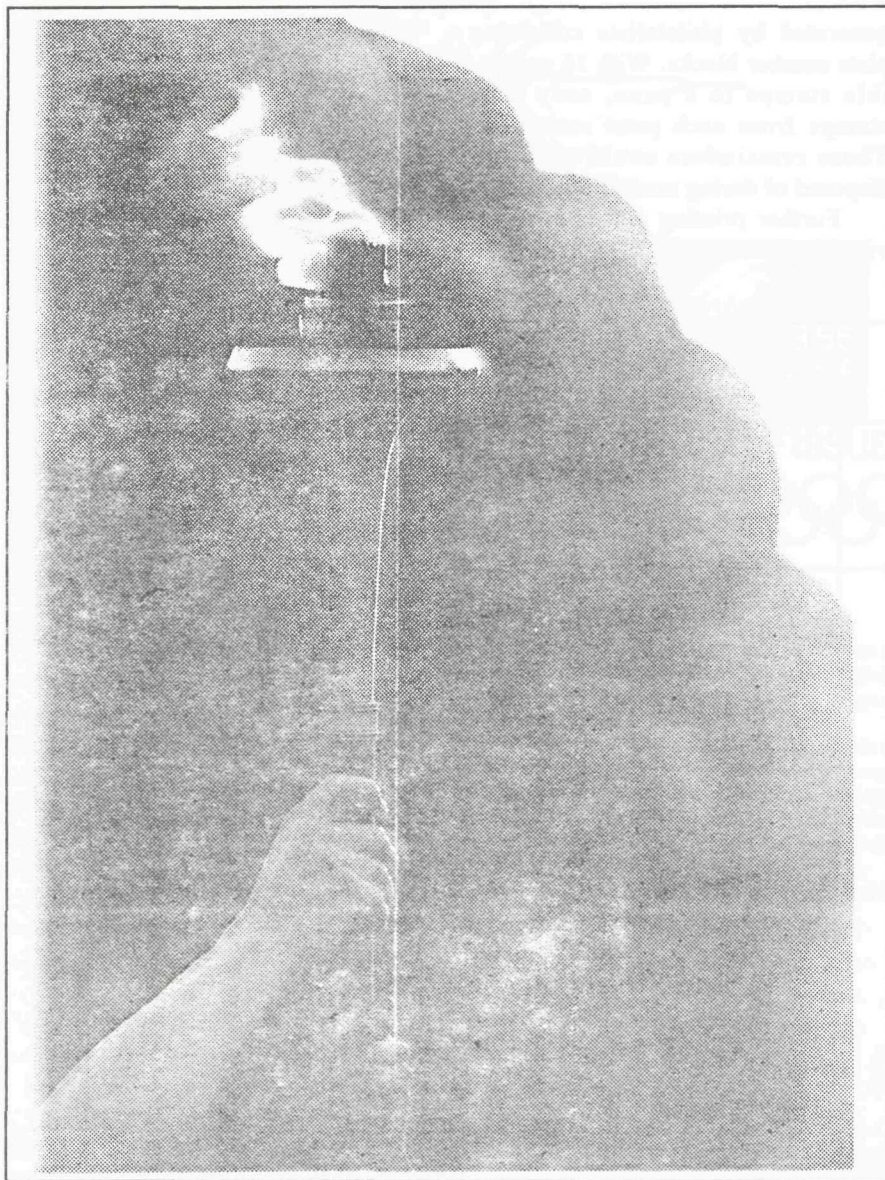


Figure 1. Obverse of the USPS post card issued for the Olympic Festival Torch Run.



this purpose at no charge. The address side is inscribed "Express Mail" and features an illustration of an eagle, the emblem of the USPS. The obverse repeats the design, and includes the Olympic Rings sponsor motif. The overall size of the sealed mailer is approximately 12½" by 9½".

The stamp bears the eagle emblem, in profile, on a scarlet background. Although simple in design, thanks to artist Ned Seidler of Hampton Bay, New York, the stamp is really quite striking, especially when placed on a white background (Figure 3). This bald eagle certainly comes across in the design as meaning business!

Issued in post office panes of 20 stamps, the five digit plate number preceded by the letter A (American Bank Note Company, the printers) appears in all four corners of each pane, yielding four collectible plate number blocks-of-four from each pane. This system of issuing high value stamps in panes of 20, rather than 40 or 50, was instituted a few years ago. The USPS discovered that a smaller format resulted in less waste


Table 1	
\$9.95 Express Mail Stamp Printing Details	
<b>First Day:</b>	June 16, 1991 at Sacramento, California
<b>General Sale:</b>	Beginning June 17, 1991
<b>Scott Number:</b>	2541
<b>Format:</b>	Post office pane of 20 stamps (4 rows of 5 stamps each)
<b>Perforation:</b>	11
<b>Process:</b>	Offset-intaglio, by American Bank Note Company
<b>Colors:</b>	Yellow, magenta, cyan & black (offset); white, black (intaglio)
<b>Stamp Size:</b>	1.26" x 1.82" (image area); 1.41" x 1.96" (overall)
<b>Quantity Printed:</b>	Not known
<b>Plate Number:</b>	Four groups of four offset numbers and one intaglio number preceded by the letter A.
<b>Artist:</b>	Ned Seidler, Hampton Bay, NY
<b>Designer, Typographer &amp; Project Manager:</b>	Terrence McCaffrey, USPS
<b>Art Director &amp; Project Manager:</b>	Joseph Brockert, USPS
<b>Engravers:</b>	Armandina Lozano (portrait), Dick Jones (lettering)

generated by philatelists collecting plate number blocks. With 16 collectible stamps in a pane, only four stamps from each pane remained. These remainders could often be disposed of during normal operations.

Further printing details are provided in Table 1.

## \$9.95 Express Mail First Day Ceremony

The June 16 first day ceremonies took place on the steps of the California State Capitol in Sacramento. The neo-classical building, recently re-




**1991 Olympic Stamp Issuance Schedule:**



**April 21:**  
29-cent Flag with Olympic Rings Stamp


**June 16:**  
\$9.95 Express Mail rate Eagle with Olympic Rings Stamp

**July 7:**  
\$2.90 Priority Mail rate Eagle with Olympic Rings Stamp


**July 12:**  
29-cent Track and Field Events Stamps (5 designs)

*To help protect your stamp investment, ask for Saver Pages at your local post office.*



**U.S. Olympic Festival '91**



**GOLD PATRON**

Figure 2. Reverse of the Figure 1 USPS Torch Run card. A portion of the 1991 Olympic stamp schedule is provided. The start of the Olympic Torch Run in Sacramento, CA is noted by the special June 16, 1991 cancel.



Presiding ..... Arthur I. Montoya  
General Manager/Postmaster  
Sacramento Division

Presentation of Colors

National Anthem ..... Air Force Band of the Golden Gate

Welcome ..... Heather Fargo  
Vice-Mayor  
Sacramento, California

Remarks ..... Harry Usher  
President  
Los Angeles U.S. Olympic Festival Committee

Dedication of Stamp ..... Edward E. Horgan, Jr.  
Associate Postmaster General

Olympic Festival ..... Sacramento Postal Choir  
Torch Lighting



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE  
JUNE 16, 1991  
SACRAMENTO  
CA 95813



### Express Mail

service has delivered letters and packages overnight, seven days a week, 365 days a year, since it was introduced by the Postal Service in 1970 as the original overnight delivery system. Past Express Mail-rate stamps have featured the striking image of a bald eagle, the symbol of America and the U.S. Postal Service.

With the issuance of this newest stamp, the eagle is united with another striking image — the Olympic rings — as the Postal Service celebrates its worldwide sponsorship of the 1992 Winter and Summer Olympic Games in the category of expedited mail.

In anticipation of the 1992 Games, the Postal Service also is a proud Gold Patron of the 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles and sponsor of the Olympic Festival Torch Run throughout the State of California.

The stamp was designed by Terrence McCaffrey of Sterling, Virginia, based on original artwork by Ned Seidler of Hampton Bay, New York.

Figure 3. First Day Ceremony Program for the \$9.95 Express Mail stamp. The special first day cancel was only available at the ceremony. The Torch Run cancel and Olympic Rings stamp were added afterwards.





Figure 4. Olympian Bob Mathias autographing Express Mail Ceremony Programs. Fellow Olympian, Shirley Babashoff (extreme right) also participated.

stored to its original grandeur, provided a splendid backdrop for the ceremonies. Speakers included Harry Usher, President of the U.S. Olympic Festival-'91 (and past Executive Vice President/General Manager of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games); Edward E. Horgan, Jr., Associate Postmaster General; Arthur I. Montoya, General Manager/Postmaster of

Sacramento; and Heather Fargo, Vice-Mayor of Sacramento. Also in attendance were U.S. Olympians Bob Mathias and Shirley Babashoff. Bob will be remembered for his outstanding performances in the Decathlon, winning the gold medal at both the 1948 London Games and 1952 Olympics in Helsinki. Shirley Babashoff was one of America's premier swim-

mers, winning two gold medals and six silver medals during the 1972 and 1976 Olympics in Munich and Montreal, respectively. Babashoff is a mail carrier in Huntington Beach, California. Both athletes graciously agreed to sit for the autograph signing marathon that always follows a first day ceremony (Figure 4).

The special pictorial First Day Cancel (Figure 3) features a stern looking eagle, at left, and Olympic Rings, at right. Collectors should be aware that the pictorial cancels used at the various first day ceremonies are not, to the best of my knowledge, available when mailing away for first day cancels. The Kansas City central processing facility uses the standard killer bars with "First Day of Issue" wording. I would appreciate hearing from other collectors if I am incorrect on this point.

As previously mentioned, the date and place for this first day ceremony was timed to coincide with the arrival of the Olympic Flame for the beginning of the U.S. Olympic Festival Torch Run. The flame permanently resides on Pike's Peak in Colorado. In keeping with its sponsorship, the USPS provided Express Mail delivery of the flame to the steps of the capitol to begin its 27-day run through Cali-

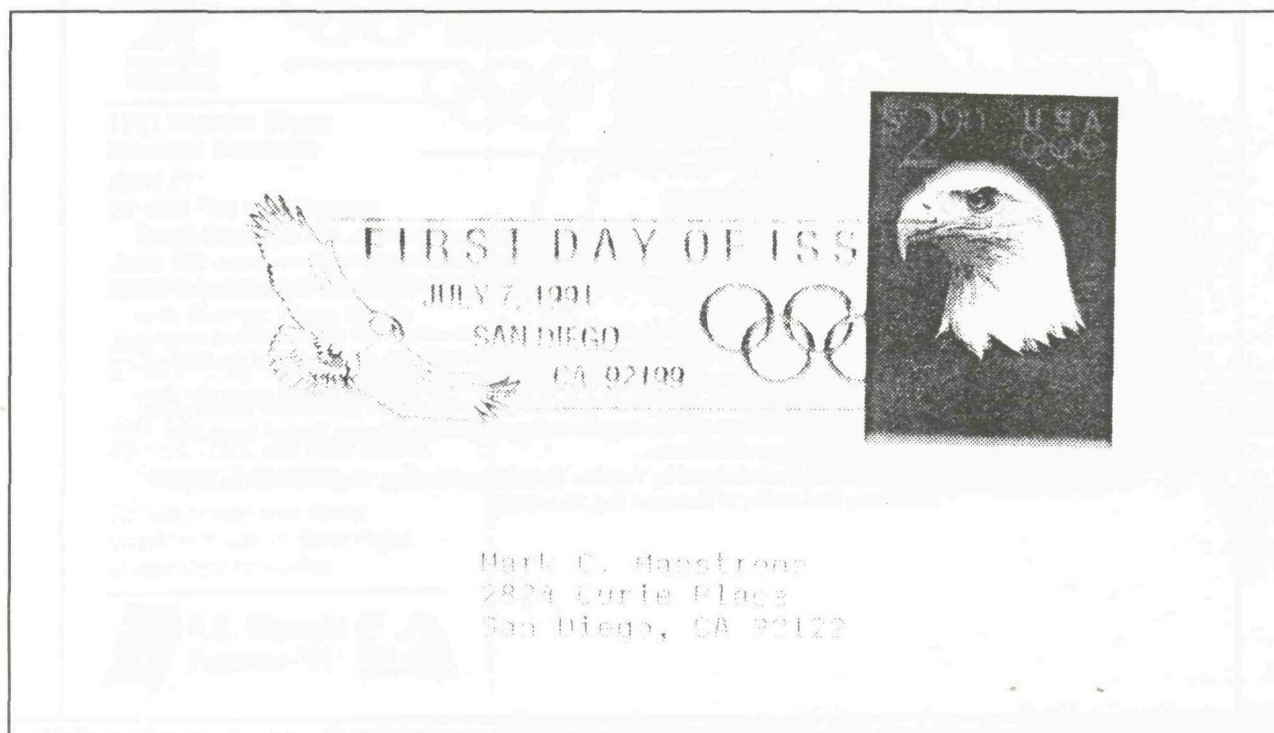


Figure 5. The \$2.90 Priority Mail stamp depicts a very stern looking eagle, symbol of the USPS Expedited Mail Service. The First Day Cancel in San Diego on July 7, 1991, illustrates an eagle in flight.



fornia. In actuality, the flame was transported by plane in a special lantern (with an Express Mail label stuck to its side, no doubt). A special cancel was made available for this event, as well. The Flag with Olympic Rings stamp and Torch cancel that appear on the ceremony program in Figure 3 were added after the fact.

## \$2.90 Priority Mail Stamp

The U.S. Olympic Festival Torch Run continued its circuitous route, arriving in San Diego, California just in time (imagine that!) for the First Day Ceremony of the \$2.90 Priority Mail stamp on July 7, 1991.

Like the \$9.95 Express Mail stamp, it features a bald eagle, but in a more upright pose than in the former (Figure 5). It, too, is printed in a combination of offset and intaglio. The image of the eagle is based on a photograph by Kevin Schaefer, and adapted by Terrence McCaffrey of the USPS. In a vertical, instead of horizontal format, the eagle appears far more ominous than in its higher-value counterpart. The black background of the stamp provides a very dignified setting for the eagle and offset red numerals and logo, yet it is not terribly kind to cancels which tend to be invisible unless bulls-eye struck on the stamp. I anticipate that this stamp is going to see the worst sort of abuse by postal personnel who will not see cancels on the stamps, and energetically deface them with ball point pens and felt tip markers. A strange choice of color combinations for a high value stamp, considering the USPS's recent complaints about the money it is losing on "skipped" stamps. [As an aside, when obtaining the special Torch Run cancel at the La Jolla, California post office, I had to stop the clerk from using a ball point pen on a stamp that she had not quite hit with the canceller, showing her, instead, how to use the edge of the circular date portion of the cancel to "kill" the stamp. Her reply to my plea never to use pens to cancel stamps: "We always use ball point pens on Express Mail and other high priced stamps." It seems we are fighting a losing battle, fellow philatelists.]

**Table 2**  
**\$2.90 Priority Stamp Printing Details**

**First Day:** July 7, 1991 at San Diego, California  
**General Sale:** Beginning July 8, 1991  
**Scott Number:** 2540  
**Format:** Post office pane of 20 stamps (5 rows of 4 stamps each)  
**Perforation:** 11  
**Process:** Offset-intaglio, by American Bank Note Company  
**Colors:** Yellow, magenta, cyan & black (offset); red (intaglio)  
**Stamp Size:** 1.26" x 1.82" (image area); 1.41" x 1.96" (overall)  
**Quantity Printed:** Not known  
**Plate Number:** Four groups of four offset numbers and one intaglio number (inverted on all panes) preceded by the letter A.  
**Photograph of Eagle:** Kevin Schaefer, Allstock, Inc.  
**Designer, Typographer & Project Manager:** Terrence McCaffrey, USPS  
**Art Director & Project Manager:** Joseph Brockert, USPS  
**Engravers:** Armandina Lozano

Priority mail is a domestic category of service used for single-piece first class mail weighing over eleven ounces. Usually this applies to parcels and packets. The \$2.90 rate covers those pieces not exceeding two pounds in weight.

This stamp was issued in post office of panes of 20 with four sets of five plate numbers (four offset and one intaglio). The black intaglio number is inverted in relation to the four offset numbers. This occurs on all four sets of plate numbers on all panes. Table 2 provides detailed particulars about the \$2.90 Priority Mail stamp.

## \$2.90 Priority Mail First Day Ceremony

San Diego's main post office was the venue for the first day ceremony. Although a Sunday, this central mail processing center was buzzing with activity by 7:00 a.m. The U.S. Olympic Festival Torch, which had spent the previous night in this southern California city, was sent off with much fanfare to wend its way north to Los Angeles. Almost immediately, organizers sent off a large group of participants on a 2.9 km Fun Run & Walk. This was followed at 8:00 a.m. by a 5 km run. Billed as the "Priority 5000," and hosted by the USPS, these two running events were arranged to coincide with the Torch Run and first

day ceremonies for the Priority Mail stamp. Proceeds from the racers' registration fees were donated to the 1992 U.S. Olympic Team.

By 11:00, chairs and a dais had been erected in the small plaza outside the postal facility. An estimated group of 200-300 people, some of whom had participated in the earlier athletic activities, gathered for the ceremony. With a stiff breeze nearly sending the curtained backdrop with its attached large reproduction of the eagle stamp sailing into the street below, a rather tired group of ceremony participants mounted the dais. Presiding over the stamp dedication was Margaret Sellers, General Manager/Postmaster of San Diego. Brief remarks from Olympic swimmer, Shirley Babashoff (see Express Mail Ceremony coverage, above) were followed by the stamp's dedication. Still attired in his track suit (as were Sellers and Babashoff), Deputy Postmaster General, Michael S. Coughlin, discussed the importance of the Olympic Sponsorship for the promotion of sports in the U.S. Concluding the ceremonies, Coughlin and Sellers gave special presentation folders of the Priority Mail stamp to about a dozen San Diego postal employees who had participated in Operation Desert Shield/Storm. The recipients, many in full military dress, were roundly applauded by the audience as they received their much-deserved recognition.



Visibly tired from their early morning runs, the ceremony participants were good sports. Signing the ceremony programs took nearly an hour, despite the fact that individuals were asked to restrict to no more than two pieces those items presented for autographs.

The special pictorial first day cancellation (Figure 5) used a horizontal format similar to the \$9.95 cancel. In this case, however, the eagle's profile was substituted by one in flight. Again, I believe this cancellation to have been available only at the ceremony.

## 29¢ Olympic Track & Field Stamps

Unlike the previous two stamps discussed in this article which essentially commemorated the USPS's sponsorship of the 1992 Olympic Games, the five track & field stamps released on July 12, 1991 are truly Olympic in theme (Figure 6). Issued se-tenant in panes of 40 (eight rows of five stamps), the sports depicted, from left to right, are: pole vaulting, discus, sprinting, javelin and hurdles. Printed by photogravure, again by the American Bank Note Company, each pane contains one group of four gravure cylinder numbers preceded by the letter "A" (please see Table 3 for further details on this issue).

I am normally the first to agree that the designs on U.S. stamps have become quite boring. We are inundated with adhesives that seem to resemble poster art. Depth, clarity, and a sense of motion or excitement appear to be all but lost arts. That is until now. This set of stamps is absolutely breathtaking! Designed by Joni Carter, a "computer" artist in Los Angeles, the Olympic Track & Field stamps are truly beautiful. Each stamp has a different background color representing one of the five colors of the Olympic Rings: blue, yellow, black, green, and red. The action figures are careful representations of athletes in motion; these are not photographs, and yet each person is articulated to a sufficient degree to convey muscular power. Streaks of complimentary and contrasting colors serve multiple purposes: they provide

a backdrop, convey depth, highlight, and most importantly, underscore the direction of movement.

As previously cited, these were computer *designed*, not computer generated. This is an important distinction. I'm sure most of us remember those truly dreadful digitized stamps that were released by Canada for the Calgary Winter Olympic Games of 1988. Those were meant to appear computer generated; many people had difficulty discerning the correct sport. Ms. Carter, on the other hand, has utilized the vast manipulative skill of a computer "paint program" with a palette of 16 million colors, to create the designs. The care which was taken in realistically "posing" each athlete was echoed by Kim Parks of USPS Olympic Marketing, who said that the designs were submitted to the USOC to check them for accuracy. An example that she gave me pertained to the red women's hurdles stamp. Originally, the athletes appeared with corresponding legs and arms extended, i.e. left arm and left leg forward, right arm and right leg backward. This was incorrect. According to the experts at the USOC, arms and legs work in opposite fashion when hurdling the barrier. Joni went back to her computer and arranged the figures with right legs and left arms extending forward as they glided over the hurdles.

My favorites from this set are the pole vaulter (what can I say, I love

that color of blue), and women's hurdles stamps. If the International Olympic Committee's jury of philatelic experts don't award these stamps the "Grand Prix" for best Olympic stamps of 1992, then the fix is in!

## 29¢ Olympic Track & Field First Day Ceremony

The U.S. Olympic Festival Torch would be arriving in a few hours at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles for the Opening Ceremonies of the USOC's 10-day festival of sports. It was therefore appropriate that the USPS chose a venue in Los Angeles, Drake Stadium on the campus of UCLA (University of California at Los Angeles), to dedicate this set of Olympic stamps.

A large contingent of officials, Olympians, philatelists, media, and members of the general public were on hand for the ceremony. The ceremony participants took their seats below the American and California State Flags at one end of the stadium a few minutes past 10:00 a.m., giving the attendees a few extra moments to obtain stamps and cancellations on their covers. Charles W. King, General Manager/Postmaster of Los Angeles, began the proceedings. Charles E. Young, Chancellor of UCLA, and John Krinsky, Jr., Deputy Secretary General of the USOC, followed. John

**Table 3**  
**29¢ Olympic Track & Field Stamps Printing Details**

**First Day:** July 12, 1991 at Los Angeles, California  
**General Sale:** Beginning July 13, 1991  
**Scott Number:** 2553-57  
**Format:** Se-tenant strips of 5 stamps in post office pane of 40 stamps  
**Perforation:** 11  
**Process:** Photogravure, by American Bank Note Company  
**Colors:** Yellow, magenta, cyan & black  
**Stamp Size:** 1.105" x 1.44" (image area); 1.225" x 1.56" (overall)  
**Quantity Printed:** 190 million  
**Plate Number:** One group of four gravure cylinder numbers preceded by the letter A.  
**Designer & Typographer:** Joni Carter, Los Angeles, CA  
**Art Director & Project Manager:** Joseph Brockert, USPS  
**Modeler:** Richard Sennett, Sennett Enterprises



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Figure 6. Joni Carter, the designer of the 29¢ Olympic Track & Field stamps, provided an invitation to her special celebration, shown here with her five stamps and special ceremony cancel.

Krimsky is also a fellow member of SPI. Three Olympians then took the podium for brief remarks. Bob Seagren, winner of the pole vault in the 1968 Olympic Games and a silver medal in Munich in 1972, started off. He was followed by Al Oerter, winner of four consecutive Olympic gold medals in the discus (1956-1968). Al (when I greeted him as "Mr. Oerter" at the signing session, he said that was his father, and to call him Al) related an interesting story about this stadium's namesake. Drake was a coach of the 1956 American Olympic Track & Field Team in Melbourne. Before going out for his first throw in his first Olympic Games, Drake pulled Al aside and told him not to talk to anyone or let anyone talk to him. He was to concentrate and just go out there and throw the discus for all he was

worth. Drake assured Al that if he followed his advice, he would win. Inspired, Al followed Drake's advice. His first throw went 184 feet, 11 inches—a new Olympic record and the best throw of his career, to that point. No one came within five feet of that gold medal performance on any subsequent throw.

The last Olympian, actually an Olympic hopeful, was canoeist Greg Steward from Williamsburg, Ohio. Greg is competing at the U.S. Olympic Festival. He is also a postal employee in his hometown. As of this writing, Greg has won a bronze medal at the festival in the 500 singles canoeing competition.

Associate Postmaster General Kenneth J. Hunter and stamp designer Joni Carter provided the final remarks of the ceremony. Ms. Carter, obvious-

ly very proud of her contribution to the Olympic Movement, said that the USPS got a real bargain for her services: only 29¢ a stamp! Actually, all USPS stamp designers receive identical fees: \$13,750 per project.

While it is customary for the ceremony participants to sign programs afterwards, only the three Olympians and Joni Carter did so. I suspect that the other officials had a busy day ahead of them with the upcoming Opening Ceremonies of the festival.

The special first day cancellation (Figure 6) was quite a departure from those used at the two previous ceremonies. A single hurdle, in perspective view, was crowned by a semi-circle composed of the words "FIRST DAY OF ISSUE." The Olympic Rings and date appeared within the



upright supports of the hurdle; "LOS ANGELES, CA 90052" formed the base. A standard circular date stamp was also available.

## Other USPS Products

As mentioned in my President's Message on page 1 of this issue, the USPS Office of Olympic Marketing introduced some interesting products to encourage people, especially youngsters, to collect stamps. The first product, a set of five cards resembling baseball cards, were made available. Each card, which measures 3½" x 2½", reproduces one of the five Olympic Track & Field stamps on the obverse (Figure 7). Exciting and colorful graphics surround the stamp depictions, making them almost irresistible. The reverse of the card (Figure 8) lists, a la baseball card fashion, stamp statistics and a bit of trivia on U.S. stamp production. A space is provided at upper right for affixing the corresponding Olympic stamp. A simulated circular date stamp and wavy-line killer bars appear at the bottom. The cards were pre-packaged in sets of five, and sold for \$2.50. According to Kim Parks of Olympic Marketing, this is a test product. I, for one, find this a particularly inventive product that not only captures the contemporary fascination for card collecting, but also provides a legitimate philatelic souvenir through the use of a stamp and cancel tied to the reverse of the card. The USPS should produce more of this type of product as a promotional device to expand stamp collecting.

Also directly related to the Olympic Track & Field stamp issue was a second USPS-produced item: a poster with all five stamps affixed at the bottom, then first day cancelled. The \$20 price tag seemed a bit high for an item that requires little, if any, philatelic "interaction." As something that was probably designed to be framed and hung on a wall, I suspect that the poster will be rather coolly received by the public. I was not sufficiently impressed to want to purchase a copy.

A third, and final, product, an Official Passport, was introduced for the U.S. Olympic Festival-'91. The 56-page booklet with card stock cov-

ers measures 4" by 5.7" and sold for \$3.40. A single page is provided for each sport contested during the U.S. Olympic Festival. One of the preface pages gives instructions on "how to use your passport." An excerpt: "For every competition, we have designated a page on which you may place an Olympic stamp and receive a commemorative postmark to match each sport of the Festival." Further suggestions outline ways to make your passport a distinctive memento of your visit to the festival. This includes adding autographs, results, and record-setting performances. The idea of a passport is not new, but has always been a popular item for collectors and

non-collectors, alike. This is not a product, like the philatelic "baseball" cards, that can be used all the time. Hopefully the USPS will produce passports when the appropriate opportunities arise. Do any collectors who have attended other Olympic Festivals know whether passports have been issued on previous occasions? If so, let us know. □

[Thanks go to Frances Pendleton of Sacramento for information and photographs on the \$9.95 Express Mail Ceremony. A special thank you to Sherwin Podolsky for help in obtaining all the goodies at the Track & Field celebrations.]



Figure 7. This 29¢ Javelin card is one of five simulated "baseball" cards developed to interest young collectors in stamp collecting.

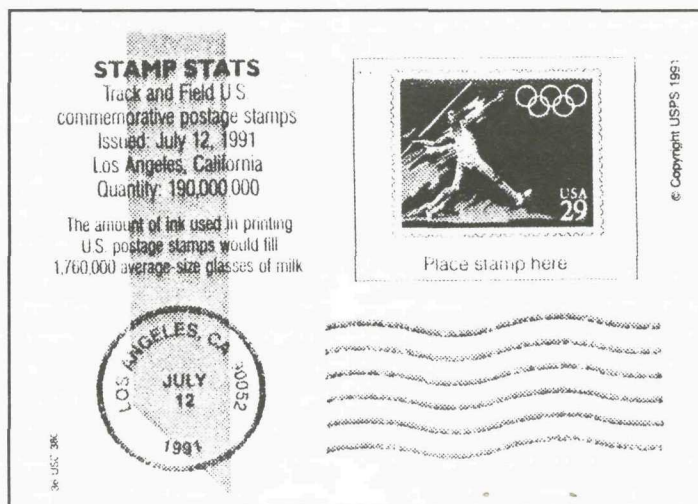


Figure 8. Reverse of the card illustrated in Figure 7, showing various stamp statistics, and providing a place for the appropriate stamp to be affixed.



# Stamps Help Increase Interest in Japanese Baseball

by Frances Pendleton

Outside North America, baseball is probably the most organized and the most popular in Japan.

But that country generally doesn't issue more baseball stamps than the United States or Canada, mainly because of its conservative postal policies.

For example, in 1988 Japan had 69 issues, fewer than the United States (90), but more than Canada (55).

Horace Wilson, an American who came to Tokyo in 1873 as an English and history professor, is credited for bringing the game to Japan.

Baseball caught on quickly, especially among secondary and college students. This amateur level of competition has been noted the most on Japanese postage stamps.

The country's first baseball issue, from 1948, shows a classic confrontation between base runner and catcher.



Figure 1. Scott #420, Japan's first baseball issue, depicts a player headed for home, catcher at the ready.

This issue (Figure 1) commemorates the Third National Athletic Meet, held in Fukuoka in October and November, but the baseball games were rained out.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the All-Japan High School Baseball Championship Tournament in 1968 produced an interesting stamp pair (Figure 2). The two designs were printed checkerboard style in sheets of 20.

In one, against a vivid orange-red background representing the championship flag, a pitcher completes his delivery.

On the other, in a field of bright green, players in white uniforms have arranged themselves to form a baseball, with seams and the numbers 50 and 1968.

Another important Japanese baseball event is the Intercity Amateur Championship. Teams (as many as 32) are sponsored by clubs, associations and businesses.

For its 50<sup>th</sup> competition in 1979, one stamp was issued featuring a large baseball emblazoned with the tournament symbol, a black lion, and topped by a reared-back pitcher (Figure 3).

Professional baseball was finally saluted in 1984, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the team now known as the Yomiuri Giants. Three designs are incorporated in the usual Japanese postal sheets of 20 stamps arranged in five rows of four stamps.

And for the first time, real people, two players and an owner, were honored (Figure 4). Matsutaro Shoriki, the owner, however, is also considered the founder of professional baseball in Japan.

His sponsorship in 1934 of a tour by U.S. players (Lou Gehrig, Babe Ruth, Jimmie Foxx) led to his Giants team and to a league in 1936, although there had been attempts to

organize professional baseball teams in the 1920's.

The two players pictured are pitcher Eiji Sawamura and slugger Masaru Kageura, neither of whom survived World War II.

Other purported Japanese baseball stamps more likely show softball. Each was issued for a National Ath-



Figure 2. Scott #963-4, issued to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> All-Japan High School Baseball Championship Tournament. Players form the emblem on one stamp; the tournament's flag forms the background of the other.



Figure 3. Scott #1372 on a maximum card, issued for the 50<sup>th</sup> Intercity Amateur Baseball Championships.





Figure 4. Scott #1617-19 commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Japanese professional baseball.

letic Meet.

The 1962 issue is listed in the Scott's *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* as depicting a woman softball pitcher. The stamp offers little hint of gender (except under strong magnification), but does picture the exaggerated underhand motion of such a player.

The later one (1978) shows a batter and catcher in motion without any clues as to which version of the game is being noted (Figure 5). Even the press releases and first-day-of-issue envelope fillers for this stamp give conflicting information.

Interest in and a knowledge of Japanese baseball is increasing in this country.

There is a sizeable chapter on Japan's baseball, past and present, in *Total Baseball*, which is where I

found some non-philatelic facts for this column. The bi-weekly tabloid *Baseball America* reports on the current Japanese season with league standings and stats of the U.S. players playing there.

For a personal look at Japanese baseball, there's Richard Whittings *You Gotta Have Wa* and his collaboration with Warren Cromartie titled *Slugging It Out In Japan*. □

[SPI member, Frances Pendleton, writes a regular column for *Sports Collector's Digest (SCD)*, entitled "Stamping Around" (this article appeared in the May 17, 1991 issue). Her writing recently won her the Lidman Prize gold medal with felicitations. Thanks to Frances and *SCD* for allowing us to reprint this article.]

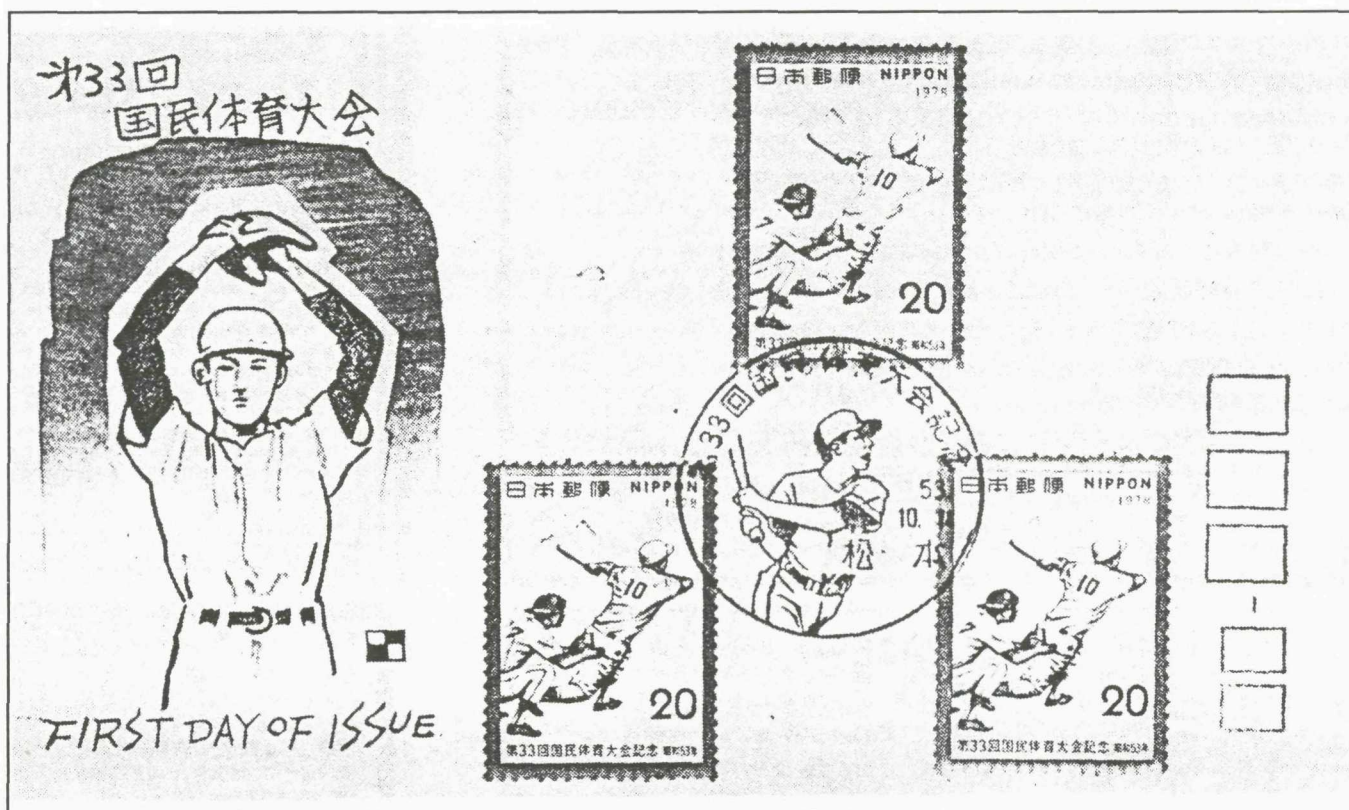


Figure 5. Scott #1978 lists this stamp as baseball. Could it be softball? Press notices and first day of issue envelopes don't agree about this one.

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# Finland's 1940 Summer Olympic Games: Stamp Essays and Vignettes

by Ossi Virtanen  
edited by S. Podolsky,  
G. Scheffel & M. Maestrone

In 1938, the IOC was forced to move the 1940 Olympic Games from Tokyo to Helsinki. Japan had withdrawn from hosting both the Summer and Winter Olympics as a result of its war with China. In order to raise money for the financing of the Games, the organizing committee produced a number of promotional items. Stamps (essays only) and vignettes composed a portion of the promotional program.

On April 20, 1939, the Organizing Committee of the 1940 Olympic Games announced a contest among Finnish artists for proposed designs for the Olympic stamps. Although the theme of the stamps was open to interpretation by each artist, the rules required that the design express the Olympic Ideal while incorporating the following elements:

1. The words "Suomi" (the Finnish name for Finland) and "Finland" (the Swedish name for Finland);
2. The Olympic Rings;
3. The year 1940;
4. The postage value, including surcharge, for each stamp.

Six denominations, with added surcharges, were planned and are listed below.

0.50 mk + 0.25 mk  
1.00 mk + 0.25 mk  
1.25 mk + 0.50 mk  
2.00 mk + 0.50 mk  
3.50 mk + 1.00 mk  
4.00 mk + 1.00 mk

Table 1 outlines the most common postage rates in 1939. It is evident that four of the six proposed denominations met the most commonly used rates.

The enthusiasm for the Olympic Games was reflected in the 103 design proposals that arrived by the June 15,

Table 1  
Common Finnish Postage Rates in 1939

Domestic postcard . . . . .	1.25 mk
Domestic postcard, under 20 grams . . . . .	2.00 mk
International surface letter, under 20 grams . . . . .	3.50 mk
Domestic letter, 21 to 125 grams . . . . .	4.00 mk
International airmail letter, under 20 grams . . . . .	5.50 mk



Figure 1. First prize for the best 1940 Olympic Games stamp design went to this essay by G.A. Jysky. The perforations are simulated.





Figure 2. Another design by first prize winner, G.A. Jysky. In light blue on thicker paper without gum.



Figure 2A. A collective sheetlet composed of G.A. Jysky's essays illustrated in Figures 1 and 2.

1939 deadline. The best, according to the board of examiners, were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: 5,000 mk to artist G.A. Jysky (Figure 1).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: 4,000 mk to artist Tapio Wirkkala (Figure 3).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize (a tie): 2,500 mk to artist Aarne Rapp (Figure 4) and an additional 2,500 mk to G.A. Jysky (Figure 2).
- 7<sup>th</sup> Prize: 1,500 mk to artist Signe Hammarsten Jansson (Figure 5).

A collector friend of the author has had two essays (Figures 1 and 2) for about twenty years, but cannot remember how he obtained them. The essay shown in Figure 1 is red, and on thin paper without gum. The other essay (Figure 2) is light blue on somewhat thicker paper, and also without gum. The perforations shown on the essays are imaginary. These two essays are the only ones I have come across and are very possibly unique. A collective sheetlet of Jysky's two essays was also produced (Figure 2A).

The sheetlet of essays illustrated in Figure 5 was created by renowned Finnish stamp designer, Mrs. Signe Hammarsten Jansson (1882-1970). Over a period of 33 years, she designed 170 different stamps. The total number of stamps printed with her designs must be well into the billions!

This sheetlet, being essays, were not valid stamps. While all Finnish stamps of this period were printed by the Security Printing House of the Bank of Finland, I cannot be sure whether they were engaged to produce this specific item. The sheetlet essays were monochromatic, printed in either brown, black or blue. At OLYMPHILEX '85 in Lausanne, I asked Dr. Manfred Bergman how many sets of this sheetlet exist; his opinion was "five sets." According to my own investigation over the years, the number of sheetlets is greater, perhaps 25-30 of each color—still very small. I believe my own estimate is more accurate, but I cannot prove it. The size of the sheetlet is 170 mm wide by 130 mm high.

Three different types of vignettes (Figures 6-8) were issued and distributed free by the organizing committee. Printing and distribution took



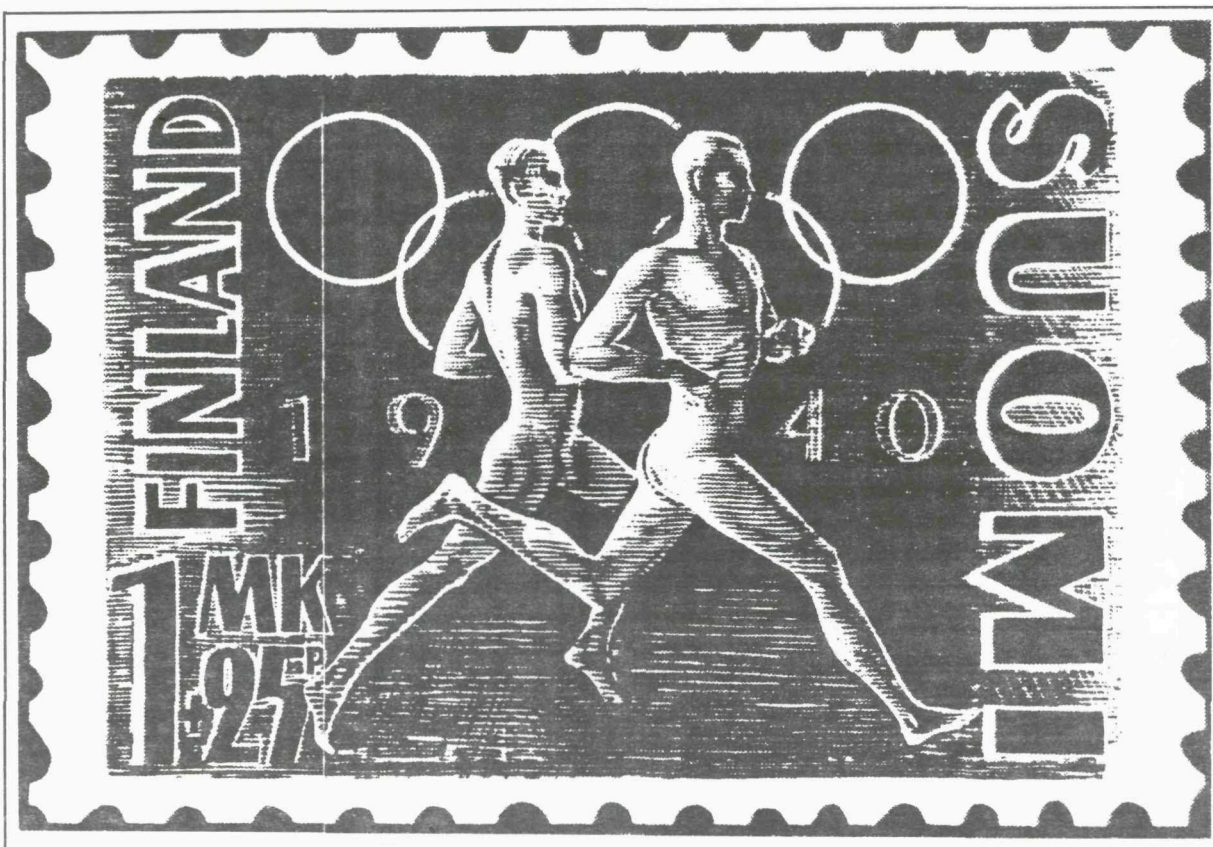


Figure 3. Tapio Wirkkala received the second prize for this essay depicting runners.



Figure 5. The collective sheetlet of essays by Mrs. Signe Hammarsten Jansson.



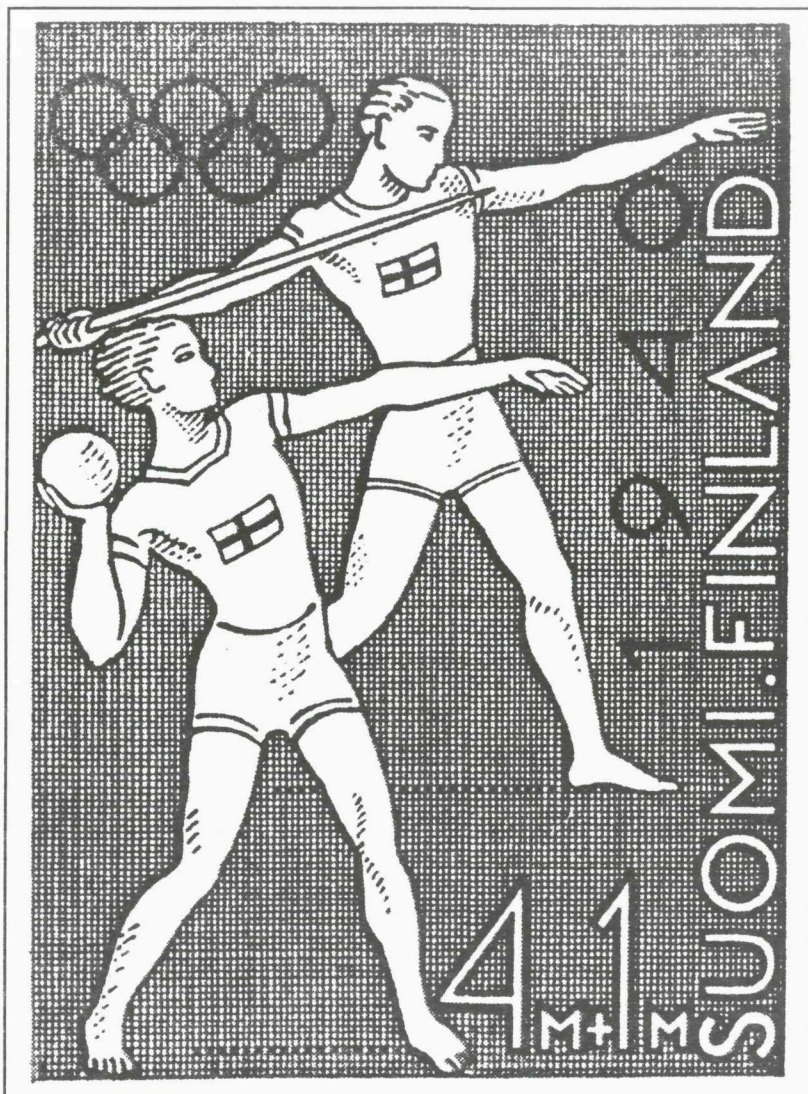


Figure 4. This essay, by Arne Rapp, tied for third place in the competition.



Figure 7. The Olympic Flame label. Wide margins and no perforations suggest this may be a proof.



Figure 8. Bicolored label issued in 4 languages.

place in the first half of 1939. These were distributed through Finnish representatives in other countries as well as by various National Olympic Committees. Travel agencies and other groups who could use the labels on their correspondence to advertise the upcoming 1940 Olympic Games also received the vignettes.

The circular type (Figure 6) shows the Olympic Flame in blue and white; the label measures 41 mm in diameter. This vignette was issued in seven languages in the following quantities:

English	195,000
German	110,000
French	110,000
Spanish	45,000
Swedish	45,000
Italian	30,000
Finnish	23,000

These figures are from the archival records of the Organizing Committee of Finland.



Figure 6. Round advertising label printed in seven languages.

The vertical type label (Figure 7) shows the Olympic Flame in blue and white, and measures 28 mm x 49 mm. I have never seen the actual label, and have no idea of the quantity printed.

The horizontal type (Figure 8) is blue, white and red, measuring 50 mm x 32 mm. This label was issued in four languages: English, German, French and Swedish. The quantity printed is unknown to me.

A label inscribed "Pro Finnland" is not Finnish in origin, but issued in Switzerland in 1939. In addition to advertising the 1940 Games, proceeds from these labels aided Finland in the struggle against Russian hegemony. □



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# 1990-1991 Aquatic Championships in Australia

by Robert Budge  
edited by Mark Maestrone

Australia's 1990-1991 spring and summer seasons (fall and winter for denizens of the northern hemisphere) was a busy one for this aquatically-inclined country.

October 27 through November 4, 1990, saw Lake Barrington in Tasmania hosting the World Rowing Championships. For eleven days in January, Perth, Western Australia welcomed competitors in swimming, diving, and water polo to the 6<sup>th</sup> World Swimming Championships (January 3-13, 1991).

For both meets, Australia Post issued special postal stationery in the form of a 43c pre-stamped envelope with a thematically interrelated stamped imprint and cachet. Both envelopes, which measured 190 mm x 103 mm, were designed by Jim Passmore from Australia Post's own graphic design studio. Jim's expertise in capturing the excitement of the moment is apparent, especially in the design of the accompanying cachets. Both envelopes were printed by Mercury-Walch Pty., Ltd. of Hobart, Tasmania.

## 1990 World Rowing Championships

Australia Post's commemorative envelope for the World Rowing Championships was released on October 26, 1990, the day before the beginning of the meet. This was the first time that Australia had hosted these championships.

As reproduced in Figure 1, designer Jim Passmore's cachet depicts the men's "eights" competition, while the stamp area shows an overhead view of a pairs race.

The national postmark for this issue originated in Devonport, Tasmania. The thematically-related cancel makes use of a pair of oars as canceling bars, with pertinent information framed between them.

## 6<sup>th</sup> World Swimming Championships

Perth, the capital of Western Australia, held center stage the first two weeks in January, 1991, as host of the 6<sup>th</sup> World Swimming Championships. Again, this was the first time this event had been conducted in

Australia. The venue for the competitions was the Perth Superdrome, which is equipped with two indoor and three outdoor pools.

The 43c envelope issued by Australia Post (Figure 2) used themes from two of the three aquatic disciplines: swimming and diving for the cachet and imprinted stamp, respectively. The cachet is particularly effective in portraying the thrill of the race. As excited spectators look on, two swimmers battle it out in a head-to-head drive for the finish line!

In contrast, the female diver on the stamp conveys grace and calm control in her execution of a piked-position dive.

The first day of issue cancel, coinciding with the inaugural day of events, illustrates a male diver performing what appears to be a swan dive. Interestingly, the selection of the type of dive is in keeping with the Western Australia venue location — the swan is the emblem of this Australian province.

During the course of the competition, seven commemorative event postmarks were used (Figures 3-9). Again, the provincial Swan played a central role in each cancel. □

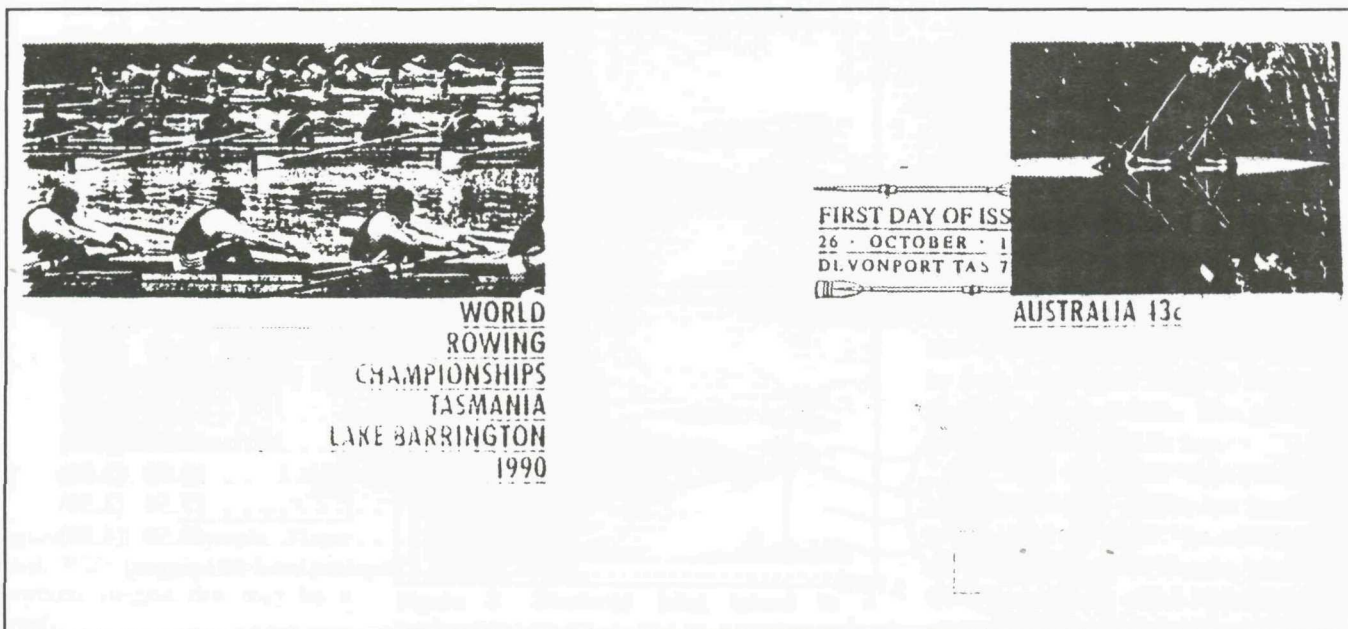


Figure 1. Australian first day of issue for the 1990 World Rowing Championships postal stationery envelope.



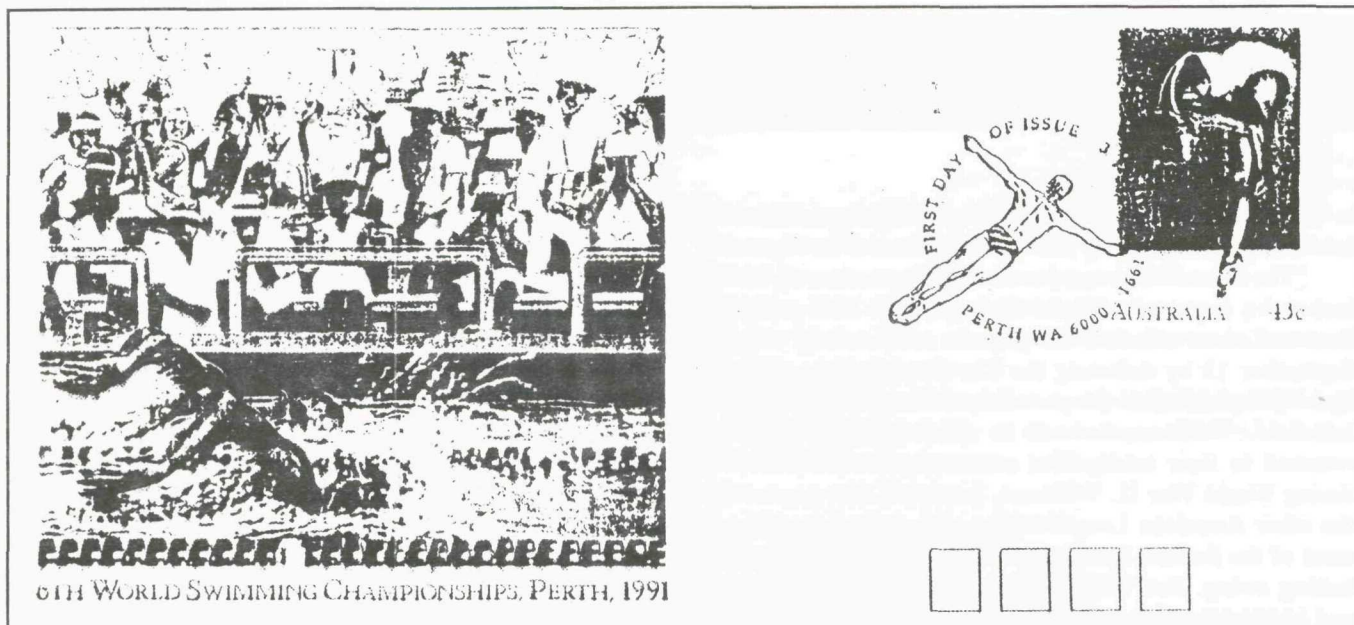


Figure 2. 6<sup>th</sup> World Swimming Championships postal stationery envelope with first day cancel from Perth, Australia.



Figure 3. Opening Ceremonies (Jan. 3).



Figure 4. Diving (Jan. 3-13).

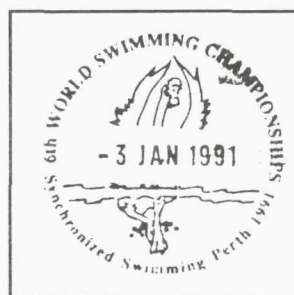


Figure 5. Synchronized Swimming (Jan. 4-8, 10, and 12).



Figure 6. Water Polo (Jan. 3-13).

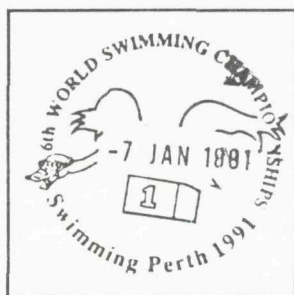


Figure 7. Swimming (Jan. 3-9 and 11-13).



Figure 8. Long Distance (25 km) Race (Jan. 10).



Figure 9. Closing Ceremony (Jan. 13).

### PANAMFILEX '91 Correction

Contrary to the notice in the July/August issue of *JSP* (page 27), Morris Rosen will no longer be taking exhibits to PANAMFILEX '91 in Havana, Cuba. Apparently, the American Philatelic Society, not realizing that permission had been given by the U.S. Government for Morris to attend, neglected to submit required documentation to the organizing committee.



# The Sports Arena

by Mark C. Maestroni

Regular contributor, Norman Rushefsky, contributes the interesting baseball story and cover illustrated in Figure 1.

"The illustrated cover, postmarked September 18, 1946, included a request for World Series tickets. That year, the Boston Redsox clinched the pennant on the early date of September 13 by defeating the Cleveland Indians, 1-0, on Ted Williams' inside-the-park home run to an undefended left field. Williams, as well as other baseball veterans, returned to their teams after service in the armed forces during World War II. Williams, however, was greeted by the other American League teams with defensive shifts of most of the fielders into right field to force him to alter his batting swing. But Williams' confidence was not shaken, and he rarely sought to take advantage of the large gaps in left field.

"The Redsox were highly favored to win the Series behind the hitting of Williams, shortstop Johnny Pesky, second baseman Bobby Doerr and center fielder Dom Dimaggio. Their opponents, the St. Louis Cardinals, had a down-to-the-wire pennant struggle against Leo Durocher's Brooklyn Dodgers. The Cards defeated the Dodgers in a best-of-three playoff game to determine the winner of the National League pennant.

"The Cards won the 7<sup>th</sup> and final game of the series, 4-3, when the Cards' Enos Slaughter dashed from first base to home on Harry Walker's two outs, bottom of the 8<sup>th</sup> inning single to left center. Williams, in his first and only World Series of his lengthy career, batted only .200. Stan Musial, the Cards' great hitter, batted only .222.

"After the game, with most of the other players having long departed, the Redsox slugger sat in his uniform, his head down, his eyes closed. Williams gave his World Series loser's share, \$2,140, to the bat boy.

"Regarding the cover, it appears the sender never received his tickets. The cover is stamped in green 'RETURNED TO SENDER/BY BOSTON REDSOX WITH/REGRETS AS TICKET QUOTA/IS EXHAUSTED.' The Redsox placed their postage meter imprint on the envelope to pay for the return postage."

Member Vic Manikian, 3317 Wentworth, Anchorage, AK 99508, USA, is trying to locate a 1981 pictorial show cancel saluting Jesse Owens. The cancel, illustrated in Figure 2, was used at the American Association of Stamp Dealers (ASDA) show in Rosemont, IL. If any member can provide one or two copies, on cover, please contact Vic.



Figure 2. 1981 ASDA pictorial cancel saluting Jesse Owens.

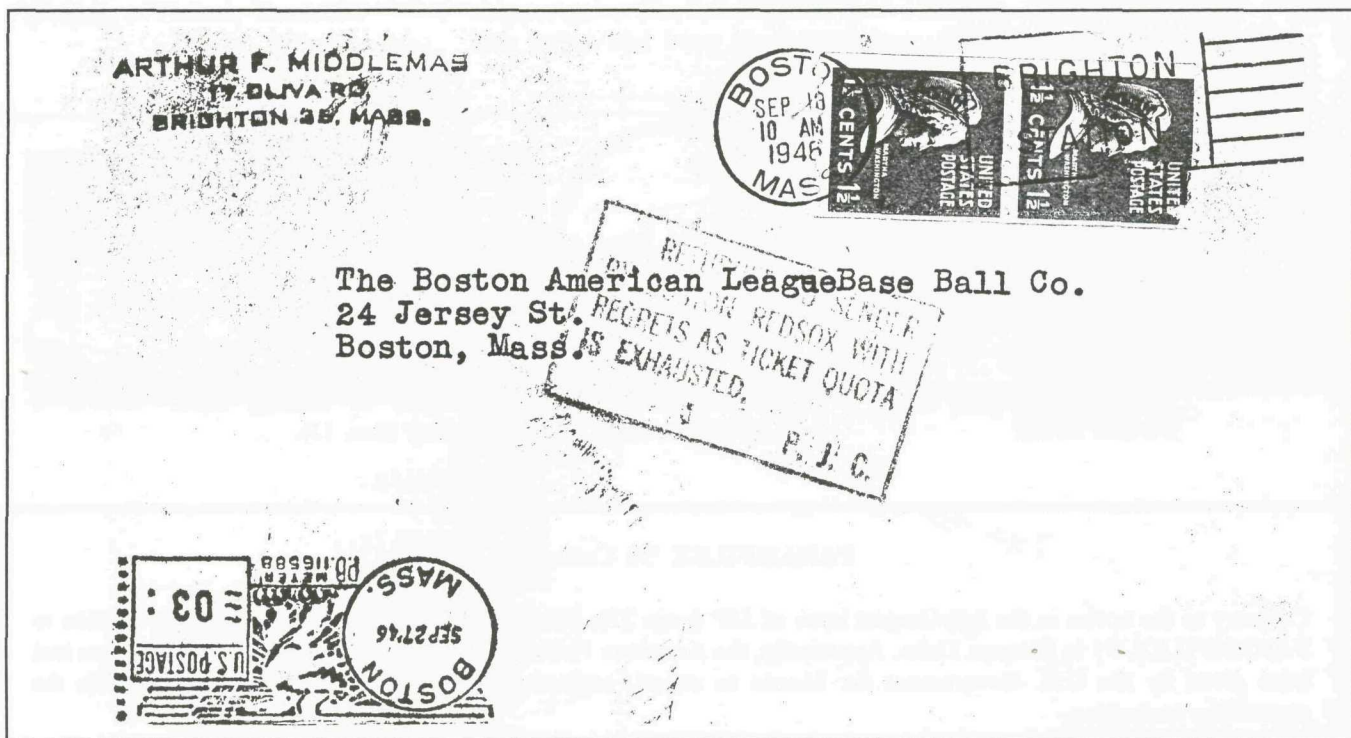


Figure 1. 1946 cover requesting World Series tickets was returned to sender with Boston Redsox 3¢ meter for return postage.



## Book Reviews

by Sherwin Podolsky

*A Picture History of the Olympics* by James Coote, with an introduction by Jim McKay. Published by the Macmillan Company, 1972. 152 pages, hard bound, 9½ x 12 inches, illustrated.

Perhaps the strongest attribute of this book is the magnificent collection of powerful and nostalgic photographs documenting the history of the Olympic Games with eye-filling impact. Many, if not most, of these photographs are probably all in Official Reports, but who has a collection of the latter?

The book is divided into two parts. The first devotes a chapter to the ancient Greek Olympics and to each of the modern Olympics from 1896 through the 1972 Olympic Winter Games in Sapporo, Japan. The second part presents the results of the modern Olympic Games, except that results for obsolete events are omitted.

Each chapter is crisply and entertainingly narrated. The sport and Olympic philatelist will recognize numerous topics for philatelic exploration from the text and pictures. Events, athletes and personalities can be related to stamps, postmarks, meters, and other philatelic materials, therein providing the challenge beyond the book. Although out-of-print, the book can be found in better used book stores.

*Schonheit im Olympischen Kampf* by Leni Riefenstahl. Originally published in 1937, it was reprinted in 1988 with a forward by Monique Berlioux, director of the International Olympic Committee, and introduction by filmmaker Von Kevin Brownlow. Published by Mahnert-Lueg Verlag. 288 pages, hard bound with dust jacket and dust cover, and profusely illustrated. 10 x 12 inches. All photographs have captions in five languages, including English. The narrative text is in German, only.

The title translates as "Beauty in the Olympic Struggle." It is largely a collection of photographs from the author's film, "Olympia, the Film of the XI Olympic Games at Berlin 1936," which presented the glory of the 1936 Olympics. Leni Riefenstahl conveys the wide range of human character as relates to the ancient Olympics and primarily to the 1936 Olympic Games at Berlin. Athletes are photographed with sensuality, power, intensity, concentration, and victory. However, every picture shows that it was primarily selected for pleasing and often remarkable artistic composition.

Jesse Owens and Adolf Hitler are included among the photographic subjects. Indeed, the ostentatious militarism of the Nazi Olympics is considerably understated in Leni Riefenstahl's book. The author is controversial because she has glossed over the militarism.

The book includes a photographic appendix detailing the remarkable (for the time) technical aspects of the film's production. We see where cameras and photographers were

placed to make the fantastic closeups. 400,000 meters of film were edited to 7,000 meters over a period of one and a half years to create the four-language film.

The final few pages list the international prizes and awards for her film, along with critical reviews and comments.

Leni Riefenstahl is philatelically honored by a postage meter cancel (Figure 1), of which there are two varieties. The text in the meter reads, in English:

TOBIS  
Film Distributor  
OLYMPIA  
the film of the Olympic Games at Berlin 1936  
Production by Leni Riefenstahl

The two varieties are distinguished by differences in the size of the lettering "Berlin SW 68" in the outer postmark circle. The meter is very scarce and would fit, topically, under Olympic Arts.



Figure 1. Two varieties of the postage meter imprint advertising Leni Riefenstahl's film on the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games.

*The Four Dimensions of Avery Brundage* by Heinz Schobel. Translated from German to English by Joan Becker. Produced by Offizin Andersen Nexo, Leipzig, 1968. 195 pages, hard bound, illustrated, approximately 9 x 12 inches. Available for Sfr. 48.-- from the International Olympic Committee, Olympic House, Accounting Department, CH-1007 Lausanne, Switzerland.

Avery Brundage was President of the International Olympic Committee from 1952 to 1972. This book, therefore, does not cover the last years of his presidency which included the calamitous 1972 Summer Olympics at Munich. Avery Brundage was also a civil engineer, a participant at the 1912 Olympics at Stockholm, and a well-informed art



lover.

About half of the book is devoted to photographs, some in color. A list of the illustrations with accompanying explanations follows the photographs. There is a bibliography, but unfortunately no table of contents or index. The individual chapters are untitled.

Avery had hoped to win a medal or even an Olympic victory if the 1916 Olympic Games had not been canceled because of World War I. He commented: "Not to develop the latent possibilities of the human body is a crime, since it certainly violates the law of nature." He then took an

interest in the administrative side of sports and became involved in a chain of amateur sport organizations. In 1929, he was elected president of the U.S. Olympic Committee a post he held for 24 years. He was also instrumental in the organization of the Pan American Games.

Avery Brundage's ideals were very high and this book ably conveys this message. He regarded wars as useless and the expenditure of money on armaments and war senseless. Like his predecessor, Baron de Coubertin, founder of the Modern Olympic Games, Avery Brundage was adamantly opposed to the commercialization of sport. □



Avery BRUNDAGE



Figure 2. 1959 San Marino maximum card depicting Avery Brundage, 5<sup>th</sup> President of the International Olympic Committee (1952-1972).



# News of Albertville '92

by Dennis Dal Pra

**B**oth the philatelic aspects and the venue preparation of the XVI<sup>th</sup> Olympic Winter Games (OWG) are progressing nicely. By April of 1991, all of the OWG sporting venues will have been completed and will have hosted world class trial events to test the facilities and the OWG organizing committee's (COJO) systems and preparations. The ten sporting venues (Figure 1) are spread over seven valleys and 1,600 square kilometers of the Savoie region of France, making them the most widely dispersed in the history of the OWG.

## The Olympic Venues

*Albertville:* Opening and closing ceremonies, figure skating and speed skating (Figures 2 and 3).

With a population of 20,000 (a mere fraction the size of Calgary), Albertville is more typical of the past OWG hosts. Only 90 minutes from Geneva by air and less than four hours from Paris by the rapid TGV train, Albertville is in close proximity to two other French OWG hosts: Chamonix (1924) and Grenoble (1968).

The ceremonies venue will be a temporary stadium with a spectator capacity of 35,000. The skating arena will seat 9,000 and include an adjacent training rink. The 400 meter long open-air speed skating oval will seat 10,000. After the Games, the oval will be converted into a multi-use athletic facility.

*Les Arcs:* Speed Skiing (Figure 4).

Les Arcs is located in Haute-Tarentaise next to the Vanoise Nation-

al Park. The venue site will accommodate 13,000 spectators. The starting area's elevation is 2,640 meters with the finish line at 2,145 meters. (65 km from Albertville)

*Brides-Les-Bains:* Olympic Village.

One of France's foremost spa resorts, Brides-Les-Bains is undergoing significant renovation and expansion to support the 1992 OWG, including a cable driven transportation system to Méribel and a new casino. (32 km from Albertville)

*Courchevel:* Ski Jumping, Nordic Combined (Figure 5).

Situated in the "Trois Vallées," Courchevel, like many ski resort areas, maintains facilities at several different elevations.

At 1,250 meters, the village of Le Praz-de-Saint-Bon will host ski jump-

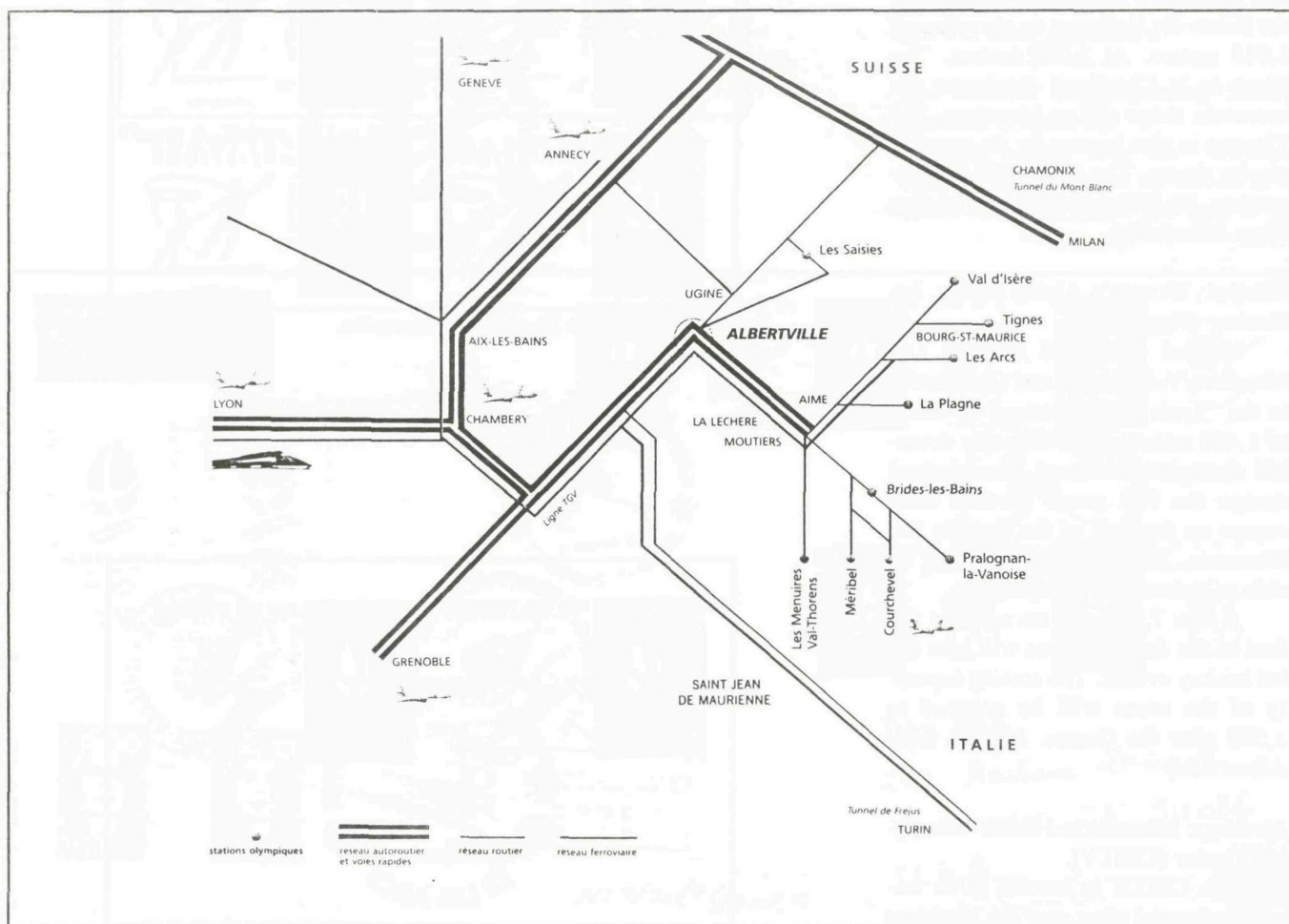


Figure 1. The venues for the 1992 Albertville Winter Olympic Games.



ing and nordic combined events. The 5 kilometer-long cross-country skiing stadium will be located at the foot of the ski jumps and will encircle the village. The spectator capacity at this venue is 25,000.

At 1,850 meters Courchevel will house an ice hockey training rink as well as host the opening ceremony of the 98<sup>th</sup> IOC Session. (51 km from Albertville)

**La Léchère:** Main Press Center (MPC).

This spa is located 5 km from Moûtiers (international radio-television center) on the banks of the Isère River. The 15,000 square meter facility will include a 400-workstation common press room, technical and telecommunications services, film processing laboratory and a 400-seat press conference room. (41 km from Albertville)

**Les Menuires/Val Thorens:** Men's Alpine Skiing – Special Slalom (Figure 6).

These two resorts are located in the Beleval Valley at an elevation of 1,815 meters. At 2,850 meters, "Le Mont de la Chambre" dominates the mountain range at Les Menuires. Val Thorens is also known for its summer glacier skiing. The venue will accommodate 20,000 spectators. (54 km from Albertville)

**Méribel:** Women's Alpine Skiing, Ice Hockey (Figure 7).

Méribel is located between Les Menuires/Val Thorens and Courchevel in the "Trois Vallées" at an elevation of 1,450 meters. 1972 Olympic downhill champion Bernhard Russi helped design the 828 meter vertical drop course on the face of the Roc du Fer Mountain. 20,000 skiing fans will be able to witness the competition.

A new 7,000 seat ice arena at the foot of the downhill runs will host the ice hockey events. The seating capacity of the arena will be reduced to 1,500 after the Games. (45 km from Albertville)

**Moûtiers:** International Radio-Television Center (CIRTV).

The CIRTV is located in an unused industrial plant near the Moûtiers



Figure 2. The first issue commemorating the 1992 Winter Olympic Games, depicting the official logo of the organizing committee.



Figure 3. Figure Skating at Albertville.



Figure 4. Speed Skiing (demonstration sport) at Les Arcs.





Figure 5. Ski Jumping at Courchevel.



Figure 6. Slalom at Les Menuires.

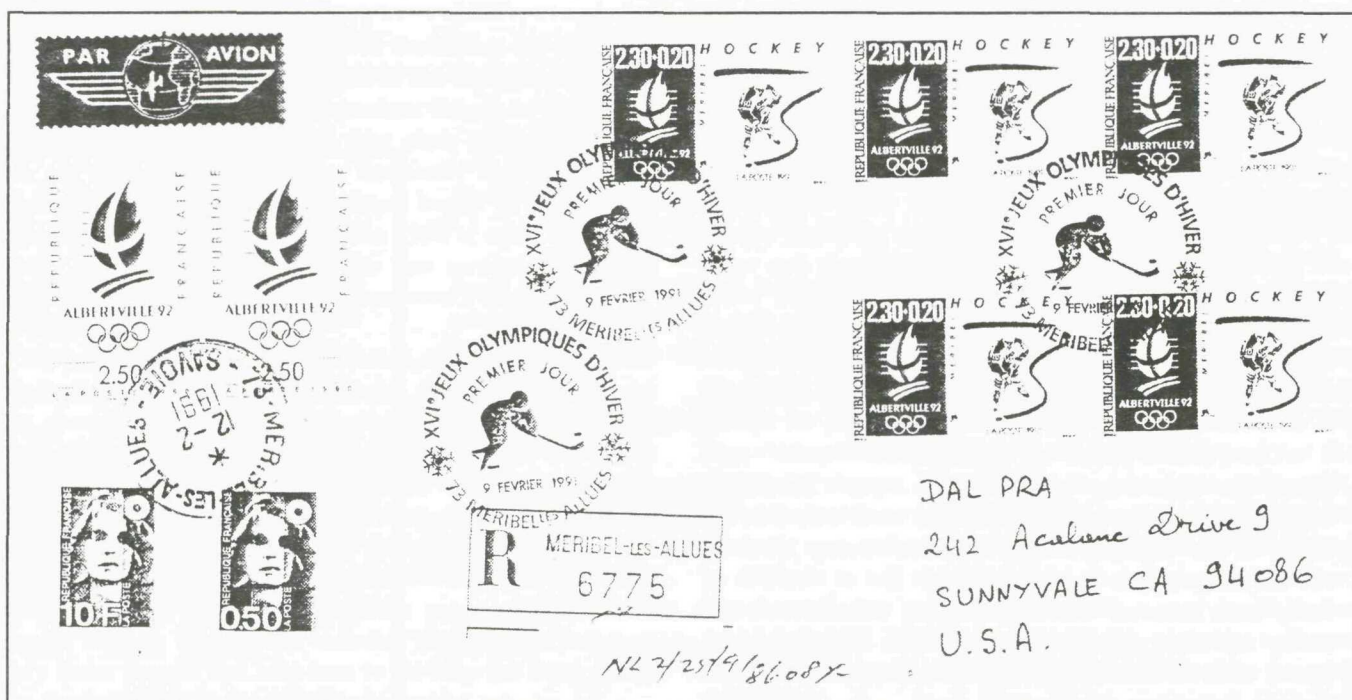


Figure 7. Hockey at Meribel-Les-Allues.

railroad station. It has 22,000 square meters of floor space, 10,000 of which are temporary facilities. The CIRTV will be operated by the host broadcaster ORTO 92, a subsidiary company established by Antenne 2, FR 3 and Radio France. After the Games, this area will be converted into a shopping center, offices, housing and a cultural center. (27 km from Albertville)

*La Plagne:* Bobsled and Luge (Figure 8).

This new refrigerated track is located on the venue's northern exposure and will accommodate 10,000 fast-eyed spectators. The bobsled course is 1,500 meter long, and a slope of 124 meters with 19 bends. The men's (women's) luge course is 1,250 (1,143) meters long, has a slope of 111 (92) meters and 16 (14) bends or curves. (61 km from Albertville)

*Pralognan-La-Vanoise:* Curling.

This venue's six curling tracks, built into a new 60 x 30 meter skating arena will host 2,000 screaming fans. (54 km from Albertville)

*Les Saisies:* Cross-Country Skiing, Biathlon (Figure 9).

The nearly four acre biathlon stadium is located at an elevation of 1,604 meters. There are two 4 km



long basic trails. The 80 x 50 meter shooting range faces north to minimize the effect of the sun's glare.

The cross-country stadium's surface area and elevation match those of the biathlon stadium. The trails, situated at elevations between 1,549 and 1,707 meters, will vary between 2.5 and 8 km in length.

The venue will accommodate 13,000 spectators. The Olympic competitors will be housed at an athlete's village on-site. (33 km from Albertville)

#### Tignes: Free-Style Skiing.

Situated in Haute-Tarentaise close to Les Arcs (speed skiing), the resort is dominated by the 3,656 meter high Grande Motte glacier. Although the stadium at Tovière has hosted world cup events since 1980, the Olympic competitions will take place at a new stadium on the Lognan site. The new stadium will accommodate 7,000 (ballet), 11,000 (aerials) or 15,000 (moguls) enthusiasts. (84 km from Albertville)

#### Val d'Isère: Men's Alpine Skiing.

This renowned skiing venue has been in operation since 1955. The Olympic competitions will take place on the Belvedere face, on trails designed by Olympic Champion, Bernhard Russi, who also designed the women's trails at Méribel.

The trails are considered to be highly technical and demanding. The average slope of the downhill trail is 36%.

The courses were also designed with the media and spectators (20,000) in mind. From the common finish area, all the giant slalom, the super-giant slalom, and 80% of the downhill events will be visible. (85 km from Albertville)

### Philatelic Issues Abound

The French postal service, La Poste, has been busy appeasing the Olympic and winter sports philatelist. Many of the Olympic venues discussed in the previous section have already been honored with an Olympic stamp and first day postmark. The issues still to be released this year include Pralognan (curling) in April



Figure 8. Luge at Macot-La-Plagne.



Figure 9. Cross-country Skiing at Les Saixies.

and Tignes (freestyle skiing), Val d'Isère (alpine skiing), and the torch relay, all in December. □

[A special thanks to my friend René Christin for providing the philatelic issues used in this article.]

### Bibliography

1. *The Magazine of the COJO, XVI<sup>th</sup> OWG, COJO*. September 1990, February 1991.
2. *Albertville 1991 - The Facts - Part 1*. Society of Olympic Collectors.
3. La Poste.

### Did You Know...

that Margaret Abbott, who won the ladies' golf title at Paris in 1900, was the first female Olympic champion? However, the Organizing Committee did not give gold medals that year, so she was given a valuable piece of art.

Courtesy, USOC, 1988



## On Sports & Olympic Exhibiting

by James Bowman

With this installment of my column, you will meet Francesca Rapkin of Great Britain. She is Chairman of The Society of Olympic Collectors as well as Editor of their fine journal, the *Torch Bearer*. The May, 1991, issue of the *Torch Bearer* included an article authored by Mrs. Rapkin entitled "Collecting One Olympiad." I found this article very informative and, upon request, I was given permission by the author to share it with you in this column. Due to its length, it will be presented in two successive issues of *JSP*.

But first, I would like to mention an Olympic auction that I recently attended in North Hollywood, California in conjunction with the Third Olympian Collector's Club Convention—and I really mean OLYMPIN, not OLYMPICS. It was basically a "pin and paper show" and was well attended. I mention it here only to make the point that if you intend to exhibit thematically, then you should leave no stone unturned in attempting to obtain appropriate research material. This I was able to do at the auction held by Ingrid O'Neil of East Lansing, Michigan. [Ed. Note: Mrs. O'Neil, who is a member of SPI, holds periodic mail bid auctions of historical medals and Olympic material. Her profusely illustrated auction catalogues are available by subscription. She may be contacted at: P.O. Box 962, East Lansing, MI 48826, USA.]

I attended because the auction included research material that I could use in the continuing development of my exhibit pertaining to the 1936 Olympic Games. I was amazed at the prices for which some of the items sold. For example, a bronze winner's medal from the 1928 Amsterdam Games sold for \$4200; a jury member badge from the Paris 1900 Games fetched \$675; various menus from the 1936 Berlin Olympic Village were eagerly purchased for prices in the \$180 to \$200 range. As I awaited for the lots that I wanted, I felt that they would surely be beyond my means. The good news is that with the exception of one lot that I acquired, there were no other floor or mail bids with which I had to contend. Among my treasured purchases that day were an Opening Day Program, a Music and Folk Dancing program by the National Socialist Community KdF, and best of all, a complete bound set of daily newspapers (30 issues) which were the Official Organ of the XI Olympics in Berlin.

In Francesca Rapkin's article, she stresses the need for proper research material. In many cases, you will really have to dig around to find such items. It may appear in the least expected places such as at an Olympic Pin Collectors Convention.

Now, on to the first installment of Francesca's article...

## Collecting One Olympiad

by Francesca Rapkin

Until relatively recently, it was customary for someone forming a thematic collection of the Olympic Games to start with the beginning of the modern Games in 1896. The collection usually finished at a date when interest or finances ran out. These collections frequently stop before the Games of the 1930's, when politics began to play an increasingly dominant role, or in the 1950's, after which the postal authorities of some of the less scrupulous nations decided that Olympic Games stamps were a useful additional source of revenue.

For many collectors, a collection of a single Olympiad can have several attractions. Firstly, if the current Games are chosen, the collector of limited means has the opportunity of purchasing most of his material at face value, but will still be able to build up a detailed and comprehensive collection. This is, of course, particularly true now, when so many more countries issue stamps to celebrate their involvement with the Olympic Movement. This does not mean that it is necessary to collect every stamp that is issued. Rather, it gives the collector the freedom to select only those stamps that help him to develop the story along the lines that he has decided for himself.

It would probably be as well to determine the limits of the collection at the outset, and I would strongly advise excluding all stamps from nations that are not members of the International Olympic Committee, or those who do not participate in the Games. As already mentioned, many nations regard the issuing of stamps as a useful source of revenue, and to them, the Olympic Games appear to be an ideal opportunity to fleece the collector. Thus, we see stamps depicting snow sports from countries that have no snow and disciplines for which there are no national athletes. For the thematic collector, whether of Olympic Games or any other subject, "completeness" in relation to stamps issued, is a myth. In thematics, more than any other discipline, the collector is free to choose precisely which stamps he will or will not include in his collection. For him, "completeness" refers to subject matter, and not the number of stamps. If guidelines are laid down at the start, the collector does not feel obliged to buy stamps that are likely to cost quite a considerable amount and which may be difficult to sell at a later date. It does mean, however, that the collector cannot register with a new issues dealer for his material. This is not a bad thing, since the collector must himself study the new issues lists and make his own selection.



Many of the Olympic Games that have been celebrated since the end of the Second World War lend themselves to development as a single theme, which is ideal for those whose main interest lies in the philately of a particular country. It would not be the first time that a collector of the stamps of a particular country started a small side-line collection of the Olympic Games and ended up with a major passion. Of the Games held before the Second World War, only two lend themselves to treatment as a collection of a single Olympiad—those of 1924 in Paris and those of 1936 held in Berlin. The first Olympic Winter Games were held in Chamonix in 1924 and can be included, though very little philatelic material is available. More exists for the 1936 Olympic Winter Games held in Garmisch Partenkirchen, but still insufficient to form a significant collection that can stand on its own. Since on both these occasions the Olympic Winter Games were held in the country of the host city for the Summer Games, it would be better to treat them as a curtain raiser for the main event, if they are included at all.

Although there is a wealth of philatelic material for the first Olympic Games in Athens in 1896, or the Intercalated Games of 1906 held in the same city, it is almost impossible to use this material to best advantage in a thematic collection of these early Games, and in my opinion, if finances allow and interest is sufficient, a traditional philatelic study is the best way to handle this material.

In the years before the Second World War, the Olympic Winter Games were very much a secondary event and relatively few countries issued separate stamps to mark the occasion. Since the 1960's however, the Winter Games have become an event very much in their own right, and have now become so important that they have been divorced from the Summer Games, and from 1994, will be held in non-Olympic years. For those collectors who prefer the spectacle of winter sports, either as a spectator or as a participant, it is of course, possible to form a collection of a single Winter Olympiad.

There are several different ways in which the thematic treatment of the Games of a single Olympiad can be developed. Since I probably know more about the Olympic Games of 1936 in Germany and the development of the Olympic movement in that country, I will use Germany as my main example throughout. The first, and perhaps most obvious, way in which the collection can be developed is through the sporting events themselves. Cancellations of the relevant dates of the individual contests are collected, together with stamps showing athletes participating in the events. Events that took place in the Olympic Stadium would use a stadium cancellation with the appropriate date, and, if possible, also the appropriate time. Since 1960, this presents few difficulties since most of the sports venues have their own post offices with their own handstamps. Many also offer normal post office services at these offices, such as registration, cash on delivery and insured letters. These also frequently have their own specially inscribed labels, which will add variety and extra interest to the collection. Many of these services were available in Berlin during the 1936 Games, but at that time, this was still a novelty. Most nations are proud of their Olympic athletes, particularly of their medal winners, and some have been

commemorated by the issue of a postage stamp or a special cancellation. Such items should be included in the special section dealing with the relevant sport. It is as well to remember that it may be several years before an Olympic athlete is commemorated philatelically, and not always for his Olympic achievement. Mildred (Babe) Didrikson, an American born of Norwegian parents, won gold medals in the 80 metres hurdles and javelin and a silver medal in the high jump in Los Angeles in 1932, but was commemorated by the United States in 1988 for her achievements in golf under her married name of Babe Zaharias. She was, however, commemorated on a stamp under her maiden name and for her Olympic achievements by the Dominican Republic in 1957. Werner Seelenbinder, who was placed fourth in the Greco-Roman wrestling event in the light heavyweight class in 1936, was shown on a stamp of the German Democratic Republic in 1963, one of a series devoted to those who died in the fight against fascism. There are plenty of other examples and it is up to each individual collector to search for them.

To give an example of the items that would be appropriate, let us consider the opening ceremony of the 1936 Olympic Games. They took place in the main Olympic Stadium at 4.00pm on 1 August. The first requirement therefore is a stadium cancellation of 1.8.36 at 16.00 hours. The Games were opened by the German Head of State, Reich Chancellor Adolf Hitler. He was in uniform at the time, so the most appropriate stamp would be that issued by Germany on 17 April 1941 to commemorate his 52nd birthday. The stamp issued on 14 April 1944 for his 55th birthday would be less appropriate. Although he is shown in uniform, the stamp has several other motifs in the design which are irrelevant to the Olympic theme. On the issue of 1941, there are no secondary subjects. Also present at the opening ceremony was the President of the International Olympic Committee, Count Henri Baillet Latour, shown on a stamp issued by San Marino in 1959. Finally, Richard Strauss was commissioned to write an Olympic hymn which was played during the opening celebrations. He is shown on a stamp issued in Berlin in September 1954 to commemorate the fifth anniversary of his death. More recently, a special cancellation was produced in April 1990 to commemorate the centenary of his birth. It is important to include the most recent items in the collection, as well as older ones. There are other events which are a part of the ritual of the opening ceremony, but the above will serve as an example of how one aspect of the Games can be developed philatelically.

Several of the athletes who participated in the Games of 1936 have been commemorated either on postage stamps, stationery cards or cancellations. The first to be so honoured were Cristl Cranz and Gustav (Guzzi) Lantschner, who were both participants in the combined downhill skiing event in Garmisch Partenkirchen. In 1936, directly after the close of the Olympic Winter Games, the Austrians held the International Skiing Federation World Championships. The Austrian Post Office issued four stamps on 20 February to commemorate the occasion. Guzzi Lantschner is shown on the 24 groschen value of the set and Cristl Cranz is shown on the 35 groschen. Articles in the philatelic press will



sometimes make claims that this or that personality was the inspiration for a stamp design, but unless this is included as a part of the design, it is important to verify these facts for oneself, and not simply take them at face value. This way misinformation cannot be perpetuated. Newspapers and magazines of the period can be a useful source for this type of information. After a long search, I found the action photographs of Lantschner and Cranz in a German magazine of the period which were obviously used for the design of the Austrian stamps. Mention the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, and even people who have no interest in sport will recall the name of Jesse Owens. Not surprisingly, he has been commemorated on several occasions on postage stamps, most recently in 1990 on one stamp of a series commemorating American Olympians. He was also shown on an earlier series issued by the Dominican Republic in 1957. Another stamp in this series shows Fanny Blankers-Koen of the Netherlands. Although she is better remembered for her victories at the 1948 Olympic Games in London, she was a part of the Dutch team in 1936, and therefore has a rightful place in a collection of the Berlin Games, even if she was not a medal winner.

To match a stamp to an athlete, and the athlete to a particular Olympiad is not always an easy task. In every event there are only three medalists and many also-rans. As with the case of Fanny Blankers, perhaps they reached maturity at a later stage; or perhaps like Erich Borchmayer,

shown on the 1 franc value of the set issued by Monaco in 1948, they never became leaders in their sport in their own right. Borchmayer was a part of the German 100 metres relay team in Los Angeles, when they came second, and again in Berlin in 1936, when they came third. As an individual athlete, Borchmayer never achieved better than fifth place in Olympic competition.

To form a meaningful collection on any subject requires dedication, patience and an enquiring mind. Those collectors who believe that a stamp catalogue is the only literature that is required will not get very far. Of far more use are the official Olympic records, newspapers of the time and sports journals. A detailed handbook of the sporting events, and particularly where and when they were contested, is vital reading for any collection based on the sports and their participants. No stamp catalogue has this information. At best, a catalogue will illustrate one of each of the cancellations that were used. Generally, it will be no more than a design guide, and unless the athlete is named on the stamp, this information will not be included.

(To be continued in the next issue of *JSP*)

[Those persons interested in becoming members of The Society of Olympic Collectors should contact the SOC Secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, at 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, Great Britain.]

### 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games Official Report For Sale

The single volume "Library Edition" of the *X<sup>th</sup> Olympiad, Los Angeles 1932, Official Report* contains 866 pages in large quarto size. Over 1200 half-tone illustrations, selected from official photographs of the Games, embellish the text. Numerous color plates illuminate the book.

The contents are in very fine condition. The rebound cover retains the original very decorative design. Similar copies have recently retailed for over \$500. The weight of the volume is nine pounds.

Offers and inquiries are invited. Please write to Sherwin Podolsky, 16035 Tupper Street, North Hills, CA 91343-3045, USA.

### The Handbook of Basketball Philately

A must for all collectors of this popular sport. The 358-page, 8½" x 11", loose-leaf handbook not only lists all stamps and souvenir sheets issued worldwide, but also covers postal stationery, meters and postmarks commemorating basketball.

Nearly 1500 illustrations help identify the material, and the author promises annual or bi-annual supplements. A silk-screened, three-ring binder is included.

Don't be disappointed. Order your copy now! SPI members' price is \$26.50 (USA) or \$30.00 (foreign). Non-member price is \$35.00. All prices include surface mail postage. Send your check or money order in US\$ (drawn on a US bank) to: Clem Reiss, 322 Riverside Drive, Huron, OH 44839, USA.



## Sports & Olympics Exhibits Awards

### Local and Regional Shows

TOPEX VICTORIA '91. Held February, 1991 at Victoria, British Columbia. Sponsored by the Vancouver Island Philatelic Society and the Greater Victoria Philatelic Society. A vermeil award went to Elmer Kennedy for "Winter Olympics."

SPRINGPEX '91 held March, 1991 in Springfield, VA. Sponsored by the Springfield Stamp Club. Ilse Buchheit received a vermeil, the ATA gold and the AAPE award for "Excellence of Presentation" for "The Art of Fencing."

SCOPEX '91 held April, 1991 in State College, PA. Sponsored by the Mount Nittany Philatelic Society. A.D. Jones received a silver for "Scuba."

### National Shows

WESTPEX '91, held April, 1991 in San Francisco. Sponsored by the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies. A vermeil and the O'Neill Memorial Award for the best topical exhibit went to Dorothy E. Weihrauch for "GAME, SET, MATCH: The Story of Tennis."

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 it may be presented, and for a copy of the certificate.

[Ed. Note: The new members listings for this issue did not reach us in time. They will be included in the next issue.]



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## Melbourne 1996 Olympics

The same author who gave us *Australian Cricket Stamps*, Noel G. Almeida, now provides a monograph on the Australian philatelic and cinderella material issued to promote Melbourne's bid for the 1996 Olympics.

It is a 36-page, 8-1/4" x 11-3/4" quality production, with glossy card cover. Noel states that his purpose in preparing this monograph was to attempt to avoid what occurred with respect to the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. No literature about, or catalog of, host-country philatelic materials has ever been produced for those Games.

This monograph reproduces all official postal stationery and cancellations as well as the privately printed cinderella material and souvenir covers relating to Melbourne's bid for the 1996 Olympics. The cover of the monograph is illustrated with a cacheted cover (Figure 1). The text reads: "1956 Olympic City Melbourne hopes all the dreams of 1996 Olympic City Atlanta are fully realized."

This monograph had a print run of 96 copies. It is available from Limited Edition Covers, P.O. Box 768, Dandenong 3175, Australia. The price is Australian \$15

plus \$5 for overseas airmail postage (total approximately U.S. \$15.60).

## Basketball Philatelic News

The April, 1991 issue of this newsletter for basketball collectors features an article on the cancellations for the XI World Basketball Championship for Men held in Argentina in August, 1990. Additional articles include examples of covers for the Manila Xth Far Eastern Championship Games of 1934, and two contributions from a basketball collector in the Peoples' Republic of China — one concerning his exhibiting experiences, the other illustrating recent Chinese basketball-related postal stationery and cancellations. The balance of this issue reproduces new stamps, cancellations and postal stationery from around the world.

To subscribe to this newsletter, write to George E. Killian, Editor, c/o National Junior College Athletic Association, P.O. Box 7305, Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7305, USA.

# Melbourne 1996 Olympics

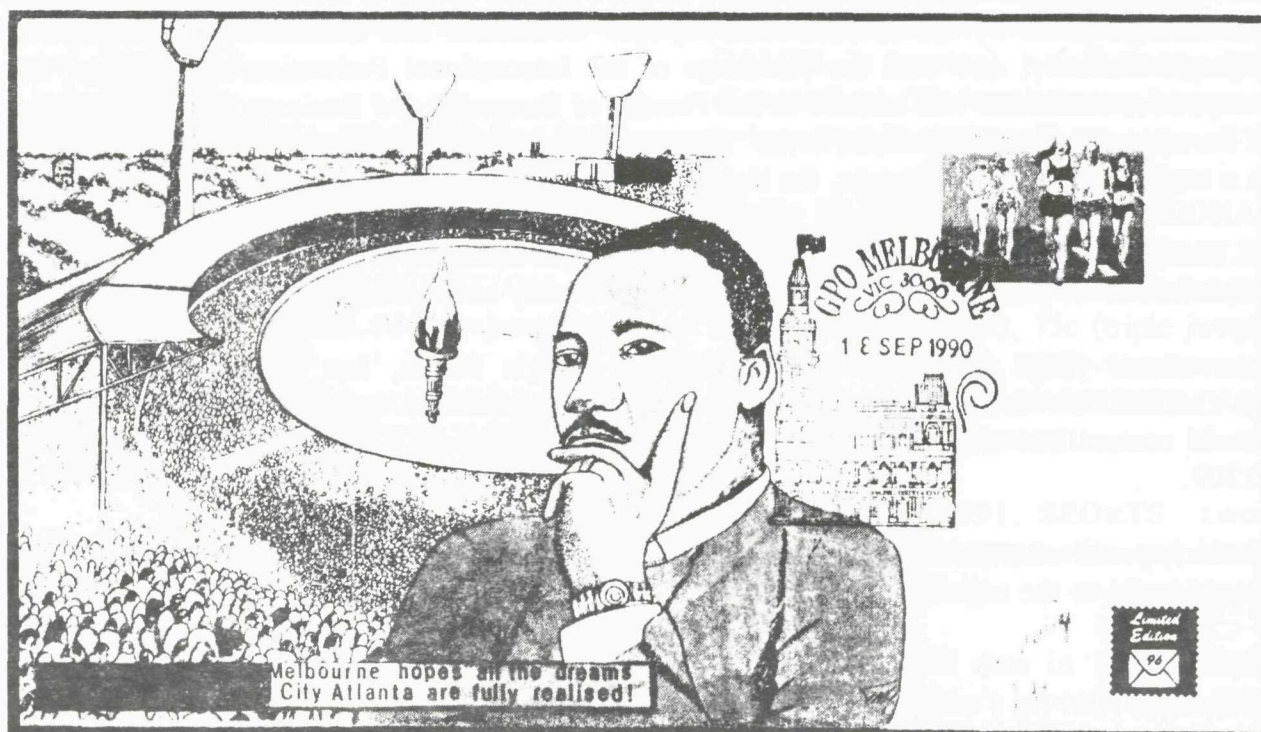


Figure 1. "Decision Day" for the 1996 Olympics was marked by this Australian good luck cover. From Noel G. Almeida's book on Melbourne's bid for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games.



## Matchpoint

The March, 1991 issue (#22) of the quarterly newsletter of tennis philately features a listing of all of the Daguin machine cancels used by French resort towns beginning in the 1920's, on which tennis is mentioned as a sport available for vacationers. A number of postally used tennis club announcements from the early years of this century, printed on the reverse of printed-to-private-order postal stationery, are illustrated. Due to the poor survival rate of such items, most of these are probably unique.

The June, 1991 issue (#23) features an article on the Rattlesnake Island Local Post, located near Port Clinton, Ohio, which operated in the 1970's. One of the stamps of its set of four pictured a tennis player and court. Information is provided on where this set of cinderellas may be obtained. This issue begins a section of illustrations of tennis-related advertising and promotional labels, one of which is shown in Figure 2.

Both issues of the newsletter also illustrate and describe new tennis stamps, meters, cancellations and postal stationery.

*Matchpoint* is a "must" for tennis collectors. Subscription rates are \$4.00 per year for U.S. residents and \$6.00 per year for those living abroad. Write Les Yerkes, P.O. Box 55, Tome, NM 87060.



Figure 2. One of a number of tennis-related labels described in the June, 1991 issue of *Matchpoint*.

## OLYMPHILEX '92—Barcelona

Barcelona, home of the Games of the XXV<sup>th</sup> Olympiad, is preparing for the second edition of OLYMPHILEX, a worldwide Olympic and Sports Philately event, to coincide with the Olympic Games. Sponsored by the International Olympic Committee and International Federation of Olympic Philately, and with the patronage of the International Federation of Philately, this competitive exhibition will be held in the Faculty of Economic and Business Sciences Building of Barcelona University. Situated in the "Diagonal" Olympic area of Barcelona, which is adjacent to a number of Olympic Venues, the show will run from July 30 through August 7, 1992.

OLYMPHILEX '92 is open to all collectors of Olympic and sport philately worldwide, to postal administrations, postal museums, and dealers in philately and numismatics.

International judge and gold medal exhibitor, Morris Rosen, has been selected by the OLYMPHILEX '92 Organizing Committee as U.S. Commissioner. Individuals wishing to exhibit should contact Mr. Rosen for further details at: 7013 Pheasant Cross Drive, Baltimore, MD 21209.

Dealers, postal administrations, and those desiring further information on OLYMPHILEX '92, should write to the organizing committee:

OLYMPHILEX '92  
Apartat de Correus, 21041  
08080 - Barcelona, Spain



## New Stamp Issues

by Brian Bjorgo

Information on this list has been obtained from the following sources: *Linn's*, *STAMPS*, *Stamp Collector*, *Mekeels*, *Stamp Wholesaler*, and *Scott's Monthly Journal* between 1 January 1991 and 30 June 1991. As additional information on previously reported sets is made available (e.g. Scott Catalogue numbers or the subject of a stamp's design), it will appear in this column keyed by a double asterisk (\*\*).

**Aaland:** 5 April 1991, AALAND ISLAND GAMES. 8.40F s/s of four stamps (soccer, volleyball, shooting, and running along with a stadium and various national flags).

4 June 1991, NORDICA/TOURISM. 2.10 (kayak), 2.90 (tandem bicycle).

**Albania:** 27 October 1988, SPARTAKIAD GAMES. 30q (gymnastics), 80q (soccer), 1L (cycling), 1.20L (running). (Note: this set was not previously reported in any publication.)

**Algeria:** Unspecified date in 1990, AFRICAN SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS. 3d (map and logo). Scott #914.

17 May 1990, ITALIA '90 World Cup Soccer. 2.90d (Olympic rings, logo and soccer ball), 5d (trophy).

22 December 1990, PREVENTION OF BREATHING DISEASES. 1d (rope jumping).

**Andorra, French:** 8 April 1991, 14<sup>th</sup> GAMES OF SMALL EUROPEAN STATES. 2.50F (runners on a track).

**Andorra, Spanish:** 29 April 1991, 14<sup>th</sup> GAMES OF SMALL EUROPEAN STATES. 25p (discus), 45p (high jump and track).

**Antigua & Barbuda:** \*\* 1 October 1990, BARCELONA '92 Summer Olympic Games. Set of four and s/s, Scott #1329-1333.

11 November 1990, ITALIA '90 World Cup Soccer. Set of four and s/s, listed above, overprinted in honor of Germany's victory over Argentina: "Winners/West Germany 1/Argentina 0".

**Argentina:** 11 August 1990, BASKETBALL WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP. 2000a (basketball game), 5000a s/s (game scene).

15 December 1990, BARCELONA '92 Summer Olympic Games/ESPAMER '91. Four 2000 + 2000a stamps in s/s (shot put, high jump, hurdles, and pole vault). Scott #B152a, b, c, d.

**Aruba:** 24 October 1990, CHILD WELFARE, semipostals. One value of three value set depicts windsurfing (45c+20c). Scott #B21.

**Austria:** 21 January 1991, ALPINE SKIING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS at Saalbach-Hinterglemm. 5s (skier). Scott #1526.

**Bangladesh:** 22 September 1990, 11<sup>th</sup> ASIAN GAMES. 2t (rowing), two 8t stamps (kabaddi, wrestling), 10t (tennis, stamp is erroneously inscribed "badminton").

**Barbuda:** 23 April 1991, BARCELONA '92 Summer Olympic Games. "Barbuda Mail" overprinted on Antigua and Barbuda stamps: 50c (20k men's walk), 75c (triple jump), \$1 (10,000m men's run), \$5 (javelin throw), and \$6 s/s (Olympic Rings and 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games ceremony).

**Belgium:** 8 April 1991, SPORTS. Two 10f stamps (rhythmic gymnastics and korfbal, similar to basketball).

**Bolivia:** Unspecified date in 1990, CHRISTMAS. 50c (children's soccer). Scott #817.



27 December 1990, ALBERTVILLE '92 Winter Olympic Games. Two 2b s/s: one containing se-tenant pair of 70c stamps with flower and the emblem of the Games, the border shows skier Hansjorg Tauchscher, emblem and Olympic rings; the other s/s contains one 70c flower stamp with the border showing skier Maria Walliser.

**Brazil:** 7 January 1991, WORLD CONGRESS ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION, SPORTS & RECREATION. 17c (gymnasts). Scott #2297.

24 February 1991, HANG GLIDING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. 36c (participant). Scott #2305.

20 March 1991, 11<sup>th</sup> PAN AMERICAN GAMES/BARCELONA '92 Summer Olympic Games. Se-tenant block of three 36c stamps plus one label (sailing, rowing and swimming—each stamp also depicts the Olympic Rings).

**British Virgin Islands:** November, 1990, BARCELONA '92 Summer Olympic Games. 12c (judo), 40c (yachting), 60c (hurdles), \$1 (equestrian show jumping), \$2 s/s (male windsurfer on stamp with baseball batter swinging at a pitch in border).

**Bulgaria:** 16 October 1990, OLYMPHILEX '90. 5st (shot put), 13st (discus), 42st (hammer throw), 60st (javelin), s/s of all four stamps. Scott # 3565-8, 3568a.

18 January 1991, EUROPEAN FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS. 15st (figure skating pair). Scott #3579.

**Cambodia:** 1989, DOI Unknown, BARCELONA '92 Summer Olympic Games. 2r (wrestling), 3r (gymnastics), 5r (shot put), 10r (running), 15r (fencing), 20r (kayaking), 35r (hurdles), and 45r s/s (weightlifting).

30 March 1989, ALBERTVILLE '92 Winter Olympic Games. 2r (skiing), 3r (biathlon), 5r (cross-country skiing), 10r (ski jumping), 15r (speed skating), 20r (ice hockey), 35r (bob-

sledding), and 45r s/s (figure skating).

1990, DOI Unknown, ALBERTVILLE '92 Winter Olympic Games. 2r (4-man bobsled), 3r (men's speed skating), 5r (pairs ice dancing), 10r (ice hockey), 15r (biathlon), 20r (luge), 35r (ski jumping), 45r s/s (ice hockey goalie).

1990, DOI Unknown, BARCELONA '92 Summer Olympic Games. 2r (shooting), 3r (shot put), 5r (weightlifting), 10r (boxing), 15r (high jump), 20r (basketball), 35r (fencing), 45r s/s (gymnastics).

1990, DOI Unknown, ITALIA '90 World Cup Soccer. 2r, 3r, 5r, 10r, 15r, 20r, 35r, and 45r s/s (stamps depict soccer scenes; the s/s depicts two soccer players with the border showing the Leaning Tower of Pisa).

1990, DOI Unknown, ITALIA '90 World Cup Soccer, provisionals. 300r overprint on 5r, 500r overprinted on 10r stamps listed above.

**Cameroun:** 4 July 1990, ITALIA '90 World Cup Soccer. 500f s/s (Soccer player, Roger Mills, and Cameroun's scores in the competition). Scott #852, 852a.

27 October 1990, \*\* ITALIA '90 World Cup Soccer. DOI noted. Previously reported without DOI. Scott #849-851, 851a.

**Cape Verde:** 1990, DOI Unknown, ITALIA '90 World Cup Soccer. 4e, 7.50e, 8e, 100e, and 100e s/s (all depict soccer scenes).

**Central African Republic:** 23 February 1990, AFRICAN BASKETBALL CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS. 100f and 130f (map and cup for Central Africa Winners). Scott #949-950.

12 March 1990, ALBERTVILLE '92 Winter Olympic Games. 10f (speed skating), 60f (cross-country skiing), 500f- (slalom), 750f (figure skating), 1000f s/s (downhill skiing). Scott #951-955.



# Commemorative Sports Cancels

by Mark C. Maestroni

[Important Notice: The General Image Catalogue, from which this column is produced, has not yet progressed past June, 1989. Beginning with this issue, I am jumping ahead to September, 1990 by using the USPS announcements. Unfortunately, their listings are not complete and not all cancels are illustrated.]

## THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

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

88=Year [1988]

1=Month [January]

01=First day of use

-911=First 3 ZIP code digits

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

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

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

## SPORTS CROSS INDEX SEPT. '90-APRIL '91

AUTORACING: 90011-449.

BASEBALL: 91223-771, 91406-152, 91409-921, 91413-611.

BASKETBALL: 90Z21-251, 91209-372, 91319-675, 91419-601.

FISHING: 91402-970.

FOOTBALL (American): 91126-336.

GYMNASTICS: 90914-253.

OLYMPICS (Special): 91315-554.

OLYMPICS (Summer): 90O14-253, 90O07-781, 90O11-908, 90O21-447, 90Y08-142, 90Y08-146, 90Y12-136, 90Y13-132, 90Y15-139, 90Y20-101, 90Y21-106, 90Y26-122, 90Y29-128, 90Y30-12901, 90Y30-12946.

RUNNING: 90O07-781, 90O11-908, 90O14-069, 91120-770.

SAILING: 90O11-449.

SKIING (Snow): 90O11-449, 91303-957, 91308-894, 91406-977.

SOCCER: 90O18-984.

SPORTS (College): 91413-168.

SWIMMING: 91327-532.

## SEPTEMBER '90- APRIL '91

(No Illustration)

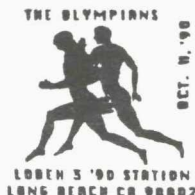
90914-253 CHARLESTON, WV 14  
"Mary Lou Retton"



90O07-781 KARNES CITY, TX 7



90O11-449 MANSFIELD, OH 11-12



90O11-908 LONG BEACH, CA 11-14



90O14-069 STAMFORD, CT 14



90O18-984 TACOMA, WA 18-20



90O21-447 CANTON, OH 21



90Y08-142 BUFFALO, NY 8



90Y08-146 ROCHESTER, NY 8



90Y12-136 WATERTOWN, NY 12



90Y13-132 SYRACUSE, NY 13



90Y15-139 BINGHAMTON, NY 15



90Y20-101 NEW YORK, NY 20

(Same design as previous cancel)

90Y21-106 WHITE PLAINS, NY 21





**NEW YORK RUN FOR '92** USA 1992

90Y26-122 ALBANY, NY

26



**NEW YORK RUN FOR '92** USA 1992

90Y29-128 GLENS FALLS, NY

29



**NEW YORK RUN FOR '92** USA 1992

90Y30-12901 PLATTSBURGH, NY

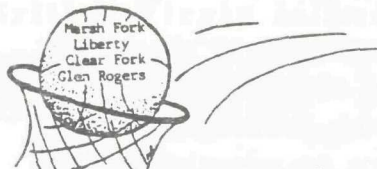
30



**NEW YORK RUN FOR '92** USA 1992

90Y30-12946 LK PLACID

11/30-12/1



90Z21-251 MONTCOAL, WV

21



91120-770 HOUSTON, TX

20



91126-336 TAMPA, FL

"Super Bowl XXV"

26-27

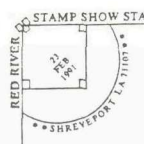


100th Anniversary of Basketball



91209-372 NASHVILLE, TN

9



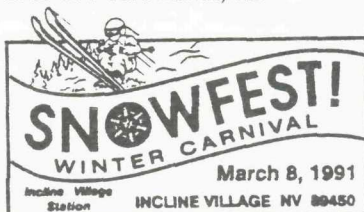
91223-711 SHREVEPORT, LA

23-24



91303-957 TRUCKEE, CA

3



91308-894 CRYSTAL BAY, NV

8



Convention Station

March, 1991

Minneapolis, Mn 55403

91315-554 MINNEAPOLIS, MN

15-17



SPORTS ARENA STATION

HUTCHINSON, KS 67501

MAR 19 1991

**BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

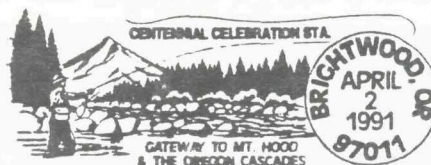
91319-675 HUTCHINSON, KS

19-23



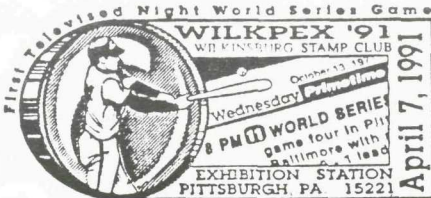
91327-532 MILWAUKEE, WI

27



91402-970 BRIGHTWOOD, OR

2



91406-152 PITTSBURGH, PA

6-7



91406-977 SISTERS, OR

6

(No Illustration)

91409-921 SAN DIEGO, CA

9

"Padre's Home Opener"



**BIG 10 11 PENN STATE**

91413-168 STATE COLLEGE, PA

13-14



**CLINTON VS. ROCKFORD**

91413-611 ROCKFORD, IL

13



91419-601 MELROSE PARK, IL

19-21

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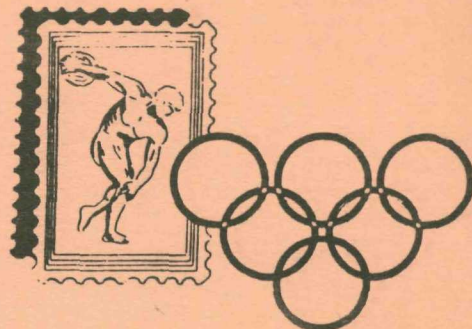
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Anstecknadeln sowie andere Besonderheiten





# Journal of Sports Philately

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compiled by Margaret A. Jones

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