

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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NUMBER 6

The 1994
Winter
Olympics
Torch
Relay

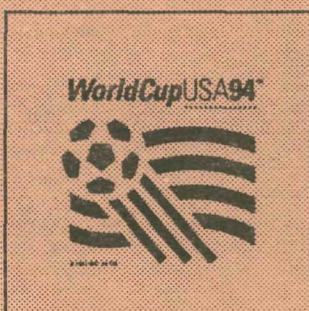
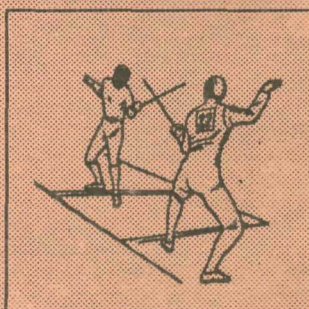


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posten



VOL. 32 NO. 6
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FIP and ACOG Make Major Changes To OLYMPHILEX '96

On May 5, I received an official communication from Randy Neil, President of the American Philatelic Society, notifying me that I had been replaced as Director of OLYMPHILEX '96. Mrs. Nancy Clark of Atlanta, Georgia had been appointed as chairman of the exhibition organizing committee. According to documents enclosed with Mr. Neil's letter, this selection was made by Mr. Patrick Pearson, the show's FIP coordinator, at meetings held in April at Lausanne, Switzerland. In addition to Mr. Pearson, F. Burton Sellers (FIP vice president), Dr. Jeffrey Babcock (Director, Cultural Olympiad, ACOG), and Dr. Manfred Bergman were among those attending the meetings.

For the better part of the past three years, I and a dedicated group of SPI members have volunteered hundreds of hours of our own time to create the blueprint for OLYMPHILEX '96. Therefore, it was more than a little surprising to find out that major changes were being made to the plan for this exhibition without any consultation with us.

The proposed budget for OLYMPHILEX '96 was based on minimum FIP requirements and the experience of past OLYMPHILEX exhibitions. The expected cost was well within the parameters for this size FIP international exhibition. It was certainly the understanding of the organizing committee that the ACOG wished to have an appropriate exhibition of Olympic and sports philately commensurate with the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the modern Olympic Games. Unfortunately, the new budget figure developed at the April meetings in Lausanne represents only 15% of the expected, and frankly minimum, required allocation of funds. OLYMPHILEX '88 in Seoul, which was highly praised by both the IOC and the philatelic community, spent considerably more than our original proposed budget. It is regrettable that the allocation of funds now recommended by ACOG will not approach the necessary financial commitment for this purpose.

Mrs. Clark has asked for the resignations of the original OLYMPHILEX '96 Organizing Committee (most of whom are SPI members). To my knowledge, all have complied. Randy Neil, who has supported my

continued directorship of OLYMPHILEX '96, recommended that I be retained as vice chairman. I have indicated to Mrs. Clark my desire to cooperate providing the new plans for the exhibition are suitable.

Many of you are undoubtedly wondering, as am I, what the new OLYMPHILEX '96 will be like.

First, I am concerned that the new exhibition budget may not be sufficient to mount an FIP show. This view is supported by many other experienced and very knowledgeable people in the international philatelic community. As president of SPI, I have a fiduciary responsibility to protect the society from involvement in activities with a very uncertain outcome.

Second, potential exhibitors (a great percentage of whom are SPI members) may be concerned about whether or not to participate. I have asked Mrs. Clark for a complete plan of the new operation so that interested individuals may make an informed judgment. Unfortunately, I have received nothing to pass on to you as this time.

Third, what is likely (considering the lack of funds) is that this exhibition will be considerably scaled back in scope. I am aware that it is the intention of both the IOC and the ACOG to include displays of both memorabilia and numismatics, along with philately, at OLYMPHILEX '96. I would also assume that, unlike Seoul, exhibitors will be on their own when it comes to accommodations in Atlanta during the Games.

Fourth, many of you have been exceedingly generous with your contributions of stamps and information for the various projects planned by the previous OLYMPHILEX Organizing Committee. The members of that committee extend their sincerest appreciation to all of you for your help and support!

Nevertheless, the fact remains that many of these planned projects will likely be eliminated or severely reduced. The SPI board of directors will be discussing ways to implement some of these plans under the aegis of the society.

A very modest number of stamps for the Youth Stamp Program have been received from a handful of members. Packets of these stamps would make excellent free give-aways to young collectors attending the

exhibition at which SPI conducts its annual convention.

The anticipated multi-media presentation on Olympic Athletes in Philately is, I am sure, a casualty of the OLYMPHILEX budget's chopping block. As an alternative, SPI will examine the feasibility of using the great number of lists provided by the membership in other ways. A more conservative version of this project is a possibility, as is a slide presentation on the subject.

Finally, a few members have kindly promised to write articles for one or more of the OLYMPHILEX catalogs. Those who would still like to contribute articles should contact Mrs. Nancy Clark at P.O. Box 1996, Lexington, GA 30648, U.S.A. SPI also invites members to contribute articles to the *Journal of Sports Philately*.

In closing this rather long "President's Message," it is regrettable that an opportunity for sports and Olympic philatelists in the United States to promote their hobby at the Centennial Olympic Games may be lost. Hopefully, the restructured OLYMPHILEX '96 committee will still be able to field an exhibition of some sort. We will keep you apprised of new developments through *JSP*.

Once again, it's membership renewal time for most of you. Enclosed with this issue are your renewal envelopes. Please complete and mail them in as soon as possible to avoid future reminders.

After four years, we are forced to raise the membership rates. Primarily, this is as a result of steady increases in the third class postal rates. The USPS has promised that all rates will be increased in 1995.

The SPI board of directors has examined the issue and determined that a 20% increase is necessary. This amounts to only an additional \$2 per year for U.S. members, and little more for our overseas members. Also, we now offer an incentive for members to renew for more than one year. Renewing for two years will save a member 5%. There is a 10% savings with a five year renewal.

We hope that members will understand that these periodic increases are unavoidable. But, we think you'll agree that even with this modest increase, membership in SPI is still a bargain.

As always, your officers and board of directors are here to serve you. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at our annual convention in Los Angeles this September 30 through October 2. Don't delay making your reservations!

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Figure 1. A pre-Torch Relay cancel from Morgedal, Norway, where the Norwegian Olympic flame was lit as it had been for the 1952 Winter Games in Oslo and the 1960 Squaw Valley, California Winter Olympics.

The 1994 Winter Olympics Torch Relay

by Thomas Lippert

The Norwegian Postal Administration, Norway Post, set a new standard in providing philatelists with extensive advance notice of its Olympic philatelic plans. Their new Olympic stamp issues announcements have been most timely. News of the Torch Relay cancellation program was, likewise, both prompt and comprehensive. Collectors had sufficient time to prepare their envelopes.

In my last article on the Lillehammer Games (*JSP*, November-December 1993), I discussed the roots of the sport of skiing, and the prehistoric stone painting of a skier called the "Man of Rodoy." The Lillehammer Olympic Organizing Committee (LOOC) adopted this ancient skier as an important element in its plans. The LOOC decided to follow another tradition begun with the 1952 Olympic Winter Games in Oslo (and repeated for the 1960 Squaw Valley Games in the United States). The Olympic torch would be lit in the cabin of skiing pioneer, Sondre Nordheim, near Morgedal, Norway. The Torch Relay, using this Norwegian flame, would then be carried throughout the country.

Although the Olympic torch is traditionally lit at Ancient Olympia in Greece, it was assumed that no objections would be raised by repeating the torch lighting ceremony at

Morgedal. But the LOOC's plans called for a new variation: the Morgedal flame would be united with the flame from Ancient Olympia (lit on January 16) at a special ceremony on February 5, 1994 at the Bislett Stadium in Oslo. Yet, in mid-December of 1993, Greek officials strongly objected to the unification ceremony.

In my opinion, "killing" the Morgedal Olympic flame after its successful relay around Norway would not be in harmony with the Olympic ideals. Who can expect an Olympic peace in the former Yugoslavia, or anywhere else in the world for that matter, if such discussions occupy us?

Norway Post was the main sponsor and organizer of the Torch Relay in Norway. It was assisted by Statoil, a supplier of natural gas. Both companies belonged to *Birkebeiner Lauget*, the group of national Olympic sponsors.

The official program of Olympic cancels included one official postmark for the Torch Relay. This single cancel was used in 75 different cities and towns through which the Olympic flame passed. Each cancel differs only in the city name and date of use. Sometimes a postal code was included in the ring of text surrounding the central design; other times, the code was eliminated because the city or town name took up too much space in the cancel.

The following examples should provide a brief impression of the Torch run through Norway. The collector of all



Figure 2. The Torch Relay began at MORGEDAL on November 27, 1993. Additional post offices, like that at Notodden, were pressed into service to handle the increased load of philatelic mail.



Figure 3. The Lions Club of Sandefjord sponsored a special cacheted cover and cancel for the Torch Relay. Proceeds from the sale of this cover benefited a drug abuse rehabilitation fund.

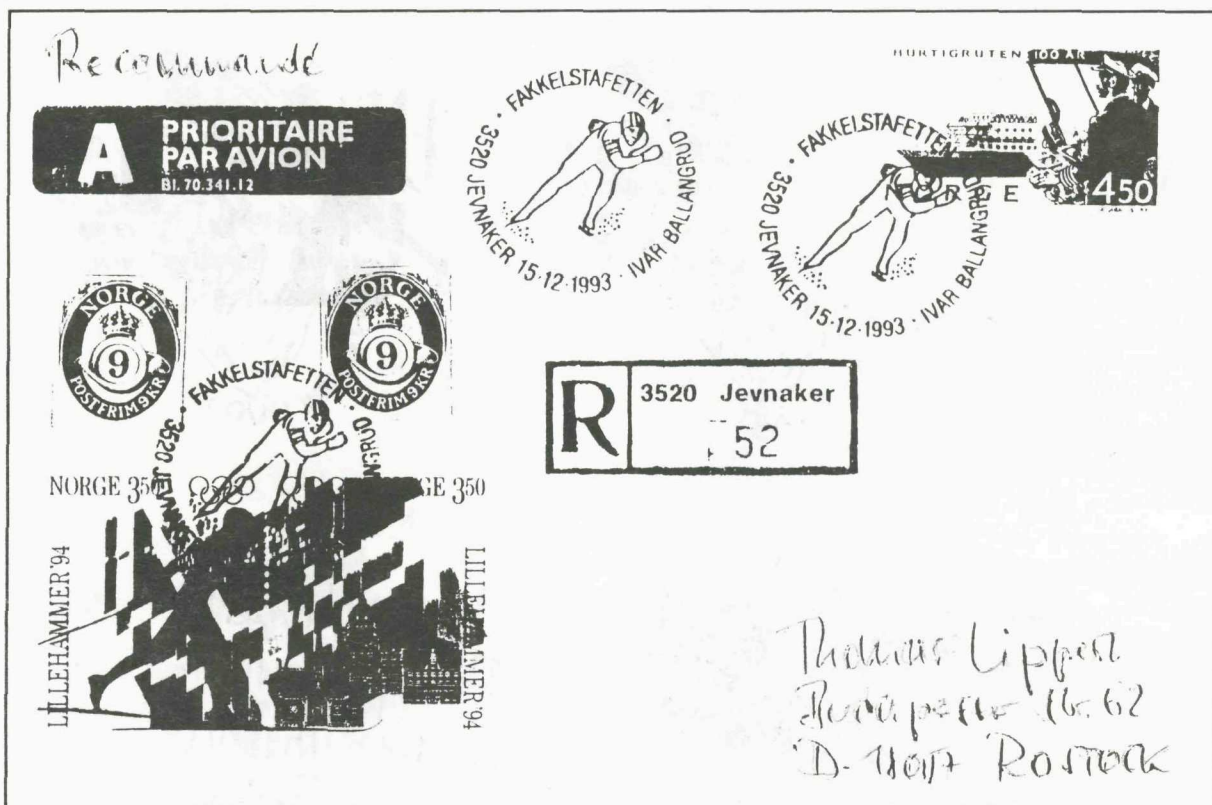


Figure 4. The arrival of the torch in Jevnaker coincided with the unveiling of a statue to three-time Norwegian Olympian, Ivar Ballangrud, winner of seven speed skating medals in the 1928, 1932, and 1936 Olympics.



Figure 5. Part of the Torch Relay was by air. Though not an official Olympic Flight, the pilot's signature on this cover attests to the fact that the torch was carried on SAS flight SK-1993 from Trondheim to Tromsø.

75 cancels will be challenged in assembling and displaying these common-design postmarks so as not to lose the interest of the viewer!

The Torch Relay began in Morgedal on November 27, 1993. One day earlier, Morgedal introduced a special single-ring pictorial cancel (Figure 1) for the relay depicting a skier with a torch. Anticipating a deluge of requests from collectors, Norway Post arranged for several post offices in the region to help process the mail. It's no surprise, therefore, that the cover in Figure 1 bears a registration label from Kviteseid (postal code N-3850). Likewise, the Figure 2 cover is postmarked with the official Torch Relay cancel from Morgedal on November 27, yet the registration label reads Notodden (N-3670).

Many towns and local organizations saw the torch relay as an opportunity to produce their own special "Fakkelfstafetten" (Torch Relay) cancellations. The Lions Club in Sandefjord, participated by preparing special covers and pictorial cancels for the relay (Figure 3). In this case, proceeds from the sale of the covers benefited a fund combatting drug abuse (narkotika).

The arrival of the torch in Jevnaker on December 15 was celebrated by the unveiling of a statue to the famous Norwegian Olympic speed skater, Ivar Ballangrud. Between 1928 and 1936, Ballangrud won seven Olympic medals [1928: gold (5,000 meters) and bronze (1,500 meters); 1932: silver (10,000 meters); 1936: 3 golds (500, 5,000 and

10,000 meters) and a silver (1,500 meters)]. The special pictorial cancel depicts the skater.

While most of the Torch Relay was conducted by various means over land, it occasionally traveled by air and sea. On December 30, the flame was taken from Brekstad to Vaernes/Trondheim airport and flown to Tromsø aboard Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) flight SK-1993. While this wasn't an official Olympic airmail flight, the cover in Figure 5 nevertheless testifies to its Olympic nature. The pilot signed the brief statement on the cover noting the Olympic connection, a practice similar to that employed by polar philatelists to record special flights.

From Tromsø, another SAS plane flew the torch to Longyearbyen/Svalbard and back on January 1, 1994. Again, this was not an official Olympic flight. The philatelic center in Oslo did provide collectors with a special surprise. On December 31, 1993, they mailed invitations to the inauguration ceremony of the PROLYMPIA philatelic

Figure 6 (at right). An unusual torch cancellation from Stadsbygd-Stjørdal combines an ancient Viking ship and modern airplane, perhaps noting that the Torch Relay traveled by both sea and air.

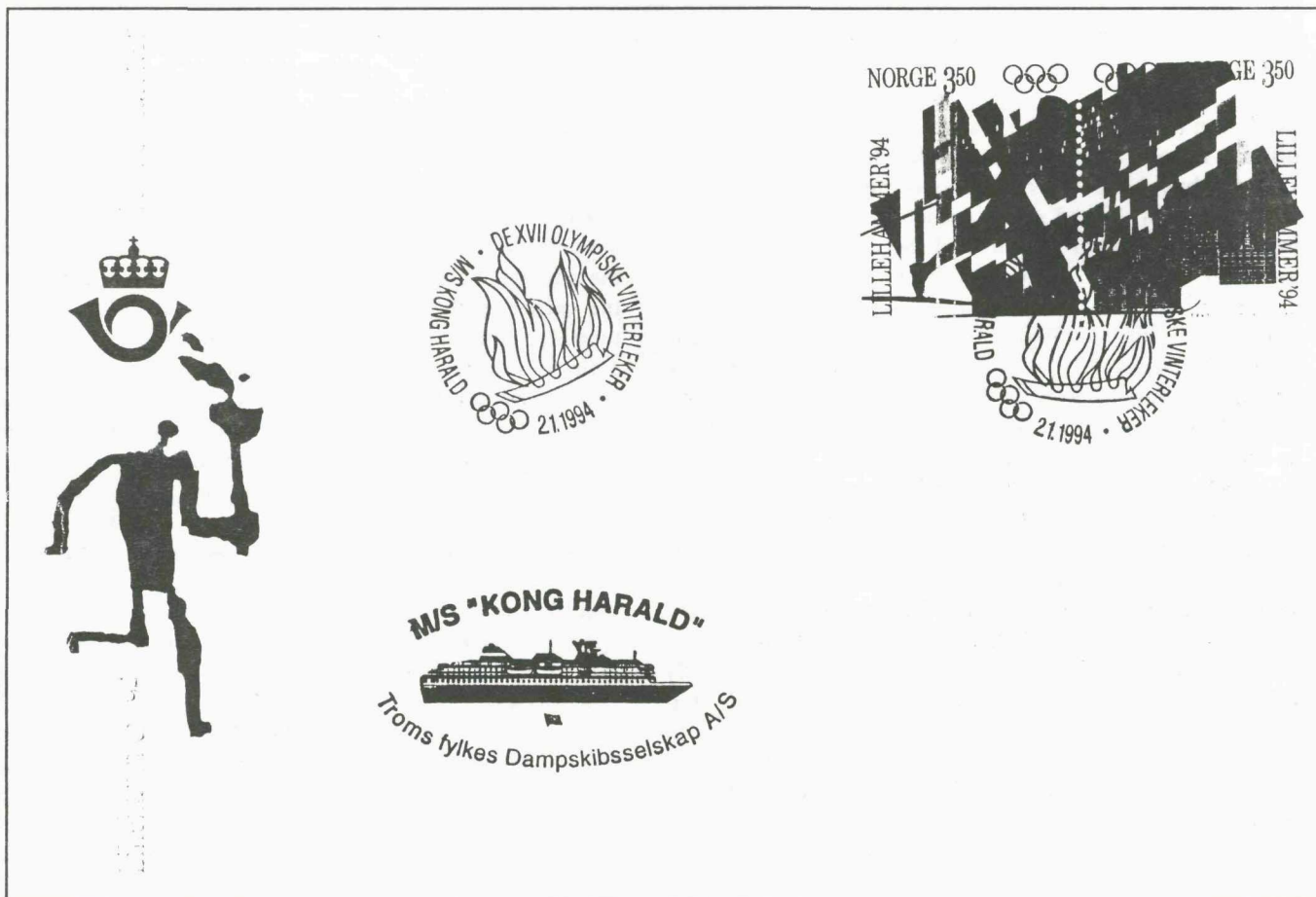


Figure 7a. The Torch Relay traveled by ship from Tromsø to Longyearbyen on the "Kong Harald." This official LOOC cover bears the standard torch cancel of January 2, 1994, and a ship's cachet.

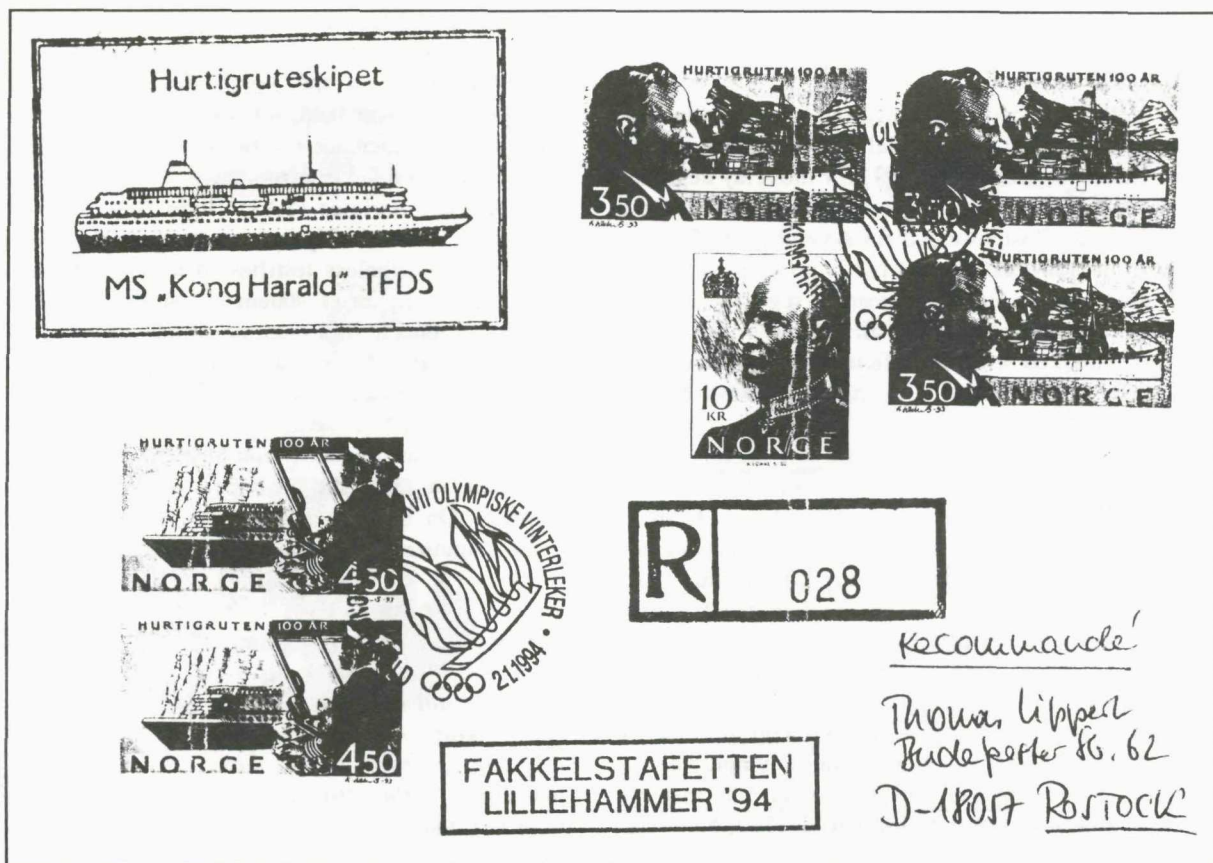


Figure 7b. A different cachet was created by ship cancellation enthusiasts for the "Kong Harald", along with a boxed marking commemorating the Torch Relay (bottom). Note the mute ship registration label.

exhibition (held during the Games in Lillehammer) via an official round trip Olympic Torch Flight from Oslo to Longyearbyen. The information concerning the special flight is contained in the red postal cachet on each cover. For a brief moment, the invitations and the Olympic flame may have met each other in Longyearbyen!

Additional unofficial Torch Relay cancellations have also been discovered. Figure 6, a double-ring cancel dated December 31, 1993 from Stadsbygd-Stjørdal, depicts a Viking ship, its sail emblazoned with a flaming torch, and an airplane in the background. The contrast is noteworthy, as the Torch Relay traveled by both means.

Back in Tromsø on January 2 after its short trip to Longyearbyen/Svalbard, the torch was taken on board the *hurtigruta*-ship, "Kong Harald." The ship traveled northward along the Norwegian coast, arriving at Kirkenes on January 4. Figure 7a illustrates the special Torch Relay cover produced by the LOOC and cancelled with the official torch postmark on board the "Kong Harald." A slightly different rectangular cachet was created by German ship cancel collectors. An example was applied to the cover in Figure 7b. Note that the ship's registration label is mute. A secondary cachet — FAKKELSTAFETTEN/LILLEHAMMER '94 — was also created by the ship cancel collectors to commemorate the special Olympic mission of this trip.

After another week on land, the Olympic Torch was once again transported by ship. On January 12, the sailing ship "Anna Rogde" departed Harstad for Sortland, via

Ervik, with the torch on board. The express cover in Figure 8a bears both the official torch cancel from Harstad and a circular postmark depicting the "Anna Rogde." The postage is correct at the *old* rate: 4.50 NOK, plus 20 NOK for express mail. At the end of 1993, Norway Post increased the international express mail rate, called "Swiftpost" (note the cachet in the upper left corner) to 40 NOK. Unfortunately, the rate change wasn't announced in time for collectors overseas to apply correct postage to their special covers and get them to the ship in time for the sailing. Therefore, a lot of the mail, including this piece, didn't carry the proper amount of franking. Sometimes, the post office accepted the underfranked mail; other times, it demanded postage due upon delivery.

German ship cancel collectors had been informed that the ship's postmark seen on the cover in Figure 8a was only used during the summer season. They therefore created a special "Anna Rogde" cachet seen on the cover in Figure 8b. At least for this sailing, the ship's own postmark was used anyway.

And what would an Olympic Torch Relay be without an Olympic medalist! Norwegian biathlete Magnar Sohlberg (gold medals in 1968 and 1972 in the 20 km race) sends his regards on a postcard from Støren (Figure 9).

Not every Norwegian town through which the torch passed was granted an official torch relay cancel. Many of these towns have enlarged upon and enriched the cancellation program by creating their own Fakkelfstafetten cancels.

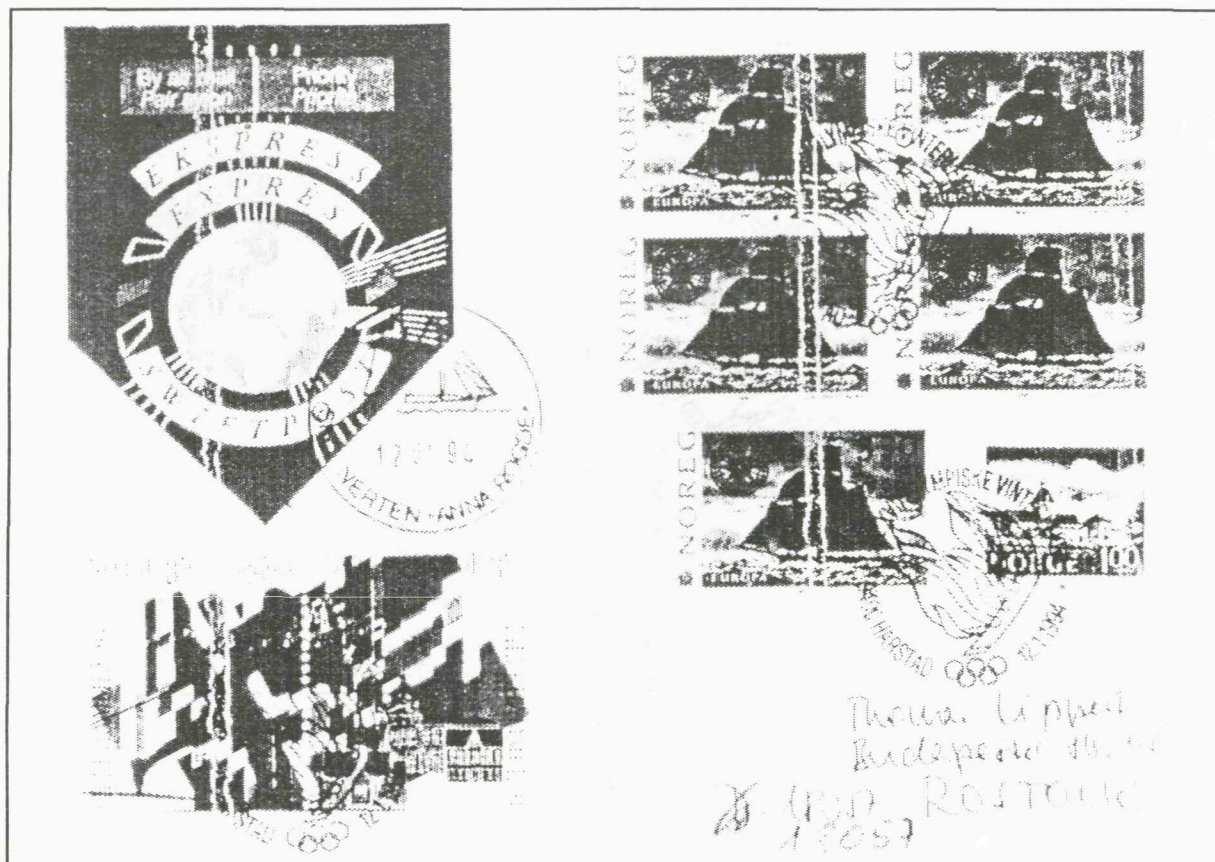


Figure 8a. The torch once again went by sea on board the sailing ship "Anna Rogde." This express mail cover was underpaid, but no postage due was demanded due to the late announcement of the rate change.



Figure 8b. Ship cancel collectors were unaware that the "Anna Rogde's" ship cancel would be in use, and therefore created a special cachet (lower left) for the trip.

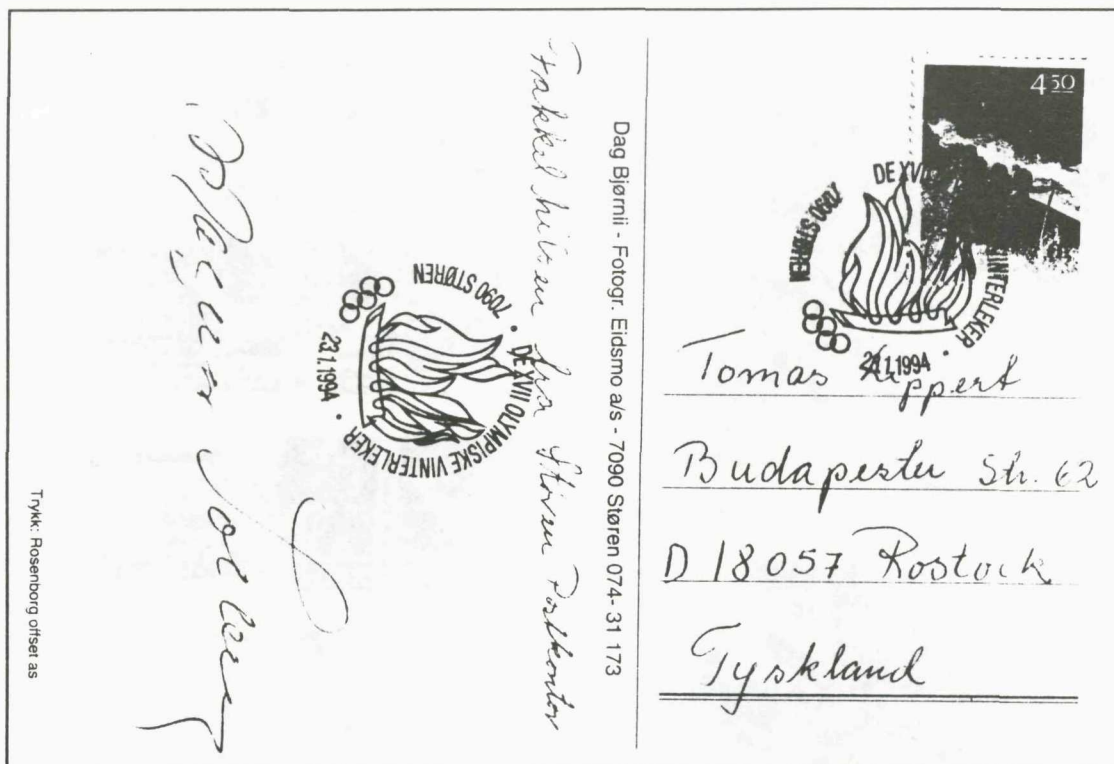


Figure 9. Norwegian Olympians were sometimes on hand during the Torch Relay. Magnar Sohlberg, two-time Biathlon gold medalist (1968 and 1972), autographed this post card from Støren.

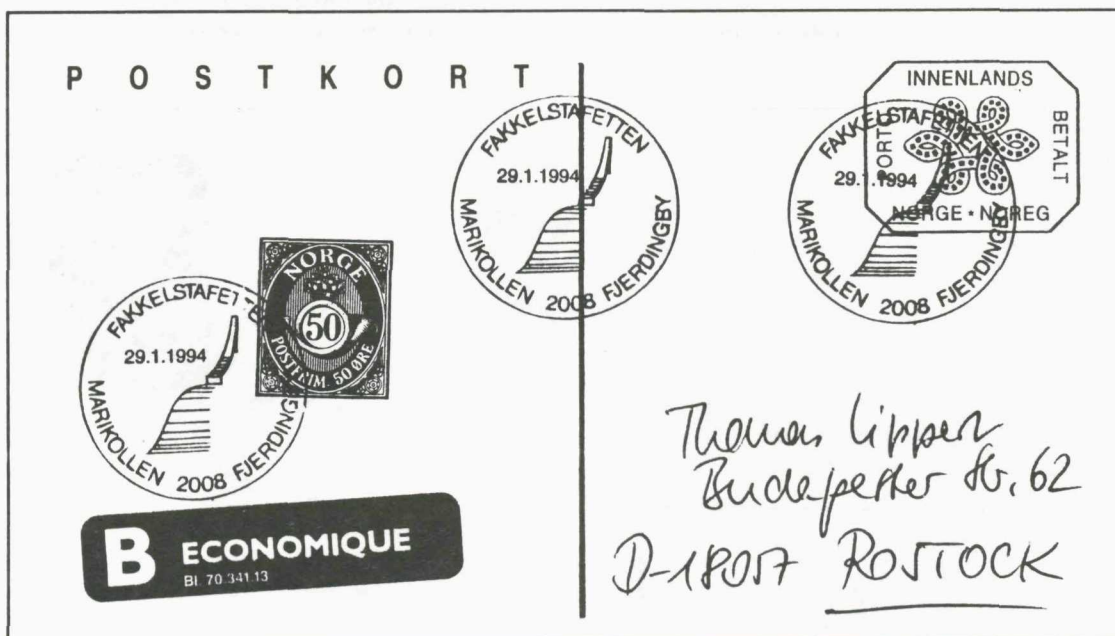


Figure 10a. Some towns, like Fjerdingby, produced their own Torch Relay cancels, adding variation to the collection of 75 common design postmarks produced by Norway Post.

Fjerdingby's torch postmark on January 29 appears to depict a ski jump (Figure 10a). It is worth mentioning that the postal card to which it is applied is for inland use only, therefore an additional 50 öre was affixed for "B" class mail within Europe. Sørumsand's January 31 contribution to the torch relay cancel program depicts a youngster holding the distinctive curved Olympic Torch (Figure 10b).

As readers will recall, I mentioned at the beginning of this article the dispute that arose over the plan to "unite" the flame from Morgedal with that lit at Ancient Olympia in Greece. The unification of the two flames was to take place on February 5 at the Bislett Stadium in Oslo. Even though the two flames were never combined, Figure 11 illustrates the special Bislett cancel that was to mark the

occasion. In addition, Oslo also used the official torch relay cancellation. The town of St. Hanshaugen made a special cancel available at its postal counter, making a total of three relay postmarks for this date.

Not to be outdone, the Greeks planned an extensive program for the Olympic flame lit at Ancient Olympia on January 16. The flame was run to Athens, where on January 20 it departed on a flight to Frankfurt (Figure 12), and then to Stuttgart. The Olympic flame from Greece remained for some days in Germany while it participated in various ceremonies. Then, the flame was transported by train to Copenhagen, Stockholm, and Helsinki.

To document the flame's visit to Germany, IMOS (the German Olympic and sports philately organization) produced three printed-to-private-order postal stationery items. The second of these (Figure 13) notes the flame's route through the Germany province of Nordrhein-Westfalen (at bottom) between January 23 and 27. The first stop was Düsseldorf.

Since the previously planned unification of the Morgedal and Ancient Olympia flames was cancelled, the tour for the latter flame was extended, staying longer in Stockholm and Helsinki. Only hours before the Olympic Opening Ceremony, the flame lit at Ancient Olympia arrived in the Winter Olympic city of Lillehammer. Mysteriously, the Morgedal flame had disappeared. But where to? I was told that it was burning at the Olympic skiing venue at Kvitfjell, however no one seemed quite certain on this point.



Figure 10b. Sørumsand provided collectors with a cancel depicting the unique curved torch used during the relay around Norway.

Figure 11. The Greeks objected to the planned unification of the Norwegian and Greek Olympic flames at Bislett Stadium in Oslo. Nevertheless, a special cancel was still made available on February 2, 1994.



The final stop of this review of the 1994 Olympic Torch Relay is at the PROLYMPIA exhibition. On this, the opening day of the Games, the official torch cancel applied at the exhibition could be considered as honoring the Greek flame. The special temporary post office that had been opened in the old post office building used two ordinary date cancels as well, differing by the letters "C" and "H" after the word "Lillehammer." The cover in Figure 14 is



Figure 12. Lit on January 16, 1994 at Ancient Olympia, the Greek Olympic flame was run to Athens where it boarded a plane on January 20 bound for an extensive tour through Germany and Scandinavia.

postmarked with the "H" cancel. The exhibition's opening day ceremonies included visits by the two Olympic stamp designers, Knud Lökke-Sørensen (the first Olympic winners sheets) and Bruno Oldani (the remaining Olympic stamps).

Both gentlemen made themselves available to sign covers (Mr. Oldani's autograph is at upper left in Figure 14). □

Next Issue: Part II



Figure 13. A printed-to-private-order postal card produced by IMOS to document the route of the Greek flame through the German province of Nordrhein-Westfalen.

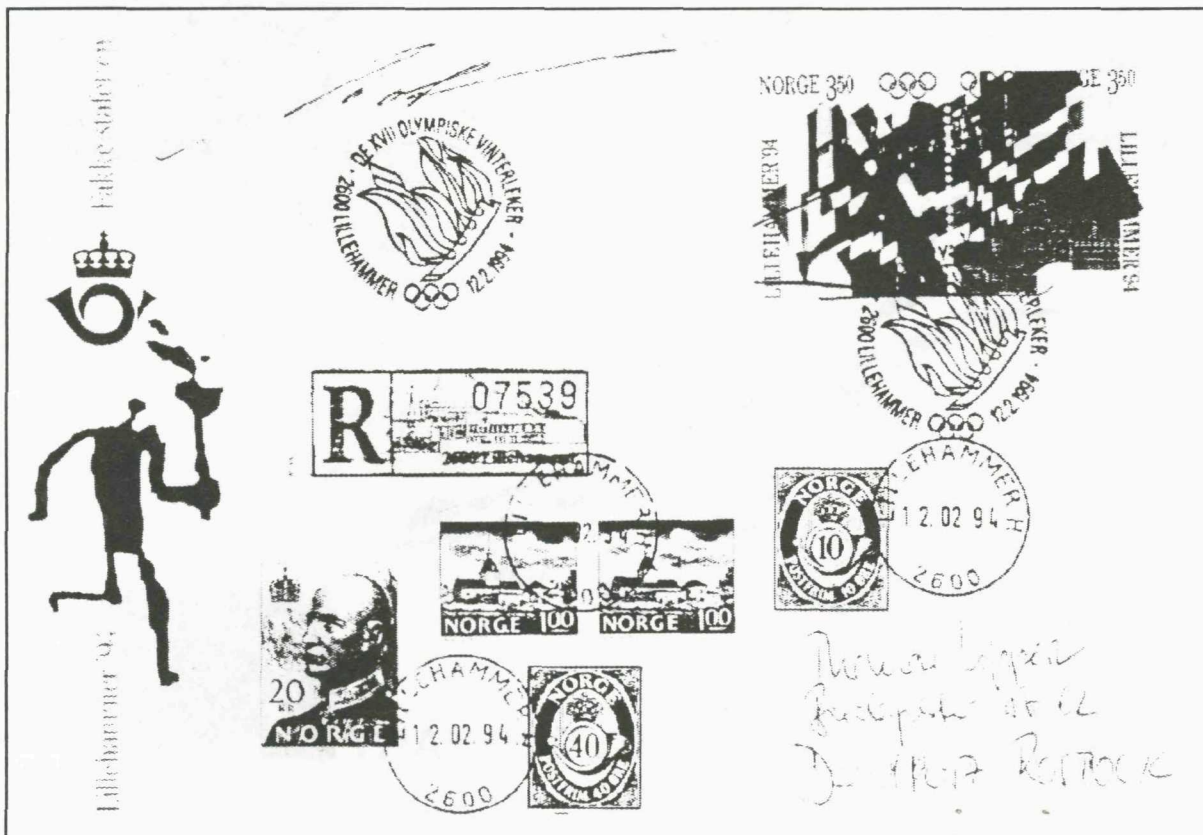


Figure 14. At the Olympic Opening Ceremony on February 12, the Greek flame was used to light the Olympic cauldron at the Stadium. Stamp designer Bruno Oldani signed this cover at the PROLYMPIA stamp exhibition.

The Mysterious Herbert Paul Douglas, Jr.

by Mark Maestroni

I love a good mystery. So when I received an example of a special show cancel for the WILKPEX '93 stamp exhibition in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, I couldn't resist the challenge. What was the mystery, you may ask? Why, simply, who did the cancel commemorate? Let's look at the cancel, illustrated in Figure 1, and you'll see what I mean.

The text provides an important clue: the recipient of this philatelic honor was an Olympic medalist in the long jump at the 1948 Olympic Games in London, England. The cancel also relates that this person was the first athlete from Pittsburgh to receive an Olympic medal.

Not being up on my Pennsylvania sports history, I reached for my dog-eared copy of David Wallechinsky's *Complete Book of the Olympics*. Naturally I expected to discover that the athlete in question was a most famous sports personality. Imagine my surprise upon discovering that the "jumper" was ... Herbert Douglas! Who? Equally interesting was that Douglas was not the winner, nor the runner-up. He came in third.

Now my curiosity really was piqued. I knew that none of my other resources would be much help, so I telephoned my contact at the U.S. Olympic Committee Library. They could find nothing. Inquiries at other sports libraries yielded similar results. Finally, on a visit to the spectacular Amateur Athletic Foundation (AAF) Library in Los Angeles, my questions were answered.

From a photograph in the *Report of the United States Olympic Committee, 1948 Games*, I discovered that Herbert Paul Douglas, Jr. was an African-American. The librarian then selected a copy of *Black Olympian Medalists* by James A. Page. And there were my answers!

Herbert Douglas, a native of Pittsburgh, was born March 9, 1922. He was an all-around athlete, competing in basketball, football, gymnastics and track and field for his *alma mater*, Allerdice High School. His athletic career (football and track and field) continued at the University of Pittsburgh, from which he graduated in 1948. During this time, he achieved All-American status with three national

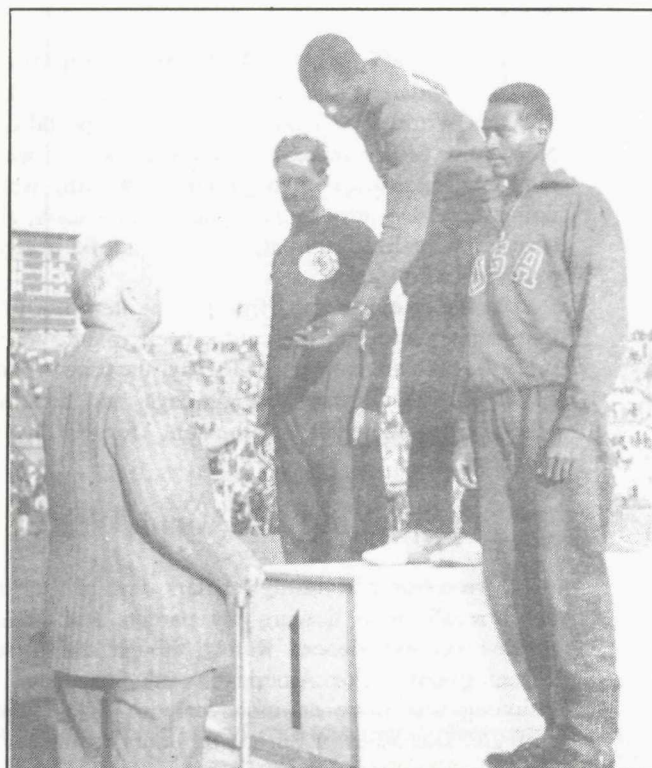


Figure 2. Broad (Long) Jump medal ceremony at the 1948 Olympic Games at London. (Left to right) 2nd Place, Thomas Bruce, Australia; 1st Place, Willie Steele, U.S.A.; 3rd Place, Herbert Douglas, U.S.A.

Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) gold medals in the indoor long jump. Douglas also excelled outdoors, winning the 1946 Inter-Collegiate 4A and 1947 AAU long jump titles.

Herbert Douglas was primed for the 1948 Olympics. He secured a place on the team with a personal best jump of 25 feet, 3 inches at the Final Olympic Track and Field Tryouts at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois (July 9-10, 1948). Douglas wasn't able to equal this mark at the Games, missing second place by only one-quarter inch with a jump of 24 feet, 9 inches (Figure 2).

Today, Herbert Douglas is vice president of a wine-import company. He remains active in athletics through his work with the Jesse Owens International Amateur Award.

What did I learn from this exercise? A bit of research increased my sports and philatelic knowledge immeasurably, revealing an unusual cancel for a black American Olympian who did not win a gold medal.

Residents of Southern California, or visitors to the area, are encouraged to visit the AAF Library. The resources are incredible: a full set of Official Olympic Reports and extensive material on almost every sport. Their address is 2141 West Adams Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90018-2040. An appointment to do research is required. □



Figure 1. WILKPEX '93 commemorative cancel honoring Herbert Paul Douglas, Jr., third place winner in the broad (long) jump at the 1948 Olympic Games.

Sports-Related World War II Ration Application Postal Cards of Norway

by Mark Maestroni

“Unusual” is certainly the best description for the philatelic item illustrated in Figure 1. When I first saw this World War II ration application postal card from Norway in SPI-member Dorothy Weihrauch’s award-winning tennis exhibit, I confessed to wondering what it was doing there. Dorothy’s text explained the reason, and to my surprise I realized that it, too, would fit neatly in my gymnastics collection.

So the search began, first for the item itself, then for more information on the card’s background. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of D-Day, the time is particularly appropriate to discuss these findings, and hopefully send other sports philatelists “on the hunt” for this elusive philatelic element.

Rationing in World War II

I wasn’t around during the dark days of World War II, yet I recall often hearing my parents and grandparents discuss their experiences. Rarely, though, did the subject of rationing arise. For Americans and Canadians, wartime rationing was more an inconvenience than a day-to-day struggle. Our allies in Europe no doubt remember circumstances quite differently.

The primary reasons for rationing were two-fold. First, materials vital to the war effort had to be conserved. These included gasoline and rubber products, silk for parachutes, machinery parts, and durable goods like automobiles, stoves, and bicycles.

Second, many consumer goods regarded as essential to maintaining a strong civilian economy and good morale were rationed. Butter, sugar, meats and coffee were only some of the food stuffs that required ration coupons. Shoes are another example of everyday products that were limited.

There were two basic systems for rationing that were used worldwide. *Certificates* were issued for more durable goods. An individual desiring such an item had to prove his or her need, usually citing work connected to the war effort. Applications were made to a local or regional ration board which was allocated a finite supply of each rationed item. Automobiles, tires, typewriters, and stoves fell into this category. Applications for certificates were non-renewable. Persons requiring a new tire, for example, had to reapply all over again.

Processing applications for certificates was a tedious process, and unworkable for consumable products that, by their very nature, were repeatedly purchased. A second system, *coupons*, was devised to take care of these types of products. Foods and gasoline were included in this group. Each citizen was issued coupons which were redeemed at the time a rationed item was purchased. Coupons were replenished on a regular basis, usually monthly.

Ration Application Postal Cards of Norway

Norway was an early victim of Axis aggression in World War II. All major Norwegian ports were attacked on April 9, 1940. By June 1940, the country had fallen. King Haakon VII and his cabinet were forced into exile in London, while Germany set up a puppet government under the control of Prime Minister Vidkun Quisling, a Norwegian. The occupation lasted until after the surrender of Germany in 1945.

Soon after the occupation began in 1940, a rationing program was instituted throughout Norway. A *certificate* system was employed, much as discussed above. An individual “purchased” an application form from the post office for the particular rationed item desired. This consisted of a pre-printed postal card with indicium reproducing the Lion and Ax stamps (Scott #115-128). However, the colors and values of the postal card indicia did not necessarily match the same color/value relationship on the perforated gummed stamps. The applicant would complete both sides of the application postal card and mail it to the local ration control board. The board would notify the applicant of its decision via a smaller, non-indicium post card. Seven groups of rationed items were represented by different pre-printed application postal cards: textiles and leather goods; footwear; half-soling of shoes; household equipment; work clothes; bicycles; and bicycle tires. Ration applications for textiles and leather goods were the first cards placed in service (December 9, 1940).

With only one exception (the application “For Half-Soling Of Shoes” or *Halvsålingskort*), the pre-printed indicia on the application cards carried two values (for example, 15 + 15 øre). The first value paid the postage on the card, while the second value represented an application fee levied by the department of supply. The application fee varied from 10 øre to 25 øre.

Many card types exist within each of the seven groups of ration application postal cards, as the cards saw many printings during the lengthy rationing period. These are differentiated by variations in text. Varieties of indicia color and card stock color or texture are also identifiable. The application cards were offset printed from cylinders of either 18 or 36 cards. The text on both sides was normally black and printed in the same process as the colored stamp. In the case of the application for work clothes (*Arbeidsskjaer*), both the text and stamp were printed in the same color — a shade of green.

Card stock varied widely in color (from white to many different colors) and texture (smooth to rough). All card stock was unwatermarked. Following printing, the sheets of cards were cut into one of three sizes: 250 mm x 205 mm, 192 mm x 122 mm, or 192 mm x 128 mm.

SKOTØYKORT

Les først alt som står på kortet. Fyll det deretter ut tydelig og nøyaktig. — Alt hva forbrukeren har av skotøy skal føres opp, uansett når og på hvilken måte skotøyet er anskaffet eller mottatt. Hvis forbrukeren overhodet ikke har skotøy i vedkommende gruppe, skal det settes null (0). Også skotøy som må halvsåles før det kan brukes, skal føres opp. Ett og samme par skotøy føres opp bare ett sted på skjemaet. —

Før søknaden sendes inn må nedenstående være utfyllt.

Undertegnede to personer over 21 år som er registerført i samme kommune som søkeren bevitner herved at beholdningsoppgaven på omstående side er riktig.

1.

Navn (underskrift):

Stilling:

Legitimasjonskort nr.:

Telefon:

Boligadresse:

2.

Navn (underskrift):

Stilling:

Legitimasjonskort nr.:

Telefon:

Boligadresse:

F. M. 1 000 000. X. 42



Til forsyningsnemnda

i Gravik

Naus Jank

Figure 1. Norwegian World War II ration application postal card for obtaining a certificate to purchase footwear. Type Xa card issued November 11, 1942. A translation of the card appears below.

Skjema S 25 A

FOOTWEAR CARD

First read everything on the card. Afterwards complete it clearly and accurately. Any footwear that the applicant has must be mentioned, regardless of when or in what way the footwear was acquired or received. If the applicant does not have a pair of shoes in a certain group, a zero is to be entered (0). If a pair of shoes can be half-soled, a note should be entered. A pair of shoes should be noted only one time. Before the application is submitted, the part below must be completed.

The two undersigned persons are over 21 years of age and registered in the same commune as the applicant, and witness that the information on the reverse is correct.

1.

Name (signature):

Occupation:

Identification No.: Telephone:

Home address:

2.

Name (signature):

Occupation:

Identification No.: Telephone:

Home address:

E. M. 1 000 000. X.42.

To the controlboard

in

Forbrukerens etternavn: Hristensen Fornavn: Hari Fødselsår og datum: 23/9 1932

Nøyte angivelse av yrke: Arbeidssted eller skole: Haugen skole

Nøyaktig boligadresse: Fjellheim

Der søs om anvisning på i alt ett par gruppe A { Størrelse nr. 36 eller mindre
Størrelse nr. 37 eller større
(Stryk det som ikke passer)

Se først. inndende side!

Beholdningsoppgave — Alle linjer skal fylles ut.

A	Arbeidsstøvler av lær	0	G	Sommersko av stoff m. gummisåle	0	Annert skotøy (også urasjonert) hva slag?	0
	Skistøvler, alle slag	0	H	Turnsko, tennissko og lignende	1	Husstandens beholdning av materialer til skotøy	0
	Turiststøvler og lignende	0	I	Tøfler, alle slag	0	Utslitt gummi-fotøyt som ikke kan repareres (hva slag?)	0
B	Arbeidsfotøyt av gummi	0	J	Kalosjer, (lave)	0	Annert utslitt skotøyt som ikke kan repareres (hva slag?)	0
	Sportsfotøyt av gummi	0	K	Snesokker, russertstøvler av gummi	0	Skotøyt (og gummi-fotøyt) som ikke kan nyttes av forbrukeren (hva slag?)	0
C	Grove arbeidssko (lave) av lær	0	L	Slagstøvler av gummi (damer og barn)	0	Hvis en annen i husstanden kan nytte dette skotøyt, oppgi dennes navn og alder	0
	Sportssko (lave) av lær	0	M	Idrettsskotøyt (hva slag?)	0	Skotøyt som forbrukeren har lånt (av hvem?)	0
D	Skinnsko (av bokstev, sjøvrå o. l.)	1	N	Trebunn skaffestøvler	0	Skotøyt som forbrukeren har lånt bort (til hvem?)	0
	Skinnstøvler (av bokstev, sjøvrå o. l.)	0	O	Trebunn snørestøvler	0		
E	Selskapsko, hva slag (beskrivelse)	0	P	Ortopedisk skotøyt (fotlær al. gum. overd.)	0		
		0	R	Trebunnssko (fotlær al. gum. overd.)	0		
F	Utpregede sommersko m. lærsåle	0	S	Trebunnstøfler (fær al. skinn overd.)	0		
	Sandaler og sandaletter	0		Trebunnsskinnsko (har under sko med trebevele)	0		
		0		Trebunnsskinnstøvler	0		
		0		Trebunnssandaler og sandaletter	0		

Jeg erklærer at allt hva forbrukeren har av skotøyt er ført opp på skjemaet i ansvaret med reglene på omstøende side. Jeg kjenner til at det er straffbart å gi uriktige eller ufullstendige oppgaver. Jeg er villig til å la kontrollører som viser fram legitimasjon fra rasjoneringsmyndighetene, nå og senere undersøke hva jeg (forbrukeren) har av skotøyt.

Fylles ut av Forsyningsnemnda: Anvisning sendt 10/11 1943 ML Dato 1/12 1943 Hari Hristensen
Arving Signatur Søkerens underskrift.

Figure 2. Reverse of the footwear postal card, Type XIa, issued February 13, 1943. In the translation below, the applicant desires a pair of leather work boots, and already has a pair of gymnastics or tennis shoes.

Applicant's surname: First name: Date of birth:
 Accurate vocation: Workplace or school:
 Accurate address:
 The application is for one pair of group Size no. 36 or smaller
 (What type, see below) Size no. 36 or larger

See other side first!

Shoe Inventory — All lines must be completed

A	Work boots, leather	G	Cloth summer shoes, gum soles	Any other type of (unrationed) shoe?
	Ski boots, all types		Gymnastics, tennis shoes and the like	
	Hiking boots, and the like	H	Slippers, all types	L
B	Work shoes, rubber	I	Rubber, low	What shoe material does the family own?
	Athletic shoes, rubber	J	Snowshoes, Russian boots, rubber	Non-repairable worn-out rubber shoes
C	Rough work shoes (low), leather		Hip Boots of rubber (women & children)	(type)?
	Athletic shoes (low), leather	K	Athletic shoes (what kind?)	Other non-repairable footwear (type)?
D	Shoes made of skin	M	Boots with wooden bottoms	Footwear that cannot be used by owner
	Boots made of skin	N	Shoes with wooden bottoms, and laced	(type)?
E	Party shoes, what kind (describe)	O	Orthopedic shoes	If another family member can make use of these, give name and age
		P	Shoes with wooden bottoms (leather/rubber top)	Shoes the applicant has borrowed (from whom?)
F	Summer shoes with leather soles	R	Slippers with wooden bottoms (leather or fleece top)	Shoes the applicant has loaned out (to whom?)
	Sandals and short sandals	S	Leather shoes with hard half-sole	
			Wooden bottom boots	
			Wooden bottom sandals or small sandals	

I declare that all footwear I own has been recorded on this form in accordance with instructions on the other side. I understand it is punishable by law to give wrong or incomplete information. I am willing to allow a controller from the ration office who shows proper identification to examine my footwear either now or later.

To be completed by the ration office: Approved mailed 194.. Declined (Signature) Date 194.. (Applicant's signature)

Of the seven application card groups, sports philatelists will be interested in four:

Footwear (*Skotøykort*): skiing, gymnastics, tennis and hiking.

Half-Soling of Shoes (*Halvsålingskort*): skiing, gymnastics, tennis and hiking.

Bicycles (*Sykkel*): cycling.

Bicycle Tires (*Sykkelgummi*): cycling.

The author's collection is limited to examples of the footwear application cards, therefore this is the only card group which is illustrated and where the entire text is translated. The various known types and varieties of this ration card group are presented in Table 1. Table 2 lists the types and varieties of the shoe half-soling cards.

Unfortunately, cycling collectors will have to discover many of the details regarding the latter two types of cards, as I have little information on them. The bicycle ration application postal cards have a value of 25 + 25 øre. The indicia are in either brown white or buff on light greenish card stock measuring 192 mm x 122 mm. There were about nine different card types printed between 1941 and 1945.

The bicycle tire application cards were the last of the group of seven to be issued. They first appeared in 1942, and saw at least ten printings through 1945. The indicia value is 25 + 15 øre, and is in brown. The salmon-colored card stock measures 192 mm x 122 mm.

Footwear Card

The ration application postal card for footwear comprises by far the largest number of types. In addition, there were two different values of cards.

The first value, a 15 + 10 øre card, was issued December 21, 1940. The indicium was printed in ultramarine on card stock measuring 192 mm x 128 mm.

By May 1941, the department of supply raised the application fee to 15 øre, necessitating a new printing of cards, this time with the indicia in olive shades (Figure 1, showing a Type Xa card). The 15 + 15 øre footwear card was printed 19 times, with the last version released on November 29, 1945. All cards of this value measure 192 mm x 128 mm.

Table 1 presents a listing of the various printings of the footwear ration application postal card. The 15 + 10 øre card is easily identified, as there was only one printing.

The various printings of the 15 + 15 øre card are readily identifiable by differences in text. The 19 different types are first grouped into five categories based on the last line of text on the front side of each card. These groups are further subdivided into types. In the first four groups, types are generally discerned by counting the number of lines of text on the front. Within the last, and largest, group, text beginning with the letters "E.M." provides the clue. This designation appears at lower left on either the front or reverse sides of the card. The source material I consulted does not identify what the "E.M." text signifies, although it does mention the name "Emil Moestue A/S" in the

heading for the listings. My guess is that Emil Moestue was the printing house, and that these are identification stock numbers added by the printer. The number "1000000" corresponds to a printing quantity of under 2,000,000 cards. The roman numeral followed by a two-digit number would seem to indicate the month and year that the specific type was printed. This correlates with the actual issue date of the card, which is always the same month or shortly thereafter.

The front of the ration application card provides very precise instructions for completing the form. From the few cards that I have seen, the text was often changed. For example, the Type XV card issued in April 1944 cautioned that no applications for "shoes in groups E [party shoes], F [summer shoes and sandals] or hip boots in group J will be approved." By 1944, I am certain that supplies of rubber, the major component of hip boots, were undoubtedly in short supply, which easily explains why they were not available to the general population. Party shoes and summer shoes/sandals appear to be a rather odd category of shoes for which ration certificates were no longer granted. Maybe, though, they represented an unnecessary luxury that could not be justified in those dark times.

Figure 2 illustrates the reverse of the application card (Type XIa). It is here that we can appreciate the great detail that was required. An inventory of all shoes in the applicant's possession was necessary. Each pair was recorded in the proper space; a pair of shoes was only noted once. If the applicant did not own footwear in a particular category, a zero (0) was to be placed in the adjacent space.

I found it quite interesting that the ration board requested information on shoes that had been borrowed or loaned out, as well as if a pair of shoes could be repaired rather than new ones purchased. Note, also, that an applicant had to state whether the shoes he wished to purchase were smaller or larger than size 36.

The applicant of the card in Figure 2 was a 10-year-old named Kari Kristensen. This youngster, who lived in Tjoluika, attended the Kalvik School. I was surprised to see that he (or she) only owned two pairs of shoes: a pair of gymnastics/tennis shoes (group G) and a pair of shoes made of skin (group D). The application was being made to purchase a pair of work boots from group A. Kari certainly didn't receive the new shoes any time soon, as the application was made July 1, 1943, but not approved until November 10, 1943 — over four months later!

Oddly, the few used examples that I've seen bear no postmark. It is possible that the application cards were hand delivered by the applicant to the ration board office. More likely, however, is that the post office saw no reason to cancel the indicia, since once completed and filed with the ration board, the cards were unlikely to resurface. Furthermore, the cards are of little use for any purpose other than that for which they were intended.

Card Valuation

When cataloged by the Oslo Philatelic Club in the early 1970s, the ration application postal cards were valued at between 2 and 40 kroner. Three prices are quoted for each

Table 1
Footwear Ration Application Postal Cards

Type	Variety	Issue Date	Quantity	Description of Identifying Characteristics
<u>15 + 10 øre, indicium in ultramarine, card size 192 mm x 128 mm, issued December 1941</u>				
I		12/21/40	1,922,000	
<u>15 + 15 øre, indicium in olive shades, card size 192 mm x 128 mm, issued between May 1941 and November 1945</u>				
Issued May-August 1941. Lowermost line on front ends with: "ovn eller i solen"				
I		5/6/41	1,054,610	Explanation on front in 16 lines
II		6/28/41	850,400	Explanation on front in 18 lines
III		8/12/41	657,100	Explanation on front in 20 lines
Issued October 1941-February 1942. Lowermost line on front ends with: "ikke for sterk varme"				
IV		10/9/41	616,000	Without letter "N"
	a			Olive indicium, text with "1941"
	b			Light olive indicium, text with "194_"
V		12/6/41	692,000	With letter "N"
	a			Olive indicium
	b			Olive brown indicium
VI		2/5/42	683,000	Explanation on front in 21 lines
Issued March 1942. Lowermost line on front ends with: "gruppe F eller G"				
VII		3/28/42	1,072,000	Explanation on front in 22 lines
Issued May-August 1942. Lowermost line on front ends with: "ekstramerke på bekledningskortet"				
VIII		5/23/42	1,131,500	With "Skjema S 25" on front
IX		8/18/42	661,000	As VIII, but lower section on back ends with "gi" or "jeg"
Issued November 1942-November 1945. Lowermost line on front ends with: "Boligadress"				
X		11/11/42	1,228,400	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. X.42."
	a			Light olive indicium
	b			Grey olive indicium
XI		2/13/43	1,015,600	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. II.43."
	a			Light to dark olive indicium
	b			Brown olive indicium
XII		4/30/43	1,177,500	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. IV.43."
	a			Card stock is very rough
	b			Card stock is smooth
XIII		7/13/43	1,196,500	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. VI. 43."
XIV		11/29/43	1,173,500	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. X.43."
XV		4/28/44	1,159,500	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. III.44."
	a			Grey green indicium
	b			Brown olive to olive brown indicium
XVI		8/20/44	1,041,500	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. VI.44."
XVII		12/5/44	2,293,500	Text reading "E.M. X. 44. 2000000."
(a variety exists with the back printed upside down)				
XVIII		10/16/45	1,026,500	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. IX.45."
	a			Light olive indicium
	b			Dark olive indicium
XIX		11/29/45	412,000	Text reading "E.M. 1000000. X.45."

Table 2
Shoe Half-Soling Ration Application Postal Cards

Type	Variety	Issue Date	Quantity	Description of Identifying Characteristics
<u>15 øre, indicium in brown shades, card stock light yellow to light brown, smooth to rough, card size 192 mm x 128 mm, issued between May 1941 and November 1945</u>				
Issued May-July 1941. Lowermost line on front ends with: "ovn eller i solen"				
I		5/7/41	992,625	Heaviest text line on back is continuous
II		7/2/41	772,500	Heaviest text line on back divided by vertical line. Text on front reading "Skjema S 26"
Issued September-December 1941. Lowermost line on front ends with: "ikke for naer ovn"				
III		9/25/41	732,000	Year "1941" on back
IV		12/9/41	802,000	Year "194_" and letter "N" on back
Issued April 1942. Lowermost line on front ends with: "gruppe F eller G"				
V		4/14/42	1,037,000	New type setting
Issued July 1942-November 1945. Lowermost line on front ends with: "ikke for sterk varme"				
VI		7/20/42	1,056,500	Without "Skjema S 26" and "E.M. etc."
	a			Light chocolate indicium
	b			Dark brown indicium
VII		10/8/42	878,000	Text reading "E.M. 1 000 000. IX.42"
VIII		1/11/43	1,018,900	Text reading "E.M. 1 000 000. XII.42"
IX		4/13/43	1,360,900	Text reading "E.M. 1 000 000. III.43"
X		7/12/43	1,217,500	Text reading "E.M. 1 000 000. VI.43"
XI		11/11/43	1,054,000	Text reading "E.M. 1 000 000. X.43"
	a			Dark greyish brown indicium
	b			Red brown indicium
XII		2/11/44	1,057,500	Text reading "E.M. I.44. 1 000 000"
XIII		5/26/44	1,043,000	Text reading "E.M. 1 000 000. III. 44"
XIV		9/27/44	2,367,000	Text reading "E.M. 2000000.IX.44"
	a			Dark brown indicium, yellowish card stock
	b			Light brown indicium, brownish card stock
XV		4/26/45	2,029,700	Text reading "E.M. 2000000. III.45"
XVI		11/29/45	1,024,000	Text reading "E.M. X.45.1000000"

card, but unfortunately there is no explanation of what the values indicate. As I have seen far more mint cards than used, I would guess that the latter are scarcer.

I would probably disregard the prices from the early 1970s. Philatelic interest in postal stationery has experienced tremendous growth since then, so prices from 20 years ago are likely to be considerably undervalued. When shopping for cards, I would gauge the accuracy of the price first on condition (mint or used), then on printing quantities. Obviously, a smaller printing indicates greater scarcity. Unusual varieties naturally command a premium.

How much should you pay for these cards? A dealer in Belgium offered me mint examples for roughly \$120 each in 1992. Fortunately, I happened across a treasure trove of these cards during the World Columbian Exposition (1992)

at Jay Smith & Associates (a U.S. dealer specializing in Scandinavia). The cost: \$7-\$8 for used examples. Jay had accurately cataloged the cards by type, so I must therefore assume that these were true valuations.

For the sports philatelist these cards will definitely add spice to your exhibit or collection! □

Primary Source: Oslo Filatelistklubb, *Katalog over Norges Høpost 1872-1972*.

Secondary Source: Higgins & Gage *Postal Stationery Catalog*.

English translations of the cards were provided by SPI member Ossi Virtanen of Finland and (courtesy of Dorothy Weihrauch) the Reverend Sverrer H. Lundh of Axtell, Kansas. Thanks to all three for their help.

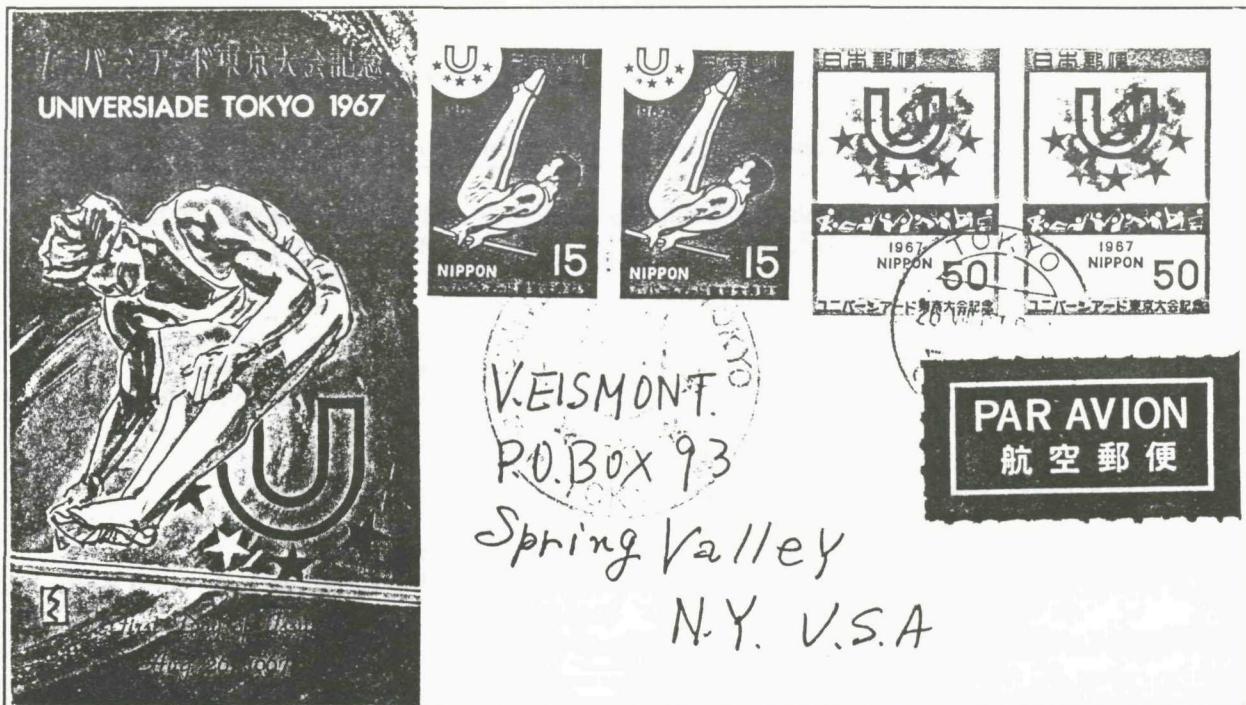


Figure 1. The tiny fencing pictogram is one of several displayed within the central bar on the ¥50 Tokyo University Games stamp of 1967 (Scott #929). Gymnastics is featured on the ¥15 value of the set (Scott #928).

Fencing Philatelist Brings Order To Both Fields

by Bernie McGovern

“Pssst,” said SPI member George Masin, raising his brows, narrowing his lids and darting looks to and fro in an attempt to appear shifty enough to say something like “Pssst ...” with a straight face.

“Postally used, eh, postally used,” he said doing what he is famous for, determining his opponent’s weakness and then exploiting it.

Masin opened his hand case, the internationally recognized signal that he was ready to deal. Out from the case comes the 1967 Japan First Day Cover for the Tokyo University Games (Figure 1), franked with two copies each of the 15 yen gymnast and 50 yen generic “U” logo (Scott #928-9). Its full color cachet features gymnastics and the big “U” for the prestigious multi-sport event known in locker rooms as the “Under-28 Worlds.”

To most, this is just another FDC, perhaps less than that, cluttered as it is with an address.

But to Masin’s latest victim, it is an “invitation,” the purposeful offering of an irresistible opening with which Masin has felled many of the world’s great epee fencers in five World Championships.

Postally used it is indeed, moving through mails so legitimately from Japan to the U.S.A. that the commemorative Universiad mark runs into the address and the Tokyo

first day postmark fades into the Par Avion etiquette.

Yet even a novice knows better than to instantly RSVP an invitation from a two-time Olympian, Pan American Games gold medalist and national champion.

“Where’s the fencer?”

George Masin, who is also a leading authority on fencing philately and the creator and keeper of the American Topical Association’s fencing catalog, produces a glass, moving, as always, quicker than the eye can see. “There, right there.”

“There” is in the midst of a bar running through the 50 yen, a small reverse rendering of the logos of the University Games’ sports and “there” indeed is depicted the fencing pictogram.

“Touché.”

This has been a high level transaction. At this level — eye level — Masin is four meters above ground. He is astride the bout committee rostrum rising above and encircled by the action of the U.S. National Fencing Championships at Fort Myers, Florida.

Without the platform, Masin is 6’5”, solid but slim, the physical example of the ideal épée fencer.

Around him, officials huddle and computers hum. Computers, at least, have cut the administrative running time of major fencing events in half. The computerization of the sport is another one of Masin’s winning legacies, this

one from his stint as the United States Fencing Associations' Executive Vice President.

Although Masin is a lifetime legend in fencing, he did not gain his interest in stamps until adulthood.

"I was out on the (Long) Island going through a department store," he explained. "It was closing out its stamp department and I was just looking. I saw a fencer on a stamp in a big display mixture. I never saw a fencer on a stamp; I never knew they put fencers on stamps."

He bought the world mix to get the one stamp.

Not long after, "I was walking around Macy's, noticed, for the first time, that it had a stamp department, too." He found more fencers on more stamps and was hooked.

Fencing is one of the most honored and least exploited sports on stamps. Before the ever expanding Olympic oriented boom of issues, the world's great fencing nations proudly displayed their prowess on their stamps, a continuation of the "mind game" fencing is at every opportunity.

"But how many were there?" Masin asked.

After taking a tour of the tournament floor and serving a stint as a spectator to watch his teammates from the New York Athletic Club battle their awesome way toward the épée finals, Masin explained how he answered his own question.

"I worked near the New York Public Library," Masin said, "so every day I'd take my lunch over there and pore through catalogs."

His findings currently run to eight single-spaced pages listing nearly 400 issues.

Masin's listing includes formal postal presentations of the sport from logos to stylized arms to action shots of the wielding of its three weapons. It also includes "native fencing," ranging from "men with sticks" to kendo which may some day find its way into fencing's international pantheon of events.

His compilation does not include "fencers on stamps," persons famous or important enough in their nations to rate a stamp, but who were or are also well-known for their swordsmanship.

Fencing bills itself around the world as a lifetime sport and today includes in its rank of competitors a higher-than-average (compared to other sports) number of people well-known for something else. The same was true when fencing was literally a matter of life and death with survivors looking out from early issues.

Including those persons could prove to be a cataloging and collecting nightmare, according to Masin.

Masin uses a new issue service to keep up with new depictions. He personally collects every philatelic aspect of the sport. He attends shows and visits dealers when they are handy or when he is. As an international competitor and official, he has often raided the stocks of European dealers who tend to be more familiar with the sport and with his



Figure 2. U.S.A. Scott #C109 (upper left stamp in this plate block of four) is that nation's only fencing stamp. The 35c rate paid for Airmail letters to North and Central America until Feb. 17, 1985.

collecting interest than are their American counterparts.

He buys, sells, and trades with other fencing philatelists where they congregate, at fencing tournaments. There, too, he develops the interest of new collectors, who might not know, as he did not, that their game is roundly represented in a collectible fashion.

For Masin and all other collectors, keeping up with U.S. outings is easy. There's only been one, Scott #C109, women's foil (Figure 2). □

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<input type="checkbox"/> France	<input type="checkbox"/> Niger	<input type="checkbox"/> Ivory Coast
<input type="checkbox"/> Fr. Polynesia	<input type="checkbox"/> Alafs et Issas	<input type="checkbox"/> Laos
<input type="checkbox"/> Fr. S. Antarctica	<input type="checkbox"/> Algeria	<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon
<input type="checkbox"/> Monaco	<input type="checkbox"/> Cambodia	<input type="checkbox"/> Madagascar
<input type="checkbox"/> N. Caledonia	<input type="checkbox"/> Comoro Is.	<input type="checkbox"/> Martinique
<input type="checkbox"/> St. Pierre	<input type="checkbox"/> Dahomey	<input type="checkbox"/> Mauritania
<input type="checkbox"/> Wallis et Futuna	<input type="checkbox"/> Fr. Eq. Afr.	<input type="checkbox"/> Saar
<input type="checkbox"/> Benin	<input type="checkbox"/> Fr. W. Afr.	<input type="checkbox"/> Senegal
<input type="checkbox"/> Cameroun	<input type="checkbox"/> Fr. Guiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Somali Coast
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Africa Rep.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fr. India	<input type="checkbox"/> Togo
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USPS Honors World Cup USA 94 With 3 Stamps and a Souvenir Sheet

by Mark Maestroni

After much bickering and many hard feelings, the USPS issued its three stamps and a souvenir sheet (shown in Figure 1) on May 26, 1994 in East Rutherford, NJ.

The first day ceremony had originally been planned for New York City, until the local organizers in New Jersey cried "foul." As they correctly pointed out, Giants Stadium, the venue for some of the World Cup matches, is not located in New York, but in the Meadowlands in East Rutherford.

Added to this was the fact that the souvenir sheet identified New York as the host city! In order to assuage the critics, the USPS changed the venue for the first day ceremonies to the Stadium Club at Giants Stadium. It is worth noting that East Rutherford was not the only city left off the souvenir sheet. Four other venue cities were misidentified: San Francisco instead of Palo Alto; Los Angeles rather than Pasadena; Detroit for Pontiac; and Boston as opposed to Foxboro. All nine venue cities offered the new stamps and souvenir sheet on the first day of issue. Each provided its own unique commemorative postmark for the first day. [These special postmarks are illustrated in this issue's "Commemorative Stamp Cancels" column beginning on page 34.]

As an added bonus for New Jersey fans, the USPS also produced a special commemorative panel distributed free of charge at New Jersey post offices. The panel depicts the interior of Giants Stadium with a soccer match in progress. The text reads "World Cup Soccer Stamps/First Day of Issue/East Rutherford, NJ 07073." Between 12,000 and 18,000 copies of the panel were planned, with more to be printed if demand warranted. The panels include an area for the three stamps to be affixed and a special cancel applied.

The annual Nojex Stamp Exhibition overprinted the World Cup sou-

venir sheet with "Soccer in the Meadowlands and Nojex, only in New Jersey." These were sold at the show from May 28 through 30. It should be pointed out that the overprint is unofficial. Mint Nojex overprinted souvenir sheets were available at \$3 each or two for \$5. Covers with the overprinted sheet affixed and canceled were sold for \$4 each.

Recognizing the international character of the competition and the visitors from many nations who would attend the matches, the USPS issued

Table 1

29¢, 40¢ and 50¢ World Cup Stamps
\$1.19 Souvenir Sheet

First Day: May 26, 1994 in East Rutherford, NJ. Same day sale of stamps at the other 8 venues for the World Cup competition: Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Foxboro, MA; Orlando, FL; Palo Alto, CA; Pasadena, CA; Pontiac, MI; and Washington, DC.

General Sale: Beginning May 27, 1994

Designs: 29¢, player kicking the ball; 40¢, player trapping the ball; 50¢, player heading the ball; \$1.19 souvenir sheet, one of each value stamp (se-tenant). Background of souvenir sheet: map of U.S. with host cities identified, World Cup USA 94 logo, names of countries participating in the finals.

Scott Number: Not yet assigned.

Format: Three separate post office panes of 20 stamps (4 rows of 5 vertical format stamps) for each value. Souvenir sheet contains one of each value, se-tenant, in ascending order of value.

Perforation: 11 for both sheet stamps and souvenir sheet stamps.

Process: Gravure, by J.W. Fergusson & Sons, Richmond, VA under contract to Stamp Venturers.

Colors: Stamps: yellow, magenta, cyan and black; Souvenir Sheet: yellow, magenta, cyan, black, red and blue.

Stamp Size: Vertical 0.84" x 1.41" (image); 0.99" x 1.56" (overall); Souvenir Sheet size approximately 5.25" wide x 3.5" high.

Quantity Printed: Not known.

Plate Number: Four sets of four gravure cylinder numbers preceded by the letter "S". No plate numbers on souvenir sheets.

Marginal Markings: "©USPS 1993"; plate position diagram; computation for the face value of the pane of 20 stamps. No markings on souvenir sheets.

Designer: Michael Dudash, Moretown, VT.

Art Director: Carl Herman, Ponte Vedra, FL.

Typographer: John Boyd, Anagraphics Inc., NY, NY.

Project Manager: Terry McCaffrey, USPS.

Modeler: Richard Sennett, Stamp Venturers.

stamps with various values. The 29¢ stamp pays the domestic first class letter rate for one ounce. A 40¢ stamp pays the international post card rate, while the 50¢ stamp is for an international airmail letter under one-half ounce.

The designer of the stamps, Michael Dudash of Moretown, VT, has aptly captured the excitement of the sport of soccer. His style resembles watercolors, and will be remembered from the 1993 sports horses issue which he also designed.

The 29¢ value portrays a soccer player kicking the ball. A player trapping the ball is shown on the 40¢ value, while heading the ball is portrayed on the 50¢ value.

As pointed out in an article in the April 18, 1994 issue of Linn's *Stamp News*, the ball depicted on all three stamps is one manufactured by Adidas. This was confirmed by USPS officials. The Adidas Questra model is the official soccer ball of World Cup USA 1994.

In addition to the three sheet stamps, the souvenir sheet carries the logo of World Cup USA 1994 in the lower left hand corner. The map of World Cup venues is at lower right. The top and bottom edges carry the names of the 24 nations competing in the finals. Table 1 provides additional



Figure 1. The \$1.19 World Cup souvenir sheet features one of each value of the three World Cup stamps and a controversial map depicting World Cup venue cities.

information on the stamps and souvenir sheets.

The first day cancels at the nine venue cities were similar in design.

Each reproduces a soccer ball and the words "World Cup Soccer." A symbol of local significance is at left. The deadline for FD cancels is June 25.

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- AFC Championship Game
- Super Bowl XXXVIII
- The Pro Bowl
- Ted Williams Museum Dedication
- NBA All Star Game
- Daytona 500
- Wayne Gretzky 802 Goals
- Hank Aaron #715 Anniversary
- Michael Jordan/Windy City Classic

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An Open Letter From Luciano Calenda On the Early World University Games

Since I was the "source" for the article published in the July-August 1993 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately* and, consequently, the cause of the letter from Roman Babut published in the March-April 1994 issue, I felt that it was necessary to clarify matters. Hopefully, this letter will end the mild and very polite "quarrel" among friends.

Although I'll proceed by covering all aspects of the discussion, I can already anticipate the conclusion: this is one of those situations in which *everyone is right!*

1. Bob and Mark are right because the main purpose of their article was to establish the exact order of the early University Games (the World Students Games), not to present a complete overview of the philatelic items related to the University Games.

2. According to the inscriptions on the 1933 Italian stamps and the 1945 Budapest cancellations, there is no doubt that those two competitions were the 5th and 6th World University Games, respectively. Proceeding backwards to the Darmstadt 1930 Games, inscriptions on postal stationery items confirm these as the 4th edition. On the basis of some official documents published by FISU (International Federation of University Sports), the 3rd Games were held in Paris in 1928, and the 2nd Games were held in Rome/Pallanza in 1927. Finally, the 1st World Students Games must be considered those performed in Paris in 1923.

3. On the basis of the above-listed elements, both the Warsaw 1924 and Prague 1925 events are not considered on the official list of the World Students Games even though both events are mentioned in FISU documents as follows: "Paris 1923 (the 1st International Students Games) was, however, a tentative and nationally organized event. In the following year the C.I.E. (Confederation Internationale des Etudiants) entered the scene. Their Congress was due to be held in Warsaw. Delegates were invited to compete in, or bring teams for, competitions in athletics and football; participants included Poland, France, Estonia, Great Britain and New Zealand. The friendly sport-for-all event was repeated at the Prague C.I.E. Congress in 1925."

4. Roman was right to point out that there was not only football in Warsaw, but also athletics. As for the other sports, I do not know what Roman's source was. However, I feel he is right only because he has direct access to original documents in Warsaw.

To the contrary, though, I do not think he is right if he wants to include the 1924 and 1925 events in the list of "official" World Students Games. On both these occasions, the main event was the C.I.E. Congress, not the sports contests.

5. Bob and Mark are right about the soccer tournament, since they used the translation of my article originally written in Italian! I mentioned the soccer tournament, but I did not talk about the athletic contest. So, it was my fault!

6. Finally, I do not question the decision by Bob and Mark to focus attention more on the labels than on the first philatelic documents (the Warsaw cancel and the Pallanza meter cancel). Both items were, nevertheless, mentioned in the translation of my article.

So, I believe that everything is now clear, and I can confirm that *everyone is right*. Do you agree?

Corrections

In editing, some errors crept into the May-June 1994 issue of *JSP*.

In the article "Soccer Philately in a World Cup Year":

- The illustrations in Figure 2, page 18 are reversed.

- On page 21, Brazil celebrated its third World Cup victory with four stamps (not three): one before the finals, and three following their victory.

- On page 23, following the 1990 finals, Italy overprinted a previously issued sheetlet. The overprint honored Germany's victory in the finals. There was no reissued stamp by West Germany.

In the article "Is This A Bogus Egyptian Issue?":

- On page 25, the chart in column 1 lists the subject of the 30 mills value as the high jump. This should read women's gymnastics.

Your editor regrets these errors.

Poste Restante Mail At Lillehammer 1994 and Connections To Atlanta 1996

Since the cover story of this issue of *JSP* is the recent Lillehammer Winter Olympic Games, I will leave the news of Atlanta for my September article. Instead, I will focus on one aspect of the postal history of Lillehammer: *poste restante* mail.

The sending of *poste restante* mail is a means of communicating with someone who has no fixed address or schedule. A postmaster holds the letter for a variable length of time before returning it to the sender, typically with arrival and departure cancels. During an Olympic Games, one or both cancels may be special Olympic markings. For the philatelist, it provides an inexpensive way to collect cancellations related to an event such as the Olympic Games.

Of course, these covers are "philatelic," but not any more so than the registered envelopes that we often send ourselves and our friends when we are lucky enough to be able to attend an event in person. Ideally, it would be desirable to find *poste restante* postal history prepared for business or personal use by non-philatelists, but I suspect these items seldom survive. (If anyone would like to send

me a photocopy of an Olympic Games commercial *poste restante* cover, I will gladly publish it with appropriate acknowledgments.)

In spite of their philatelic origin, the *poste restante* covers from the Olympic Winter Games serve a useful purpose in documenting how mail was treated by Norway Post, as well as providing special Olympic cancellations.

Most readers will not be familiar with Norwegian postal marking terminology, so the following brief primer may be helpful:

ikke hentet	not picked up
ukjent	unknown
opphor	finished, expired
funnet	found, located
Postkvittering	postal receipt
rek	sending
rekke	to hand, pass

These terms appear on the covers in various forms: as handstamps, handwritten or on labels.



Figure 1. This *poste restante* cover to the Lillehammer Olympics received an Olympic arrival cancel from the Olympic Park station. Inset at bottom is the backstamped Paralympic departure cancel dated March 20, 1994.

Norman Jacobs
2712 N Decatur Rd
Decatur, Ga 30033
USA

VIA AIR MAIL

*Ukjent
LOOC*



~~Jeffrey Babcock
Poste Restante
Atlanta Comm. Olympic Games
2600, Lillehammer — Norway~~

Figure 2. Addressed to Jeffrey Babcock of the ACOG who was in Lillehammer as an official guest, this cover was returned to me marked "unknown LOOC" and with no back cancels.

Unfortunately, I neglected to keep a precise count of the number of covers I prepared. Twenty were returned to me which I believe accounts for all that I sent. Out of the 20 covers, the USPS managed to cancel 19; the remaining cover was returned from Norway with stamps still uncanceled. I mailed the covers to different venues with the hope of getting some local cancellations, so the number sent to each locale is small. However, some interesting conclusions can be reached from analyzing the postal markings.

As previously mentioned, two special cancellations were applied, with an interval of about 3 to 4 weeks between them. For example, the cover in Figure 1, which was sent to the Olympic Park station, received the special Lillehammer cancel on February 27, four days after it was mailed from Atlanta. It was later backstamped with the special Paralympic Winter Games cancellation on March 20. I received the cover back in Atlanta on March 28.

To test whether efforts would be made to forward mail to official attendees after the Olympic Games closed, I addressed the cover in Figure 2 to Dr. Jeffrey Babcock, the Director of the Cultural Olympiad for the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. Dr. Babcock attended the Lillehammer Games as an official guest of the LOOC (Lillehammer Olympic Organizing Committee). But as you can see, the cover was returned to me (appropriately) as unclaimed. Actually, the Norwegian comment on the cover — *ukjent* — means "unknown" rather than "unclaimed." The reverse of this cover, not shown here, has numerous letter/numeral postal markings typical of those applied in the United States, but no Norwegian markings. Even though this cover received no Norwegian postmarks, others that I mailed to arrive after the close of the Games did receive the a non-Olympic Lillehammer circular datestamps. Only those

covers arriving prior to February 27 (closing day of the Games) received arrival (Olympic) and departure (Paralympic) postmarks.

The cover in Figure 3 was mailed on March 3 to Hunderfossen, Faberg, the site of the luge competition. It obviously arrived after the close of the Games as indicated by the Norwegian "Oppfor" marking. This cover received two backstamps, a Faberg datestamp on March 11, and a Bureau d'Echange d'Oslo marking on March 16. I'm not sure of the Oslo marking's purpose, nor why it was applied to this one cover out of all the ones mailed. Does anyone have information on this?

The phrase "ikke hentet" was placed on most of the covers by Norway Post, either with a handstamp or as a label. Most of the covers sent to specific venues received the handstamp, while labels were affixed to the majority of those mailed to Lillehammer. This is not invariably true, though.

If I had planned in advance to write about these covers, I would have sent more to the out-of-the-way venues. This would have yielded a larger number of examples from which more valid conclusions could be drawn regarding the functioning of the postal service. I'll be prepared to do this when the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games open. I would encourage SPI members to take advantage of this very inexpensive method to acquire examples of some of the postmarks used at the Olympic Games.

The only cover mailed to Lillehammer with even a remote connection to the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games was the cover to Dr. Babcock illustrated in Figure 2. Nevertheless, I did receive one postcard bridging the gap between the 1994 and 1996 Olympic Games, courtesy of Bob Farley in England. The VISA Corporation is a worldwide sponsor

of both the 1994 and 1996 Games. To commemorate their involvement, VISA issued a series of 25 postcards featuring scenes created by children from Norway, Canada and the United States. The original artwork was on display at the "VISA Olympics of the Imagination Exhibition" near Hakon Hall in Lillehammer. The art presented the childrens' visions of what the 2094 Games would look like as a way to celebrate this centennial of the Olympic Movement.

According to Bob, one or two different cards were available at many of the venues. At the VISA Exhibition, the cards were distributed only in small numbers. As depicted in Figure 4, one side of the card reproduces the artwork, while the reverse bears the inscription "VISA Olympics of the Imagination" above the VISA logo with Olympic Rings and "1994/1996." The Figure 4 card received a February 17 Gjøvik Olympic cancel from the ice hockey venue. Since these cards were issued by the sponsor rather than the LOOC, they would not be exhibit-able. They are, nevertheless, very collectible.

If anyone has items that connect the 1994 and 1996 Olympic Games, I would like to receive photocopies. These will be included in future columns. This column is open to any SPI member who has material related to the 1996 Olympics that he or she would like to contribute.



Figure 3. The "Opphor" marking indicates that the Games had already ended when this cover arrived at Faberg. The "Bureau d'Echange d'Oslo" marking is a mystery.

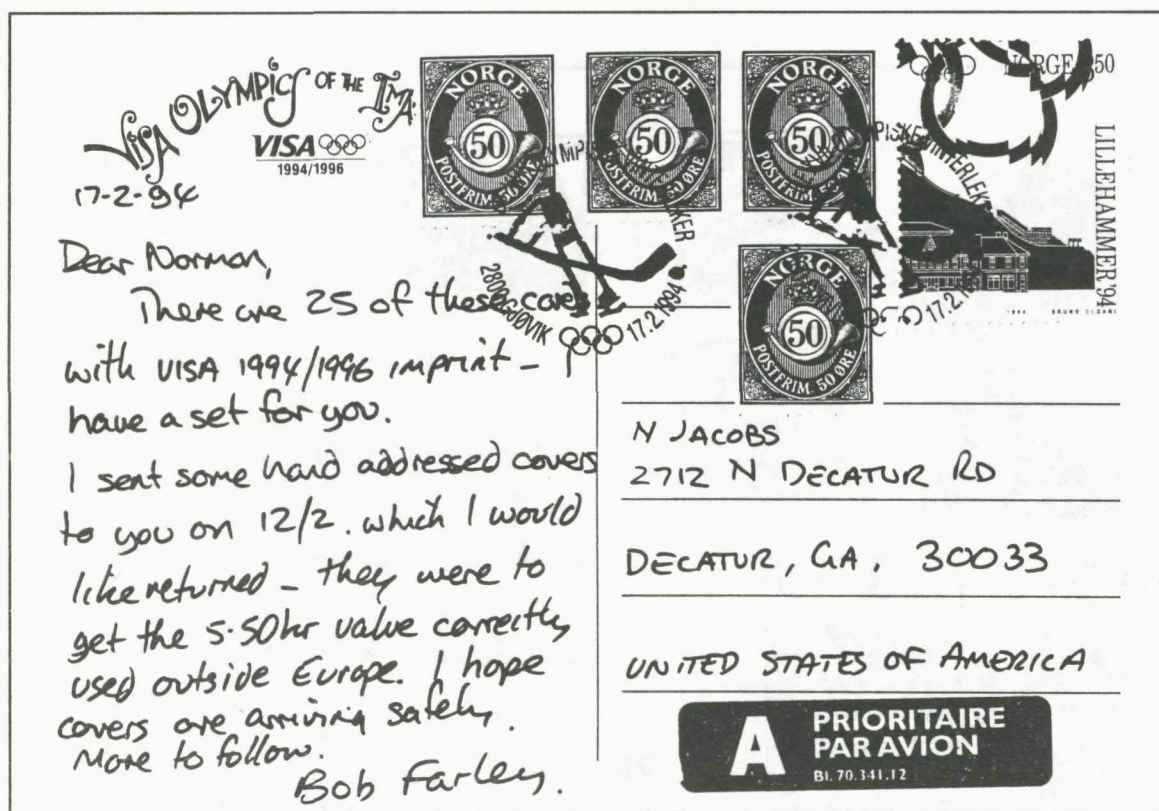


Figure 4. VISA produced a set of 25 cards illustrating childrens' concepts of a 2094 Games. The card, inscribed "1994/1996," is postmarked with the Olympic Gjøvik ice hockey cancel.

On Sports and Olympic Exhibiting

by James Bowman

Having interrupted my series on judging of thematic exhibits because of the January 17 Northridge earthquake, I am now pleased to be able to resume that series of articles. The situation has returned to near "normal."

In previous articles, I covered TREATMENT (which includes Plan and Size of exhibit) and THEME DEVELOPMENT. To recap, TREATMENT and THEME DEVELOPMENT are worth 25 points each. Another major judging criterion is PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE, worth 20 points.

To begin, I refer the reader to the September-October 1993 issue of *JSP* in which I introduced the topic for this article. I find it a difficult concept to convey and will attempt here to bring my previous explanation "down to earth."

One of the best descriptions of this concept was presented by Mary Ann Owens in an issue of the *Columbo Chronicles*: "philatelic knowledge is expressed in two ways: the choice of material and the philatelic text." That's about as straightforward as one can put it!

Her own personal goal is to have a minimum of two different philatelic elements per page. She also counts the elements in an exhibit frame row (usually 4 pages per row) and initially endeavors to have at least four different philatelic elements in that row, keeping in mind that her ultimate goal is to achieve eight different philatelic elements per row.

Let's discuss PHILATELIC ELEMENTS for a moment. One should always strive to include as wide a variety of philatelic elements as are appropriate for the chosen theme. These can include stamps, stamp booklets, postal stationery, meters, commemorative postmarks, essays, proofs, artists' sketches, and even telegrams of those countries where the post is combined with the telegraph. This is by no means a complete listing of philatelic elements, but it does serve to illustrate that the opportunities are many and varied.

The American Philatelic Society's *Manual of Philatelic Judging* notes that "the thematic exhibitor uses the same philatelic material used by traditional, postal history, postal stationery, and aerophilatelic exhibitors ... the thematic exhibit arranges that same material by the design idea rather than by the country or date of issue or by the type of service ..." The manual goes on to state that "judges, therefore, should accept material from the 1860s on the same page as material from the 1960s when both illustrate that page's thematic text."

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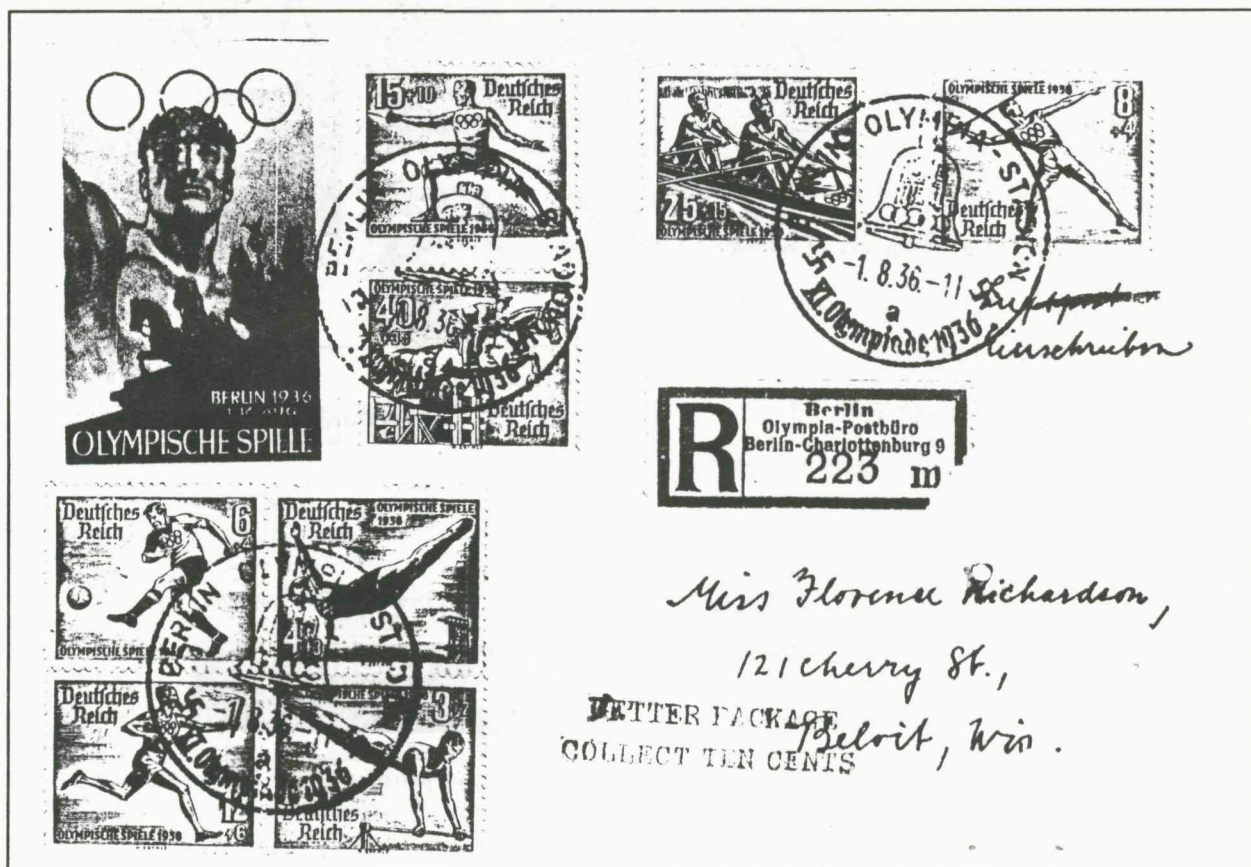


Figure 1. Philatelic knowledge may be shown with unusual postal rates. This 200 gram registered overseas packet was underfranked by 12 pfennigs. The addressee paid a penalty of twice the postage due: 10¢.

Returning to the comment by Mary Ann Owens in the *Columbo Chronicles*, she offers that "all thematic exhibitors are supposed to be PHILATELISTS also and one of the ways to prove it is with a PHILATELIC MINI-STUDY." She states that most thematic subjects offer themselves to at least one mini-study of one to several pages. At the same time Mary Ann cautions the preparer of the exhibit that there still needs to be thematic text with the mini-study.

And finally, she makes one of the most important observations: "an exhibitor's worst enemy can be the lack of philatelic knowledge." In my column appearing in the January-February 1994 issue of *JSP*, I discussed the concept of good "postal character." I urge you to review my referenced comments. As Mary Ann pointed out, an exhibitor can lose points by showing too many overfranked/underfranked covers, too many unaddressed covers, stamps not valid for postage, wrongly identified philatelic items, and not identifying unusual philatelic items.

Hopefully, the comments above have served to further clarify the issue of PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE. Now let's look at items shedding further light on the subject.

Figure 1 is an example of an item that provides an opportunity to exhibit some philatelic knowledge. I purchased this item recently because of the stamped imprint "LETTER PACKAGE/COLLECT TEN CENTS." At the time of purchase, I was pleased to find such an item that was apparently underfranked since so many letters posted with the full set of the 1936 Summer Games issue are found to be overfranked. An additional plus was that an Olympic

label was tied to the letter with a cancellation. For the 1936 Games, one finds many examples of untied labels indicating that they may have been added after posting of the letter. However, the label itself has no philatelic significance and should not be referred to in the exhibit write-up.

Upon investigation, I discovered that Germany had a special rate for small letter packages handled as first class mail, and weighing up to 1000 grams. The first 50 grams cost 50 pfennigs and subsequent increments of 50 grams cost 15 pfennigs each for overseas destinations. The registration fee for this period was 30 pfennigs. This letter apparently weighed 200 grams. Including the registration fee, the letter should have been franked with 1.25 marks; the affixed postage totaled only 1.13 marks. The penalty for underpayment, twice the amount due, converts to 10 cents.

Figure 2 is an example of an item that may fit into the category of discovery, meaning that the thematic meaning is not immediately recognizable and that research must be performed to thematically justify the use of the item. To my knowledge, it is a previously unreported item and as yet I do not fully understand its significance. The markings indicate that the letter originated from an Army Transportation Unit located near the Olympic Village and that they performed some service in support of the 1936 Games. To date, the only thing that I have been able to confirm is that the Wehrmacht did provide bus service to the Olympic Village for arriving athletes. Research continues, but I believe these examples provide some insight into the mysteries of demonstrating PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE.

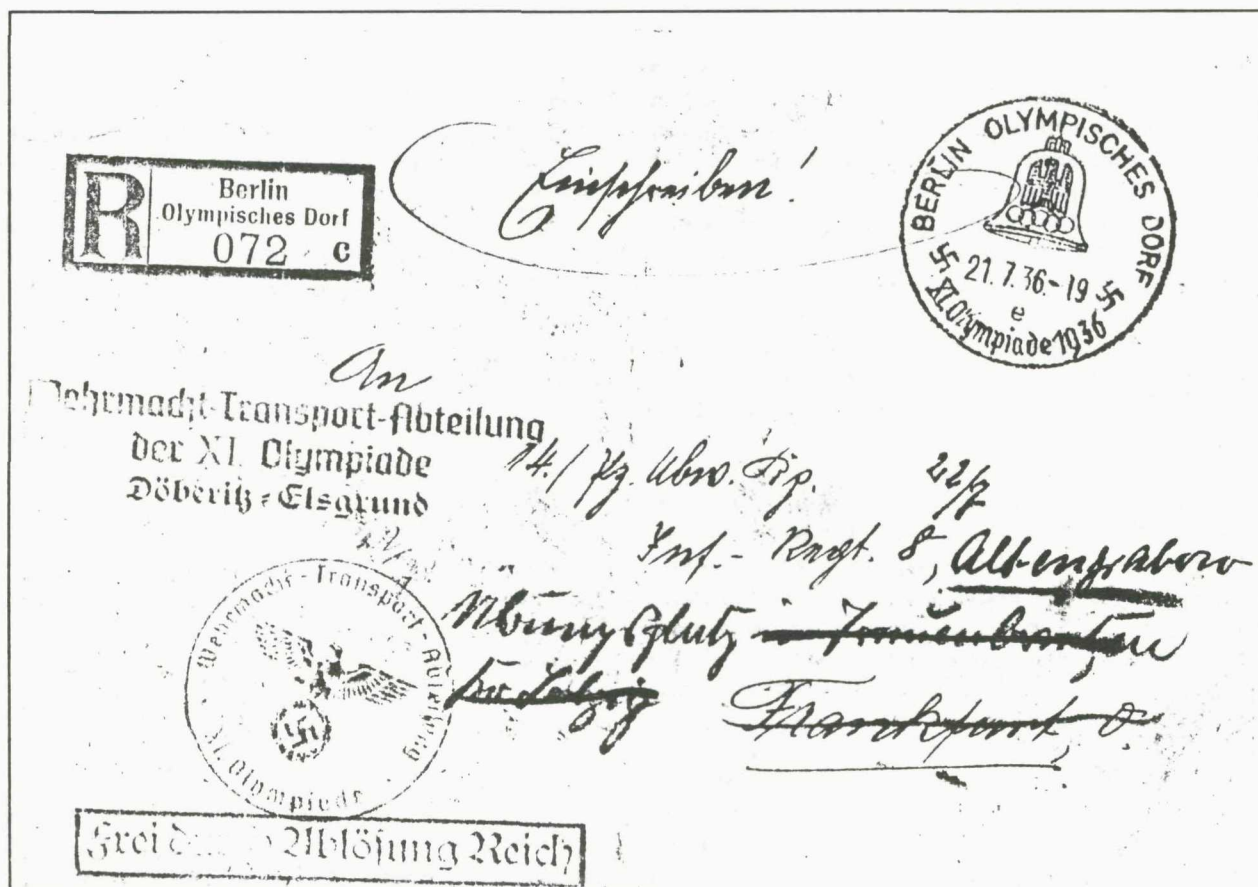


Figure 2. Philatelic knowledge in an exhibit may be displayed through discovery of new thematic lines. I am still trying to pin down the connection of the Wehrmacht's Transportation Unit with the 1936 Olympic Games.

Reviews of Periodicals

by S. Podolsky & D. Weihrauch

Basketball Philatelic News

The June issue of this quarterly newsletter features a long discussion by Spanish collector Pere Magrane, enumerating philatelic items not included in the several catalogs of basketball material which have been issued in recent years (e.g., Elio Tomassini's in 1969, Jaroslav Petrask's in 1977, George Killian's in 1991 and Luciano Calenda's in 1992.) The material which Mr. Magrane believes was incorrectly omitted is described and illustrated.

This issue also includes contributions from collectors in China, Japan, Israel and the Czech Republic, as well as from the U.S. Both recent and recently discovered older basketball-related cancellations and meters are reproduced. An interesting and nostalgic contribution is a postally used 1925 postal card advising of the rates to be charged by approved basketball officials in New England for officiating games. (\$10 and \$15 per game.)

To join this group of basketball collectors and receive the quarterly newsletter write, George E. Killian, Editor, *Basketball Philatelic News*, P.O. Box 7305, Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7305, U.S.A. - D.W.

IMOS Bulletin May 1994

This is a particularly fat issue with much news. The first part of the bulletin consists of 28 pages of the latest society news and activities. There are five different and attractive cancellations for USA Soccer World Cup 1994 and the IOC Centenary. The death of Johan Jørgen Holst, a member of both IMOS and SPI, is reported. His collection and photograph were exhibited at Prolympia, the Olympic philatelic exhibition at Lillehammer.

The planned destruction of the Turnhalle, or German Gymnasium, in London, constructed in 1864, is disclosed. Although in disrepair, the structure is of significant historical interest. It is hoped to save and repair the building with funds from the new lottery. This could be an interesting subject for a pictorial cancellation.

Charly Biernat, Auenweg 74, 52224 Stolberg, Germany is producing four VHS videos for the "100 Jahre Olympia" (or Centenary of the Modern Olympic Games). Cassette 1 covers 1896 to 1912; Cassette 2 1920 to 1932; Cassette 3 1936 to 1956; Cassette 4 1960 to 1972. At the moment, only cassettes 1 and 2 are available. The others are expected later this year. Each video is about 58 minutes, price DM 105 plus shipping cost.

An Olympic Collectors World Fair is planned at the Olympic Museum, Lausanne, Switzerland from October 7 through 9, 1994. Philately, numismatics and memorabilia will be the focus. The program will include exhibits, lectures, a trading bourse, and a tour of the Olympic Museum. For further details, write to the Olympic Mus-

eum, 1 Quai d'Ouchy, CH 1000 Lausanne 1, Switzerland.

A coin collection for the IOC Centenary is discussed. Three French cancels for the European Shooting Championships are shown. Various meetings of sport and Olympic collectors are planned or reported.

A special report on special cancellations and postal stationery for the 1994 World Soccer Championships lists 17 items available from SPI member Manfred Winternheimer, Rosenstrasse 34, D-55270 Schwabenheim, Germany.

The rest of the bulletin consists of short articles, reprints, and installments in a series. Subjects include: cancellations and covers for the World Soccer Championship Finals (1930-1958); excerpts from the German Sport-museum journal (World Conference of Sport Museum Directors at the new Olympic Museum in Lausanne); a catalog of stamps showing Pierre de Coubertin, by Hans Georg Lehmann; Balkan Games 1966 to 1971 (cancels, event results); and an information brochure by the German Sailing Union (the various types of competitions from local to international, medal results, illustrations descriptions of the classes of sailboats).

Additional articles include: Olympic Games 2000 - the Preparations, by Thomas Lippert (pages 13 to 24 of a continuing series on candidate cities and their philatelic efforts); figure skating (illustrated narrative); catalog of 1936 Olympic picture postcards (pages 11 to 20 of a continuing series); reprint of Walt Wehrle's article on the 1944 Swiss Olympic Jubilee issue that appeared in *Briefmarken Spiegel*, March 1994; XVII Olympic Winter Games by Thomas Lippert (14 pages); "Sport Cancel News" (illustrates new sport cancels worldwide); archery cancels (a continuing series, Japan to Poland 1989-91); meter cancels, Berlin 2000 (a highly detailed discussion and listing); handball (continuing catalog of cancels, stamps, postal stationery); wrestling (narrative on Georg Gehring, born 1903 - died 1943); and "Sport Postal Stationery Catalog," a continuing series, March - December 1987.

The bulletin ends with 12 pages of members' ads to buy, sell and trade. 18 members took advantage of this free service. A Michel catalog of Olympic coins and medals from the ancient to the modern times is announced.

The *IMOS Bulletin* is published by the Internationale Motivgruppen Olympiaden und Sport. Membership is DM 45. For more information, please contact Herbert Huber, Secretary, Justig v. Liebigstrasse 14, D-6707 Schifferstadt, Germany. - S.P.

Phila-Sport No. 9

The winter issue of this Italian quarterly sports periodical reports on the final stage of the competition for the best Italian sports exhibit. The winner was Pierangelo Brivio's soccer exhibit, which received 86 points, narrowly beating

out three other exhibits each of which scored 85 points: soccer by Bruno Cataldi Tassoni, tennis by Valeriano Genovese and bicycling by Pasquale Polo.

Major articles in this issue of *Phila-Sport* include one by Nino Barberis who reviews all of the exhibits entered in the competition referred to above; a question and answer session with Paolo Padova, whose exhibit on horse racing won the 2nd stage of the national competition for best Italian sports exhibit; and an article on the phantom Olympics of 1940 (despite three changes of venue, it was never held). Among the shorter articles, another by Nino Barberis advises that two Italian sports meters (one of which is reproduced in Figure 1), besides being very rare, are also now being counterfeited.

In his lead editorial, Maurizio Tecardi notes that membership in the Unione Italiana Filatelisti Olimpici e Sportivi (UIFOS) had reached 200 by press time. He also calls attention to the International Olympics Fair which will be held in Lausanne, at the new Olympic Museum, from October 7 to 9 of this year, and hopes that UIFOS may hold its annual meeting there.

The Italian meter group, AICAM, is making photocopies available of the first Olympic meter collection, owned by the late Franco Pellegrini. Prepared in 1984, the collection includes such rarities as the only 1928 Amsterdam Olympic meter, as well as others from the 1952 Helsinki and 1956 Cortina Olympics. The collection is presented as AICAM publication #144, 24 pages. The postpaid price to an Italian address is 5,000 lire (about \$3.15). Persons in the U.S. wishing to purchase a copy should allow for the additional cost of trans-Atlantic postage. Address requests to AICAM, Viale Famagosta 24, 20142 Milan, Italy.

The balance of this issue's 48 pages includes many short articles on individual sports, photocopies of recent meters and cancels, a listing of new sports stamps, an update on prices realized for sports material offered in recent auctions, and an index of articles to the first eight issues of this periodical.

Phila-Sport, subsidized by the Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI), is distributed free to members of UIFOS, Via dei Monti Tiburtini 600, 00157 Rome, Italy.

- D. W.

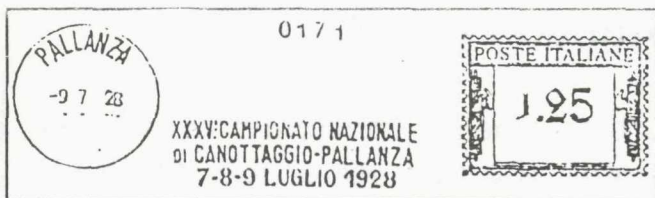


Figure 1. One of two Italian sports meters now reported as being actively counterfeited.

La Philatelie Thematique - Supplement Sports

The 2nd quarter 1994 issue of the French Thematic Association's journal includes articles on Pierre de Couber-

tin, and on cycling, basketball and cross-country skiing.

Rene Geslin, in his article on de Coubertin, provides some background on his role in the establishment of the modern Olympics. He notes, too, that aside from General de Gaulle, de Coubertin is the Frenchman most often depicted on stamps and other philatelic material.

The cycling article reproduces all of the French cycling cancellations used in 1993 — a total of 56. The basketball article consists of reproductions of material related to the 1956 French basketball stamp (Scott #801), ranging from an original drawing of the unadopted design through a minor plate variety, maximum card, and FDC. In a continuation of the series on winter sports, the present article on cross country skiing discusses the sport's history, techniques and equipment, organized much as in a philatelic exhibit.

- D. W.

Torch Bearer

The May 1994, issue of this journal of the Society of Olympic Collectors is the first edited by Vice Chairman Robert Farley, who has succeeded Chairman Francesca Rapkin as editor. Among the interesting articles it contains is the first part of the editor's account of his visit (with his family) to the 1994 Olympic Winter Games at Lillehammer. His experiences in obtaining philatelic and non-philatelic Olympic souvenirs and in finding elusive post offices from which to mail himself registered covers make a fascinating story.

News in this issue includes word of the issuance of a 'cinderella' miniature sheet by Brisbane Town Post commemorating Sydney's successful bid for the 2000 Olympic Games. Further information is available from the issuer at P.O. Box 431, Nerang, Queensland 4211, Australia. An Olympic Philatelic Exhibition will be held in Paris from August 26 through September 5, 1994, to coincide with the centennial of the International Olympic Committee. The official report of the 1992 Barcelona Games (4 volumes) has been published and is now available from Digec S.A., Apartado F.D. 185, 08080 Barcelona, Spain. It is available in four language versions: English, French, Spanish or Catalan. The price is about 15,000 pesetas (roughly \$110) per volume, presumably with an additional charge for postage to American addressees. (Note that the order form for the report is itself an Olympic philatelic item — pre-paid postal stationery.) Finally, the annual THEMATICA exhibition is scheduled this year for July 2 and 3 in London, at Carisbrooke Hall, 63 Seymour St. The only British stamp show catering exclusively to topical/thematic collectors, summer visitors to London will enjoy it.

Other articles in this issue include one by Rene Christin which summarizes and up-dates the Winternheimer catalog listing of Grenoble 1968 Olympic Winter Games host country postal markings. Another by our own Sherwin Podolsky is reprinted from the July/August 1984 issue of *JSP* and deals with his own preferences as to which items to collect from among the flood of modern Olympic Games material. To join the Society of Olympic Collectors, contact the secretary: Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, England.

- D. W.

News of Our Members

by Robert Mummert & Dorothy Weihrauch

New Members

1948R Thomas Cavanaugh, 5 Pollock Rd., Wayland, MA 01778. Thomas is a teacher and coach who collects Olympics, football, lacrosse and rugby. (Covell)

1949R Lynn Torrance, 1290 Navoli Place, Pomona, CA 91760. Lynn is a government employee whose interests include soccer and the 1994 World Cup. (Covell)

1950R Marc Finkelstein, 28 Nirvana Avenue, Great Neck, NY 11023. Employed in real estate, Marc collects Olympics, baseball, tennis, horse racing and soccer. (Jones)

1951R Paul Kretschmer, 139 McDuffy Hollow Road, Van Etten, NY 14889. Paul is a retired teacher collecting gliding, cross country skiing, biathlon and U.S. sports covers. (Maestrone)

1952R Kaj Kromann Hansen, Kronhjortlokken 50, Korup, Odense NV, DK-5210 Denmark. Kaj is a manager who collects athletics (track & field). (Mummert)

1953A Ortwin Schiessel, Lascygasse 14-16, Wien a-1170, Austria. A sales manager, Ortwin collects ice hockey, table tennis, handball, canoeing and cycling. (Reiss)

Address Corrections

Luciano Calenda, P.O. Box 17126, Grottarossa, 00189 Rome, Italy.

Dieter Germann, Postfach 1128, D-63534 Grosskrotzenburg, Germany.

Total Membership, March 31, 1994

415

Sports & Olympics Exhibits Awards

National Shows

FILATELIC FIESTA, held in March in San Jose, California, sponsored by the San Jose Stamp Club. A Junior Vermeil went to Samantha Burde for "U.S. Olympic Stamps." She also received the AAPE junior award, the H.E. Harris medal and the Junior Philatelists of America blue ribbon.

ROPEX, held in April by the Rochester (NY) Philatelic Association and the Kodak Stamp Club. Alice J. Johnson received a silver for "Figure Skating."

WESTPEX, held in San Francisco April 29-May 1, sponsored by the Association of Western Philatelic Exhibitions. A silver award was received by Alice J. Johnson for "Figure Skating."

Local and Regional Shows

FRESPEX, held in March in Fresno, California under the sponsorship of the Fresno Philatelic Society. A Junior Bronze award went to Jesse Jimenez for "Olympics USA."

A Note From The Auction Manager

Due to the large number of lots currently being consigned to the SPI Auction, I am asking that consignors limit the number of lots for each auction to no more than 30. Each lot must be adequately described, priced, and ***enclosed in a glassine or other type of envelope.***

Material that can usually be found in dealers' stocks does not sell as well as more unusual and esoteric material such as cancellations, postal stationery and meters.

A reminder to successful bidders: please pay for material within 3 days of receiving your lot and invoice.



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by Mark C. Maestroni

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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

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

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

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

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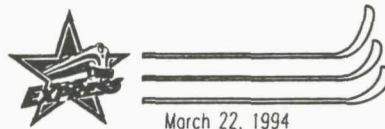
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38301-9998

94316-383 JACKSON, TN

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94327-128 GLENS FALLS, NY

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OAK RIDGE, NC 27310

APRIL 1, 1994

94401-273 OAK RIDGE, NC

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CLEVELAND STADIUM STATION
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
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94408-152 PITTSBURGH, PA

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94414-065 NEW HAVEN, CT

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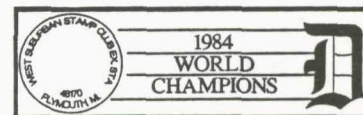
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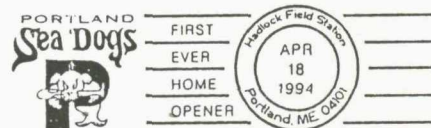
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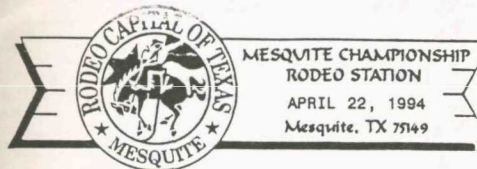
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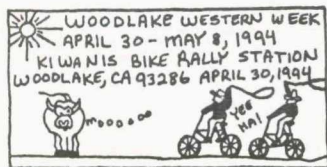
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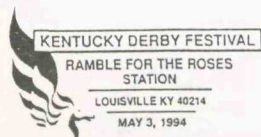
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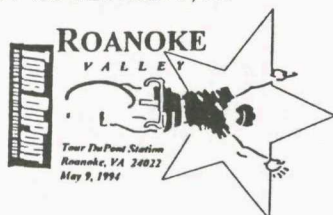
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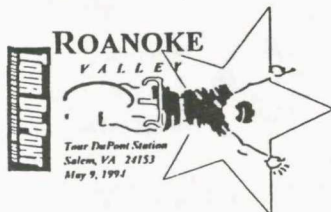
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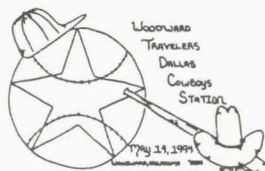
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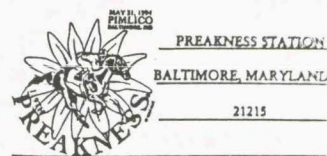
94514-598 SEELEY LAKE, MT

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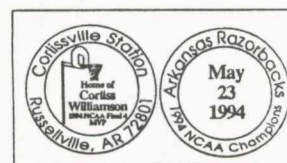
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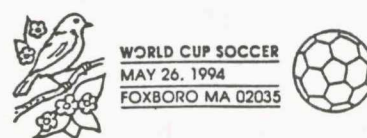
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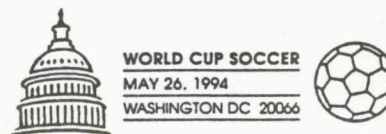
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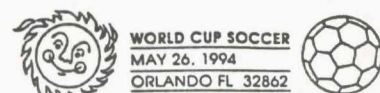
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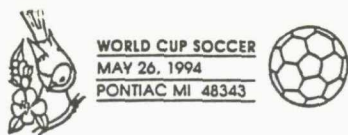
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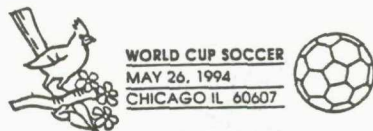
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WORLD CUP SOCCER
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PONTIAC MI 48343

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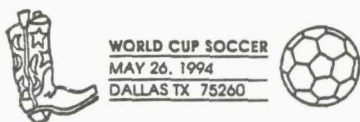
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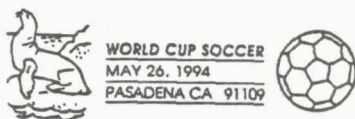
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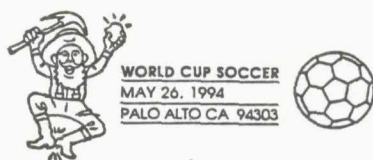
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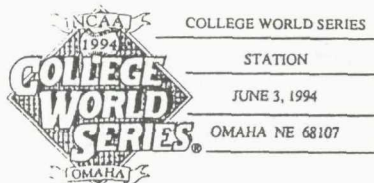
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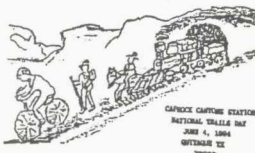
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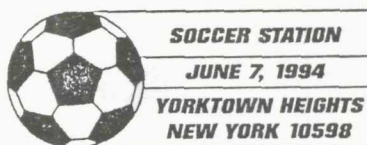
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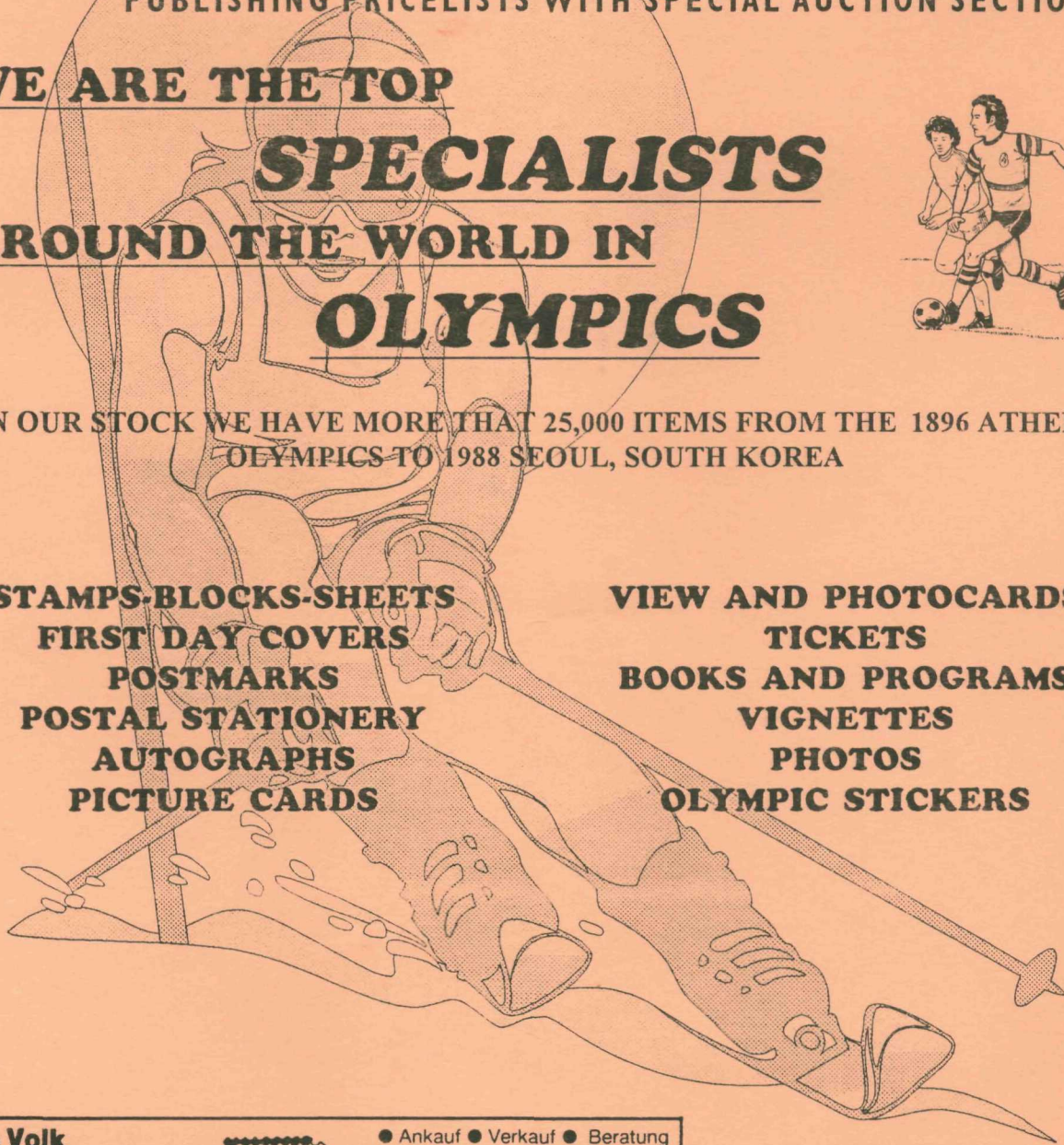
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September 1993 - August 1994

compiled by Margaret A. Jones

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