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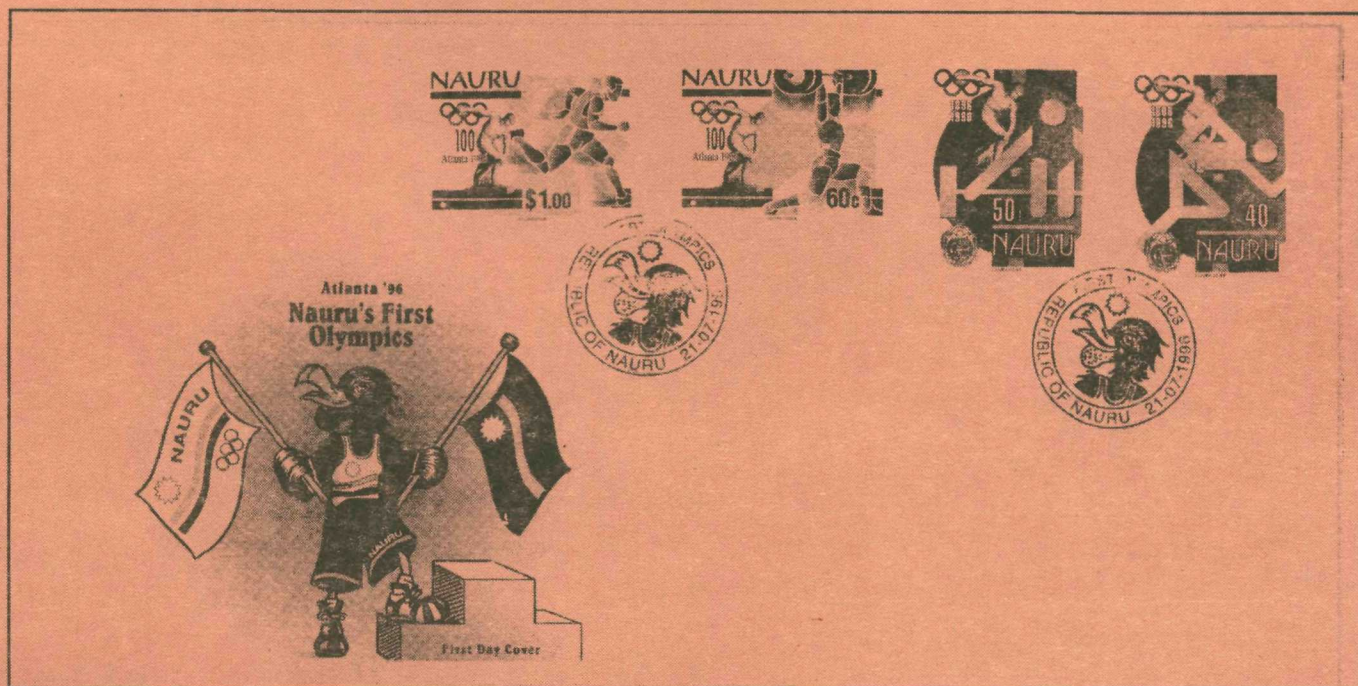
JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 35

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1996

NUMBER 2

Post and Communications at the 1996 Centennial Olympics



Nauru competed in the Olympics for the first time at the 1996 Games. This small island nation in the Pacific Ocean commemorated its participation with a first-day-of-issue ceremony on July 21 during Olympilex '96.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestroni

So Where Does SPI Go From Here?

A new board of directors took office on September 1, and I'm sure that all of you join me in welcoming our new Vice-President, Charles Covell, and Board Member, Jeffrey Tishman. Understandably, it's difficult to get excited about a slate of candidates running unopposed, so I'm pleased that 53 members took the time to send in ballots.

Getting right down to work, our first board letter was circulated on September 20. In it, I set forth five goals for this two-year term:

- 1 Adopt new by-laws to augment a revised SPI constitution;
- 2 Establish a closer, and hopefully official, relationship with the U.S. Olympic Committee;
- 3 Continue to improve the content and appearance of our journal;
- 4 Coordinate a program of event cancels with U.S. National (Sports) Governing Bodies;
- 5 Develop more handbooks and monographs on both individual sport and Olympic topics.

Your board welcomes any help from members wishing to assist us in furthering these goals.

We are also in need of a new *JSP* Advertising Manager. Our current manager, Stephen Rock (who has done a marvelous job, by the way), can no longer continue as he has been overwhelmed with business commitments. No artistic talent is required. Interested? Please contact your President for more information.

Those members who "surf the net" may have noted our web site address (shown at the bottom of this page) has changed. That's because we have a new Webmaster, Peter Laimins, who has donated space provided to him by his internet server.

Visitors to our expanded web site can find out more about our society, view a list of our house publications and cacheted covers for sale, participate in question and answer sessions, and much more. Further improvements will hopefully include reproductions of articles from our journal and up-to-date philatelic news of interest to sport and Olympic philatelists.

I mentioned earlier that one of our five goals is the promotion and use of more sport and Olympic related cancels in the U.S. Taking the bull by the horns, SPI will be sharing a meter machine with our publisher, Custom Impressions. Each year, we will use two different meter die hubs on outgoing SPI mail. These will honor a U.S. Olympic gold medalist who has never been philatelically commemorated. To be fair in our selection process, one meter will honor a summer Olympian, the other a winter sport competitor. Our first honorees are: Carol Heiss (Ladies Figure Skating, 1960) and Duke Kahanamoku (Men's Swimming, 1912, 1920, 1924).

We're excited about the possibilities as we begin this new Olympic quadrennium. We hope that you'll join us by contributing your ideas, writing an article for the journal, or volunteering some of your time.

Before closing, I'd like to offer my congratulations to SPI member, George Killian. At the recent IOC Session at Atlanta, George was named the third U.S. member of the International Olympic Committee. He will serve in this position for the duration of his presidency of FIBA (International Basketball Federation). George also received the Olympic Order from IOC President, Juan Antonio Samaranch.

SPI World Wide Web Site: <http://www.concentric.net/~laimins/spi.html>

Olympihlex Selection Process Explained

I wish to correct something concerning the information you published on page 29 ["The Sports Arena," September/October 1996] on Olympihlex 2000.

Olympihlex, a world exhibition of Olympic philately organized on the occasion of a summer Olympic Games, belongs to FIPO/IOC and consequently can be organized only by FIPO/IOC.

In organizing such an event, FIPO/IOC requires the collaboration of the Organizing Committee of the Games (in this case, the Sydney Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games, or SOCOG) and the inclusion of Olympihlex as part of the Cultural Olympiad.

Once the organization of an Olympihlex has been decided upon, FIPO/IOC and the Organizing Committee of the Games eventually contact the [host country] postal administration, in this case Australia Post.

In a second stage, contacts with the local Association of Olympic-sports philatelists (member of FIPO) and the national philatelic federation may be taken, should the patronage of FIP be requested. Consequently, what you communicated in "The Sports Arena" on Olympihlex 2000 is the result of an initiative taken by somebody who could not have taken it!

To complete the information, I draw your attention to the fact that next December I will go to Sydney, together with Mr. Bergman, Coordinator of the IOC Commission of Olympic Collectors, in order to decide, together with those responsible in SOCOG and the Australia Post, on the possibility of organizing Olympihlex 2000.

Maurizio Tecardi, Secretary General
Fédération Internationale de Philatélie Olympique
Rome, Italy

Olympihlex '96 Palmares Addendum

My collection entitled "Baseball," which was entered in the competitive class at Olympihlex '96, received a large silver medal (79 points). Unfortunately, I did not see my name listed among SPI members printed in the Palmares in the *Journal of Sports Philately* ("Olympihlex '96 Palmares," September/October 1996, pp 14-16).

Thank you for your attention.

Valentino Vannelli
Grosseto, Italy

[Your editor regrets the omission, and congratulates Mr. Valentino on his excellent award.]

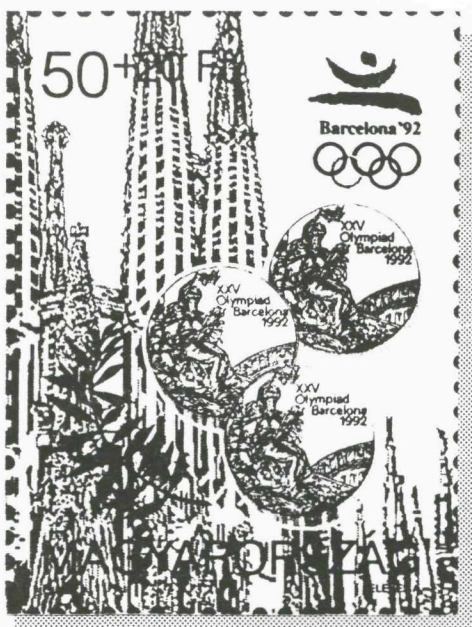
More on Conan Doyle & W.G. Grace

Thanks to the good offices of one of your members, I have seen the article "Sherlock Holmes and the Sticky Wicket" which appeared in your January-February [1996] edition.

May I congratulate the author for producing such an interesting and well-researched article.

I did however find one very important omission in the article, namely the lack of any reference to Doyle's greatest cricketing feat. On 25 August 1900, Doyle dismissed the legendary W.G. Grace (see Figure 2 in the article). This occasion has been marked philatelically [Editor's note: a copy of a cacheted cover for the 95th anniversary of this event was enclosed, but a lack of space prevents reproduction here.].

Stuart Elgro
Tel Aviv, Israel



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Post and Communications at the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games

by Thomas Lippert

The primary U.S. Postal Service (USPS) facilities in Atlanta and its environs were discussed by Mark Maestroni in his series of articles in the September/October 1996 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*. Now it is time to have a look at some other aspects of post and communications during the 1996 Olympic Games.

Mark wrote about the adventures encountered in trying to obtain relevant cancellation information in advance of the Games. Due to the problems and conflicts between the USPS, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) and the

U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC), pre-Olympic announcement of the USPS cancel program was lacking. In fact, the sports postmarks used at Olymphilix '96, which were created at USPS Headquarters in Washington, DC, seemed to have been kept a secret until the last moment.

The other arm of the USPS presence at the Games, the Atlanta Postal District, had their own unique set of obstacles. Wishing to create a good impression for the many visitors coming to the Olympics, roughly 33 post offices in the Atlanta area were renovated, converting them into more user-friendly Postal Stores.

In the case of Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport, postal patrons received a brand new Postal

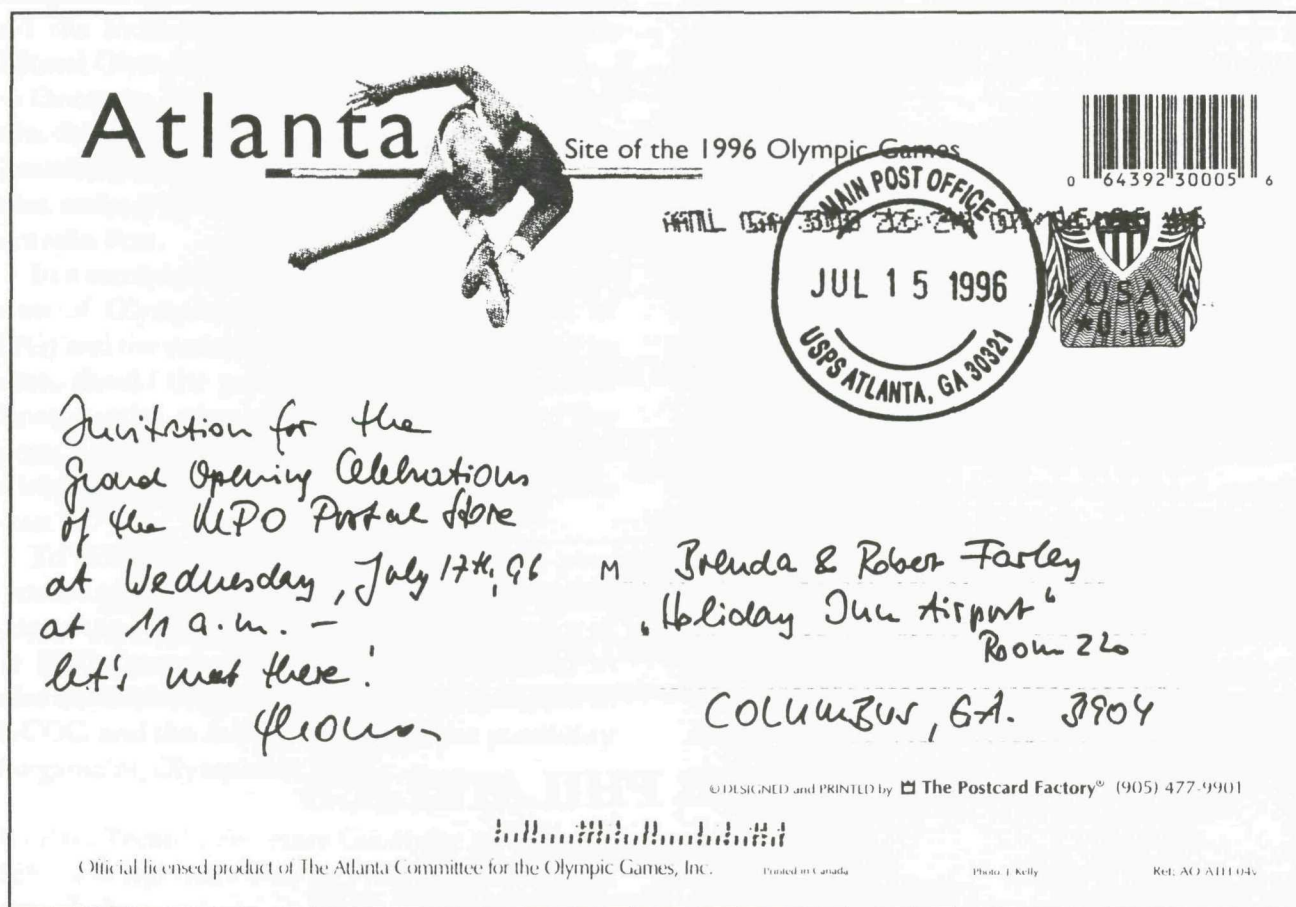


Figure 1. Post card mailed on the first day of operation of the new postal store at Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport. A "Quik Post" customer-generated stamp franks the card. Only three machines of this type were supposedly in operation around Atlanta during the Games.

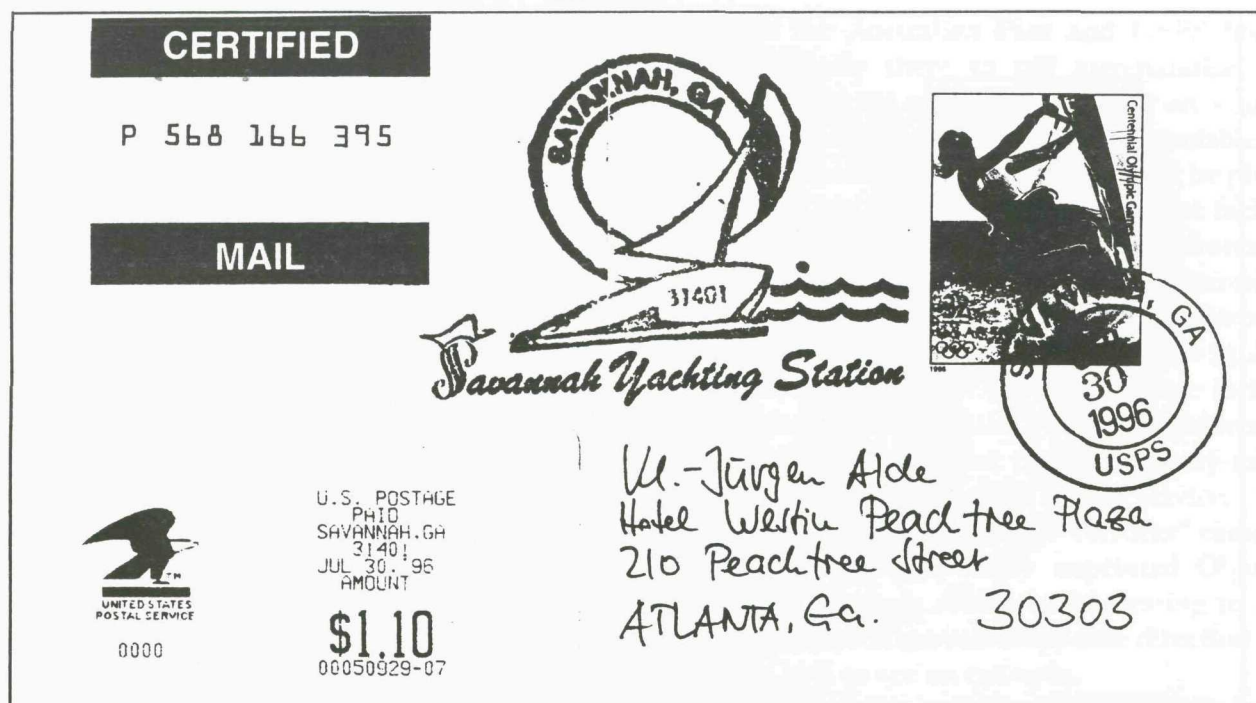


Figure 2. Cover canceled by a Savannah, GA double ring cancel during the Games. The Savannah Yachting Station cancel, originally used on May 3, was applied during the Games as a cachet without the date hub.

Store. Until then, only a row of mailboxes at the post office facility near the airport had been provided for travelers. This new facility opened during the week preceding the Olympic Games. After reading an article in the newspaper, Bob and Brenda Farley and I went to the new Postal Store intending to be there when it began operation on July 15 (Figure 1). Now I know when I must appear if an event is scheduled for 12:01 a.m.! We arrived around noon, about twelve hours too late. However, all was not lost for we did find out that the "official opening" was two days later on July 17 – an event for which we did arrive on time.

For collectors of customer-generated stamps, the Hartsfield Airport facility was one of three Postal Stores in Atlanta with a Gard Quik Post machine (Figure 1). This so-called Postage & Mailing Center (PMC) weighed items and then printed the correct postage on a Klüssendorf-type printer. This PMC was number 34.

The Atlanta Postal District of the USPS promoted its renovated stores through announcements in the local newspapers and large posters in the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) rail stations and on its trains.

Initially, this was a good idea, providing help for both visitors to the Games and collectors. The

information proved, in some instances, incorrect. I followed the advice on one announcement – "Come See What's In Store ... On MARTA's North/Northeast Line!" As luck would have it, I chose to visit the two post office facilities of the seven listed which had not yet been converted into Postal Stores. These were the Midtown Post Office and the facility near Lenox Station. The latter was located in an attractive mall where the Olympic Countdown T-shirt auctions had been held by Hanes, the official outfitter of the Games. In compensation for lost time, and traveling on foot and by MARTA in the 35°C (95°F) heat, I would have preferred a bit more success for my efforts.

Last minute decisions in creating the postmark program resulted in unforeseen delays in getting those cancels to the appropriate postal facilities. In this sense, Table 3 in Mark's article [September/October 1996, pp. 21-23] should be interpreted with caution. From my experience, the "Mobile Post Office" and "Liberty the Eaglet" cancels were placed in use on time. The same was not true for all the Skyline cancels. Some arrived later than July 24, although all were to be in use on July 19.

Late implementation of the cancel program prevented proper training of the postal personnel. At the Hartsfield Airport Postal Store, the Skyline



Figure 3. Cover mailed from the USPS booth at the Fox Theatre. The additional cachet from the Australian post office reflects the cooperation between the two postal administrations. The Australian stamp is one of the new festive Frama designs introduced early in June, 1996.

cancel was withdrawn after the first day (July 19), the station manager insisting that it was only to be used that one day. Collector complaints to the Atlanta Postmaster solved the problem, with the airport cancel being placed back into use.

A similar occurrence involved the Skyline postmarks at the Main Post Office (MPO) and at Olympihlex. The first few days of the Games, it was not available at the MPO, but was in use at the exhibition postal facility. Later, the reverse was true. It is possible that both the MPO and Olympihlex shared a single postmarking device.

As someone living on the Baltic Sea coast, I elected to spend a few days on the Atlantic coast in Savannah before entering the heat of Atlanta. It was a good decision! After walking the attractive river front, there was sufficient time to search for postal material. My first surprise: a special cancel had been used on May 3 in Savannah which coincided with the second day of issue of the Olympic sports sheet of 20 stamps.

[Editor's note: the first day of issue of the Olympic stamps took place in Washington, DC on May 2, with a first day cancel also available in Atlanta. The second day cancel in Savannah was applied to 100 post cards by the Savannah main post office and given free to the first

100 customers who purchased full sheets of the Olympic stamps.]

I asked about special cancellations during the Olympics, but was told there would be none. It was completely by accident that I learned of the change of heart by Savannah postal authorities. Some items that I had sent to the Wilmington Island postal facility (site of the Olympic Marina) for cancellation during the Games were returned to me at my hotel in Georgia along with an announcement. From July 22 to August 22, a special Savannah Olympic postmark would be used. The cancel was actually the Savannah Yachting Station cancel from May, but with the date hub removed (Figure 2). A standard circular date postmark canceled the stamp. Bob Farley visited Savannah during the Games, and reported that this special cancel (more precisely, a cachet) was available only at Savannah's main post office.

[Editor's note: Sandy Moore of the Savannah post office said that the dateless cancel was used only through August 4, the last day of the Games.]

Among the publicity materials from the USPS, mention was made of a postal facility at the Fox Theatre. Centrally located on Peachtree Street, it wasn't difficult to find. The theater, rented by the

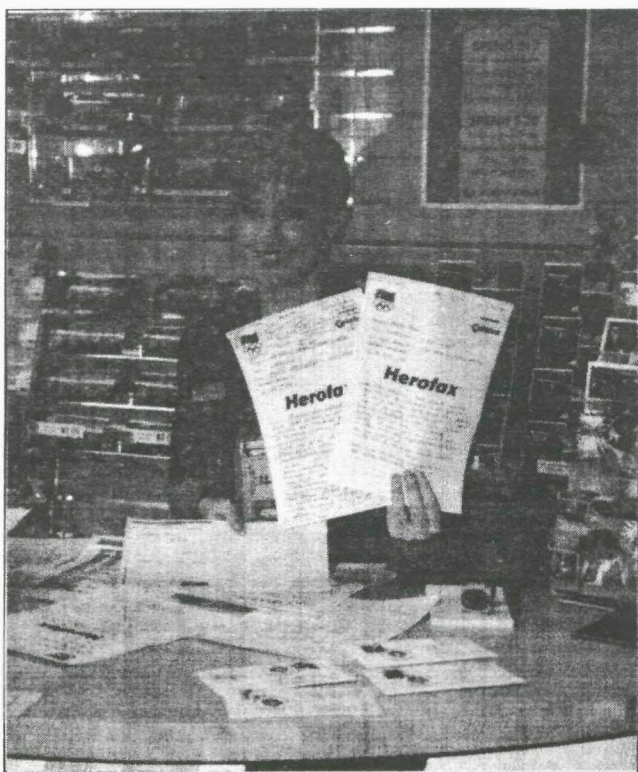


Figure 4. An Australia Post employee holds examples of the "Herofax" awaiting delivery.

Australian Olympic delegation, housed the Fosters Club (where athletes, officials and Australian tourists could enjoy the Australian athletic successes with a bottle of their famous beer). The Sydney 2000 organizing committee maintained an office there along with other Australian sponsors. Australia Post was "part of the team" (the slogan used on machine postmarks in Australia before the Games), sharing space with the USPS. Their stand – visible through the windows on the street – opened July 17, and operated through the period of the Olympics. In addition to plenty of souvenirs, both postal services offered special postmarks. The USPS cancel, created specially for this location, featured the symbol of the Fox Theatre in the center. The Australian cancel was the same as that used at their Olympihlex booth (Figure 3).

What is particularly interesting about the USPS cancel, other than the fact that it bears no reference to the Olympics, is the date line at the bottom: July 19 - August 3, 1996. As noted above, this facility actually opened on July 17. One wonders if this cancel was used on either July 17 or 18, despite the inscription.

Both the Australian Post and USPS booths were primarily there to sell merchandise. The Australian cancel was only available on a hand-back basis. USPS mailboxes were available for depositing mail. Even Express Mail could be placed in the box. As this was not a full-service facility, registered and insured mail could not be processed.

Australia Post played an important secondary role. Australians back home could fax in messages of congratulations, etc. to their favorite athlete. These were received in the Fox Theatre facility, then delivered by Australia Post to the addressee. It should be pointed out that a company called TELSTRA actually operated the fax service.

As the appropriately named "Herofax" came in, it was printed on specially imprinted Olympic paper (Figure 4). It would be interesting to find out if communication in the opposite direction was possible, and to see an example.

First Day Ceremonies at Olympihlex

Including the USPS first day ceremony for the 32¢ Discobulus stamp (July 19), five postal administrations held first day events at the exhibition: United Nations (July 18), Nauru (July 21), Australia (July 22), and Papua New Guinea (July 24). Only the first days of issue of the United Nations and Australia are discussed in this article.

The United Nations held a first day ceremony at Olympihlex on July 18, the day of the private opening of the exhibition (the official first day was on July 19). We all watched as IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch acted as "postmaster," canceling the first stamps with the first day of issue postmark.

Under the terms of an agreement between the USPS and United Nations, letters franked with United Nations stamps may enter the mail stream in New York City only (seat of the UN). In special cases, however, UN franked mail may be accepted at another location in the United States. Atlanta is only the fourth city in which this special clause of the agreement has been activated. Thus, the special UN first day cancel reads "Atlanta, GA 30304" rather than New York City.

A UN exhibition cachet was applied in blue. For the first days of Olympihlex, it was possible to

leave mail with the UN authorities at the show for posting from their New York headquarters (Figure 5). This was not possible throughout the duration of Olymphilex, because the UN staff did not stay in Atlanta very long. After their departure, a private philatelic agent (who also handled the stamps of Royal Mail, Canada Post, and the Portuguese postal administration) sold their philatelic material for them. They could not, unfortunately, handle the special mailing services.

Australia Post was one of many postal administrations and agencies represented at Olymphilex. A special ceremony for the first day of issue for Australia's Olympic stamp was held on July 22. Referred to as a "bridge" by pin collectors, the stamp honored both the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and the upcoming 2000 Games in Sydney.

One was also able to purchase a maximum card for the stamp which paid the airmail rate (Figures 6a & 6b). As a special service to collectors, these franked cards could be placed in a special container for mailing. At the exhibition's end, this mail would be collected transported, back to Australia, and then mailed from there. In this way, it was possible to receive traveled cards, rather than just a hand-back souvenir.

Post Offices Inside the Olympic Infrastructure

All of us were aware of the problems between the USPS and the organizers of the Games stemming from the fact that the United Parcel Service (UPS) was a worldwide sponsor of the Centennial Olympic Games. This effectively banned the USPS from all Olympic venues – or so we thought.

Previously, Mark wrote about the existence of a contract post office on the grounds of the Georgia Institute of Technology (better known as Georgia Tech), site of the primary Olympic Village. But was this postal facility within the secured area of the village? We took up the task of finding an answer.

It wasn't long before we realized that, yes indeed, the post office was *inside* the Olympic Village. I learned this from members of the German Olympic team who had been there. Our colleague, Jaroslav Petrasek, knew about it from an article in a Czech newspaper describing the accommodations and amenities available to the Czech Olympic team. The challenge, now, was to receive tangible proof.

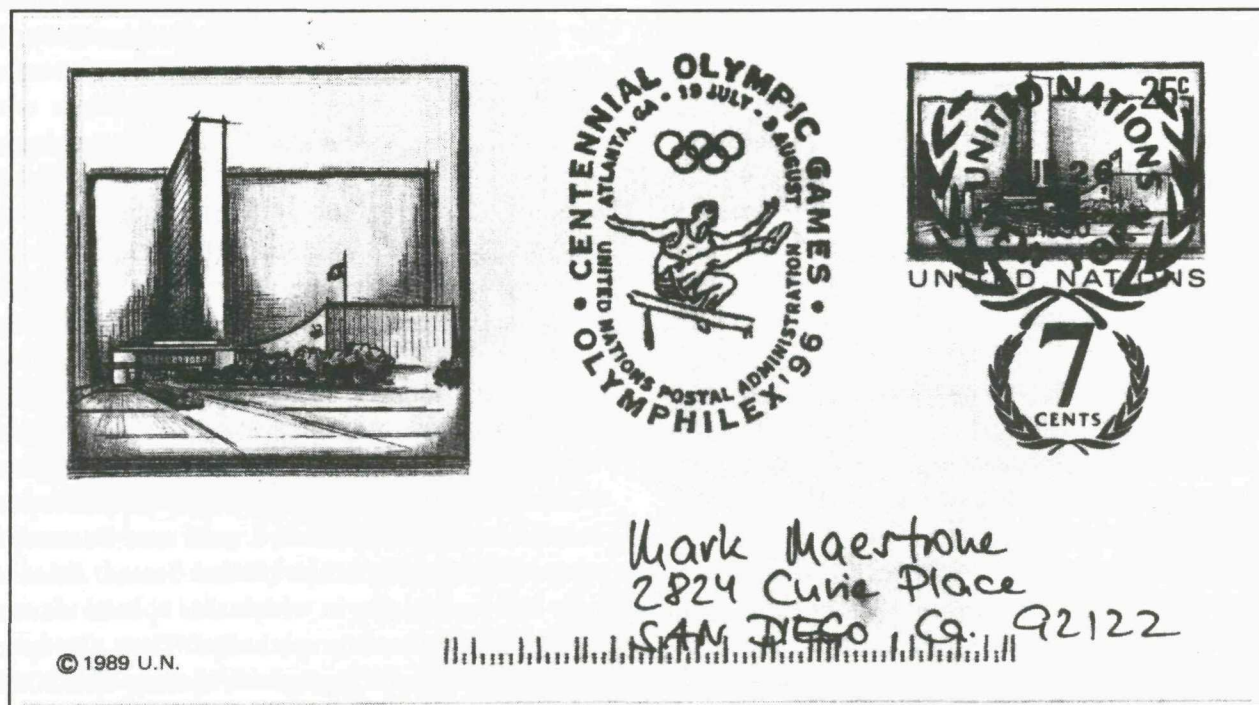


Figure 5. United Nations cover displaying the UN's Olymphilex cachet, but mailed from the UN Headquarters in New York City.



Figure 6a. Maximum card for Australia's 1996 Atlanta/2000 Sydney stamp. The first day cancel, which is difficult to see in this illustration, is quarter-circle shaped and on the stamp's right edge.

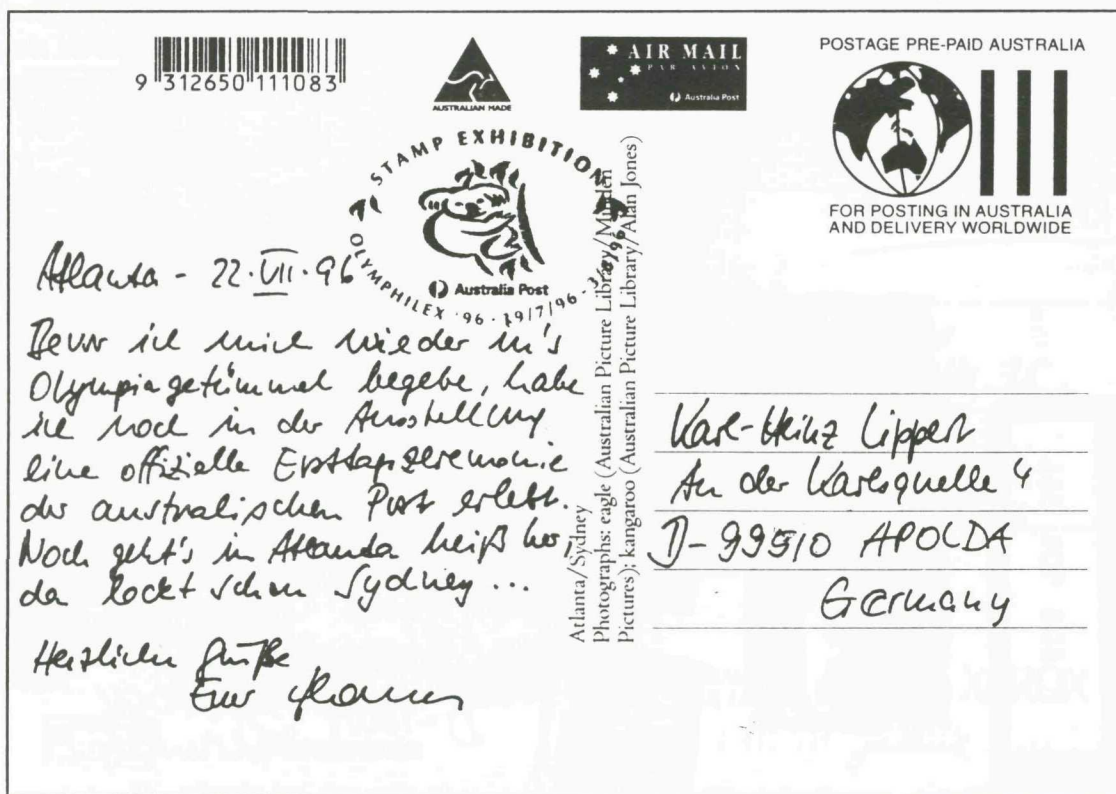


Figure 6b. The maximum card in Figure 6a was also postal stationery. The pre-printed indicium paid for airmail postage worldwide if posted in Australia. Australia Post provided a special container for mail to be transported to Australia and then placed into the mailstream.

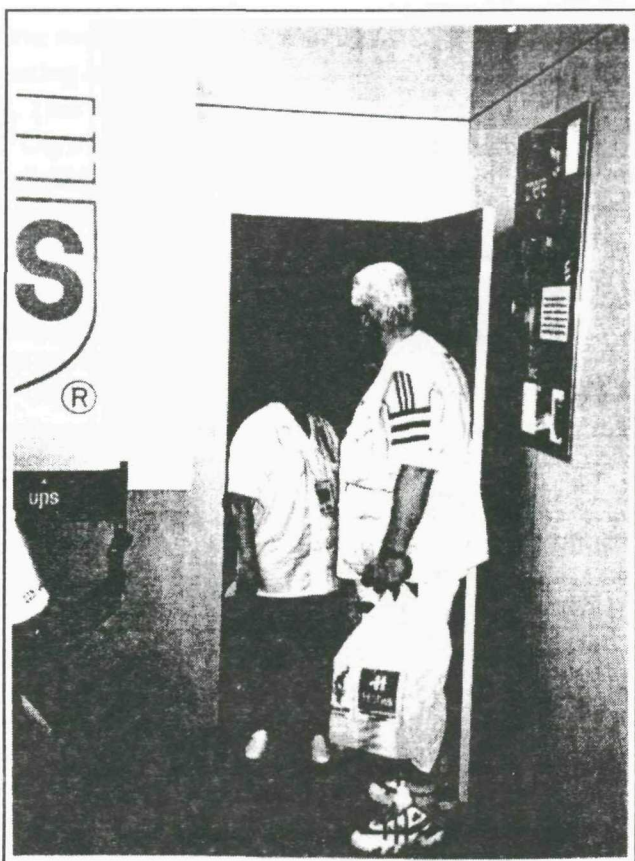


Figure 7. An unmarked door within the UPS office at the Olympic Village led into the USPS office.

As the contract post office was an existing facility, it was allowed to continue operations during the Games – but in a very low key manner. Klaus Henter, President of the German swimming federation and a member of the German Olympic delegation, photographed the facility (Figure 7). It speaks volumes about the postal situation at these Games.

At least some special services were available at this post office, as we have evidence of registered covers having been posted (Figures 8a & 8b). It doesn't appear as though the office's PVI (Postage Validation Imprint) machines were functioning, as the clerk affixed more than \$5 worth of stamps to the illustrated cover. As per regulations for registered mail, the flap of the cover was canceled, although the clerk did not bother canceling the stamps. At least the registration receipt was handled properly. Apart from this example, I suspect that there will be few registered covers that will find their way into collectors' hands.

In my opinion, most outgoing mail posted by Olympic participants at the Olympic Village will not bear "GA. TECH STA. 30332" double ring cancels. Most mail that was collected there was taken to Atlanta's central processing facility for machine sorting and cancellation. The card illustrated in Figure 9 is an exception since the station's postmark was specifically requested.

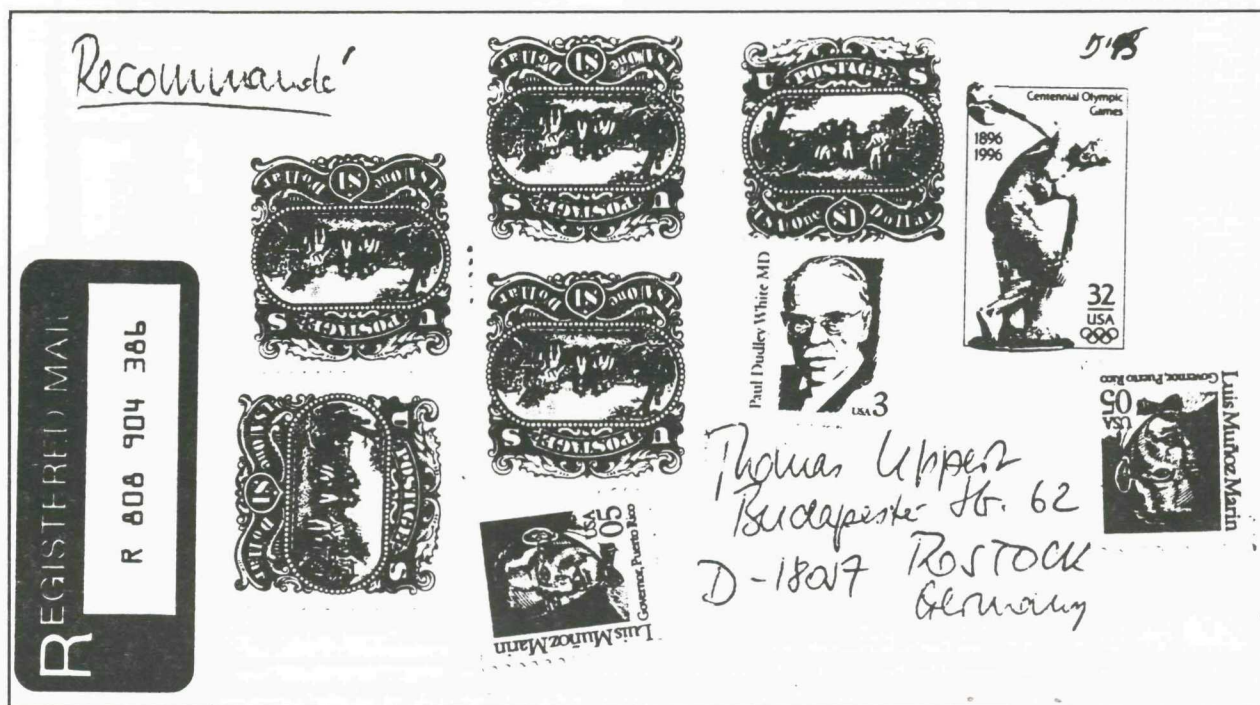


Figure 8a. Registered cover from the Olympic Village post office. The clerk neglected to cancel the stamps.

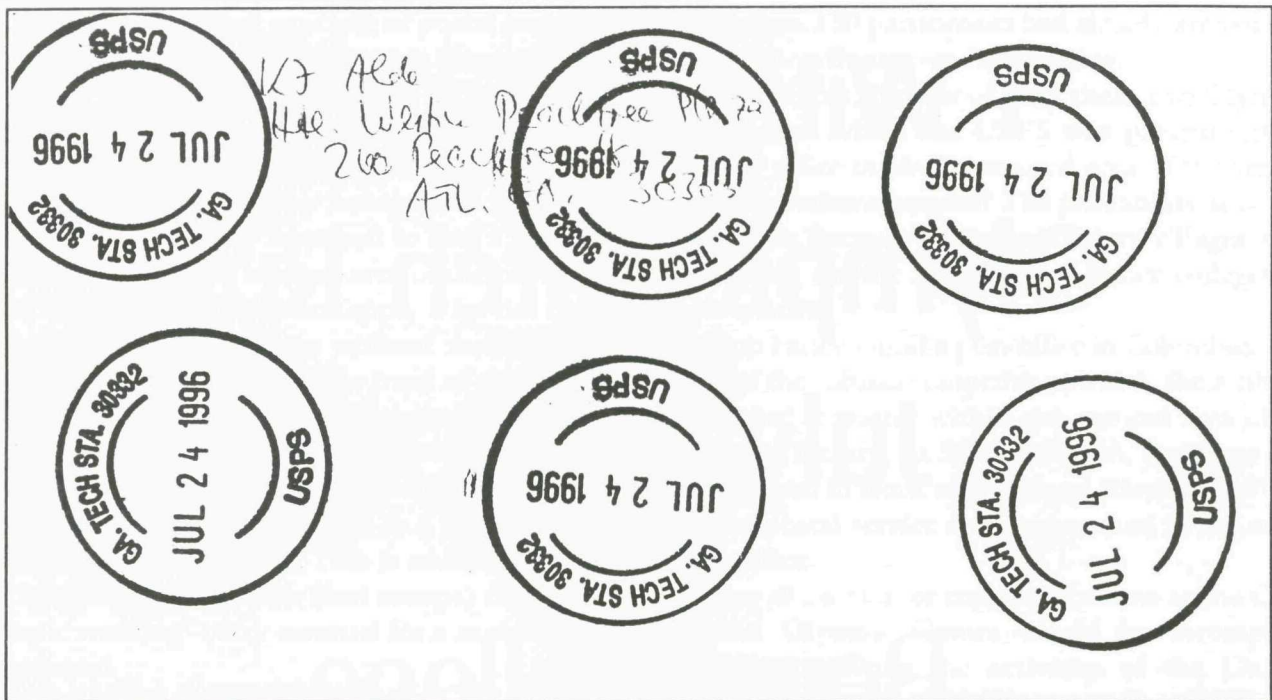


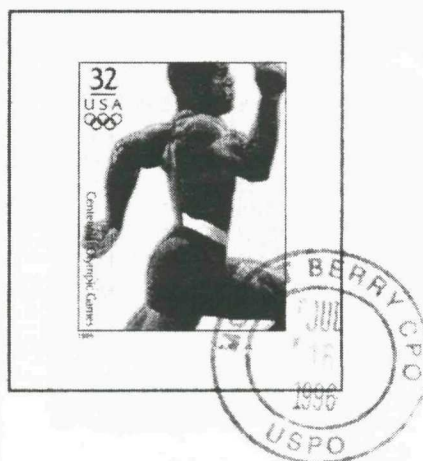
Figure 8b. Reverse of the registered cover in Figure 8a showing the double circle cancel used at the Olympic Village post office. As required, the cancels are applied over the sealed flaps and seams of the envelope.



Figure 9. IOC-produced sponsor card with the Georgia Tech post office cancel. An Atlanta machine cancel was applied over the hand cancel. Undoubtedly, most mail from the Olympic Village received only the machine cancel.

I Witnessed the Olympic Torch Run July 16, 1996

Berry College
Mount Berry, Georgia 30149



Centennial Olympic Games held in Atlanta, Georgia

Figure 10. USPS souvenir of the Torch Relay as it passed through Mount Berry, site of the Olympic Youth Camp. Note the use of the words "Olympic" and "Centennial Olympic Games." Was this authorized by anyone at ACOG?

At least one further example of postal activity inside the Olympic infrastructure is known. Following the Olympic Torch Relay to Mount Berry, Georgia (about 65 miles northwest of Atlanta, next to Rome, Georgia), I used the opportunity to visit the Olympic Youth Camp being held at Berry College. I was certainly surprised to find a regular USPS office inside the secured area of the campus.

While the facility did not apply a special cancel, it did offer all services without restrictions. Mail deposited in the mailbox in front of the office was canceled in the sorting machines at the USPS's North Metro Center in Duluth, GA.

The post office also sold the wonderful souvenir card illustrated in Figure 10 as a memento of the Olympic Torch Relay. This is one of the few USPS items I've seen (other than stamps) that uses Olympic wording – very unusual for a non-Olympic sponsor!

Although the Olympic Youth Camp wasn't scheduled to officially open until the next day,

more than 150 participants had already arrived. All camp operations were functioning.



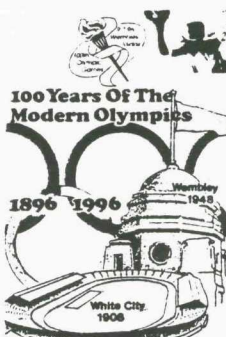


At present, I know of only these two Olympic facilities at which the USPS was present with a regular office *inside* the secured area of the venue. Are there other examples? The probability is better than zero, because several secondary villages were operating on the campuses of other colleges or universities.


Bob Farley found a post office in Columbus, GA (site of the softball competition) which the athletes used, but it wasn't within the secured area of an Olympic facility. In Savannah, GA, mail was collected from in front of the Hotel Riverfront Plaza by the postal service and postmarked at the main post office.

Any discussion of communications at the Centennial Olympic Games would be incomplete without reviewing the activities of the United Parcel Service, the official sponsor! But we'll leave that for a future article. 🐼

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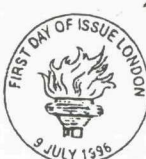
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1998 Commonwealth Games Postcards

by Lim Lik

Malaysia was awarded the rights to host the 1998 Commonwealth Games during the Commonwealth Games Federation General Assembly held at Barcelona, Spain on 10 September 1992.

On 26 October 1995, the games organizing committee, better known as SUKOM 98, appointed Meko Offset Printing and Holoart as licensees for the production of educational products, including postcards. This article examines those postcards issued to date by Meko.

Meko's first postcard was issued on the day of their appointment. However, it was limited in sales as the company wished to test the market potential of its postcards. This initial card was sold primarily around Penang Island.

This initial offering was followed on 24 May 1996, by a series of 17 cards. They made their debut at the Putra World Trade Center in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

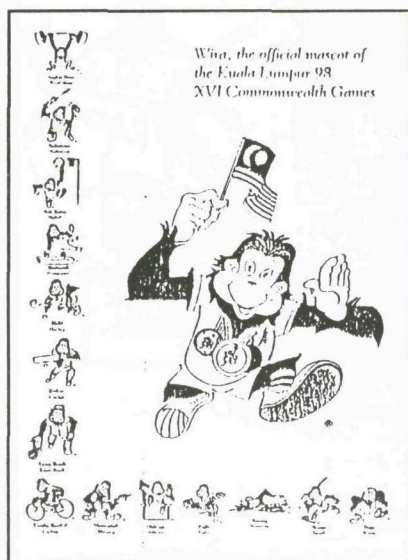
The accompanying table enumerates and describes the individual cards in this set. Many depict

the official games mascot, a monkey named "Wira." In addition to an "official pose" in which he holds a small Malaysian flag, Wira is also portrayed competing in each of the 14 sports on the Commonwealth Games schedule of events.

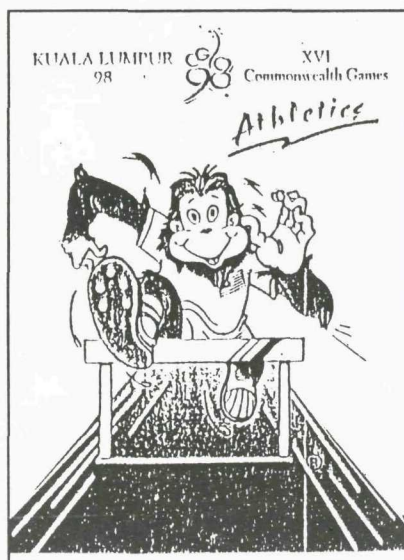
The design of the reverse of the postcards is standardized. The area for affixing the stamp (upper right corner) is delineated with a box in which the mascot is depicted. A short explanatory appears at top left. The licensee's logo is illustrated in the bottom left corner.

The XVIth Commonwealth Games will be held in and around Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's capital, from 10-20 September 1998. These will be the first Commonwealth Games held in Asia since their debut in 1930 in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

These cards are available from the author as a complete set mint (US\$14.00) or with a SUKOM meter attached (US\$28.00). This includes postage for overseas shipment. To order, send payment, with name and address to: Mr. Lim Lik, c/o Pejabat FELCRA Negeri Perak, W.D. 678, 30990 Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia.



PO 9611A

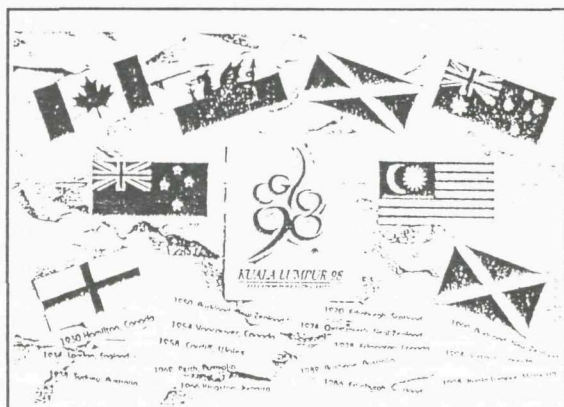


PO 9611C

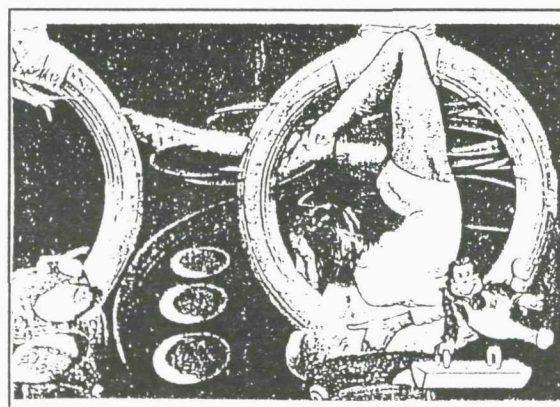


PQ 9611D

1998 Commonwealth Games Postcards: Meko Offset Printing	
Serial Number	Description of Illustration
PO 9611	Mascot in sports poses against typical Malaysian background
PO 9611A	Mascot with Malaysian flag surrounded by the games' 14 sports events
PO 9611B	Official games logo surrounded by mascot in 14 sports poses
PO 9611C	Athletics mascot (hurdles)
PO 9611D	Official games logo
PO 9611E	Games logo surrounded by names & flags of previous host countries
PO 9611F	Flags of Commonwealth Games Federation member nations
PO 9611G	Official games logo superimposed on Malaysian flag
PO 9611H	Mascot superimposed on Malaysian flag
PO 9611I	Boxers; boxing mascot at lower right
PO 9611J	Rugby players; rugby mascot at lower right
PO 9611K	Swimmer; swimming mascot at lower right
PO 9611L	Kuala Lumpur Telecommunications Tower; mascot at lower left
PO 9611M	Shot putter & hurdler; athletics mascot (hurdles) at lower left
PO 9611N	Cyclers; cycling mascot at lower right
PO 9611O	Gymnast on beam; gymnast mascot (pommel horse) at lower right
PO 9611P	Sultan Samad Building; games logo at lower right



PO 9611E



PO 9611O

Spiridon Louis and the 1896 Olympic Marathon Race

by Laurentz Jonker

The legend of the Marathon is an old story from ancient Greek and Roman times. The Athenian army had just won a battle against the Persians near the village of Marathon in B.C. 490. A Greek runner was chosen to carry the victory message to Athens by foot, a distance of roughly 42 kilometers. Following a long run in heat and dust, and after relaying the joyous news, the hero died of exhaustion.

In the latter half of the 19th century, archaeologists rediscovered the village of Marathon in Attica, thus resurrecting the old legend. The idea of recreating this great feat is attributed to Michael Bréal, a friend of Pierre de Coubertin. It was at the 1894

Paris congress to renew the Olympic Games being held at the Sorbonne University that Bréal proposed a Marathon race. He even offered to contribute a silver cup to the winner. The idea was eagerly accepted by the committee organizing the 1896 Olympic Games at Athens (Figure 1).

This news of a marathon race spread throughout Greece, reaching a young man, Spiridon Louis (born January 12, 1873). He and his family lived in the small village of Amarousion (or Marousi, for short), located north of Athens. His father, Nasos Louis, had a small transportation business specializing in the delivery of a very scarce commodity – water. When Spiridon took over the business, he added a modest mail service, carrying letters and news from one part of town to another.



Figure 1. Post card from Athens to Austria canceled on the day of the Marathon race, 29 March 1896. The card is franked with a very unusual combination of low values from the 1896 Greek Olympic set: 2 x 1 lepton, 4 x 2 lepta, and 1 x 5 lepta.

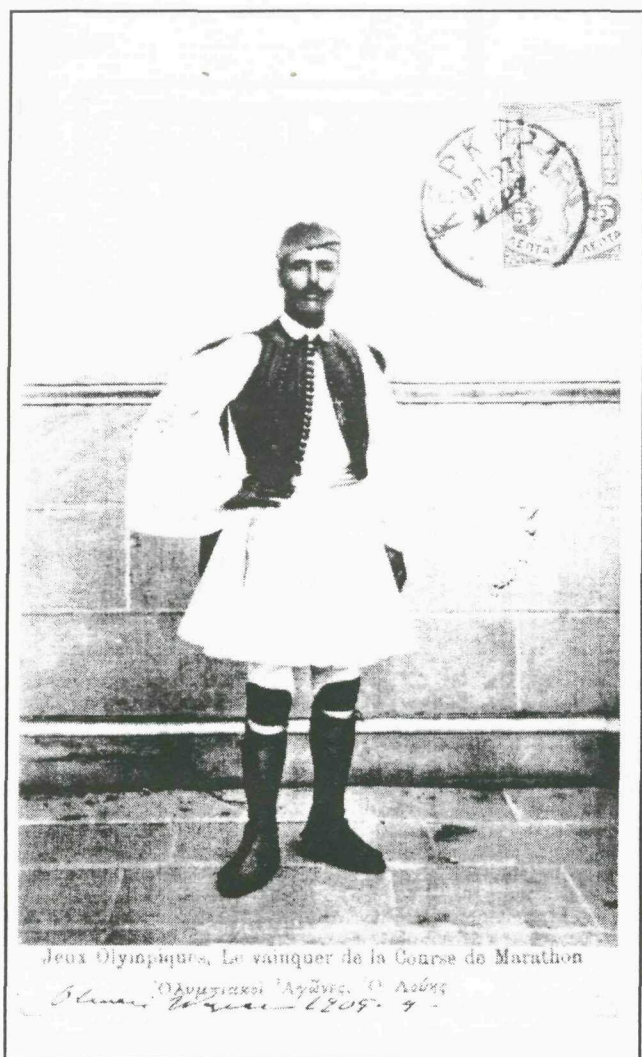


Figure 2. The young Spiridon Louis after his victory in the Marathon. Postcard mailed from Kerkyra, Greece to Chantillon-sur-Seine, France in 1905.

Major Georgios Papadiamantopoulos, Spiridon's superior in his Greek army unit, admired the young private and made him his orderly (Figure 2). The major was assigned to form a Greek Olympic Marathon team and encouraged Louis to try out for it. Despite a long period of training, he was not chosen, at least initially, as one of the participants.

A preliminary Marathon race was held on March 10 as part of the Panhellenic Games. Twenty-five runners took part; a Spartan, Charilaos Vasilakos, won the 40 kilometer race in 3 hours, 18 minutes.

Two incidents convinced the major of Louis' running ability. The major smoked a special brand of cigarettes available for sale only at Syntagma Square, 20 minutes from his home. Louis ran the distance faster than the major believed possible.



Figure 3. Louis crossing the Marathon finish line in the Panhellenic Stadium (upper left). His time of 2:58:50 was correctly noted on the Haiti stamp (bottom) but listed as 2:58:00 on the Appeldorn (Netherlands) City Post stamp (upper right).

The second incident occurred when Louis returned from his home to his barracks in Athens, forgetting to bring his bayonet. Discovering his oversight, Louis obtained permission from the major to go back home and retrieve his weapon. The 20 kilometer distance took Louis only 1½ hours to cover. Major Papadiamantopoulos was again impressed and entered Louis in the second Marathon race, a trial.

In this qualifying race, held only five days before the big event, Louis finished fifth among 38 runners. Nevertheless, he was chosen to run in the Great Race.

From the start, Frenchman Lermusiaux took a strong lead, along with the Australian, Edwin Flack (winner of the 800 and 1500 meter races), American Thomas Burke (winner of the 100 and 400 meter races), and Hungarian Gyula Kellner. However, these accomplished runners were not familiar with running extraordinarily long distances over a mountainous course in the scorching heat. Their fast pace was too energetic and their initial strength easily dissipated.

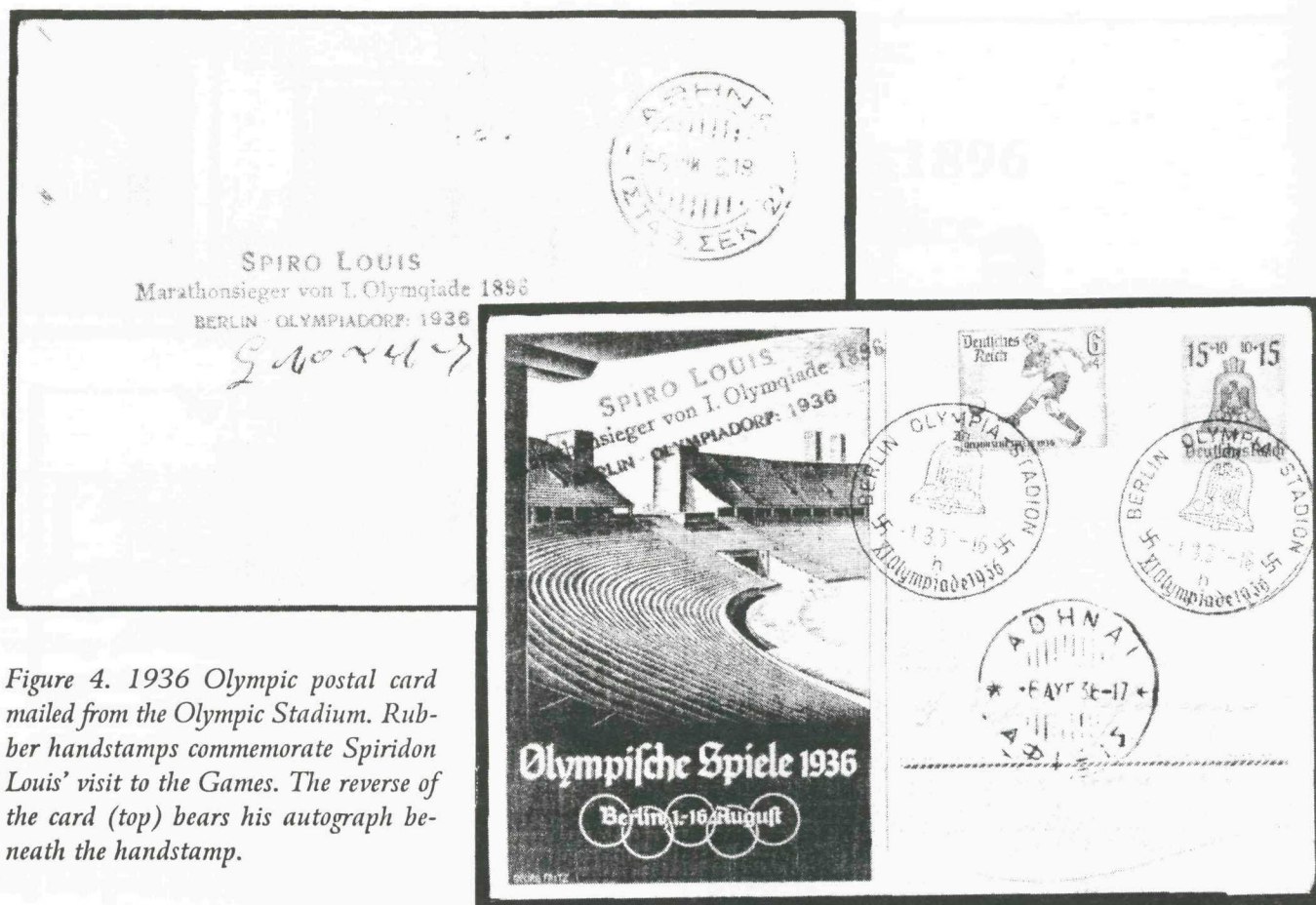


Figure 4. 1936 Olympic postal card mailed from the Olympic Stadium. Rubber handstamps commemorate Spiridon Louis' visit to the Games. The reverse of the card (top) bears his autograph beneath the handstamp.

At the halfway mark, the Frenchman, Lermusiaux, had an incredible lead of three kilometers. Lermusiaux then suffered a mishap. The new leader of the pack was Edwin Flack. At four kilometers from the finish, Flack and "Spyros" were running even. Then Flack fell behind, staggering over the dusty road. He collapsed, and had to be carried by vehicle back to the stadium.

Entering Athens, Louis pushed his way through the path surrounded by delirious spectators, crossing the finish line in 2 hours, 58 minutes, 50 seconds (Figure 3). Greek Crown Prince Constantine and his brother Prince George were there to greet him. Much to the crowd's elation, their favorite, Charilaos Vasilakos, came in second, edging out the Hungarian, Gyula Kellner. Greek honor was saved!

Louis was praised as a hero. And while he was offered many gifts (cash, free food and drink, clothes, free haircuts and shoe polishes), he refused them all in the true spirit of the Olympics. Coubertin's ideal of amateurism was, in the end, upheld.

Spiridon Louis never competed again. Nevertheless, his courage and Marathon victory were long

remembered. As a special guest at the Berlin Olympic Games of 1936, Louis presented Hitler an olive branch from the sacred grove at Olympia (Figure 4).

Spiridon Louis passed away on March 26, 1940 at the age of 67 (Figure 5).

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- Jonker, Laurentz, Personal Collection
- Cierpinski/Kluge, *Meilenweit bis Marathon*.
- MacAloon, John J., *The Great Symbol*.
- Tarassouleas, Ath., *Olympic Games in Athens 1896*.

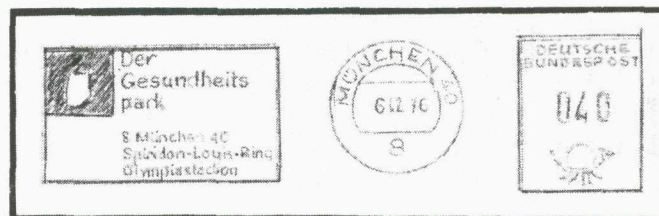


Figure 5. Louis' memory is perpetuated on this 1976 meter from Munich. The "Spiridon-Louis-Ring" at the Olympic Stadium is named for him.

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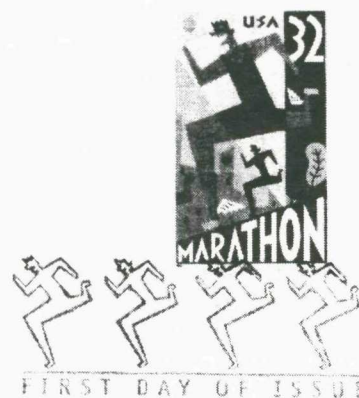


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Figure 1. French advertising postal stationery card. At far right is a manufacturer of billiard cues.

Billiards: Variations on the Game

by Dominique Hardy

Last time, you will recall, I discussed the origins of the game of billiards (*JSP*, January/February 1996). In this article, we take a look at the various types of billiards games that have developed.

First, a brief review. The original version of billiards was played on a table with six pockets, called *blouses*, and three balls (two white and one red). This was French Billiards, also known as *Carom* or, today, *billards* (Figure 1). In England, where the game is still very popular, it is called *billiards*.

The first book on the game was written in 1907 by E. White. Jonathon Kenfield has the distinction of being regarded as the first professional billiards player. However, amateur competition is also popular. The inaugural Amateur Billiards Championship was held in 1888, a competition that, today, still remains the most famous.

Over time, the original rules were modified. English players introduced more balls, leading to the use of a triangle in which the balls were gathered (Figure 2).

Americans first modified the original French Carom game by adding a fourth ball. Fifteen numbered balls eventually replaced them. This American version of the game adopted the name *pool* as a reference to the "kitty" of money that was won by the person sinking the last ball. A variation, Pyramid Pool, was introduced in New York State at the very beginning of the 19th century.

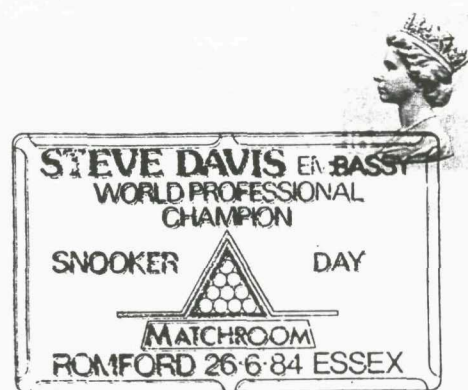


Figure 2. The triangle for setting the balls in place was developed in England.

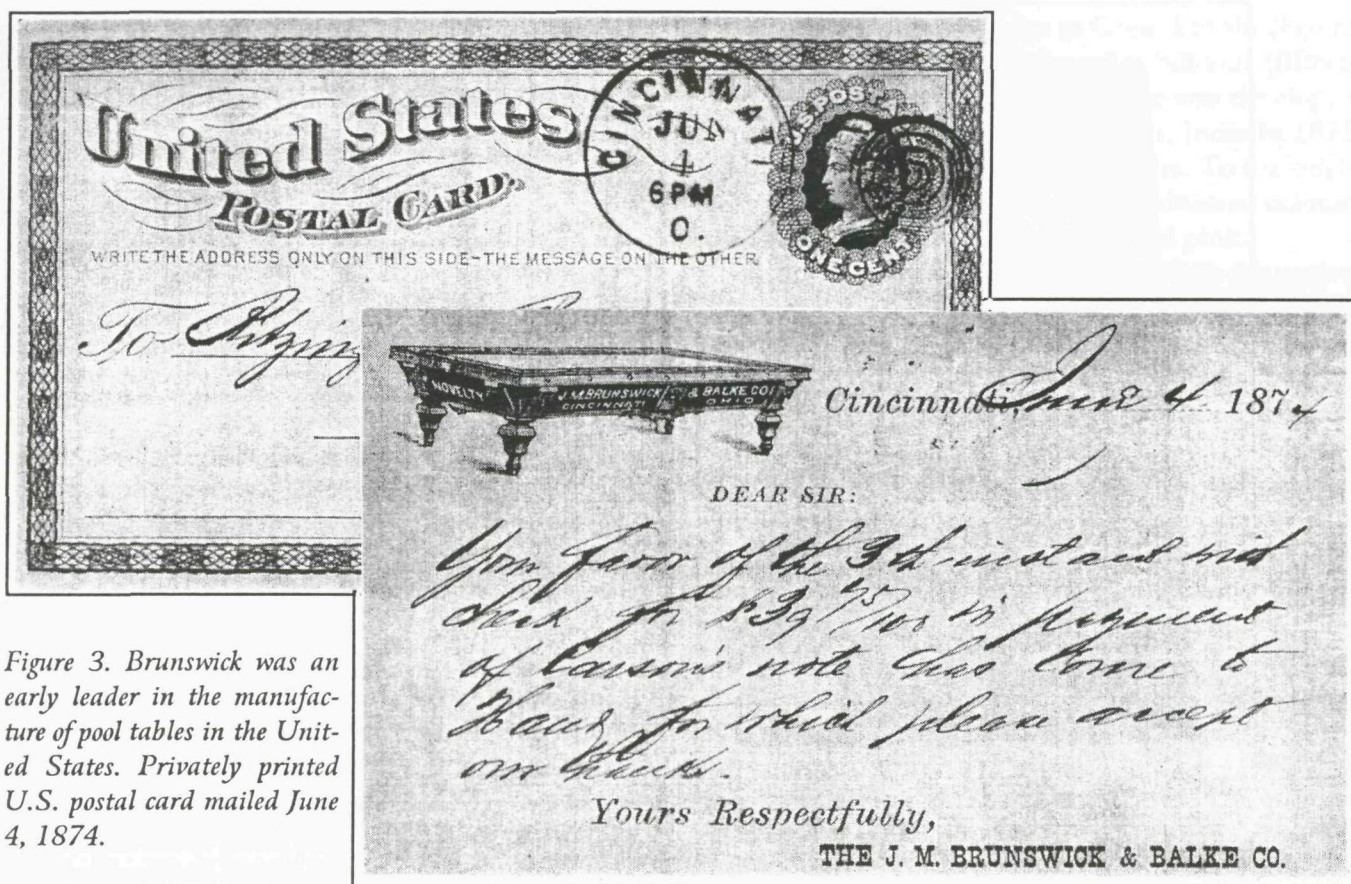


Figure 3. Brunswick was an early leader in the manufacture of pool tables in the United States. Privately printed U.S. postal card mailed June 4, 1874.

The father of American billiards was Michael Phelan. In 1850, he published the premier book on the game, *Billiards Without a Master*. Not long thereafter, he founded a workshop to produce billiards tables. His partner in this venture, Brunswick (Figure 3), later became the Brunswick Corporation [famous manufacturer of bowling alleys and equipment]. Phelan's company developed a new game in 1907 using eight yellow balls, eight red balls, and one black ball.

In all of these games, ball number 8 is always black. The other balls are equally divided into striped and unstriped, or plain, ones. In the game of Eight Ball (Figure 4), one player attempts to send the striped balls into pockets, while the other plays the plain balls. Today, the most popular version of pool is Nine Ball. Players must shoot the balls in ascending order from one to nine.



Figure 4. The "eight ball" is an important element in many billiards games, and even entered American slang where it means to be "in trouble."

Back in 1928, French billiards was the favorite American game, thanks to its greatest player, Willie Hoppe. Born in 1888, Hoppe began playing billiards at the age of five, and was justifiably regarded in the United States as a child prodigy. During his long career, he held the world championship 51 times.

Hoppe specialized in the *three-cushion billiards* game [cushions are the sides of the table]. This required players to hit the two other balls with their own ball. As the name implies, the player must also carom the ball off at least three cushions before striking the object ball, or point.

Until 1928, Americans Hoppe, Schaeffer (both father and son) and Cochran remained unbeaten. Their supremacy in the three-cushion game lasted

until 1938 when a Frenchman, Roger Conti, took the title. This dampened the enthusiasm for international competitions in the U.S.

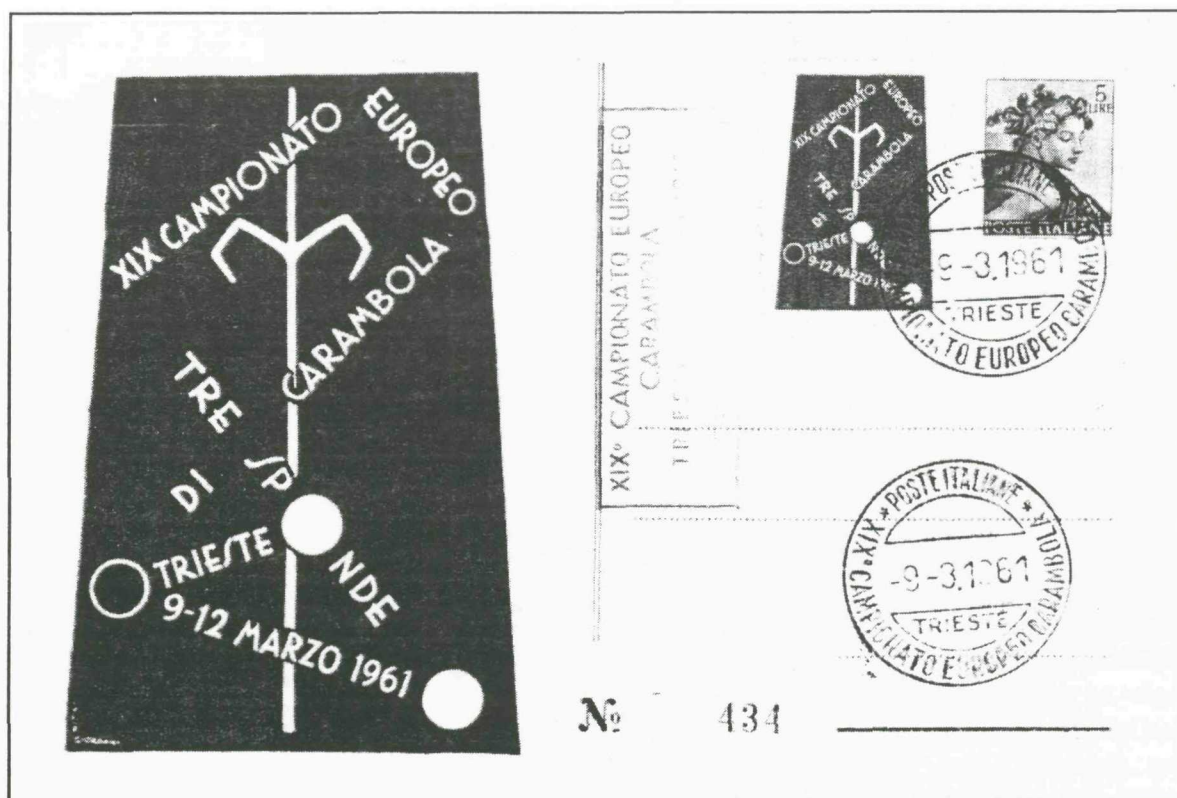


Figure 5. The original form of billiards, carambole, remains universally popular. Trieste, hosted the XIXth European Championships in 1961.

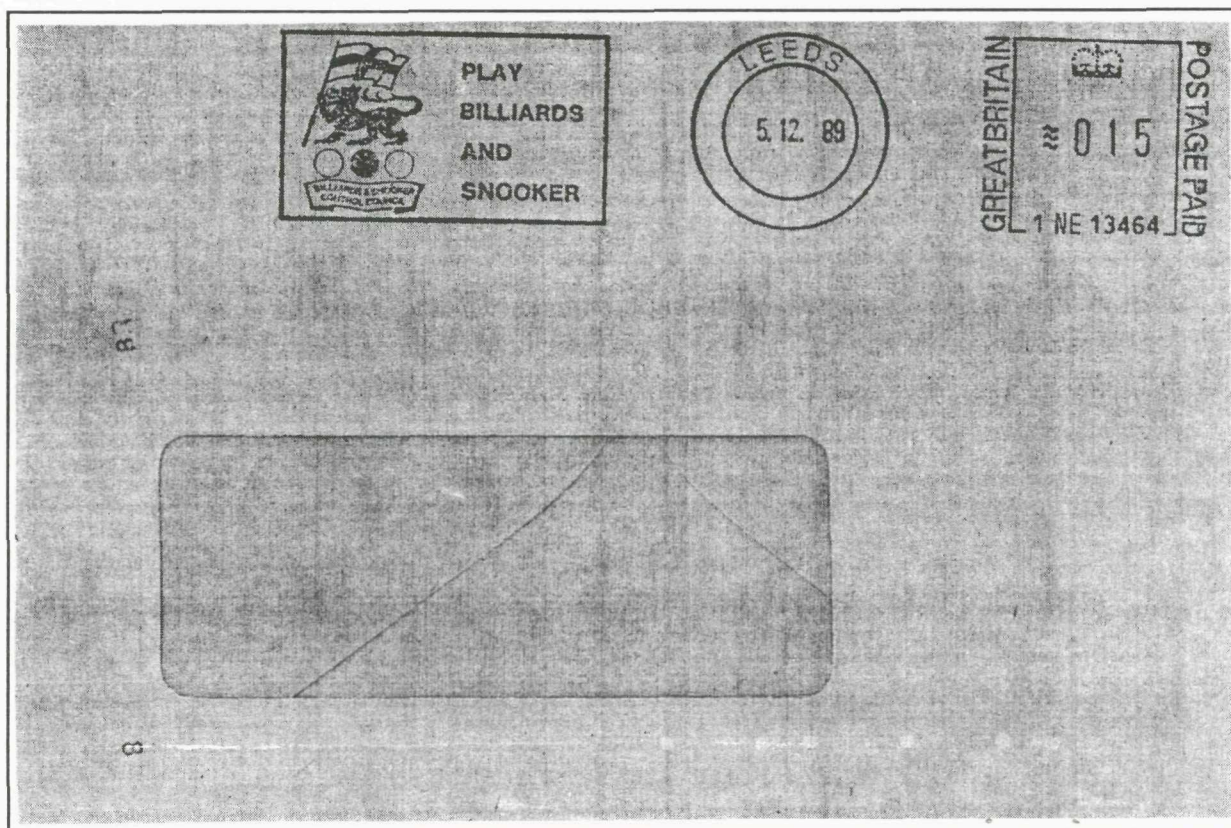


Figure 6. Snooker, an English variation of billiards, is particularly popular throughout Great Britain.



Figure 7. Although Tanzania shows billiards on a stamp commemorating the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, the IOC has yet to include this sport on the Olympic roster.

French billiards nevertheless flourished in Europe, South America and Japan. Record numbers of players in these regions contributed to the growing list of variations on the game.

In artistic billiards, the number of points that needs to be reached in order to win a game is decided upon by the players. It is the only version of billiards played today that still uses ivory balls.

Many billiards games are derived from the original *Carambole* game (Figure 5). These variations are distinguished by the ways in which points may be scored. *Carambole*, for example, requires players to reach 500 points in succession to win. Many of these games have their own world championships.

Billiards On Stamps Checklist			
Country	Value	Year	Yvert #
Australia	60c	1981	730
Belgium	6F+2F	1982	2039
Belgium	25F	1982	2043
Denmark	3.70	1984	802
Grenadines/St. Vincent	75c	1990	
India	500	1988	992
Kuwait	30Fils	1981	865
Netherlands	75	1986	1274
Peru	34	1979	662
Philippines	6p	1993	
Sri Lanka	5.75	1988	839
Tanzania	100	1992	
Thailand	2 + 1	1995	Sheetlet
United Arab Emirates	50Fils	1993	

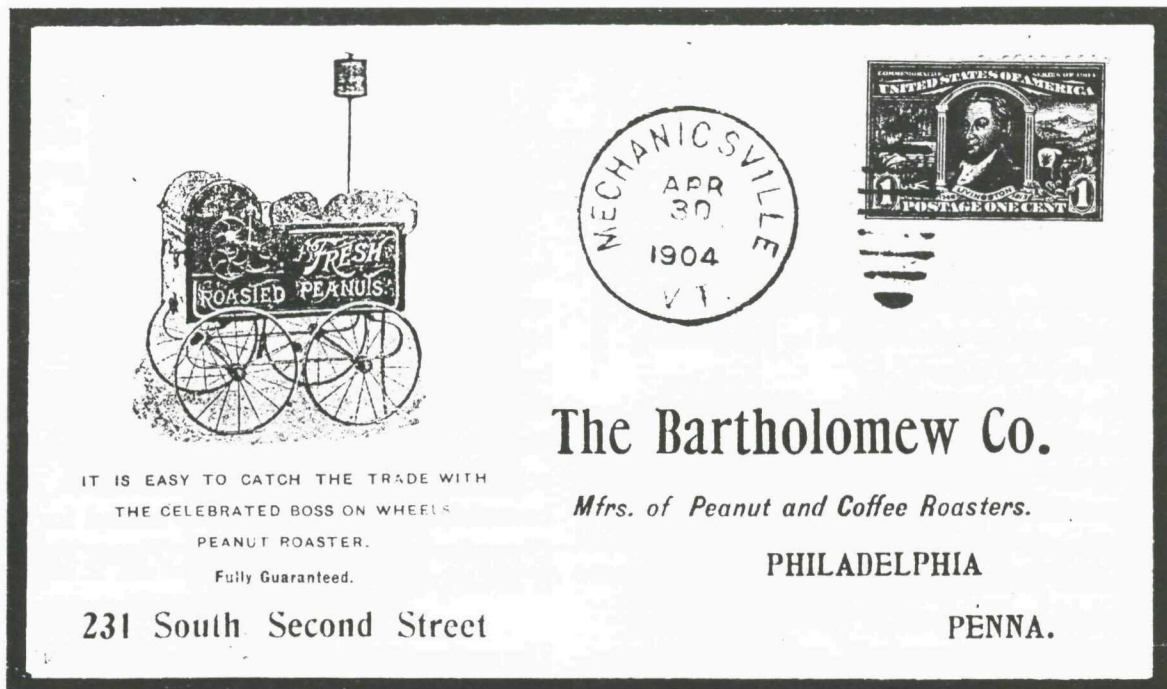
Snooker, a popular game in Great Britain (Figure 6), had its origins in English pocket billiards (fifteen red balls and one black). The game was developed at the Oatcamund Club in Milgris, India in 1875 by a group of British military officers. To the original 16-ball game, they added five additional colored balls: yellow, green, brown, blue and pink.

John Roberts introduced the game to his native England in 1891. The unusual name was coined by Sir Neville Chamberlain who used the word "snooker" to express his dissatisfaction. On one occasion, he called the players of this billiards game "snookers." The name stuck.

Will billiards and its millions of players one day be able to participate at an Olympic Games? The request by the Billiards World Union (the governing body for the sport) to be included was turned down by the International Olympic Committee. The Chinese, who have 120 million billiards players in their country, also included the sport in their unsuccessful bid for the 2000 Olympic Games. Yet, if one considers a Tanzanian stamp issued for the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain (Figure 7), this game is already an Olympic sport!

The author invites those with an interest in billiards, or philatelic material to sell or trade, to contact him directly at: 1 Allée du Stade, 95610 Eragny, France.





Lot 92

The Lawrence S. Fisher Collection Shreves Philatelic Galleries, New York – May 30, 1996

The so-called "Exposition Olympic Games" of 1900, 1904, and 1908 are, perhaps, the most difficult of any to commemorate philatelically. The Games of the IIIrd Olympiad, the first to be held in the United States, took place in conjunction with the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition in Saint Louis, Missouri. Most collectors must satisfy themselves with examples of the machine cancels advertising the fair, hoping to match cancel dates with those on which an Olympic event took place.

Another option for specialists of these Games is to obtain a complete set of the five stamps issued for the exposition. At a few hundred dollars for a nicely centered set, this is hardly an inexpensive proposition.

The "gems," however, are first day covers of these stamps. Earlier this year, the collection of

Lawrence S. Fisher, a renowned collector of U.S. first day covers, was auctioned by the Shreves Philatelic Galleries of New York City. Among the 251 lots offered were five first day covers of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition stamps.

The catalog descriptions and illustrations, reproduced here, say it all! Please note that the prices realized do not include the 10% buyer's premium. Italicized words or phrases are those of the auction describer.

Lot 92: Scott #323, 1¢ Louisiana Purchase, single tied to *unquestionably the finest of only six known first day covers*, being a lovely roasted peanuts cart advertising cover of the Bartholomew Company in Philadelphia, printed in brown ink on cream colored cover, stamp tied by choice strike of first day

"Mechanicsville, Vt./Apr 30/1904" duplex cancel, indistinct receiving mark on reverse, extremely fine in every regard; adding further to this item's desirability is the fact that it is a cover rather than a card, for which the 1¢ value was intended, the stamp on this cover was legitimately used as it was mailed unsealed and once contained printed advertising; an incredibly rare first day cover in incomparable quality; we believe this to be the first appearance of a 1¢ Louisiana Purchase first day in several years and *it is believed that no more than four to five exist.* \$7,500

Lot 93: Scott #324, 2¢ Louisiana Purchase, well centered single with straight edge at right, tied to the *unique April 25, 1904 predated first day cover* by "Moline, Ill./Apr 25/1904" machine cancel, cover with printed return address of the Sherwin-Williams Paint Company on reverse, addressed to Rock Island, Ill. and backstamped there, two small pinholes at top left, overall very fine; the Louisiana Purchase stamps were sent out to postmasters as early as April 21, but they were instructed not to be on sale until the official first day of April 30, a scant few were used from mainly small towns prior to the April 30 date, with this being the earliest recorded usage. \$4,250



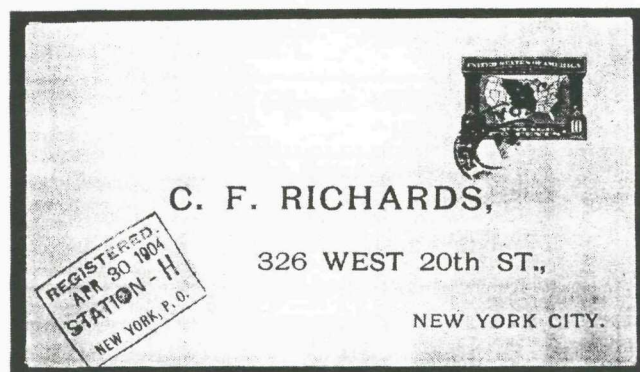
Lot 93

Lot 94: Scott #324, 2¢ Louisiana Purchase, single with natural straight edge at left, tied to *one of less than ten known first day covers* by perfect strike of "Boston, Mass./Apr 30/1904" flag cancel, with "Jamaica Plain Station" incorporated into the flag killer, printed corner card of a dry goods and men's furnishing company, addressed to St. John, New Brunswick, ... stamp with rounded corner perf. at top right, overall very fine; a truly rare first day cover. \$4,000



Lot 96

Lot 96: Scott #326, 5¢ Louisiana Purchase, handsome plate no. 2099 single tied to *one of only two known first day covers* of this value, tied by excellent strike of "New Bedford, Mass./Apr 30/ 1904" flag cancellation, cover with corner card of a J.A. Frasier, M.D. and addressed to himself, Dr. Frasier is responsible for the existence of a few of the scant number of Louisiana Purchase first day covers known; this particular cover is quite clean with only two insignificant toned specks, one of which just slightly touches two perforation tips. \$21,000



Lot 97

Lot 97: Scott #327, 10¢ Louisiana Purchase, nicely centered single tied to *one of only two first day covers in existence*, and many experts believe this cover may very well be unique, being an immaculate registered cover with a printed address to a C.F. Richards in New York City, stamp tied by "New York/H" double oval registry postmark, perfectly struck "Registered/Apr 30 1904/Station - H/New York, P.O." boxed handstamp in red at bottom left, similar receiving mark on reverse from Station C in New York, extremely fine; *not only one of the most important first day cover rarities of the 20th century, but in all of United States philately.* \$22,000

THE SPORTS ARENA

by Mark Maestroni

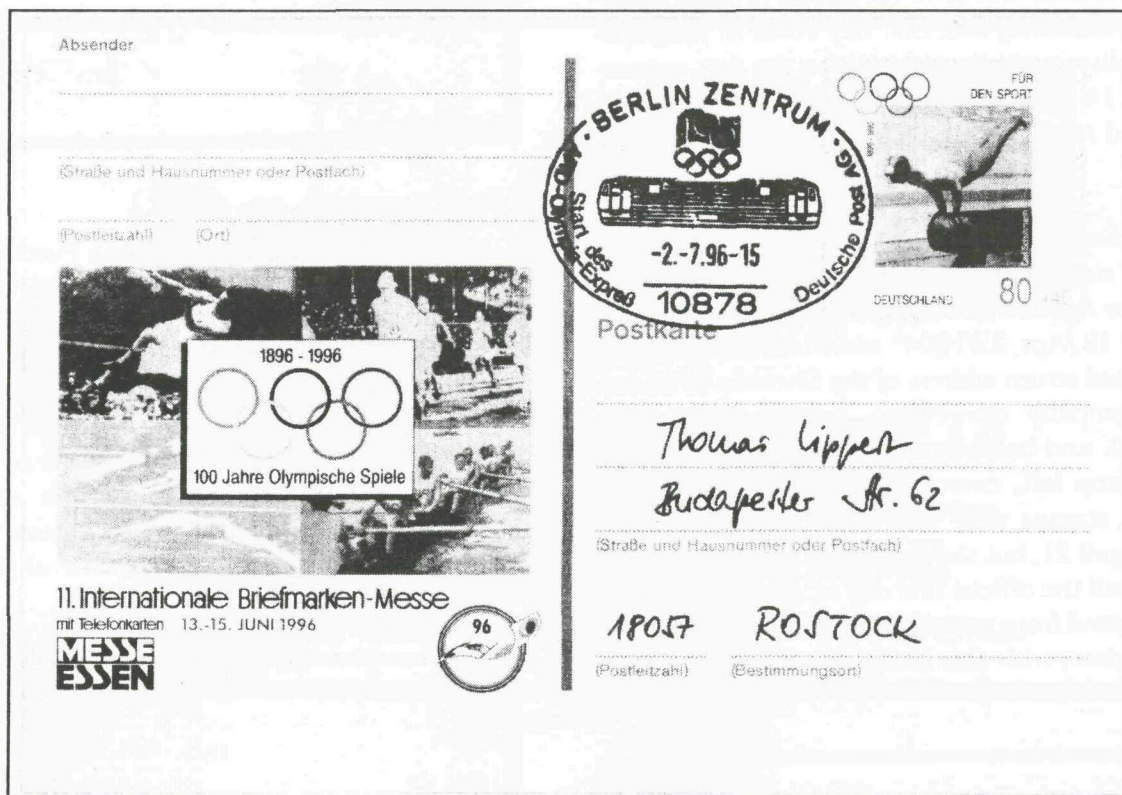


Figure 1. Special "Berlin Zentrum" cancel for the German Olympia Express train that ran from Berlin to Stuttgart between July 1 and August 4.

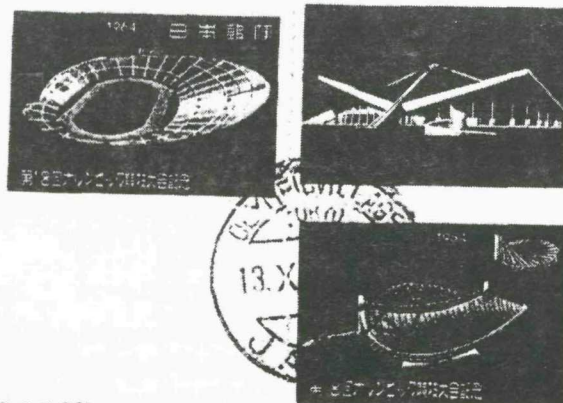
The Olympics arrived early in Germany in the form of an Olympia Express train that traveled from Berlin to Stuttgart. Thomas Lippert reports that this promotional tour was organized by the German railways (Deutsche Bundesbahn) and public television/radio system (ARD) from July 1-August 4.

One of the sponsors of this rolling display was the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, with interesting memorabilia from its collection. Among the philatelic exhibits on the train were the collections of Franceska Rapkin (1936 Olympic Games) and Manfred Bergman (the canceled Games of 1916).

Thomas notes that although there was no postal facility *on* the train, the post office did accompany it. At stops, they would set up an open air booth at the train gates. The first ceremony took place in Berlin at the Bahnhof Zoo railway terminal. The postal booth offered the recent German Sports Aid

postal stationery card canceled with a special oval postmark in black (Figure 1). Apparently, this "Berlin Zentrum" cancel was used until July 17, even though the train was already *en route* to its destination. For the remainder of the trip, a "Stuttgart" inscribed postmark was used. Special services (registered mail, for example) were not available at the railway station post office, but could be requested from the Berlin main office. The same was true for the Stuttgart cancel. On August 4 (the closing day of the Atlanta Olympics), a third special Olympic postmark from "Berlin Zentrum" was used showing a discus thrower and the Brandenburg Gate.

The Olympia Express was a fine idea. It is unfortunate, though, that collectors weren't properly informed about the top level exhibits that were on display. Perhaps this was due to security reasons.



Revisor Harald Thufvesson,

Barkassvägen 13,

Lidingö 7,

R_{TOKYO} O.V. 67

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Figure 2. 1964 Tokyo Olympic cover from the Olympic Village, bearing an uncataloged Olympic Village registration label.

SPI member, Masaaki Ichimura, submitted a heretofore uncataloged item from the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games.

The cover illustrated in Figure 2 shows the "OLYMPIC VILLAGE/TOKYO/13.X.64 12-18/ JAPAN" cancel on three of the 1964 Tokyo Olympic venue stamps. What is unusual is the registration label from the Tokyo Olympic Village shown in detail below. Manfred Winternheimer does not catalog this label in his excellent reference on the 1964 Games. Obviously, the post office used a generic label, because the "R" and number "67" are pre-printed in blue. The "Tokyo O.V." designation was rubber-stamped in violet on the labels.

R_{TOKYO} O.V. 67

The organizing committee for the 1999 Winter Asiad, which are to be held in Kangwon Province, South Korea, unveiled the event's emblem and mascot on August 28. "Based on the 'Taeguk' design, the central part of the national flag, it features symbols of the rising sun, waves and crystallized snow. The mascot, a personified bear cub, and the province's symbolic animal, wears a red stocking cap on its head and a blue scarf around its neck with a torch in its right hand." Thanks to Bernie McGovern for submitting this information.



REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Dorothy Crockett & Mark Maestroni

Basketball Philatelic News Vol. 10, No. 2

The August 1996, issue of this periodical for basketball enthusiasts illustrates two newly discovered meters (from the U.S. and Sweden) and two previously unknown cancellations from Portugal. Also in this issue is a discussion of the basketball stamps of the 1949 Nicaragua set issued for the 10th World Championship of Amateur Baseball.

There is a long discussion about korfbal, a game similar in some respects to basketball. It was invented by a Dutch physical education teacher who was seeking a game which would give both boys and girls a chance to develop individual talent and to learn teamwork.

Much of the rest of this issue is devoted to reproductions of new basketball stamps and cancellations issued in celebration of the Atlanta Olympics.

Contact: George E. Killian, P.O. Box 7305, Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7305, U.S.A.

- D.C.

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme No. 3, May 1996

A major overhaul of this journal of the French Olympic and Sports Collectors group has resulted in an attractive and informative 20 page newsletter.

As can be expected in this Olympic year, articles on that subject dominate this issue. Vice-president and journal editor René Christin takes a look at the history of the Paris Olympic Games of 1900 through philately. Pascal Bedenes and Jean-Pierre Picquot review women's tennis at the Olympic Games. They divide their discussion in two parts: 1896-1924, and 1924 to the present.

For sports enthusiasts, Julio A. Santanelli's article on the first world championship of football in 1930 is reprinted from the Argentine journal, *Podium*. Other articles include: an overview of Olympic Mascots for the Summer (1972-1996) and

Winter (1968-1998) Games; cancellations for the Greek Olympic centennial celebrations; and new philatelic issues (stamps, cancels, and meters).

Contact: Mr. Pierre Berle, Rue Georges Clemenceau, 82370 Reynies, France.

- M.M.

Malaysian Sporting Philately No. 5, June 1996

A pleasant and informative mix of sports and Olympic philatelic news characterizes the June 1996 issue of this newsletter. Published by the Olympic and Sports Philatelic Society of Malaysia, this issue opens with information on upcoming stamp issues for the 16th Commonwealth Games to be held in 1998 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Other new sports or Olympic stamps reviewed and illustrated include the Greek Centennial Olympic miniature sheets, the 32¢ U.S. marathon stamp, a block of four stamps from Chile commemorating some of their most famous football (soccer) players, and a set of stamps issued by Zimbabwe for the 6th All-Africa Games in 1995 in Harare, the country's capital.

"The Flame of Peace," an article by Bettina Jensen, discusses the Olympic Torch Lighting Ceremony and relay for the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. Olympic medals in the Olympic Museum collection are also examined. The issue concludes with a reprint of an article entitled "The Gods of Olympus" by Bob Farley, which originally appeared in *Torch Bearer* magazine.

While this periodical depends extensively on reprints of short articles from other publications, it should prove an important primary source of information for Commonwealth Games collectors.

Contact: Mr. C. Nagarajah, GPO Box 11748, 50756 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- M.M.

Olimpismo Vol. 3 (1996), No. 4

This issue of the Spanish Union of Olympic Philately's journal is, as usual, varied in content.

Sebastián Sabaté Culla describes the Athens 1896-1996 Philatelic Exhibition, palmares, torch lighting ceremony at Ancient Olympia, and all attendant philatelic material issued for these commemorative events. Luciano Louro's new book on Baseball (1934-1994) is examined, with concentration on Olympic competition. Joan Molina describes the Olympic yachting venue of 1980 which, like so many yachting competitions, was held far from the main Olympic activity in the host city.

Additional articles include: Olympic flights for the 1992 Barcelona Games; the candidate cities for the 2004 Olympic Games; part III of Spanish sports cancels (mid-1995 to early 1996); and part II of Remigio Ferré Soler's article on chess.

Contact: Sebastián Sabaté Culla, Apartado de Correos 21041, E-08080 Barcelona, Spain.

- M.M.

Olympic Magazine Nos. 9 & 10 (March & June 1996)

Published quarterly by the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, this slick magazine keeps the world updated on the cultural side of the Olympic Movement.

The cover article in the March issue discusses the art of U.S. painter James Rizzi who concentrates on the subject of sport and Olympism. An exhibition of his work, colorful images that mimic sports as seen through the eyes of a child, took place at the museum between March and May. He has also been commissioned by the IOC to create a series of paintings commemorating the Opening Ceremonies of the Centennial Olympic Games.

Other articles include an interview with François Carrard, Director General of the IOC; an overview of Olympic sponsor, Xerox; a preview of the "Rings: Five Passions in World Art" exhibition in Atlanta; and profiles of Jamaican-born sprinter, Merlene Ottey, and modern pentathlete, Svent Thofelt who competed at the Olympics from 1928-1948.

The June issue is dedicated to the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. Profiles of U.S. IOC member, Anita DeFrantz, ACOG President & CEO, Billy Payne, and Olympic film maker, Bud Greenspan, are supplemented by descriptions of the "quilt of leaves" theme for the Games, and the special Olympic displays in Atlanta and Lausanne during the Games.

As always, both issues report on the activities at the museum and IOC Headquarters in Lausanne.

Contact: Musee Olympique Lausanne, 1, Quai d'Ouchy, CH-1001 Lausanne, Switzerland.

- M.M.

Olympsport Vol. 29, No. 90

The biggest sports story of 1996 was the Centennial Olympic Games. The February 1996 issue of this Czech-language publication doesn't disappoint in its coverage of the pre-Olympic fever.

The two primary articles bracket the 100-year celebration. The first discusses the philatelic aspects of the 1896 Athens Games, while the second summarizes the various cancels and meters from around the world heralding the 1996 Atlanta Games. A calendar of Atlanta's events and illustrations of the official sports pictographs conclude this section.

The final article in this issue examines the "History of English Football." Competition by English teams at European and World Championships are supplemented by stamps and special cancels.

Contact: Jaroslav Petrsek, P.O.B. 13, 282 23 Cesky Brod, Czech Republic.

- M.M.

Podium Vol. 3, No. 11

In September 1997, the International Olympic Committee will select the host city for the Games of the XXIIIth Olympiad in 2004. Philatelic emissions from one of the candidate cities, Buenos Aires, is discussed in the opening article of the August 1996 issue of the Argentine Thematic Sports Group.

Sports in Cuba are reviewed by J. Casalia, accompanied by a handy check list of Cuban sports and Olympic stamps with Yvert (French) catalog numbers.

The longest article in this issue discusses the centennial in 1996 of the Belgrano Athletic Club in Buenos Aires. Additional news items include pioneers in aerosports, the centennial of the Chilean Olympic Committee, and new sports and Olympic stamps and cancels from around the world.

Contact: Jorge A. Casalia, C.C. 30 Suc. 19, C.P. 1419, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

- M.M.

Tee Time
Vol. 2, No. 4

This issue of *Tee Time* includes the semi-annual minimum bid auction of 270 lots. Most lots are priced well below \$10, with the highest minimum being \$45.

Three pages of this issue are devoted to new golf stamps and cancellations. An article entitled "Are these Golf Stamps???" questions whether a North Korean souvenir sheet and one from the Grenadines of St. Vincent-Mustique deserve listing on a golf checklist. Another article discusses and illustrates new Portokort cards issued by the Sweden postal administration. Two early (1933 and 1935) U.S. Augusta, Georgia golf covers are examined.

While this periodical is certainly useful for all golf collectors, it tends to lack in-depth articles on the more rare golf material, indicating a lack of participation by the more advanced collectors in the study group.

Contact: IFGS, P.O. Box 2183, Norfolk VA 23501. - D.C.

Torch Bearer
Vol. 13, No. 3

The August 1996 issue of the Society of Olympic Collectors' quarterly is devoted almost entirely to the Atlanta Olympics. Editor, Bob Farley, attended with the dual purpose of seeing the Games and Olympilex, and documenting the variety of philatelic material and postcards at the Games.

In addition to his report on what he observed and obtained in Atlanta, this issue contains an article by the Society's president, Francesca Rapkin, on the German Olympic Express. This special train traveled throughout Germany during the period of the Games promoting interest in the Centennial Games and in Olympic philately.

Other articles relate to Royal Mail's Olympic Airgram, the French Olympic Committee's lottery to promote support of its Olympic athletes, the activities of the British national and regional Games sponsors, and Australia's Olympic postmarks.

Contact: Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, Great Britain. - D.C.

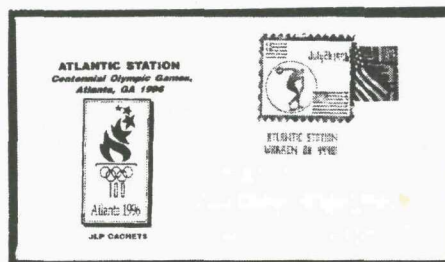


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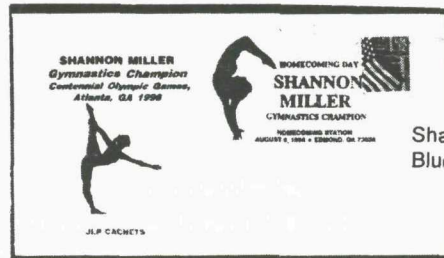


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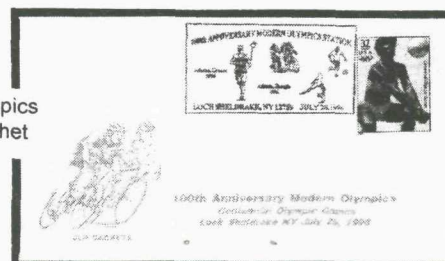


Atlantic Station
Red foil Cachet



Shannon Miller
Blue foil cachet

Modern Olympics
Silver foil cachet



NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Margaret Jones

New Members

2085R Jeffrey F. Bishop, 17 Wellington Road, Livingston, NJ 07039 USA. Jeffrey is a manager-funeral director. *Greek & U.S. Olympic issues.* (Jones)

2086R Harry J. Heflin, P.O. Box 24094, Dayton, OH 45424 USA. *Summer Olympics; U.S. football; baseball; basketball.* (La Porta)

2087R Sharon E. Whiting, 601 Park Blvd, #1605, Grapevine, TX 76051 USA. Miss Whiting is a controller. *Olympics only.* (La Porta)

2088R Olaf Harmuth, Weimarer Str. 20, D-10625 Berlin, Germany. *1936 Olympic tickets, memorabilia and books; 1940 Olympics.* (Jones)

2089R Lyell G. Galbraith, 60 Granger Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424-1111. *Olympics and sports on stamps.* (Jones)

2090R Paul G. Davies, P.O. Box 270, Tweed Heads, NSW, Australia 2485. Paul is a medical practitioner. *Football (Soccer); Olympics; Cricket.* (Maestroni/www)

New Addresses:

Benoit Carrier, 11839 Boul. Lacordaire, Apt. 5, Montreal-Nord, Quebec, H1G 4K5, Canada.

Cary Frederick, 69 Erie Avenue, Newton Highlands, MA 02161, USA.

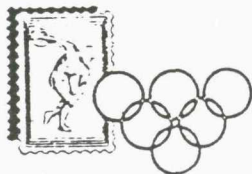
Michel Larouche, 165 Av. Brunet, #10, Dorval, Quebec, H9S 5R5, Canada.

Robert M. Lee, 16429 Horseshoe Ridge Road, Chesterfield, MO 63005-4421, USA.

Ingrid O'Neil, P.O. Box 60310, Colorado Springs, CO 80960-0310, USA.

Total Membership, August 31, 1996 = 461.

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by Dennis Dengel

Aitutaki: 11 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Two \$2.00 stamps: Coubertin, Olympic flag, 1896 parade of athletes; runners, US flag, laurel wreath. S/s: 2 each stamp.

Antigua & Barbuda: 6 May 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 65c, track & field; 75c, Seoul Olympic stadium; 90c, Allison Jolly (yachting); \$1.20, 2,000m tandem cycling. Two panes of 9 se-tenant 90c stamps: 18 Olympians. \$5.00 s/s, Bill Toomey (decathlon); \$6.00 s/s, Mark Lenzi (diver).

Bahrain: 19 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 80 Fils, 100F, 200F, 250F: Olympic flame and boat.

France: 17 June 1996. 100th Anniversary of the Modern Olympics. 3.00Fr, athlete.

Hong Kong: 19 July 1996, 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. \$10.90 s/s: four stamps previously issued by Hong Kong on 20 March 1996.

19 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Re-issue of 4 stamps released 20 March 1996, in new colors. \$1.20, gymnastics; \$2.10, diving; \$2.60, track and field; \$5.00, basketball.

India: 25 June 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Two stamps: Olympic torch; marble stadium in Athens.

Jersey: 28 June 1997. 1997 Jersey Island Games. 6 values.

Laos: 1996 World Soccer Cup. 20k, 50k, 300k 400k, 500k, 1000k s/s. Soccer players.

Macau: 19 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 2.00Ptc, swimming; 3.00Ptc, soccer; 3.50Ptc, gymnastics; 4.50Ptc, windsurfing; 10Ptc s/s, boxing.

Montserrat: July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 1896 medalists: \$1.15; \$1.50, Paul Masson (cycling); \$2.30, Robert Garret (discus); \$3.00, John Bolland (tennis).

Nauru: 21 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 40c, 50c, 60c, \$1.00. Nauruan weightlifters. Sheets of 20 stamps.

New Zealand: 28 August 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Olympic Gold medalists. 40 cent, Danyon Loader (swimming) and Blyth Tait (equestrian). Mini sheets of 6.

Palau: 31 May 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Two 40c, 1948 London Games, track and field. Two 60 cent, 1948 London Games, torchbearer, Olympic stadium. Pane of twenty 32c, various athletes.

Papua New Guinea: 12 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 25T, shooting; 50T, track and field; 65t, weightlifting; 1 Kina, boxing.

Paraguay: 7 June 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 500 Guaranis, emblems of Atlanta Games and Paraguay Olympic Committee; 1,000G, Olympic runner. Sheets of 25.

Penrhyn: 12 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. \$5.00, Olympic flag, flags of other nations. Sheets of 25.

Singapore: 19 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Non-denominated stamp (domestic use), windsurfing, sailing; 60c, soccer, tennis; 70c, pole vaulting, running; \$2.00, diving, swimming. S/s of all 4 designs (22c value for windsurfing, sailing stamp).

St. Lucia: 19 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Se-tenant pair of 15c stamps, three ancient runners, three modern runners. Se-tenant pair of 75c stamps, sailboats.

St. Vincent & the Grenadines: 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 20c, Maurice King of St. Vincent (weightlifter); 70c Eswort Cooms of St. Vincent (runner); two 90 cent, Pamenos and Benedict Ballantyne of St. Vincent (runners); \$1.00, London 1908 Games; two \$1.10, Dorando Pietri in 1908 (Marathon), Rodney Jack of St. Vincent (soccer); \$2.00, yachting. Four panes of nine se-tenant \$1.00 stamps, various athletes. Four \$5.00 s/s, various athletes and Olympic flag.

Turkey: 19 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. S/s of 4: 10,000Lira, archery; 15,000L, wrestling; 25,000L, weightlifting; 50,000L, high jump.

6 August 1996. European Football Championship. 15,000L, soccer player in action; 50,000L, soccer ball emblazoned with flags of competing nations.

Vanuatu: 17 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 25 Vatu, athletes Tawai Keiruan, Baptiste Firiam, Tava Kalo; 70V, athletes and Vanuatu Stadium; 75V, runners of the 1950s; 200V, runners of 1896.

Western Samoa: 15 July 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 70 Sene, boxing; 90S, running; 1T, weightlifting; 4T, javelin.

Corrections, comments, advice? Please write the author at 17 Peckham Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603, USA, or e-mail him at: 70363.3621@compuserve.com

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SPORTS CROSS INDEX APRIL-OCT 1996

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Boxing: 96609-130.

Cycling: 96609-191; 96614-508; 96721-512; 96728-127.

Football: 96715-614; 96824-373; 96908-152.

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Softball: 96710-363.

Tennis: 96729-065.

Water Skiing: 96628-550.

Yachting: 96621-136; 96X02-027.



96413-198 Wilmington, DE 13-14

Artwork Unavailable
Penn Relays Station
(Relay runner with baton.)

96427-191 Philadelphia, PA 27

Artwork Unavailable
Preakness Station
(Thoroughbred and jockey racing,
flower and "121," "Pimlico.")

96518-212 Baltimore, MD 18



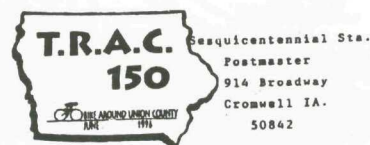
96601-303 Atlanta, GA 1

Artwork Unavailable
Induction Station
(Stylized boxer logo for "The
Showplace of Boxing/Boxing
Hall of Fame.")

96609-130 Canastota, NY 9

Artwork Unavailable
Corestates U.S. Pro
Championship Station
(Two stick-figure bicyclists riding up
and down the wavy lines of cancel.)

96609-191 Philadelphia, PA 9



96614-508 Cromwell, IA 14



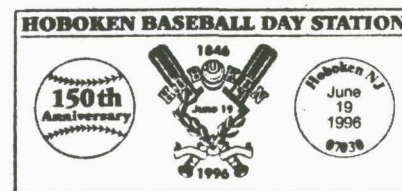
96615-505 Marathon, IA 15



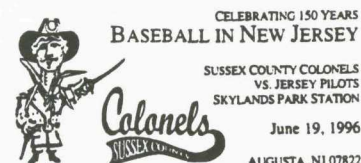
96616-127 Mountain Dale, NY 16



96618-165 Erie, PA 18



96619-070 Hoboken, NJ 19



96619-078 Augusta, NJ 19



June 21, 1996
BOLDT YACHT HOUSE
STATION
ALEXANDRIA BAY, NY 13607

96621-136 Alexandria Bay, NY 21



GREENLAND SKATEFEST '86
STATION
GREENLAND, N.H. 03840
JUNE 23, 1986

96623-038 Greenland, NH 23



Canon GHO
45th Anniversary Station
June 24, 1996
Cromwell, CT 06416

96624-064 Cromwell, CT 24

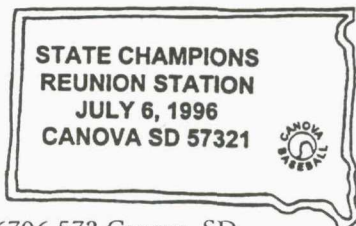


25th Annual
Water Ski Days
WATER SKI DAYS STATION
June 30, 1996
Lake City, MN 55041

96628-550 Lake City, MN 28-30



96705-191 Philadelphia, PA 5-9



96706-573 Canova, SD 6

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96708-078 Augusta, NJ 8



PUERTO RICO
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL
STATION
JULY 10, 1996
ENTERPRISE, AL 36330

96710-363 Enterprise, AL 10

Artwork Unavailable
Casey At The Bat Comm. Station
(Silhouette of 19th century player
with cap leaning on baseball bat.)

96712-133 Cooperstown, NY 12



St. Louis RAMS
Summer Training Camp
Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois
July 14 - August 16, 1996
JUL 28 1996

96715-614 Macomb, IL 15-19

Artwork Unavailable
Home Run Station
(Cartoon bird in baseball uniform
with bat "Toledo Mud Hens Baseball/
Centennial 1896-1996.")

96716-436 Toledo, OH 16

Artwork Unavailable
Alabama At-A-Glance Station
(Rectangle on globe with soccer ball
circling it.)

96719-352 Birmingham, AL 19-23



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VAN NUYS, CA 91409

96720-914 Van Nuys, CA 20

Artwork Unavailable
Sioux Center Bike Station
(Modern cyclist on antique bicycle,
"RAGBRAI XXIV.")

96721-512 Sioux City, IA 21

Artwork Unavailable
RAGBRAI XXIV Station
(Baseball, "A League of our Own.")

96722-512 Sibley, IA 22

Artwork Unavailable
CAM-Tour VIII Station
(Silhouettes of 4 cyclists, "Cyclists
Across Maryland/CAM-Tour.")

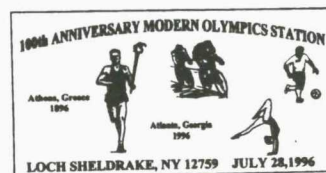
96724-209 Silver Spring, MD 24

Artwork Unavailable
Birmingham Heritage Festival Station
(Soccer ball, woman's head,
"Kickin' it.")

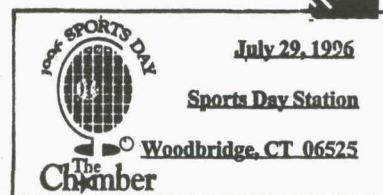
96726-352 Birmingham, AL 26-28



96726-444 Warren, OH 26



96728-127 Loch Sheldrake, NY 28



96729-065 New Haven, CT 29

Artwork Unavailable
Reading Municipal Stadium Station
(Baseball with "R," "All Time
Reading Phillies.")

96729-196 Reading, PA 29

Artwork Unavailable
National Baseball Congress Folk
Heroes Station
(Baseball and crossed bars.)

96731-672 Wichita, KS 31



96801-435 Farmer, OH 1



96803-128 Saratoga Springs, NY 3



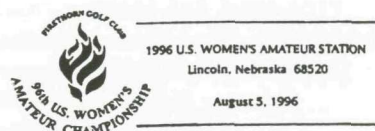
96804-133 Cooperstown, NY 4



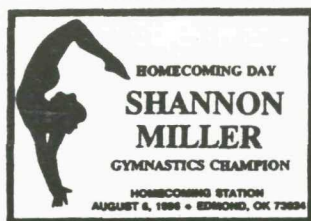
96805-128 Saratoga Springs, NY 5



96805-402 Louisville, KY 5-11



96805-685 Lincoln, NE 5-10



96806-730 Edmond, OK 6

Artwork Unavailable
Shelburne Station
("N.E. 10 Km. Grand
Prix Championships.")

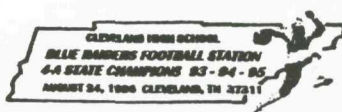
96810-013 Shelburne Falls, MA 10

Artwork Unavailable
Connie Mack World Series Station
(Baseball player sliding into base.)

96810-874 Farmington, NM 10



96824-128 Saratoga Springs, NY 24



96824-373 Cleveland, TN 8/24-9/23

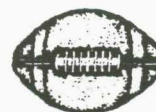


96824-601 DeKalb, IL 24



96907-405 Lexington, KY 7-8

STEELER STATION
PGH PA 15212
SEP 8 1996



96908-152 Pittsburgh, PA 8



96916-208 Poolesville, MD 16



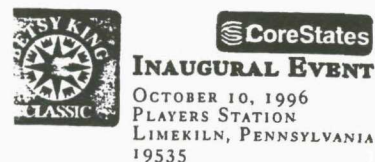
96922-212 Baltimore, MD 22



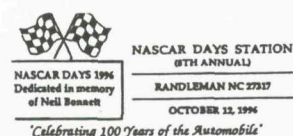
96X02-027 Attleboro, MA 2



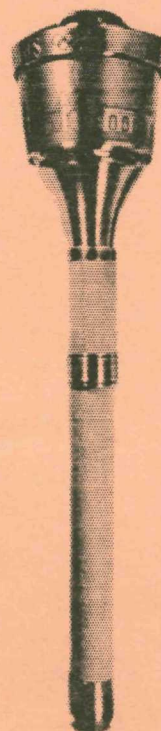
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