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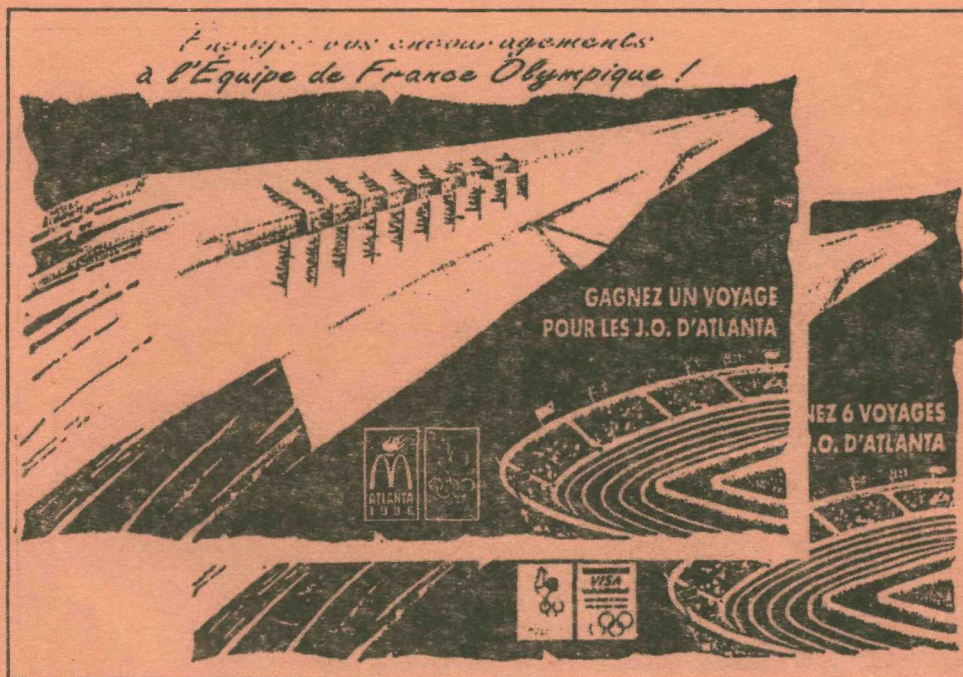
JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 35

MAY-JUNE 1997

NUMBER 5

The UPS Olympic Philatelic Connection



Picture side of the French Olympic sponsor postcards sent by French fans to the French team in Atlanta. UPS carried the sacks of postcards on their own fleet of planes.

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PRESIDENT: VICE-PRESIDENT: SECRETARY-TREASURER: DIRECTORS:

Mark C. Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122
Charles V. Covell, Jr., 2333 Brighton Drive, Louisville, KY 40205
Peter Meade, 401 E. Burnsville Pkwy, #112, Burnsville, MN 55337-2844
Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993
Norman F. Jacobs, Jr., 2712 N. Decatur Rd., Decatur, GA 30033
John La Porta, P.O. Box 2286, La Grange, IL 60525
Sherwin D. Podolsky, 3074 Sapphire Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063
Jeffrey R. Tishman, 37 Griswold Place, Glen Rock, NJ 07452
Robert J. Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Cres., Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5ES, England
Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993
Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109
Cora B. Collins, P.O. Box 2183, Norfolk, VA 23501

AUCTIONS: MEMBERSHIP: SALES DEPARTMENT:

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PUBLISHER: EDITOR: ASSISTANT EDITOR: ASSOCIATE EDITORS:

John La Porta, P.O. Box 2286, La Grange, IL 60525
Mark C. Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122
Sherwin D. Podolsky, 3074 Sapphire Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063
James Bowman, 3459 Township Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063
Dennis M. Dengel, 17 Peckham Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993
Stephen Rock, 3300 Waterman Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109
Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

IOC Restricts Olympic Stamp Production

Interesting developments on the Olympic stamp scene! On 13 February 1997, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in an effort to "ensure uniformity and strengthen Olympic philately ...," circulated a set of regulations governing the licensing of stamps carrying registered Olympic properties (e.g. the Olympic rings, words "Olympic" or "Olympic Games," emblems of any National Olympic Committee or Olympic Organizing Committee). The memo came from the office of Dr. Manfred Bergman of the IOC's Philatelic Department.

In essence, the regulations require that *all* national postal administrations *with the exception of the Nagano Olympic Organizing Committee* must contract with the IOC for any and all Olympic stamps to be printed. Each postal administration is to be limited to a single set of stamps with no more than four stamps in the set. The set is to have a face value not exceeding US\$2.00. Blocks, sheetlets, souvenir sheets, imperforate sheets, and minister sheets are prohibited. Gold and silver foil stamps are only allowed with express authorization in writing by the IOC. And finally: "all Olympic postage stamp designs must be submitted to the IOC and NAOC for their express written approval before printing" (bold text is theirs).

My initial reaction was one of "fair is fair." The IOC, NOCs, and Olympic Organizing Committees have every right to protect their trademarks. And stamps are as much a profit-making commodity for many postal administration as, say, burgers and soft drinks. But has the IOC gone too far in severely limiting the format in which postal administrations may print Olympic stamps?

Let's analyze the IOC's logic. They believe that fewer Olympic stamps with a lower face value will draw more casual collectors to Olympic philately, while encouraging existing Olympic philatelists to purchase more stamps. On its face, that theory may hold water with respect to the casual collector — but probably only with respect to stamps of his or her own nation.

True Olympic philatelists are a different breed because of the broad topical/thematic scope of Olympic philately. It is rare to find a general Olympic collector nowadays. Most are specialists, assembling collections based on specific sports, athletes, Olympic-related themes (e.g. mascots, torch runs, etc.) or Olympiads. Even those falling into the last of these categories is unlikely to form a complete collection of Olympic stamps from an Olympic Games later than 1976. With over 190 members of the IOC, and assuming each one issued a 4-stamp set with a \$2.00 face value, that still would be nearly \$400 (and let's not forget to double that price to account for retail markups).

For the majority of Olympic philatelists, quantity equals diversity. With fewer Olympic stamps in only a single format, it will only be more difficult to expand a thematic/topical Olympic collection. And those banned souvenir sheets, blocks and sheetlets also restrict the variety of subject matter. One can only fit so many thematic elements on a postage stamp.

While I respect the IOC's decision to license Olympic properties, I hope they will reconsider their limitations on the number of stamp issues per nation and the variety of philatelic formats that are allowed.

Our Web Site is <http://www.concentric.net/~laimins/spi.html>

Mark Maestrone: markspi@internetmci.com
Charles Covell: cvcove01@ulkyvm.louisville.edu

Glenn Estus: gestus@westelcom.com
Norman Jacobs: nfjr@aol.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

by Mark Maestroni

Just A Few Corrections

With regard to my article "Great Britain and the Centennial Olympics" (*JSP*, March/April 1997), I have one or two points that need correcting before someone writes to you. They are:

1. On page 11: the date for the Barcelona Games is 1992 rather than 1988.
2. On page 14: Steve Redgrave won a gold medal in rowing at each of the last four Olympic Games including 1996 Atlanta, and he has recently said that he will try to win a fifth in Sydney in 2000. Steve is, in fact, one of only five competitors from any Olympic sport to win a gold medal in four consecutive Olympic Games. Nobody has yet won gold at five consecutive Games. Redgrave also won a bronze in 1988. Others have won more medals, but not over such a long period.
3. On page 14 (the Richard Mead cover): this was in fact a single cover with a limited edition of 5000 produced by Benham with a special Badminton cancellation on the first day of issue. The size is 22cm x 11cm. The set of great British Athletes was produced on smaller covers with a size of 16½cm x 9cm.
4. On page 16: the text should read "fifteen British medal winners covers." We would have liked to have won 15 golds!

Since the article was written, I have received a copy of Benham's limited first day cover (500 produced) which is interesting because it has the full set of 1948 Olympic stamps and the special Wembley centennial cachet.

Readers may also be interested to know that the cover illustrated in Figure 6 in the article showing Tessa Sanderson was available for 22 different gold medal winners and like the 1996

medal winners covers, can be found signed and unsigned.

Brian K. Hammond
Ipswich, United Kingdom

Golf Topical For Sale

Stamps, FDCs, cancels for sale. Also sports cancels. Trades okay. Please write for listings. William Wollney, 1571 W. Ogden, Apt. 1536, LaGrange Park, IL. 60526, U.S.A.

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<input type="checkbox"/> St. Pierre	<input type="checkbox"/> Dahomey	<input type="checkbox"/> Mauritania
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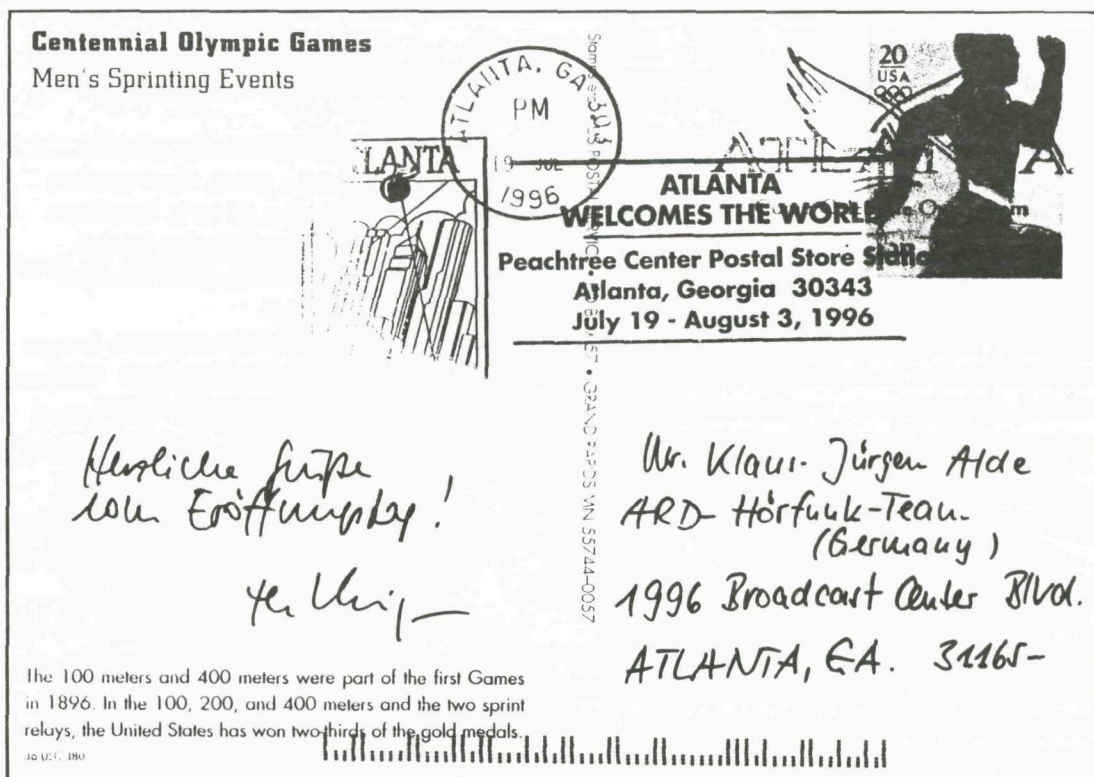


Figure 1. Bar coding applied by the USPS helped direct this postcard to the International Broadcast Center. The decoded zip code reads: 31165-0001-96.

The UPS Olympic Philatelic Connection

by Thomas Lippert

The special postal restrictions for the Centennial Olympic Games have been previously described, but we were all surprised to find some examples of postal presence (both the U.S. Postal Service and United Parcel Service) inside the Olympic infrastructure.

A very interesting theme for philatelic exploration was the handling of incoming mail through the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) office, and the manner in which the Olympic postal zip codes were applied by postal equipment and clerks. Mark Maestroni gave us a preview by providing us with helpful information before the Games began on some of the special Olympic zip codes that were being used to direct mail to the correct destination (*JSP*, July/August, 1996).

One example should suffice to explain the complexity of the Olympic mail delivery system in Atlanta. While this was not the first time special designations were provided for incoming mail, it was unusual that three different codes were published in advance of the Games and distributed to all national postal administrations. These three zip codes were:

USPS 5-Digit Olympic Zip Codes	
International Broadcast Center (IBC)	31165
Media Broadcast Center (MPC)	31180
Olympic Village (OV)	31190

Philatelists should realize that addresses which include the special zip codes do not in themselves qualify a piece of postal matter as exhibitable. This situation changes when markings referencing the codes are applied in some fashion by the post

office. In the case of Atlanta, ink-jet sorting machines were used by the post office, thus giving postal matter an official imprimatur.

The problem that faces collectors is, of course, how to translate the bar codes applied by the post office. One possible way is to put your word processing computer software to work. Most current versions of popular software include an envelope-making function which applies bar codes based on the addressee's zip code. Examples of the zip codes provided in this article can be generated and then compared to Atlanta covers. In a companion article in this issue, Mark Maestrone has included directions for manually deciphering the postal service bar codes.

Figure 1 illustrates an Olympic postal stationery card mailed from the Peachtree Center Postal Store to an addressee at the International Broadcast Center. The post office-applied bar code at the bottom reads "31165-0001-96" – the correct Olympic code for that destination. [Editor's note: after decoding this bar code by hand, I noted the additional two-digit extension over and above the standard zip+4. Could the "96" be a clever reference to the Games that the USPS decided to slip in?]

In addition to the regular 5-digit code, the *Olympic Games Press Handbook* listed specific "+4 digit add-on codes" for countries/news agencies with a large presence at the Games. Figure 2 reproduces an excerpt from the handbook regarding mail service to and from the Main Press Center. The +4-digit add-on code facilitated sorting by ACOG personnel.

From my discussions with collectors who had access to the nerve centers of the Games, it became apparent that the average Olympic Family member was never informed about these "add-on" codes. As such, complete 9-digit codes on mail are seldom seen.

It is also interesting to note how outgoing Olympic mail was handled. In the November/December issue of *JSP*, I discussed the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) office inside the Olympic Village. I was informed that some Olympians did manage to discover, and to post some mail at, this well-hidden facility. However, if we look at the maps which most Olympic guests from abroad received with their official materials, there is no indication of any USPS facility either within the confines of

Mail Service

Incoming mail and packages for the MPC will be delivered to the Message Center where staff will sort and deliver directly to the addressee. If no one is available to receive the mail or package at the private offices, the item will be returned to the Message Center. Message Center staff will notify individuals that they have mail or a package via a telephone call and/or E-mail. A message also will be placed on the message board.

When sending mail to the MPC, please use the following address:

Name
News Agency
1996 Main Press Center Blvd.
Atlanta, GA 31180-(+4 digit add-on code)

Use of a special + 4 digit code will help staff in sorting incoming mail and packages. The codes below should be used for press from the country or agency indicated.

United Kingdom	31180-0100
Italy	31180-0300
Japan	31180-0400
Germany	31180-0500
Korea	31180-0700
Sweden	31180-0800
United States	31180-0900
Associated Press	31180-1000
Agence France Presse	31180-1100
Reuters	31180-1200
Other Countries	31180-0001

All outgoing mail is handled by UPS at its location on Main Street.

Figure 2. Excerpt from the ACOG Media Handbook explaining the mailing procedures at the MPC and the distinct zip+4 codes for various countries/new agencies.

Olympic venues, or for that matter anywhere in metro Atlanta. Naturally, every UPS (United Parcel Service) office was marked with precision.

UPS, as the official worldwide sponsor, had four offices located throughout the Olympic infrastructure. Three facilities were at the Olympic Village at Georgia Tech, the Main Press Center (MPC), and the International Broadcast Center (IBC). For the convenience of official members of the Olympic Family, a fourth office was provided in the International Olympic Committee hotel, the Mariott Marquis. In UPS terminology, these facilities were referred to as "shipping offices." Being, essentially, a package and expedited mail delivery service, the UPS couldn't really assume all the duties of the USPS. The services that athletes and most members of the media required were postage stamp purchases and the mailing of letters and postcards. It seems that someone at ACOG realized this. So

UPS 2nd Day Air [®]		WEIGHT ENTER LTR IF LETTER		DIMENSIONAL WEIGHT IF APPLICABLE		ZONE		SHIPPER'S COPY	
Shipping Document		LTR				208			
See instructions on back. Call 1-800-PICK-UPS (800-742-5877) for additional information.									
TRACKING NUMBER		5820 927 870 2							
1 SHIPMENT FROM									
SHIPPER'S UPS ACCOUNT NO.	UPS SHIPPER NO. / UPS BILLING NO.		FOR UPS USE						
307E49									
REFERENCE NUMBER									
Bon's Basunov									
NAME Newspaper Sports Illustrated									
COMPANY MPC SE PRESS									
STREET ADDRESS 1996 Press Center Blvd.									
CITY AND STATE Atlanta, Ga.									
ZIP CODE 31180									
2 DELIVERY TO									
NAME Mark Maestroni									
COMPANY									
STREET ADDRESS 2824 Curie Place									
CITY AND STATE San Diego, Ca.									
ZIP CODE 92122									
3 WEIGHT AND ZONE									
4 2ND DAY AIR CHARGE \$ 2.00									
5 OPTIONAL SERVICES									
<input type="checkbox"/> SATURDAY PICKUP									
<input type="checkbox"/> DECLARED VALUE \$									
<input type="checkbox"/> C.O.D. \$									
6 ADDITIONAL HANDLING CHARGE \$									
TOTAL CHARGES \$ 2.00									
7 METHOD OF PAYMENT									
<input type="checkbox"/> BILL SHIPPER <input type="checkbox"/> BILL RECEIVER <input type="checkbox"/> BILL THIRD PARTY <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN EXPRESS <input type="checkbox"/> MASTER CARD <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK <input type="checkbox"/> UPS CASH									
8 RECEIVER'S / THIRD PARTY'S UPS ACCT. NO. OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD NO. EXPIRATION									
454									
STREET ADDRESS Budapest St. 62									
CITY AND STATE Rossmore Maryland									
ZIP CODE 21107									
9 SHIPPER'S SIGNATURE X fl. Clip									
DATE OF SHIPMENT 24/07/96									

Figure 3. UPS shipping label for a 2nd Day Air Letter to San Diego, CA from the MPC in Atlanta. Note that the "UPS Shipper No." in the upper left half of the label is the critical piece of information. It notes the sending location as the MPC with the code number "307E49."

to our surprise, we discovered that the UPS offices were able to both handle mail and vend postage stamps. [Editor's note: this is not entirely unusual in the U.S., as many private mailbox businesses sell stamps and can weigh and post the most typical classes of mail.]

In the handbook for the IBC, the description of UPS services varies somewhat. UPS services are listed first, followed by a separate remark on *Postal Services*. Essentially, though, mail to and from the IBC was handled in much the same manner as at the MPC.

But in both cases, what was the distinction between *mail* and *postal services*? Very near the UPS shipping office at both the MPC and IBC, there were three kinds of postage stamp vending machines set up by the USPS. Adjacent to them was a mail drop. Above the vending machines, a sign

directed those with questions about postal fees, etc. to call a USPS 1-800 toll-free telephone number. The final sentence in the Media Handbook excerpt reproduced in Figure 2 says that "all outgoing mail is handled by UPS." In other words they collected the mail and turned it over to the USPS for final sorting and machine canceling. This clearly explains that within the Olympic infrastructure, UPS controlled virtually all postally-related services.

The primary purpose of the UPS shipping offices was obviously not the collection of mail for the USPS. They offered special package delivery services including one called "Letter" (abbreviated "LTR"). But this service was quite different from what we normally think of in a postal sense.

As noted earlier, UPS set up a network of temporary Olympic shipping offices. Each one was

given a special UPS code number for use only during the Centennial Olympic Games. They were:

UPS Olympic Shipping Office Codes	
International Broadcast Center	307E71
Main Press Center	307E49
Hotel Marriott Marquis	30753X
Olympic Village	307

Readers will note that the complete shipping code for the Olympic Village is missing. During the Games, I tried to ascertain this information, but was told by UPS personnel that for "security" reasons, they couldn't divulge the information. Even now that the Games are long since over, this information seems unobtainable. Could a fellow SPI-member possibly fill in the gap in our knowledge?

UPS printed a special series of attractive Olympic mailing containers for their Letter Service. These are sturdy, flat rectangular cardboard mailers measuring approximately 13" wide by 9½" high. The cost of mailing was independent of weight; one could fill the mailing container with any amount of matter.

These Letter Service mailers were printed for all (?) countries in which UPS has offices. The designs of the mailers were virtually the same, differing primarily in the quality of the printing. The author has identified the following cover designs for each type of Letter Service:

UPS Olympic Letter Service: Mailer Cover Designs	
Next Day Air	Javelin
	Hurdles (Women)
	Swimming
Second Day Air	Gymnastics (Women)
	Shot Put (Men)
Worldwide Express	Equestrian
	Gymnastics (Men)
	Swimming

"Serious" philatelists are no doubt shaking their heads wondering what this has to do with philately? That is a very valid question. So how should such items be collected? What makes them of interest to the philatelist – the bar codes on the shipping documents or the handwritten markings from the shipping office? In an extended sense, where are the traditional philatelic elements such as stamps and cancels?

On the other hand, every collector interested in modern philately should consider the new technologies and techniques of postal communications. In several countries, mail is collected at remote locations and taken to large processing facilities far from the point of original mailing. This was certainly true during the Games, as we have found mail deposited at Lake Lanier (site of Olympic rowing) with Athens machine cancellations, and mail from the Olympic Youth Camp in Rome, Georgia canceled at the Atlanta North processing center.

The next logical step has been the loss of individual post office names in the machine postmarks. Often only a region's zip code is noted in the dial. Many countries are using bar coded labels for the electronic processing of packages, express mail and registered mail. These labels are of course quite anonymous in appearance. As collectors, we have already learned to live with these expressions of modern technology as they relate to our philatelic items.

From an economic standpoint, we are aware of the trend towards privatizing what were once government-operated monopolies. This has already happened throughout the telecommunications industry and the postal services are likely not far behind. In fact, in Germany there is currently a great deal of discussion about public vs. private mail carriers. The weight limit for mail that must be carried by the Deutsche Post will soon be decreased to 100 gr. (3½ ounces). This postal monopoly will almost surely be dissolved early in the next century.

What happens when the laws change? Which stamps or other postal materials will be considered "philatelic" and thus worth collecting? It is for all of these reasons that this author is convinced that any report on the philately of the 1996 Olympic Games must include the contributions of the UPS, the "Official Package Delivery Company of the

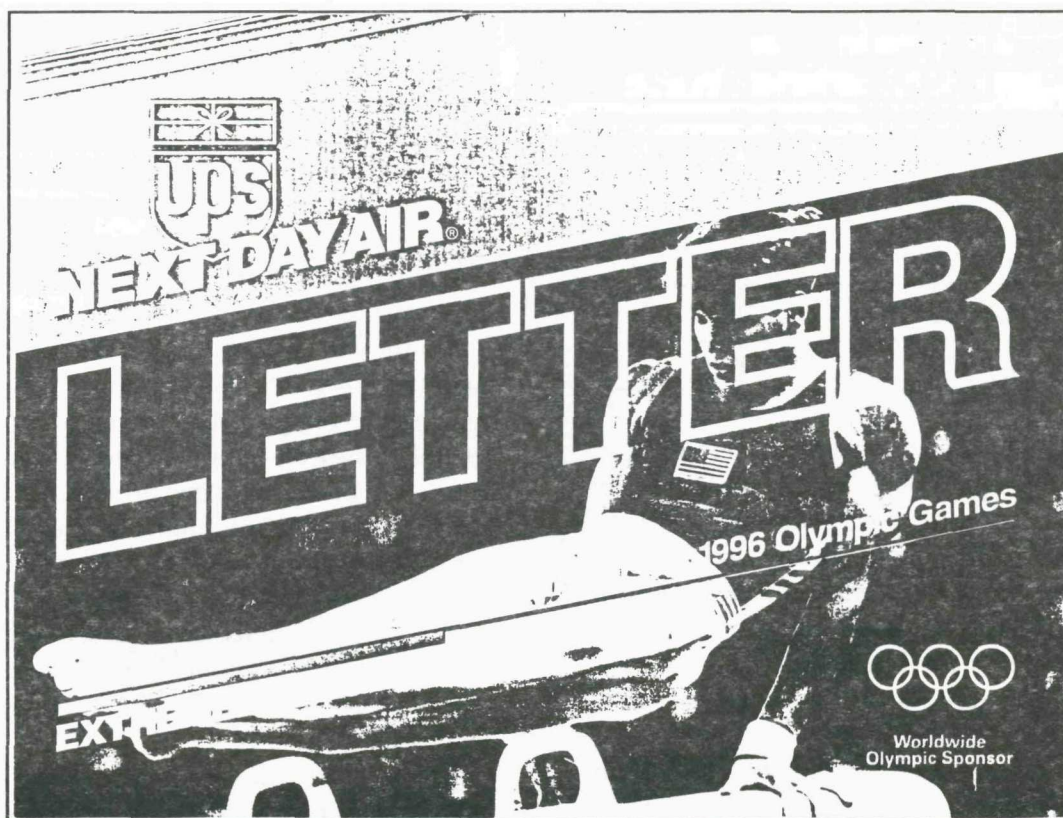




Figure 4. UPS Next Day Air Letter from the MPC to California. Each of the cover designs depicted a different athlete and sport. This example shows U.S. Olympic gymnast, Chris Waller.



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FROM:

REFERENCE:

TELEPHONE:

DELIVERY TO:

TELEPHONE:

DATE OF SHIPMENT:

WEIGHT	DIMENSIONAL WEIGHT	ZONE
1.2	1.2	1.2

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010191120 5/95 W United Parcel Service, Louisville, KY

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Figure 5. UPS mail bag filled with postcards to the French team from fans back home. The mail program was sponsored by various corporations, with UPS transporting them to Atlanta in its own fleet of planes.

1996 Olympic Games." That said, let us now turn to some "postal" items of interest conveyed by UPS.

Figure 3 reproduces the shipping label on a UPS Second Day Air Letter package to San Diego, California. The key for us is the "UPS Shipper No." code next to the ① near the top of the left portion of the shipping label. It reads "307E49," the special UPS Olympic shipping office at the Main Press Center. Despite the unattractiveness of the shipping document, the entire mailer is really quite beautiful and certainly Olympic. Unfortunately, the Olympic philatelist will likely have ignored these items.

Another example, shown front and back in Figure 4, is a Next Day Air Letter. While the shipping document differs quite a bit from that used for the Second Day Air Letter service, the critical piece of information (the UPS Shipper No.) is there. Again, it was mailed from the MPC.

At first glance, the next item appears to be much closer to an actual postal item. However, UPS, as a private courier service, played an impor-

tant role as well. The French Olympic Committee (CNOSF), together with its sponsors (Visa, McDonald's, Coca-Cola and Catena) undertook a special program that allowed the French Olympic team, while in Atlanta, to receive communications from its fans back home. Special postcards were printed and distributed by the sponsors at their offices and restaurants throughout France. Customers could fill them out and send their best wishes to the French team. As mentioned in the newspaper of the French team, *La Gazette* (No. 1, 18-07-96), 100,033 post cards were completed and mailed. The cards were collected and packed into bags, then transported by UPS on its own fleet of planes to Atlanta. At Club France in Atlanta, the mail was handed over to the Chef du Mission of the French Olympic team who was accompanied by the athlete's spokeswoman, Marie-José Percec. (Already an Olympic champion at previous Games, she would again win in Atlanta.) Figure 5 shows a

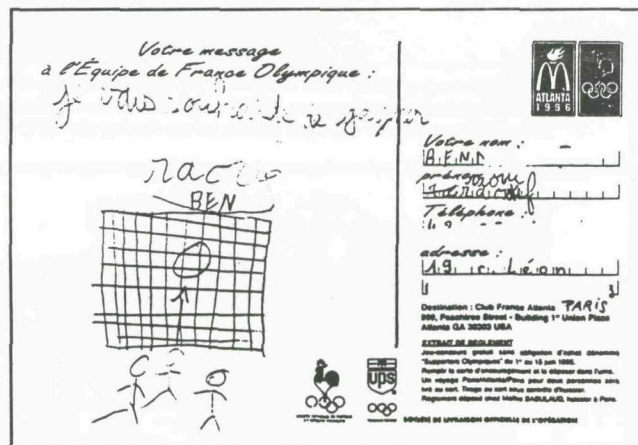


Figure 6. Example of the McDonald's (above) and VISA (below) versions of the French fan postcards.





UPS has made a splash with its Worldwide Olympic Games Sponsorship. In addition to employee programs, such as the Athlete Training Assistance Program, UPS has sponsored several teams and sporting events around the world. Here, competitors challenge the whitewater at the Olympic Games venue during the UPS Whitewater World Cup I.



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Permit No. 747

Printed in U.S.A. 

© 1996, United Parcel Service of America, Inc.

Figure 7. Interestingly, UPS used the USPS to bulk mail the Olympic-related issues of its house publication!

photograph of the UPS bags overflowing with greeting cards from French fans back home.

The cards themselves are quite interesting (Figure 6). Looking at the reverse side where one would normally find a stamp, we instead see the Olympic logo of either Visa or McDonald's. The symbols of both the CNOSF and UPS appear prominently at bottom. The destination of the cards (printed in small type near the bottom) was Club France Atlanta, 999 Peachtree Street. Both cards are in great demand. A similar activity of La Poste (the French postal administration) occurred during the 1992 Albertville Olympic Winter Games, bringing collectors nice philatelic items.

So, are these items of postal communication, which parallel those of the state-owned postal administrations, of any less interest to philatelists?

Only time will tell as Olympic philately takes advantage of new technologies and developments in communications systems.

Let us close with a nice philatelic item demonstrating the coexistence of both the UPS and USPS. *Inside UPS* is an in-house publication of the United Parcel Service. Interestingly, their magazine was not carried by their own delivery service, but rather by using USPS bulk mailing (Figure 7). The pre-printed indicium on the back cover clearly demonstrates this. Here we have without a doubt a philatelic item which also notes the UPS Olympic Games sponsorship in the caption on the back cover photograph! In my opinion, this piece could only be surpassed in philatelic significance by an addressed and posted copy (but who has kept something like this?).



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Decoding USPS Bar Codes

by Mark Maestroni

Thomas Lippert, in his article in this issue, discusses the continuing automation of the world's postal systems. The need for speed and accuracy in sorting mail continues to lead philatelists into new areas of discovery. For this, we require new tools and knowledge.

While bar coding of mail has been around for a number of years, collectors have never really needed to understand how they work. We just took them for granted! The day has come, as pointed out by Thomas, that we know how to decode this information. Following is a simple primer on the process.

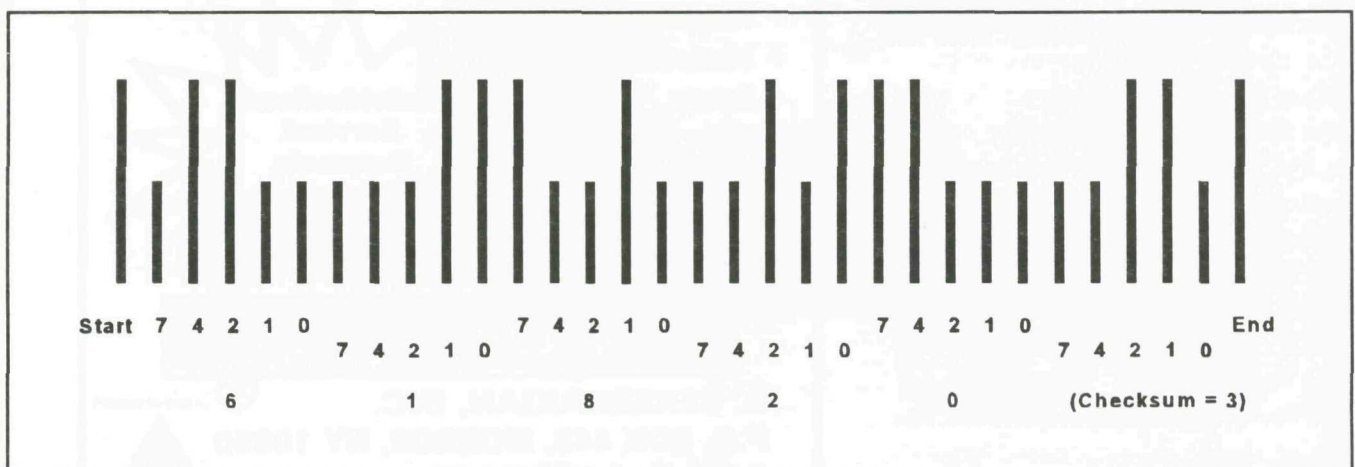
Bar coding is based on seven basic principles:

1. A single tall bar marks the beginning and end of the bar code.
2. Each block of five sequential bars marks a single digit of the code.
3. The value of each bar in the five-bar sequence is identical: 7, 4, 2, 1, and 0 in that order.
4. The value of each zip code digit is determined by the tall bars only.
5. There are precisely 2 tall bars and 3 short bars in each 5-bar group.
6. The number "0" is represented by the value "11."
7. The last group of 5 bars is a checksum that allows bar code readers to determine if the encoding is correct.

Referring to the diagram below, one adds the value of the two tall bars in each group. This yields the value of that zip code digit. Remember that when the two tall bars add up to 11, the value of that zip code digit is 0.

For a five-digit zip code, there must be 32 vertical bars; a nine-digit zip code has 52 bars. Sometimes, some of the bars may be missing, making decoding more difficult. It may be possible, at this point, to use the "checksum" set of bars to determine the value of the zip code. When one adds all the zip code digits *and* the value of the checksum, the total must be a multiple of 10. Thus, in the example below, $6+1+8+2+0+3$ (checksum)=20. By process of elimination, missing zip code digits can often be calculated.

Source: "Decoding a Partial Bar Code" by Douglas B. Quine, *The American Philatelist*, November 1988.



An example of a 5-digit bar code. A single tall bar marks the beginning and end. The remaining bars are divided into six groups of five: the first five groups represent the five digits of the bar code. The final group of five bars is an error checking function.

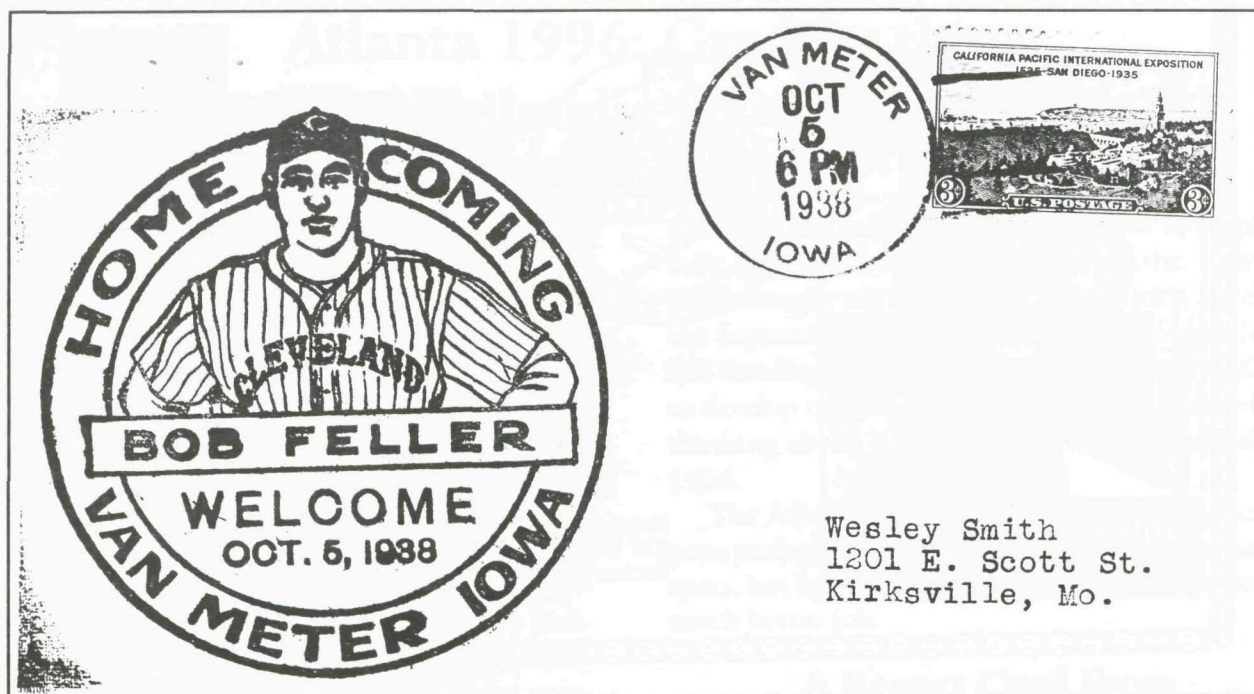


Figure 1. "Rapid Robert" Feller's return to his hometown of Van Meter, Iowa was commemorated by this cachet.

"Rapid Robert" Feller

by Norman Rushefsky

Robert Feller was born on an Iowa corn farm in 1918. While a pitcher for his high school baseball team in Van Meter, Iowa, his games were frequently attended by Major League scouts. The scouts were amazed at the young man and his unhittable fastball. In 1936, at the age of 17, he signed a contract to play for the Cleveland Indians. As a young pitcher in the Major Leagues the effectiveness of his incredible fastball was enhanced by his wildness. Hitters dared not dig too securely in the batter's box lest an errant unseeable pitch come at their heads. Batters would joke with umpires that the pitch they could not see sounded a little high.

One of his biggest games came in Cleveland at the end of the 1938 season when he was only 19 years old. A crowd of 27,000 came on a cold windy day, not as much to see Feller pitch the first game of a doubleheader, as to see if Detroit slugger Hank Greenberg could tie or break Babe Ruth's record of 60 home runs for a season. Greenberg had 58 home runs. The fans saw history made that

day but not in the way they had expected. While Greenberg had several near miss home run shots that day and Detroit won the game 4-1, Feller struck out 18 batters in the game, a record that would stand for 21 years. On his return visit to Van Meter, a special rubber stamp cachet was used to commemorate the event (Figure 1).

After military service in World War II, Feller returned to baseball with his fastball undiminished in speed. In 1948, the Indians won the American League pennant and Feller was given the honor of starting the first game of the World Series against the Boston Braves. He pitched well but the Indians lost 1-0. Feller never did win a World Series game. Figure 2 shows an envelope with a meter slogan that the Indians used in 1948.

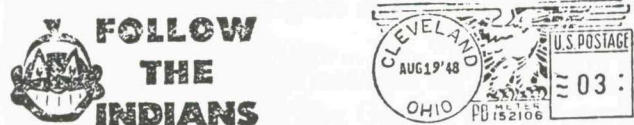


Figure 2. Feller's World Series debut was in 1948 with the Cleveland Indians. Meter used by the Cleveland Indians Club in 1948.

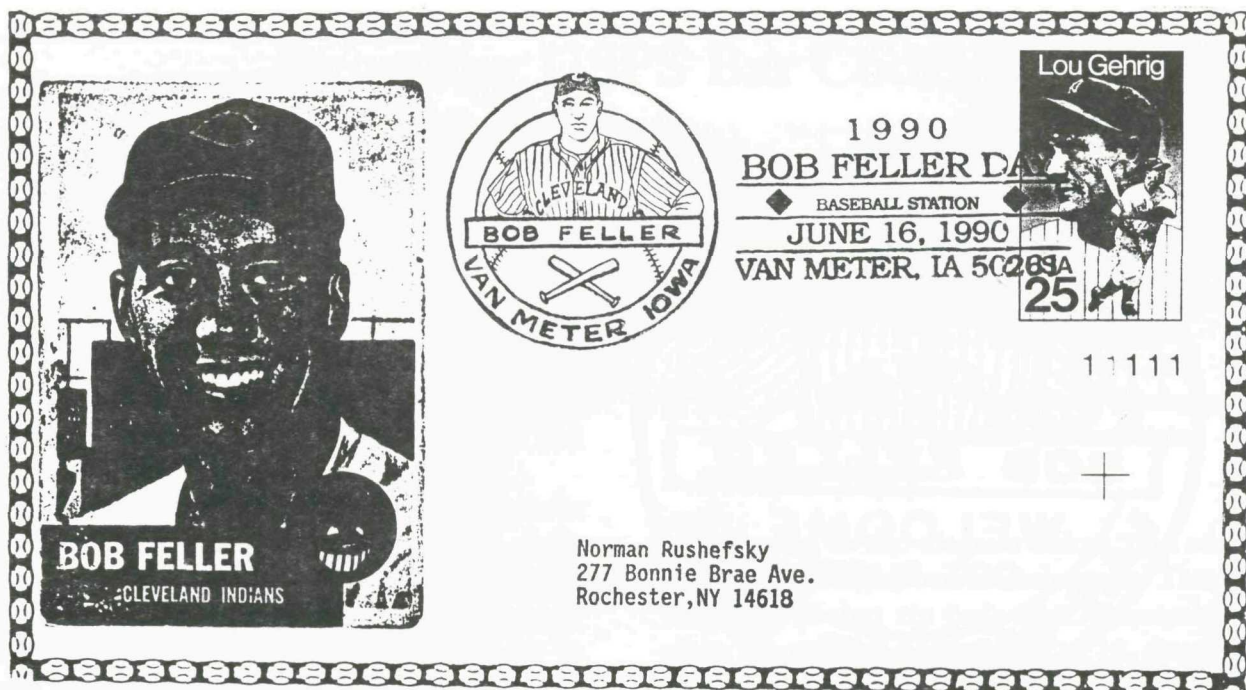
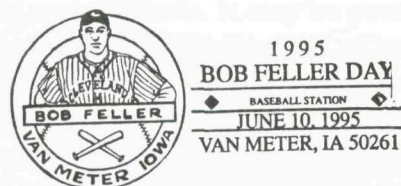


Figure 3. The Van Meter, Iowa post office commemorated the groundbreaking for the Bob Feller Hometown Exhibit with a special cancellation on June 16, 1990. The museum's dedication on June 10, 1995 was accompanied by a similar cancel, as shown in Figure 4, below.

"Rapid Robert," as he was called, was admitted to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962. He was also honored in his hometown with a museum called the Bob Feller Hometown Exhibit. On display are old uniforms, photos and special awards he received. In constructing the museum special postmarks were provided by the Van Meter post office for the groundbreaking in 1990 (Figure 3) and the



dedication in 1995 (Figure 4). A corner card advertising envelope for the museum is shown in Figure 5.

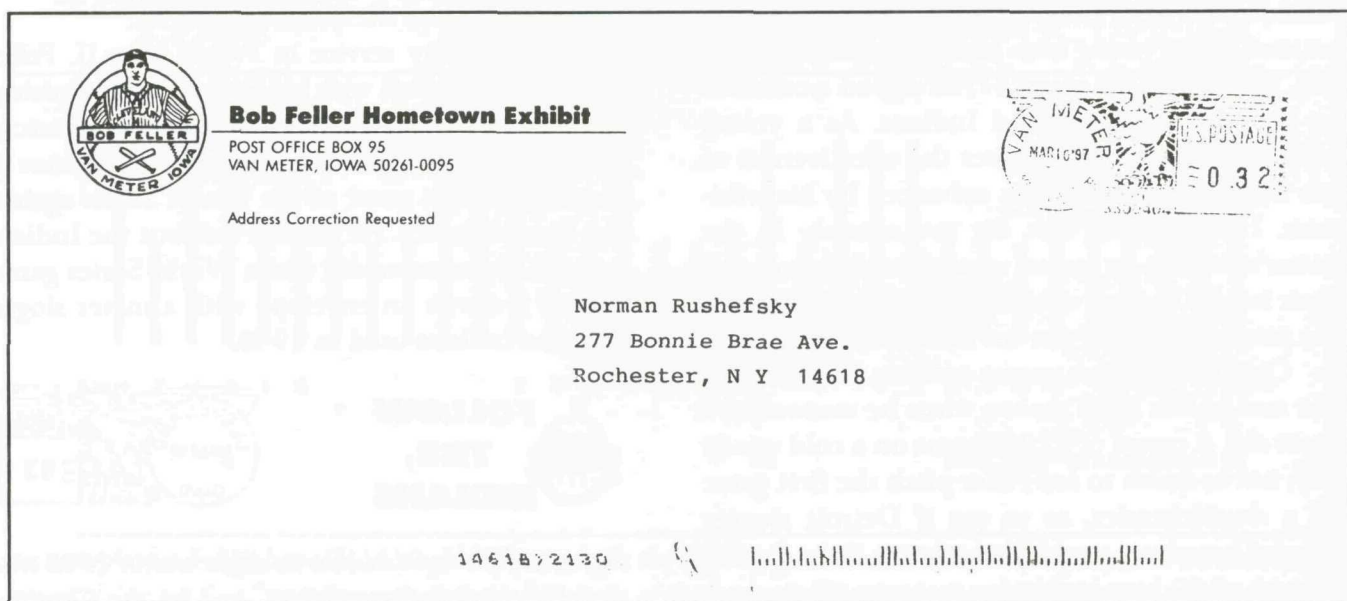


Figure 5. Corner card of the Bob Feller Hometown Exhibit in Van Meter, Iowa.

Atlanta 1996: Grading the Philatelic Games

by Dale Lilljedahl

Before the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta closed, the critics hurled their accusations of poor organization and commercialism. Some complained of long waits to enter the venues, and others pouted about the crowds at the MARTA stations (the Atlanta mass transit rail system). Reports of lost bus drivers and late-arriving athletes appeared almost daily in the newspapers. Although no sponsor advertisements were displayed in any of the venues [Editor's note: with the exception of Swatch, the official timekeeper of the Games], the blatant commercialism surrounding Atlanta's Olympics was deemed excessive as well as crass. Even International Olympic Committee (IOC) president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, joined in the chorus, vowing to enact new rules limiting the role of commercial participation at future Olympic Games.

As one of the millions attending these Olympics, I must confess that I dismissed the claims of poor management. Only once did I ever have to wait more than 15 minutes to catch a train, and that was due to a bomb scare. The lines into the venues rarely lasted more than 20 minutes, which is no worse than visiting the Six Flags Amusement Park in the summer. True, we were squeezed as tight as sardines in the MARTA cars, but this experience served to remind me of rush hour during my visits to major European cities. Free maps to the Olympic sites were readily available, and I found the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) people friendly and informative. A lot of press was devoted to the climate in "Hotlanta," but I found the temperatures easily bearable. The heat index was between 110 and 115 degrees the day I left my home in Dallas, so I probably had an advantage in the temperature arena. In short, I saw little reason to complain about the organization from a spectator's point of view.

I mention all of this to establish the fact that I am not jumping on the criticism bandwagon.

Although the unfolding of the Atlanta 1996 philatelic saga had bothered me for months, I gave it little thought until I reread Les Winick's article in the September 9, 1996, issue of *Linn's Stamp News*. His detailing of the halfhearted attempts by ACOG to develop cancellations for the Games sparked my thinking about all aspects of Olympic philately in 1996.

The following critique chronicles our generally poor performance. Granted there were a few bright spots, but by and large I feel we could have done a much better job.

A Report Card From Atlanta 1996

Commemorative Stamps

The United States Postal Service (USPS) may be given a grade no higher than "C" for the stamps issued for Atlanta. While I thought the 1996 Olympic stamps were quite attractive, they were inadequate to meet the requirements of the spectators at the Olympic Games. All 21 stamps had the same 32¢ denomination, so they could only be properly used for a standard domestic letter. The USPS issued no stamps at the foreign or postcard rates as they did in 1984 when we could purchase an Olympic related stamp for virtually every rate. The 20¢ postal cards were not readily available, so they did little to fill the rate void. Additionally, it was difficult to find properly denominated stamps which could be used with the 32¢ stamp to attain the foreign 60¢ rate. One could use Postage Valuation Imprint (PVI) strips, but these were sold at very few locations, forcing philatelists to choose between enjoying the fellowship of the Games and trekking to the rare post office which provided PVIs.

As a collector, I did not care for the format of the stamps issued for the Games. The 20-stamp post office panes looked nice, but they made for terrible First Day Covers. Either one used a massive envelope to which the entire pane could be

affixed, or one split the panes into strips of four stamps, thus requiring five separate covers. Neither choice is particularly desirable for exhibiting purposes. Overall, the public would have been better served had the USPS prepared a series of single-design panes of Olympic stamps where each issue carried a different denomination.

Publicity Cancellations

The restrictive requirements for creating and using publicity cancellations discouraged philatelic organizations from using this traditional means for celebrating the Atlanta Games. ACOG jealously guarded the use of any official Olympic symbol. Since United Parcel Service (UPS) was the official parcel sponsor, it did not want its investment diluted by allowing other entities such as the USPS to use any registered Olympic devices. Even though the host nation's postal service had always been allowed to publicize the Games through postmarks, the USPS was denied this normal privilege. In an attempt to circumvent the problem, ACOG created a bureaucratic approval procedure for any Olympic publicity cancellations.

The difficulty in securing permission to use an Olympic symbol in a cancellation resulted in relatively few publicity cancels. Most organizations skirted the approval process by creating cancellations that indirectly referred to the Atlanta Games. Excluding the cancels with indirect Olympic references, only about a dozen publicity cancels were created for the 1996 Games versus nearly 60 for the 1984 Olympics.

Worse still was the absence of any official philatelic recognition of the Olympic Torch Relay. In both 1980 and 1984, the USPS commemorated the Olympic Torch Relay with a single cancellation design that was used in cities all along the torch route; however, this year only a few private cancels with vague references to the torch run were created.

I'm afraid the governing bodies only receive a collective "D" for their "demolition" of the joy collectors receive while pursuing these cancels.

Olympihlex '96

The one bright spot in the Games was the Olympihlex '96 collectibles show at the Merchan-

dise Mart. Unfortunately, it too had some drawbacks. The total lack of publicity by ACOG in the early days of the exhibit resulted in very sparse attendance. When they finally installed the Olympihlex signage above the entrance, and distributed brochures to the crowds in the streets, the show began drawing the anticipated crowds.

The exhibits were excellent, and I enjoyed strolling between the frames examining the variety of topics in sports philately. I was able to get several Olympian autographs, and enjoyed the memorabilia on display. I met fellow SPI members and took advantage of the USPS booth. The USPS agents were helpful, friendly, and took great pains to meet the stamp collector's needs. The organizers get a well deserved "B."

Why not an "A," you ask? Well, the stamp bourse was disappointing. The philatelic press noted that the booths were very expensive, and only postal administrations could afford to attend. I had eagerly anticipated visiting dealers specializing in sports and Olympics, with the hope of adding some choice items to my collection. There were only two or three dealers, and each carried a limited stock. I turned to Olympic pins to satisfy my collecting urge in Atlanta.

Commemorative Cancellations

The ACOG/UPS/USPS conflict greatly impacted on the issuance of special cancellations during the Olympic Games. Prior to their start, the philatelic press spoke of post offices at (or rather in) the sports venues, but these were never established. Apparently the sponsorship battle canceled these traditional features, and created a huge gap in the postal commemoration of the Atlanta Olympics. No Olympic Stadium-canceled covers could be created to celebrate Michael Johnson's 200-meter world record on the day he raced into track history. Likewise, no one could create a personal memento by mailing letters from the venues. The cancels at Olympihlex were poor substitutes for the venue post offices.

Granted, there was a proliferation of cancels around Atlanta during the Games, but very few were single-day cancels or had changeable date hubs. The Mobile Post Office Unit cancels, Atlanta Skyline cancels and "Hello World" cancels, though numerous, contained a fixed date spanning the

entire period of the Games. None were linked to the Olympic venues by either location or logo. The "venue" cancels offered at the USPS station at Olympihlex, were remote from the events, and only five (four for cycling alone) of the 44 cancels were provided with single-day dates. Since the USPS station was not a full-service station, one could not add registration labels to verify the date, but had to travel to a local permanent post office to complete the cover. By and large, the commemorative cancellations at Atlanta were a dismal failure, and rate no better than a "D."

Who caused the problems?

Ultimately the responsibility lies with the ACOG and their dependence on corporate sponsorship. Their dogged protection of their relationship with UPS stifled, or at least hampered, the philatelic celebration of the 1996 Games. The irony is that the commemorative cancellations and special post offices posed few threats to United Parcel Service's business. The USPS did not exactly help the situation with their T-shirt fiasco. They also failed to adequately prepare for these Games as they had in the past. Finally, the American philatelic community did not embrace the Atlanta Games as enthusiastically as in 1984.

United Parcel Service

As a worldwide sponsor of the Atlanta Olympics, UPS certainly deserved to have their investment protected from their competition in the package delivery industry, yet I feel they made some unnecessary demands. I was dumbfounded by their requirement that the USPS provide full safety inspection of incoming mail during the Games, but were forbidden to have their logo on their delivery trucks. UPS expected the postal service to do all the work, and then step aside as "The Sponsor" took the credit. Post offices at the venues would never have diverted attention from UPS, since they are almost exclusively used by spectators to mail postcards to friends, and by philatelists creating the souvenirs we so dearly love. It would have been reasonable for UPS to restrict package mail at the venue post offices, but pressuring ACOG into a ban was unreasonable. It appears that UPS is continuing its worldwide

sponsorship for the 2000 Sydney Olympics. I hope they will alter their stand.

Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games

ACOG's failure to adequately support Olympihlex certainly set the tone for the problems which arose later. We all read the articles about the lack of funding for the exhibition, and the possibility of its cancellation. The funding problem was only resolved after President Samaranch dispatched Dr. Bergman to Atlanta, and still the exhibition received little support in terms of publicity. I understand the financial problems of the Atlanta Games put a strain on all budgets. However, the IOC specifically required an Olympic stamp exhibition, and ACOG should have given more support to this enduring aspect of the Olympic celebration.

As a suggestion, why not designate the postal administration of the host country as the sponsor for future Olympihlex exhibitions. The national postal administration will obviously benefit from the promotion of stamp collecting, and this will make them a legitimate sponsor with the accompanying privileges. Naturally this sponsorship will be subject to limitations in light of a major sponsorship by package delivery firms such as UPS, but these limitations need not cripple the philatelic celebration of the Olympics as they did in 1996.

United States Postal Service

The USPS seems to run from one extreme to another. Its highly publicized fiasco as a worldwide sponsor of the 1992 Olympics caused it to avoid any connection to Atlanta. Unfortunately they missed a great opportunity to encourage stamp collecting. Although I obviously do not know when or where the USPS started planning for the 1996 Games, I simply did not see the same effort as that displayed back in 1984. The poor stamp planning, the late (or lack of) announcements on cancels, and confusion concerning publicity cancellations all point to a failure by the USPS to adequately prepare for the Olympics. The T-shirt debacle occurred at the worst possible moment, and certainly extinguished any hope of post offices at the venues. Prior to this incident, we at least had post offices or drop boxes at the venues, but afterwards all were canceled. Hopefully the USPS learned

from its mistakes, and will not make the same ones in 2002 at Salt Lake City.

America's Stamp Collectors

While the aforementioned organizations were responsible for the poor philatelic performance in Atlanta, we need to face the cold hard reality that the stamp collecting community in the United States did not embrace the 1996 Atlanta Games as we did those in Los Angeles. The restrictive and often confusing regulations on publicity cancellations certainly dampened the enthusiasm for issuing Olympic cancels. However, permission was obtainable with effort, and with a few exceptions the philatelic community did not put forth that effort. If the Olympics had been a priority, I feel more organizations would have persevered.

Where was the proliferation of Olympic cachets and the advertisements for Olympic cancellation collections which followed the 1984 Games? We had the same (or at least similar) licensing restrictions in 1984 as today, yet few in the stamp business bothered to create Olympic philatelic collectibles. I admit my ignorance of the marketplace,

and acknowledge that the 1984 covers may have been unprofitable. Still I lament that nothing like the beautiful Carol Gordon Olympic covers (which contained no direct reference to the Olympics) were created for 1996. It is my hope that the Winter Games will be commemorated far better by the American philatelic community as we once again host the world in 2002.

Epilogue

The 1996 Olympics in Atlanta were my first as a spectator, and it is an experience I will never forget. I first became acquainted with the Olympics in 1972 when I was charmed by gymnast Olga Korbut, amazed at swimmer Mark Spitz, and saddened by the Israel massacre. In the early 1980's I rediscovered my childhood love of stamp collecting, and decided to combine my love of sports with my more temperate hobby. Since then I have thoroughly enjoyed the pursuit of Olympic philately, and will continue to enjoy it. Yet I have this nagging gap in the cinema of my collection that will always remain from the expectation of what might have been in 1996.

SPECTACULAR ERRORS

GUYANA - 2082 DOUBLE GOLD OVERPRINT

GUYANA - 2083 SILVER OVERPRINT SHIFTED LEFT @ 1"

GUYANA - 2086 GOLD OVERPRINT SHIFTED LEFT @ 1"

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Hockey: Canada's Game

Part I

[The following article originally appeared in the June 1, 1995 issue (Vol. 9, No. 3, Issue 35) of *The Canadian Connection*, the quarterly journal of the Canadiana Study Unit. It is reprinted with the kind permission of the author and journal editor.]

by John Peebles

For many, if not most Canadians, hockey is a part of their life. The decades have seen great changes in the game, from its beginnings on patches of frozen Canadian ice in the mid- to late 1800's when as many as a hundred players or more would participate in a single game. Today it is an international sport enjoyed by people the world over. Despite these changes, however, to Canadians hockey will always be "Canada's game."

Many writers have attempted to explain the importance of hockey to the Canadian psyche. Authors Bruce Kidd and Brian McFarlane in *The Death of Hockey* (1972) mused that, "Hockey is the Canadian metaphor, the rink is a symbol of this country's vast stretches of water and wilderness, its extremes of climate, the player a symbol of our national struggle to civilize such a land ... Hockey captures the essence of the Canadian experience in the New World. In a land so inescapably and inhospitably cold, hockey is the dance of life, an affirmation that despite the deathly chill of winter we are alive."

There has long been a popular misconception in Canada that lacrosse became the country's national sport in 1859. Yet lacrosse supporters have never been able to substantiate the claim. The matter was finally settled in April of 1994 as the Canadian Parliament passed legislation giving Canada not one, but two official national sports. Ice hockey is now officially Canada's national winter sport while lacrosse is the summer sport.

HISTORY OF THE SPORT

"It is generally recognized as a Canadian game,

although there is evidence that a form of hockey on ice was played in Europe before Canadians adopted the game and shaped it to their liking." So wrote Brian McFarlane in his 1989 book *One Hundred Years of Hockey*.

Yes, Canada has long been acknowledged as the birthplace of ice hockey. However, the exact place and time is, and probably always will be, subject to much debate. By the late 1800's, though, the game was firmly established in Canada. Although the exact origins of the sport may not be clear, what is evident is that Canada gave the modern version of the game to the world.

According to sports historian Don Morrow of the University of Western Ontario, "... the game ... had its origin in the Victorian upper class of English Canada. The evidence suggests that hockey began among the privileged young men attending universities. The first modern rules were formulated by students at McGill [University] in Montreal, and other pockets of interest emerged in the university cities of Kingston and Halifax."

The early game, traced back to the group of McGill students who conceived the game in 1879, adopted the rules of several other sports, notably lacrosse and rugby. Since skating was another favorite Canadian form of recreation, the combination of sports assured a future for this new Canadian pastime called hockey. The new game gave rugby and lacrosse players a winter recreation. Initially the puck was a lacrosse ball and then, to eliminate bouncing, the ball was sliced to create a flat piece of rubber.

Early hockey was slow. It was a game to play, not to watch. There was no forward passing; players guided the pack along the ice as they were not allowed to lift it. There were nine players per side. Due to the growing speed and rough play of the game, however, hockey became attractive and strong local rivalries developed. The game spread to U.S. universities, beginning with Yale in 1893.

Modern hockey is far different from the hockey that began in Canada as the gentlemanly sport of amateurs in Victorian Montreal. Rules have vastly



Figure 1. NHL players Joe Crozier and Jim Schoenfield (Buffalo) and Yvan Cournoyer (Montreal). North Korea SG N2701 (May 30, 1987).

changed to make the game faster, rougher and more exciting. The game's stars have become superstars. Modern hockey is a billion dollar industry.

According to Webster's *New World Dictionary* the word "hockey" is probably derived from the Old French word "hoquet" meaning "bent stick" which refers to the shape of the hockey stick.

In 1879 the first organized hockey team, the McGill University Hockey Club, was formed. The sport quickly spread across the country. What was called the first "world championship" was held in 1883 at the McGill Ice Carnival. The McGill team was the winner.

Three years later Canada's first national hockey association, known as the Amateur Hockey Association of Canada, was formed in 1886. The Ontario Hockey Association, comprised of college, university, military and athletic clubs, began in 1890. In 1893 Governor General Lord Stanley donated a trophy for the national championship. The Stanley Cup, as it has become known, is the oldest and most coveted trophy in hockey today. The first Stanley Cup game was played on March 22, 1893 with a Montreal team emerging as the victor.

The first professional hockey league was organized in 1903 made up of Canadian and American teams. The Ontario Professional League, formed in 1908, was the first all-Canadian professional league. The National Hockey Association (NHA) began in 1909 and in 1910 the NHA took possession of the Stanley Cup to be awarded to the professional league champions. The NHA was reorganized in 1917 as the National Hockey League (NHL).

THE NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

With the advent of professional hockey came large indoor stadiums, artificial ice and large salaries. The first NHL teams were located in Canada's larger cities: Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto. In 1924 the league moved into the U.S. market adding teams in Boston (1924), New York (1925), Pittsburgh (1925), Chicago (1926) and Detroit (1926). However, the game continued to be dominated by Canadians as virtually all of the NHL players came from Canada.

The sport underwent key changes under the National Hockey League. In 1910 the game was divided up into three 20-minute periods. Each side had six players starting in 1911. Restrictions on the forward pass were gradually softened. The red line was added in 1943. As a result hockey evolved into a faster game in which team play became important.

By the 1960's there were six NHL teams, two in Canada (Montreal and Toronto) and four in the U.S. (Boston, Chicago, Detroit and New York). In 1967 the league expanded into six more American cities: Los Angeles, Oakland, St. Louis, Minnesota, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. Buffalo and Vancouver were added in 1970. The rival World Hockey Association (formed in 1971) folded in 1979 with teams from Winnipeg, Edmonton, Quebec City and Hartford being assimilated into the NHL. Calgary became an NHL city in 1980. Today there are some two dozen NHL teams including those in such "unlikely" locales as Florida and California.

Ice hockey, the world's fastest sport, has been philatelically represented by many countries. Several of these tributes are in a Canadiana context. A few stamps have shown National Hockey League players.

On May 20, 1987 North Korea released a set of three stamps to commemorate CAPEX '87, an international philatelic exhibition held in Toronto from June 13 to 21, 1987. One of the stamps in the set (Figure 1) portrays a scene from an NHL game featuring the Montreal Canadiens versus the Buffalo Sabres. When contacted by *The Canadian Connection*, an official from the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto identified the players on the stamp as Joe Crozier (Buffalo goalie), Jim Schoenfield (Buffalo defenceman) and Yvan Cournoyer (Montreal forward). In addition to the CAPEX '87



Figure 2. Canadian hockey great, Wayne Gretzky (while with the Edmonton Oilers), and New York Ranger, Tomas Sandström. Sweden 1677 (March 29, 1988).

logo, the stamp also contains the logo of the 1988 Calgary Olympics.

A notation in the *Scott Catalogue* accompanying Sweden #1677 reads "The New York Rangers

playing ice hockey with Swedish national team." The stamp is one of six issued se-tenant in booklet form to commemorate 350 years since the first Swedes settled in North America. A booklet pane is shown in Figure 2.

The entry for the hockey stamp in the *Scott Catalogue*, though, is an error. The photo from which the scene is taken is actually that of an NHL game between the Edmonton Oilers and the New York Rangers. In a letter to *The Canadian Connection*, Göran Österlund, Swedish designer of the stamp, wrote that "The stamp is a match between Edmonton Oiler Wayne Gretzky, New York Ranger Tomas Sandström, and the goalkeeper I don't know." The identity of the "Great One," as Wayne Gretzky is known to hockey fans, is evident when one looks at the back of the right skate worn by the player on the left of the stamp. Clearly visible is Wayne Gretzky's famous number "99."

Wayne Gretzky was born in Brantford, Ontario on January 26, 1961. He became a professional hockey player in 1978, and at age 17, became the youngest athlete playing a major league sport in North America. Gretzky went on to become one of the greatest Canadian stars to have ever played professional hockey.

As for the other two players on the Swedish stamp, there is some speculation that the goalie shown wearing number 1 is Doug Soetart who wore that number for the New York Rangers in the 1986-87 NHL season; the third player, Sandström, is the only Swedish-born player depicted on the stamp.

The booklet shown in Figure 2, with the hockey stamp on the bottom right of the pane, has been autographed by designer Göran Österlund.

A third stamp portraying an NHL player was detailed in the "New Issues Report" in the March 1995 edition of *The Canadian Connection*. The stamp, illustrated on page 25 of that issue, honored Finnish-born player Jari Kurri. Kurri played for several seasons with the Edmonton Oilers on the same line as Wayne Gretzky.

INTERNATIONAL AND OLYMPIC HOCKEY

The International Ice Hockey Federation was organized in 1908 with five European countries as members (Belgium, Bohemia, France, Great Britain



Figure 3. Hockey has been a part of the Winter Olympics since the first Games in 1924. The Canadian goalie at the 1924 Olympics is shown. Comoro Islands 747 (December 10, 1990).

and Switzerland). The popularity of the game spread quickly throughout the rest of Europe and became especially popular in the Soviet Union after World War II. Today players from such countries as Russia, Finland and Sweden offer Canada serious competition.

The first world ice hockey championship, which included teams from Canada and the U.S., was the Olympic tournament in Antwerp, Belgium during the Summer Olympics of 1920. Canada easily won the gold medal.

Hockey has been included in all Winter Olympics since the first in 1924 held in Chamonix, France. Canada's domination of the game soon became evident. In the Chamonix Games, Canada won all six of its matches by scores of: 22 to 0 over Sweden, 30 to 0 against Czechoslovakia, 33 to 0 over Switzerland, and in the final round, 22 to 0 against Sweden, 6 to 1 over the United States and 19 to 2 over Great Britain. The Canadian goaltender from the 1924 Canadian Olympic team is shown on a stamp (Figure 3) issued in 1990 by the Comoro Islands. The stamp was one of four released to honor the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, France. Take note of the baseball-like cap worn by the player. This is certainly in sharp contrast to the elaborate goalie masks and protective equipment worn in today's game.

Until 1936, Canada was unbeatable winning Olympic gold in 1920, 1924, 1928 and 1932. However, in 1936, despite controversy over several of the English players, a team from Great Britain was awarded the gold medal leaving the silver for Canada. In 1948 and again in 1952 Canada recaptured Olympic gold in hockey. At that point Canada had amassed an

Olympic record of six of seven Olympic golds with an overall Olympic hockey record of 37 wins, one loss and three ties with 403 goals scored and just 34 allowed.

Until 1956 Canadian hockey supremacy had never been seriously challenged. However, the Soviets had been developing their own hockey program. At its first attempt, at the 1956 Olympics, the Soviet side stunned the Canadians by winning gold. Canada had to settle for the bronze medal.

On a world scale, Canadian domination of hockey lasted into the 1950's. Up until that time Canadian senior amateur teams were good enough to win international competitions. In 1954 the Soviets won the world hockey championship and the Olympic gold medal in 1956. From 1963 to 1973 the Soviets won 11 of 12 Olympic and world championships as their best players were able to better the amateurs sent from Canada (while Canada's best players were playing professionally in the NHL).



Figure 4. Medal count at the 1968 Grenoble Winter Olympic Games. Canada won the ice hockey bronze that year.



Figures 5 (above) and 6 (right). Beginning with the 1972 Sapporo Olympic Winter Games, Canadian hockey players temporarily stopped competing since they objected to having to use amateur players against the Soviet's "professionals." Ras al Khaima (1972).

In the 1960 Olympics the Canadian team took the silver medal and in the 1968 Games won the bronze. The 1968 hockey bronze is noted on a souvenir sheet (Figure 4) issued by Panama in 1968. The sheet lists the countries which won medals at the 1968 Winter Olympics held in Grenoble, France. As noted on the souvenir sheet, Canada's count at those Games was one gold (Nancy Greene, skiing), one silver (Nancy Greene, skiing) and one bronze (hockey).

Beginning in 1972 Canada stopped competing in the world championships and Olympics since Canada was forced to use amateurs on its teams while the Soviet Union and other Communist nations were allowed to use "amateur professionals." Although Canada was absent from the 1972 Winter Olympics in Sapporo, Japan, this did not prevent the Arab sheikdom of Ras al Khaima from showing a Canadian hockey player, not once but twice, competing at the Sapporo Games! A stamp (Figure 5) and souvenir sheet (Figure 6) both feature a hockey player with "CANADA" across the front of his hockey sweater. On the stamp of Figure 5 the Canadian player is shown battling a Soviet player. The Soviet Union won the gold medal at Sapporo.

In the 1970's the dream of many Canadians came true when Canada's professional NHL hockey players were allowed to play against their Soviet counterparts. At last the best in Canada would be al-



lowed to battle the best hockey talent the world had to offer. In 1972, in the first Canada-Soviet Hockey Series, Canada's professional players challenged the Soviets. Canada won the 1972 Summit Series by winning four games, losing three and tying one. In 1976 the Canada Cup, an international hockey competition to be held every three or four years in which Canada can use professional players, began.

Canada re-entered World Championship competition in 1977 and Olympic competition in 1980. A set of stamps from Mongolia, in honor of the 1979 World Hockey Championships held in Moscow, noted the return of Canada to international competition.

Two stamps (Figure 7) in the seven stamp Mongolian set picture Canadian players. Canada placed fourth in that tournament.



Figure 7. Canada, depicted on two stamps from Mongolia, placed fourth at the 1979 Ice-hockey World Championships. Mongolia, Scott 1064, 1066 (April 10, 1979).



Figures 8-10 (left to right). Canada resumed Olympic play in 1980. Figure 8 shows Canadian players Tim Watters and Andy Moog with German, Udo Kieisling in competition at the Calgary 1988 Winter Games. Canada's 1988 goaltending duties were shared by Moog and Sean Burke. Figure 9 shows a Canadian goaltender on a stamp commemorating the 1988 Olympics. At the 1994 Lillehammer Winter Olympic Games, Sweden won the gold medal, with Canada in second. Figure 10 shows a Canadian player on a Hungarian stamp noting the ice hockey competition. St. Vincent 1596 (April 21, 1992); Kampuchea (January 14, 1987); and Hungary 3420 (January 13, 1994).

In 1988 Canada hosted the Winter Olympics in Calgary. Hopes were high for a Canadian medal in hockey before the home fans.

The design of a stamp (Figure 8) issued by the Caribbean island of St. Vincent features a photograph of the Canadian hockey team in competition in Calgary against the German team. According to Donald Beauchamp, director of marketing for Hockey Canada, the photo shows Canadian players Tim Watters and Andy Moog (both NHL players) and German player Udo Kieisling. The stamp from St. Vincent is one in a set issued in 1992 for the 1992 Albertville Olympics. Each stamp in the set featured a photograph from past Olympic Games.

A second stamp showing a Canadian goaltender and issued for the Calgary Olympics is one from Kampuchea (Figure 9). The pre-Olympic stamp was issued in 1987. At the Calgary Games Canada's goaltending was shared by Andy Moog and Sean Burke. Unfortunately for Canadian fans, the Canadian team did not win a medal in the Calgary Games.

An Olympic medal for Canada's hockey team came, though, in 1992 when the Canadian side won the silver medal. It was Canada's first Olympic hockey medal since 1968 and the first silver since 1960.

The Canadians again won the silver in the 1994 Olympics held in Lillehammer, Norway. A stamp (Figure 10) commemorating the Lilleham-

mer Olympics was issued by Hungary in January of 1994. It depicts a Canadian hockey player in his red maple leaf jersey. It was at the 1994 Olympics that Sweden won its first Olympic gold medal in hockey. At the end of regulation time in the championship game between Canada and Sweden the score was tied. A dramatic overtime shootout was to determine the winner. Much to the dismay of Canadians, but to the euphoria of Swedes, the Swedish team came out the winners when Swedish player Peter Forsberg scored on Canadian goalie Corey Hirsch. It is this dramatic moment, captured on a photograph, that the Swedish Post Office decided to use on its 1995 stamp to commemorate the 1995 World Hockey Championships held in Sweden. As has been widely reported in both the philatelic and non-philatelic press, this proposed stamp design infuriated Canadian goaltender Hirsch.

Hirsch, not wanting his losing effort to be forever depicted on a stamp, threatened to sue the Swedish Post if his likeness were used on the stamp. As a result Hirsch was disguised on the stamp with his name removed from the goaltender's sweater and his number changed from #1 to #11 on the final version. The stamp, engraved by Lars Sjöblom is based on an original photograph by G. Hershorn. The controversial stamp is shown in Figure 11. Currently, Swedish player Forsberg is with the Quebec Nordiques of the NHL and Hirsch is with the NHL's Vancouver Canucks.

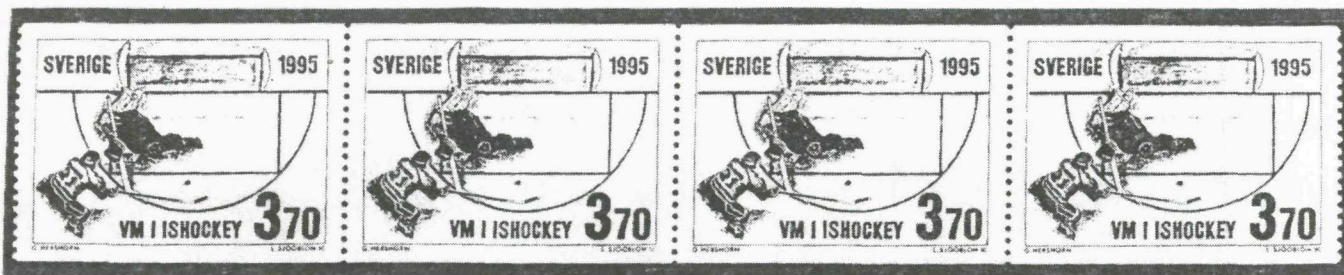


Figure 11. The loss to Sweden at Lillehammer was particularly bitter as it occurred in an overtime shootout. Canadian goalie Corey Hirsch and Swedish player Peter Forsberg were caught on film at that exact moment. The Swedes proposed a stamp showing the play, but Hirsch threatened to sue unless his likeness was disguised. Swedish Post agreed, removing his name and changing the sweater number from 1 to 11 on the design. Sweden (March 17, 1995).

Incidentally, following the close loss to Sweden in the 1994 Olympic final, Canada won some revenge when the Canadian team won the 1994 World Championship gold medal in a similar overtime shootout. This time the victim was the team from Finland which had to settle for the silver.

Hockey has become a global village. Although the majority of NHL players are still Canadians, ever growing numbers of Americans, as well as European players, are competing on NHL teams. The National Hockey League last season featured players from ten different nations besides Canada and the United States. In return, more than 500 players in European leagues in 1994 were Canadians.

Canada is regaining its hockey pride on the world stage. This year Canada's junior hockey team won the country's third straight gold medal. The team thoroughly dominated the round-robin tournament by sweeping all seven games. The sweep was a Canadian record. Canada used to send club teams to battle the national junior teams in Europe, with poor results. Then in 1982 Hockey Canada began the "Program of Excellence" to begin identifying and molding players as young as 16 for the national junior team. The program resulted in three gold medals for Canada in the 1980's and has produced five gold-medal winning teams in the past six years. Canada appears to have regained its place in the hockey world.

In this article we have described several stamps which could comprise a Canadiana hockey collection based on world and Olympic hockey competition. In the next issue of *The Canadian Connection* we will conclude our hockey story with a list of the

many hockey stamps which pertain in particular to the Calgary Olympics. 🇨🇦

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Salt Lake City 2002 Official Olympic Postcards

by Mark Maestrone

Our trusty SPI correspondent in Salt Lake City, Leslie Gailey, recently informed me that, indeed, there are official Olympic postcards already on sale throughout the Salt Lake City area.

Great Mountain West (GMW), a design and production company located in Salt Lake City, are the officially licensed postcard manufacturers of the Games under an agreement with the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) and Salt Lake Olympic Organizing Committee (SLOOC).

GMW calls this their "2002 Olympic Collector Series." A logo incorporating these words is displayed on the backs of each card. A modified version of this logo with the wording "2002 Olympic Winter Games" appears on the front of two cards. All the cards received so far are 7" wide by 5" high, thus requiring first-class postage.

They are printed on quality card stock with glossy fronts. The table below provides details on the picture-side text and illustration. The backs of each card have several common features:

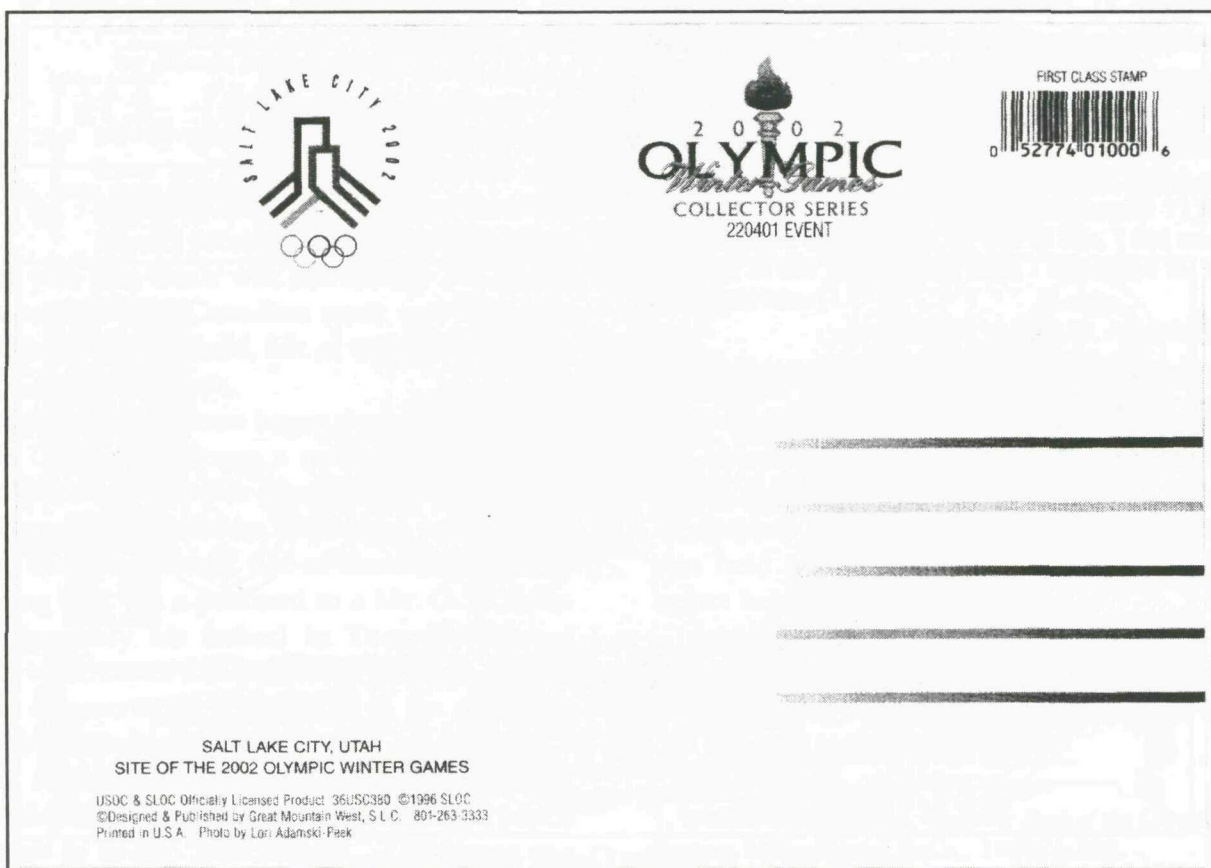
1. The SLOOC logo (either large or small).
2. The GMW logo with the postcard ID number just below it.
3. 5 colored stripes in the Olympic colors in the address area.
4. A description of the card and licensing information at bottom, with copyright date.

It appears from the copyright dates, that official cards have been available since 1995 (the earliest date). Breaks in sequences point to the possibility that many more cards have been printed in this series. Your editor is awaiting a complete list from the publishers. The figures on the facing page show an example (front and back) of a typical card. 🐼

Salt Lake 2002 Official Olympic Postcards		
Postcard ID #	Text on Front/Photograph Subjects	Type
220101 Salt Lake	"The World is Welcome Here!@", "Salt Lake City"/ SLOOC logo, panorama of SLC, mountains in background	Large logo, © 1995
220105 Salt Lake	"The World is Welcome Here!@", "Salt Lake City"/evening panorama of SLC with flags of 18 nations	Large logo, © 1995
220206 Wasatch	"2002 Salt Lake City"/SLOOC logo, panorama of peaks	Large logo, © 1995
220207 Wasatch	"Olympic Winter Games"/SLOOC logo, torch runner, valley view	Large logo, © 1995
220301 Alpine	SLOOC logo, alpine skiing in Wasatch Mountains (2 Skiers)	Large logo, © 1995
220303 Alpine	SLOOC logo, alpine skiing in Wasatch Mountains (1 Skier)	Large logo, © 1995
220311 Alpine	"Greatest Snow On Earth", "Salt Lake 2002"/SLOOC logo, alpine skiing in the Wasatch Mountains (slopes)	Large logo, © 1995
220401 Event	"Salt Lake City 2002"/GMW Olympic logo, SLOOC logo, male slalom skier	Small logo, © 1996
220406 Event	"Olympic Winter Games"/SLOOC logo, male skier (downhill?)	Small logo, © 1996
220408 Event	"Salt Lake City"/GMW Olympic logo, SLOOC logo, fireworks over building (capitol or town hall?)	Small logo, © 1996



Typical official 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic Games postcard produced by Great Mountain West.



An Arthur Conan Doyle Follow On*

by Peter N. Street

Mr. Stuart Elgrod's letter on page 2 of the November/December, 1996, issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately* prompted me to expand somewhat on its theme.

As I noted in my previous article on Conan Doyle (*JSP*, January/February, 1996), Sir Arthur started to play cricket for the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) at the turn of the nineteenth century when he was in his early forties.

One such match was mentioned in the letter, the MCC versus London County in August, 1900. The MCC team consisted of former professional county players and capable amateurs like Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The London County team included the redoubtable Dr. W.G. Grace, the most famous cricketer of his day (*JSP*, November/December, 1996).

The highlight of the match from Conan Doyle's point of view was his dismissal of Dr. Grace in the second innings (Figure 1).

Mr. Richard Greep, a cricket and Sherlock Holmes enthusiast, produced a special cover to commemorate this feat (Figure 2). He lives in Crowborough in Sussex, England, which was the home of Sir Arthur for the last twenty-three years of his life.

* "Follow On" is a cricket term. A team is said to "follow on" when its second inning directly follows its first innings.

M.C.C. AND GROUND v. LONDON COUNTY.			
Played at the Crystal Palace on Aug. 23, 24 & 25.			
M.C.C. won by two wickets.			
LONDON COUNTY.			
First innings.		Second innings.	
W. G. Grace, lbw, b Cranfield	22	e Storer, b Doyle	110
Qualife (W.G.), b Thompson	0	b Cranfield	5
W. L. Murdoch, b Thompson	2		
Braun, e Tindall, b Thompson	23	not out	2
Lilley, b Cranfield	7	b Thompson	13
W. G. Grace, jun., lbw, b Cranfield	9	e Pereira, b Cranfield	10
E. H. S. Berridge, e Storer, b Cranfield	0		
J. Gilman, not out	12	c Pereira, b Cranfield	36
N. S. A. Harrison, e Handford, b Cranfield	13		
C. B. Grace, e Storer, b Thompson	0		
Field, b Cranfield	6		
B & lb 2	7	B & lb 1	7
Total	138	Total (5 wickets)	183
* Innings declared closed.			
M. C. C.			
First innings.		Second innings.	
S. M. Tiedall, lbw, b Braund	1	e Lilley, b Field	48
Attewell (W.), run out	16	c Qualife, b Braund	9
Thompson, b Field	16	e Braund, b Field	14
Storer, e Harrison, b Grace, sen.	38	e Lilley, b Field	6
H. O. Hill, e Lilley, b Braund	29	b Field	64
Rev. E. Pereira, e Grace, jun., b Braund	7	lbw, b Braund	29
H. J. Wyld, b Braund	18	b Field	0
A. Conan Doyle, e Lilley, b Field	4	c Gilman, b Braund	0
E. Rodriguez, b Braund	0	not out	1
Handford, b Braund	8	s.t. out	24
Cranfield, not out	0		
B 1, lb 2	3	Leg-byes	6
Total	155	Total (8 wickets)	100
LONDON COUNTY.			
First innings.		Second innings.	
O. M. R. W.	O. M. R. W.		
Thompson ... 21 6 51 4	... 19 6 35 1		
Cranfield ... 10 2 0 0	... 21 4 78 6		
	Handford 8 3 20 0		
	Storer ... 8 0 41 0		
	Doyle ... 2 1 4 1		
Thompson delivered a no-ball.			
M. C. C.			
First innings.		Second innings.	
O. M. R. W.	O. M. R. W.		
Field ... 19 6 1 68 2	... 24 2 110 6		
Braund ... 23 8 66 6	... 23 2 4 74 3		
Grace, sen. ... 4 1 8 1			

Figure 1. The match score card.

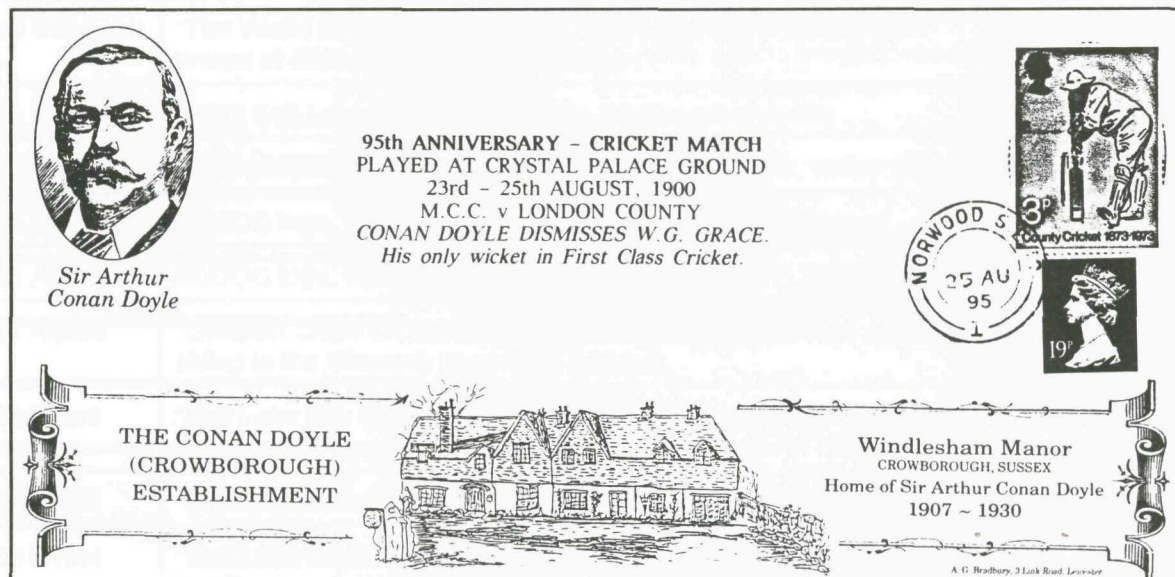


Figure 2. MCC vs London County commemorative cover.



Card from Edward B. Archibald, Canadian pole vaulter and pentathlete, commenting on his performances at the 1906 Athens Games. Postcard canceled on April 17, 1906 (Greek calendar) which was April 29 by the Western calendar.

A Near Miss At The 1906 Intercalated Games

by Mark Maestroni

Nobody would deny that Olympic athletes are a pretty hardy bunch and generally adapt to whatever circumstances present themselves. But sometimes, you just can't win for losing! No doubt that's exactly how Canadian track and field athlete, Edward B. Archibald, felt at the 1906 Intercalated Games in Athens.

Archibald's problems began during his journey to the Games. While on a train traveling across Italy, his vaulting poles disappeared. Officials at the Games provided him with local models, but during the competition, one of these broke nearly impaling him.¹ In a postcard to a Mr. G. A. Archibald (possibly his father) in Toronto, Edward greatly understates this traumatic incident (Figure 1). His comments are reproduced in the accompanying box (above right).

In addition to the pole vault competition, Archibald also competed in the Pentathlon, which he refers to as the "pentathlum." This event was

[Postcard to Mr. G.A. Archibald, Toronto, Canada]

"Had hard luck in pole vault. The pole broke and I lost at 10'. in my final practice I jumped 11'8½" and it took five tries at 11'5½" to win. I did much better in the pentathlum than I expected to. will explain later!

Ed. B. A[rchibald]"

introduced at the 1906 Games and consisted of the standing long jump, Greek-style discus, 192-meter race, javelin, and Greco-Roman wrestling. He finished 7th in the competition. This event was also held at the 1912, 1920, and 1924 Games before being discontinued.

Archibald made the 1908 Games in London where he again competed in the pole vault, this time managing to win a bronze medal with a jump of 11 feet, 9 inches.

1. Wallechinsky, David. *Complete Book of the Olympics*, The. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1996, p.122.

BOOK REVIEWS

by Margaret Jones & Sherwin Podolsky

Complete Collection of the 39 Official Programs, Games of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles, U.S.A., 1932. Los Angeles: Times-Mirror Printing & Binding House, 1932. Printing: 400 sets.

Daily programs are a valuable research tool for the Olympic philatelist. A page-by-page study yields clues when searching for stamps, covers and cancels that piece together and restore the history of an Olympic Games.

The Times-Mirror Printing & Binding House was the printer of the official programs for the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Following the Games, they bound remaining sets of all 39 programs into book form. Their announcement stressed that the edition was absolutely limited to 400 copies, as "the type for these programs has already been destroyed as soon as it was used."

The covers of the 39 official programs are the same for each day except for the venue location and date at the bottom. The central "boy with garland" illustration is very colorful. It was a favorite subject for reproduction on labels and many cacheted philatelic covers.

There are many common features in the programs. These include: a narrative article and summary of that day's events; a list of contestants, judges and officials for each event; an article on, and results of, the prior day's competitions; a complete roundup of all 1932 Olympic Champions to date; and the next day's program. Interspersed throughout each program are numerous black and white photographs.

A checklist of the daily programs for the Xth Olympiad is provided below. The number of pages in each program is noted in (). - S.P.

Saturday, July 30, Olympic Park (32)
Sunday, July 31, Olympic Park (32)
Sunday, July 31, Olympic Auditorium, Weight-Lifting (8)
Monday, August 1, Olympic Park (32)

Monday, August 1, Wrestling/Olympic Auditorium, Cycling/Pasadena Rose Bowl (12)
Tuesday, August 2, Olympic Park (32)
Tuesday, August 2, Wrestling/Olympic Auditorium, Cycling/Pasadena Rose Bowl (12)
Wednesday, August 3, Olympic Park (32)
Wednesday, August 3, Wrestling/Olympic Auditorium, Cycling/Pasadena Rose Bowl (12)
Thursday, August 4, Olympic Park (32)
Thursday, August 4, Wrestling, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Friday, August 5, Olympic Park (32)
Friday, August 5, Wrestling, Olympic Auditorium (8)
August 5-12, Yachting, Los Angeles Harbor (8)
Saturday, August 6, Olympic Park (32)
Saturday, August 6, Wrestling, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Sunday, August 7, Olympic Park (32)
Sunday, August 7, Wrestling, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Monday, August 8, Olympic Park (32)
Monday, August 8, American Football, Olympic Park (8)
Tuesday, August 9, Olympic Park (32)
Tuesday, August 9, Boxing, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Tuesday, August 9, Rowing, Long Beach Marine Stadium (12)
Wednesday, August 10, Olympic Park (32)
Wednesday, August 10, Boxing, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Wednesday, August 10, Rowing, Long Beach Marine Stadium (8)
Wednesday, August 10, Equestrian, Riviera Country Club (8)
Thursday, August 11, Olympic Park (32)
Thursday, August 11, Boxing, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Thursday, August 11, Rowing, Long Beach Marine Stadium (8)
Thursday, August 11, Equestrian, Riviera Country Club (8)
Friday, August 12, Olympic Park (32)
Friday, August 12, Boxing, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Friday, August 12, Rowing, Long Beach Marine Stadium (8)
Friday, August 12, Equestrian, Riviera Country Club (8)
Saturday, August 13, Olympic Park (32)
Saturday, August 13, Boxing, Olympic Auditorium (8)
Saturday, August 13, Rowing, Long Beach Marine Stadium (8)
Sunday, August 14, Olympic Park (32)

Encyclopedia of World Sport: from Ancient Times to the Present, by David Levinson and Karen Christensen, editors, 1996. Cost of this set is \$225 and can be ordered in the U.S.A. by calling 1-800/368-6868 (130 Cremona Drive, P.O. Box 1911, Santa Barbara, California 93116-1911). ABC-CLIO Ltd. address is 35A Great Clarendon Street, Oxford, Oxfordshire, Great Britain, Phone 01865 311350, FAX 01865 311358.

While non-philatelic, the collector might find information for an exhibit from this comprehensive three-volume set. It is a compilation of Olympic team and individual sports as well as lesser-known activities such as jousting, barrel racing and kite flying. Sporting facts have a lesser emphasis with coverage given to the cultural, societal and global influences on the world. Legal and medical concerns as well as commercial and media impacts are included. The entries range in length from 500 to 8,000 words; the topics are in alphabetical order: Volume 1, A to G; Volume 2, H to R; and 3, S to Y.

- M.J.

The Olympic Century, a series of volumes covering each Olympiad (summer and winter in a single volume), was reviewed in the January/February 1997 issue of *JSP*. There are a total of 25 volumes in the series (one being the Master Index). These books are not being published in chronological order. To date, seven volumes have been released:

Volume 21: Los Angeles 1984 & Calgary 1988

Volume 8: Paris 1924 & St. Moritz 1928

Volume 11: Berlin 1936 & Sapporo 1940, St. Moritz 1940, Garmisch-Partenkirchen 1940; Tokyo 1940, Helsinki 1940 & Cortina d'Ampezzo 1944; London 1948 & St. Moritz 1948.

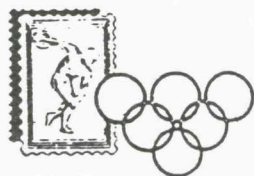
Volume 16: Tokyo 1964 & Grenoble 1968

Volume 17: Mexico City 1968 & Sapporo 1972

Volume 18: Munich 1972 & Innsbruck 1976

Volume 25: Atlanta 1996 (available April '97)

The price of each volume is \$18.95 plus shipping/handling. Orders may be placed by calling the toll-free number: 1-800-963-2202 (U.S. only); or writing: The Olympic Century, P.O. Box 430150, Pontiac, MI 48343, U.S.A.



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REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Dorothy Crockett & Mark Maestrone

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme December 1996

With high expectations of passing through the first round of eliminations, it is not surprising that this issue of the French-language journal of AFCOS (our sister society in France) concentrates on the bidding for the 2004 Olympic Games. Lille is a prime candidate. Articles on this topic include a look at French candidate cities beginning in 1900, and an interview with Francis Ampe, a delegate to the Lille 2004 bid committee.

Additional pieces include an interesting discussion on the concept of "fair play"; a look at the World Ski Championships conducted in France; winter Olympic torches; and reports on the society's general assembly held this past November 23. News, member's notices, and new issue information round out this issue of their journal.

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

Olimpismo No. 5, 1996

The final issue of 1996 for the journal of the Spanish Union of Olympic Philately (U.E.F.O.) is dedicated to the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. *Olympilex '96* is reviewed, along with the *Palmares* for the society's membership and a look at the cancellation program.

An expertized item from the 1896 Games is presented, followed by an article on the Cuban Olympic issue of 1960.

The remainder of this issue is taken up by new issue reports for stamp and cancels from around the world.

Contact: Precise information is not provided. Those interested should write to U.E.F.O., Apartado de Correos 21041, E-08080 Barcelona, Spain. - M.M.

Olympsport Vol. 30, No. 1

The newest issue of this journal from the Olympic and sport philatelic society in the Czech Republic begins with a look at Olympic medal winners commemorated philatelically.

A continuation of an article on the 1916 Berlin Olympic Games is followed by flight covers to the Atlanta Olympic Games. Brief pieces profile Primo Nebiolo, president of the IAAF, and a variety of sporting events.

Contact: Jaroslav Petrsek, POB 13, 282 23 Cesky Brod, Czech Republic. - M.M.

OSPC-Berlin Journal Issue 1, 1997

This excellent publication from the Olympic and Sport Philately Club of Berlin is packed with information. Some of the subjects discussed include the 1944 Gros-Born Olympic issues; winter sports in the former German Democratic Republic; peculiarities of the Olympic registration labels from the Moscow Olympic Games of 1980; and details on sports-related telegrams from the GDR.

SPI-correspondent, Thomas Lippert, provides the latest information on the 1998 Nagano Olympic Winter Games; discusses the frustrations of trying to obtain flight covers for the Atlanta Games; and reviews the philately of the Centennial Olympics.

In addition, a superb 36-page supplement to the issue contains a thoughtful overview of the entire Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games from a philatelic point of view.

Contact: Olympia-und Sport-Philatelisten-Club Berlin, Franz-Stenzer-Str. 35, 12679 Berlin, Germany. - M.M.

Podium December 1996

Issue #13 of the Spanish-language journal of the Thematic Sports Group of Argentina leads off with a brief overview of the Buenos Aires bid to hold the 2004 Olympic Games. Additional articles in this issue cover various aspects of equestrian polo in Argentina, including its origins, polo at the Olympics, and 103rd Argentine Championship in 1996. The issue continues with an illustrated checklist of sports stamps from Colombia; South African rugby; the automobiles of five-time world automobile racer, Juan M. Fangio; Olympic aerophilately; and two articles on soccer.

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

Torch Bearer February 1997

The February *Torch Bearer*, published by the Society of Olympic Collectors, features articles on the U.S. stamps issued for the 1932 Summer Olympic Games (Scott 718-19); 1996 Olympic sponsors; and UPS and USPS operations in Atlanta during the 1996 Games. Shorter articles deal with the Russian summer games held in 1766 [not a misprint!] in St. Petersburg; plate flaws on the 1932 U.S. Winter Games stamp (Scott 716); and the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games. There are also excerpts from the program of the 110th Annual Much Wenlock Olympian Games, staged last July, which shed further light on the role of Dr. William Penny Brookes in the formation of the Modern Olympic Movement.

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

Tee Time March 1997

Acting editor Cora Collins has put together an interesting issue. She provides helpful information for both novice and experienced golf collectors and points the novice toward the type of philatelic material he or she might not recognize as important. These items include golf-related perfins on

cover, stamp design errors, printing errors and philatelic material of doubtful postal validity. This issue illustrates some new golf stamps and golf cancellations, as well as including a short article describing the background of some earlier Spanish golf cancellations.

The International Philatelic Golf Society is still seeking an editor for *Tee Time*.

Contact: Kevin Hadlock, 447 Skyline Drive, Orange CT 06477, U.S.A. - D.C.

SPI Rapid Notification Service

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NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Margaret Jones & Dorothy Crockett

New Members

2096R James F. Danner, 75 Fairlawn Drive, Latham, NY 12110-1618 USA. *1936 Olympics; Boxing; Baseball; Football.*

2097R Umberto Caterino, Italian Embassy, 1077 Sh Corniche El Nil, Garden City, Cairo, Egypt. Umberto is Secretary at the Italian Embassy as well as a philatelic dealer. *General sports & Olympics; Athletics.*

2098R Carlo Capitanio, Corso Italia 375, I-74100 Taranto, Italy. He is a consultant. *Basketball; Swimming; Rowing; Nautical Sport.*

REINSTATED

1363R Harvey Abrams

ADDRESS CHANGE

(2094) DeBorba, Lori-Anne, 2272 Mowat Avenue, Unit 69, Oakville, Ontario, L6H 5L8, Canada.

Total Membership, February 28, 1997 = 420.

SPECIAL NOTICE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

IT'S RENEWAL TIME! If the year on the top line of your label reads "97," your membership expires the end of August. Please mail your renewal before **JULY 15**.

Please check your mailing information on the label; it must be correct to reach you. Make any changes on your renewal notice. Remember if you are going to move, give us a two-month notice in order to avoid interruption of your membership.

U.S. members: check the zip code on your label. If it shows only the first 5 digits, please add the four-digit extension on the renewal envelope.

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Members' E-mail Addresses

Members wishing to have their e-mail addresses listed both here and in the upcoming supplement to the Membership Handbook, must e-mail their permission to the editor, Mark Maestrone:

markspi@internetmci.com

DeBorba, Lori-Anne	lorirf@pathcom.com
De Violini, Robert	dviolini@west.net
Geerlings, Frans	cover@cyberhighway.net
Haggett, Rex	106232.1631@compuserve.com
Lilljedahl, Dale	dali@aol.com
Schroeder, Nicholas	schroedern@marquette.edu
Tissington, Paul	pault@worldchat.com
Virgili, Jordi	jvirgili@porthos.bio.ub.es

Exhibit Awards

CHICAGOPEX '96, sponsored by the Chicago Philatelic Society, was held in Chicago in November 1996. SPI member Fritz Karpinski received a vermeil for his Olympic exhibit "I Call the Youth of the World." Mr. Karpinski also received the American Topical Association gold and the Chicago Collectors Club novice award. - D.C.

Skiing Material Available

I am breaking up my Ski Collection and offer individual items for sale. Included are stamps (mint and used), FDC's, cancels, trial color strips of 5 (and in full sheets), die proofs, etc. Please note that 25 different die proofs will be offered in the Harmer's Pacific '97 auction this May. For more information, please send a SASE along with your want list to Brian Bjorgo, 3220 Forest Drive, Bremerton, WA 98310-4718, USA.

NEW STAMP ISSUES

by Dennis Dengel

Bhutan: 25 Dec. 1996. Winter Olympics Champions. 10ng, Vegard Ulvang (Nordic skiing); 15ng, Kristi Yamaguchi (figure skating); 25ng, Markus Wasmeier (Alpine skiing); 30ng, Georg Hackl (luge). Four se-tenant 15ng stamps in sheetlet of 8: bobsledding and skiing. Two 70ng, s/s: bobsledding and skiing.

Brazil: 17 Jan. 1997. Rio De Janeiro's Candidature to host the XXVII Olympic Games. One non-denominated stamp: view of Rio De Janeiro.

Cyprus: March 1997. European Men's Basketball Cup Final. One stamp, 30cents. No other details.

Dominica: 12 Feb 1997. Lee Lai-Shan Olympic Winner. \$2.00, Lee Lai-Shan, gold medal (wind surfing). \$5.00 s/s, Lee Lai-Shan wearing medal.

Ecuador: 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 1,000 sucres, Olympic mascot and Olympic torch; 2,000 s, Ecuadorian Olympic Committee emblem; 3,000 s, Jefferson Perez, Olympic walker; 2,000 s s/s, Perez competing in 20 Kilometer walk.

30 July 1996. Esmeraldas '96 (Eighth National Sports Games). Two 400s stamps, tennis and boxing, basketball and soccer; 600s, racquet and swimming; 800s, weightlifting and karate; 1,000s, volleyball and gymnastics; 1,200s, track and field and judo; 2,000s, chess and wrestling. 2,000s s/s games mascot and flag.

Equatorial Guinea: 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Strip of four se-tenant 400 franc stamps: Olympic stadium, cyclist, tennis, equestrian event.

Finland: 30 Jan. 1997. 1997 Hockey World Championships. 2.80 Fim, stylized hockey player shooting puck.

18 Mar. 1997. Paavo Nurmi. 3.40 Fim, Paavo Nurmi running 3,000 meters at Paris Games of 1924.

Germany: 4 Feb. 1997. Sports semi-postal. 80 + 40pf, aerobics; two 1Dm + 50pf, in-line skating and basketball; 2Dm + 80pf, free climbing.

Israel: 13 Feb. 1997. Outdoor Sports definitives. 1.10s, horseback riding; 5s, archery.

Jordan: 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 50 fils, emblem of Games and Jordanian flag; 100 fils, event pictographs; 200 fils, hands; 300 fils, Olympic torch and Jordan's flag.

Kuwait: 5 October 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 25 fils, shooting; 50 fils, running; 100 fils, weightlifting; 150 fils, fencing.

Liberia: 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Twenty-six stamps and one s/s. Two 20 cent stamps, cricket and golf; two 35 cents, showing Vitaly Scherbo (men's gymnastics) and Betty Robinson; two 50 cent, baseball and boxing; two \$1, Barcelona stadium and Amsterdam stadium; two panes of nine 35 cent stamps, various sports; \$2.00 s/s Evelyn Ashford (athletics).

Lithuania: 16 Nov. 1996. Olympic Medal Winners. 4.20 lita s/s: bronze medal Lithuanian Basketball team.

Madagascar: 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Two 140 franc stamps: judo and tennis.

Macedonia: 20 May 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 2 dinars, kayaking; 8d, basketball; 15d, swimming; 20d, wrestling; 40d, boxing; 50d, runner.

Niue: October 1996. Yachting/Taipei '96 show. \$1.50 s/s: ketch Desert Star plus map of the South Pacific.

Oman: 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. se-tenant strip of four 100 baisa stamps: shooting, swimming, cycling, and running.

1996. 13th Arabian Gulf Cup Soccer Tournament. 100 baisa stamp: flags of participating countries.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines: 23 Jan 1997. Legacy of Jackie Robinson. Pane of 17 stamps, \$6.00 stamp, 16 se-tenant \$1.00 stamps. Robinson or various other famous baseball players.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP CANCELS

by Mark Maestroni

THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Catalogue numbers are shown at left, such as 88101-911. In this example: 88=Year [1988]; 1=Month [January]; 01=First day of use; 911=First 3 ZIP code digits. The months of October, November and December are 2-digit months, and are expressed as X, Y, and Z. The place of use is listed next, followed by the dates of use. All cancels are in black. 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.

SPORTS CROSS INDEX MARCH-APRIL 1997

Cycling: 97308-923.
Baseball: 97411-106, 97411-146,
97411-253, 97415-112.
Basketball: 97319-383.
Equestrian: 97328-273, 97424-405.
Football: 97426-152.
Golf: 97317-922.
Horse Racing: 97412-290.
Ice Hockey: 97328-017.
Running: 97406-559, 97414-017.



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PGA West
TPC Stadium Station

97317-922 La Quinta, CA 17-23



97319-383 Jackson, TN 19-21



97328-017 Marlborough, MA 28-29



97328-273 Oak Ridge, TN 28-29



97406-559 Lewiston, MN 6



97411-106 White Plains, NY 11-13



97411-146 Rochester, NY 11



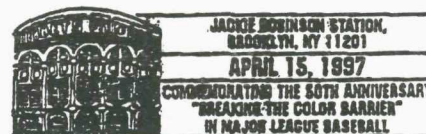
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97412-290 Camden, SC 12



97414-017 Hopkinton, MA 14



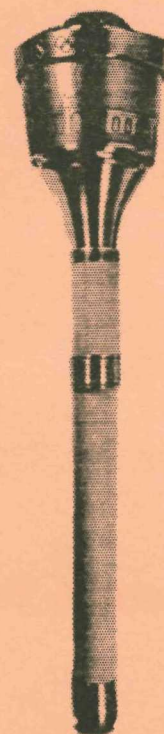
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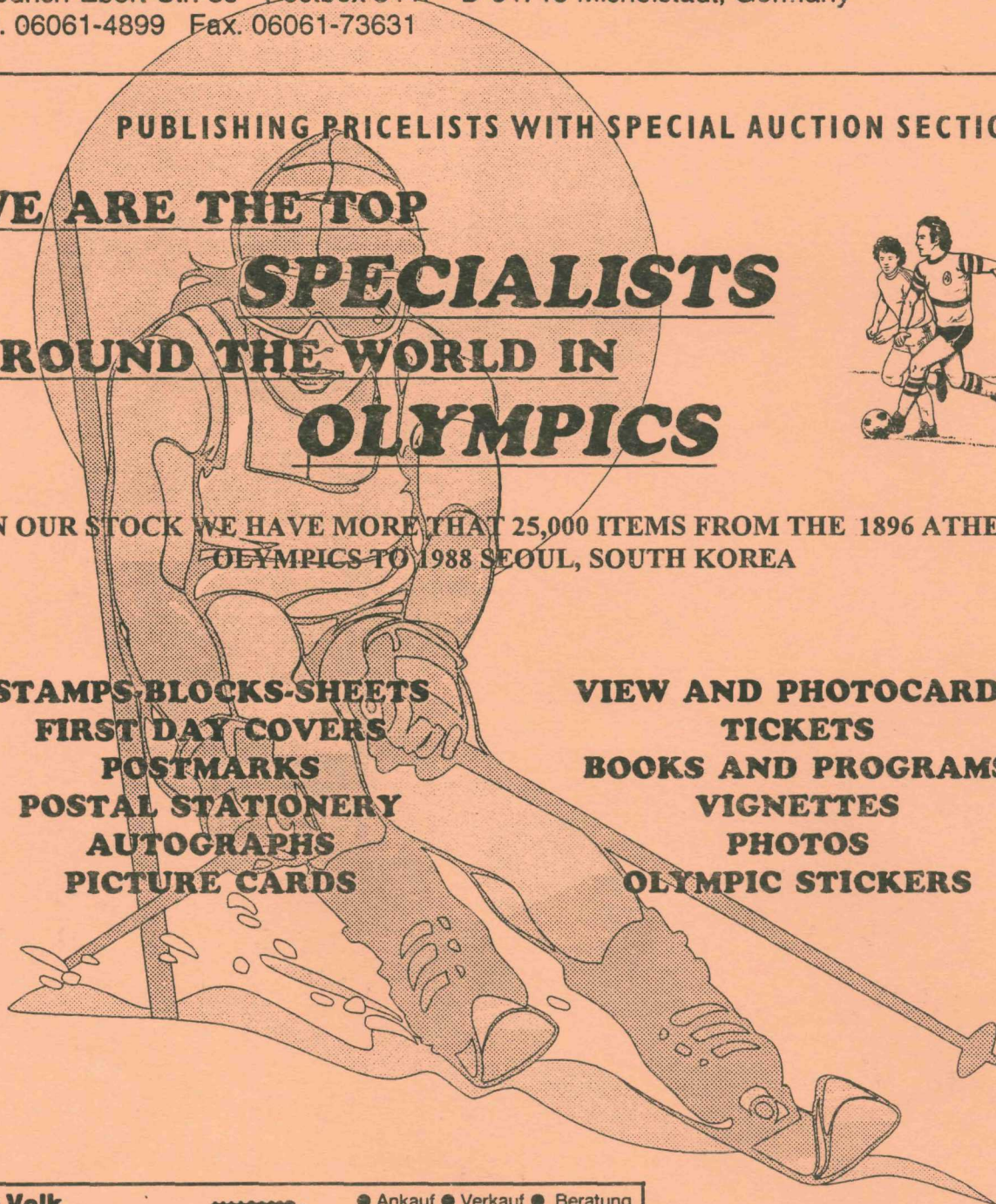
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