

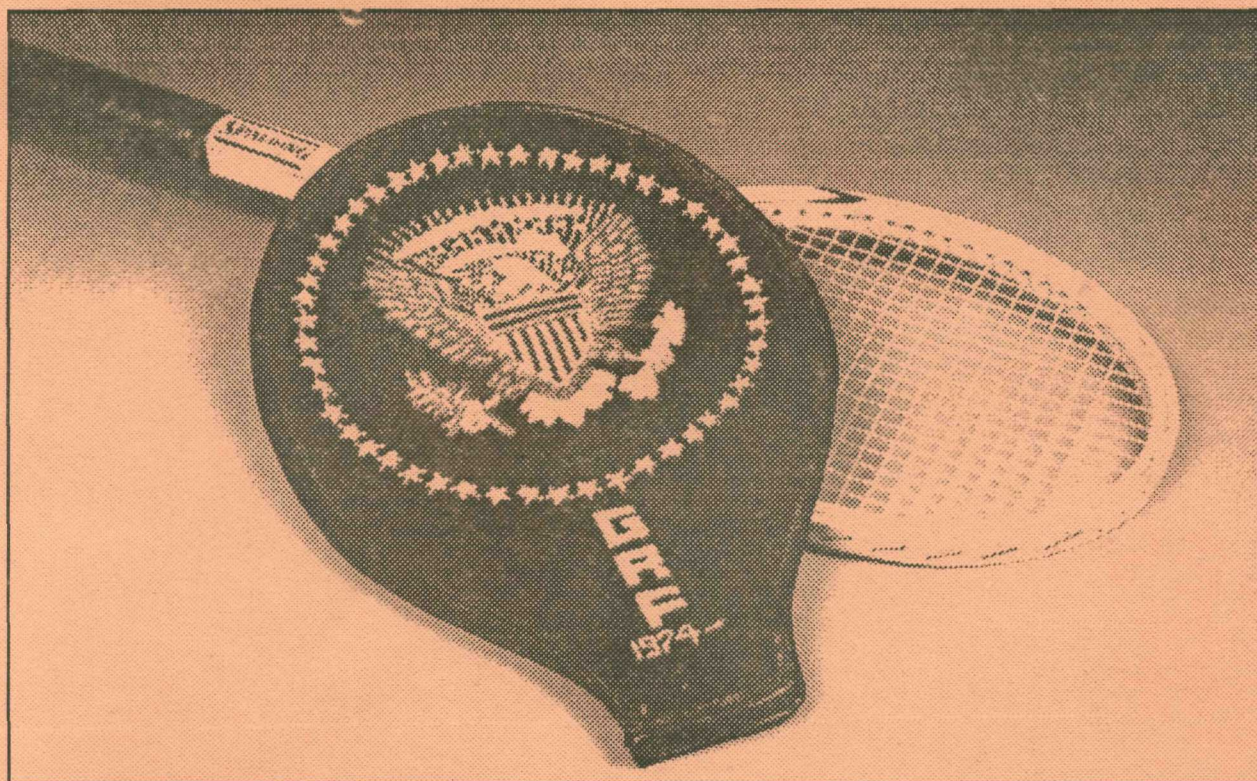
# JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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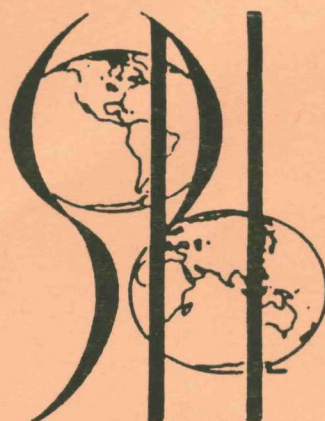
NUMBER 3

## Sports and the Presidency



*President Gerald R. Ford, like many of his fellow 20<sup>th</sup> century chief executives, was an avid tennis player while in office. Pictured is his Spalding World Open wooden tennis racket.*





**SPORTS  
PHILATELISTS  
INTERNATIONAL**

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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by Mark Maestrone

## SPI Elections Just Around the Corner

Just like the Olympic Games, SPI elections roll around every two years. As always, any member in good standing is invited to run for one of the three officer positions (President, Vice-President, or Secretary-Treasurer), or as a member of the Board of Directors of SPI. While we don't, at present, have any vacant positions to fill, this should not deter any member from running. Once again, Bernard McGovern has agreed to serve as Nominations Chairman. Any member interested in a position should write to him at 2107 Marianna Street, Tampa, FL 33612. Nominations are open through March 31, 1998; mail-in ballots will be enclosed with the May-June issue of the journal.

By the time you receive this issue of the journal, the Nagano Olympic Winter Games will be only a few weeks away. As we've recently learned, the U.S. Postal Service has decided *not* to issue an Olympic stamp for these Games. Instead, a generic skier stamp is scheduled for release sometime in late January. Since the Squaw Valley Games of 1960, the USPS has never missed issuing at least one stamp for a winter Games. Let's hope this isn't a new trend!

On a more positive note, we have word from FIPO headquarters that the Japanese postal administration and local Nagano authorities have agreed to provide over 20 special cancellations during the 1998 Games. These will be available at various temporary post offices at the sports venues and other Olympic facilities.

Additionally, a non-competitive philatelic exhibi-

tion – NAGANOPHILEX '98 – is to be held at downtown Nagano during the Games. It is anticipated that the site of the exhibition will be the Mielparque Hotel. Exhibits from Italy, Switzerland, France and Japan have been invited. A special post office facility is to be available on the premises.

In other news, we are reminded that a FIPO General Assembly is scheduled for May 27, 1998 in Paris during the World Cup. This meeting of all 31 member associations of FIPO coincides with the PHILFOOT '98 exhibition of soccer philately at the Post Office Museum. Also, in an agreement between FIPO-IOC and FIP, an Olympic Theme Day is planned for future international exhibitions. In addition to a special postal cancellation on that day, Olympic sports personalities are expected to participate. Both MOSCOW '97 and INDIPEX '97 in New Delhi had a special Olympic Day.

Lastly, FIPO has announced the publication of an Olympic catalogue listing all Summer Olympic stamps issued to date. The catalogue was published in association with Yvert & Tellier, and uses two numbering systems: the existing Yvert system, and a unique FIPO numbering system. According to the press announcement, *Yvert Olympic Games Catalogue 1896-1996* "contains 8,500 stamps grouped by Olympiad and in alphabetical order by country."

The 352-page catalogue is available directly from Yvert for 180 French francs. For more information, please write: Yvert & Tellier, 37 rue des Jacobins, 80036 Amiens Cedex 1, France. They also have a web site at <http://www.yvert-et-tellier.fr>.

**The new SPI web site is located at:**  
**<http://www.geocities.com/colosseum/track/6279>**

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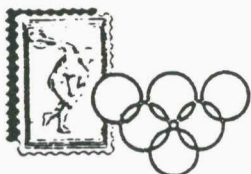
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Figure 1. 1983 stamp with First Day of Issue cancel promoting the benefits of physical fitness.

## SPORTS AND THE PRESIDENCY

by Norman F. Jacobs, Jr.

Part of the fun of developing a thematic collection is the opportunity it provides to learn more about the history of sports. Sometimes this information can be incorporated into an exhibit on the sports thematic, so long as one doesn't try to make connections that are too tenuous. One of these connections that is intriguing for any exhibitor of a sport is the participation or encouragement of the head of state, be he elected or hereditary. For example, in my tennis exhibit, King Gustav V of Sweden is included not only because he founded the first Swedish tennis club in the 1870's, but also because he participated in tournaments in Europe under the pseudonym "Mr. G," and established the King's Cup competition in 1936.

For Americans, the role of the President in sports holds similar interest, but there are few references available that discuss this topic in detail. However, many SPI members have a unique opportunity to see firsthand the connections between the presidency and various sports by visiting the traveling exhibit "Flexing the Nation's Muscle: Presidents,

Physical Fitness and Sports in the American Century." (Our readers in other countries will please ignore the hubris in the exhibit title.) The exhibit is making the rounds of some of the presidential libraries, and I was able to tour it at the Jimmy Carter Library in Atlanta.

Created jointly by the National Archives and Records Administration and the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, the exhibit opened at the White House Visitor Center in Washington in June 1996, where over 250,000 people toured it. The exhibit traces the developing emphasis on physical fitness in the United States during the same time that the nation became a world power. Although the sports memorabilia occupy center stage, references are included throughout to political and social developments in the world during this period.

The co-producer of the exhibit, the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, was initially established by executive order of President Eisenhower in 1956 as the President's Council on Youth Fitness. The Council promotes fitness through school programs, and bestows the Presidential Sports Award on anyone over six years of age who



participates in a sports activity and sends in a fitness log (and a fee of \$6). The Council also promotes specific sports, such as the Tennis Across America Day held in 1995. Figure 1 shows a 1983 stamp issued to increase awareness of physical fitness.

Since this information is not readily available elsewhere, we will outline the sports interests of the various presidents in detail that may provide thematic links in the readers' collection or exhibit. Focusing on the twentieth century presidents from Theodore Roosevelt to Bill Clinton, the exhibit is structured as a walk-through that mimics a sports hall of fame by including a numbered jersey with vital statistics for each president, listing his birth date, date of death, height, weight, and the dates he served as president.



### THEODORE ROOSEVELT 1901-1909

Of particular interest to me, Teddy Roosevelt introduced tennis to the White House, installing a court on the lawn and frequently playing with members of the cabinet and other close advisers, who became known as the "tennis cabinet." In a letter to his children, he drew a picture of himself and captioned it "Father plays tennis with Mr. Cooley." He footnoted it thusly: "Father's shape and spectacles are reproduced with photographic fidelity." In fact,

he was so conscious of his portly appearance on the court that he never allowed himself to be photographed playing tennis. Although there are no direct philatelic references to Roosevelt's tennis matches at the White House, I have included the cover shown in Figure 2 in my collection. The Marine Post Office cancellation from the RMS Niagara off New Zealand and the Packet Boat marking provide philatelic interest, although the relationship is probably too tenuous to put it in my exhibit. Perhaps a cover mailed from the White House with a postmark from the post office serving the White House would allow me to make the connection with the storyline.

### WILLIAM H. TAFT 1909-1913



William H. Taft was the first president to take golf seriously, and occasionally scored in the 80's. According to him, "Golf is a game for people who are not active enough for baseball or tennis. When a man weighs 295 pounds, you have to give him some opportunity to make his legs and insides move." Actually, Taft was 6 feet 2 inches tall and weighed 330 pounds. In 1910, he introduced the custom of throwing out a baseball to open the major league season. He was also a horseback rider. (Poor horse!)

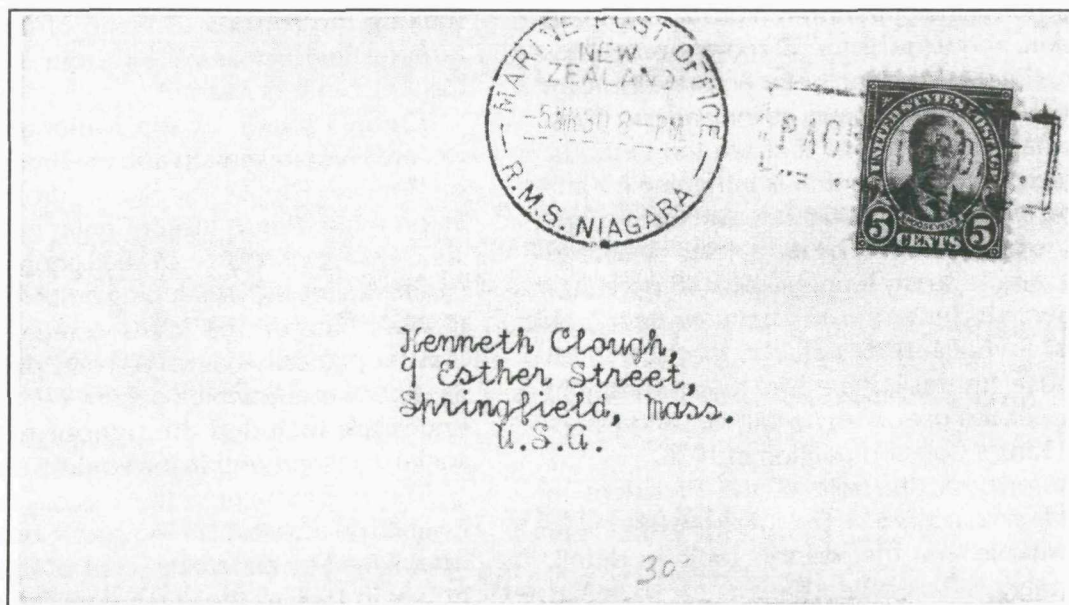


Figure 2. Teddy Roosevelt, an avid sportsman, is not difficult to commemorate philatellically. 5¢ stamp from the 1920's Presidents series with a Marine Post Office cancel and Packet Boat marking posted from New Zealand to the U.S.





## WOODROW WILSON 1913-1921

Before becoming president, Woodrow Wilson coached football at the college level and helped to introduce the center snap. A dedicated golfer, he said "I play golf every afternoon. While playing, each stroke seems the most important thing in life." The exhibit includes a golf trophy given to him during a break in the Paris Peace Conference, "en Souvenir de sa Visite a la Boulie."



## WARREN G. HARDING 1921-1923

Warren Harding was also a serious golfer, but lacked the flair or sense of drama of his predecessors.



## CALVIN COOLIDGE 1923-1929

The next president, Calvin Coolidge, was more of an exerciser than an athlete. He favored walking, and exercises on vibrating machines and on a mechanical horse which he brought to the White House. (Perhaps the closest we have to a gymnast, but not very close!)



## HERBERT C. HOOVER 1929-1933

For Herbert Hoover, the best form of relaxation was fishing. He wrote and published a collection of essays entitled *Fishing for Fun -- And to Wash Your Soul*. At the White House, Hoover introduced "Hoover ball," a form of volleyball in which the participants would toss a 10-pound medicine ball over a net and catch it. This became a regular morning workout for him and his cabinet. According to Hoover, "It required less skill than tennis, was faster and more vigorous, and therefore gave more exercise in a short time."

In 1960, Hoover received the annual Gold Medal award from the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame in recognition of a lifetime of devotion to American intercollegiate football. He had been the manager of the Stanford University football team of 1894, and he liked to tell the joke on himself of how he successfully ran the ticket windows and other team arrangements but forgot to purchase a football for use at the team's first game. As president, his statements could provide a boost for commercial sports, thus the use of his quote on a contemporary baseball poster: "The rigid volunteer rules of right and wrong in sports are second only to religious faith in moral training – and baseball is the greatest of American sports."

## FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT 1933-1945

Prior to his bout with polio, Franklin Roosevelt played golf well enough to win a pewter mug in 1898 for placing first in the weekly tournament at the Campobello Golf Club. Even after his paralysis prevented him from continuing this sport, he swam regularly for therapy, and went on many fishing and boating expeditions. He also threw out eight opening day baseballs, a record which may never be broken now that we have a two-term limit on the presidency.



## HARRY S. TRUMAN 1945-1953

For Harry Truman, exercise was more important than sport, and he walked from 1 to 1-1/2 miles before breakfast every morning for over 40 years. With his pace of 120 steps per minute, he led reporters on a breathless trail to fitness. In addition, he enjoyed fishing, swimming, and horse-shoes. In 1952 he used a Wilson baseball glove, a gift from Fred Bowman the head of the Wilson Sporting Goods Company, to throw out the first pitch on opening day of the baseball season. The glove, part of the traveling exhibit, will return to the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri at the conclusion of the exhibition.







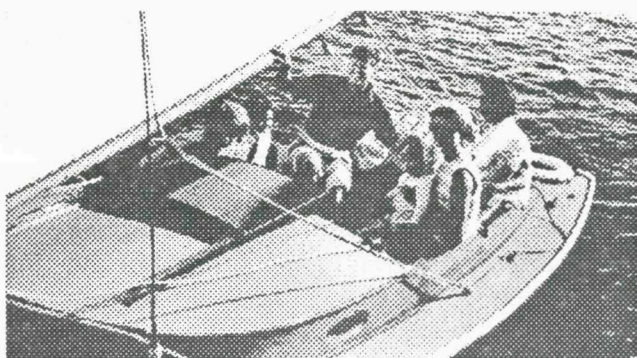
## DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER 1953-1961

The president whose name comes to mind first when golf is mentioned is Dwight Eisenhower. He regularly shot in the 80's, and was photographed so often swinging a golf club that his critics used this to advantage in arguing that he took too little interest in the day-to-day workings of the government. He had a practice green installed at Camp David and a putting green at the White House. In 1955 he received the Ben Hogan award which honors the golfer making the greatest comeback from a physical disability (his heart attack). In addition to golf, he enjoyed quail hunting and trout fishing. When he created the President's Council on Youth Fitness in 1956, he charged it to determine "what can and should be done to reach the much-desired goal of a happier, healthier, and more totally fit youth in America."



## JOHN F. KENNEDY 1961-1963

As the youngest president at age 43, John Kennedy portrayed an exuberant and active lifestyle that included swimming, sailing, touch football, and golf. In 1933 he won a swimming trophy at the Wianno Yacht Club, and he continued to spend his vacations near the water during his presidency. Figure 3 shows him sailing with his family off Hyannis Port, Massachusetts. He also broadened the mission of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports from its emphasis on sports and exercise in the schools to include people of all ages.



*Figure 3. President Kennedy and family sailing off Hyannis Port, MA.*

## LYNDON B. JOHNSON 1963-1969

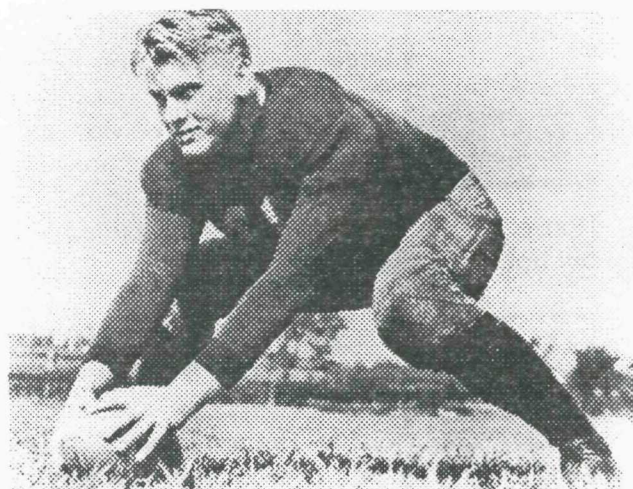


Not known as a sportsman, Lyndon Johnson did swim in the pool at the ranch in Texas, and occasionally played golf. He also liked to ride horses. In 1966 the President's Council established the Presidential Physical Fitness Award for school children who did well on a fitness test.

## RICHARD M. NIXON 1969-1974



Richard Nixon was not known as a sportsman either, but he played competitive paddleball when he came to Washington in 1947, played golf as Vice President, and used to bowl on the single lane beneath the White House during his presidency. In describing his approach to this sport, Nixon said "I bowl 7-12 games, one after another. That gives you a tremendous workout." He also issued a booklet of selections for the best baseball players of all time.



*Figure 4. Gerald Ford played football for the University of Michigan during his college years.*

## GERALD R. FORD 1974-1977

His presidency lasted less than one full term, and may have lacked great political or diplomatic achievements, but Gerald Ford was certainly one of the most athletic presidents. As the center on the



University of Michigan football team, he earned his team's Most Valuable Player award, and he played in the college all-star game (Figure 4). In 1936 he served as a ranger in Yellowstone Park, and he frequently played golf, skied in Colorado, swam laps in the White House pool, ran 3-4 miles (up to 12 miles on occasion), and played tennis. For tennis he used the Spalding World Open wooden racket with fibre welded throat (*see cover illustration*). He played doubles with George Bush, who would later become the 41st president. On April 4, 1974, while Vice President, Mr. Ford attended the Atlanta Braves game when Hank Aaron was chasing Babe Ruth's record. During this game between Cincinnati and Atlanta, the new cowhide baseball was first used in the major leagues. Four days later, Aaron broke Babe Ruth's record in a game that my wife and I attended and will always remember as one of the most exciting sports moments of our lives.

### **JAMES E. CARTER, JR.** **1977-1981**

Jimmy Carter enjoyed jogging, which led to the unfortunate news media coverage of his near-collapse while attempting a long run during his presidency. He also played tennis, bowled, fished, hunted, skied cross-country, and rode his bicycle. However, he will always be remembered by sports and Olympic philatelists for one political decision – the boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games organized by the United States to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. With 50 other nations participating, the boycott threatened the status of the Olympic Games as a universal event. On a happier note, on May 22, 1979, President Carter presented the 5 millionth Presidential Fitness Award.

### **RONALD W. REAGAN** **1981-1989**

Ronald Reagan is the only president who previously worked as a radio sports broadcaster. His nickname, Dutch, dates from his days as a sports writer in the 1930's, but he also worked as a lifeguard in the summers, and enjoyed horseback riding on his ranch. He also has played golf. In 1984 he participated in the Olympic Torch Relay as it passed the White House. The exhibit includes a Davis Cup warm-up outfit presented to President Reagan by the Davis Cup captain, Arthur Ashe.

### **GEORGE H. BUSH** **1989-1993**

While at Yale, George Bush played first base and captained the Yale baseball team. Later, he jogged, played tennis and golf and liked to fish. He learned tennis from his mother at the age of 5, and played twice a week while president. A natural left-hander, he learned to play right handed and favored an aggressive net game.

### **WILLIAM J. CLINTON** **1993-**



Finally we come to the present, where Bill Clinton has popularized presidential jogging as a weight-control measure. He also golfs frequently and bowls. In 1995 he went to New Haven to open the Special Olympics.

Perhaps it will come as no surprise that so many of our nation's leaders have participated in competitive athletics, since the thrill of competition and the ambition to be "number one" are strong motivators both in sports and politics.

For those who are interested, the traveling schedule for *Flexing the Nation's Muscle* will take it to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kansas from May 1 to July 31, 1998; to the George Bush Library in College Station, Texas from September to October 1998; and to the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library in early 1999. There are some open dates which may allow the exhibit to go to Boston's Kennedy Library, the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, California, and the Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

With so many countries represented in the SPI membership rolls, I hope that some of you will share with the readership the sports connections of your heads of state. For my own field of tennis, for example, I'd like to know which British monarch was the first to attend Wimbledon, the first to present the winner's trophy, and which monarchs have played tennis. As tennis spread around the world, the heads of state played a role in the establishment of tennis clubs and tournaments.

Lastly, I'd like to thank Caroline Clifford of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library for her help in providing the photographs used in this article. 🐾



# The Impact of Anabolic Steroids on Women's Swimming at the 1976 and 1988 Olympic Games

by Bruce A. Tomkins

MUNICH TO MONTREAL, 1972-1976

Between the 1992 and the 1996 Olympic Games, one of the dominant topics in the swimming press was the sudden emergence of China as a world-class powerhouse in women's swimming. These athletes and their outstanding performances had been virtually unheard-of prior to the Barcelona Games.

Coaches, swimmers, and writers all openly suggested that the reason for China's success was simply explained: anabolic steroids. The accusers pointed to the sudden rise of China as a swimming power, the unusually powerful physiques of the athletes, and the success of only the ladies. If the Chinese coaches were using some truly new revolutionary training methods, why didn't the men become world-class swimmers as well?

Over and over, the writers suggested that the situation in China was a repetition of what occurred in the German Democratic Republic (GDR) after the 1972 Games (Munich) and just prior to 1992 (Barcelona). What happened in those twenty years? How did it forever impact women's swimming?

The East German women were barely a factor at the Munich Games in 1972. It was Australia's Shane Gould who was the standout swimmer, taking three individual gold medals, a silver, and a bronze. Melissa Belote and Sandy Nielson each collected three gold medals for the United States. The GDR managed a total of three individual medals, including a silver by Kornelia Ender, plus a silver in both relays.

Three years later, the World Championships at Cali, Colombia saw East German women suddenly win gold medals in eight of twelve individual events and both relays, setting three world records in the process. The standout swimmer in this meet was Ender, who finished with four gold medals. However, the GDR team faced a strong challenge from swimmers such as the USA's Shirley Babashoff, who earned gold medals in the 200 and 400-meter freestyle, and finished with two gold, three silver, and one bronze medal.

The stage was set for a showdown between the world's two best women swimmers, Ender and Babashoff, at the 1976 Olympic Games.

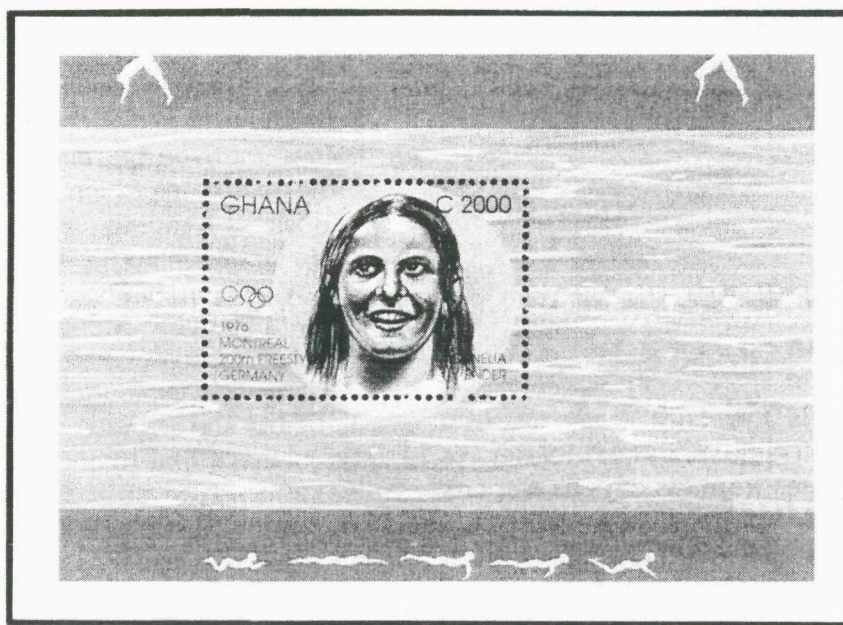


Figure 1. Kornelia Ender of the GDR rose to stardom during the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. Her four gold medals begged the question – was it natural ability or illegal steroids that won the races?



## MONTREAL, 1976

The head-to-head meeting between the premier female swimmers from the USA and the GDR rapidly became a rout, as the East Germans won ten of the eleven individual events (seven in world-record time), posting one 1-2-3 sweep, five 1-2 sweeps, and winning the 400-meter medley relay with an eighth world record. The USA women, determined to avoid a shutout, posted a single victory in the 400-meter freestyle relay, which was also won in world-record time.

Ender (Figure 1) collected four Olympic gold medals for her work; teammate Ulrike Richter earned three. Curiously, the GDR's best middle-distance freestyle swimmer, Barbara Krause, who set a world record at 400 meters and qualified second at both 100 and 200 meters, was left home at the last minute, ostensibly due to illness.

## SEOUL, 1988

The USA and GDR women did not meet again in an Olympic Games until 1988. The USA boycotted the 1980 Games in Moscow because of the war

in Afghanistan, and the GDR returned the favor in 1984 (Los Angeles). The two teams did meet at the World Championships in Guayaquil, Ecuador, with the East German women winning eight of the twelve individual events (the USA won the remaining two) and both relays. Three of the USA's best swimmers – backstrokeer Susan Walsh, butterflyer Mary T. Meagher, and breaststroke/individual medley specialist Tracy Caulkins – did not receive gold medals for their efforts.

By 1988 at the Seoul Olympics, the boycotts were over. The GDR women's team took on the world again, and nearly repeated their successes of Montreal. Fifteen women's events were contested; the East German women won nine of them. Only magnificent performances by Janet Evans (USA), Kristina Egerszegi (Hungary), and Tania Dangalakova (Bulgaria) held the East Germans at bay. The success of the GDR team was exemplified by the achievements of three of its swimmers. Kristin Otto won a record six gold medals in a single Olympics (Figure 2); Heike Friedrich won three gold and a silver; and Daniela Hunger set an Olympic record in the 200 meter individual medley.<sup>1</sup>

## BERLIN, 1989 AND BEYOND

Questions and grumblings about the successes of the East German women had begun as early as the 1976 Games. Were their successes *really* due to the additional weight training and other regimens the coaches were using? Or were their swimmers using something else? Phil Whitten, the editor of *Swimming World and Junior Swimmer*, described the situation at Montreal:

*"At the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal, American Shirley Babashoff was outspoken in her belief that her East German foes were on steroids. For that she was ridiculed. 'Surly Shirley' the press called her. And in reply to her observation that the young women from the GDR had deep, resonant voices, an East German coach replied mockingly: 'We have come to swim, not sing.'"<sup>2</sup>*

A clear proven understanding of exactly what the East German coaches and swimmers had done between Munich and Seoul was not available until after the Berlin Wall fell in 1989 and the files of the East German secret police, the Stasi, could be examined (Figure 1). Phil Whitten published a copy of a drug testing document from 1989 with the following commentary:

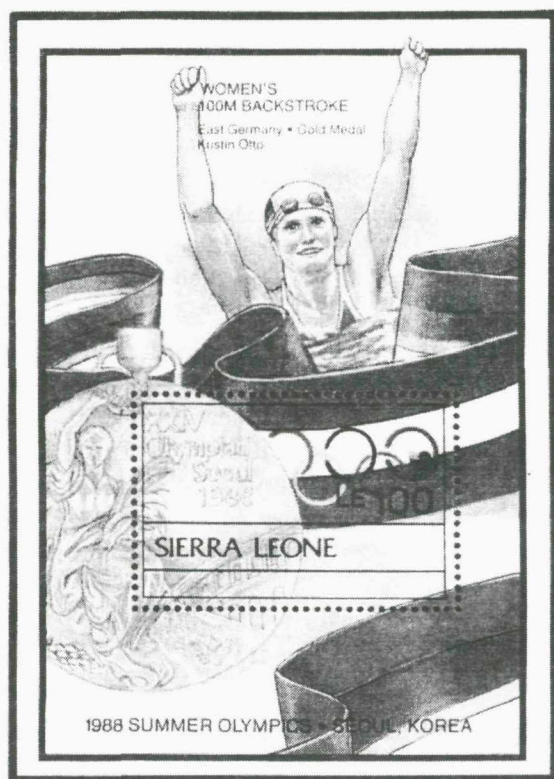


Figure 2. Kristin Otto's record six gold medals at a single Olympics aroused suspicion of both her and her GDR team.



**Table 1.**  
**Official Orders of Finish and "What They Should Have Been" for**  
**Selected Olympic Swimming Events**

<i>Olympic Games</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Official Order of Finish*</i>	<i>What the Order Should Have Been</i>
1976	100 meter butterfly	<b>Kornelia Ender, GDR (1)</b> <b>Andrea Pollock, GDR (2)</b> Wendy Boglioli, USA (3) Camille Wright, USA (4) <b>Rosemarie Gabriel (Kother), GDR (5)</b> Wendy Quirk, CAN (6)	Boglioli (1) Wright (2) Quirk (3)
1976	200 meter freestyle	<b>Kornelia Ender, GDR (1)</b> Shirley Babashoff, USA (2) Enith Brigitha, NETH (3) Annelies Maas, NETH (4)	Babashoff (1) Brigitha (2) Maas (3)
1976	400 meter freestyle	<b>Petra Thümer, GDR (1)</b> Shirley Babashoff, USA (2) Shannon Smith, CAN (3) Rebecca Perrott, NZE (4)	Babashoff (1) Smith (2) Perrott (3)
1976	800 meter freestyle	<b>Petra Thümer, GDR (1)</b> Shirley Babashoff, USA (2) Wendy Weinberg, USA (3) Rosemary Milgate, AUS (4)	Babashoff (1) Weinberg (2) Milgate (3)
1976	4x100 meter medley relay	<b>GDR (Ulrike Richter, Hannelore Anke, Andrea Pollock, Kornelia Ender), (1)</b>  USA (Linda Jezek, Lauri Siering, Camille Wright, Shirley Babashoff), (2)  CAN (Wendy Hogg, Robin Coniglia, Susan Sloan, Anne Jardin), (3)  SOV (Nadiya Stavko, Maryna Yurchenya, Tamara Shelofastova, Larissa Tsareva), (4)	USA (1) CAN (2) SOV (3)
1988	50 meter freestyle	<b>Kristin Otto, GDR (1)</b> Yang Wenyi, CHN (2) <b>Karin Meissner, GDR (3t)</b> Jill Sterkel, USA (3t) Leigh Ann Fetter, USA (5)	Wenyi (1) Sterkel (2) Fetter (3)
1988	200 meter freestyle	<b>Heike Friedrich, GDR (1)</b> Silvia Poll, CRC (2) <b>Manuella Stellmach, GDR (3)</b> Mary Wayte, USA (4) Natalya Trefilova, SOV/RUS (5)	Poll (1) Wayte (2) Trefilova (3)
1988	100 meter backstroke	<b>Kristin Otto, GDR (1)</b> Krisztina Egerszegi, HUN (2) <b>Cornelia Sirch, GDR (3)</b> Betsy Mitchell, USA (4) Beth Barr, USA (5)	Egerszegi (1) Mitchell (2) Barr (3)

\*AUS = Australia; CAN = Canada; CHN = China; CRC = Costa Rica; GDR = German Democratic Republic; GER = Germany (united); HUN = Hungary; NETH = Netherlands; NZE = New Zealand; SOV = Soviet Union; SOV/RUS = Soviet Union/Russia; USA = United States -



*"It may have been unethical, but the East Germans were very good at their game: Despite universal (emphasis Whitten's) use of illicit drugs, only one East German athlete ever (emphasis Whitten's) tested positive at an internal meet. Swimming World has obtained copies of the drug tests for Olympic great Kristin Otto and other top swimmers from the Stasi files. One document . . . shows that on August 9, 1989, Kristin Otto, Heike Friedrich, Daniela Hunger, and Dagmar Hase all tested positive for anabolic steroids."*<sup>3</sup>

The impact of such a document is clearly shown in Table 1, which gives examples of several Olympic swimming events and an official order of finish clearly dominated by East German swimmers.<sup>4</sup> Had the GDR competitors been disqualified because of their use of illegal drugs, not only would the order of finish have changed dramatically, but so also would the reputations of the legitimate swimmers and competing nations. Freestyle specialist Babashoff, for example, would have won five gold medals in Montreal at distances ranging between 100 meters (in the relay) to 800 meters. This would clearly be one of the greatest all-time Olympic performances in

any sport, comparing favorably with Mark Spitz's seven gold medals in swimming at Munich or Eric Heiden's performances in speed skating in 1980 (Lake Placid). In addition, many of Babashoff's teammates, such as Wendy Boglioli, Wendy Weinberg, and Jill Sterkel, were deprived of better finishes than demonstrated by their official standings.

Such documentation also helped explain Barbara Krause's absence from the 1976 games. While she was ostensibly left home because of "illness," we now know the real reason: the GDR scientists had miscalculated her steroid dosage, and she would have tested positive!

The adverse impact of the GDR team's drug use was not confined to the United States team. Table 1 also shows that non-Americans such as Costa Rican

Silvia Poll, Hungarian Kristina Egerszegi, and Chinese Yang Wenyi were all deprived of gold medals.

Phil Whitten goes on to describe the impact of the drug use on Canada, the host team in 1976:

*"But the Americans were far from the only ones victimized by East Germany's criminal perfidy. Holland's magnificent Enith Brigitha was robbed of her place in Olympic history as the first black Olympic swim champion. And the host team — Canada — which was criticized mercilessly for its 'failure' at home — actually performed superbly."*

*"Take out the East German cheaters, and Canada would have won three gold, four silver, and three bronze medals in the individual events plus two silvers in the relays: the best performance in Canadian history. Our northern neighbors would have swept the 100 back, 1-2-3, and Nancy Garapick would have been a national hero with two gold and two silver medals."*

*"That success could have boosted Canadian swimming for years to come. Instead, the 'failure' of the Canadians led to a long decline in the sport."*<sup>2</sup>

After the Montreal Games, both the scope and sophistication of drug testing increased dramatically. Athletes are now screened rou-

tinely for a wide variety of performance-enhancing drugs of abuse using analytical instrumentation far more advanced than that shown on some postage stamps (Figure 3). One can only hope that such intensive screening and monitoring can reduce the incidence of cheating from drug abuse in future Olympic Games.

A partial listing of stamps which highlight swimmers mentioned in this article is given in Table 2.

Figure 3. Liechtenstein 973, cross-country skiing and doping check.



## Knoxville News, October 12, 1997

### Swimming

■ Four former East German coaches were charged with causing bodily harm for giving anabolic steroids to 17 teenage girls from 1974-89. The charges were the first to result from a criminal investigation into steroid use in East German sports. More cases are expected to follow as the investigation continues.

Figure 1. The past catches up with former East German coaches, as this timely news clipping proves.



# ENDNOTES

1. Phillip Whitten, "The Way Things **Should** Have Been: Part II, the 1980s", Swimming World and Junior Swimmer, **38** (9), 15-16 (1997).

2. Phillip Whitten, "The Way Things **Should** Have Been: Part I, the 1970s", Swimming World and Junior Swimmer, **38** (8), 13-14 (1997).

3. Phillip Whitten, "Red Star Over Atlanta", Swimming World and Junior Swimmer, **35** (12), 50-52 (1994).

4. David Wallechinsky, The Complete Book of the Summer Olympics, Boston: Little, Brown, and Co. (1996).

For further information on the various controversies surrounding the sport of swimming, readers may wish to refer to this author's article, "Controversies in Competitive Swimming," printed in the July/August 1996 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately* (Vol. 31, #6, pp. 18-23).

**Table 2**  
**Stamps Depicting Swimmers Influenced by Anabolic Steroids in the 1976 & 1988 Olympic Games**

Babashoff, Shirley (USA)	Paraguay 1703e
Caulkins, Tracy (USA)	Ghana, new issue (s/s) Trinidad & Tobago 412, 415a
Ender, Kornelia (GDR)	Ghana, new issue (s/s) Guyana 2392i Lesotho, new issue Mongolia 930 Paraguay 1703b
Evans, Janet (USA)	Guyana 2084k, 2085k
Hunger, Daniela (GDR)	Sierra Leone 1787i
Krause, Barbara (GDR)	Guyana, new issue (s/s)
Otto, Kristin (GDR)	CAR 910, 913, 913a, 931a (imp.) Grenada 1690 Guyana 2082f, 2083f Mali 705 Mongolia 1751 Sierra Leone 1033
Poll, Silvia (Costa Rica)	Costa Rica (new issue) Panama 760
Thümer, Petra (GDR)	Ghana, new issue (m/s)

## OLYMPIC GAMES ALBUM PAGES



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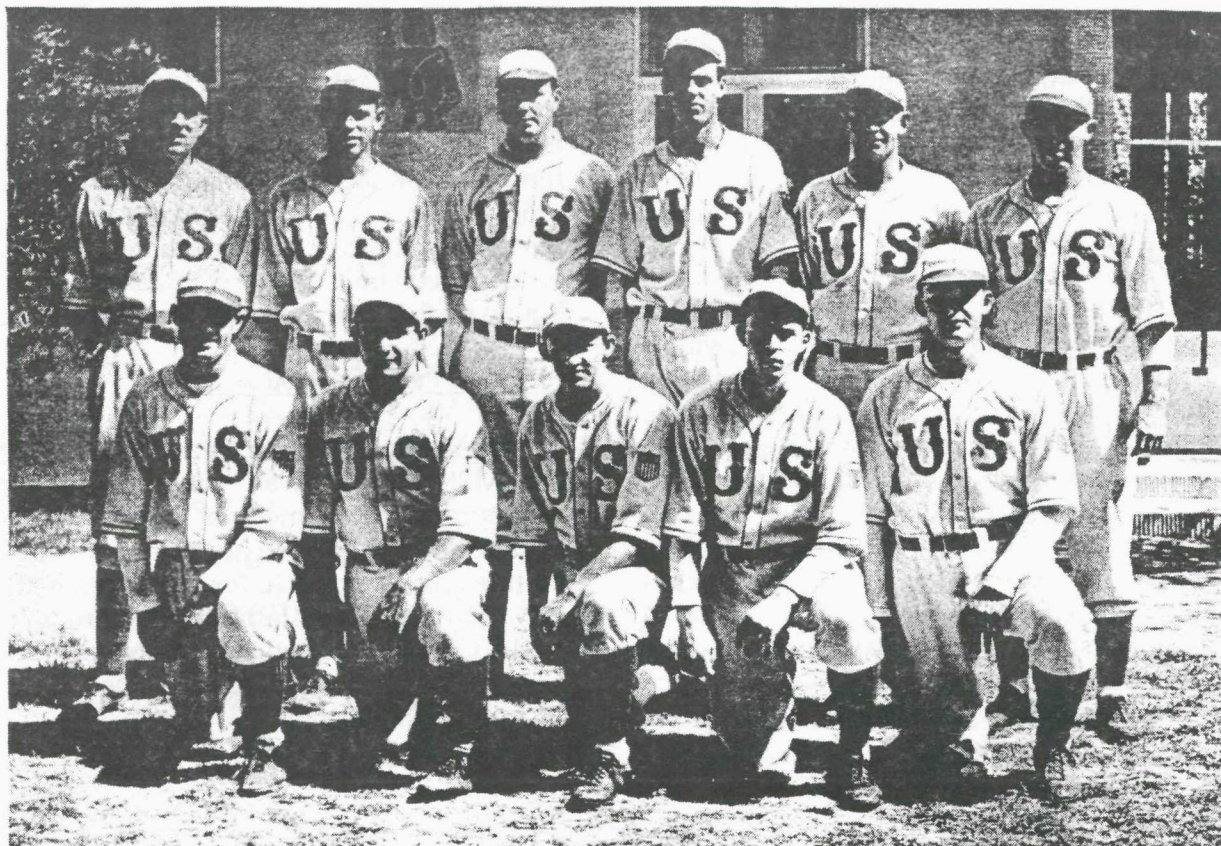
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- ▶ 17<sup>th</sup> Games - 1960 (Title & 61 pages) ..... 27.60 (3.50)
- ▶ 18<sup>th</sup> Games - 1964 (Title & 198 pages) ..... 85.20 (7.50)
- ▶ 19<sup>th</sup> Games - 1968 (Title & 319 pages) ..... 137.00 (10.00)
- ▶ 20<sup>th</sup> Games - 1972 (Title & 329 pages) ..... 142.20 (10.00)
- ▶ 21<sup>st</sup> Games - 1976 (Title & 182 pages) ..... 78.50 (6.50)
- ▶ 22<sup>nd</sup> Games - 1980 (Title & 201 pages) ..... 86.50 (7.50)
- ▶ 23<sup>rd</sup> Games - 1984 (Title & 386 pages) ..... 164.15 (10.00)
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*Figure 1. The World's Amateurs was one of two American teams that demonstrated the sport of baseball at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. Ronald Hibbard is standing, second from left.*

## A 1936 Olympic Baseball Extravaganza

by Mark Maestroni

**"I** arrived in Berlin yesterday at three o'clock after having a fine welcome in Hamburg. We took a train to Berlin where we were given another reception by the mayor at the city hall."

Thus began the Olympic odyssey of Ronald Woodrow Hibbard of Byron, Michigan (Figure 1). For this 23-year-old baseball player it must have been an awe-inspiring experience.

His July 25 (postmarked from the Olympic Village on July 26, 1936) postcard home (Figure 2) continues: "This sure is a wonderful place & the Olympic Village is great. There is [sic] about two hundred houses here, all new & well furnished for

us. We have fine athletic fields & buildings to work with. Ron."

So how *did* this young man from the heartland of America, playing in a sport that wasn't even a medal event, end up at the Olympic Games? Let's back up just a bit and examine what brought Ron and his teammates to Germany in July, 1936.

Tasked with selecting two demonstration events for the Games of the XIth Olympiad in Berlin, the organizers opted for Gliding as their "native" sport. Baseball was their choice as a "foreign" demonstration sport.

Contrary to popular belief, this was not the first time that baseball had been displayed at an Olympics. That honor goes to the 1912 Stockholm Olympic Games where teams composed of athletes from



the American track and field squad played each other. At Berlin, the "national pastime" would be played by honest-to-goodness baseball players. The U.S. Amateur Baseball Congress (USABC), the governing body in the United States, planned to field two teams of players which would compete head-to-head in a single game at the Olympic Stadium. In addition, a number of lectures on the sport were to be conducted for both teachers and athletic coaches from around the world.

In the months leading up the Games, an elimination contest was conducted across America to select players for the two teams. The Olympic Baseball Committee, created by the USABC to direct the efforts, had planned an elaborate series of State and regional tournaments. Unfortunately, public antagonism toward American participation in these Games made fund-raising difficult. Trials for selection of the baseball team were scrapped in favor of a simple nomination process by college coaches and athletic commissioners.

The players assembled in Baltimore, Maryland from July 1-12 for training, winning two of three practice games against other teams:

**Olympic Team** vs. Baltimore Orioles, 9-7

**Olympic Team** vs. U.S. Marines, 15-2

Baltimore Police vs. **Olympic Team**, 8-5

Joining the rest of the U.S. Olympic Team at the Hotel Lincoln in New York City on July 13, was the entire baseball contingent consisting of 21 players, the manager, assistant manager, coach and two umpires. Finally, after months of preparation, the adventure for Ron began. The entire U.S. delegation embarked on the steamer S.S. Manhattan, July 15, bound for the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin!

### PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!

The American Olympic Committee Report notes that while the ship was "scheduled to arrive at Hamburg on the afternoon of [Thursday] July 23 ... the arrival [was] delayed [until] the morning of July 24 [making] it possible for the athletes to be received by the City of Hamburg in the morning and by the City of Berlin in the afternoon and reach the Olympic Village, be roomed and settled in their new quarters before night fall."<sup>1</sup>



Figure 2. Ron's first postcard home from the Olympics – postmarked July 26, 1936 from the Olympic Village – related his journey to Berlin and first impressions of the facilities.



Dear Frank  
 I received your letter today  
 and was so glad to hear from  
 you. as I have been  
 practicing everyday and  
 and tomorrow is the  
 big day of the Olympics.  
 I hope you hear it.  
 There is fifty nations  
 here now and the other  
 two will be here today  
 I guess. We are going  
 to march in the big  
 parade which starts at  
 4:30. Hope all of you  
 are well. Best regards to  
 all & I'm having a  
 grand time Ron

Figure 3. Ron Hibbard's card dated July 31, 1936.

The American baseball squad was divided into two teams: the World's Amateurs and the U.S.A. Olympics. Ron played for the former. While their penultimate game at the Olympic Stadium was not scheduled until August 12, the team was active for most of that two-and-a-half week period. They practiced continually at Hakenfelde Stadium in Berlin, an athletic field reserved for their use. The teams played ten games for training and demonstration purposes. Five lectures attended by some 200 teachers and coaches completed the task of presenting the sport to the German people.

Of course half the fun of participating in an Olympics is attending the Opening Ceremonies, a much looked-forward-to event. In a postcard home (Figure 3) dated Saturday, July 31, Ron wrote:

"... We have been practicing everyday and tomorrow is the big day of the Olympics. I hope you hear it. There is [sic] fifty nations here now and the other two will be here today I guess. We are going to march in the big parade which starts at 4:30. Hope all of you are well. Best regards to all & I'm having a grand time. Ron."

#### "BASEBALL: WAS ES DAS?"

For a week prior to the "big game," a German newspaper ran a series under that title as a primer for spectators.<sup>2</sup> Whether or not they were successful is probably unimportant. In the end, the Olympic Stadium was packed to capacity on the evening of Wednesday, August 12 (Figure 4). Competition in athletics had been completed three days earlier, so the crowd of over 100,000 (an attendance record for a single baseball game that still stands today!) had come to see this strange American game.

The stadium's infield was transformed with white tape marking the foul and base lines. A first – a batter's cage invented by the team manager, Leslie Mann – was placed around home plate. The only inadequacy was the lighting which illuminated the field to a height of only 50 feet. Fly balls easily disappeared in the darkness, much to the dismay of both players and spectators.

As with everything else at these Olympics, the organizing committee treated the crowds to an extravaganza that any Hollywood producer would envy. With the stadium lighting extinguished, two huge search lights focused their beams on either end of the stadium. In marched each team in single file, their "white uniforms loomed up like diamonds – and as both teams proceeded to the center of the field where two American flags had been erected on poles, the officials came up from the rear and as each team stopped at their respective flag, the officials stood between the two flags – all players and officials gave the official Olympic salute."<sup>3</sup>

Following warm-up, the teams began play. The crowd was enthusiastic, despite the fact that they really didn't understand the mechanics of the game. They cheered wildly at pop-ups and fouls, laughed uproariously at errors, and fell silent during base hits and attempts at gaining extra bases. I doubt this detracted whatsoever from the players' Olympic experience. Following the game, Dr. Carl Diem, General Secretary of the Organizing Committee, spoke to both teams: "I have come officially to advise you that this has been the finest demonstration of any sport that any nation has ever put on at any Olympic Games. We congratulate you ..."<sup>4</sup>

And the score? Well, Ron Hibbard's team, the World's Amateurs beat the U.S.A. Olympics 6 runs to 5. William N. Sayles of Portland, Oregon was the winning pitcher, with Leslie A. McNeece of Fort Lauderdale, Florida swatting the winning home run.

Two important results of this first "real" demonstration of the sport at an Olympic Games must





Figure 4. The single demonstration game of baseball was held before a capacity crowd of 100,000 in the Olympic Stadium. The World's Amateurs beat the U.S.A. Olympics, 6-5. Cover postmarked from the stadium on August 12 at 7 p.m. – just one hour before the start of the baseball game.

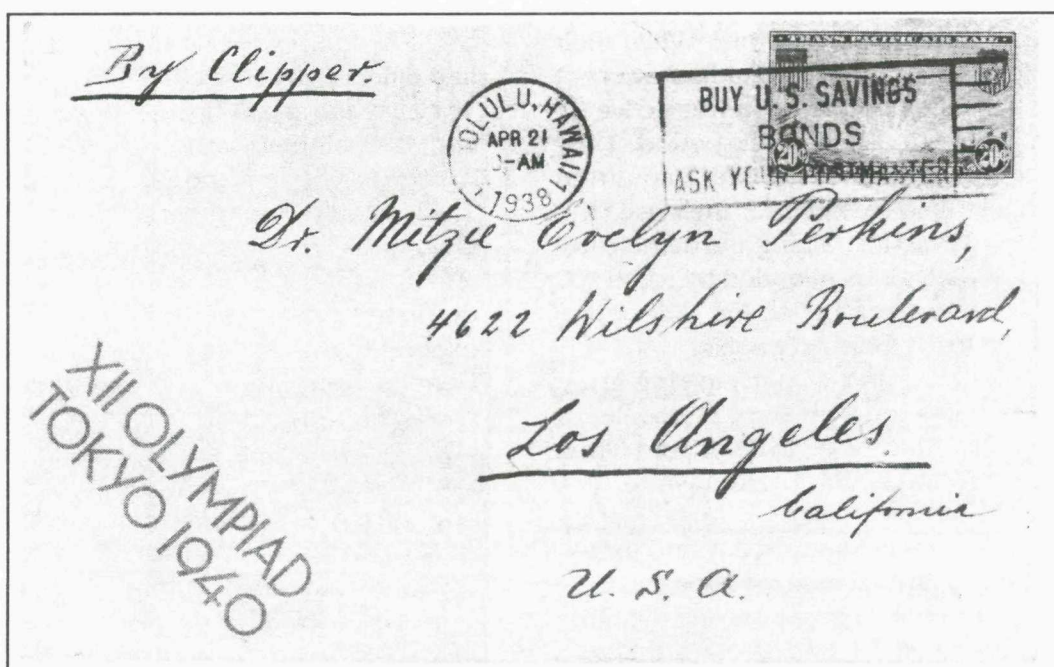


Figure 5. The organizing committee for the 1940 Olympic Games in Tokyo voted to include baseball on the program of events. Pan American Clipper cover advertising the Tokyo Olympics, postmarked April 21, 1938 from Honolulu to Los Angeles.



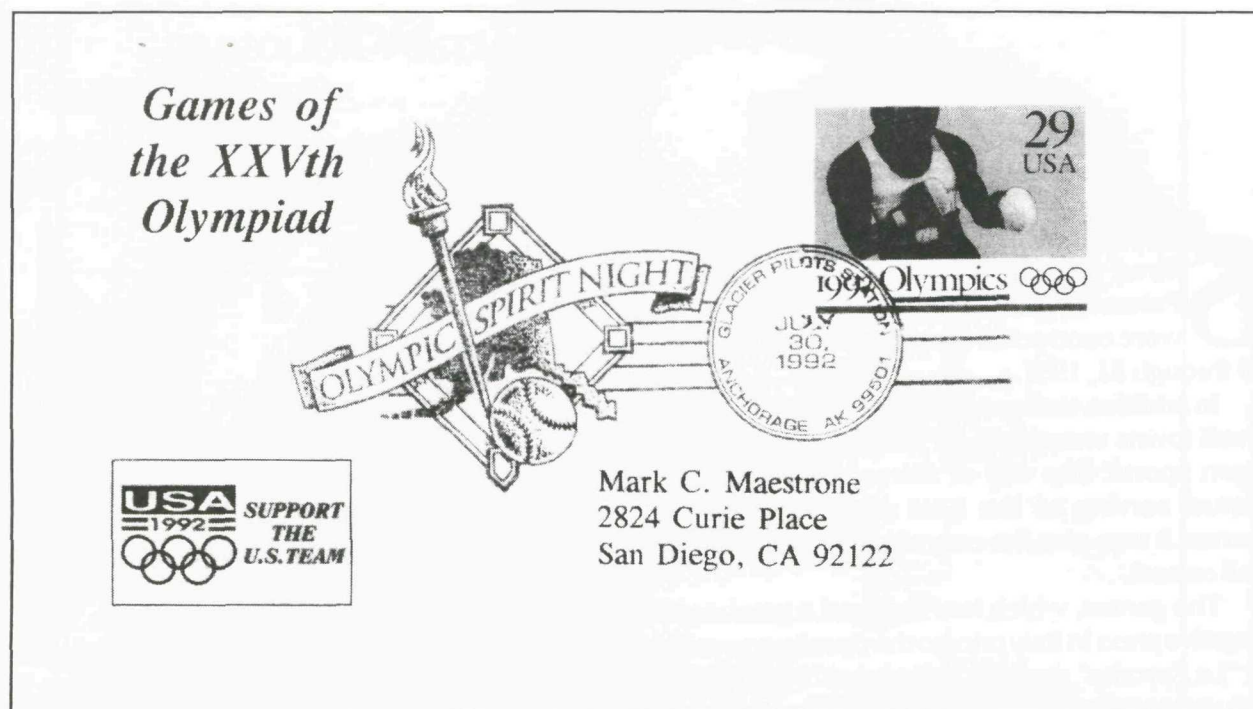


Figure 6. America's national pastime, baseball, appeared as a full-medal sport for the first time at the Barcelona Olympic Games in 1992. Special cancel for U.S.A. Spirit Night in Anchorage, Alaska, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the Olympic baseball competition, July 30, 1992.

have pleased the USABC. First, the organizing committee for the 1940 Olympics to be held in Tokyo, Japan (Figure 5), voted baseball onto their Olympic program. Second, twenty-one nations present at the Games formed the International Baseball Congress to govern amateur baseball around the world.

Unfortunately for all concerned, World War II dashed all plans for baseball as a medal sport anytime in the near future. With the transfer of the 1940 Games to Helsinki (which were not held), baseball did not achieve full medal status until the 1992 Olympics at Barcelona, Spain (Figure 6). It was a demonstration/exhibition sport at four more Olympic Games: 1956 Melbourne, 1964 Tokyo, 1984 Los Angeles, and 1988 Seoul.

#### **HOMEWARD BOUND (THERE IS LIFE AFTER BASEBALL)**

As happened with many of the American Olympic squads, the baseball team participated in post-Olympic competition. From Berlin, they journeyed to England.

In the last postcard we have of Ron's Olympic odyssey (postmarked August 19, 1936), he writes: "Arrived in Hoek, Holland tonight on way to London. Rode on the train all day from Berlin. Ron."

In London, they played two games against local teams. They beat the White City Club, 18-2 in the

first game, but lost to the West Hams team, 5 to 3 in their second game.

Ron never did play in the majors after completing his degree at Western State (Michigan) Teachers College. He went on to a career as a cereal salesman. Ron Hibbard passed away at the age of 77 on April 26, 1980 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Olympic scholars and baseball fans will hopefully remember his and his team's efforts in paving the way for our national sport to be part of the World's Greatest Athletic Spectacle – the Olympic Games. 🏆

#### **ENDNOTES**

1. Frederick W. Rubien, ed., Report of the American Olympic Committee /1936/, p. 82.
2. George Constable, The XI, XII, & XIII Olympiads: Berlin 1936, St. Moritz 1948, p. 82.
3. Rubien, p. 303.
4. Ibid.

Thanks to Conrad Klinkner for providing copies of Ron Hibbard's correspondence, and to Dr. Bill Mallon and C. Robert Paul, Jr., for additional background information on Hibbard.



# Universiade '97 – Sicily

by George E. Killian  
and Luciano Calenda

Summer Universiade '97 was held in Italy in three major cities on the island of Sicily: Palermo, Catania, and Messina. The games were conducted over the period from August 20 through 31, 1997.

In addition to these three cities, venues in other small towns were used for preliminary matches in team sports. The city of Marsala was one such venue, serving as the host of many basketball games. It was also the only city to have the basketball cancel.

The games, which had received a great deal of negative press in Italy prior to the opening ceremony at "La Favorite" stadium in the capitol city of Palermo, eventually resulted in one of the finest Summer Universiades of all time.

The international media's criticism centered around the so-called unfinished venues for certain sports. In the end, after much compromise between the games' organizers and the FISU (International Federation of University Sport: the governing body for the games), the press in the final days of the Universiade reversed course and dubbed the games highly satisfactory.

Universiade '97 set records for participation, with 133 countries represented by a grand total of 6,062 athletes, coaches and officials.

As at previous Summer Universiades, Universiade '97 in Sicily provided a philatelic bonanza for those who collect the World University Games.

Two stamps featuring athletics and basketball, two of the most popular sports in Italy, were used to commemorate this important international multi-sport event (below). The first cancellation for Universiade '97 was issued on November 30, 1996, in Catania (see accompanying table for illustrations of all the cancels).

A total of seventeen cancellations were issued during the games, highlighted by the sports of tennis, soccer, water polo, basketball, fencing, gymnastics, volleyball, athletics, swimming and diving. These sports are required at every Universiade. Other cancels commemorated the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, First Day of Issue for the two stamps, three for the Sport Stamp Exhibitions in Messina and Catania, and one paying homage to Universiade '97 from the small, quaint village of Mondello, roughly an hour from Palermo. It is interesting to note that the cancel for the opening day of the stamp exhibition in Catania cannot be found on covers bearing the Universiade stamps. This is because the stamps were not issued until August 19, 1997, while the cancel was used only on August 18. In addition to the cancels, a postal stationery card and envelope were privately overprinted for the games.












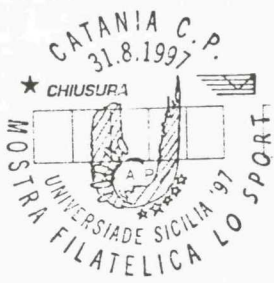




*Privately overprinted postal stationery for the Universiade '97. Above is the postal card with the Catania cancel for the opening of the Sports Stamp Exhibition. The postal envelope, below, bears the "Homage to the 19<sup>th</sup> Universiade" cancel from Partanna Mondello.*





## Cancels for Universiade '97

(Organized by city and date)

<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> November 30, 1996</p> <p>Pre-games cancel showing the Universiade '97 logo.</p>		<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> August 31, 1997</p> <p>Track &amp; Field</p>	
<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> August 18, 1997</p> <p>Opening Day of Sports Stamp Exhibition. Used only this one day. Cancel not found on Universiade '97 stamps which were issued the next day.</p>		<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> August 31, 1997</p> <p>Closing Ceremony</p>	
<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> August 21, 1997</p> <p>Fencing</p>		<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> August 31, 1997</p> <p>Closing Day of Sports Stamp Exhibition</p>	
<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> August 24, 1997</p> <p>Gymnastics</p>		<p><b>Marsala, Italy</b> August 29, 1997</p> <p>Basketball</p>	
<p><b>Catania, Italy</b> August 30, 1997</p> <p>Volleyball</p>		<p><b>Messina, Italy</b> August 26, 1997</p> <p>Swimming</p>	



## Cancels for Universiade '97 (Organized by city and date)

<b>Messina, Italy</b> August 28, 1997  Diving		<b>Palermo, Italy</b> August 26, 1997  Tennis	
<b>Messina, Italy</b> August 30, 1997  Sports Stamp Exhibition		<b>Palermo, Italy</b> August 29, 1997  Soccer	
<b>Palermo, Italy</b> August 19, 1997  First Day of Issue		<b>Palermo, Italy</b> August 30, 1997  Water Polo	
<b>Palermo, Italy</b> August 19, 1997  Opening Ceremony		<b>Partanna Mondello, Italy</b> August 24, 1997  Homage to the 19 <sup>th</sup> Universiade	

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### Help On Boxing Needed

My grandfather, Tommy Burus, was a former World Heavyweight Boxing Champion (1906-1908). Are there any stamps depicting him? Or maybe sports cards? If anyone has any information or ideas on how to proceed, please contact: Robert M. Bell, M.D., P.O. Box 672, Libertyville, IL 60048.



# 100 Years of Russian Football

by Sergey Tropin



Football in Russia celebrated its centennial this year in the old Russian capital of St. Petersburg. One hundred years ago, in September, 1897, to be precise, the St. Petersburg sports club met a team from the German Consulate. With this match, contested on a small field in the center of the city, football in Russian was born.

Great interest in this new sport ensued. Only four short years later (1901) a football league was formed in this city, the idea quickly spreading to other parts of the country. From 1901 to 1909, similar leagues sprang up in Moscow, Kiev and Odessa. By 1911, enough clubs existed that the All-Russian Football Association was founded. It became a member of the international association, now known as FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association).

The first two football clubs in St. Petersburg were Unitas and Mercur. Figure 1 shows a postcard invitation to a match between these teams on 25 April 1915 (mailed on 24 April 1915). Moscow and St. Petersburg football teams visited other towns around Russia raising interest among sports fans. In 1912, the first Russian Football Championships were conducted. In the final match, St. Petersburg defeated Moscow, 4 goals to 1.

Beginning in 1922, the national competition became the USSR Football Championships. No longer were cities pitted against each other. From the outset, each Soviet Socialist Republic sent a team (e.g., Russia, Ukraine, Trans-Caucasus, etc.).

It is not surprising that the sport's popularity launched it into the limelight of more traditional sports tournaments. In 1928, football was included as an event in the Workers' Sports Festival, or *Spartakiad*. Other nations sent workers' teams as well, including Austria, Germany, Finland and Uruguay. The first USSR stamp with a football theme was issued for the 1935 Spartakiad (Figure 2). A postal stationery cover released by the USSR postal administration on 6 June 1956 was dedicated to Spartakiad football. Figure 3 reproduces this cover which also bears both the cancellation of the 1956 Spartakiad as well as the festival cancel from the Moscow Central Stadium, 13 August 1956. The lower portion of the cancel reads: Moscow G-277 Central Stadium.



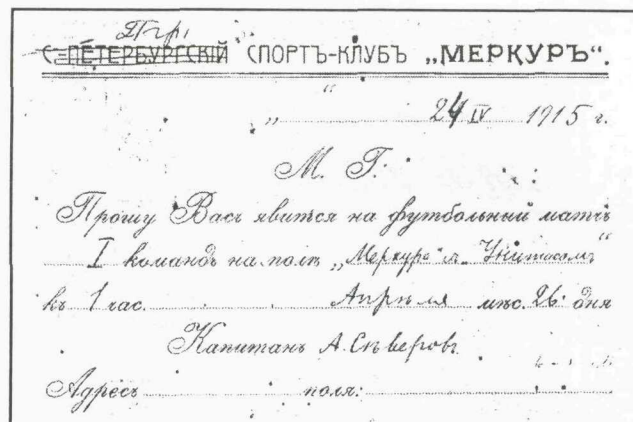
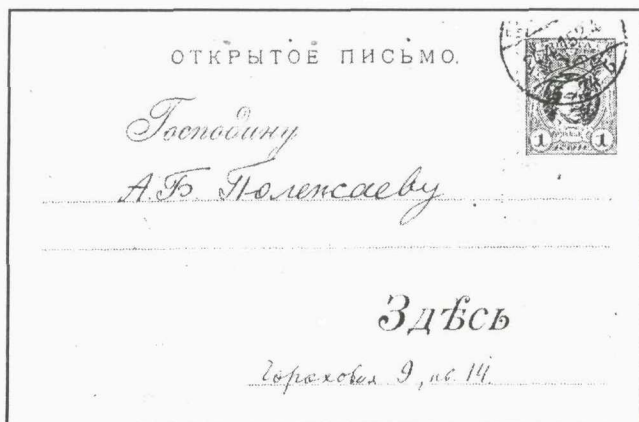


Figure 1. Front and back of a 1915 postcard inviting the recipient to a football match between Unitas and Mercur – the first football clubs in St. Petersburg.



Figure 2. Because of its growing popularity in the Soviet Union, football became an event in the Spartakiad sports festival in 1928. The first football-related stamp in the USSR was issue as part of a set for the 1935 Spartakiad.





Figure 3. A postal stationery cover for the football competition at the 1956 Spartakiad in Moscow. The special Spartakiad cancel is at top, while a Moscow Central Stadium cancel for the matches appears below.

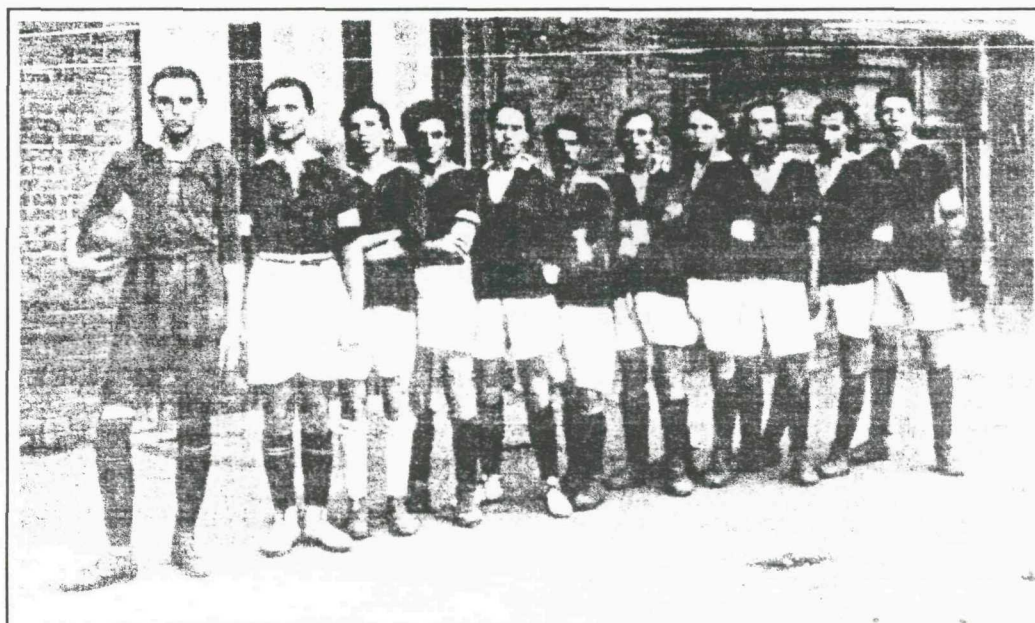


Figure 4. The Molot team from Rostov, photographed in 1937.

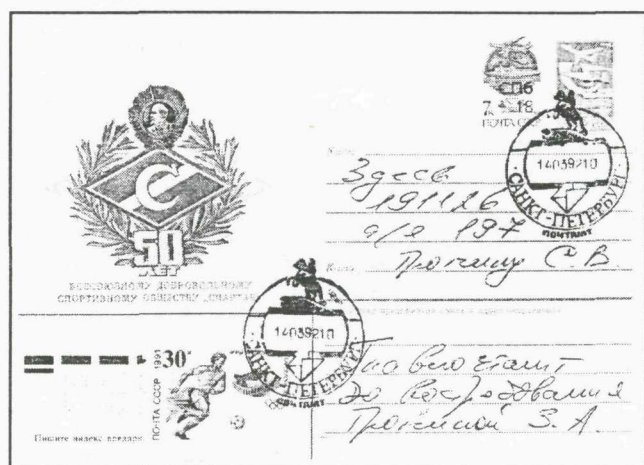




Figure 5. Football in the USSR spread to all corners of the country. 1960 commemorative cancels noting a match between clubs in Belarus and Krylya Sovetov.

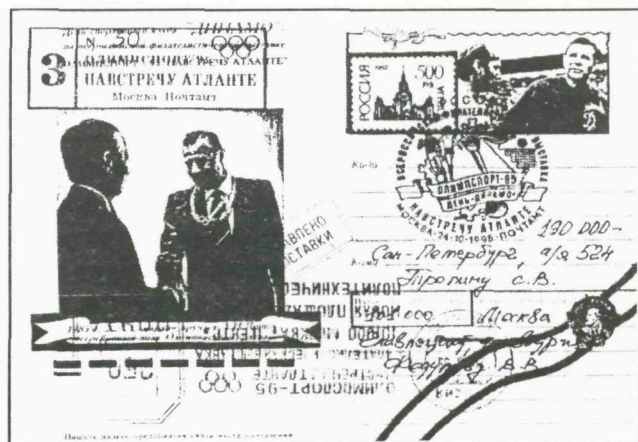
New rules for the USSR Football Championships were instituted in 1936. The competition would include only football club teams, rather than teams from each republic. A postcard from 1937 shows the Molot team from Rostov (Figure

4). The cover in Figure 5 commemorates a 1960 match between the Belarus (Minsk) and Krylya Sovetov (Kuybyshev) clubs. However, Leningrad and Moscow clubs continued to dominate the sport in the USSR. The best known football teams



Figures 6 & 7. The two most dominant football teams in Russia remain the Spartak team (left) and Dynamo team (right). Postal stationery and special cancels issued to honor the clubs.



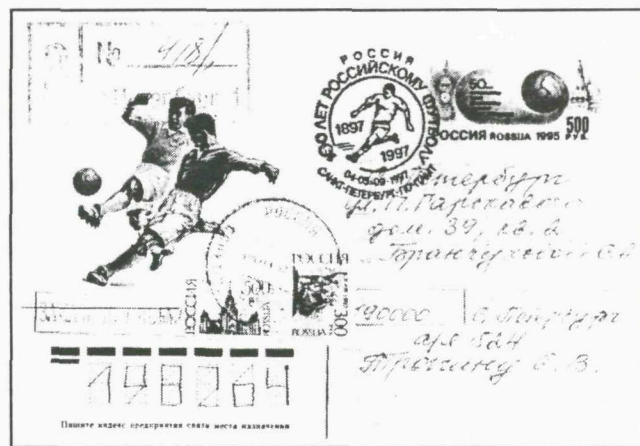


Figures 8 & 9. Both teams were further honored with two special pieces of postal stationery and commemorative cancels at the 1995 philatelic exhibition in Moscow. The cover at left, above, notes the Spartak team while the cover at right, above, is for Dynamo.

were those of the Spartak (Figure 6) and Dynamo Clubs (Figure 7). During the 1995 philatelic exhibition in Moscow, two special hand cancels on illustrated covers were dedicated to these clubs (Figure 8 and 9).

In both St. Petersburg and Moscow, special celebrations on 4-5 September 1997 marked the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Russian

football. Matches were held on the same St. Petersburg field on which, a century earlier, Russian and German teams had competed. The site is now a military facility's football stadium. The Russian post office commemorated the event by issuing an illustrated cover and providing two special hand cancels for use in Moscow and St. Petersburg (Figures 10 and 11).



Figures 10 & 11. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Russian football was honored in 1997 with a special stamp and first day cancel in Moscow (above left). At right, above, is a commemorative cancel applied on September 4-5 noting the celebrations in St. Petersburg, birthplace of football in Russia.



# BOOK REVIEW

by Richard Scott

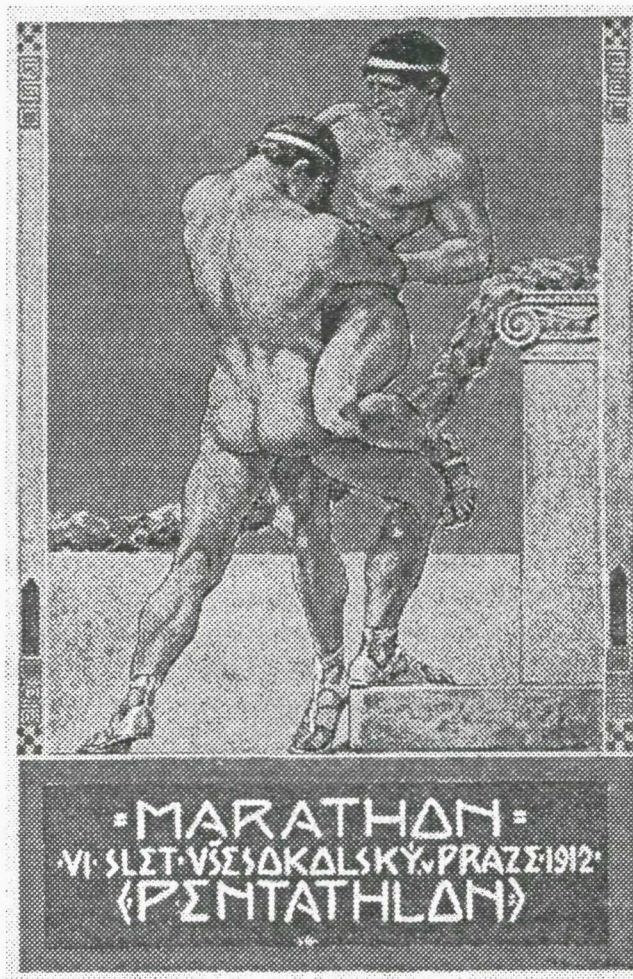
***The Sokols in Philately: Postal, Commemorative Postmarks, and Postcards***, by Brian C. Day. Published by W. A. Page, FRPS, L, Dartford, Kent, U. K., for the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain. 1996, £12.50, 74 pages (comb-bound).

The Sokols, a gymnastics society founded in Prague in 1860, combines the ideology "in a healthy body is a healthy spirit" with Czech nationalism. This monograph reviews the history of the Sokol organization, from its roots under oppressive Hapsburg rule, through independence and communist domination, to its rebirth in the modern Czech Republic. A review of the national *Slets*, or gymnastics festivals, which began in Prague in 1882, is also given. There are additional brief sections on the Sokols in Great Britain, the United States, and other countries, as well as on similar organizations in Czechoslovakia ("friendly rivals") such as the Catholic Eagles and the Turners.

As Mr. Day points out, "the Sokols grew alongside the postcard." Thus, this history is illustrated with dozens of scarce and beautiful Sokol postcards, many bearing special cancellations, as well as covers, stamps, and labels. There are "thousands of collectible items available"; the monograph shows only a fraction of these, but certainly whets the appetite!

The historical section is followed by an illustrated listing of all Sokol stamps from around the world. There is also a listing of postal stationery postal cards, special cancellations, and a selection of labels illustrated with a two-page color insert. The monograph ends with a detailed guide to relative values, using a point system with modifications for condition and use.

The writing, presentation, and illustrations are of high quality, and the content should be of great value to those interested in the history of sports and to those interested in extending sports thematic material beyond stamps alone.



*Full-color post cards with intricate designs often based on classical Greek motifs were created for the various Slets. The example above is one of many printed by "Minerva" in Prague for the VI Slet Vsesokolsky in 1912. Roller cancels, such as the one shown below for the IX Slet in 1932, were equally decorative.*





# 2002 SALT LAKE CITY UPDATE

by Leslie Gailey

The 2002 Winter Olympics may be only 1400 days away, but plans are progressing on schedule.

First the big news. The postal service is issuing a winter sports stamp for 1998, though without the Olympic rings or word "Olympic" in the design. The stamp, shown here, depicts a downhill skier. The first day of issue and city have yet to be selected, but candidates for the anticipated late-January ceremony are: Lake Placid, NY; Colorado Springs, CO; and Salt Lake City, UT. Our local philatelic society in Salt Lake is planning some activities around this event. Rest assured that when more details become available, they will be reported here.

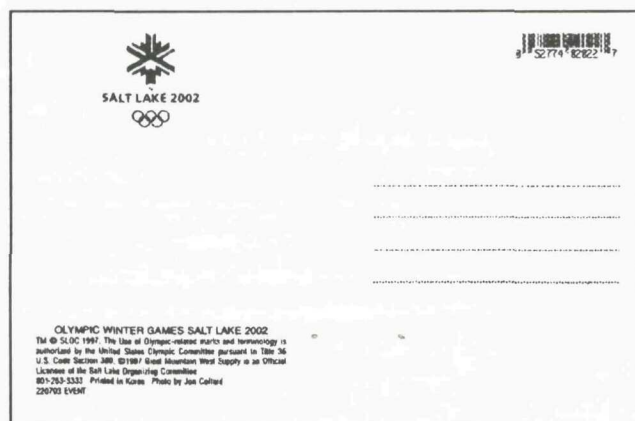
The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) hosted a Media Summit in Salt Lake City this past October during which media representatives received their first look at the Olympic venues. Athletes from various winter sports were available for interviews and photographs. They included Picabo Street, Tommy Moe, Michelle Kwan, Duncan Kennedy and Cathy Turner. A sport that appeared to receive a surprising amount of attention was curling. The athlete representative for this sport was mobbed by the media for most of the session. It is also worth mentioning that the U.S. Bobsled Olympic Trials will take place at the Utah Winter Sports Park in Bear Hollow.

The Salt Lake Organizing Committee (SLOC) has issued a series of postcards bearing the new Olympic logo (#220703 Event is shown below). One of the nice changes from previous sets of official cards is that these postcards are now normal size (4" x 6") thereby meeting the postcard rate. As with the initial bid logo series, these cards have been released in four distinct groups. Fortunately, the numbering system continues where the first series left off. The back of each postcard shows a small logo with Salt Lake 2002 and the Olympic rings underneath. Each series begins with 220500, 220600, 220700, 220800.

The final bit of news for this update concerns the designation of the 2002 Olympic Mascot. Due to time constraints and marketing concerns the mascot will not be unveiled during the closing ceremonies at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano. Anyone requiring more information may e-mail me at: [leslieg@webtv.net](mailto:leslieg@webtv.net).



*Non-Olympic downhill skiing stamp tentatively scheduled for late-January 1998.*





**Salt Lake Official Olympic Postcards**  
Series #2, © 1997 by Great Mountain West Supply

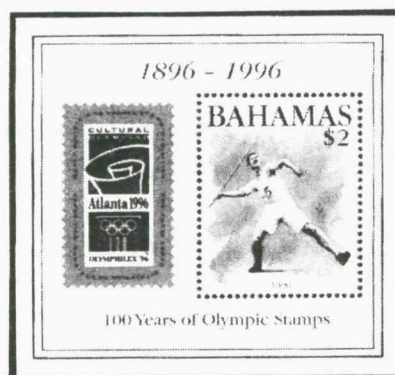
Postcard ID#	Photograph Subjects
220500 Salt Lake	Skyline and mountains
220501 Salt Lake	Mountains
220502 Salt Lake	City (night) panorama
220503 Salt Lake	Aerial view
220504 Salt Lake	City birds-eye view
220505 Salt Lake	City (night) birds-eye
220506 Salt Lake	City birds-eye view
220507 Salt Lake	City (dawn) birds-eye
220601 Wasatch	Park City (night)
220602 Wasatch	Mountains birds-eye

Postcard ID#	Photograph Subjects
220603 Wasatch	Mountains
220604 Wasatch	Mountains
220605 Wasatch	7 thumbnail views
220701 Event	Downhill skier
220702 Event	Downhill skier
220703 Event	Downhill skier
220704 Event	Slalom skier
220705 Event	Bobsled and luge
220706 Event	Skier, Ski Jumper, Speed Skater, Bobsled
220800 Alpine	Skier (vert.)
220801 Alpine	Skier (vert.)
220802 Alpine	Skier (vert.)

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# REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

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by Dorothy Crockett & Mark Maestrone

## ***Esprit: Sports et Olimpisme*** **No. 7, October 1997**

Preparations are well underway for next year's PHILFOOT France '98 exhibition, as reported in the journal of AFCOS (French Association of Olympic and Sports Collectors). Top soccer exhibits from around the world will be on display during this event which is being held in conjunction with next year's World Cup of Football. Brief articles on meters from past World Cup competitions as well as cancels and meters relating to France '98 are also provided.

Additional articles in this issue discuss philatelic emissions relating to the sports of judo and women's tennis. Commemorative coins and winner's medals from the Barcelona Olympics of 1992 are reviewed. A summation of Lille's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games (subsequently awarded to Athens), rounds out this issue.

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

## ***IMOS Journal*** **September 1997 (#95)**

This mailing from our sister society in Germany included an assortment of informative publications. As always, this included both a round-up of German language press articles on the Olympics and sports, as well as news of the society and its members.

The "information" booklet presented a 36-page summary by Thomas Lippert of philatelic material associated with the Atlanta Olympic Games. Additional material in this publication covered the "Olympic Titmouse," a glider manufactured for the 1940 Olympics, and German private-post stamps depicting bicycles and shooting dating back to 1887.

The final booklet examines German medalists at the 1972 Munich and Sapporo Olympics who have been commemorated philatelically. Illustrations of cancels, meters, and stamps predominate.

Contact: Dieter Germann, Postbox 1128, D-63534 Grosskrotzenburg, Germany. - *M.M.*

## ***Olympic Magazine*** **June 1997 (#13)**

The usual eclectic mix of articles characterizes this issue of the full-color magazine of the Olympic Museum in Lausanne. Having just completed an "Olympiad" in existence, as the magazine points out, the editors look back at highlights of its first four years.

Numerous articles focus on different aspects of the Olympic Games and sport. Included are two interviews. The first is with Dr. Thomas Bach, head of the IOC Evaluation Committee for the 2004 Olympic Games, and an Olympic medalist in fencing. Eddie Merckx, the famous Belgian cyclist, discusses his achievements in his sport.

Looking back to more ancient times, the pre-Columbian ball game of Ulama is examined through various pieces of sculpture on display at the museum. The Olympic Marathons are discussed, including the first woman to run the marathon – unofficially of course – at the 1896 Athens Games. Of particular interest to philatelists is an article on the philatelic space at the museum which is unique in the world for it is "devoted exclusively to Olympic philatelic documents and Olympic coins."

Other articles in this issue discuss Adidas (an Olympic partner), spectacular images from the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, the history of the Paralympic Games, and a review of the recent forum on Olympic Culture conducted at the museum.

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

## ***Olympsport*** **Vol. 30, #3/97**

The Prix Olympia award for the best Olympic stamp of 1996, leads off this issue of the Czech-language journal of the Czech Association of Olympic and Sports Philately. Thirteen candidates are illustrated. Topics examined in this edition cover a wide range of interests: judo, the upcoming 1998



Nagano Olympic Games, shooting, ice hockey and the 1998 World Cup of Football. Part 3 of the group's Olympic medalists in philately retrospective is also provided.

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

### ***Phila-Sport*** **July-September 1997 (#23)**

"Other" international multi-sport events are highlighted in this issue of the Italian-language journal of the Union of Sport and Olympic Philatelists (UIFOS). Luciano Calenda reports on the recently held Universiade '97 in Sicily, as well as a review of philately and the Mediterranean Games from 1951 through 1993. This is followed by Pasquale Polo's detailed article on the two Italian-held Mediterranean Games in 1963 (Naples) and 1997 (Bari). In the realm of individual sports, Valeriano Genovese analyzes thematic exhibits of tennis. Included are exhibit plans and an interesting chart outlining quantities of individual philatelic elements issued from 1900 to the present.

Regular features include news of a philatelic nature, reviews of other philatelic publications, another 24-page installment of a catalog on Olympic medalists in philately, new issue announcements, and recent commemorative sports and Olympic cancels from around the world.

Contact: UIFOS, Via dei Monti Tiburtini, 600, 00157 Rome, Italy. - *M.M.*

### ***Podium*** **October 1997 (#18)**

Published in Spanish by the Argentine sport and thematic group, this issue wraps up Buenos Aires unsuccessful bid for the 2004 Olympic Games with a brief look at additional philatelic material associated with the city's candidature. Various short articles and news items deal with yachting, wind surfing, the 2<sup>nd</sup> East Asian Games held in Pusan, Korea, automobile racing, judo, and rugby. A particularly interesting piece discusses Jeannette Campbell, silver medalist in the 100 meter freestyle swimming event at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. A special postal cancellation from the Argentine postal administration honors this Argentine Olympian.

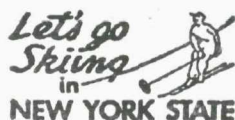
Contact: Jorge A. Casalia, C.C. 30 Suc. 19, C.P. 1419, Buenos Aires, Argentina. - *M.M.*

### ***Tee Time*** **September 1997 (Vol. 3, #3)**

This issue of the quarterly International Philatelic Golf Society's newsletter illustrates many new golf cancellations from around the world, along with recently issued golf stamps from Tanzania, Guyana and Nevis. One article suggests another way of collecting golf stamps – by obtaining unused envelopes from organizations which display golf-related corner cards on their stationery and having these franked with golf stamps, then canceled with golf-related postmarks. Another article reproduces stamps featuring Babe Zaharias and discusses her athletic achievements. Additional information about her career appears in a second, shorter article.

Contact: Cora Collins, P.O. Box 2183, Norfolk, VA 23501-2183, U.S.A. - *D.C.*

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# NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

---

by Margaret Jones

## New Members

2107 Terry N. Williams, 701 Huntington Road, Athens, GA 30606-1851 USA. He is an university faculty member. **1996 Olympics, 1996 Paralympics.** (La Porta)

2108 John J. Blaisdell, 1633 Oak View Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707-1221 USA. John is a freelance photographer. **General collector, including Olympics; Figure Skating, Women's Gymnastics, Women's Tennis.** (Marsha J. Lopez)

2109 Anatoly Kizhner, 405 Raritan Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305-2345 USA. He is an estimator. **Olympics only.** (Maestrone-WWW)

2110 Candis Milewski, 1848 - 19th Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192 USA. (Jones)

## REINSTATED

1305 Rick Whyte, 1175 W. Base Line Road, Claremont, CA 91711-2146 USA.

## ADDRESS CHANGES

Cary Frederick, 1896 Beacon Street, #2, Brookline, MA 02146-1901.

## RESIGNED

Aleksander Brodsky

**Dropped: 61**

**Total Membership, October 31, 1997 = 370**

## 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 (markspi@internetmci.com).

Hammond, Brian	wolympic@aol.com
Lippert, Thomas	thomas.imos.ospc@t-online.de
Scott, Richard	rickscott@worldnet.att.net
Slater, John	sacachet@aol.com
White, Michael	mwhite@saipan.com

## Exhibit Awards

### NATIONAL SHOWS

BALPEX 97, Hunt Valley, Maryland. Charles J. Ekstrom III won a vermeil for "Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps."

OMAHA STAMP SHOW, Nebraska. Alice J. Johnson received a vermeil, AAPE honor and ATA gold for "Figure Skating."

SESCAL 97, Los Angeles, CA. Gary & Holly Gibson won a gold, plus an ATA gold, for "The Dimensions of Gymnastics."

STAMPSHOW 97, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Patricia Ann Loehr received a vermeil, ATA bronze and the AAPE creativity award for "The World of Golf." Juan Carlos Santacruz received a silver for "World Cups."

### REGIONAL SHOWS

VICTOPICAL 1997, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Vinci de Leonardo won an ATA second place award for "Runners & Blades."

### **SPI Certificate Awarded at NAYSEC 97**

The SPI Certificate was awarded Jason Vulgammott at the 1997 North American Youth Stamp Exhibiting Competition (NAYSEC). His exhibit was entitled "Kings of the Diamond." Jason is 15 and has no local mentors. His grandmother helps as she can, but she lives in another state.

It would be nice for all to write letters of congratulations to Jason, identifying yourselves as SPI members. I urge those whose specialty is baseball to write letters of encouragement and ask how each of you can help him. His address is Jason Vulga-



mott, Box 47, La Moillie, Illinois 61330.

If there have been sports and Olympic-related awards given at exhibitions in your area, please send the information to Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63109-1758. If any of the winners are not SPI members, please give them membership applications or send me their addresses so that I may invite them to join.

For information regarding SPI awards which might be given at a future exhibition in your area, please contact Margaret A. Jones, as above.

### New Exhibition Publication

Stanley Gibbons Publications has begun a quarterly newspaper entitled International Stamp & Exhibition News. It is billed as the first international newspaper devoted to philatelic exhibiting.

The summer issue included articles giving worldwide, UK, and US news; international show reviews as well as show previews; auction news; and reading materials.

Subscription rates are as follows: £6.50 or US\$10 (Great Britain); overseas surface £10.00 or US\$15.50; overseas airmail to zone 1 (Middle East, Americas, India, Africa, SE Asia) £16.50 or US\$25.50; overseas airmail to zone 2 (Australia, Japan, China) £18.50 or US\$28.50. Please indicate whether you are a dealer or private collector.

For more information, or to subscribe, please write: Gibbons Publications, Subscription Department, 5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SH England. They may also be contacted by fax (+44 1425 470247) or by e-mail (sales@stangib.demon.co.uk).

### Sports Stamps Available

Specialty items from broken sets, particularly strong in skiing. Send SASE with interests for personalized list to: Duane Zinkel, 2323 Hollister Avenue, Madison, WI 53705.



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# NEW STAMP ISSUES

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by Dennis Dengel

**Albania:** 17 July 1997. Mediterranean Games. 20 & 30 lek, runners; 100 lek s/s, track and field athletes.

**Bahrain:** 21 August 1997. Ninth Men's Junior World Volleyball Championship. 80, 100, 200 and 250 fils, a symbolic design and picture of Emir of Bahrain.

**Benin:** 1997. 1998 World Cup Soccer Championships in France. 135, 150, 200, 270, 300, 400 francs, 1,000fr s/s, various soccer scenes.

**Bosnia-Herzegovina:** 15 June 1997. Mediterranean Games. 40 dinars, emblem of games; 130d, athletes.

**Bulgaria:** 25 July 1997. Modern Pentathlon World Champ., Sofia. 60 leva, show jumping; 80l, fencing; 100l, running; 120l, swimming; 200l, shooting.

**Burkina Faso:** 1996. Olympic Gold Medal for Andre Agassi. Overprint on 1995 400 franc Agassi stamp.

**Canada:** 20 September 1997. 25th anniversary of the Canada-USSR hockey matches. Two 45 cent stamps showing epic moments during the matches.

**Czech Republic:** 27 August 1997. European Swimming and Diving Championship. 11 koruny, diver.

**Fiji:** 8 October 1997. Fiji Winners of the Rugby World Cup. Ten 50 cent stamps, team members; \$1.00 team photograph.

**The Gambia:** 9 May 1997. Juventus World Cup Soccer Championship, 100th anniversary. Pane of six se-tenant 5 dal stamps: 1897 team, Juventus emblem, Giampiero Boniperti, Roberto Bettega, European/South American Cup.

**Ghana:** 27 June 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. Two panes of nine se-tenant 400 cedi stamps: women swimmers and divers, soccer players. Two 2,000c s/s, women swimmers; 3,000c s/s, boxer.

**Grenada:** 26 June 1997. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics. 45 cents, luge; 75 cents, speed skater; \$2.00, male figure skater; \$3.00, slalom skier; pane of 9

se-tenant \$1.00 stamps, sports; two \$6.00 s/s.

**Grenada-Grenadines:** 26 June 1997. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics. 90 cents, downhill skier, \$2.00, luge, \$3.00, male figure skater; \$5.00, speed skater; pane of 9 se-tenant \$1.00 stamps, various sports, two \$6.00 s/s.

**Greece:** 11 July 1997. Sixth IAAF World Track and Field Championships. 20 drachmae, 2 runners; 100dr, statue of Mercury; 140dr, high jumper; 170dr, hurdler; 550dr, stadium.

**Guyana:** 1 July 1997. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics. \$30, \$35, \$60, \$200 values, plus a pane of 6 se-tenant \$30 values, 2 panes of four se-tenant \$60 values, a \$300 s/s and a \$600 s/s. All stamps and souvenir sheets feature present and past Olympic medalists.

**Hong Kong:** 16 June 1997. Paralympics. \$10.00 souvenir sheet showing a view of Hong Kong. The border shows paralympic athletes.

**Indonesia:** 9 September 1997. 19th Sea Games. A se-tenant pair of 300 rupiah stamps showing mascot, rings, torch runner and flags of participating nations. Pair of 700rp stamps: runner, discus thrower, long jumper; booklet containing above stamps.

**Italy:** 19 August 1997. Italian Sport Universiade, 450 lire, basketball; 800l, high jump.

**Korea, South:** 31 May 1997. 2002 Korea World Cup Soccer. Two 150 won stamps: match, picture of Jules Rimet. 2 s/s: same design.

**Liechtenstein:** 1 December 1997. 1998 Nagano Winter Olympics. 70 rappen, cross country skier; 90rp, slalom skier; 1.80 franc, downhill skier.

**Pakistan:** 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. S/s of 4: Pierre de Coubertin and athletes.

**Tanzania:** 1996. 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympics. 100 shilling, tennis; 150/-, baseball; 200/-, soccer; 300/-, boxing.



# COMMEMORATIVE STAMP CANCELS

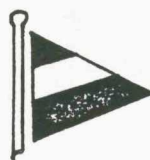
by Mark Maestrone

## 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 AUGUST-NOVEMBER 1997

Auto Racing: 97Y22-273.  
Basketball: 97Y05-751.  
Cycling: 97907-803, 97920-136,  
97928-43410, 97928-43420,  
97X25-789.  
Football: 97906-361, 97906-531,  
97911-908, 9790-139,  
97920-852, 97X04-530,  
97X31-712, 97Y01-958.  
Golf: 97925-117, 97X02-195,  
97X27-117, 97Y20-294.  
Hockey, Ice: 97X16-295,  
97Y19-152.  
Horse Racing: 97906-231,  
97920-134.  
Olympics, Summer: 97913-712.  
Running: 97913-712, 97918-837,  
97X05-681.  
Yachting: 97830-129.



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97830-Upper St. Regis, NY 30

### COLONIAL DOWNS



97906-231 New Kent, VA 6



MONTAPEX '97  
MONTAPEX STATION  
SEPTEMBER 6, 1997  
MONTGOMERY AL 36119

97906-361 Montgomery, AL 6



97906-531 Lake Geneva, WI 6-7

Artwork Unavailable  
Boulder Bicycle Classic Station

97907-803 Boulder, CO 7



97911-908 Long Beach, CA 11-14



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97913-712 Monroe, LA 13



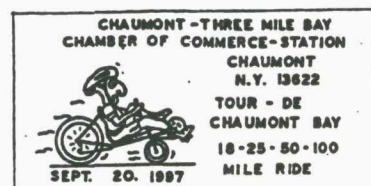
IDAHO WOMENS FITNESS  
Celebration  
STATION  
SEP 18, 1997 BOISE ID 83708

97918-837 Boise, ID 18-19



Equine Center Station  
Morrisville, NY 13408

97920-134 Morrisville, NY 20



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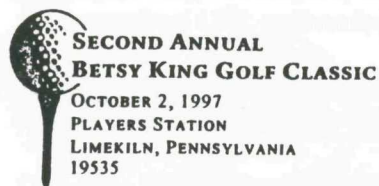
97925-117 Babylon, NY 25



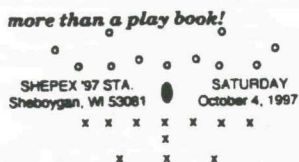
928-43410 Clyde, OH 28



97928-43420 Fremont, OH 28



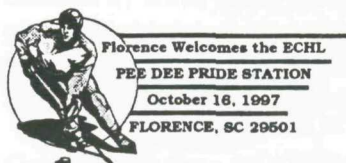
97X02-195 Limekiln, PA 2-5



97X04-530 Sheboygan, WI 4



97X05-681 Omaha, NE 5



97X16-295 Florence, SC 16



97X25-789 Warda, TX 25-26



97X27-117 Northport, NY 27



97X31-712 Grambling, LA 31



97Y01-958 Sacramento, CA 1-2



97Y05-751 Mesquite, TX 5



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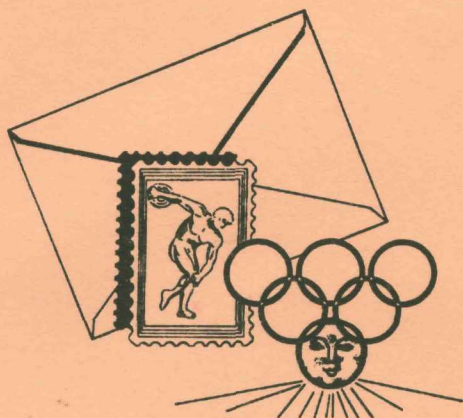
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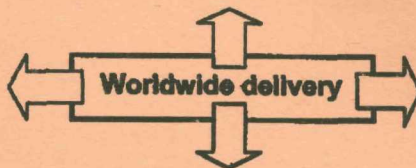
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