JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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Usage of the 1924 French Olympic Stamps

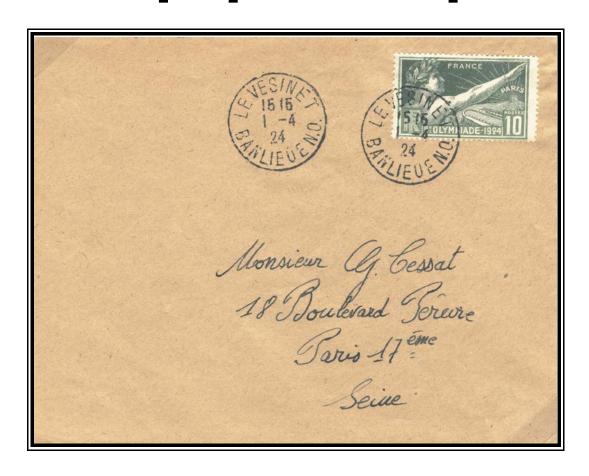


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1924 OLYMPICS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

Nominations Open For SPI Elections

Nominations are now open for all offices (President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer) and the Board of Directors of Sports Philatelists International. Any member in good standing wishing to run for a position is invited to submit his or her name to the Nominations Chairman, Bernard McGovern, no later than May 1, 2002. Ballots will be included with the Summer issue of the journal which will be mailed in early June.

> Bernard McGovern 2107 Marianna Street Tampa, FL 33612

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OLYMPHILEX 2004

The latest word is that there will be an OLYM-PHILEX 2004 competitive philatelic exhibition in Athens, Greece during the upcoming 2004 Olympic Games. The exhibition is scheduled to open Thursday, August 12 (the day before the Olympic Opening Ceremonies) and continue through Sunday, August 22 – an 11-day event altogether. Information regarding applications for exhibiting, designation of commissioners, etc. is not yet available.

Robert de Violini

On January 15, 2004, longtime SPI member Robert (Bob) de Violini passed away suddenly at the age of 74.

Robert was born May 11, 1929, in Los Angeles. A 1956 graduate of UCLA, he retired in 1986 with 35 years of federal service as a meteorologist-climatologist. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War.

It was Bob's philatelic involvement for which he will be long remembered, especially by those of us in the Olympic and sports philately community. He was the volunteer organizer and executive director of OLYMPHILEX '84 held as part of the Olympic Arts Festival during the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. In 1988, Bob served as U.S. Commissioner for OLYMPHILEX '88 in Seoul, South Korea. He was also the secretary for PACIFIC '97 in San Francisco where he oversaw the first international display of philatelic computer software.

A firm believer in the value of knowledge gained through philatelic literature, Bob was actively involved in the APS Writers Unit as well as promoting literature exhibitions as an organizer and literature judge. In fact, I first met Bob when I began editing this journal back in the late 1980's. He was always a font of information and helped greatly in creating a first-rate publication.

The Federated Stamp Club of Southern California presented him with its Distinguished Philatelic Service award in 1984; the Arizona State Philatelic Hall of Fame recognized him with the Phoenix Award in 1987. In 1997, the America Philatelic Society presented him with its Luff Award for service to the

Sports Philatelists International would like to extend its deepest condolences to his wife, Lois Evans-de Violini and his entire family.

The NEW and improved SPI web site is located at: http://www.sportstamps.org

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Figure 1. First Day of Issue dated April 1, 1924 for the first two stamps from LE VERINET / BANLIEUE N.O. post office.

Usage of the 1924 French Olympic Stamps

by Dale Lilljedahl

hile both the development and printing of a stamp make interesting studies, they are only the beginning of the life of a postage stamp. After all these postal objects were created for the transmittal of mail and their use in that capacity is the chief story.

Although the four 1924 French Olympic stamps were only in service approximately six months, they have left a first-rate legacy of postal usage. The only way to appreciate that legacy is to study the stamps on cover with their various rates and destinations.

This article intends to provide useful background information to aid the collector in his study of the 1924 French Olympic stamps.

The first part covers several special subjects concerning their use such as first days and perfins, while the last half details the numerous postal rates in effect in 1924.

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

The first day of issue is well established, but a few philatelic references have spread some misinformation. The two stamps created for interior use – the 10c for postcards and the 25c for letters – were issued on April 1, 1924. The two foreign rate stamps were issued on May 23, 1924. Of course the rate changes on March 25 meant that all but the 25c had no definite tax to pay.

All sources agree that the 10c and 25c stamps were issued on April 1, 1924, but there is some disagreement on the issue date of the 30c and 50c values. General catalogs, such as *Scott*, list all four values as issued on April 1; *Marianne*⁹ lists the 30c as having been issued on that day instead of May 23. The lack of known uses of the two foreign rate stamps prior to May 23 supports that day of issue. Trory² and Heiko Volk⁵ both list May 25, 1924 as the issue date for the two later stamps, but this is prob-

ably a typographical error by Trory that was repeated by Volk. Ample examples on cover on the May 23 date exist to confirm its authenticity.

FIRST DAY CANCELLATIONS

Although there was no official First Day post office the stamps were used at a number of different post offices on the day they were issued. Many of those are philatelic creations clearly marked "Premier Jour," so the first day of issue was clearly a concern to the stamp collectors of the era. The following list is by no means complete, but the existence of each has been confirmed.

10c value; April 1, 1924

- 1. BORDEAUX / LES CHAMRONS 18
- 2. CHATELLERAULT / VIERBE 21
- 3. FRETIGNEY/ HTE SAOVE 18
- 4. LE VERINET / BANLIEUE N.O. 1
- 5. NANCY CENTRAL / MTHE ET MLLE 21
- 6. PARIS ** / DIDBAO ²³
- 7. PARIS / AFFRANCHISSEMENT 24
- 8. PARIS/ DEPART (Olympic publicity cancel) 19
- 9. PARIS 00 / HOTEL DEPOSTES 18
- 10. PARIS 22 / R. TAI BOUT 28
- 11. PARIS 33 / R. BLEUE 18, 20

25c value; April 1, 1924

- 1. BOURDEAUX / LS ??? ³⁰
- 2. FRETIGNEY/ HTE SAOVE 18
- 3. LE VERINET / BANLIEUE N.O. 1, 18 (Figure 1)
- 4. MAUBERGE / NORD ²¹
- 5. NANCY CENTRAL / MTHE ET MLLE 21
- 6. PARIS / AFFRANCHISSEMENT 24
- 7. PARIS 31 / CHAMBRE DES DEPUTES 29
- 8. PARIS/ DEPART (Oly. publicity cancel) 12, 18, 19
- 9. PARIS / GARE SAINT LAZARE (Olympic publicity cancel) 19
- 10. PARIS 00 / HOTEL DEPOSTES 18
- 11. PARIS 33 / R. BLEUE 18, 20
- 12. PARIS 22 / R. TAI BOUT 28

30c value; May 23, 1924

- 1. PARIS / AFFRANCHISSEMENT ²⁵
- 2. PARIS R.P./ A E FRANCAISIS ¹
- 3. PARIS 51 / R. DE PROVENCE 1

50c value; May 23, 1924

- 1. PARIS / AFFRANCHISSEMENT 1, 25
- 2. PARIS 51 / R. DE PROVENCE 1

EARLY USE

The 10c value is known used on March 31, 1924, one day before its official release. So far two post offices have been identified the NANCY – GARE / MEURTAE ET MILLE post office¹⁸ and the LUZARCH-ES / SEIN ET OISE Post Office.^{12, 17} Both are from the provinces where official control is a little harder to maintain.

MAXIM CARD

A maxim or maximum card is defined as a commercially available postcard where the stamp is posted to the picture side of the postcard on the first day of issue. Ideally the picture should be in concordance with the theme of the stamp, although



Figure 2 Maxim card of the 30c value on a postcard of the Milo of Croton statue displayed in the Louvre with the PARIS / AFFRANCHISSMENT post office cancel of May 23, 1924. Included is a rare Olympic Village hand cancellation.

not a reproduction of the stamp design. Maxim cards have been popular in Europe for years, and can be used in exhibitions if they follow the FIP regulations.

An elderly Parisian stamp collector made about 30 maxim cards on the May 23, 1924, first day of issue ¹³ for the 30 c Milo of Croton, and later had some of them canceled again on July 15, 1924 with the Olympic Village commemorative cancellation. ¹ (Figure 2). The stamp was placed on a photo postcard of the "Milo of Croton" statue that is displayed in the Louvre Museum in Paris.

The 25c stamp can be found on a postcard with the July 7, 1924 Olympic Village cancel. ^{22, 26, 27} The card has a photo of the "Winged Victory of Samothrace" statue that currently sits on the stair landing in the Louvre Museum. Since it does not have the April 1, 1924 first day cancellation, it is technically not a maxim card, but is still an interesting piece.

PERFINS

In the age before postal meters became the postage of choice for businesses, it was common for companies to punch holes in their postage stamps to discourage pilferage or misuse by their employees. The holes were typically the initials of the company, but could also be in the form of a design or holes placed on a specific part of the stamp. Perfins could be produced by both private companies as well as government entities. Since registration with the post office is not required, there is no official inventory.

Despite their short length of validity the Olympic issues were used as perfins, but the number of different entities using them has not been recorded. The following inventory is a start, but only a start. All examples listed below have been confirmed by the



Figure 3. A selection of perfins used on the Olympic stamps.

author who would appreciate information on additional companies. It is no surprise that the 25c and 50c values seem to have the most examples since the other two stamps were created for post-cards. The company names have been identified from Timbers Perfores, France et Colonies published by the Association Nationale des Collectionneurs de Timbres Perfores. ¹⁰

10 cent

- 1. BP Banque Privee
- 2. EL Etablissement P. Linet
- 3. K&K Kieffe et Cie
- 4. TH Thompson-Houston

25 cent

- 1. AA Alphonse Argod
- 2. ACF A. Combe Et Fils
- 3. AW A. Watson
- 4. BP Banque de Paris
- 5. BP Banque Privee
- 6. BPN Banque des Pays de Nord
- 7. BRC B. Roberty et Cie
- 8. CC Credit Commercial de France
- 9. CC Credit Industrial & Commercial
- 10. CC Continental SA de Caoutchouc Manufacture
- 11. CL Credit Lyonnais
- 12. CN Comptor National D"Escompte
- 13. CN Credit du Nord
- 14. CO Credit de L'Ouest
- 15. CR Champenios-Rambeaux
- 16. DF Raffinere De Petrole Desmarais
- 17. GI Greles & Incendie
- 18. GT Guaranty Trust
- 19. LB Louis Beriot
- 20. PG Pierre Girardin
- 21. RB R. Borniche
- 22. SP Souzy

30 cent

- BFI Banque France et Italie Pour Amerique Du Sud
- 2. BJ Belle Jardiniere
- 3. BP Banque Prive
- 4. CI Credit Industrial
- 5. CN Comptor NationalD"Escompte
- 6. EM E. Meynadier
- 7. EM Epargne Mutuelle

50 cent

1. AL – Acieries de Longwy

- 2. BC Banque Saurel Coste
- 3. BIC Banque Franco-Chinoise Pour Commercial Industrie
- 4. BP Banque Privee
- 5. CC Credit Commercial de France
- 6. CI Credit Lyonnais
- 7. CL Credit Lyonnais
- 8. EIW Ets Weis, Spira & Cie
- 9. ETP Ecole Speciale Des Travaux Publics
- 10. GN La Nation
- 11. JHC J. Hudson et Cie
- 12. MK Michell Et Kimbel
- 13. MV Maurice Chaumette
- 14. PC Papeteries Prioux
- 15. TC&S Thomas Cook and Son

SPECIMENS

The specimens referred to here are stamps distributed to members of the Universal Postal Union for identification purposes (or to the press for publicity) and overprinted with the word "SPECI-



Figure 4. The May 23, 1924 issues on quadrille paper overprinted "SPECIMEN" in black.

MEN" or equivalent word such as "Muenster" in German. France uses the word "SPECIMEN". All four stamps are confirmed overprinted in black, and the set is mounted on quadrille paper¹ (Figure 4). Previously it was reported that only the two stamps



Figure 5. Half sheet from the Madagascar Postal Administration with the 30c and 50c stamps tied by red handcancels.

issued on April 1 (10c and 25c) exist overprinted "SPECIMEN", ^{5, 6} but new information has come to light.

The two stamps issued on May 23 also exist on one of the sheets from the archives of the Madagascar Post Office^{1, 15} (Figure 5). They are affixed to half of a bordered sheet, and tied by a red Madagascar handcancel reading "POSTES ET TELEGRAPHES/MADAGASCAR/COLLECTION DE BERNE." Below the stamps is the signature of the Postal Director, Deeachy, acknowledging their receipt. The Uruguay 1924 Olympic stamps are also known on a sheet from Madagascar, so it is possible the first two French Olympic stamps exist in a similar fashion.

IMPERFORATES ON COVER

One of the 50c imperforate sheets found its way to a local post office, and four covers are known to have actually

passed through the mail. At least three were mailed from Epinal, a town east of Paris in the Vosges region that borders Germany, and are identified here. One is locally addressed cover with a single 50c imperforate and a July 27, 1924 "EPINAL-R. THIERS / VOSGES" cancellation. 14 The second is another local cover dated August 13, 1924 with a single 50c stamp tied by a "EPINAL-R. THIERS / VOSGES" cancel 7 (Figure 6). A third cover to Nancy, France has the 50c imperforate along with an additional 10c stamp with a July 4, 1924 "EPINAL / VOSGES" cancellation. A fourth cover is reported from the Briey post office dated September 21, 1924. It is the only cover reported as registered and with two of the 50c imperforates.

LAST DAY OF SALE

The last day of sale for the French stamps (not including the colony overprints) was July 31, 1924.^{8,} This is two months prior to the last day of postal validity. The same two-month period is used by the sources that cite one of the incorrect dates for the end of validity. The two-month period must have been standard during the time period.

END OF POSTAL VALIDITY

The 1924 Olympic stamps had a very short period

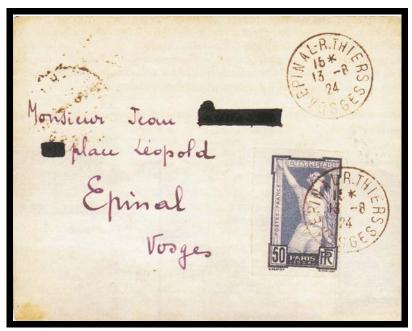


Figure 6. Local cover dated August 13, 1924 with a single 50c imperforate stamp tied by "EPINAL-R. THIERS / VOSGES" hand cancel.

of validity. ^{8,11} The last day for use was September 30, 1924 as set forth by the French Chamber of Deputies. That means the 10c and 25c values were valid for a total of 183 days, and the other two stamps were valid for only 131 days. Despite those extremely short periods of use we are fortunate to have available a rich variety of usages.

A lot of confusion exists about the end of postal validity. The *Marianne* catalog⁹ maintains that all four stamps were withdrawn from sale on November 1, 1924, and were declared postally invalid on December 31, 1924. Heiko Volk⁴ agrees that the stamps were declared postally invalid on December 31, 1924, but gives September 30, 1924 as the last day of sale. All this confusion probably results from the change in the original proposal sent to the legislature.

On June 19, 1923, Alexandre Millerand, President of the Republic of France, presented a proposal to the Chamber of Deputies to authorize the printing of the Olympic stamps. His proposal specified a date of December 31, 1924 as the end of postal validity, and as noted above, a number of sources quote this date. However, the final bill passed on January 17, 1924 changed the end of the period of validity to the September 30 date that was enforced by the French postal administration. Undoubtedly this change was not uncovered when the early research was conducted on the stamps.



Figure 7. Postage due of 20c added to pay the charge for using the 10c Olympic stamp after September 30, 1924.

POSTALLY INVALID USAGE

For the first few months after September 30 the French post office was diligent in its enforcement of the ban. Covers exist with postage due stamps added to signify that the amount of postage was inadequate due to the application of the 1924 Olympic stamps (Figure 7). However, the diligence eventually faded and the stamps passed through the post unnoticed (Figure 8). The use of the 25c value

continued into the 1940's. Neither of these uses are common, but make an interesting end to the saga of the 1924 Olympic stamps.

PART 2: 1924 FRENCH POSTAL RATES

This rate information does not include certain obscure rates such as the Braille letters (Ceco-



Figure 8. Cover from 1937 using the 25c Olympic stamp without reference to its invalid status.

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gramme) and bulk mail. Both have a low probability of having used the Olympic stamps. The rates were gleaned from the following books:

Les Tarifs Postaux Français 1627-1969, by Jean-Francois Brun, printed by Editions Loisirs et Culture.

Tables of French Postal Rates 1849 to Date, by Derek Richardson, printed by The France and Colonies Philatelic Society of Great Britain, 1996.

Domestic Rates

1. Letters and Closed Packets (Lettres et Paquets Clos) (Figure 9)

Date	0- 20g	20- 50g	50- 100g	Per 100g	1.5kg max
01Apr1920	.25	.40	.50	+.15	1
25Mar1924	.25	.45	.60	+.20	3.4

2. Postcards (Cartes Postales)

Date	Std.	Illust. ¹ (Picture Postcard)		
		Std. 5 wds ²		Date & Sign³
14Jul1922	.20	.10	.10	.10
25Mar1924	.20	.15	.10	.10

Notes:

- 1. Illustrated (or picture) postcards were given a reduced rate.
- 2. The reduced rate was used if the message was limited to 5 words, and the card was marked "Imprime."
- 3. If only the address, signature and date were included, this reduced rate was applied.



Figure 9. Domestic cover mailed 4 August 1924 with the rare handstamp "CHARGE" (in black) indicating the contents were insured.

3. Printed Matter and Non-Urgent letters (Imprime)

A. Printed Matter sent under wrapper: a wrapper is a flat sheet or strip of paper, open at both ends that can be folded and sealed around a newspaper, periodical and advertisement.

Date	0- 30g	30- 50g	50- 100g	Per 100g	Max.
01Apr1920	.03	.05	.15	+.15	3kg
16Jul1925	.05	.10	.15	+.15	3kg

B. Printed Matter in unsealed envelopes: The envelopes must be left unsealed to allow inspection of the contents.

Date	0-50g	50- 100g	Per 100g	Max.
01Apr1920	.05	.15	+.15	3kg
16Jul1925	.10	.15	+.15	3kg

C. Urgent Printed Matter: Starting March 25, 1924, add .05 cents for urgent mail irrespective of rate.

4. Pneumatic Tube Mail (Pneus, Pneumatique)

Date	Letter-	I	Envelopes	3
	card	0-7g	7-15g	15-30g
01Apr1920	.60	.60	1.00	1.50
25Mar1924	.75	.75	1.25	2.00

Notes: Additional services include: receipt of posting, advice of delivery, insurance and registration. See the appropriate section for these additional tariffs. Special pneumatic envelopes and lettercards were printed during the early twenties.

5. Newspapers and Periodicals

Date	Туре	0- 60g	60- 75g	Per 25g
30Jun1923	Gen, Loc ½, Rou	.01	.02	+.01
	Gen, Loc ½, Non-Rou	.02	.03	+.01

Notes:

- 1. Gen: general, not addressed to the same department or a contiguous one.
- 2. Loc ½: to calculate the local tariff, divide the general tariff by two.
- 3. Rou: routing entails sorting and bundling all the newspapers by locality and Post office.
- 4. Non-Rou: non-routed tariff.

6. Registration (Recommande)

Registration fee was in addition to the postage rate.

Date	Registration Fee			
	Letter CP ¹	VD ²	Letter ³	OPR ⁴
14Jul1922	.35	.50	1	.25
25Mar1924	-	-	.60	.40

Notes:

- 1. CP = Cartes Postales (postcards).
- 2. VD = Valeurs Declarees (Insurance).
- 3. Starting on March 25, 1924 the same registration fees were charged for letters, insured letters, sealed packets, and postcards franked at their full rate.
- 4. OPR = Objects affranchi a Prix Reduits (items franked at reduced prices such as printed matter).

7. Insurance (Valeurs Declarees)

The Insurance fee was in addition to both postage and registration. Insured letters would be marked "CHARGE."

Date	Insurance Fee		
	0-1000F	Per 1000F	Max.
14Jul1922	.20	+.10	20,000F
25Mar1924	.40	+.25	20,000F

8. General Delivery (Post Restante)

Date	Per Item		Per A	nnum
	News- paper	Other Items	Com- mer- cial	Non- Com- mer- cial
14Jul1922	.05	.20	10.00	20.00

Notes: The general delivery fee was paid either by the sender by means of additional franking or by the recipient where a tax or other stamp was affixed and canceled upon collection. The most common method is payment by the recipient.

9. Notice of Delivery

Date	Lors du Depot	Apree de Depot
01Apr1920	.25	.25
16Jul1925	.75	.75
Pneumatic Post	Advice by Post	Advice by Pneumatic
-Jul1896	.10	.30

Notes:

- 1. Lors du Depot Requested for at the time of posting.
- 2. Apres de Depot Requested after time of posting.

10. Express Fee (Expres)

The express fee was the surcharge for delivery by messenger, a service introduced in 1892. Express mail arriving from abroad had nothing extra to pay when a receiving office served the destination. When a receiving office did not serve the destination, the recipient paid the difference between rate A and rate B.

Date	Rate A ¹	Rate B ²
01Dec1923	1.00	4.00

Notes:

- 1. Rate A a receiving office served the destination.
- 2. Rate B a receiving office did not serve the destination.

11. Business Cards (Cartes de visite)

Effective March 25, 1924, all business cards use a rate equal to the printed matter rate.

Date	Manuscript Words Added		
	None	Less than 5 words	More than 5 words
14Jul1922	.05	.15	.15
25Mar1924 ¹	.05	.15	.25

12. Invoices

This tariff includes invoices and other non-personal items (consignment notes, bills, statements of accounts) posted in unsealed envelopes marked "FACTURE" or "PAPIERS D'AFFAIRES." The March 25, 1924 rate equaled that of the postcard rate.

Date	Rate
17Jul1922	.15
25Mar1924	.20

13. Postage Due on Delivery (Timbre Taxe)

The postage due cost was double the amount owed or, after March 25, 1924, the minimum fee listed below, whichever was greater. The law change on March 25 established the minimum charge.

Date	Newspaper or Periodical	Other	
25Mar1924	.05	.20	

14. Late Collection Service

At offices that operated the service, a fee of 15c was payable for each quarter hour (or fraction thereof) that the letter was posted after the last collection, up to a limit of three quarters of an hour. Pre-franking was obligatory, and cancellation was by a special date-stamp.

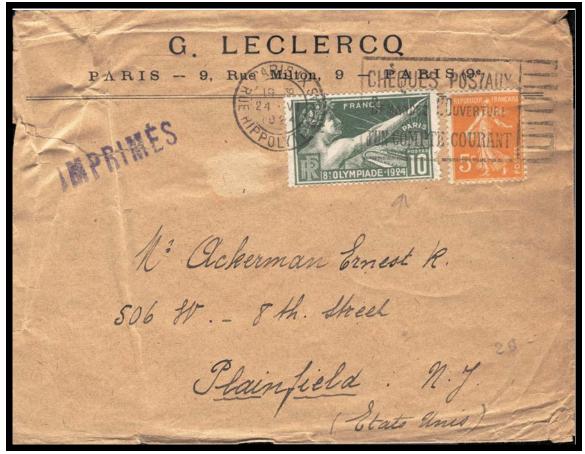


Figure 10. Cover containing Printed Matter (Imprimes) with the 10c Olympic stamp used to partially satisfy the 15c foreign rate.

15. Airmail Supplements (Post Aerienne, Par Avion)

The following amounts were added to the regular postage payable on unregistered items within the mainland. The charge was a function of weight and distance.

Date	Weight			Distance
	0-20g	20- 100g	100- 200g	
12Aug1919	.75	1.50	2.25	<500Km
	1.00	2.00	3.00	500-800Km
	1.25	2.50	3.75	>800Km

The island of Corsica is a part of France, and internal postal rates applied. A supplement payable on mail sent by air to Corsica (Antibes to Ajaccio) came into effect on July 23, 1924.

Date	0- 20g	20-100g	+100g
23Jul1924	.25	.50	+.50

FOREIGN RATES

1. Letters

The rates listed for letters and postcards refer to those countries that are members of the Universal Postal Union. Frontier rates apply to Spain, Belgium and Switzerland when the straight-line office-to-office distance did not exceed 30 kilometers. French Colonies and Luxembourg were the same as the internal rate.

Date	UPU		Frontier
	1-20g	Per 20g	0-20g
01Jan1922	.50	+.25	.25
01Apr1924	.75	+.40	.25

2. Postcards (Cartes Postales)

Date	UPU		Frontier
	Ordi- nary	5 words	Ordinary
01Jan1922	.30	.10	.20
01Apr1924	.45	.15	.20

3. Printed Matter (Imprime) (Figure 10)

Printed items had to be unsealed for verification of contents, and pre-franking was obligatory. Minimum fees were applied to samples and business papers, but not to Printed Matter.

Date	Fee per	Minim	um Fees
	50g	Sample	Business Papers
01Apr1921	.10	.20	.50
01Apr1924	.15	.30	.75

4. Registration (Recommande) (Cover of JSP)

Registration fee was in addition to the postage rate.

Date	Registered Fee
01Apr1921	.50
01Apr1924	.75

5. Insurance (Valeurs Declarees)

The Insurance fee was in addition to both postage and registration.

Date	Insurance Fee	
01Apr1921	.051	10,000F
01Apr1924	$.10^{2}$	10,000F

Notes:

- 1. Fee per handling office plus .10 per 300 Francs per country on sea crossings.
- 2. Fee per handling office plus .15 per 300 Francs per country on sea crossings.

6. Express and Advice of Delivery

Date	Express	Advice of Delivery	
	Per Item	Lors du depot ¹	Apres de depot ²
01Apr1921	1.00	.50	1.00
01Apr1924	1.50	.75	1.50

Notes:

- 1. Lors du Depot Requested at time of posting.
- 2. Apres de Depot Requested aftertime of posting.

7. Postage Due (Timbre Taxe)

Add double the amount owed (rounded up to the nearest .05) or, after March 25, 1924, a minimum from below, whichever was greater.

Date	Letters or Postcards	Other
01Apr1921	.30	.30
01Apr1924	.45	.45

8. Airmail (Post Aerienne, Par Avion)

Airmail tax was in addition to the regular postage. Airmail rates were by treaty with each individual country in the early days of postal aviation.

Country		Date		
	<20g	<100g	+100g	
Algeria	.50	1.00	+.50	07Jul1923
Belgium	.30			01May1921
Bulgaria	2.25	4.00	+1.50	22Sep1922
Czech. (from Paris)	1.25	2.25	+.50	26Mar1921
Czech. (from Strasbourg)	.50	.75	.25	26Mar1921
Gt. Britain (from Paris)	.50			02May1922
Gt. Britain (from Lyon)	.35			15Sep1922

Gt. Britain (from Marseilles)	.50			15Sep1922
Hungary	2.00	3.25	+1.25	15Sep1922
Italy	.50	1.00	.50	23Jul1924
Morocco	.50	1.00	+.50	15Jan1922
Netherlands	.50			23May1924
Poland (from Paris)	1.75	3.00	+.75	21Mar1921
Romania (from Paris)	2.00	3.50	+1.25	15Sep1922
Spain	.50	1.50	+.75	08Jul1921
Switz. (Lyon to Geneva/ Lausanne)	.25	.50	+.50	26Jul1924
Syria (Baghdad to Egypt)	1.00			19Jan1924
Tunisia (Antibes to Tunis)	.50	1.00	+.50	23July1924
Turkey (from Paris)	2.25	4.00	+1.50	22Sep1922
Turkey (from Strasbourg)	2.00	3.75	+1.25	22Sep1922

¥

ENDNOTES

- 1. Author's collection.
- 2. "A Philatelic History of the Olympic Games," by Ernest Trory, printed by Crabtree Press LTD, 1956, page
- 3. "Die Olympischen Spiele im Blickpundt der Philatelie und ihren Randgebieten" by Heiko Volk, 1976, page 51, section I.A.A.
 - 4. Ibid, page 51, section I.A.B.
 - 5. Ibid, page 55, section IV.C.
- 6. "Post, Philately, and Olympism", Volume 1, by the Comite' International Olympique, 1984, page 144.
- 7. "Livert de L'Expert Les Jeux Olympiques de 1924." Yvert and Tellier, 2001 Tome 1, 37 Rue des Jacobins, 80036 Amiens, Cedex, page 12.
- 8. "Livert de L'Expert Les Jeux Olympiques de 1924." Yvert and Tellier, 2001 Tome 1, 37 Rue des Jacobins, 80036 Amiens, Cedex., page 14.

- 9. "Marianne" catalog, 9 Rue Jean-Francois Gerbillon, 75006 Paris, pages II-46 and II-47.
- 10. Timbers Perfores, France et Colonies, by R. Dedecker, M. Herbert, and R. Janot, published by the Association Nationale des Collectionneurs de Timbres Perfores, 1990.
- 11. Article by Claude Jamet and Bruno Moncheletin the February 1992 issue of "Timbroscopie" as printed in the August 1994 issue of the Torch Bearer, page 102.
- 12. Article by Claude Jamet and Bruno Monchelet in the February 1992 issue of "Timbroscopie" as printed in the August 1994 issue of the Torch Bearer, page 103.
- $13.\,Letter\,from\,Henri\,Trachtenberg\,dated\,March\,28,\\1985.$
- 14. "The Ira Seebacher Sports Collection of the World" auction on September 18, 1987 by Harmers of New York Int., 14-16 East 33rd Street, New York, New York, 10016.
- 15. "Zappeion Collection." David Feldman SA auction on November 9-11, 1999.
- 16. David Feldman SA auction on November 3-8, 1980.
- 17. David Feldman SA auction on February 12-14, 1999.
- 18. David Feldman SA auction on February 20-24, 2002.
 - 19. David Feldman SA auction on May 10-17, 2003.
- 20. Healy and Wise, Postal Auction No. 14 on July 14, 1998, P.O. Box 3, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 9AX, England.
- 21. Healy and Wise, Postal Auction No. 18 on November 3, 2001, P.O. Box 3, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 9AX, England.
- 22. Heiko Volk mail auction "I-84" on August 6, 1984, Postfach 3447, Erbacher Str. 49, D-6120 Michelstadt, West Germany.
- 23. Heiko Volk mail auction "30-86" on February 24, 1986.
- 24. Heiko Volk mail auction "152-93" on October 4, 1993.
 - 25. Heiko Volk mail auction "175-96" on April 1, 1996.
- 26. Heiko Volk mail auction "200-98" on September 21, 1998.
- 27. Heiko Volk mail auction "210-99" on June 21, 1999.
- $28.\,Heiko\,Volk\,mail\,auction\,"225-2000"\,on\,August\,28,\,2000.$
- $29.\,\text{Heiko\,Volk\,mail\,auction}\,\text{``227-2000''}\,\text{on\,December}\,11,\,2000.$
- 30. Heiko Volk mail auction "231-2001" on July 30, 2001.
- 31. "The Centenary of Olympic Philately" by Manfred Bergman, Olympic Review, Volume XXV-9, June/July 1996, Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles, 2141 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, page 71.



22nd Summer Universiade Daegu, South Korea August 20-31, 2003

by Luciano Calenda

nce again an Asian country hosted the Summer Universiade; Beijing (People's Republic of China) in 2001 was followed by Daegu, South Korea as host city of the 2003 University Games. A pattern seems to be forming: the Summer Universiade are awarded to Asia cities while the Winter University Games are held in Europe. In fact the towns chosen for the next editions confirm this trend: the Winter Universiades are scheduled for Innsbruck (Austria) in 2005 and again in Turin (Italy) in 2007, while the Summer Games are set to take place in Izmir (Turkey, straddling East and West) in 2005 and Bangkok (Thailand) in 2007.

Now let's examine the philatelic items commemorating the 22nd Summer Universiade. Please keep in mind that this information may not be complete as so often happens when multisport competitions

are organized in faraway countries.

We begin, as always, with stamps which are – or should be – the focus of any philatelic program.

On August 21, 2003, the postal authorities of South Korea issued a single design stamp (Figure 1) printed in a 20-stamp pane as well as a two-stamp souvenir sheet (Figure 2). While this may seem straightforward, it is anything but!



Figure 1. 2003 Summer Universiade 190 won stamp.

First of all the color of the stamp issued in panes (rose violet) is slightly different from the stamps in the souvenir sheet (violet tending to lilac).

I do not know whether the difference is accidental or possibly due to a different printing process for the two types of stamps.

The 20-stamp pane (Figure 3) exhibits further interesting characteristics in the selvedge. In addition to some administrative notes (in English and Korean), the games' logo and official designation are presented in the top margin. At bottom left, the new logo of FISU (International Federation of University Sports, the governing body of the University Games) is depicted: a vertical line of five stars of different colors representing the five continents.

If you take a close look below the stars, you will notice a square divided into quadrants with one quadrant blacked out. This graphic has a specific meaning relating to the printing of the panes.



Figure 2. In addition to the standard 20-stamp pane format, the Universide stamp was also issued in a two-stamp souvenir sheet.

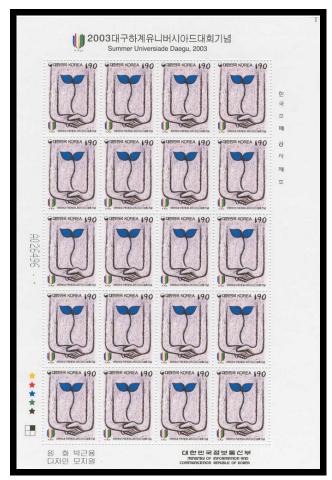


Figure 3. Full pane of 20 stamps. Note the "pane position indicator" in the lower left corner of the selvedge below the five stars, symbolic of the Universiade Games.

Originally this stamp was printed in larger sheets comprising four panes of 20 stamps. Each pane is represented by one of the four quadrants in the graphic. The position of the pane in the press sheet is indicated by the blacked-in quadrant. [Editor's note: U.S. readers will be familiar with this graphic device as the USPS has been using a similar "pane position indicator" for some years.]

Officially, the philatelic celebration was composed of a single stamp printed in two formats: a 20-stamp pane and a souvenir sheet. From a philatelic completeness point of view, however, one could argue that there are four distinct 20-stamp panes to collect as the positions of the marginal inscriptions and pane position indicators change with each pane. But this approach is probably excessive and will interest only the very specialized collector!

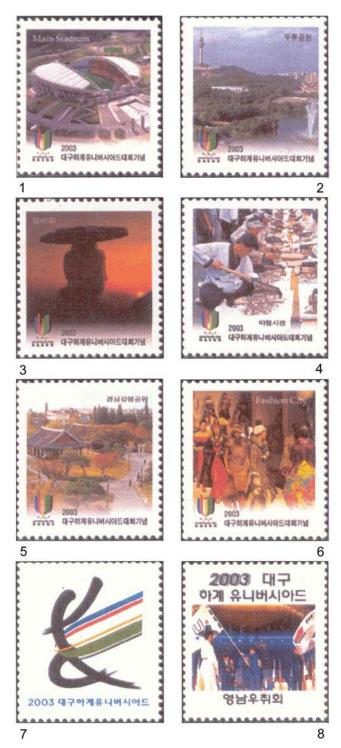


Figure 4. Personalized stamps: (1) Main Stadium, central sports venue; (2) Duryu Park, designated area for sport and cultural activites; (3) Gatbawl, famous 4m high Buddha statue; (4) Yangnyeongsi Market for oriental medicines; (5) Gyeongsang Gamyeong Park created in 1601; (6) Daegu, the Fashion City, important center of textile industry; (7) Universiade poster; (8) Opening Ceremonies photograph.

Figure 5. Ten additional Universiade labels attached to non-Universiade stamps (vertically): poster with logo; facilities; poster with athlete; silhouettes of various sports (tennis, archery, taekwondo, basketball, gymnastics, and perhaps volleyball); athletics relay; 3 drawings of mascot; official logo; sports venues.



Another initiative of the South Korean postal administration was the creation of the increasingly popular "P" ("personalized") stamps (Figures 4-6). The personalized labels were attached to the official Universiade stamp as well as to other Korean issues. In lieu of faces of important philatelists, the labels

show scenes of Daegu and its surroundings, logos and posters of the Games, and the mascot and sport scenes. To date, nineteen different labels have been recorded. While we acknowledge that these "P" stamps are not truly philatelic items, they are of interest to many collectors.



Figure 6. The final personalized stamp label shows the slogan of the games in Korean: "Dream for unity, dream for action."

Now it's the time for cancellations. The total number of cancels prepared by Korea Post is either very limited or extraordinarily excessive, depending on one's point of view.

Let's immediately clarify this contradiction beginning with the cancels commemorating the various sporting events of the Universidee.

The first cancel depicts the mascot, "Dreami" and celebrates the opening of the Sport Stamp Exhibition on August 19. This was before the inauguration of the Games.

Seven of the fourteen sporting disciplines on the Universiade schedule are depicted on cancels. The criteria for selecting these seven – not to mention why all 14 sports weren't honored – is unclear.

The basic cancels are black but most of them exist in violet (v) and some even in blue (b). So far

it is impossible to know whether all the cancels exist in all three different colors.

Lastly, some cancels were used for many days during the games (competition was from August 21-31) and are marked with an asterisk (*); the remaining cancels were used just one day. The date noted under each cancel is the first day of use.

Our discussion of the sport cancels having been concluded, let us turn to the first day cancels on August 21. This is where the number of cancels reaches unbelievable levels.

The First Day cancellation depicts the logo of the Daegu Universiade and was used at the Daegu Main Post Office (9) and North Daegu Post Office (10). Additionally, it was available a the post offices in towns where sports events took place such as: D.G. Dalseo (11) for swimming and tennis, D.G. Suseong (12 – it also exists in violet) for athletics and the stamp exhibition, and Gumi (13 – known only in violet) for basketball.

Despite the fact that this is a *First Day* cancel, it was used for the entire period of the games (the dates of August 24, 26 and 30 have been seen).

The story might have ended here. Suddenly, two covers arrived with the First Day cancel from Busan (14) and Gunsan (15), two cities with no connection to the games whatsoever. Then a special leaflet





















printed by Korea Post was delivered; it too exhibited the same cancel this time used in the Seoul Central Post Office (16). At this point it was clear that a little survey was justified to find out just how extensive the use of the First Day cancel was. The result: from what I can deduce, the First Day cancel was used in the main post offices of most of Korean cities and towns. It is impossible to know the exact number of post offices that participated, but it seems likely that the number is between 200 and 300 – probably much closer to the latter!

In conclusion, we can say that for the Daegu Summer Universiade there were either 14 cancels or about 300 cancels: both statements are correct!

The final element in our story concerns the commemorative postcards (not postal stationery): there are sixteen in all (below). The first depicts the logo of the Games. Thirteen show one sport each (except for the gymnastics card which combines both the Artistic and Rhythmic disciplines). The final two cards reproduce the two official posters of the Games.







"Pass the Flame, Unite the World" – 2004 Olympic Torch Relay

by Mark Maestrone

ith the kindling of the Olympic Flame on March 25 at Olympia, site of the ancient Olympics, the run-up to the Games of the XXVIIIth Olympiad in Athens, Greece begins in earnest.

The March 25th date is a significant one for it was on this day in 1896 that the First Modern Olympic Games were inaugurated. As there was no torch relay back then – the first relay would not occur until Berlin's 1936 Olympics – this will also be the first time the torch relay begins and ends on Greek soil.

The theme for the 2004 Torch Relay is "Pass the Flame, Unite the World". To fulfill this goal, the relay has two distinct components. The first is the traditional host country run designed to kindle the Olympic spirit in the hearts of all Greek citizens.

Following the lighting of the Flame at Olympia, the relay is scheduled to wend its way around the Peloponnesus and the nearby islands of the Saronic Gulf for seven days, arriving in Athens on March 31. From then until June 4, the Flame is to reside at the Panathenaic Stadium, site of the 1896 Olympics.

The second component is the international relay. "For the very first time," according to Athens 2004 President, Gianna Angelopoulos-Daskalaki, "the torch's call will be heard on every continent" as it travels to both South America (Rio de Janeiro) and Africa (Cairo and Capetown) for the very first time.

Beginning June 4, the relay will visit all 21 past Summer Olympic host cities plus another 12 cities of importance either as centers for international organizations of nations (New York's United Nations, and Brussels where the headquarters of the European Union is located), or great cities on continents that have never hosted the Games (Cairo, Delhi, Istanbul, Capetown).

Returning to Greece on July 9, the Olympic Flame continues its host country journey around the remainder of the Greek mainland and Aegean islands, arriving back in Athens in time for the Opening Ceremonies on August 13.

The accompanying table outlines the daily itinerary of the 78-day torch relay.

The 2004 Olympic Flame will be carried by some 11,300 torchbearers on its 48,500-mile worldwide odyssey. Coca-Cola and Samsung are Presenting Partners of the Torch Relay.

Created by Greek industrial designer Andreas Varotsos, the 2004 Olympic Torch is manufactured from olive wood and magnesium. It measures 27 inches tall and weight 21 ounces. The torch's ergonomic design resembles a curled olive leaf, symbolic of both the Olympic Games and Greece. Three views are shown at right.

While it is expected that a special torch lighting cancel will be provided at ancient Olympia in addition to other relay cancels worldwide, no definitive information is, as yet, available.

The relay will traverse the U.S. for 5 days from June 16-19 visiting Los Angeles, St. Louis, Atlanta, and New York City.



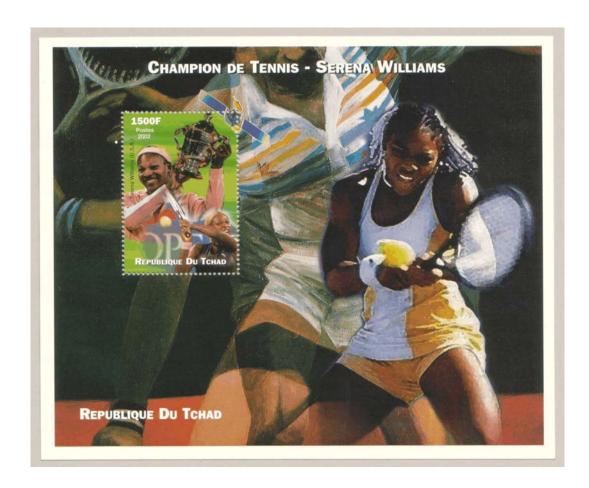
20 Spring 2004 Journal of Sports Philately

Greek Torch Relay - Part 1 Hellenic Olympic Committee

Greek Torch Relay - Part 2 ATHENS 2004 OOC

25 March 2004 Ancient Olympia, Theatre of Ilida, Pyrgos, Anditisena" 9 July 2004 Heraklio* (Noundisena*) Herak				
26 March 2004 Megalopoli, Dorio, Kopanaki, Kiparisia, Filiatra, Gargalianoi, Pylos* 11 July 2004 Herapetra, Pyrgos, Agia Galini* 27 March 2004 Methoni, Koroni, Petalidi, Messini, Valira, Meligalas, Kalamata* 13 July 2004 Spril, Rethimo, Chania* Pril, Leghama Spril, Rethimo, Chania* Prilatia* Prilatia*<	25 March 2004		9 July 2004	Heraklio*
Filiatra, Gargallanoi, Pylos* 27 March 2004 Methoni, Koroni, Petalidi, Messini, Valira, Meligalas, Kalamata* 28 March 2004 Mistras, Gytheio* 29 March 2004 Sparti, Episkopi Tegeas, Tripoil* 30 March 2004 Nemea, Mikines, Argos, Nafplio, Epidavros; 31 March 2004 Kranidi, Spetses, Ydra, Poros, Aigina, Salamina, Athens 31 March 2004 Kranidi, Spetses, Ydra, Poros, Aigina, Salamina, Athens 31 March 2004 Kranidi, Spetses, Ydra, Poros, Aigina, Salamina, Athens 32 March 2004 Kranidi, Spetses, Ydra, Poros, Aigina, Salamina, Athens 33 June 2004 Kranidi, Spetses, Ydra, Poros, Aigina, Salamina, Athens 34 June 2004 Sydrey, Australia (2000) 4 June 2004 Sydrey, Australia (2000) 5 June 2004 Melbourne, Australia (2000) 5 June 2004 Melbourne, Australia (2006) 6 June 2004 Seoul, South Korea (1988) 8 June 2004 Seoul, South Korea (1988) 8 June 2004 Cairo, Egypt 10 June 2004 Elos Angeles, USA (1932, 1994) 17 June 2004 Garo, Egypt 17 June 2004 St. Louis, USA (1904) 18 June 2004 Mexico City, Mexico (1968) 19 June 2004 Mexico City, Mexico (1968) 19 June 2004 Altanta, USA (1996) 19 June 2004 Altanta, USA (1996) 21 June 2004 Amsterdam, Netherlands (1928) 21 June 2004 Amsterdam, Netherlands (1928) 21 June 2004 Paris, France (1900, 1924) 22 June 2004 Rome, Halk (1960) 29 June 2004 Rome, Halk (1960) 30 June 2004 Rome, Halk (1960) 30 June 2004 Rome, Halk (1960) 31 July 2004 Schockholm, Sweden (1912) 31 July 2004 Schockholm, Sweden (1912) 31 July 2004 Schockholm, Sweden (1912) 31 July 2004 Scholm, Sweden (1912) 31 July 2004 Scholm				
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Spidavros* 16 July 2004 17 July 2004 18 June 2004 19 June 2004 19 June 2004 19 June 2004 18 Jun	29 March 2004	Sparti, Episkopi Tegeas, Tripoli*		Mykonos, Syros*
16 July 2004	30 March 2004	Nemea, Mikines, Argos, Nafplio,	15 July 2004	Tinos, Andros, Vathy, Chios,
Salamina, Athens				Oinousses, Mytilini*
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Note: From 31 March to 4 June, the Olympic Flame will reside in Athens at the Panathenaic Stadium.)			17 July 2004	Orestiada, Didimoteicho, Soufli,
International Torch Relay**				Feres, Alexandroupoli*
International Torch Relay**	(Note: From 31 M	March to 4 June, the Olympic Flame will re-	18 July 2004	Sapes, Komotini, Vistonida Bridge,
International Torch Relay**	side in Athens at	the Panathenaic Stadium.)	•	
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Journal of Sports Philately



The "Small" Slam of Serena Williams

by Pascal Bedenes

erena Williams was born on September 26, 1981 in Saginaw, Michigan (USA). Her parents, Richard and Oracene, had five children – all girls. They were raised in Compton, a violent suburb of Los Angeles. From the age of five,

Serena's father taught her tennis together with one of her sisters, Venus, who was a year older. Both sisters were sent in 1991 to Ric Macci's tennis academy in Florida. It was here that they began their climb to the upper levels of the sport.

Serena Williams entered tennis history on Saturday, January 25, 2003 while triumphing once





Serena Williams accomplished her "small" slam by winning the 2002 French Open (above left), 2002 Wimbledon (above center), 2002 U.S. Open, and 2003 Australian Open (right).



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again over her sister Venus in the finals of the Australian Open. After her successes in 2002, always against her sister, in the finals at Roland Garros (French Open), Wimbledon, and the U.S. Open, Serena achieved a "small" Slam with four consecutive victories in Grand Slam tournaments. Venus, in turn, also made history, becoming the first player to lose four consecutive Grand Slam finals. Serena possesses great pride. "I'm not easily moved, but right now I am very, very moved, and very, very satisfied. You know, all my life I've dreamed to be the best and to do my best. That has not always been easy for me and that makes today's entry in the history books so special."

Venus counts four Grand Slam tournaments among her prizes, winning both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in 2000 and 2001.

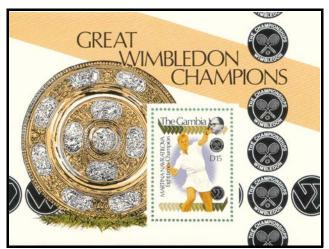
Two other players succeeded in winning Grand Slam tournaments in back-to-back seasons: Martina Navratilova (Wimbledon and U.S. in both 1983-1984), and Steffi Graf (French, Wimbledon, and U.S. Open in 1995-1996).



Although not as successful as her sister in Grand Slam events, Venus still boasts four championship titles won in back-to-back years (2000 and 2001) at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

Only three traditional Grand Slams [winning all four Grand Slam events in the same year] in women's tennis have been accomplished:

by American Maureen Connolly in 1953, Australian Margaret Court in 1970, and by German Steffi Graf in 1988.



Like Venus, Martina Navratilova twice repeated as winner of Grand Slam events. She won both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in 1983 and 1984.



Australian Legendo 200c

Only three women have won tennis' Grand Slam: Maureen Connolly (left), Margaret Court (above), and Steffi Graf (right).





National
Airmail Week
Baseball Related
Covers

by Norman Rushefsky

n May 15, 1918 the first air mail route in the United States was established between New York and Washington, DC with a stop at Philadelphia, PA for the exchange of mail or plane. Twenty years later in 1938, Postmaster General James A. Farley proposed a weeklong celebration, May 15-21, 1938, to commemorate the 1918 event and promote the use of air mail. Postmasters in each and every town and city throughout America were encouraged to support this effort and urge all to mail letters during air mail week. The event was projected to bring air mail to the attention of every man, woman and child and thereby encourage further use of air mail service.

As part of the publicity for this event postmasters were to display posters publicizing it (left) and have cachets prepared for placement on envelopes mailed during this period. Most of the cachets produced had an air mail theme along with a theme promoting the attributes of the local community. Thus, many communities where tourism was important produced cachets illustrating various recreational opportunities in the area. Out of the thousands of different cachets produced for this event, only a relatively few depict a baseball theme.

In 1938 Cooperstown, New York was a sleepy bucolic town in upstate New York busy with the promotion of the new Baseball Hall of Fame to be dedicated the following year. In furtherance of this goal the cachet used at Cooperstown during this week had a baseball theme (Figure 2). The covers with this cachet are known with back stamps of many nearby towns indicating that a special plane was used to carry these envelopes and each received markings at the various stops along the route.

A few communities honored native sons some of whom were baseball players. The envelope illustrated in Figure 3 features the cachet used by Fowlerville, Michigan and honors Charlie Gehringer, "The Fowlerville Flash." Gehringer at the time was the star second baseman for the Detroit Tigers. Nicknamed "The Mechanical Man" for his remarkable consistency, Gehringer hit over .300 thirteen times and collected 200 hits seven times. A cornerstone of three Tigers pennant winners, he won the MVP in 1937 when he led the American League with a .371 average. An agile second baseman with quick hands, he led the league in both assists and fielding percentage seven times each. After his retirement, he served as the Tigers coach, a general manager and was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.

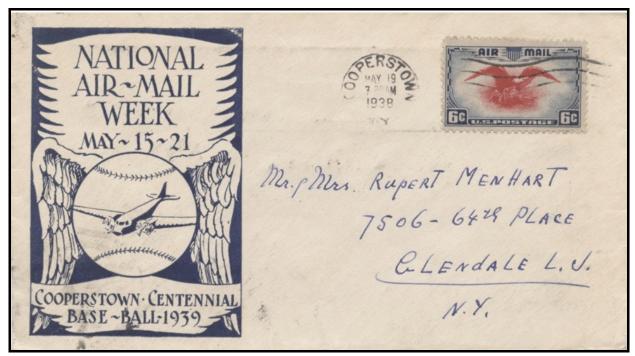


Figure 2. Cooperstown "National Airmail Week" cover.

Mickey Cochrane is considered one of the great baseball catchers of all time. He was born in Bridgewater, MA and is featured on the cachet used by this town for National Air Mail Week. A cover featuring this cachet (Figure 4) includes a rubberstamp indicating that a special flight was provided between Brocton, MA and Boston to celebrate this event. The cover I have however is not backstamped to confirm that it was carried on this flight. Cochrane batted .320

during his 13 year career and was known for his fierce, competitive spirit, which gave him exceptional leadership qualities. He was the spark of the great Philadelphia Athletics teams of 1929 through 1931. He was player-manager for the Detroit Tigers from 1934 to 1937 and directed them to a league championship in 1934 and the World Series title in 1935. Cochrane was also honored on the U.S. Legends of Baseball stamps and postal cards of 2000.



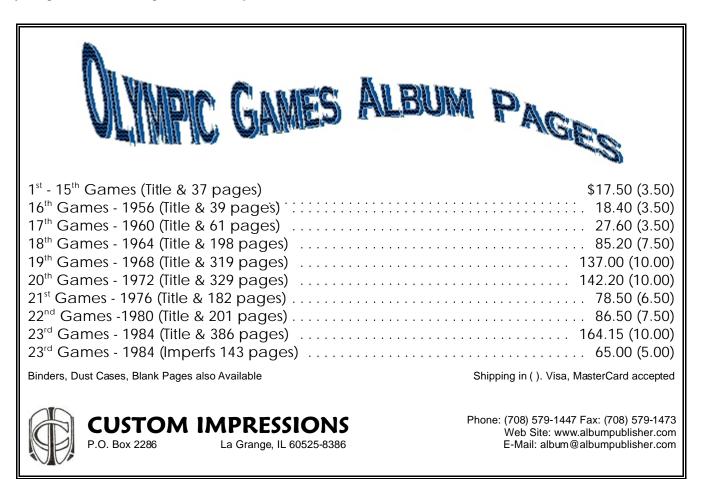
Figure 3. National Airmail Week cover from Fowlerville, MI honoring hometown baseball star Charles Gehringer.



Figure 4. Bridgewater, MA cover honoring catcher Mickey Cochrane.

Another known baseball related NAMW cachet was used by Van Meter, Iowa to honor the then young Bob Feller, the great baseball pitcher. I have

not as yet seen a cover with this cachet so I am unable to illustrate the cachet with this article.



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REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme December 2003 (#30)

Cycling opens this issue of *Esprit* with an article by René Geslin on cycling personality, Paul de Vivie. Curling's Olympic debut as a demonstration sport at the first Olympic Winter Games at Chamonix in 1924 is discussed by Pierre Vitalien. René Christin provides a philatelic review of the Basque sport of Pelote. Also covered in this issue are the sports of field hockey, tennis, and rugby.

Contact: Jean-Pierre Picquot, 172 Bd. Berthier, 75017 Paris, France. *[In French]*

Filabasket Review December 2003 (#12)

Prompted by eBay's numerous high-priced offerings of unadopted philatelic design artwork, Luciano Calenda decided to explore the world of "Ghost Stamps." Using basketball material as an example, Calenda explains what is and is not acceptable in exhibits. A particularly good example of a taboo item is a design for a Tonga basketball stamp honoring the 1982 Commonwealth Games. The idea of a basketball stamp was rejected from the very beginning and thus a design cannot exist. This bogus item was offered for \$250.00. The moral of the story: be careful on what you bid!

Other interesting articles in this issue include: how to collect, preserve and exhibit meter cancellations; a look at basketball philately commemorating multi-sport events organized in Asia and Oceania; and old envelopes bearing basketball stamps #14-19 as issued chronologically. The editor also begins a new column devoted to the upcoming 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. In the current offering, he discusses the Greek Olympic basketball stamp showing the mascot Phevos.

Lastly, the editor announces that the first general assembly of I.FI.S. (International Filabasket Society) will be held in November 2004 in Reus, Spain. More details in the next (April 2004) issue.

Contact: Luciano Calenda, PO Box 17126 - Grotttarossa, 00189 Rome, Italy. *[In English]*

IMOS Journal December 2003 (#120)

The December issue catches up with the many IMOS checklists. A new article on the sport of mountain climbing is presented by Werner Zaspel.

The 1936 Olympic insured mail labels of Garmisch, Berlin and Kiel are rare items indeed. To date, only a combined total of 20 are known to exist. Laurentz Jonker's extensive research on this topic is presented in a separate booklet accompanying this issue of the *IMOS Journal*. [Editor's Note: a complete translation of this work will appear in the Summer issue of *JSP*.]

Contact: Dieter Germann, PB 1128, D-63524 Grosskrotzenburg, Germany. *[In German]*

Olimpiafila November 2003 (Vol. VI, #2)

This issue of *Olimpiafila* begins with a look at the qualifying competitions for the upcoming 2004 Olympic Games. Hungary hopes to field a team of over 200 athletes. A discussion of 1940 Olympic Games philately continues, this time with a look at the Helsinki roller cancels, meters, publicity stationery and other material. Part 4 of the series on the Chess Olympic Games is also presented.

Additional articles in this issue include a list of Hungarian Olympians on stamps; a report on the 2003 Hungarian Olympic Academy session; airplane races at Lake Balaton in 1936; and what was perhaps the first modern horse race – in 1814 at the estate of Count Hunyady at Mezőkesze.

Contact: MOSFIT, Vorosmarty u. 65, 1064 Budapest, Hungary [In Hungarian; English synopses]



Very rare 1940 meter imprint from machine 686.

OSPC Bulletin #2, 2003

Always a wealth of philatelic knowledge, the *OSPC Bulletin* provides a number of major articles of interest. Thomas Lippert's latest philatelic news relating to Athens 2004 and the upcoming Torch relay opens this issue. He follows with a report on special Portuguese meter labels commemorating the EURO 2004 football qualification.

Lippert also discusses last year's IOC Session at which Vancouver was selected as host of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. He shows both the philatelic documents relating to Vancouver's bid as well as those from other cities.

Leipzig is one of many cities bidding for the 2012 Olympic Games. Eberhard Büttnertakes a look at the Leipzig bid and the many philatelic items, including meters, that were produced to promote the bid.

Many of the world's postal administrations have been completely or partially privatized. In Germany, independent local/regional posts have made a comeback. Thomas Lippert discusses the stamps produced by one such company "OLYMP-POST".

Other articles in this issue cover the topics of the 2003 World Swimming Championships in Barcelona; documentation relating to the first World Soccer Championships in 1930; and a continuation of an article on Berlin Olympic winners honored philatelically.

Contact: Thomas Lippert, PB 102067, D-18003 Rostock, Germany. *[In German]*

Phila-Sport October 2003 (#48)

October's issue opens with a review of the 2003 Summer Universiade by Luciano Calenda. [Editor's Note: this same article is reproduced on pages 15-19 of this issue of *JSP*.] Next, Mauro Gilardi reports on the sport of automobile racing. Olympic mascots through the years, beginning with Munich's "Waldi" in 1972, are presented by Stephen and Liza Don. A look at the design of Summer Olympics victory medals continues with those from 1976-2004.

Short reviews are included of Turin 2006 architecture; canoeing and philately; and the 2004 Olympic Torch Relay.

Contact: UICOS, CP 14327 Roma Trullo - via Lenin, 00149 Rome, Italy. *[In Italian]*

Torch Bearer November 2003 (Vol. 20, #4)

The final *Torch Bearer* issue of 2003 features a number of responses to previous articles on the cancelled 1940 Tokyo Olympic Games. Included are unreported vignettes, corner cards on stationery promoting the 1940 Tokyo Games, and postcards showing venues that would be used for the Games.

An interesting article on the "Temporary Post Offices at the Melbourne Olympic Games" by Richard Breckon presents details on the fixed and mobile post offices that were in place during those Games. Included for each post office unit are the target audience, period of operation, cost and staffing, and amount of business conducted. The latter is important because it provides the philatelist with a relative indication of which cancels, telegrams and registered items are more rare.

South African 1992 Olympic machine cancels are examined by Glenn Estus. Thomas Lippert provides a look at the Olymp-Post local/regional postal service operating in the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern region of Germany.

Contact: Miss Paula Burger, 19 Hanbury Path, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RB, U.K.

PARIS 1924 OLYMPICS

I am looking for any kind of PHILATELIC item from the 1924 Paris Olympics for the following dates: July 18, 1924; July 19, 1924, or (and) preferably from July 20, 1924. Please contact Gunter Pilz, 444 Brickell Ave, Suite # 53-3348, Miami, FL 33131, or email: gp@intelnett.com

SPI Rapid Notification Service

Do you collect new U.S. sport and Olympic commemorative postmarks? If so, then you need to take advantage of SPI's Rapid Notification Service. For more information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to William E. Fraleigh, 5 Rose Hill Farm, Red Hook, NY 12571-9418, U.S.A.

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POSTAL STATIONERY CORNER

by Glenn Estus

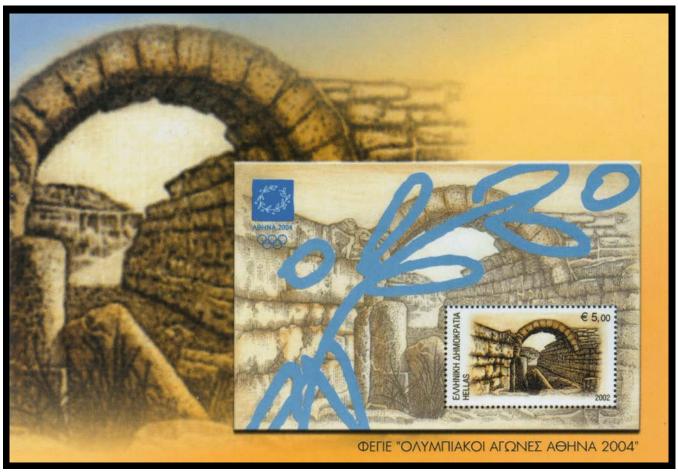


Figure 1. 2002 postal card issued by the Greek postal administration (Hellenic Post) honoring both World Post Day and the 2004 Olympic Games to be held in Athens. The card reproduces a souvenir sheet showing the arched athletes entrance to the Olympic Stadium at Ancient Olympia.

Each year the Universal Postal Union celebrates October 9 as World Post Day. Many postal administrations hold special events on this day. In the United States and Canada the whole month of October is "Stamp Collecting Month."

In September 2002 and 2003, the Greek Post Office issued prepaid World Post Day postal cards with themes related to this summer's Olympic Games in Athens.

The 2002 example (Figure 1) shows the \leq 5.00 souvenir sheet issued on March 15, 2002 picturing the athletes entrance into the original stadium at Olympia.

The 2003 card (Figure 2) portrays the mascots of the Athens Games: Athena (female) and Phevos (male). The mascots flank the logos of the Athens 2004 Olympics and Hellenic Post, a national sponsor of these Games.

The address sides of the cards (Figure 3) are identical except for the year date 2002 or 2003 as appropriate. The Greek at the top left hand corner translates as "9 October / World Post Day." At the bottom left is "Let your Mind travel through a Letter." The indicium at the upper right (Figure 4) reads "Without Charge / Postal Service Article / Greek Post Office." Each card also mentions that

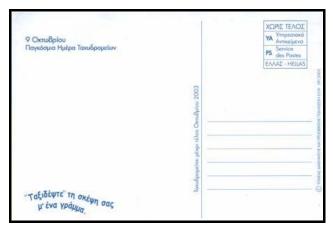


Figure 3. Address side of the postal stationery cards shown in Figures 1 & 2.

the card is valid for postage through the end of October 2002 (2003). In my collection I have a weakly canceled card from Thessalonika dated 31 October 2003, the last day of use of the 2003 card.

I contacted four collectors living in Greece, only two of them knew about these cards. According to one collector, this type of card is available free from post offices each October to commemorate World Post Day. Each year the Greek Post Office picks a stamp issued during that year for the postal card. These were the only such Olympic-themed postal cards issued.

More information about the upcoming Games can be found at the Athens 2004 redesigned official website which was launched in December 2003: www.athens2004.com.



Figure 4. Indicium indicating prepayment of postage. The cards were valid for mailing for 2 months or less!



Figure 2. Hellenic Post's 2003 postal card for World Stamp Day depicts the 2004 Athens Olympic Games mascots, Athena and Phevos, and the logos of the Games and Hellenic Post (an Olympic sponsor).

2003 AUCTION MANAGER'S REPORT

by Dale Lilljedahl

Well I have just completed my first year as auction manager, and thought I might jot down a few lessons learned, as well as, providing a general report. I am happy to say that we have been able to add a little to the general fund, assuming I can collect everything for auctions 106 and 107. Total profit for the year will be about \$200.00, which includes paying for enough packaging to last a couple of years. If the cost of the post office box was charged SPI then the end of year profit would be about \$65. Much thanks to the people who have supported the SPI auction. I look forward to the next year.

Naturally I have learned a lot this year, and am slowly developing the routine to minimize mistakes and speed up the process. A few things I've learned are:

- 1. After auction 104: double check
- 2. After auction 105: triple check
- 3. After auction 106: its impossible to check enough
- 4. Sure wish I knew more about Microsoft Access
- 5. It is nice to get to see all the lots
- 6. I need more storage space
- 7. Wish I had learned how to type
- 8. Peg and John are very easy to work with and quite forgiving

I have decided to use the Post Office for mailing the winner's their lots. I realize it is disappointing as a collector to get USPS meter on mail from a philatelic group, but this allows me to keep better records. I am a stickler on keeping everything correct, and by sending all the packages at one time with the postal service I get a nice receipt detailing how much each package cost and where it went. This mailing is by far the largest cost of the auction, and I feel better about having a strict accounting of it.

In case some of you did not know, the SPI auction is on our website, and always includes scans of ten to fifteen percent of the items. They tend to be the more expensive items, but every consignor is guaranteed at least one of their lots

will be illustrated. It is relatively easy for me to send scans, but please do not request large numbers. Also take advantage of the new Paypal account. SPI maintains a Paypal account through "treasurer@sportstsamps.org." Please add the following fee: 1) a flat fee of \$1.50 for totals up to and including \$30.00, or 2) 4% of the total for totals greater than \$30.00.

As I said, I am a stickler for protocol, so I have written a document detailing the procedures that are to be followed for the SPI auction.

<u>Purpose</u>: Provide a service to the members of Sports Philatelist International where they can purchase material for their collections and sell duplicate/unwanted items.

Goals:

- 1. Offer four auctions per year.
- 2. Offer a variety of sports/Olympic topics in the auction.
- 3. Provide 200 to 250 lots per auction.
- 4. Add to the SPI general fund, or at least conduct the auction on a break even financial basis.
- 5. Maintain a high level of service and integrity.

Policies, General:

- 1. The consignor bidder rules will be published in every auction, and can be found in the appendix.
- 2. All auctions will be posted on the SPI website. Each consignor will have at least one lot illustrated on the website.
- 3. Maintain an emergency fund of about \$250 against future possible non-payment by lot winners.
- 4. The auction schedule:

Consignment Deadline	Closing Date		
November 1	February 15		
February 1	May 15		
May 1	August 15		
August 1	November 15		

Policies, Consignors:

- 1. All funds shall be collected from the successful bidders prior to the distribution of money to the consignors.
- 2. Consignors can maintain a balance with SPI to apply against future purchases and/or society dues.
- 3. Unless otherwise instructed by the consignor unsold lots will be listed in the next available auction. This will usually be the second auction after the current.
- 4. When submitting lots for an auction, the consignor <u>must</u> provide an auction description and estimated/minimum bid. This allows the consignor to describe the item to his/her full advantage. The auction manager will not typically review all descriptions for errors, but if errors are noted they will be corrected without notification to the consignor.
- 5. When submitting lots for an auction, the consignor <u>should</u> include instructions for the relisting of all lots, and any special shipping instructions. An electronic email of the lots is appreciated to reduce the typing time of the auction manager.
- 6. Lots will be returned to the consignor after the second auction at no cost to the consignor.

Policies, Bidders:

- Successful bidders will be charged for the actual cost of shipping (along with the bid amounts), but will not be charged for packaging (covered by auction commissions).
- 2. First time bidders or large totals may require receipt of payment prior to mailing the lots.
- 3. In addition to the first class postage, the following shipping charges shall be applied for verification/notice of delivery:

<u>Lot Total</u> <u>Charge</u> < \$20.00 none

> \$20.00 Domestic: Certified (\$2.30 as of 30 June 2003).

Foreign: Registered (\$7.50 as of 30 June 2003).

Policies, Auction Manager:

- 1. The Auction Manager is a voluntary position without compensation.
- 2. The Auction Manager will place bids the same day auction copy is delivered to the printer.
- 3. Checks addressed to the Auction Manager will be retained by the Manager against the auction expenses.
- 4. Cash received will be retained by the Manager against the auction expenses.



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News of Our Members

by Margaret Jones

New Members

- 2232 Igor Cep, Tovarniska C 24, 2325 Kidricevo, Slovenia. He is an economist. *Olympics*.
- 2233 Philippe Houttemane, 17, rue Gustave Caillebotte, Domaine de Balizy, 91160 Longjumeau, France. *Cycling*. ph.houttemane@charles-freres.com
- 2234 Dmitri R. Choubine, Piatnitskogo Str, 52-16, Voronezh, Russia 394036. He is a staff manager. *Olympics*. diolym@yandex.ru

RENEWALS

- 1105 Donald V. Palazzo, PO Box 456, Foxboro, MA 02035-0456 USA. He is an ASDA member and volunteers to help with publicity. *All Topicals*.
- 1305 Frederick E. Whyte, 2870 N Towne Avenue, Apt. 137, Pomona, CA, 91767-2069 USA. *Olympics, Baseball, Basketball, World Cup Soccer*.
- 1469 Nigel Shipley, 31 Malabar Crescent, Eltham 3095, Victoria, Australia. He is a school teacher. *Olympics* golmedal@bigpond.net.au.
- 1860 Robert L Eddy Jr., PO Box 5008, Garden Grove, CA 92846-0008 USA. Butch is an analyst and is willing to write for our journal. *Boxing, Wrestling, Weightlifting*.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Butch Eddy (new email): butcheddy@aol.com Larry K. Elliott, 4690 Aberfeldy Road, Reno, NV 89509-0994

Gunter Pilz (new email): gp@intelnett.com Alice Johnson, 1795 Stone Road, Apt 1, Rochester, NY 14615-1673

ATA new web address: www.americantopical.org

Dropped: 35

Total Membership, December 31, 2003 = 259

Exhibit Awards

BALPEX (Hunt Valley, Maryland). Justin Foley received a youth silver and AAPE award for "Sports Then and Now."

MILCOPEX (Milwaukee, Wisconsin). Claude Giralte won a vermeil and ATA gold for "Swimming Pool Water Sports."

FROM THE WEBMASTER

You can find the current auction lists and past results on www.sportstamps.org. This information is usually available prior to publication of the journal. Send your web adlets to the webmaster at: docj3@sportstamps.org

FRANCE and COLONIES								
PROC	PROOFS & ESSAYS							
Andorra France Fr. Polynesia Fr. S. Antarctica Monaco N. Caledonia St. Pherre Wallis et Futuna Benin Cameroun C. Africa Rep. Chad Congo, P.R. Dibouti	Maii Niger Afars et Issas Afgerta Cambodia Comoro Is. Dahomey Fr. Eq. Afr. Fr. W. Afr. Fr. Guiana Fr. India Fr. Morocco Fr. Oceania Fr. Sudan	C. Guedeloupe Lucy Coast Lacs Lebanon Madagascer Martinique Mauritania Saar Sonegal Someli Coast Togo Tunisia Upper Volta Viet Nam						
4	Topicals							
in Award	Winning	Varieties.						
Please check th	e appropriate va	rieties of interest:						
Artist Drawings Trial Colors Printer's Color Die Proofs Plate Proofs	Die Proofs w/o seal 1956(9)-1964 1964 to date Stage Proofs	Sepia Inspection Sheets Imperts Deluxe Sheets Collective Sheets						
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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Aruba: October 31, 2003. Child Welfare/Child and Sport. 40¢+20¢ baseball; 60¢+30¢ volleyball; 100¢+50¢ soccer.

Australia: October 8, 2003. Rugby World Cup. Three stamps, 50¢pass, hands with rugby ball; \$1.10 Web Ellis Cup, Telstra Stadium; \$1.65 goals, hands with ball. Souvenir sheet contains the three stamps. Prestige booklet with three souvenir sheets containing the three stamps.

October 14, 2003. Active with Asthma. 50¢ silhouettes of people playing ball, jumping rope, climbing, walking with surfboard and skateboard.

Bangladesh: November 10, 2002. Children's Games. Two 4t stamps, dariabandha; kanamachee.

Belarus: November, 2003. 100th Anniversary International Soccer Federation (FIFA). Four stamps 270r, 380r, 430r, 740r showing scenes of soccer players.

Brazil: October 4,2003. Traditional Games. Four setenant 50¢ self-adhesive stamps forming a flag of Brazil in the center, flying kites, game of bete, buildings; jumping rope; twirling hoops around waist.

Croatia: December 1, 2003. 16th Women's Handball Championship. 5k stamps showing two players and ball.

Cuba: June 27, 2003. Pan American Games. 5c kayaking; 15c judo; 50c track; 65c volleyball.

Egypt: September 27, 2003. Bid for World Cup Soccer Championship in 2010. Two stamps, 30pi emblem with soccer ball; 125pi emblem and mask of Tutankhamun.

Equatorial Guinea: 2002. Korea-Japan World Soccer Cup Championship. Strip of three se-tenant 500fr stamps depicting action scenes.

Georgia: November 28, 2003. Tourism. 10t skiers at

Bakuriani, part of a set of four stamps. Printed in sheet of 10. Also booklet contains the four stamps se-tenant.

Germany: February 5, 2004. Sports/Athens Summer Olympic Games. 0.45e+0.20e European Soccer Championships; three 0.55e+0.25e stamps, runner for Athens Summer Olympics, wheelchair athlete for Paralympics, soccer player for 50th Anniversary of Bern miracle, 1.44e+0.56e World Soccer Cup trophy.

Great Britain: December 19, 2003. Rugby World Cup Winners. Souvenir sheet with block of four setenant stamps, two non-denominated first class stamps, flags, team circle; two 68p stamps showing hands holding Webb Ellis trophy.

Greece: September 9, 2003. Olympic Games Mascots. Souvenir sheet with two se-tenant stamps. 2.50e Athena mascot in red; 2.85e Phevos mascot in blue.

September 9, 2003. Athens 2004 Games Mind and Body. 0.05e high jump, 0.47e wrestling, 0.65e running, 0.80e cycling, 4e windsurfing. One souvenir sheet contains all the stamps.

November 28, 2003. Athens Summer Olympic Games. The Athletes, 0.20e weightlifter; 0.30e javelin thrower; 0.40c chariot racing; 0.47e shield bearer; 2e runners; 2.85e discuss thrower. One souvenir sheet containing all six stamps.

Hong Kong: December 11, 2003. Development of Public Housing in Hong Kong. The \$5 stamp in set, people walking, some with sports rackets.

Israel: December 9, 2003. Philately Day/Children and Wheels. Four se-tenant 1.30s stamps, roller blades; push scooter; bicycle; skateboard.

Lithuania: November 29, 2003. Lithuanian Men's Basketball Team, Three Times European Champion. Souvenir sheet with one 5 litas stamp depicting a trophy and a basketball.

Macau: October 29, 2003. 50th Anniversary Macao Grand Prix. 1p Carval race car 1954; 1.50p Triumph TR2; 2p race scene 1972; 3p motorcycle 1986; souvenir sheet with 12p circular stamp and hologram car, motorcycle.

Malaysia: October 11, 2003. 50th World Children's Day. Pair of 30s stamps one depicting a soccer ball. Booklet contains a se-tenant pane with two of each stamp.

Malta: September 30, 2003. Sailing. 22¢ Malta-Syracuse Race; 35¢ Middle Sea Race.

Mayotte: November 15, 2003. Basketball. 0.50e stamp depicting players, ball and net.

Netherlands: October 2, 2003. Children and Culture. Pane of six 0.39e+0.19e stamps, one depicting a soccer ball.

New Zealand: November 7, 2003. Welpex '03 Exhibition. Souvenir sheet with three stamps from July 2, 2003 Test Rugby set, two \$1.50 stamps, Buck Shelford and Murray Piece go for the ball in match with France 1986; All Blacks Jersey with silver fem; \$2 1997 match with England and Manchester.

Niue: August 25, 2003. 100th Anniversary Tour de France. Pane of four se-tenant \$1.50 stamps showing champions of 1927-30. Souvenir sheet with one \$4 stamp depicting Leducq, 1930.

Nigeria: October 4, 2003. Eight All-African Games. 20n running; 30n pole vault; 40n judo; 50n long jump. Souvenir sheet contains the four stamps.

Poland: October 20, 2003. 100th Anniversary Motorbike Racing in Poland. Three 1.20zl stamps, 1903 motorbike; Rudge motorbike; NSU racing motorbike.

Paraguay: October 92003. 100th Anniversary Guarani Soccer Club. 700g soccer players in action.

Romania: September 30, 2003. Extreme Sports. 5,000 lei sky diving; 8,000 lei windsurfing; 30,500 lei skiing.

Sierra Leone: July 14, 2003. 100th Anniversary of Tour de France. Three panes of four se-tenant 1,500 leone stamp. Pane one shows champions of 1950-

53; pane two shows champions of 1954-56; pane three shows champions of 1970-73. Three souvenir sheets each with one 1,500 leone stamp, Bobet 1953-55; Anqueil 1957; Bernard Hinaulta 1978.

November 17, 2003. Olympic History. 300 leones F. Smithson, London 1908; 400 leones H. Kolehmainen, Stockholm 1912; 500 leones L. Latynina, Tokyo 1964; 800 leones K. Dibiasi, Montreal 1976; 1,000 leones A. Hahn, St. louis 1904; 1,500 leones M. Hurley, St. Louis, 1904; 2,000 leones R. Ewry, Paris 1900; 3,000 leones H. Taylor, London 1908.

Sri Lanka: October, 2003. Sport Airplanes. A pane of eight se-tenant 1s stamps, L-29A Delfin Akrobat; Yak55; Cessna 172; Europa XS; Bo-209 Monsun; CAP-10, the border includes parachutes. The pane was also produced with the stamps imperforate.

Sweden: November 10, 2003. Christmas at Sundborn. Booklet of 10 non-denominated "Julpost" stamps with four different designs showing children with skis.

Switzerland: November 19, 2003. Pro Juventute/The Rights of Children/Leisure and Play. One stamp in set is sport related, 90c+45c children skateboarding.

Turks & Caicos Islands: August 25, 2003. 100th Anniversary Tour de France. Pane of four se-tenant \$2 stamps showing champions of 1970-80.

Tuvalu: October 6, 2003. 100th Anniversary Tour de France. Pane of four se-tenant \$1 stamps, showing champions of 1960-63.

Ukraine: August 29, 2003. 2,500th Anniversary Vievpatoria. 45k coat of arms, sailboats in city's harbor.

Uruguay: October 1, 2003. 75th Anniversary of Naval Club. One 14p stamp depicting a sailboat.

October 7, 2003. Sports. 14p stamp depicting Milton Wynants and other cyclists.

Wallis & Futuna: October 1, 2003. World Rugby Cup. 65fr emblem, leaves.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP CANCELS

18

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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 unless otherwise indicated.

SPORTS CROSS INDEX OCTOBER 2003 -FEBRUARY 2004

Baseball: 03Z21-009, 04215-344, 04220-852.

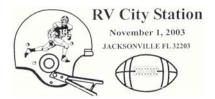
Curling: 04207-546. Cycling: 03X18-200.

Football: 03Y01-322, 04123-772, 04201-772, 04210-022.

Olympics, Special: 03Y08-040. Olympics, Summer: 04220-631.



03X18-200 Washington, DC



03Y01-322 Jacksonville, FL



03Y08-040 Wells, ME 8



03Z21-009 Carolina, PR 21



04123-772 Houston, TX 1/23-2/1



04201-772 Houston, TX



04207-546 Galesville, WI

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10



04210-022 Boston, MA



04215-344 Hernando, FL 15



04220-631 St. Louis, MO 20-22



04220-852 Mesa, AZ 20-22

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Sports-by-Country Topicals

Country Checklists available include:

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Colombia
Danish West Indies

Danish West Indies Denmark Faroe Islands Finland France
Germany (Old, West,
Reunified, Berlin)
Germany (East)
Great Britain
Greece
Greenland
Iceland
Israel
Japan
Madeira
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South West Africa Spain Swaziland Sweden Thailand Transkei Transvaal U.S.A Venda

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