

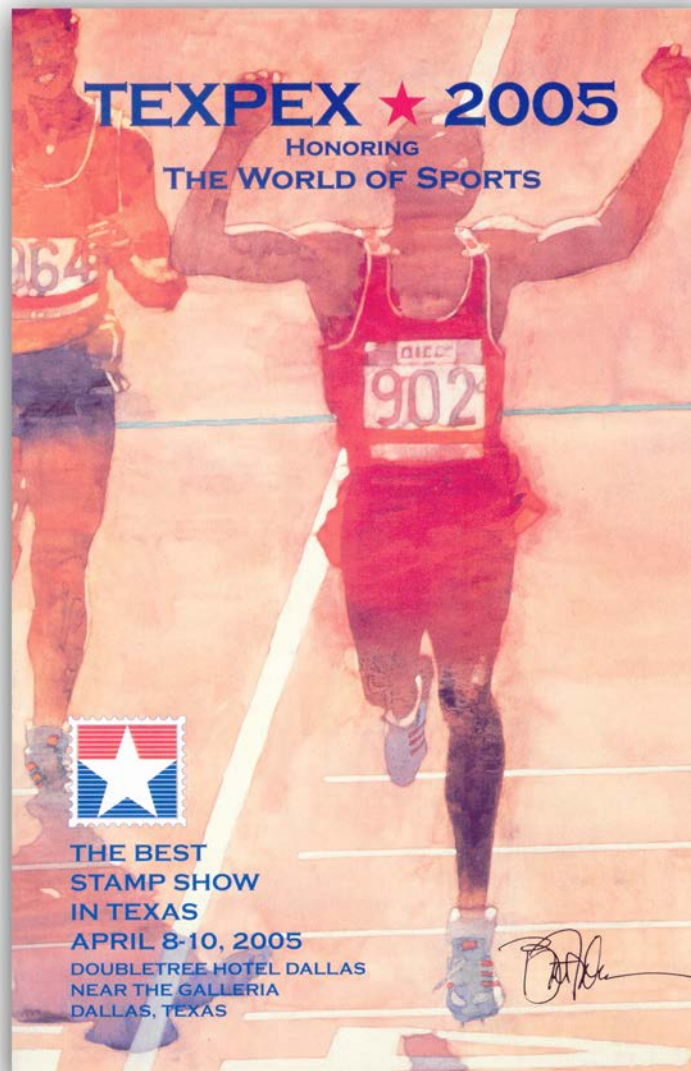
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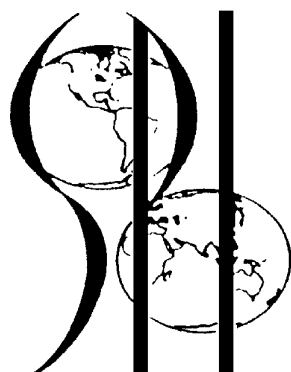
NUMBER 4

SPI ROUNDUP



AT TEXPEX 2005

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

WASHINGTON 2006

With about one year to go before the next International Philatelic Exhibition in the United States, SPI has requested a society frame to showcase sports and Olympic philately as well as recruit new members. Our intent is to display as many different sports and Olympic Games as possible in the 16 pages we are allotted, while keeping text to a minimum. Any ideas, suggestions, material, and possibly a page or two about your collecting interest would be gratefully appreciated as we begin to plan and prepare this frame. Please contact Patricia Loehr who is coordinating the project at 2603 Wauwatosa Ave., #2, Wauwatosa, WI, 53213 or by email at patloehr@mcw.edu.

1960 Squaw Valley Olympics – Mailers Postmark Permits

Having collected the 1960 Olympic Winter Games in Squaw Valley, California for some years, one of the rarest items – or I should say pair of items – are the Mailer's Postmark Permit cards created and mailed by Ed Amos of the Kokomo Stamp Club. Based on correspondence between Sherwin Podolsky and Ed many years ago, we believe there are under 25 of the Type 2 MPP and about 32 of the Type 1 (both are shown at right).

Working with the Mailer's Postmark Permit Club, we'd like to record all known examples of both cards. All members are encouraged to check their collections and then let me know how many of each card they have accompanied by a photocopy (or scan) of each.

Claude Giralte Passing

On April 30, SPI member Claude Giralte of Grafton, Wisconsin passed away. Claude, a life-long philatelist joined SPI in 1995 and was an avid swimming, diving, and water polo collector.

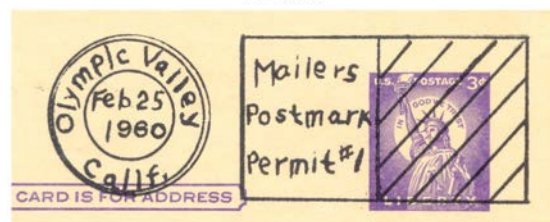
Claude exhibited his aquatic collections at the local, national, and international levels. At OLYMPHILEX 2000 held during the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, his "Water Sports and Swimming Places" won a silver in the Promotion Class.

Claude was also a member of numerous local philatelic organizations, the ATA and APS and also an area distinguished philatelist. He had several other collecting interests, especially Monaco.

The Officers, Board of Directors and members of SPI join me in extending our deepest condolences to Claude's family.



TYPE 1



TYPE 2

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Athens 2004 – Special Temporary Olympic Post Offices (Part 2)

by Thomas Lippert
edited by Mark Maestroni

In Part 1 of this article (*JSP*, Spring 2005), I introduced the network of special Temporary Olympic Post Offices (TPO) which were listed in Table 1. Of these, the first nine TPOs were presented in detail. Three further complexes remain in this category and are discussed in this article.

The first of these complexes was the final Olympic sports area – Hellinikon. [Editor's Note: official Olympic Committee English-language literature, such as the *Official Spectator Guide*, uses the spelling "Helliniko," while ELTA appears to spell it "Hellinikon." Either spelling is correct.] Once the site of the Greek capital's international airport, the area became the stage for softball, fencing, baseball, hockey, basketball and team handball. In addition to these land-based sports, the whitewater (slalom) canoeing and kayaking competitions took place here.

A special post office was opened at the complex consisting of two attractive tents pitched side by side. In contrast to the TPO at OAKA, each tent was

not given a separate official designation (however, for our purposes we will refer to them as "A" and "B"). Identical special cancels (Figures 1 & 2) were available in both tents. It is possible to discern one from the other by examining other types of postal documents.

In both tents postal clerks had the ability to scan the barcodes of the registration labels. This resulted in collectible postal documents from the Olympic post offices, although they were not automatically provided (Figure 4). VISA credit cards, which generated their own receipts, were accepted as well (accepting credit cards was something new for the Greek post office). This TPO also offered "personalized stamps" or P-stamps, although only one of the tents was equipped to provide this service.

The receipts for the VISA credit card transactions are, likewise, a postal certification, though non-philatelic in nature (Figure 3). They help differentiate between the two tents that together composed the special temporary post office: "ELTA SA/HELLINIKON COMMON DOMAIN/HELLINIKON" is the first tent, while "ELTASA/HELLINIKON OLYMP. COMP./ATHENS" is the second.

Figure 1. Registered letter correctly franked with €2.85 Olympic stamp. The registration label can be identified as coming from the Hellinikon (A) post office based on the six-digit prefix: 510651xxx. As noted in Part 1, the final 3 digits (075) represent a combination of both sequential numbering and a check-sum digit. The cover is canceled with the special Hellinikon Olympic Complex postmark.



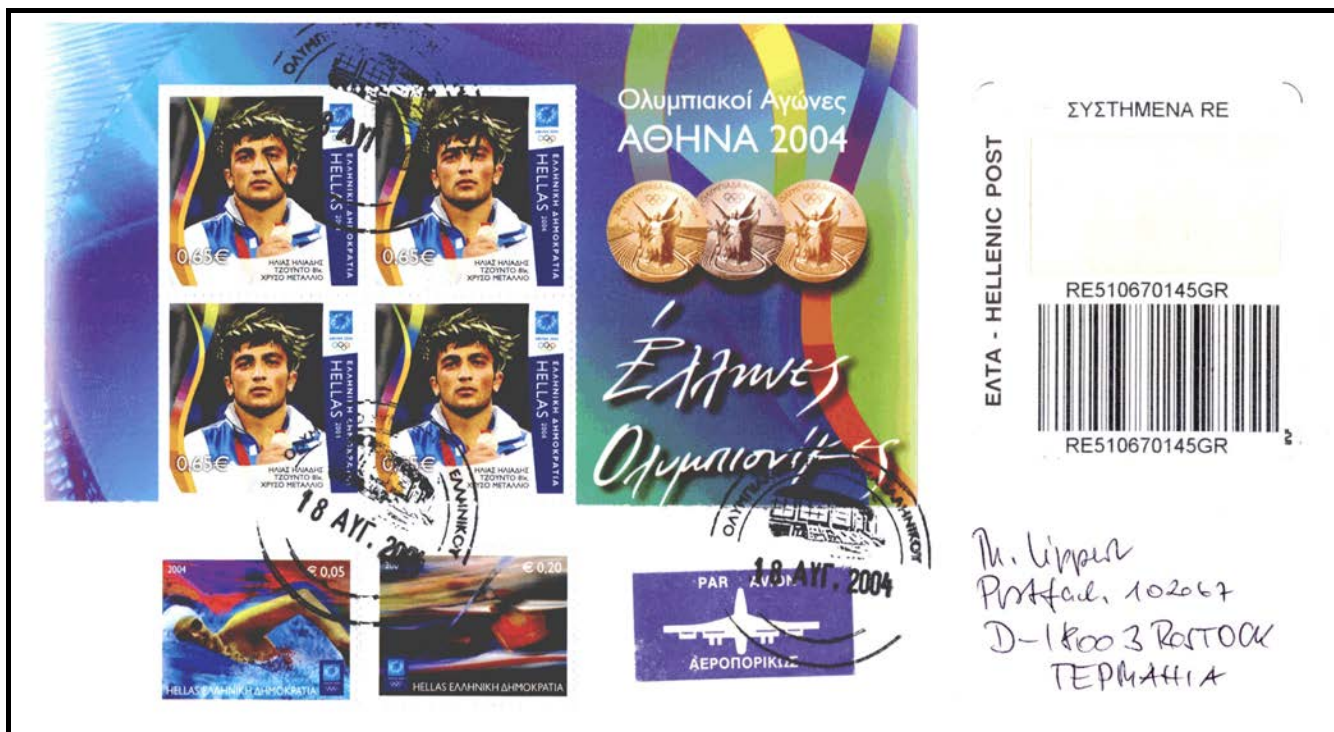


Figure 2. Registered letter correctly franked with a block of four of the Ilias Iliadis Greek medalist sheet on the first day of issue (18 August 2004). This Judoka (judo competitor) achieved his gold medal victory in the under-81kg event on the previous day. The registered letter carries a registration number with the six-digit prefix 510670 indicating it was posted from the Hellinikon (B) facility.



Figure 3. VISA credit card receipts from both parts of the Hellinikon TPO. The serial numbers at bottom (0001 and 0002 on the same day) also help discern the difference.

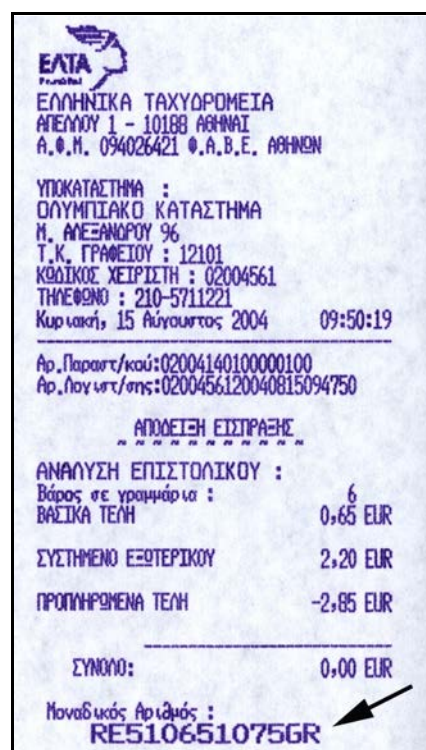
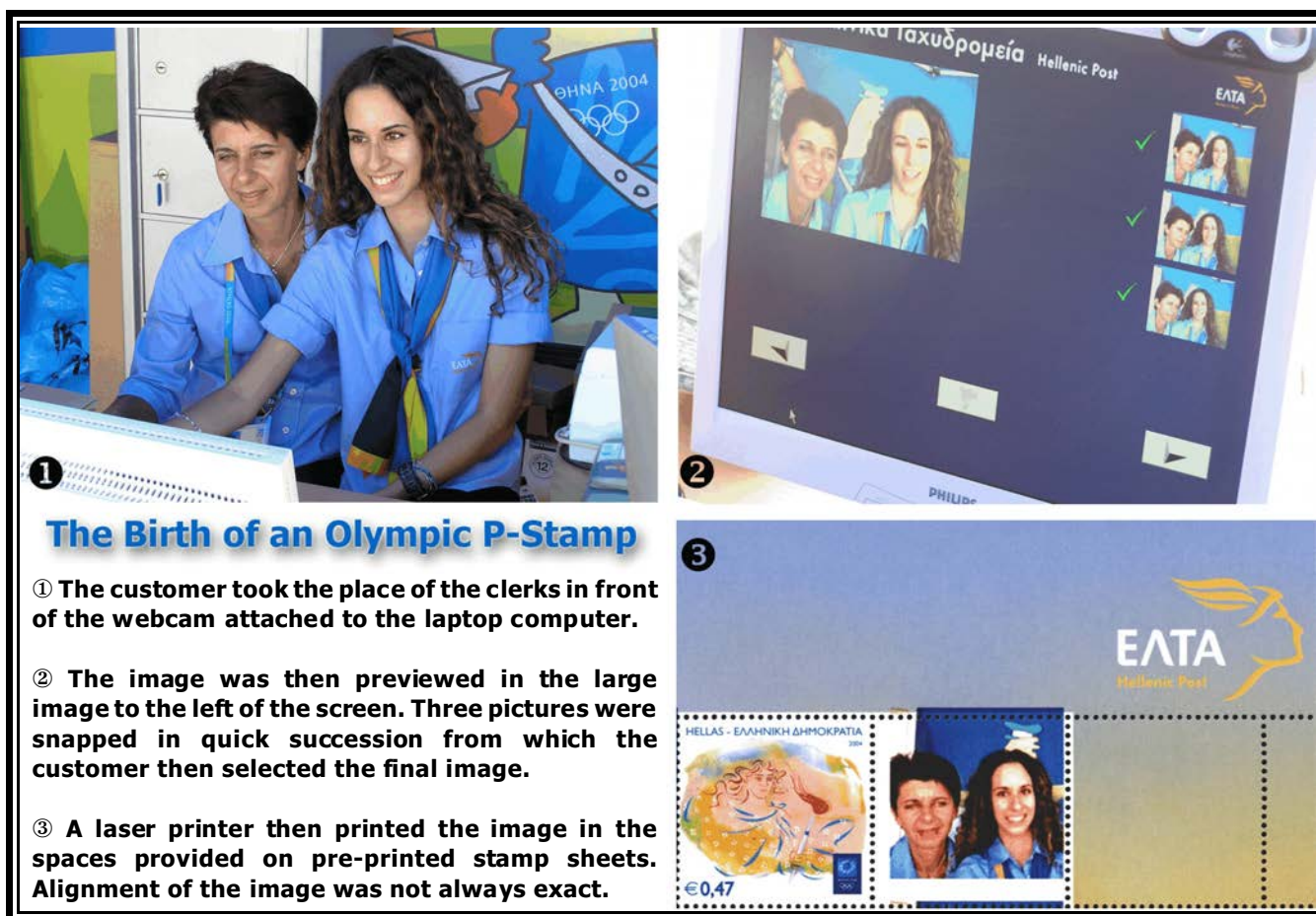


Figure 4. Receipt for registered mail (see arrow) and purchases from branch #02004, and clerk #561.



It was also true at this TPO that the post office employees (Chrysafo Kostopoulou and Kleopatra Koliov) allowed themselves to be used as models for the P-stamps (see above).

At Piraeus, Greece's largest port city with a population of approximately 172,000 inhabitants, another special post office was opened. A large part of the port of Piraeus fell within the Olympic security zone. The port provided berths for over ten large ocean liners and other cruise ships which functioned as floating hotels during the Games. Similar supplemental housing for Olympic visitors was used in Barcelona and Sydney.

Available correspondence from ELTA indicates that the TPO at Piraeus, which went by the acronym "OLP" (port authority), opened on 12 August 2004. In reality, though, the post office was activated on Monday, 9 August 2004, as ship passengers began arriving. At this time the then-current assortment of Olympic material from ELTA was on sale. At the beginning of this week, only one circular date stamp from the main post office at Piraeus which served this TPO was available for postal receipts (Figure 5).

Special Olympic postmarks were available beginning 13 August, Opening Day (Figures 6 & 7).

The special post office at the port also offered P-stamps, using a laptop with webcam and printing the images on the prepared stamp sheets.

ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΗ ΚΑΤΑΘΕΣΗΣ
ασφαλισμένου ή συστημένου

Αρμόδιος καταθέτης: *Wally Ziv* *Ανδρ. Κολιόβης*

Αριθμός καταθέσεως: *D-9970 APOCDA* *Τετ 14/8* RE437045037GR

Ταχ. Κωδικός (για αντικείμενα εξωτερικού πλήρη διεύθυνση προορισμού):

Ποσό ασφαλίσεως: *2,20* Ποσό αντικαταβολής: Ειδικές σημειώσεις:

Ταχ. τέλος: Χώρος για σημειώσεις του αποστολέα

Σε κάθε ανάληψη χρειάζεται η απόδειξη αυτή.
Η απόδειξη για ασφαλισμένο ή συστημένο εσωτερικού, που έχει χρεώσει ή έχει πάθει βλάβη στο ή μέρος του περιεχομένου του, δίνεται σύμφωνα με τα παρακάτω:
• Για ασφαλισμένα (Δ.Α.) το ποσό που αντιστοιχεί στην απώλεια ή τη ζημία του αντικείμενου. Μεγαλύτερη απόδειξη από το ποσό ασφαλίσεως δε δίνεται.
• Για συστημένα το ανώτερο ποσό των 35,22 ΕΥΡΩ.
• Για τα ασφαλισμένα (Δ.Α.) και συστημένα εξωτερικού ισχύουν ειδικές διατάξεις.
Τα Ταχ. Γραφεία δίνουν πληροφορίες για το ποσό και τον τρόπο πληρωμής της απόδειξης.

1. Όταν δεν αναγράφεται ποσό ασφαλίσεως το αντικείμενο είναι συστημένο.
2. V = Ασφαλισμένο (Δ.Α.), ΑΠ = Απόδειξη Παραλαβής, ΕΑ = Αντικαταβολή, ΚΔ = Κατεπείγουσα Διανομή, ΚΕ = Κατεπείγουσα Επίδοση, ΠΕ = Προσωπική Επίδοση.
3. Το αναγραφόμενο ποσό δεν αποτελεί απόδειξη ταχυδρομικού τέλους.

ΕΛΤΑ 23-9002-0003 ΥΠΟΔ. 1006 ΕΦΕΤ ΠΡΟΜΗΘΕΥΣ 2002

Figure 5. Receipt for a registered letter mailed on the opening day of the OLP post office. Only a regular Piraeus date stamp was used the first few days that the TPO was open.



Figure 6. Opening Day of the Games, 13 August, was also the first day of issue for the final set of Olympic stamps (Athens - Beijing). Registered letters from the Piraeus OLP1 post office had registration labels with the prefix 437045xxx.

The star of the luxury ocean liners docked at Piraeus was the *Queen Mary 2*. Passengers of this grand ship were accustomed to having a post office near the ship's berth, so ELTA set up a second TPO (OLP 2) on the dock near her.

The Olympic postmark at the OLP 2 temporary post office (Figure 8) was indistinguishable from that used at OLP 1. The post office did have its own registration labels and thus covers from this TPO can be differentiated from those at OLP 1 (Figure 9).

ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΗ ΚΑΤΑΘΕΣΗΣ ασφαλισμένου ή συστημένου		
Παραλήπτης: Wally Zirk	Αριθμός καταθέσεως: RE437045142GR	
D-99510 APOLDA	ΓΕΡΜΑΝΙΚΑ	
Ταξ. Κωδικός για αντικείμενα ελεύθερου κύριου δικαιώματος προαίρεσης:		
Ποσό ασφαλίσεως 1:	Ποσό αντικατάστασης:	Είδος ασφαλίσεως 2:
Ταξ. Τέλος 3:	08550-525	
<p>Σε κάθε αποστολή χρειάζεται η απόδειξη αυτή.</p> <p>Η απόδειξη για ασφαλισμένο ή συστημένο ταχυδρομικό, που έχει γίνει η εγγραφή του, μπορεί να χρησιμοποιηθεί με τα παρακάτω:</p> <p>Για ασφαλισμένο (Δ.Α.) το ποσό που αποζημιώνει στην απώλεια ή τη ζημία του αντικείμενου. Μεγαλύτερη απόδειξη μπορεί από το ποσό ασφαλίσεως να δοθεί.</p> <p>Για συστημένο το αντικείμενο ποσό των 12.000 δραχμών (.....) ΕΥΡΩ:</p> <p>Για τα ασφαλισμένα (Δ.Α.) και συστημένα ελεύθερου κύριου δικαιώματος διατάξεις.</p> <p>Τα Ταξ. Γραμμάτια δίνουν πληροφορίες για το ποσό και τον τρόπο πληρωμής της αποζημίωσης.</p>		
<p>1. Όταν δεν αναγράφεται ποσό ασφαλίσεως το αντικείμενο είναι συστημένο.</p> <p>2. V = Ασφαλισμένο (Δ.Α.) ΑΤ = Αποδοχή Παραλαβής ΕΑ = Αντικατάσταση ΚΔ=Κατασκευασμένο διαβάσει ΚΒ=Κατασκευασμένο Ενδοχείο.</p> <p>ΠΕ = Προσωπική Ενδοχείο.</p> <p>3. Το ασφαλισμένο ποσό δεν αποτελεί απόδειξη ταχυδρομικού τέλους.</p>		

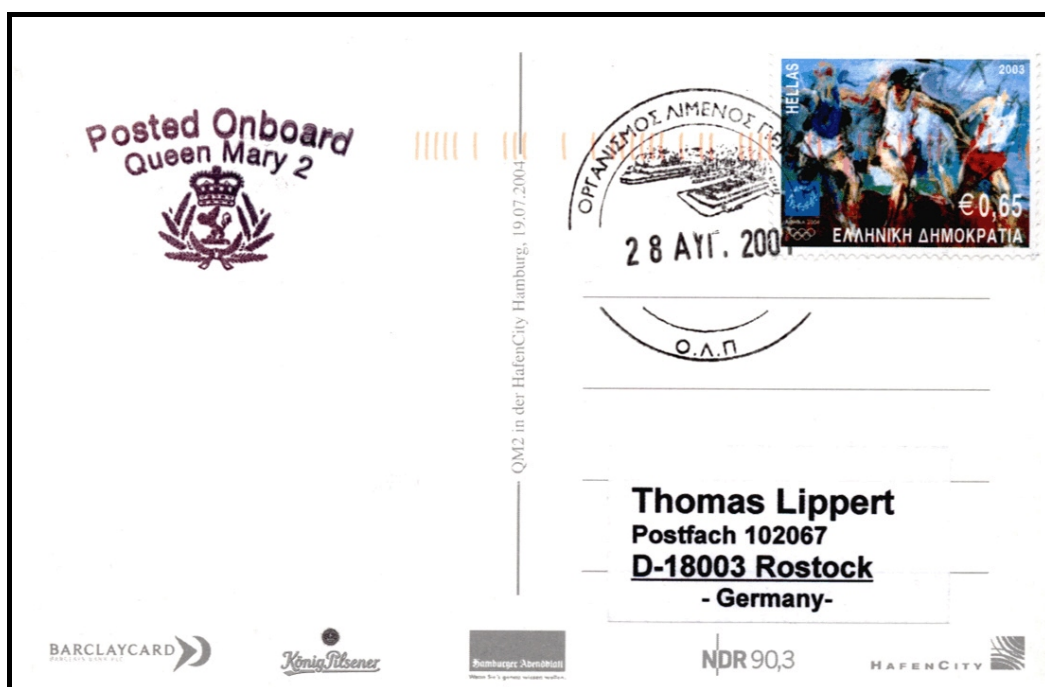
Figure 7. Receipt for registered letter in Figure 6. A handstamped post office employee ID number was added (08550-525) where "08550" = group number and "525" = individual's number.

The last two *special* post offices were located at Olympia where competition was held from 16-18 August 2004. David Maiden, the Australian advisor to ELTA with Sydney 2000 Olympic Games experience, sent me an email on 11 August about the special post offices at Ancient Olympia. He said there would be three: one in the spectator area near the old stadium where competition would take place, and two more at the Olympic Academy (for the Athlete Village and Press Facility).

From discussions with Klaus Fink and Bob Farley of the Society of Olympic Collectors, both of whom went to Olympia on their own, it appears that the original plans were not fully implemented. For collectors, the result was unremarkable as all the post offices (both temporary and regular) used an identical postmark. From an Olympic postal history perspective, it's worth mentioning that, as far as we know right now, there were only two TPOs: one in front of the City Hall and the other within the restricted access area of the Olympic Academy.

As a result, Table 1 in part 1 of this article (*JSP*, Spring 2005, page 13) needs to be corrected to show three post offices at Ancient Olympia: two temporary, plus the regular post office which also offered the Olympic postmarks. It was, to say the least, difficult to obtain accurate information even during the Games, making philatelic pursuits that much harder.

Figure 8. Queen Mary 2 special postcard with the cachet “Posted Onboard Queen Mary 2” and the Olympic post-mark from the OLP2 temporary post office.



In the temporary post office tent erected on the town hall square there was the usual Olympic material offered for sale, but one could not mail registered letters (Figure 10). Nevertheless, Bob Farley succeeded, sending a post office employee scurrying to the nearby regular post office to obtain registration labels.

The “big” Olympic special post office was at OLYMPHILEX 2004. This international exhibition of

Olympic and sports philately ran from 12-22 August 2004 at the modern EKEP exhibition building in (*JSP*, Winter 2004, pp. 5-8). Five special OLYMPHILEX 2004 one-day cancels commemorating Olympic history and the Panhellenic Games were used (*JSP*, Spring 2005, page 11): Olympic peace, 12.8.2004; Olympic Games, 13.8.2004; Nemean Games, 16.8.2004 (Figure 11); Pythian Games, 18.8.2004; and Isthmian Games, 21.8.2004.



Figure 9. Registration labels at the OLP 2 temporary post office near the Queen Mary 2 used the prefix 437046xxx.

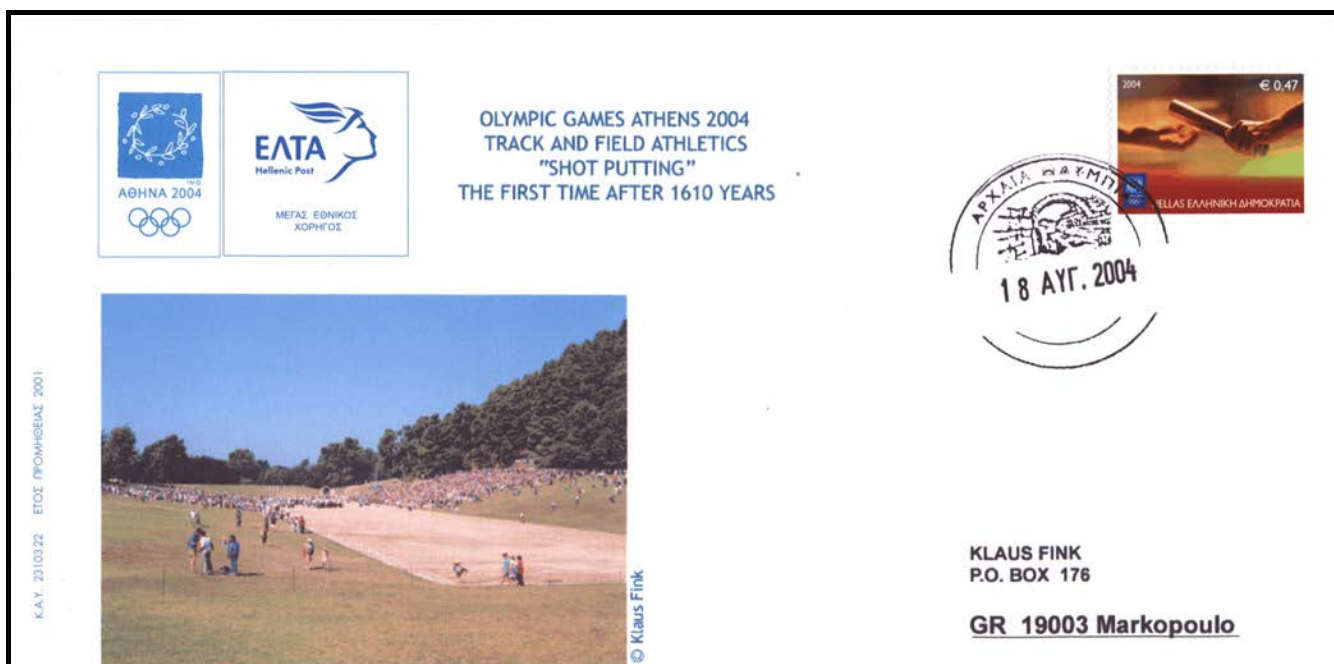


Figure 10. Official ELTA envelope with Ancient Olympia special postmark. The cachet showing a photograph of the competition, was privately applied after the fact.

The circular date stamp of the post office (Athens -) Metamorfosi refers, at least in part, to the post office responsible for supplying the equipment. The staff, however, was drawn from ELTA's philatelic service. Counter service may, at times, have seemed especially disorganized. Long lines were the rule on

philatelically important days. This was particularly true when the first sports postmarks (JSP, Spring 2005, p. 12) were placed in service: chaos prevailed. At first, the one employee fulfilling customers' requests had to search through a box in which all the postmark devices were jumbled together.



Figure 11. Registered letter to Germany with the special postmark honoring the Nemean Games. The value of the ELTA prepaid indicium on this advertising sheet (€0.65) was counted toward the total postage of €2.85, thus only an additional €2.20 in postage was required.

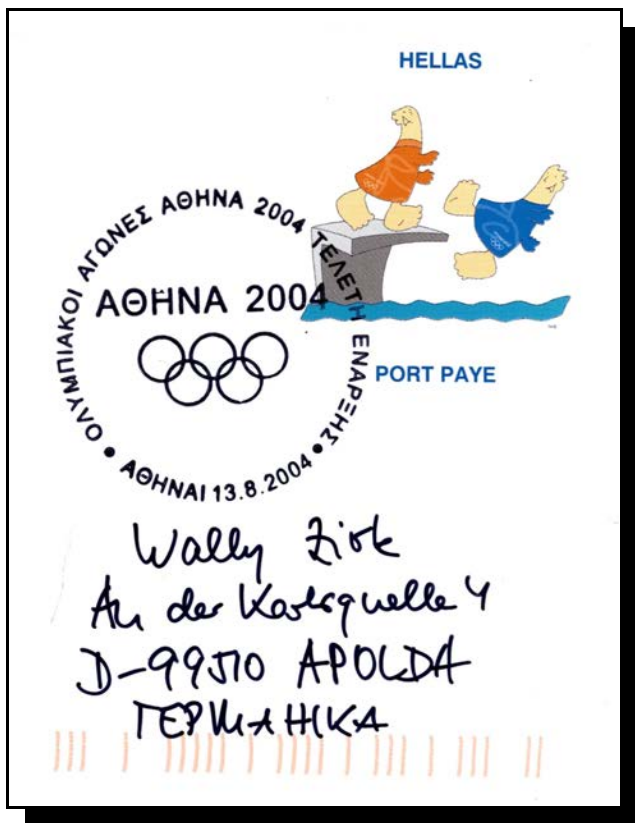


Figure 12. Special postmark for the Opening Ceremonies which was brought to OLYMPHILEX late in the day on August 13. Original plans had not called for this cancel to be available at the exhibition. (photographically cropped)

Then, with somewhat more intelligence, the box with the postmarks was placed at the disposal of collectors on a self-service basis. While that led to the disappearance of the lines, it also invited abuse as some collectors would take postmarks away from the immediate cancelling area in order to change the dates to whatever date they desired. In some cases they also forgot to reset the postmark to the correct date causing headaches for collectors who later used the postmarks. This information is provided to readers as a warning not to pay outrageous prices for items with postmarks with incorrect dates as they were most likely purposely created! After a few days, however, postal employees caught on to what was happening forcing collectors to present each item for inspection before cancellation (to make sure at least first class postage was applied) and keeping careful watch on all postmark devices so collectors could not change dates or use postmarks on the wrong date.

On the day of the opening of the Olympic Games (August 13), the special Opening Ceremonies postmark (Figure 12) was available only at the philatelic service until 2 p.m. as that office closed early that day. As a favor to collectors, the postmark was then brought to OLYMPHILEX where it was in use the remainder of that day.

Despite the importance of the special OLYMPHILEX post office, P-stamps were not available.

Figure 13. Prepaid express envelope for mailing up to 100 grams inside Greece. This item was dispatched from the TPO at the Caravel Hotel (one of two Olympic Family hotels) to the IBC (International Broadcast Center) to which the postal zip code 90550 was assigned.





Figure 14. Olympic postmarks from Thessaloniki, Heraklion, Patra and Volos.

One group of Olympic-related postal items that was not publicized even though it promoted ELTA's role as Grand National Sponsor of the Games is shown in Figure 13. These prepaid "Business Express Post" envelopes were found at normal post offices but only rarely at the special Olympic TPOs (e.g. not at OLYMPHILEX).

The postal zip code on the envelope was specific to the Olympic Games; it was also used for other Olympic divisions. Zip codes did not play as important a role in Athens as at past Games; every now and then a "normal" postal address was publicized. A reason for this might be that post office automation (including the use of specific zip codes) in Greece has not reached as sophisticated a level as elsewhere. As specific zip coding wasn't consistently applied at the Athens Olympics, it becomes rather difficult to use these temporary codes for purposes of philatelic documentation. To date, we have not seen any special markings that might indicate mail had been subjected to a security check.

Back to OLYMPHILEX: besides the Greek post office, other foreign postal administrations or their agencies were more modestly represented. Their exhibition cachets enriched the philatelic offerings. The agent for the German post office was the Roll company. Also present during some or most of the exhibition were Turkey, Iran, Bangladesh, Cyprus, North Korea and the Serbian post office from Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as representatives from China. Business was very poor because of a lack of publicity. This was due primarily to the absence of direct support by the Olympic organizing committee. Similarly, the normal stream of spectators was very meager due to the inconvenient location.



Figure 15. The main post office at Olympia also used the same Olympic postmark as applied by the two special Olympic TPOs.

Some normal post offices in other parts of the country offered special postmarks, so these can be considered additional Olympic post offices (Figure 14). All were cities with Olympic venues: Olympia, Heraklion/Crete, Patra, Thessaloniki, and Volos.

In each case, the main post office in these cities provided a special Olympic postmark. The postmark designs did not reflect the sports that were contested (Olympia: shotput; the other cities: football preliminary matches), but rather depicted famous monuments identified with the respective city. (Note: there are also torch run postmarks from each of these cities showing similar views.)

Olympia (Figure 15) was designated late as an Olympic venue. There first had to be a compromise with archaeologists about how much potential damage to the ancient site was acceptable. For this reason tickets for the shotput events for both men and women had to be limited. The fact that these two events, contested at such a symbolically important location, were tainted by doping violations, leaves a bitter aftertaste.

Each postmark is inscribed with the city name followed by “ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΗ ΠΟΛΗ” (OLIMPIAKI POLI) meaning “OLYMPIC CITY.” The postmarks were officially used during the entire period of the Games.

The Philatelic Service in Athens was a special case as they planned and operated the entire



Figure 16. Special postmark for the Greek medalists stamps applied at the Philatelic Service.

Olympic philatelic program. In principle, all the postmarks were available there, not at the counter, but in another room. They were not, however, always accessible. Also it was not usual that postmarks from the Olympic infrastructure were unavailable (at least during the Olympic Games themselves.) All special postmarks were here later, though in some cases not until the autumn for handling the great quantities of dealer mail that arrived from around the world.

Figure 17. Registered letter from the Athens 52 post office on Syntagma Square with the “Athens Olympic City” postmark.





Figure 18. Since the Philatelic Service was not open on the final day of the Games, the Closing Ceremonies cancel was available only at the Syntagma Square post office. In the illustration, a P-stamp is used with a (private) label showing the Olympic Stadium and the date of the closing ceremonies.

Special postal services were not offered at the Philatelic Service counter. Registered mail had to be handed over at other post offices for mailing. The hours of operation were not altered to take into account the special needs of philatelists during the Olympic Games. As an example, on opening day of the Olympics when two special postmarks were used (one for the First Day of the Athens-Beijing stamps and the other marking the Opening Ceremonies), the Philatelic Service locked its doors in the very early afternoon.

Although it had been the intention to produce a special medal winner postmark for the first day of each medal winner stamp, the postmark wasn't

available at the start of the medalist stamp program. When it did eventually get placed in use, the postmark was backdated (according to a list) to capture the first days of already-issued medalist stamps (Figure 16).

It is remarkable that the Olympic booth erected inside the main Athens post office sold only Olympic products; no special Olympic postmark was available. Instead, the Athens 52 post office at Syntagma Square served as the central Athens Olympic post office. Here, the "Athens Olympic City" special postmark (Figure 17) was available on all days of the Games along with the Closing Ceremonies postmark on Sunday, 29 August 2004 (Figure 18). A summary of the postmarks available at the Philatelic Service and Syntagma Square post offices is shown below:

Athens Olympic Cancels During The Games	
Philatelic Service	
Opening Day	13.8.2004
FDC Athens-Beijing	13.8.2004
Greek Medalists	various issue dates
Syntagma Square - Athens 52	
Athens Olympic City	13.8 - 29.8.2004
Closing Ceremonies	29.8.2004

In concluding this review of the philately of the 2004 Olympics I admit that the report is not complete. The details were complicated and some data may still not be entirely correct as ELTA circulars and memoranda provide contradictory information. This is especially true when trying to accurately determine the opening and closing dates of each TPO.



Figure 19. Colorful ELTA brochure detailing the locations of various TPO's during the Games.

In a colorful ELTA brochure (Figure 19) which appeared soon after the Games began, a TPO was said to exist at the OAKA Olympic Superstore. Both Mark Maestroni and Norman Jacobs looked for it, but without success. I also did not locate such a TPO. While we can be certain that a temporary post office did not exist within the Superstore *during* the Games, there is a possibility that a post office may have been provided inside in the short training/testing period before the opening of the Games as a service to volunteers.

One surprise which did not surface until December 2004 was that on 11 August 2004 a special Athens post office was opened for just that one day at the Athens Tennis Club not far from the old Olympic Stadium. Renamed the “VISA Center,” the facility had been rented to VISA for use as a hospitality center for Olympians and guests (this was an “accreditation-only” area not open to the public). On that day, a special postmark (shown above) was available inscribed “Olympian Center.” We had heard rumors of this post office’s existence, but could not confirm it until now.

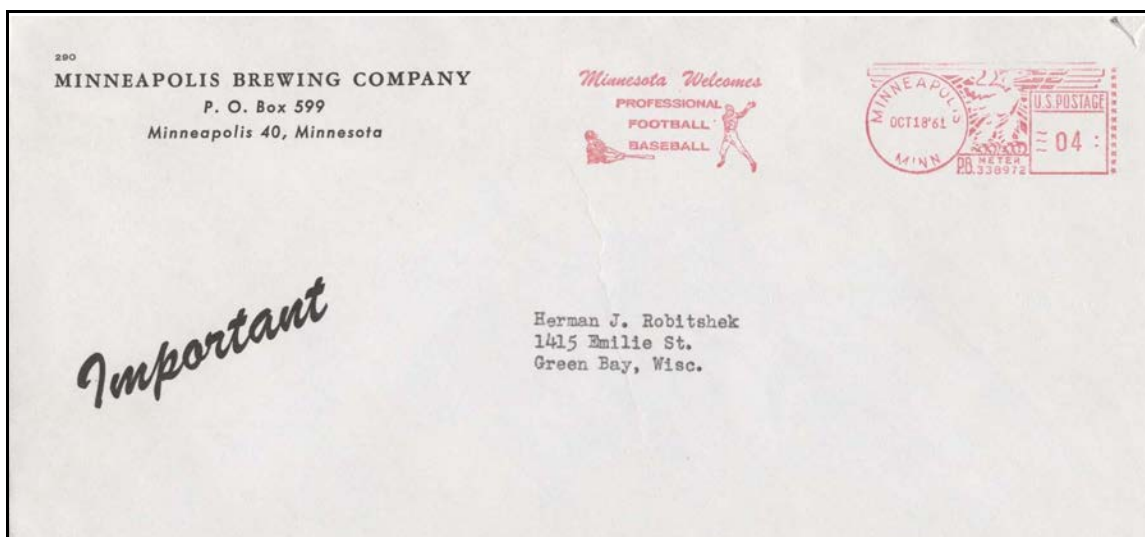


Figure 20. Special postmarks from the post-Olympic period at the IBC (above left) and Paralympic Village (above right and Figure 21, below). The Paralympic Village post office used both the special Olympic and Paralympic Village cancels during this period.

We should not forget that at the Paralympic Games some special Olympic post offices were still open (or reopened). Klaus Fink was able to provide the following information on the post offices during the Paralympic Games: IBC and Olympic/Paralympic Village (both open and using special postmarks) (Figures 20 and 21), Zappeion (open, but without a special postmark), MPC (closed).



Figure 21. A high-powered finish: registered and insured letter from the Paralympic Village with the first day cancel for the Paralympic stamps and the Paralympic Village postmark. The “IN” prefix on the registration label indicates that the letter is “insured.”



In 1961, Minnesota welcomed new professional baseball and football teams.

1961 Minnesota Sports Meters

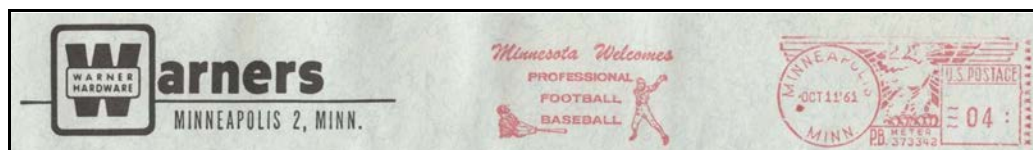
by Norman Rushefsky

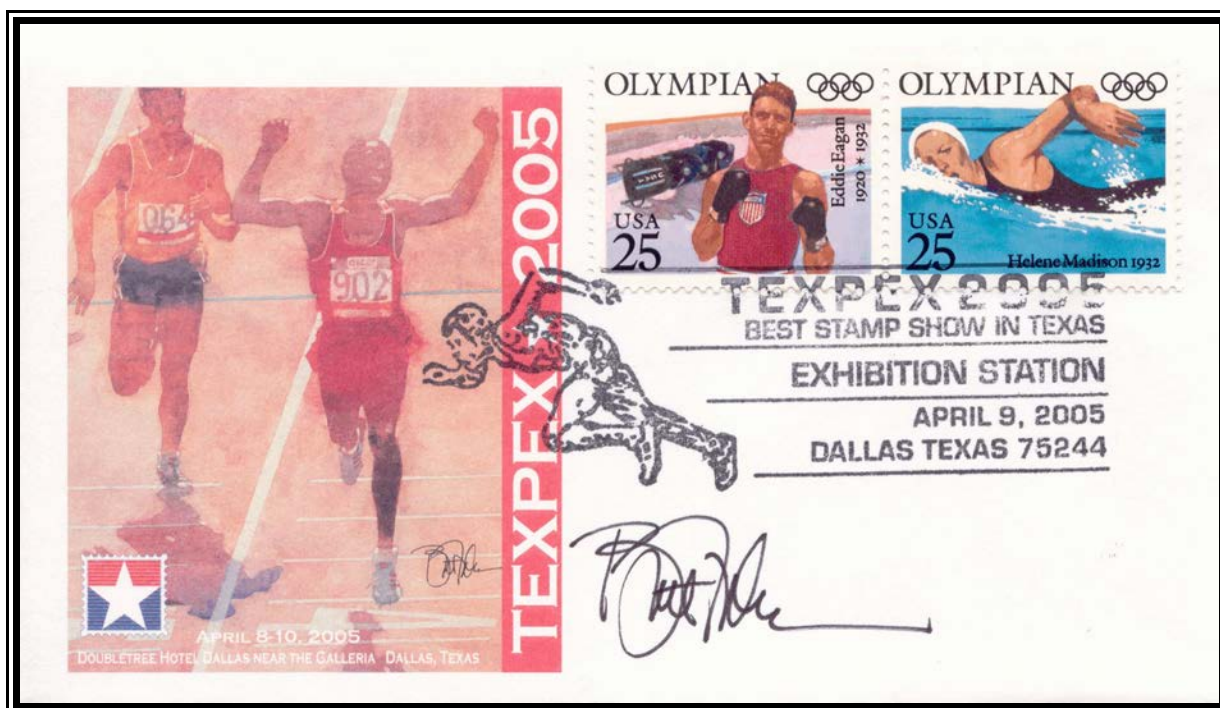
In collecting meter slogans related to sports it is unusual to have the same slogan used by several different firms. Typically the sports related slogan will be used by a particular team, league or equipment manufacturer and pertains to the respective business. The 1961 meter slogan illustrated above and depicting football and baseball themes is an interesting exception. 1961 was an important year for Minnesota in that two professional sports franchises began playing in Minneapolis.

The pro football saga in the Twin Cities began in August 1959 when five Minnesota businessmen were awarded a franchise in the new American Football League. Five months later the ownership group forfeited its AFL membership and then was awarded the National Football League's 14th franchise. The Minnesota Vikings began playing in Metropolitan Stadium in 1961 with an average home attendance of over 34,000 which was about 85% of the Stadium's capacity. The head coach of the team was the former great quarterback Norm Van Brocklin.

The pro baseball saga began in Washington, DC where the Washington Senators had been struggling for years with low attendance. In 1960 Clark Griffith, the owner of the Senators, obtained approval to move the team. The approval came as the American League decided to expand one year earlier than planned. Part of the approval comes because one of the two expansion teams will be placed in Washington to replace the charter American League franchise that now is able to move to Minnesota. Although the new team in Washington will use the old name of the Senators, it will be as an expansion team, since the team that moved to Minnesota, the new Minnesota Twins, was allowed to keep the old Washington Senators' history and records.

In addition to the Minneapolis Brewing Co., Land O'Lakes Creameries and Warners Hardware used the meter (below).





Stamp designer Bart Forbes created the artwork for the show cachet. Two of his "Olympian" stamps from 1992 frank the cover along with the show cancel and his autograph.

SPI Roundup at TEXPEX 2005

by Mark Maestroni
& Dale Lilljedahl

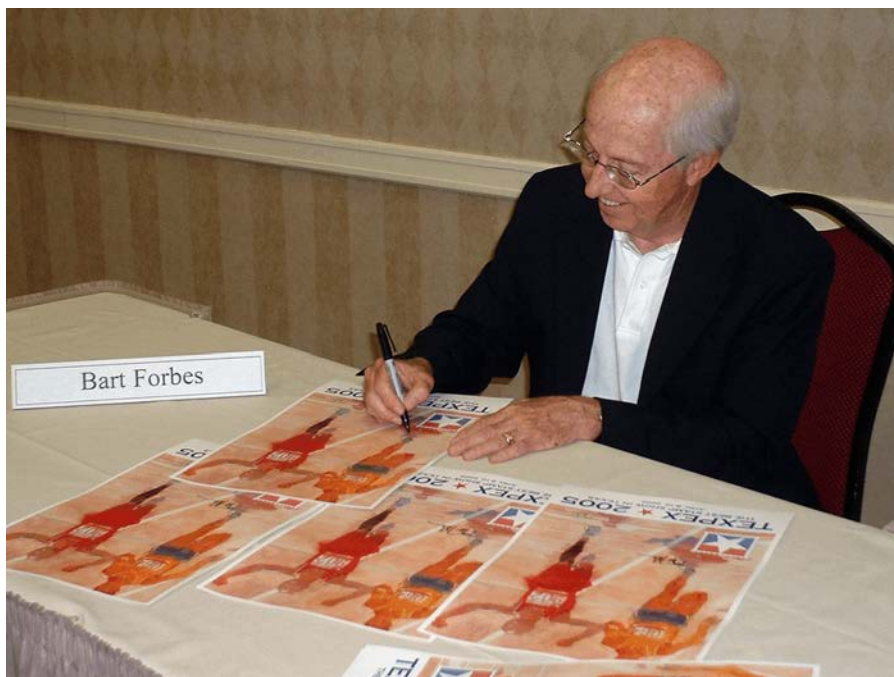
Yippee yi-ya, yippee-yi-yo,
Off to Dallas did SPI go!
All who attended will I'm sure admit,
TEXPEX 2005 was a surefire hit!

This bit of doggerel pretty much sums it up. With a nice venue, friendly folks, good food, and a really top notch series of speakers, this was a fun SPI Convention. It's only a shame that more SPI members didn't avail themselves of the opportunity to join us. In addition to myself and Dale Lilljedahl – who is on the TEXPEX show committee and was responsible for all the local coordination for SPI – Conrad Klinkner and Andrew Urushima flew in from California (along with their exhibits). Other local members who were present were Tom Koch (president of the show committee) and Sharon Whiting.

One of the many ballrooms of the spacious Doubletree Hotel served as both bourse area and exhibit space for this APS World Series of Philately show.

SPI fielded a respectable number of exhibits. Winning SPI's Best-of-Show award this year was Conrad Klinkner's gold medal exhibit "Games of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles, 1932." Conrad also took the ATA award for Best Topical Exhibit. Gold medals were won by Dale Lilljedahl for "France's Olympic Philately of 1924" and Andrew Urushima for his single-frame exhibit "Spoiled by War: The Games of the XII Olympiad." Andrew also received the Single Frame Grand Award and ATA Award. Complete results are in the "News of Our Members" column.

While we had not arranged any special outings this time, those of us who were around Thursday evening satisfied our carnivorous desires at the steak house across the street from the hotel. Then on Friday evening after the show closed, Dale took Conrad and myself to *Babe's*, a very traditional Texas family-style establishment where you had your choice of three entrees: chicken-fried steak, fried chicken, or pot roast. Periodically, a female member of the young waiting staff would grab a cordless mike and belt out a good-old country and western hit. Hey, "American Idol," head on down to Dallas if you need some talent!



Bart Forbes discussing how he designs stamps (left) and autographing small posters showing the artwork he created for TEXPEX 2005 publicity materials and cacheted covers.

ative CP Fieldpoint were also in the Tom Koch of "The First Baseball Stamp" (Philippines Scott #380). At the conclusion, Dale assisted him passing out mini-sized bags of – what else? – Cracker Jack, which we all ate with great gusto. Nice touch, Tom!

Before turning this over to Dale Lilljedahl for his recap of the speakers presentations, I'd like to thank the entire TEXPEX staff (and in particular Dale and Tom Koch) for a job well done; we hope you'll invite us back again sometime.

Now, take it away Dale ...

SPORTS STAMP ART WITH BART FORBES

Will Hempstead was worried. Will is the Events Coordinator for TEXPEX and things weren't going as planned. First, the USPS powers in Washington decide not to send the original art work as requested. In 2003 they had happily sent these drawings from the USPS vaults, and had promise to do so again in 2005. However, when the crates arrived, they contained digital reproductions of the art – nice looking, but of little interest to philatelists expecting to see the real thing. Now, the guest speaker, Bart Forbes, was delayed in traffic.

Bart Forbes is an internationally known painter who has spent much of his career doing commissions for sports organizations. In 1988 he was

selected as the Official Artist for the Seoul Olympics; today his paintings of the events are housed in the Olympic Museum in Seoul. In addition he has painted official posters for the Boston Marathon, the America's Cup, Indianapolis 500, as well as, the 1992 and 1996 Olympic Games.

He has also designed 14 commemorative stamps and 15 postal cards for the U.S. Postal Service. His sports stamps include the Lou Gehrig stamp, the 1992 Olympian series and both issues for the 1988 Olympic Games.

He was gracious to allow TEXPEX to use his water color of two sprinters reaching the dramatic finish of a race for the show's poster, flyers and cachet. Yes, Mr. Forbes was already an important part of the 2005 show, but that did not comfort Will as he fretted over the delay.

The Ebony Room had 20 to 30 people anxiously waiting to hear Mr. Forbes. Besides the SPI members attending the show the room had many of the Collector's Club of Dallas members, who organize TEXPEX. Everyone was talking about their latest acquisitions and did not even notice when Bart rushed in. Since he was only about ten minutes late, the crowd never noticed the delay, and Will breathed a sigh of relief. It was worth the wait.

Bart started by introducing himself and giving a short history of his work. His first encounter with the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee was while

working on the Abigail Adams stamp issued in 1984. The CSAC receives about 1000 requests for commemorative stamps each year, and they cut that number down to about 100. The accepted commemorative subjects are given to artists by either direct commission or by a design competition. The committee reviews each design and recommends alterations.

Bart learned quickly how to work with the CSAC, making his first submission as close to the finished design as possible. Many of the CSAC members have difficulty visualizing the colors and forms, and a finished product is more likely to be chosen.

The small size of stamp art came naturally to Bart since he often did the early studies of all his art in a small format. Stamps offer a unique challenge to the artist with the difficulty of presenting a clear design in the tiny format of the issued stamp. The final design is submitted in a 5" by 7" size.

Bart has learned to use watercolors in his stamp designs, because oils tend to leave streaks when reproduced. The artist must do extensive background research as the slightest mistake will surely be uncovered by one of the thousands of people who use the stamp.

Despite all the time and effort, the stamp artist is offered little compensation, and even less exposure. Unlike other countries, the USPS does not allow the stamp artist to place his name on the stamp, and there is little or no mention of the artist except in the philatelic press. One designs a stamp for the satisfaction of knowing your work will be seen and appreciated by millions.

Bart got the commission for the Lou Gehrig

stamp over a casual lunch. He was meeting with one of the USPS art directors about a different stamp, and the conversation turned to the Gehrig issue. It seemed the artist initially selected was not working out, and time was growing short to get the stamp printed. The director asked Bart to submit a design, which was immediately accepted and went to press.

Not all of Bart's designs have made it to production. Bart showed slides of a set of Olympic sport designs from 1992 that never reached the public's hands.

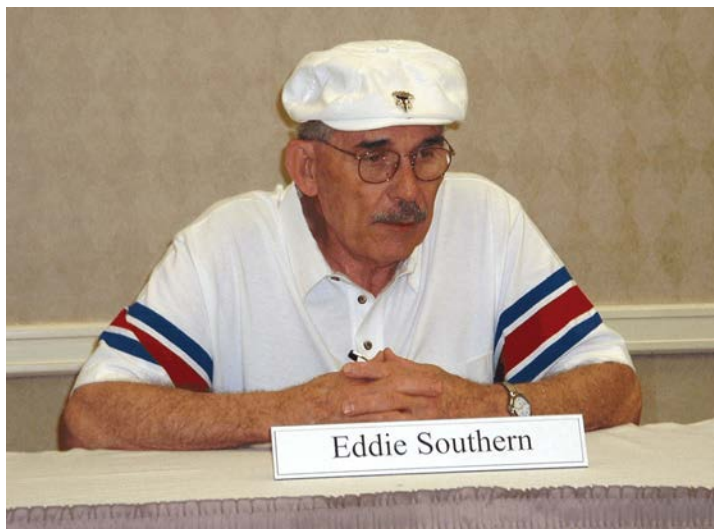
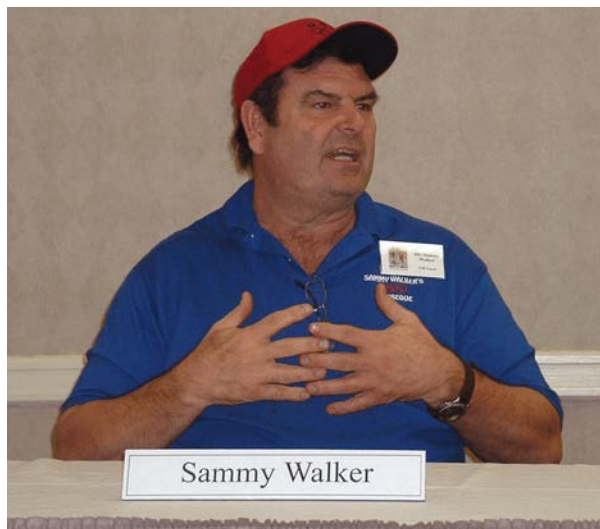
Mr. Forbes ended his talk by showing the audience his latest sports commission. He unrolled a 24" x 36" original of the official 2005 Kentucky Derby poster, and everyone enjoyed the chance to see it before being released to the general public. After he finished speaking, Bart stayed to sign posters, covers and copies of his sports art book. Nearly everyone in the room lined up with their covers franked with Mr. Forbes' stamps. He stayed until everyone was satisfied, and Will Hempstead finally relaxed.

CONVERSATIONS WITH OLYMPIANS

Every year the TEXPEX organizers try to sponsor a non-philatelic event at the show to create interest for the general public. With Sports Philatelists International at the show, they decided to invite some local Olympians to come by and speak on their experiences. So at 2:00 Saturday the show got to hear from Eddie Southern and Sammy Walker.

Tom Koch first introduced Eddie Southern, and gave a rundown of Eddie's accomplishments as an athlete. In 1955 as a senior at Dallas Sunset High

Sammy Walker (left) and Eddie Southern relating stories about their experiences at, respectively, the 1976 Montreal and 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games.





Glenn Davis (left) & Eddie Southern (#279) in the final stretch of the 400-meter hurdles

school, he set a national record in the 440-yard dash of 47.2, and tied Jesse Owen's twenty-two year old record in the 220-yard dash (20.7) within the span of an hour and a half. As a freshman at the University of Texas at Austin he helped set a national record in the 440 relay at 41.1 and a national 3:14.4 record in the mile relay. At 18, Southern was the youngest USA track athlete at the 1956 Melbourne Games. He set a world record of 50.1 in the 400-meter hurdles in the semi-finals, then captured the silver medal in the finals. Returning to the university, he ran anchor in the 440-yard relay setting two more world records.

Eddie became interested in track as a student at the Ascher Silberstein Elementary school where as a schoolboy he competed in his first races.

His high school coach, Herman Scrubbs, was not a great technical coach, but had some interesting ideas on training. He was not terribly concerned about drinking alcohol, but was upset when his athletes dated. Everyone knows that women sap your energy. For the same reason, he also did not allow his team to shower for two days before a meet. Scrubbs had the ability to whistle so loud that he could be heard clear across the field, and would whistle when it was time for a runner to make his move.

Eddie decided to attend the University of Texas at Austin for college and remains an active alumni. He decided to go there because Coach Davis was

known for producing great relay teams and hurdlers. He convinced some of his track friends from Dallas to go to Austin, and they were teammates for an additional four years. He had a very successful college career, and won many watches, the prize of the day.

Mr. Southern decided to take a year out of college to compete in the 1956 Olympics. The Games were held in November that year, so he had to alter his training schedule, and could not compete in

the NCAA meets. His favorite events, the 400-meter dash and the high hurdles, were highly competitive that year, so his coach convinced him to try for the 400-meter hurdles. He was still young, and could compete in future Olympics in those events.

He not only made the team in the 400-meter hurdles, but set the world record of 50.1 in the semi-finals. Not bad for your third best event. Unfortunately he ran his best race in the semis, and was beaten by Glenn Davis in the final. To add insult to injury, Davis tied his world record time.

Eddie enjoyed his time in Melbourne. The public facilities were first rate, and the food was both plentiful and delicious. You would typically find steak and lobster at the evening meals, and the athletes had to start skipping meals to keep from gaining weight.

Unfortunately the Olympic Village accommodations were small and lacking in amenities. There were no showers in the rooms, only baths, and there was rarely hot water. It was still cold Down Under in November, so they always tried to shower before leaving the stadium which had abundant hot water.

Every room in the Village apartments was used for sleeping, but he was fortunate to room with Bobby Morrow in a bedroom.

It turns out that 1956 was Eddie's only shot at the Olympics. At the trials for the 1960 Rome Olympic Games, his two events were run close together, but he decided to try for both anyway. It was very hot on

the track, and he suffered heat stroke in the preliminaries. He was unable to recover sufficiently, and did not finish in the top three.

By the 1964 Olympics he was no longer competing at an international level. He retired from track after he left the military, and went into the catering business. Eddie is retired today, but still cooks for special events at his local church.

Sammy Walker also attended Ascher Silberstein Elementary, but did not become interested in competing until he was fourteen. That year he watched the Randy Matson / Dallas Long dual in the shot put at the 1964 Olympics, and decided to become a world-class shot putter. At Samuel High School he set the national and World High School record of 72'-3¼" which made him the first person to break the 70-foot barrier with a 12-pound shot. His record stood for a decade until broken by another Dallas prodigy, Michael Carter.

Sammy went to Southern Methodist University on a full scholarship, but found the transition to the 16-pound shot difficult. He stands just 6-foot tall, which is quite short for a shot putter. Realizing he had to depend on speed and strength to compete, Sammy became quite serious about weightlifting. He did not compete at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, but got to attend as an up-and-coming athlete, and still considers Bob Beamon's miraculous long jump as one of his greatest memories in track and field.

As the 1976 Games approached he decided to try to be the first person to compete in two different sports – shot put and weightlifting – since Johnny Weissmuller in 1924 (swimming and water polo). Unfortunately the trials for the two events conflicted and he had to choose only one.

He was rated fourth in the shot put in the U.S., but considered the top super heavyweight in weightlifting. Choos-

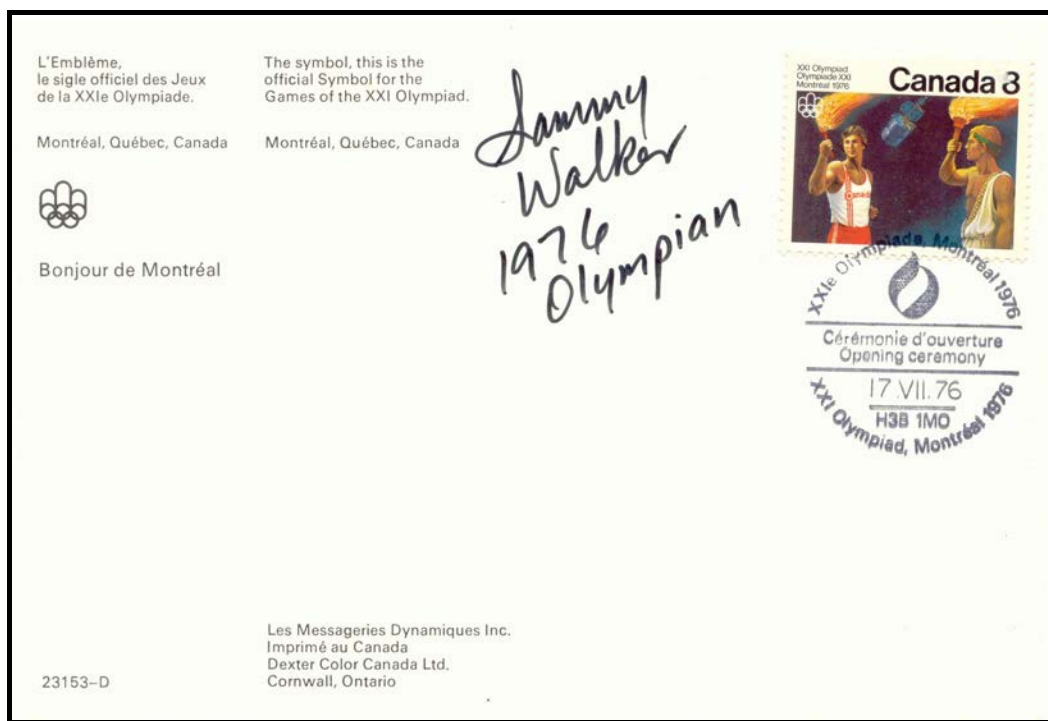
ing to compete in the latter event at the Olympics, he finished ninth behind the legendary Vassily Alekseyev.

This was a remarkable achievement in a time when weightlifting received little attention in the United States, and when the eastern European athletes were pumped up on steroids.

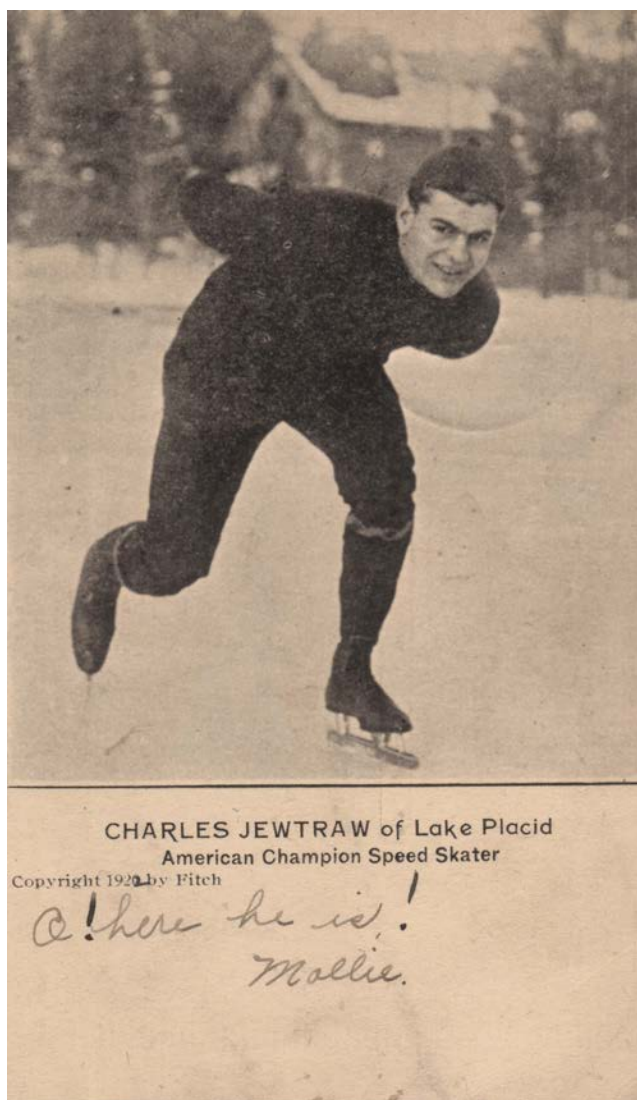
Sammy's favorite memory of Montreal was rounding the corner of the track at the Opening Ceremonies, and having H.R.H. Queen Elizabeth II wave at him.

Sammy continued to compete in both weightlifting and in the shot put. He was rated in the top ten in both events from 1976 to 1979. At the 1980 USA track and field trials, Sammy placed third and made the Olympic team. He was training in Dallas with Michael Carter when his coach called him early one morning and told him about the boycott. In his sleepy haze he remembers wondering why Michael Carter would boycott the Games. Later he realized that President Carter had called for a nationwide boycott.

Like Southern, Sammy retired from athletics to work in the food business, and today has a very popular barbeque restaurant in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. He remains active in track by coaching kids in his community. 🏆

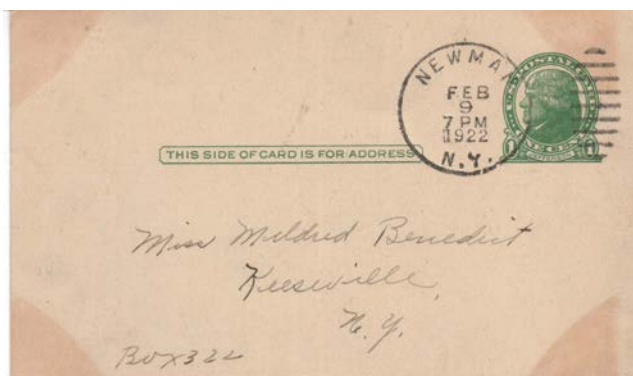


Sammy Walker's favorite memory of the 1976 Olympics was receiving a wave from Queen Elizabeth II who opened the Montreal Games.



**“O! Here
he is!”**

by Glenn Estus



Who is “He”? He’s Charles Jewtraw (1900-1996), a speed skater from Lake Placid, New York who was the National Outdoor Speed Skating champion in 1921 and 1923.

Obviously his hometown of Lake Placid was also proud of his accomplishments in 1922. Mollie sent a postcard to Mildred and expressed her sentiments very strongly about the young speed skater. The card is postmarked “Newman, N.Y.” February 9, 1922.

Newman is a section of the village of Lake Placid at the bottom of a long hill. Residents didn’t like the trek up the hill to the Lake Placid post office so a new office was established in 1891. It was discontinued in 1936.

Charles Jewtraw has another claim to fame: he was the first person to win a gold medal at a Winter Olympics. Jewtraw won the 500-meter speed skating event at the 1924 Olympic Winter Games held in Chamonix, France.



If you visit the 1932 and 1980 Winter Olympic Museum in Lake Placid, you can see the actual gold medal on loan from the Smithsonian Institution (above).

The illustrations of the gold medal for this article were downloaded from the IOC website (www.olympic.org).



Centennial of the Australian Open



by **Pascal Bedenes**

The Australian Open is the newest of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments. In fact, Australia suffered for a long time due to its geographical location before rising to the level of Roland Garros (the French Open), Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

Tennis first appeared in Australia at the end of the 19th century. By 1880, regional competitions were being conducted in the states of Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania. As in the British Isles, grass was the preferred surface, however tennis in Australia was also played on courts composed of sand, brick dust, asphalt and even gravel. The Australasian Tennis Federation was founded in 1904 as a fusion of the federations of Australia and New Zealand, thus standardizing the playing surfaces. Since 1886, the latter had held its own national championship. The Australasian tennis championship was launched in 1905 at the cricket grounds of St. Kilda's Road in Melbourne. Australian

Rodney Heath of Victoria was the inaugural winner. In its early days the championship traveled around the country.

The creation of an international competition was meant to encourage foreign champions to undertake the long sea voyage to the Antipodes. In 1908, the American, F.B. Alexander, dominated competition. Eventually, other foreign players were victorious: J.C. Parke of Ireland in 1912, Briton F.G. Lowe in 1915 and A.R. Kingscote in 1919. Nevertheless, this championship remained the prerogative of the local players. New Zealand's Tony Wilding and Australian Norman Brookes, both winners of the Australasian Open, were the first tennis champions from this corner of the world. Brookes, was the first foreigner to win Wimbledon in 1907. Wilding was victorious on the lawns of London on four consecutive occasions. Together they captured the David Cup five times under the colors of Australasia. Wilding gave his life proudly at the French front in 1915 during the First World War. From 1916 to 1918 the championships of Australasia were suspended.



Sir Norman Brookes (above) and Anthony Wilding (below).





Beginning in 1922, the championships opened the door to women, crowning Australian Mall Molesworth. As with the men, competition suffered due to the great geographic distance often limiting participation to players from the southern hemisphere.

In 1927, Australia and New Zealand declared their tennis independence from each other. Thereafter this tournament was known as the Australian Championships. In 1928, the Frenchman Jean Borotra (above left) became the first non-Anglo-Saxon player to claim the championships.

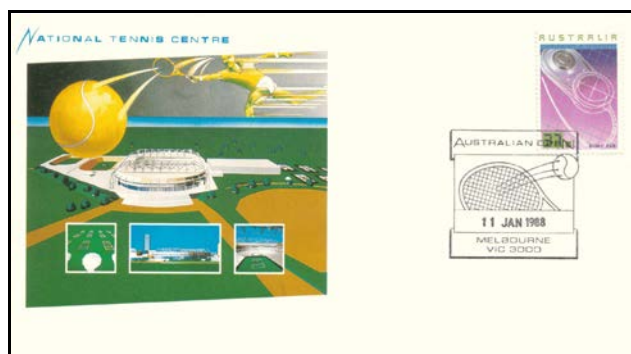
GOLDEN AGE OF AUSTRALIAN TENNIS

After the Second World War, Australians dominated the world tennis scene for more than a quarter century. Among the more famous players, to name just a few, were Fred Segment, Roy Emerson, Rod Laver (the man with two Grand Slams between 1962-1969), Ken Rosewall, John Newcombe, and, for the women, Margaret Court-Smith (below).

With the advent of open (to amateurs) tennis, the championships of Australia became the Australian Open in 1969.



Four of Australia's premier tennis stars (clockwise from above left): Ken Rosewall, Margaret Court, John Newcombe and Rod Laver.



Above, Australia's National Tennis Centre also known as "Flinders Park" (below left). It was renamed "Melbourne Park" in 1996 (right).

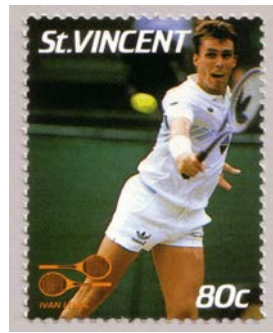


In 1972, the leaders of the Australian federation decided that the tournament should have a permanent site; since 1973, the tournament had been held in the Kooyong stadium at Melbourne.

By the mid-1970's, the best players, Borg and Connors amongst others, did not travel to tournaments played during Christmas holidays. The Australian Open lost its attraction in a stadium judged much too old.

1988 – THE AUSTRALIAN OPEN REVOLUTION

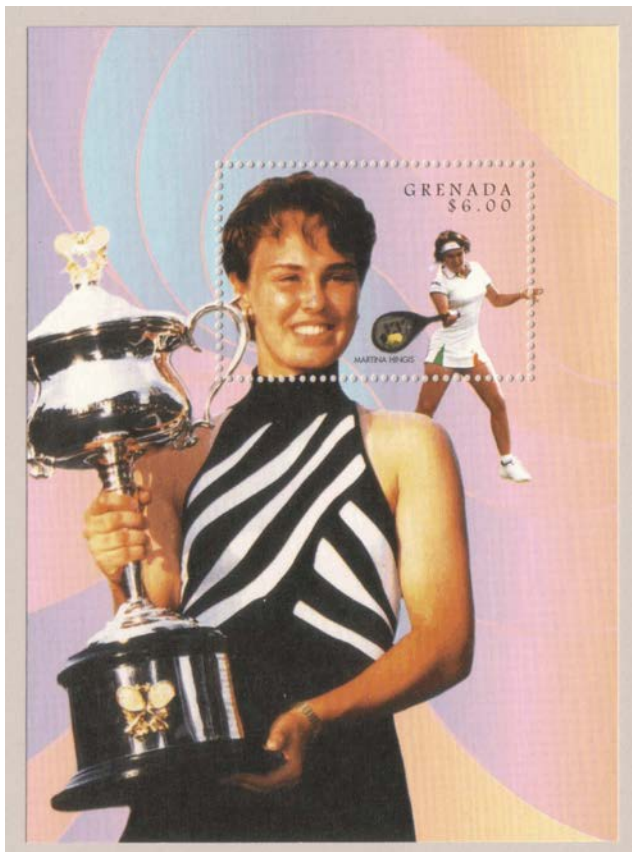
In 1986 the Australian federation moved the 1987 tournament from December back to the beginning of January, making this the first important event of the new year. It was also decided to relocate the competition to the ultra modern tennis stadium at Flinders Park in Melbourne. This splendid sporting complex, located just two steps from the center of town, was equipped with a retractable roof which in the event of rain could be closed in only 20 minutes – a first for a Grand Slam tournament. A synthetic surface – "rebound ace" – replaced the grass courts, upsetting tradition. After its extension



Boris Becker, Ivan Lendl, Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi – four Australian Open stars.



Women's singles champions at the Australian Open, have included such luminaries as Steffi Graf and Serena Williams (above) as well as Martina Hingis (below).



in 1996, Flinders Park was renamed Melbourne Park. Center court became “Rod Laver Arena” in 2000, and court one was dubbed “Margaret Court Arena.”

This revolution succeeded beyond all expectations. The Australian Open today attracts all the leading players. The greatest champions of the last seventeen years have all triumphed there: Mats Wilander, Ivan Lendl, Boris Becker, Jim Courier, Pete Sampras, André Agassi, Roger Federer, and for the women Steffi Graf, Monica Seles, Martina Hingis, Jennifer Capriati, and Serena Williams.

Since the rebirth of their tournament, the Australians wait for one of their own champions. Not since Mark Edmonson in the 1976 men's singles and Chris O' Neil in the women's singles of 1978 has an Australian been victorious.

The championship has been held in six different cities: Melbourne (47 times), Sydney (17), Adelaide (14), Brisbane (8), Perth (3) and in New Zealand (twice).

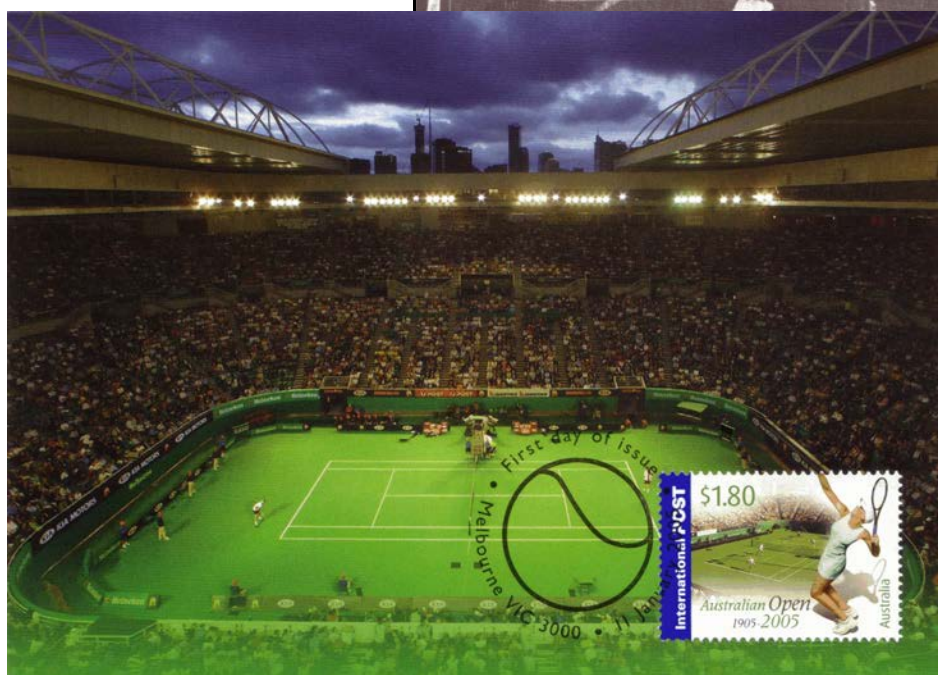
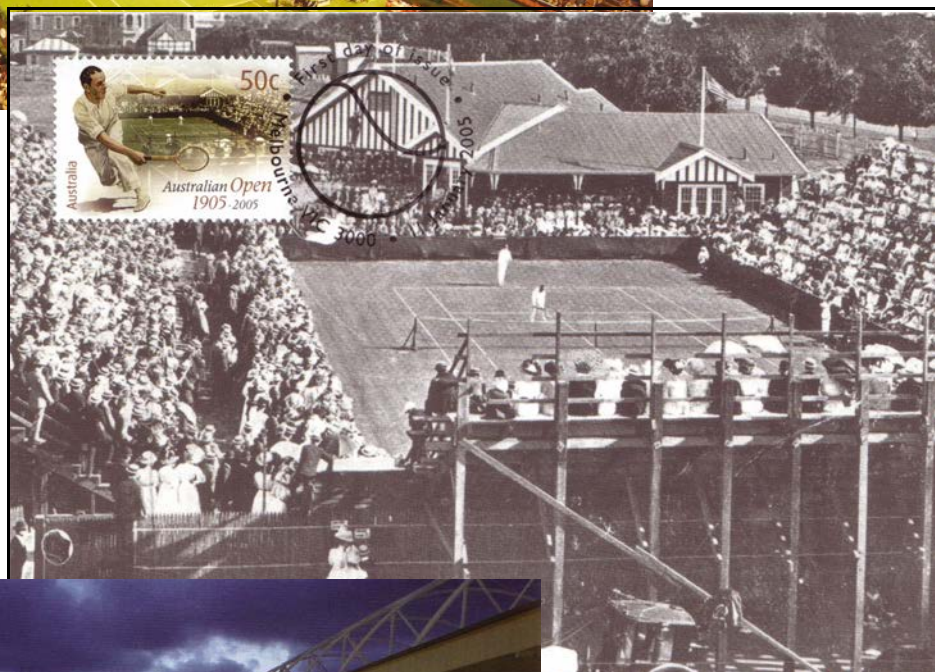
Sweden's Mats Wilander (below left) is the only player to have won the Australian Open on two different surfaces: 1983 and 1984 on the grass of Kooyong and in 1988 on the artificial surface of Flinders Park. Roy Emerson (below right) and Margaret Court hold the record for the greatest number of singles titles with six and eleven victories respectively.





Souvenirs of the Australian Open Centennial, 1905-2005







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Figure 1. Arrival of the 2004 Olympic Flame at Kyiv's Boryspil airport on July 5, 2004 (the first postmark was time-stamped "10 - 00"). Although Kyiv was not a primary host city of a previous Olympic Games, it had been a venue for some of the preliminary football matches during the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

2004 Olympic Flame Visits Kyiv

by Kon Sokolyk

The Olympic flame returned to Kyiv, Ukraine during the 2004 Olympic Torch Relay. The flame had previously been to the Ukrainian capital en route to Moscow for the 1980 Summer Games. At that time, Ukraine was incorporated into the USSR and had hosted some of the preliminary soccer matches.

At 10:50 a.m. on July 5, 2004, the support aircraft "Hera" arrived at the State International Airport of Ukraine at Boryspil located 39 kilometers east of Kyiv. The aircraft "Zeus" with the Olympic Flame onboard touched down at precisely noon. At the airport, local dignitaries and school children welcomed the flame and its entourage with the traditional bread and salt.

At 3:45 p.m., the Olympic Flame left Boryspil by motorcade for a 10-minute ride to the relay starting point at the "Welcome to Kyiv" sign on the Boryspil highway. There, Borys Shakhlin, a seven-time Olympic champion in gymnastics, received the flame. After a brief ceremony, the first runner, 1996 Olympic champion Vyachislav Oliynyk, set off for the city center at 4:00 p.m.

One hundred and twenty runners carried the flame on its Kyiv journey, among them the boxing Klitchko brothers, gymnasts Ludmilla Turischeva, Lilia Podkopayeva and Kateryna Serebrianska, soccer great Oleh Blokhin, Eurovision 2004 singing contest winner Ruslana Lyzhychko, firefighter Oleksandr Tomashov who risked his life fighting the nuclear meltdown at Chornobyl, and Olympic philatelist Hivi Turabilidze.

Tens of thousands cheered as the Olympic Flame made its way along Kyiv's streets passing some of the city's historic landmarks such as St. Michael Monastery, the Lavra Monastery and Kyiv University. Some sixty thousand greeted the final runner, pole-vaulter Serhiy Bubka, at 9:00 p.m. at Independence Square (recently the focal point of the Orange Revolution), cheering as he lit a specially prepared cauldron. Amongst the dignitaries were Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych and Ukraine's International Olympic Committee member and sprinting great Valeri Borzov.

To celebrate the Olympic Flame's presence in Kyiv, Ukrainian postal authorities approved two official covers and two different cancels with the time-stamp on each changing on an hourly basis. There are twelve cancels, all in blue (I cannot confirm that this is the only color).

The first cover (Figure 1) depicts the airport at Boryspil with text "Olympic Flame in Ukraine." The accompanying cancel was authorized for use at the Boryspil-7 postal station. Designed by Viktoriya Orlovska, it prominently displays the time stamp, and

features a torch and flame with text reading "The Arrival of the Olympic Flame in Ukraine." Chronologically the first time stamp is "10-00" reflecting the arrival of the first airplane at Boryspil. The last is "15-00" when the flame left Boryspil.

The second cover (Figure 2) depicts the route of the Olympic Flame in Kyiv. Once again the text reads "Olympic Flame in Ukraine." This cancel was authorized for use at Kyiv's main post office Kyiv-1. Designed by Oleksander Stalmokas, it features the Olympic rings and once again the torch and flame, with text reading "Olympic Flame in Kyiv." The first time-stamp is "16-00" coinciding with the start of the relay run in Kyiv while the last is "21-00" coinciding with Serhiy Bubka's entry into Independence Square. Interestingly, the most prominent splash of color on the cover is orange.

On each of the covers is the 2004 Olympic stamp – a stylized Pegasus pulling a chariot composed of the Olympic rings. Face value: 2.61 hryvni. Quantity printed, 100,000. Date of issue: June 26, 2004.

A thank you to Roman Byshkevych for providing information about the covers and cancels. 🐾



Figure 2. The torch relay in Kyiv began at 4:00 p.m. following the route shown on this official cover's cachet (run from right to left). Olympic pole vaulter, Serhiy Bubka, was the final runner, entering Independence Square in downtown Kyiv at 9:00 p.m.

REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme **April 2005 (#35)**

This month's *Esprit* provides a nice mix of brief articles on a variety of Olympic and sports themes. René Christin begins with a short philatelic history of the Cross-Country World Championships, the latest edition of which was held in France this past March. J.J. Guyon reviews polo at the Olympic Games, while Henri Deparis presents a fascinating souvenir from the French paqueboat "Lafayette": a menu with the autographs of the French Olympic Team to the 1932 Olympic Games. Deparis goes on to discuss the voyage as well as the team's performance in Los Angeles.

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

Filabasket Review **April 2005 (#16)**

Now in its fifth year (the International Filabasket Society was founded in 2000), the editor, Luciano Calenda, opens this issue with look back at the beginnings of organized basketball philately in the 1960's to the growing I.F.I.S. of today.

In another article, Calenda describes the deal between the NBA and a US-based "philatelic agent" for small African and Caribbean nations for a program of issues depicting "200 or more" NBA stars of past and present. By the author's reckoning, a full set of sheets (of 20) will cost the collector between \$3,500 and \$4,500, adding this is totally "unacceptable." I heartily agree!

Henik Knijnenburg and Luciano take on the "Basketball Dribble Sequence" with a set of stamps from Uruguay. Ernst Heissenberger reports on a personalized stamp of Austria showing the logo of the Welser Basketball Club.

A round-up of basketball stamps and cancels pertaining to the 2004 Athens Olympic are presented; new meters, stamps and cancels are listed; and "Curiosities – Miscellanea" discussed.

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

IMOS Journal **Feb. (#125) & May 2005 (#126)**

In addition to the membership directory, February's issue of the *IMOS Journal* updated some of the many catalogues that the society publishes: the sports postal stationery catalogue (2001: Australia - Isle of Man); new Olympic stamps; new sport and Olympic postmarks.

May's mailing featured the 2005 IMOS Congress booklet filled with interesting articles on sports and Olympics. As the congress was held in Leipzig, many of the articles are on themes or topics relating to that city and the surrounding region. These included a look at Leipzig's bid for the 2012 Olympics; Leipzig, cradle of German football; and biographies of local athletes such as Carl Ludwig "Luz" Long, who competed against Jesse Owens in the 1936 Olympic long jump, and tennis player Heinrich Schomburgk.

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

OSPC Bulletin **#1, 2005**

The *OSPC Bulletin* always covers a variety of topics. In this issue, Volker Kluge examines the life of auto racing's Manfred von Brauchitsch better known as "The Red Baron," at the age of 100.

Thomas Lippert writes on some philatelic fantasy issues recently offered on eBay. These included a fictitious piece of postal stationery with a fake postmark purporting to have been used along the route of the 2004 torch relay through Greece. Another shows a phoney postmark supposedly applied at Salt Lake City during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Let the buyer beware!

A detailed article on Leipzig's bid for the 2012 Olympics is provided by Eberhard Büttner, while Thomas Lippert covers Rostock's portion of the bid for the sailing events. For the soccer collector, Hans-Georg Nemitz covers '78 World Cup philately.

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

Phila-Sport **March 2005 (#53)**

Sports memorabilia fans will delight in Onorato Arisi's opening article on World Cup football tickets which begins with the 1964 finals in Vienna. Ferruccio Calegari updates canoeing enthusiasts, while Tiberio Moro reviews shooting sports at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games.

With the Torino 2006 Olympic Winter Games just around the corner, Massimo Menzio introduces us to new official postcards and pins. And for the motor-heads, Mauro Gilardi catches us up on motor sports. As always, *Phila-Sport* carries numerous sports briefs on events from around the world.

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

Torch Bearer **February 2005 (Vol. 22, #1)**

The first issue of 2005 begins with an update on Bob Wilcock's fascinating article on the "1908 Marathon Route and AAA Olympic Trials." Having

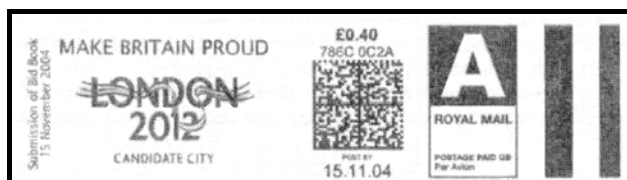
had a chance to do some more research at the National Archives, going far toward explaining the Marathon's unusual route and distance.

London's bid for the 2012 Games is discussed and accompanied by postcards promoting the bid. Through some fortunate contacts with the bid committee, SOC were also able to introduce the bid logo into the design of the new "SmartStamp" which is similar to a slogan meter.

In Part IV of their study on the Melbourne 1956 Olympic machine slogans, Tom D'Arcy and Bob Wilcock concentrate on those cancels from Brisbane.

Finally, a variety of philatelic emissions commemorating the 2004 Global Torch Relay are presented.

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



"SmartStamp" promoting the London 2012 bid

France and Colonies Proofs & Essays

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THE SPORTS ARENA

by Mark Maestrone



I don't often find much of interest in Regency Superior Auctions, however their June 4, 2005 Auction #48 held quite a nice surprise (above). I wasn't aware of its existence, but apparently at least one imperf sheet of the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games stamps found its way into the public's hands.

The item in the auction is actually an imperf block of 8. Here's how the auction listing reads:

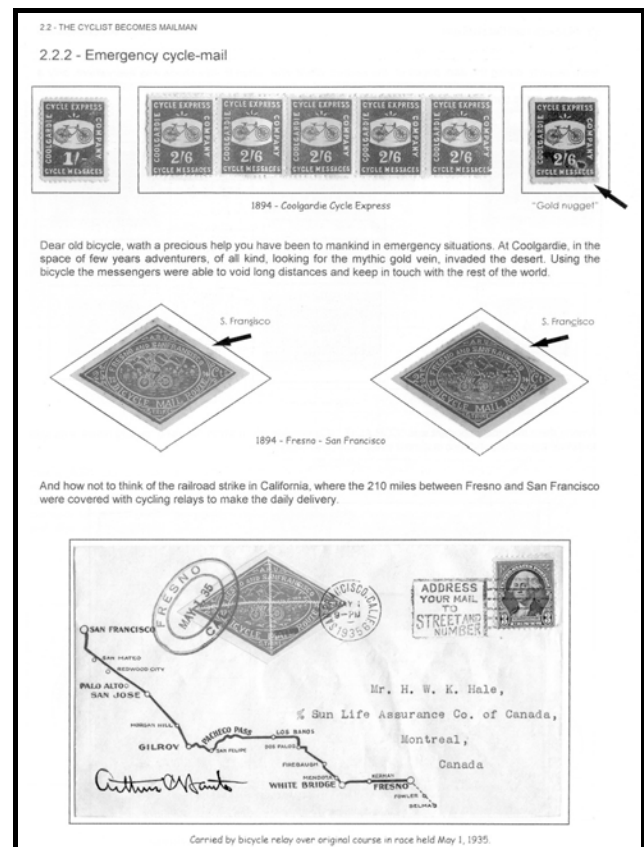
Lot #855: (3555c) 2002 Winter Olympics 34¢ MULTI, IMPERF BLOCK ... RARE imperforate lower left plate block of 8. Self-adhesive, MINT never hinged. Tiny surface flaw affects position 3, otherwise very fine. Listed, but not priced in Scott; Datz 2005 CV for two regular blocks of 4 (Datz \$1700). Estimate: \$2000

In the next issue of *JSP* I'll report on the auction result.

I have to hand it to our friends at UICOS (the Italian sport and Olympic collectors society) as they publish some very nice handbooks. The latest arrival is entitled "Due Route è Vita" or "Two Wheels is Life" which is the 96-page (6-frame) thematic cycling exhibit of Pasquale Polo.

While not a cycling collector myself, I nevertheless found this study fascinating and, because it's entirely in English, quite useful (a sample page is shown below). The exhibit is divided into three chapters. Chapter 1, "The Steel Horse" describes the invention of the bicycle. Chapter 2, "Useful, Necessary and Fun" covers the more utilitarian uses of the bicycle, while Chapter 3, "A Huge Task" deals with the sporting aspects.

If you're a cycling collector you'll find this book a must-have; exhibitors will no doubt benefit from it as well. A price was not included, but enquiries can be made from UICOS, CP 14327, Roma Trullo, 00149 Roma, Italy, or by email to: philasport@tin.it



POSTAL STATIONERY CORNER

by Glenn Estus



Figure 1. USPS postcard duplicating the stamp's design.

Games the USPS issued a number of stamps beginning with a block of four 40¢ (airmail rate) stamps in April 1983. These were followed by 28¢ airmail stamps (June 1983), 13¢ postcard rate stamps (July 1983), 35¢ airmail stamps (November 1983) and 20¢ domestic rate stamps (May 1984). Also included in the program was a block of four 20¢ stamps (January 1984) in honor of the 1984 Winter Games held in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.



Figure 2. The USPS sold both mint cards and cards with matching stamps affixed, then first day canceled.

The Postal Stationery Column this month veers a little away from "true" postal stationery to look at a program from the United States Postal Service (USPS) in 1983 and 1984.

It's hard to believe that two decades have passed since the Los Angeles Summer Olympics and the Sarajevo Winter Games. In anticipation of the

The stamps along with a 30¢ air letter sheet and two 13¢ postcard rates were all designed by Robert Peak. Taken as a unit, the series creates a splendid motif of athletes in action against a colorful background of geometric lines.

The USPS also issued a series of non-stamped postcards reproducing the design of each postage stamp with any text. They were available in two formats: mint (Figure 1) or canceled on the first day of issue with the corresponding stamp (Figure 2). Both formats were available by mail from the Philatelic Agency, however, if you were fortunate to attend the first day ceremony, you could create your own canceled cards in a variety of ways. Since I live about 35 miles from Lake Placid, I was able to do this.

Figure 3 shows the 20¢ cross-country skier card and stamp canceled from North Pole, New York, which at the time was a branch of the Lake Placid post office.

The first set of cards was released in conjunction with the 40¢ airmail stamps showing men's gymnastics, women's swimming, weightlifting and shot put. On the reverse of each card is a brief description of the stamp plus USPS copyright notice and USPS logo.

In recent years a number of varieties of these cards have appeared on a major internet auction site. Three examples that I have been able to obtain are: (1) 40¢ gymnastics card with no printing on the reverse. (2) 20¢ kayaking card with wording for the 20¢ wrestling stamp on the reverse, and (3) 20¢ diving stamp with wording for the 20¢ women's long jump stamp on the reverse.

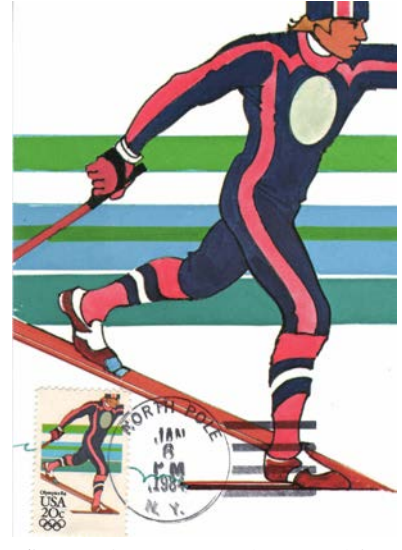


Figure 3. Postcard, matching stamp and interesting cancel.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Margaret Jones

New Members

2239 Ross J. Sutherland, 35 Robinson Street, Markham, Ontario L3P 1N5, Canada. Ross is retired.
Olympics.

2240 Richard K. Tucksmith, 435 East 85th Street, New York, NY 10028-6339 USA. He is an accountant. **General Sports, Olympics, Soccer, Basketball, Baseball.**
E-mail: richard_tucksmith@fortunemail.com

2241 Alvaro Pacheco, 8760 Azalea Court, Apt 102, Tamarac, FL 33321-2024 USA. He is retired.
Soccer and FIFA Games.

RENEWALS

777 Alvaro Trucchi, Viale S Nilo 22/24, IT-00046 Grottaferrata, RM, Italy.

1030 Francis Gervais, 4505 Dansereau, Laval Quebec H7T 243, Canada.

1106 Dino Tognellini, PO Box 11/116, Montesacro, IT-00141, Roma, Italy.

1679 Agustin Mujica, PO Box 2119 Caparra Heights Station, San Juan, PR 00922-2119, USA.

1977 David Buxton, 88 Bucknell Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 2DR, England.

2219 Alexandr Sokurenko, Str Radugnaya 65-121, 02218 Kyiv, Ukraine.

E-MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES

John Crowther, olcrow3@btinternet.com
George E. Killian, gkillian7@adelphia.net

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Time to renew your membership if your label lists 2005 on the first line. Your membership ends with this (Summer 2005) issue.

Exhibit Awards

AMERISTAMPEXPO (Atlanta, Georgia). Jim McDevitt was awarded silver for "It's Chess Not Right"; Richard Benjamin won bronze for "Groningen 1946: The World Chess Tournament" and vermeil for "The Game of Chess Through Postcards".

CHICAGOPEX (Arlington Heights, Illinois). Susan Soltysiak, received youth silver-bronze for "Soccer Around the World".

EDMONTON NATIONAL SHOW (Edmonton, Canada, April 1-3). The winner of the SPI Youth certificate was Orrin Esau for his 3-frame silver medal winning exhibit, "Track & Field".

SPRINGPEX (Springfield, Virginia). Andrew Hodge won youth silver for "Baseball".

TEXPEX (Dallas, Texas). SPI's 2005 Convention was held at TEXPEX 2005 from April 8-10. Winning SPI's Best-of-Show award this year was Conrad Klinkner's gold medal exhibit "Games of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles, 1932." Conrad also took the ATA award for Best Topical Exhibit at the show. Also winning gold medals were Dale Lilljedahl for "France's Olympic Philately of 1924" and Andrew Urushima for his single-frame exhibit "Spoiled by War: The Games of the XII Olympiad." Andrew also received the Single Frame Grand Award and ATA Award. Winning vermeil awards were Glenn Estus for "III Olympic Winter Games" and Charles Covell, Jr. for "Soccer (Just for Kicks)." Single-frame vermeils were won by Andrew Urushima for "The Olympic Jubilee - Lausanne 1944" and Mark Maestrone for "Men's Gymnastics: Dressed to Win." Both Tom Koch and Dale Lilljedahl received single-frame silvers for, respectively, "Varieties and Usages of the World's First Baseball Postage Stamp" and "America's Olympic EFO's". "Judo, The Gentle Way" by Larry Canada received a bronze.

NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Anguilla: September 20, 2004. Athens Olympics. 30¢ marathon runner; \$1 yachting; \$1.50 gymnast on rings; \$1.90 Pierre de Coubertin.

Australia: March 8, 2005. Sports Treasures. Two 50¢ stamps, Donald Bradman captain of the Australian cricket team; Lionel Rose's boxing gloves; two \$1, Marjorie Jackson's running spikes, Phar Lap's racing silks.

Bolivia: November 8, 2004. Athens Olympics. 1.50b shooter, gymnast, martial arts; 7b runners, swimmer.

Bosnia Croat Administration: March 15, 2005. CSZ Zrinjski Sports Organization. Two 3m stamps, modern soccer scene, early soccer scene.

Cyprus: March 3, 2005. Anniversaries and Events. 20¢ Swimmer and Paralympic gold medalist Carolina Pelendritou.

The Gambia: February 10, 2005. NBA Basketball. Two 25d stamps, Shaquille O'Neal and Steve Nash.

Georgia: November 5, 2004. 100th Anniversary FIFA. 20t Boris Baichadze; 30t Avtandil Gogoberidze; 50t Mikhail Meskhi; 80t David Kipiani.

November 5, 2004. Athens Olympics. 20t fencer; 30t athlete; 50t runners; 80t wrestler.

Germany: February 10, 2005. International German Sport. 0.45e+0.25e Goleo VI lion mascot, 2006 World Soccer Cup; three 0.55e+0.25e soccer player 2006 World Soccer Cup; 2005 gymnastic competition; 2005 Nordic Ski Competition; 1.44e+0.56e 2005 fencing competition.

Ghana: November 29, 2004. Athens Olympics. 500c Jacques Rogge; 800c Abedi Ayew Pele; 7,000c Margaret Simpson; 10,000c Greek art.

Grenada: February 10, 2005. NBA Basketball Players. Two 75¢ stamps, Dwyana Wade; Zydrunas Ilgauskas; \$3 Tracy McGrady.

November 29, 2004. Euro Cup Soccer. Pane of four 7,000c stamps; s/s 20,000c soccer team.

Hungary: March 3, 2005. 100th Anniversary Weightlifting Federation. 170ft weightlifter.

March 10, 2005. Sandor Iharos 1955 World's Best Sportsmen. 90ft the runner in action.

Italy: March 21, 2005. Turin Winter Olympics. 0.23e mascot Pinerolo; 0.45e Cesana Torinese; 0.60e Gliz and Neve mascots with Priority Mail label; 0.62e Sestriere, with Priority Mail label.

Japan: May 2, 2005. Mountain Climbing. Set-tenant strip of four 50y stamps.

Jersey: April 27, 2005. Jersey Soccer. Souvenir sheet with round 2£ stamp. Medal.

North Korea: December 20, 2004. Athens winners. Winners names are overprinted in pane of 8 Olympics stamps. Booklet contains 4 stamps.

Lebanon: October 28, 2004. Winter Sports. £100 snow at Kamouaa; £300 skiers, Zaarour.

November 26, 2004. Winter Sports. £250 skiers, Lakloul.

December 10, 2004. Winter Sports. £100 ski lift, Aayoun Siman; £300 snow at Kanat Bakish; £1,000 skiers, Cedres.

Lithuania: February 5, 2005. Sartai Horse Race. 1 litas horses race across ice of Lake Sartai.

Maldives: January 26, 2005. Euro Cup. Pane of four 12rf stamps depicting 1980 German-Belgian match.

Micronesia: February 24, 2005. NBA Basketball. 20¢ Like Walton.

Moldova: December 28, 2004. Athens Olympics. 40b boxing; 4.40 lei weightlifting.

Monaco: April 1, 2005. 100th Anniversary International Federation of Automobiles. 0.55e race cars, sailboat.

April 1, 2005. 100th Anniversary Monte-Carlo Jumping. 0.90e horse and rider jumping fence.

Peru: November 2, 2004. 100th Anniversary FIFA. 5s soccer ball.

January 22, 2005. Cuzco City Soccer Team. 5 soles soccer balls, emblem.

Philippines: February 18, 2005. 100th Anniversary Baguio Country Club. Pair of 16p stamps, club house circa 1930, modern clubhouse.

Romania: November 16, 2004. Ambassadors of Romanian Sports. Ilie Nastasi tennis player, 10,000 lei and 72,000 lei souvenir sheet.

December 15, 2004. Golden Sportsmen of Romania: 5,000 lei high jumper Yolanda Baals-Scoter; 33,000 lei rower Elisabeth Lips; 77,000 lei canoeist Ivan Patzaichin.

St. Vincent: February 10, 2005. NBA Basketball Players. 75¢ Kirk Hinrich; \$3 Steve Francis.

San Marino: February 28, 2005. 100th Anniversary Weightlifting Federation. 2.20e weightlifter.

February 28, 2005. Ferrari. Ferrari race car and driver, 0.01e Manuel Fangio; 0.04e Niki Lauda; 0.05e John Surtees; 0.45e Michael Schumacher; 0.62e race car; 1.50e Alberto Ascari.

Serbia & Montenegro: November 11, 2004. Athens Olympics. Two 8d stamps. Parthenon; Greek ruins.

February 28, 2005. Montenegro Table Tennis Association. 16.50d/0.25e net, paddle, balls.

Senegal: 2004. 100th Anniversary Cycling Union in 2000. 45fr emblem, cyclists.

2004. African Cup of Nations Soccer Tournament. 200fr the cup; 300fr soccer ball; 400fr players; 425fr soccer scene.

Sierra Leone: December 13, 2004. 100th Anniversary FIFA. Pane of four 2,000 leone stamps showing soccer players. S/S with 5,000 leone stamp.

December 13, 2004. Babe Ruth. Single 500 leone, Babe Ruth in uniform.

December 13, 2004. 100th Anniversary of FIFA. 2,000 leone stamp showing national soccer team.

November 2, 2004. NBA Basketball. 700 leones Leandro Barbosa; 2,000 leones Vlade Divac.

Spain: March 1, 2005. Sports. 0.35e Real Sporting de Gijon emblem, 100th anniversary; 0.40e 100th anniversary Seville Soccer Club; 0.78e emblem of Mediterranean Games Almeria 2005.

Switzerland: March 8, 2005. Cartoon Artist Uli Stein. 1f mouse playing golf.

Syria: June 17, 2004. Athens Olympics. £5 runners; £10 boxers; £25 swimmer.

Tunisia: January 13, 2005. 19th World Handball Championships. 600m handball player.

Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus: March 9, 2005. Tourism. 1k windsurfer; 10k sailboat.

United Arab Emirates: August 13, 2004. Athens Olympics. 50f runner; 1.25dh shooter; 2.75dh swimmer; 3.75dh symbolic athlete.

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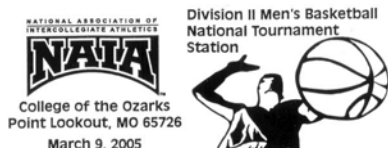
by Mark Maestrone

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 MARCH-MAY 2005

Auto Racing: 05428-351.
Baseball: 05313-018, 05403-031,
05403-200, 05507-088.
Basketball: 05309-657.
Cycling: 05402-923.
Equestrian: 05325-273, 05326-273.
Football: 05405-07420, 05405-07456,
05405-07465.
Golf: 05416-152.
Gymnastics: 05416-537.
Horse Racing: 05521-212.
Wrestling: 05521-120.



05309-657 Pt. Lookout, MO 9-12, 14-15



05313-018 Lawrence, MA 13



05325-273 Oak Ridge, NC 25



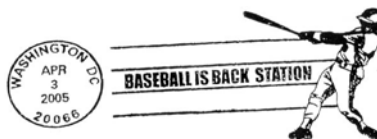
05326-273 Oak Ridge, NC 26



05402-923 Redlands, CA 2



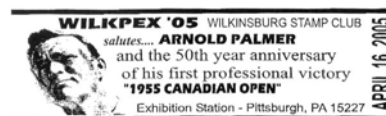
05403-031 Hooksett, NH 3



05403-200 Washington, DC 3



05405-07420 Haskell, NJ 5
05405-07456 Ringwood, NJ 5
05405-07465 Wanaque, NJ 5



05416-152 Pittsburgh, PA 16-17



05416-537 Madison, WI 16-17



05428-351 Talladega, AL 4/28-5/1



05507-088 Hillsborough, NJ 7



05521-120 Amsterdam, NY 21



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