# JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 44 SPRING 2006 NUMBER 3

# XXth Olympic Winter Games Torino, Italy



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INTERNATIONAL

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2006 TORINO OLYMPIC
WINTER GAMES

2004 ATHENS
OLYMPIC GAMES

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

It's unbelievable how fast time flies! Once again it's time 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, 2006.

Bernard McGovern 2107 Marianna Street Tampa, FL 33612 email: bmcgo10483@aol.com

Ballots will be included with the Summer issue of the journal which will be mailed in early June.

Members will note that we've included a little surprise with this issue. Courtesy of Dutch member Laurentz Jonker, we received first crack at his never-before-published monograph on the "Registered Mail of the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games."

Initially we had planned on publishing this in black & white with just the centerfold page in color. However, upon looking at the material that Laurentz had to offer, it seemed a shame not to go whole hog and print the entire booklet in color – so we did!

The cost of using a professional printer to publish via color photocopying has dropped dramatically. While it still isn't feasible to print our journal in color, color monographs remain within our financial reach. SPI must also thank Sherwin Podolsky for without the revenue from his auctions this would not have been possible.

Extra copies of the 20-page monograph are available for (5) postpaid worldwide.

A reminder: Washington 2006 is just around the corner. Once again, I would like to invite members who plan to be there the first weekend to join us for dinner at an area restaurant on Saturday, May 27. Each attendee will pay for his or her own meal, so you may be as extravagant (or thrifty) as your wallet allows. To reserve your space please mail me (Mark Maestrone, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122 USA) or send me an email (markspi@prodigy.net) with:

- Names of those attending;
- Your current address / email address and/or telephone number so we can confirm your reservation;
- ◆ Phone number <u>in Washington</u> where you can be reached in case of a change of plans.

This quarter we are featuring one of our periodic "challenge" auctions in which all the proceeds benefit SPI.

Our Summer auction will once again include a section of material from Sherwin Podolsky's collection, so stay tuned.

Last but not least, we continue to need articles for our journal so please consider submitting a manuscript of any length.

See you at Washington 2006!

# The SPI web site is located at: http://www.sportstamps.org

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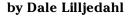


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# American Philatelic Society National Convention



nyone collecting the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles has seen the cacheted covers of the American Philatelic Society Convention held from August 15-20 immediately after the Games. The attractive bi-color cachet and corresponding labels appear in many Olympic collections – and sometimes even an exhibit page – as possibly related in some way to those Games. My curiosity finally overcame my latent laziness, so I decided to do a little research into the 1932 APS Convention to see if there was indeed a connection.

Ispent several hours at the Wineburgh Philatelic Library in Dallas, Texas studying the APS Journal and other publications from 1932 to see if the APS convention had any direct relationship to the Los Angeles Games. Sad to say the answer is, no. The APS certainly used the lure of the Olympics to entice attendance at their event and they created some Olympic related covers. However, the show/meeting was in no way connected to the 1932 Lost Angeles Olympic Games.

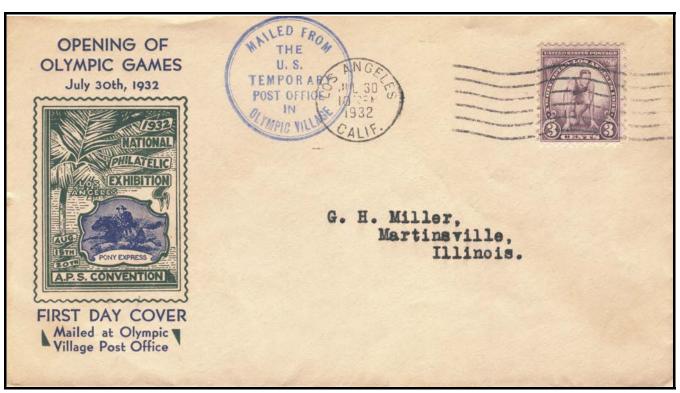
The APS provided ticket information in the July issue of its journal, but did not sell event tickets or offer to help members acquire such.



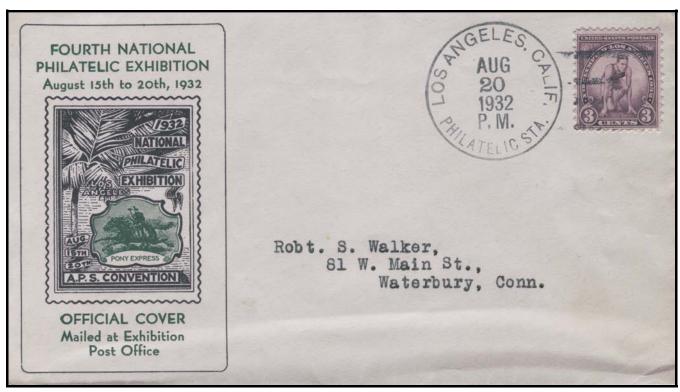
Block of four of the label for the 1932 American Philatelic Society National Convention.

Labels			
Frame Color		Pony	Color
Black		Orange	
Olive Green		Brown	
Dark Purple		Black	
Red		Pale Green	
Brown		Aqua	
	Cac	hets	
Туре	Fig.	Frame	Pony
Olympic FDC	2	Green	Red
Opening Day	3	Olive Green	Dk. Blue
APS Opening Day	4	Red	Dk. Blue
APS Last Day	5	Purple	Dk. Green

Table showing the varieties of labels and cacheted covers created by the APS for the convention.

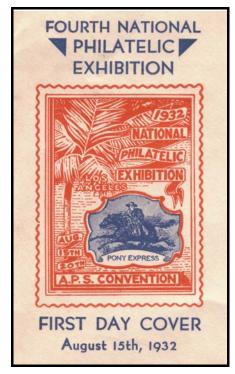


Opening Day of the Olympic Games cover sponsored by the APS with the Temporary Post Office handstamp of the Olympic Village. Technically, this wasn't a first day cover; the first day of the two Summer Olympic stamps had taken place on July 15 nearly two weeks earlier.



Cacheted cover and special cancel for the last day of the exhibition.

**Opening Day** of the exhibition cachet.





Cachet used for the First Day.

Olymphilex did not exist in 1932, nor did the APS place any emphasis on drawing sports and/or Olympic exhibits to the show. Their only comment was the hope for an increase in foreign material from Olympic visitors bringing their collections to Los Angeles. The October issue of the APS journal featured complete coverage of the various meetings and trips organized during the convention, but the Olympics merited nary a word.

Nevertheless, the APS did not totally ignore the philatelic celebration of the Olympics. Using the publicity label created for the show, a series of four cachets were produced to commemorate the key dates of the Olympics and the convention. The label is bicolor with the frame and background in one color and a Pony Express rider in another. It was printed in blocks of four with selvedge, and a different color combination is used on all five labels.

Like the labels the four covers each have a unique color combination giving a total of nine color varieties for the design. The cachets also differ from each other in the text above and below the illustrated label. The Opening Day of the Olympics cachet was mailed at the Olympic Village temporary post office and has the Village handcancel. The opening day of the exhibition was mislabeled as a "FDC," although it is admittedly a first day of sorts. See the following chart for the various combinations.

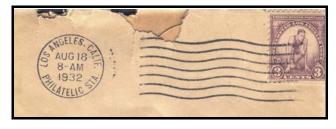
The convention exhibition had its own temporary

post office and the APS sponsored two cancellations for the duration of the show. The cancels are often found with one or both of the 1932 Olympic stamps.

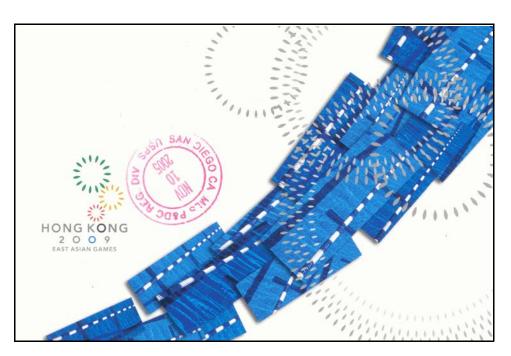
First was a handcancel with four bars and then a machine cancel with seven wavy lines. Both have "Philatelic Sta." in the date cancel, and were used between August 15 and 20, the days of the convention.



Two types of cancellations used at the philatelic exhibition: handcancel (above) and machine cancel (below).



Hong Kong Postal Cards for 2009 East Asian Games



by Clem Reiss

ong Kong Post Office issued two postal stationary cards on November 6, 2005 for the 2009 East Asian Games to be hosted by that city. The date corresponded to the closing ceremony of the 2005 East Asian Games which were held in Macao.

Each card, designed by Clement Yick, bears an indicium repeating the design on the front of the card. One card in red depicts segments of a running track with white lane dividers representing the many track and field events that are held at the games. The

other, in blue, shows swaths of water with blue and white striped lane floats.

The preprinted postage on the cards pays for airmail service worldwide.

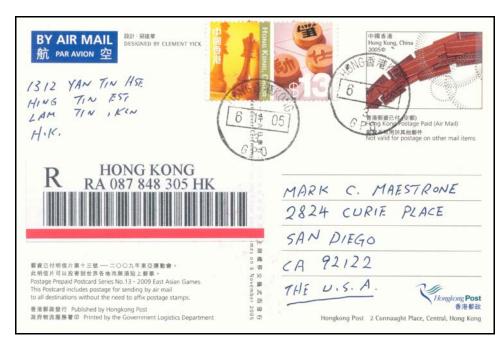
Like the Olympics, the East Asian Games are contested quadrennially. They debuted in Shanghai, China in 1993. These were followed by games in Pusan, South Korea in 1997; Osaka, Japan in 2001; and Macao last year.

The 2005 games, held from October 29 through November 6, included 17 sports: aquatics, athletics, basketball, bowling, dance sport, dragon boat racing, field hockey, football, gymnastics, karate, rowing,

shooting, soft tennis, taekwondo, tennis, weightlifting and wushu (martial arts). Macao spent \$250 million just for games preparation.

The 2009 games are expected to draw the participation of roughly 2,000 athletes from eleven nations. The cost to host the games in Hong Kong is estimated to be far less than those in Macao since they have many facilities already in place.

Aquatics card at top and track & field card at left. Additional HK\$13 pays for registered mail.



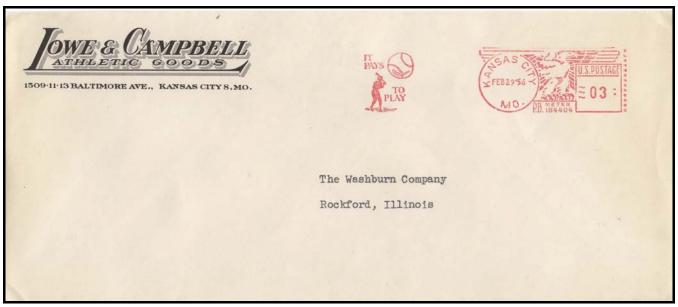


Figure 1. 1950's "It Pays To Play" slogan meter from a Kansas City, MO sporting goods company.

# **It Pays To Play**

## by Norman Rushefsky

he extraordinary amounts of money associated with sports today is only a relatively recent phenomenon. Prior to 1950 amateurism was highly favored in many sports. We all recall the example of Jim Thorpe, winner of both the pentathlon and the decathlon at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, who had to return his Olympic medals when it was discovered he had earned a few dollars playing semi-pro baseball.

In the 1930's professional sports, except for baseball, were precarious enterprises. For sports, such as tennis and golf, a tension existed between amateurism and professionalism. During this time of the Great Depression earning a living was a predominant concern. Discretionary dollars for leisure were limited. With these dire conditions facing sporting goods firms, a promotional effort apparently developed to present sports as an activity that could either evoke dreams of a professional career or at least suggest a healthful activity.

The titled expression "It Pays to Play" seems to summon both thoughts. As one examines the covers of sporting goods

firms during the 1930's and 1940's one notes the titled expression being featured either in the advertising designs of the envelopes or in the meter slogans. Figure 1 shows a cover from Lowe and Campbell Athletic Goods of Kansas City which used a meter bearing the expression "It Pays to Play" along with a baseball batter. This particular meter is in red ink. However, this company also used a similar meter in violet (PB 128294). Both meters date from the 1950's representing a relatively late use of the titled expression.



Figure 2. Corner card promoting "It Pays To Play" slogan.



Figure 3. Specimen meter with "It Pays To Play" slogan depicting baseball and golf.



Figure 4 (above). Front of Goldsmith Sons envelope with corner card "It Pays To Play."

Figure 5 (right). Reverse of cover in Figure 4 displaying the same adage while promoting basketball equipment and uniforms.





Figure 6. Sporting goods company cover with tennis player cachet and slogan "It Pays To Play."

Figure 2 illustrates a 1938 corner card ad used by the Martin-Thompson Co. of Chattanooga. The ad features a golfer and tennis player and various sporting equipment and the words "It Pays to Play."

A specimen meter (Figure 3) has a slogan illustrating a baseball player and a golfer and the titled expression. The meter is dated April 4, 1938 and is red; similar specimen meters are known with different colors and dates.

Figure 4 is a cover used by P. Goldsmith Sons, Inc. in 1943 and features a meter slogan relating to baseball. The corner ad features the titled expression. The rear of the cover (Figure 5) also features the titled term and an illustration of sports equipment for basketball.

Figure 6 is a cover used in 1947 by the Evans Sporting Goods Co. of Shreveport. The cover

features a tennis player with the titled expression.

All the covers noted by me were used by sporting goods firms. Today the titled expression has taken on a new life of its own with the expansion of legalized gambling and promotional contests. Many firms use this expression as a means to convey to potential customers that no great fortune can be made without taking a chance and preferably by gambling or playing with them.

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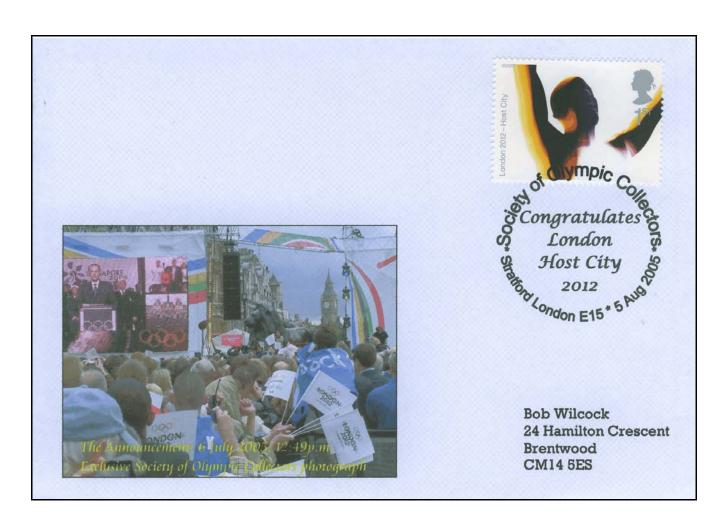
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# Time to Start Your London 2012 Collection

by Mark Maestrone & Bob Wilcock

ust one month after London's election by the International Olympic Committee as host of the 2012 Olympics, Royal Mail honored London with a special minisheet of six stamps on August 5, 2005.

Each stamp is denominated "1<sup>st"</sup> with a then-current value of 30p. Stamps with similar designs commemorated the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996. This time they bear an added inscription in silver in the margin of each stamp as well as in the selvedge: "London 2012 – Olympic City".

A total of 19 postmarks were used on the first day of issue (see next page): two official Royal Mail cancels (one each from London and Edinburgh), 15 sponsored postmarks (mostly from FD cover makers), and two "hangers on" (#9711 & 9712).





Journal of Sports Philately Spring 2006 11

# **Futbol Barcelona Style**

# by Laurentz Jonker and Mark Maestrone

o matter where our travels may take us, we philatelists are, first and foremost, collectors! So it was on a 2005 trip to Barcelona with my wife Marion that I happened upon a wonderfully humorous caricature postcard at the Sunday morning collector's market on Place Reial near the Ramblas.

Looking much like an exotic multi-hued parrot in his dark red/blue/black shirt, black and white stockings and orange and white shoes was a footballer named José Samitier Vilalta. [Some sources list his first name as "Josep".] According to the card, which was mailed in June 1928, Samitier played for F.C. Barcelona.

1928? I wondered, might he have been on Spain's Olympic football team that year as well?

As any visitor to Barcelona knows, art and architecture are on display everywhere. The museums are packed with masterpieces by Joan Miro, Salvador Dali and Pablo Picasso. Gaudi's monumental unfinished *Temple de la Sagrada Família* is a must-see destination.

If there is one thing that Barcelona takes almost as seriously as its art, it's *futbol*. After all, F.C. Barcelona had just won the Spanish Football League championship. I decided to visit the club's museum for answers.

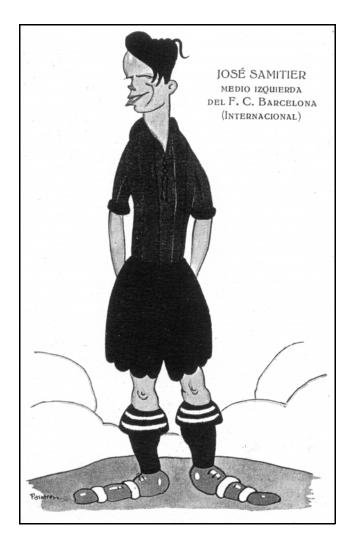
The gods must have been with me as the museum was featuring a special exhibition on who else but my mystery footballer.

Samitier, born February 2, 1902, was, for two decades, one of the best players in all of Spain. During his time with F.C. Barcelona (1918-1932) he played 454 matches scoring 326 goals! Surprisingly, his international experience as a member of Spain's national team was limited to 21 matches, scoring just two goals.

I was disappointed to learn that Samitier did not play for Spain's team in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games.

On the upside: he did complete at the 1920 Antwerp Olympics where the Spanish football team walked away with the silver medal, beating the team from the Netherlands, 3-1. "Sami," as he was nicknamed, was the youngest competitor!

Interestingly, the Dutch have always had warm



feelings for F.C. Barcelona. Dutch player Johan Cruijff played many years for *Barca* and later served as their coach and trainer. Many Dutch players followed him to Barcelona: Frank de Boer, Ruud Hesp, Johan Neeskeus, Philip Cocu, Richard Witschge, Ronald Koeman, Patrick Kluivert, Mark Overmars, and today, Gio (Giovanni van Bronkhorst).

Samitier also participated in the 1924 Paris Olympics at which Spain lost their May 25 match against Italy, 1-0 and were thus eliminated.

In his long career, Samitier's team won the championship of Catalunya ten times (1919-1922, 1924-1928 and 1930) and the championship of Spain five times (1920, 1922, 1925, 1926 and 1928).

José Samitier passed away on May 4, 1974 at the age of 72. For us collectors, though, he lives on, immortalized forever on this colorful postcard.

# North America's Postal Salute to Torino 2006

# by Mark Maestrone

ompared to the veritable avalanche of Winter Olympic postal material that swept down Utah's Wasatch Mountain slopes in 2002, North American emissions for this year's events in Torino were little more than a flurry. Still, something is better than nothing!

The U.S. Postal Service was the first to issue a stamp. The 39¢ value depicting an Alpine skier was issued on January 11, 2006 at Colorado Springs, Colorado where the U.S. Olympic Committee is headquartered. The first day of nationwide sales was January 12.

Personally, I would have liked to have seen a sport other than skiing portrayed for a change.

The panes of 20 stamps were designed by John Mattos of San Francisco. In addition to the markings on the front of the pane (below), promotional text for the upcoming Washington 2006 show appears on the reverse: "Discover the exciting world of stamps! / Visit the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition May 27 - June 3, 2006, in Washington, D.C.".

The stamps are self-adhesive with wavy line die cut perforations. The copyright date is 2005.

As this was only the second commemorative issue following the postal rate change in early January, sales were brisk. Surprisingly by mid-February the entire issue of 60 million stamps had been sold out with remaining panes available only through the USPS fulfillment center. This rarely occurs with commemoratives.





The first day cancel, shown above, recreates the skier from the stamp in silhouette.

Canada followed with a pair of 51-cent stamps on February 3, 2006 portraying the excitement of two of the Olympic Games' hottest sports, short-track speed skating and skeleton (illustrated at bottom).

Short-track speed skating made its Olympic debut at Calgary in 1988 as a demonstration sport, achieving full medal status in 1992 at Albertville. Unlike traditional long-track speed skating in which pairs of skaters race against the clock, short-track skaters race each other in packs. The first one across the line wins that heat.

The Canadian stamp illustrates the team pursuit, a new event to be introduced at Torino. Multiple teams of three skaters race in each heat. One skater from each team acts as a windbreak for his teammates with the position alternating to give each skater a rest. The first team on which all three members cross the finish line is the winner.

Excitement for this sport has been building in the U.S. thanks in great part to the international success of the handsome and charismatic American skater, Apolo Anton Ohno.

Skeleton is both one of the oldest as well as the newest sport on the winter roster. Competed in at the Olympic Winter Games of 1928 and again in 1948 (both times in St. Moritz, Switzerland), the sport was then discontinued. It was reborn in 2002 at Salt Lake City, this time for both men and women.

While many of us who grew up in cold climates may remember careering down snowy slopes head first on our "Flexible Flyer" sleds, I can assure you this sport is quite different! Rocketing down an icy chute steering a nearly 100 pound sled with just your weight and feet looks mighty scary to me. At least bobsledders have the protection of their vehicle, while lugers ... well lugers just hope they make it to the bottom the way they started out – feet first and face up.

Canada Post printed the stamps se-tenant in panes of 16 (four rows of four stamps). Each row is the same beginning with the speed skating stamp and followed by the skeleton. A quantity of 4 million stamps was printed.

The stamps' designs were a collaborative effort by Susan Mavor and Scot Geib of Metaform Communication Design of Vancouver, British Columbia.

The first day was at Vancouver, site of the next Olympic Winter Games in 2010.

The USPS's policy of not portraying living people on its stamps unfortunately prevents it from following the lead of so many other postal administrations worldwide that are honoring their Olympic medalists with stamps within days – sometimes hours – of their victory.

In an effort to rectify this deficiency, I have honored four of our U.S. Olympic winners on meters created using Stamps.com.

The first of these was for Shaun White and Danny Kass who were 1-2 in the men's snowboard Halfpipe event. Nineteen-year-old Shaun, known as the "Flying Tomato" for his flaming red hair and aggressive airborne style of riding, was a prohibitive favorite going into the competition. Nevertheless, an attack of first time jitters in the qualifying round nearly eliminated him from competition when he failed to make it to finals in the first group. With his second, nearly flawless preliminary run he advanced easily.

In finals, the score from his first of two runs was so high that a second run wasn't even necessary. With the gold in his pocket he treated the audience to a final ride full of his signature twists and flips.

Canada's 2006 Torino Olympic Winter Games stamps feature short-track speed skating and skeleton.





His teammate Danny Kass, repeated his Salt Lake City Olympic performance in 2002 by also placing second in Torino.

The meter I created for this event shows a snowboarder with the

text "White / Kass / 1&2 in / H-Pipe / 2.12.06". The meter indicium is also dated February 12, but since this was a Sunday when no mail is cancelled, the covers bear a machine cancel dated February 13.

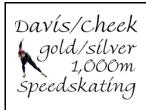
A total of 51 covers were produced, with half mailed in San Diego and the remainder (as an experiment) posted at Carlsbad, California, Shaun White's hometown. Unfortunately, since Carlsbad and San Diego share the same regional processing facility, there is no difference in the machine cancels applied to the covers.

Speed skating provided another opportunity for some U.S. medals. On Saturday, February 18, another one-two finish was achieved in the men's 1,000-meter long track finals.

Shani Davis became the first African-American athlete to win an individual gold medal at a Winter Olympics. His teammate, Joey Cheek, came in second.

Shani would go on to win a silver three days later in the 1,500-meter race.

In addition to his silver. Joev had won a gold a few days earlier in the men's 500-meters. The \$40,000 in "incentive" money paid him by the US Olympic Committee for his two medals was

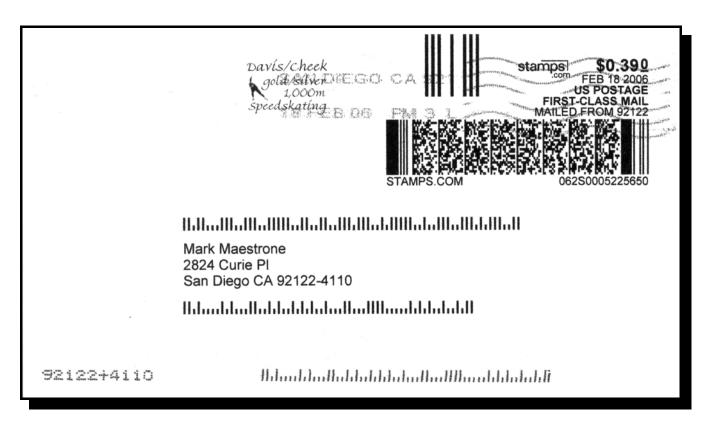


donated to an organization called Right to Play which is dedicated to "creating a healthier and safer world for children through the power of sport and play." Due in large measure to his incredibly generous donation, his U.S. Olympic teammates overwhelming elected him "flag bearer" at the Olympic Closing Ceremonies.

The meter slogan I created for them is dated February 18, 2006. A machine slogan spray-on marking from San Diego, CA with matching date appears on all 50 covers franked with this meter.

#### Torino Olympian Meter Covers For Sale

Either or both of these Stamps.com meter covers may be ordered for \$5 each (worldwide postage included). All proceeds go to SPI. Send orders to: Mark Maestrone, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122, USA - or - email at markspi@prodigy.net. Payment options: US dollar check (payable to SPI), cash (at your risk), money order, PayPal: treasurer@sportstamps.org



# Team USA Portcards for the 2006 Torino Olympics

by Mark Maestrone

ans of the U.S. Olympic team to the Torino 2006 Games – at least those living near the U.S. Olympic Committee headquarters in Colorado Springs or one of its satellite training centers – could purchase a number of colorful postcards honoring this year's delegation.

While I cannot confirm the total number of face-different cards that might have been available at any one time, I located 14 on my visit to the Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista (near San Diego), California. This was just days before the Games in Torino opened and some cards were nearly sold out.

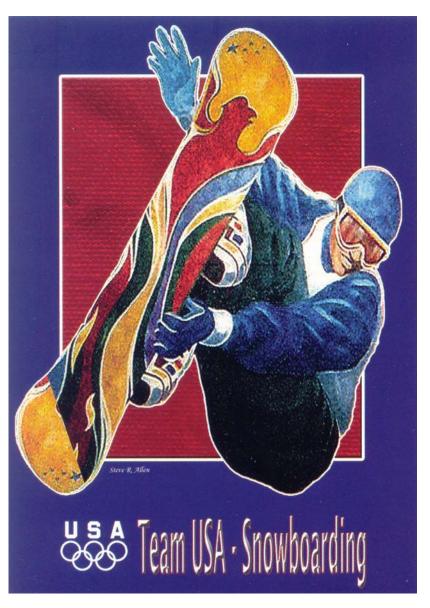
The cards, which measure  $4\frac{1}{4}$ " x 6" in size, are divided into two groups according to their image subjects.

The largest group with eleven cards (all vertically oriented) depicts individual

sports. Collectively these are titled "Team USA" cards. In no particular order they depict: snowboarding (shown above right), luge, short track speed skating, skiing, skeleton, (long track) speed skating, ice hockey, biathlon, bobsled, figure skating, and curling. Missing from the list are cross-country skiing, ski jumping, freestyle skiing and Nordic combined. I have no idea if some or all of these snow sports were also honored with their own cards.

The reverse of the sports cards indicate the artist was Steve Allen. His name also appears on the face of each card as "Steve R. Allen."

The three remaining cards fall into the miscellaneous category. All three are reproduced on the next page. "Torino Landscape" by Jane Seymour depicts an idealized skyline view of the city with the Italian Alps as a backdrop.



"U.S. Olympic Winter Team 2006" by Tim Rogerson is a collage of three sports: ladies' figure skating, skiing, and bobsled. This is the only card with text specifically mentioning the "US Olympic Winter Team Torino 2006."

The final card, a stylized "heart," incorporates uniquely American iconography such as the Statue of Liberty, the Stars and Stripes, and the logo of the USOC. The sports of ice hockey, four-man bobsled, alpine skiing, and what appears to be ski jumping are also featured in the design. The artist was Alfred Gockel.

All 14 cards were printed by Fine Art Ltd. in St. Louis, Missouri, an official licensee of the USOC. The cards bear no copyright date nor are they individually numbered. The retail cost of each card was 50 cents; I've seen them offered on ebay for over \$2 apiece.



Three "miscellaneous" postcards:
"Torino Landscape"
(right), "U.S. Olympic Winter Team
2006" (bottom left),
and "U.S. Olympic
Team" (bottom
right).





Journal of Sports Philately Spring 2006 17



Figure 1. Canada Post's prepaid "XPRESSPOST" mailer featuring Jennifer Heil.

# **G-O Canada**

#### by Kon Sokolyk

anada's rousing anthem was heard no fewer than seven times at medal ceremonies in Torino due in no small part to the support from everyone back home. Canadians, through various Olympic team sponsors and supporters, had plenty of opportunities to express their sentiments. The result: a number of philatelic items are available to collectors.

In October 2005, Canada Post released domestic Priority Courier and Xpresspost Prepaid envelopes featuring Canadian athletes who were eventual 2006 Olympians. From the national Freestyle Ski team, moguls skiers Stephanie St. Pierre and Jennifer Heil (Figure 1), and aerials competitors Jeff Bean and Deidra Dionne were honored. Clara Hughes who distinguished herself by winning five Olympic long track speed skating medals in Torino was also represented (Figure 2).

Canada Post sponsored both teams and also the featured athletes individually. The envelopes were

produced in three sizes and with regional or national designation and feature color action photos of the athletes. There appears to be no reference to the Olympic Games.

Canada Post Courier Envelopes (Canada Post Order No.)		
Letter size (318 x 241 mm) Regional (101838) National (101839)	Clara Hughes (Long Track Speed Skater)	
Canada Post Xpresspost Envelopes		
Standard size (260x152 mm) Regional (102291) National (102294))	Stephanie St. Pierre (Moguls) Jeff Bean (Aerials) Deirdra Dionne (Aerials) Jennifer Heil (Moguls)	
Regional Letter size (102292) (318 mm x 241 mm)	Deidra Dionne (Aerials)	
National Letter size (102295)	Stephanie St. Pierre (Moguls)	
Regional Pack size (102293) (394 mm x 305 mm)	Jennifer Heil (Moguls)	
National Pack size (102296)	Jeff Bean (Aerials)	



Figure 2. Clara Hughes on the Priority Courier prepaid mailer.

The cost of the prepaid envelopes varies, depending on size and destination. The least expensive is the regional "standard size," with a price of CD\$6.94 (tax included). The table on the previous page (supplied by Canada Post) identifies all related products.

Department store retailer Hudson's Bay Company (HBC), the clothing outfitter of the Canadian Olympic team, established an inspirational postcard writing campaign to Canadian athletes. Three postcards were produced - a speed skater, paraplegic skier (both shown below), and a hurdler representing the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Torino, Italy and Commonwealth Games in Melbourne, Australia. The 23.5cm x 12.5cm cards, in the shape of a stylized maple leaf, were available for \$2.00 each with proceeds going to support amateur sports in Canada.

According to a February 7, 2006 press release of Aliant, Atlantic Canada's leading information and communications technology provider, company employees were provided an opportunity to send their best wishes to fellow employee Jamie Korab (as well as other Canadian Olympians) via postcards which were to be delivered to Torino. Korab, competing in curling, won gold.

A thank you to Marie Geoffroy of Canada Post for providing information about the Xpresspost and Priority Courier envelopes.







# **Post Italiane Goes Olympic**

### by Mark Maestrone

n February 8, just two days before the Opening Ceremonies of the XXth Olympic Winter Games, Post Italiane kicked off its Olympic philately celebration.

With a flourish, a set of nine face different stamps, each with a different value in euros, hit the sales counters. Like icing on the cake, a handsome sheetlet incorporating one of each stamp capped off the issue.

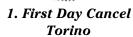
Seven of the stamps commemorate winter Olympic sports. Two are for the snow sports of biathlon ( $\in 0.23$ ) and skiing ( $\in 0.90$ ), while the other five honor the Olympic ice sports of figure skating ( $\in 0.45$ ), ice hockey ( $\in 0.65$ ), curling ( $\in 0.70$ ), bobsleigh ( $\in 0.85$ ), and luge ( $\in 1.30$  - at right).

The remaining two stamps feature the Olympic flame ( $\leq$ 1.00) and victory medals ( $\leq$ 1.70). Unfortunately the latter does not depict the unique donut-



The sheet versions of the stamps should be collected with selvedge on at least one side to differentiate them from the sheetlet version (top) which has printed selvedge.







2. Philatelic Center Torino



3. Olympic Village Torino



4. Olympic Family Hotel Meridien

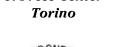
shaped medals that provided athletes with seem ingly endless opportunities to clown around pretending they were monocles or spinning them on fingers like mini hula-hoops.

A first day cancel was created reproducing a view of the Italian Alps with the distinctive "torino 2006" beneath. Ordering instructions are included at the end of this article.

Post Italiane's Olympic postmark program was less ambitious than at recent Winter Olympic Games. A total of seven different cancels were offered, only one of which featured a sporting event – freestyle skiing. By contrast, Salt Lake City's 2002 Olympic postmark program included fifteen sportspecific cancels.

According to Bob Farley of the SOC, only one cancel type was permitted on an item regardless of how many stamps were affixed. The one exception was at the Philatelic Center on 10 February when two different cancels could be applied to the same cover or card. Thanks to Jaroslav Petrasek and Bob Farley for the information used in this article.







6. Freestyle Skiing Torino







8. Olympic Village Sestriere

Cancel	Dates of Use	PO Availability	Mail-In Service
1	8 Feb	Torino: Philatelic Center, Press Center, OV, Olympic Family Hotel	Until 4 March from: (same address as for #2-6)
2	10-26 Feb	Torino: Philatelic Center, Press Center	
3	10-26 Feb	Torino: Philatelic Center, OV	
4	10-26 Feb	Torino: Philatelic Center, Olympic Family Hotel	Until 24 March from: Poste Italiane Servizio
5	10-26 Feb	Torino: Philatelic Center, Press Center, OV, Olympic Family Hotel	Commerciale/Filatelia TORINO Via Alfieri 10, 10121 Torino, Italy
6	11, 15, 22, 23 Feb	Torino: Philatelic Center	
7	10-26 Feb	Bardonecchia: Main Post Office	Until 24 March from: Poste Italiane Servizio
8	10-26 Feb	Sestriere: Olympic Village, Main Post Office	Commerciale/Filatelia PINEROLO, Via Gravero 17, 10064 Pinerolo, Italy

# China Honors 2004 Athens Olympic Games Gold Medalists

# by Mark Maestrone contributed by Manfred Winternheimer

n my "Sports Arena" column in the Winter 2005 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*, I presented a postal card from the PR of China that honored Olympic gold medal gymnast Teng Haibin for his win on the pommel horse event. At the time I wondered if China had commemorated all the gold medalists at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games.

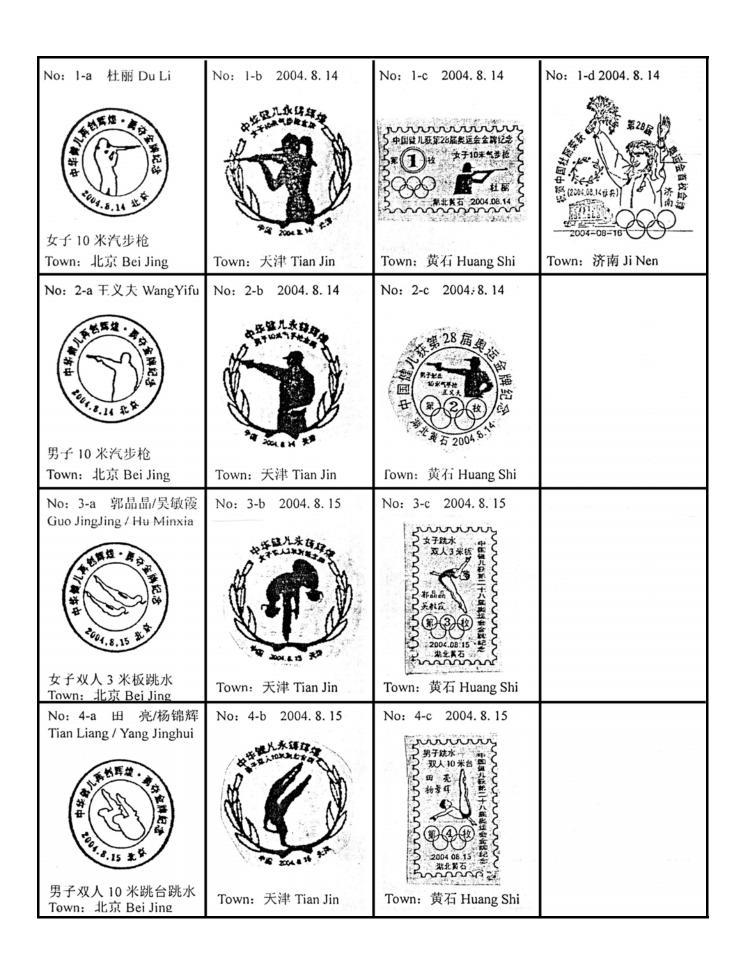
Shortly after publication, Manfred Winternheimer of our German sister society IMOS wrote in answer to my query. It seems that three cities – Beijing, Tianjin, and Huangshi – produced postmarks for all 32 gold medalists, while two other cities, Jinen and Nantong, participated on a selective basis.

The full roster of gold medal winners from China is listed in the following table.

P#	Date	Event	Winner(s)
1	8/14	Shooting - (W) 10m Air Rifle	DU Li
2	8/14	Shooting - (M) 10m Air Pistol	WANG Yifu
3	8/15	Diving - (W) Synchronized 3m Springboard	GUO Jingjing, WU Minxia
4	8/15	Diving - (M) Synchronized 10m Platform	TIAN Liang, YANG Jinghui
5	8/15	Judo - (W) -52 kg	XIAN Dongmei
6	8/16	Shooting - (M) 10m Air Rifle	ZHU Qinan
7	8/16	Weightlifling - (W) 58kg	CHEN Yanqing
8	8/17	Swimming - (W) 100m Breaststroke	LUO Xuejuan
9	8/17	Weightlifling - (M) 62kg	SHI Zhiyong
10	8/17	Diving - (W) Synchronized 10m Platform	LAO Lishi, LI Ting
11	8/19	Weightlifling - (M) 69kg	ZHANG Guozheng
12	8/19	Badminton - (W) Singles	ZHANG Ning
13	8/19	Weightlifling - (W) 69kg	LIU Chunhong

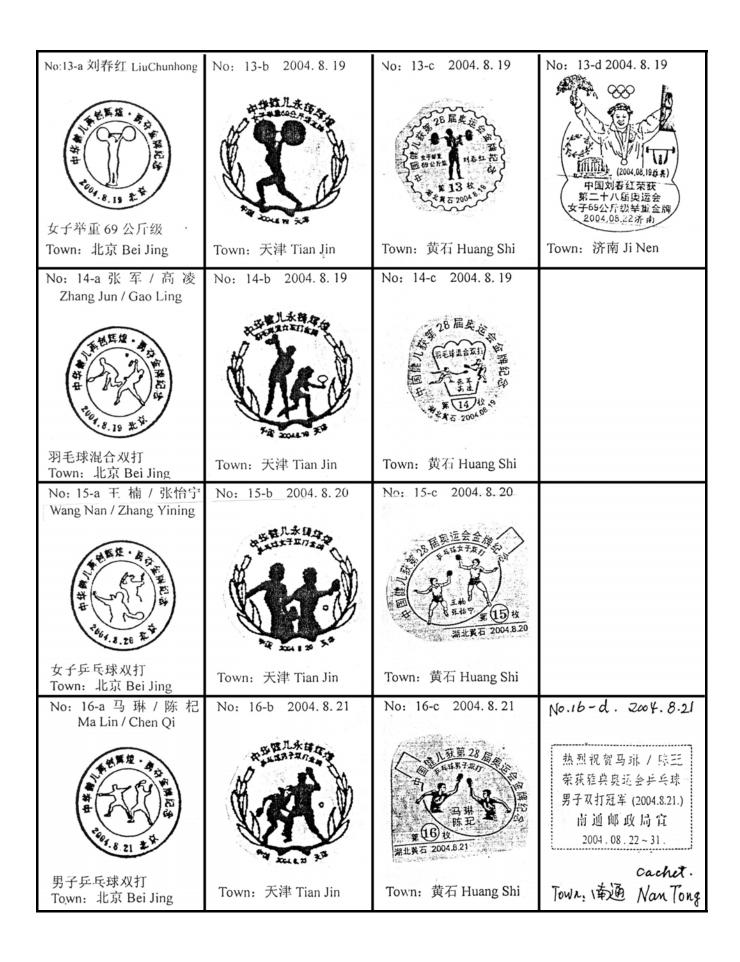
14	8/19	Badminton - Mixed Doubles	GAO Ling, ZHANG Jun
15	8/20	Table Tennis - (W) Doubles	WANG Nan, ZHANG Yining
16	8/21	Table Tennis - (M) Doubles	CHEN Qi, MA Lin
17	8/21	Badminton - (W) Doubles	ZHANG Jiewen, YANG Wei
18	8/21	Weightlifling - (W) +75kg	TANG Gonghong
19	8/22	Shooting - (M) 50m Rifle 3 Positions	JIA Zhanbo
20	8/22	Table Tennis - (W) Singles	ZHANG Yining
21	8/23	Tennis - (W) Doubles	LI Ting, SUN Tian
22	8/23	Gymnastics Artistic - (M) Pommel Horse	TENG Haibin
23	8/24	Wrestling - (W) Freestyle 72kg	WANG Xu
24	8/25	Diving - (M) 3m Springboard	PENG Bo
25	8/26	Diving - (W) 3m Springboard	GUO Jingjing
26	8/28	Athletics - (M) 110m Hurdles	LIU Xiang
27	8/28	Athletics - (W) 10,000m	XING Huina
28	8/28	Canoe/Kayak Flatwater - (M) C2 500m	MENG Guanliang, YANG Wenjun
29	8/29	TaekWondo - (W) Under 67kg	LUO Wei
30	8/29	Diving - (M) 10m Platform	HU Jia
31	8/29	Volleyball - Women	China Team
32	8/29	TaekWondo - (W) Over 67kg	CHEN Zhong

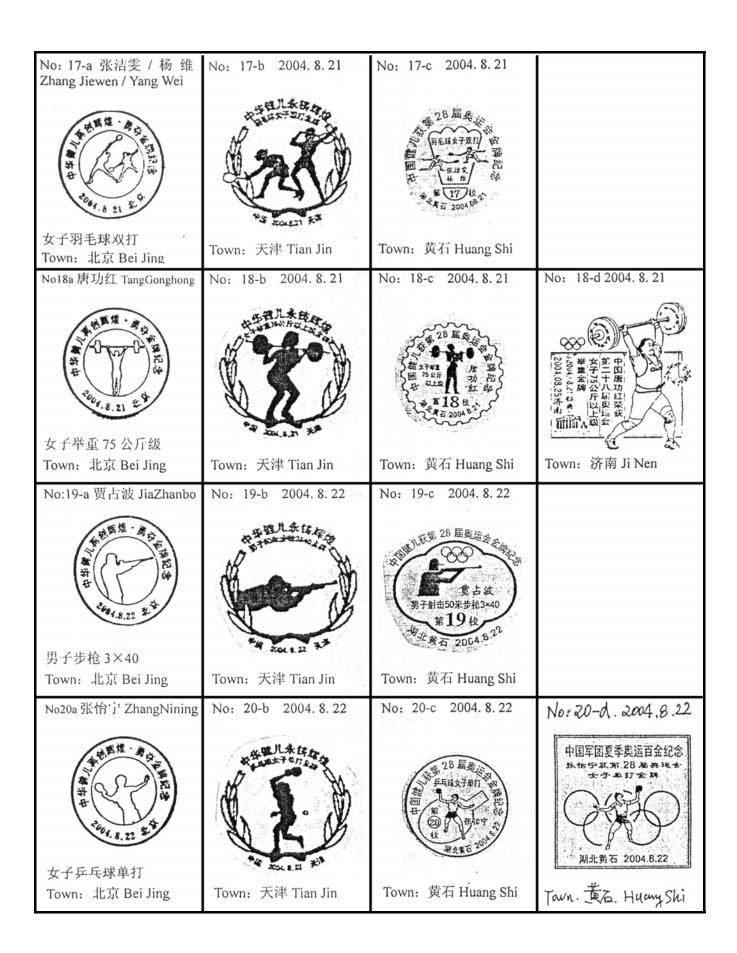
On the following pages are reproduced the catalog supplied by Manfred Winternheimer. The postmarks are arranged by postmark number (P# according to the above table) and date the medal was won. The first three columns list the postmarks for Beijing, Tianjin, and Huangshi, respectively. The fourth column is for the remaining cancels.



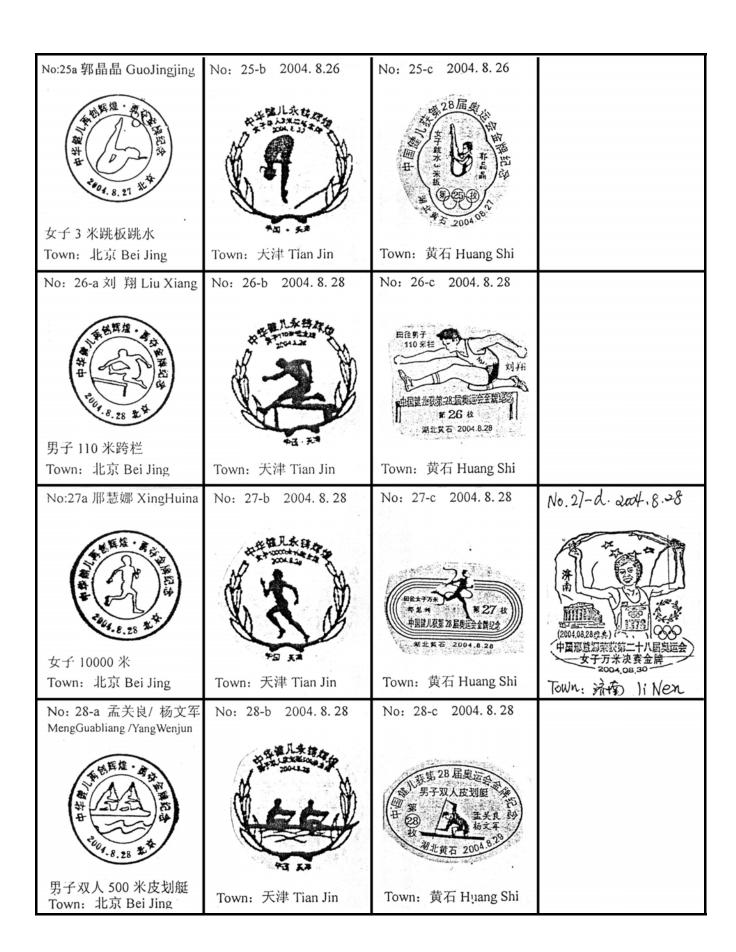
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Town: 北京 Bei Jing	Town: 天津 Tian Jin	Town: 黄石 Huang Shi	
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NAME			MEMBERSH	HIP #
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# News of Our Members

by Margaret Jones

#### **RENEWALS:**

1788 Rob van Tuyl, Bartokhof 16, 2402 GE Alphenaan den Rijn, The Netherlands. E-mail: robvantuyl@planet.nl

Non-renewals: 26

Total Membership, December 31, 2005 = 232

**NEW ADDRESSES (INCLUDING E-MAIL):** 

Gunter Pilz: gunter.pilz@gmail.com Bruce Tomkins: bruce.tomkins@gmail.com

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# **Exhibit Awards**

FLOREX (Orlando, Florida). Charles Covell's exhibit, "Soccer (Just for Kicks!)," won a vermeil.

MILCOPEX (Milwaukee, Wisconsin). Sherri Biendarra earned a youth silver-bronze for "The Olympics - Let the Games Begin."

MINNESOTA STAMP EXPO (Minneapolis, Minnesota). Charles J. Ekstrom III received a vermeil for "Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps."

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# **NEW STAMP ISSUES**

by John La Porta

*Algeria*: September 10, 2005. Year of Sports and Physical Education. 30d runners on map.

*Argentina:* December 17, 2005. Sports/Boxing. Two 75c stamps, Luis Angel Firpo; Nicolino Locche.

**Ascension Island:** January 2006. Sport Fishing Part 2 Jacks. 20p black jack; 35p Almaco jack; 50p horse-eyed jack; £1 rainbow runner; souvenir sheet with £1.50 stamp, longfin crevalle jack.

**Australia:** January 12, 2006. Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. Part 1, 50¢ games logo, symbolic athletes.

March 1, 2006. Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. Part 2. 50¢ runner kneeling; \$1.20 cyclist; \$1.80 athlete.

March 15, 2006. Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. Personalized stamps, 50¢ Commonwealth Games stamps issued March 12 will be available in a pane that can be personalized.

Brazil: October 30, 2005. Women's Soccer. 85c.

**Canada:** February 3, 2006. Turin Winter Olympic Games. Pair of 51¢ stamps, pursuit speed skating, skeleton event.

*China:* October 12, 2005. 10<sup>th</sup> National Games. Souvenir sheet with 6y stamp.

Cook Islands: November 29, 2005. International Gold Medal Winners. Mizuki Noguchi (women's marathon), Yvonne Boenish (women's judo), Dwight Phillips (long jump), Ian Thorpe (200-meter freestyle swimming), Xing Huina (women's 10,000-meter run) overprinted on sports stamps.

November 12, 2005. Beijing Summer Olympics. Mascots & logo, six 80f se-tenant stamps: Beibei the Fish; Jingjing the Panda; Huanhuan the Olympic Flame; Yingying the Tibetan Antelope; Nini the Swallow. Issued in a pane of 12 self-adhesive stamps, two of each design.

**Egypt:** October 25, 2005. International Year of Sports and Physical Education. 150p ancient Egyptians, emblem.

*El Salvador:* September 14, 2005. 10<sup>th</sup> Games of Central American States. 1.60col/18¢ wrestling; 2.20col/25¢ high jump; 4col/46¢ roller blading.

*Greece:* October 7, 2005. European Basketball Championship. 0.30e basketball scene; 0.50e trophy; 0.65e team; 3.55e team with trophy; souvenir sheet contains the four stamps.

*Guyana:* August 12, 2005. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First World Cup Championship. Pane of four \$150 stamps, depicting 1954 Germany-Hungary match. Souvenir sheet with \$400 stamp, German team celebrates victory.

*Hungary:* September 26, 2005. World Wrestling Championship. 150ft wrestlers, may, emblem.

**Luxembourg:** December 6, 2005. Sports/Part 2. 050e+0.05e figure skating; 0.70e+0.10e basketball; 0.90e+0.10e judo; 1e+0.10e tennis.

*Kazakstan:* September 22, 2005. Olympic Champions pane of 100 tenge stamps.

*Macedonia:* November 23, 2005. Sports. 36d whitewater kayaking.

*Maldives:* September 20, 2005. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary World Cup Soccer Championships. Pane of three 15rf stamps; souvenir sheet with 125rf stamp.

*Mexico:* June 27, 2005. Baseball in Mexico. 7.50p player.

*Monaco:* January 9, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. Pair of se-tenant stamps 0.55e Games mascots; 0.82e skiing, bobsledding.

*Netherlands:* November 24, 2005. Pane of ten 0.29e self-adhesive stamps, one depicts ice skates.

Netherlands Antilles: October 24, 2005. Youth Care/International Year of Sports and Physical Education. 55¢+20¢ soccer; 97¢+36¢ table tennis; 148¢+56¢ tennis; 240¢+110¢ baseball.

Niger: May 12, 2005. Fifth Francophone Games. 150fr triangular stamp, emblem.

August 22, 2005. Fifth Games of the French speaking People. 22fr dragon like mascot.

Pakistan: September 10, 2005. Lahore Marathon. 5re runners.

Portugal: November 25, 2005. Soccer Clubs Celebrating 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Three non-denominated stamps; 20g Lisbon and Benfica Sport Club; Portugal Sporting Club; Porto Soccer Club. Three souvenir sheets one 1e stamps on each, Porto, trophy; Portugal, player; Lisbon trophy, player.

Russia: January 18, 2006. Olympic/Winter Sports. Three 3rub stamps, snowboarding, luge, skating.

San Marino: February 1, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. Four 0.45e stamps, continuous design skiing, ski jumping; plane eagle; curling, ski lift; ice hockey.

Switzerland: November 22, 2005. Turin Winter Olympics. If curling stone.

November 22, 2005. Turin Winter Olympics. Official stamp for the IOC, 1.30f ice hockey.

Turkey: August 19, 2005. Formula 1 Grand Prix Turkey. 70k race car, outline of city.

*Tanzania:* September 22, 2005. 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First World Cup Championship. Pane of three 1,200s stamps featuring the 2002 German team.

Turkey: October 11, 2005. 100th Anniversary Galatasary Sports Club. Three 60k stamps, man lion mascot; spectators, lion, mascot, shield emblem; 70k gated entrance, shield emblem; 80k team celebrating; 1 lira celebrating with trophy. Souvenir sheet of 60k stamp depicting man, 70k, 80k, 1 lira.

Tuvalu: July 28, 2005. 75th Ann. First World Cup Championships. Pane of three \$2 stamps, Thomas Berhold; Bobby Charlton; Klaus Augenthaler. Souvenir sheet with \$3 stamp, Thomas Strunz.

Union Island: February 10, 2005. NBA Basketball Players. Six 90¢ stamps.

United States: January 11, 2006. Torino Winter Olympics, 39¢ skier.

Uruguay: August 30, 2005. 75th Anniversary First World Cup Championships. Two 16p stamps with "75" and flag, soccer scene.

October 3, 2005. World Cup Soccer Championship from Uruguay 1930 to Germany 2006. Pane of four 16p stamps.

Yemen: May 21, 2004. 100th Anniversary FIFA. 100r soccer player, ball, emblem.

August 13, 2004. Athens Olympics. 70r symbolic runner, 80r symbolic shooter, 100r symbolic swimmer; souvenir sheet 250 r symbolic dressage.

December 20, 2005. Olympic Sports. 16p stamps, vase from 1924 Paris Games; three other stamps show soccer players and medals.

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□ Baseball	□ Hockey	☐ Skiing
□ Basketball	☐ Hurdles	□ Soccer
☐ Boxing	□ Javelin	☐ Tennis
☐ Cycling	□ Judo	□ Track
□ Equestrian	☐ Martial Arts	□ Volleyball
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by Mark Maestrone

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# SPORTS CROSS INDEX FEBRUARY-MARCH 2006

Baseball: 06212-535, 06218-341.

Cycling: 06325-923.

Golf: 06210-852, 06211-852, 06212-852.

Ice Hockey: 06222-129 Olympics: 06222-129. Skiing: 06217-841.



06210-852 Mesa, AZ

ARIPEX 2006 Station Mesa, AZ 85201 February 11, 2006

06211-852 Mesa, AZ





06212-535 Janesville, WI



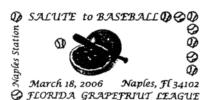
06212-852 Mesa, AZ

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