

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 45

FALL 2006

NUMBER 1



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Soccer in Germany

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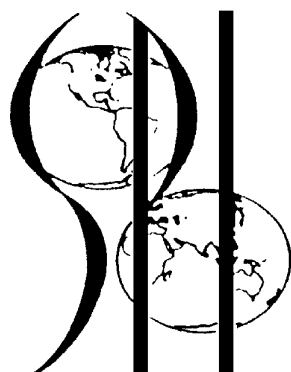
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

Once again, we have concluded our biennial election of officers and directors for Sports Philatelists International. I would like to thank all those who voted despite the slate of candidates running unopposed. A total 53 ballots were cast. In welcoming back our returning officers and directors, I would like to especially thank Bernie McGovern for once again serving as Nominations Chair.

I encourage all members to actively participate in their organization – here's how:

1. Contribute your ideas for the betterment of our society by writing a letter to the editor or contacting one of our officers or board members. We want to hear from *YOU*. The contact information for each officer and director is always printed on the inside front cover of each issue of the journal, while their email addresses are at the bottom of this page.
2. Write an article for the journal. I am quickly reaching the bottom of my reserve box. Yes, we have our regular contributors such as Norman Rushefsky (baseball) and Pascal Bedenes (tennis) as well as our regular Olympic specialist, Thomas Lippert. I'm indebted to each of them! But let's see some articles on *other* sports. Where are the specialists in boxing, fencing, judo, karate, kendo? Did all the aquatics folks (swimming, water polo, diving, rowing, canoeing) drown? When was the last time we had an article on American football? I can't remember it was that long ago. And I haven't even touched on the winter sports.
3. Promote the society to other philatelic friends. Jim Bowman has put together a Powerpoint version of our SPI society frame from Washington 2006. It's available free on CD to anyone, making it easy to present sports and Olympic philately to a stamp club or other group. Another easy way to promote SPI: alert the editor/publisher of mainstream sports publications whenever an article appears in JSP that they or their members might be interested in!
4. Get to know your fellow SPI members. The best way I know of to do this is by attending one of our conventions. In 2007, SPI will be at NAPEX in the Washington, DC area. The exhibition will be held at the McLean (Virginia) Hilton from June 1-3. This is also the show hotel; special room rates will be available. We hope to have some interesting programs lined up. So if, like me, you didn't have a chance to see much of Washington during the big international extravaganza this past May/June, plan on coming back next year for a more leisurely visit.

Last, but not least, if you'd like to see the *Journal of Sports Philately* in all its colorful glory, order a copy on CD! Each volume is available on a single CD (articles are in Adobe Acrobat Reader format) for the modest price of \$5 (including worldwide postage). Volume 44 (Fall 2005-Summer 2006, plus the special supplement) is now available. We also have Volumes 41-43. To order, just drop me a line or email (markspi@prodigy.net). You may even pay via PayPal (treasurer@sportstamps.org)!

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A time to make friends: 2006 World Cup of Soccer in Germany

by Thomas Lippert

From June 9 through July 9, it wasn't only hard core soccer fans turning their attention to Germany. The 2006 World Cup attracted more people than had been expected. We know the new world champion, as Italy beat France in the final match.

A great deal of material for collectors was generated by these championships. This report is not intended to be a chronological description or catalog of all the materials. Instead, I shall provide an overview of the host country philately of the 2006 World Cup, while including some less well-known aspects.

THE FIRST STEPS

There was strong competition for the right to host the 2006 World Cup. In the final balloting Germany collected one vote more than runner-up South Africa



Figure 1. Franz Beckenbauer was philatelically honored this year with his own stamp issued by Austria Post as part of their official stamp program! He did an excellent job as chief of the 2006 Organizing Committee.



whose fans were left disappointed. It was one man who contributed so much to that success: Franz Beckenbauer, a former world champion as an active player and as team chief in 1990 (Figure 1).

Since the awarding of the cup to Germany, much work was done. The competition venues were brought to a level worthy of hosting World Cup matches and host cities' infrastructures were updated. Volunteers were trained, and security plans developed to create a safe environment for the players and fans alike so they could enjoy this football fiesta.

The final test came when FIFA's 2005 Confederations Cup was contested using several selected stadiums (Figure 2). Brasil won the cup and the test proved successful – a first taste for the 2006 matches. Collectors, too, enjoyed a postal test for 2006.

Accompanying the preparations for the competition, a program of cultural events was developed. In its first phase the program's goal was to popularize the championships both inside Germany and abroad.



Figure 2. Two of the eighteen postmarks for the 2005 Confederations Cup. The postmarks accurately noted the date of each match and the participating teams.



Figure 3. The well-known globe (above) on a €0.55 stamp for the 2005 “Für den Sport” (For Sports) issue and postmark (left).

The Football Globe (Figure 3) was part of that cultural and arts framework of the championships. For three years it toured German cities. On 3 October 2005 it began a worldwide tour starting at German House in Tokyo, host city of the last World Cup in 2002. The tour continued to eleven other cities.

According to the official FIFA description, “the 2006 FIFA World Cup FOOTBALL GLOBE, as created by André Heller, combines the image of the globe with the shape of a football. The mobile pavilion symbolizes the fascination with soccer that extends throughout the whole world and links all peoples. The FOOTBALL GLOBE is first and foremost a symbol of how Germany is looking forward to hosting and organizing the 2006 FIFA World Cup™. It breathes life into the FIFA World Cup™ motto: ‘A time to make friends™, ...’”

“The FOOTBALL GLOBE functions as an ambassador both for the special event – the 2006 FIFA World Cup™ – and for the sport of soccer as a fundamental social and cultural phenomenon. The cultural program each evening will provoke an exciting focus on soccer and all the very different sides to it.”

On 1 June, just in time for the start of the World Cup, the globe returned to Berlin. The tour was supported by the German railways (DB AG) as described in a special postmark (Figure 3). Have a look at the unusual inscription inside the oval. Deutsche Post World Net (also known as DHL) belonged to the group of official supporters and sponsored this special postmark.

APPROACHING THE CHAMPIONSHIP

A special exhibition of the *original* World Cup – at least that is the way it was promoted and the level of security certainly supported that impression – toured through selected German cities in the weeks shortly before the June start of competition. The author used the opportunity to stand in the presence of this icon when the so-called “Trophy Experience Show” (original title in English, not in German) made a one-day stop in Rostock. The “experience” began with a noisy film composed of scenes shown in a 1-to 2-second staccato fashion without much content or education on football. But then in the next room was the golden cup, making it worth the effort of passing through the first obstacle. Upon leaving the exhibition, each visitor received a souvenir: a photograph of themselves standing near the cup mounted in a cardboard folder (Figure 4).



Figure 4. German Post’s internet hybrid card (“Funcard”) reproducing a photo taken at the Trophy Experience Show and posted the same day (the digital imprint includes the date the card was generated: 20060505).

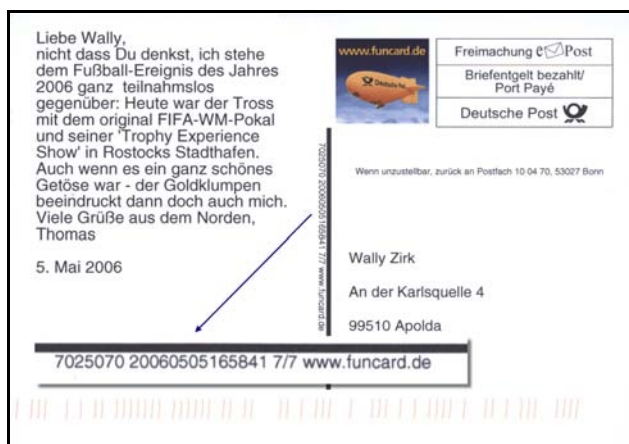




Figure 5. A special postmark was used during the exhibition in Leipzig entitled “The Lord of the Rules: the Football Referee” depicting former GDR referee, Rudi Glöckner.

Although the German Post was present at the show – the Postbank was one of the official sponsors – no special postmark was created.

So as not to let this opportunity slip by, the author, as soon as he arrived home, created his own postal souvenir using German Post’s internet hybrid card called a “Funcard” (Figure 4).

Another contribution to the arts program was a football referee exhibition from 3 March through 30 July 2006 in Leipzig, the city where the German football association was founded.

The exhibition, entitled “The Lord of the Rules. The Football Referee,” also included philatelic material provided by the German Olympic and Sports collectors group, IMOS.

This finally also led to a special postmark (Figure 5) picturing the only Eastern German (more precisely: former German Democratic Republic) participant in a World Cup final, referee Rudi Glöckner (he directed the match between Italy and Brazil in Mexico City in 1970).

This was not the only contribution of collectors

during the final phase of preparations. There were small exhibitions at various places as appetizers for the World Cup. Often there were philatelic documents because special postmarks were created. These postmarks also reflect the common problem arising at nearly any global event: the “battle of words” between paid sponsors and licensees protecting their investment, and unauthorized people. In the official statement of FIFA cited earlier in this article, the “™” sign was used three times in two sentences.

Just a few days before the start of the World Cup, the Supreme Court in Germany decided that the words “Fußball - Weltmeisterschaft 2006” were so common that they couldn’t be owned by FIFA. This seemed to be very logical from the public’s point of view. Only the combination “FIFA Fußball - Weltmeisterschaft 2006” remained copyrighted.

There were fewer problems in the earlier years, and later in special cases, when a selected competition town’s administration or local organizing committee supported the event (Figures 6 & 9).



Figure 6. In the countdown to World Cup 2006, collector's bourses organized by the German Olympic and Sports Museum in Cologne, with the support of IMOS, used postmarks with terminology that could have been seen as proprietary.

During the World Cup, "Stadion Köln" didn't exist. According to the agreements with FIFA every competition venue (with three "neutral name" exceptions) lost its name for the duration of the World Cup. In its place the venue was referred to with a unified description, for example, "FIFA WM-Stadion Köln." (See postmarks used during the competitions later in this article.)

Again in Köln, the German Olympic and Sport Museum organized an exhibition on Global Players – with IMOS's support. A special postmark (Figure 7) depicts Camillo Ugi, a famous early German player, nine times captain of the German national team and participant in the 1912 Olympic Games. From 1921 until his death, he resided in Leipzig.



Figure 7. Famous German soccer player, Camillo Ugi, on a 2006 postmark from Köln honoring Global Players.



Figure 8. There was no problem using official insignia when promoting shows supported by the local organizers.

Figure 9. A Frankfurt/Main collectors' club could not use the official logo or name. Instead they used the abbreviation "WM06".



Of course there was no problem for the organizing bodies and the sponsors to use the World Cup emblem and the logos for advertising purposes (Figure 8). Several of them, including the organizing committee, used the proprietary markings in their meters (see the title meter from the committee in Frankfurt/Main at the start of this article).

Leipzig is a good example of a host city using the World Cup logo in its meters (Figure 10). Often several machines with different registration numbers were used, for instance in Munich, Köln, Hannover and even Essen (connected with Gelsenkirchen).



Figure 10. In one machine (F711011 of Francotyp-Postalia type) several additional rate or class designations were used depending on the type of mail being metered. For example, the meter at bottom reads "Entgelt bezahlt" which meant postage was paid for a type of presorted mail.



Figure 11. Sponsors combined the World Cup logo with additional remarks identifying their special contribution. Here the DB or German Railway was an “official provider of logistics and mobility.” (See the postmark in Figure 3 for another example of publicity by “Die Bahn”.)



Figure 12. Other supporters added soccer-related advertising to their common covers with postage paid imprints. Often there were several printing numbers to be identified. Notice, that the cover is marked in the postage paid imprint with an “ePost Classic” text line. It means that it was sent as hybrid post (the bills are electronically transferred to a handling center of the German Post, where they are printed out, inserted in envelopes, then sent to the addressees).

TIME TO MAKE FRIENDS

For soccer fans the time was finally here. The first teams arrived receiving warm receptions. For the author it was really astonishing to see how enthusiastic the public in general was, and how everyone was eager to assume their roles as excellent hosts. This was the World Cup motto, "time to make friends," in action.

A good example of this hospitality took place in the town of Rotenburg, where the team from Trinidad & Tobago were housed. The town was decked out in red, black and white, the colors of Trinidad, and everyone supported the team in its preliminary games. A Soca-Warrior fan club was established, the local philatelic club contributed a special postmark, and the local authorities used a special slogan in their meter (Figure 13).

Similar news came from other locations, where teams were accommodated that did not, themselves, restrict contact.

THE STAMP PROGRAM

Beginning in 2003, the postal administration of the host country issued stamps to promote the event even though none were special World Cup 2006 issues. Traditionally in Germany a special semi-postal issue "Für den Sport" (For Sports) is released in February or March. These issues have also included soccer stamps.

- 2003 Set of 5 stamps: all for World Cup 2006
- 2004 Set of 5 stamps: for this Olympic/Paralympic year, two (more or less) for World Cup 2006
- 2005 Set of 5 stamps: two for World Cup 2006
- 2006 Set of 5 stamps: four for World Cup 2006. An additional sheetlet in May united all four soccer stamps

The surcharge was used to support the German Sports Aid (Deutsche Sporthilfe), but according to the agreement with the World Cup organizing committee a significant amount was given to youth programs.



Figure 13. Two meters are known from Rotenburg. This one was used by the city administration. A second one of the same design, but with another registration number, was used by the Lebenshilfe association, a charity organization.



Figure 14. The 2003 issue was completely dedicated to World Cup 2006. The theme was soccer as a sport for all – from young to old.



Figure 15. FIFA's centennial was the theme of one of the 2004 German sports issues.

The theme in 2004 (Figure 15) was the centennial of FIFA (144 +56 cents) and the 50th anniversary of the "Wonder of Bern" (55 +25 cents), the victory of the German soccer team in the 1954 World Cup. This was also the title of a successful theatrical film. The third soccer stamp (45 + 20) honored the European Football championships of that year in Portugal under the auspices of the UEFA.



Figure 16. GOLEO, the 2006 World Cup mascot, appeared on the 2005 Für den Sport issue.

The Football Globe (see Figure 3) designed by Austrian artist André Heller and the mascot of the championships named GOLEO (Figure 16) were considered for the 2005 stamps in the framework of the sports issue.

The themes for this year's stamps were the opening match in Munich (Figure 19), the final in Berlin (Figures 17 & 18), the fans in the stadium with German flags and a laser show, which have been repeated in the sheetlet from May.



Figure 17. The 2006 stamp honoring the final in Berlin was issued in both a sheetlet version (top) and as a regular pane (bottom).



Figure 18. An enlargement of the value portion of the stamps in Figure 17 show differences in the direction of the diagonal dot pattern between the two printings.

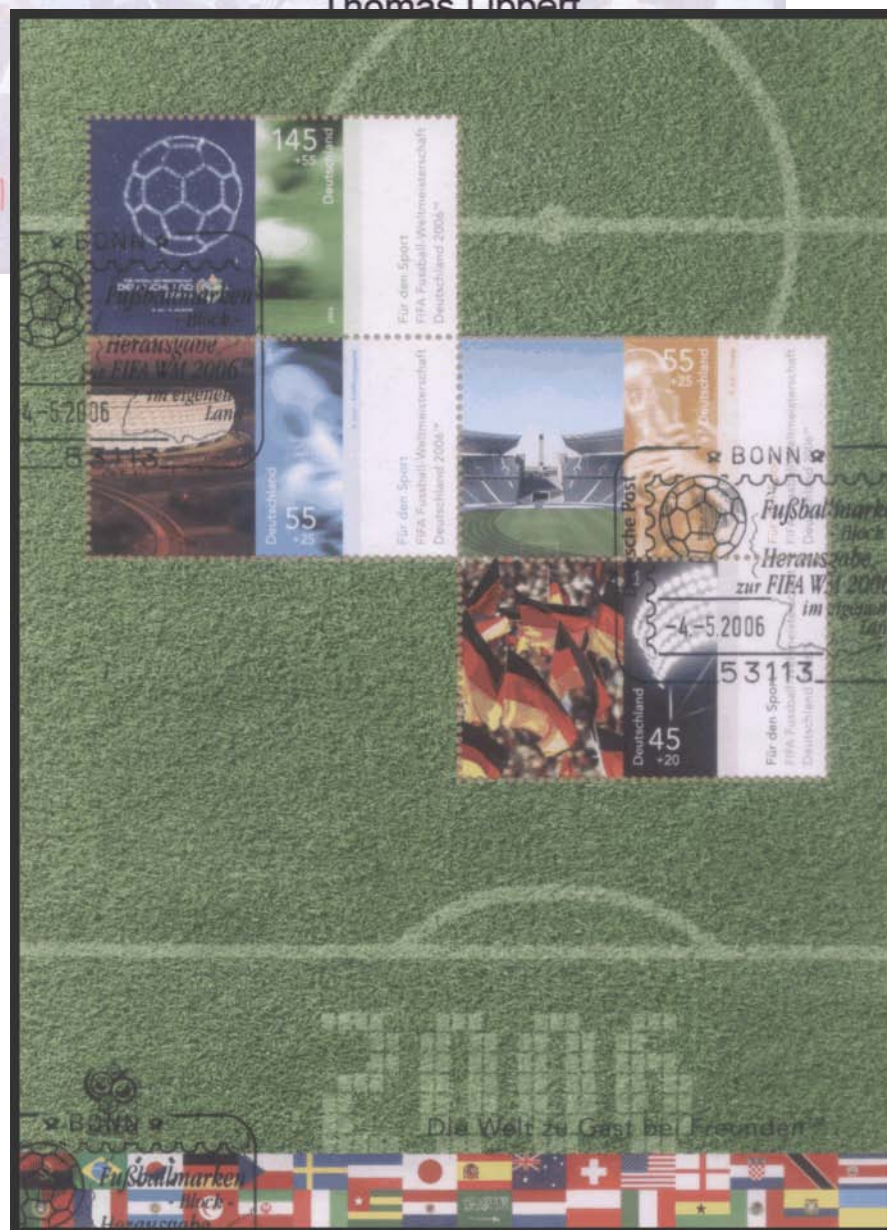


Figure 19. First Day of the Munich Stadium stamp in the 2006 *Für den Sport* series.

There were two different printers for the two formats (panes of a single value and sheetlets of all four values). Under magnification (Figure 18) it is easy to detect that the direction of the background pattern of dots is different between the two formats. In the single pane version the dots are in a diagonal pattern from upper left to lower right. In the sheetlet version (Figure 20), they run from upper right to lower left.

[To be concluded in the Winter 2006 issue]

Figure 20. Sheetlet version of the four 2006 *Für den Sport* stamps honoring the World Cup (cropped from a First Day cover).





The “Deutsches Stadion” Cancellation

by Manfred Bergman

“Blind men walk with canes, but not all men walking with canes are blind.”

The German Stadium built in 1912-1913 also had a specific site for a post office. This post office was operational for the first time in the afternoon of the inaugural day of the stadium – on the 8th of June 1913. The special cancellation applied this day is extremely rare. It is not my intention to explain its rarity, as this is the subject of another paper. My intention is to warn the collector about the horrendous and outrageous prices asked for this cancellation used on other dates, in particular on dates when no Olympic-connected events took place.

LET ME BRIEFLY EXPLAIN

1. The special post office was not operational on every day – it was a temporary office used for many events that took place in the Olympic (German) Stadium, on Sundays.

2. Many events that took place in the stadium were linked to the forthcoming (scheduled) Berlin 1916 Games. These were pre-Olympic competitions, with or without foreign participants, qualifying competitions for the selection of participating athletes and national championships that counted as qualifying for the Olympic Games. On some of these occasions the special post office was operational (on Sundays) and, mail with the “GRUNEWALD - DEUTSCHES STADION” [cancellation] is certainly part of an Olympic collection.

3. Here is the warning: The post office was also open and used for mail when some non-Olympic events took place in the stadium. The mail received the “GRUNEWALD - DEUTSCHES STADION” cancella-

tion, but the item had no relationship whatsoever with Olympics. Being the case, the card or cover, though featuring the special cancellation, has no connection with the Olympic Games and should not figure in an Olympic collection. These items should not be described as Olympic items by auctioneers, dealers or collectors.

WHY THIS WARNING

1. Normally, a small warning would be sufficient for the collector to be careful and just avoid acquiring such an item.

2. Unfortunately, it is not sufficient. In recent months two items were offered (see below) at outrageous prices. Collectors not being aware of the “trickery” may consider them as rare Olympic items and risk buying them. Later these collectors will be very, very disappointed when told that the items are not Olympic ones and will cause reduction of points if shown at exhibitions (even disqualification).

HOW CAN ONE CHECK?

1. One way to check is to consult the “DOK, Deutsche Olympiade Kalender” Volume 1, edited by AGON Sportverlag (shown below). Every Olympic event that took place in the stadium is mentioned and described. If the date of the cancellation corresponds to an Olympic event, it will be mentioned in the DOK and you may consider buying it, but if the date does not correspond to an Olympic-linked event – just forget it and





Figure 2. The “Stadion-Kalender” (above left) shows no Olympic-related event at the Deutsche Stadion on 7.9.1913 (the date of the cancel on the postcard, above right). The event that day (below) was for youth sports and clearly not linked in any way to the Olympic Games.

Veranstaltungen im Deutschen Stadion.		
1913		
August	10.	Garde-Füsilierr-Regiment. Regiments-Sportfest.
-	23.	Deutscher Radfahrer-Bund. Vorläufe zu den Rad-Weltmeisterschaften.
-	24.	Deutscher Radfahrer-Bund. Rad-Weltmeisterschaften.
September . .	7.	Hauptausschuss für Leibesübungen und Jugendpflege. Jugendspielfest.

tell the seller what you think about the item (or the seller, for that matter).

2. The best way to check is with the “Stadion Kalender” (für das Deutsche Reich) issued by the DRAfOS once or twice per month in 1913 and 1914.

THE PRICES

1. The prices asked today for a “STADION” cancellation (of 8.6.1913) vary from €4,500 to €6,500. This is already a very high price as we have already traced more than 30 of these cancellations, and

more are still to be discovered. A price of €2,000 to €2,700 would be reasonable. However, it is a free market and if a collector is ready to pay those prices, he/she is welcome.

2. The price for a “STADION” Olympic-linked event ought to fetch between €1,300 and €1,700.

3. When it comes to the “STADION” cancellation used at a non-Olympic event, the Olympic collector should just ignore it. A sports collector may certainly be interested but, the price to be paid should not be more than €300 to €500.

WHAT WAS RECENTLY OFFERED?

(I shall not mention the seller since the latter can ask whatever he/she wants; it is up to us to refuse or question the price. But certainly we can contest the description).

1. An illustrated postcard of the "STADION" with a "STADION" cancellation and a "CHARLOTTENBURG 2" transit cancellation (the two cancellations occur frequently). The date: 7.9.1913. Or, on this day, as one can see from the "Stadion Kalender," no Olympic-linked event took place at the stadium. The price asked is €5,500. Good luck to the buyer, if such a buyer exists – it's a good investment for his/her great-great-grandchild (Figure 2). The events that took place on this day were Youth games – to promote sports to youngsters – no Olympic connection.

2. The second offer, compared to the first one, may be defined as more "reasonable": an illustrated postcard mailed from the "STADION" on the 19th of

November 1913, is offered at a starting price of €2,200. Well, it was not an Olympic-linked event. The text of the card proves it. Again, good luck to the buyer (Figure 3). The event that took place on this day was a football game between Berlin and Hamburg.

I sincerely hope that the Olympic collector will do more historical research before spending, irrationally, large amounts of money on items which are not Olympic at all, only praised as such by (I hesitate to use the correct adjective) sellers/auctioneers.

"The Deutsches Stadion was intended for the Olympic Games but not all sports events at the Deutsches Stadion were Olympic."

Manfred Bergman, 7.5.2005

NB. Both sellers know me very well. I suppose that my warning will not be taken graciously (at least not by one of them) and that our "diplomatic" relations will suffer from it.



Figure 3. Another postcard, this one dated 19 November 1913, was offered at auction for €2200. It, too, was completely unconnected to the Olympics as that day a football game between Berlin and Hamburg was contested as noted on the calendar below.





Figure 1. Cacheted cover of the OSPC Berlin with commemorative cancel from the German Post showing the former building of the state council of the GDR.

2005 Beach Volleyball World Championships Berlin, Germany

by Wolfgang Marx

The 5th Beach Volleyball World Championships took place from June 21-26, 2005, at the “Berliner Schlossplatz” in Berlin, Germany.

Forty-eight women’s teams as well as 48 men’s teams started the competition on more than 3,000 tons of sand brought from “Hohen Neudorf” from the German region called “Mark,” which covered most of the 11,000 m² area dedicated to this event. And it was a very special kind of sand: according to the rules each grain had to be between 0.3 and 0.7 mm in size, and the entire quantity had to be washed twice before it could be used. In total there were eight beach courts: one center court with a spectator capacity of 8,000, five side courts and two training courts.

The local Volleyball Federation of Berlin used this opportunity to promote the sport and advertise the World Championships. The Berlin Youth Championships in Beach Volleyball were organized in three age groups. Different school championships took place and the universities of Berlin competed in a mixed doubles event (two women and two men on each team) for their championship crown.

The buildings next to the courts were also quite famous: the “Palace of the German Democratic Republic” (soon to be demolished) as well as the building of the former state council of the GDR. The latter served from 1999 to 2002 as office of the federal chancellor and which became a private High School for Economics in 2005, with its famous “Schlossbalkon” (balcony) where Karl Liebknecht declared the first social republic in 1918. Right under this balcony the “sand diggers” were in action.



Figure 2. Cacheted cover produced by IMOS, the German Olympics and Sports collectors organization.



Figure 3. Sheetlet of four €0.48 stamps issued by the PIN AG company. Each stamp pays the standard domestic letter rate. Because of its private post status, PIN AG was able to include the names of the two event sponsors: Swatch and Smart.

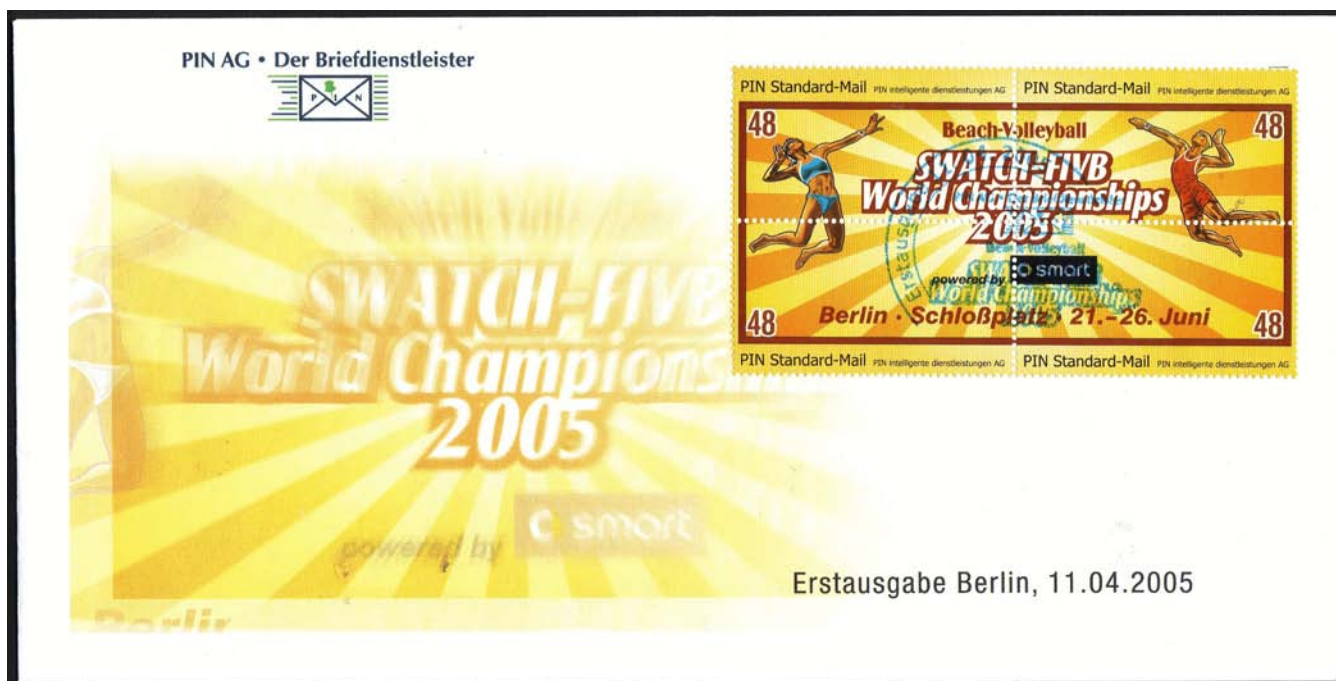


Figure 4. First Day Cover of the PIN AG company stamps with first day cancel dated April 11, 2005.



Figure 5. Pane of the single stamps showing the entire design.

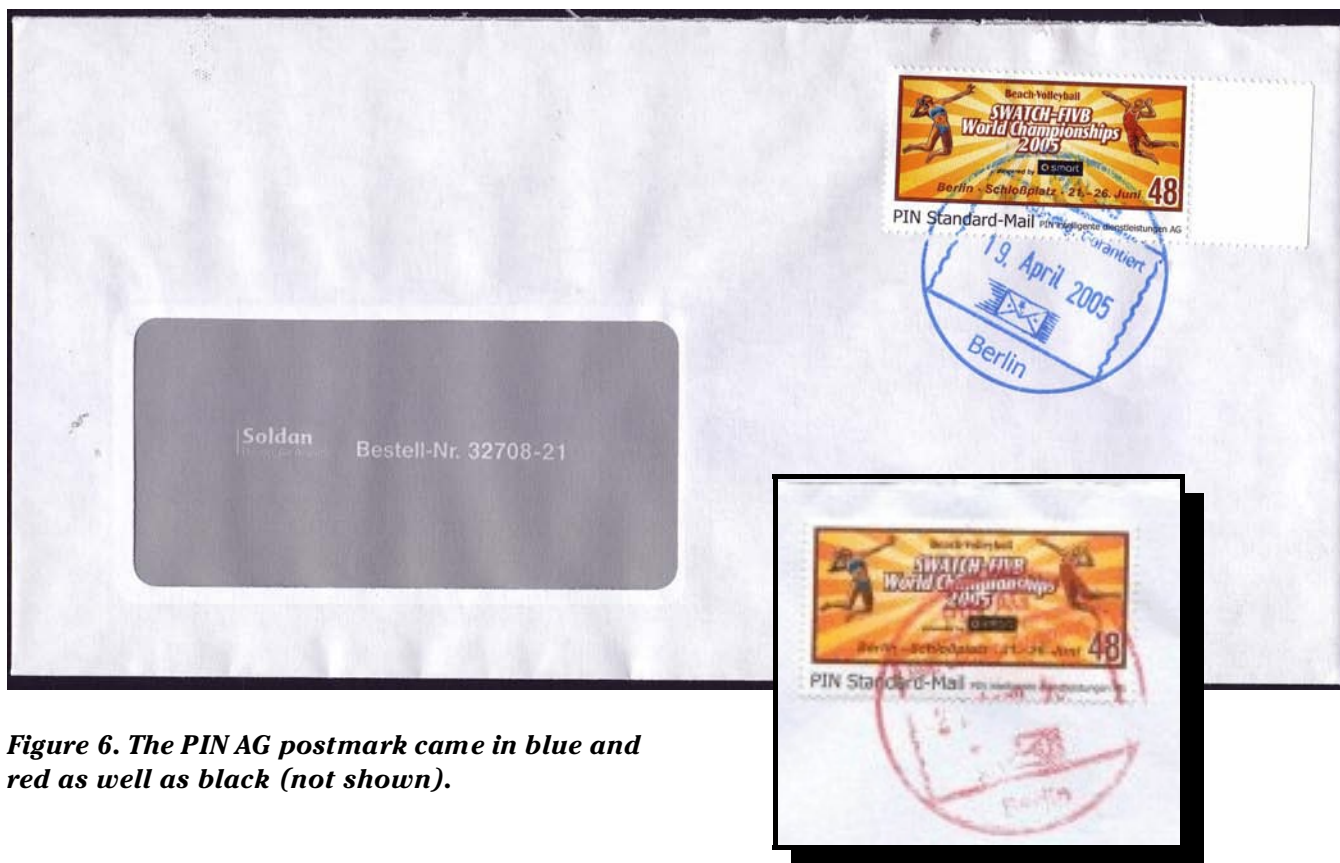


Figure 6. The PIN AG postmark came in blue and red as well as black (not shown).

Of course, this world championship was a challenge for the OSPC Berlin, the Olympics and Sports Collectors Club, in its 15th year of existence. The aim was to document the event in a worthy philatelic way. Thanks to “postman” Stephan Hinze it was possible to convince the German Post to produce a commemorative cancel, depicting the façade of the building of the former state council of the GDR, especially its balcony (Figures 1 & 2).

The date of the cancel – July 20, 2005 – was the day of the technical meeting (and draw of the ladies matches) on the night prior to the start of the event. The cachet on the cover, produced by OSPC, shows the official logo of the championships, together with the name of the official sponsor (“smart”). The total prize money of one million US\$ could only be raised through different sponsoring activities. This was also the reason why the official logo was not shown on the commemorative cancel of the German Post, since commercial advertising is not allowed.

The private post company PIN AG also took advantage of this sports event. In 2004, the OSPC club together with the PIN AG company came up with the idea of producing stamps for five different sport events during 2005 (to honor sports in Berlin

and to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the OSPC Berlin). These were: 94th Six-Day Bike Race in January, International German Gymnastic Festival in May, 5th Beach Volleyball World Championships in June, 64th International Stadium Festival (ISTAF) and 32nd Berlin Marathon (both in September). For different reasons (mainly a lack of agreement with the organizers of the events) only the Beach Volleyball Championships were commemorated.

The PIN AG company produced a sheetlet of four €0.48 stamps (Figures 3 & 4) that together repeat the design of the single stamp issued in panes of 12 (Figures 5 & 6) covering the postage rate of a standard letter. They also issued the stamp as a pre-printed indicium on a postal envelope (Figure 7).

Without any problems the PIN AG company could show the logos of the sponsoring companies of the event (“Swatch” and “smart”), since the rules of the German Post do not apply in this case.

In the end the Beach Volleyball World Championships were a big success. The center court was sold out daily. The expert audience was delighted by the performances of the world-best teams from the USA, Brazil, China, Cuba etc. The German men’s teams did not do bad, either.

In the ladies competition, the Brazilian team of Frana-Felisberta Silva were defeated by the US team of Walsh-May-Treanor 0-2 (17-21, 17-21). Third place went to the Chinese Tian Jia-Wang Fei after beating Fernandez Grasset-Larrea Peraza from Cuba 2-0 (21-13, 21-17).

In the men's event (Figure 8), the title went to Brazil after the victory of Marcio Araujo-de Jesus Magalhães over the Swiss team of Heyer-Laciga P. 2-0 (22-20, 21-12). Third place was won by Brink-Schneider K. in an all German match against Polte-Schoen 2-1 (16-21, 21-17, 15-10).

A player's strike had overshadowed the event shortly before its start. Around midnight of June 20, the players threatened to boycott the event, because they were forced to sign a four-year contract with the FIVB (the International Volleyball Federation), telling them exactly how many times they had to participate in the different world tournaments etc. The FIVB has commercialized the international beach volleyball scene completely with the main aim of producing financial income for the international federation.

Another clause in this contract prohibited players from forming a union of any kind, because Mr. Acosta, the arbitrary president of the FIVB, was afraid he might lose power if the players united. He himself

charged sponsoring companies commissions in the millions of US\$. When the ethics commission of the FIVB dealt with these occurrences, Mr. Acosta resigned from his post, officially for reasons of age.

Fortunately, a compromise was found in Berlin so that the championships could go ahead. 🐼

*(Thanks to Gunter Pilz, editor of **Philavolley** for allowing us to reprint this article featured on his website at www.volleyballphilately.com.)*



Figure 8. Men's winners (photo courtesy of FIVB website).



Figure 7. Postal stationery entire issued by PIN AG with the €0.48 stamp as an indicium.

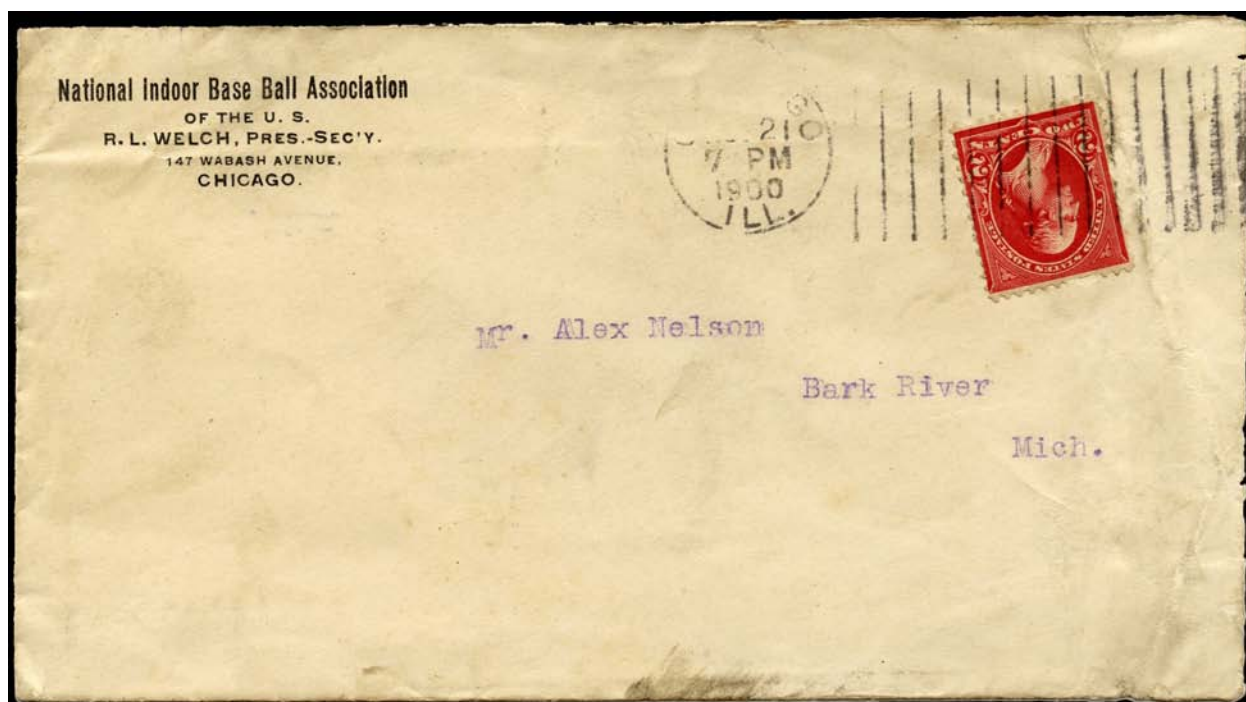


Figure 1. *It didn't take long before the sport of softball, then known as indoor base ball, to form its own national association based in Chicago. Above is an envelope with the corner card of the organization mailed in 1900 to Bark River, Michigan.*

Softball: From A Chicago Boat Club to Worldwide Phenomenon

by Norman Rushefsky

Softball was invented November 24, 1887 in Chicago, IL inside the Farragut Boat Club. There, several Yale and Harvard alumni anxiously awaited the results of the Harvard-Yale football game. When the news came that Yale had defeated Harvard, 17-8, one Yale supporter, overcome with enthusiasm, picked up an old boxing glove and threw it at a nearby Harvard alumnus, who promptly tried to hit it back with a stick.

This gave George Hancock, a reporter for the Chicago Board of Trade, an idea. He suggested a game of indoor baseball. Using what was available, he tied together the laces of a boxing glove for a ball. Hancock marked off with chalk a home plate, bases and a pitcher's box inside the Farragut Boat Club gymnasium. He divided those present into two teams. The final score of the game was 41-40, but what was significant was that Hancock and his friends had invented a sport that would grow in

popularity to where today more than 25 million people enjoy playing it in the United States along with millions more in over 100 countries.

The game was initially called indoor-outdoor baseball and 19 special rules were added to adapt the outdoor game to the indoor game. The rules were officially adopted by the Mid Winter Indoor Baseball League of Chicago in 1889. A small sized medicine ball with a bat two inches in diameter were used. An envelope postmarked in 1900 and featuring a corner ad for the National Indoor Base Ball association is shown in Figure 1.

The first women's softball team was formed in 1895 at Chicago's West Division High School. They did not obtain a coach for competitive play until 1899 and it was difficult to create interest among fans.

However, only five years later, more attention was given to the women's game. The 1904 issue of *Spalding Indoor Baseball Guide* fueled this attention by devoting a large section of the guide to the game of women's indoor baseball.

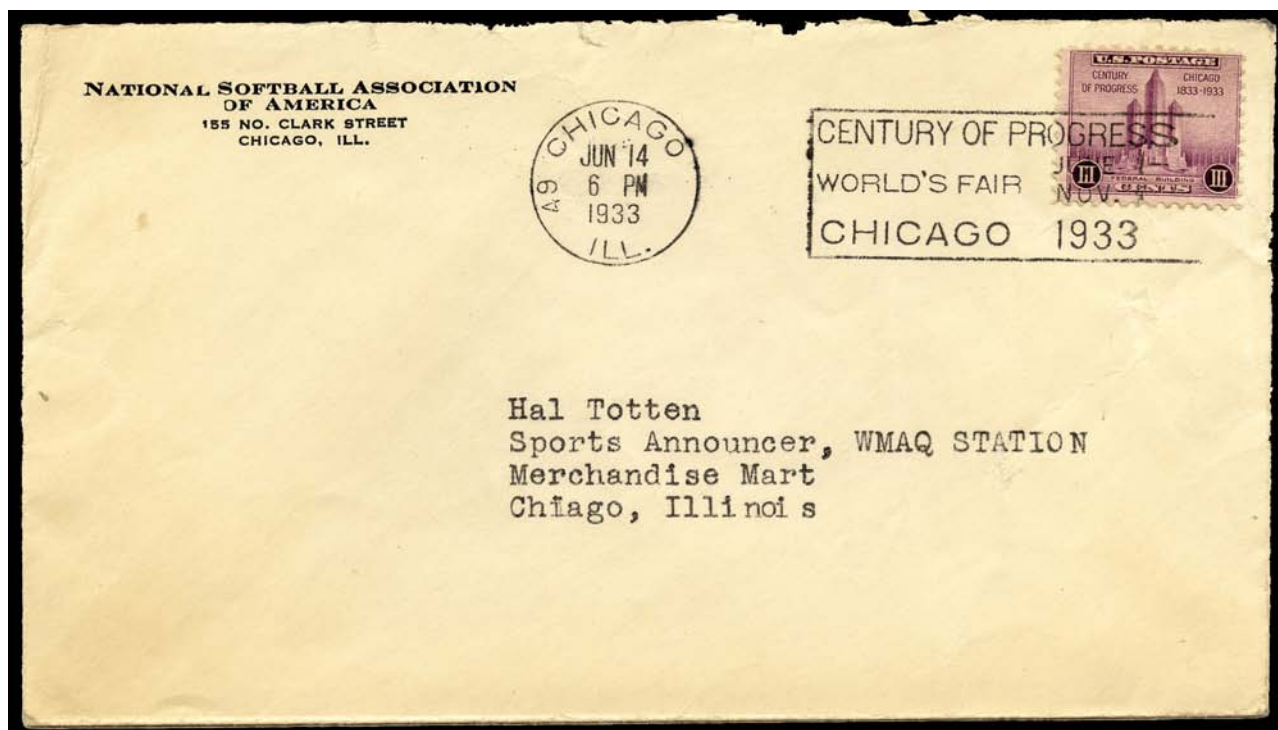


Figure 2. Softball's popularity was evident as 55 teams participated in the 1933 Chicago World's Fair softball tournament which took nearly 3 months to complete! A 1933 National Softball Association cover franked with a 10¢ Century of Progress stamp commemorating the World's Fair and postmarked with a World's Fair machine cancel.



Figure 3. Pre-1950 philatelic material devoted to softball is relatively scarce. The Draper-Maynard Company, an athletic goods store, promoted their "Official CSK Softball" for "night and day" play and with a "concealed stitch" in a 1946 red meter imprint.

The name “softball” didn't come about until 1926 when Walter Hakanson, a Denver YMCA official, suggested it.

Efforts to organize softball on a national basis didn't materialize until Leo Fischer and Michael J. Pauley, a Chicago Sporting Goods salesman, conceived the idea of organizing thousands of teams in America into cohesive state and metro organizations, and finally into a national organization.

To bring the teams together, Fisher and Pauley invited them to participate in a tournament in conjunction with the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago.

A preliminary tournament in 1931 had 103,604 teams, with 3,361 teams from Chicago alone, seeking the chance to play in the World's Fair tournament.

With the backing of the *Chicago American* newspaper, Pauley and Fisher invited 55 teams to participate in the World's Fair tournament which opened July 1, 1933 and concluded September 24, 1933.

Teams were divided into five divisions using 12-, 13-, 14-, 15-, 16- and 17-inch circumference softballs. The finals of the men's and women's teams were held at famed Soldier's Field in Chicago.

On the opening day of the 1933 tournament, the *Chicago American* said, “It is the largest and most comprehensive tournament ever held in the sport which has swept the country like wildfire.”

With free admission, 70,000 people saw the first round of play. An envelope featuring a 1933 Chicago Century of Progress World's Fair stamp and post-

mark on a corner ad cover of the National Softball Association is shown in Figure 2.

Following the 1933 World's Fair, which was attended by many people from outside the U.S., the sport grew in popularity internationally.

Softball is now played in various international tournaments and is an Olympic medal event for women at least until 2008.

Since 1979, it has been an official Pan American Games sport, having first been played as a demonstration sport at the Pan Am Games held in 1967 in Winnipeg, Canada.

Philatelic items relating to softball prior to 1950 are few.

In addition to the covers noted above, there is a 1946 meter from the Draper-Maynard Athletic Goods Company featuring a man and woman as softball players (Figure 3).

Figure 4 reproduces sports stamps issued in 1949 by Nicaragua in celebration of the 10th World Series of Amateur Baseball. Two of the stamps from the series portray a women softball player.

With the international increase in interest in softball, numerous stamps and postmarks may be found with the softball theme.

Acknowledgment is made to the Amateur Softball Association (ASA) website for information on the history of softball.



Figure 4. Nicaragua issued two stamps with women softball players in honor of the 1948 World Series of Amateur Baseball held in Nicaragua. The cover at left was mailed on July 13, 1949, the first day of issue of the souvenir sheet of four airmail stamps. Below is the 1ct value.





1920 Olympic Photo Essay Plates

by Mark Maestroni

In early January 2004, I happened upon a rather unusual item on eBay with a lot description that, shall we say, left a great deal to be desired:

*BELGIUM 1920 Olympic Photo Essay Plates
Unique, with notes regarding production, etc*

The lot of two items was being auctioned by Ruby Stamps of San Francisco as Lot #2978631549. The starting price was \$199, closing on January 15 with eleven recorded bids. A bidder in France paid \$651 for the lot.

It was clear that the items had come from the archives of the American Bank Note Company – the printers of the stamp – and displayed quite a mixture of design notes and approvals. Still unclear as to what I was viewing, I consulted one of the experts on the philately of these Games, Laurentz Jonker in the Netherlands.

After taking a careful look at the documentation, Laurentz wrote back that they were certainly, in his view, genuine photo essays from the ABNC archives

and worth far more than the \$651 as they were likely unique.

He noted the numerous dates and sizes inscribed on the sheets. Laurentz also spotted small differences between the images on the photo plates and the finished stamps as issued.

The most easily discerned difference is on the 15c runner value. At the bottom of the essay is the text:

POUR LES MUTILES 5c VOOR DE VERMINKTEN

A line from the base of the image extends to the right ending in a “+” sign. This indicates that a “+” sign needed to be added before the “5” so there was no confusion that this was a semi-postal. The finished stamp includes that correction.

The exterior dimensions of the stamps are also provided: 24 mm wide x 29 mm high for both stamps. The stamps were also to be perforated.

Laurentz went on to discuss other production and post-production materials with which he was familiar.

Proofs in his collection were printed in black on a dark gray background on white paper. These were

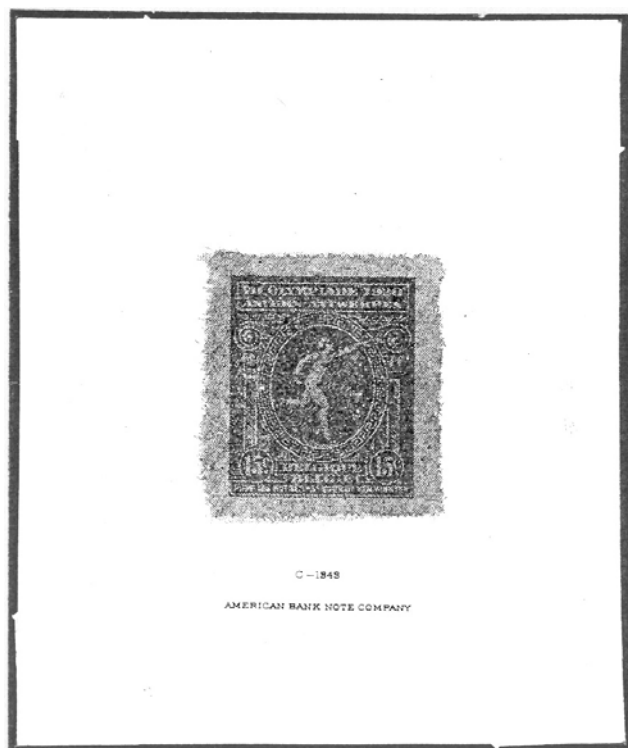


Figure 2. Proof of the 15c value.

then cut and pasted on cream paper with a printed frame (Figure 2).

Below each proof was printed an identification number (C-1841 for the 10c Charioteer, C-1842 for the 5c Discobulus, and C-1843 for the 15c runner) and the printer's name (American Bank Note Company).

Included in this category are the so-called "Ministry Sheets". These are printed in black on sheets larger than for the proofs. Laurentz believes there are ± 10 sets in existence.

Last but not least, Laurentz also reproduced a fascinating publicity sheet to which perforated versions of each stamp were mounted. The sheets were designed to be displayed in post offices (Figure 3). He notes that in 30 years he's only seen one of these! This example was sold at auction about 5 years ago for around \$150.

The text on the poster translates as follows:

Specimens
Postage stamps called
"Olympic Games",
are sold with a surtax
of 5 centimes to benefit
the national foundation
for the War Wounded.

(See news at the counter)
The surtax is paid entirely
to the foundation.




Figure 3. Post Office publicity sheet for 1920 Olympics stamps which was displayed in post offices. Perforated examples of the stamps were affixed right to the poster.

Opécimens
des timbres-poste dits
"Jeux Olympiques",
vendus avec une surtaxe
de 5 centimes au profit
de l'œuvre nationale
des Invalides de la
Guerre.

(Voir avis affiché près du guichet)

Modellen
der postzegels gezegd
"Olympische spelen"
verkocht met 5 centiem
opgeld ten bate van
het Nationaal Werk
der Oorlogsver-
minkten.

(Zie bericht nabij het winkel)

La surtaxe est versée inté-
gralement à l'œuvre.

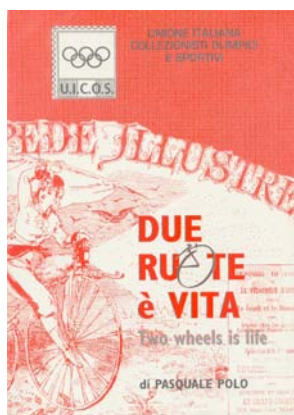
Het geheele bedrag van het opgeld
komt ten goede aan het Werk.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

by Mark Maestrone

Over the past few months, a number of interesting publications have been published by our sister society in Italy, UICOS. All three publications can be ordered from them at CP 14327, Roma Trullo, 00149 Rome, Italy. (Email: philasport@tin.it)

***Due Route à Vita (Two Wheels is Life)* by Pasquale Polo. 99 pages (B&W), in English, €10 + s/h.**



***Two Wheels is Life*,** Pasquale Polo's 6-frame thematic exhibit, demonstrates not only his love for cycling as a sport, but also pays tribute to the bicycle as a means of transportation for all.

The exhibit, which has been shown nationally and internationally, is organized into three

chapters. Chapter 1, "The Steel Horse," very briefly discusses the invention of the bicycle. The evolution of the bicycle and its practical uses for delivering mail and for recreation are explained in Chapter 2, "Useful, Necessary and Fun." The grand spectacle of competitive cycling in all its variety in Chapter 3, "A Huge Task," wraps up the exhibit.

While I do not know the "track record" of the exhibit in competition (it was not shown at either Olympihlex 2004 in Athens or at Washington 2006) I would judge from the theme's development, variety and quality of philatelic elements, and presentation that it has done quite well on the exhibition scene. Regardless, any thematic exhibitor of sport or Olympic material could benefit from reviewing this exhibit – especially cycling collectors. I even noted some different philatelic elements to investigate for my gymnastics exhibit.

The quality of the finished product is excellent. Slick paper is used and the printing of both text and images is crystal clear. At 6½" x 9½" in size, readers will have no difficulty viewing each page of the exhibit.

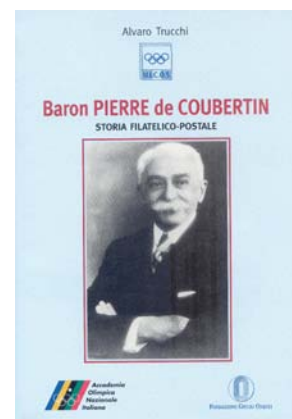


One of the many interesting items in Polo's cycling exhibit is this "Advertising envelope with pre-postage, sold [at] a reduced price." The arrow points to an ad for a bicycle repair garage in Brest that caters to participants in many single day "classic" races between two cities.

***Baron Pierre de Coubertin. Storia Filatelico-Postale* by Alvaro Trucchi. 56 pages, preface by Maurizio Tecardi and introduction by the author in Italian. List of abbreviations in Italian, French, English and German, full color, €10 + s/h.**

I'm actually rather surprised that it has taken so long for someone to publish a philatelic catalogue devoted to Baron Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the Modern Olympic Games. Leave it to our Italian colleagues, though, to have come through with what appears to be a very thorough list.

Printed in full color on slick paper, the catalogue is organized alphabeti-





cally by country, and then chronologically for multiple entries.

Each entry is clearly illustrated and includes Yvert and Michel catalogue numbers for stamps and souvenir sheets. For non-stamp entries, such as meters and postmarks, the place of issue and date are provided.

Obviously, adhesives predominate, however there are quite a few postmarks and meter imprints either portraying de Coubertin or mentioning him in the text. For example, the many different meter imprints of the French CNOSF in Paris are listed because the headquarters is located at "1, Av. Pierre de Coubertin" which is included in the meter slogan.

In an introductory note, the author states that he has placed limits on the listings by excluding "imperforate, specimen, varieties of the stamps as well as color essays." While certainly a sensible approach, the author didn't seem always to follow his own restrictions. For example, in the Hungarian listings, both the perforated and imperforate versions of the 1963 Coubertin birth centennial stamp are shown. On the facing page are perf and imperf examples of the same 1968 Olympic Winter Games medallist stamp honoring Peggy Fleming. For the most part, these appear to be aberrations.

While I did not see a specific statement to the fact, 2004 appears to be the latest that catalogue items were issued.

For the Coubertin collector especially, this is an invaluable reference. I think it would provide a welcome addition to any Olympic philately library.

I Vincitori di Medaglie Olimpiche, Francobolli, Annulli e Interi Postali, Volume V, Sidney 2000 by Alvaro Trucchi. 64 pages, in Italian. €5 + s/h.

Volume V of the continuing series of booklets on Olympic Medalists covers the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

The subheading defines the contents: stamps, postmarks, and postal stationery. As in the previous volumes, the organization is by sport (alphabetically in Italian), then by athlete. This enables easy searches for both individual sports collectors or those looking for specific athletes.

While the illustrations are in black & white, the quality of the printing is excellent. Cataloguing is still by Yvert (French) and Michel (German) which is of little help to American collectors who are used to Scott Catalogues. However, this really isn't an insurmountable obstacle.

Along with the earlier volumes, this series remains the best of the various Olympic Medalists catalogues out there today.



France and Colonies Proofs & Essays

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REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

Due to the great backlog of periodicals, I will be condensing my reviews for this column.

Esprit: Sports et Olympisme: Jean-Pierre Picquot, 172 Bd. Berthier, 75017 Paris, France. [In French]

September 2005 (#37). Daguin sports cancels; Arthur Ashe; 117th IOC Session in Singapore.

December 2005 (#38). Turin 2006, French FD and torch relay cancels; French Winter Olympic postcards of 1968 & 1992; Rowing Club of Troyenne; Leo Lagrange, a leader in French youth sports; figure skating competitions in France.

April 2006 (#39). Turin 2006 philatelic review; World Cup 2006 update; Glory of Croatia (tennis); French Open golf tournament centennial.

July 2006 (#40). Olympic Stadium in Berlin; World Cup 2006; 2006 Turin Winter Olympics; Paris-Roubaix cycling race; ELTA (Greek post office) commemorates the centennial of the 1906 Athens Olympics; French Open golf centennial; review of the 2006 AFCOS annual assembly.

Filabasket Review: Luciano Calenda, POB 17126 - Grottarossa, 00189 Rome, Italy. [In English]

August 2005 (#17). European Basketball Championships for Men's Clubs; Jim Thorpe and his connection to basketball; some cancels to beware of.

December 2005 (#18). Stamp exhibitions devoted to basketball; James Naismith and the roots of basketball; the controversial basketball competition at the 1972 Munich Olympics; Croatian basketball stars Krešimir Ćosić and Drazen Petrovic.

April 2006 (#19). Continuation of articles on the roots and fundamentals of basketball, and exhibitions devoted to basketball; Greece, again European champion; basketball bogus issues.

IMOS Journal: Dieter Germann, PB1128, D-63524 Grosskrotzenburg, Germany. [In German]



Mystery solved in the April 2006 issue of Filabasket Review: this Turkish cancel turns out to commemorate the 1955 "4th Basketball International Tournament" held in Istanbul.

December 2005 (#128). 2004 Olympic Torch Relay; Max Schmeling (boxing). Included was the 2005 IMOS Mail Auction booklet and review of the IMOS trip to Albertville, Grenoble, Barcelona and Monaco in June 2005.

March 2006 (#129). A special booklet celebrates 40 years of IMOS. Subjects covered include: physical exercise in Ancient Egypt; Friedrich Adler, architect of museums at Olympia; Olympic coinage with ancient themes from around the world; official Olympic reports 1896-2000; sports in the Baltics; field hockey; high-jumping; canoe sports; Tour de France; German Olympic medalists in equestrian sports; the Marathon.

June 2006 (#130). Turin 2006 Olympics; Olympic and sport catalog updates for stamps, postmarks and postal stationery. A separate booklet reviews the history of the Reichsportfeld in Berlin with an emphasis on philately.

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

#1, 2006. Turin 2006 philatelic review; biathlon; 50th anniversary of German participation at the Melbourne and Cortina Olympics; German speedskater, Helmut Kuhnert; 2005 Beach Volleyball World

Championships; German swimmers at the 2005 World Swimming/Aquatics Championships in Montreal; 2005 Fencing World Championships in Leipzig; machine cancels for the first winter sports championships in the DDR in Schierke 1950; private post issues in Germany.

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

July 2005 (Vol. VIII, No. 1). 20th anniversary of Hungarian Formula One racing; 1906 Athens Olympic postmarks and their counterfeits; memorabilia and philately of the non-celebrated 1940 Helsinki Olympic Games; Hungarian Olympic flights; chess; differentiating the three roller cancels for the Hungarian-Belgian soccer match of 1925; Max Schmeling.

December 2005 (Vol. VIII, No. 2). Winter Olympic art; 2002 Salt Lake City & 2004 Athens Olympic flights; chess; fencing; wrestling; Max Schmeling; Hungarian Olympic fencing champion, Dezső Földes; Hungarian grand prix auto racing.

Olympsport: Jaroslav Petrsek, PO Box 13, 282 23 Cesky Brod, Czech Republic. [In Czech]

Volume XXXIX, No. 1 (2006). The entire issue is devoted to the philately of the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games.

Podium: Jorge Casalia, PO Box 30, Sucursal 19 - C1419WAA Buenos Aires, Argentina. [In Spanish]

September 2005 (Vol. XII, #59). World Championship of Rugby "Argentina 2005"; YMCA sports; soccer.

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

December 2005 (#56). Meter cancels in a variety of colors; auto racing news; Croatian basketball player, Krešimir Ćosić; Olympic Winter Games victory medals, 1924-2002; Jair da Costa soccer collectibles; ski lifts, gondolas, etc.; Winter Paralympic Games.

March 2006 (#57). Reports on various aspects of the Turin 2006 Olympic Games; racism, politics and the Olympics; pelota; the Barranquilla (Colombia) "Olympics"; Max Schmeling; snow crystals on stamps.

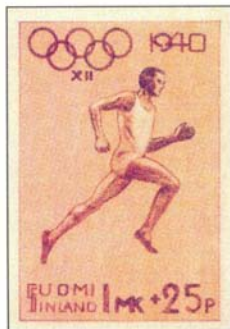
Torch Bearer: Miss Paula Burger, 19 Hanbury Path, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RB, U.K.

August 2005 (Vol. 22, #3). 1913 "Deutsches Stadion" cancel; 117th IOC Session in Singapore; 2012 bids (London, Paris, Moscow).

November 2005 (Vol. 22, #4). Innsbruck/Tokyo 1964 West German Balloon Post; 50th anniversary of the 1956 Cortina d'Ampezzo Winter Olympic Games; Torino 2006 pictograms; Paris & London 2012 bids; Athens 2004 - a volunteer in the Olympic Village; Beijing 2008 mascots.

March 2006 (Vol. 23, #1). 1964 Olympic torch relay (part 1); Chinese Olympic Committee; Tokyo 1964 German Gymnastics Sports League; 1940 Tokyo Olympics; 1932 Los Angeles Olympics; Antwerp 1920 machine cancel; Beijing 2008, some postal basics and translations; Austria Post at the Turin 2006 Olympics; 1956 Melbourne (part 5).

June 2006 (Vol. 23, #2). Turin 2006 Olympic torch relay, postcards and philately of the Games; 1920 Antwerp Olympic cancels.



Essays for a 1940 Helsinki Olympic stamp as detailed in the July 2005 issue of Olimpiafila.

THE SPORTS ARENA

by Mark Maestrone

After a brief hiatus, The Sports Arena column is back with a melange of news items relating to sport or Olympic philately.

First, a correction and an addition to articles previously published in *JSP*.

In Kon Sokolyk's fine article in the Spring 2006 issue entitled "G-O Canada," I added some incorrect information to his original report. I referred to Clara Hughes as "winning five Olympic long track speed skating medals in Torino." In reality, it was her teammate, Cindy Klassen, who achieved that marvelous feat!

Our volleyball member in Guatemala, Gunter Pilz wrote in with additional information on the Chinese Olympic medalist postmarks of 2004 (Spring 2006 issue). Gunter confirms that the volleyball cancels (#31) were applied in different colors: 31-a was used in black, 31-b in black and red, and 31-c in red alone. I have no idea if any or all of the other medalist postmarks received the same treatment or not. Perhaps specialists in one sport or another can check their own collections for color varieties and report their finds to us.

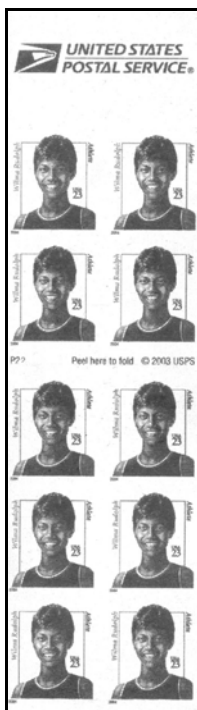
Staying on the subject of booklets for a moment: has anyone seen an example of the interesting item at right?

No, this is not some crazy new sports drink, but rather a savings bank in the form of a can.

In 1991, the USPS, which was a worldwide sponsor of the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, sold this savings bank with a booklet of ten 29¢ Flag Over the Olympic Rings stamps sealed inside. The banks were sold for about \$5, according to a *Linn's Stamp News* article (December 27, 2004). Profits from the sale benefitted the 1991 US Olympic Festival held in Los Angeles.

The article did not mention any production or sales figures, however I suspect that few still exist – with even fewer remaining sealed.

If anyone can provide more first-hand knowledge of these banks, especially their value in the marketplace, please write your editor or email him at markspi@prodigy.net.



The April 24, 2006 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* reported a major error discovery on the 23¢ Wilma Rudolph booklet panes issued July 14, 2004.

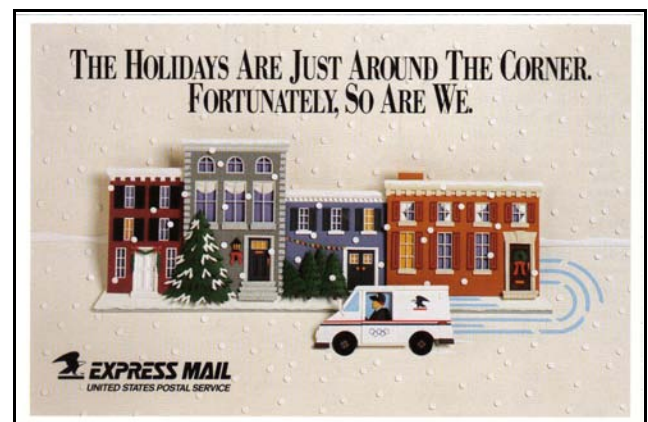
According to the article, a completely imperforate booklet pane of ten stamps was discovered in March in Pennsylvania.

Scott Catalog editors have "examined the pane and agreed that it is completely without die cuts." As a consequence, the next issue of their *US Specialized Catalog*, due out in October '06, will list this as a major error.

If you haven't done so already, check your booklets! A complete report on this stamp appeared in the Spring 2005 *JSP*.

The United States Postal Service, as mentioned above, were Official Sponsors of the 1992 Summer and Winter Olympic Games. Bob Farley writes about some advertising postal cards that the USPS used during that period of time.

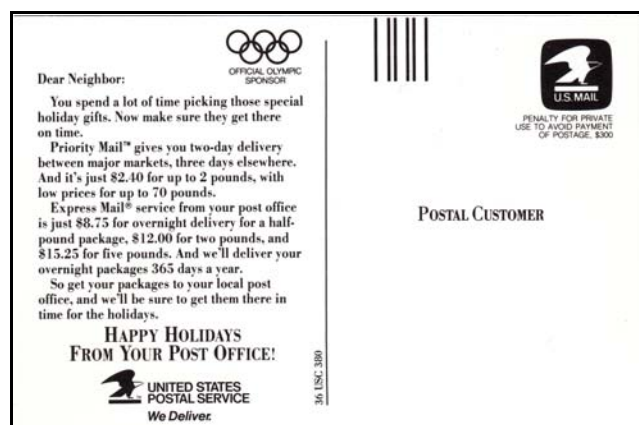
As providers of Express Delivery Services, the USPS in effect franchised the sponsorship to postal authorities around the world, so many postal items



can be found bearing Olympic insignia.

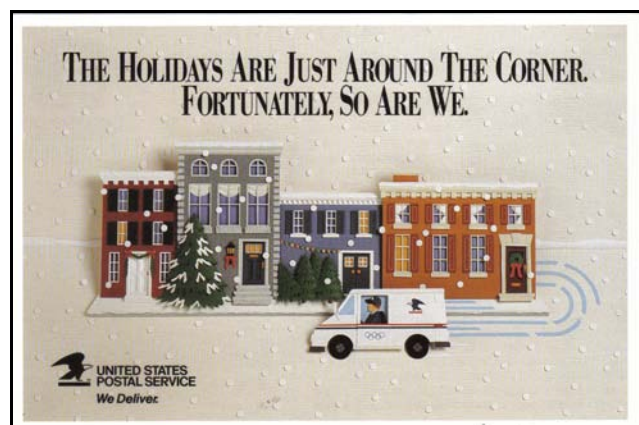
The USPS applied the Olympic rings and “Official Sponsor” logo to a multitude of items, including some interesting postal stationery items, one of which, shows a delivery van with the rings clearly visible on the door (above).

The reverse of the card (below) promotes the use of the Express Mail service. The message on the card, targets the use of the Express Mail service for dispatch of holiday (Christmas) gifts, and appears to be generic, in that it is designed for national distribution to customers.

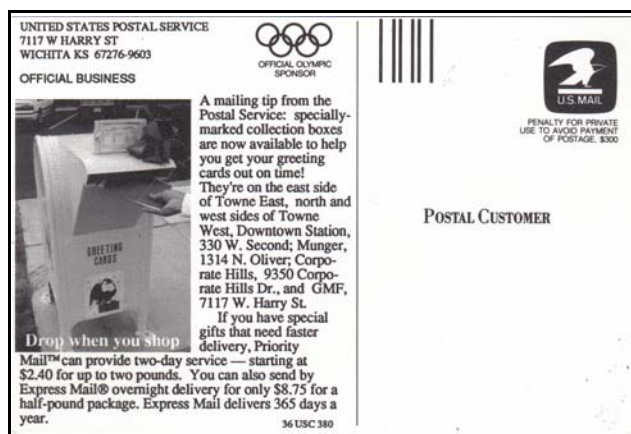


The “Eagle” US Mail imprint, with penalty notice makes this a postal stationery item.

The second card (shown below) uses the same design, but the text on the face is amended to “United States Postal Service, We deliver”.



The back of the second card, has a completely different text, advertising the provision of special mail collection boxes for depositing greetings cards. The card is also “local,” as an address “USPS 7117 W HARRY ST, WICHITA KS 67276-9603” is included, and the addresses at which the special mail boxes can be found are listed.



Can anyone confirm the existence of further examples of this card used for local promotions?

Photocopies or scans of other versions of this card can be sent to Bob at rfarleysoc@aol.com or to your editor.

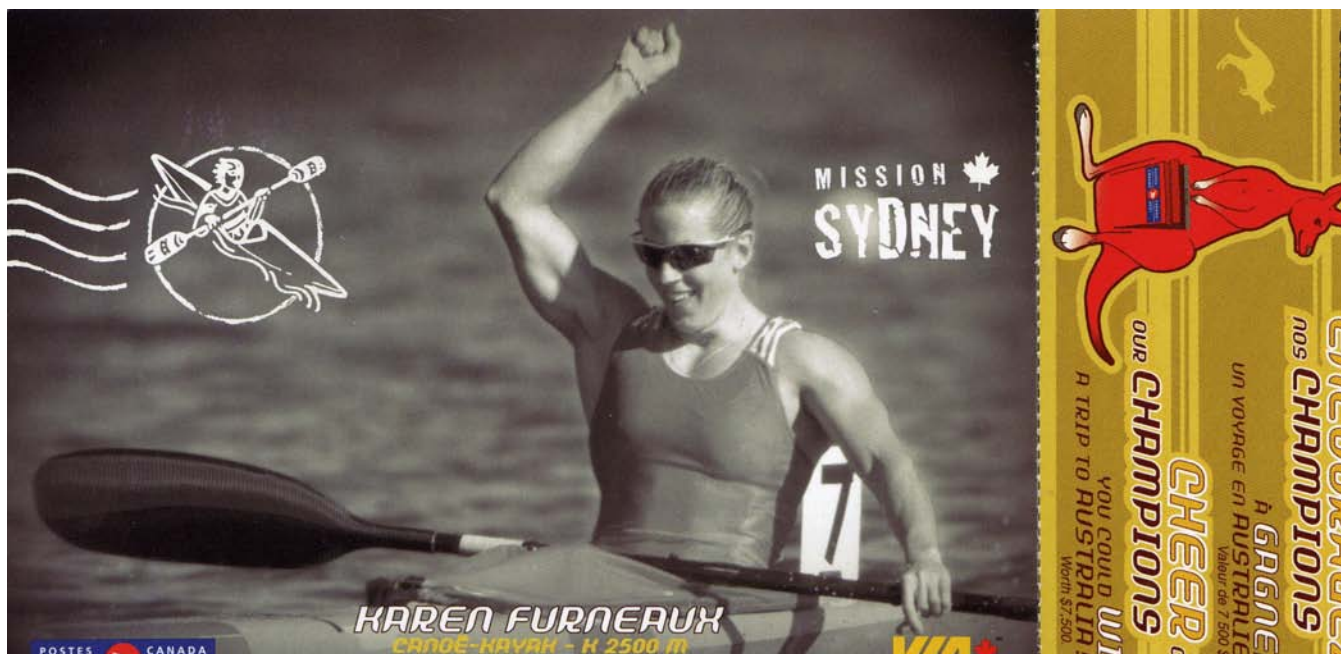
Australian member, Noel Almeida, has taken advantage of the various new P-stamp (personalized stamp) opportunities now available in the U.S.

In a recent letter, posted here in California, Noel franked the cover with a P-stamp produced by Zazzle.Com, one of the three different outfits licensed by the USPS to create and vend the stamps (the USPS considers them “meters stamps”).

Noel, being an avid cricket philatelist, used a cute cartoon figure owl dressed in cricketing duds as the central focus of his stamp. Playing by lamp light, the “Night Watchman” urges “Wake Up Australia!”. The cover was actually franked with a 39¢ version of the stamp, while the 24¢ value shown below was included as a mint example.

The purpose of Noel’s letter was to alert the world to a special exhibit at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra entitled “A Summer of Cricket.” The program, which ran from March 16 through June 25, included cricket stamps of the world from Australia Post’s collection as well as rare philatelic cricket items loaned by Noel Almeida. Congratulations Noel!





30 Fall 2006

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Margaret Jones

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Harry Johnson, 20220 Swalley Road, Bend OR
97701-8906 USA.

James C McDevitt, 3561 Country Court North
Mobile AL 36619-5336 USA.

Harold Wasserman, 100 Chatuga Drive West, Apt
406, Loudon TN 3774-2790 USA.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

David Buxton: david.buxton@ukf.net

Harry Henricksen: olycurator@juno.com

Deleted: 2

Total Membership, June 30, 2006 = 235.

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Exhibit Awards

SPRINGPEX 2006 (Springfield, Virginia). Andrew Hodge earned a youth vermeil for "Baseball".

TEXPEX 2006 (Dallas, Texas). Dale Lilljedahl was awarded gold for "France's Olympic Philately of 1924".

From the Webmaster

Send in exhibit news to the webmaster and Exhibit Awards column. Send your adlets to the webmaster, docj3@sportstamps.org

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Albania: October 25, 2005. Mediterranean Games. Three se-tenant stamps, 20 lek runner; 60 lek gymnast; 120 lek passing baton. Souvenir sheet with 300 let stamps, swimmer.

November 20, 2005. 80th Anniversary Albania Cycle Racing. 50 lek, 60 lek, 120 lek race scenes.

Algeria: February 1, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 16d skier.

Antigua & Barbuda: May 11, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 75¢, 90¢ \$2, \$3 stamp on stamp design.

Argentina: May 6, 2006. National Motor Racing. Four 75¢ stamps, 2005 champion cars, Toyota Corolla; Ford Falcon; Ford Focus; Ford Escort.

May 13, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 4p ball in net, souvenir sheet with 1.50p stamp cartoon character; booklet of four 1p stamps cartoon character with four different jerseys.

Armenia: March 27, 2006. Turin Olympic Games. 120dr emblem, snow covered mountains; 170dr Italian map in Italy's national colors as boot skiing. Booklet contains 10 stamps with the designs se-tenant.

Austria: June 7, 2006. Formula 1 Legends. Block of eight se-tenant stamps showing race car divers and their cars.

Australia: May 9, 2006. Soccer in Australia. Two 50¢ stamps, play, goal; \$1.25 save; \$1.85 shot. Circular souvenir sheet contains the four stamps in se-tenant format.

Belgium: April 24, 2006. Belgium International Sports Champions/Billiards. Pane of 11 0.53e stamps and a central label.

April 24, 2006. Giro d'Italia Cycle Race. 0.52e, Gilberto Simoni with trophy.

April 24, 2006. Memorial Van Damme Track and Field Competition. Pane of five 0.52e stamps showing athletes in action.

June 3, 2006. Sports. 0.52e Olympic Rings (10th Anniver-

sary Belgium Olympic and Interfederal Committee; 1.30e soccer ball (World Soccer Cup).

Brazil: April 19, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 85c laughing and smiling faces.

Bulgaria: February 10, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. Pane of two stamps and two labels. 55st snowboarder; 1 lev figure skaters.

Canada: July 6, 2006. World Lacrosse Championships. 51¢ self-adhesive stamp, in a booklet of eight, depicting a Canadian lacrosse player in front of a goal, three tickets show the flags of participating nations.

July 19, 2006. 100th Anniversary of the Alpine Club of Canada. 51¢ self-adhesive in booklet of 8. Stamp shows mountain climbers.

Croatia: February 10, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 3.50k skis, boot and emblem.

April 4, 2006. European Track and Field Championships. 2.30k runner in action.

April 4, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 2.80k symbolic player.

Costa Rica: March 20, 2006. Cartago Soccer Club. 85c club emblem.

Czech Republic: March 15, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. K. Neumannova, Gold Medalists, overprinted on 9kc Turin Winter Olympic stamp.

Dominica: February 14, 2006. NBA Basketball Players. Six 90¢ stamps depicting NBA players.

Denmark: June 7, 2006. Vintage Racing Cars. 4.75kr; 5.50kr; 10kr; 17kr. Two booklets, one contains 10 4.75kr stamps the other contains 10 5.50kr stamps.

Egypt: February 10, 2006. Egypt's Soccer Victory in the Africa Cup of Nations. 30p President Mubarak holding trophy Souvenir sheet with 150p stamp, same design.

Estonia: March 30, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. Medal winners. 4.40kr/0.51e skier Kristina Smigun; se-tenant pair 8kr/0.51e stamps, skier Andrus Veerpalu; Kristina Smigun.

Fiji: June 9, 2006 World Cup Soccer. 65¢, 90¢, \$1.20, \$2 different soccer scenes.

France: May 27, 2006. World Cup Soccer. Pane of 10 0.53e stamps, five stamps are circular and show soccer players, the other five are rectangular, player; substitutes; fans; trainers; journalists with cameras.

April 26, 2006. 75th Anniversary Estonia Shooting Federation. 4.40kr/0.28e, trophy.

Ghana: March 15, 2006. NBA Basketball Players. Six 3,500c stamps.

Gibraltar: May 4, 2006. World Cup Winners. Pane of seven 38p stamps showing children with painted faces in the colors of Uruguay; Italy; Germany; Brazil; England; Argentina; France.

Grenada: December 28, 2005. Soccer. Two panes of 10 \$1.50 stamps. Pane one shows 100th Anniversary of Chelsea Soccer Club and its stadium. Pane 2 shows Liverpool's victory in the European Soccer Cup.

March 29, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Six panes of 6 \$1.50 stamps depicting team photographs.

May 11, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 75¢, 90¢, \$2, \$3 posters and stamp on stamp designs.

Great Britain: June 6, 2006. World Cup Winners. non-denominated first class stamp Pane of 20 with 20 labels for personalization. (each stamp depicts a player's legs and Earth as a soccer ball), England, 42p Italy; 44p Argentina; 50p Germany; 64p France; 72p Brazil.

Guernsey: May 20, 2006. Andy Priaulx's Fast Tract to World Championship. 29p British Speed Hill Championship, 1995; 34p Renault Spider Cup, 1999; 42p British Formula 3, 2001; 45p European Touring Car Championship, 2004; 47p Nurburgring Germany, 2005; 68p World Touring Car Champion, 2005.

Hungary: March 23, 2006. United European Soccer Association Congress. 170f soccer balls, map.

March 30, 2006. Paralympics. 185ft Paralympic champion Ilona Paulik Sasvari playing ping pong.

May 9, 2006. For Youth/100th Anniversary Ferenc Szisz Wins First Grand Prix. 120ft+50ft Szisz behind the wheel of Renault AK90CV.

May 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 170ft cartoon soccer scene.

Isle of Man: May 2, 2006. 40th Anniversary 1966 Wembley World Cup Final. Six 66p circular stamps, various scenes from the match and victory.

Italy: March 9, 2006. Turin Paralympic Games. 0.60e emblem.

March 17, 2006. 25th Anniversary of National Association of Italian Soccer Singers. 0.45e emblem, music, soccer players.

April 13, 2006. 70th Anniversary Ski School of Cervino. 0.45e emblem, ski lift, instructor with children.

May 6, 2006. Targa Floria Grand Prix. 0.60e 1930 painting of race by Margaret Bradley.

Jersey: June 9, 2006 World Cup Soccer/Part 3. Souvenir sheet with £2 stamp, trophy, soccer ball, border shows flags and uniforms of past winners.

Kazakhstan: 2006. World Cup Soccer. 150t soccer ball, emblem.

North Korea: February 10, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 15w figure skater; 85w ice hockey; 110w skiing; 135w speed skating; 345w booklet.

South Korea: June 2, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 220w South Korean flag, emblem of World Cup. Printed in sheets of 14 with 14 labels that could be personalized.

June 9, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Se-tenant pair of 220w stamps, fair play; mascots Goleo VI and Pille.

Kyrgyzstan: June 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 15s soccer scene.

Latvia: March 31, 2006. World Ice Hockey Championship. 55s goalie. Printed in sheets of eight stamps and eight labels.

Liberia: April 6, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. Each stamp includes the emblem of the Turin Games). Stamp on stamp designs from various Austrian Olympic stamps. \$20 ; \$25; \$35; \$50.

Liechtenstein: June 6, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 3.30fr view of players on soccer field.

June 6, 2006. Tourism. 1fr hiker with backpack, 1.80fr skier.

Luxembourg: May 16, 2006. Soccer: 0.50e early soccer game (100th Anniversary of soccer in Luxembourg); 0.90e soccer ball, emblem (2006 World Cup).

Macau: June 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 1.50pa, 2.50pa, 3.50pa, 4pa various soccer scenes.

Malta: June 2, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 7¢ Bobby Charlton; 16¢ Pele; 27¢ Franz Beckenbauer; 76¢ Dino Zoff. Souvenir sheet contains the four stamps.

Monaco: April 18, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Se-tenant pair of 0.90e stamps, continuous views of stadium.

June 6, 2006. 20th Sabre Tournament Prince Albert Challenge. 0.48e Prince Albert fencing

Montenegro: February 7, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 0.60e ice skater; 0.90e ski jumper.

Nauru: June 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. \$1; \$1.50; \$2; \$3 stamps depict cartoon-style designs of previous matches.

Netherlands: May 1, 2006. Personalized stamp, 0.39e, also available with preprinted photographs showing soccer player Dirk Kuyt or showing 10 different members of the Dutch national soccer team.

Nevis: April 24, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 30¢, 90¢, \$4, \$5 stamps. Depicts stamp on stamps designs.

Pakistan: December 8, 2005. World Men's Team Squash Championship. 5re squash players.

Philippines: November 22, 2005. Southeast Asia Games. Pane of 3 stamps 5p shooting, 6p archery, 6p equestrian; Second pane of three, 5p arnis, 6p chess, 6p dragon boat racing. Pane of six 6p stamps, boxing, cycling, wushu, bowling, billiards. Pane of 10 6p stamps and 8 labels, track, soccer, taekwondo, judo, chess, karate, gymnastics, pencaksilat, dragon boat racing, swimming. Pane of 10 6p stamps and 20 labels that can be personalized, baseball, shooting, archery, bowling, volleyball, boxing, cycling, badminton.

December 6, 2005. Third Asia Para Games. 6p runner with amputated arm; 17p wheelchair race.

Portugal: May 23, 2006. European Under-21 Soccer Championship. Souvenir sheet with 2.75e stamp, legs of soccer players.

Romania: June 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 30b trophy, crowd; 50b ball in net; 1 leu soccer player; 1.20 leu hands raising trophy.

Russia: May 29, 2006. 50th Anniversary Luzhniki Olympic Sports Complex. 6 rub the complex.

St. Lucia: June 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 95¢, \$2 soccer scenes. S/s contains the two stamps.

St. Vincent: May 18, 2006. Turin Winter Games. 75¢, 90¢, \$2, \$3 stamps depict stamp on stamp designs.

San Marino: June 19, 2006. 50th Ann. Crossbow Federation. 0.36e two flag throwers; 0.45e flags of the castles of San Marino; 0.62e archer shooting arrow; 1.50e three flag throwers; 2.80e arms master holding target.

Serbia & Montenegro: February 10, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 53d/0.60e ski jumper; 73d/0.80e skier.

Sierra Leone: April 7, 2006. Turin Olympic Games. Stamp on stamp designs. 1,000 leones; 1,300 leones; 2,000 leones; 3,000 leones.

Slovenia: May 19, 2006. Junior World Championships in Whitewater Slalom Paddling. Stamp inscribed "C" kayak athletic.

Solomon Islands: June 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. \$4, \$5, \$10, \$20 stamps show cartoon-style designs of previous matches.

Togo: January 24, 2006. 75th Anniversary World Cup Championship. Pane of three 700fr stamps depicting soccer players. Souvenir sheet with 1,000fr stamp, Eusebio (1930) team.

Tunisia: June 14, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 250m, 500m both show national colors of Tunisia and Germany, soccer players.

Turkey: February 10, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. 60k speed skater; 70k skier.

June 6, 2006. Two 70k stamps, soccer scenes.

United States: July 15, 2006. Baseball Sluggers. Se-tenant block of four 39¢ stamps, showing Roy Campanella; Hank Greenberg; Mel Ott; Mickey Mantle.

Uzbekistan: January 5, 2006. Oly. Champs. Two 200s stamps, wrestler Alexander Doksturushvili; wrestler Arthur Tiamazov; 250s wrestler Magomed Ibragimov; 350s boxers Otkir Haydarov and Bahodir Sultanov.

Vanuatu: June 9, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 35v, 80v, 110v, 135v, self-adhesive stamps shaped like shirts, various soccer scenes. Souvenir sheet 360v, contains the four stamps se-tenant.

Vietnam: May 1, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 800d, 10,000d different soccer scenes, soccer balls.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP CANCELS

by Mark Maestrone

THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Catalogue numbers are shown at left, such as 05101-911. In this example: 05=Year [2005]; 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.

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Auto Racing: 06528-462, 06702-462.
Baseball: 06610-056, 06617-142,
06617-573, 06630-687, 06701-505,
06702-386, 06709-386, 06720-064,
06720-386, 06721-386, 06723-025.
Boxing: 06609-130, 09911-130.
Cycling: 06611-570, 06612-570,
06613-570, 06614-570, 06615-572,
06616-572, 06708-620, 06723-510,
06725-502.
Golf: 06603-351.
Harness Racing: 06609-138.
Road Racing: 06527-999, 06707-135,
06708-13501A, 06708-13501B,
06708-13501C, 06709-135.
Sports, General: 06521-135.



06521-135 Utica, NY 21



Marathon Station
May 27, 2006
Craig, AK 99921

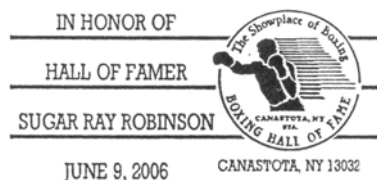
06527-999 Craig, AK 27



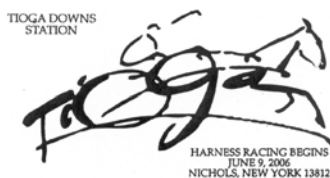
06528-462 Indianapolis, IN 28



06603-351 Oneonta, AL 3



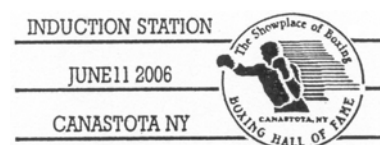
06609-130 Canastota, NY 9



06609-138 Nichols, NY 9



06610-056 Montpelier, VT 10

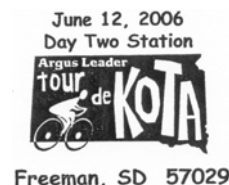


13032

06611-130 Canastota, NY 11



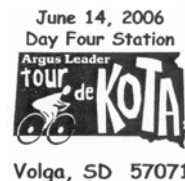
06611-570 Yankton, SD 11



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