

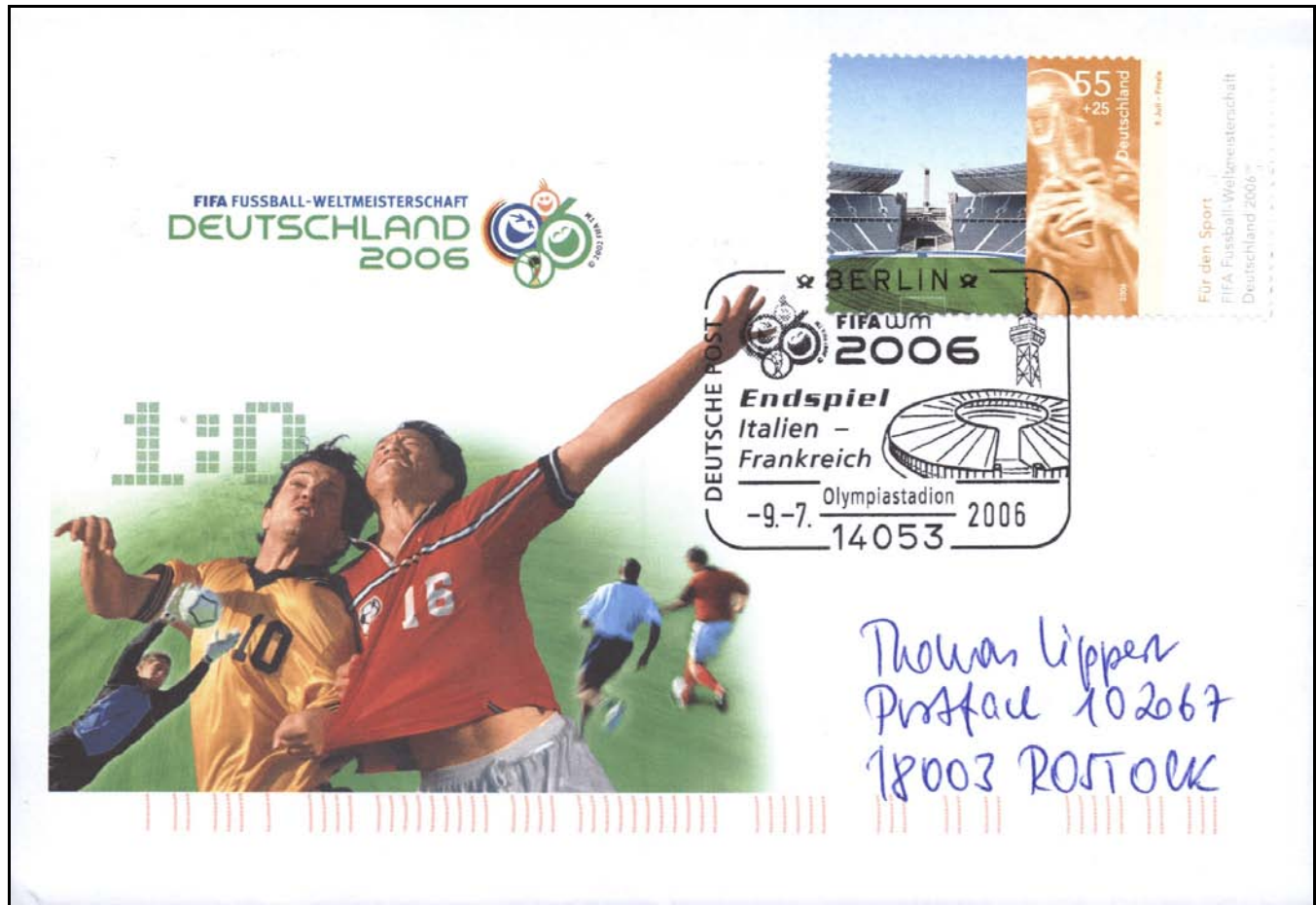
# JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 45

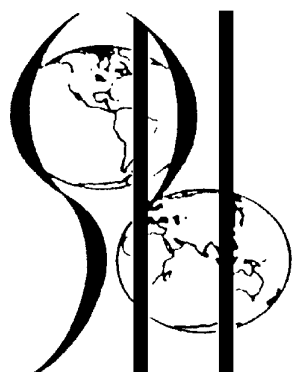
WINTER 2006

NUMBER 2

## 2006 World Cup of Soccer in Germany (Part 2)



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INTERNATIONAL

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Sports Philatelists International is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the study and collecting of postage stamps and related collateral material dealing with sports (including Olympics) and recreation and to the promotion of international understanding and goodwill through mutual interest in philately and sports. Its activities are planned and carried on entirely by the unpaid, volunteer services of its members.

Annual dues: \$20.00 U.S./Canada (first class mail), \$30.00 overseas (airmail).

## JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

<b>Publisher:</b>	John La Porta, P.O. Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462
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The Journal of Sports Philately is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. Advertising Rates: Cover \$35.00; Full Page \$32.00; Half Page \$17.00; Quarter Page \$10.00. Advance payment required. Camera ready copy must be supplied by the advertiser. Publishing deadlines: January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 for the following issue. Single copy price (postpaid): \$3.50 (US/Canada), \$5.50 (overseas).

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual authors and they do not necessarily represent those of the editor, the officers of SPI or the position of SPI itself. All catalogue numbers quoted in this publication are from Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue unless specifically stated otherwise. SPI and JSP do not guarantee advertisements, but accept copy in good faith, reserving the right to reject objectionable material.

Vol. 45, No. 2  
Winter 2006

American Philatelic Society (APS) Affiliate #39  
U.S. Chapter, Fédération Internationale de Philatélie Olympique (FIPO)

ISSN 0447-953X

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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by Mark Maestrone

## SPI AUCTION

Couldn't locate the next SPI Mail Bid Sale (#120) in your mailing envelope? Ready to fire off an irate missive to our publisher – or even worse, your editor (me)? Well hold your horses: the next auction will be delayed until the Spring 2007 issue of the journal to be published next March.

Our normally tireless Auction Manager, Dale Lilljedahl, has been a bit under the weather lately and just couldn't get the next auction ready. However, he is on the mend and should have things back on track in no time. He's informed me that there should be little or no delay in processing current auction lots.

## SPI CONVENTION AT NAPEX 2007 JUNE 1-3, MCLEAN, VIRGINIA

Our next SPI Convention is fast approaching and it's time for all exhibitors to complete their entry forms. NAPEX 2007 is an American Philatelic Society accredited National Level Exhibition (part of the APS World Series of Philately). Their exhibits committee has reserved 100 frames for our society. In addition to the General Class of multi-frame exhibits, a Single Frame Class and Youth Class are also available.

The closing date for receipt of Entry Forms is April 1, 2007. Those of you who have exhibited in the past should find copies of the Prospectus and Entry Form included with this issue of *JSP*. Anyone else who may wish to enter may contact me by either email or regular mail and I will send out a prospectus and Entry Form.

For more information on NAPEX, please visit their website: [www.napex.org](http://www.napex.org).

## SPORT-O-NET '07

With the increasing importance of the internet, it was only a matter of time before someone in the sports and Olympic philatelic community came up with the bright idea of a completely on-line competitive philatelic exhibit.

Our Czech sister society, in cooperation with the Union of Czech Philatelists and EXPONET have announced just such an exhibition. SPORT-O-NET '07 is the first virtual international philatelic exhibition with a sport or Olympic theme. The exhibition will be held on-line from 1-30 November 2007. After the exhibition closes, all exhibits will remain on-line as part of EXPONET, a permanent on-line display of philatelic exhibits (check them out at [www.exponet.info](http://www.exponet.info)).

The exhibition will consist of complete sheets scanned in full color at 300 dpi with a minimum width of 900 pixels. Exhibits will be judged by an international jury. Exhibitors will receive virtual medals and a diploma.

Participation is free. Entry forms must be submitted by 30 May 2007. The Special Regulations (IREX) and entry forms are available on-line at the SPI website or by going to:

[www.japhila.cz/sport-o-net/sport-o-net07.htm](http://www.japhila.cz/sport-o-net/sport-o-net07.htm)

I hope many of you will take advantage of what sounds like a terrific opportunity.

**SPI WISHES ALL OF YOU  
A HAPPY HOLIDAYS,  
AND PEACEFUL AND  
HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

**The SPI web site is located at: <http://www.sportstamps.org>**

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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by Mark Maestrone

## 1941 Amateur Baseball World Series in Havana: an Update

In response to my Summer 2006 *JSP* article on the 1939 Cuban baseball machine postmark I have received an interesting communication from member Leon Vanverre providing me with a photocopy (shown below) of a Cuban governmental penalty envelope used by the Ministry of Education, Main National Sports Directorate in 1941.

There is a rectangular rubber stamped cachet on the envelope publicizing the 1941 Amateur Baseball World Series held in Havana.

The first two lines of the inscription in the cachet are somewhat similar to the first two lines of the 1939 machine postmark. As noted in my article, the postmark was also inadvertently used in 1940 and 1941.

The third line of the inscription in the cachet identifies the name of the stadium where the games were to be held "Stadium Cerveza Tropical." The fourth line notes the date: "Septiembre 27 de 1941."

The 1941 series had nine countries as participants and was won by Venezuela. While the 1939 machine postmark identifies the 1939 series as being held between August 12 and 27, I am assuming that the series in 1941 commenced on the date indicated in the cachet and would not have been entirely held within one day. Interestingly, the envelope is postmarked in late October 1941, probably after the series was over.

Back in the "good old days," the La Tropical brewery in Havana was an idyllic spot with a beautiful tropical garden along the banks of the Almendares River. On Sundays, Cubans from all walks of life would gather in the gardens to dance the rumba to live music

and drink fresh, cold beer. The Cerveza La Tropical baseball stadium was on the same site.

Norman Rushefsky  
Rochester, NY

## Italian Turin Olympic stamps not FIPO-approved

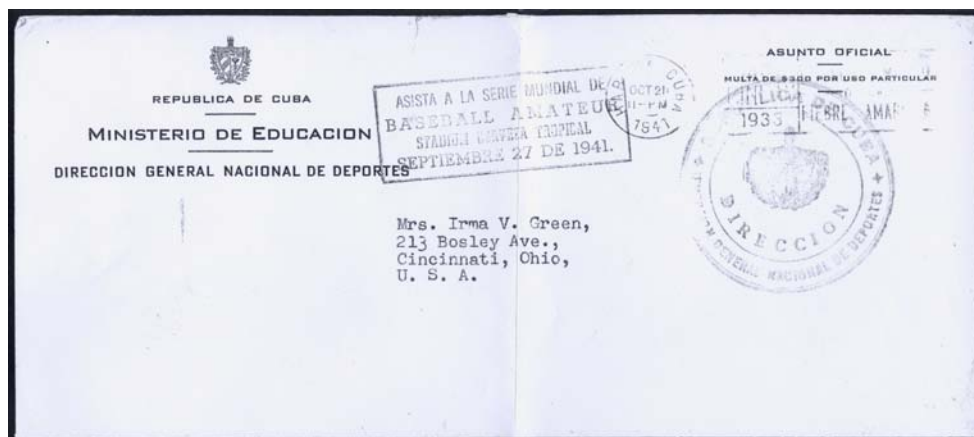
Have read with interest and satisfaction the last number of the Journal [Summer 2006]. Thomas' article was excellent and does in fact reflect the postal history at Turin.

HOWEVER, FIPO MUST BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COLLECTORS THAT THE ITALIAN STAMPS ISSUED IN 2005 AND 2006 WERE NOT APPROVED BY THE IOC. CERTAINLY, THEY ARE LEGAL FROM THE POSTAL POINT OF VIEW, BUT CONSIDERED ABUSIVE BY IOC/PHILATELY. A claim is under consideration and we sincerely hope that a settlement will be found; if not, the stamps will be declared to the UPU as abusive.

The medalists' stamps have become very popular after FIPO, in partnership with Australia Post, launched them in 2000. In 2006, besides Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Belarus, and Australia launched medalists' stamps, approved and authorised by IOC/Philately.

Please bring the above letter to the attention of your readers.

Cordially yours,  
Manfred Bergman  
Lausanne, Switzerland



# A time to make friends: 2006 World Cup of Soccer in Germany (Part 2)

by Thomas Lippert

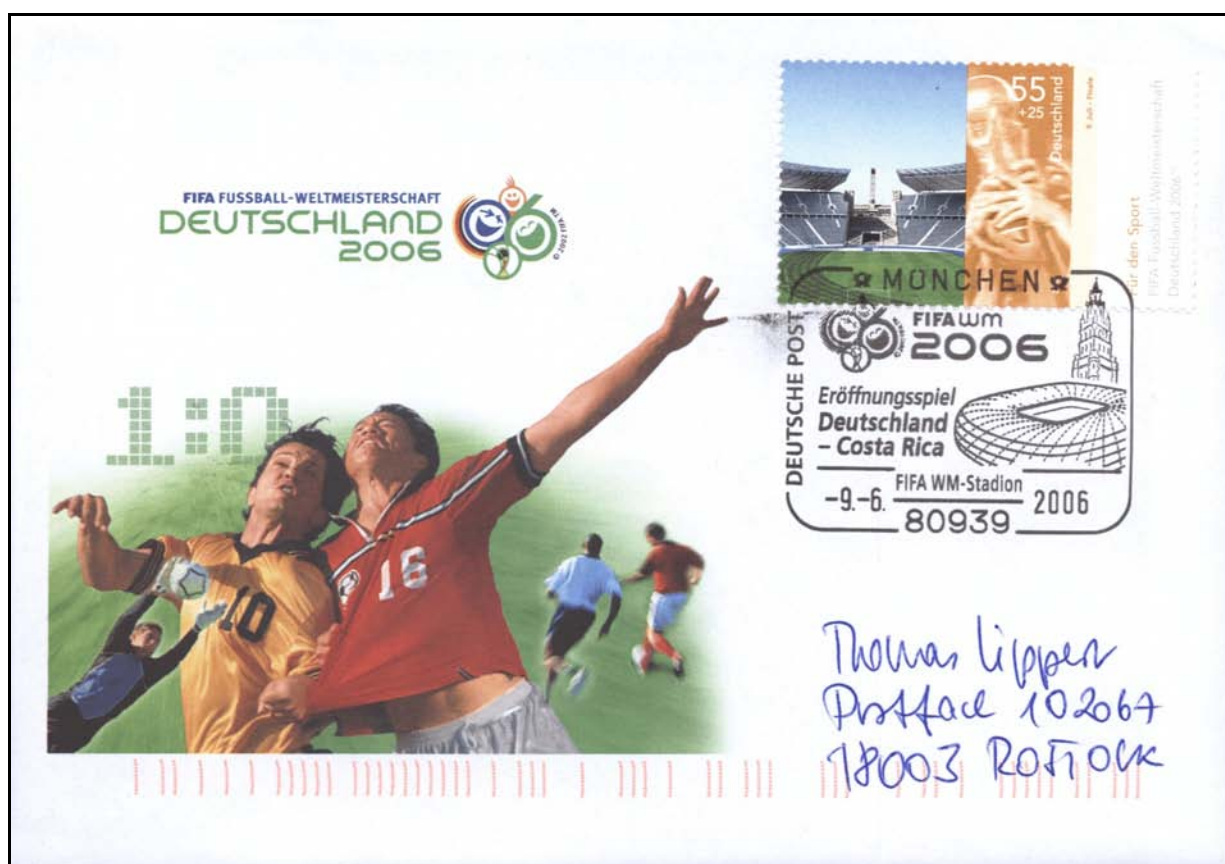
In general it must be said, that the information policy of German Post was not bad. But in one case they surprised people – and disappointed the regular collectors with Philatelic Service accounts. Under a program from another department (not the Philatelic Service), World Cup items were released without prior announcement in the philatelic press. As a result, some products were first found only at some philatelic counters. These included:

- Cover with affixed stamp (55+25 cent Berlin Olympiastadium, see Figure 21)
- Set of five oversized postcards with affixed stamps (€6)
- Set of 12 “City Poster” postal stationery cards (€9).

The first set of five oversized cards appeared from the outside to be real postal cards with imprinted stamps, but this proved untrue. They can still, however, be considered postal products. Only the latter set of 12 postal stationery pieces merit special philatelic attention.

An unconvincing solution was to frank the cards with a 45+20 cent stamp. The problem: that stamp paid the domestic (German) rate, but not that of the rest of the European Union (separate rates had been instituted a short time earlier by German Post). Perhaps because a suitable additional stamp could not be affixed, during the championships the cards were sold with stamps for the EU and worldwide face values.

To further upset the average collector, these cards were not distributed by the philatelic service. As they were intended for the fans’ greetings, only special outlets adjacent to the stadia sold them.



**Figure 21.** A cacheted cover sold by German Post with the Berlin World Cup stamp affixed. This was one of the items not announced to the philatelic press.





**Figure 22. Detail from a City Poster postal card with affixed hologram. The running number at right is not visible in the scan.**

The City Poster postal cards were sold in prepackaged sets from two types of philatelic outlets: special philatelic trucks which toured Germany (discussed below) and philatelic outlets.

Collectors also discovered that a special machine-affixed hologram sticker had been applied to quantities of each postal card (Figures 22 and 23) and were being sold individually for €1. Unfortunately, only the philatelic trucks were selling them, and then typically only the card for that city was available (i.e. Berlin sold only the matching Berlin card).

A friend in Frankfurt/Main told the author that shortly before his arrival an agent from a well-known German stamp dealer was there to pick up the last 300 hologrammed cards from Frankfurt/Main.

According to the head of the philatelic team ("Erlebnis Briefmarke"), only 1500 cards from each city (excluding Munich and Berlin) received the hologram. In the prepackaged set only the cover sheet was marked with a hologram.

Transferring the holograms from one card to another would be counterproductive. Nevertheless, because of their rarity collectors should be aware of the possibility of postal cards with faked holograms.

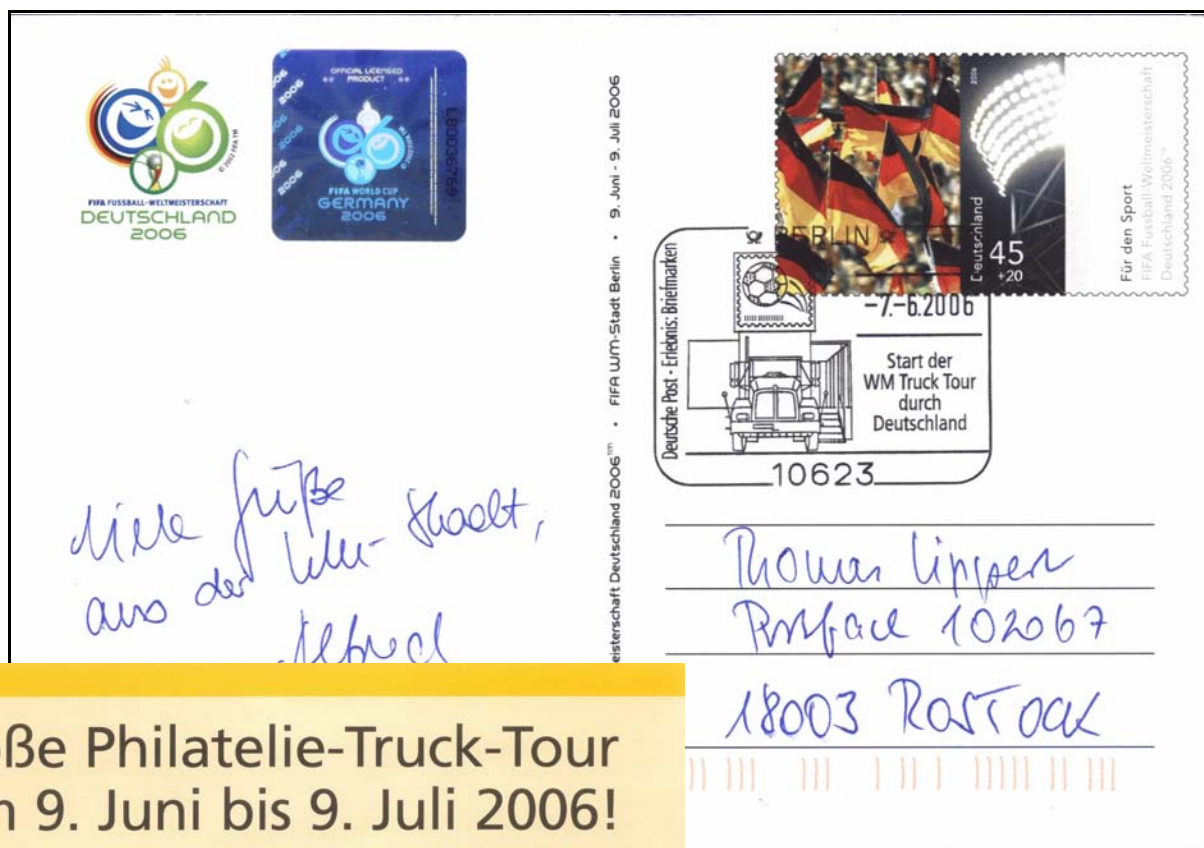
## **A PHILATELY TRUCK RUNS THROUGH GERMANY**

There were no temporary post offices at the stadia during the matches. What comes close, however, is the mobile post office moving through Germany. There was a pre-announced timetable which was followed (Figure 24).

The trucks were stationed where Fan Mile / FanFest events were planned. There, thousands of people celebrated.



**Figure 23. City Poster postal card from Dortmund.**



## Große Philatelie-Truck-Tour vom 9. Juni bis 9. Juli 2006!

Die Route des Philatelie-Trucks im Überblick:



Herzlich willkommen vor Ort!

**Figure 24. At left, the schedule for the Philatelic Truck Tour around Germany during the World Cup competition. At top, a card postmarked with the special Truck Tour cancel.**






What services were offered in the trucks? They sold the previously mentioned philatelic products and were also equipped with the appropriate special postmark for that site and date. Clerks would only accept regular mail for posting. While registered mail was not processed in the trucks, you could obtain the special cancels on cover on a handback basis and then take the item to a nearby full service post office for registration.

Table 1 lists all the postmarks used in the truck with corresponding dates. Those cancels which were not covered by the mobile philately truck, could be obtained from the philatelic staff named "Erlebnis Briefmarken Team" (stamp event team) who were stationed at a separate counter at a post office, or sometimes in another temporary location in the city (in Frank-

furt they were in a tent). All post office counters were closed on Sundays. Postmarks on those days could only be obtained from one of the three philatelic cancellation sites of the German Post in Weiden. This office served as the center responsible for all the







soccer 2006 mail. Naturally the final match and the Berlin winner postmarks could not have been prepared in time to use them on the exact day, so those postmarks were only available from Weiden during the grace period.

**Table 1**  
**2006 World Cup: German Post Cancellation Program**

Postmark (numerically by postal code)	Usage Dates	Stamp Event Team	Truck	Philately Shop/ Counter (open during normal post office hours)
 Leipzig 04229	June 11, 13, 14, 18, 21, 24		June 13-14	Augustusplatz 1-4
 Berlin 14053	June 9, 13.-15, 20, 23.-27, 30 July 1, 4, 5, 7-9	all dates except July 7	July 8-9	Goethstr. 2-3
 Berlin 14053	July 9			
 Berlin 14053	July 9			
 Hamburg 22525	June 9, 10, 15, 19, 22, 30	June 9-10	June 9-10	Mönckebergstr. 7



## 2006 World Cup: German Post Cancellation Program

Postmark (numerically by postal code)	Usage Dates	Stamp Event Team	Truck	Philately Shop/ Counter (open during normal post office hours)
 Hannover 30459	June 12, 16, 20, 23, 27	June 12	June 12	Ernst-August-Platz 2
 Dortmund 44135	June 9.-10, 14, 19-20, 22, 24-27, 30  July 1, 4, 5, 8, 9	June 10, 14, 19, 22, 27  July 4	June 26-27	Kurfürstenstr. 2
 Gelsenkirchen 45879	June 9, 12, 14, 16, 20-21, 30  July 1	June 9, 12, 14, 16, 20, 21  July 1	June 30  July 1	
 Köln 50933	June 9, 11, 14, 17, 19, 20, 23, 26, 30  July 1, 4, 5, 8, 9	All dates except June 19	June 19-20	Clevischer Ring 9
 Frankfurt 60528	June 9-30  July 1-9	June 9-30  July 1-9	June 21-22	Bockenheimer Landstr. 31
 Kaiserslautern 67655	June 12, 16, 17, 20, 23, 26		June 16-17	





2006 World Cup: German Post Cancellation Program				
Postmark (numerically by postal code)	Usage Dates	Stamp Event Team	Truck	Philately Shop/ Counter (open during normal post office hours)
 Stuttgart 70372	June 9-30 July 1-9	June 9-30 July 1-9	June 24-25	Bolzstr. 3
 München 80939	June 9	June 9		Residenzstr. 2
 München 80939	June 9, 14, 18, 21, 24 July 4-5	June 9, 14, 18, 21, 24 July 5	July 4-5	Residenzstr. 2
 Nürnberg 90471	June 9, 11, 14, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25	June 22		Bahnhofsplatz 1

Table 2: Standings after the Preliminary Competition				
Place	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1	Germany	England	Argentina	Portugal
2	Ecuador	Sweden	The Netherlands	Mexico
3	Poland	Paraguay	Ivory Coast	Angola
4	Costa Rica	Trinidad & Tobago	Serbia & Montenegro	Iran
	Group E	Group F	Group G	Group H
1	Italy	Brazil	Switzerland	Spain
2	Ghana	Australia	France	Ukraine
3	Czech Republic	Croatia	Korea (South)	Tunisia
4	USA	Japan	Togo	Saudi Arabia



Figure 25. Nürnberg single postal card with the hologram sent by a lucky friend who succeeded in getting a ticket for the last preliminary match in Group E: USA vs. Ghana (1:2).

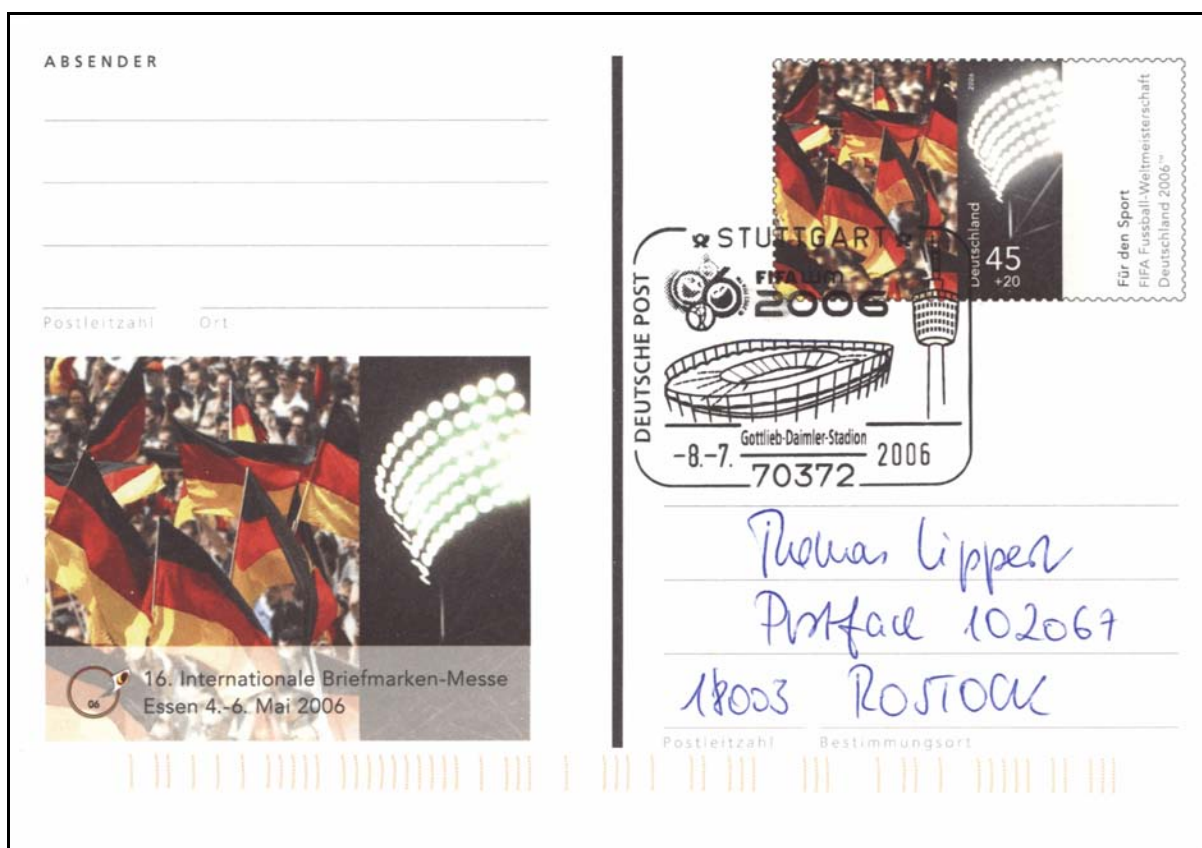
## THE MATCHES

Thirty-two national teams qualified for the final tournament making these championships a truly global event. The teams were divided into eight groups for preliminary matches with the 16 best teams advancing. We saw some excellent matches. In particular Argentina's first match, where reporters were certain they were looking at the next world champion. We also watched a great performance by Spain, and a surprising new style of play by the German team. From Africa, only Ghana (Figure 25) moved on to Round 2, locking out both the Czech team and U.S. boys. Standings after the preliminaries are shown in Table 2 and final rounds in Table 3.

Table 3: Results of Final Rounds

Round of 16			
06/24 17:00	München	Germany - Sweden	2:0 (2:0)
06/24 21:00	Leipzig	Argentina - Mexico	2:1 (1:1; 1:1; + OT)
06/25 17:00	Stuttgart	England - Ecuador	1:0 (0:0)
06/25 21:00	Nürnberg	Portugal - Netherlands	1:0 (1:0)

06/26 17:00	Kaiserslautern	Italy - Australia	1:0 (0:0)
06/26 21:00	Köln	Switzerland - Ukraine	0:3 (0:0; 0:0; 0:0; penalties)
06/27 17:00	Dortmund	Brazil - Ghana	3:0 (2:0)
06/27 21:00	Hannover	Spain - France	1:3 (1:1)
Quarter-Finals			
06/30 17:00	Berlin	Germany - Argentina	5:3 (0:0; 1:1; 1:1; penalties)
06/30 21:00	Hamburg	Italy - Ukraine	3:0 (1:0)
07/01 17:00	Gelsenkirchen	England - Portugal	1:3 (0:0; 0:0; 0:0; penalties)
07/01 21:00	Frankfurt	Brazil - France	0:1 (0:0)
Semi-Finals			
07/04 21:00	Dortmund	Germany - Italy	0:2 (0:0; 0:0; + OT)
07/05 21:00	München	Portugal - France	0:1 (0:1)
Consolation Match for 3rd Place			
07/08 21:00	Stuttgart	Germany - Portugal	3:1 (0:0)
Championship (Final) Match			
07/09 20:00	Berlin	Italy - France	6:4 (1:1; 1:1; 1:1; penalties)



**Figure 26. The designs on the stationery for the Stamp Fair in Essen show a celebration similar to that for Germany's third place finish.**

In Stuttgart, the German team played for third place against Portugal (Figure 26). Although it was, in general, a match between two disappointed teams, because they had failed to reach the finals, it was still worth watching. I can't imagine any third place team (three times previous world champion, no less) having been celebrated as enthusiastically as Germany's.



Meanwhile the design for this cancel (left) shows what might have been had the German team won the championship.

Italy beat France in a dramatic match. The final will also be remembered for the brutal head butting incident by Frenchman, Zidane, who originally wanted to say "goodbye" as a football hero.

This report focuses only on the philatelic material from the host country. However, many other nations also used the occasion to issue philatelic items. Those from participating countries should be of special interest. In some cases (Switzerland and Sweden) no stamps were issued, but both countries

offered hybrid mail.

A horror for the traditional collectors, but an interesting place for younger internet users to experiment, was an offer from the Netherlands Post TPG. At their website, sheetlets of P-stamps showing all the members of the team could be made (one could also move the portraits around, enlarge them, or add margin inscriptions). They also offered a hybrid postcard (under the description "WK 2006") with eight related designs (official logos and proprietary text were not permitted), which disappeared shortly after the end of the championships.

Football fans in Germany, as well as from abroad, were an integral part of this tournament. The word "FanFest" was a new one, and indeed there were many terrific fiestas for the fans from all over the world. I would guess that never before has football been so popular among female admirers as well.

The Fanmeile or "Fan Mile" in Berlin was the biggest attraction of all, drawing crowds of over a million for some matches. People from countless other countries followed the 64 matches on giant screens.

**Auf Wiedersehen Germany  
Wamkelekele eMzansi Africa in 2010!**





*Poste restante cover mailed to Ancient Olympia, Greece from the U.S. bearing a special Torch Lighting P-stamp and generic stamp from Stamps.com. The cover was received at the Ancient Olympia post office on 21 November (backstamp). When it was picked up on 27 November, it was readdressed to the recipient in Germany, franked with a €0.65 2004 Olympic stamp, and cancelled with the special Torch Lighting postmark as well as the standard Ancient Olympia cds.*

## 2006 Olympic Torch Relay Through Greece

by Mark Maestroni

In the Fall 2005 *JSP* I reported on the schedule of the torch relay through Italy which began on December 7 in Rome, and ended at the Olympic Stadium in Torino on February 10 at the Opening Ceremonies. Unfortunately, the Italian post office was not able to produce any commemorative cancels to mark the relay route.

Greece, on the other hand, had a modest number of eleven torch relay postmarks. Each was similar in design with a town scene at bottom and the Torino Olympic logo at top with text arranged in an oval. The town name and date always appeared in the bottom portion of the oval.

The cancel program began with the lighting of the Olympic flame on November 27 at Ancient Olympia (cover at top). The next nine cancels, in

chronological order, marked the overnight stops of the torch on its journey to Athens:

November 27, 2005: Kalavryta  
 November 28, 2005: Messolonghi  
 November 29, 2005: Karpenissi  
 November 30, 2005: Kalambaka  
 December 01, 2005: Kozani  
 December 02, 2005: Naoussa  
 December 03, 2005: Thessaloniki  
 December 04, 2005: Volos  
 December 05, 2005: Athens

The eleventh and final Greek cancel commemorated the handing over of the Olympic torch to the Torino delegation on December 6, 2005 at the Panathinaiko Stadium. The flame was flown on a military plane to Rome the next day. 🏆

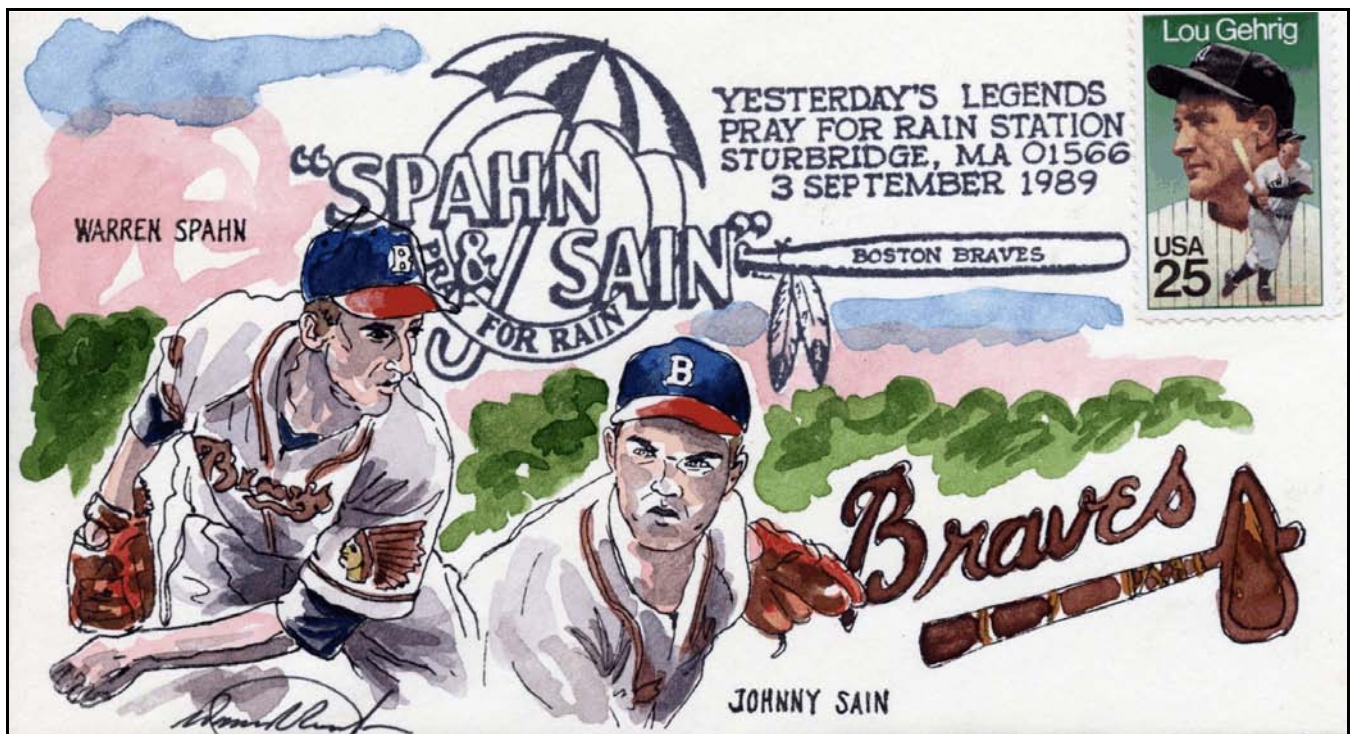


Figure 1. The famous saying, “Spahn and Sain and pray for rain” on a 1989 postmark.

## Spahn and Sain and Pray for Rain, the Boston Braves

by Norman Rushefsky

In 1948 the Boston Braves won the National League pennant behind the pitching of Warren Spahn and Johnny Sain who, between them, won 39 games. The remainder of the pitching rotation was so thin that in September, *Boston Post* writer Gerald Hern wrote this poem about the two pitchers:

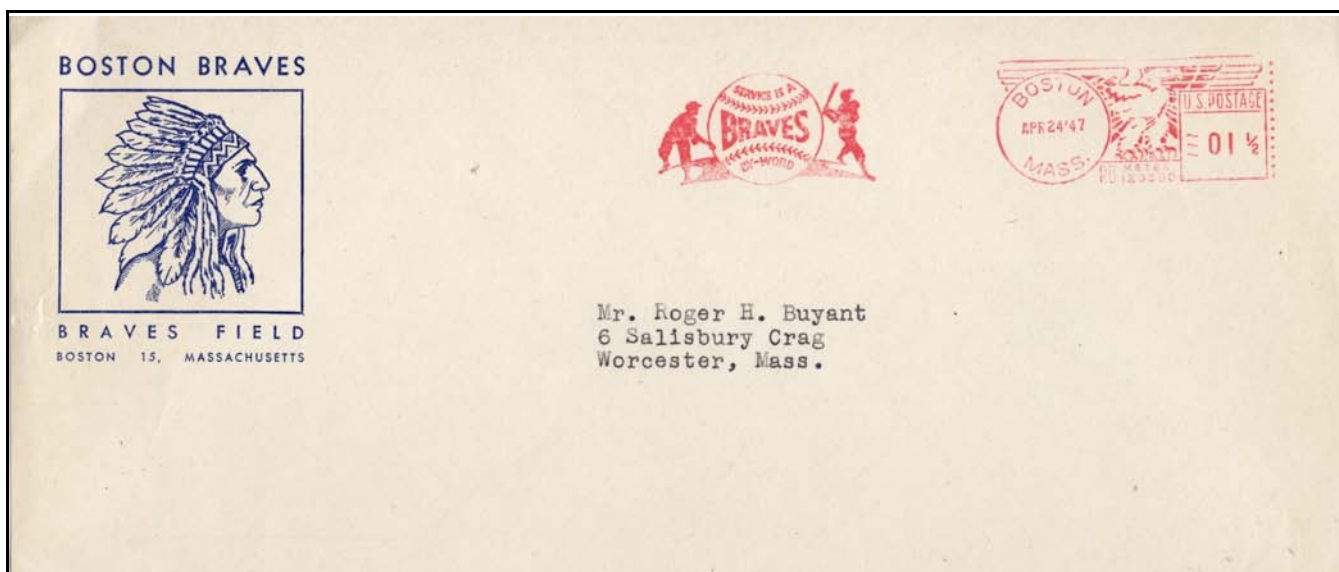
*First we'll use Spahn  
then we'll use Sain  
Then an off day  
followed by rain  
Back will come Spahn  
followed by Sain  
And followed  
we hope  
by two days of rain.*

The poem was so widely circulated that the sentiment, usually now paraphrased as “Spahn and

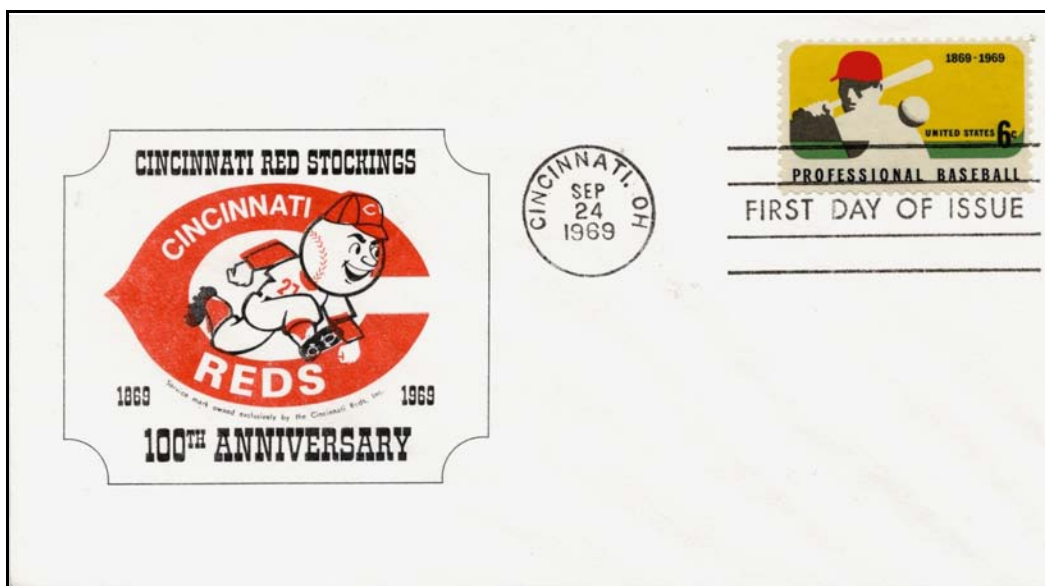
Sain and pray for rain,” entered the baseball vocabulary. Ironically, in the 1948 season, the Braves actually had a better record in games in which neither Spahn nor Sain started, than in games they did.

Figure 1 is a 1989 cover that features a postmark from Sturbridge, Massachusetts noting the titled sentiment. The postmark is on a handpainted cachet by Wild Horse cachets. I have only seen this postmark used on this cachet. Only 80 of these cachets were made. Figure 2 is a 1947 cover from the Boston Braves featuring the team logo and a meter slogan noting that “Service is a Braves by-word.”

The Braves is the oldest Major League franchise remaining in continuous existence. After the 1870 season, stockholders of the Cincinnati Red Stockings, the first openly professional sports team in North America, voted to disband. Red Stockings player-manager Harry Wright then moved to Boston with brother George and other Cincinnati players to form the nucleus of the Boston Red Stockings in the newly-formed National Association of Professional Baseball Players.



**Figure 3 (top).** 1947 Braves meter.



**Figure 4 (left).** FD of the 1963 professional baseball centennial stamp with a cachet incorrectly identifying the Reds rather than Braves as descendants of the first pro team.

**Figure 5 (below).** Braves meter used by many local team sponsors.





In 1969 the United States issued a postage stamp marking the centennial of professional baseball by commemorating the start of professional baseball with the 1869 Cincinnati Red Stockings all of whose players were paid. The cacheted first day cover of this stamp (Figure 3) implies that the current Cincinnati Reds are the descendants of those Red Stockings. However it is the Braves franchise that is entitled to this distinction.

The 1948 Braves season was followed by four mediocre seasons. In 1951 Sain was traded to the Yankees for pitcher Lew Burdette. Braves attendance steadily dwindled until 1953 when the owner announced he was moving the team to Milwaukee, where the Braves had their top farm club, the Brewers.

The Braves did well in their first season in Milwaukee drawing a then-NL record 1.8 million fans. The success of the team was noted by many owners; the Philadelphia Athletics, St. Louis Browns, Brooklyn Dodgers and New York Giants would leave their original homes over the following five years.

Support for the team also came from a number of firms in the Milwaukee area that used the meter slogan illustrated in Figure 4. As the 1950s progressed the Braves became increasingly competitive with sluggers Eddie Mathews and Hank Aaron and pitchers Spahn, Lew Burdette and Bob Buhl who anchored the pitching rotation.

In 1957, the Braves won their first pennant in nine years thanks to Aaron's MVP season. Aaron led



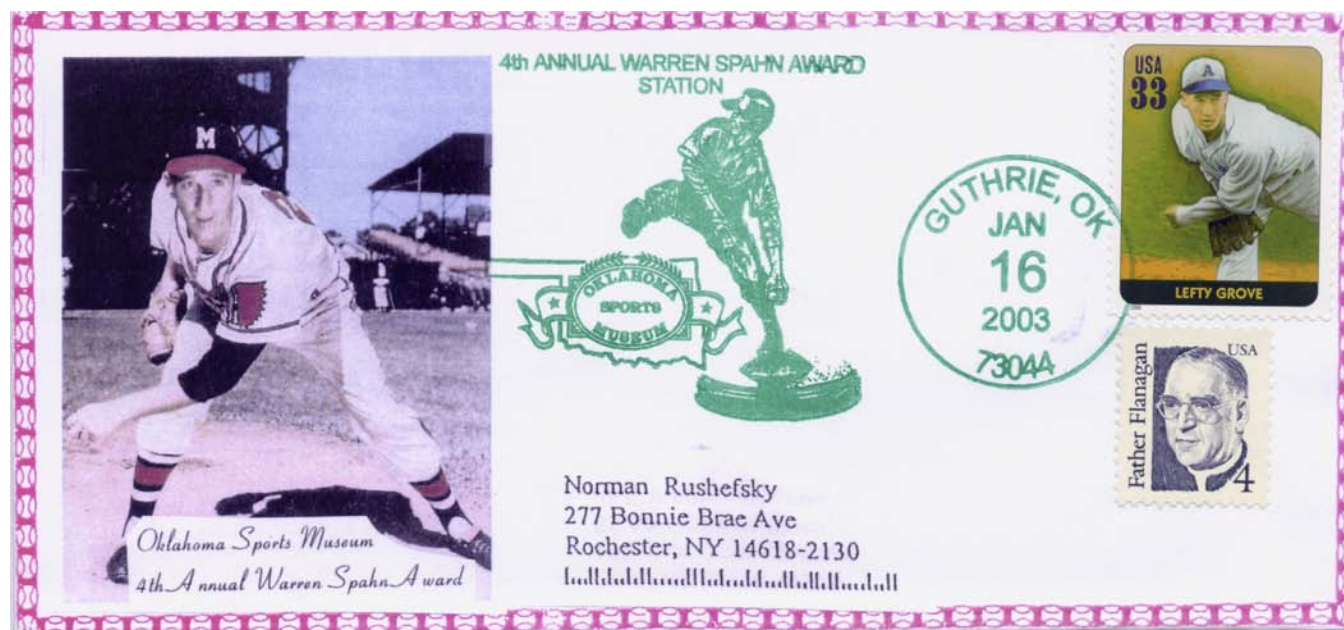
**Figure 6. Specimen Pitney-Bowes meter honoring the Braves as World Series Champions of 1957.**

the National League that year in home runs and RBIs. The season culminated in the Braves' first World Series win in over 40 years, defeating the New York Yankees of Berra, Mantle and Ford in seven games. Figure 5 shows a 1957 cacheted cover sponsored by the Boy Scouts of Milwaukee noting the Braves as world champions. In Figure 6 a specimen meter slogan noting the Braves as '57 World Champs is illustrated. This meter slogan was used subsequently in 1958.

The Braves again won the National League pennant in 1958, but lost to the Yankees in the World Series.

The next seven years were up-and-down years for the Braves. They were sold in 1962 and the new owner moved the team to Atlanta in 1966.

Warren Spahn was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973. He was one of baseball's greatest left-handed pitchers. The Oklahoma Sports Museum provides an annual Warren Spahn award that honors the best left-handed pitcher in Major league Baseball. Figure 7 shows a postmark (in green ink) noting the 4th annual award in 2003. 🐾



**Figure 7. 4<sup>th</sup> annual Warren Spahn Award postmark from 2003 (in green ink).**



# Volleyball Players on Stamps

by Piet van den Berg

**T**his article was not written with regard to the game itself but to well-known players in international Volleyball. If you know of any other volleyball players on stamps, or if you need more information about volleyball and philately, please visit [www.volleyballphilately.com](http://www.volleyballphilately.com) or contact Günter Pilz ([gunter.pilz@gmail.com](mailto:gunter.pilz@gmail.com)).



PR of CHINA (Michel 1781, Scott 1763, Yvert Tellier 2490, Stanley Gibbons 3160, Domfil 981.9). The most valuable player of China, Lang Ping, is pictured with the World Cup in 1981. China won the Cup without losing a match. Lang Ping played from 1979 till 1986 on the national team.

From 1995 onwards she has been the head coach of the women's team of China.



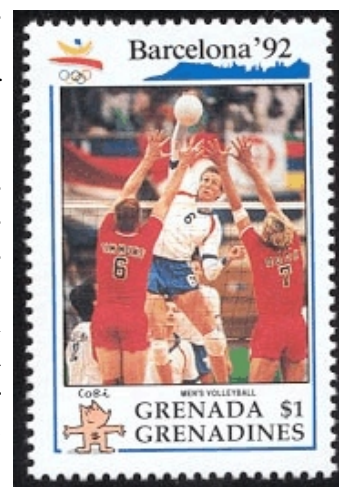
DOMINICA (Michel 1991, Scott 1787, Yvert Tellier 1774, Stanley Gibbons 1985). The spiker on the stamp is American, Karch Kiraly, from the gold medal team in Los Angeles 1984, Seoul 1988 and Atlanta 1996 (Beach Volleyball). He is the only player in the world to win three Olympic gold medals in Volleyball. Does anyone know the identities of the blockers? The one on the right looks like Dimitri Fomin from the USSR.

GAMBIA (Michel 2152, Scott 1650, Yvert Tellier 1871, Stanley Gibbons 2066). The match is USA vs Brazil as noted on the stamp. The players from the USA (in red and white) are Steve Timmons and Karch Kiraly, the most valuable players from the USA's dream team in 1984 and 1988. I am not so sure that the opponent of USA is Brazil as the colors of the Brazilian national team are not yellow and black (or blue), but yellow and green.



GRENADA (Michel 2970, Scott 2456c, Yvert Tellier 2576, Gibbons 2920). Depicted at left is USA player, Flo Hyman, famous for her spiking ability and a member of the silver medal team of Los Angeles 1984. She died on January 24, 1986 during a match with her Japanese club team in Matsue (Japan). The spiker is Zhang Rongfang (incorrectly spelled on the stamp) from China. Perhaps this scene shows the final in Los Angeles.

GRENADINES OF GRENADA (Michel 1541, Scott 1389, Yvert Tellier 1301, Gibbons 1480, Domfil 992.11). Pictured is a match between the USA and Holland in Seoul on September 19, 1988. The Dutch attacker is Jan Posthuma. He won a silver medal in Barcelona 1992 and a gold medal in Atlanta 1996. The blocking players – Steve Timmons (#6) and Craig Buck (#7) – won gold medals in Los Angeles 1984 and Seoul 1988.







GRENADINES OF SAINT VINCENT (Michel 932, Scott 914, Yvert Tellier 739A, Gibbons 866, Domfil 992.18). The same USA – Holland match is shown here. The attacker is Craig Buck of the USA. The Dutch blockers are Jan Posthuma and Rob Grabert (#15). Rob Grabert won a gold medal in Atlanta.

GUYANA (Michel 5627, Scott 3085g, Yvert Tellier 4190, Stanley Gibbons 4783). A close-up photograph of Karch Kiraly.



NETHERLANDS (Michel 1429, Scott 806a, Yvert Tellier 1393, Stanley Gibbons ex 1633, Domfil 992.2). The most valuable player from Holland, Ron Zwerver, decided, after a fifth place



finish in Seoul in 1988, to continue pursuing an Olympic medal instead of the big money playing in Italy. He won a silver medal (Barcelona 1992) and a gold medal (Atlanta 1996). The stamp was issued on February 4, 1992. The blocker of the other team sports the colors of Brazil, Holland's opponent in the Olympic final on August 9, 1992. It

appears the Dutch Postal Administration knows a lot about volleyball!

NICARAGUA (Michel 2522 A, Scott 1366, Yvert Tellier 1343, Stanley Gibbons 2610, Domfil 984.10). USA setter Debbie Green is featured on this stamp of Nicaragua. Her blocking ability is poor as you can see, but she is only 1.65 meters tall (about 5 feet, 5 inches). The ball



has already reached its highest point yet she is still under it. Debbie was member of the silver medalist Los Angeles team. Her opponent is unknown to me.

TANZANIA (Michel 808, Scott 652, Yvert Tellier 565, Gibbons 873, Domfil 990.40). This picture is an old one as the USSR players do not have numbers on the front of their shirts. Can anyone identify them?



UGANDA (Michel 1134, Scott 1047,



Yvert Tellier 904, Stanley Gibbons 1140, Domfil 992.4). The players from the USA are (left to right): Jeff Stork, Craig Buck and Doug Partie. The player from the USSR (or CCCP) is Raymond Vilde. This photo is from the Olympic final in Seoul 1988.



LIBERIA (Michel 1743, Scott 1228d, Yvert Tellier 1433 N) & TOGO (Michel 2429, Scott 1693a). Does anyone know who this Chinese player is?





ARGENTINA issued a set of four stamps (shown on the First Day Cover above), each depicting some of the players taking part in the 2002 World Championships held in that country.

Top Left (Michel 2772, Scott 2199, Yvert Tellier 2338, WNS AR053.02). Hugo Conte, Gustavo Proporatto, Jorge Elgueta, Pablo Meana & Marcos Milinkovich (Argentinian players).

Top Right (Michel 2773, Scott 2200, Yvert Tellier 2339, WNS AR051.02). Marcos Milinkovich (Argentinian player), Block: Adriano Paco (Portuguese player).

Bottom Left (Michel 2774, Scott 2201, Yvert Tellier 2340, WNS AR050.02). Gustavo Proporatto & Jorge Elgueta (Argentinian players).

Bottom Right (Michel 2775, Scott 2202, Yvert Tellier 2341, WNS AR052.02). Jeronimo Bidegain & Hugo Conte or Gustavo Proporatto (Argentinian players), Nalbert Bitencourt (Brazilian player).



AUSTRIA issued these personalized stamps showing the European Beach Volleyball champions, Clemens Doppler and Nik Berger, of Austria. The stamp at left was printed in sheetlets of 20 stamps with the same design. The one on the right was printed in a composite sheetlet of 20 together with 19 other sports topicals.



Figure 1. The First Fleet leaving England in 1787 for Australia.

## Cricket and Philately: The Ashes – An Australian Perspective, 1877 – 1938 (Part 1)

by Peter N. Street

Competition is the essence of sports. Rivalry between teams adds spice to the competition. In the United States there are some significant sports rivalries. In baseball we have the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees. In Indiana, where I used to live, the two great college basketball powers are Indiana and Purdue. Indiana's die-hard supporters have – so the joke goes – two favorite teams, Indiana and whoever is playing Purdue.

In international cricket competition the games between the major sides are called Test matches. The supreme rivalry is between the teams of England and Australia. Their Test matches are for the “Ashes” – more on that later.

This first article [presented in serialized fashion] discusses the matches and personalities involved for the period 1877 to 1938. The period 1946 to present will be covered in a later article.

### A LITTLE HISTORY

I'm quite sure that when the Royal Navy's Lt. James Cook dropped anchor on April 29, 1770 in

what is now Botany Bay he could not have conceived that it would be near Sydney, Australia's largest city and home to one of the most attractive cricket grounds in the world – the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Cook and his ship the *Endeavour* had been instructed by Britain's Royal Navy to chart the east coast of Australia. He named the area New South Wales (NSW) because it reminded him of South Wales in the United Kingdom.

My American readers will recall that a few years later the British were having a little problem with their American Colonies. The end result was American Independence. One of the minor changes introduced by this Independence was that the British Government could not longer send its convicts to Virginia and Maryland. Botany Bay was selected as an alternate site.

In May 1787 eleven English sailing ships, named the First Fleet, sailed from England (Figure 1) with stops at Tenerife, Rio de Janeiro and the Cape of Good Hope finally arriving at Botany Bay in January 1788 (Figure 2).

The ship contained 736 prisoners including 188 women and 300 free persons, mainly marines, to protect the colony. The fleet was led by Captain Arthur Phillips who became the first Governor.



Figure 2. The First Fleet arriving at Botany Bay, January 1788.





**Figure 3. At top left, Capt. Cook and his journal. First Fleet captain and first governor of Botany Bay, Arthur Phillips, is at upper right. England bowler, Harold Larwood, and Australian batsman, Don Bradman (in cap), at lower left.**

In 1988 the Kingdom of Tonga issued a souvenir sheet to celebrate the Australian Bicentennial. The sheet consists of 12 stamps. The top left hand corner stamp features Captain Cook and his journal. The stamp immediately to the right shows Capt. Phillips (Figure 3). In 1790 the marines were replaced by a special regiment of soldiers.

By the end of the 1700's Sydney was expanding and an open space was created on the south side of town "for the recreation and amusement of the inhabitants of the town and a field of exercise for the troops." Named Hyde Park, it is still there to this day.

It is reasonable to assume that some of the convicts and certainly the military were cricketers. As the area expanded merchants and businessmen provided another potential source of players. By the early 1800's, cricket was being played throughout New South Wales.

In 1806 Capt. William Bligh of "Mutiny on the Bounty" fame became the Governor of the Colony.

Encouraged by the sunny climate and ample open space, sport began to mirror Australian values and attitudes.

During the first 100 years of settlement sport was one of the few endeavors upon which national feeling could focus. Horse racing became very popular but by the 1870's it was rivaled by cricket. Soon the cricket grounds in major Australian cities were larger than their counterparts in England.

Between 1824 and 1836 four of the five largest cities in Australia were founded: Brisbane (Queensland), Perth (Western Australia), Melbourne (Victoria) and Adelaide (South Australia). All these cities eventually became sites of major cricket grounds.

In 1842 the last convict arrived. By that time 163,000 prisoners had been transported.

The middle 1800's saw the expansion of cricket throughout Australia. In 1838 the Melbourne Cricket Club was formed and in 1850 the first inter-colonial match was played between Tasmania and Victoria.

By the early 1860's the standard of Australia cricket had risen enough to warrant a tour by an English team.

### **THE PRE-TEST ERA: 1861-1876**

The first English tour was in the 1861-62 Australian cricket season. The team was sponsored by the catering firm of Spiers and Pond and captained by Surrey cricketer, H.H. Stephenson.

The tourists sailed aboard the S.S. *Great Britain*. The players and the ship are portrayed on two stamps issued by the Falkland Islands in 1999 to coincide with the Melbourne (Australia) Stamp Exhibition (Figure 4). The tour was most successful both from a playing viewpoint (won 6, lost 2) and financially.

In 1863 a second tour opportunity arose this time under the leadership of Nottinghamshire's captain, George Parr. The team returned undefeated. All the matches were against odds, that is the England XI faced twenty-two of the opposition which included players from Victoria and New South Wales.

The next tour was in the 1873-74 Australian cricket season. The England team was led by the redoubtable Dr. W.G. Grace (more on him later).

The standard of Australian cricket had improved sufficiently that the odds were reduced. A combined Victoria and NSW fifteen actually beat the England team. Similarly eighteen of NSW beat the England XI by 8 wickets and a Victoria XVIII also beat England.

For non-cricketing readers this seems an opportune time to explain the term “wickets.” As readers of my previous cricket articles are aware the game has its own peculiar vocabulary. The word wicket can mean at least three different things depending on the circumstances. First it means the strip of turf between the two sets of stumps. That strip is also referred to as the “pitch.”

Secondly it refers to the set of three stumps and two cross pieces (bails) which the batsman defends. The term comes from the wicket gate – entrance to the sheep pen – the original form when the game was played by shepherd boys on the Downs of southeastern England in the late Middle Ages.

Lastly, it means the number of dismissals or “outs” which the fielding side obtains. Thus, a team making 250 runs for 8 wickets means the team scored 250 runs while there were 8 dismissals. (My article “Cricket 101: Fundamentals of the Modern Game” in *JSP* March/April 1995 gives broader definitions of many cricket terms.)

The last pre-Test tour to Australia was in the fall of 1876 by an English team led by Sussex professional, James Lillywhite. In their second match England was beaten by fifteen of NSW. This defeat was followed by another at the hands of a Victoria XV. A return match with a NSW XV resulted in a crushing defeat for England. This emboldened the Australian cricket authorities to challenge the England team to a regular eleven-a-side match. Although the game was a draw, much in favor of Lillywhite’s team, Australia was clearly approaching parity and the stage was set for Test Cricket.

### **THE EARLY YEARS: 1878-1893**

The first Test match between England and Australia was almost by chance. In 1876-77 Sussex cricketer James Lillywhite’s team from England was on a private tour of New Zealand. Two matches were arranged between his team and a “Combined Australian XI.”

Although neither side was truly representative, this was considered by the cricketing authorities to be the first Test series. Honors were equally shared. Australia winning the first by 45 runs and England the second by 4 wickets.

The England team had problems from the start. Their wicket keeper, Ted Pooley of Sussex, had been arrested for a confrontation involving gambling. In addition, the first day of the first Test was played the day after their arrival from New Zealand and several of the England team were suffering from seasickness.

The first ball in Test cricket was bowled on the morning of March 15, 1877 by Nottinghamshire’s Arthur Shaw to Charles Bannerman of NSW. Round-arm bowler Bannerman went on to score the first Test century (165 runs retired hurt).

The mention of Shaw as a round-arm bowler suggests an explanation of cricket bowling be made.

Bowling, “the art of delivering the ball to the batsman,” was originally underarm, along the ground, somewhat similar to modern day lawn bowls.

In England, in the late 1700’s the game was taken up by adults and lob bowling was introduced. This form of bowling was still underarm but the bowler made the ball bounce in front of the batsman. The bowler also gave the ball a twist causing it to spin and break (change direction) after it hit the ground.

The next innovation was round-arm bowling. The ball being delivered with a round-arm action but with the hand below shoulder height. This action was introduced by John Willes when he opened the bowling for Kent, in England, against the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) in 1822. It has been suggested that he tried this type of bowling after watching his sister, Christina, trying to bowl round her hooped skirt. Willes was promptly no-balled by the umpire (illegal delivery) where upon he rode off on his horse vowing never to play again.

Round-arm bowling was eventually legitimized in 1835. This action naturally led to modern overarm bowling which was officially sanctioned in 1845. Thus by the time of the first Test match all types of bowling were within the “Laws of Cricket”.

Under these “Laws” the bowler must inform the umpire which action he intends to use. The umpire then informs the batsman who is to face the bowler.



**Figure 4. The 1861-62 All-England Eleven tour team.**





**Figure 5. England all-rounder and captain, Dr. W.G. Grace.**

In the modern game overarm bowling is the preferred style. There has been one famous (most would say infamous) occurrence when underarm bowling was employed.

In a One Day International (ODI) between Australia and New Zealand on February 1, 1981, New Zealand needed 6 runs from the last ball to win the match. Greg Chappell, the Australian captain, ordered the bowler, his brother Trevor, to bowl underarm. The New Zealand batsman was unable to hit the six and Australia won the match. This caused a furor and clouded Australia-New Zealand cricket relations for many years.

The second Test series came about when the Melbourne Cricket Club invited England to bring an amateur side to Australia in 1878-79. The side, led by Middlesex amateur I.D. Walker, was strengthened by two professionals. Walker was unavailable to make the trip and eventually Lord Harris captained the party of 13 players. The only Test match was between "The Gentlemen of England XI" and an Australian XI. The relatively weak English side was no match for the Australians who won by 10 wickets.

In 1880 an Australian XI under the leadership of W.L. Murdoch toured England. The English cricketing authorities were still not convinced of the parity between Australia and England. Notwithstanding their doubts, a match was arranged at the Oval Cricket Ground in London and this is considered to be the first Test match in England. Dr. W.G. Grace, who was to dominate English cricket for the next two decades, made his Test debut. Also on the English side were two of W.G.'s brothers, E.M. and G.F. – the first instance of the three brothers playing in the same Test match.

England scored 420 runs in its first innings. They then dismissed Australia for 149 and they were asked to "follow-on."

In the modern game, a "follow-on" occurs when the team that bats first and leads by at least 200 runs has the option of asking the second batting side to

play its second innings immediately after the first.

Although Australia improved in its second innings, England was left to score only 57 runs. This apparently easy task seemed to be in doubt when at one stage England was 31 for 5. However Dr. Grace, who normally opened the innings, came in and ensured a 5 wicket victory for England.

Dr. W.G. Grace has appeared on a number of stamps. Two are representative (Figure 5): St. Vincent "Leaders of the World" (LOW) issue of 1984 and the Australian Bicentennial issue of 1988.

The "Leaders of the World" (LOW) was a series of stamps issued in 1984-85 by Nevis, St. Vincent and its Grenadines and Tuvalu. No doubt with a view to the topical and thematic stamp market, the series included locomotives, classic cars, British Monarchs and from the viewpoint of this article, cricketers.

Nevis (part of the Leeward Island chain) and St. Vincent (part of the Windward Island chain) are Caribbean Islands and have some cricket pedigree (*JSP*, Winter 2005). However Tuvalu, formerly the Ellice Islands, is a group of nine islands in the Pacific Ocean north east of Australia. It is an independent state of the British Commonwealth but with a population of a little over 8,000 has no cricket footprint whatsoever.

Overall 118 cricket stamps were issued in a two side-by-side format. One is a contemporary portrait of the player and the other shows the player in action. Of the 56 double-stamps, Nevis issued 8, St. Vincent 28 and Tuvalu 24.

Included among them are little known players from Kent and Yorkshire (English County Cricket teams) alongside established superstars like W.G. Grace, Ranji, Len Hutton, Jack Hobbs and Wally Hammond.



**Figure 6. England batsman, Arthur Shrewsbury.**



**Figure 7. The velvet bag and Ashes urn. The 1874 Lord's Cricket Ground pavilion is in the background.**

While purists may view these issues with disdain, they are valid for postage and are included in the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*.

In 1881-82 a stronger, all-professional side, went to Australia to play in a four Test match series. The side included Arthur Shrewsbury, the foremost professional batsman of his day. It was said that when W.G. Grace selected a Test team his first pick was always Shrewsbury – “Give me Arthur” he would say. Shrewsbury is shown on Tuvalu’s LOW series of 1984 (Figure 6).

The first Test, in Melbourne ended in a draw. The steamship which was to take the England team to New Zealand was delayed when the game went into a fourth day but no result was possible.

A “draw” in cricket is when there is no result at the end of playing time. A Test match is played over a number of days (5 in the modern era). Each day has a set playing time of 6 ½ hours from late morning to early evening. This time is divided into 3 sessions with two breaks for refreshments (lunch and tea). Each team has two innings (up to 10 dismissals for each). If by the end of the last day no result has been obtained the match is deemed a “draw.” This is not to be confused with a “tie” which is when both teams have exactly the same score – a very unusual occurrence in a Test match

The second and third Tests, played in Sydney, were comprehensively won by Australia by 5 and 6 wickets respectively. The fourth Test at Sydney ended in a draw despite a century by George Ulyett (149) – the first English Test century in Australia.

In 1882 Australia, captained again by W.L. Murdoch, played the only Test match at the Oval in London. Australia batted first but heavy rain on the previous evening produced a very difficult wicket (the renowned “sticky wicket”). After being 30 for 6 wickets down Australia was all out for 63.

The term “sticky wicket” has entered common parlance meaning “a difficult situation.” However its

origin is strictly cricket. The wicket in this case is the strip of turf between the two sets of stumps. If the weather is fine and the ground hard, the ball comes to the batsman at a consistent height and it is to his advantage. If it rains wetting the wicket, then after the rain stops and the wicket begins to dry out it becomes “sticky.” The bounced ball tends to skid and conditions tend to favor the bowler. In 1981 the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), the governing body for the first class game, decreed all wickets

covered during inclement weather.

Thus at the first drops of rain, the umpire calls “time” and the grounds crew rush onto the field and cover the pitch. Therefore the situation whereby the results of a cricket match is determined by the weather has been largely eliminated – not, some would say, to the betterment of the game.

England fared somewhat better in their first innings but could only manage 101 runs. The over-night rain again made for difficult playing conditions and at one time Australia’s second innings stood at 79 for 5 wickets. Captain Murdoch came into staunch the flow and Australia eventually reached 122.

England only needed 85 runs to win. Albert Hornby and Richard Barlow were dismissed in successive balls by Australian fast bowler Frederick Spofforth at 15. However George Ulyett and W.G. Grace took the score past 50. Then both were out: 53 for 4.

Wickets continued to fall with four dismissals between 70 and 75. The last pair, Edmund Peate and Charles Studd needed 10 runs to win. They could only manage two. Australia had beaten England, in England.

The English sporting public was stunned. That a representative English side could be beaten at cricket was unbelievable. Reginald Shirley Brooks wrote a mock obituary for English cricket in the September 2, 1882 issue of the *Sporting Times*:

*In Affectionate Remembrance  
of  
ENGLISH CRICKET,  
which died at the Oval  
on  
29th August, 1882,  
Deeply lamented by a large circle of sorrowing  
friends and acquaintances  
R.I.P.*

*N.B.- The body will be cremated and the ashes  
taken to Australia*





**Figure 8. Blamire Young designed the velvet Ashes bag.**

Henceforth all Test matches between Australia and England are for the Ashes.

England's chance to regain the Ashes came in 1882-83 when the Hon. Ivor Bligh captained the English team. At the dinner prior to the team's leaving on the tour "Bligh promised to "bring back the Ashes."

The first Test was at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Australia batted first and scored 291 runs. England replied with 177 and, under the rules of the day, were asked to follow-on. They made 169 in their second innings. Thus Australia needed only 57 runs for victory which they did with the loss of only one wicket. The match caused much excitement and was attended by 54,000 people in the three days. Australia was one up on the three Test rubber.

England played much better in the second Test, also at Melbourne, and Australia was beaten by an innings and 27 runs.

Thus the third Test, held at Sydney, would decide the fate of the Ashes. Twenty thousand spectators were on hand at the start of play. England started badly and at one time were 75 runs for five wickets down but the middle order stiffened and eventually they reached 247.

Australia started well but after being 133 for 1 collapsed to be all out for 218. They only made 123 runs in their second innings so that Australia needed just 154 runs to win. English bowler Dick Barlow with 7 for 40 was the principal architect in dismissing Australia for 83 runs and England had regained the Ashes.

Several Melbourne ladies burned a bail (the cross piece on top of the stumps) and placed the ashes in a small urn. This urn with its velvet bag remains in the Memorial Gallery at Lord's Cricket Ground in London, England. The urn and velvet bag are shown on the cover of the MCC Centennial Booklet, along with the 1874 Lord's Cricket Ground Pavilion, issued in 1987 (Figure 7).

Blamire Young, who designed some of the early Australian stamps, also designed the velvet bag. He is shown on a souvenir sheet issued in September 1976 to commemorate Australia's National Stamp Week (Figure 8).

In 1884 Australia sent a strong team to England again under the leadership of W.L. Murdoch.

The first Test was at Manchester's Old Trafford ground – the headquarters of Lancashire County Cricket Club. Rain delayed the start to the second day – rain affecting play at Old Trafford was to be a recurring theme even to the present day. When play did start England was soon in trouble and was bundled out for 95. Australia made 182 in reply but the game ended in a draw as Australia had no time for its second innings.

The Lord's ground in London, headquarters of the MCC and Middlesex County Cricket Club staged its first Test match. It thus became the third Test venue in England and the fifth in the world.

This Test resulted in a comprehensive win for England by an innings and 5 runs. An odd feature of their match was that Australia's top scorer H.J.H. Scott was caught by his own captain W.L. Murdoch. Murdoch was fielding as a substitute for W.G. Grace who had injured a finger – presumably England did not have a twelfth man.

Substitutes in cricket are allowed to field but they may not bat or bowl. In the early days of Test Cricket the touring side often brought only 12 or 13 players. Injuries and illness could cause a side to have less than 11 available players. Nowadays a touring side will bring 17 or so players. Rapid air transport allows replacement players to be flown out at short notice.



**Figure 9. England all-rounder, Johnny Briggs.**

The third Test, at the Oval brought several records. Australia scored over 500 runs in the first innings with their captain Murdoch scoring the first Ashes double century (211). During the match all the English players took a turn at bowling including the wicketkeeper, Alfred Lyttelton, who bowled lobs. Because of the high scoring a draw was inevitable and England had retained the Ashes.

In the 1884-85 Australian season, England sent a strong team under the leadership of Arthur Shrewsbury. The Adelaide Oval hosted its first Test which England won by 8 wickets despite play being restricted by a dust storm and a flooded ground. Financial difficulties forced the Australians to field an inferior team for the second Test and England won by 10 wickets. Johnny Briggs, the Lancashire all-rounder, made 121 runs in England's first innings. He is featured in Tuvalu's 1984 LOW series (Figure 9).

Australia was back at full strength for the third Test and scraped home by 7 runs. Similarly in the fourth Test when Australia established a 40-run lead in the first innings, England was caught on a "sticky wicket" in its second innings and was all out for 77 runs. Australia had thus to make only 38 runs to win which they did with the loss of only two wickets. Australia had thus evened the score and the fifth Test, at Melbourne meant the rubber. Australia made 163 in its first innings which included a last wicket stand of 64. England replied with 386 (Shrewsbury 105) giving them a huge lead. Australia could only manage 125 in their second innings and thus England won decisively by an inning and 98 runs and retained the Ashes. One oddity of the match was that umpire Hodge refused to stand after tea on the third day due to criticism from the English players.

By the 1886 English cricket season many of Australia's better players, including their outstanding bowler Spofforth, were nearing the end of their distinguished careers. Consequently the Australian

touring team was a relatively weak side.

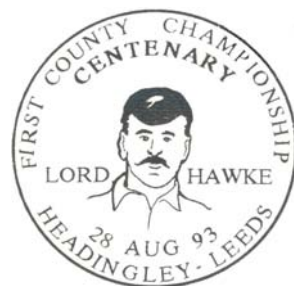
England won the series decisively 3-0 and included some fine bowling by Briggs (5 for 29 and 6 for 45 in the second Test) and batting by Shrewsbury (164 in the second Test) and W.G. Grace (170 in the third Test). England had retained the Ashes once again.

For the 1886-87 tour of Australia England depended on the trio of Lillywhite, Shaw and Shrewsbury. Although Australia countered with two new fast bowlers T.J.F. Ferris and C.B.T. Turner who between them took 35 of the 40 English wickets, England won both Tests and again retained the Ashes.

For the 1887-88 Australia season England sent two separate teams. One captained by the Hon. M.B. Hawke (later Lord Hawke) and the other by Sussex fast medium bowler C.A. Smith. Lord Hawke was featured on a postmark in August 1993 for his contribution to Yorkshire cricket where he was associated with the team as a player, captain and president from 1881 until his death in 1938 (Figure 10). C.A. Smith morphed into C. Aubrey Smith (later Sir C. Aubrey) the British character actor who moved to Hollywood, California, in 1931 and founded the Hollywood Cricket Club in 1932 (*JSP*, Sept/Oct 1998).

Both teams arrived on the same ship and went their separate ways. Later in the tour the two teams combined for the only Test match in Sydney. Billed as the Combined England XI versus the Combined Australian XI, it should have been a truly representative match. However, several of the better Australian players refused to play and England won conclusively by 126 runs thus retaining the Ashes and continuing their dominance over the Australians.

One of the features of the match was the bowling of Yorkshire's Robert Peel and Surrey's George Lohmann. They took 5 for 18 and 5 for 17 in Australia's first innings and 5 for 40 and 4 for 35 respectively in Australia's second. Robert Peel was featured in St. Vincent's LOW series issued in 1984 (Figure 11). Peel's cricket career was somewhat checkered. In 1897 he came onto the field in a Yorkshire match under the influence of alcohol and was dismissed from the county team. However, his bowling was such that he had the best Test record against Australia for bowlers with at least 100 wickets (102 at 16.81).



**Figure 10. England and Yorkshire captain, Lord Hawke.**

Australia's expectations as they came to England in 1888 were not high. Rain affected the wicket in the first Test, at Lord's and both sides were dismissed for very low scores. On the second day 27 wickets fell for 157 runs in little more than 3 hours.

The second Test at the Oval resulted in a convincing win by England by an innings and 137 runs with most of the dismissals being by Briggs and Peel who were, by now, beginning to develop a rivalry. Dr. W.G. Grace took over the English captaincy.

Old Trafford lived up to its rainy reputation and the start of the third Test was delayed. Australia was dismissed in both innings for less than 100 runs with Peel claiming 7 for 31 and 4 for 37. Eighteen wickets fell before lunch on the second day resulting in an England win by an innings and 21 runs. It was the shortest Test match in England to date – a mere 6 hours and 34 minutes. England thus maintain their dominance over Australia and retained the Ashes.

Australia brought a stronger team to England in 1890 again under the captaincy of W.L. Murdoch. In the first Test, at Lord's Australia started well with John Lyons scoring 50 runs in 36 minutes but slumped to 132 all-out. England made 173 in their first innings to give them a 41-run lead. In Australia's second innings John Barrett, who carried his bat for 67 runs on his debut, could not avoid Australia being all out for 176 runs. John Barrett never played another Test. He retired from first class cricket three years later to pursue a medical career. In England's second innings W.G. Grace made 75 runs and was still at the crease when England won by 7 wickets.

The second Test, at the Oval was again delayed by rain with the resulting difficult wicket leading to some very low scores on both sides. England eventually won by 2 wickets. England bowler Fred Martin, on his debut, took 12 wickets in the match, and Ashes record that held for 82 years.

The third Test, at Old Trafford saw more rain and the match was abandoned without a ball being bowled. England again retained the Ashes.

Because the dual tour in 1877-78 had been a financial disaster, the 1891-92 tour was organized by Lord Sheffield with Dr. W.G. Grace as captain.



**Figure 11. England bowler, Bobby Peel.**

The first Test, at Melbourne saw Australia make 240 runs in their first innings. England replied with 264. After Australia made 236 runs in their second innings, England only needed 213 for a win. W.G. Grace and A.E. Stoddart batted well and had 60 runs on the board before the loss of the first wicket. However the middle order collapsed; England was all out for 158 resulting in a 54-run win for Australia.

The second Test, at Sydney resulted in another Australia win. Australia was all out for 145 in its first innings. England replied with 307 (Bobby Abel batted throughout the innings for 132 runs – the first English batsman to do so) and appeared to be in a strong position for a win.

Australia batted much better in their second innings and eventually made 391 runs. England thus needed 230 to win but rain affected the wicket and they were all out for 156 resulting in a 72-run Australian victory. Australia had won the first two of a three Test rubber and thus after a gap of 7 series Australia had at last regained the Ashes.

England batted first in the third Test at Adelaide. It was a perfect batsman's wicket and they made 490 for 7 declared (Peel 83, W.G. Grace 53). Rain interrupted play on the second day and Australia was caught on a "sticky wicket." They were dismissed for 100 (Briggs 6 for 49) and 169 (Briggs 6 for 87) giving England a decisive victory by an innings and 230 runs.

The first Test of Australia's tour of England in 1893 was at Lord's. From the English viewpoint Arthur Shrewsbury was the star making 106 in their first innings and 81 in the second. He became the first man to make 1000 test runs. Rain once again affected play and the match resulted in a draw.

In the second Test at the Oval England batted first and scored 483 (W.G. Grace 68, Shrewsbury 66). Australia collapsed to 91 in its first innings (Briggs 5 for 34). They batted with more determination in their second innings but could not avoid an innings defeat. The only consolation for Australia was that A.C. Bannerman became the first Australian to score a 1000 Test runs.

At Old Trafford, in the third Test, newcomer Tom Richardson, the Surrey fast bowler, took five wickets in each innings. In their second innings England needed 198 runs in 135 minutes. However with the series won and the Ashes regained they elected to play for a draw. One feature of the match was that W.G. Grace, a medical doctor, reset Australian Charles Turner's finger.



***To be continued***



# The Helsinki Olympic Stadium

by Andrew Urushima

One of the most distinctive of all stadiums built for the Olympic Games was the Olympia Stadion in Helsinki, Finland. Located 2 km from the center of Helsinki at Tivolinmaki Hill on the Elaintarha (Zoological Gardens) Sports Ground, the stadium is graced with a distinctive 72-meter tower and a sculpture of legendary runner, Paavo Nurmi. Built initially for the 1940 Olympic Games that were never celebrated, the Helsinki Olympic Stadium was the centerpiece of the 1952 Olympics. As a testament to its striking architecture, the image of Helsinki's Olympic Stadium has been included on many stamps, cachets and other philatelic material (Figure 1).

The idea to construct an Olympic stadium was born in the 1920's following the Finn's excellent showing at the 1920 Olympic Games in Antwerp. In September 1920, a joint-stock company, Stadion Ab, was formed to fulfill this vision. This company was short-lived; it was liquidated in September 1921 as the original plans could not be realized.

The desire to hold the Games continued. In 1927 the Stadium Foundation was formed, comprising sport organizations, the city of Helsinki and ultimately the Finnish government. The foundation's mandate was the design and construction of a stadium worthy of hosting the Summer Olympics in Helsinki. The chairman of the Stadium Foundation from its inception to 1977 was Erik von Frenckell, an IOC member from 1948 to 1976 and President of the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Organizing Committee. Von Frenckell was considered one of the driving forces



**Figure 1. The Olympic Stadium and tower as they appeared in 1940. Montage covers are known in various shades and with commercial advertising at the bottom of the envelope.**

in Finnish sports and the impetus behind the building of the stadium.

During the planning and construction phase the Finnish postal service printed an envelope reproducing the sculpture of Paavo Nurmi within the blue and white Finnish flag in the shape of a bishop's miter (Figure 2). The word *Stadion* is included.



**Figure 2. Finnish postal service cover publicizing the Olympic Stadion used in 1939. The miter and image of Paavo Nurmi are printed in reverse on the inside of the envelope.**





**Figure 3. Commercial publicity letter sheet featuring miter and runner design posted in 1935.**

Commercial companies also supported the building of the stadium. The coffee company *Kahvi Osakeyhtiö* issued some preprinted stationery that included the miter design (Figure 3).

The design of the proposed Helsinki Olympic Stadium was determined by a competition held by the Stadium Foundation. The winning design was submitted by Yrjö Lindegren (1900-1952) and Töivö Jäntti (1900-1975).

Lindegren was a well-known architect and town planner in Finland and had an international reputation for his functionalist design. The Helsinki Olympic Stadium and the insurance company building in Elenvara are two of his important designs that marked his career.

Building of the Olympic Stadium commenced in 1934 even though Helsinki had not been awarded an Olympic Games. Strangely, the first element of the plan to be installed was the lawn, with the structure built around it.

During the 1932 IOC Session at Los Angeles, IOC representatives from Finland presented Helsinki's proposal to host the Games. At the 1936 Berlin IOC Session, the Games were formally awarded to Tokyo.

Although Tokyo was awarded the Games, construction of the stadium continued. It was completed in 1938 and inaugurated on June 12, 1938. Due to Tokyo's invasion of China in the Sino-Japanese war, political pressure was exerted on Tokyo

to relinquish the 1940 Olympic Games. In July 1938, Tokyo representatives relented. The IOC then awarded the Games of the XIIth Olympiad to Helsinki.

### **1940 OLYMPICS**

Once the Olympics were awarded to Helsinki, the Finns had less than two years to prepare. The stadium was originally constructed to accommodate 25,000 spectators. When it was determined that the 1940 Olympic Games were to be held at Helsinki, temporary additional wooden stands were built to increase the seating capacity to 62,000 spectators.



**Figure 4. Essay for a 1940 Olympic stamp by G.A. Jysky.**

This push to hold the Games of the XIIth Olympiad produced a number of philatelic items. To publicize the Olympics, a stamp design competition was held which produced a number of essays which included the design of Helsinki's Olympic Stadium (Figure 4). None of these essays were ever issued as the Games were canceled in early 1940.

Two more common philatelic items produced during this period are unfranked photomontage covers. Both covers, printed in shades of blue, bear a photo of the Olympic Stadium looking from the south with the stadium tower prominent on the left



**Figure 6. These 1940 covers showing the Olympic Stadium interior commonly bear censor markings or have field post frankings from the Winter War with Russia.**



**Figures 7 & 8. Examples of holiday greeting postcards from Finland depicting the Olympic Stadium and tower.**

side of the envelope (Figure 1). The covers have the words *Olympia Helsinki-Helsingfors 1940* printed on the left hand side. What differentiates the two main varieties are the views of four Helsinki buildings or monuments on the reverse. Other known varieties of these covers include corporate advertising printed in the bottom margin.

A third commemorative cover issued for the 1940 Olympics bears a black-and-white panoramic view of the stadium's interior (Figure 6). The stadium tower is prominent on the left side of the cover with the inscription *Stadium Suomi Finland*.

In addition to the essays and covers, various postcards were published bearing the image of the Helsinki Olympic Stadium. Figures 7 and 8 are examples of whimsical designs of the stadium and tower on holiday greeting postcards. Other designs showing the stadium exist for these holiday cards. I welcome scans of cards with different designs from our members.

### **STADIUM DESIGN**

Lindegren and Jäntti's design of Helsinki's Olympic Stadium is considered to be a representative example of the functionalist style. The angular exterior of the stadium is notable for its clean, white plastered finish. The most prominent feature of the stadium is the 72-meter Olympic Tower which is notable for its exterior spiral staircase. The actual height of the tower is 72.7 meters and was meant to honor, in its own way, the length of Matti Jarvinen's gold medal javelin throw at the 1932 Los Angeles Games.

On the grounds of the stadium is the famous sculpture of Paavo Nurmi, the "Flying Finn," who won Olympic gold medals in distance running at the 1920, 1924 and 1928 Olympics. Commissioned by the Finnish government, the statue was designed by Wäinö Aaltonen in 1924 and cast by Aukusti Veuro. The statue has been depicted on numerous stamps and cachets. In 1973, Finland issued a stamp depicting the sculpture shortly after Nurmi's death.

The stadium has undergone a number of renovations. At the end of the 1940's, the terrace was extended and the facade underwent a somewhat stylistic change, being covered by a wood lathing curtain wall with serrated upper edges. This can be seen on the various philatelic items that were issued. By the 1952 Games, the distinctive articulated exterior created by the additional grandstands was complete.

### **1952 OLYMPICS**

The Games of the XVth Olympiad were celebrated in Helsinki from July 19 to August 3. A total of 4,879 athletes from 69 nations compete for medals in 149 events.

The Olympic Stadium was the venue for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, track and field events, soccer semi-finals and final matches, and the equestrian Prix des Nations.

The Opening Ceremonies were highlighted by the lighting of the stadium's cauldron by Paavo Nurmi. The flame was then relayed to the top of the famed tower where a second burner was lit by Finnish distance runner, Hannes Kolehmainen. This flame would be a beacon for the duration of the Games.

Prior to the awarding of the 1952 Games to Helsinki, the stadium could seat about 50,000 spectators. Additional wooden grandstands were added at the south and north bends and along the east side boosting the number of seats to approximately 70,000. Temporary structural additions were made which served as dressing rooms, an expanded press center, and other Games-related facilities.

### **PHILATELY AND THE 1952 OLYMPIC GAMES**

To publicize the Games, Finland issued a series of four semi-postal stamps, including the 20+3 markkaa value in blue showing the interior of the Olympic Stadium and the signature tower. The stamp was designed by G.A. Jysky who also created some of the 1940 essays. Issued on 16 November 1951 it had a printing of approximately 1.4 million (Figure 9).





**Figure 9. Scott B112 in the colors of the Finnish flag.**



**Figure 10. Front cover of booklet showing the Olympic Stadium. The booklet contained all 4 values of the 1952 Olympic Games stamps.**

The series of stamps were also included in a booklet containing four of each value and was sold at a face value of 332 markkaa. The cover of the booklet features the façade of the stadium as well as the Olympic rings and a post horn (Figure 10). The booklet had a printing of 150,000 and was issued on 15 May 1952.

The image of Helsinki's Olympic Stadium was also included as part of the Organizing Committee's official logo and was also popular on a variety of cachets. Figures 11-13 show examples of the many different cachets featuring the stadium.



**Figures 11-13. Three different cacheted covers depicting the stadium.**



## **PRESENT DAY**

Following the conclusion of the 1952 Summer Olympics, the stadium's temporary wooden grandstands were removed. Today the stadium can accommodate about 40,000 spectators and is home to Finland's national soccer team as well as hosting concerts and other sporting events.

In 1983 and 2005, the stadium played host to the World Athletics Championships. Finland issued a two-stamp set for the

1983 European Athletic Championships. The 30c stamp (Figure 14) shows three events – hurdling, discus and the high jump – with the Olympic Tower in the background. The 50c stamp (Figure 16) shows the interior of the stadium in the background with three athletes.

In 1994, in conjunction with the Finlandia 95 philatelic exhibition, Finland honored some of its Olympic athletes, including distance runner Lasse Viren, with a souvenir sheet. In the margin is the Olympic Stadium with the sculpture of Paavo Nurmi in the foreground (Figure 15).

Other countries have also depicted Helsinki's Olympic Stadium on their stamps and other philatelic items. To commemorate a sporting competition between Sweden and Finland, Sweden issued a booklet with the stadium on the cover.

Czechoslovakia's 1965 set of stamps honoring athletes included one for the 1952 Olympics depicting the stadium and silhouette of Czech runner Emil Zatopek who won three distance running gold medals at these Games (Figure 16).





**Figure 14. Finnish issues commemorating the 1983 European Track and Field Championships.**

**Figure 16 (below). Czech stamp honoring 1952 Olympic hero Emil Zatopek with the outline of the Olympic Stadium.**



The Helsinki Olympic Stadium continues to stand as a monument to the Olympic movement. Its timeless image will live on in all of the philatelic items, postcards and ephemera that exist.



**Figure 15. Finlandia 1995 souvenir sheet showing the famed Nurmi sculpture.**

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Olympic Review June July and August 1988. "Olympic Stadiums: from 1948 to the Present Day, parts 1-3 by Thomas Schmidt.  
Official Report to the IOC 1952 Helsinki  
Helsinki Olympic Stadium website: [www.stadium.fi](http://www.stadium.fi)  
Philatelic items are from collection of the author.

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# NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

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by Margaret Jones

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2249 James R. Goldenring, 4833 Redcastle Ridge, Nashville, Tennessee, 37211-6996 USA. **1932 Summer & Winter Olympics.** Jim.Goldenring@Vanderbilt.edu

2250 Antoine Abihanna, PO Box 1185 – General Post Office, Jounieh, Lebanon 10000. Mr Abihanna willing to translate articles from French or Arabic into English. abihannaanthony@hotmail.com

## RENEWAL:

2238 Orval F. Hart, 406 Grand Canyon Drive, Los Alamos, New Mexico, 87544-3646 USA. Olympics only. BigOH@aol.com

## NEW ADDRESSES:

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AAPE YOUTH CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS (Indianapolis, Indiana). Special awards include Howard Hotchner award and APS Potentiality Memorial award to Andrew Hodge for “Baseball”.

AMERICOVER 2006 (Independence, Ohio). Glenn Estus earned a vermeil for “III Olympic Winter Games”; Lorraine E. Bailey was awarded a silver for “The Centennial of Baseball”.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STAMP SHOW 2006 (Aurora, Colorado). Haleigh McGill obtained youth grand for “Track and Field Events”; Trevor Thomas won youth second for “The Game of Soccer”.

WESTPEX 2006 (Burlingame, California). Andrew Urushima received one-frame vermeil for “The Olympic Jubilee, Lausanne 1944”.

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## SPI Annual Financial Statement: FY 2006 & 2005

	Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2006	Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2005
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Dues	3,266.79	4,074.10
Interest	395.34	321.04
Publications/Advertising	571.83	540.63
Total	4,233.96	4,935.77
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Printing	2,040.00	1,940.00
Postage	2,714.80	1,610.72
1928 Olympic Monograph	887.86	
Other (supplies, etc)	803.85	418.08
Total	6,446.51	3,968.80
<b><u>Auction activity</u></b>		
Receipts	19,649.01	5,905.90
Disbursements	(17,940.19)	(5,075.04)
Total	1,708.82	830.86
<b>Net Income (loss)</b>	(503.73)	1,797.83
<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>	17,939.94	16,142.11
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>	17,436.21	17,939.94
<b>Cash and Investments:</b>		
Bank of Amer. Checking	1,557.73	168.98
PayPal Account	326.32	1,007.34
House Account	268.17	1,598.14
Union Bank	2,881.01	4,176.81
Dean Witter MM	12,779.99	12,384.65
	17,813.22	19,335.92
Payable to Consignors	(377.01)	(1,395.98)
<b>Fund Balance</b>	17,436.21	17,939.94



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# NEW STAMP ISSUES

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by John La Porta

**Algeria:** September 2, 2006. 16<sup>th</sup> Games of Arabian School. 30d emblem with runner, dove.

**Argentina:** June 17, 2006. Winter Sports. Four se-tenant 75c stamps showing stylized athletes, alpine skiing; snowboarding; cross country skiing; biathlon.

**Aruba:** June 5, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 75¢ crowd, goalies, net; 215¢ gloves, earth as ball.

July 3, 2006. 20<sup>th</sup> Ann. Hi-Winds. 60¢ windsurfer, kite-surfer; 100¢ kitesurfer, windsurfer; 125¢ windsurfers.

**Australia:** July 18, 2006. Extreme Sports. 50¢ surfing; \$1 snowboarding; \$1.45 skateboarding; \$2 freestyle motox.

**Austria:** September 23, 2006. 0.55e the skier in action.

**Belarus:** June 22, 2006. Turin Winter Olympics. Medal Winners, souvenir sheet with 2,000rub stamp showing athletes and medals.

**Bosnia-Herzegovina:** June 10, 2006. 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sarejevo Soccer Club..Circular 1m stamp soccer players with upraised hands.

June 10, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Circular 1m stamp, soccer players, flags.

July 5, 2006. European Junior Table Tennis Championship. 1m stamp, silhouettes of table tennis players.

**Bosnian Serb Administration:** June 9, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 50p legs, ball, logo; 1m ball, stadium; souvenir sheet with 3m stamp, player in action.

June 28, 2006. Vidovdan Road Race. 1m runner.. Printed in sheets of eight with label.

**Brazil:** August 8, 2006. Pan American Games. Nondenominated self-adhesive stamp inscribed "1<sup>st</sup> porte carta comercial" emblem with birds.

August 16, 2006. Paralympic Athletes. 55c racing wheelchair, emblems of swimmer, runner, wheelchair.

**Bulgaria:** June 9, 2006. World Cup Soccer. Souvenir sheet with 1 lev stamp, soccer scene.

**Canada:** July 6, 2006. World Lacrosse Championships. 51¢ stamp depicts Maryland player Dino A. Mattessich.

**China:** August 8, 2006. 2008 Beijing Olympics. 60f basketball; two 80f stamps, fencing, sailing; 3 yuan artistic gymnastics.

**China-Taiwan:** September 15, 2006. Outdoor Activities. Two NT\$3.50 stamps, paragliding; hang gliding; NT\$12 ultralight aircraft; NT\$15 parasailing.

**Costa Rica:** April 7, 2006. World Cup Soccer. 120col soccer scene.

**France:** June 24, 2006. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of French Open. 0.53e two golfers.

**France:** June 5, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 0.53e up-raised hands giving victory sign.

**French Polynesia:** July 5, 2006. Heiva. 90f racing canoe; 130f man in stone-lifting contest.

**Ghana:** May 18, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Two 2,000c stamps, team captains; two 4,000c stamps victory; two 4,500c stamps, soccer stars; two 5,000c stamps, team photo, match; two 6,000c stamps, match against South Africa; Two panes of eight se-tenant 4,000c stamps, each showing players.

**Grenada:** June 9, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 75¢ Brazil 2002; 90¢ Germany 1990; \$3 France 1998.

**Hungary:** July 27, 2006. European Swimming Championship. 90ft synchronized swimming and diving.; 180ft fish, lily pads, swimmers.

August 3, 2006. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Hungaroring Race Track. 75ft Formula 1 race car.

**Iran:** June 10, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 650r players, Iranian flag, trophy.

**Italy:** May 9, 2006. General Meeting of the International Military Sports Council. 0.45e emblem with cross, Coliseum, Rome.

September 9, 2006. World Soccer Cup Victory. 1e Italian flag, hands holding trophy, people celebrating.

**Ireland:** July 25, 2006. Ryder Cup. Four se-tenant 0.48e stamps showing the progression of golf ball with clover in a competition. Stamps available in both gummed and self-adhesive versions. Souvenir sheet contains the four stamps. Gummed versions are in both coils and sheet stamps.

August 16, 2006. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ronnie Delany's Gold Medal. 0.48e portrait of the gold medalist.

**South Korea:** September 5, 2006. Extreme Sports/Skateboarding. Four 220w self-adhesive stamps showing different maneuvers, tail stole; drop in; backside spin; backside grab.

**Maldives:** May 9, 2006. Turin Olympic Games. 7rf, 8rf, 10rf, 12rf all have stamp-on-stamp designs from previous Olympics.

**Moldova:** June 28, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 2 lei soccer players; 3 lei mascot, emblem; 4.50 lei players.

**Mongolia:** June 23, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Pane of four stamps, symbolic designs of soccer scenes.

**Montenegro:** May 30, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 0.60e, 0.90e different soccer players in action.

**Nepal:** May 9, 2006. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary First Ascent of Mount Manaslu. Two 25r stamps, different views of the mountain.

**New Caledonia:** June 2006. World Soccer Cup. 110f two soccer players.

**Pakistan:** July 1, 2006. Shandur Polo Festival. 5re polo players on horseback.

**Papua New Guinea:** May 17, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Pane of four se-tenant stamps showing trophy, cartoon player and uniform of different teams, 80t England; 3.20k Germany; 3.25k Argentina; 5.35k Australia.

**Paraguay:** November 9, 2005. International Year of Sport and Physical Education. 5,000g Lucy Aguero doing shot put, throwing javelin; 6,000g golfer Carlos France; souvenir sheet contains the 6,000g stamp.

**Portugal:** June 7, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 0.45e, 1e symbolic soccer player; souvenir sheet with 2.40e stamp, trophy, sky, emblem, border shows stadium.

**San Marino:** August 21, 2006. Italy Wins World Soccer Cup Championship. 1e, black and white photograph of Isetta a 92 year old woman photographed by Reneto D'Agostin.

August 21, 2006. 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary International Gymnastics Federation. 0.15e hand on rings; 2.80e gymnast in motion.

**Saudi Arabia:** May 20, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 2r outlines of soccer players; 3r emblem, map.

**Serbia:** April 12, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 33d/40e two soccer players; 46d/0.50e soccer player, ball, stadium. Souvenir sheet contains two 46d/0.50e stamps, continuous view of stadium.

September 1, 2006. European Water Polo Championship. 46d water polo scene. Printed in sheets of eight with label.

**South Africa:** July 7, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Souvenir sheet with nondenominated stamp, African wild dog standing on soccer ball.

**Spain:** July 6, 2006. Popular Festivals. 2.33e horse races of Sanlucar de Barrameda on beaches of Bajo de Guia and La Piletas

September 25, 2006. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sports/Real Club Deportivo la Coruna. 0.57e symbolic design with text.

**Sri Lanka:** August 17, 2006. 10<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games. 10re high jumper; 100re cyclists.

**Tajikistan:** June 2006. World Soccer Cup. Four se-tenant stamps, three 1.50s stamps, 2s soccer scenes.

**Trinidad & Tobago:** December 12, 2005. Anansy and the Cricket Match. \$1 with friends reading cricket brochure; \$2.50 with friends hiding in a bathroom; \$3.75 under umbrella with friends; \$4.50 holding bad and talking to woman; \$5.25 laughing at friends. Souvenir sheet with \$15.00 stamp, rubbing stomach.

**Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus:** June 7, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 1 new lira player, ball, Brandenburg Gate. Sheet of 16 se-tenant with label.

**Ukraine:** May 4, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 2.50h soccer players; 3.50h soccer ball, emblem of Germany 2006 Championship.

**Uzbekistan:** May 19, 2006. Turin Olympic Games. 1,540 som skier; 2,155s ice skaters.

May 19, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Souvenir sheet with 720s stamp, soccer player, ball, Uzbekistan soccer emblem.

# COMMEMORATIVE STAMP CANCELS

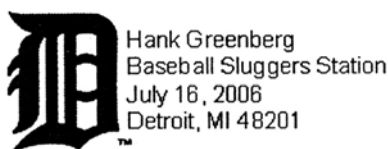
by Mark Maestrone

## 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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06723-121 Mayfield, NY 23



06726-128 Saratoga Sp., NY 7/26-9/4



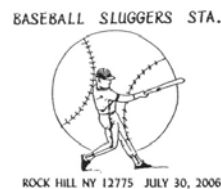
06726-50035 Bondurant, IA 26



06726-50073 Elkhart, IA 26



06727-523 Marengo, IA 27



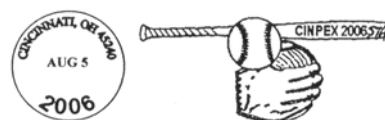
06730-127 Rock Hill, NY 30



06730-133 Cooperstown, NY 30



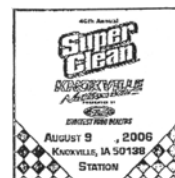
06805-128 Saratoga Springs, NY 5



06805-452 Cincinnati, OH 5



06806-462 Indianapolis, IN 6



06809-501 Knoxville, TN 9-12





06811-139 Binghamton, NY 11



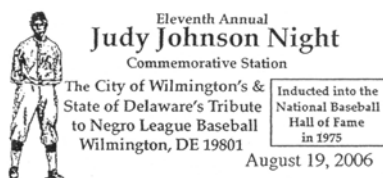
06811-148 Watkins G., NY 8/11-9/10



06814-280 Concord, NC 14



06816-104 Bronx, NY 16



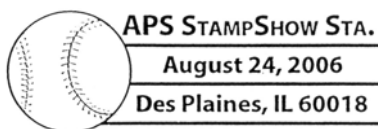
06819-198 Wilmington, DE 19



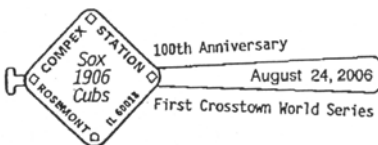
06824-242 Bristol, VA 24, 26



06824-551 St. Paul, MN 8/24-9/4



06824-600A Des Plaines, IL 24-27



06824-600B Des Plaines, IL 24-27



06825-841 Salt Lake City, UT 25



06825-857 Tucson, AZ 25



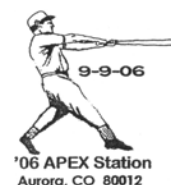
06826-128 Saratoga Springs, NY 26



06826-628 Du Quoin, IL 8/26-9/4



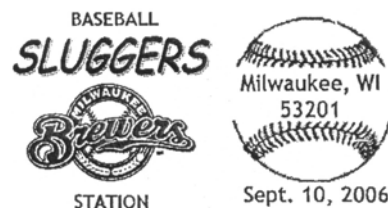
06903-131 Oswego, NY 3



06909-800A Aurora, CO 9-10



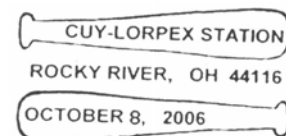
06909-800B Aurora, CO 9-10



06910-532 Milwaukee, WI 10



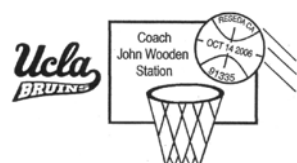
06930-135 Utica, NY 30



06X07-441 Rocky River, OH 7-8



06X07-136 Carthage, NY 7



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