

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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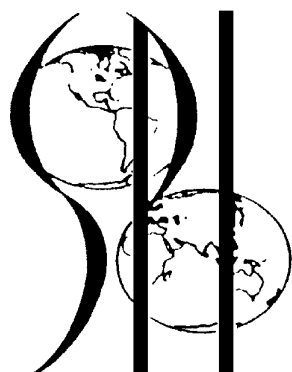
NUMBER 4

**1930s Canadian
Air Mail Flight Covers**



**with
Sport
Cachets**

TABLE OF CONTENTS



**SPORTS
PHILATELISTS
INTERNATIONAL**

President's Message	<i>Mark Maestroni</i>	1
1930s Canadian Air Mail First Flight Covers		
With Sport Cachets	<i>Kon Sokolyk</i>	3
The Helsinki Olympic Stadium: A 2007 Update	<i>Andrew Urushima</i>	7
Cricket & Philately: The Ashes – An Australian		
Perspective, 1877-1938 (Part 3)	<i>Peter Street</i>	10
Iraq's Olympic Fall	<i>Dale Lilljedahl</i>	18
Weymouth Bay & Portland Harbour, Host of		
the 2012 Olympic Sailing Regatta	<i>Mark Maestroni</i>	19
Freestyle Skiing	<i>Alvaro Trucchi</i>	25
The Sports Arena	<i>Mark Maestroni</i>	30
Reviews of Periodicals	<i>Mark Maestroni</i>	32
News of Our Members	<i>Margaret Jones</i>	33
New Stamp Issues	<i>John La Porta</i>	34
Commemorative Stamp Cancels	<i>Mark Maestroni</i>	36

CANADIAN FIRST FLIGHT COVERS

3

CRICKET

10

2012 LONDON OLYMPICS

19

FREESTYLE SKIING

25

SPORTS PHILATELISTS INTERNATIONAL

President:	Mark C. Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122
Vice-President:	Charles V. Covell, Jr., 207 NE 9th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601
Secretary-Treasurer:	Andrew Urushima, 1510 Los Altos Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010
Directors:	Norman F. Jacobs, Jr., 2712 N. Decatur Rd., Decatur, GA 30033
	John La Porta, P.O. Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462
	Dale Lilljedahl, P.O. Box 543125, Dallas, TX 75354
	Patricia Ann Loehr, 2603 Wauwatosa Ave., Apt 2, Wauwatosa, WI 53213
	Bernard McGovern, 2107 Marianna Street, Tampa, FL 33612
	Robert J. Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Cres., Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5ES, England
	Dale Lilljedahl, P.O. Box 543125, Dallas, TX 75354
Auction Manager:	Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109
Membership:	Bernard McGovern, 2107 Marianna Street, Tampa, FL 33612
Public Affairs:	John La Porta, P.O. Box 2286, La Grange, IL 60525
Sales Department:	

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.

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Publisher:	John La Porta, P.O. Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462
Editor:	Mark C. Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122
Columnists:	Glenn A. Estus, P.O. Box 451, Westport, NY 12993
	Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109
	John La Porta, P.O. Box 98, Orland Park, IL 60462
Ad Manager:	Norman F. Jacobs, Jr., 2712 N. Decatur Rd., Decatur, GA 30033
Circulation:	Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

2007 SPI INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

By the time you receive this issue of *JSP*, the 8th International Convention of SPI at NAPEX 2007 will be just days away. We expect a good turnout of members from the East and West coasts and points in between.

Headlining our meeting on Saturday morning (10:00 a.m. in the Fairfax Room) will be renowned Olympic philatelist, Morris Rosen, who will give a presentation on "Gems of the Olympic Games" from his own outstanding collection.

In addition to hunting for "gems" of your own at the bourse of dealers from across the country, you won't want to miss the 12 terrific sports and Olympics exhibits on display. Then on Saturday night we hope you will join us at the Awards Banquet to see who takes home the SPI trophy for Best-of-Show! Tickets are \$45 per person.

If you visit the show on Friday, you'll be able to take part in two first day ceremonies. At 11 a.m., the USPS will officially issue a 69¢ (new 1-ounce letter rate to Canada) Okefenokee Swamp stamp from the Scenic American Landscape series. The United Nations is scheduled to release its "Pleasant Visions" set of stamps at 1:00 p.m. The UN will also have a special cachet.

Don't forget to stop on by the SPI Society Table as you enter the show floor to sign the Guest Book. And if you have a little spare time in your schedule, we hope you'll sign up to man the table. It's a great place to rest your feet, check out the booty you've collected and greet your fellow SPI members!

The Hilton McLean Tysons Corner is both the show hotel and exhibition venue. For further details, please check out page 2 of this issue.

RENEWAL TIME

Yes, it's time to renew your memberships. Despite postal rates creeping up yet again, we have managed to maintain our current dues structure for at least one more year.

If your mailing label reads "2007", then your dues are due. There should be a handy return envelope enclosed with this issue. We ask that you please remit payment by July 15 to guarantee that you won't miss an issue.

We appreciate each of you and hope you will continue as members of our great sport and Olympic society.

CORRECTION

In the Spring 2007 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*, the article on "Soccer Goalkeepers" by Bill Stahl contained an error. In the third-to-last paragraph, the author correctly noted that Oliver Kahn was the goalkeeper for Germany in the 2002 World Cup. However, Germany was not the winner; the final was won by Brazil (over Germany) by a score of 2-0. Thanks to member Roberto Gluckmann of Visalia, California for correcting us!

See you at NAPEX!

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

Mark Maestrone: markspi@prodigy.net

Charles Covell: covell@louisville.edu

Andrew Urushima: aurushima@yahoo.com

Norman Jacobs: nfjr@comcast.net

John La Porta: album@comcast.net

Dale Lilljedahl: dalij@sbcglobal.net

Patricia Ann Loehr: patloehr@mcw.edu

Bernard McGovern: bmcgol0483@aol.com

Robert Wilcock: bob@towlard.freemove.co.uk

Margaret Jones: docj3@sportstamps.org

*You are cordially invited to the
8th International Convention of SPI*



NAPEX

National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington, D.C., Inc.

June 1 - 3, 2007

**Hilton McLean Tysons Corner
7920 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, Virginia 22102**

Schedule of Events

Friday, June 1

10:00 am NAPEX Exhibition and Bourse Opens
11:00 am USPS First Day Ceremony, Sherman Amphitheater
1:00 pm UN First Day Ceremony, Sherman Amphitheater
6:00 pm NAPEX Exhibition and Bourse Closes

Saturday, June 2

10:00 am NAPEX Exhibition and Bourse Opens

10:00 am Meeting: Sports Philatelists International, Speaker Morris Rosen, "Gems of the Olympic Games," Fairfax Room

2:00 pm Judges Literature Critique, Greenspring Room
4:00 pm Judges Philatelic Critique, Fairfax Room
6:00 pm NAPEX Exhibition and Bourse Closes
7:00 pm NAPEX Social Hour, cash bar, Martinique's
8:00 pm NAPEX Awards Banquet, \$45 per person, Martinique's

Sunday, June 3

10:00 am NAPEX Exhibition and Bourse Opens
4:00 pm NAPEX Exhibition and Bourse Closes

***Don't forget to stop on by the SPI Table as you enter the show floor
to say "hi" (and sign up for a time slot to man the table)!***



Figure 1. Bobsledding cachet on 1935 first flight air mail cover from Berens River to Winnipeg.

1930s Canadian Air Mail First Flight Covers With Sport Cachets

by Kon Sokolyk

To many, the 1920s and 1930s were the golden era of aviation. It was a time when men and flying machines challenged every unknown, tested every limit and ventured into uncharted frontiers. It was a time of intense public interest in the deeds of the aviators and their machines. Every record – distance, altitude, duration, tonnage – was celebrated, as was every first. It was also a time that air mail service began flourishing across Canada. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Canadian Post Office Department began offering first flight cachets during this era which became popular collectibles. In early 1935, a number of cachets with sporting themes appeared.

The growth of air mail service in Canada did not parallel the growth of air mail service in most other countries. W.R. Patton, writing in the *Airpost Journal* in 1935, notes: "The Air mail service [in Canada] does not mean fast transportation between large cities...The air mail in Canada is not in connection or opposition with the Railways as over 90% of the mileage is where no Railways exist, nor will ever

exist. Canada is the only large country in the world where this service does not compete with the railroad." In 1935 Toronto had the honour of being the world's largest city without air mail service; Montreal was only connected to two destinations, both in the United States.

The growth of air mail service in Canada during the 1920s and 1930s in many instances paralleled the development of Canada's mining regions and the opening of the north. As the mining boom spread, airplanes delivered passengers and goods to distant locations. Official air mail service soon followed.

The Canadian Post Office Department capitalized on the popularity of aviation and, at that time, stamp collecting, by making first flight cachets available to collectors (Figure 1). The flights were announced by the post office in the press. Collectors on the post office's subscription list received notification by mail (Figure 2), which included instructions for preparing covers. Interested collectors prepared self-addressed covers noting the route and franked with 6¢ postage, the required air mail rate in 1935. These covers were then forwarded to the District Superintendent of Postal Services where the flight would occur.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA

Ottawa, Canada, December 1934.

A N N O U N C E M E N T

By authority of the Postmaster General regular air mail service between the following points will be inaugurated during the second week of January 1935:-

WINNIPEG, MAN., NORWAY HOUSE, MAN., and GODS LAKE, MAN.

To commemorate the inaugural flights between Winnipeg, Norway House and Gods Lake four separate and distinct cachets will be used on letters carried on the initial flights, as follows:-

CACHETS 12/8 5/1 Winnipeg-Norway House Norway House-Winnipeg
Winnipeg-Gods Lake Gods Lake-Winnipeg

COVERS TO These cachets will be used only on such covers as are sent
BE SENT TO to the District Superintendent of Postal Service, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
and which reach him not later than the 6th January, 1935, bearing
Canadian postage at the following rates:-

Figure 2. Announcement mailed to collectors on the post office's subscription list with details on first flight airmail cachets and how to order them.

Table 1 Canadian Air Mail First Flight Covers With Sport Cachets*					
Fig. #	Air Mail First Flight Date	Route (Origin – Destination)	Cachet Design	Cachet Color	Pieces of Mail Carried
3	Jan. 14, 1935	Winnipeg – Norway House	Curling	black	3,075
4	Jan. 14, 1935	Winnipeg – God's Lake	Skating	black	3,225
5	Jan. 15, 1935	God's Lake – Winnipeg	Snowshoeing	black	3,075
6	Jan. 15, 1935	Norway House – Winnipeg	Skiing	black	3,075
7	Jan. 27, 1935	Norway House – Cross Lake	Snowshoeing	black, grey-blue	2,850
8	Jan. 27, 1935	Cross Lake – Norway House	Airplane	black, grey-blue	2,925
9	Feb. 3, 1935	Winnipeg – Berens River	Hockey	black, blue	3,573
1	Feb. 4, 1935	Berens River – Winnipeg	Bobsledding	black, blue	3,575
10	Feb. 22, 1935	Collins – Pickle Crow	Lacrosse	black	3,500
11	Feb. 22, 1935	Pickle Crow – Collins	Skiing	black	3,500
*Source: <i>The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland: A volume in the Sixth Edition of the American Air Mail Catalogue.</i>					



Figures 3 - 10. See Table 1 for details.

More than 400 first flight cachets were produced by the post office between 1929 and 1941. The designer of each was Herman Herbert Schwartz (1885-1962) of the Canadian Bank Note Company. Schwartz was also Canada's most prolific and perhaps most distinguished stamp designer. His credits include the design of 154 Canadian stamps issued between 1927 and 1956, including perhaps the country's most beautiful stamp the 50-cent *Bluenose* schooner issued in 1929. Schwartz also designed stamps for the Bahamas, Cuba, Newfoundland and Norway. He also designed Canadian bank notes and bonds. Interestingly, Schwartz had to

purchase the stamps he designed as the Canadian Post Office did not provide him with copies.

In January 1935, media in Winnipeg, Manitoba reported that five new air mail services would be inaugurated in the Winnipeg Postal District in January and February. The locations to be served, aside from the Winnipeg hub, were small isolated communities, generally in the mining districts. The air mail services would replace mail delivery by dog teams in winter and boats in summer. While planes were providing greater and easier access to remote locales, they were still susceptible to many of the same conditions as dog sleds or boats. On January

14, 1935, the day of the Winnipeg to God's Lake first flight via Norway House, the temperature in Winnipeg was -27°F (-33°C). The following day, for the return flight, it had warmed to -17°F (-27°C).

Nine out of ten cachets produced for the January and February first flights featured sporting themes: bobsledding, curling, hockey, lacrosse, skating, skiing and snowshoeing. All of the sports featured were deeply woven into the Canadian sporting culture, and all but lacrosse were winter sports.

In addition to the sporting image, each cachet featured an airplane and noted the occasion – Canada Air Mail First Official Flight – along with the points of service. As well, eight of the nine cachets featuring a sport had the name of the sport inscribed. While the cachets illustrated in this article may at times lack clarity because of poor application, the author had an opportunity to view some of the proofs at the Canadian Library and Archives, and their design and artistic merit are undeniably excellent.

Table 1, based on *The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland: A volume in the Sixth Edition of the American Air Mail Catalogue*, summarizes the first flights featuring the sporting cachets.

The pilots flying these routes were adventurous men with great flying skills. The Winnipeg – Berens River first air mail flight of February 1935, for example, was piloted by Herbert Hollick-Kenyon (1897-1975). Twice wounded during World War I, he was discharged as unfit for further service by the Canadian Mounted Rifles. Almost immediately he secured a commission with the Royal Flying Corps and amassed more than 1,000 hours in the air.

After the war he became a commercial pilot in western Canada, and one year established a record of 1,000 hours night flying while on prairie air mail routes.

The *Winnipeg Evening Tribune* described Hollick-Kenyon as one of the “finest pilots in Canada, a thoroughgoing English gentleman, equipped with cultured accent, everpresent pipe and tweed plus-fours.” The rest of the winter flying gear included moose moccasins and parka.

In November 1935, Hollick-Kenyon piloted the first flight across Antarctica. He flew the aircraft *Polar Star*, a Northrop Gamma single-engine low-winged airplane, for the American Lincoln Ellsworth expedition. Starting at Dundee Island Hollick-Kenyon and Ellsworth flew to the Bay of Whales

in the Ross Sea, landing short of fuel a mere 20 miles from their destination. During the expedition, they covered a distance of 2,250 miles in six stages over 13 days (20 hours of actual flying time). The conditions were adverse, on one stop a blizzard buried the aircraft in snow which took substantial effort and time to clear.

According to the 1936-37 *Who's Who in Canada*, Hollick-Kenyon's “main claims to fame are his steadiness and resourcefulness in keeping his machine going under extremely adverse circumstances. He is a skillful navigator over mapped and unmapped country...” The honorary Air Commodore of the Royal Canadian Air Force, Hollick-Kenyon was inducted into the Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame in 1973.

It could not be determined what prompted H.H. Schwartz to design first flight cachets featuring sporting themes in early 1935. And while the cachets did not celebrate any particular sporting event, their appearance not only made them popular among first flight collectors but also with sports philatelists.

REFERENCES:

- “Canada's Most Distinguished Stamp Designer,” J.E. Kraemer, *Canadian Philatelist*, July-August 1987.
“The Why for New Canadian Flights,” W.R. Patton, *Airpost Journal*, February 1935.
The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland: A volume in the Sixth Edition of the American Air Mail Catalogue, 1997.
The Canadian Who's Who - 1936-37, 1936.
The Winnipeg Evening Tribune, Jan. - Feb., 1935
The Canadian Encyclopedia.
www.aerophilately.ca/first.html



Figure 11. Air Mail First Flight from Pickle Crow to Collins on Feb. 22, 1935 featuring a skier.

The Helsinki Olympic Stadium: A 2007 Update

by Andrew Urushima

Unexpectedly, my business travels recently took me to the Olympic city of Helsinki, allowing me to file this first-hand update to my article on Helsinki's Olympic Stadium ("The Helsinki Olympic Stadium," Winter 2006 issue of *JSP*).

Upon my arrival in Helsinki, the Olympic Stadium was the first landmark that I recognized during my cab ride in from the airport. After writing my earlier article on the stadium, the feeling for me was like



Figure 2. The author with the statue of famed Finnish distance runner, Paavo Nurmi.

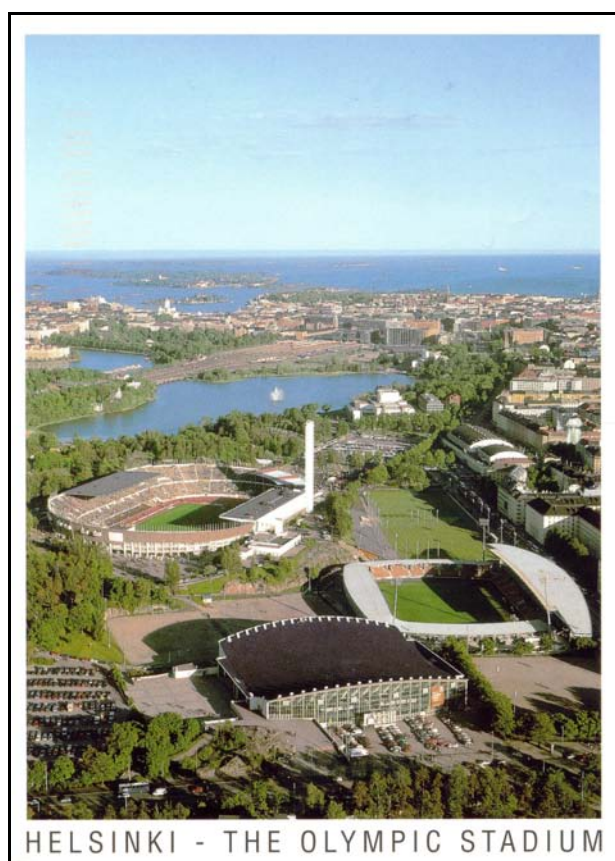


Figure 1. Postcard showing the Olympic stadium complex.

seeing an old friend.

With a few hours to spare during my trip I was able to journey the few blocks from my hotel to the stadium. Gracing the parkway a few hundred yards from the stadium is the famous bronze statue of Paavo Nurmi (Figure 2), his right foot worn and shiny from well-wishers rubbing it. A few yards away from the Nurmi statue is a bronze of the famed Finnish distance runner, Lasse Viren.

Like the rest of Helsinki, the stadium grounds, which include a practice field and small soccer stadium, are neatly maintained with visitors enjoying a stroll in the spring weather (Figure 1).

Past the Nurmi statue is the famed tower that distinguishes the stadium. Emblazoned on the side of the tower are the Olympic Rings with "1952" immediately below (Figure 3). For €2, one may ride the elevator up the 72-meter high tower for a 360 degree view of the city of Helsinki and interior of the stadium. The elevator can only hold a few people and has seen better days but the view is worth the price of admission.



Figure 3. The 72-meter high tower at the Olympic Stadium is one of Helsinki's most recognized landmarks.

More information on the opening times of the stadium tower, as well as historical information, can be found at www.stadion.fi.

Attached to the stadium is the Finnish Sports Museum. This well-maintained, two-story museum celebrates Finland's champions and sports history. Though this is a relatively small museum, there is a lot for an Olympic and sports fan to appreciate.

The main ground floor gallery contains exhibits on Finland's most notable Olympic champions including Paavo Nurmi and ski jumper, Matti Nykänen. Nykänen, a Finnish national hero, won four Olympic gold medals which are prominently displayed along with many other pieces of his memorabilia.

The second floor gallery (Figure 4) contains an exhibit case that is dedicated to the 1952 Games. Displayed are photos, pins, badges, medals, tickets and other ephemera from those Olympics. Included in the exhibit were a set of covers with the Finnish Olympic stamps and circular Olympic cancel.

On the facing wall, the museum honors Finnish Olympic Champions from every Olympiad. Presented are original medals, photos, diplomas and descriptive text from all of the Games through Athens 2006.

Also on the second floor is the "virtual" Lasse Viren exhibit. This exhibit allows you to "run" with Viren in one of his gold medal races. The treadmill and video screen seem a bit kitschy but you get a sense of Finnish pride as the announcer calls the final lap of his gold medal race.

Figure 4. The Finnish Sports Museum's display relating to the 1952 Olympics includes many rare pieces of memorabilia. At right can be seen some of the publicity posters, each in a different language.





Figure 5. Helsinki was a candidate to host the 2006 Olympic Winter Games. At the 109th IOC Session in Seoul, the Games were instead offered to Torino, Italy. The cover shown here is franked with the IOC Session meter on June 17, 1999. A rubber handstamped cachet for Helsinki's candidacy is at center.

The small gift shop had the usual books, t-shirts and postcards.

There was also a small philatelic section. Surprisingly, I was able to obtain a set of covers from the 109th IOC Session at Seoul at which Torino, Italy was selected over Helsinki and other candidates as the host city of the 2006 Olympic Winter Games (Figure 5).

Along with various other prepackaged Finnish sports stamps, I was able to find a first day cancel of the 1997 Paavo Nurmi commemorative on a postcard.

The final philatelic find at the museum was a nondescript yellow post box at the front of the museum with the marking: "all mail deposited in this box will receive the special postmark." The hand cancel includes an outline of the Olympic stadium (Figure 6).

For more information on the Finnish Sports Museum go to their website – www.urheilumuseo.fi which is in both Finnish and English. 🇫🇮



Figure 6. Special stadium post office cancel used on outgoing mail from the sports museum.

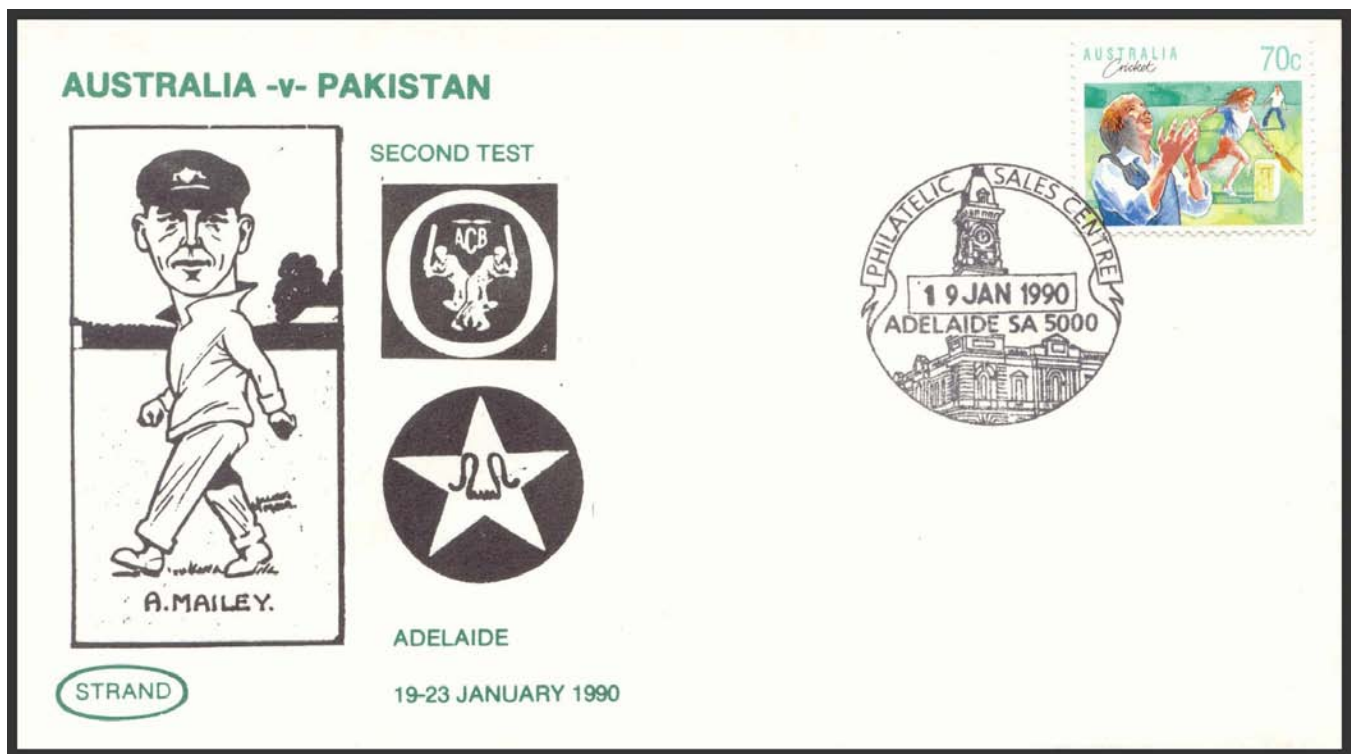


Figure 22. Australian spin bowler, Arthur Mailey (cachet).

Cricket and Philately: The Ashes – An Australian Perspective, 1877 – 1938 (Part 3)

by Peter N. Street

BETWEEN THE WARS: 1920-1938

The Ashes competition resumed when England toured Australia in the 1920-21 season. Exactly half of the English team were making their Test debuts.

In the first Test at Sydney, the Australia side batted first and was dismissed for 267 runs. England faltered and was all out for 190. Australia put on the enormous score of 581 runs in its second innings (Captain Warwick Armstrong 158 and Charles Macartney 69). England, faced with the daunting task of making over 600 runs to win, was all out for 281 (Hobbs 59 and Patsy Hendren, on his debut, 56) giving Australia a resounding win by 377 runs., Hendren is part of Tuvalu's Leaders of the World (LOW) series (Figure 21).

In the second Test at Melbourne, Australia again put on a very large score (499) and dismissed England twice for 251 runs (Hobbs 122, Hendren 67) and 157 giving Australia a win by an innings and 91 runs.

The third Test at Adelaide produced 1753 total runs, a Test match record at that time. Australia again scored heavily in both innings (453 and 582). And despite England scoring 447 and 370 (Hobbs 123, Hendren 51), they were beaten by 119 runs. One feature of the match was that Australia spin bowler Arthur Mailey took 5 wickets in each innings but at a cost of 302 runs total. Mailey's caricature appears on a cachet (Figure 22).



Figure 21. England batsman, Patsy Hendren.



Figure 23. England batsman, Phil Mead.

In the fourth Test at Melbourne, England fared no better and after Australia took a first innings lead of 105, they dismissed England for 315 runs. Australia made the winning run with the loss of only two wickets. Mailey took 9 wickets (for 121 runs) in England's second innings, an Australian record at the time.

Australia had won the first four Test matches handily. Could they make it a 5-0 whitewash? This was the question when England batted first in the fifth Test at Sydney. They were all out for 204 runs. Australia replied with 392 (Macartney 170). They then dismissed England for 280 meaning Australia only needed 92 runs for a victory which they did with the loss of only one wicket.

Australia's complete domination of the series was shown by them having the top five positions in the batting averages and the top three bowling ones. Australia thus regained the Ashes in decisive fashion.

Warwick Armstrong was Australia's captain for its tour of England in 1921. England, still suffering from the post-war blues, were trying to field a consistent side. In addition, their top batsman, Jack Hobbs, was unable to play due to illness and injury.

In the first Test at Trent Bridge, England was dismissed for low scores in both innings (112 and 147). This was mainly due to the efforts of Australia's fast bowling duo of Jack Gregory and Ted McDonald. Australia only needed 30 runs in its second innings for a comprehensive 10-wicket win.

Gregory and McDonald continued their winning ways at the second Test at Lord's with a 13-wicket haul between them ably backed up by Arthur Mailey (4-55). A first innings lead for Australia of 155 runs enabled it to win the match by 8 wickets (Bardsley 88, Gregory 52).

Australia batted first in the third Test at Headingley and Macartney (115) made the first century of the

series. Taking a lead of 148 runs into their second innings, Australia declared at 273 runs for 7 wickets down and then dismissed England for 202 giving Australia a comfortable 219-run win.

Rain washed out the first day's play at Old Trafford for the fourth Test leading to the inevitable draw but with England well on top.

With the Ashes retained by Australia, the fifth Test at the Oval enabled England to debut its thirtieth player of the series, Andy Sandham. However the star of England's first innings was Hampshire's Phil Mead. He scored 182 runs on the second day which included 109 before the lunch break. Phil Mead, who when playing for his English county team, Hampshire, scored almost 49,000 runs – a record for any County. He was on a £1 talent money for every score over 50. As he reached his inevitable half century, he would murmur "Well that's another ton of coal for the winter." Mead is featured on Nevis' LOW series of 1984 (Figure 23).

Australia managed 389 runs in its first innings (Macartney 61) and England has a slim 14-run lead. However, the high scoring on both sides meant the inevitable draw as time ran out.

Centuries by Captain Herbie Collins (114) and Bill Ponsford (110), on his debut, enabled Australia to score 450 runs in its first innings of the first Test, at Sydney on England's 1924-25 tour. Jack Hobbs at last found a reliable opening partner in Yorkshire's Herbert Sutcliffe. In England's first innings their opening partnership yielded 157 runs. However, except for Patsy Hendren (74) the rest of the side batted poorly and England was all out for 298. Sutcliffe's caricature is shown on a special cover cachet (Figure 24).

Australia scored 452 runs in its second innings and England had an almost insurmountable score of 604 runs to overcome. Although Hobbs and Sutcliffe opened the second innings with another century stand, England was all out for 411 runs and was soundly beaten by 195 runs. Australia was one up in the series.

In the second Test at Melbourne, Australia again put up a tremendous score (600 runs, Ponsford 128). Ponsford became the first player to score a century in each of his first two Test matches. He also appears in caricature, as the cachet on a special cover (Figure 25). England's opening pair, Hobbs (154) and Sutcliffe (176) batted well all the third day and England eventually reached 479 – a 121-run deficit. Australia won by 81 runs after England was all out for 290 runs in its second innings (Sutcliffe 127, Mailey 5-92).



Figure 27. England captain and all-rounder, Wally Hammond.

Injuries to several key England players probably cost them the third Test at Adelaide. Australia scored 489 runs in its first innings and England replied with 365 (Hobbs 119, Hendren 92). Rain affected the second innings and Australia was dismissed for 250 runs. England needed 375 runs for a win and made a great effort scoring 363 (Sutcliffe 59) but was 12 runs short at the close of play.

England batted first in the fourth Test at Melbourne. An opening stand of 126 runs enabled England to eventually score 548 runs (Sutcliffe 143, Hobbs 66 and Hendren 65). Sutcliffe became the first batsman to score four centuries in a series. Australia was beaten by an innings and 29 runs – its first loss in 17 Tests.

Spin bowler Charrie Grimmett made his debut for Australia in the fifth Test at Sydney. His capture of eleven wickets enabled Australia to win by 307 runs. Once again Australia had retained the Ashes and maintained its dominance over England.

Australia had a new captain in Herbie Collins when they visited England in the summer of 1926. The weather deduced play to only fifty minutes in the first Test at Trent Bridge.

At the second Test at Lord's, Australia put on 383 runs in their first innings with Bardsley carrying his bat for 183. England declared at 475 for 3 wickets with Hobbs and Sutcliffe putting on 182 runs for the first wicket and Hendren making a century. Macartney's 133 runs in the second innings ensured a draw.

The third Test at Headingley also ended in a draw. Australia started with 494 runs (Macartney 151) and Bill Woodfull 141) to which England replied with 294 and was asked to follow-on. At the close of play England was 254 for 3 wickets. Hobbs, with 88 runs and Sutcliffe with 94 ensured the draw. Bill Woodfull's caricature also appears as the cachet on a cover (Figure 26).

The first day of the fourth Test, at Old Trafford was lost to rain. Australia batted first and made 335 runs (Woodfull 117, Macartney 109) but there was no time for England to complete its first innings and as time expired they were 305 for 5 wickets (Hobbs 74) producing the inevitable draw.

With the series standing at four draws the respective cricket authorities decided that the fifth Test at the Oval should be played to a finish. England batted first and scored 280 runs (Sutcliffe 76, Mailey 6-138). Australia at one time was 122 for 6 wickets but recovered to finish with 302. There was a storm at the end of the second day and despite the very "sticky wicket," Hobbs and Sutcliffe put on a first wicket stand of 172 and England finished with 436 runs. The wicket was less kind to Australia and they were quickly dismissed for 125 runs in its second innings. England were winners by 289 runs. They had won the series 1-0 and, at last, regained the Ashes.

There were a number of firsts when England visited Australia for their 1928-29 season. The first Test was played at Brisbane, its debut as a Test venue. The Australian Test match public was introduced to its latest cricket hero, 20-year-old Don Bradman and England's fast bowler Harold Larwood was making his first visit to Australia.

England batted first and mainly due to Hendren's 169 reached 521 runs. Australia could only make 122 in response (Larwood 6-32). England did not enforce the follow-on and declared at 342 for 8 wickets (Mead 73). Australia was asked the almost impossible task of scoring 741 runs to avoid defeat. To add to their woes it rained overnight and they were dismissed for 66 giving England a then record win by 675 runs.

Australia batted first, at Sydney in the second Test and was dismissed for 253 (Woodfull 68). When Hobbs went out to bat on the second day, he was greeted with a standing ovation by the huge crowd. (It was his last tour of Australia.) However, it was Wally Hammond (251) who made the runs for England and enabled them to make the record Test score of 636 runs.

Although Australia batted better in their second innings, they were dismissed for 397 (Woodfull 111). England only need 14 runs to win the match which they did with the loss of only two wickets.

The third Test at Melbourne was another high scoring affair. Australia batted first and scored 397 (Bradman 79). England replied with 417 (Hammond 200, Sutcliffe 58). Hammond was the first player to score double centuries in consecutive Test innings. He is featured on St. Vincent's LOW series of 1984

(Figure 27). Australia made 351 in their second innings (Bradman 112, Woodfull 107) and England were set a target of 332 runs. Overnight rain made for a difficult wicket, but Hobbs and Sutcliffe made an opening stand of 105 and England secured a victory by three wickets (Sutcliffe 135).

The fourth Test at Adelaide also produced some high scores. England batted to 334 (Hammond 119 not out, Hobbs 74, Sutcliffe 64, Grimmett 5-102) in their first innings. Australia took a lead of 35 runs in their first and when England scored 383 (Hammond 177) Australia were set a target of 349 to win the match. They came within 13 runs (Bradman 58). England had won the first four Tests in the series and convincingly retained the Ashes.

When Hobbs made a century in England's first innings of the fifth Test, at Melbourne, he became the oldest player to do so (46 years, 82 days). He was also the first player to score 5000 Test match runs. Australia eventually won the match by 8 wickets. Hammond's aggregate score of 905 runs (average 113.2) was a series record.

Australia's visit to England in 1930 turned out to be an eventful summer. In the first Test, England led by 126 runs after the first innings (Hobbs 78) and added 302 runs in their second (Hobbs 74). Australia were thus set a target of 429 runs and despite 131 runs from Bradman, they were all out for 335 giving England a 93-run win.

Bradman again dominated play in the second Test, at Lord's. He contributed 254 runs, the highest Test score at Lord's, and Australia eventually reached 729-6 declared (Woodfull 155, Ponsford 81) and ensured themselves a 7 wicket win. England's first innings of 425 included a fine 173 from K.S. Duleepsinhji, nephew of the great Ranji. Austria, not a cricket playing nation, issued a stamp in 2005 to commemorate Duleepsinhji's birth centenary (Figure 28).

Bradman beat his own record at Headingley in the third Test. His innings of 334 runs included 109 before lunch on the first day and 309 runs for the day



Figure 28. England batsman, K.S. Duleepsinhji.

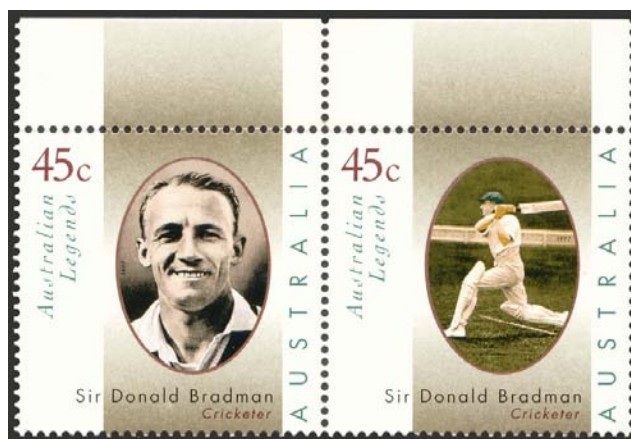


Figure 29. Australia's premier batsman, Don Bradman.

(then a record). When Australia started its Legend series of stamps in 1996, its first honoree was Don Bradman. He is shown in two se-tenant stamps, one is a portrait of him as a young man and the other an action shot of him batting during his record score of 334 at Headingley (Figure 29). Because of Australia's huge score of 729 runs for 6 wickets declared, time dictated a draw.

The fourth Test at Old Trafford was also drawn. Affected by rain, there was little play on the first two days. The highlight of the match was the eleventh Test opening century partnership by England's Hobbs and Sutcliffe.

The fifth Test at the Oval was played to a finish to determine the series. England batted first and made 405 (Sutcliffe 161). Bradman made 232 runs in Australia's first innings of 695 – they passed England's total with only three wickets down. England thus needed 291 runs to break even. They only made 251 and were thus beaten by an innings and 39 runs. Australia's win meant they regained the Ashes.

It was Jack Hobbs last Test match. In his Test career he had scored a record 5410 runs. Bradman emerged as the successor to Hobbs as the world's best batsman. In this Test series he made a record Test series aggregate of 974 runs (average 139.14).

The 1932-33 visit to Australia by England was probably the most contentious Ashes tour ever. A previous article (*JSP*, March/April 1994) dealt with this tour in detail but a brief retrospective seems appropriate. England's Captain Douglas Jardine was determined to regain the Ashes. He knew that the only way to do that was to curb the scoring of Australia's premier batsman, Don Bradman. Having observed Bradman on previous tours, Jardine sensed that the Australian batsman was susceptible to fast, short-pitched bowling on or about the leg stump. To

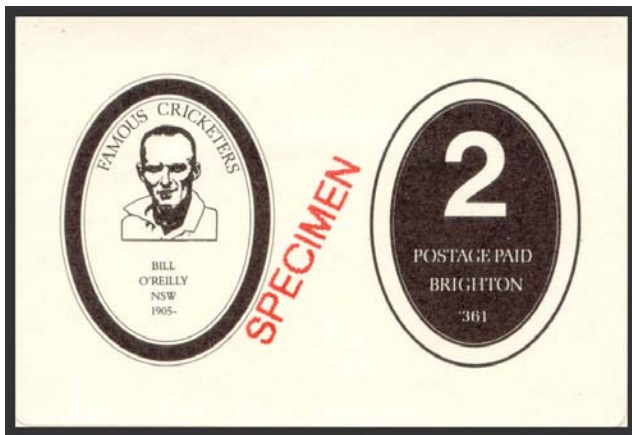


Figure 30. Australia spin-bowler, Bill O'Reilly.

do this successfully required an arc of close fielders on the leg side and a fast, very accurate bowler. Harold Harwood was that bowler ably backed up by fellow Nottinghamshire fast bowler Bill Voce.

Bradman did not play in the first Test match at Sydney, due to illness. The leg-theory bowling dubbed "body line" by the press was used sparingly. Australia made 360 runs in its first innings (Larwood 5-96) which included 187 from Stan McCabe. England responded with 524 (Sutcliffe 194, Hammond 112) and led by 164 runs. Larwood took five more wickets in Australia's second innings and England only needed one run in its second innings to secure the victory.

Although Bradman returned for the second Test, played at Melbourne, the pitch was too slow for bodyline. It was more suited to spin bowling and Bill O'Reilly, Australia's foremost leg-break bowler, took full advantage of the situation. He took five wickets in each innings. In a relatively low scoring game Bradman scored 103 not out in Australia's second innings to enable his team to win the match by 111 runs and level the series.

O'Reilly is one of the Australian and England players featured on a series of postally valid labels issued by British Stamp dealer Stamp Publicity. Named Postal Paid Impressions (PPI's), they were used for first and second class mail delivery under a contract with the British Post Office (BPO) (Figure 30).

The bodyline argument reached its climax in the third Test at Adelaide. England batted first and scored 341 runs. At the start of Australia's reply on the last ball of Larwood's second over, Jardine moved several of his offside fielders to the leg side. Larwood pitched the ball short and hit Australia's captain, Bill Woodfull, on the chest. Woodfull collapsed onto the pitch and the huge crowd, already

agitated by the tactics of the England team, roared in anger. Australia was eventually dismissed for 222 (Ponsford 85, Bradman only 8). England scored 412 (Hammond 85, Jarine 56) in their second innings setting Australia a target of 504 runs for a win. Although Bradman made 66 in Australia's second innings, they were not up to the task and with Larwood taking 4 wickets for 71 runs England achieved a 338 run victory.

Although there were angry exchanges between the English and Australian authorities, the tour continued. Jardine did not change his tactics.

England won the fourth Test, at Brisbane by 6 wickets and regained the Ashes. To cement their series win, they also beat the Australians by 8 wickets in the fifth Test at Sydney.

Jardine had achieved his objective. Bradman still headed the batting averages at 56.57 but it was a far cry from the 139 on the previous tour to England. Larwood with 33 wickets at 19.51 headed the bowling averages. An interesting side note was that neither Jarine nor Larwood ever played for England again. The bodyline controversy is depicted in the bottom left stamp of the Tonga sheetlet reproduced in Figure 3 in Part 1 of this article (*JSP*, Winter 2006). The stamp shows Larwood and Bradman (cap) superimposed on a newspaper front page discussing the series.

English captain, Douglas Jardine, is shown on the first card to the left at the bottom of Figure 19 reproduced in Part 2 of this article (*JSP*, Spring 2007). The other four cigarette cards are (left to right) Bill O'Reilly, Wally Hammond, Arthur Chipperfield and Jack Hobbs.

When Australia toured England in 1934, much of the bodyline controversy had simmered down. As noted above neither Jardine nor Larwood played for



Figure 31. England batsman/wicket keeper, Les Ames.

England. In addition, England's other bodyline bowler, Bill Voce, was not included in the team.

Australia was again captained by Bill Woodfull. Australia's first innings of 374 included 99 not out from Arthur Chipperfield on his debut (Figure 22). England replied with 268 (Hendren 79, Sutcliffe 62). Thus Australia started its second innings with a 106 run lead. They made 273 runs and declared with 8 wickets down giving England a target of 379. England were dismissed for 141 (O'Reilly 7-54). First match of the series went to Australia.

The result of the second Test, at Lord's was affected by rain. England scored 440 runs when they batted first. This total included a sparkling 120 from their wicketkeeper Les Ames.

With regard to wicketkeeping, cricket selectors are often faced with a dilemma. Should they choose the best wicketkeeper and hope he makes some runs or do they choose an inferior wicketkeeper who is a better batsman. Fortunately with Ames, there was no such dilemma. He was such a good batsman that he had been included in previous Test teams for his batting alone. Ames is featured on St. Vincent's 1984 LOW series (Figure 31).

The rain on the third day made the wicket a spin bowler's paradise. England's left arm spin bowler, Hedley Verity, took full advantage of the situation taking a total of 15 wickets in the match. Fourteen of these wickets were taken in a day – a Test match record. England eventually won by an innings and 38 runs. Verity is one of Tuvalu's 1984 LOW cricketers (Figure 32).

At one stage in the third Test at Old Trafford England was 72 for 3 wickets down with O'Reilly taking 3 wickets in 4 balls. England's middle order recovered and the innings closed at 627 for 9 declared (Hendren 132, Ames 72, Sutcliffe 63, O'Reilly 7-189). Australia replied with 491 (Woodfull 73, Verity 4-78), but the high scoring made a draw inevitable.

In the fourth Test at Headingley, England was quickly dismissed for 200 (Grimmett 4-57). Australia replied with 584, Bradman making his second triple century (304) at this ground. He and Bill Ponsford put on 338 runs for the fourth wicket – a new record for Ashes matches. Rain probably saved England from defeat and the match was drawn.

With the series tied at one the fifth Test, at the Oval was played to a finish. Australia batted first and Bradman (244) and Ponsford (266) broke all Test match records with a second wicket stand of 451 runs. Australia eventually reached 701. England responded with 321 giving Australia a first innings lead of 380 runs. Australia batted a second time for



Figure 32. England spin-bowler, Hedley Verity.

327 (Bradman 77) and England needed 708 runs to win. It proved an impossible task and Australia won by 562 runs and regained the Ashes. Grimmett and O'Reilly took 53 wickets between them and Bradman and Ponsford headed the batting averages at 93.

Gubby Allen (later Sir George) captained the England team on its 1936-37 tour to Australia. Allen had been a member of England's 1932-33 tour team but, although a fast bowler, had declined to bowl bodyline. The English party also included Bill Voce who had been Harwood's bowling partner that tour.

Don Bradman captained Australia for the first time. England, who at one time was 20-3, recovered and eventually reach 358 runs. Australia responded with 234 runs (Voce 6-41). England's second innings of 256 (Allen 68) meant Australia needed 381 runs to win. They were forced to bat on a rain affected pitch and were all out for 58 (Allen 5-36, Voce 4-16) giving England a comfortable 322 run victory.

Rain was also a factor in the second Test, at Sydney which resulted in another win for England. England batted first and made 426-6 declared (Hammond 231 not out). As a result of rain on the third day Australia was quickly dismissed for 80 runs. Made to follow-on, they improved significantly the second time around and made 324 (Bradman 82). It was to no avail and England gained its second win of the series by an innings and 22 runs.

Rain came during Australia's first innings in that third Test at Brisbane and Bradman declared at 200-9. England was reduced to 76-9 and they also declared. Australia, hoping that the wicket would improve, reversed its batting order. Bradman's astute move meant that Australia's top order batsman was able to bat on a much better pitch and they eventually reached 564 runs. Although England made 323 runs in its second innings, it was not enough and Australia won by 365 runs.



Figure 33. England opening batsman, Len Hutton.

For the first time in the series, the fourth Test was played on a good wicket throughout. Australia batted first and scored 288 (Chipperfield 57). England responded with 330 (Ames 52, O'Reilly 4-51) – a lead of only 42 runs. Australia did much better in their second innings mainly due to Bradman's 212 runs and England needed 391 runs to win. They could only muster 243 runs. Australia won by 143 runs and the series was tied at two.

Bradman won the toss for the deciding Test at Melbourne and elected to bat. His team put on 604 runs (Bradman 169) and then bowled England out twice for an innings and 200-run victory. Australia thus kept the Ashes. It was the first time an Ashes series was won after the winning side was down 2-0. Bradman headed the batting averages at 90 with Hammond second at 58.

Two very strong batting sides faced off in the first Test at Trent Bridge when the Australians toured England in 1938 again under the leadership of Don Bradman. Wally Hammond captained England.

England batted first and scored 658-8 declared. Len Hutton (100) and Charlie Barnett (126) put on 219 runs for the first wicket. It was Hutton's first Test against Australia. He is featured on Nevis' 1984 LOW series (Figure 33). Denis Compton, another debutante, scored 102 and became England's youngest Test centurion at 20 years and 19 days.

Australia scored 411 in reply (Bradman 51) and was asked to follow on. Their second innings yielded 427-6 (Bradman 144) but the high scoring led to the inevitable draw.

The second Test at Lord's also ended in a draw. England batted first and were dismissed for 494 runs (Hammond 240, Ames 83, O'Reilly 4-93). Australia replied with 422. Lindsay Hassett, another cricketer, is featured in the P. P. I. series (Figure 34). Verity took

4-103 and England led by 72 runs. England, in their second innings in an effort to secure a result, declared at 242-8 (Compton 78) giving Australia a target of 314 runs. Bradman's century (102) ensured the draw.

The third Test at Old Trafford was abandoned without a ball being bowled.

The next Test at Headingley was a five-wicket win for Australia. One of the highlights of the match was O'Reilly taking five wickets in each innings. Another was Bradman (103) scoring his sixth consecutive Test century – another Test record for him.

The last Test at the Oval to be played to a finish, would determine the series winner. England batted first and made the huge score of 903-7 declared. Hutton, still only just 22 years old, scored 364 runs, a Test match record. He batted for 13 hours and 17 minutes and was at the wicket while 770 runs were added.

Australia, without the services of Bradman, who was injured, could only make 201 and 103. England thus won by an innings and 579 runs – another Test match record. The series was tied at one and Australia retained the Ashes.

War clouds again loomed; the next series was not to be played until 1946-47. The post WWII era will be the subject of a future article. 🏏

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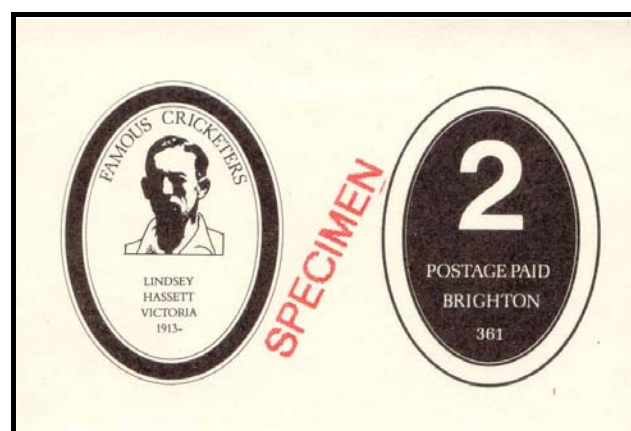
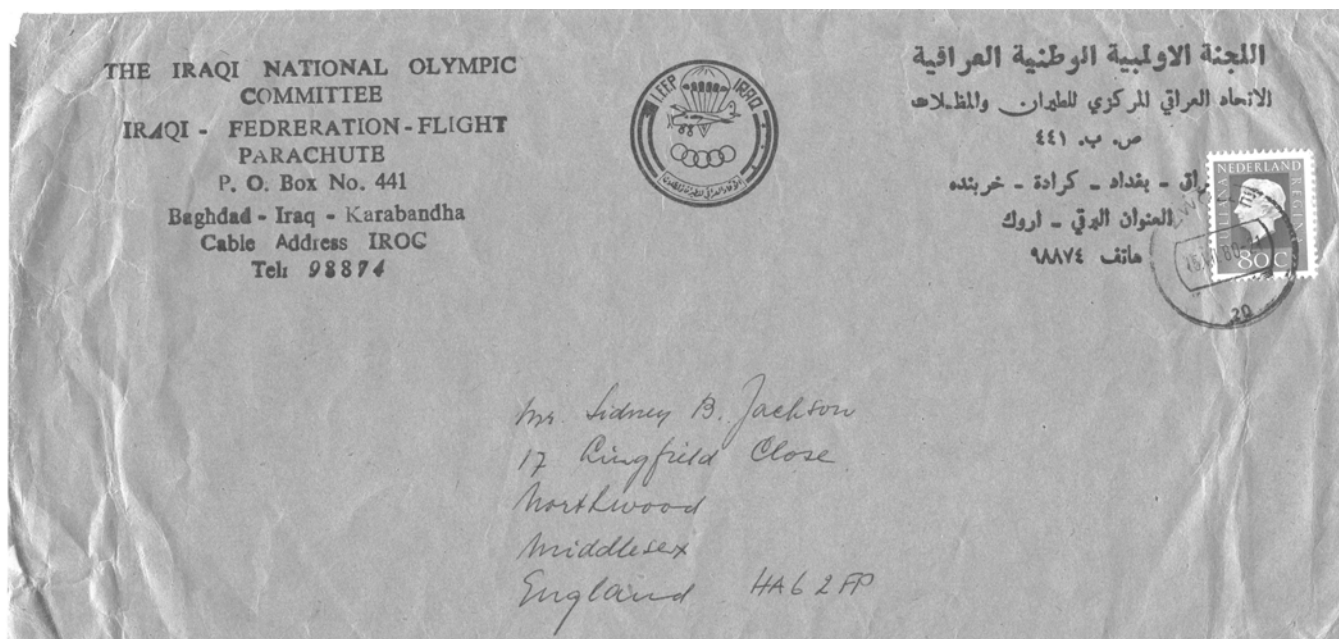


Figure 34. Australia batsman, Lindsey Hassett.



Iraq's Olympic Fall

by Dale Lilljedahl

While looking through a pile of my Olympic covers, I came across a large, rather beat up envelope that was given to me by a friend in my local stamp club. I found it soon after the demise of Uday Hussein, and it brought to mind the article by Don Yaeger in the March 24, 2003 issue of *Sports Illustrated* about Uday's tenure as the top Iraqi Olympic/Sport official. The article is well worth reading as it describes the demise of the program during his watch.

In 1980 Iraq qualified 46 athletes for the Olympic Games in Moscow. Then in 1984, Saddam decided to appoint his eldest son, Uday, to the office of President of the Iraq National Olympic Committee with dictatorial powers. He wanted to rebuild the nation's patriotic spirit after the long war with Iran, and thought that the stern methods (putting it mildly) his family used to control the country could be used to systemize and improve the performance of Iraq's athletes.

Uday, nicknamed "The Butcher Boy," was considered the most brutal member of Iraq's notorious ruling family, and he brought all that violence to his control of Iraqi sports. There are

numerous reports of athletes being tortured after poor performance at international competitions, and even rumor of executions. One refugee, who now lives in the United States, has a list of 52 athletes he claims have been murdered by the Hussein family. Needless to say these techniques do not inspire people to participate, and by the 2000 Games in Sydney the total number of qualifying Iraqi athletes fell to four. Iraq's soccer team experienced a similar decline on the international stage during this period.

The cover itself is a bit of a mystery. It is a large (5" x 10½") brown paper envelope opened on the left side with an Iraq Olympic Committee return address. The return address includes reference to the "Iraq - Federation - Flight / Parachute," but parachute is not an Olympic sport. It also has a circular handstamped cachet that appears to be the logo of the parachute group. Strangely, it is posted to England from Zwolle, Netherlands on July 15, 1980 using an 80c Netherlands stamp. Why did an Iraqi Olympic cover use a foreign stamp?

This piece does not particularly fit into my collecting interest, but I find it a mildly intriguing piece of Olympic postal history. If anyone has any information or ideas as to the history of this cover, I would love to hear from you.

Weymouth Bay & Portland Harbour, Host of the 2012 Olympic Sailing Regatta

by Mark Maestroni

S ometime in 2006, J. Salmon Ltd. of Sevenoaks, Kent in the U.K. published a series of ten postcards publicizing Weymouth Bay as the venue for the 2012 Olympic sailing regatta. The site is located about 125 miles south-west of London the coast of Dorset.

Four of the postcards are multi-image reproductions of land and/or sailing scenes. The remaining six cards show action shots of sailing races. All cards measure 4½ x 6½ inches.

The Society of Olympic Collectors (SOC), our sister society in the U.K., first reported on this set of cards in the September 2006 issue of *Torch Bearer*, however they only pictured two cards. On the following few pages we show all ten cards along with each card's identification number and unique text, both of which appear on the reverse.

All ten cards are available for \$10 postpaid from



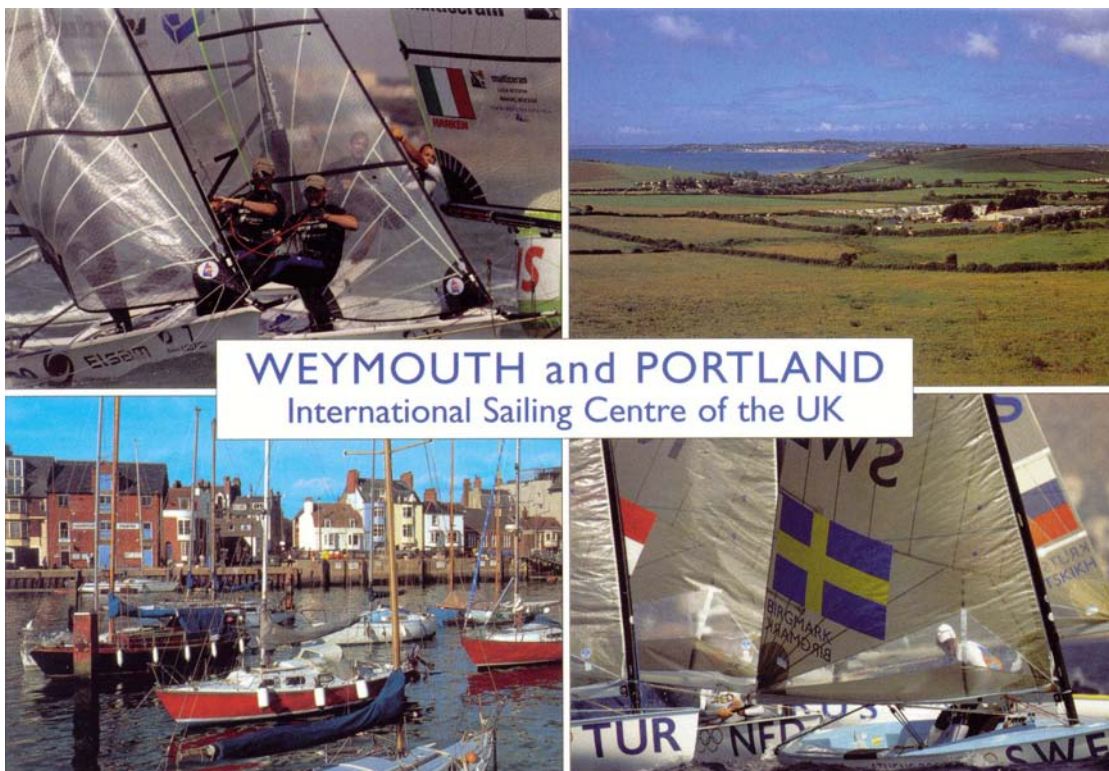
the SOC. Please send your order and remittance to R.K. Farley, 3 Wain Green, Long Meadow, Worcester WR4 0HP, U.K. If using PayPal, please pay in & sterling to: pay@societyofolympiccollectors.org



WEYMOUTH BAY and PORTLAND HARBOUR Host of the Olympic Sailing Regatta



#10/54/08/66. Situated at the heart of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site, Weymouth Bay and Portland Harbour have been chosen as the venue for the sailing events in the 2012 Olympic Games. This exposed site provides excellent sailing in all conditions and both the British Olympic and Paralympic Sailing Teams regularly train here.



WEYMOUTH and PORTLAND

International Sailing Centre of the UK

#10/54/08/67. Many national and international sailing events are held at the Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy which is recognised as having the finest small boat sailing waters in the country. Weymouth Bay and Portland Harbour have been selected to host the sailing events at the London 2012 Olympics.



Weymouth and Portland

OLYMPIC SAILING VENUE

#10/54/08/68. Officially opened in June 2005, the Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy has been selected as the venue for the London 2012 Olympic sailing events. Weymouth Bay and Portland Harbour are recognised as among the finest small boat sailing waters in northern Europe, and many international championships are held here.



#10/54/08/69. Weymouth and Portland are situated at the western end of the English Channel which offers excellent facilities for sailing in all conditions. The National Sailing Academy provides a permanent training base for both the British Olympic and Paralympic Sailing Teams, and has been chosen to host the sailing events at the 2012 Olympics.



#10/54/08/70. The 49er class of dinghy, with its large sail area, requires great sailing skills especially in a strong breeze. Essentially a high performance skiff, it is flat, 16 foot long, with a crew of two, and capable of achieving speeds in excess of fifteen miles an hour.



#10/54/08/71. The most widely-owned small dinghy in the world, the Laser is a single handed sailing craft known for its responsive handling. It became an Olympic class boat in 1996 and is one of the most popular racing classes.



#10/54/08/72. The first dinghy of the modern Olympic era, the 470 has competed at this level for the last thirty years. Able to accommodate light and medium weight crews, this two-person technical and tactical boat can be sailed effectively by both men and women.



#10/54/08/73. *The oldest and one of the most successful of the Olympic classes, the Star has been used in competitions since 1932. Suitable for everyone from beginners to experienced sailors, the Star has a sail area of 26.5 square metres and a crew of two.*



#10/54/08/74. *Designed in 1949, the Finn class of heavyweight dinghy has competed in every Olympics since 1952. A fast single-hander, it is skillfully [sic] designed so that competitors can adjust the rig to suit their individual size and weight.*



#10/54/08/75. *The fastest boat that competes in the Olympics, the Tornado reaches exhilarating speeds of up to 35 knots. Manned by a crew of two, this catamaran is challenging to sail because of the need to maintain stability at speed.*

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Figure 1. Freestyle skiing made its Olympic debut as a demonstration sport at the 1988 Calgary Olympics. The moguls event was held at Nakiska, while the ballet and aerial competitions were conducted in Calgary. The mogul postmark (shown above) applied at the Kananaskis Village post office is the rarest of all Calgary Olympic venue cancels because it was used only on Feb. 22 at that post office (Canada Post's Philatelic Center in Nova Scotia supplied a relatively common version).

Freestyle Skiing

by Alvaro Trucchi

English translation by Mark Maestroni

(This article, in the original Italian, first appeared in the July-September 2006 issue of Phila-Sport and is printed in JSP with the kind permission of the author. Some illustrations that accompanied the original article are not included; others have been added.)

In January 2007, Madonna di Campiglio in Italy, hosted the World Championships of Freestyle Skiing – more commonly known as acrobatic skiing. Recently, on the occasion of the Winter Olympic Games in Turin, we were able to admire firsthand the acrobatics on snow of these athletes. Few, though, are familiar with the sport's history and rules.

The origins of freestyle are in the distant past. The first appearance dates back to 1905 when Austrian skiing enthusiast, Mathias Zdarsky, tried a

few ballet steps on skis. However the sport's more recent birth was in the 1960s when three Californians – Darryl Bowie, Michel Daigle and John Johnston – invented "hot-dogging", a combination of jumps, moguls (descents down bumpy hills), and ballet maneuvers on skis. Many skiers became ardent practitioners of this new way of skiing using jumps and acrobatics. The first freestyle competition is believed to have taken place in 1966 in Attitash, New Hampshire. The first recognized contest, however, was conducted in Aspen, Colorado in 1971.

This new style of skiing spread quickly with the first national federations appearing in 1972 in France, Switzerland, Germany and Italy. The first international contest, the "Camel Trophy," was inaugurated at Cervinia, Italy.

In 1979 the International Ski Federation (FIS) officially recognized freestyle as a sport. In 1980 it organized the first World Cup series comprising nine events. The lion's share – six – were held in the



Figure 2. The first Freestyle World Championships were held at Tignes, France in 1986. This machine cancel promoted the event which ran from February 1 to 8.

United States, while the remaining three were conducted in Europe. A World Cup series has been held each year since then. The first World Championships were competed in 1986 in Tignes, France (Figure 2). Freestyle skiing (ballet, moguls and aerials) made its Olympic debut as a demonstration event at the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary, Canada (Figure 1). Finally, on the occasion of the Games of Albertville in 1992, mogul skiing was included as a medal event (Figure 3). Two years later at Lillehammer, aerial freestyle skiing was added (Figure 4). [Editor's note: ski ballet, or acroski, is no longer a part of Olympic freestyle skiing competitions.]

Perhaps this is a good time to explain what this sport consists of and what disciplines it comprises. We begin with the reminder that freestyle skiing is distinguished by three types of events: ballet, aerials and moguls.

Ski ballet, also known as acroski, consists of executing, to music, a program of dance movements on skis. In ski ballet a routine includes flips, rolls, leg crossings, jumps, and spins. Routines are scored by a panel of judges based on technique and artistic expression.



Figure 3. At the 1992 Albertville Olympics, moguls became a medal event.

Figure 4. The aerial component of freestyle skiing was added as a medal event at the 1994 Lillehammer Olympic Winter Games.



In aerials, skiers take off from jumps and while airborne execute a series of flips and twists before landing on a steep, but smooth slope. This event demands bravery, risk and good technique. In order to develop their skills, many athletes practice on trampoline-like surfaces to improve balance in flight and correct the position of their body and arms. Performances are evaluated based on jump take-off, jump form and landing.



Figure 5. Various freestyle aerials tricks.



Figure 6. Belarus souvenir sheet reproducing an inverted aerials jump combining twists and somersaults as a sequence of stop-action images.

Tricks aerialists use include the backscratcher, spread eagle, Cossack, twister, helicopter, Daffy, and several inverted jumps (Figures 5 & 6).

Moguls, originally called “hot-dogging,” is executed on a steep slope (22-32 degrees) between 660 to 890 feet in length studded with large bumps (moguls) and including two jumps. The skier must zigzag around the bumps as quickly as possible. Points are given based on technique (overall form and turns), jumps, and speed over the course (Figure 7).



Figure 7.
Moguls

As mentioned earlier, the birth of freestyle skiing in North America has resulted in a number of excellent centers throughout the United States and Canada: Lake Placid, New York and Calgary, Alberta, Canada lead the list, while Deer Valley, Utah hosted the 2003 World Championships. Important sites in Europe are Tignes and La Clusaz in France, Zermatt in Switzerland, Oberstdorf and Garmisch in Germany, and Lillehammer, Norway. In Italy, training centers for freestyle skiing are found in Livigno and Courmayeur. Notwithstanding its North American roots, the majority of current champions are European.

In the history of the World Cup and World Championships we find champions, for the most part European, who have won multiple titles: Hermann Reitberger of Germany won four consecutive World Championships in ski ballet (1985-89) while Rune Kristiansen of Norway took four World Cups, also in ballet. The Frenchman, Edgar Gros-piron (Figure 8), garnered four World Cups (between 1990 and 1994) in moguls, along with three World Championship titles, a gold medal at the 1992 Albertville Olympics and a bronze medal in 1994 at Lillehammer.

Figure 8. Edgar Gros-piron of France, winner of numerous moguls titles.





Figure 9. U.S. moguls champion, Donna Weinbrecht.

For the women, Donna Weinbrecht (Figure 9) of the U.S. won five World Cups in moguls between 1990 and 1996, a World Championship in 1991, and an Olympic gold in 1992.

The athletes of the United States and Canada have dominated the aerials. We remember the Canadians, Philippe LaRoche and Nicolas Fontaine who each won four World Cups as well as two World Championship titles. In the women's competition, Kirstie Marshall became the first Australian winter athlete to win a World Championship (1997), which started a trend for Australian skiers. She was followed by Jacqui Cooper, winner of four World Cups, and Alisa Camplin who took a gold in aerials at the Salt Lake City Olympic Games in 2002 and a bronze in Torino in 2006.

Philatelically several freestyle stamps commemorate the Olympic Games, while others honor World Championship competition. A slogan meter imprint and a machine cancel recall the first World Championships in Tignes in 1986.

After a brief dormant period, philatelic com-

memoration of the World Championships was renewed with a cancellation on the occasion of the World Championships of 1993 at Altenmarkt-Zauchensee, Austria and 1995 contested at La Clusaz, France. In 1997 the World Championships were held in Nagano where a special cancellation was used. This would be the site of the 1998 Olympic Winter Games. For the World Championships of 1999 at Meiringen, Switzerland, a slogan meter was used by the post office.

The World Cup has been philatelically noted on a smaller scale starting with the 1987 competition at Voss followed by those in Tignes in 1999. For the latter, France issued a postal stationery envelope with a cachet depicting Yohann Gregoire of France, winner of the parallel moguls competition (Figure 10). A special Italian pictorial cancellation was used in 2000 for the World Cup events in Livigno.

Since their inception at the Calgary Games of 1988, the freestyle events at the Olympic Winter Games (Figure 11) have been commemorated with special postmarks.



Figure 11. Olympic freestyle skiing postmarks from Nagano 1988 and Salt Lake City 2002.

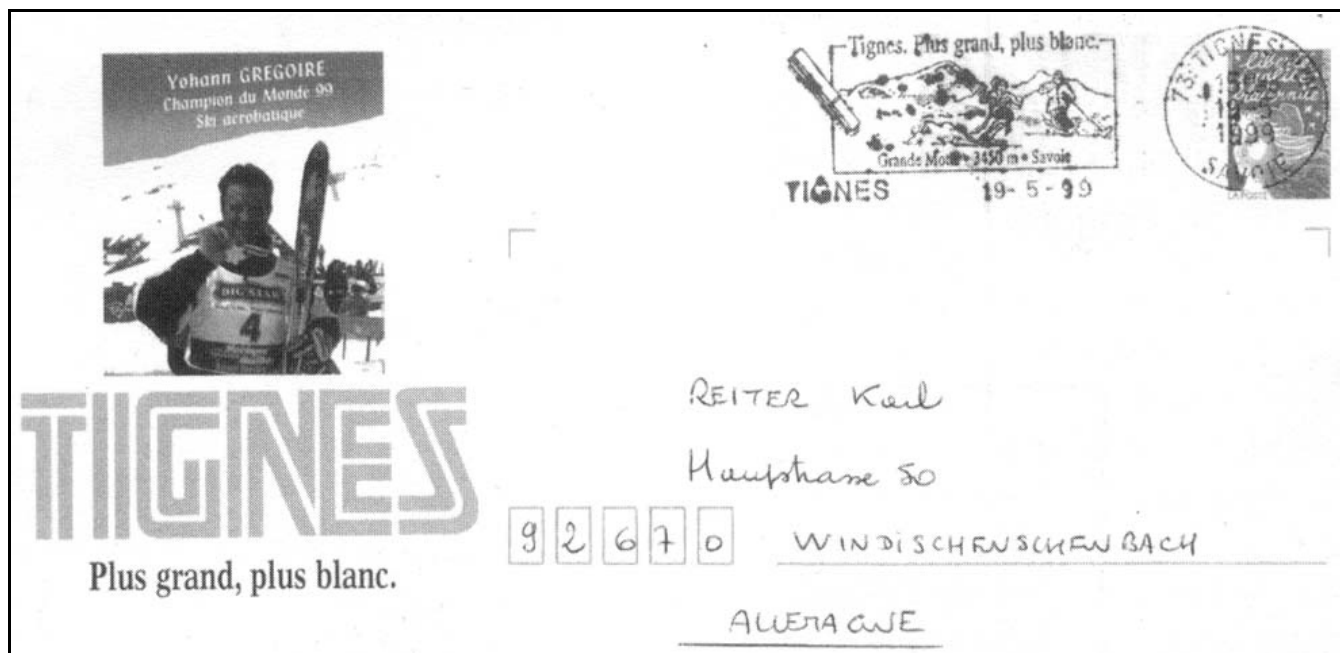


Figure 10. Yohann Gregoire, winner of the parallel moguls competition at the 1999 World Cup meet at Tignes, France. This is a so-called "pret-a-porter" postal stationery envelope.

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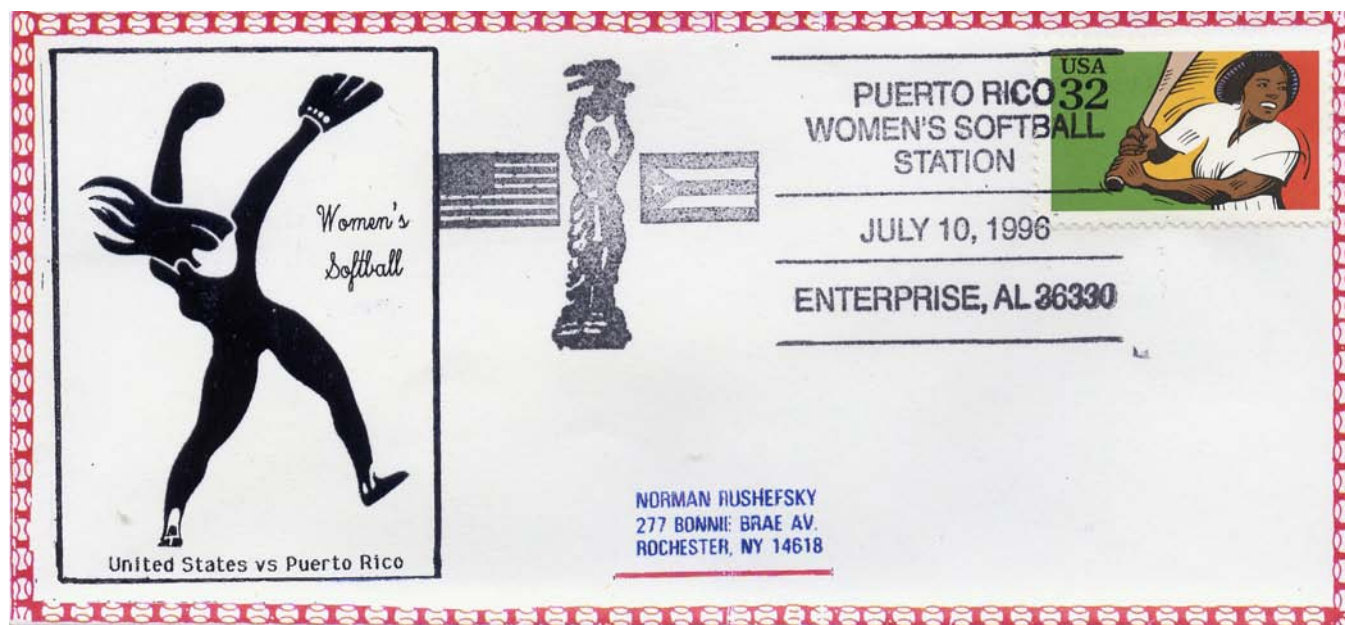
THE SPORTS ARENA

by Mark Maestrone



This installment of “The Sports Arena” is devoted to three softball and baseball items contributed by Norman Rushefsky. They all relate in some fashion to the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games that were celebrated in and around Atlanta, Georgia. Norman was prompted to write in after reading Thomas Lippert’s article in the Spring 2007 issue of *JSP* (“Atlanta 1996 – Ten Years After”) which reviewed some unreported items that have surfaced over the past decade.

Shown above is a special postmark from Columbus, Georgia honoring the “Centennial 1996” (Olympics) and “Women’s Fast-Pitch Softball.” Although the word “Olympics” is not mentioned, the postmark is clearly Olympic-related. Not only was this the debut of women’s softball as an Olympic medal sport, but Columbus’ Golden Park Stadium was the venue for the Olympic softball competition which was held over a nine-day period between July 21 and 30, 1996.





Eleven days prior to the start of Olympic softball competition, Puerto Rico and Team USA played what was most likely an Olympic tune-up game at Enterprise, Alabama. This event was commemorated by a pictorial postmark on July 10 (shown at bottom of the previous page).

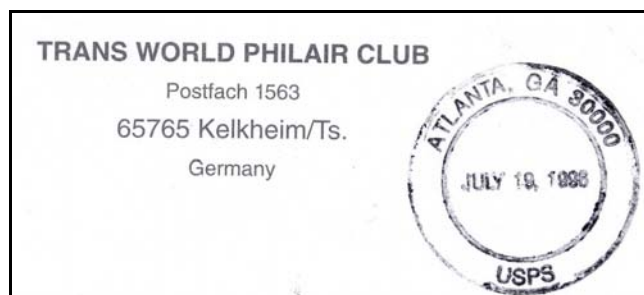
Although the text of the postmark does not mention the game or final score, both the U.S. and Puerto Rican flags are shown flanking Enterprise's famous Boll Weevil Monument – probably the world's only monument paying tribute to a pest!

Ironically, Team USA's first game in the 1996 Olympic softball competition was against Puerto Rico on July 21 (the USA skunked Puerto Rico, 10-0 in 6 innings).

The final item (top) purports to be an Olympic Team Flight cover. As indicated by the round hand-stamped cachet (the ink is a shade of orange) at bottom, the Suriname Olympic team flew to Atlanta on Delta Airlines (the Official Airline of the Centennial Olympic Games) on July 15. The route was Paramaribo (Suriname's capital) to Miami and then on to Atlanta.

The cachet depicts baseball, though why that sport was chosen is odd since all three of the athletes on the Suriname team were swimmers. Günter Sauer's *Olympia-Luftpost* catalog published by the Olympic and Sports Philatelists Club of Berlin (OSPC) lists this cachet as #567 (Volume 7, page 322).

This cover has a dual nature. It is primarily a first day cover for the 1996 Olympic stamps issued by Suriname on June 27, 1996. The entire set of four



stamps is clearly cancelled by a pair of first day cancels.

Second, it serves to commemorate the departure of the Suriname Olympic Team to Atlanta on July 15 aboard a Delta flight from Paramaribo to Atlanta.

Thomas Lippert who has worked extensively with the OSPC in editing the *Olympia-Luftpost* catalog provides a likely explanation of this cover's travels.

The cancelled first day covers were probably mailed in a larger envelope from Suriname's philatelic service to a recipient in the Atlanta area (perhaps the addressee, Roy De Lafosse) who in turn took them to a local post office in Atlanta where they were backstamped with the July 19, 1996 black double-ring handcancel (above). The processed covers were then mailed – again in a larger envelope – to the Trans World Philair Club in Germany where they received the orange “Olympic flight” cachet. TWPC – essentially a one-man outfit – creates many of these cachets in-house. It is unlikely that this cover was ever carried aboard the Delta flight on which the Suriname Olympic team traveled.

REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

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

March 2007 (#43). Centennial of the 1st ski competition in France, held at Montgenèvre in February 1907; 2007 World Skiing Championships; 2007 World Nordic Skiing Championships at Sapporo; a philatelic look at tennis player, Lindsay Davenport; history of rugby; World Championships of Handball. Additional updates and news items are included.

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

April 2007 (#22). Articles include a look at famous golfer, Babe Didrikson Zaharias' basketball connections; Lithuania's famous 1939 basketball stamps, used on covers and cards legitimately mailed from that country; special Romanian basketball cancellations; "twin" items (identical cancellation designs used over time for different events); and an update on basketball items relating to the Beijing 2008 Olympics.

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

February 2007 (#133). In addition to the usual IMOS news, this issue includes the 10th IMOS mail auction catalog with a closing date of March 3. Updates to ongoing catalog listings include: meters for Olympic Games, World Championships and European Championships; new stamp issues for the Olympic Games and sports; and new sports and Olympic postmarks.

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

#1, 2007. 20th World Championships of Handball held in Germany in 2007; Turin, a year after the Games; 1932 Olympic Winter Games at Lake Placid, NY; the 75th anniversary of the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games; private mail stamps honoring the Herta Berlin football club; soccer refereeing on stamps; Magdeburg Stadium; and the 10th International Cycling Race for Peace (1957), Prague – Berlin – Warschau.

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

March 2007 (Vol. 24, #1). Articles in this issue include: more on the Beijing 2008 Olympic mascots; 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games publicity slogans from Sydney; the Mexico 1968 Olympic torch relay; the Women's Olympics; postal stationery envelopes commemorating Qingdao, the city where the Olympic sailing regatta will be held during the Beijing 2008 Games. In addition, Bob Farley discusses the subject of what constitutes abusive stamp issues as a response to the letter printed in the Winter 2006 issue of **JSP** from Manfred Bergman of the IOC/FIPO. Information is also presented about the 13th World Olympic Collectors' Fair to be held in Beijing in June 2007.

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by Margaret Jones

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38, Mongolia. **Summer Olympics.**
Email: jigjid_gantsogt@yahoo.com

RENEWALS:

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NSW 2485, Australia. **Olympics, Australian foot-
ball, soccer, rugby, cricket.**
Email: pgdavies@norex.com.au

1305 Frederick E. Whyte, 2870 N Towne Avenue
#155, Pomona, California 91767-2069 USA. **Gen-
eral sports, Olympics, baseball, basketball.**
Email: rwhyte@webb.org

NEW ADDRESSES:

Timothy Baikie, 182 Hopedale Avenue, Toronto,
Canada M4K 3N2.

Dino Tognellini, Via G. Cesaroni, 8/3 – 01036 –
NEPI(VT) – Italy.

Harold Wasserman, 105 Seminole Lane, Loudon,
Tennessee 37774-3157, USA.

Richard Woodward, 545 W. Hacienda Avenue
#110, Campbell, California 95008-6528 USA.

Jeffrey Tishman: jtishman@att.net

Total Membership, March 31, 2007 = 221

EXHIBITING NEWS:

ARIPEX 2007 (Tucson, Arizona). Conrad Klinkner
received first award for “Games of the Xth Olym-
piad, Los Angeles 1932”.

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Angola: August 20, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Two 45kz stamps.

Austria: February 23, 2007. Hunting and the Environment. 0.75e Family of roe deer.

Australia: January 16, 2007. Australian Cricket Team's Ashes Victory. 50¢ players celebrating in third match; \$1.85 players with Ashes urn trophy. Souvenir sheet contains the two stamps.

January 24, 2007. Australian Legends Award/Horse Racing. 12 - 50¢ stamps, jockey Arthur "Scobie" Breasley; Breasley on horse; trainer Bart Cummings; Cummings with trophy; jockey Roy Higgins; Higgins on horse; thoroughbred breeder Bob Ingham; Ingham waling horse; jockey George Moore; Moore on horse; two stamps show race caller John Tapp. Three booklets of 10 - 50¢ stamps each and three booklets of 20 - 50¢ each. Booklets 1, Breasley and Cummings; booklets 2, Higgins and Ingham; booklets 3, Moore and Tapp. Prestige booklet honoring the 10th anniversary of Australian Legends.

February 20, 2007. 12th International Federation of Swimming. 50¢ swimmer emerging from water.

April 10, 2007. Nostalgic Tourism. A four stamp set. The \$2.45 value depicts a poster "Winter Sport" by Northfield. A prestige booklet was also issued with this set.

Bangladesh: 2006. International Cricket Council Under 19 World Cup in Cricket. (This event was held in 2004). 10t silhouette of cricket player.

Belgium: January 6, 2007. Sports. 0.46e bicycling; 0.60e bowling; 0.65e golf; three booklets, each contains 10 nondenominated self-adhesive stamps inscribed "Prior" same designs as other stamps.

Brazil: January 19, 2007. 15th Pan American Games. Five nondenominated self-adhesive stamps, mascot of the games participating in various sports, soccer, synchronized swimming; swimming; water polo; diving.

Canada: June 26, 2007. FIFA U-20 World Cup Canada 2007. 52¢ stamp commemorates the world soccer championship for players under age 20. The image depicts soccer players.

China: January 28, 2007. Sixth Asian Winter Games. 1.20 yuan emblem.

Finland: March 7, 2007. 100th Anniversary Soccer Association of Finland. 0.70e self-adhesive, soccer ball, boy and girl playing soccer.

French Polynesia: January 24, 2007. Tahiti Tourism. Set of two, 90fr colorful surfboards with "Tahiti".

Gambia: December 20, 2006. World Soccer Cup. Pane of four se-tenant 20d stamp, soccer balls in different national colors, trophy.

Germany: January 2, 2007. World Handball Championship. 0.55e + 25e handball.

Ghana: January 22, 2007. World Soccer Cup. Overprint in border of two panes of eight se-tenant 4,000c stamps, each showing players and coach of Ghana's national team.

February 8, 2007. Sports. 0.45e + 20e canoeing, Wedau Regatta; 0.55e + 25e gymnast on pommel horse, world championships; 1.45e + 0.55e swimming, world championship.

Great Britain: May 17, 2007. Wembley Stadium. Souvenir sheet with five stamps, nondenominated first-class stamp, crowned lion; two nondenominated second-class English regional stamps showing lions; two 78p English regional stamps showing Tudor rose.

July 3, 2007. Grand Prix Motor Racing. Two nondenominated first-class stamps, Graham Hill in 1962 BRM P57; Stirling Moss in 1957 Tyrrell 006/2; Jim Clark in 1963 Lotus 25 Climax; two 78p stamps, Nigel Mansell in 1986 Williams FW11; James Hunt in 1976 McLaren M23.

Greece: October 16, 2006. Greek Team Finishes Second at World Basketball Championships. Souvenir sheet with three se-tenant stamps, 0.50e medal; 2e & 3e different photographs of the team.

India: January 26, 2007. Tamil Nadu Cricket Association. 5re two cricket players.

Isle of Man: January 1, 2007. 100th Anniversary TT Racing. Five se-tenant nondenominated stamps inscribed "UK," Steve Hislop; Joey Dunlop; David Jefferies; Dave Molyneux; John McGuinness; five nondenominated stamps inscribed "E," Stanley Woods; Geoff Duke; Bob McIntyre; Giacomo Agostini; Mike Hailwood.

Israel: February 20, 2007. Physical Education and Sport in Israel. 2.90s gymnastics, rope climbing, basketball; 3s stress test on treadmill, tennis, judo medalist and medal; 7.30s bicycling, walking, running. Printed in sheets of 15 and five tabs.

Italy: March 15, 2007. 100th Anniversary Radio Announcer Nicolo Carosia. 0.55 e stamp, microphone, radio waves, soccer field.

Jordan: 2006. World Soccer Cup. 5pi, 7.50pi, 10pi, 12.50pi, 15pi, souvenir sheet with 30pi stamp. All different designs with soccer ball and emblem.

Kuwait: 2006. Asian Games. 25f tennis; 50f bowling; 150f shooting; 250f equestrian; 350f fencing.

Monaco: April 2, 2007. 100th Anniversary Monegasque Olympic Committee. 0.60e coat of arms, Albert Gautier-Vignal, castle, stadium.

April 2, 2007. 12th Games of Small European States. 0.86e coat of arms, flags.

Morocco: February 26, 2007. African Soccer Confederation. 7.80d circular stamp, soccer ball, emblem.

New Zealand: April 24, 2007. Centenaries, four 50¢ stamps one depicts Hercules Richard Wright, captain of the first New Zealand Rugby League team, the All Blacks. Two \$2 stamps, one depicts modern Kiwi rugby team.

Nevis: April 26, 2006. Winter Olympics. 25¢ stamp-on-stamp design, 15¢ US 1980 Olympic downhill skiing stamp; \$1.20 poster for 1980 Lake Placid Games.

Norway: February 6, 2007. Motor sports. Nondenominated domestic first-class stamp, Petter Solberg in Subaru; nondenominated stamp for European rate, Henning Solberg's car; non-denominated stamp for worldwide rate, Thomas Schie's car; souvenir sheet contains the three stamps.

Oman: September 26, 2006. International Day of Tourism. Four-stamp set, one depicts scuba diver.

Philippines. November 23, 2006. Conquest of Mount Everest by Filipinos. 7p, 20p, 26p different scenes from the expedition. A souvenir sheet contains the three stamps.

Poland: January 22, 2007. European Figure Skating Championships. 2.40zl skaters.

Serbia: September 13, 2006. European Water Polo Championships. 46d water polo scene, emblem, medal. Printed in sheets of eight stamps and a label.

Slovakia: March 21, 2007. Tennis, 16sk two women playing tennis.

Spain: February 8, 2007. 32nd America's Cup. 0.30e racing yacht.

Switzerland: March 6, 2007. Soccer 85c women's soccer.

Syria: June 25, 2006. World Soccer Cup. \$17, \$18 soccer scenes. Souvenir sheet with \$50 stamp.

Tanzania: June 13, 2006. World Soccer Cup Championships. 350sh view of new national stadium, Dar es Salaam; 500sh map of Africa, flags; 600sh President Kikwete unveiling the World Cup Trophy; 800sh official mascot. Se-tenant pane of four stamps contains the four designs.

Uruguay: November 30, 2006. Sports. Four 16 peso stamps, tennis; rugby; handball; soccer.

Uzbekistan: December 2006. Dokha Sports Games. 90s high jump; 250s tennis; two 350s stamps, basketball; soccer.

December 28, 2006. Optimist World's Sailing Championship. 37p scene from the race.

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.

SPORTS CROSS INDEX FEBRUARY-MAY 2007

Auto Racing: 07309-321.
Baseball: 07401-631, 07403-631,
07428-481, 07521-133.
Cycling: 07324-923.
Football: 07204-331.
Ice Hockey: 07519-146.



07204-331 Miami, FL 4



07309-321 Daytona Beach, FL 9



07324-923 Redlands, CA 24



07401-631 St. Louis, MO 1



07403-631 St. Louis, MO 3

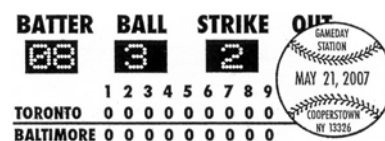


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