

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 46

SPRING 2008

NUMBER 3

On the Road to Beijing



1 Year and Counting



SPORTS
PHILATELISTS
INTERNATIONAL

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3

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CRICKET & PHILATELY

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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.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

No, fellow SPI members, your eyes are not deceiving you – the *Journal of Sports Philately* has gone full color!

How is this possible, you ask? Put simply, our printer, John La Porta, recently purchased a commercial color laser printer and is now capable of printing our journal in color at a price (to us) only slightly above black & white rates.

Some of you will be wondering if that will mean a dues increase this September. In short, yes, a small one. However, we think you will all agree that any modest increase in dues will be more than offset by the enhanced value of our publication.

SPI has always been a leader in sports and Olympic philately. We hope our new look, coupled with our longstanding commitment to quality content, will garner us some new readers both here in the U.S. and overseas.

Nominations Open for 2008 Elections

Nominations are now open for all offices (President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer) and the Board of Directors of Sports Philatelists International. Any member in good standing wishing to run for a position is invited to submit his or her name no later than May 1, 2008 to the Nominations Chairman, Dale Lilljedahl, 4044 Williamsburg, Dallas, TX 75220-6327. He may also be emailed: dalij@sbcglobal.net.

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

New Auction Manager Needed

For reasons of health, Dale Lilljedahl, is not able to continue as Auction Manager. Dale has done a

wonderful job since he took over the duties many years ago. We'll be sorry to lose his expertise and dedication performing a service upon which many of our members rely.

For the moment – we hope temporarily – the SPI Auction will be suspended until a new manager can be found.

Will one of *you* step forward and volunteer? The job requires a computer and about 20-30 hours per quarterly auction (that's spread out over 3 months). Dale has assured me that he will help do whatever it takes to get his replacement up and running as quickly and effortlessly as possible.

OLYMPEX, The Olympic Expo

SPI has finally received concrete information about the upcoming philatelic exhibition to be held in conjunction with the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China. The exhibition, called "OLYMPEX, THE OLYMPIC EXPO", will be held from Friday, August 8 through Monday, August 18, 2008 at the Beijing Exhibition Hall in Beijing (the Olympic Games will be held August 8 - 24). The exhibition is jointly sponsored by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), China Olympic Committee (COC), the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG) and China Post Group.

The exhibition is being organized by China Post Group.

Adult and youth competitive competitions are offered, as well as an open competition. Classes will include: Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, Aerophilately, and Maximaphily, along with Literature. Unfortunately, there does not appear to be a Single-Frame Class offered this year.

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

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There is an important difference between OLYMPEX, THE OLYMPIC EXPO and previous OLYMPHILEX exhibitions: OLYMPEX, THE OLYMPIC EXPO is *not* being held with the patronage/auspices of the International Philatelic Federation (FIP) which means that awards will not be recognized when considering qualification of an exhibit for future FIP international exhibitions. Nevertheless, OLYMPEX, THE OLYMPIC EXPO is expected to operate in a similar manner as previous OLYMPHILEX exhibitions by using "standard" (read: FIP) regulations and international judges.

The U.S. has appointed an FIP international judge to the "OLYMPEX, THE OLYMPIC EXPO" jury, however because of a lack of a volunteer, there will be no U.S. commissioner. Exhibitors are still free to enter, however they will have to either take the exhibits to Beijing themselves or entrust their exhibits to the mail system. In the case of the latter, check to make sure your philatelic insurance permits this! I can email/mail a copy of the "Rules and Regulations" and "Application Form" to anyone who is still interested in exhibiting. Be aware that the deadline for applications is March 15.

Corrections

In reference to my article about Al Oerter in the Winter 2007 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately* ("Al Oerter, An Olympic Journey"), SPI member George Masin, who was also a member of the U.S. Olympic fencing team in 1972 and 1976, writes:

"... you repeat the common misconception (*Sports Illustrated* did the same) that Al Oerter and Carl Lewis are the only athletes to win gold medals in the same event in four straight Olympics. They are the only track and field athletes to do so in events that are still contested. Ray Ewry won four straight gold medals in two different track and field events, standing long jump and standing high jump, that are no longer contested. Eleven athletes in other sports have equaled or exceeded four consecutive gold medals in one event."

"The record is held by Aladar Gerevich who was on the gold-medal winning Hungarian sabre team for six straight Olympics, from 1932 through 1960 when he was fifty years old. Indeed, if the 1940 and 1944 Olympics had not been canceled, it is extremely likely that he could have won eight straight gold medals because the Hungarian sabre team did not lose a single match in Olympic competition between 1924 and 1964."

Upcoming Olympic Postmarks

April 5 & 6: Chula Vista, CA (Archery Trials at the Olympic Training Center). Mail-in requests to: U.S. Olympic Trials Station, 830 Kuhn Dr., Chula Vista, CA 91914. Don't forget to specify the April 5 or 6 cancel.


April 5: Des Moines, IA (Taekwondo Trials at the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium).


April 9: San Francisco, CA (Olympic Torch Relay – the only stop in North America).



April 18-20: Oklahoma City, OK (Canoe/Kayak Flatwater Trials at the Chesapeake Boathouse).

April 20: Boston, MA (Women's Marathon Trials).

To receive electronic updates on Olympic postmarks send me (markspi@prodigy.net) your email address.






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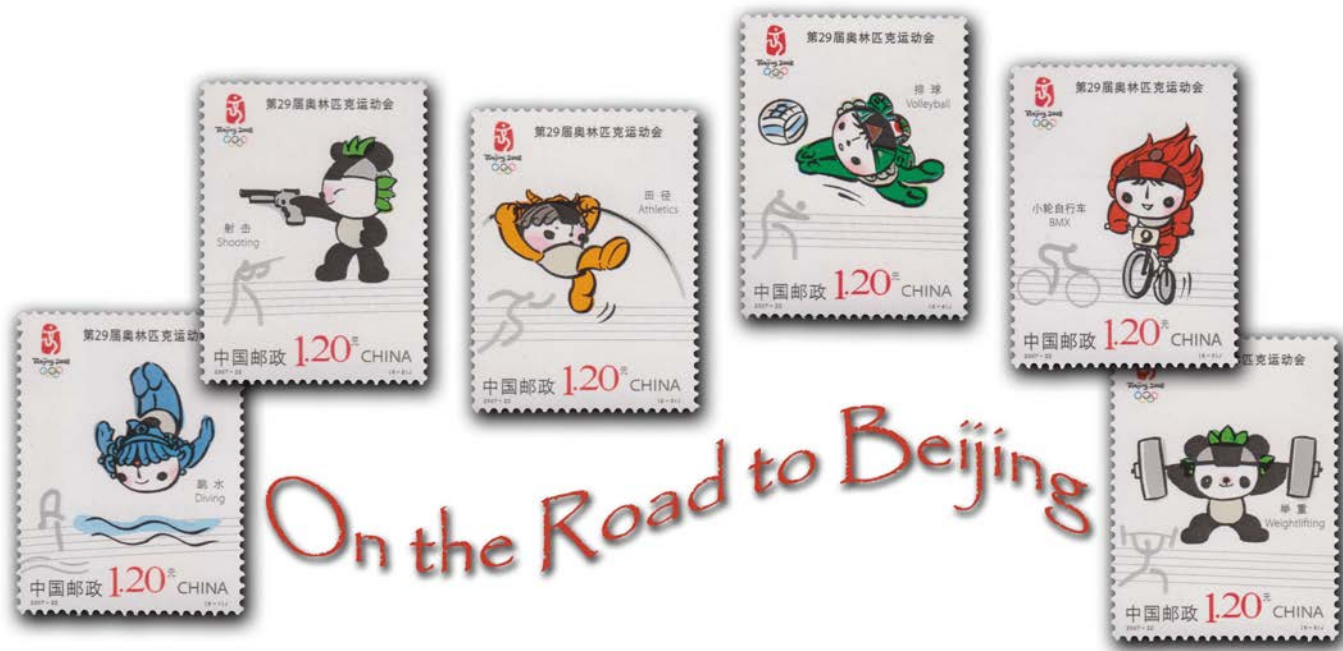
Topical postmarks, FDCs
stationeries, slogan pmk



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by Kwok-Yiu Kwan

For collectors of 2008 Beijing Olympic material, 2007 was a banner year. There were two stamp issues released in the second half of the year along with a bounty of postal stationery cards. One cannot omit the many related postmarks released in conjunction with the stamp issues as well as those marking the anniversary dates.

August 8, 2007 - Olympic Sports Program II

Exactly one year before the Opening Ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Games, a set of six stamps were issued (top). Called the “Melody of the Olympic Sports,” the stamps depicted various sports on the Summer Games program as portrayed by the five official mascots (one mascot is shown twice). This was actually the second issue in the sports series; the first issue was released August 8, 2006.

The stamps are all denominated 1.20 yuan, the inland surface letter rate.

The designs depict (left to right): diving (mascot: Beibei), shooting (Jingjing), athletics/pole vault (Yingying), volleyball (Nini), BMX cycling (Huanhuan), and weightlifting (Jingjing).

Figure 2 is a first day registered cover from the Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG) sent from Beijing to the U.S. with an additional meter franking to satisfy the total postage cost of 16 yuan.

The stamps were issued in two formats: a traditional version with water-activated gum, and a self-adhesive format.

In the case of the traditional type, each value was printed in miniature panes of ten (example shown in Figure 3). The stamps were positioned in two rows with a wide decorative selvage. Apart from the ten stamps, two stamp-sized labels were included. One label featuring the Games logo was located in the upper right hand corner, while the corresponding mascot label was in the lower left.

The self-adhesive miniature pane is a composite containing two sets of all six stamps, but without the labels (Figure 4).

As with the previous stamps issues, an 8-digit serial number was printed with invisible ink in the bottom third of each stamp on in both versions. The serial numbers on each stamp match the serial number printed in black at the bottom of the miniature pane. The invisible ink – designed to be viewed under ultraviolet light – may also be seen if the stamp is tilted at an angle to sunlight.

While numerous philatelic items were created for sale for this issue, two in particular were quite eye-catching. China National Philatelic Corporation (CNPC) produced two sets of maximum cards. The first set was a normal postcard size (148mm x 100mm). Each card was cancelled with a normal circular date stamp (cds) on August 8, 2008 from the post office near the venue for that sport (example shown in Figure 5).

The first day cancellation program is outlined in Table A.



Figure 2. Registered BOCOG cover for the first day of the August 8, 2007 mascot and sports stamps.



Figure 3. Registered FDC of the BMX/Cycling miniature pane with water-activated gum. The postmark reads "Beijing / Lao Shan Xi", the post office near the Laoshan Velodrome.



Figure 4. Composite miniature self-adhesive pane with two sets of the mascot and sport stamps.

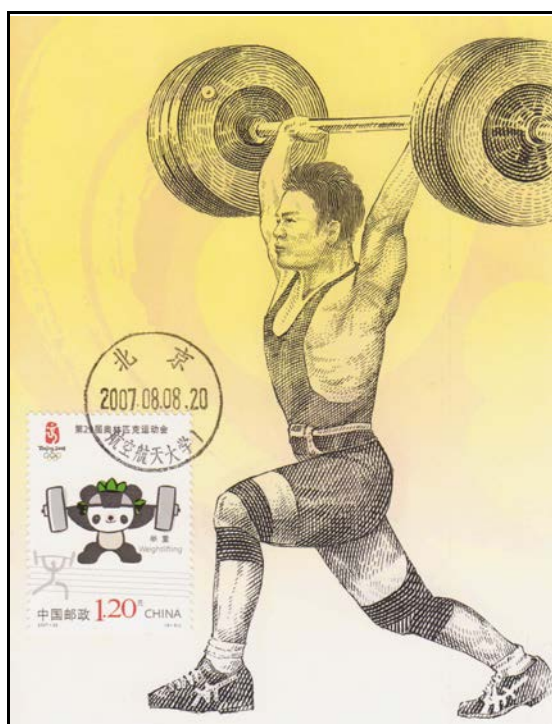


Figure 5. Weightlifting maxicard.

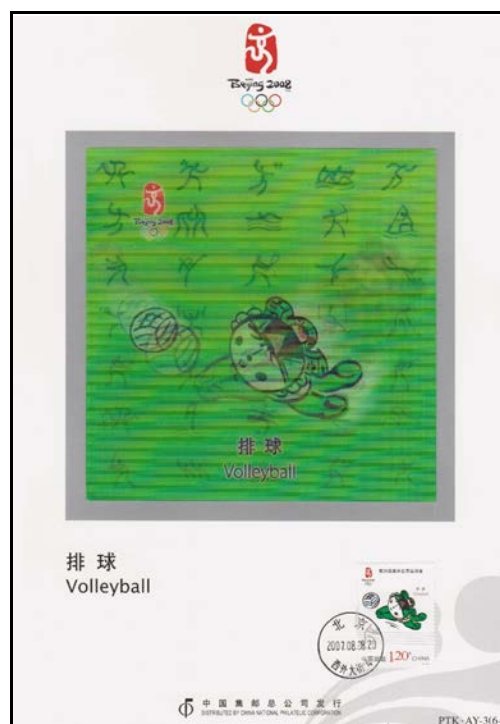


Figure 6. Lenticular volleyball card.

Table A
First Day Cancellation Program - August 8, 2007 Stamp Issue

Value	Design	Ref. No.	Post Office	Venue
1.20 Yuan	Diving	(6-1)J	Beijing/Asian Games Village* (CDS#1)	National Aquatic Center
1.20 Yuan	Shooting	(6-2)J	Beijing/Xiangshan (CDS#1)	Beijing Shooting Range CTF & Beijing Shooting Range Hall
1.20 Yuan	Athletics	(6-3)J	Beijing/Asian Games Village* (CDS#1)	National Stadium
1.20 Yuan	Volleyball	(6-4)J	Beijing/Xi Wai Da Jie (CDS#4)	Capital Indoor Stadium
1.20 Yuan	BMX/Cycling	(6-5)J	Beijing/Lao Shan Xi Li (CDS#8)	Laoshan Velodrome
1.20 Yuan	Weightlifting	(6-6)J	Beijing/Beihang University (CDS#1)	Beijing University of Aeronautics & Astronautics Gymnasium

* Beijing held the Xlth Asian Games September 22 - October 7, 1990.

The stamps issued in the PRC have their own numbering system. For instance, the reference number of the diving stamp “6-1” indicates that this is the first stamp in this issue comprising six stamps. The letter “J” stands for “Jinian” meaning “commemorative.”

Apart from the postcard sized maximum cards, there were A-4 sized maximum cards. The illustrations were very fancy lenticular pictures (an example is shown in Figure 6). The cancellations used

were identical to those on the smaller maximum cards (see Table A).

December 20, 2007 - Competition Venues

The year’s final set – six stamps plus a souvenir sheet – were issued on December 20. The stamps primarily depicted competition venues for the Olympic Games.

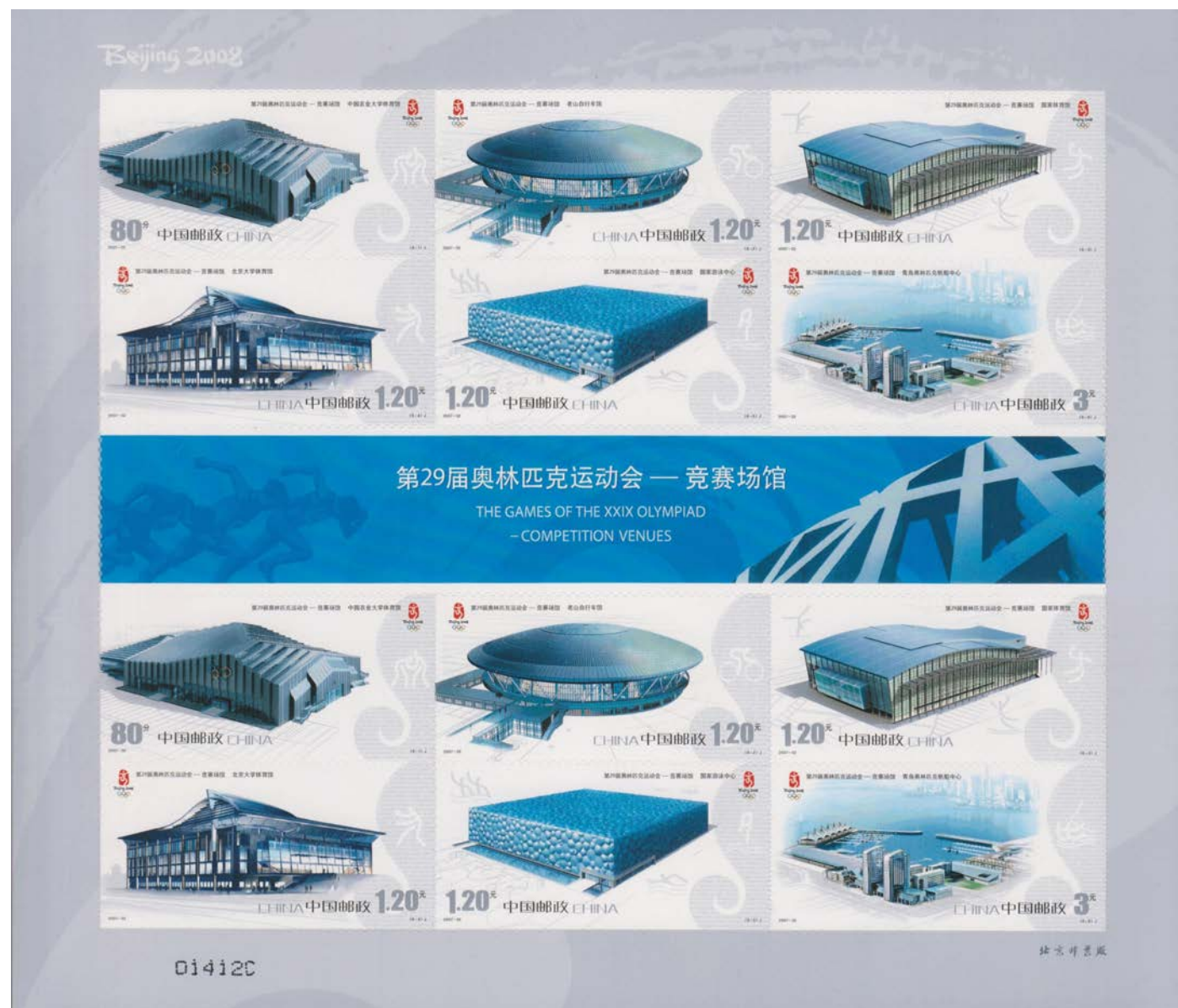
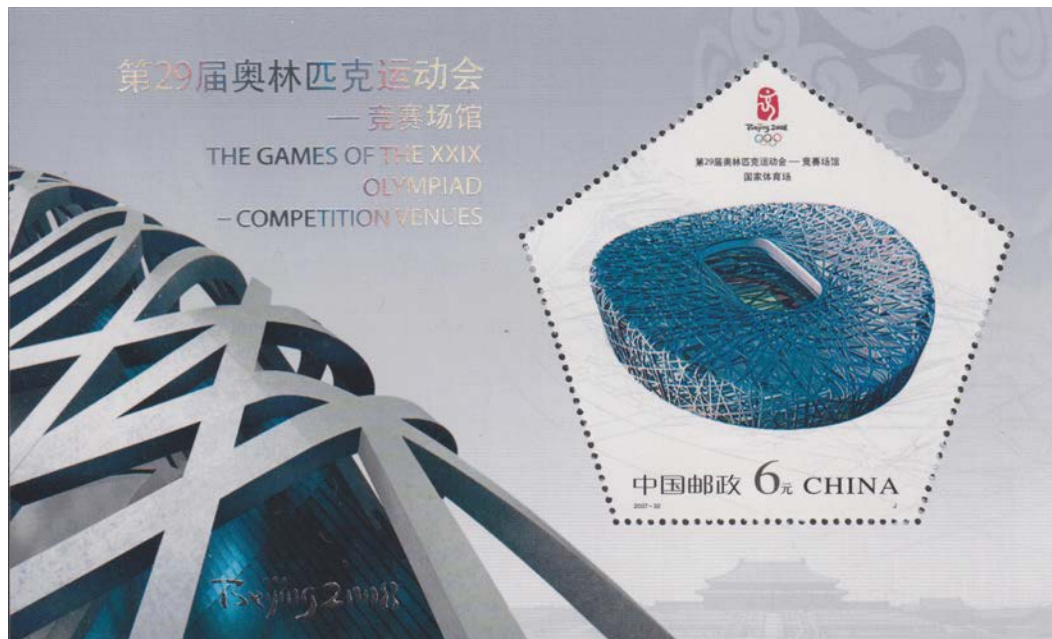
Figure 7 shows the individual stamps: 80 fen, (6-1)J, China Agricultural University Gymnasium; 1.20 yuan, (6-2)J, Laoshan Velodrome; 1.20 yuan, (6-3)J, National Indoor Stadium; 1.20 yuan, (6-4)J, Peking University Gymnasium; 1.20 yuan, (6-5)J, National Aquatic Center; and 3 yuan, (6-8)J, Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center. The 6 yuan souvenir sheet depicts the National Stadium (Figure 8).



Figure 7. (Clockwise from top left): China Agricultural University Gymnasium, Peking University, National Aquatic Center, Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center, National Indoor Stadium, and Laoshan Velodrome.

Figure 8 (right). Souvenir sheet issued December 20, 2007 showing the National Stadium, venue for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and athletic events. The stadium is also known as the “Bird’s Nest” because of the intricate framework.

Figure 9 (below). Composite self-adhesive mini-pane comprising two sets of the six Olympic venue stamps.





Figures 10-13. Common reverse of Large Card Set (above); 3 obverse examples (right, below).

The Postal Cards

Generally speaking, four sets of postal cards were issued in conjunction with the Olympic Sports Program II set of stamps released August 8, 2007. The card sets are as follows:

Large Card Set (148mm x 100mm) of six postal cards denominated 80 fen (inland postcard rate). Stamp indicium (22mm x 30mm) shows the Games logo. Each card depicts a different mascot, while the sixth portrays all five mascots. The cards were sold for 2 yuan each, or 12 yuan for the set (7.20 yuan above the face value of 4.80 yuan). Each card was printed with a 6-digit serial number in red. The serial numbers within the same set were identical. For security purposes, the three address lines were composed of micro-printing by repeating the acronym "OWOD" which stands for the Games' motto "One World One Dream" (Figures 10-13).





Figure 14 (above & below). Obverse and reverse of the doves-over-world postal card from the Small Card Set.



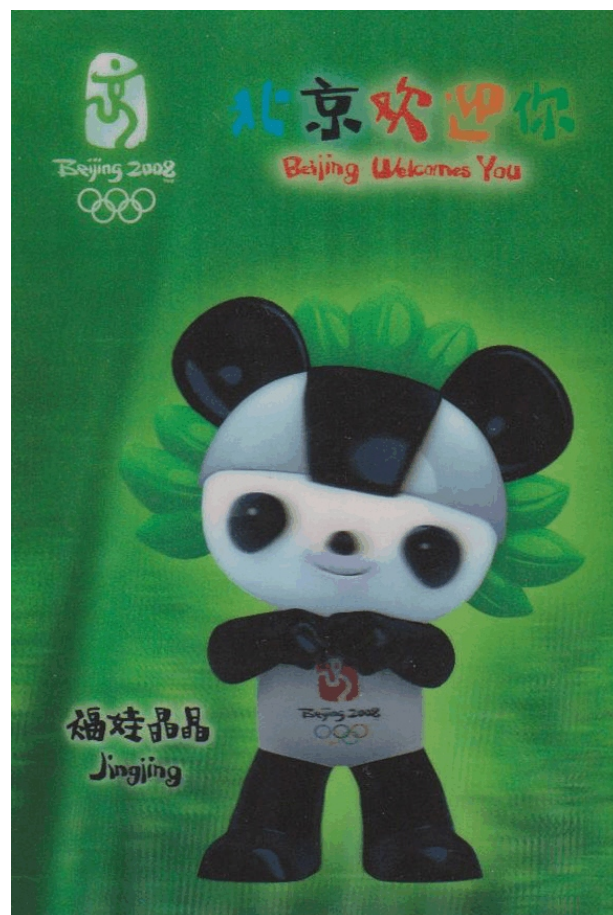
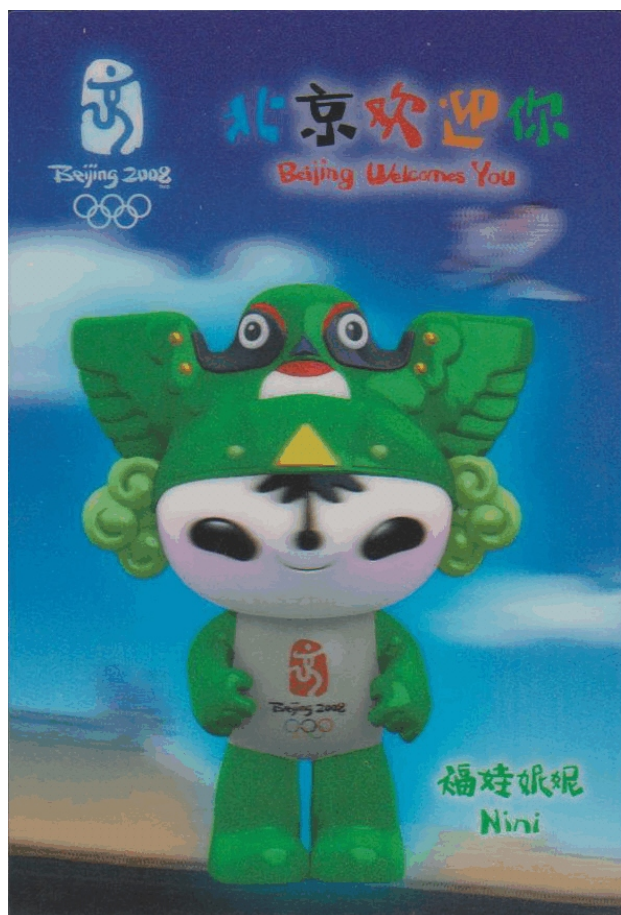
Figure 15 (above & below). Obverse and reverse of the Beibei mascot postal card. Note that indicium matches mascot on obverse.



Figures 16-18 (above, below and at right). Three of the other mascot postal cards in the Small Card Set.



Small Card Set (78mm x 125mm) of six postal cards denominated in 80 fen (Figures 14-18). The cards individually depict the five mascots (different designs from the Large Card Set), with the sixth showing doves flying over the world. A mascot indicium (16mm x 22mm) on each imprinted stamp matches the mascot portrayed on the picture side. The Games logo is imprinted on the doves card. These cards were sold for 1.80 yuan each – a 1 yuan premium over the face value. The full set therefore cost 10.80 yuan. Like the Large Card Set, there was serial numbering in red and the same micro-printing in the address area.



Figures 19-21 (above and at left). Three of the five 3-D mascot cards in the Plastic Card Set. (Fuzziness in the reproductions is due to difficulty in scanning 3-D images.)

Plastic Card Set (148mm x 100mm) of five postal cards denominated in 80 fen (Figures 19-21). These cards were made of a plastic material and measured the same size as the Large Card Set. The obverse of each card featured a 3-D image of a different mascot. The same Games logo indicium was imprinted on each card. A 6-digit serial numbers was printed in black at the bottom of the address size. The repeating micro-printed "OWOD" again made up the address lines.

International Rate Card (115mm x 168mm) with a denomination of 4.50 yuan. The card depicts all five mascots and bears an indicium on the reverse reproducing the Games logo (Figure 22). The card sold for 8 yuan.

These sets of postal cards were the first issued for the Beijing Olympic Games and were well received by the stamp collectors in China.

Figure 22. International Rate Postal Card (FDC) to U.S.A.



Unfortunately, they were not available nationwide on the first day; even some post offices in Beijing were not supplied with them. The result was that the market prices of these cards soared. Buying them at the retail price on the first day was next to impossible. At one point, the market price of the Small Card Set on the first day reached 150 yuan! Within three months the price had dropped to a more reasonable 30 yuan (about three times retail).

The Large Card Set are the most commonly seen probably due in part to the large printing. For the Plastic Card Set, first day canceled examples are

rare. Collectors should also be careful when purchasing the Small Card Set. Look at the micro-printed address lines: if they appear blurry, they're fakes!

Apart from the cards listed above, there was a secondary product based on the design of the Large Card Set: a desktop calendar issued by the China National Post Advertising Corporation Ltd. The six cards were incorporated into the calendar pages with two months per card (Figures 23 & 24). The reverse side of the cards carried descriptive text on a specific aspect of the Games (Table B).

Table B
2008 Mascot Calendar Postal Cards

Mascots	Obverse (Calendar)	Reverse (Descriptive Text)
5 Mascots	January & February	Introduction of the Beijing Olympic Games logo
Beibei	March & April	Introduction of the Beijing Olympic Games motto: One World One Dream
Jingjing	May & June	Introduction of the five Beijing Olympic Games mascots
Huanhuan	July & August	Introduction of the Beijing Olympic Games medals
YingYing	September & October	Introduction of the Beijing Olympic Games torch
Nini	November & December	Introduction of the ideology of the Beijing Olympic Games



Figures 23 & 24. Mascot calendar postal cards for Huanhuan (above) and Yingying (below). Descriptive text on the reverse introduces the design of the Beijing Olympic Games medals and torch.



Selling price of this calendar was just 20 yuan. They were not available in August when the postal cards were first issued, nor is an official date of issue known. However, it is generally agreed that this calendar was available as early as October at the post office. The author possesses an example mailed October 20, 2007. As the postal cards were identical to the original Large Card Set, sending the

whole calendar page with the decorative margin would be advisable as the only way to obtain this good philatelic item legitimately mailed.

Figure 25 was one of the pages sent via registered mail from Hefei to Hong Kong with an additional 3.70 yuan meter franking to satisfy the registered airmail postcard rate of 4.50 yuan to Hong Kong.



Figure 25. Calendar postal card (5 mascots) mailed December 20, 2007 from Hefei to Hong Kong.

Letter Cards & Greeting Cards Stationery

Letter cards are one of the most popular philatelic items among collectors in China. At the end of 2007, the State Postal Bureau issued a set of 12 lottery letter cards. They were all denominated 1.20 yuan, the inland letter rate. As these were lottery cards they sold for a premium of 1.60 yuan (total cost: 2.80 yuan).

The address sides of the cards were identical, featuring a likeness of a rat (2008 is the Year of the Rat) as the printed indicium (Figure 26). Pictured on the obverse of the cards are various mascots alone or in combination with other figures and text. (Figures 27 - 28). Table C summarizes the cards.

Table C Mascot Lottery Letter Cards	
No.	Description (Greeting)
12-1	Beibei (Wishing for good weather)
12-2	Jingjing (Wishing for peace)
12-3	Huanhuan (Wishing for good spirit)
12-4	Yingying (Wishing for your dreams to come true)
12-5	Nini (Feel free to exercise your specialty)
12-6	Five mascots (May good fortune arrive)
12-7	Beibei & 5 fishes* (Wishing for a good career)
12-8	Jingjing & children (May you be promoted)
12-9	Huanhuan & children with bamboo (Wishing for peace)
12-10	Yingying & children playing (May all good wishes come true)
12-11	Nini & children with kites (Greetings)
12-12	Five mascots & lantern (Wishing for good fortune)

* Fish represent "surplus" in Chinese society.



Figure 26. Indicum on Mascot Lottery Letter Cards featuring a rat (Year of the Rat).



Figure 27. Yingying Lottery Letter Card (12-4).

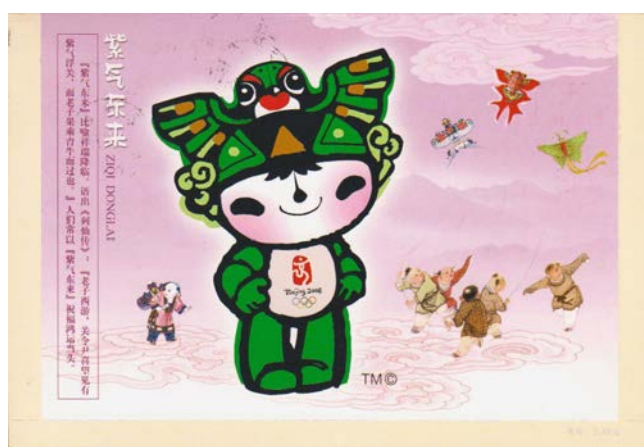


Figure 28. Nini & children with kites (12-11).

Table D Mascot Postal Stationery Envelopes	
No.	Description (Greeting)
12-1	Beibei (May there be surpluses every year)
12-2	Jingjing (Wishing for peace)
12-3	Huanhuan (Wishing for good spirit)
12-4	Yingying (May you be as fortunate as you wish)
12-5	Nini (Wishing for good fortune)
12-6	Five mascots (May good fortune arrive)
12-7	Beibei with lantern (New Year's greeting from mascots)
12-8	Jingjing with Chinese knot New Year's greeting from mascots)
12-9	Huanhuan with bamboo (New Year's greeting from mascots)
12-10	Yingying with a fish (New Year's greeting from mascots)
12-11	Nini with lantern (New Year's greeting from mascots)
12-12	Five mascots (New Year's greeting from mascots)



Figure 30. Jingjing (12-2).



Figure 31. Five mascots (12-6).



Figure 29. Beibei (12-1).



Figure 32. Jingjing with knot (12-8).










Mascot greeting cards were issued in 2006, but they lacked a philatelic element. The greeting cards for 2007 issued by the State Postal Bureau were however accompanied by a set of 12 postal stationery envelopes (230mm x 162mm) with a denomination of 2.40 yuan (Figure 29 - 32). Being lottery

related, they were sold for 5.50 yuan apiece (3.10 yuan over face). The details of these postal envelopes appear in Table D.

These greeting cards were sold individually at the post office. As not all designs were available at all post offices, it was difficult to gather a full set.

Table E
Olympic Related Postmarks

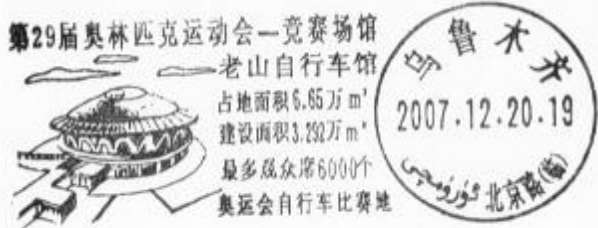




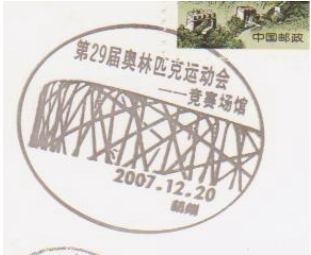
Shown below and on the following pages are various cancellations used in conjunction with the Olympic stamp issues and anniversaries. All were used with official postal permission.

		
<p>China / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Sport Program (II)</p>	<p>Beijing / China / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Sport Program (II)</p>	<p>Jiangsu / Suzhou / Youth Post Office / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Diving</p>
		
<p>Jiangsu / Suzhou / Youth Post Office / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Shooting</p>	<p>Jiangsu / Suzhou / Youth Post Office / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Athletics</p>	<p>Jiangsu / Suzhou / Youth Post Office / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Volleyball</p>
		
<p>Jiangsu / Suzhou / Youth Post Office / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / BMX</p>	<p>Jiangsu / Suzhou / Youth Post Office / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Weightlifting</p>	<p>China / Qingdao / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Sport Program (II)</p>

		
Hangzhou / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Sport Program (II)	Jiangsu / Wuxi / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Sport Program (II)	China / Shanghai / 2007.8.8 / The XXIX Olympic Games / Sport Program (II)
		
Urumqi / Beijing Road / 2007.8.8.19 / The XXIX Olympic Games Sport Program (II) & the one year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games / Diving	Urumqi / Beijing Road / 2007.8.8.19 / The XXIX Olympic Games Sport Program (II) & the one year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games / Shooting	
		
Urumqi / Beijing Road / 2007.8.8.19 / The XXIX Olympic Games Sport Program (II) & the one year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games / Athletics	Urumqi / Beijing Road / 2007.8.8.19 / The XXIX Olympic Games Sport Program (II) & the one year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games / Volleyball	
		
Urumqi / Beijing Road / 2007.8.8.19 / The XXIX Olympic Games Sport Program (II) & the one year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games / BMX	Urumqi / Beijing Road / 2007.8.8.19 / The XXIX Olympic Games Sport Program (II) & the one year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games / Weightlifting	

		
China / Beijing / 2007.8.8 / One year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games	China / Qingdao / 2007.8.8 / One year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games	China / Beijing / 2007.8.8 / One year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games
		
China / Qingdao / 2007.3.27 / 500 Days countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games	China / Beijing / 2007.3.27 / 500 Days countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games	China / Beijing / 2007.9.6 / One year countdown to the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games
		
China / Beijing / 2007.4.26 / Unveiling of the Torch for the Beijing Olympic Games	China / 2007.4.27 / Unveiling of the Torch Relay Logo	China / Beijing / 2006.7.13 / The 5th Anniversary of Beijing's Successful Bid for the 2008 Olympic Games
		
Beijing / Beijing Olympic Building 1 / 2007.4.27 (This was the first day of this CDS from this post office inside the Beijing Olympic Building)	China / Qingdao / Volunteer for the 2007 SINOPEC Qingdao International Regatta	China / Qingdao / 2006.8.8 / 2 year countdown to the Beijing Olympic Games

		
Zhejiang / Wenzhou / Sport Center (Temp) / 2007.8.8 / Sport Exhibition for the Olympic Games	China / Beijing / 2006.8.28 / The Start of Volunteer Recruitment for Beijing Olympic & Paralympic Games	China / Beijing / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues
		
China / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues	Hefei / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues	China / Shaghai / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues
		
Jinan / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues	Shandong / Qingdao / 2007.12.20 / Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center	China / Qingdao / Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues
		
Urumqi / Beijing (Temp) / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues / National Stadium – main stadium of the Beijing Olympic Games / Constructional area: 32,920 sq. meter / Max. capacity: 91,000 / It will hold Opening Ceremony, Closing Ceremony, track & field events & football final etc.	Urumqi / Beijing (Temp) / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues / China Agricultural University Gymnasium / Constructional area: 23,950 sq. meter / Max. capacity: 8,500 / The Stadium will hold wrestling events	

	
<p>Urumqi / Beijing (Temp) / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues / Laoshan Velodrome / Total land surface: 66,500 sq. meter / Constructional area: 32,920 sq. meter / Max. capacity: 6,000 / Venue for the Olympic cycling events</p>	<p>Urumqi / Beijing (Temp) / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues / National Indoor Stadium / Constructional area: 80,900 sq. meter / Capacity: 20,000 / Venue for the Artistic gymnastic, trampolines, handball & the basketball matches of the Paralympic Games</p>
	
<p>Urumqi / Beijing (Temp) / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues / Peking University Gymnasium / Constructional area: 26,900 sq. meter / Max. capacity: 8,000 / Venue for the table tennis events</p>	<p>Urumqi / Beijing (Temp) / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues / National Aquatics Center / Building fund was donated by the Chinese in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan & all over the World / Constructional area: 80,000 sq. meter / Capacity: 17,000 / Venue for swimming, diving, synchronized swimming</p>
	
<p>Urumqi / Beijing (Temp) / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues / Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center / Total area: 45 hectares / including stadium area of 30,000 sq. meter / Venue for the Olympic sailing events</p>	<p>Hangzhou / 2007.12.20 / The XXIX Olympic Games – Competition Venues</p>

The Coming Issues

As reported in *China Philately News* (November 23, 2007 issue), China Post announced that the Olympic issues in 2008 include: Torch Relay, 2 values (1.20 Yuan and 3 Yuan), March 24; Olympic Expo, 1 value (6 Yuan, S/S), August 8; Opening of the Olympic Games, 1 value (1.20 Yuan), August 8;

Beijing to London (Joint issue with Royal Mail), 4 values (1.20 Yuan each), August 24; 2008 Paralympic Games Logo & Mascot, 2 value (1.20 Yuan each), September 6, 2008.

The above information was still subject to the final decision of China Post. There is one thing for sure, though – the year 2008 will definitely be a busy one for our fellow Olympic collectors. 🌱

California Tenth Olympiad Bond Act of 1927

by Mark Maestroni
contributed by Conrad Klinkner

In the midst of a worldwide economic depression, it was miraculous that a 1932 Olympic Games got off the ground, much less ended up a rousing success. It certainly wouldn't have been possible without the financial guarantee of the good citizens of the State of California who, in a statewide vote on November 6, 1928, overwhelming ratified a constitutional amendment passed earlier by the State Legislature known as the "California Tenth Olympiad Bond Act of 1927."

The Act served two important purposes. First, it authorized the issuance and sale of State bonds in the sum of one million dollars to help pay for the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Second, the Act mandated the creation of a five-person body known as the California Olympiad Commission to administer the fund created by the bond issue. The Act also created the Olympiad Corporation – in effect, according to the Olympic Protocol, the Organizing Committee.

On February 10, 1928, a non-profit Olympiad Corporation was formed, legally known as the "Xth Olympiade Committee of the Games of Los Angeles U.S.A. 1932 Ltd."

An interesting footnote: despite early estimates to the contrary, the one million dollar bond issue was sufficient to carry out the Games. No further financial contributions or subsidies were required (beyond the expected receipts from admission tickets, limited concession privileges, Olympic Village income, bank interest, and post-Olympic salvage and sales). Two days following the end of the Olympics, the organizers issued a statement that the funds on hand

would permit retirement of the entire bond debt.

Conrad Klinkner discovered a proof of the bond (facing page) in a 2007 H.R. Harmer auction. The bonds were printed by the American Bank Note Company (ABNC). Upon enquiry, Conrad was told by the seller that this was one of two proofs known to exist. The seller also explained that: (1) the number "5515" at top and bottom was the ABNC printing plate reference number, and (2) that the multiple strikes of the word "CANCELLED" in purple ink indicated that the plate was destroyed. The proofs are printed entirely in black & white.

We know from the text on the bond that one thousand shares were issued at \$1,000 each. To date, we do not know what the issued bond looked like as the proof lacks a border. Most likely, the ABNC had a wide variety of complex scroll work borders from which to choose.

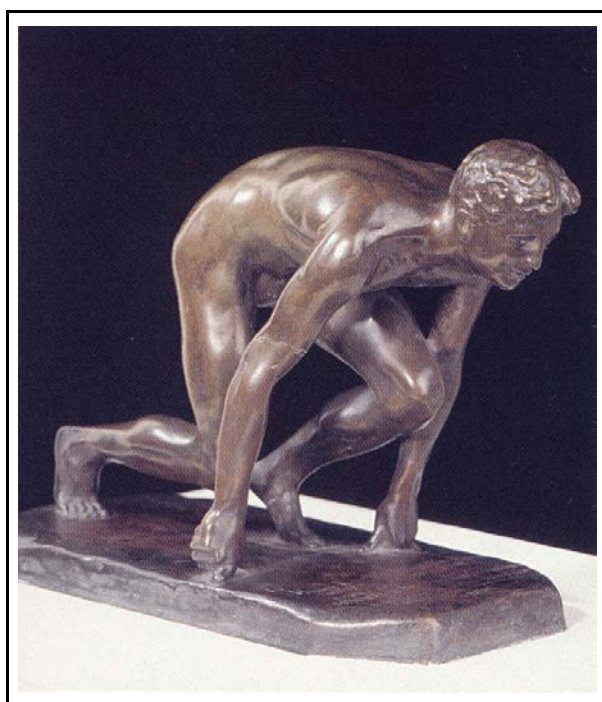
In addition to the text, transcribed below, the bond incorporated the Olympic Rings. Above them is a reproduction of the famous bronze sculpture "Sprinter" depicting a crouching track figure created in 1902 by renowned Canadian artist, R. Tait McKenzie (left).

McKenzie has a direct connection to the 1932 Olympic Games as he participated in the Olympic Arts Competition.

His sculpture, "Shield of Athletes," won a bronze medal. This was one of 44 different sport sculptures he entered in the competition.

It is not known if McKenzie was paid any kind of fee for authorizing reproduction of "Sprinter" on the bond.

Because of their value (\$1,000 was a great deal of money during the Depression), it is unlikely that any owner of such a bond could afford not to cash it in.



Bronze "Sprinter" by Canadian sculptor R. Tait McKenzie (1902) used as the model for the illustration on the 1932 Olympic bond.

5515

NUMBER

NUMBER



CITIVS · ALTIUS · FORTIVS

BOND OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA UNDER THE

"CALIFORNIA TENTH OLYMPIAD BOND ACT OF 1927"

The State of California, for value received, promises to pay to bearer the sum of **ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS** *on the second day of January, with interest thereon at the rate of four and one-half (4½) per cent per annum, payable semi-annually on the second day of January and on the second day of July of each year upon surrender of the annexed coupons as they severally become due, both principal and interest being payable in gold coin of the United States of the present standard of value at the office of the Treasurer of the State of California at the Capitol of said State in the City of Sacramento, or at the office of any duly authorized agent of the State Treasurer. Interest shall cease to accrue upon this bond form and after the date of maturity thereof. This bond is issued by the State of California under and in pursuance of and in conformity with the provisions of an Act known as the California Tenth Olympiad Bond Act of 1927, submitted to the electors of the State of California at the general election held in said State on the 6th day of November, 1928 and ratified by said electors at said general election and under and in pursuance of and in conformity with a resolution of the California Olympiad Commission, created by said Act, duly adopted on the nineteenth day of November, 1929. It is hereby certified and declared that all the acts, things and conditions required to be done precedent to and in the issuing of this bond have duly happened and been performed in regular and due form as required by the provisions of said Act and the Constitution of the State of California.*

In Testimony Whereof, and in avoidance with the provisions of said Act, the Governor, the Controller and the Treasurer of the State of California have respectively signed, counter-signed and endorsed these presents and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed at the City of Sacramento, State of California, this second day of January, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.

CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE
CANCELLED
TREASURER OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GOVERNOR OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CONTROLLER OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA

5515
CANCELLED

According to the regulations spelled out in the document, the owner presented the “annexed coupons” on or after specific dates to collect the earned interest. These coupons may have actually been attached to the bond when printed, although we cannot be sure.

At maturity, the bond itself would be redeemed for the principle (the face value of \$1,000). It was standard practice for bonds to be destroyed upon redemption, which probably explains why no bonds have yet surfaced. Do any exist?

The text of the bond follows.

**Bond of the
State of California
Under the
“California Tenth Olympiad Bond Act of 1927”**

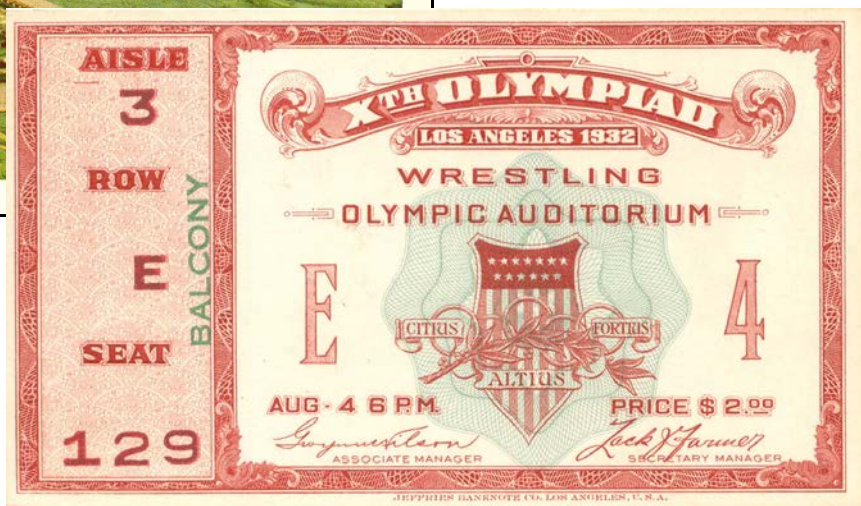
*The State of California, for value received, promises to pay to bearer the sum of **ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS** on the second day of January, with interest thereon at the rate of four and one-half (4½) per cent per annum, payable semi-annually on the second day of January and on the second day of July of each year upon surrender of the annexed coupons as they severally become due, both principal and*

interest being payable in gold coin of the United States of the present standard of value at the office of the Treasurer of the State of California at the Capitol of said State in the City of Sacramento, or at the office of any duly authorized agent of the State Treasurer. Interest shall cease to accrue upon this bond from and after the date of maturity thereof. This bond is issued by the State of California under and in pursuance of and in conformity with the provisions of an Act known as the “California Tenth Olympiad Bond Act of 1927,” submitted to the electors of the State of California at the general election held in said State on the 6th day of November, 1928, and ratified by said electors at said general election, and under and in pursuance of and in conformity with a resolution of the “California Olympiad Commission,” created by said Act, duly adopted on the nineteenth day of November, 1929. It is hereby certified and declared that all the acts, things and conditions required to be done precedent to and in the issuing of this bond have duly happened and been performed in regular and due form as required by the provisions of said Act and the Constitution of the State of California.

In Testimony Whereof, and in accordance with the provisions of said Act, the Governor, the Controller and the Treasurer of the State of California have respectively signed, counter-signed and endorsed these presents and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed at the City of Sacramento, State of California, this second day of January, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine.



The \$1,000,000 Olympic Bond issue supplemented the revenue from salvage of the Olympic Village and receipts from the sale of Olympic tickets.





Figures 58-60. England cricketers during the 1990s included batsman, Mark Ramprakash (left); wicket keeper and batsman, Alec Stewart (center); and batsman, Graeme Hick (right).

Cricket and Philately: The Ashes – An Australian Perspective, 1946 – Present (Part 2)

by Peter N. Street

The sixteen years of Australian dominance covered seven series. Before each series former players would explain in detail in the cricket press how Australia could be beaten but to no avail. Graham Gooch took over the England captaincy for the 1990-91 series. They lost 3-0 with two drawn and it was generally considered to be the worst side to come to Australia since World War II. One press summary said “they often batted badly, bowled indifferently and the fielding was dreadful.”

The Australia visit to England in 1993 introduced Shane Warne to international cricket. On his first ball in a Test match Warne flicked the ball well wide of leg stump. The batsman, Mike Gatting, an acknowledged master of spin bowling, did not play a stroke. The ball moved 18 inches and took out Gatting’s leg stump. Warne eventually became arguably the greatest leg spinner of all time. He was selected as one of the five greatest cricketers of the twentieth century (*JSP*, Sept./Oct. 2001 and Nov./Dec. 2001). With the help of Warne, Australia took the series 4-1.

England used no less than 24 different players in the series. The new faces included Mark Ramprakash, Alec Stewart and Graeme Hick. Ramprakash is still playing English county cricket and is currently captain of Surrey. My American readers who are familiar with the television program “Dancing With the Stars,” will be interested to know that Ramprakash recently was on the English equivalent “Strictly Come Dancing.”

Stewart played for England for many more years as captain, wicket keeper and opening batsman. Graeme Hick, born in Zimbabwe, but qualified in England, never quite lived up to his potential on the international scene. He still played for Worcestershire CCC and is the only contemporary player with over 100 first class centuries.

This trio all appeared on stamps commemorating 100 years of Caribbean tours. Ramprakash on a stamp of St. Vincent (Figure 58), Stewart on a Grenada stamp (Figure 59), and Hick on a Guyana stamp (Figure 60).

In England’s 1994-95 tour of Australia both teams had new captains: Mike Atherton for England and Mark Taylor for Australia – Allan Border had retired from Test cricket. England only won one Test, at Adelaide, their first since the 1986-87 series and Australia retained the Ashes.



Figure 61. PPI depicting England captain and batsman, Nasser Hussain.

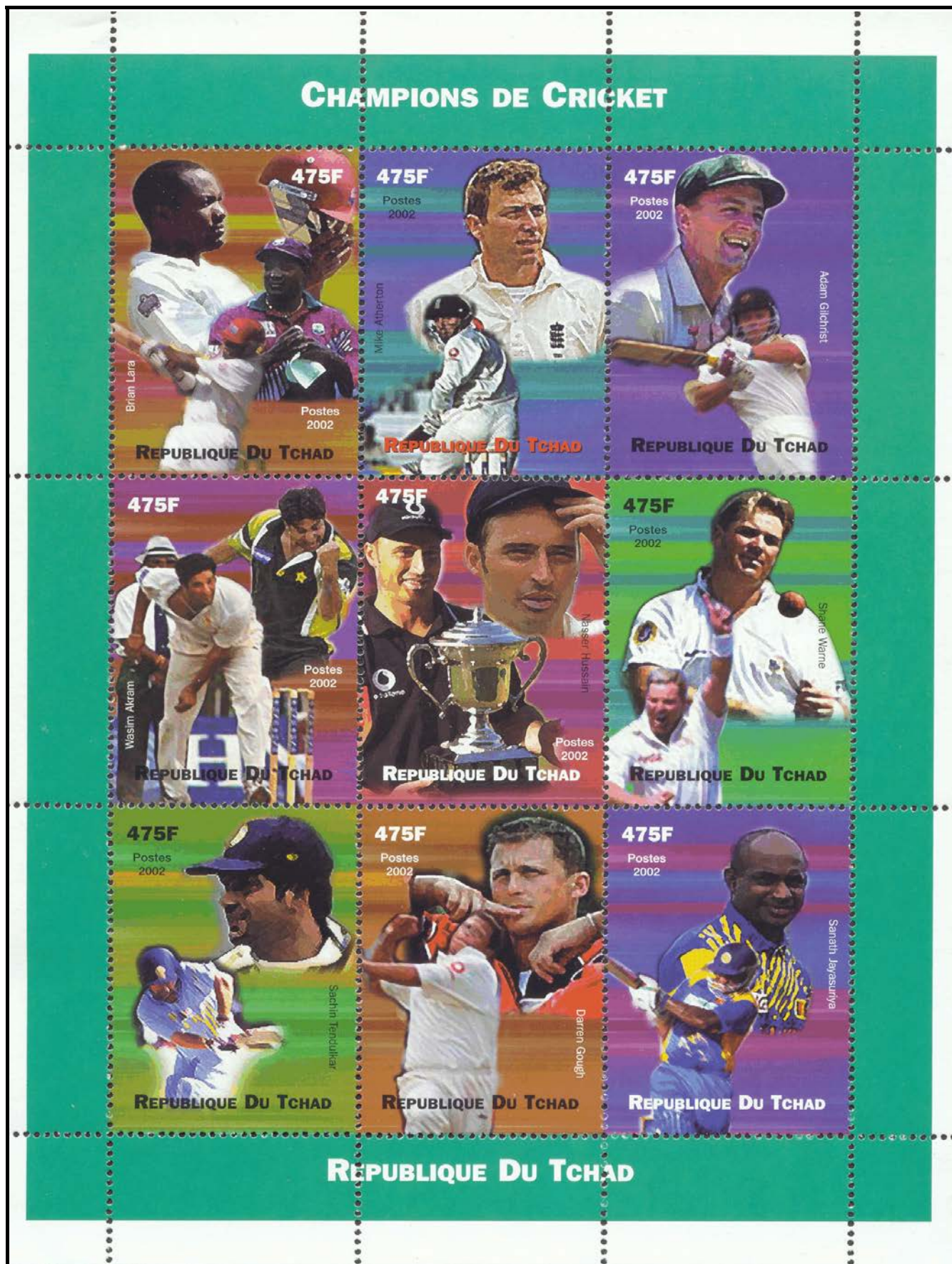


Figure 62. England and Australia Test Match players: Michael Atherton - England (top row, center); Adam Gilchrist - Australia (top row, right); Nasser Hussain - England (middle row, center); Shane Warne - Australia (middle row, right); Darren Gough - England (bottom row, center).

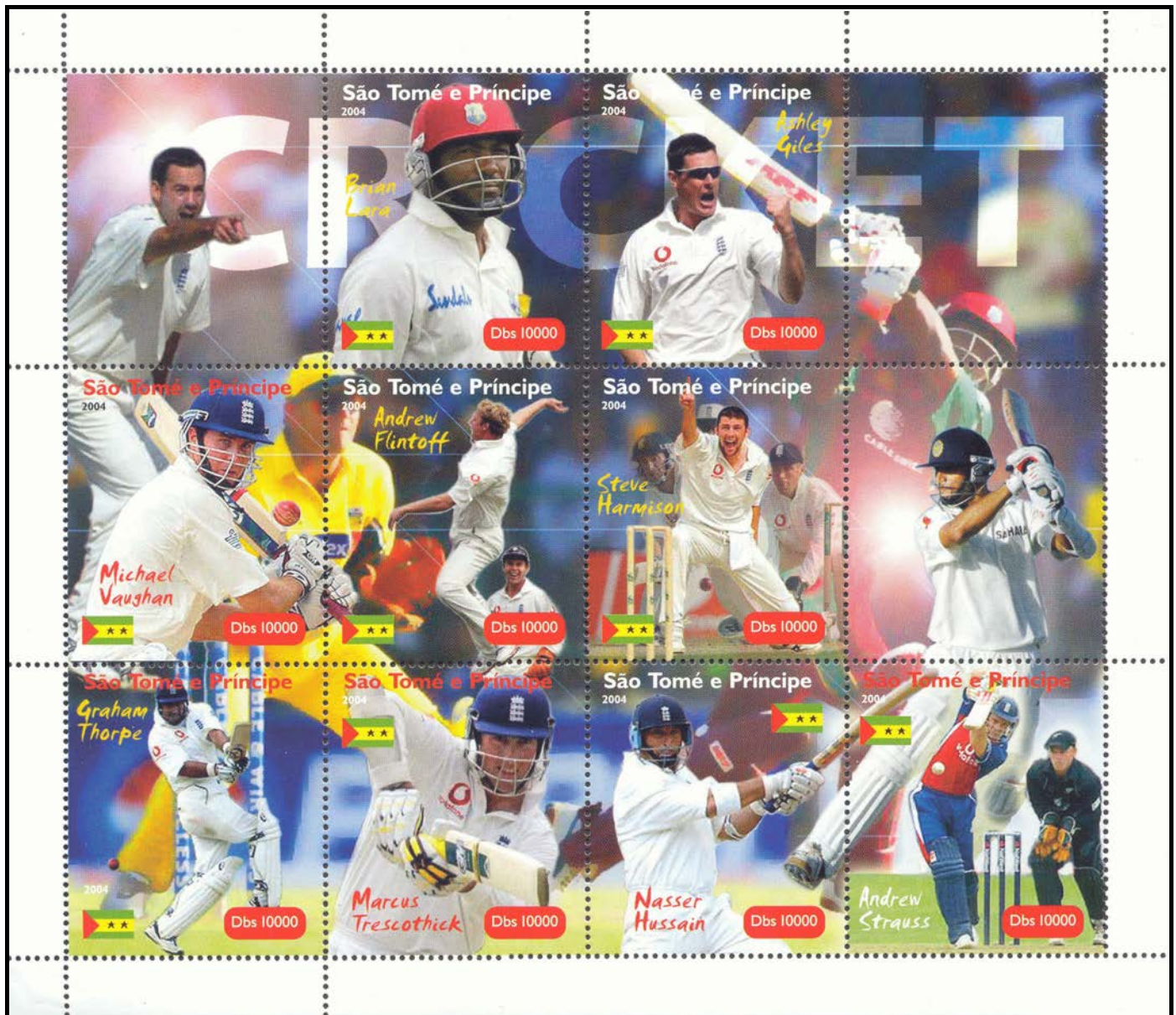


Figure 63. England Test players of the 2005 Ashes series: (top row) Ashley Giles (3rd stamp); (middle row) Michael Vaughan (1), Andrew Flintoff (2), Steve Harmison (3); (bottom row) Graham Thorpe (1), Marcus Trescothick (2), Nasser Hussain (3), Andrew Strauss (4).

Australia's tour of England in 1997 was a close series with Australia eventually coming out on top 3-2 with 1 drawn. Nasser Hussain, England's captain-in-waiting, scored a double century (207) in the first Test at Edgbaston. He is shown on a 2000 PPI (Postal Paid Impression, a postally valid label) reproduced in Figure 61. The English captain, Mike Atherton reached his 5000 Test runs in that match. Rain shortened the second Test at Lord's which ended in a draw. The next three Tests were won handily by Australia which meant, once again, they retained the Ashes.

England had a new captain, Alec Stewart, for their 1998-99 tour of Australia, but were no more

successful. Australia retained the Ashes by a 3-1 margin (1 drawn).

In 2000, Tchad (Chad), a former French colony in central Africa with no cricketing background and (no doubt) with an eye on the topical cricket stamp market issued a souvenir sheet entitled "Champions of Cricket." Several contemporary Australian and English players are shown (Figure 62).

Both teams had a new captains for Australia's tour of England in 2001: Steve Waugh for Australia and Nasser Hussain for England. England had several key players missing due to injuries for the first two Tests and were soundly beaten by an innings and 188 runs and 8 wickets respectively.

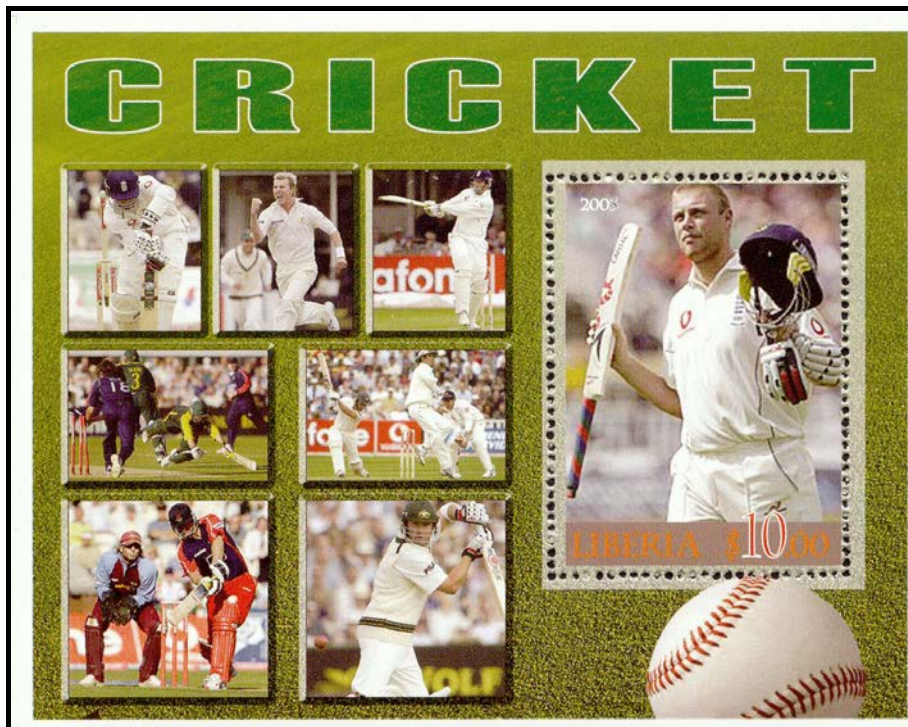


Figure 64. England “Man of the Series,” Andrew Flintoff.

Australia also won the third Test again retaining the Ashes. England managed to win the fourth Test due to some steady batting by Mark Ramprakash and captain Nasser Hussain. During the fifth Test, which was won by Australia, Shane Warne gained his 400th Test wicket and former England captain, Mike Atherton, retired from the Test forever.

Both captains were retained for England’s tour of Australia in 2002-03. Michael Vaughan made his Ashes debut in the first Test and opened the innings with Marcos Trescothick. Australia won the match by 384 runs. Although Vaughan made 177 runs in the second Test it was to no avail and Australia won easily by an innings and 51 runs. The third Test was a disaster for England and they were beaten in 3 days. Australia also won the fourth Test despite Vaughan’s 145 runs in the second innings. England did manage to avoid the white wash and won the last Test at Sydney again due to Vaughan’s second innings (183 runs).

Australia’s 2005 tour of England was viewed with great anticipation

by both teams. Could Australia maintain its winning streak or would England break its jinx at last?

São Tomé e Príncipe, another non-cricket-playing African country, doubtless wishing to capitalize on the upcoming showdown, issued a souvenir sheet in December 2004 showing eight English players (Figure 63).

Both teams had new captains. Ricky Ponting was Australia’s captain and Michael Vaughan took over from Nasser Hussain who had retired from international cricket.

Australia won the first Test handily by 239 runs. The second Test was a much closer affair with England eventually prevailing by two runs. At this point the series was even at one all. The third Test was a draw despite some magnificent fast bowling from the English

team. In this match, Marcos Trescothick made his 5000th Test run and Shane Warne took his 600th wicket.



Figure 65. England’s victorious 2005 Ashes team: (clockwise from top left) jubilant English team; Kevin Pieterse, Michael Vaughan and Andrew Flintoff celebrate Adam Gilchrist’s dismissal on the opening day of the series; action scene from the second Test; Michael Vaughan.



Figure 66. Members of Australia's victorious 2006-7 Ashes team: (clockwise from top left) Ricky Ponting (captain), Adam Gilchrist, Matthew Hayden, Damien Martyn, Brett Lee, Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath, Justin Langer, Mike Hussey, and Michael Clarke.

England won the fourth Test by three wickets. In order to retain the Ashes, Australia had to win the last Test, thereby bringing the series to a draw.

England was able to draw the match mainly due to the batting of Kevin Pietersen and the all-round play of Andrew Flintoff. England had regained the Ashes. There was great jubilation in England. Queen Elizabeth II handed out numerous awards and Flintoff was named "Man of the Series." Liberia, another non-cricket playing West African nation, issued a souvenir sheet in his honor (Figure 64).

The British post office departed from its usual practice of only showing living royalty on its stamps, issuing a four-stamp souvenir sheet showing many of the players (Figure 65).

England's joy was short-lived however. They returned to Australia for the 2006-7 series missing several key players and were soundly beaten 5-0. Australia issued a souvenir sheet celebrating their regaining of the Ashes (Figure 66).

The next Ashes series will be conducted in 2009. Three of Australia's greatest players, Justin Langer, Shane Warne and Glenn McGrath retired from international cricket so there are bound to be some new faces on both sides. Can Australia maintain its winning ways? Can England break Australia's dominance? We shall see!

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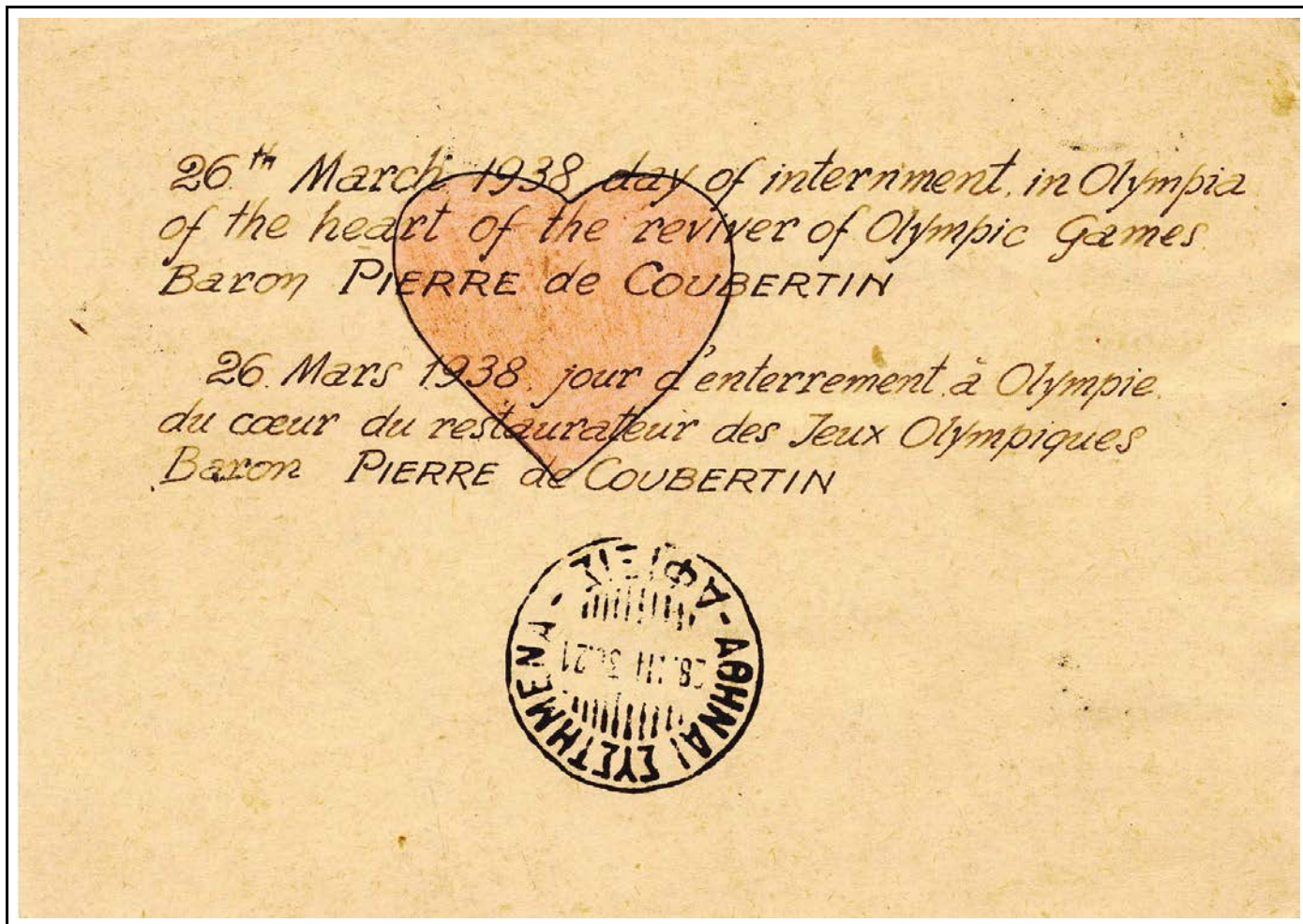


Figure 1. The reverse of a postal card memorializing the interment of Pierre de Coubertin's heart at Ancient Olympia on March 26, 1938. The postmark is an Athens receiving cancel two days later.

A Special Remembrance of Pierre de Coubertin

by Kon Sokolyk

Seventy year ago, on March 26, 1938, the embalmed heart of Baron Pierre de Coubertin was laid to rest at Olympia, Greece. This was done in accordance with Coubertin's testament that upon his death his body should be buried in Switzerland, and his embalmed heart at the site of the ancient Olympic Games.

Pierre de Coubertin died on September 2, 1937 in Geneva. After a private funeral ceremony, he was buried in Lausanne. Before burial his heart was removed from his body, sealed in an urn, and placed in a satin-lined wooden box for transport to Greece.

Half a year later, in a ceremony described as simple but full of symbolism, the heart of Baron de Coubertin was laid to rest. The ceremony com-

menced at 10 a.m. when Count Bertier de Sauvigny, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) member from France, along with Count Alexandre Mercati, an old colleague who helped Coubertin launch the Athens Olympics and M. Georgopolous, a Minister in the Greek government, followed by an honorary corps of Boy Scouts from the city of Patras, brought the urn to an altar at the foot of a marble monument erected in honor of Coubertin at the center of the road leading to the ruins of Olympia. With members of the IOC and the Greek Olympic Committee present, Crown Prince Paul, the honorary President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, officiated at the ceremonies. After the speeches, prayer and blessing of the heart by an Orthodox priest, Crown Prince Paul placed the urn into the marble stele.

To commemorate the interment, Georgos Papastefanou (Papastephanou) a passionate supporter of the Olympic ideals, adorned a pre-stamped postal card in what has been described as a private venture. Papastefanou's creation is on the reverse side (Figure 1). It features hand-written text in ink in English and French: "26th March 1938 day of internment [sic] in Olympia of the heart of the reviver of Olympic Games Baron Pierre de Coubertin." The text scrolls through a red heart.

On the front (Figure 2), the self-addressed pre-stamped postal card has additional franking for registration purposes and is postmarked from Olympia on March 26, 1938, the day of the interment ceremony. It arrived at its destination in Athens two days later as noted by the receiving postmark on the reverse side. Only the 50 lepta stamp – top second from left – has an Olympic theme. It features boxer Diagoras of Rhodes, victor at the 79th Olympiad, 464 BCE.

Apparently, the 1938 Coubertin card was not the first Olympic-related philatelic venture of G. Papastefanou. He is associated with philatelic Olym-

pic flame/torch material relating to the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games. And as late as 1964, some of the philatelic material originating at Olympia can be attributed to him.

Georgos Papastefanou (circa 1892-1979) of Crete was an avid collector of modern Olympic related items, a distinguished philatelist, and Secretary General of the International Olympic Philately Union. He also served as a delegate of Greece to the Federation Internationale de la Philatelie Constructive. Upon retirement from business, and with insufficient space to store his collection at home, Papastefanou bought a school house at Olympia and transformed it into a museum. In 1964 he transferred the museum and his rare collection to the Greek Olympic Committee to be administered by the International Olympic Academy at Olympia.

Amongst the exhibits at the museum is the wooden box in which the urn holding Baron Pierre de Coubertin's heart made its final journey to Olympia in 1938.

A special thank you to Mr. Athanassios Tarassouleas.



Figure 2. Front of the postal card shown in Figure 1 sent via registered mail to Athens from Olympia.



Belarus Celebrates Its 2004 Olympic Medalists

by Mark Maestroni

Many countries honor their Olympic medalists philatelically. Some give their gold medal winners their own stamps, while others portray all their medalists.

I rather like Belarus' solution, shown above, which was to dedicate a full miniature sheet to all their medalists at the 2004 Olympic Games at Athens, Greece. The two gold medal winners were placed center stage, each with their own 500 ruble stamp (about US\$0.23). An "honor guard" of silver and bronze medalists surrounded them in the selvedge. At center is a label recording the results: 2 golds, 6 silvers, and 7 bronze medals.

Identifying the two winners was easy. The stamp to the left of center shows Yuliya Nesterenko, winner of the women's 100-meter race in athletics. Nesterenko was not favored to win, managing to edge out the American and Jamaican runners.

On the right is Ihar Makarau who walked away with the gold in the 90-100 kg. class in men's judo.

I was able to identify most of the other athletes, although one—Andrei Rybakou (silver, men's weightlifting, 77-85 kg.) doesn't match any illustration.

Top Row: Viachaslau Makaranka (bronze, men's Greco-Roman wrestling, 74-84 kg.); either Magomed Aripgadiev (silver, boxing, 75-81 kg.) or Viktor Zuyev (silver, boxing, 81-91 kg.); Tatsiana Stukalava (bronze, women's weightlifting, 58-63 kg.); Aripgadiev or Zuyev; Yuliya Bichyk and Natallia Helakh (bronze, women's rowing, Pair without Coxswain).

Middle Row: (Left side) Sergei Martynov holding his rifle (bronze, men's shooting, 50m Free Rifle Prone - 60 shots). The male athlete next to him is unidentified.

Middle Row: (Right side) Ivan Tikhon (silver, men's athletics, Hammer Throw). Tikhon moved from bronze to silver when Adrian Annus of Hungary lost his gold medal for doping.

Bottom Row: Ekaterina Karsten (silver, rowing, women's Single Sculls); Natallia Tsylinskaya (bronze, cycling, women's track - 500m Time Trial); Raman Piatrushenka & Vadzim Makhneu (bronze, men's canoe/kayak, Flatwater - K2 - 500m.); Irina Yatchenko (bronze, athletics, women's Discus Throw); and Hanna Batsiushka (silver, women's weightlifting, 58-63 kg.).

France and Colonies Proofs & Essays

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REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestroni

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

December 2007 (#46). This issue of the French sport and Olympic journal opens with an article by Serge Laget on the 120th anniversary of the founding by Georges de Saint-Clair of the Union des Sociétés Française de Course à Pied (Union of French Running Societies).

René Christine looks at the sport of women's handball by reviewing the philatelic aspects of the sport's World Championships. The first W.C. was held in Hungary in 1949. Pascal Bedenes provides a brief look at French women's tennis star, Françoise Durr, who won the French Open in 1967, beating Australian Lesley Turner Bowrey in the final.

This issue also includes a review of some of the philatelic material issued by France for the 2007 Rugby World Cup, a philatelic recap of recent world championships in various sports, an update on newly discovered sport and Olympic meters, and the customary club news.

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

December 2007 (#24). The International Philabasket Society's final issue of 2007 was devoted primarily to the group's annual meeting and philatelic exhibition at Vasto and Lanciano (Italy). It sounds like a good time was had by all – including SPI member Hugh Gottfried and his wife Brenda who traveled over from the U.S.!

The remainder of the issue follows up on previous columns as well as presenting both newly discovered “old” items and new philatelic items from the sport of basketball.

IMOS Journal: Diethard Hensel, Dorfstr. 15, OT Koselitz, D-01609 Röderaue, Germany. [In Ger.]

November 2007 (#136). Dr. Christian Hochhold's series on the philately of Olymphilex opens this issue of the *IMOS Journal* with a look at the Atlanta Games of 1996.

Thomas Lippert's excellent article on the 75th

anniversary of the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games (which was translated into English in the Fall 2007 issue of *JSP*), is followed by Stefan Breitfeld's examination of the various usages of the Garmisch-Partenkirchen machine cancels in 1942.

Doping in sports is discussed by Rudolf Pivonka who delves into the history, types of drugs used, and the politics involved.

Peter Leinemann celebrates the England v. Germany football matches culminating in the Wembley Stadium match on August 22, 2007.

Included with this issue were the IMOS Auction concluding March 9, 2008, and the 2003 Catalog of Sports Postal Stationery from around the world.

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

July 2007 (#63). The Rugby World Cup of 2007 culminating in the awarding of the William Webb Ellis Trophy, is discussed by Pasquale Polo. Gianni Galeotti briefly looks at the Mediterranean Games, while Maurizio Tecardi displays Olympic Mascots from 1972's Waldi the dachshund, to the five mascots of the upcoming 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

Also in this issue: sports apparel and equipment on meters (Franco Uccellari); ball sports from around the world (Mauro Gilardi); and the world of motor sports (Mauro Gilardi).

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

November 2007 (Vol. 24, #4). This issue begins with a report by Thomas Lippert on the awarding of the 2014 Olympic Winter Games to Sochi, Russia. Thomas looks at the philatelic emissions from the various candidates culminating with the selection of Sochi in Guatemala on July 4, 2007.

The remainder of this issue focuses on the many (many!) pieces of advertising postal stationery (both postcards and lettercards) from China linking various corporate entities to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. Author Bob Farley notes that the “production of such postal stationery as an advertising medium is common practice in China.”

NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Argentina: September 22, 2007. San Lorenzo de Almagro Athletic Club. 1p, club's emblem.

Armenia: October 25, 2007. Fourth Pan-Armenian Games. Souvenir sheet with 360dr stamp, hands holding trophy, flame.

Bangladesh: April 19, 2007. World Cricket Cup. Four se-tenant 10t stamps, cricket team and equipment; trophy, player; team, trophy; player, trophy.

Belgium: July 7, 2007. Tour de France. 0.52e cyclists.

November 10, 2007. Belgium Int. Sport Champions/Billiards Part 2. Pane of nine se-tenant nondenominated stamps inscribed "1", Albert Collette; Gustaaf Van Belle; Piet Sels; Gaston De Doncker; Theo Moons; Rene Gabriels; Victor Luypaerts; Rene Vingerhoedt.

Bosnia-Herzegovina: September 20, 2007. Honorary Ambassador of Sport and Culture of Peace. Two 2 mark stamps, Joseph Blatter, president of the International Soccer Federation, soccer ball; Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the IOC.

December 3, 2007. University Sports Association. 50pf symbolic design, emblem. Offset in sheets of four.

Cape Verde: October 18, 2006. World Soccer Cup. 30esc players, emblem; 40esc emblem; 60esc trophy.

China (Taiwan): November 9, 2007. Outdoor Activities. Two NT\$5 Stamps, speed walking; bicycling; NT\$12, skateboarding; NT\$25, inline skating.

Colombia: July 9, 2007. 15th Pan-American Games. 3,700p symbolic design with birds, athletes.

Croatia: November 8, 2007. Blanka Vlasic. High Jump Champion. 2.30k Vlasic performing high jump.

Equatorial Guinea: 2006. World Basketball Championships. Three se-tenant stamps, 450fr Spanish Basketball Federation emblem; 550fr basketball, hoop; 600fr players.

Finland: August 24, 2007. 100th Anniversary Finnish Olympic Committee. Nondenominated first-class self-adhesive stamp, Olympic Flame forming Finnish flag, Olympic rings.

France: June 23, 2007. World Rugby Cup. Pane of 10 0.54e stamps, nine stamps show different rugby plays and scenes, 10th stamp shows rugby fans.

November 10, 2007. World Women's Handball Championships. 054e handball athletes.

Grenada: June 18, 2007. Caribbean Hosts Cricket World Cup. \$1 map of Grenada, emblem; \$2 Rawl Lewis, emblem; \$3 Queen's Park, emblem. Souvenir sheet with \$6 stamp, emblem.

Hungary: July 30, 2007. 100th Ann. Hungarian Univ. Sports Federation. 360ft coat of arms, tennis player, gymnast, water polo player, track & field athletes.

India: October 14, 2007. CISM (Conseil International Du Sport Militaire) Fourth Military World Games. 5re soccer; diver; parachutist and planes.

Italy: June 4, 2007. Series A Soccer Championship. 0.60e soccer player wearing Inter jersey, ball, Italy's national colors, emblems of championship and team.

June 9, 2007. 50th Death Anniversary Luigi Ganna. 0.60e Ganna and two bicyclists competing in race.

September 22, 2007. Women's Senior Basketball European Championships. 0.65e player maker basket.

Japan: August 23, 2007. 11th International Association Athletics Federations Championships in Osaka. Ten 80y stamps, Tamesue Dai 400m hurdles; Kanemaru Yuzo 400m run; Fukuski Kayoko 500m run; Daigo Naoyuki high jump; Sawano Daichi pole vault; Ikeda Kumiko long jump; Suetsugu Shingo 200m run; Naito Masato 110m hurdles; Narisako Henji 400m hurdles; Murofushi Koji hammer throw.

South Korea; September 5, 2007. Extreme Sports/Inline Skating. Four 250 won stamps showing different moves, drop-in; flip; spin; grind.

Kosovo: October 20, 2007. Sports. 0.20e athletes and one horse representing 24 different sports; 0.50e wrestlers; 1e soccer ball, basketball, three symbolic people, one in wheelchair.

Macedonia: July 1, 2007. 100th Anniversary of International Union of Yachting. 36d sailing yachts.

Monaco: January 3, 2008. Monte-Carlo Country Club. 0.70e Raymond Gid poster of tennis player, sailboat.

January 3, 2008. Monte-Carlo Beach Hotel. 0.85e Raymond Gid poster of swimmers, beach ball.

January 3, 2008. Monte-Carlo Golf Club. 1.15e poster by Raymond Gid showing golfers, sailboats.

Nepal: April 25, 2007. Sports. Two 5re stamps, taekwondo; cricket.

New Caledonia: September 5, 2007. World Rugby Cup. Oval shaped 110fr stamp, rugby player with ball, map of France. Souvenir sheet contains one stamp.

Norfolk Island: August 28, 2007. South Pacific Games. 50¢ tennis; \$1 golf; \$1.20 woman holding ball; \$1.80 runner. Souvenir sheet with \$2 stamp, emblem.

North Korea: April 13, 2006. Belgica 2006. One stamp from a set of 10 pertains to sport: 140w soccer ball, chess piece, table tennis paddle and ball.

June 9 2006. World Soccer Cup. 3w, 130w, 160w, 210w various soccer scenes.

Peru: July 2, 2007. Adventure Sports. Three se-tenant 6s stamps, rafting; mountain biking; climbing.

Portugal: August 22, 2007. Portugal's Rugby Team. Souvenir sheet with 1.85e stamp, player's hands on rugby ball.

Qatar: September 1, 2007. Pan-Arab Equestrian Federation General Assembly Meeting. 2.50r horse race. 5r souvenir sheet.

Romania: June 7, 2007. 60th Anniversary Army Sports Club Steaua. 7.70 lei team shield, medal, silhouettes of athletes participating in various sports. Offset in sheets of eight stamps and a label.

St. Kitts: August 16, 2007: Basketball All Stars. Four silver foil souvenir sheets, each with two \$8 stamps, one showing a player and one showing team emblem; Dwyane Wade; Miami Heat; Shaquille O'Neal; Miami Heat; Steve Nash; Phoenix Suns; Yao Ming; Houston Rockets.

St. Vincent. May 1, 2007. Caribbean Hosts Cricket World Cup. Two 30¢ stamps (the stamps show cricket players and the emblem) Cameron Cuffy; Ian Allen; \$1.05 Neil Williams; two \$1.35 Wilfred Slack; Michael Findlay; two \$1.65 Winston Davis; Nixon McLean; \$21.0 Alphonso (Alfie) Roberts. Souvenir sheet with \$6 stamp, Arnos Vale Stadium, emblem.

Saudi Arabia: May 14, 2007. Victory in Sixth Soccer Cup for Mentally Disabled People. 2r trophy, symbolic soccer balls.

Serbia: March 23, 2007. European Table Tennis Championships. 46d hand, ball and paddle. Souvenir sheet with 112d stamp, silhouette playing table tennis.

May 28, 2007. European youth Olympic Festival. Souvenir sheet with two se-tenant 46d stamps, swimmer, buildings of Belgrade, runner, buildings of Belgrade.

June 28, 2007. Equestrian. Four se-tenant stamps, two 20d stamps, horse jumping, carriage; two 40d stamps, dressage, different view of horse jumping.

South Africa: November 23, 2007. South Africa 2010 World Soccer Cup. Souvenir sheet with nondenominated stamp, inscribed "International Airmail small letter", hands, soccer ball.

Switzerland: October 31, 2007. Skiing. 1 franc self-adhesive, photograph of two skiers, tag that can be read by camera phones to access a web site.

Tanzania: June 13, 2007. World Soccer Cup. Souvenir sheet with 600sh stamp, trophy, emblem.

Trinidad & Tobago: June 28, 2006. World Cup Soccer Championships. Germany, \$1, \$2.50, \$3.75, \$4.50 different scenes of Trinidad & Tobago soccer players in action, emblem.

March 15, 2007. Cricket World Cup. \$1, \$2, \$2.50, \$3.75, \$4.50 various cricket players and trophy. Souvenir sheet contains one \$15 stamp with a trophy design.

November 29, 2006. Children's Games. \$1 running with hoops and sticks; \$2.50 spinning tops; \$3.75 playing; \$4.50 farmer in the den. Souvenir sheet with \$15.00 stamp, tire swing.

United Arab Emirates: February 19, 2007. Dubai Tennis Championships. 1dh, 3dh tennis ball in national colors, racket, emblem.

July 18, 2007. Country's First Olympic Gold Medal. 3 dirhams, Sheikh Ahmed Mohamed Hasher trap shooter.

Wallis & Futuna: October 11, 2007. Handisport of Wallis & Futuna. 10fr circular stamp, logo showing three athletes in wheelchairs.

October 20 2007. World Rugby Cup. 250fr rugby scene.

COMMEMORATIVE 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 JULY 2007 - JANUARY 2008

Football: 07Y10-708, 07Z12-567,
08125-853, 08203-853.
Horse Racing: 07707-077,
07X27-077.

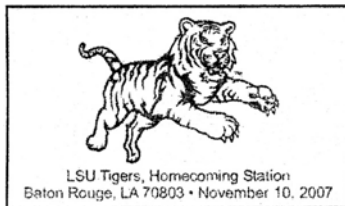


07707-077 Oceanport, NJ 8



Monmouth Park Station
October 27, 2007
Oceanport, NJ 07757

07X27-077 Oceanport, NJ 27



07Y10-708 Baton Rouge, LA 10



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