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1936 BERLIN OLYMPICS

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GAMES

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BASKETBALL

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On the cover: In the background, a birds-eye view of the All England Lawn Tennis Club at Wimbledon. The registered cover from 1949 bears the distinctive postal marking of the Mobile Post Office located on Wimbledon's Grounds during the annual championship.

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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

SPI 2014 Board Meeting 7 December 2014

SPI held it's annual Board Meeting by conference call. While the conversation among the eight members covered a lot of territory, the primary concern was how to attract new members – a perennial problem for every philatelic group. In addition to publicizing ourselves to non-philatelic sports groups, we will also be looking into selling memberships on eBay and exploring new routes for advertising (Google Ads and publications such as the ATA's *Topical Time*). We hope to sign up new members at two events at which SPI will be present: the Olympic Collectors Fair in Lake Placid, NY in September 2015, and NY2016 in May.

Overall, our membership numbers stay relatively constant with a small net loss year-over-year. Financially, SPI breaks even.

We would still like to find a Publicity Manager who could help publicize the society to the mainstream sports and Olympic community.

Two committees were created and staffed. The first is tasked with reviewing our constitution which has not been updated since at least the 1970s. The second committee is developing a membership survey to gather *your* ideas, opinions and concerns about SPI.

We would like to create a Postmark Committee whose job it will be to identify, coordinate and develop sports and Olympic postmarks in the U.S. Readers of our journal will have observed that the number of sports and Olympic postmarks in the U.S. has been dramatically decreasing. It is evident that in the future it will probably be up to SPI to organize sport/Olympic postmarks in cooperation with the USPS. If helping in this endeavor sounds like it might be fun, please contact me directly.

2015 World Olympic Collectors Fair Lake Placid, NY – 10 to 13 September

It's time to begin making plans to attend the 2015 Olympic Fair in Lake Placid, New York, site of the 1932 and 1980 Olympic Winter Games.

In addition to a 100+ table bourse of dealers from the US and overseas, the organizing committee is planning many events: a tour of the Olympic venues, an opportunity to ride the Olympic luge course, receptions, dinners and, of course, the camaraderie of your fellow Olympic collectors. SPI plans to have a table. Special postmarks are also anticipated.

We hope to include a small philatelic exhibition, so dust off those sport and/or Olympic exhibits. There is no exhibiting fee, however you will be responsible for mailing costs (unless you bring your exhibit with you). While there won't be a formal jury, we plan on having a People's Choice Award.

Detailed plans, as well as a list of hotels with special fair rates, is forthcoming. For more information, please visit www.lakeplacid2015.com

Passing of Robert Kevin "Bob" Farley 1955 - 2015

By this time many of you will have heard the sad news that our dear friend and colleague, Bob Farley, passed away very suddenly of a heart attack on Friday, 16 January 2015. Bob was a longtime member of SPI and a guiding force in the Olympic philatelic community having served as the Chairman of the Society of Olympic Collectors since 1996 as well as the editor of its journal, *Torch Bearer*. To honor Bob, the center spread of this issue (pages 18-19) features tributes to him from many of his collector friends around the world.

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

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Attend the SPI Convention at NY2016 General Meeting With Special Guests Monday, 30 May ~ 11 am to 1 pm

Swimming Legends of the 1936 Olympic Games: "Rie" Mastenbroek and Adolph Kiefer

by Bruce A. Tomkins

he efforts of several athletes, notably Jesse Owens, overshadowed many other outstanding performances at the 1936 Olympic Games, which were held in Berlin shortly after the Nazi takeover of Germany. Some of these gold-medal winning victories took place just a short walk from the Olympic stadium, where athletes such as Hendrika "Rie" Mastenbroek (Netherlands) and Adolph Kiefer (USA) turned in performances that were nothing short of legendary.

What exactly did these aquatic athletes do that made their performances so special? A little background is needed to fully appreciate their victories.

Swimming Competition at the 1936 Olympic Games

The swimming competition was held over the second week of the Olympic Games beginning Saturday, 8 August, and concluding on Saturday, 15 August, with 248 athletes from 29 countries participating. The events contested were far fewer than in more recent Olympic Games with just five for women and six for men. The races were: freestyle, 100, 400, and 1500 meters (men only); backstroke, 100 meters; breaststroke, 200 meters; 4x 100 meters freestyle relay (women only); and 4 x 200 meters freestyle relay (men only).

When the competition was completed, Japan was the overall winner with four gold, two silver, and five bronze medals. The Netherlands (four gold and one silver) and the United States (two gold, three silver, and three bronze) finished second and third, respectively.

The Olympic Competition Pool and Stadium

The specifications for both the Olympic competition pool and the surrounding stadium and press facilities are described in detail in the Official Report of the XIth Olympic Games, Berlin, 1936. These facilities (Figure 1) are a short walk to the north of the main Olympic stadium. Many of these dimensions and features are similar to those of modern swimming pools (Figure 2). The Official Report



Figure 1. Official color postcard from the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games depicting the swimming stadium projecting from the north side of the Olympic stadium.

provides us with the following detailed description of the swimming complex:

"The ground level of the swimming stadium is 13 feet lower than the outer platform of the Olympic Stadium. This difference in level makes it possible to make a complete separation between the competitors and the spectators, just as is the case in the Olympic Stadium. The spectators enter the stands on the level of the Stadium platform. The dressing rooms, showers and toilets for the competitors were in the ground floor, 13 feet below. The women's rooms are under the west stands and the men's rooms under the east stands. Along the south wall, behind the diving tower, is a loggia for the competitors. The dressing rooms are ventilated from both sides. They are large rooms, with one place for checking clothes, and no individual cabins. During the Olympic Games, these rooms were divided by temporary wooden partitions into 25 team cabins for men and 12 team cabins for women. Each team cabin contained hooks for hanging up clothes, 5 chests, benches, mirrors, wastepaper baskets and massage benches."

The swimming pool conforms to international standards and is 50×20 meters in size with 8 lanes. The depth varies from 2 meters at the north end to 2.30 meters at the south. A 20×20 -meter diving pool is on the south side of the swimming pool.

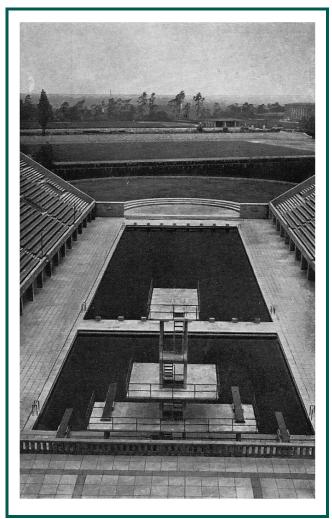


Figure 2. Photograph of the 1936 Berlin Olympic swimming stadium, looking north (unused postcard).

In keeping with the adjacent Olympic Stadium, the swimming stadium is constructed of natural limestone. The Official Report continues:

"The inner arcade around the swimming pool is covered with porcelain tiles. The back walls are of natural stone and are decorated with porcelain tiles. The water in the pool is heated at a plant located some distance away and is kept at a constant temperature of 68° F. When no swimming contests are taking place, the swimming stadium is a public swimming bath. At the north end, which opens out on the lawn of the recreation field there is a tiled wading pool, 6 inches deep."

Current swimmers will also recognize certain features that were absent from the competition pool (Figure 3). For example, backstroke flags, which are now located 15 meters from each end of the pool and span its width, are absent. The lane lines used did not reduce the turbulence in the water; that innovation would not be available until the 1950s. Finally, the officials are clearly located over the start end of the pool to take a stopwatch time, good to tenths of a second. Electronic timing, which would enable accurate times good to hundredths of a second, would not be available for another forty years.

The "swim stadium" was equipped with its own first-aid station, which was used to treat injuries sustained during the water polo and diving competitions. Apparently, the swimmers suffered no injuries.

The Official Report describes in great detail the sixteen post office facilities and special cancels that were available during the 1936 Olympic Games, including those specifically at the Swimming Stadium Station. The post office at the swimming stadium featured telegraph and telephone counters, as well as telephone booths (three for local calls, eight for long-distance calls). Figure 4 reproduces a postcard mailed at the swim stadium post office clearly showing the notations "Berlin Olympia Schwimmstadion" and "XI. Olympiade 1936" surrounding the iconic Berlin Olympic bell logo.

Figure 3 (below). Photograph of the conclusion of the men's 100-meter backstroke finals. Adolph Kiefer (Lane 5 – see red arrow) touches first to win the gold medal in Olympic record time. Note the absence of both backstroke flags across the width of the pool and anti-turbulence lane lines. Also, all timing was done using handheld stopwatches.

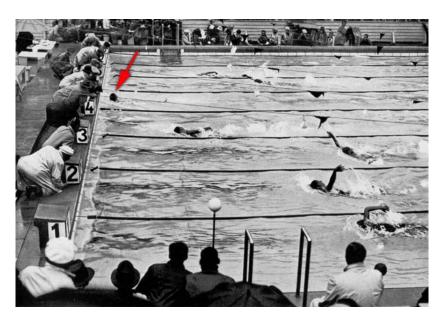




Figure 4. "SCHWIMMSTADION" handcancel dated 3 August 1936 on the Olympic diving stamp. This particular cancel is letter "f".

Olympic Swimming Legend: Hendrika "Rie" Mastenbroek

Hendrika "Rie" Wilhelmina Mastenbroek (26 February 1919 - 6 November 2003) was the dominant female swimmer of the 1930s, setting a performance record that would not be equaled for another thirty years.

Rie was born in Rotterdam, and trained under Ma Braun, the highly successful coach of the Dutch women's swimming team at the 1928 through 1952 Olympic Games. Rie was part of a strong Dutch team that trained together and dominated the 1936 Olympic Games and included "Willy" de Ouden, Nida Senff, Jopi Selbach, Tina Wagner, and Johanna Waalberg. During the 1936 Olympic Games, Rie won a total of three gold medals, all in Olympic record time, plus a silver medal (Table 1). In addition, her qualifying swims in both the preliminaries and semifinals of the 100-meter freestyle also set Olympic records. Her achievements are honored by a souvenir sheet and se-tenant strip of four from the Maldives (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Rie Mastenbroek (Netherlands) was honored on a stamp from the Maldives. It was issued as part of a strip of 4 (above) and in a souvenir sheet (below).



Table 1. Swim	nming Results for He	endrika "Rie" Maste	enbroek (Netherlands)
Table I. Owill	illilling ivegalis for the	FIIUIINA INIC MASIC	filbioek (Netileilailas)

Event	Heat	Date	Time	Result
100-meter freestyle	Preliminaries	August 8, 1936	1:06.4	1st, OR
	Semifinals	August 9, 1936	1:06.4	1st, OR
	Finals	August 10, 1936	1:05.9	Gold medal, OR
400-meter freestyle	Preliminaries	August 13, 1936	5:38.6	QQ
	Semifinals	August 14, 1936	5:40.3	QQ
	Finals	August 15, 1936	5:26.4	Gold medal, OR
4 x 100-meter freestyle relay	Semifinals*	August 12, 1936	4:38.1	QQ
	Finals**	August 14. 1936	4:36.0	Gold medal, OR
100-meter backstroke	Preliminaries	August 11, 1936	1:22.0	QQ
	Semifinals	August 12, 1936	1:19.1	QQ
	Finals	August 13, 1936	1:19.2	Silver medal

OR = Olympic Record; QQ = Qualified for the next round

Relay order, Jopie Selbach, Tini Wagner, "Willy" den Ouden, "Rie" Mastenbroek



Rie Mastenbroek & Ma Braun (used for the Maldives stamp).



J. Campbell (2nd), R. Mastenbroek (1st) & G. Arendt (3rd) in the 100-m freestyle.



Adolph Kiefer after his 100-m backstroke victory.

Table 2. Swimming Results for Adolph Kiefer (USA)

Event	Heat	Date	Time	Result
100-meter backstroke	Preliminaries	August 12, 1936	1:06.9	1st, OR
	Semifinals	August 13, 1936	1:06.8	1st, OR
	Finals	August 14, 1936	1:05.9	Gold medal, OR

OR = Olympic Record

Relay order, "Rie" Mastenbroek, Willemijntje "Willy" den Ouden, Jopie Selbach, Tini Wagner

Olympic Swimming Legend: Adolph Kiefer

Adolph Gustav Kiefer (born June 27, 1918) is an American former competition swimmer, Olympic champion, former world recordholder, and inventor of new products related to aquatics competition.

Kiefer, born in Chicago, Illinois, graduated in 1936 from Roosevelt High School. Following the Berlin Olympic Games, he attended the University of Texas at Austin (1939) and Columbia College (1940).

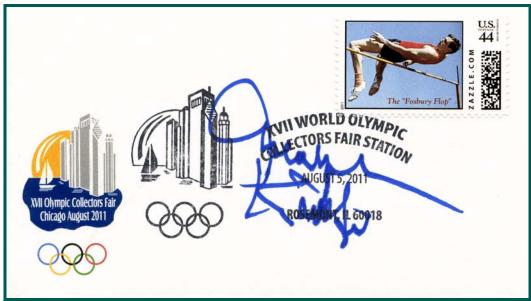


Figure 6. Cover from the 18th World Olympic Collector's Fair held in Rosemont (Chicago), Illinois, and autographed by Adolph Kiefer, Olympic champion in the 100-meter backstroke.

Adolph started making his mark in the swimming world when, at the tender age of 16, he became the first man in the world to swim a sub-60-second 100-yard backstroke (59.8) while competing at the Illinois High School Championships of 1935. He lowered that record the following year at the 1936 Illinois state championship with a backstroke time of 58.5 seconds, an Illinois state high school record that remained unbroken until 1960.

On April 6, 1940 Kiefer set another world record, swimming the 100-yard backstroke in 57.9 seconds. In all, he broke twenty-three records in the backstroke. Kiefer set a world record for 100-m backstroke of 1:04.8 on January 18, 1936 at Brennan Pools in Detroit, Michigan.

Seventeen year-old Kiefer represented the United States at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany (Table 2). On August 14, he won the gold medal in the men's 100-meter backstroke, setting new Olympic records in the first-round heats (1:06.9), the second-round heats (1:06.8) and the event final (1:05.9). His Olympic record would stand for over 20 years, finally broken by David Theile at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games.

Adolph Kiefer returned home a national hero, and began traveling with other U.S. Olympic medalists on a tour of Europe, China, Japan, and South America, during which he challenged other great swimmers in those locations to individual races.

During his competitive career which spanned over 2,000 races, Kiefer lost only twice. One of those

was at the National AAU swimming championship in April 1943 when University of Michigan All-American swimmer Harry Holiday, Jr. beat him in a head-to-head race in the 150-yard backstroke.

Even though Kiefer is 95 years old, he still appears regularly at swimming, Olympic, and sports events as attested to by his autograph on a cover commemorating the 18th World Olympic Collectors Fair in Chicago in 2011 (Figure 6).

Sources:

Ask.com. Adolph Kiefer.

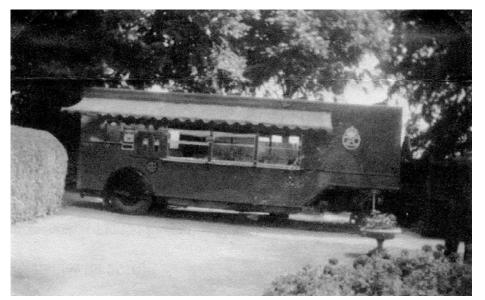
[http://www.ask.com/wiki/Adolph_Kiefer?o=280 1&qsrc=999&ad=doubleDown&an=apn&ap=ask.com.]

Dawson, Buck. Weissmuller to Spitz ... An Era to Remember ... The First 21 Years ... The International Swimming Hall of Fame. Ft. Lauderdale: International Swimming Hall of Fame, 1986.

Organisationskomittee für die XI. Olympiade, 1936. XIth Olympic Games, Berlin, 1936: Official Report (The). Berlin: W. Limpert, 1937. English.

Wikipedia.com. Swimming at the 1936 Summer Olympics, 2013.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swimming_at_the_ 1936 Summer Olympics.]



The Post Office Goes Wimbledon

Figure 1. Mobile temporary post office trailer first stationed at Wimbledon in 1939.

by Ron Backhouse

n 1877 the first annual Lawn Tennis Championships were held at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Wimbledon. The event has continually increased in popularity and the Club has needed to develop its facilities to meet the ever increasing demands of spectators and the media. One way to meet those needs was to provide a postal and telecommunication service at the Ground.

In 1939 the Club agreed with the General Post Office that one of its new mobile temporary post office trailers be stationed at the Ground to provide such services for the duration of the event (Figure 1). This required the office to have a date stamp for use on receipts, etc. The circular date stamp read

MOBILE POST OFFICE but made no mention of the venue. A mobile office was stationed at the Ground each year until 1971.

The following article presents the evolutionary highlights of the Wimbledon Mobile Post Office postmark from its inception in 1939 through the latter part of the 1950s.

Figure 2. A non-registered postal card posted at the Ground, Thursday, 29 June 1939 and date stamped with mobile stamp "C" then forwarded the same day to the main office in Wimbledon for onward delivery.

1939

The minutes of the All England Club record that 1939 was the first year that it was arranged with the General Post Office for it to station a temporary mobile office at its Ground for the duration of The Championships. Mobile post office number 2 was positioned inside the North East entrance from Church Road. The office used two circular date handstamps, one reading "MOBILE POST OFFICE 2B" and the other "MOBILE POST OFFICE 2C". Mail posted in the mobile post office was sent daily to the main post office in Wimbledon for forwarding. Ordinary, non-registered letters were not postmarked in the mobile post office although its

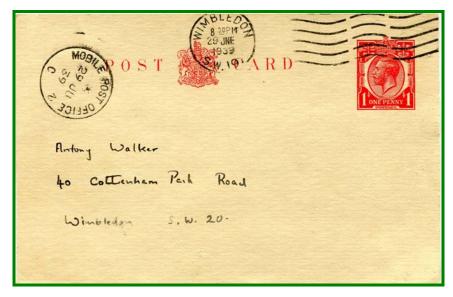


Figure 3. At right is a registered July 1939. The certificate of posting receipt, shown below, is handstamped with the mobile's circular date stamp "B" reading



handstamp could be applied as a cachet as a favor. The office's usual circular handstamp was used on receipts for registered items and to cancel the postage stamps. See Figures 2 and 3.

1947

The Championships were suspended from 1940 to 1945 during WW II and postal services were not

provided at the 1946 Championships. In 1947 a mobile post office was again stationed at the Ground, this time at the North Hall of the Centre Court . A circular date stamp reading

ALLENGLANDLTCWIMBLEDONSW19

(without spaces) was used to cancel stamps on registered mail and on certificates of posting. The introduction of this new date stamp was not generally known and as it was only available for use on costly registered items examples of such covers are rarely seen. See Figures 4 and 5.

Figure 5. A registered letter postmarked Monday, 30 June 1947. This was the first time the All England Club was mentioned in a postmark. The backstamp is reproduced in the inset.

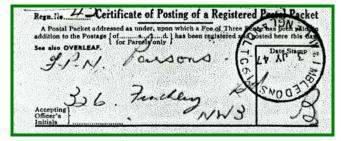


Figure 4. A copy of a registration receipt date stamped Thursday, 3 July 1947.





Figure 6. A registered letter postmarked Monday, 21 June 1948.

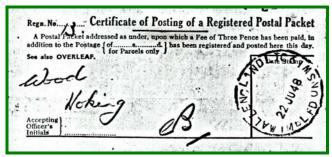


Figure 7. A copy of a registration receipt date stamped Tuesday, 22 June 1948.

1948

In 1948 a mobile post office was again stationed in the Ground but located back at the North East entrance from Church Road where it had been in 1939. A post office was located there each year until 1978. The date stamp used in 1948 was similar to that used in 1947 but its printing slugs were a little loose. See Figures 6 and 7.

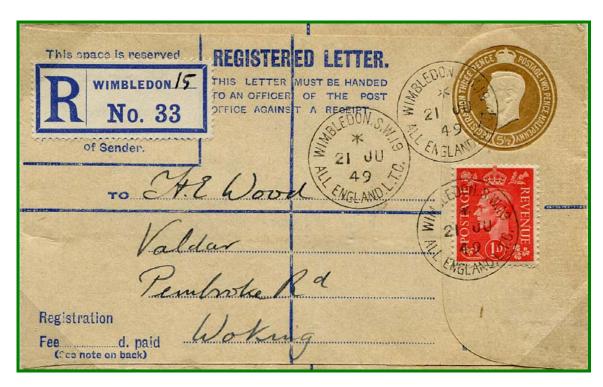


Figure 8. A registered letter postmarked Wednesday, 21 June 1949.

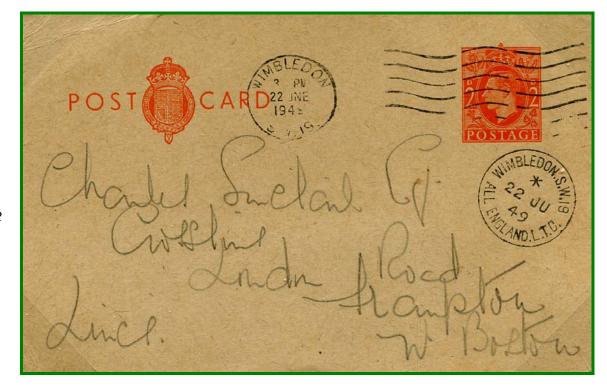


Figure 9. An unregistered postal card postmarked Wednesday, 22 June 1949.

1949

1949 saw the introduction of a new circular date stamp that read "WIMBLEDON.S.W.19" and "ALL ENGLAND.L.T.C." (Figure 8 and 9). It was to remain in use at The Championships each year until 1957, except for 1955 when only the ordinary mobile date stamp was used.

The "Club" date stamp was for use on postal receipts and to cancel stamps on registered mail. Non-registered mail was forwarded to the main office in Wimbledon to be dealt with, as was the postal card in Figure 9. Here, it appears that the sender had persuaded the postal clerk to apply the "Club" date stamp on the card as a cachet.

1955 and 1956

For some unknown reason the "Club" date stamp was not used in 1955 and only the ordinary mobile date stamp was used. That year mobile office number 3 was again stationed at the Ground. The registered cover in Figure 10 shows an aberration: the numeral "2" in "MOBILE POST OFFICE

> No 2 A" is upside down from the normal orientation. It is likely that when this stamp was being brought into use the "2" was inserted instead of a "3". It is known that a date stamp reading "No 3A" was being used two days earlier on 20 June (see inset).

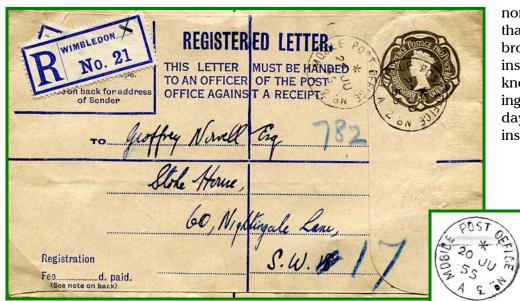


Figure 10. A registered letter postmarked Monday, 22 June 1955, the first day of The Championships, Note the inverted "2" in the mobile post office designation. A correctly oriented "3" was used 20 June (inset).



Figure 11. A registered letter postmarked Tuesday, 3 July 1956 with the "Club" date stamp that was not used the previous year.

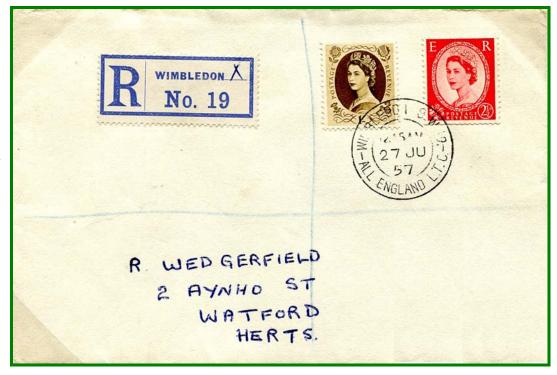
1957

In 1957 a new "Club" date stamp was brought into use. It had a similar wording as before but set in a double ring. It was intended for use on unregistered mail, however, if requested it could be used to cancel stamps on registered letters (Figures 12).

Whilst a new design of date stamp was introduced for use on ordinary mail, the "Club" date stamp used since 1949 (except in 1955) continued to be used for registered mail. As registration was more costly and the interest in the new postmark was greater, examples of the old "Club" date stamp used in 1957 are uncommon (Figures 13 and 14).

These mobile postmarks led to many varieties which provide a fascinating field for devotees to study. In later years there were sponsored cancellations marking The Championships through to 2013. Hopefully we can record the history and varieties of Wimbledon's postmarks before details are lost in the mists of time.

Figure 12. A registered letter postmarked Thursday, 27 June 1957. The first cancellations of the day on 27 June. 12.45 PM, the time was not properly set on PM.



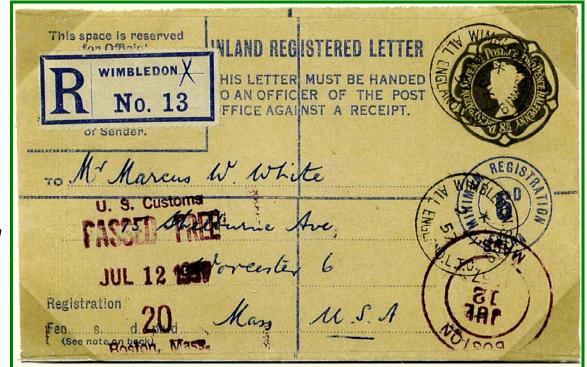
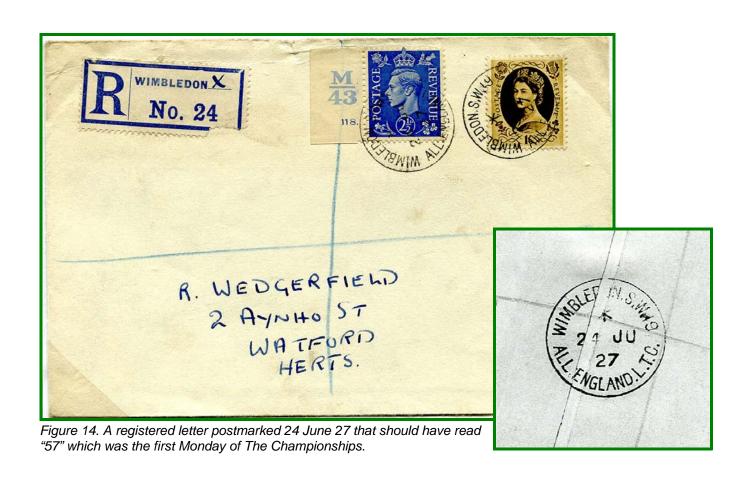
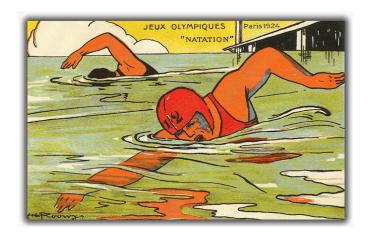


Figure 13. A registered postal envelope postmarked Tuesday, 2 July 1957. An inland registered postal envelope addressed to the USA and passed in Boston free of additional charge on 12 July.



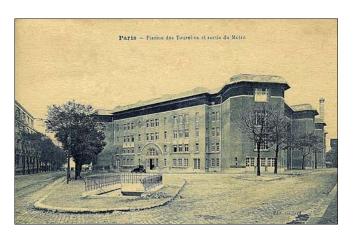


DARIS 1924: BACK TO THE FUTURE, DART 2

by Robert Kebric

n the Winter 2014 issue of JSP, we began a series of articles taking a "now and then" look at major facilities used for the 1924 Paris Olympics. The first installment highlighted the Stade Olympique de Colombes. The Stadium was made famous for new generations by the 1981 film, Chariots of Fire, and more recently by the London 2012 Olympics, which highlighted the two British Empire athletes featured in it, Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell, as well as the popular Vangelis theme. That same facility today is the diminished Yves-du-Manoir Rugby Stadium, and we included past and present "looks" at the Stade and some postal items from those Olympics. Here, we move on to the second of the remaining major facilities from the 1924 Games, the Piscine des Tourelles, now called Piscine des Georges Vallerey (Figures 1 and 2).

Figure 1. Views of the front façade of the Piscine des Tourelles. At left, an early postcard shows an entrance to an underground walkway leading to the Porte des Lilas Métro station. While the circular drive remains, as seen in the recent photograph at right, this Métro entrance is no longer there.



DISCINE DES TOURELLES

The 1924 Official Report (pages 443ff.) puts the swimming attendance at the Paris Olympics at 51,020 (including officials, press, etc.) over the eight days of competition. There were eleven swimming events, in which 169 swimmers from 23 countries vied for 33 medals between July 13 and July 20. The U.S. team, highlighted by the performances of Johnny Weissmuller and Duke Kahanamoku, won 19 medals overall, and nine of the eleven gold.

Other aquatic sports held at the Piscine des Tourelles included diving (71 athletes from 14 countries) in which the U.S. took four of the five golds, and eleven of the 15 medals. In water polo (101 participants [not counting reserves] from 13 countries), France won and the U.S. got the bronze. Modern Pentathlon (38 pentathletes from 11 countries) included a swimming component won by a Swede, ultimately helping his country win all three medals in the event. The best the U.S. could do in the Pentathlon was fifteenth.

While Abrahams and Liddell received momentary celebrity in their day, primarily for golds in the 100M and 400M, respectively, they had to wait almost six decades (by which time both were



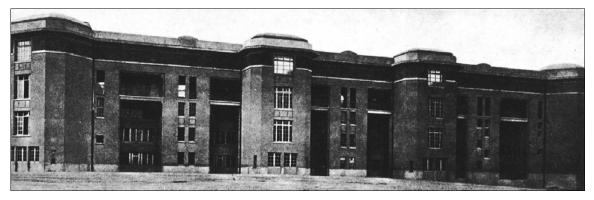


Figure 2. The eight turrets or "tourelles" arranged along the north and south facades gave the Piscine des Tourelles its name. The turrets contained interior stairwells.

deceased) to enjoy the kind of stardom achieved by the two most celebrated U.S. swimmers from those Games, Weissmuller and Hawaiian legend, Kahanamoku.

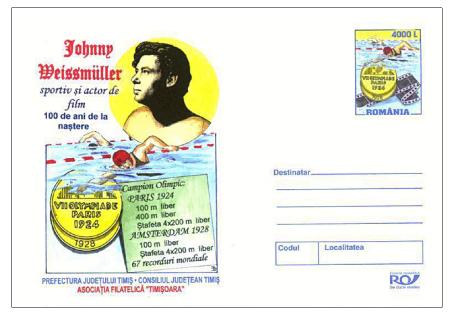
The key match was between the younger Weissmuller and Duke in the 100 meters (Figure 6). Reputedly, Johnny was uneasy having Duke and his 19-year-old younger brother, Sam, in lanes on either side of him, fearing they would work against him in the race. But Duke eased his apprehensions just before the race started when he wished Weissmuller luck and told him the most important thing was an American sweep - which is what happened. Johnny was first in Olympic record time, Duke was second, and Sam Kahanamoku was third.

After his three golds at Paris and two more at Amsterdam in 1928, Weissmuller (Figure 3) turned in his swim suit for a loincloth and the Tarzan "call," becoming Hollywood's definitive Jungle Ape Man. He continued to enthrall audiences as "Jungle Jim," both on the silver screen and later in a television series from 1956-1958.

Meanwhile, Kahanamoku, almost 34 years old, was already the senior statesman of U.S. swimming at Paris, having distinguished himself with golds at the 1912 and 1920 Olympics. The Hawaii (then, still a U.S. territory) contingent so dominated the American team that they warranted a special postcard (Figure 4) in addition to one of the entire U.S. team.

The Duke also had a Hollywood career that spanned five decades, but more as a character actor (appearing in one South Sea Islands adventure with his fellow "Duke," John Wayne) with a few documentaries featuring him as himself. While he never rivaled Johnny's screen career, he got the best of the deal philatelically with a U.S. 37-cent stamp (Figure 5) issued in 2002 on the 122nd anniversary of his birth.

Figure 3. Johnny Weissmuller, born in Romania in 1904, made his Olympic debut at the 1924 Paris Olympics. The stamp and cachet on the Romanian postal stationery card (below left) issued on the centennial of his birth, notes his participation at the '24 and '28 Games. A companion stamp (below right) celebrates his career as the original movie "Tarzan."





Journal of Sports Philately





Figures 4 and 5. The Hawaiian contingent dominated the 1924 Olympic swimming events (above). Kahanamoku was honored with his own U.S. postage stamp (left) in 2002.

Kahanamoku is better remembered today as the father of modern surfing. Photos of him riding the surf at Waikiki in the 1930s with Diamond Head in the background (Figure 5) are iconic. He achieved almost a kind of royalty that reminded islanders of the visit to Hawaii in 1869 by the Duke of Edinburgh, after whom both Duke and his father were named. A meeting with Duke Kahanamoku remained a requirement during his day for important visitors to Hawaii. The Duke remains the greatest Hawaiian hero, symbolized by the bronze statue of him today at Kuhio Beach, welcoming visitors to his favorite Waikiki. The well-known Hawaiian chain of restaurants, "Dukes," is also named after him.

For the competition at Paris, there were two swimming pools, or piscines. The lesser of the two, simply identified as the Stade Nautique in the Official Report, was directly behind the north end of Colombes Stade. It no longer exists. The main pool, a formidable structure that looks more like a fortress than a sports facility, was the Piscine des Tourelles, known today as the Piscine des Georges Vallerey. Built expressly for the 1924 Games, it was the first pool with a length of 50 meters, today's standard for Olympic swimming, and it was equipped with marked lanes.

Ticket holders going to the swimming events at the Piscine would no doubt have taken the Paris Métro directly to the Porte des Lilas station (Figure 7), emerging a short distance away on Avenue Gambetta. The station, itself, is worth a visit since it retains much of its Art Nouveau appearance, both topside and underground. Where Métro line 11 arrives, at least, one can still view the original beveled tiles in white Glen earthenware that helped reflect the Métro's early 20th century lighting. The Station has also been used in movies, including a scene from Julie & Julia (2009), with Meryl Streep.

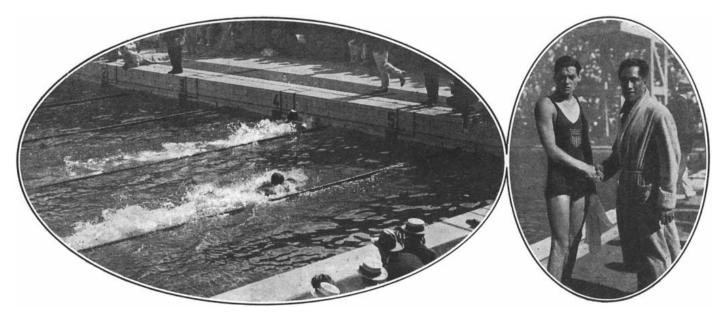


Figure 6. The 100-meter freestyle final. Above left, Johnny Weissmuller (lane 4) touches the wall 2.4 seconds ahead of Duke Kahanamoku (lane 5). Sam Kahanamoku took the bronze for a U.S. sweep. At right, Johnny and Duke shake hands.



Figure 7. Porte des Lilas Métro, where spectators debarked for the Piscine des Tourelles, retains its Art Nouveau exterior.

Arriving at the platform and walking up through the old maze of stairs and passageways provides a flavor that certainly brings a modern visitor closer to what crowds must have experienced during the 1924 Olympics.

The diving platform was ill-situated along one side of the deep end (Figure 8). It was so tall that it extended higher than the outside walls of the facility. Although state of the art at the time, the aging structure eventually disappeared like the dinosaurs it came to resemble.

The Piscine underwent extensive renovations in 1989 and is now a leading water sports facility in Paris. The basic "turret" style appearance of the old brick façade was maintained, but it was given a largely cold concrete and dark-tile facelift. New windows, curiously shaped and sized, make it difficult for an unknowing observer not to suspect that something more sinister than swimming was going on inside.

The structure had to be bolstered to support its now retractable roof (Figure 9), a desirable addition for rainy days, whereas the original was entirely open to the elements. Accommodation also had to be made for offices, locker rooms, and state-of-the art scoreboard, sound system, and electronic timers. The inside is "concrete sporty" and sterile, but it is well lit with a seating capacity of 1,500 spectators.

The pool itself has been modernized to host all types of modern competition, including synchronized swimming. It now measures 50 meters in length and 21 meters wide, marked out into eight lanes. Its basic configuration is adaptable and can be turned into two pools of 25 meters each. The depth is also adjustable.

The Piscine is still very active today and has hosted numerous national and international swim-

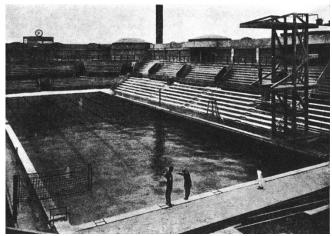


Figure 8. The diving tower, at right, was positioned off to the side of the pool's deep end.

ming meets. The popular facility is located at 148 Avenue Gambetta in the 20th arrondissement of Paris, just inside the eastern edge of the Boulevard Périphérique that encircles the city.

For those who wish to visit, photography inside is forbidden, although I did not know this before I had taken a number of shots. There is an entrance fee of three euros. The easiest way to visit is by Métro.

In the final installment of this series, we will feature a major facility that was used in both the 1900 and 1924 Olympics. It may come as a surprise to many that the Vélodrome in the Bois des Vincennes in Paris is still an active venue and retains much of its original character. In fact, it is here that we come closest to the actual feel of the 1924 Games and can easily imagine the crowds in the antiquated grandstands – and the bicycle races that took place here.



Figure 9. The inside of the Piscine des Tourelles as it appears today with the retractable roof closed.

Tributes to Robert "Bob" Farley from his friends in the collecting community



Thomas Lippert, Mark Maestrone, and Bob Farley at Einstein's during 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games.

It was at the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games where Bob Farley and I first met. I remember thinking at the time what a truly friendly and outgoing individual he was. As we slogged our way through the summer heat and humidity of downtown Atlanta methodically visiting each mobile post office, I also began to appreciate what a thirst Bob had for broadening not only his, but others' knowledge of Olympic philately.

Over the ensuing nearly 20 years our paths continued to cross. Whether it was at an Olympic Games (and there were many) or on a vacation, getting together with Bob, and often his delightful wife, Brenda, and daughter, Sarah, was always an enjoyable occasion.

I also admired Bob for his uncanny ability to navigate the often treacherous waters of international philately with just the right amount of diplomacy. Through it all, Bob always maintained both his humor and enthusiasm. You were a wonderful friend and colleague, Bob, and I will miss you.

- Mark Maestrone -



In London, in Paris, in Torino, in Lausanne, in Cologne ... we will always have good memories of your Olympic passion and spirit, dear Bob.

- Christophe Ait-Braham -



Bob & Brenda Farley, and friends, at Ancient Olympia for the lighting of the Olympic Flame, May 2012.

I will miss Bob greatly. I've lost a good friend, a colleague, and a mentor who taught me so much about the world of sports and Olympic philately, which was his passion.

Of all the times I spent with Bob, the trip to Olympia and Athens in 2012 stands out. First, because Bob and Stathis Douramakos both went far beyond necessity to assure that our group of philatelic friends and spouses would be able to experience these unique events together. And then because this trip provided for Bob and his friends a perfect mixture of history, philately, and socializing.

Yes, we obtained postmarks and souvenirs, and shared some laughs hearing Bob's stories of the vagaries of dealing with the postal service. But I smile more when I recall standing with Bob in the garden of the Hotel Europa at sunset the evening prior to the Torch Lighting Ceremony, both looking out over the hills surrounding Olympia. Bob was relaxed and happy, enjoying a glass of wine, pleased that he had been able to share the magic of Olympia with his friends, and that we too felt how special it was. That was Bob, always going the extra mile for his friends and family. The dinner together in the garden completed a perfect day for us all.

The following morning all of us became spellbound by the beauty, simplicity, and symbolism of the Lighting Ceremony of the Olympic Flame. This was an unforgettable experience for everyone.

I remember also Bob's excitement in Athens where the Olympic Torch was run right into the Zappeion building and through the aisles of the Fair, and the animated way he interacted with the Fairgoers who each learned a little more about Olympic philately if they passed by the SOC table. So this is how I'll remember Bob, experiencing these special moments with his wife Brenda and with his friends.

- Norman Jacobs, Jr. -



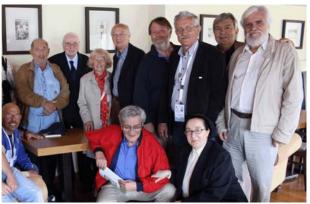
Participants at the Olympic Museums Network group meeting at Helsinki, May 2013.

Bob will be greatly missed on the IOC Commission for Philately, Numismatics and Memorabilia. He and 1 were new appointees at the same time. As I got to know Bob I learned how hard he was willing to work on projects. Since I did not have much knowledge of stamp collecting Bob was willing to help educate me on the subject. He was an expert and avid collector. He was very responsible for the success of the exhibit in London during the 2012 Games. Without him it probably would not have happened. He helped create the new AICO organization.

Bob and I were sent to the meeting in 2013 of the Olympic Museums Network group working on the subject of fake Olympic material. He was a great educator of the attendees on the subject of unauthorized and illegally reproduced stamps.

As we look toward the future of collecting, some new things will not be accomplished or as well done. He will be missed.

- Jim Greensfelder -



Bob with some of his many collector friends from around the world gathered in Athens 2012.

The sad news was completely unexpected; it was a shock. Without Bob we lose one of the most active Olympic collectors who contributed in so many ways: through fostering cooperation within the international community of Olympic associations, as a society chairman and editor of the well-respected TORCH BEARER, and especially as one of the very few specialists doing research in the field of modern Olympic postal history.

Starting at Atlanta 1996 and continuing through Sochi 2014, Bob and I have been doing "our job" together on our "Olympic expeditions." Now this joint project comes to an abrupt end. Bob, we will miss you! - Thomas Lippert -

For more tributes to Bob, please visit this memorial site to him on the web:

http://memorials.co-operativefuneralcare.co.uk/ memorial/01-16-2015-RobertKevin-Farley

Energy, enthusiasm, practical common sense, and generosity of spirit are the personal characteristics that immediately come to mind when I reflect on the life of Bob Farley.

Bob was a "shoulder to the wheel," "lets do the job and do it properly" sort of person. If Olympic collecting could be likened to a ship, then Bob was in the engine room, working hard to keep the ship moving for the benefit of all on board.

In addition to his capacity for hard work, Bob was also a man of vision. He was concerned not only to ensure the ship was moving, but moving in the right direction. He was able to read the tides and winds of change that faced Olympic collecting and to move with them.

1 worked closely with Bob on two projects: the Olympex 2012 exhibition during the 2012 London

Olympic Games, and the Working Group which led to the establishment of AICO. Olympex 2012 was an outstanding success and while many people contributed, the fact of the matter is the exhibition would not have happened without Bob Farley and Bob Wilcock. Similarly, on the Working Group to consider the establishment of an international organisation, it was invariably Bob who found a way to overcome the natural differences that exist between different cultures and demonstrate the greater good that could be achieved.

Bob has died, but he is not gone. His legacy lives on in the Society of Olympic Collectors and the wonderful work he and colleagues did in documenting the philatelic history of Olympic Games since 1988. His spirit lives on in all of those who came to know him.

Vale, Bob Farley.

- David Maiden -







n late December 2014, an envelope arrived from the City of Toronto bearing a red meter (Figure 1) "Toronto Host City - Toronto 2015 Pan Am Parapan Am." This meter is yet another vehicle Torontonians are starting to see being used to promote the upcoming XVII Pan American Games (July 10-26) and the Parapan American Games (August 7-15). The red meter also features the logos of the 2015 Pan American Games and the City of

Toronto. While Toronto is the official host city, some 30 event venues will be located in at least 16 southern Ontario municipalities.

The Pan American Games (more commonly known as the Pan Am Games) have been held every four years since 1951. They provide athletes from the Americas - North, Central, South and the Caribbean – with an opportunity to test their skills and preparedness in a wide range of sports one year in advance of the Olympic Games. Canada has hosted the Pan Am Games on two

previous occasions, in 1967 and in 1999. Both times, Winnipeg was the host city. And on both occasions, interesting philatelic material emerged.

In 1963, the City of Winnipeg was awarded the 1967 Pan Am Games. For many, this was an interesting decision. Previous hosts Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Chicago and São Paulo were large metropolises. The prairie City of Winnipeg had a population of slightly more than 250,000 inhabitants. Nevertheless, Winnipeg's mayor Stephen Juba did not see this as draw-back but rather as an opportunity to promote Winnipeg on the international stage during the centennial year of Canada's Confederation.

And the Games did not disappoint. Not only did the city construct new legacy sporting facilities but also witnessed the performances of many athletes who were already - or on the verge of becoming sporting legends in their disciplines such as Wyomia Tyus, Mark Spitz, Don Schollander, Claudia Kolb,

> Debbie Meyers, Lee Evans and others.

> To celebrate the 1967 Pan Am Games, Canada issued a 5-cent stamp featuring a sprinter exploding out of the blocks. This was Canada's first postage stamp explicitly dedicated to a sporting event. Both the stamp and the first day cancel also included the Game's logo (Figure 2). Numerous first day cachets were produced including one that featured five interlocking rings that are reminiscent of the Olympic emblem.

> For a number of months leading up to the Games, a slogan

cancel promoted the event (Figure 3). Apparently, it was only used in Winnipeg.

Buoyed by their mayor's enthusiasm, the local population took the Games to heart and various red meters were created by Winnipeg entities to promote their Games (Figures 4 and 5).

The Pan American Games returned to Winnipeg in 1999. While some 5,000 athletes from 42 nations participate, many top athletes chose to forgo this event, instead competing on the European circuit.

Canada's Pan **American** Games

by Kon Sokolyk



Figure 1. In 2014, the City of Toronto began using a slogan meter promoting the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games. The Toronto, Ontario region will be hosting both sets of Games.

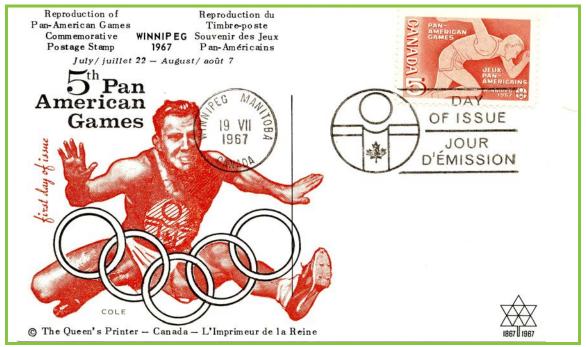


Figure 2. First Day Cover for Canada's 1967 Pan American Games stamp. Notable was the fact that this was also the first Canadian stamp commemorating a specific sports event.

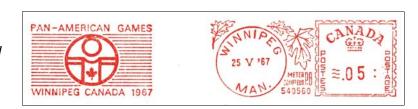
Figure 3. Publicity machine cancel used in Winnipeg for a few months leading up the 1967 Games.





Figure 4. The citizens of Winnipeg were so enthusiastic about the upcoming Games that several entities publicized the event in their meter imprints.

Figure 5. The red meter imprints typically included both the logo of the Games along with the text.





Figures 6 & 7. Above, the four stamps issued by Canada Post for the 1999 Pan Am Games in Winnipeg. The stamps were also issued as individual postal cards with matching stamps as the indicium (shown photographically cropped above.)



In advance of the 1999 Games, a block of four domestic rate (46-cent) stamps was issued featuring athletes in competition (Figure 6). Also issued were four pre-paid postcards each bearing a different stamp imprinted as the indium (Figure 7). The non-denominated cards indicate "postage paid / port payé for mailing in Canada and delivery worldwide."



Figure 8. While this slogan ink jet cancel does not bear a city name, it does include the postal code with the R3 prefix which is assigned to Winnipeg.





Figures 9 & 10. Two Canada Post pictorial postmarks that are reflective of the 1999 Pan American Games.

A bilingual slogan spray cancel was used in Winnipeg between June and August 1999 (Figure 8).

During the Games, the post office produced at least two commemorative circular cancels. While neither explicitly references the Pan American Games, one features athletes with medals at a victory celebration (Figure 9), which strongly resembles an image found on the top right hand corner of the soccer/football stamp. The other cancel features the Winnipeg skyline (Figure 10).

In the spring of 1999, the Winnipeg Philatelic Society's stamp show featured a "retro" cancel "Celebrating the XIII Pan-American Games in Winnipeg" (Figure 11). The left side of the cancel mimics a classic



Figure 11. Winnipeg Philatelic Society show postmark for the 1999 Pan Am Games.

Canadian 19th century "squared circle" post-mark, while the right side is modern and features a bison, the enduring symbol of Manitoba, and Canada's maple leaf. The cancel was available in three colors – black, blue and red – and was in use for three days, April 30 - May 2, 1999.

In 2015, the Pan American Games will return to Canada. With venues in multiple southern Ontario municipalities (almost all with distinct post offices), it will be interesting to see what philatelic material emerges.

A thank you to François Brisse, FRPSC, A.Q.É.P., for his assistance with the cancels and to David Crotty for his assistance with the red meters.

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Coutts, Cecil, Slogan Postmarks of Canada, 1996. Weiner, Dr. Joel, Canada Inkjet (Jet Spray) Cancels 1992-2005 (3rd Edition), British North American Philatelic Society, 2006.



Figure 14. Paralympic Games miniature sheet issued 29 August.

Looking Back at London 2012

Part 4B: 2012 - The Games, the Paralympics & Gold Medals

by Bob Wilcock

Welcome to the Paralympic Games

A miniature sheet was issued on 29 August. In similar style and format to the Olympic sheet, the four stamps depict powerlifting with St. Paul's Cathedral and the Millenium Bridge over the Thames (viewed from Tate Modern Art Gallery), a runner and the Olympic Stadium, wheelchair basketball with the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, then a Paralympic cyclist before the London Eye at sunset (Figure 14). Pictorial first day postmarks are illustrated in Figure 15.

Paralympic Gold Medal Winners

British Paralympic gold medalists were honored in a similar manner to the Olympians, but this time there were eight miniature sheets of two stamps printed on each A4 sheet. Sometimes the whole sheet was devoted to one medalist, at other times three or four medalists, and the stamps were not always issued on the day immediately following the medal win. Table 2 sets out the full details.

The first day commemorative postmark was in the same Union flag design as used during the Olympics. Again, covers from the Philatelic Bureau have 29 mm ink-jet (spray) cancels. Those mailed in the Village and Press Centre and sent in to Special Handstamp Centres were 23 mm hand-cancels (Figure 16).



Figure 15. Paralympic First Day postmarks.

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Table 2: Paralympic Gold Medalist Stamps						
Number/Sh	Number/Sheet Medalist		Sport	Medal Date	Stamp Date	Cancel #
PGMWA1	Α	Sarah Storey	Cycling Track, Women's C5 Pursuit 30-Aug		31-Aug	12692
PGMWB2	В	Jonathan Fox	Swimming, Men's 100m backstroke S7 31-Aug		01-Sep	12693
PGMWC1	С	Mark Colbourne	Cycling Track Mens C1 Pursuit	31-Aug	03-Sep	12696
PGMWC2	С	Hannah Cockroft	Athletics Track Women's 100m T4	31-Aug	03-Sep	12696
PGMWC3	С	Neil Fachey and Barney Storey (pilot)	Cycling Track, Men's Tandem 1km Time Trial (TT)	01-Sep	03-Sep	12696
PGMWC4	С	Richard Whitehead	Athletics Track Men's 200m T42	01-Sep	03-Sep	12696
PGMWD1	D	Natasha Baker	Equestrian Ind. Ch. Test Grade II	01-Sep	03-Sep	12696
PGMWD2	D	Sarah Storey	Cycling Track Women's C4-C5 500m TT	01-Sep	03-Sep	12696
PGMWD3	D	Ellie Simmonds	Swimming Women's 400m Freestyle S6	01-Sep	03-Sep	12696
PGMWE1	Е	Pam Relph, Naomi Riches, Davis Smith, James Roe and Lily van den Broecke	Rowing: Mixed Coxed Four LTAMix4+	02-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWE2	Е	Aled Davies	Athletics Men's Discus F42	02-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWE3	Е	Anthony Kappes and Craig MacLean (pilot)	Cycling Track, Men's Individual B Sprint	02-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWE4	Е	Jessica-Jane Applegate	Swimming Women's 200m Freestyle S14	02-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWF1	F	Sophie Christiansen	Equestrian Ind. Ch. Test Grade 1a	02-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWF2	F	David Weir	Athletics Track Men's 5000m T54	02-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWF3	F	Natasha Baker	Equestrian Ind. Freestyle Test Grade II	03-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWF4	F	Ellie Simmonds	Swimming Women's 200m IM SM6	03-Sep	04-Sep	12697
PGMWG1	G	Mickey Bushell	Athletics Track Men's 100m T53	03-Sep	05-Sep	12698
PGMWG2	G	Danielle Brown	Archery Women's Ind. Compound Open	04-Sep	05-Sep	12698
PGMWG3	G	Heather Frederiksen	Swimming Women's 100m Backstroke S8	04-Sep	05-Sep	12698
PGMWG4	G	Sophie Christiansen	Equestrian Individual Freestyle Test G1a	04-Sep	05-Sep	12698
PGMWH1	Н	David Weir	Athletics Track Men's 1500m T54	04-Sep	07-Sep	12699
PGMWH2	Н	Sarah Storey	Cycling Road, Women's C5 Time Trial	05-Sep	07-Sep	12699
PGMWH3	Н	Ollie Hynd	Swimming Men's 200m Ind. Medley S8	05-Sep	07-Sep	12699
PGMWH4	Н	Lee Peterson, Debra Criddle, Sophie Christ- iansen, Sophie Wells	Equestrian Team Open	02-Sep	07-Sep	12699
PGMWI1	ı	Helena Lucas	Sailing Single-person Keelboat 2.4mR	06-Sep	08-Sep	12700
PGMWI2	I	Sarah Storey	Cycling Road Women's C4-5 Road Race	06-Sep	08-Sep	12700
PGMWI3	I	Josef Craig	Swimming Men's 400m Freestyle S7	06-Sep	08-Sep	12700
PGMWI4	I	Hannah Cockroft	Athletics Track Women's 200m T34	06-Sep	08-Sep	12700
PGMWJ1	J	David Weir	Athletics Track Men's 800m T54	06-Sep	10-Sep	12703
PGMWJ2	J	Jonnie Peacock	Athletics Track Men's 100m T44	06-Sep	10-Sep	12703
PGMWJ3	J	Josie Pearson	Athletics Women's Discus F52/53/54	07-Sep	10-Sep	12703
PGMWJ4	J	David Stone	Cycling Road Mens T1-T2 Road Race	08-Sep	10-Sep	12703
PGMWK1	К	David Weir	Athletics Road Men's Marathon T54	09-Sep	10-Sep	12703



Figure 16. Like the first day commemorative postmarks for the Olympic medalist stamps, the Paralympic medalist first days flag cancels were in two sizes: 29 mm (shown at the ends of the red line) and 23 mm.

Sports Pictogram SmartStamps

It was mentioned in Part 2 of this overview that the Society of Olympic Collectors produced computer-generated Royal Mail SmartStamps using official sports pictogram images supplied by LOCOG for the purpose. These were initially printed and dated to coincide with the issue of the stamp for the respective sports, and on the dates of the pictogram handstamps (also mentioned in Part 2).

The SmartStamps were reprinted during the Games on dates mostly coinciding with dates of events; souvenir covers were sold in the cabin at Olympex 2012.

There were additional designs for sports not represented on stamps or on the pictogram cancels,



for example synchronized swimming and a number of the Paralympic sports. Some were mailed from the Athletes Village or the Press Centre in order to obtain examples of the circular counter date stamps correctly used to cancel adhesive make-up values on the cover (Figures 17 and 18).

Olympic and Paralympic Memories – and on to Rio

A final miniature sheet, "Memories of London 2012" issued 27 September, comprised two stamps with scenes of the Paralympic Opening Ceremonies.



Figure 19. The final miniature sheet – "Memories of London 2012."



Figure 20. Seven of the nine first day postmarks used with the "Memories of London 2012" stamps.

A third stamp honored the much-praised volunteers, called "Games Makers." The final stamp showed the Olympic Closing Ceremony (Figure 19).

There were nine first day postmarks (Figure 20), together with a postmark primarily used on a pictorial cover marking the Hand-Over to Rio 2016 (Figure 21).

United Parcel Service - UPS

As Official Logistics and Express Delivery Supporter of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, UPS opened temporary facilities at the Athletes Village, the Media Centre, and at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club (the only



Figure 22. UPS parcel mailed from the All England Lawn Tennis Club at Wimbledon (see inset) – the only mail facility at any sporting venue!



Figure 21. The "London 2010 to Rio 2016" handover postmark was used primarily on this pictorial cover.

mail facility of any sort at an Olympic venue). Facilities for the Olympic Family were available at Hilton Park Lane; Meridian Hotel, Piccadilly; and Chancery Court Hotel, High Holborn. Similar computerized bar-coded address labels were used, together with a "Love from London" sticker (Figure 22).

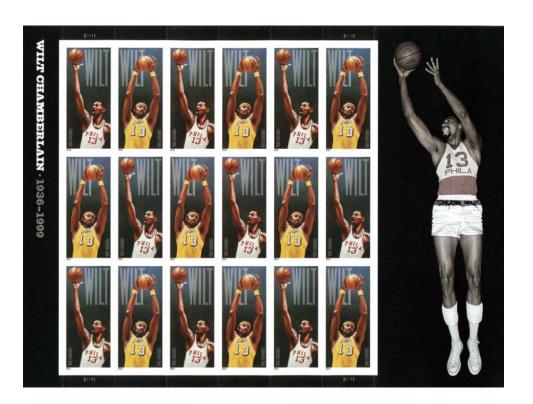
Postscript - Silver Medalist Honored

In conjunction with the issue of stamps for the Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow in 2014, a handstamp commemorated the achievements of Christine Ohoruogu MBE (Figure 23). She won an Olympic silver medal in the 400-meter race in London, behind Sanya Richards-Ross, running for the U.S.A. Christine had taken golds in both Beijing and at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in

2006. She was also World Champion in Osaka in 2007 and again in Moscow in 2013. In Glasgow this year she helped the English team secure a bronze in the Women's 4 x 400-meter relay.



Figure 23. Christine Ohoruogu, a silver medalist in London, was honored on a cancel for the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.



The "Big Dipper" Honored on U.S. Stamps

by Mark Maestrone

ilt Chamberlain, a.k.a. the "Big Dipper,"became the first National Basketball Association (NBA) player to be commemorated on not one, but two, U.S. postage stamps. Basketball lore has it that Chamberlain's buddies coined the moniker "Dipper" – later "Big Dipper" – seeing the 7' 1" (2.16 m) Wilt dip his head as he walked through doorways.

Unveiled during the Philadelphia 76ers game against the Oklahoma City Thunder on Friday, 5 December 2014, the pair of stamps depict #13 Chamberlain in action photographs for both Philadelphia (he played for the Warriors and later the 76ers) and the Los Angeles Lakers.

Chamberlain, a Philadelphia native, initially eschewed basketball, preferring track & field where he excelled in the broad jump, shot put, high jump and sprint events. However, as Philly was a "basketball town," he gravitated to the sport in high school. His uncommon ability as both a shot blocker and a high scorer propelled him to the forefront in his college and professional careers.

Wilt set numerous records during his fourteen seasons in the NBA. The most noteworthy, arguably, occurred on 2 March 1962 as he set a single-game scoring record of 100 points for the Warriors in a game against the New York Knicks. He was a 13-time All-Star with a career 31,419 points and 23,924 rebounds.

Following his retirement from the sport in 1973, Chamberlain pursued a myriad of business interests which included the sport of volleyball as both an owner and a player.

Remaining active, Wilt eventually succumbed to heart problems that had arisen later in life. He died in 1999 at the age of 63 at his home in Bel Air, California.

The stamps, created by Kadir Nelson (who also designed the Althea Gibson and Negro Baseball League stamps), are just over 2 inches tall which is a third to twice the size of a typical commemorative.

The images of Wilt Chamberlain are based on photographs of the NBA center in the uniforms of a Philadelphia Warrior and Los Angeles Laker.

Each stamp pane is comprised of 18 self-adhesive stamps alternating between the two designs (top). The face value at the time of issue is 49¢, the domestic first class rate for up to 1 ounce. In addition to the standard black & white first day post-

mark, the USPS also made available a color laser-printed version in a different design (right). Other postmarks included one at a celebration at his high school, Overbrook, on 10 December (page 36 shows supplementary cancels).

In the end, I think the "Big Dipper" would have approved of these tall philatelic tributes.

BOOK REVIEW

by Mark Maestrone

The 1912 Stockholm Olympics: Essays on the Competitions, the People, the City edited by Leif Yttergren and Hans Bolling. Softbound, 292 pages with black & white illustrations. Published in English in 2012 by McFarland. Price \$55 from www.mcfarlandpub.com or by phone (800-253-2187). Also available at many bookstores and online.

As those lucky individuals who have had the opportunity to attend at least one Olympic Games will tell you, the experience is like no other. Aside from the competition, the Games are truly an international multi-ethnic snapshot of culture and society.

Unfortunately, most books on the Olympic Games fail miserably in conveying this sense of time and place, attempting instead to distill the event down to a litany of superlatives: the most extraordinary this or the most expensive that. Rarely does one come away with but a limited taste of what it actually felt like to "be there."

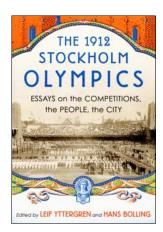
This is why "The 1912 Stockholm Olympics: Essays on the Competitions, the People, the City" is atypical for a book on a single Olympics. As the title connotes, this book collects and interprets the vast Olympic treasure trove of data from the *Games of the Vth Olympiad* into ten unusual, yet surprisingly effective, essays written by ten Swedish scholars from different walks of life. Told with a decidedly Swedish emphasis, the discussions range widely from "Nothing New Under the Sun? Marketing the Stockholm Olympics" to "Gender and Class: Women on the Swedish Squad." A final chapter lays out the results of the sports competitions.

To begin with, it is worth remembering the historical importance of the 1912 Olympics. Following the so-called "Exposition Olympics" of 1900, 1904 and 1908 in which the sporting events took a backseat to the exhibitions themselves, the Stockholm organizers had to reinvent the Games as a stand-alone event. And unlike today's organizing committees which have a seven-year lead time and a complex template to guide them in building an Olympics, Stockholm – with just three years to go – had to create its own play book.

Some of the revelations were quite fascinating. The marketing chapter, for example, delved into the machinations and challenges surrounding the development of a graphic poster that would be emblematic of these first Scandinavian Olympics. It took the committee nearly 18 months to actually agree on a final design (the colorful image of nude athletes waving flags of the various participating nations). As a result, the advertising posters

were not ready until early 1912, barely 5 months prior to the Games!

Mats Hellspong's examination of contemporary sources helped paint a vivid picture of the "Spectators at the Stockholm Games." Remembering this was 1912 when social mores were still quite strict, imagine seeing "thousands of well-mannered Swedish women [in the stands] taking part in ovations with body and



soul." And what a spectacle it must have been when normally staid Swedish audiences joined American and Canadian fans in the distinctly North American practice of yelling rhythmic chants in support of their team.

In an essay by Patrik Steorn entitled "Art and Sport: Different Worlds?" we learn a great deal about the inaugural Olympic Arts Competition which did not occur without a great gnashing of teeth. Baron de Coubertin, as it has often been pointed out, was a firm believer "that sport was a way of educating men in both body and soul" and that a "'Concours d'Art' would be the unification of those ideals."

The organizing committee, however, unanimously opposed the idea, suggesting that "the Chairman of the IOC should himself organize the competition." De Coubertin did just that, handpicking many of the entrants. Particularly disturbing, though, is that de Coubertin awarded himself (using the pseudonym George Hahrod and Martin Eschbach) a gold medal in literature.

The above examples barely scratch the surface of what readers may discover among the various essays. As pointed out in the introduction, the chapters may be read in any order. A downside, if it can really be called that, is that some essays are decidedly Sweden-centric, especially when statistical analyses enter the discussion. But this should not be taken as a criticism, merely an observation.

The book is liberally sprinkled with black & white photos. Each chapter has an extensive set of endnotes for the student wishing to investigate further.

My only complaint is that the price, at \$55, seems relatively exorbitant for a soft-cover publication of this length. Nevertheless, I can certainly recommend this collection of essays which effectively capture the mood, culture and uniqueness of these early Olympic Games in Sweden.

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31st AUCTION

June 15 - 20, 2015 / philately & picture postcards June 24, 2015 / coins & paper money / banknotes

Closing date for consignments: April 2, 2015

32nd AUCTION

October 19 - 24, 2015 / philately & picture postcards
October 27, 2015 / coins & paper money / banknotes
Closing date for consignments: August 20, 2015



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Journal of Sports Philetely 1/20

REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

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

December 2014 (#74). In a nod to the IOC's decision to return golf and rugby to the Summer Olympic Games, Jean-Pierre Picquot presents the two sports' debut during the recent Nanjing Youth Olympic Games. AFCOS celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2014, so René Christin decided to create a review, with pictures, of some of the society's high points. In Part 2 of Roman Babut's salute to sportsmen during World War II in "Survive with Honor," he covers the prisoner-of-war camp Olympics.



Registered letter with four 10 Pf Olympic stamps for the Camp Olympic Games in Woldenberg IIC.

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

November 2014 (#164). The final issue of 2014 of the IMOS journal catches readers up on the latest listings of new sport and Olympic stamps and postmarks. A variety of short articles discuss: the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo; a look at German auctioneer Christoph Gärtner's 30th anniversary in auction business (Auktionshaus Gärtner is the host of the IMOS 2015 annual convention); the 17th Asian Games recently conducted in Inchon, South Korea; Brazil's World Cup of Football; and the Gothia Cup – a world youth football event held annually in Gothenburg, Sweden, of which I was completely unfamiliar. There is also a lengthy update of the latest private post stamp issues of Germany, most of which are devoted to football.

<u>Phila-Sport</u>: UICOS, c/o CONI Servizi, Piazza Lauro de Bosis 15, Foro Italico, 00135 Rome, ITALY [In Italian]

December 2014 (#92). Giorgio Leccese presents the final part of his series on the football philately from French-speaking, primarily African, countries. Leccese begins with a multi-sport sheet issued by Mali for the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games and concludes with the 1982 World Cup conducted in France. Summer and fall must be the time for philatelic exhibitions in Italy as numerous events featuring sport and Olympic exhibits are presented in which UICOS members were actively involved.

Pasquale Polo takes us back in time to discuss sport during the allied military occupation of Trieste. As always, a number of sports are covered in short articles: the XIXth World Transplant Games from Durban, South Africa are discussed by Luciano Calenda; Mauro Gilardi, in his "Panorama" series of sports news, looks at basketball, world championships of canoeing/kayaking, baseball in Italy, various motor and aeronautic sports events, and world judo championships.

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

December 2014 (Vol. 31, #3). The SOC packet, while still seeking a new permanent manager (Bob Wilcock will be in charge for 2015), is introducing a new email version which will parallel, but not overlap, the existing mailed packet which is limited to UK members. It is hoped that the new email packet will draw more international members.

In addition to brief articles on unusual or curious items from Athens 1896 and Barcelona 1992, an overview of the recent 127th IOC Session in Monaco is provided, at which IOC President Thomas Bach presented his roadmap for the Olympic Movement called *Olympic Agenda 2020*.

As 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Olympics in Innsbruck and Tokyo, Bob Farley continues with his presentation of philately of both Games. All worldwide stamps and postmarks for Innsbruck are illustrated. As for Tokyo, all stamps are shown, but postmarks and other philatelic material will be left for a future issue.





News of Our Members

by Mark Maestrone

NEW MEMBERS

Bill Izso, 54 Elvaston Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K2G3X9, Canada. *Pre-1960 Summer & Winter Olympics, Olympians*.

E-mail: billizso@rogers.com

RETURNING MEMBERS

Orval F. Hart, 406 Grand Canyon Dr., Los Alamos, NM 87544-36346 USA. *General Sports and Olympics*. E-mail: TheBigOH@aol.com

H. David Schneider, 6142 Annapurna Drive, Evergreen, CO 80439-5314 USA. *General Sports, Olympics, Soccer.*

MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

Robert Kevin "Bob" Farley, Chairman of the Society of Olympic Collectors (U.K.) and a longtime member of SPI, passed away suddenly on 16 January 2015. For more information, please read the President's Message and the special

tribute to Bob on pages 18 and 19 of this issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*.

EXHIBITING RESULTS

CHICAGOPEX (21-23 Nov. 2014). Andrew Urushima won gold for his single-frame exhibit "The 1944 Gross Born POW Olympics." Andrew also won the CHICAGOPEX social media contest!

SANDICAL Stamp Expo (23-25 Jan. 2015, San Diego, California). Andrew Urushima won a show gold for his single-frame exhibit "Spoiled By War: The Games of the XIIth Olympiad." A show gold also went to Jeff Bennett for his 10-frame exhibit on the 1939 "Baseball Centennial" stamp.

Southeastern Stamp Expo (30 Jan. - 1 Feb 2015; Norcross, Georgia). Andrew Urushima won gold for his single-frame exhibit "The 1944 Gross Born POW Olympics." Andrew also received the German Philatelic Society Silver Medal. "Olympics in Philately 1896-1928," a five-frame exhibit by Edwin Parrasch, won a silver-bronze award.

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Aland Islands: June 9, 2014. Robert Helenius, Professional Boxer. €2.30 stamp, boxer and family on Aland Island.

Aruba: May 29, 2014. World Soccer Cup, Brazil. Block of six 400c stamps, Player's foot; Two players attempting to head ball; Player making a diving kick; Player dribbling ball; Penalty kick; Soccer field.

Australia: July 15, 2014. Equestrian Events. Set of five 70c stamps, Pony Club; Polocrosse; Show jumping; Crosscountry; dressage. Self-adhesive set with the same designs issued as booklets in panes of 10.

Belarus: February 7, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Souvenir sheet with one 20,000r stamp, Olympic flame.

February 8, 2014. Ice Hockey World Championships. 6500r stamp emblem, map.

May 2, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Set of three nondenominated stamps Nadezhda Skardino biathlon bronze medal; Alla Tsuper, gold, Women's aerial freestyle skiing; Anton Kushnir, gold, Men's aerial freestyle skiing. Souvenir sheet with one stamp, Darya Domracheva, gold, biathlon.

Belgium: June 10, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. One nondenominated stamp (1 Europe), depicts soccer player.

June 10, 2014. Men's Field Hockey World Cup. 1 World stamp, hockey stick and ball.

Bosnia & Herzegovina Serb: March 20, 2014. 40th Anniversary Borik Sports Arena. 90pf, picture of arena. Printed in sheets of 8 with central label.

May 15, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Souvenir sheet with one 5.10m stamp, soccer ball.

Brazil: June 6, 2013. FIFA Confederations Cup Soccer Tournament. Souvenir sheet of two 2.75r stamps, Confederations Cup Tournament emblem; Confederations Cup Trophy.

June 13, 2013. Diplomatic Relations Between Brazil and Czech Republic. Se-tenant pair of 2.75r stamps, Scene from final match of 1962 World Cup soccer tournament.

January 30, 2014. Official Posters Host Cities 2014 World Cup Soccer. Block of 12 1.20r stamps, Belo Horizonte; Brazilia; Cuiaba; Curitba; Fortaleza; Manaus; Natal; Porto Alegre; Recife; Rio de Janeiro; Salvador; San Paolo.

February 2, 2014. Centenary of Paysandu Sports Club. 1.20r stamp, script "100".

April 21, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Souvenir sheet of three 2.75r stamps, Mascot; World Cup trophy; Emblem.

April 29, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Child With Soccer Ball. Block of 12 1.20r stamps, Belo Horizonte; Fortaleza; Recife; Brasilia; Manaus; Rio de Janeiro; Cuiaba; Natal; Salvador; Curitiba; Porto Alegre; Sao Paolo.

June 2, 2014. Centenary of Ceara Sporting Club. 1.20r stamp depicting club emblem.

July 21, 2014. Centenary of Brazilian National Soccer Club. Strip of three 2r stamps, team emblems & players in action.

August 26, 2014. Centenary of Sociedade Esportiva Palmeiras Soccer Team. 1.30r stamp, team emblems.

Bulgaria: June 12, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Souvenir sheet with one 2.10lv stamp, soccer player kicking ball.

Canada: September 29, 2014. Canada Post Community Foundation. Semi-postal P+10c, Children in paper sailboat. Booklet pane of 10.

October 3, 2014. Original Six, Legendary Defense Men. Booklet of 6 permanent-rate stamps, and a pane of 6 stamps. NHL Canadian Hockey Players; Bobby Orr; Harry Howell; Doug Harvey; Tim Horton; Pierre Pilote. Souvenir sheets (6) \$2.50 each one stamp for each player.

October 3, 2014. Zamboni Ice Resurfacing Machines. Seven coil stamps, permanent-rate stamps, each depicting the Zamboni machine and team logos. S/s with all 7 stamps.

Central Africa: June 20, 2014. Cricket Hall of Fame. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Graham Gooch; Belinda Clark etc. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp, Donald Bradman.

June 20, 2014. 100th Anniversary Jersey Joe Wallcot. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps depicting Wallcot in various fighting positions. S/s with one 2650F stamp, Wallcot boxing.

June 20, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Freestyle skiing; snow boarding; speed skating; figure skating. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp, ice hockey.

June 20, 2014. Soccer 2014 Brazil. Sheetlet of four 900F stamps, all depict soccer players with soccer ball. Souvenir sheet with one 2650F stamp, Mario Gotze.

Chile: June 16, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. 500p stamp, map of Brazil, Brazil 2014.

Costa Rica: April 24, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Sheet of 2 stamps, 500col World Cup mascot; 710col World Cup.

Croatia: June 9, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. 7.60k stamp, tournament logo and soccer ball. Printed in sheetlets of 9 stamps and one label.

Curacao: 2014. Record for Home Runs in Japanese Baseball. 118c+100c stamp, photo of Wladimir "Coco" Balantien, holder of new record for home runs in a Japanese baseball season.

June 12, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Stadiums of the World Cup. Sheetlet of six stamps, 150c Estadio Mineirao, Belo Horizonte; 200c Arena Amazonia, Manaus; 250c Arean de San Paulo, San Paulo; 300c Estadio das Dunas, Natal; 350c Estadio do Maracana, Rio de Janeiro; 400c Arean Pernambuco, Recife.

Denmark: March 17, 2014. Sailboats. Souvenir sheet of two stamps, 6.50k Laser Radial dinghy; 14k Hanse 430e yacht. Also booklet pane of 10 self-adhesive stamps.

Ecuador: June 18, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. 50c stadium and stylized Ecuador soccer player; \$3 stylized Ecuador soccer player in stadium. Souvenir sheet with one \$5 stamp, soccer player and field.

July 25, 2014. Pancho Segura Ecuadorian-born tennis player. Set of two, 25c Segura on tennis court as young man,; \$5 Segura, tennis ball and racquet, Ecuadorian flag.

Germany: July 17, 2014. Victory of German Team at the World Cup Soccer, Brazil. €0.60, soccer players kicking ball.

Grenada Grenadines: January 14, 2014.100th Anniversary Tour de France. Sheetlet of four \$3.25 stamps, Map of 2013 race; cyclist; cyclist in peloton in Paris; cyclists in peloton in Paris. S/s with two \$9 stamps, cyclist; Eiffel Tower.

Great Britain: July 17, 2014. 20th Commonwealth Games. Set of six stamps, 2nd judo; 1st swimming; 97p track; £1.28 squash; £1.47 netball; £2.15 cycling. Booklet pane of 6.

Greece: June 12, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Pair, €0.90 mascot holding soccer ball; €1.30 silhouette of soccer player. Souvenir sheet for each stamp.

Guinea: January 9, 2014. Sochi Olympics. Sheetlet of four 12,000FG stamps, figure skating; luge; downhill skiing; alpine skiing. S/s with one 40,000FG stamp ski jumping.

January 9, 2014. 100th Anniversary Joe DiMaggio. Sheetlet of four 12,000FG stamps, all depict DiMaggio in action on the ballfield. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000FG stamp, portrait of the player.

January 9, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Sheetlet of four 12,000FG stamps, all depict players in action. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000FG stamp, player in action.

January 9, 2014. 50th Anniversary of Eusebio Soccer. Sheetlet of four 12,500FG stamps, depict players in action. Souvenir sheet of one 40,000FG stamp, player with ball.

January 9, 2014. Ayrton Senna. Sheetlet of four 12,000FG stamp all depict the driver and race cars. Souvenir sheet with one 40,000FG stamp, Senna and race car.

India: June 12, 2014. World Cup Soccer, Brazil. Set of 4, 5r reading shot on goal; 5r goalie diving for ball; 25r bicycle kick; 25r mascot. S/s with the same four stamps.

Italy: June 7, 2014. Centenary Italian Olympic Committee. €0.70 Italian flag in shield, Olympic Rings.

Isle of Man: 2014. Honda Racing Motorcycles type of 2009, Scott # 1324a, 2324b souvenir sheet dated 2014.

2014. Tour de France type of 2013. Scott numbers 1581a, 1582a, 1582b s/s of 2, all dated 2014. 1583a, 1583b s/s of 2 all dated 2014. 1584a, 1585a, 1585b s/s of 2 all dated 2014. 1586a, 1586b s/s of 2 all dated 2014. 1587a, 1587b s/s of 2 all dated 2014. 1588a, 1588b s/s of 2 dated 2014.

Liechtenstein: September 2, 2013. Sports and Touring Cars. 85r Aston Martin DB 2/4; 100r Ferrari 250 GT PF; 140r Jaguar XK 140; 190r Mercedes 300S.

November 13, 2013. Sochi Olympics. 2.60f rock and water, Sochi logo. Printed in sheets of 16.

Macedonia: September 20, 2014. Men's European Basketball Championships. 90d stamp, player taking a shot.

Maldives: July 3, 2014. Brazil 2014 Soccer. Two sheetlets with three Rf15 stamps. Soccer players, national flags.

July 3, 2014. Horse Racing. Sheetlet of four Rf22 stamps, all depict equestrian. S/s of Rf70 stamp, start of horse race.

July 3, 2014. Greatest Table Tennis Players. Sheetlet with four Rf22 stamps, Jan-Ove Waldner; Lie Gouliang; Zhang Jike; Deng Yaping. S/s with one Rf 70 stamp, Li Xiaoxia.

July 3, 2014. Greatest Cricket Players. Sheetlet of four Rf20 stamps, Ian Botham; Sachin Tendulkar, Vivians Richard; Kapil Dev. S/s with one Rf60 stamp, Sir Don Bradman.

July 3, 2014. Greatest Judo Fighters. Sheetlet of four Rf20 stamps, Llias Lliadis,; Udo Quellmalz; Ole Bischof; Kosel Inoue. Souvenir sheet with one Rf60 stamps, Teddy Riner.

July 3, 2014. Greatest Golf Players. Sheetlet with four Rf22 stamps, Greg Norman; Jack Nicklaus, Vijay Singh; Phil Mickelson. S/s with one Rf70 stamp, Tiger Woods.

[To be continued in next issue.]

COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS

by Mark Maestrone

13

30

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 SEPTEMBER - FEBRUARY 2015

Auto Racing: 14912-490, 14X25-273.

Basketball: 14Z05-191A & B (note, both these first day postmarks are available until 3 February 2015); 14Z05-10; 14Z05-13

Cycling: 15124-320.

Football: 14X19-802 (extended for 30 days until 28 Dec. 2014); 15130-300; 15131-300; 15201-300.

Note: the 3 football postmarks from Norcross, GA (#15130-300, 15131-300, & 15201-300) are available on cacheted covers from the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs at \$2 per cover or a set of all three postmarks for \$5. Send checks make out to "Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs" and mail to: SEFSC, P.O. Box 71657, Marietta, GA, 30007. The cacheted covers may be viewed at:

www.sefsc.org/show-covers.html



14912-490 Kalamazoo, MI

12



Commemorates Peyton Manning's (Denver Bronco #18) 509TH touchdown pass on 19 October 2014. Previous TD passes record of 508 held by Brett Favre.

14X19-802 Denver, CO

19



NASCAR DAY STATION (26th Annual)

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Makin' Noise & Celebrating Victory Junction's 10th & In Loving Memory of Lynda Petty & Patricia Petty

14X25-273 Randleman, NC 25



14Z05-191A Philadelphia, PA 5



14Z05-191B Philadelphia, PA



14Z10-191 Philadelphia, PA 10

Philadelphia Sports
Hall of Fame Station
DECEMBER 13, 2014
PHILADELPHIA, PA
19114

14Z13-191 Philadelphia, PA



15124-320 White Springs, FL 24



15130-300 Norcross, GA



15131-300 Norcross, GA 31



15201-300 Norcross, GA 1

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