

The background of the cover is a photograph of the Montreal Olympic Stadium, also known as the 'Big O'. The stadium's iconic white, curved structure is the central focus, set against a clear blue sky. Green trees are visible in the foreground and along the top edges of the frame. The title 'JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY' is printed in a large, white, serif font across the top. Below the title, the volume, date, and issue number are listed in a smaller, white, serif font.

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

VOLUME 56

SPRING 2018

NUMBER 3

**Montréal's Big "O":
Monumental Masterpiece
or Financial Folly?**



Sports Philatelists International

**VOLUME 56
NUMBER 3
SPRING 2018**

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Annual dues (Print & Digital)
\$31 U.S./Canada \$43 overseas
(Digital Only) \$15.00 worldwide

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	Mark Maestroni	1
Readers' Comments	Mark Maestroni	2
Montréal's "Big O": Monumental Masterpiece Or Financial Folly? (Part 1)	Mark Maestroni	3
Paris 1924, I Owe You (Part 3)	Manfred Bergman	9
Paraguay's Stamps for the 28th South American Tennis Championships	Norman Jacobs	20
Brooklyn Sandlot Baseball Machine Postmarks: the Backstory	Norman Rushefsky	23
The LEAFS Celebrate a Centennial	Kon Sokolyk	26
Korea Post Issues 2018 Olympic Stamps	Mark Maestroni	28
Golfing the World	Patricia Loehr	29
New Stamp Issues	John La Porta	33
News of our Members & Commemorative Cancels	Mark Maestroni	36

On the cover: The 1976 Montréal Olympic Games stadium complex is at the same time an iconic city landmark and symbol of Olympic excess. The Olympic Park consisted of the Olympic Stadium, Swim Centre, Velodrome, and Olympic Village. Shown here is the inclined tower which, along with the stadium roof, were not completed until well after the 1976 Games were over. Today, the complex continues to be used for sporting and other events.

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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Circulation: Jerome Wachholz, 1320 Bridget Lane, Twinsburg, OH 44087

The Journal of Sports Philately is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December. Advertising Rates: Covers \$50.00; Full Page \$45.00; Half Page \$25.00; Quarter Page \$15.00. Advance payment required. Digital copy must be supplied by the advertiser. Publishing deadlines: January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 for the following issue. Single copy price (postpaid): \$5.00 (US/Canada), \$10.00 (overseas).

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

American Philatelic Society (APS), Affiliate Member #39
Association Internationale des Collectionneurs Olympiques (AICO), Charter Member
American Topical Association (ATA), Study Unit Member
ISSN 0447-953X

www.sportstamps.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

SPI 2018 Elections

Nominations are now open for all officers and board members. Any member in good standing is eligible to run. Nominations must be received by our Nominations Chairman, Glenn Estus, no later than May 1, 2018. His address is PO Box 451, Westport, NY 12993 (email: gestus@westelcom.com)

Los Angeles 2018 24th World Olympic Collectors' Fair 6-8 September 2018

By the time you read this, the LA2018 World Olympic Collectors' Fair (WOCF) will be in business. Approved by the IOC at this past December's meeting of the Culture and Olympic Heritage Commission, the fair will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center in conjunction with the Long Beach Coin Expo, a mammoth coin, currency, stamp and sport collectible show.

Sports Philatelists International and the Olympian Collectors Club serve as this year's fair co-hosts. We expect some 125 participating dealers and collectors from 25 nations around the globe to attend the fair. The Coin Expo normally draws around 5,000 visitors during the 3-day show – a wonderful opportunity to introduce Olympic collecting to a much wider audience.

In addition to lots of Olympic pin trading activity, there will be numerous dealers in Olympic memorabilia. Expect to see lots of Olympic torches, a smattering of Olympic medals, and certainly many bits and pieces of ephemera to satisfy just about any collector. There should also be at least a few dealers with philatelic material to peruse.

A major event at this year's fair will be the biennial General Assembly of the International Association of Olympic Collectors (AIICO). The primary business at the assembly will be the election of three members to the Executive Board. [Your president will be running for reelection.]

Activities planned for attendees are expected to include a special tour of the Olympic Coliseum, the primary venue of the 1932, 1984 and upcoming 2028 Olympic Games, followed by a reception at

the LA84 Foundation in Los Angeles. On Friday evening, the customary Gala Banquet will be held preceded by a Silent Auction. In addition, autograph sessions with Olympic athletes are planned during the show.

A section of the show floor is dedicated to the Olympic Fair with 10-foot by 10-foot booths available for rent by any collector or dealer. Each booth is equipped with tables, chairs, pipe and drapery as well as a sign. Free Wi-Fi is also available for all booth holders. An aisle booth sells for \$300 for the 3-day period, while a corner (end) booth may be had for \$550. A double aisle booth (10' x 20') is also available for \$600. Any booth may be shared by up to two collectors and/or dealers. Each participant will also receive a limited edition fair pin and a handsome diploma presented by the IOC.

A number of hotels offering special Expo rates are within walking distance of the Convention Center. An official Olympic Fair hotel will be announced shortly.

In addition to being the center of the nation's film and television industry, Los Angeles offers world class museums (the Getty Center and Los Angeles County Museum of Art), the famous Los Angeles Zoo, one-of-a-kind sites like the Queen Mary and Disneyland, and iconic landscapes (Santa Monica and Venice beaches). Why not bring the whole family for a memorable vacation!

For information – and to reserve your booth – please visit our website at LA2018.ORG.

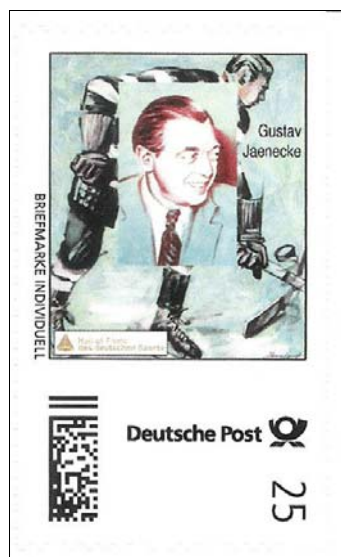
George E. Killian (1924 - 2017)

This past December, we lost not only a tireless champion of international sports, but a great friend of sports and Olympic philately.

George Killian served as president of FISU, the International University Sports Federation, from 1999 to 2011. He also guided the International Basketball Federation as its president, and was a member of the IOC. In addition to being a longtime member of SPI, George was an active basketball philatelist, contributing generously to the society with donations of philatelic material and articles for the journal. George will be sorely missed.

READERS' COMMENTS

Please send your thoughts, ideas, likes, dislikes, etc. to your editor: markspi@prodigy.net



An ice hockey German private post stamp

Thank you very much for Thomas Lip-pert's article on Private Post in Germany in the *Journal of Sports Philately* ("The Modern Private Post in Germany," Winter 2017 issue). I learnt a lot about how things work in the German philatelic world. I received my Journal on Tuesday and the day

after, I received my first ever Deutsche Post personalized hockey stamp of Gustav Jaenecke who played for the German Olympic team in 1928, 1932 and 1936 (see illustration). Thanks again!

Alain Hébert
Rosemère, Québec, Canada

Baseball that it was desirable to collect these FDCs with the insert letter provided by the team. This would confirm use by the team as these Marg cacheted covers were probably otherwise made available to others. I have now obtained (see nearby cover) this Marg cacheted FDC, without letter insert, that through the typed address to a Cleveland business includes the seat number in the address field and thus would likely have been sent by the Cleveland Indians.

Norman Rushefsky
Silver Spring, MD

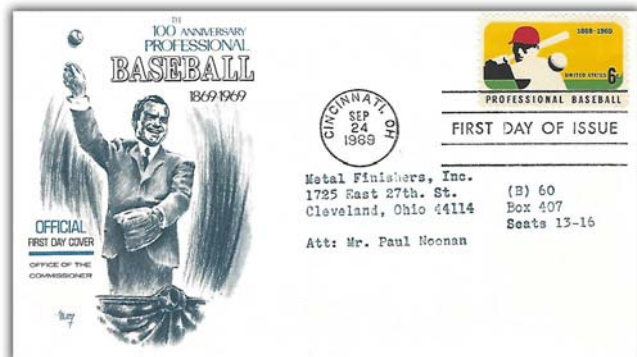
Editor's Note

Norman Rushefsky uncovered a valuable online resource for collectors and exhibitors alike. Our Italian sister society – UICOS – maintains an extensive list of Olympic and sports philatelic exhibits on its website: www.uicos.org/collezioni-online/

Included are multiple football (soccer) exhibits, as well as displays on rugby, track & field, cycling, golf, tennis and volleyball. There is also a group of so-called "historical" collections such as "Philately Tells: Women at the Olympic Games," and handicapped sports. If you are starved for ideas on something to collect or looking for examples on exhibiting, this is a great place for inspiration.

Update on baseball team promoted cachets

In my article in the Winter 2017 issue of *JSP* ("FDCs of the U.S. 1969 Baseball Stamp with Team Promoted Cachets") I indicated that with the official cachet by Marg for the Commissioner of





Montréal's "Big O": Monumental Masterpiece Or Financial Folly? (Part I)

by Mark Maestroni

It all began with the dream of one man, Canadian politician Jean Drapeau, to make Montréal the greatest French-speaking city outside of Paris. Twice elected its mayor, Drapeau envisioned Montréal as an international center of commerce and industry.

A great city needed a top-of-the-line transit system. Thanks to Drapeau, the first line of the Montréal metro system opened in 1966 (Figure 1).

Next came cementing Montréal's stature on the international scene. To that end, Drapeau sought and won the 1967 International and Universal Exposition, Expo '67 (Figure 2).

No North American city worth its salt was without a professional baseball team. Drapeau closed a deal with Major League Baseball for a new baseball team, the Expos, who began play in 1969.

Then in 1970 he had the audacity to submit a bid to the International Olympic Committee to host the 1976 Olympic Games. That, too, went his way.

This is not, however, his story, though he plays an outsized role in the events. Neither is it a review of these first, and so far only, summer Olympic Games for Canada. It is instead an exploration of the Montréal Olympic Stadium, that remarkable architectural landmark that served – for both better *and* worse – as a symbol of those Games.

In this article, we will be taking a look at Roger Taillibert, the architect behind the Olympic Park as well as his concept and design of the structures. We also touch on the famous, or if you prefer infamous, shenanigans that went on behind the scenes which quite nearly doomed the Olympic Games before the opening ceremony. Lastly, we'll take a look at the Olympic Park's legacy.

The Architect: Roger Taillibert

A proper examination of the Olympic Stadium, or "Big O" as it's known to the locals, must begin

with the architect whose vision for these Games was, to say the least, monumental!

Montréal's Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games, which went by the acronym COJO (Comité Organisateur des Jeux Olympique) was headed by President and Commissioner-General Roger Rousseau. Much of the job of planning and overseeing construction of the Olympic facilities fell to him.

It was, however, Mayor Drapeau who unilaterally hired the architect for "his" Olympic project. In selecting architectural and engineering services, especially for ventures with such international visibility, it is common practice to search for consultants from among the local, or at least national, design community. Snubbing Canadian architects, Drapeau hired well-known French architect, Roger Taillibert, to design the Olympic complex. As may be imagined, this greatly upset the Canadian design community and somewhat soured many non-Québécois Canadians on the Games.

Far from being a neophyte in stadium design, Taillibert was already well-known in French and European sporting circles for his innovative creations.

As both an engineer and an architect, he employed fresh lines and shapes in his designs. His engineering expertise led him to experiment with unique materials including movable textile membranes, fine webbing and self-supporting structures of pre-stressed concrete.



Figures 1 & 2. Thanks to Mayor Drapeau, Montréal's Metro system, which goes by the acronym STM (above left), and the hosting of Expo '67 (above right) were two keys to the city winning the 1976 Olympic Games.

Roger Taillibert & Organic Architecture

Before tackling the complexity of Taillibert's designs for the 1976 Olympic venues, let us take a look at the influences on his work.

Taillibert's early period was characterized by a tight integration of space and structure that has come to be known as the Functionalist style of architecture.



Figure 3. Wright's *Fallingwater* inspired many architects of Taillibert's generation.

A good example of this is noted U.S. architect Frank Lloyd Wright's *Fallingwater* (Figure 3), the rural Pennsylvania weekend getaway for department store magnate, Edgar J. Kaufmann. Wright's multi-tiered structure blended seamlessly with the surrounding landscape.

In an effort to move away from the straight lines of functionalism, Taillibert soon began to rely more on his engineering prowess. Using complex mathematical calculations, he was able to form intricate sinuous structures created from opposing curved lines (Figure 4). This allowed him to exploit the tensile strength of pre-cast concrete and, along with the material's ability to be molded, led him to develop a more organic-style referred to as "sculptural architecture." Inspired by marine biology, shapes of trilobites and shells began appearing in his designs.



Figure 4. Archimedes' arbelos proof (bottom diagram), was integral in creating Taillibert's domed structures.

Figures 5 & 6. The curved roofline of Le Corbusier's mountain chapel (right) certainly



inspired Taillibert's Deauville pool (left).

Taillibert's fascination with using thin-shell structures of pre-formed concrete to create his sculptured spaces was inspired by the works of other 20th century architects of international stature.

Three examples, in particular, bear mentioning as having had an impact on the evolution of his style.

French architect François Hennebique – better known as Le Corbusier – began using pre-cast concrete in the post World War II era. His renowned Chapelle Notre-Dame du Haut, completed in 1954, is an excellent example (Figure 5). Its thick masonry walls are curved to hide supports for the thin shell ceiling resembling sails billowing in the wind atop the hills in Ronchamps, France near the Swiss border.

We can see Le Corbusier's influence in Taillibert's first French sports project (Figure 6), an Olympic-size swimming pool at Deauville, France which opened in 1966. With its undulating roof line resembling a shell, the vaulted roof and curtain glass walls were perfectly positioned to catch the rays of the sun.

Pier Luigi Nervi, like Taillibert an architect and engineer, contributed to the body of creatively designed Olympic venues with his Palazzetto dello Sport (Figure 7). Built for the basketball competition at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games, the concrete shell dome of the arena is 61 meters (200



Figure 7. Nervi's concrete shell dome for the Palazzetto dello Sport.



Figure 8. The copper-tiled dome of Candela's 1968 Olympics Palacio de los Deportes captured the imagination of Olympic fans ... and Taillibert. (Official postcard used as a maximum card with matching stamp and Olympic machine cancel on Opening Day, 12 October 1968.)



Figure 9. Taillibert's style became apparent with the shell-shaped roof of Luxembourg's National Swimming Center.

feet) in diameter. Formed of 1,620 prefabricated concrete pieces, the roof is further braced by concrete flying buttresses.

Felix Candela (a Spanish/Mexican architect and engineer), was another proponent of using thin-shell structures. The Palacio de los Deportes (Figure 8), designed by Candela (in collaboration with architects Enrique Castañeda and Alfonso Peyrfor) for use as a multi-sport arena, was perhaps the most visually stunning of all the venues built for the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games. Featuring a roof that utilized thin concrete hyperbolic paraboloid shells to span the vast space beneath, there was no need for a sight-line-blocking support structure. The Olympic basketball fans loved it. For the vast television audience watching the Games in color around the world, the exterior, clad in rhomboid copper plates attached to an elliptical frame of steel and aluminum, provided an iconic image for these Olympics.

We see the influences of both Nervi and Candela in Taillibert's design of the Olympic swimming pool complex at Centre Sportif National in Luxembourg (Figure 9). The striking roofline is reminiscent of a seashell, and is made of spans of pre-stressed concrete.

Taillibert's ability to create a lightness of the curved line in his designs while using a comparatively heavy material such as concrete would not have been possible without the pioneering work of bridge engineer Eugène Freyssinet.

Freyssinet demonstrated a method for spanning great distances with precast concrete. His design for the Gladesville Bridge near Sydney, Australia (Figure 10), was the first major concrete arch bridge in the world built using precast segments and was one of the first bridges designed with the aid of a computer. Until 1980 it was the longest span concrete arch bridge in the world.

Finally, it was likely his design of the Parc des Princes stadium (Figure 11), which opened in 1972 as Paris' national

Figure 10. The final tool in Taillibert's kit was the ability to use segments of precast concrete as demonstrated by Freyssinet's Gladesville Bridge.

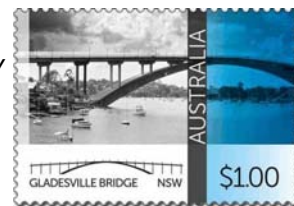


Figure 11. Taillibert's Parc des Princes Stadium (1972) secured him the job of designing the Olympic Park.

football stadium, that confirmed for Mayor Drapeau that Taillibert was the right architect to design Montréal's Olympic Park complex.

For the Paris stadium design, Taillibert used massive concrete ribs as a skeleton cradling the seating for 48,000 football fans. With no blocked sight lines, spectators were never more than 45 meters from the pitch. The elliptical roof served to integrate the lighting systems – another of the architect's innovations. Taillibert used many of these same elements for his Montréal Olympic Stadium.

Montréal Olympic Park

Mayor Drapeau engaged Taillibert and his architecture firm to design the Olympic Park complex for the 1976 Olympic Games.

As planned by COJO, the complex (Figure 12) required an Olympic Stadium, an Olympic Swim Center, Velodrome for indoor cycling events, and an Olympic Village (not discussed in this article).



Figure 12. The Olympic Park: (1) Olympic Stadium, (2) Olympic Tower with the Swim Center beneath, and (3) Velodrome. (Registered cover from Kalamata, Greece on Day 2 of the 1976 Olympic Torch Relay)

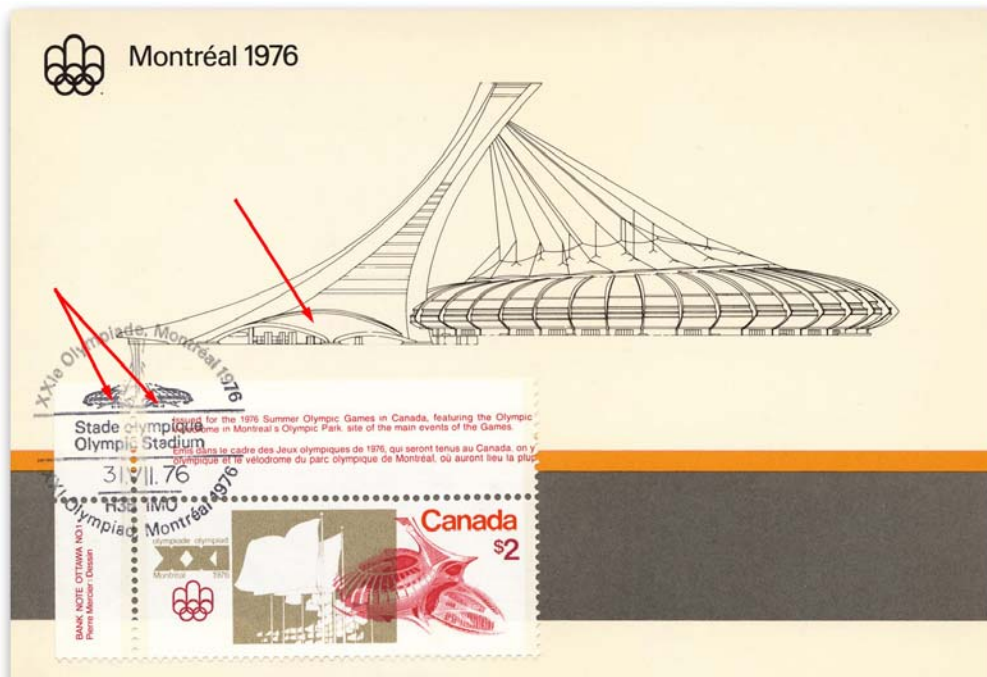


Figure 13. The Swim Center, located beneath the Olympic Tower, was sheltered by a pair of shell-like thin concrete roofs as indicated by the red arrow on the card and postmark. (Official postcard with \$2 Olympic stamp and "large date" stadium postmark variety on the penultimate day of the Olympic Games, 31 July 1976.)

Taillibert used two different engineering systems for the main sports venues at the Olympic Park.

The Olympic Swim Center, located beneath the inclined tower, and Velodrome used pre-stressed concrete consisting of large-scale self-supporting concrete shells (Figure 13). As the shells were variable in size and shape, it was possible for the weight of the load-bearing arches to be entirely supported by single or shared abutments. Skylights and lentil-shaped slits allowed for natural light. Glassed-in curtain walls further lightened the structure, giving the illusion that the roof floated above the floor of the arenas.

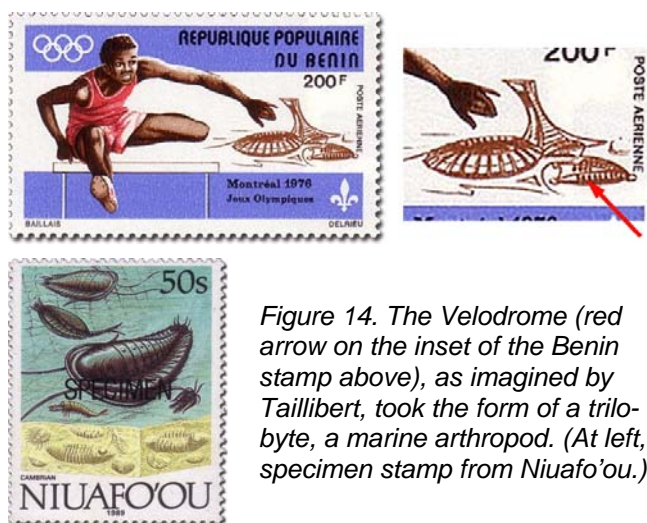


Figure 14. The Velodrome (red arrow on the inset of the Benin stamp above), as imagined by Taillibert, took the form of a trilobite, a marine arthropod. (At left, specimen stamp from Niuafo'ou.)

The design of the Velodrome was clearly influenced by Taillibert's tendency toward organic marine shapes; here, he used the trilobite as a model (Figure 14).

The Olympic Stadium featured a second engineering system. A load-bearing framework of "bents" (self-supporting reinforced concrete members) were prefabricated and then assembled on site to support the stadium structure (Figure 15).

When assembled, the 34 massive bents, aligned in an elliptical pattern, soared 160 feet above the stadium floor. The supported roof protected the seating areas while leaving the emerald green field encircled by the red Tartan track open to the sky.

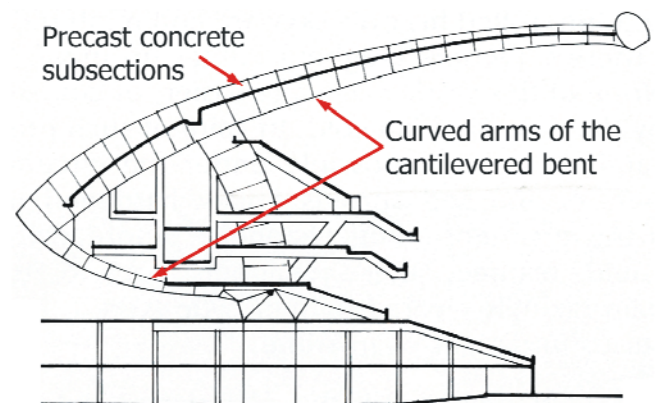


Figure 15. Precast concrete subsections were assembled on site to create 34 massive supports, called "bents."

As he had done with the Parc des Prince football stadium in Paris, Taillibert concealed the vast "technical ring" containing lighting and other services, along the perimeter of the cantilevered roof.

One of the key selling points of Taillibert's design for the Olympic Stadium was the retractable roof suspended from a mammoth inclined tower.

Like the stadium design, the concept for the tower-roof system was influenced by the contemporary work of other architects.



Figures 16 & 17. Frei Otto pioneered the use of tent-like covers of netting or fabric. At left, the West German Pavilion at Expo '67, and above, the 1972 Munich Olympic complex. Taillibert envisioned a similar system for the Montréal Olympic Stadium.

Taillibert was certainly familiar with the airy, tent-like structure of German architect and engineer, Frei Otto, who created the West German Pavilion for Expo '67 in Montréal (Figure 16).

Otto's signature tent-roof design was refined for the 1972 Munich Olympic Stadium complex (Figure 17). The continuous canopy of nets, with its peaks and valleys reminiscent of the nearby Alps, covered and unified the stadium, tracks and pools.

Where Otto had used masts to suspend his roof, Taillibert envisioned something far more substantial – an immense inclined tower stretching 574 feet into the air with a fabric canopy suspended from cables (Figure 18).



Figure 18. From the inclined tower, cables stretched to points along the perimeter of the stadium to be used as guides for retracting the attached fabric roof.



Figures 19 & 20. Maccormick's design for the Australian Pavilion at Expo '70 (above left) was inspired by a traditional Hokusai wood block print (above right). Taillibert's design for his Olympic Tower borrowed from Maccormick's design. (Postmark used by Fédération Québécoise de Philatélie - FQP.)



Taillibert found inspiration in the work of a fellow architect, James Maccormick, who was commissioned to design the Australian Pavilion at Expo '70 at Osaka, Japan.

The central feature of Maccormick's creation was an inclined tower from which threadlike cables dangled an inverted lotus blossom roof sheltering the pavilion (Figure 19). To the Japanese visitors at Expo '70, the tower might have reminded them of the traditional Japanese prints by the renowned artist Katsushika Hokusai (1760 - 1849), specifically, his painting "A Fisherman Standing on a Rocky Promontory at Kajikazawa in Kai Province" which shows a fisherman casting his net from a precarious perch arching over the turbulent raging waves below (Figure 20). A comparison between Maccormick's design and the composition of Hokusai's block print is striking. Then look at how similar Taillibert's tower design is to Maccormick's (Figures 18 and 21).



Figure 21. The Australian Pavilion at Expo '70 in Osaka. Note the striking similarity in concept with Taillibert's design for the Olympic Tower (compare with Figure 18).



Figure 22. To illustrate how steep is the inclination of the Olympic Tower, compare the 4° angle of the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa with the 45° angle of the stadium tower!

The Montréal Stadium tower, the largest inclined structure in the world soaring 18 stories above the stadium, was designed much like a tripod. The two front “legs” braced the front of the structure leaning over the stadium, while the third – high tension – leg extended backward away from the stadium and was anchored in the ground.

The Olympic tower leans at a 45-degree angle. By comparison, the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa is 186 feet in height and leans at almost 4 degrees from vertical (Figure 22).

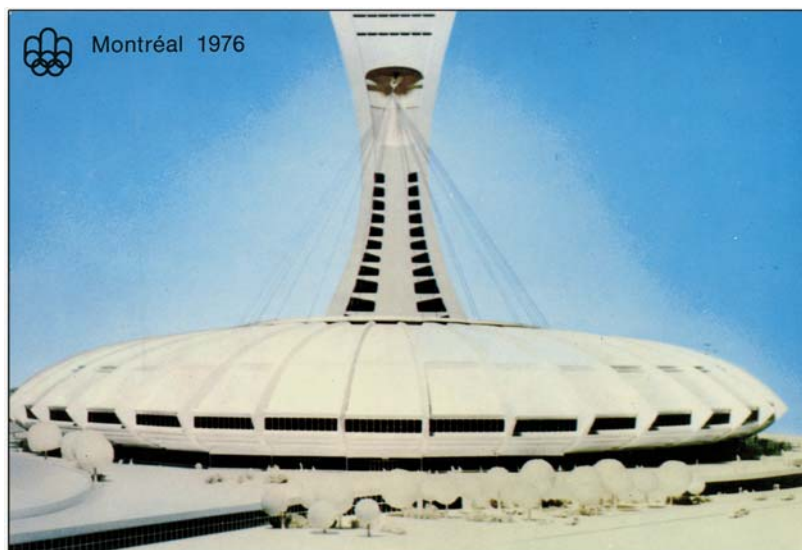


Figure 23. Head-on view of the tower showing where the cables controlling the retractable roof are located. Official Olympic postcard.

The tower, as originally planned, would house various sports spaces on each level, topped by a restaurant with a breathtaking panoramic view of Montréal.

From the apex of the tower, guide cables were fixed to various points along the perimeter of the stadium roof. It was along these that the retractable fabric roof could be lowered from its storage space inside the leading edge of the tower (Figure 23).

Unfortunately, on opening day of the 1976 Olympic Games, neither the tower nor roof had been completed. The Olympic Stadium, Swim Center and Velodrome, however, were fully functional.

This concludes Part 1 of this article. Next time, we'll probe the behind-the-scenes politics of building the Olympic Park, how the tower and roof features were eventually resolved, followed by a look at the complex's legacy.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to Kon Sokolyk and George Bardosh for contributing to this article with information and illustrations of material from their private collections.

PARIS 1924

I OWE YOU

PART 3

by Manfred Bergman

Evolution of the 50c Victor Stamp (continued from Part 2)

As mentioned earlier, the redesign of the “Victor” stamp, like the new design of the “Milo” stamp, resulted in both stamps being issued on 23 May instead of 1 April. The “good for printing” date was 8 April.



Figure 54. One imperforate stamp of the “Feuille de Témoin” (reference sheet).

Stage 12. A plate with 150 dies was prepared (not 75 as commonly stated).

Stage 13. The first sheet, which was not perforated, was printed on 29 April (as far as I have been able to determine). One sheet of 150 stamps was printed to first insure a faultless plate. The plate was positioned horizontally as shown in Figure 55. This sheet was called a Feuille de Témoin or reference sheet (see falsifications in Part 4). Figure 54 shows an example.

Stage 14. Printing of the stamps was begun, taking place on several dates. The dates I have seen are 30 April, 3 May and 6 May. The panes of stamps were oriented HORIZONTALLY.

Stage 15. The sheets were cut into two half-sheets, each consisting of three panes of 25 stamps. Five sheets were perforated at one time with the sheet oriented VERTICALLY (see partially imperforate stamps – to follow).

The fact that all sheets were cut into two half-sheets for delivery to post offices led to the erroneous conclusion that only 75 imperforate

stamps (from the reference sheet) exist.

I have traced both half-sheets of the 10c and 25c stamps, but have located only one half-sheet each of the 30c and 50c stamps.

One notes that all margins of the reference stamps are large, and the two lateral ones are of the same dimensions. This distinguishes them from the variety, which is discussed in more detail later in Part 3, whose right lateral margin is almost non-existent.

To the best of my knowledge and from articles I have read, I can claim that these complete half-sheets are the only ones known.

Special printings will be shown in Part 4.



Figure 55. Half of a full sheet of the 50c stamp. Note that the individual panes of 25 are oriented horizontally.



The Olympic Salute: a Legend That Became Reality (continued from Part 2)



The big clash between salutes occurred at the 1936 Olympics. The concurrent presence of the Olympic, Fascist and Nazi salutes provoked confusion, misunderstandings, disclaimers, anger and hate. The controversies even continued until the 2010 Vancouver exhibition on the occasion of the Olympics.

1. The 1936 Olympic Winter Games, Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

The confusion began at the Opening Ceremony where the Canadian delegation¹ paraded with arms outstretched in what appeared to be a Nazi salute. The fact that they were, in fact, performing the similar and traditional Olympic salute (with arms outstretched to the side rather than forward) was a distinction lost on the German audience who erupted in cheers (Figure 56).



Figure 56. The Canadian team at the 1936 Olympic Winter Games gave the Olympic salute at the Opening Ceremony, to the confusion of many who mistook it for the Nazi salute.



Figure 57. The Canadian Olympic Committee nearly withdrew from the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games, but followed the lead of Great Britain and participated.

How could one suspect the Canadians of sympathizing with Germany? After all, the Canadian NOC President P.J. Mulqueen supported a motion to withdraw from the Games. It was, however, decided to follow Britain's lead (Figure 57). While there was a strong movement in Great Britain to prevent participation of the team at Berlin, Harold Abrahams, the 1924 Olympic champion and an influential journalist in 1934, succeeded in convincing Britain not to boycott the Games.

Many national delegations, ignoring their allegiance to the Olympic Movement, instead gave the Nazi salute as they passed Hitler's dais.

2. The 1936 Olympic (Summer) Games, Berlin.

Confusion and anger once again occurred during the Opening Ceremony of the Summer Games. A range of nations that included Afghanistan, Bolivia, Bulgaria, and Italy, earned warm applause for giving the Nazi salute (or at least what the assembled spectators took for the Nazi salute), although some delegations claimed to have given the Olympic salute.

The French team at Berlin – 201 athletes strong – gestured with an Olympic salute in passing the official dais (Figure 58). The German public, thinking it to be the Nazi salute, gave the team a huge ovation. While the French national Olympic committee tried to dilute the criticism with a clear explanation, the harm had nevertheless already been done.



Figure 58. French team giving the Olympic salute at the 1936 Games.

The "cup runneth over" with Nazi and Fascist salutes from each German and Italian medalist during their victory ceremony, further denigrating the Olympic salute.



Figures 59 and 60. At the 1936 Olympics, Helen Mayer of Germany, though half-Jewish, still rendered the Nazi salute – as required of Germans – during the medal ceremony. Below, fencers Ellen Preis and Helene Mayer.

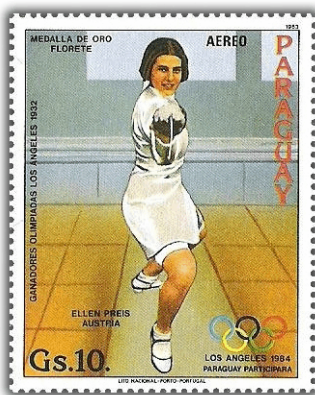


Figure 59 depicts the medal ceremony in the 1936 women's foil fencing event in which the gold was won by Ilona Eleck of Hungary (who was half Jewish), followed by German silver medalist Helen Mayer (also half Jewish), with Ellen Preis (Jewish) of Austria in third. What makes this photograph particularly eerie is seeing Mayer giving the Nazi

Figure 61. Italian Fascist postcard. The front (inset bottom left) shows what is clearly the Fascist salute when compared with the Olympic salute on the 50c stamp.



salute, as she was forced to do. One wonders why Mayer, who had been living in the United States, returned to Germany, particularly since Jews were being persecuted.

Obviously, the German and Italian teams gave their infamous salutes. The Italian University Fascist Group organized a trip to the Berlin Olympic Games (31 July - 6 August 1936) as noted on a privately printed postcard (Figure 61). The theme – a salute – on the front of the card is strikingly similar to that on the 1924 French 50c stamp, but at a different angle. Note how the arm on the card is angled more forward in the Fascist salute, while that on the 50c stamp is to the side, indicating the Olympic salute.

An interesting “finale” to this chapter is inspired by the 1986 Peruvian stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of Peru's participation at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games (Figure 62). The stamp, pardon my frankness, is not an honorable approach to a historical fact. Peru's delegation was one of the few that proudly gave the Olympic salute during the Opening Ceremony (Figure 63).



Figures 62 & 63. The image on the Peru stamp (above) showing the Peru delegation to the 1936 Olympics does not accurately portray the fact that the team gave the Olympic salute as seen on this contemporary photo.

On 8 August 1936, Peru won its football match against Austria (4:2) to reach the semi-finals. Austria lodged a protest with F.I.F.A. which, after two days of deliberations, ordered a rematch. Peru refused. The IOC and the German Olympic organizing committee accepted the unfair verdict. As a result of the tension which this decision caused back in Lima, the entire Peruvian team (Figure 63B) departed the Olympic Village, in the company of the Colombian delegation. The football team waited in Cologne hoping for a reversal by the FIFA Congress. It did not happen and the team was ordered home



Figure 64. Three 1936 Olympic posters. Figures in the winter (left) and summer (center) do, in the author's opinion, appear to be giving the Nazi salute, although one might interpret them to be "winner's salutes" as in the poster at right.

by the president. Germany reacted by not including the names of Peru's NOC President and Secretary General in the official report and also withdrew Hitler's Olympic Order awarded to two Peruvian officials. Eduardo Dibos, one of the officials, and later twice Mayor of Lima, refused a renewed offer of the award.

Something about the saluting athletes, especially that on the Italian postcard (Figure 61), just didn't look right. Searching for a visual cue, I finally realized that in all the images, with the exception of the German ones, the saluting figure's entire arm was shown.

In the German Olympic Winter Games poster (Figure 64, left), the skier's arm from the elbow on down was cropped from the design. "Why was this?" I asked Olympic historian Volker Kluge. His opinion: the skier might have been exhibiting a "winner's gesture," but other interpretations exist.

I, for one, am of the opinion that the winter poster's designer wanted to give the impression that the athlete was giving an Olympic salute, while in fact it was a "hidden" Nazi salute. Why? First, in no winner's ceremony of the time was a winner

permitted to carry his skis. Second, if one visually extends the lines of the skier's upraised arm, it is very possible that it points forward as in the Fascist and Nazi salutes, not sideways as in an Olympic salute. Lastly, an Olympic bib was never worn at a winner's ceremony.

Let's also compare this poster with the photograph of the Peruvian participants marching at the 1936 Berlin Olympics with arms raised in the Olympic salute. Their arms are held sideways at shoulder height. The skier in the 1936 Olympic Winter

Games poster has a hand raised far above his head. To my mind this is a clear indication of a Nazi salute.

As for the primary Summer Olympics poster (Figure 64, center), I agree that the figure in the background is exhibiting the gesture of a winner. But as we know, German winners were required to give the Nazi salute at the medal awards ceremony.

It is my opinion, therefore, that both Winter and Summer Olympic Games posters displayed figures giving the Nazi salute. I remain nevertheless open to opposing arguments. I do acknowledge that another 1936 Summer Olympic poster shows an athlete, arm raised, holding a winner's wreath aloft – most certainly a neutral gesture (Figure 64 right).

"The Case of the Epinal Postal Dentistry"

(as Erle Stanley Gardner might have coined it²)



Let us now turn to the fascinating stories of the partially-imperforate 50c stamps, the most extraordinary part of 1924 Olympic Games philately.

Since the VERSO MEXICO 1968 exhibition in Riccione, I have been tracking these beautiful varieties. The hunt is not over. Some of these varieties have eluded everyone, while others have likely been lost or destroyed.

When did the philatelic community become aware of their existence? A strip of three loose, used stamps have been known since 1968 where they were shown by Toto Caruso in his Grind-Prix exhibit at VERSO MEXICO. That was my first encounter with



Figure 63B. Cover to the Peruvian delegation at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games.

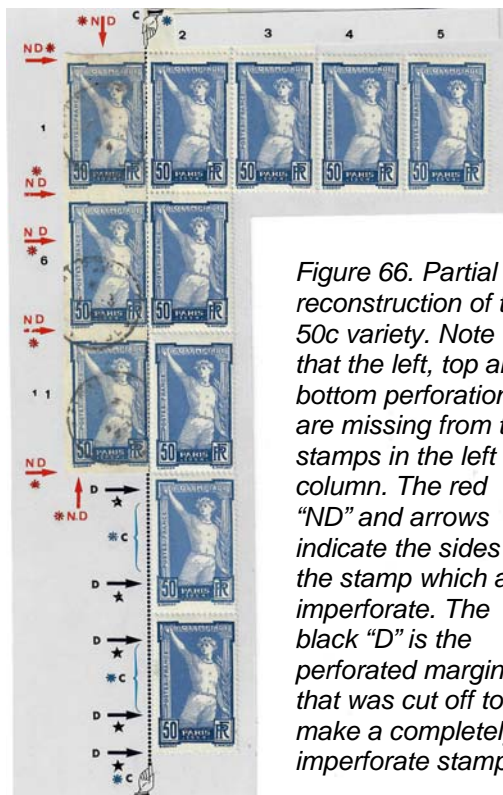


Figure 66. Partial reconstruction of the 50c variety. Note that the left, top and bottom perforations are missing from the stamps in the left column. The red "ND" and arrows indicate the sides of the stamp which are imperforate. The black "D" is the perforated margin that was cut off to make a completely imperforate stamp.

this variety. Along with most collectors of the day, I was not aware of their extraordinary philatelic significance. This was not surprising considering that collectors were overwhelmed by many rare items in Caruso's exhibit. (Specimens 1,2 and 3)

How did these partially imperforate stamps come about? Earlier in this article, I discussed how in Stage 15 of their production, sheets of 150 stamps were cut into half sheets (three panes of 25 stamps). These half sheets were positioned on the perforating machine with the vertical sides of the stamps towards the perforation comb (Figure 65). The French term for this is "Couché" (lying down). As the comb moved, a column of five stamps was perforated at a time along the top, bottom and left sides of each stamp. When the comb moved to the next column of stamps, the right side of the first column would be perforated (at the same time, this would be the left side of the new column).

On one occasion, according to recorded facts, the perforating comb missed its first strike. This resulted in the left column of five stamps being imperforate at top, bottom, and left (Figure 66 - reconstructed panel). As five half sheets were stacked one atop another for perforation, this resulted in 25 stamps imperforate on three sides.

At what post office did the five partially imperforate sheets end up? All but one of the stamps discovered were affixed to covers posted at the Rue Thiers, Epinal post office.



Figure 65. The stamps were placed on the perforation machine oriented horizontally. The perforating comb moved from top to bottom perforating a column of 5 stamps at a time.

What happened next? Why, dental surgery of course! (Remember that we often refer to these bits of paper bridging stamps as perforation "teeth" – in French "dentelure" and in German "Zählung.") The 25 partially imperforate stamps were detached from the normal stamps. The perforations along the right side of these stamps were trimmed off. The left imperforate margins were also reduced in size along with the top and bottom margins. It is a pity that all of them received this unnecessary "dental surgery," leaving not a single stamp attached to its perforate sibling. This did not happen to similarly imperforate varieties of the 25c stamp (Figure 67).

Figure 67. The 25c identical variety, some with original untrimmed margins.

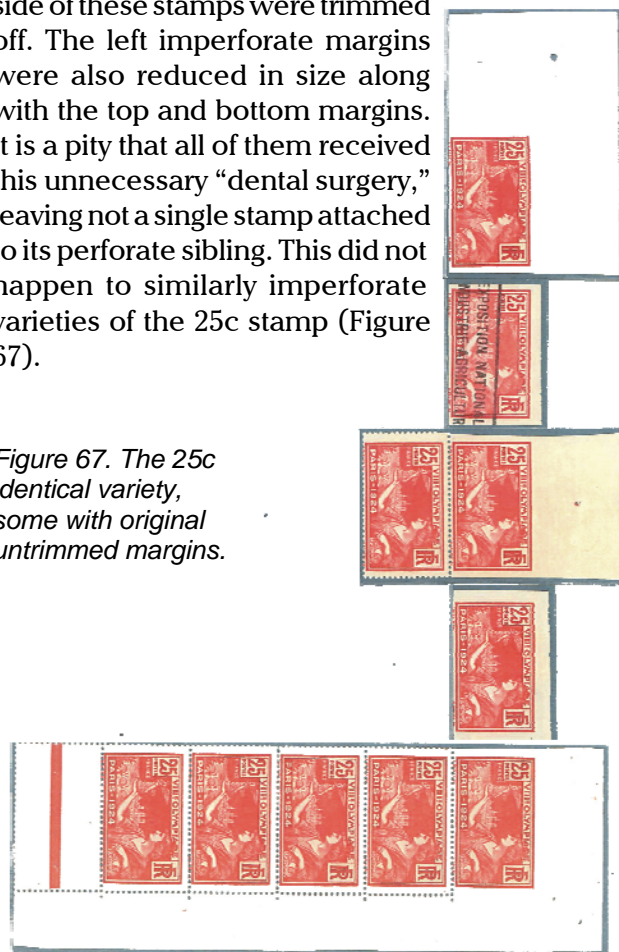


Table 1: 50c Imperforate Epinal Variety – Margin Characteristics of the Pane

Stamp	Top Margin	Left Margin	Right Margin	Bottom Margin
1	Very large, constant	Large, constant**	Narrow, slightly variable	Large, variable
6, 11, 16 ⁺	Large, variable*	Large, constant	Narrow, slightly variable*	Large, variable
21 ⁺	Large, variable*	Large, constant	Narrow, slightly variable	Very large, constant

* The variability depends on how the stamp was cropped.

** They were constant, but also narrower than the original margin.

+ See Figures 68A and 68B for examples.

What are the characteristics of these now completely imperforate 50c stamps? The characteristics of the stamps are the different size of their margins, as summarized in Table 1.

How are they defined by the philatelic authors, experts and publishers? The correct philatelic terminology is “imperforate tenant to perforate.” Curiously, though the variety has been known for a long time, it was incorrectly defined or mistaken for another configuration by collectors, dealers and experts. You may be the judge! Table 2 shows how these stamps were described.

The astonishing and embarrassing (for the philatelic world) fact is that though the variety had been known since 1924, it was wrongly defined and its “birth” never explained. Mentioned, yes, but explained, no. Moreover, Trachtenberg (a great air-mail expert, but only a self-anointed sport stamps expert) claimed in a 1985 letter to Dale Lilljedahl (footnote 13 in Dale’s bibliography): “One of the 50 ct imperforate SHEETS found its way to a local Post

Office ...” According to Trachtenberg there were entire sheets of this variety but still he asked an exorbitant price. In reality it should have been evident from similar varieties of the 25c stamps, that only five sheets of the 50c stamp displayed the variety, and then only in the left column of stamps – not the entire sheet, as claimed by Trachtenberg.

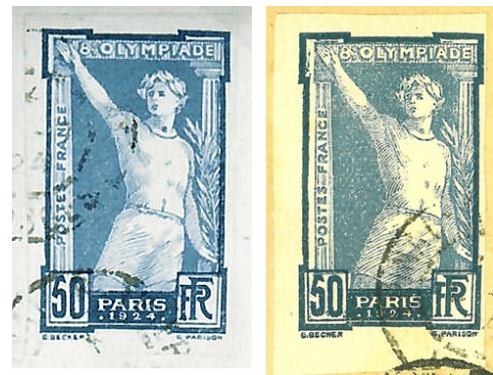


Figure 68A (left). Stamps 6, 11, and 16 from Figure 72 cover. Figure 68B (right). Stamp 21.

Table 2: Descriptions of the 50c Imperforate Epinal Variety Stamps

Who	How	Quantity Known	When
Depolier (catalog)	Imperforate tenant to perforate	10 printed?	1947
Caruso (collection)	imperforate	3	1968
Trachtenberg (expert)*	imperforate	x sheets, 4 stamps known	1978, 1985
Yvert & Tellier (catalog)**	accidentally imperforate	5	2001
Lilljedahl (author)	imperforate	sheets, 4 known	2004
Storch (dealer, expert)***	reference stamp	n/a	2008
Fritz & Kluge (author)****	imperforate	5	2015

* Copied by David Feldman (auction 1978, 1988)) and Dale Lilljedahl (collector and author, 2004)

** To be fair, note that Yvert & Tellier correctly defined a similar 25c variety as “Imperforate tenant to normal”

*** See specimens 12A & 14

**** Copied from Messmer (who took it from Trachtenberg’s certificate?)

Note that the 1956 Landmans “Sport” catalog, the first comprehensive one of its kind, mentioned the variety by its correct definition, but only for the 25c stamp.



Parade of 14 Specimens of the 50c Imperforate Epinal Variety

To date, I have been fortunate enough to have traced 14 of the 25 (possible) specimens of the 50c imperforate Epinal variety. All but one is cancelled. Ten are on covers, while one is on a fragment. The stamps and covers are described in the chronological order in which I encountered them. A summary of all philatelic data and information on the senders of the covers is presented at the end of the parade.

The Caruso Revelation (Specimens 1, 2, and 3). My first encounter was on the occasion of “VERSO MEXICO ‘68”. This detached strip of the 50c Epinal variety (Figure 69) – part of Toto Caruso’s exhibit – is the only known strip of three. Its use remains a mystery.

The Expert’s Treasure (Specimen 4). My next encounter, after 1968, with this variety occurred at the occasion of Philex France ‘74. Invited by J.-F. Brun, I visited his premises at the Palais Royal square. J.-François is the third generation of stamp dealers. He is the top expert in French philately and a signer of the Royal Roll. J.-François showed me his cover franked with the 50c Epinal imperforate variety (Figure 70). The cover is shown courtesy of M. Brun.

The Varga Bonanza, My First-Born Pride (Specimen 5). My first ownership of this variety was acquired through a private treaty sale in 1975 (Figure 71). In fact, L. Varga (owner of Théodore Champion), father of



Figure 69. Specimens 1, 2 and 3. The only known strip of 3 of this variety.



Figure 70. Specimen 4 on cover to Jussey.



Figure 71. Specimen 5, the author’s first cover with this variety. The backstamp is shown below right.

Jean Varga (my friend since 1964 and a past member of FIPO) offered me this cover. Note that arrival cachets were not obligatory in 1924. The cover is signed by T. Champion.

Did you know that Champion was a Swiss cycling champion as well as a philatelic dealer and expert? Another little known fact: his mother (“cherchez la femme”), a collector herself, started Théodore and his brother on their philatelic activities. Champion was the first promoter of collecting mint stamps (1902).



Theodore Champion on a stamp from Antigua & Barbuda.





Figure 72. Specimen 6 on registered cover from Epinal to Nancy on 4 July 1924. This cover currently resides in the Rudiger Fritz collection.

The Trachtenberg Folly (Specimen 6). It started in 1978. On a business trip to Paris, I set off one afternoon for a stroll through the rue Drouot, Paris' center for philately. Dropping by the store of Y. Bayare, at 2, rue Drouot (now a McDonald's), a dealer I had been friends with for many years, I asked him, "Anything new for 1924?" "My poor friend," he answered, "just half an hour ago I sold a cover with a 50c imperforate stamp to Henri Trachtenberg." Knowing my good friend Henri, this piece of 1924 philately was certainly lost to me (Figure 72). In fact, I met Henri for coffee later that same day, at which time he offered me the cover – for five times the price he had paid for it! I declined the offer.

The cover appeared in a 1980 David Feldman auction – the only time I have recorded an estimated price (9,000 SFr). The lot was not sold. It later appeared in Eduard Messmer's collection, an IMOS friend and a leading German Olympic collector. Messmer paid a third of what Henri originally priced the cover. Eduard retired and sold his collection to Rudiger Fritz, co-author of the outstanding book on Pierre de Coubertin, "Pierre de Coubertin and Olympic Philately" (reviewed in the Winter 2017 *JSP*).

The Kalkstein-Fournier Sprint (Specimen 7). When in Paris, a visit to Caphila, owned by the Kalkstein brothers, is a "must." Sometimes I would miss my opportunity, thus losing out on buying excellent items – but not on one afternoon in 1981. In fact, I found nothing at Caphila, but one of the brothers told me that Pierre Fournier, (Maison Guy, 22, rue Drouot), had an Epinal variety on cover. I sprinted down one block and found this specimen (Fig. 73).



Figure 73. Specimen 7 on cover to St. Nicolas du Port.

The 200th Anniversary of the French Revolution 'Two Strip' (Specimens 8 & 9). The late M. Lipschitz, President of the Organizing Committee for "Philex France '89" honored me by nominating me to the task of Secretary of the Jury. Famous dealers had stands at this exhibition commemorating the bicentennial of the French Revolution. Walking the booths, I met Pascal Behr (the third Behr generation, for whom I had babysat). Pascal took me to their stand, where Bernard Behr greeted me with a big smile. He had discovered a cover with a strip of two of the Epinal imperforate variety 50c stamps which he had kept for me. It was a day to remember! It remains the only cover with two stamps of this variety (Figure 74).



Figure 74. Specimens 8 & 9 on registered.



Figure 75. Specimen 10 on local Epinal cover.

The Ira Seebacher Legacy (Specimen 10). On September 18, 1997, Ira's "Sports" collection was auctioned by H.R. Harmer of New York. I missed the sale, and for this article asked Harmer for a copy. My requests were unsuccessful. However, Mark was able to obtain a copy of the auction catalog for me in a used book shop. Figure 75 shows the cover.

The Sinais "Double" (Specimens 11 & 12). Bernard Sinais (dealer, auctioneer, editor, now retired) was one of the thematic pillars in the 1980s and 1990s. In the mid-nineties, Bernard auctioned off two small covers with our famous variety (Figures 76A & 76B). Specimen 12 is the strangest of all listed covers. This is for two reasons:

1. Jean Storch (co-founder of the European Philatelic Academy – see also Specimen 14) used a fragment of Specimen 12 in his article on the 1924 Olympic issue in OPUS VIII.³ For purposes of this article, we will classify this fragment as Specimen 12A (Figure 76C). At first, I believed it to be a frag-

ment from a different cover, but Mark Maestrono corrected me. By photographically superimposing one item upon the other, he found them to be a perfect match. Thus, Storch used Specimen 12 for his fragment. Moreover, he committed his biggest gaffe when he erroneously defined the 50c on this fragment as "imperforate on letter." In so doing, he downgraded this 1-of-25 variety to a 1-of-150 purposely imperforate reference stamp. None of the reference sheet imperforate stamps has ever been used on mail. I have not been able to reach J. Storch for an explanation.



Figure 76C. Specimen 12A as listed in Storch's article in OPUS VIII.

2. The address was cut out and replaced by a pencil-written one on the inside of the back flap. The handwriting and the address are similar to the Bastid covers, signaling that there was likely a connection between the two writers of all the covers.

The Expert's Booklet (Yvert & Tellier 2002) (Specimen 13). The booklet is an excellent guide for collectors and exhibitors, though it needs some corrections. The definition is incorrect. In fact, it is not "accidentally imperforate," but rather an "imperforate tenant to a perforate" whose perforations were cropped (Figure 77). Complete accidentally imperforate stamps do not exist.

The Storch Gaffe (Specimen 14). The final specimen of this fascinating variety was also published in OPUS VIII, together with the above-mentioned



Figure 76A & 76B (l-r). Specimens 11 & 12. Both covers are believed to have been mailed by the same person who, possibly for reasons of privacy, cropped the addressee's name from the covers.

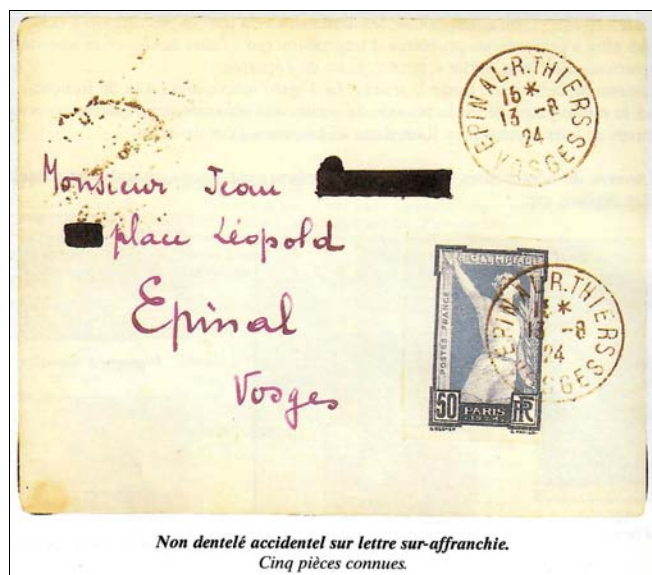


Figure 77. Specimen 13. On local Epinal cover.

fragment listed as Specimen 12A and shown in Figure 76C). J. Storch listed and showed Specimen 14 (Figure 78) as a variety, but then made the inexplicable mistake by defining it (like the fragment) as an “imperforate stamp of the reference sheet from the sheet (feuille témoin).” The error is even more significant than the fragment. In fact, this is the only known **mint Epinal variety**, therefore unique and not one of the 150 reference sheet stamps.



Fig. 40b: Non-dentelé de feuille témoin

Fig. 78. Specimen 14.

This parade of covers with the Epinal variety has now reached its conclusion, but is this the end of the story? It may seem so, since no publication is known to me that goes beyond simply describing them philatelically – in other words, just direct evidence. But no, the story is far from being finished; not all circumstantial evidence has been investigated.

First, what are we looking for?

1. Who wrote and who received the letters?
2. What was the profile of these persons?
3. Why were the addressees cut out or hidden by ink? Why was there not one letter with the name of the writer?
4. What is the explanation for the differences in franking?
5. What was the range of their destination and why?

Second, what are the clues of the circumstantial evidence?

1. All known covers were written **ONLY** by two persons, recognizable from the handwriting.
2. The scrupulous adherence to postage rates by one writer and the free philatelic use of the second writer.
3. The concentrated mailing on one day by one writer (4 July), and the range of dates of mailing over the months of July and August by the second writer.

In researching mail from writer #1, who mailed all his covers on 4 July 1924 (specimens 4, 5, 11, 12, and 15), I have deduced the following:

1. We cannot be certain who the addressee is because the name has either been covered over or inked out. The only significant clue was that the cover was mailed to Jussy, a town of about 1,000 inhabitants. Why would a person mail a letter to such a small town? The family name of the mailer was Wehrlé. So, I looked for the origin of this name.
2. Wehrlé is the diminutive of the German name Werner, of Alsace origin. The name is not especially popular; around 20 persons in the Vosges department and two in the Haute Savoie department bear this name. Between 1891 and 1915, 235 persons with this name were born in France.
3. The writer was the first one to use the variety with additional postage to exactly meet the correct rate.

My conclusion, based on the above evidence, is that the writer, Mr. Wehrlé, was employed by the post office. This would explain how he had access to the 50c varieties. Most likely, he mailed these letters to himself. Then, upon receiving them, he covered over his name and Epinal address in an effort to circumvent any potential conflict of interest. His letter to Jussy was probably to a parent. I have asked the civil authorities in Vosges to search for a Mr. Wehrlé who fit this profile.

All covers not written by writer #1 were written by writer #2. This is deduced by the fact that the handwriting is identical on all #2 covers.

1. Writer #2 mailed his covers on various dates in July and August 1924. All covers, whether regular or registered, were over-franked. They are philatelic covers. The purpose of mailing these covers was to

use the variety as postage. This strongly indicates that the writer was a philatelist.

2. The covers were addressed to:
 - a. Mr. Jean Bastid directly (Specimens 7 & 13).
 - b. Mr. Jean Bastid indirectly (c/o, Specimen 5).
 - c. A person residing at the same address as Mr. Bastid (Specimen 8).
 - d. Mr. TR ...
3. It is customary for philatelists to address letters to themselves or to other persons from whom they could later retrieve the covers. The above examples would seem to indicate that the writer was, himself, Mr. Bastid.

The person(s) that discovered the varieties were postal clerks and it was he (they) that cut off the perforated margins. Would they sell the stamps? No. This fact and the fact that the letters were sent at different dates, seem to indicate that writer #2 was also a postal official.

Mr. Bastid had two residences. This would suggest that he was of a higher, and possibly professional, standing. He could have been the post office branch director.

Table 3 summarizes all known data on the distribution of the 50c Epinal variety covers. While there is a “?” next Mr. Bastid’s name, there is a good chance he is the writer. Investigation with the civil authorities is still under way to confirm or affirm my theory. As one can see, there are still gaps in our knowledge. Certain 1924 philatelic byways remain to be fully investigated.

The above discussion proves my credo that Olympic philately begins with the writer; is followed by the contents – thematic or not; after which the identity of the recipient is, if possible deduced; and finally finishes, *rather than begins*, with the stamps and their cancellations (departure and arrival).

A final note: one loose stamp, seemingly of the 50c variety, cancelled in Paris, is owned by L. Jonker. The stamp will be discussed in Part 4 of this article.



Endnotes:

1. Bruce Kidd “Canada’s opposition to the Olympics in Germany,” *Canadian Journal of History of Sports and Physical Education*, 1978, Vol. 3, No. 2, pp. 20-40.
2. Erle Stanley Gardner created the literary character of Perry Mason, a Los Angeles lawyer who almost always won acquittals for his clients – invariably pretty women accused of murder. The Perry Mason stories, which typically employed alliterative titles beginning with “The Case of ...,” became a very popular U.S. television series from 1957 to 1966 (and which still airs in repeats today). Shown in the picture is private detective Paul Drake, Perry Mason (seated) and his attractive private secretary, Della Street (played, respectively, by William Hopper, Raymond Burr, and Barbara Hale).
3. OPUS VIII, page 42, Figure 12A.

Table 3: Distribution of 50c Epinal Variety Covers					
Specimen	Date	From / To	Writer / Recipient	Franking	Canceller
1, 2, 3					
4	4.7.1924	Epinal / Jussy	Wehrle (?) / Wehrle	R-correct	Double
6	4.7.1924	Epinal / Nancy	Wherle (?) / Halot	R-correct	Double
11, 12	4.7.1924	Epinal / Epinal (?)	Wehrle (?) / Wehrle	R-correct	Double
15	4.7.1924	Epinal / (?)	Wherle (?) / (?)	R-correct	Double
5	24.7.1924	Epinal / Epinal	Bastid (?) / Bastid	R-philatelic	Single
7	24.7.1924	Epinal / St. Nicolas	Bastid (?) / Bastid	R-philatelic	Single
10	27.7.1924	Epinal / Epinal	Bastid (?) / Tr... (?)	overfranked	Single
13	12-8-1924	Epinal / Epinal	Bastid (?) / Bastid	overfranked	Single



Paraguay's Stamps for the 28th South American Tennis Championships



by Norman F. Jacobs

Do you know why the tennis balls in these Paraguay stamps look psychedelic? When I first saw these stamps in 1986, I thought the multicolored tennis balls on this October 1961 issue were purely fanciful. The truth is that they show the colors of the flags of all the countries participating in the 28th South American Tennis Championships.

The *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* for 1998 lists the five commemoratives (605-9) and three airmail stamps C301-3), with valuations, along with a cryptic observation that "Some specialists question the status of this issue." *Scott* notes that imperforates and two souvenir sheets also exist, but in fact there are four different souvenir sheets of this issue.

Scott adds: "Limited Distribution Issues – Beginning with No. 610, sets with limited distribution are not valued." Although this last comment did not apply to the tennis issue, it raises questions. Did the tennis stamps originate with the Paraguayan post? Were they printed by a philatelic agency? Can we document their postal use? Did the tournament or the Paraguayan Lawn Tennis Association participate in their development or use?

Paraguay's stamp output and its relevance to the Paraguayan culture have varied over the years. Stamp World History (www.stampworldhistory.com) points out the changes in Paraguay's stamp issuing policies from the 1960's as follows: "Until the 1960's, Paraguay had a limited stamp output with themes mainly of national interest. In the 1960's, Paraguay issued stamps increasingly aimed at the thematic collectors market - in the 1970's and 1980's the stamp output was almost exclusively aimed at

the thematic collector. In the 1990's, Paraguay reverted to a moderate stamp output, again with themes of national interest."

A number of Paraguayan issues from 1961-62 are flagged by the *Scott* catalogue as questionable. Included are issues for the World Refugee Year, Boy Scouts, Malaria, World Soccer Championships, and Olympic Games. *Scott* includes prices for each of these, but not for many other Paraguay issues starting in December 1961. When I reviewed the *Scott* catalogue listings in detail, I could see that in 1961 the stamps issued by Paraguay up to and including the tennis issue in October 1961 generally related to Paraguayan themes.

Starting in December 1961, and continuing for the next 30 years, many Paraguayan stamps depicted events and topics unrelated to the country, such as Europa, foreign painters, pets, and space exploration. In fact, it appears that the profusion of stamps with themes not directly related to Paraguay begins in late 1961, just after the tennis issue was released.

Curiously, Paraguay issued a different set of stamps for the same 28th South American Tennis Championships, including eight commemoratives and four airmails, on January 5, 1962. The later stamps also commemorated the 150th anniversary of Paraguay's independence. Their listing in *Scott* includes valuations, but no comment questioning their status. Since the tournament took place in September 1961, and was represented by eight stamps in the October 1961 issue, this stamp issue from 1962 seems unnecessary.

What have I learned about the origin and usage of the Paraguay tennis stamps? These multicolored stamps were designed by Fiorello Botti, a Paraguayan portrait artist and cartoonist, and printed by



Figure 2. Registered cover to Yonkers, NY in 1965 confirming that the tennis stamps were used on outgoing mail. Inset at bottom shows arrival cancels on reverse.

El Arte S.A., located in Asuncion. (The 1962 issue was printed by the State Mint of Chile.)

One way to determine if stamps were used contemporaneously in the country of issue is to build a census of covers. On Jim Forte's extensive listing of worldwide covers, the entire listing from 1960-2017 for Paraguay was 8 covers. For Ecuador it was 10, and for Peru only 42. None of these showed tennis, of course. Commercial covers from Paraguay during this period are scarce for most stamp issues. By looking through dealers' stocks and trolling eBay and Delcampe over the years, I have found only three covers from the 1961 Paraguay issue. One was a mixed franking commercial cover with an unreadable postmark, which was sent from Paraguay to Germany.

Figure 2 shows a registered cover from 1965 with an Asuncion return address, sent to George Herzog, who was a prominent stamp dealer on Nassau Street who had moved to Yonkers, NY by 1960. The manuscript 82 should represent the required postage, making the 82.45 guarani the correct franking. However, I have searched unsuccessfully for a published guide to historical postal rates for South America, and the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) has no

knowledge of any such reference. The franking with three different tennis stamps sent to a stamp dealer three years after the issue date suggests that it is philatelic rather than commercial.

In contrast, the card in Figure 3 is a New Year's greeting sent to Buenos Aires on December 26, 1961, only two months after the issue date, and appears to be a legitimate commercial use.

What was the role of the Paraguayan Lawn Tennis Association (APLT) in the philatelic commemoration of the tournament? I recently obtained a presentation folder inscribed by the President of the APLT to a friend. It contains copies of both the perforated and imperforate stamps from the issue, but not the souvenir sheets (Figures 4-7).

The folder begins with a printed message from the Director General of the Post (not illustrated here). The next page (Figure 5) reads: "Tribute from the Paraguayan Lawn Tennis Association on the occasion of the XXVIIIth South American Tennis Championships, played for first time in Asuncion commemorating the 150th anniversary of independence, September 14-24, 1961." The handwritten inscription identifies the booklet as a gift from the President of the APLT to his friend Demetrio. So at least we know that the Paraguayan tennis association was aware of the issue and created these mementos. I have no idea how many folders were distributed, but this is the only one I have seen.



Figure 3. Legitimate commercial use of the 12.45g denominated stamp on a folded card to Argentina just two months after the stamps were issued.



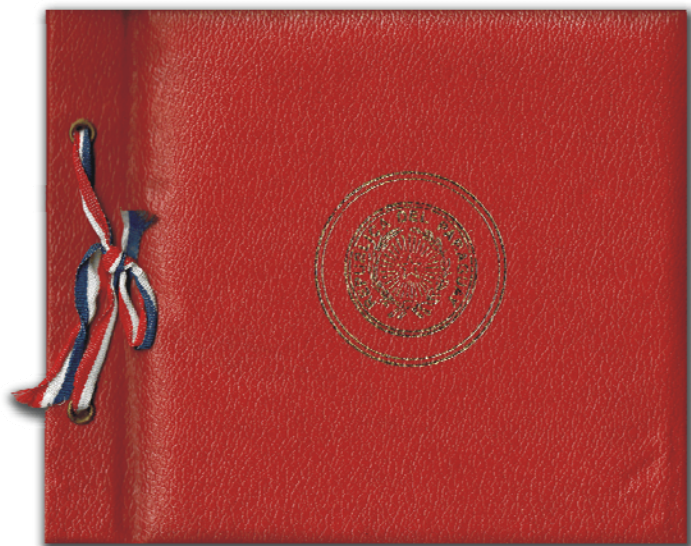
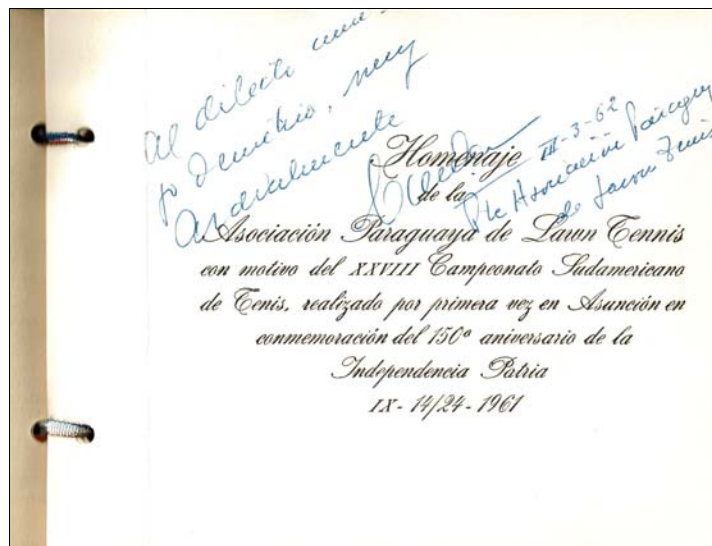


Figure 4. Presentation folder for the tennis stamps.

What should we decide about these stamps? They were designed and produced by Paraguayans, not by a foreign philatelic agency, and commemorated an event with local significance, the first appearance of the South American Tennis Championships in Paraguay. The production of imperforate stamps and four souvenir sheets in addition to the basic issue is excessive, but Figure 3 confirms at least some contemporaneous commercial use of the stamps in Paraguay. The presentation folder shows that both the Paraguayan postal service and the local tennis association played a role in the philatelic commemoration of the South American Tennis Championships. The stamps may be psychedelic, but the research summarized above supports the conclusion that these stamps are a legitimate postal issue suitable for inclusion in both collections and exhibits.

Thanks to SPI member Joan Llompart for translations of the inscriptions in the presentation folder. If any readers have access to additional information on these stamps, please contact me and I'll provide an update.

Figures 5-7 (right). Figure 5 (top) reproduces the "tribute" page and signature of the president of the Paraguayan Lawn Tennis Association. At middle right and bottom are two pages from the presentation folder with mint examples of the stamps mounted on decorative backgrounds. The souvenir sheets were not included in the folder.



Brooklyn Sandlot Baseball Machine Postmarks: the Backstory

by Norman Rushefsky

In my *JSP* article “Baseball in Brooklyn” (November/December 1997) I briefly described four machine postmarks relating to baseball and used in the 1940s to publicize local sandlot tournaments. In the intervening years more information has come to my attention particularly with regard to the nature of these tournaments.

The first of these postmarks to be used was in 1947 (Figure 1). It reads:

“BROOKLYN vs WORLD”
BASEBALL COMBATS
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY
AUGUST 15-16-17 1947

The name of the tournament is obviously curious, for what city, let alone borough, would have the chutzpah to compete against the world in a baseball tournament? To understand this event’s origin one needs to look back a few years.

Before TV and cable news, numerous daily newspapers thrived in large cities, competing for readership. With the popularity of baseball among youth, newspapers would create and sponsor youth tournaments. Reporting would typically be limited to the sponsoring paper.

By 1946, two New York area papers held such tournaments in which high school aged youth, and slightly older players, participated. The tournaments ran on different dates so that some of the youth could participate in both.

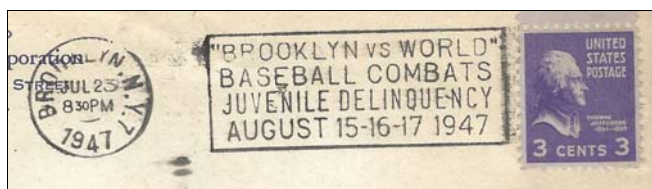


Figure 1. The 1947 “Brooklyn vs World” baseball tournament machine slogan postmark used on machine #7.



Figure 2. The 1946 Brooklyn sandlot baseball team. Whitey Ford is seated directly behind the batboy.

Future New York Yankee pitcher and Hall-of-Famer Edward “Whitey” Ford (Figures 2 and 3) was awarded the most valuable player trophy for the New York *Journal-American* tournament in 1946 (Figure 4). He pitched against a team from the Bronx, winning 1-0 in 10 innings. Ford not only pitched a two-hitter for his Queens, NY team, but doubled to open the top of the 10th, breaking up the opposition’s no-hitter and eventually scoring the



Figures 3 & 4. Whitey Ford pitched in the 1946 tournament, winning the MVP trophy (right). The St. Vincent stamp is part of a series of baseball cards that are valid postage stamps.

winning run. He then struck out the side in the bottom of the tenth, giving him 18 strikeouts for the game.

Twenty-four years later, Ford’s son, Eddie, would win the same trophy.

Whitey Ford also participated that year in the first Brooklyn *Daily Eagle*-sponsored tournament held August 7, 8 and 9 at Ebbets Field (Figure 5), home of the Brooklyn Dodgers team. In that tournament, boys from Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island



Figures 5 & 6. Brooklyn's Ebbets Field where the 1946 tournament was played. George Sisler (right) managed the World Team.

were cast against the "World" (U.S. and Canada). The Brooklyn boys were selected by tryouts, whereas the "World" team was picked through nominations by readers of 20 newspapers across the U.S. and Canada.

The Brooklyn team was managed by Leo Durocher and the World team by George Sisler (Figure 6).

Ford played in only one game of that tournament and as a right fielder; he went hitless. The Dodgers were cosponsors of this tournament and had a subsidiary interest in scouting the players for future talent for their team.

Tickets were sold for the games and the funds used to support the Brooklyn Amateur Baseball Association's efforts to upgrade fields and equipment for youth baseball. The 1946 tournament was won by the Brooklyn team, two games to one.

In 1947, the "Brooklyn vs World" tournament played out over a three-day period from August 15-17. Former Dodger pitching great "Dazzy" Vance managed the Brooklyn Eagle All-Stars team, while the World All-Stars were managed by famed St. Louis Cardinals former player "Pepper" Martin.

This time the World team included players from U.S., Hawaii, Cuba and Canada.

The August 15 game was televised by CBS.

Prior to the game Vance threw pitches to Martin who slapped one of Vance's high hard ones to left field. The World All-Stars won the 1947 tournament two games to one.

The postmark for the 1947 tournament was placed in use on July 15, 1947 and was discontinued after August 17, 1947. The circular date portion of the postmark indicates the machine number; in 1947 only postmark machines numbered 3, 4, 5 and 7 were used.

The 1948 Brooklyn *Daily Eagle* tournament took a different turn as the boys from Brooklyn competed against a team from the Washington, DC area selected by the *Washington Post*.

The teams played one game at Ebbets Field, won by the DC team, and a second game in DC. The game in DC was won 2-1 by Brooklyn's pitcher, Billy Loes, who pitched 12 innings.

The Brooklyn team then went on to play respective teams in various cities in Canada including Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Their final game was against a Providence, Rhode Island team. Loes pitched a complete game shutout and was signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers after the trip. Loes would go on to have a distinguished career pitching for the Dodgers. No 1948 tournament postmark was used.

The Brooklyn *Daily Eagle* tournament of 1949 was again changed to a two-day tournament, this time against a team from Montreal.



Figure 7. The machine cancel for the 1949 tournament.

The first game played in Brooklyn was on July 26 and the Montreal team won it in extra innings. A machine postmark used in 1949 (Figure 7) promoted the series as a Brooklyn vs World event.

The Montreal team also won the second game held in Montreal on August 7. This game also went into extra innings. Ken Aspromonte of the Brooklyn team later played in the Major Leagues and, after retiring as a player, managed the Cleveland Indians.

The 1950 tournament was similar to that of 1949. This time, however, the Brooklyn team, playing at home on August 14, turned the tables on the Montreal team. Their second meeting, this time in Montreal on August 18, again resulted in a win for the Brooklyn team.

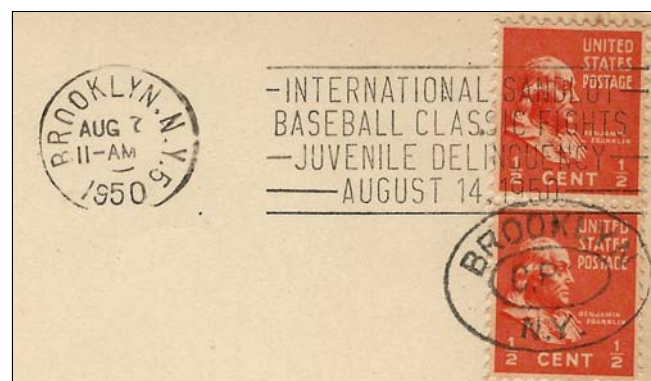


Figure 8. The 1950 tournament machine cancel.



Figure 9. Frank Graham, Jr. promoting the 1950 Brooklyn Against The World sandlot baseball tournament. The first game, against Montreal, was held at Ebbets Field on August 14.

The machine postmark used in 1950 (Figure 8) identified the tournament as an “International Sandlot Baseball Classic.”

The photo in Figure 9 is of Frank Graham, Jr. who worked for the Dodgers and was responsible for promoting the team, including this tournament. He was the son of a famous sportswriter, later becoming a successful sportswriter and reporter on environmental matters.

Two “local” teams fought it out in the next tournament played July 29, 1951. An all-star squad labeled the Brooklyn Rookies faced off against a team of all-stars from Long Island.

Prior to the game celebrities such as newly crowned heavyweight boxing champion, Jersey Joe Walcott, and “fast rising crooner,” Tony Bennett, were introduced. Also praised was Brooklyn Postmaster Edward J. Quigley for promoting the Sandlot Day Baseball Classic through cancellation of stamps on Brooklyn’s mail.

The Brooklyn team won this game 5-4.

The machine postmark for 1951 (Figure 10) comports with this change to a local tournament by deleting the word “International.” The postmarks for the years 1949, 1950 and 1951 are known used only on machine #5.



Figure 10. The final “Brooklyn vs The World” tournament was between two U.S. teams on July 29, 1951 as noted on this Brooklyn machine cancel.

In the six years during which the tournament was played, over \$100,000 was raised to support youth baseball through the purchase of bats and balls and contributing toward the operation of 20 school baseball fields.

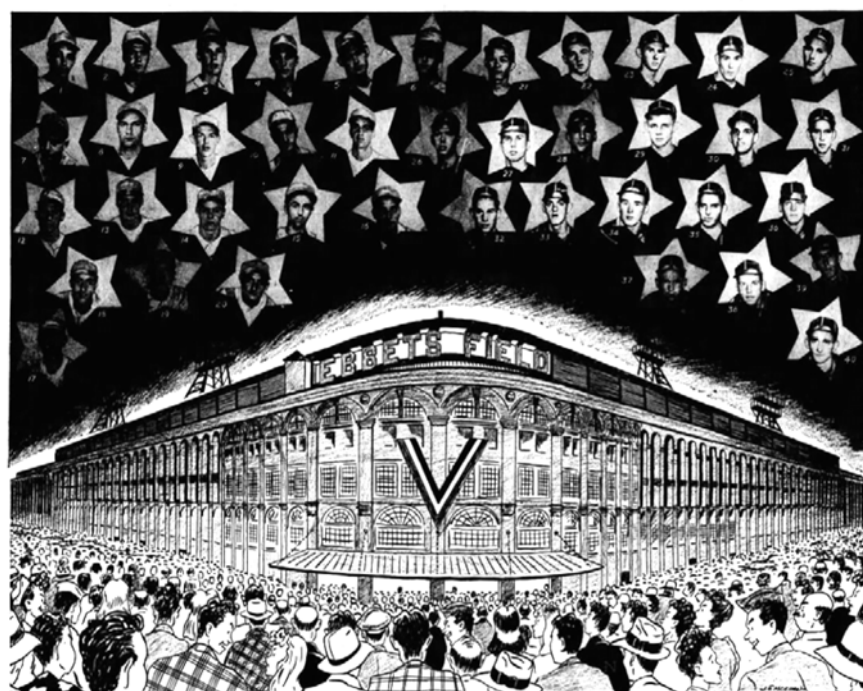
The 1946 Tournament players

Eagle All Stars: 1, Joe Della Monica; 2, Eugene Lavery; 3 Arthur Raynor; 4, Bill Mackel; 5, Joe Parker; 6, William Lynch; 7, Al McEvoy; 8, Louis Tufano; 9, Bob Kunze; 10, Robert Cowherd; 11, Frank Colandro; 12, Edward [Whitey] Ford; 13, Joe Torpey; 14, Dan Dever; 15, Angelo Palmeri; 16, August Fiamma; 17, Arnold Wallis; 18, Anthony Cincotta; 19, Chris Kitsos; 20, Bill Mahsingo.

World All Stars: 21, Henry Tominaga; 22, Rod Clifford; 23, Bernard Doyle; 24, William Pfaff; 25, William Beverley; 26, Bill Huntley; 27, Alex Romanchuk; 28, Frank Turcy; 29, Lou Damman; 30, Lenny Yochim; 31, Billy Fowler; 32, Richard Baptista; 33, Roger Breard; 34, Tommy Flynn; 35, Raymond Rowe; 36, Vernon Frantz; 37, Vic Marasco; 38, Art Sepke; 39, Donny Banson; 40, Milan Kubene.

[printed in the August 7, 1946 issue of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle newspaper]

IT'S BROOKLYN VS. THE WORLD TONIGHT





The LEAFS Celebrate a Centennial

by Kon Sokolyk

As the National Hockey League (NHL) commemorated its 100th anniversary in 2017, so did one of its most celebrated teams, the Toronto Maple Leafs. And Canada Post, after a very popular five-year run commemorating the league's anniversary, turned its attention to the Leafs, perhaps one of the most celebrated professional sport franchises in Canada.

The history of the Toronto Maple Leafs pre-dates the team's current name and goes back to the establishment of the NHL in the fall of 1917 (following the collapse of its predecessor, the National Hockey Association). Four teams – Montreal Canadiens, Montreal Wanderers, Ottawa Senators, and the Toronto Arenas – started play in December of that year. Subsequently, the Toronto team was known as the St. Patricks.

In 1927, the St. Patricks were purchased by Hugh Aird and Conn Smythe. Almost immediately, the new owners decided that the team required a more patriotic name and one with national appeal. Smythe, a decorated veteran of the First World War, selected the name Maple Leafs, a symbol that was on badges and insignia of the Canadian uniform he had worn in battle. The team colors were also changed, from green and white to white and blue, to reflect the colors of Smythe's alma mater, the University of Toronto (see *JSP*, July/August 2002).



Figure 1. The booklet version stamp featured the centennial anniversary logo of the Toronto Maple Leafs. The face value of the stamp at the time of issue was 85¢.

As the Leafs, the club has won the Stanley Cup, emblematic of the NHL championship, on eleven occasions, the last being 50 years ago, in 1967. They had also won once as the St. Patricks, and in their inaugural season as the Arenas.

Canada Post celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Toronto Maple Leafs with two stamps and a souvenir sheet. The two stamps were both self-adhesive with a permanent face value at the domestic rate (85¢ at the time of issue). The booklet of 10 stamps features the Leafs' centennial anniversary logo (Figure 1). The hockey puck-shaped coil stamps, which come in a 50-stamp roll in a cleverly designed matching dispenser (Figure 2), feature the 100th anniversary Maple Leafs logo (Figure 3).



Figures 2 & 3. At right, the self-adhesive "P" stamps (permanent) issued in coils of 50 in the shape of a hockey puck. The unique coil stamp dispensers (above) were also cleverly designed as a puck.



The gummed \$5.00 souvenir sheet depicting a vintage Leafs jersey worn by captain Ted "Teeder" Kennedy is also unique. The maple leaf crest on the jersey is made of real fabric and affixed to the sheet, a philatelic first for Canada Post. The souvenir sheet is shown at top.



Figure 4. Doug Gilmour on the booklet stamp FD cover.

Kennedy captained the Leafs for eight seasons starting in the late 1940s and was a five-time Stanley Cup champion.

Each of the products had a unique First Day Cover design showing photo images of former team captains: Doug Gilmour for the booklet stamp (Figure 4), Wendel Clark for the coil stamp (Figure 5) and Teeder Kennedy for the souvenir sheet (Figure 6). While the first day cancels featured the Leafs' logo, each is different in design.

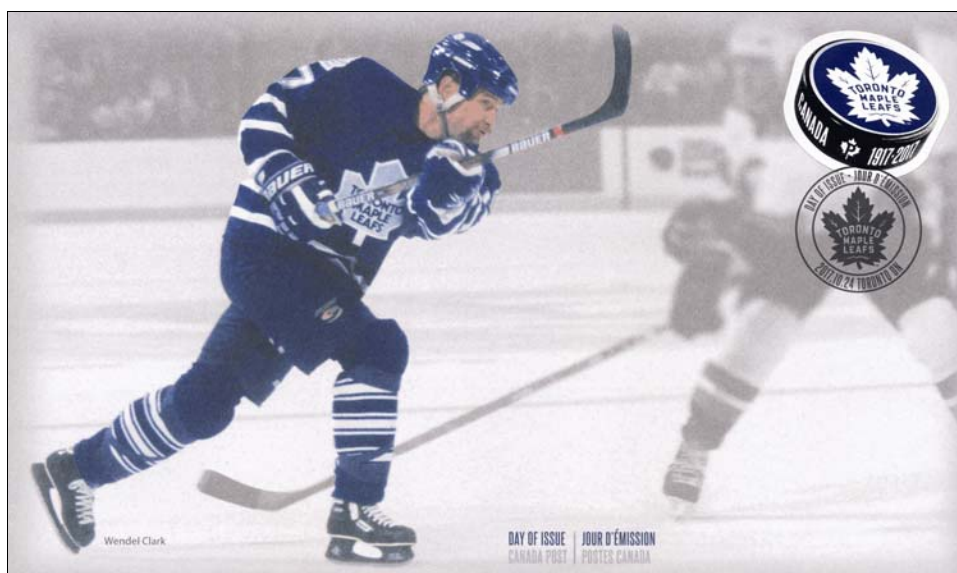


Figure 5. The coil stamp FDC features Wendel Clark.



Figure 6. \$5 souvenir sheet FDC shows Teeder Kennedy.

Consistent with current practice, the issue of Canada Post's *Details* magazine promoting the Maple Leafs issue included a pre-printed customized postal "ad mail" indicium which featured a variant of the booklet stamp (Figure 7).

While the Toronto Maple Leafs have not won a Stanley Cup in 50 years, with every new season there is hope amongst the loyal fans as they chant:

Go Leafs Go!



Figure 7. The pre-printed indicium on *Details* magazine used the design for the booklet stamp.

Korea Post Issues 2018 Olympic Stamps

by Mark Maestroni

It is refreshing to see an Olympic host country's postal administration exercise some semblance of restraint in its stamp issuing program for an Olympic Games. Following the veritable flood of stamps from Russia for the 2014 Sochi Games (67 different stamps) and Rio 2016 (138), Korea's 21 stamps to date seem little more than a trickle.

The first stamp commemorating the 23rd Olympic Winter Games celebrates the awarding of the 2018 Games to PyeongChang on 6 July 2011. The single stamp, depicting an Alpine skier with the image of a ski jump tower in the distance, was released barely a month later on 3 August.

Since then, collectors have had to wait until a colorful set of two mini-sheets of ten stamps hit post office counters on 1 November 2017 – just 100 days before the Games' Opening Ceremony on 9 February. The two mini-sheets are reproduced at right.

These 20 stamps manage to capture all the important elements that collectors look for: the Games' mascot and logo, Games motto, the sports being contested, and even a few of the venues.

The mascot, a cute white tiger named Soohorang, is shown engaging in each of the 15 winter sports disciplines on the Olympic program: Alpine skiing, biathlon, bobsleigh, cross-country skiing, curling, figure skating, freestyle skiing, ice hockey, luge, Nordic combined, short-track, skeleton, ski jumping, snowboarding, and speed skating.

Two additional stamps depict, what appear to be, Soohorang marching in the Opening Ceremony and celebrating at the Closing Ceremony.

The name "Soohorang" is derived from "sooho" meaning "protection," while "rang" is a shortening of the word "ho-rang-l" or "tiger." Put the two together and you have a mascot who embodies both trust and strength, guaranteeing athletes and visitors a safe Olympic Winter Games.

The remaining three stamps reproduce the Alpensia Ski Jumping Centre (ski jumping, Nordic combined, and the big-air snowboarding event), Games logo, and PyeongChang Olympic Stadium (Opening and Closing Ceremonies).

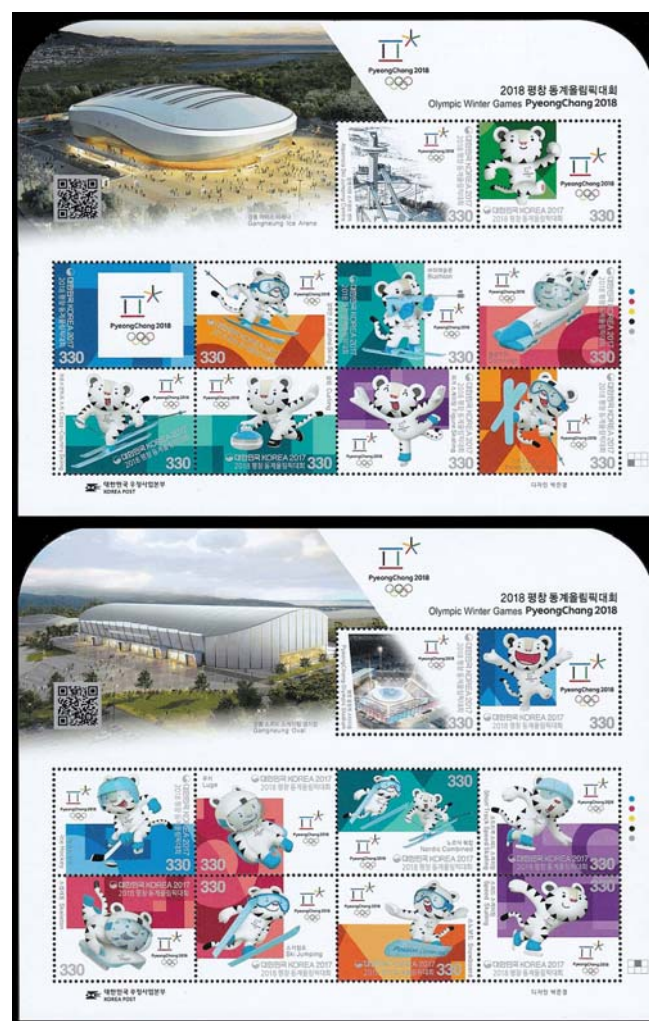
Additional sports venues are portrayed in the upper left selvedge of each mini-sheet: the Gangneung Ice Arena (short-track speed skating and figure skating) and Gangneung Oval (speed skating).

If one looks closely at the side of the mascot's bobsleigh and bottom of its snowboard, the 2018 Olympic Winter Games motto "Passion. Connected." is clearly visible.

The face value of each stamp is 330₩ (about 30¢). This is the domestic letter rate. For the record, at the time of the Games, the airmail letter rate (up to 10g) to the United States will be 700₩.

A single mini-sheet of 10 stamps was released on 18 January 2018 for the Paralympic Games which run for 10 days (9-18 March). Hexagonal in shape, the stamps portray Bandabi, the Asiatic black bear mascot of the Paralympic Games.

A final set-tenant pair of stamps are scheduled to be issued on opening day of the Games, 9 February. One stamp depicts the gold, silver and bronze medals, while the other shows the Olympic torch with fireworks above the stadium.



Golfing the World

by Patricia Loehr

Throughout the twentieth century, transportation advancements made getting to golf tournaments nationally and internationally desirable. While many professional golfers affiliated with a club to manage their golf program, others set out to travel the world to play in golf events and championships. Two of the most famous and successful who did that are Roberto de Vincenzo from Argentina and Gary Player of South Africa.

The commemorative cover in Figure 1 from 1988 honors both Vincenzo and the Hurlingham Golf Club¹ in Argentina. The cancel is a likeness of the legendary golfer wearing his favorite style hat encircled by his name and fifty years as a professional. The cachet is a scene of a golfer putting to a flagstick above the Spanish of centenary followed by Hurlingham Golf Club.

The first day cover in Figure 2 is for a stamp of Gary Player from a four-stamp set². Born in Johannesburg, the image of Gary Player from the stamp is repeated in the cancel. An enclosed card shows Player's powerful golf swing at impact with striking the ball.

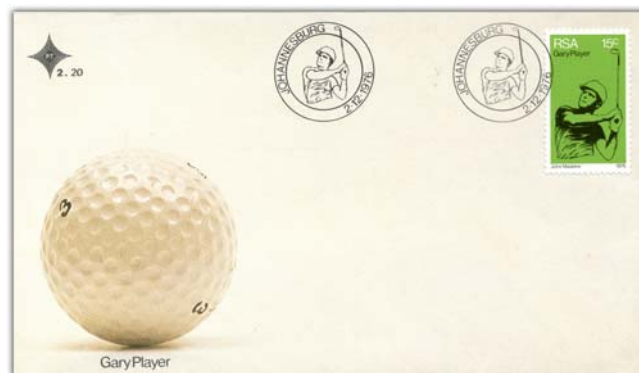
As commemorated on the Figure 1 cover, Vincenzo became a golf professional in 1938. Player turned pro in 1953. Both won soon after – Vincenzo in 1942 and Player in 1955. From that early success they continued to win tournaments year after year stretching into decades of sustained consistency. For example, while in Europe in 1950, Vincenzo won the Belgian, Dutch, and French Open Championships. Player won his first Australian Open in 1958 and seven overall. They both played in sixteen World Cup tournaments with Vincenzo's team winning the inaugural event in 1953, then known as the Canada Cup.

When not competing in distant tournaments, they also won the Open Championship of their native countries, an impressive thirteen South African Opens for Player and nine Argentine Opens for Vincenzo.

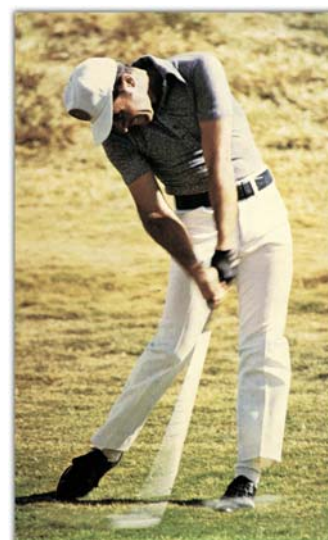
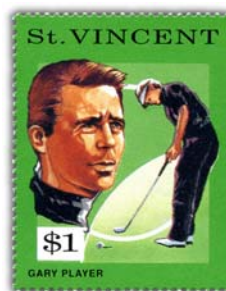


Figure 1. 1988 Argentine cover commemorating Roberto de Vincenzo's 50th year as a professional golfer and the centennial of the Hurlingham Club.

Along with his golfing achievements, Gary Player became known for maintaining an exercise routine to promote physical fitness, a diet of healthy food choices, and wearing all black clothing when playing in tournaments (Figure 3). This penchant for dark clothing earned him the nickname the "Black Knight."³



Figures 2 & 3. Gary Player FDC (above) with enclosure (at right) showing his swing. (Below) Player earned the nickname the "Black Knight" as he often wore black.



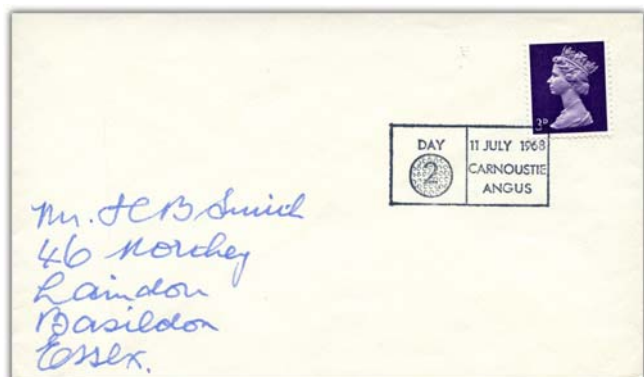


Figure 4. Day 2 Carnoustie cancel. This was Player's second British Open win.



Figure 5. Photo postcard showing the "South America" hole at the Carnoustie golf course in Scotland.

By winning his fourth major competition in 1965, Player joined Gene Sarazen and Ben Hogan as the only professional golfers⁴ who had completed a career modern Grand Slam. Vincenzo won The Open Championship of 1967 at Royal Liverpool which would become his only major victory.

Despite his illustrious career of winning many Open Championships of many countries, Vincenzo



Figure 6. SPI First Day Cover for Bobby Jones. Both Player and Vincenzo won the Bob Jones award for sportsmanship and contributions to golf.

is as much remembered for signing an incorrect scorecard at the Masters in 1968. The mistake did not disqualify him! However, instead of a tie for first place he finished in second. That cost him the opportunity to be in a play off to decide the champion.

Although Vincenzo did not win a second major championship in 1968, Player would win his fifth at The Open held at Carnoustie in Scotland. The cancel in Figure 4 commemorates the second day of the championship. Why would a golf course in Scotland name a hole "South America" (Figure 5)? According to historical accounts a local golfer who intended to move to that continent drank too much at his farewell party and ventured out onto the course no further than the 10th hole. The club named the hole South America so the golfer could reason that he did reach his intended destination.

Established in 1955, the Bob Jones award (Figure 6) is bestowed for sportsmanship and contributions to golf. Player received it in 1966 and Vincenzo in 1970.



Figure 7. Vincenzo and Player were both inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame.



Figure 8. Vincenzo continued to golf as a senior, winning at the 1974 Senior PGA Championship.

Gary Player and twelve other legendary golfers were admitted to the World Golf Hall of Fame at its Grand Opening in 1974 (Figure 7). Vincenzo received that honor in 1989. The World Golf Hall of Fame moved from North Carolina to Florida in the 1990s. In 2006 an exhibit featuring Gary Player was titled "A Global Journey."

It should be obvious that these two golfers received honors while their careers were still in progress and they continued to enter and win tournaments. Player would win a total of nine major competitions, the last in 1978.

Both golfers found success in senior golf. Vincenzo won the Senior PGA Championship in 1974 (Figure 8) and the inaugural U.S. Senior Open in 1980. He regularly played in the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf.

Gary Player joined the Senior Golf Tour, now known as the Champions Tour, in 1985. Matching his total major victories from the regular tour he has won nine Champion Tour majors: Senior PGA (3), U.S. Senior Open (2), Senior British Open (3), and Senior Players (1).

Roberto de Vincenzo retired from competitive golf in 2006, passing away on June 1, 2017 at age 94. Gary Player became an honorary starter at the Masters in 2012.

For them golf turned out to be "The Greatest Game of All"⁵ lasting a lifetime (Figure 9).

End Notes

1. In 1888, British citizens living in Argentina decided to form a club and establish facilities for a variety of sporting activities including golf, polo, cricket, and tennis. They chose to name their club Hurlingham after a similar club by the same name founded in the 1860s in London.

2. The other sports in the set are polo, bowls (lawn bowling), and cricket.

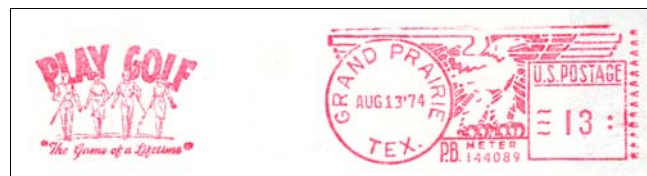


Figure 9. This 1974 meter captures the enjoyment that both Vincenzo and Player found in playing golf, "The Game of a Lifetime."

3. Other golfers are known to favor color-specific clothing. Tiger Woods wore red and black clothing on golf-tournament Sundays, while Hubert Green would often wear green (because of his name).

4. In future years Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods would accomplish the career Grand Slam.

5. This is the title of a book authored by Herbert Warren Wind and Jack Nicklaus in 1969. Like Vincenzo and Player his career was still in progress with many years of future success.



A well-crafted page with a nice variety of philatelic elements from the author's display class golf exhibit. Included is a golf stamp from Argentina (the second stamp from the left in the bottom row).

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Armenia: May 30, 2017. Rio Olympics. 480d stamp issued to honor Artu Aleksanyan, Greco-Roman wrestling gold medalist at Rio.

Aruba: May 31, 2017. Sports. Set of eight stamps, 50c cycling; 85c baseball; 90c cross-country skiing; 100c basketball; 130c soccer; 220c go-karting; 305c skateboarding; 390c tennis.

Azerbaijan: May 5, 2017. 4th Islamic Solidarity Games. Block of four 50g stamps, tennis; gymnastics; boxing; soccer.

Bangladesh: August 16, 2016. Rio Olympics. Souvenir sheet with one 20t stamp, birds-eye view of Rio & Christ Redeemer Statue (golf, shooting, swimming, athletics, archery in selvedge). Four labels on sheet. Also imperf.

Belarus: November 30, 2016. Rio Olympics. Medalists at Rio Games. Sheetlet of three stamps, 93k seven bronze medalists and bronze medal; 1.26r four silver medalists and silver medal; 1.44r Uladzislau Hancharou and trampolining gold medal. Sheetlet of four stamps, Aliaksandr Tryputis, javelin bronze medalist; Andrei Pranevick; Uladzimir Izotau, swimming gold medalist, holding stuffed mascot; Ihar Boki, winner of 6 gold medals and 1 bronze swimming medals.

Belgium: June 12, 2017. Belgian Winners of the Tour de France Bicycle Race. Miniature sheet of 10. Odiel Defraeye, 1912; Philippe Thys 1913, 1914, 1920; Firmin Lambot 1919, 1922; Leon Scieur 1921; Lucien Buyze 1926; Maurice De Waele 1929; Romain Maes 1935; Sylvere Maes 1936, 1939; Eddy Merckx 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972; Lucien Van Impe 1976. Imperf sheets were given as gifts to standing order customers.

Botswana: May 1, 2017. Netball World Youth Cup. Set of 5 stamps depicting various netball players, 40t; 50t; 4p; 5.90p; 10p. Souvenir sheet.

Burkina Faso: October 5, 2016. Tour de Faso Bicycle Race. Single 200r stamp depicts race at finish line.

Canada: May 16, 2017. Formula 1 Race Car Drivers. Sheetlet of five "P" stamps, Sir Jackie Stewart, flag of Great Britain; Gilles Villeneuve, flag of Canada; Ayrton Senna, flag of Brazil; Michael Schumacher, flag of Germany; Lewis Hamilton, flag of Great Britain. Also booklet pane of 10 stamps, 2 of each.

September 28, 2017. Centenary of the National Hockey League. Sheet of 6 + 3 labels. Players: Maurice Richard; Jean Beliveau; Gordie Howe; Bobby Orr; Mario Lemieux; Wayne Gretzky. Booklet pane of six, all 'P' stamps. Six \$1.80 souvenir sheets with the same illustrations.

Central Africa: August 21, 2017. 65th Anniversary of Viv Richards. Sheetlet of four 850F stamps, Sir Isaac Vivian Alexander Richards, cricket player. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, Richards, cricket player.

August 21, 2017. Ice Hockey Championship 2017. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, Russia vs Finland; Canada vs Germany; Canada vs Russia; Sweden vs Finland. Souvenir sheet with one 3600F stamp, Canada vs Sweden.

August 21, 2017. Rugby. Sheetlet with four 850F stamps, various rugby scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, rugby.

August 21, 2017. 30th Anniversary of Andy Murray. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, Andy Murray. S/s with one 3600F stamps, Andy Murray.

August 21, 2017. Judo. Sheetlet of four 850F stamps, various judo scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamps, judo.

August 21, 2017. 30th Anniversary of Lionel Messi. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, action scenes with the soccer star. Souvenir sheet with one 3600F stamp, Lionel Messi.

August 21, 2017. Table Tennis. Sheetlet of four 850F stamps, Zhang Jike; Jan-Ove Waldner; Liu Guoliang; Dimitrij Ovtcharov. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamps, Ma Long.

August 21, 2017. 120th Anniversary of the First Boston Marathon. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, Kathrine Switzer, the first woman to formally enter and complete the Boston Marathon in 1967; Boston Marathon bombing on April 15, 2013; Boston Marathon 2017. Souvenir sheet with one 3600F stamp, Ellison "Tarzan" Brown 1914-1975, two-time winner of the Boston Marathon in 1936 and 1939.

August 21, 2017. Formula 1. Sheetlet with four 850F stamps, Mercedes AMG F1 W08 EQ Power+; Ferrari SF70H; Renault R.S.17; Red Bull RB13. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, Mercedes AMG F1 W07 Hybrid.

August 21, 2017. World Championships in Athletics 2017. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, Christian Taylor; Yarisley Silva; Katherina Molitor; Ashton Eaton. Souvenir sheet with one 3600F stamp, Raphael Holzdeppe.

August 21, 2017. Golf. Sheetlet with four 850F stamps, Matsuyama Kideki; Lydia Ko; Rory McIlroy; Ariya Jutanugarn. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, Stenson Henrik.

August 21, 2017. Water Sports. Sheetlet with four 900F stamps, canoe polo; flyboard; synchronized swimming; barefoot. Souvenir sheet with one 3600F stamp, Surf Loch.

Djibouti: July 28, 2017. Prince William. Sheetlet with four 240F stamps, one depicting Prince William playing polo.

July 28, 2017. Cricket. Sheetlet with four 240F stamps, Shikhar Dhawan; Josh Hazlewood. Souvenir sheet with one 950F stamps, cricket players in action.

July 28, 2017. Hockey. Sheetlet with four 240F stamps, hockey players. Souvenir sheet with one 950F stamp, cricket players.

July 28, 2017. Formula 1. Sheetlet with four 240F stamps, various action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 950F stamp, Nico Rosberg, champion of Formula 1, 2016.

July 28, 2017. Table Tennis. Sheetlet of four 240F stamps, Zhang Jike; Lie Shiwen; Ding Ning; Liu Guoliang. Souvenir sheet with one 950F stamp, Ma Long.

July 28, 2017. Golf. Sheetlet with four 240F stamps, Dustin Johnson; Ryu So-yeon; Lydia ko; Rory McIlroy. S/s with one 950F stamp, Jason Day.

July 28, 2017. Tennis. Sheetlet with four 240F stamps, Rafael Nadal; Stan Wawrinka; Angelique Keber; Serena Williams. Souvenir sheet with one 950F stamp, Andy Murray.

July 28, 2017. 80th Memorial Anniversary of Pierre de Coubertin. Sheetlet of four 240F stamps, Pierre de Coubertin, Monument of Coubertin at Beijing University of Sport.

Georgia: October 24, 2016. Rio Olympics. 2 L stamp showing Olympic rings, emblem.

December 15, 2016. Mountain Resorts. Sheet of three 1.25 l stamps, Mestia; Bakuriani; Gudauri.

Germany: May 11, 2017. Athletes. Set of 4 stamps, 70c+30c swimmer; 85c+40c fencers; 145c+55c rowers. Booklet pane of 6+2 labels.

Greece: April 7, 2017. National Themes. Set of 5 stamps, one €0.72 depicts sports, tennis cycling, basketball. Sheets of 5 + 5 personalized labels.

Italy: November 8, 2016. International Bicycle and Motorcycle Exhibition in Milan. 95c stamp showing bicycle wheel.

December 6, 2016. 40th Anniversary Italian Victory in Davis Cup Tennis Tournament. 95c showing tennis player and Davis Cup.

Ireland: July 13, 2017. Women's Rugby World Cup. €1 stamp showing women player carrying ball.

Israel: June 13, 2016. 20th Maccabiah Games. Single 2.40s stamp showing various athletes.

Kazakhstan: January 30, 2017. Winter Universiade. 200te stamp depicting mascot with torch.

March 2, 2017. 25th Anniversary Kazakhstan Olympic Committee. 100te stamp, Olympic Rings, logo.

Maldives: September 12, 2017. Formula 1. Sheetlet of four Rf20 stamps, Lewis Hamilton; Mercedes AMG F1 W05; The Red Bull RB1; Mercedes F1 W05; Ferrari F4 T. Souvenir sheet with one Rf80 stamp, Sauber C36 Ferrari.

Monaco: June 1, 2017. 25th Prince Albert II Challenge Fencing Tournament. €1.42, two fencers.

Niger: October 11, 2017. 55th Memorial of Marilyn Monroe. Sheetlet of four 800F stamps, one depicts Joe DiMaggio, baseball player.

Poland: June 9 2017. 10th World Games, Wroclaw. 5z stamps showing boxer cyclist.

Russia: March 9, 2016. Confederation Cup Soccer Tournament. 35r stamps depicting trophy.

June 28, 2017. Russian Defense Sport & Technology Organization. Set of 2 stamps, 22r rifle shooting; 22r radio direction finding.

San Marino: June 13, 2017. 90th Anniversary A.S. Roma Soccer Team. €2 stamp showing emblem.

June 13, 2017. Juventus 2016-17 Italian Soccer Champions. €2 stamp, Juventus emblem.

Slovenia: May 26, 2017. World Track and Field Championships. €1.15 stamp depicting stylized hammer throw. Printed in sheets of 6 + 3 labels.

Sierra Leone: July 28, 2017. Racing Motorcycles. Sheetlet of four LE 9800 stamps, 2016 Harley-Davidson Electra Glide Ultra Classic; 2014 Honda Valkyrie GL1800CA ABS; 2017 Kawasaki Ninja H2R; 2017 KTM 1290 Super Duke GT. Souvenir sheet with one LE 40000 stamp, 2017 Yamaha YZF-R1.

August 30, 2017. 75th Anniversary Muhammad Ali. Sheetlet of four LE 9800 stamps, Muhammad Ali; Sonny Liston; Joe Frazier. Souvenir sheet with one LE 40000 stamp, Muhammad Ali, Ernie Terrell.

Solomon Islands: August 21, 2017. Formula 1. Sheetlet of four \$10 stamps, Benetton B192, Mercedes F1W06 Hybrid; Marussia MR03, Benetton B 194; McLaren MCL32, Force India VJM10; Renault R.S.17; Sauber C36-Ferrari. Souvenir sheet with one \$40 stamp, Mercedes F1 W04, Ferrari F14T.

August 21, 2017. 75th Anniversary of Muhammad Ali. Sheetlet of four \$10 stamps, Muhammad Ali; Malcolm X; Nelson Mandela; WBC belt from the Rumble in the Jungle.

August 21, 2017. Table Tennis. Sheetlet of four \$10 stamps, Zhang Jike; Li Xiaoxia; Chuan Chih-yuan;

Fang Bo. Souvenir sheet with one \$40 stamp, Miu Hirano.

Togo: October 10, 2017. World Championships in Athletics. Sheetlet of four 800F stamps, Sam Kendricks, pole vault; Emma Coburn, 3000 meters steeplechase; Pawel Fajdek, hammer throw; Andrius Gudzius, discus throw; Yang Jiayu, race-walking; Nafissatou Thiam, heptathlon; Kevin Mayer, decathlon; Mutaz Essa Barshim, high jump. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, Mo Farrah, running; Dafne Schippers, 200 meters.

October 10, 2017. Golf. Sheetlet of four 800F stamps, Ariya Jutanugam; Dustin Johnson; Stenson Henrik; Ryu So-yeon. Souvenir sheet with one 3300F stamp, Hideki Matsuyama.

Turkey: February 12, 2017. European Youth Olympic Winter Festival. Set of three stamps, 1.60 l festival emblem; 1.60 l festival mascot; 3.70 l skiers and mosques.

Uruguay: April 27, 2017. Centenary of the Club Alteico Progreso Soccer Team. Single 20p stamp showing shirt and logos. Printed in sheet of 8 + central label.



NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Mark Maestrone

NEW MEMBERS

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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

SEPTEMBER 2017- JANUARY 2018

Baseball: 17Z02-940.
Football: 17Z02-940.
Golf: 17Z02-940.
Ice Hockey: 17X20-482A,
17X20-482B, 18120-142.
Skating: 17929-816.
Soccer: 17Z02-940.

World Figure & Fancy Skating Championships



World Jr.
Championships
&
Figure Festival
September 20, 2017
Fancy Skating Station
Vail, Colorado 81467

17929-816 Vail, CO

29



17X20-482A Detroit, MI

20



17X20-482B Detroit, MI

20



17Z02-940 Redwood City, CA 2



18120-142 Buffalo, NY

20

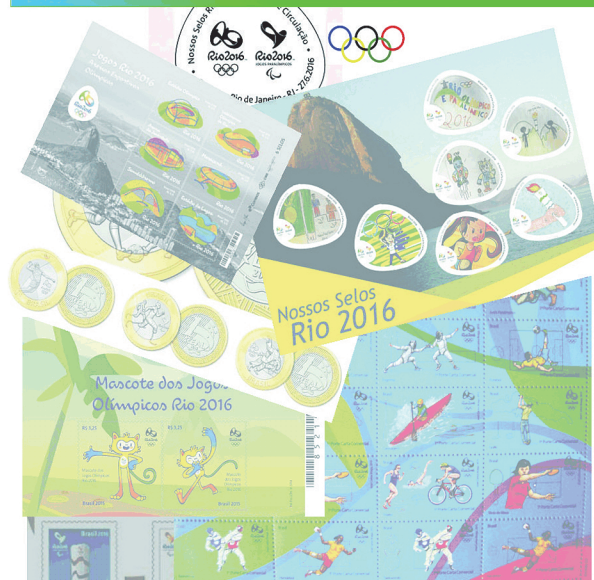
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