

Winter 2008 Article Synopses

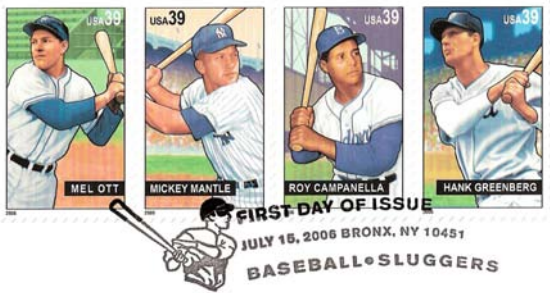


Pictorial Postmarks of the Beijing Olympics

by Kwan Kwok-Yiu

The temporary post offices (TPO) that had been installed at the Beijing Olympic Games venues gradually became operational beginning on 18 April 2008. At the overwhelming request of collectors nationwide, China Post eventually added a series of pictorial postmarks for these venue TPO's.

This article presents the 31 pictorial postmarks in charts and on cover or card along with the author's personal experiences in obtaining them.



The Baseball Sluggers Stamps of 2006

by Norman Rushefsky

Over two years have passed since the issuance of the Baseball Sluggers stamps and I have seen no comment regarding the arrangement of these stamps on first day covers (FDCs).

The author examines the FDCs of these stamps, both individually and in blocks or strips of 4.



The Battles of Shepherd's Bush - The 1908 London Olympics

by Bob Wilcock

The 1908 Olympic Games were important in the development of the Olympic Games by introducing the first formal Opening Ceremony, competition by national teams rather than individuals, the codification of rules, and determination of the marathon distance. Underlying them, however, were fundamental differences.



From Sow's Ear to Silk Purse - Collecting Beijing Olympic Sponsor Publicity Mail

by Mark Maestrone

Some years ago, my good friend and colleague, Thomas Lippert, turned me on to the joys of collecting so-called junk mail from Olympic sponsors. These items are usually very colorful, emblazoned with the Olympic rings and logo of the Games, and often feature an established - or rising - star. And the best part of all is these philatelic delights drop through your mail slot completely *free of charge!*



Odyssey of an Olympic Cover

by Mark Maestrone

You just never know what will happen when you mail a letter "poste restante" to a temporary location at an Olympic Games. Sometimes it will be returned with new markings, sometimes not - or worse, it might not be returned at all! Then there are those times when lady luck is smiling upon you and you end up with a truly interesting piece of Olympic philately.



Vancouver 2010 Official Postcard Licensee Launches Product Line

by Mark Maestrone

Olympic postcards for Vancouver's 2010 Winter Olympic Games are hot off the presses and now available in British Columbia area retail outlets such as Sears Canada and the various Olympic Stores. The initial product line includes three sets of postcards portraying scenes of Vancouver and Whistler and featuring the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games logo. A variety of the postcards are reproduced.



The Constant Joy of Sudden Discovery

by Mark Maestrone

The author stumbled upon this "happy accident" on eBay when he spotted this pair of 1 lev Bulgarian gymnastics stamps from the 1931 issue celebrating the Balkan Games. Join him in uncovering the story behind this interesting bit of philatelic flotsam.