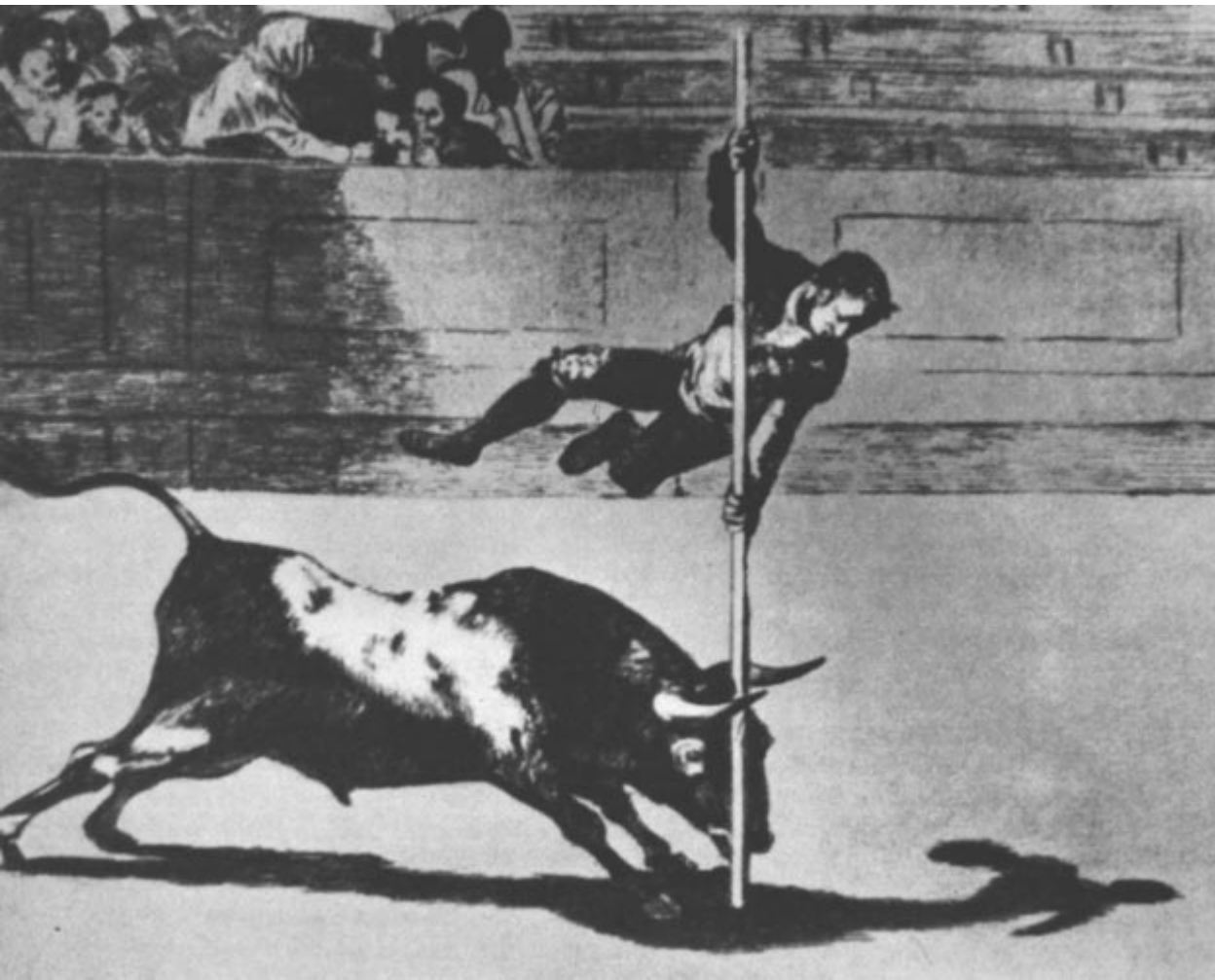


ESPAÑA



The IInd Mediterranean Games were organized with great success in Barcelona in 1955. Spain was having a personal contact with games which, although they were not olympic, were nonetheless an emanation of the Olympic Movement. Mediterranean water was used as a symbol instead of the Hellenic flame, but the spirit sprang from identical sources. A jar was filled at Ampurias, the ancient port founded by the Greeks on Spanish ground, and carried in relays to Barcelona to be emptied at the Montjuich stadium into a fountain which flowed for the duration of the Games.





The gymnast Joaquim Blume was one of the great hopes of Spanish sport : alas, a year after being proclaimed European champion and best Spanish athlete of all times, he died in an air crash. However the memory of his performances gave an impulse to gymnastics in Spain. It is now compulsory at all school levels. The future will prove that the shift did not train in vain.







Horse-riding is part of Spanish history, life and landscape. Horses are found everywhere ; at the turn of a highway mounted by a gardian, in the arena (shown here are the famous Conchita Cintron bull-fighting on horse back, and the no less famous rider Goyoaga jumping in Tokyo), in literature and, thanks to the conquistadores, in... America.



Can one mention football without thinking Spain ?
Vigourously played and passionately loved by
vigourous and passionate men. Can any one Young
Spaniard be found who did not play football
in want of an outlet for his adolescent exuberance ?

Over : Charming Rita Pulido, swimming champion and
recordwoman, won yet another title last year in
Tokyo when she was elected the loveliest athlete
in the Olympic Games. Another tribute to the
beauties of Spain...

