

# Olympic notebook

● **The William May Garland Medal**, named after the former IOC member in the United States of America (1922-1948) who headed the organisation of the 1932 Olympic Games in "his" city of Los Angeles, is bestowed on personalities whom the municipal officers of the Californian capital wish to distinguish.

By receiving this award, Lord Killanin becomes the third IOC President, after Sigfrid Edström and Avery Brundage, to be honoured in this way.

● **HE Ambassador Juan Antonio Samaranch**, Vice-President of the IOC, appears in the 1977 list of nominations as Commander in the Order of the Legion of Honour, one of the highest French distinctions.

● **Mr. Raymond Gafner**, IOC member in Switzerland, announces the birth of his second grandchild, a boy named Cédric.

● **Mr. José Beracasa A.**, IOC member in Venezuela, has just been nominated a member of the National Order of Work Merit, 1st class.

● The latest appointments to the French National Order of Merit include **Mr. Charles de Coquereaumont**, President of the International Canoe Federation, with the title of Commander? and **Mr. Serge Lang**, the renowned Swiss journalist, President of the Ski Commission of the International Sports Press Association, with the title of Officer.

● **Sir Walter Winterbottom**, who will shortly retire as Director of the Sports Council of Great Britain, has been honoured and thanked for his outstanding career as a sports leader by Her Majesty the Queen who awarded him a knighthood.



## ● Olympic weddings

**Ludmilla Turischeva** (URS), Olympic gymnastics champion in 1968, 1972 and 1976, and **Valeri Borzov** (URS), Olympic 100m and 200m champion in 1972, were married on 10th December at Rostov (see our photograph).

Two other Soviet gymnasts, equally as talented as Ludmilla, were to marry in the following weeks : **Nelly Kim**, 1976 Olympic champion (horse vault, floor exercises and team competition), married **Vladimir Achasov**, a member of the national gymnastics team, while **Olga Korbut**, darling of the public at the 1972 Olympic Games, married the singer **Leonid Bortkevich** on 7th January at Minsk.

*We extend to them all our warmest congratulations.*

*We have learned of the recent deaths of the following defenders of the Olympic and sports movement :*



1924 - Paris : H. Abrahams

● **Harold Abrahams**, an outstanding figure in the history of athletics, has died in London following a heart attack. His lifelong friend, the Marquess of Exeter, member of the IOC, paid tribute to him as follows :

“The passing of Harold Abrahams marks a very sad day in the athletic world. As an outstanding athlete he won the 100 yards and the long jump for Cambridge against Oxford four times. He competed in the 1920 Olympic Games, but it was in 1924 that his crowning success came in the 100 metres in the Paris Olympic Games, where to the delight of all of us and the surprise of some of his opponents, particularly from the United States, he won. Incidentally in the same year he set up an English native long jump record which stood for 30 years.

Owing to an injury he retired from active competition next year and decided to dedicate all his spare time to helping amateur athletics in the country. At the same time he was at full stretch in his working life as a lawyer, which included positions at the Ministry of Economic Warfare and then Country Planning. At the same time he became an internationally famous journalist and broadcaster.

In the athletic world he was a member of the general committee of the Amateur Athletic Association for 50 years and its President since 1975, and first Secretary, then Treasurer and then Chairman of the British Amateur Athletic Board. He also made a real contribution in the international field at various congresses and committees and overseas athletic meetings.

He was a tremendous collector of statistics relating to the sport and produced a number of volumes on the Olympic and Commonwealth Games. He had a first-class brain and decisive views which he never hesitated to express strongly. However those of us who knew him well realised that behind this was a cheerful and kindly

man and a loyal friend. He was a wonderful and outstanding example to all young people who have got so much pleasure out of their sport putting something worth while back into it for the enjoyment of those following on. Many will mourn his passing, and athletics has suffered a major loss.”

(“The Times”, London, 24th January 1978.)

● **Iqbal Hussain** (PAK), international hockey referee who officiated at the 1964 and 1968 Olympic tournaments.

● **Fernand Jayet** (SUI), advisory member of the Swiss Olympic Committee.

● **Adeline Muhlenberg** (USA, 89), outstanding swimmer at the beginning of the century, coach to the American women's swimming team at the 1920 Olympic Games in Antwerp.

● **Carl Mertz** (GER), director of Olympic construction for the Games of the XXth

Olympiad (Munich 1972), passed away the day before his 70th birthday.

● **Denis Perret** (SUI), Secretary of the international calendar in the Fédération Internationale de Lutte Amateur (wrestling).

● **Hartwig Steenken** (GER, 36), world show jumping champion in 1974 and member of the winning Olympic team in 1972, died on 10th January in the intensive care unit of Hanover University Clinic. The famous rider had been involved in a car accident in July 1977, since when he had been in a coma.

*The “Olympic Review” sends its sincere condolences to the families and friends of these lamented sportsman.*



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International Olympic Committee  
Comité Olímpico Internacional

Alors que ce numéro était sous presse, nous avons appris le décès d'Harry Banks, directeur technique du CIO, survenu brutalement le 17 février 1978 à Lausanne.

Toutes nos pensées sont avec les siens.

Nous évoquerons sa carrière dans notre numéro de mars.

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Just as this number was going to print we learned of the death of Harry Banks, Technical Director of the IOC, which occurred suddenly on 17th February 1978 in Lausanne.

All our thoughts are with his family.

We shall present his career in our March number.

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Se está imprimiendo ya este número cuando nos sobrecoge la triste noticia de la defunción de Harry Banks, Director Técnico del COI, el 17 de febrero de 1978 en Lausana.

Nuestro inmenso dolor se une al de todos sus seres queridos.

Su carrera será evocada en nuestro número de marzo.