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## What became of your maple tree?

Our readers reply...

- *Mrs. Nicole Darrignand-Pellisard from Bidart (FRA) :*

My maple tree lives in Arbonne, 4 km from Biarritz (Atlantic Pyrenees) : 2 m 50 high, he has shot up rapidly. He only wishes to be photographed when dressed, which will therefore be this Spring, with his "twin" Frederic as I gave him as a gift to my grandson born the same year as him.

Frederic knows the story of his tree and he has begun to take an interest in the Olympic Games and to "branch" out into Olympism, thanks to a maple tree, promoted in this way to the status of a cultural medium.

- *Mr. Tamas Ajan, General Secretary of the International Weightlifting Federation :*

It was indeed a moving gesture on behalf of the Organising Committee of the Montreal Olympic Games to present us, participants of the Games, with the small maple trees.

My sapling was not higher than 40 cm and I transported it home to Hungary with solicitous care on board of the charter of the Hungarian Olympic Delegation.

In addition to this fine movement, I attach many pleasant memories to the Montreal Games, just to mention one: this is where I was elected IWF General Secretary.

Returning to the tree : as at that time I was living in a ten-story building, so I planted it in my parents' garden. My father, who since then left us, took care of the little tree. It was growing well and when I moved to another place, this time into a smaller house, I transplanted the tree in my garden. It is now about 140 cm high.

*Mr Ajan will send us a photograph of his maple tree in spring time, here's one from Mr. Massimo Della Pergola, General Secretary of the International Sport Press Association. As can be seen Mr. Della Pergola and his tree are thriving.*

*Many thanks for these kind answers, we hope to receive more.*

