

Obituaries

Steve McCrory



The American boxer **Steve McCrory** died at the age of 36 after an extended illness in Detroit (United States of America). McCrory won the gold medal in the flyweight category at the Games of the XXIII Olympiad in Los Angeles in 1984.

Matija Ljubek



Croatian canoeist **Matija Ljubek** died on 11 October at the age of 47. Considered as the Croatia's most successful Olympic athlete, Ljubek won a gold medal in the C-1 1,000m and a bronze medal in the C-1 500m at the Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in 1976. Eight years later, he won gold

in the C-2 500m and silver in the C-2 1,000m at the Games of the XXIII Olympiad in Los Angeles. For his fourth and last Games in Seoul in 1988, he was flagbearer of his delegation during the Opening Ceremony, an honour already bestowed on him in Moscow in 1980. He had won four gold, three silver and three bronze medals in world championships. Working with the NOC, Ljubek headed the Croatian mission at the Sydney Games.

Eddie Payne



Less than a week after the Games of the XXVII Olympiad in Sydney, Australia's oldest Olympian, **Eddie Payne**, died on 7 October at the age of 94. Born on 26 September 1906, Eddie Payne was the first woman to represent Australia at an Olympic track event when she ran in the 100 metres and 800 metres at the Games of the IX Olympiad in Amsterdam in 1928. In Sydney, she opened the Athlete's Village, took part in the Olympic Torch relay on its final leg to

Homebush stadium, and was an official guest at the opening itself.

Frederick J. Ruegsegger

Frederick J. Ruegsegger, the confidant of the former IOC President Avery Brundage, died on 9 October in Chicago (United States of America) at the age of 80. Ruegsegger was Brundage's right-hand man from the early 50s until the former President's death in 1975. Born in Switzerland, he studied economics at universities in France and Spain after the Second World War, then he came to the United States in 1948 and began his association with Brundage. Ruegsegger has been awarded with numerous distinctions such as the Olympic Order of Merit, Olympic Diploma, Brundage Gold Medal of Merit, and the Chinese Military Command Citation for Extraordinary Service.

Hyginus Anugo

Nigerian athlete **Hyginus Anugo** died on 7 September in Sydney. He was hit by a car as he was crossing a road in Sefton, near the Olympic Village. A substitute for the 4x400m relay, Anugo, aged 22, was a 200m and 400m runner. Following the trials in Adelaide, he was no longer part of the Olympic team, but had stayed on in Sydney to support his teammates and friends in their Olympic preparation.