

**NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY ANNUAL CONFERENCE
COLUMBUS, OHIO, USA - 23 - 26 MAY 2003**



At the Thirty-First Annual Convention of the *North American Society for Sport History* held at the *Ohio State University*, among the over 100 research papers presented, some twelve papers were presented in four sessions devoted entirely to the Olympic themes. They included papers from established North American and European authors on the subject, among which were John LUCAS "The 2004 Athens Olympic Games: Boom or Bust?", Scott MARTYN "Putting the Olympic House in Order: The Salt Lake City Bidding Scandal and the OPC's Struggle to Gain Credibility", Wolfgang BUSS "The 'Secret' System Behind the Success of the GDR in International Competitive Sports", Richard SWANSON "Move the Olympics! Germany Must be Told!": Charles Clayton Morrison and Liberal Christianity's Support of the 1936 Olympic Boycott Effort", Rusty WILSON "The Pretense of Romanian Participation in the 1984 Olympic Games", and Bob BARNEY/Stephen WENN "The Right Man at the Right Time: Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes and the

Concept of Rights Fees to Televis. Olympic Games". On another note, at the NASSH final banquet the prestigious NASSH *Annual Book Award* went to an Olympic book for the first time, *Selling the Five Rings: The International Olympic Committee and the Rise of Olympic Commercialism* (University of Utah Press, 2002), authored by Bob BARNEY, Stephen WENN and Scott MARTYN. The NASSH *Annual Book Award* is bestowed on the book deemed by the adjudication committee to be the best scholarly work published the world on a sport history theme. Finally, at the conclusion of the banquet John LUCAS and Bob BARNEY were bestowed *Lifetime Sport History Achievement Awards*, largely for their work in Olympic-related matters, including LUCAS's now more than forty years of research and writing, and BARNEY'S establishment and nurture of the *International Centre for Olympic Studies* at the *University of Western Ontario in Canada*. No doubt about it, "Matters Olympic" achieved much posture at the historic 31st NASSH Convention.

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