

IV. Olympics

IV-1 Lucas, John. "The First Winter Olympic Games," *The Olympian*, 14, No. 7 (February 1988), 54-55.

In late January of 1924, the "International Winter Sports Week" began in Chamonix, France. It was a new experiment in winter sport competition, combining the immensely popular Nordic Games and the Scandinavian Winter Sports Carnival. Briefly outlined are events leading to the establishment, organization and competitions of this international sporting event. Sixteen countries sent 294 athletes, but the Scandinavians won nearly everything. An overview of top athletes and medals won is presented with particular focus on the final event, the gold medal match between the two premier hockey teams from North America, Canada 6, the United States 1. Initially Baron Pierre de Coubertin feared this winter festival might detract from the main event—the Summer quadrennial. But the excitement and enthusiasm for the competitions, and the overall success of the event, quickly converted the Baron's fears. Eighteen months later the International Olympic Committee (IOC) met in Prague and re-titled the affair the "First Winter Olympic Games." Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes; 3 photographs.

—Jerry Jaye Wright

IV-2 Cravens, Jeff. "The Team to Beat," *The Olympian*, 15 (May 1989), 40-41.

Based on an interview with former Olympic basketball team member, Joe Fortenberry, the article provides significant insight into the first Olympic basketball competition at the 1936 Berlin Games. Fortenberry gives detailed accounts of the USA's team selection process, the basketball competition, and colorful anecdotes about the Games, Hitler, the team's stay in Berlin, and their return voyage home. Included is play-by-play commentary of the final game in which the United States defeated Canada 19 to 8, thus

marking the dawn of United States' domination of Olympic basketball. Based on personal interview and secondary sources; no notes; 3 photographs.

—Jerry Jaye Wright