

played in COUBERTIN'S mind and the widespread prejudice that COUBERTIN invented the Olympic Games for the only purpose to stimulate athleticism in France as a useful educational means to develop a strong French youth.

For the first time it is shown that COUBERTIN'S endeavours to revive the Olympic Games were supported by a large circle of personalities in the USA. Apart from William Milligan SLOANE whom COUBERTIN – in contrast to current research – had already met before he travelled to the USA for his first time in 1889 – US-American politicians, educational reformers, social reformers and various university presidents found interest in COUBERTIN'S Olympic project that the US-patronage group did not regard as a mere archaeological spectacle but as a good opportunity to improve an international

understanding among the youth of the world. How useful COUBERTIN'S contacts were for the inauguration of the Olympic Games can *inter alia* be demonstrated by his early correspondence with Andrew D. WHITE who was the first president of Cornell University. A letter from COUBERTIN to WHITE can be presented to Olympic research as the earliest source up till now in which COUBERTIN utters his intention to revive the Olympic Games. The letter is dated from the early summer of 1892.

Finally it may be of interest to English readers that the monograph will be published in English by the *Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles*. The English version of the monograph will be available on the internet pages of the AAF (<http://www.aaf.org>) in autumn 2003.

OBITUARIES

Prince Alexandre de Merode (1934 – 2002)

Prince Alexandre de MERODE died on November 20th, 2002. Born in 1934 in Etterbek (Belgium) he began his career as President of the *Belgian Supreme Council for Physical Education, Sport and Outdoor Life*. Before he became an administrator in the *Belgian Olympic and Interfederal Committee* Prince de MERODE had been head of the *Belgian Ministry of Public Health*. Since 1964 he was member of the IOC.

It was due to his unceasing interest in preventing the integrity Olympic sport and sport in general from doping and any other abuses that IOC *Medical Commission* was founded in 1964. Prince de MERODE chaired this important commission from 1967 onwards. How much the *IOC Medical Commission* profited from Prince de MERODE'S

unceasing fight against doping can be stressed by the fact that the former IOC-president Antonio SAMARANCH did not accept Prince de MERODE'S offer to retreat from IOC *Medical Commission* before the Olympic Games in Sydney.

Next to this challenge he was a member of the Executive Board of the IOC from 1980 to 1990. As vice-president he chaired the Executive Board from 1986 to 1990 and from 1994 to 1998. In 2000 he was appointed to the IOC Reform Commission.

The *International Society of Olympic Historians* (ISOH) shares the opinion of the IOC-president that the world of Olympic sport has lost a remarkable colleague and a humanist at the service of sport. The ISOH expresses its deepest sympathy to the Prince de MERODE'S family.

Stephan Wassong

Frieder Roskam (1929 - 2002)



In the week of his death an article written by Frieder ROSKAM was posthumously published in the book *Tempel und Ringe* which was edited by the *Carl and Liselott Diem-Archive*. On the sixteen pages of this article F. ROSKAM never mentioned his own name even though he was deeply involved in the development of sport and leisure facilities in Germany before and after its re-unification. At the center of his endeavors were sport, public and even Olympic sport facilities. In the planning of various sporting facilities Frieder ROSKAM never lost his awareness of the environment. In his activities ROSKAM was influenced by his mentor the late Carl DIEM and his concepts for public sportsgrounds, by political advice about the building of public sporting facilities which were developed by the *German College for Physical Education* in Berlin in the Weimar Republic and last but not least by the plans of the *Sport University Cologne* to reconstruct sporting facilities in 1947.

In 1954 the *Sport University Cologne* founded an advisory *Institute for the Construction of Sporting Facilities* with the support of the *German Sports Confederation*. A year previously DIEM had convinced ROSKAM (by now a Physical Education teacher) who had also studied architecture in Aachen to teach at this institute. From 1957 to 1970 ROSKAM was a lecturer at the *German Sport University Cologne* and was awarded a honorary professorship in 1989. In this function he taught at the *German Sport University Cologne* until his death on July 2nd 2002.

Under his the leadership the *Institute for the Function and Construction of Sporting Facilities* was integrated into the *Department of Sport and Leisure Facilities* of the *Federal Institute for Sport Science* in 1971. After re-unification and the decision to to have Berlin as the new capital of Germany governmental support was cut down. In order to carry on with the successful work in the construction of public sporting facilities it was necessary to found a voluntary association. In 1965 the *Inter-nationaler Arbeitskreis Sportstätten-bau*

(*International Association for the Construction of Sporting Facilities - IAKS*) was founded. Until his death ROSKAM fought hard to get funding at the IAKS for the funding he needed to bring an international dimension to the work begun at the *German Sport University Cologne*. Whilst supported by the *German Sport University Cologne* and the

Federal Institute for Sport Science, ROSKAM was instrumental in starting the following projects:

- he helped the *German Olympic Society* to develop the Golden Plan in 1960,
- he supported the *German Sports Confederation* to develop the Golden Plan for the former GDR in 1993,
- he founded the IAKS in 1965 and held the position of the secretary-general serving amost 120 member countries.

He was IAKS delegate to the IOC and UNO

- he was the editor of the *Journal Sportstättenbau und Bäderanlagen* for 36 volumes published in four languages
- he became the adviser of the *International Exhibition of Sporting, Swimming and Leisure facilities* from 1969 to 2001.

F. ROSKAM's endeavors were not limited to Germany. He always aimed at transferring the results of his achievements to other countries. It was his first and foremost interest to develop a workable for sporting activities. In 1995 the IOC appointed him a member of the *Commission Sport and Environment*. The *Olympic Planning Committee for Olympic Games in the Rhein-Ruhr region 2012* made use of his concept for sporting facilities in Dusseldorf.

It has always been ROSKAM's bequest and legacy to show the necessity to institutionalize an official academic organization for the construction and development of sporting facilities. Unfortunately the former *Institute for the Construction of Sporting Facilities* at the *German Sport University Cologne* was the first and last one of its kind.

Stephan Wassong

Aileen Riggan (1906-2002)

Aileen RIGGIN died on October 19th, 2002. She had been the last surviving Olympic Champion from Antwerp 1920. At the time of her gold medal in springboard diving she was the youngest Olympic victor, only 14 years and 120 days old. Her record lasted until 1936 when Majorie GESTRING won the platform diving event at an even younger 13 years and 266 days old.

Aileen RIGGIN competed in the 100m backstroke in Paris 1924 where she added a bronze medal to her collection. After those games she turned professional. She started to produce underwater movies and organised a water show at the Cleveland Exhibition in 1937. After her marriage she became a well-known journalist under the name Aileen Soul.

The photograph of her at the presentation ceremony in Antwerp are particularly noteworthy. It shows her with Helen WAINRIGHT and with the 14 year old Niklas SKOGLUND. These three athletes were the “*child champions*” in Antwerp. WAINRIGHT was not much older than 14 years. Four years later in Paris she won the silver medal in the 400m freestyle competition.

Karl Lennartz

Sune “Mona-Lisa” Andersson

One of Sweden’s all-time great football players, Sune ANDERSSON, Olympic gold medallist in London 1948 and World Cup bronze medallist in Brazil 1950, passed away April 29, 2002. Only three Swedish football players have greater international merits than Sune ANDERSSON: Erik NILSSON, Olympic gold 1948, World Cup bronze 1950, Olympic bronze 1952 and World Cup 4th place 1938, and Nils LIEDHOLM and Gunnar GREN, both with Olympic gold 1948 and World Cup silver 1958.

A Swedish sports journalist dubbed him *Mona-Lisa* because he thought he had the same inscrutable facial expression as Leonardi da VINCI’S famous painting irrespective of whether his team was winning or losing. The name stuck in the press but his



A. RIGGIN, N. SKOGLUND and H. WAINRIGHT



A. RIGGIN and H. WAINRIGHT

teammates never called him that, they said Sune.

He was born Feb 22nd, 1921. He originally played halfback for the division 2 side Hagalund. In the summer of 1946 he made his international debut when playing for a Stockholm div 2 selection against *Zenit Leningrad*, in the Helsinki Olympic Stadium. *Zenit* won handsomely. 4-0, and Sune ANDERSSON maintained, until he met Brazil in the 1950 World Cup, that it was the best side he had ever met.

In 1946 he joined AIK, at the time the best football club in Stockholm. He made his first appearance in the 1st div as outside right, in the next game he was moved to inside right and after a couple of games to centre forward when the regular centre forward went down with appendicitis. It was against *IFK*



Fotbollstruppen på väg mot Åre och berömmelse. Fr v överst Torsten Lindberg, Kalle Svensson, Kjell Rosen, Henry „Garvis“ Carlsson, Birger „Bian“ Rosengren, Gunnar Gren, Per Bengtsson, Stig Nyström, Bertil Nordahl, i mellanraden Nils Liedholm, Gunnar Nordahl, bitr. led. Carl Albert Ledin, lagl. Rudolf „Putte“ Kock, träneren George Raynor, Rune Emanuelsson, Egor Jönsson, Knut Nordahl och gamle ledargestalten Carl „Ceve“ Linde samt längst fram Erik Nilsson, Båge Leander och Stellan Nilsson, Saknas Sune „Mona Lisa“ Andersson.

Norrköping and was an early league final, Norrköping was at the top of the league 1 point ahead of AIK. This match ended in a draw, 3:3, Sune ANDERSSON scored 2 goals and once hit the post. It was his breakthrough as top player. After that he was in contention for a place in the national side.

He got his first cap against Denmark in 1947 as left halfback. From then on he was an automatic choice, playing every game for Sweden until he turned pro after the 1950 World Cup, save one, against Finland in 1947. The reason for missing that game was not that he was injured or out of shape, but that the Swedish Cup Final between AIK and *MalmöFF* was played the same day and no players of the cup finalist were selected to the national side.

In the Olympic Games 1948 he played left halfback for Sweden winning the Gold medals after 3:0 against Austria, 12:0 against South Korea, 4:2 against Denmark in the semi-final and 3:1 against Yugoslavia in the final.

After the Olympic Gold the exodus of Swedish players to the professional ranks in Italy and Spain began. Prior to the 1950 World Cup there were heated discussions in Sweden whether to select the professional players or

not. In the end the Swedish FA decided against the pros and fielded an all-amateur side. Of the Olympic Gold medallists only 3 remained for the World Cup, Sune ANDERSSON, leftback Erik NILSSON and then rightback, now centre halfback, Knut NORDAHL.

The Swedish amateur team stunned the Swedish people and the world by winning the Bronze medals and being best European team in the 1950 World Cup. This started a new exodus. Of the 15 players that appeared for Sweden in the World Cup 10 signed professional forms. Sune ANDERSSON, Knut NORDAHL and winger Stig SUNDQVIST signed for *AS Roma*.

He played 2 seasons for Roma and then returned to Sweden. To continue playing in Italy was never an option for him. Although being only 31 he could probably have played first class football for several more seasons. In Sweden he took up coaching and in 1956, when the Swedish FA allowed homecoming pros to play in Sweden again, he became player-coach for the div 2 side *IFK Eskilstuna* and led the team to promotion to div 1 1956-57.

Sune ANDERSSON was a versatile player, an all-round player. He could play in almost any position. Of his 28 caps 25 was as wing halfback, but 2 as inside left and 1 as centre halfback. And it was very, very close that he was selected as outside right in the 1948 Olympic team. He was a fair goalscorer in his club teams, 19 goals in 82 league games for AIK and 12 goals in 49 league games for Roma. In the national side he only scored 3 goals, of which 2 were penalties.

Of the 12 Swedish Olympic Gold medallist in football only 3 are (at the time of writing) still alive, goalkeeper Torsten Lindberg, outsideleft Nils Liedholm and Båge Leander, who played rightback in the quarterfinal and the semifinal but did not play in the final.

Ture Widlund

Raymond Gafner (1914 – 2002)

On 26 November 2002 Raymond Gafner died at the age of 88. He was an honorary member of the IOC and on the board of the *Carl and Liselot Diem-Archive* for many years.

A fascinating personality with a great intellectual aura, he was an important sport leader in Switzerland, playing an important role in the workings of the *National Olympic Committee*, both national and international ice hockey federations and above all at the IOC.

He started his sporting career as an ice hockey player. Then he became referee and then chairman of the *Swiss Ice Hockey Federation*. He remained in this position till 1951. During his tenure the team won the European championship. He joined the National Olympic Committee in 1947 becoming president and chaired this committee from 1965 till 1985. In 1969 he joined the IOC and became its Administrateur Délégué in 1985.

And was chief editor of the *Revue Olympique* till 1995. Apart from his Olympic activities he was an author with a number of plays and novels to his name. He served as a colonel of an infantry regiment and was director of the hospital in Lausanne from 1954 to 1974. He also was a director of the university hospitals in Waattland until 1980 and was active in local politics.



He finished his studies in laws with a Ph.D. he worked as an advocate for a short time. Gafner was an excellent speaker who could talk without a script or autocue. He became Honorary Member of the IOC and was awarded the Pierre de Coubertin Medal.

Gafner led the History commission and we became good friends. Together we worked closely on the three volumes published for the IOC Centenary celebration. He played a very important role in ensuring this work was of the highest quality.

He is survived by his wife Marcelle, a former teacher, and four children.

Karl Lennartz