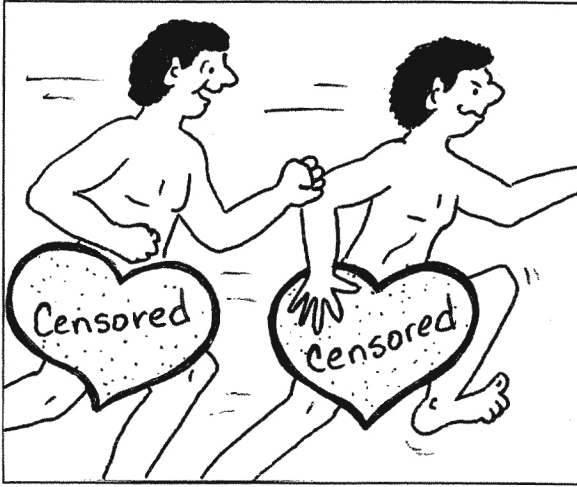


# OLYMPIC NEWS

## Volume 1 Issue 1 – Ancient Olympics



### FIRST OLYMPIC GAMES HELD IN OLYMPIA, GREECE

The first Olympic Games were held in 776 BC. They were held at Olympia, Greece in a valley. Olympia is located in the southwestern part of Greece. The Olympic Games were held every four years. The very first Olympics involved only one race. The race was a sprint of almost 200 metres. Only men were allowed to compete in the Olympic Games. Women did not begin competing in the Olympics until 396 BC. Many people traveled to Olympia to watch the race.

### ONE DAY EVENT BECOMES FIVE DAY FESTIVAL

The Olympic Games began as a one day festival. Later, it became a five day summer festival. The first and last days of the Olympic Games were

spent honouring the Gods. The Olympic Games began with the lighting of a flame. The flame was lit at the altar of Zeus. When the Olympic Games ended, the flame was extinguished.



### OLYMPIC GAMES PROMOTE PEACE

There were two main reasons for holding the Olympic Games. The Olympic Games were held to promote peace and to provide a place where the best athletes could compete against one another. In ancient times, battles and wars would stop so that the athletes competing in the Olympic Games could travel safely to Olympia. Athletes from all social classes were allowed to compete in the Olympic Games. They were supported in their training, and winners were heroes and received awards when they returned home.

# OLYMPIC NEWS

## Volume 1 Issue 2 – First Modern Olympic Games



### OLYMPICS REVIVED IN 1896

1500 years after the final Ancient Olympic Games, the first modern Olympic Games were held. Baron Pierre de Coubertin of France was the man responsible for reviving the Olympic Games. He loved amateur sports and wanted every athlete in every country to have the opportunity to compete in the Olympic Games. He wanted the Olympics to be fair to all athletes. Baron Pierre de Coubertin also liked the idea of the Olympic Games promoting peace among all the countries of the world.

### FIRST MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES HELD IN ATHENS, GREECE

The first modern Olympic Games were declared open on the afternoon

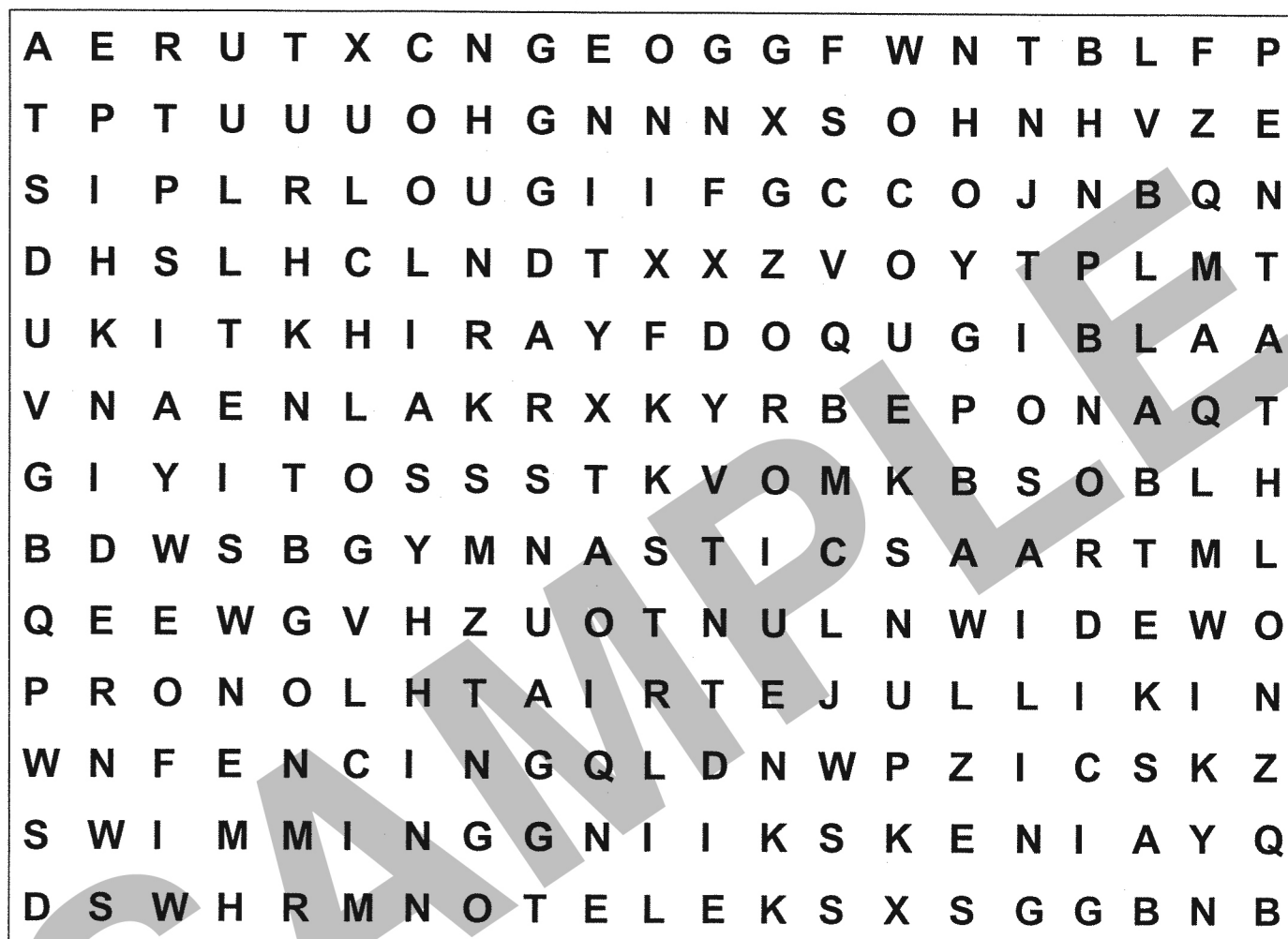
of April 6, 1896. They were declared open by King George I and took place in Athens, Greece. There were 245 athletes who took part in the Olympic Games. The athletes were all men and were from 14 different countries. Most of the athletes were from Greece, Germany, and France. The Olympic Games involved 9 different events. The events included: athletics, cycling, fencing, gymnastics, shooting, swimming, tennis, weightlifting, and wrestling. Winners of each event received an olive branch, a certificate, and a silver medal. Second place finishers in each event received a laurel sprig and a copper medal.

### GEORGIOS AVERNOFF DONATES ONE MILLION DRACHMA TO OLYMPIC GAMES REVIVAL

Georgios Avernoff was a wealthy Greek businessman. He donated one million drachma to the first modern Olympic Games. The Greek Organizing Committee used his donation to help reconstruct the **Panathenaic Stadium** in Athens. The stadium was originally built in 330 BC. In addition to receiving donations, the Greek Organizing Committee sold souvenirs and postage stamps to raise money for the first modern Olympic Games.

# OLYMPIC SPORTING EVENTS WORD SEARCH

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



BASKETBALL

BIATHLON

BOBSLED

BOXING

CURLING

FENCING

FOOTBALL

GYMNASTICS

HOCKEY

LUGE

NORDIC

PENTATHLON

SAILING

SKATING

SKELETON

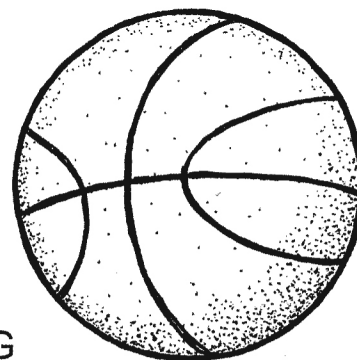
SKIING

SNOWBOARDING

SWIMMING

TRIATHLON

WRESTLING



# OLYMPIC NEWS

## Volume 1 Issue 3 – Host Cities



### CITIES AROUND THE WORLD BID TO HOST OLYMPIC GAMES

Years in advance of the actual Olympics, cities around the world bid to be the host city of an Olympic Games. Cities apply to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to be a host city of the Olympic Games. A number of possible host cities are selected from these applications. These cities then put together all their ideas for hosting the Olympics. An IOC evaluation committee visits all the chosen cities. They narrow down the list of cities to be voted on. The IOC holds an election. All the IOC members vote on the city they think should host the Olympic Games. The city with the most votes is chosen to be the host city. This is a long application process and can take over two years to complete.



### MANY INDIVIDUALS NEEDED TO HOST OLYMPIC GAMES

Many people are needed to host an Olympic Games. People are needed to design the facilities for the different sporting events. They must consider the needs of the athletes, the seating room needed for spectators and the media, and the space needed to construct or rebuild each sporting facility. Once the facilities are designed, builders are needed to construct the different facilities. While the buildings are being constructed, other people must learn or practice the languages that the different athletes speak so they can be interpreters. People who are going to judge the different sporting events need to study the rules before the Olympics begin. Flowers need to be grown and medals need to be made to give to the Olympic winners. Tickets are printed and schedules are drawn up and printed in order for the Olympics to run smoothly. Many, many people are needed by a host city to get ready for the Olympics.