

# Olympics end as spirit, heroics live on

## Ceremonies finish off XXI Games

MONTREAL (AP) — The 1976 Summer Olympics closed yesterday the way they began, mired in controversy but managing to keep alive the flame symbolizing that mankind would like to live with harmony among nations.

Colorful closing ceremonies in the still unfinished Olympic Stadium were the denouement of these troubled but fascinating Games. Equestrian teams competed for medals yesterday in the last event.

Meanwhile, Olympic politics continued with two more Romanian athletes defecting to Canada and the Russians still trying to get back their 17-year-old diver who gave notice of defecting.

A New Zealand member of the International Olympic Committee pushed his plan for a central site for these Games in Greece, where they began 2,500 years ago. That would head off in the future the kind of problem faced by Montreal — a \$900 million debt left from the 1976 Games.

"It could be a way of ending all our difficulties," said Lance Cross. "If we had a permanent stadium and other facilities in one country — and Greece is the ideal place for traditional reasons — we might find the true Olympic spirit again."

But even this suggestion met with controversy. Philip O. Krumm, president of the United States Olympic Committee, was against the idea.

"I think that would penalize many countries who would like to host the Games," he said. "I would rather see the Games be rotated."

Krumm said he knew of 10 cities with facilities available right now to hold the Olympics.

Despite the pullout of 30 nations because of political arguments, despite nationalism, charges of cheating and bad judging, there was a feeling among the organizers and athletes Sunday that these Games have been a success.

"The Games and the name will carry on," Krumm said. "We face some gigantic problems of organization within the IOC, but I'm sure the IOC realizes that in the future it may have to do some restructuring. However, the enthusiasm of the crowds and the athletes is testimony to the success of the Games."

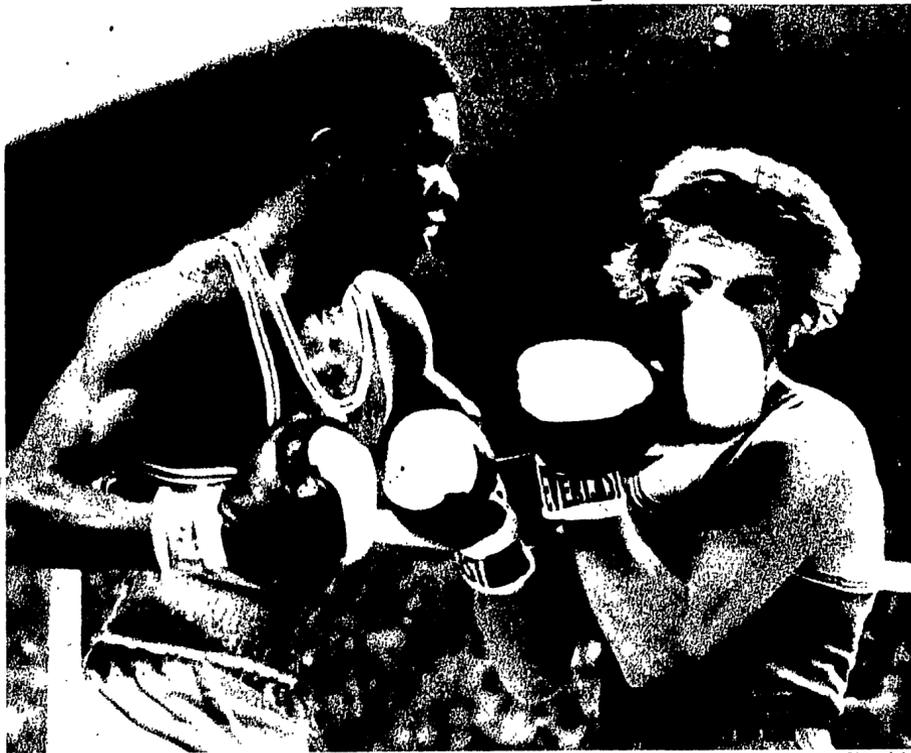
The Montreal crowds were warm and, as Krumm said, enthusiastic. Perhaps more important, more than a billion people around the world watched the events on television. ABC-TV, which beamed them to the United States, claimed an unprecedented audience.

Someone out there cares. The Russians, who will hold the 1980 Summer Games in Moscow, were everywhere in evidence in Montreal. They held a reception aboard a Soviet ship for the press. They passed out volumes of promotional information. Everyone wondered what it would be like in four years when the Olympic torch is passed again.

Montreal did not wind up with the black eye that some expected. Mayor Jean Drapeau, once the goat of the Games when costs skyrocketed, regained prestige and there is even a movement afoot to name the Olympic Stadium after him. He was cheered lustily by Montreal crowds.

And, in general, it was agreed that Montreal did a pretty good job, considering that labor strife, politics and every other kind of harassment got in the way.

Many of the athletes had departed by yesterday, leaving a token force to participate in the closing ceremony.



Howard Davis was one of five U.S. boxers to bring home gold medals from Montreal.

## 4th Rumanian defects

# Boxers pace U.S. effort

MONTREAL (AP) — The gold medal bash staged by American boxers was the product of coaching discipline and togetherness. The fighters made a major contribution to the U.S. Olympic performance.

But its effect on amateur boxing in the United States is uncertain, and that means continued success in the Games also is uncertain.

"We hope to draw more interest now in boxing," said Pat Nappi of Syracuse, N.Y., head coach of the team that won five gold medals Saturday night and scored a shutout in its three showdown matches with Cuba.

But despite Amateur Athletic Union and Golden Glove tournaments, interest in amateur boxing lags during Olympic years. At least that has been the rule.

And because of the fact the amateur sport is not subsidized to any extent in the United States, good young amateurs often take the step toward the money and glamor of a professional career rather than make the sacrifice of working toward the Olympics.

A plus for the U.S. Olympic boxing effort, especially if more interest is generated now, is that the American team can be built on good young fighters who are not past their peak.

Cuba got three gold medals, one by heavyweight Teofilo Stevenson, but three of its world champions were able to get only one bronze between them.

The oldest member of the U.S. team was 25-year old Army Sgt. Charles Mooney of Ft. Bragg, N.C., who won a silver medal in the bantamweight class. The only member with previous Olympic experience was featherweight Davey Armstrong, a 20-year old from Fuyallup, Wash.

None of the 11 will be back in 1980. Howard Davis of Glen Cove, N.Y., the



lightweight gold medal winner, and John Tate of Knoxville, Tenn., the heavyweight bronze medalist, will turn pro. The gold medal brothers — middleweight Mike Spinks of St. Louis and light heavyweight Leon Spinks, a U.S. Marine corporal — are considering pro careers. Leon still has a year to serve in the Corps.

The other seven said they are giving up the sport to pursue other careers. They include flyweight champion Leo Randolph, an 18-year old from Tacoma Wash., who still has a year of high school, and light welterweight champ Sugar Ray Leonard of Palmer Park, Md., who plans to attend the University of Maryland.

OTTAWA (AP) — Two Olympic athletes from Romania defected to Canada yesterday bringing the total of East European Communist bloc defectors to five, while Soviet diver Sergei Nemtsanov rebuffed a Russian attempt to bring him home, immigration officials reported.

Officials announcing the decision of the Romanians to seek refugee status declined to specify their sport or sex.

An immigration department spokesman reported that Nemtsanov told Soviet officials at a meeting that he wanted to remain in Canada. He was subsequently issued a document allowing him to stay on until he makes a request for status as a landed immigrant, the spokesman said.

The defections announced yesterday brought to four the number of Romanian Olympic athletes seeking political asylum in Canada. The two other refugees are a rower and a canoeist.

The immigration spokesman said Nemtsanov, 17, who left the Olympic Village Thursday met for about an hour at an undisclosed location with the Soviet consul general in Montreal, the diver's coach and a senior Canadian immigration official.

"He indicated he wished to remain in Canada," the spokesman said. "He was interviewed after the meeting and given a legal entry document which clears up his status here until he makes further requests."

A Soviet Embassy spokesman in Ottawa confirmed the meeting and said Nemtsanov "appeared in a depressed state."

# Jenner rides high in decathlon win

MONTREAL (AP) — There was American Bruce Jenner, the handsome Californian, establishing himself as the "World's Greatest Athlete."

There was amazing Lasse Viren, the Finnish policeman, performing one of the most Herculean feats in Olympic history. There was Alberto Juantorena, the big Cuban, and Tatiana Kazankina, the smooth-striding Russian, proving their dominance in the middle distance races.

And there was Irena Szewinska, the 30-year-old Polish housewife, winning a seventh Olympic gold medal.

They were the outstanding stars in a star-studded cast of thousands of the world's best track and field athletes, who captivated and thrilled fans in the Olympic Stadium for eight days.

Jenner, perhaps, was the most glamorous. As the favorite in the punishing, 10-event, two day decathlon, he grabbed hold of the audience early with the best first day performance of his career, then capped his effort with a world record effort of 8,618 points.

The appreciative crowd gave him a long standing ovation. His pretty wife, Christie, wearing a "Go Jenner Go" T-shirt, had tears welling in her eyes as she fought her way onto the track and warmly embraced her tired husband in an emotional and dramatic moment.

Viren, so skinny it appeared he could fall apart running only a short distance,

won the 5,000 and 10,000-meter races for the second straight Olympics and almost made it a "triple," finishing fifth in his first marathon race.

The big, broad-shouldered Juantorena, built more like a football player, powered his way to victory in the men's 400 and 800 meter races, setting a world record in the 800.

Miss Kazankina, not well known internationally until breaking the four minute barrier in the women's 1,500 a month ago, outclassed the fields in the 800 and 1,500 meters, winning the shorter race in world record time.

And Mrs. Szewinska, mother of a 6-year-old son, capped her fourth Olympics with a record smashing run in the women's 400 for her third gold medal and seventh over-all. Only two track and field athletes ever have won more medals in Olympic history.

In addition to Jenner, the United States won five gold medals: young Edwin Moses in the 40 meter hurdles, bearded Mac Wilkins in the discus, veteran Arnie Robinson in the long jump and the men's relay teams in the 400 and 1,600 meter races.

The six golds equalled the total won at the 1972 Games in Munich.

The Americans also matched their total of 22 medals won four years ago, and they were divided exactly the same way — 19 for the men and three for the women.

## Despite troubles, athletes keep Olympic flame alive

MONTREAL (AP) — Adieu Jeux de la XXI Olympiade Montreal. You were a corker. How can we ever forget you?

You were ugly and beautiful, insane and inspiring, ridiculous and glorious.

Out of the morass of political finagling, power struggles, injustices, cheating and doping scandals emerged athletes of heroic mold who kept the flame alive.

A wisp of a Romanian girl named Nadia Comaneci, no bigger than a toy doll won the hearts of the world with her fairy-like grace on the gymnastic bars and beams. A long-striding Cuban named Alberto Juantorena electrified galleries with unprecedented victories in the 400 and 800 meter distances and bearded Lasse Viren of little Finland ignited memories of the great Paavo Nurmi and the matchless Emil Zatopek with an exhibition of distance running that defied the imagination.

After becoming the first man in history to win the 5,000 and 10,000 meter back busters in consecutive Olympics, the indefatigable Finn went out to run the more than 26 miles of the marathon without a day of rest. It mattered little whether he won or lost. It was a momentous feat that he even tried.

The big Russian bear got mustard on its face just as four years ago the United States turned into a stumbling fumbling giant.

Trying to be on best behavior because it is to host the 1980 Games in Moscow the massive and perennially powerful USSR, still winner of more medals than any other country, experienced one disaster after another.

First, a respected Soviet army officer and swordsman of international repute was caught rewiring his blade in the fencing phase of the pentathlon. He was stripped of his medals and sent home in disgrace. The USSR apologized.

The Russian coach was accused of trying to fix a diving contest judge. The champion Soviet water polo team, beaten, failed to show up for its next match and had to be forced to continue. Olga Korbut, pocket-sized gymnast sensation at Munich, won just one silver medal this time — a broken woman at 21.

The only basketball team ever to take the title from the United States lost in the semifinals. Sprinter Valery Borzov was dethroned and, in the Games' fading hours, a teenaged Soviet diver defected, causing Russia to bluff a pullout which was called and over-trumped.

The United States, which saw its best athletes in 1972 disqualified for falling on the track in heats, failing to meet time schedules and even — in the case of a young swimmer — have a gold medal nullified by a dope test, could breathe a

sign of relief.

For the Yanks, it was not a disaster Olympics, although the proud Americans finished with a cache of gold medals smaller than that of the USSR and East Germany, the latter a country of only 17 million.

Uncle Sam's nieces and nephews won some and lost some, finishing on a high note in track and field, disappointing in women's swimming but making marks in such sports as judo, equestrian, women's basketball and distaff rowing.

Some U.S. athletes, foremost of whom were discus ace Mac Wilkins and high jumper Dwight Stones, used the Games as a forum to decry the inefficiency of the American system of building international sports teams.

"I would like to see East Germany win all the medals," Wilkins said petulantly. "I have a hangup about French Canadians," said Stones. "They are rude not to have been ready for the Games."

There is a lesson hidden in this somewhere. They at least could stand up and talk about it, compete and go home without discipline. If they had worn Russian uniforms, they might have looked forward to a winter holiday in Siberia. If they had been East Germans, it would have been back to garbage duty.

"You can't have a national team and freedom, too," said Philip O. Krumm, president of the U.S. Olympic Committee.

"At least you don't see people defecting from the United States," said shot putter George Woods.

"Our system made it possible for me to do what I did," said decathlon winner Bruce Jenner, who appears headed for a \$1 million contract in show business.

Some 7,000 athletes, as many or more newsmen and untold thousands of visitors came to the Games with reservations. The Canadians had virtually bankrupted themselves with a \$1.5 billion outlay for a massive concrete complex and Olympic Village that was built to withstand earthquakes and the wear of centuries.

Entering the huge stadium, one expected to see Ben Hur riding through the portals behind a chariot pulled by six horses.

Nothing was supposed to be complete. The Games were doomed to failure. Yet, after little Taiwan had been ejected in a political maneuver and close to 30 African nations pulled out in a racial protest, the Canadian organizers took hold and guided the giant spectacle through the fortnight with unerring hands.

The Games opened like a Roman pageant and closed like a Sunday picnic.

## Grecian Olympics?

MONTREAL (AP) — The XXI Olympic Games, scarred by ugly political brawling, ended on a note of idealism with talk of a permanent site for the Games in Greece.

Hold the Olympics in the land where they began 2,500 years ago, and political interference and commercialism will disappear, say proponents of the plan.

"It could be a way of ending all our difficulties," Lance Cross, IOC member for New Zealand, said at a news conference yesterday.

Cross said he had thought of Olympia, the site of the ancient Games, but had not gone into the feasibility of building there. At present, Olympia houses the IOC's Olympic Academy, used for lectures and coaching seminars.



Mike Shined

The local hero in the 1976 Olympiad was Mike Shine, a Penn State graduate, who took a silver medal in the 400 meter hurdles held last Sunday.



Bruce Jenner wears Olympic gold after record setting victory in the decathlon.