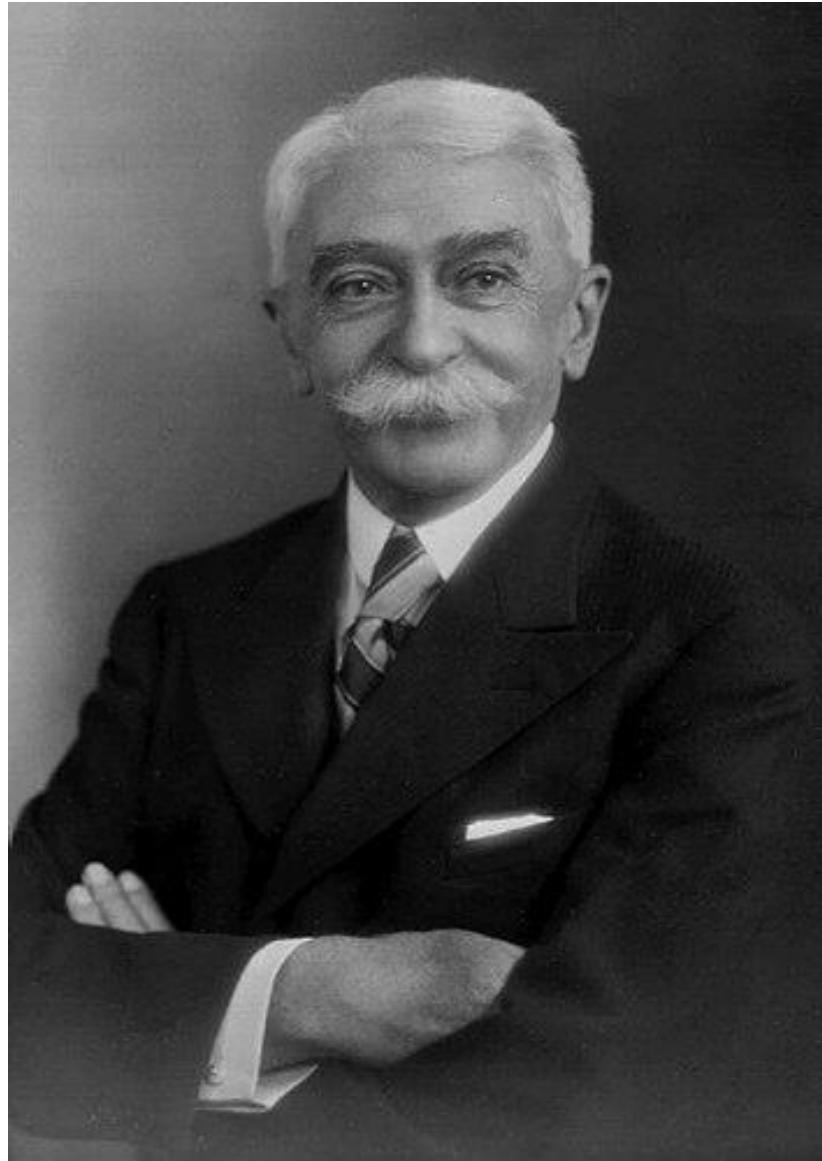


MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES



I. PIERRE DE COUBERTIN



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Pierre de Coubertin (Paris, 1863 – Geneva, 1937).

He was the founder of the International Olympic Committee and is considered the father of the Modern Olympic Games.

He wanted the Games to be a positive event for cultural acceptance and the convivence of all the people in the world, no matter what sex, race or religion they could have.

His ideology was based on what people believed in the Ancient Greece: The perfect human being must be well trained physically and mentally (“mens fervida in corpore lacertoso”, “citius, altius, fortus”, “mens sana in corpore sano”).

2. Athens, 1896



2. Athens, 1896

First Modern Olympic Games in history.

The celebration of this new event was not easy because of the political situation in the rest of Europe:

- France did not want to participate if Germany participated.
- Germany thought that Coubertin was setting them a trap to humiliate them.
- Northern European countries were not very interested in participating.
- Russia was skeptical about this competition.

2. Athens, 1896



2. Athens, 1896

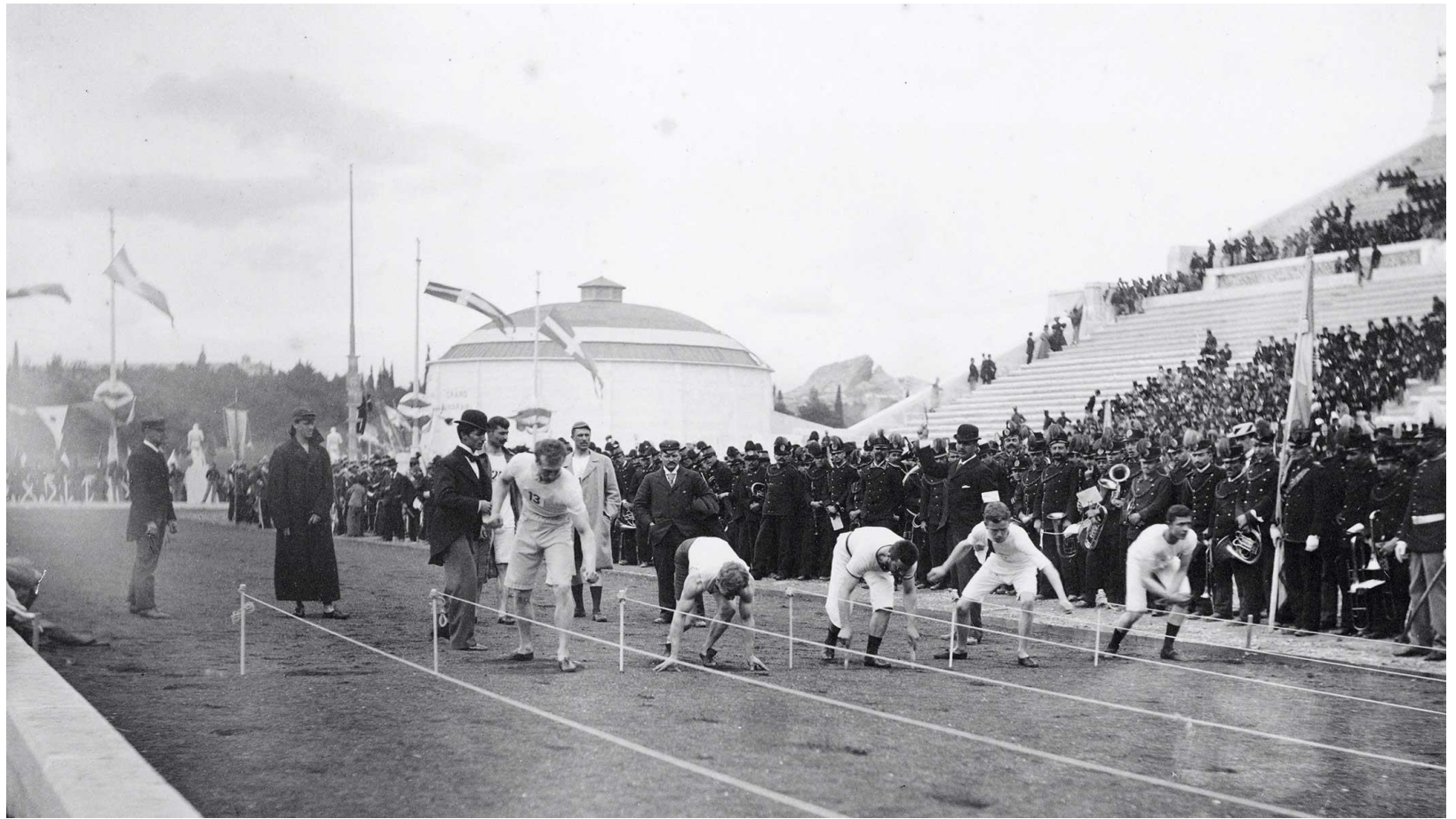
Besides these problems, the Games were celebrated and they were a huge success.

295 athletes (197 were Greek).

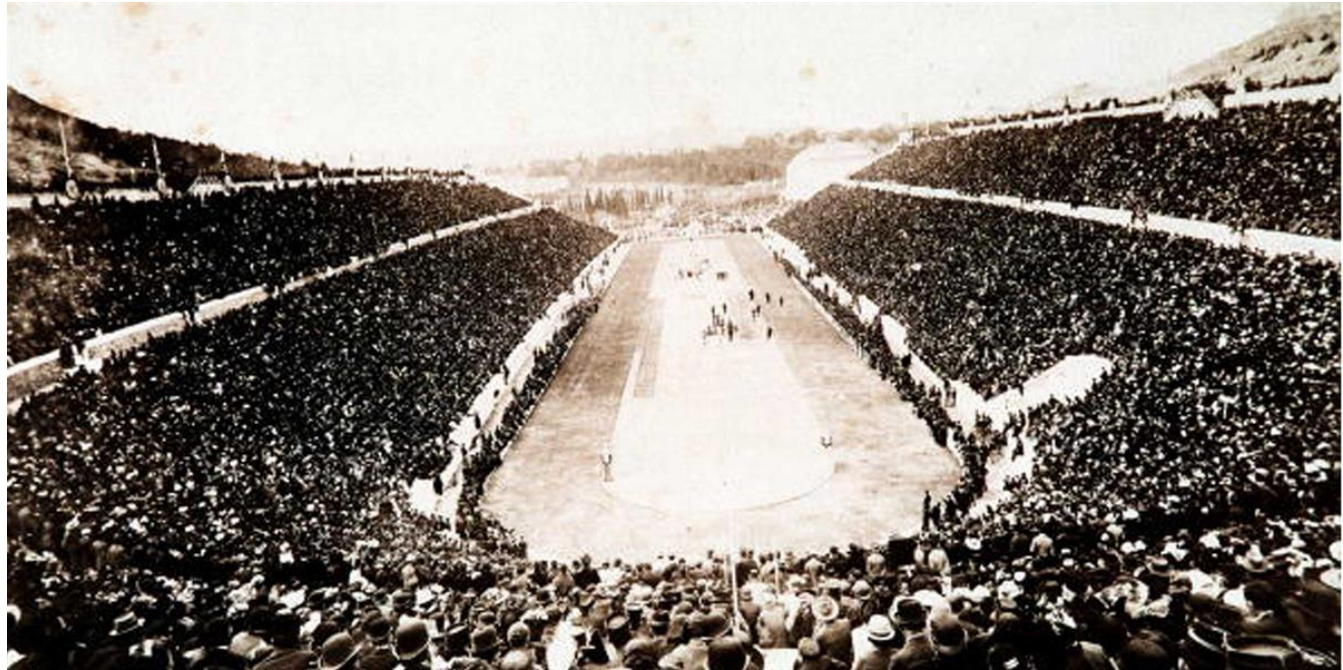
13 countries: Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Greece, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland and USA.

43 events in 9 sports: athletics, cycling, fencing, gymnastics, weightlifting, tennis, wrestling, swimming and shooting.

2. Athens, 1896



2. Athens, 1896



Panathinaikó Stadium was rebuilt for this event. It was the same stadium where the Ancient Greek celebrated their Olympic Games.

3. London, 1908

Dorando Pietri won the Marathon but when he entered the stadium he was completely dehydrated. 200 meters before the finish line he collapsed and fell to the ground. He tried to stand but he could not. The judges of the race helped him in the last 200 meters and won the race but he was disqualified after that for being helped.



3. London, 1908



The Queen of England decided to give a golden silver cup to Dorando Pietri in recognition of his effort during the race.

4. Antwerp, 1920

These Olympic Games were the first in which the **Olympic Oath** was voiced.



They are also the first Olympics to wave the **Olympic Flag**.

4. Antwerp, 1920

Paavo Nurmi makes his first appearance in the Olympic Games winning 3 gold medals and 2 silver medals in middle distance running.



5. Berlin, 1936



5. Berlin, 1936

The Nazis were against the Olympic ideology (racial equality, democracy, respect, peace...) but when they were granted to hold the Games in 1932, they decided **to use the Olympic Games as a political propaganda.**

They placed the swastika (Nazi symbol) everywhere, built magnificent sports facilities and the organization was perfect in every aspect compared to the previous Games.

5. Berlin, 1936



5. Berlin, 1936



The Olympic torch relay was introduced in these Games. The Olympic flame was lit in Olympia and ended with the lighting of the Olympic cauldron in Berlin.

5. Berlin, 1936

The most renowned athlete in Berlin, 36 was **Jesse Owens** (USA). He won **4 gold medals**: 100 m dash (10.3s), 200 m dash (20.7s), 4x100 m (39.8s) and long jump (8.06m)



5. Berlin, 1936

Jesse Owens and Luz Long



5. Berlin, 1936

Luz Long was a German Olympic long jumper. He was tall, blue-eyed and blond, the personification of the Aryan ideal of Nazi ideology. He was also a great opportunity for the Nazis to show to the rest of the world their theories of racial supremacy if he beat Jesse Owens in the long jump competition.

In the qualifying round, Jesse fouled his first two attempts. This left him with only one remaining jump. Luz told Jesse to start his run a few centimeters back to avoid any possibility of fouling again.

By doing that, Jesse qualified to the long jump final.

5. Berlin, 1936

During the final, Luz Long, who was second, gave Jesse a hug after Jesse's winner jump. This show of affection between them was not well tolerated by Hitler and the Nazi government because it was against their ideology of Aryan race supremacy.



5. Berlin, 1936

Germany was the great winner in the medal table. This superiority was used by the Nazis to reaffirm their ideology of the Arian race.

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Germany	33	26	30	89
2	United States	24	20	12	56
3	Hungary	10	1	5	16
4	Italy	8	9	5	22
5	Finland	7	6	6	19
5	France	7	6	6	19
7	Sweden	6	5	9	20
8	Japan	6	4	8	18
9	Netherlands	6	4	7	17
10	Great Britain	4	7	3	14
11	Austria	4	6	3	13
12	Czechoslovakia	3	5	0	8
13	Argentina	2	2	3	7
13	Estonia	2	2	3	7
15	Egypt	2	1	2	5
16	Switzerland	1	9	5	15

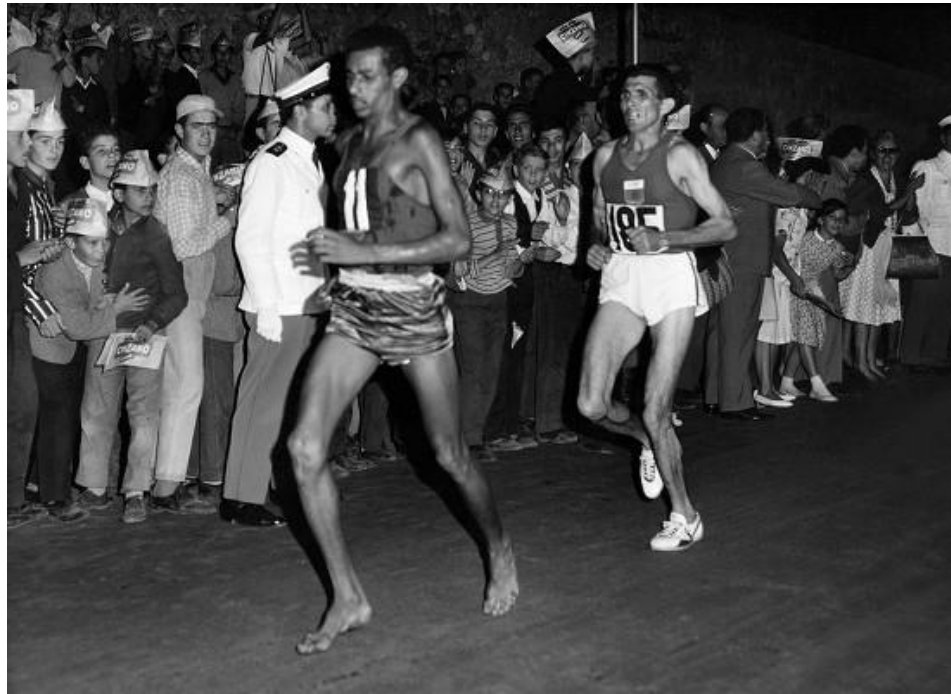
6. Helsinki, 1952

Emil Zátopek won 3 gold medals in 5000 m, 10000 m and the Marathon (which he had never run before).



7. Rome, 1960

Abebe Bikila won the Marathon and ran the whole race barefooted.



7. Rome, 1960

Wilma Rudolph “The Black Gazelle” won three gold medals: 100 m dash, 200 m dash, 4x100 m.



8. Mexico, 1968

In 1968 there were a large number of worldwide protests and popular rebellions due to several social conflicts.

These protests were mainly supported by workers, students and poor people against different social injustices.



8. Mexico, 1968

For example, in the United States, people protested over racism (Black Power movement), the Vietnam War and nuclear weapons.



8. Mexico, 1968

French May: A student demonstration was followed by a massive general strike.



8. Mexico, 1968

In Mexico, some days before the celebration of the Games, a student demonstration against the government ended with over a hundred people killed by the national army.

They were protesting over the huge amount of money spent in the Games when Mexican people's needs were not being taken care of, and they were also supporting the rest of demonstrations and strikes that were happening in the rest of the world.

8. Mexico, 1968



Plaza de las Tres Culturas, Tlatelolco (Mexico) in 1968, moments before the massacre that killed over 100 people.

8. Mexico, 1968

The Games were celebrated 2240 meters over the sea level.

The altitude was excellent for breaking several world records in short distance races, jumps and throws. However, it was not ideal in long distance races.



8. Mexico, 1968



Bob Beamon jumped 8.90 m in long jump

8. Mexico, 1968



Jim Hines, first man to break the 10 seconds barrier in 100m dash (9.95s)

8. Mexico, 1968



Dick Fosbury introduced the “**Fosbury Flop**” to win the high jump.

8. Mexico, 1968



Vera Caslavka won 4 gold medals in gymnastics.

8. Mexico, 1968



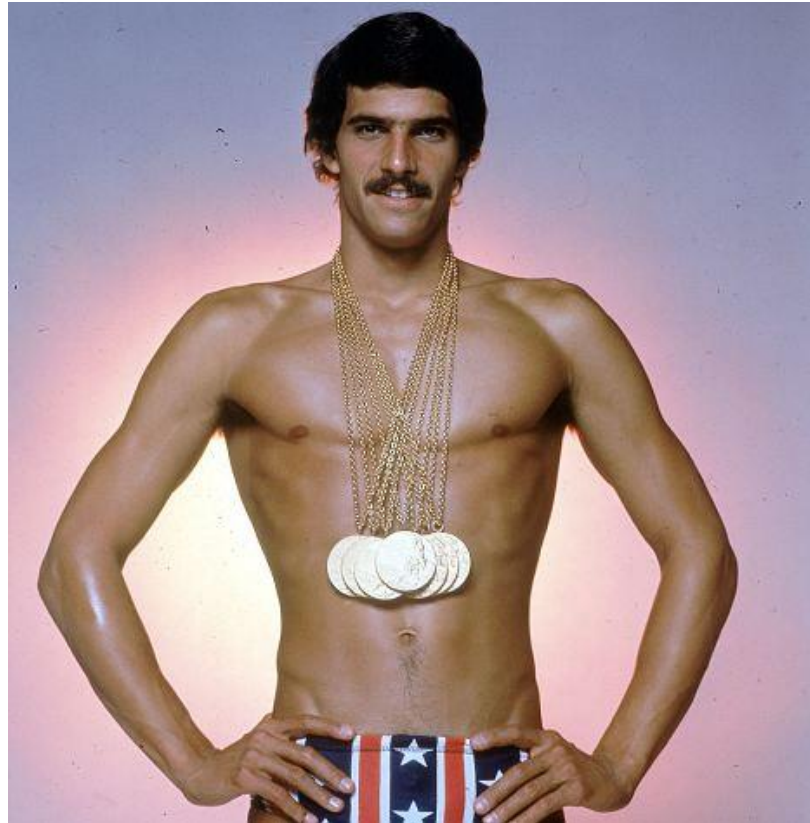
Tommie Smith and **John Carlos**, gold and bronze medal in 200 m dash showed their support to **Black Power** during the ceremony. They were disqualified for this.

9. Munich, 1972

Munich massacre: a group of 8 members of the Black September Palestinian terrorist organization broke into the Olympic Village and took eleven Israeli athletes hostage in their apartments and killed them.

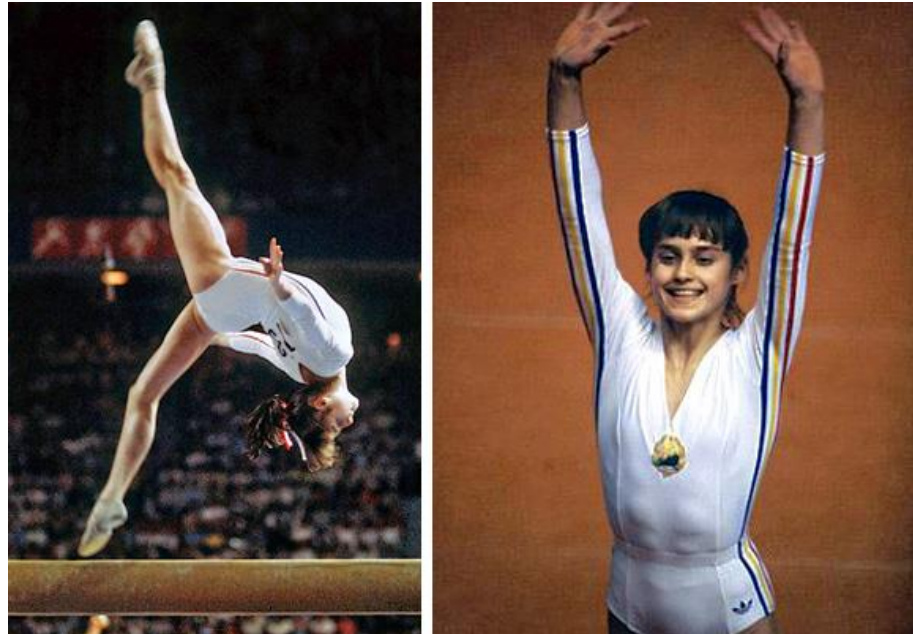


9. Munich, 1972



Mark Spitz won **7 gold medals** in swimming events.

10. Montreal, 1976



Nadia Comaneci, at the age of 14, won 3 gold medals in gymnastics and became the first person to score a **perfect 10** at the Olympics.

10. Montreal, 1976



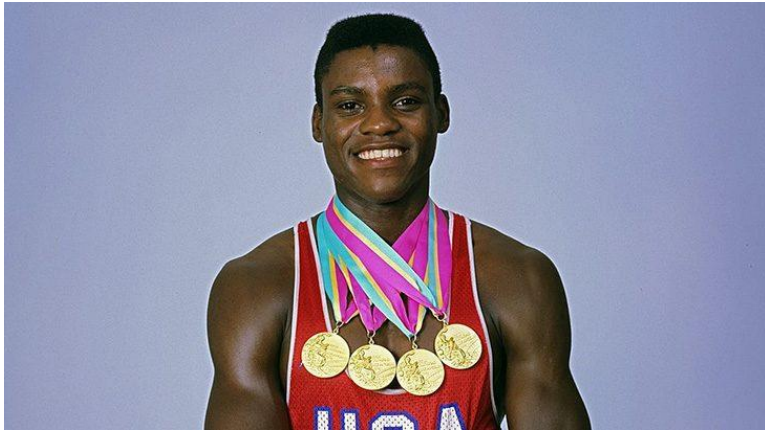
11. Moscow, 1980 and Los Angeles, 1984

The political tension between the USA and the USSR during the Cold War affected the celebration of these two Summer Olympic Games.

The 1980 Games were boycotted by 66 countries, led by 66 countries because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The 1984 Games were boycotted by 14 countries, including the USSR and East Germany, in response to the boycott of the previous Games in Moscow.

II. Los Angeles, 1984



Carl Lewis emulated Jesse Owens by winning 4 gold medals in 100 m dash, 200 m dash, long jump and 4x100 m.

12. Seoul, 1988



Ben Johnson won the 100 m dash setting the new world record in 9.79s but he was **disqualified for doping**. Carl Lewis became the winner with 9.92s.

12. Seoul, 1988



Florence Griffith, the fastest woman of all time. She still holds the world record in 100 m and 200 m and won the gold medal in both events.

13. Barcelona, 1992



These Olympic Games were the best for the Spanish team in history. They won 22 medals (13 gold).

13. Barcelona, 1992



Fermín Cacho, gold in 1500 m.

13. Barcelona, 1992



Miriam Blasco, gold in judo.

13. Barcelona, 1992



Conchita Martínez (silver) and **Arantxa Sánchez Vicario** (silver and bronze).

13. Barcelona, 1992



Spain women's national hockey team won the gold medal
against Germany (2-1)

13. Barcelona, 1992



Spain men's national football team won the gold medal against Poland (3-2).

13. Barcelona, 1992



Derek Redmond was the favorite to win the 400 m dash but in the semi-final his hamstring tore. His father helped him to reach the finish line.

13. Barcelona, 1992



Dream Team USA