

BEST OLYMPIC FINISHES BY ALL NATIONS

by Bill Mallon

Afghanistan - The best finish by an Afghan athlete was 5th by Mohammed Ebrahimi in 1964 featherweight freestyle wrestling.

Albania - Two Albanians have finished 9th in an event. One was Ymer Pampuri, a weightlifter in the 1972 featherweight category who broke the Olympic record in the press and led the competition briefly. In 1992, Dede Dekaj also finished 9th in weightlifting, this time in the 110 kg. class.

Algeria - Hassiba Houlmerka won the 1,500 metres for women at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona.

American Samoa - Robert Peden won two matches in flyweight boxing to finish =5th of 30 in his class, the top finish to date from this small island country.

Andorra - Andorra's best placing has been 9th in 1988 by Emili Perez, in the cycling individual road race.

Angola - The best performance by Angolan athletes was probably their 1992 men's basketball team which qualified for the Olympics, but unfortunately drew the "Dream Team" as their first round opponent, losing 116-48, and eventually finishing 10th of 12 teams.

Antigua - The best Antiguan performance probably came in 1984 when Lester Benjamin finished 15th of 31 athletes in long jump qualifying, even though he did not qualify for the finals.

Argentina - Argentina has won 13 gold medals.

Armenia - Many Armenian athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. The most famous of these were Igor Ter-Ovanesyan (ATH), Albert Azaryan and his son, Eduard (both GYM), Igor Novikov (MOP), Yurik Vardanyan (WLT), and the wrestling brothers, Israil and Vartan Militosyan.

Aruba - The best Aruban performance has been 53rd in the 1992 men's marathon by Kimball Reynierse.

Australia - Australia has won 77 gold medals.

Austria - Austria has won 46 gold medals, 18 in the Olympic Games and 28 in the Olympic Winter Games. Austria shares with Liechtenstein and Norway the unusual distinction of having won more medals in the Winter Games than in the Summer Olympics.

Azerbaijan - Many Azerbaijani athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. The most famous Azerbaijani athlete was Inna Ryskal who won four medals with the Soviet women's volleyball teams.

The Bahamas - The Bahamas has won one gold medal, that in the 1964 Star Class yachting by Cecil Cooke and Durward Knowles.

Bahrain - The top finish by a Bahraini athlete was 14th in the 1992 men's hammer throw by Reyadh Rasheed Saad Al-Ameeri.

Bangladesh - Two Bangladeshi swimmers in 1992 boast their country's best Olympic performance. Bazlur Md Bazlur Rahman finished 58th of 61 competitors in the 100 metre breaststroke, while Salam Nd Abdus Salam finished 48th of 51 swimmers in the 100 metre butterfly.

Barbados - James Wedderburn, a Barbadian, ran on the West Indies Federation 4 x 400 metre relay team at the 1960 Olympics which won a bronze medal. As an independent nation, no Barbadian has won a medal through 1992.

Belarus - Many Belarus (formerly Belorussia, or Byelorussia [White Russia]) athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. The most famous of these were gymnasts, led by Olga Korbut. Other gymnasts from Belarus include Svetlana Boginskaya, Nelli Kim, Vitaly Shcherbo, and Tamara Lazakovich.

Belgium - Belgium has won 36 gold medals.

Belize - Belize was British Honduras until 1981. The best finish by this nation occurred in 1968 when Robert Hulse, a shooter representing British Honduras, finished 63rd of 86 competitors in the small-bore rifle, English match (prone).

Benin - Benin's best Olympic performance came in 1980 when featherweight boxer Barthelemy Adoukonou received a first-round bye, won one match, and then lost in the 3rd round to place =9th of 35 boxers.

Bermuda - Bermuda's best finish was a bronze medal by Clarence Hill in super-heavyweight boxing at the 1976 Olympics.

Bhutan - In 1992 Jubzang Jubzang finished 12th of 75 archers in the men's individual event, Bhutan's best Olympic finish ever.

Bohemia - Bohemia competed as an independent nation at the 1900, 1906, and 1908 Olympics. Their best finish was a silver medal in the 1900 discus throw by František Janda-Suk.

Bolivia - The best Bolivian Olympic performance occurred in 1972 when Roberto Nielsen-Reyes finished =22nd in the individual show jumping event.

Bosnia-Herzegovina - Bosnia-Herzegovina competed as an independent nation for the first time at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona. Their top finish occurred in women's air rifle shooting when Mirjana Horvat finished 8th of 45 shooters.

Botswana - In 1992, Mbiganyi Thee posted the top Olympic performance ever by a Botswanan athlete. He made it to the semi-finals (round 2 of 3) of the men's 800 metres, where he just missed qualifying for the finals, finishing 5th of eight runners in the semi-final.

Brazil - Brazil has won 9 gold medals.

British Virgin Islands - British Virgin Islands' best Olympic performance came in 1988 when Matthew Ameborg finished 29th in boardsailing among 45 sailors.

Brunei - Brunei has yet to compete at the Olympic Games, although they sent one official as an observer to both Seoul (1988) and Barcelona (1992).

Bulgaria - Bulgaria has won 40 gold medals.

Burkina Faso - The best Olympic performance by a Burkina Faso athlete was by Sounailla Sagnon in 1988 light-middleweight boxing. Sagnon won one match, finishing =9th of 37 athletes.

Cameroon - Cameroon's top Olympic finish was a silver medal at the 1968 Olympics by Jean Joseph Bessala in welterweight boxing.

Canada - Canada has won 61 gold medals, 45 at the Olympic Games and 16 at the Olympic Winter Games.

Cayman Islands - The Cayman Islands' best Olympic performance was by Michelle Bush in the 1988 women's marathon, when she finished 52nd of 69 runners.

Central Africa - Central Africa's best finish occurred in 1988 when Fidele Mohinga, a welterweight boxer, won one match to place = 17th of 44 competitors in the class.

Chad - Chad's best finish at the Olympics occurred in the high jump in 1964 track & field athletics, when Mahamat Idriss finished 9th.

Chile - Chile has won 7 Olympic medals, 5 silver and 2 bronze.

China - China has won 36 gold medals, all at the Olympic Games.

Chinese Taipei - Chinese Taipei, which has competed at the Olympics as Taiwan, Chinese Taipei, and the Republic of China, but never as Formosa, has won two silver medals at the Olympics - C. K. Yang finished 2nd in the 1960 decathlon and the baseball team finished 2nd at the 1992 Olympics.

Colombia - Colombia has won 5 medals, 2 silver and 3 bronze.

Commonwealth of Independent States - The Commonwealth of Independent States was a loose confederation of the former Soviet Republics, save for the Baltic States and Georgia, which competed at Barcelona and Albertville in 1992 as the Unified Team or Equipe Unifié. They won 112 medals, 45 of them gold, at Barcelona and 23 medals, 9 gold, at Albertville.

Congo - The Congo's best finish in the Olympics was sixth, albeit last, in women's handball in 1980.

Cook Islands - Two of their athletes can be said to have been the nation's "best" Olympic finish. In 1988 Michael Tererui finished 16th of 21 weightlifters in the 100 kg. class. Also in 1988, Richard Pittman won one match in the featherweight boxing class, finishing =9th of 48 in the class. However, Pittman actually defeated only one athlete, while Tererui defeated five.

Costa Rica - Silvia Poll won a silver medal in the 1988 women's 200 metre freestyle swimming, Costa Rica's only Olympic medal. Costa Rica shares with Liechtenstein and Zimbabwe the unusual distinction of having had more medals won by women (1) than men (0).

Croatia - Croatia first competed as an independent nation in 1992, when their basketball team won a silver medal behind the "Dream Team." This was their top finish as an independent nation, although prior to 1992, a number of top Yugoslav athletes had been from Croatia.

Cuba - Cuba has won 35 gold medals.

Cyprus - In 1984, Petros Kyritsis posted Cyprus' best Olympic performance when he finished 13th in skeet shooting.

Czechoslovakia - Czechoslovakia, since split into the Czech Republic and Slovakia, won 51 gold medals as a combined nation.

Denmark - Denmark has won 22 gold medals, all at the Olympic Games.

Djibouti - Djibouti has won one bronze medal, that by Houssein Ahmed Salah in the 1988 men's marathon.

Dominican Republic - The Dominican Republic has won one bronze medal, that being in 1984 bantamweight boxing by Pedro Nolasco.

DPR Korea (North) - North Korea has won 6 gold medals and 21 medals in all.

Ecuador - Ecuador's top performance has been a fourth-place finish in the 1972 200 metre butterfly swimming event by Jorge Delgado Panchama.

Egypt - Egypt has won 18 Olympic medals, 6 gold, 6 silver, and 6 bronze.

El Salvador - Light-flyweight boxer Henry Martinez posted the best finish ever by an El Salvadorean. In 1988 he won two matches to finish =9th of 37 athletes.

Equatorial Guinea - This nation's best finish was a 4th place (of 8) in a first round heat of the 1992 men's 100 metres by Gustavo Envela Mahua.

Estonia - Estonia has won 23 medals, 21 from 1920-1936, and a gold and bronze in 1992. The 1992 gold medal was won by female cyclist Erika Salumäe.

Ethiopia - Ethiopia has won 13 medals, 6 gold, all in distance running events.

Federal Republic of Germany - The FRG won 358 medals, 95 of them gold, between 1952 and 1988.

Fiji - In 1992, Anthony Philip finished 10th of 44 sailors in the lechner boardsailing class. This is Fiji's top Olympic performance to date.

Finland - Finland has won 134 gold medals, 98 in the Olympic Games, 36 in the Olympic Winter Games.

France - France has won 571 medals, 176 of them gold. Of these, 160 were at the Olympic Games and 16 at the Olympic Winter Games.

Gabon - Serge Bouemba can boast their best finish ever. A featherweight boxer in 1988, he received a first-round bye, and then won one match to finish =9th of 48.

The Gambia - Their best performance was in 1988 men's athletics when Dawda Jallow qualified for the 2nd round, finishing 7th of 8 in his heat of the 400 metre quarter-finals.

Georgia - Many Georgian athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. Their top sports were judo and wrestling and, in fact, Georgian judokas won more medals for the Soviet Union than any other republic, including Russia. The most famous Georgian Olympic athletes were wrestlers David Gobedzhishvili and Levan Tediashvili, and track & field athletes Viktor Saneyev and Robert Shavlakadze.

German Democratic Republic - Between 1956 and 1988, the GDR won 563 medals, 202 of them gold. Of these, 159 were at the Olympic Games and 43 at the Olympic Winter Games.

Germany - Counting all medals won by Germany prior to World War II, and all medals by the FRG and the GDR and then the medals won by Germany in 1992, German teams have won 415 gold medals, 340 at the Olympic Games, and 75 at the Olympic Winter Games.

Ghana - Ghana has won four medals, three bronze, and a single silver by Clement Quartey in 1960 light-welterweight boxing. This was also their first medal.

Great Britain - Great Britain has won 181 gold medals, 174 at the Olympic games, and 7 at the Olympic Winter Games.

Greece - Greece has won 105 gold medals, 24 of them gold, all at the Olympic Games.

Grenada - The best Grenadan finish was =9th in 1984 welterweight boxing by Bernard Wilson. He won one and lost one match.

Guam - Guam's best Olympic performance came in 1992 when female marathoner Jen Allred finished 36th of 47 runners.

Guatemala - Guatemala's top performances have been a tie for 5th (quarter-finals) by Carlos Mo Ha-Taracena in 1984 light-flyweight boxing, and a sixth-place finish by Edgardo Zachrisson in skeet shooting at Montreal in 1976.

Guinea - Guinea's best Olympic performance came in athletics in 1980 when Sekou Camara finished 5th of 7 runners in his heat of the first round of the 800 metres.

Guyana - In 1980, Michael Anthony won Guyana's sole Olympic medal to date, a bronze in 1980 bantamweight boxing.

Haiti - Haiti has won two Olympic medals, one bronze and a silver by Silvio Cator in the 1928 long jump.

Honduras - The best Honduran Olympic finish occurred in the 1976 20 kilometre walk when Santiago Fonseca finished 27th of 38 walkers.

Hong Kong - Hong Kong's best finish occurred in 1992 when Chai Po-Wa won four matches in women's table tennis singles to finish =5th of 62 players.

Hungary - Hungary has won 411 medals, 135 of them gold. All but six medals were at the Olympic Games, but Hungary has not yet won a gold medal at the Olympic Winter Games.

Iceland - Iceland's best Olympic performance was a silver medal in the 1956 triple jump by Vilhjálmur Einarsson.

Independent Olympic Participant - In 1992, individual Yugoslavians were permitted to compete as Independent Olympic Participants. They won three Olympic medals, the best being a silver by Jasna Sekaric in women's air pistol shooting. Sekaric had earlier won two medals for Yugoslavia in 1988.

India - India has won 14 Olympic medals, 8 of them gold. Eleven of the medals occurred in hockey (field), at which they have won all of their gold medals.

Indonesia - In 1992, Susi Susanti Haditono won the women's badminton singles and Alan Budi Kusuma Wiratama won the men's badminton singles. These are Indonesia's only two Olympic gold medals.

Iran - Iran has won 33 Olympic medals, 4 of them gold. All of the medals have come in the strength sports of weightlifting and wrestling.

Iraq - Iraq has won one Olympic medal, a bronze in 1960 lightweight weightlifting by Abdul Wahid Aziz.

Ireland - Ireland has won 15 Olympic medals, 5 gold, 5 silver, and 5 bronze.

Israel - Israel won its first two Olympic medals in 1992, both in judo. In women's middleweight judo, Yael Arad won a silver medal, and in men's lightweight judo, Shay Oren Smadga won a bronze medal.

Italy - Italy has won 171 Olympic gold medals, 153 in the Olympic Games, and 18 in the Olympic Winter Games.

Ivory Coast - In 1984, Gabriel Tiacoh won a silver medal in 1984 400 metres; this is the Ivory Coast's only Olympic medal to date.

Jamaica - Jamaica has won 24 Olympic medals, four of them gold, all but one of these in track & field athletics; the other was in cycling.

Japan - Japan has won 91 Olympic gold medals, 89 at the Olympic Games, and 2 at the Olympic Winter Games.

Jordan - In 1980, Mohamed Jbour finished 26th of 39 shooters in small-bore rifle, 3-positions, the best ever finish by a Jordanian Olympian.

Kampuchea (Cambodia) - Kampuchea has competed in the Olympics only as Cambodia, not appearing yet under its new name. Its best finishes occurred in 1964 cycling. In the 1,000 metre time trial, Tan Thoi finished 22nd of 26 competitors and the four-man team in the 100 kilometre team time trial finished 27th of 33 teams.

Kazakhstan - Many Kazakhstani athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. The most famous of these were weightlifter Anatoly Khrapaty and wrestler Valery Rezantsev. In addition, gymnast Nelli Kim represented Kazakhstan in 1976 but was considered a Belorussian in 1980.

Kenya - Kenya has won 39 Olympic medals, 13 gold, 13 silver, and 13 bronze.

Kirgizstan - Several Kirgizian athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. The most famous of these were 1980 marathon medalist Satymkul Dzhumanazarov and equestrian Aleksandr Blinov.

Korea (South) - Korea has won 34 Olympic gold medals, all but two at the Olympic Games.

Kuwait - Kuwait's best Olympic finish was equal 5th in 1980 football (soccer).

Laos - All Laotian Olympians have finished either last or next-to-last in every event entered. The two Laotians who managed a next-to-last were Vongdeuane Phongsavanh, who beat Sierra Leone's Sahr Kendor in a first-round heat of the 1980 800 metres; and Khambieng Khamiar, who beat Vanuatu's Ancel Namrukwen Nalau in a first-round heat of the 1,500 metres.

Latvia - Latvia has won six Olympic medals, four of them silver. The first came in 1932, with two more medals in 1936. In 1992, Latvia won three Olympic medals.

Lebanon - Lebanon has won four medals, two silver, and two bronze.

Lesotho - Motsapi Moorosi has the best finish ever by a Lesothan. He advanced through one round of the 200 metres in 1972, finishing 5th of 7 sprinters in a quarter-final heat.

Liberia - Samuel Stewart, a light-flyweight boxer, won one match in 1988 to finish 9th of 35 boxers in his class. This is Liberia's best Olympic performance to date,

Libya - Fathi Aboud finished 35th of 43 triple jumpers in the qualifying round, the best Olympic finish yet by a Libyan athlete.

Liechtenstein - Liechtenstein has won 9 Olympic medals, all at the Olympic Winter Games. Two of these were gold medals in alpine skiing by Hanni Wenzel. Liechtenstein shares with Austria and Norway the unusual distinction of having won more medals in the Winter Games than in the Summer Olympics. Liechtenstein also shares with Costa Rica and Zimbabwe the distinction of having had more medals won by women (5) than men (4).

Lithuania - In 1992, Lithuania won its first Olympic medals; it had not won any prior to its annexation by the Soviet Union. These were a bronze by the men's basketball team, and a gold medal in men's discus throw by Romas Ubartas.

Luxembourg - Luxembourg has won two Olympic gold medals, both in men's athletics. The first was in the 1900 Olympic marathon by Michel Théato, while the second was in the 1952 1,500 metres by Josef Barthel. Théato's medal was, until recently, thought to have been for France, but recent research by athletics statistician Alain Bouillé has shown him to be of Luxembourgish nationality.

Macedonia - In the Ancient Olympics, it is known that Macedonians won nine championships, including four in the stadion (sprint) race. Two of these were consecutive by Antigonos in 292-288 B.C. The greatest Olympic "champion" of ancient Macedonia was Philip II, the father of Alexander the Great. King Philip II won three Olympic titles - the keles (horse race) in 356 B.C., and two chariot events, the synoris in 348 B.C., and the tethrippon in 352 B.C. Macedonia has not competed at the Olympics yet as an independent nation. Both Šaban Trstena and Šaban Sejdi from the capital city of Skopje won two wrestling medals at the Olympics between 1980 and 1988.

Madagascar - Madagascar's top athlete has been the sprinter, Jean-Louis Ravelomanantsoa, who finished eighth in the 100 metres in 1968, the country's best finish ever.

Malawi - In 1984 Peter Ayesu, a flyweight boxer, won two matches and lost one, to finish 5th of 32 competitors, the best finish ever by a Malawi Olympian.

Malaysia - In 1992, the Sidek brothers won a bronze medal in the 1992 men's badminton doubles, Malaysia's only Olympic medal to date.

Maldives - Maldives has not excelled at the Olympics, every athlete finishing last or next-to-last in all their events. Ahmed Imthiyaz finished next-to-last in his heats of the 50 and 100 metre freestyle swimming events at Barcelona, but in both cases, he defeated his countryman, Mohamed Rasheed. Only Hussain Haleen, a 1992 marathoner, has succeeded in defeating an athlete from another nation. Haleen finished 86th of 87 finishers (of 110 starters) in the men's marathon. His time of 3-04:16 crushed the 87th place runner, Pyambu Tuul of Mongolia, who struggled to the finish in 4-00:44.

Mali - Mali's best Olympic performance came in 1972 when discus thrower Namakoro Niaré finished 13th of 29 men.

Malta - Malta's top Olympic moment occurred in 1928 when their water polo team won one match, defeating Luxembourg 3-1, before losing to France in the second round. This gave them a placing of equal 5th, of a starting field of 14 teams.

Mauritania - Mauritania's best Olympic performance occurred in 1988 when Babacar Sar won two freestyle wrestling matches in the heavyweight class.

Mauritius - Mauritius' best Olympic performance occurred in 1988 when Jose Moirt finished 17th of 22 weightlifters in the light-heavyweight class.

Mexico - Mexico has won 38 Olympic medals, 9 of them gold.

Moldova - Though the smallest of the former Soviet Republics, a few Moldavian athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. The most famous of these were Fyodor Kasapu, a weightlifter, and Yury Bashkatov, a sprint swimmer in 1988 and 1992.

Monaco - No Monagasque athlete has won a medal in a sporting event but in 1924 Julien Médecin won a bronze medal in the architecture portion of the now defunct art competitions.

Mongolia - Mongolia has won 13 Olympic medals, five silver, and eight bronze. Mongolia claims the unusual distinction of having won the most Olympic medals of any country which has not yet won a gold medal.

Morocco - Morocco has won 9 Olympic medals, four of them gold.

Mozambique - Mozambique's top Olympic athlete has been the female distance running phenom, Maria Lurdes Mutola, who finished 5th in the 1992 800 metres and 9th in the 1,500 metres, while still only 19-years old.

Myanmar (Burma) - As Burma, this nation's best Olympic finishes have been 5th in 1972 flyweight weightlifting by Gyi Aung and equal 5th in 1964 by featherweight boxer Tun Tim.

Namibia - In 1992, sprinter Frank Fredericks won two Olympic silver medals in the 100 and 200 metres, Namibia's only Olympic medals to date.

Nepal - Nepal's best Olympic performance was in 1964 when light-welterweight boxer Pun Omarsao won one match to finish =9th of 35 athletes in his class.

The Netherlands - The Netherlands has won 215 Olympic medals, 169 at the Olympic Games and 46 at the Olympic Winter Games. Of these 45 gold medals were won at the Summer Olympics and 14 at the Winter Olympics, for a total of 59 gold medals.

Netherlands Antilles - The Netherlands Antilles' sole Olympic medal was a silver won in 1988 boardsailing by Jan Boersma.

New Zealand - New Zealand has won 64 Olympic medals, 26 of them gold.

Nicaragua - Nicaragua's best Olympic performance occurred in 1992 when flyweight weightlifter Alvaro Marengo Ramos finished 11th of 17 lifters in his class.

Niger - In 1972, Issaka Daborg won Niger's only Olympic medal to date, a bronze in light-welterweight boxing.

Nigeria - Nigeria has won 8 Olympic medals, four silver and four bronze.

Norway - Norway has won 305 Olympic medals, 117 at the Olympic Games and 188 at the Olympic Winter Games. Of these, 106 were gold, 43 at the Olympic Games, and 63 at the Olympic Winter Games. Norway shares with Liechtenstein and Austria the unusual distinction of having won more medals in the Winter Games than in the Summer Olympics.

Oman - Oman's best Olympic finish came in 1988 when Mohammad Al Malky finished 8th in the 400 metres in track & field athletics.

Pakistan - Pakistan has won 10 Olympic medals, three of them gold.

Panama - Panama has won two Olympic medals, both of them bronze. They were both won by the same man, Lloyd LaBeach. LaBeach won bronze medals in the 1948 100 and 200 metres in track & field athletics.

Papua-New Guinea - In 1992, Henry Kungsi posted Papua-New Guinea's best Olympic performance yet. A lightweight boxer, he won one match to finish =9th of 29 competitors in his class.

Paraguay - Paraguay's best Olympic finish came in 1992 when their football (soccer) team finished 6th of 16 teams.

Peru - Peru's only Olympic gold medal (of 4 Olympic medals) came in 1948 free pistol shooting by Edwin Vasquez Cam.

The Philippines - The Philippines has won 8 Olympic medals, one of them silver. The silver came in 1964 featherweight boxing by Anthony Villanueva.

Poland - Poland has won 44 Olympic gold medals, 43 at the Olympic Games, among their 214 Olympic medals in all.

Portugal - Portugal has had one man and one women win a gold medal, both in the marathon. In 1984, Carlos Lopes won the men's marathon and in 1988, Rosa Mota won the women's marathon.

Puerto Rico - Puerto Rico has won 5 Olympic medals, one of them a silver. All of the medals have been in boxing. The silver was won in 1984 lightweight boxing by Luis Ortiz.

Qatar - In 1992, Mohamed Ahmed Sulaiman won Qatar's only Olympic medal to date, a bronze in the men's 1,500 metres.

Romania - Romania has won 220 Olympic medals, 219 at the Olympic Games, and a single bronze at the Olympic Winter Games. Of these, 59 were gold medals.

Russia - Russia competed as an independent nation in 1900, 1908, and 1912 and won six Olympic medals. The only gold medal came in 1908 in men's special figures figure skating by Nikolai Panin-Kolomenkin.

Rwanda - To date Rwandan athletes have appeared only in track & field. The best finish can be argued, but it is one of two performances by Marcianne Mukamurenzi. In the 1988 women's marathon, Mukamurenzi finished 38th of 69 starters. In 1992, she finished 12th in a first-round heat of 24 runners in the 10,000 metres.

St. Vincent & the Grenadines - Jacqueline Ross, achieved the nation's best Olympic finish, 26th in the 1988 women's long jump.

San Marino - The best Olympic finish by a San Marinese athlete was 5th in small-bore rifle (prone) shooting in 1984 by Francesco Nanni.

Saudi Arabia - Their best Olympic finish ever was 42nd of 58 fencers by Majed Habeebullah in 1984 men's individual foil.

Scotland - Scotland competed as a separate country only in 1908 field hockey, finishing third.

Senegal - Senegal has won one Olympic medal, a silver in the 1988 men's 400 metre hurdles by Amadou Dia Bâ.

Serbia - Serbia, as an independent nation prior to the formation of Yugoslavia, sent two athletes to the Olympic Games. Dragutin Tomasevic did not finish the marathon race, and Dušan Milosevic finished third in his heat of the 100 metres.

Seychelles - The Seychelles' best Olympic performance came in 1992 when light-heavyweight boxer Roland Raforme won two matches to finish =5th of 27 in his class.

Sierra Leone - Sierra Leone's best Olympic performance came in 1984 when light-middleweight boxer Israel Cole won two matches to finish =9th of 34 in his class.

Singapore - Singapore has won one Olympic medal, a silver in 1960 lightweight weightlifting by Tan Howe-Liang.

Slovenia - Slovenia won two Olympic bronze medals in 1992 men's rowing, those in coxless pairs and coxless fours. Prior to its independence, Slovenia was also responsible for all of Yugoslavia's medals in the Olympic Winter Games.

Solomon Islands - Their best Olympic performance to date was in 1984 when Leslie Ata, a lightweight weightlifter, finished 16th of 19 in his class.

Somalia - The nation's best Olympic finish was 8th in the 2nd semi-final of the 1988 men's 800 metres by Ibrahim Okash Omar.

South Africa - South Africa won two silver medals upon its return to the Olympics in 1992, giving them a total of 53 Olympic medals, 16 of them gold.

Soviet Union - Counting medals won in 1992 as the Unified Team, the former Soviet Union won 1,345 Olympic medals, 528 of them gold.

Spain - Spain has won 49 Olympic medals, 18 of them gold. Of these, 47 medals and 17 gold were at the Summer Olympics.

Sri Lanka - In 1948, representing Sri Lanka under its former name of Ceylon, Duncan White won the only Olympic medal won by this country, a silver in 1948 400 metre hurdles.

The Sudan - The Sudan's best Olympic performance came in 1984 when Omar Khalifa finished 8th in the men's 1,500 metres in track & field athletics.

Suriname - Suriname has won two Olympics medals, both in swimming by Anthony Nesty. In 1988 he won a gold medal in the men's 100 metre butterfly and in 1992 he won a bronze medal in that event.

Swaziland - Swaziland's best Olympic performance was 17th by Richard Mabuza in the 1972 men's marathon.

Sweden - Sweden has won 545 Olympic medals, 167 of them gold.

Switzerland - Switzerland has won 243 Olympic medals, 66 of them gold.

Syria - Syria has won one Olympic medal, a silver in 1984 heavyweight freestyle wrestling by Joseph Atiyeh. In 1960-1968, Syria competed with Egypt as the United Arab Republic, which won two medals. However, both of them were won by Egyptian athletes.

Tadzhikistan - Several Tadzhiki athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. Two of their athletes won medals: in 1976 Zebinisso Rustamova won a bronze medal in women's individual archery and Yury Lobanov won a gold medal in 1972 men's Canadian canoe doubles and a bronze medal in the same event in 1980. In addition, in 1992, representing the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Unified Team, Andrey Abduvaliyev of Tadzhikistan won a gold medal in the hammer throw.

Tanzania - Tanzania has won two silver medals in men's track & field athletics, both in 1980. One was by Filbert Bayi in the 3,000 metre steeplechase, while the other was by Suleiman Nyambui in the 5,000 metres.

Thailand - Thailand has won four Olympic medals, all in boxing. Three were bronze medals, but in 1984 Dhawee Umponmaha won a silver medal in the light-welterweight class.

Togo - Togo's best Olympic performance came in 1988 when welterweight boxer Abdoukerim Hamidou won one match to place 9th of 44 in his class.

Tonga - Tonga's best Olympic performance came in 1984 when heavyweight boxer Tevita Taufuou won one match to place 5th of 15 competitors in his class.

Trinidad & Tobago - Trinidad & Tobago has won 7 Olympic medals, including one gold by Hasely Crawford in the showcase men's 100 metres at the 1976 Olympics.

Tunisia - Tunisia has won five Olympic medals, four of them by Mohamed Gammoudi. Gammoudi also won the only gold medal, that in the 1968 men's 5,000 metres.

Turkey - Turkey has won 53 Olympic medals, 26 of them gold. All but six of these came in wrestling.

Turkmenistan - Turkmen athletes won only one medal for the former Soviet Union from 1952-88, that being a silver by Marat Niyazov in 1960 small-bore rifle shooting, 3-positions.

Uganda - Uganda has won five Olympic medals, including John Akii-Bua's gold medal in the 1972 men's 400 metres hurdles, Uganda's only gold medal to date.

The Ukraine - Many Ukrainians have competed for the Soviet Union at the Olympic Games. Notable among recent athletes has been Sergey Bubka, the great pole vaulter. The Ukraine is second only to Russia among Soviet republics in terms in medals won.

United Arab Emirates - The United Arab Emirates' best Olympic finish ever was 101st in the 1988 individual road race cycling by Sultan Khalifa. Though this sounds unimpressive, he did defeat 35 of the 136 starters.

United States - The United States has won 2,051 Olympic medals, 835 of them gold.

U.S. Vii Islands - The U.S. Virgin Islands' has won one Olympic medal, a silver in 1988 finn monotype yachting by Peter Holmberg.

Uruguay - Uruguay has won 9 Olympic medals, two of them gold in 1924-1928 Olympic football (soccer).

Uzbekistan - Many Uzbeki athletes competed from 1952-1988 for the Soviet Union. The most famous of these was probably pole vaulter Radion Gataullin.

Vanuatu - Vanuatu's best finish was probably Olivette Daruhi's performance in the 1988 women's 200 metre sprint. She finished 5th of 7 competitors in a first-round heat.

Venezuela - Venezuela has won 8 Olympic medals, including one gold medal by Francisco Rodriguez in 1968 light-flyweight boxing.

Vietnam - Vietnam's best Olympic finish occurred in 1988 when Quoc Cuong Nguyen finished =13th of 32 shooters in rapid-fire pistol.

Wales - Wales competed as a separate country in 1908 field hockey, finishing third.

West Indies (Antilles) - In 1960, Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad competed as a combined team, representing the West Indies Federation. The Rome organizing committee called the "nation" the Antilles, a term which has, unfortunately, been often copied in many books. Since that time they have competed separately. West Indies won two medals in 1960, a bronze by George Kerr in the 800 metres and the 4 x 400 metre relay team also won a bronze medal.

Western Samoa - Marcus Stephan, a 1992 featherweight weightlifter, finished 9th of 31 in his class, this being the best finish by a Western Samoan in the Olympics.

Yemen - Yemen was formed on 22 May 1990 by combining the nations of the Yemen People's Democratic Republic and the Yemen Arab Republic. The best performance by Yemen, the Yemen Arab Republic, or the Yemen Democratic Republic, probably occurred in 1988 when Awad Saleh Nasser finished 6th in a heat of 8 in the first round of the 800 metres.

Yugoslavia - Prior to the civil war in Yugoslavia, this nation won 86 medals, 26 of them gold. Four of these came at the Olympic Winter Games, 3 silver and 1 bronze medal.

Zaire - Zaire's best Olympic performance probably came in 1988 when Mobange Amisi finished 98th of 136 starters in the individual cycling road race.

Zambia - Zambia, formerly Northern Rhodesia, has won one Olympic medal, a bronze by Keith Mwila in 1984 light-flyweight boxing.

Zimbabwe - Zimbabwe, formerly Rhodesia, has won one Olympic medal, a gold in women's hockey (field) in 1980 in a major upset. Zimbabwe shares with Costa Rica and Liechtenstein the unusual distinction of having had more medals won by women (1) than men (0).

*[The above is abstracted from the forthcoming book **The Golden Book of the Olympics** by Erich Kamper and Bill Mallon.]*