

Handball

ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

USSR	5	1	2	8
S. KOREA	2	4	0	6
SERBIA	3	1	1	5
ROMANIA	0	1	3	4



The Oregonian SATURDAY, AUG. 23, 2008 16TH

TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

12:30 a.m.:

Women's volleyball bronze-medal match; synchronized swimming (live), NBC

5 a.m.:

Table tennis: men's singles gold and bronze-medal matches (taped), MSNBC

6 a.m.:

Baseball gold-medal game; boxing: various finals; track & field: various finals; men's 10m platform diving (live), Telemundo

9 a.m.:

Women's basketball gold-medal game; women's volleyball gold-medal match; synchronized swimming; boxing; flatwater canoe/kayak (live), NBC

6 p.m.:

Men's volleyball semifinal (taped), Telemundo

6:30 p.m.:

Track & field: men's marathon, men's 800m final; men's long jump final, 4x400 finals; men's 10m diving final (live), NBC

11 p.m.:

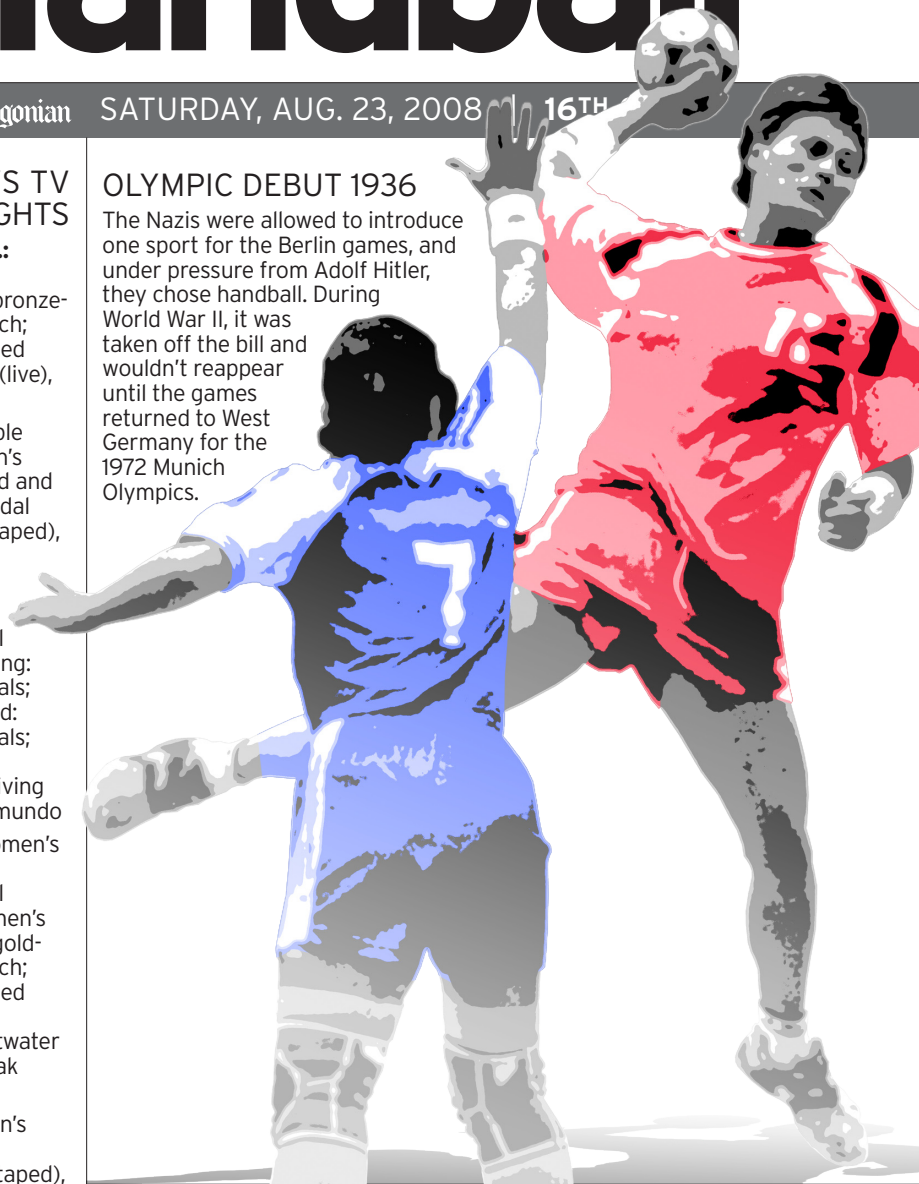
Men's basketball gold-medal game;

men's handball gold-medal game;

men's volleyball bronze-medal match; men's water polo bronze-medal match (taped), USA Network

OLYMPIC DEBUT 1936

The Nazis were allowed to introduce one sport for the Berlin games, and under pressure from Adolf Hitler, they chose handball. During World War II, it was taken off the bill and wouldn't reappear until the games returned to West Germany for the 1972 Munich Olympics.



THE COURT

Six-meter line

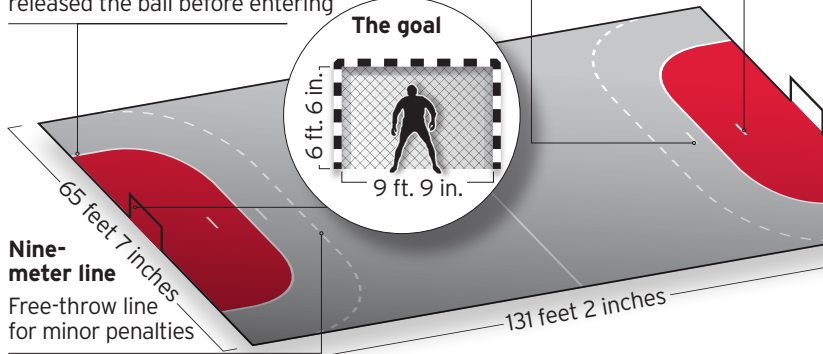
The goalkeeper's zone, no other players are allowed in this area except shooting offensive players who have released the ball before entering

Seven-meter line

Penalty shots on goal are made from here

Four-meter line

The keeper must stay behind this line during penalty throws



THE OBJECT

Handball is an indoor goal-scoring game that combines elements of basketball and soccer. Participants pass and dribble a ball with their hands down the court to take shots on goal. The six offensive players on each team use techniques from basketball, such as zone defenses and offensive picks, in their game plans.

THE BASICS

Time of play: Two 30-minute halves, 10-minute halftime.

The team: Six players and a goalkeeper on the court for each team, six substitutes on the bench and three inactive roster members.

Possession: A player with possession of the ball cannot stand still for more than three seconds without passing or shooting, nor can she take more than three steps without dribbling.

Defense: While stripping or violently slapping the ball out of an opponent's hand is illegal, players can block passes or shots on goal.

THE BALL

Designed small and soft for easy throwing and catching, a handball is paneled like a soccer ball with a leather shell. A regulation men's ball is 7¼ to 7½ inches in diameter and weighs about a pound, and a women's ball is 6¾ to 7 inches and a little less than a pound.



Basketball
9¾ inches



Handball
7½ inches



Softball
3¾ inches

ONE TO WATCH

Germany's **Pascal Hens**, the mohawk-sporting Michael Jordan of handball

2004 GOLD

Croatia knocked off Germany in a classic 26-24 final match in Athens