

Olympic Diary Entry

January 19th 468BC

Hello. My name is Anchaz Michaelides. I am a Greek Olympian, and loyal soldier of the legendary Ionian army. Many people rate me as one of the best in the world! People rave about me every day, and how I am destined for Olympic greatness! Today, thousands of spectators from throughout the land piled into the Olympia stadium. However, my beautiful wife Helena could not attend, like all of the other women. I had prepared for years for these five days, and I would not let her down now.

As the Olympic torch of Athens was lit by Alexander I, our great leader. It was incredible to watch, and as I did I felt proud to be contributing in the great Greek Olympics.

Today's event was boxing. I dominated the first round of matches, and came out runner-up champion to the 3-time champion, Markos Papadopoulos, a good friend of mine from the war. This performance has given me a good start. I had a feeling I was destined for greatness!

January 20th 468BC

Today, I woke up feeling confident. Today, the running events took place. Firstly, was the sprint, which was just one stade long. Sadly, sprinting is not one of my better events. I finished in second last. I then finished in a similar position in the second race, which was two stades long. However, in the 7 stade race, I felt that this was one of my better races. It was long and hard, but I persisted through the run in a tough challenge. I finished in a respectable fourth place.

The last race went for three stades, but we were dressed up in full body armour. I was an expert in this area, having contributed in the brutal Persian war. In this race, I ran out determined, and finished third. For the first two days, I have triumphed in the leaderboard tally. I have taken out first place by three whole points! I keep up my magnificent performances; I am destined for that beautiful medal of gold! I had better get a good sleep tonight, because tomorrow was a big day!

January 21st 468BC

Today, the Olympic festivities began. Fans paraded the streets, placing bets, selling cattle, and enjoying the beautiful surroundings. The Greek sun covered itself in the brick streets of Athens. I would soon make my way to Olympia for my next event, but before I attended the presentation of the Olympic sacrifices, 100 oxen were sacrificed for Zeus' statue of solid gold, standing at forty-two feet in the Temple of Olympus. The event for today was boxing. Boxing was considered the most rough and dangerous event in the games. Despite my earlier triumph, I didn't have my usual confidence with me. This was showed in the matches, as I was knocked cold in just the second round, from stone-like punch from Agnes Kalfas, the boxing champion of the day. Agnes moved himself up into second position, and Markos Papadopoulos climbed into first. While writing this now, I am not happy with my performance today, and now I am feeling the pressure of the contest come down on me.

1. Where did thousands of fans pile in?
2. After the first event, why did Anchaz Michaelides feel that he was destined for greatness?
3. How would you feel if boxing was your first event? Why?
4. What would be your preferred event if you competed? Why?
5. Write a small diary entry for January 22nd 468BC - make it one paragraph long, but try to include as much detail and emotion as the writing above.