

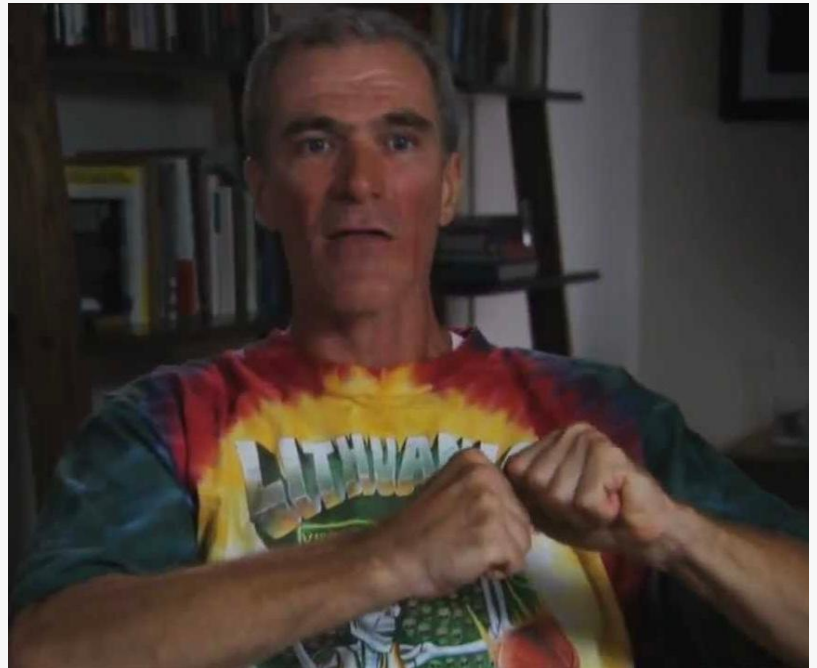
Iconic Lithuania Tie Dye® Skullman® Basketball Uniforms are in the News Again Ahead of the 2024 Paris Summer Olympics

The Legendary Tie-Dyed, Slam-Dunking Skeleton born before the Barcelona Olympics lives on during Paris Summer Olympics with new 2024 Editions now available.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES, July 1, 2024 /

EINPresswire.com/ -- After clinching the bronze in the 1992 Barcelona Summer Olympics the Lithuanian Olympic Men's Basketball Team showed up on the medal platform, wearing the way-out Skullman tie-dyed warm-up uniforms. They wowed the world, turning out to be something that was never before in the world of Olympic sports.

The uniforms were created by a NYC apparel brand designer for the team to have something fun to wear during the Olympics practice before the actual games. Wearing the "Skullman tie dyes" energized and inspired the team. The reaction from the international audience was overwhelming. The players wore the shirts wherever they went after that. [The public wanted to know where they could get one.](#) "The story became a major news event impacting popular culture, taking its place in Olympics history, had a major influence on the future of sports fashion, and changed it forever. The Tie Dyed Slammin® Skullman® became a legendary household icon." said Mike Thompson of Slammin Sports®.



Greg Speirs, creator of the iconic Lithuania Tie Dye® Olympic Skullman® Basketball Uniform Shirts recalls the part he played in this incredible Olympics story as seen in "The Other Dream Team" Olympic basketball documentary sports film.

The story began when Lithuania, one of the Baltic States' former Soviet Satellite countries, during the time of the Reagan administration, broke from the Soviet Union and gained its newly found independence and freedom. Rallying financial support for his country's newly formed Lithuanian Basketball Team, former Soviet player and then NBA star Sarunas Marciulionis, was discovered

by a coach at the Golden State Warriors, started rallying for donations and support for the new but financially strapped 1992 Lithuanian Olympic Men's Basketball team, with hopes of competing for the first time as free nation apart from the Soviet Union in the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona. Marciulionis received various monetary donations, including one from the Grateful Dead musical group. According to news reports, among the various donations the team received the Grateful Dead came into the story with a separate \$5,000. donation of their own to Marciulionis, which was the part they played in this story.

A New York apparel Licensor also heard about the team's plight and came into this story and independently created the Skullman® tie dyed uniforms, just so the team could have something fun to wear during the practice time before the actual Olympic competitions. See IMDB bio doc.:

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm3998173/>

Listen to the podcast that uncovered the true facts: <https://wonderly.com/shows/sports-explains-the-world/episode/13843-the-skullman-cometh/>

The team's plight was highlighted in the 2012 sports and political documentary film "The Other Dream Team":

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It's really difficult to understand the magnitude and the significance and the impact and the power of what went down with those shirts.”

NBA Hall of Famer Bill Walton

Directed and produced by Marius Markevicius and Jon Weinbach, It is about the Lithuanian Olympic basketball team at the 1992 Summer Olympic Games. It highlights these elite athletes' experiences behind the Iron Curtain, they were subjected to brutalities of Communism. Hiding from KGB agents and feared for their lives, Lithuania's basketball stars always shared a common goal – to utilize their athletic gifts to help free their country.

Aside from the hardships on the road to the '92 Olympics, the film celebrates Greg Speirs' iconic tie-dyed uniforms

worn by the team, now an historic piece of Olympics' basketball history.

Read the news doc.:



<https://www.amworldgroup.com/blog/lithuanian-slam-dunking-skeleton-back-for-the-other-dream-team-documentary>

Where the uniforms came from: "The Skullman® Lithuania tie dye® basketball shirts are actually an independent apparel line brought into this story, created and solely owned by the designer. It was never an actual team jersey, nor was it ever part of the Grateful Dead. All licensing rights always originated exclusively from the designer." said Mike Thompson of Slammin' Sports.

Speirs is the art director who created the rock n' roll music magazine "Grooves" back in the 1970's, designed the legendary "Monaco Monk" icicle sleds for Prince Albert of Monaco's Olympic Monaco Bobsled Team for the Nagano Winter Olympics and World Cup, and collaborated in the 1970's on many music projects including with famed Woodstock Music Festival founder and record producer Artie Kornfeld, in particular with RCA Records. Artie Kornfeld is the man who coined the phrases "Far Out" when he spoke at Woodstock in 1969 and also coined the phrase "Take it to the Max" when he produced the record album for the Max Damian band in the 1970's, which Greg created the album cover for.

"When the Olympics ended and demand for the shirts continued, Greg saw it as a great opportunity to help the team and chose to donate all of what would have been his profits to continue to fund the team. Speirs licensed to the team to use the shirts for a limited time to raise money for the team and for Marciulionis' additional charities. That's why Greg is called the major sponsor of the 1992 Men's Lithuanian Olympic Basketball Team after the Olympics. He gave 100% of his profits to fund the team which



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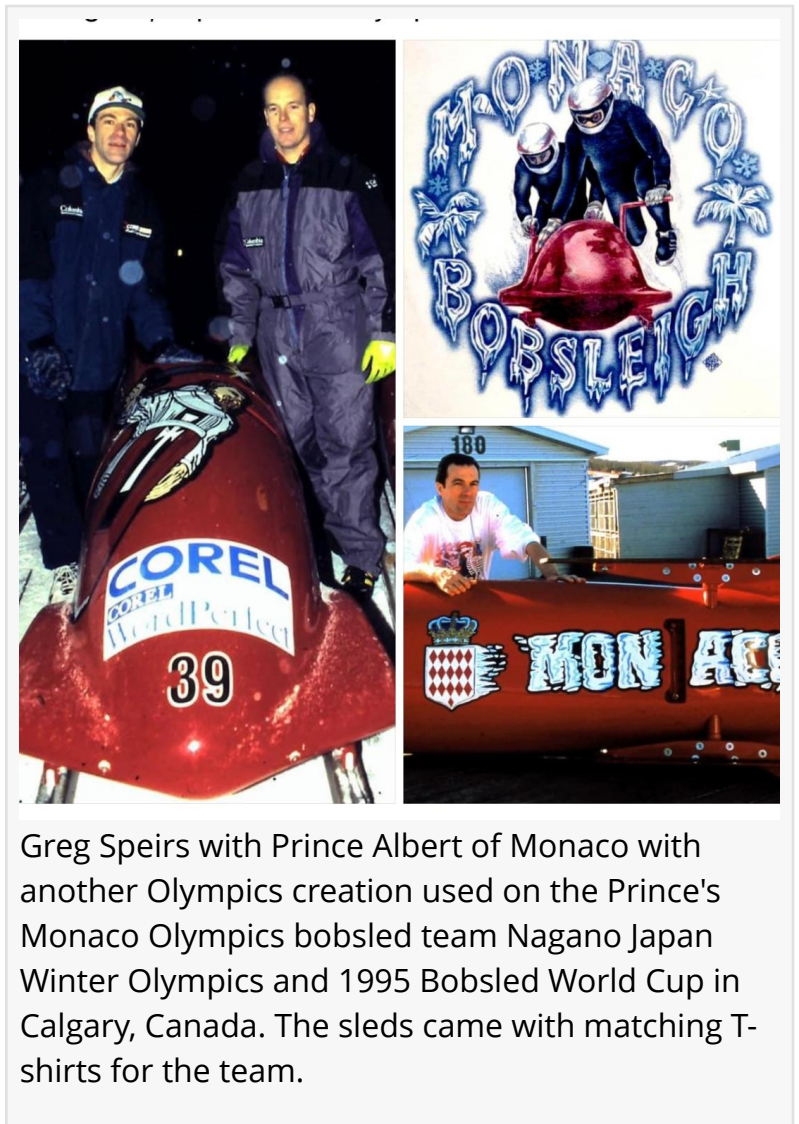
30th Anniversary Edition Original Lithuania Tie Dye® Slam Dunking Skullman® Jerseys unveiled in the center of the world Times Square, NYC in 2022.

started at \$450,000 in the first wave of donations which continued after the Olympics and may have skyrocketed to millions according to news reports. All of Greg's profits were given to Lithuanian player Sarunas Marciulionous' 'Sarunas Lithuanian Children's Fund' to help sick children in need, which was set up and controlled by the former Lithuania team player and NBA star who received 100% of all funds with a portion used to fund Marciulionis' basketball school in Lithuania according to news reports." recalled Mike.

In appreciation for his incredible contribution to the nation of Lithuania and his generous donation to the team and Lithuanian charity, we believe Greg should have received the Medal of the Order of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas or the Commander's Grand Crosses of the Order for Merits to Lithuania from the President of Lithuania. We suspect the President didn't know that it was Greg's noble contribution at the

time. Any donation of funds given from the sale of a shirt ultimately came from the artist. The documented fact is that after the Olympics ended, it was his money that became the biggest donation to the team, to the Marciulionis Charity and to build Sarunas' basketball school in Lithuania, because those funds came from the sales of his shirts. Only Greg had the right to release profits to charity or to anyone. As the creator and exclusive Licensor of the property, [Greg generously released 100% of his licensing profits to fund the team](#) and Marciulionis' charities. As Licensor and owner of his intellectual property, profits were no one else's to give but Greg's, because those funds came from the sales of his shirts.

"The 1992 Lithuanian Basketball Team represents what happens in freedom...people excel. The Lithuanian Slam-Dunking Skullman® represents rising from nothing. Like a Phoenix from the ashes to slam-dunking a flaming basketball. It's not a dead skeleton, but the Skullman is alive and represents rebirth and a new life. When you are free you have the opportunity to succeed as an individual while still being part of a team. It was not only a victory in Olympic sports, but it was as if it were an overall triumph over communism itself. It's about freedom and free enterprise." recalled Speirs.



Greg Speirs with Prince Albert of Monaco with another Olympics creation used on the Prince's Monaco Olympics bobsled team Nagano Japan Winter Olympics and 1995 Bobsled World Cup in Calgary, Canada. The sleds came with matching T-shirts for the team.

See IMDB bio:

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm3998173/>

Listen to "The Other Dream Team" interview:

<http://www.gregspeirs.com/greg-speirs-audio-interview-by-the-other-dream-team-documentary-film/>

"Greg played a much more significant role in the story than reported initially, including with respect to the funding of the Lithuanian team, with skewed misreports still being picked up today by major newspapers." recalled Mike Thompson of Slammin' Sports.

See CNBC news story:

<https://www.cnn.com/amp/id/100165621>

The uniforms were "enshrined" in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass. on Dec.7th 1993, below a giant 12ft. x 8ft. 3-D incarnation of the legendary Slam Dunking Skeleton. Marciulionis' jersey was also added to the collection by the Basketball Hall of Fame's curator Mike Brooslin at the time.

See link: <http://www.lithuaniatshirt.com/basketball%20hall%20of%20fame.htm>

"It's really difficult to understand the magnitude and the significance and the impact and the power of what went down with those shirts." said NBA Hall of Famer Bill Walton in a USA Today quote.

Vintage editions of the shirts sell for hundreds of dollars online at sites like EBay. The Official, Original 1992 Skullman Lithuania Tie Dye® re-issue T-Shirts and merchandise is always available from the source here and has been sold since 1992 by Slammin Sports at the Skullman Company from where all licensing rights originate.

The public can get all of the new 2024 Editions and the Classic Original 1992 Skullman Lithuania Tie Dye® T-Shirts here at: www.Skullman.com

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Mike Thompson

Slammin Sports'

licensing@skullman.com

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