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Next Week

THE OLYMPIC STAGE IS SET, decorated lightly with snow and heavily with political perturbation, as Lake Placid welcomes athletes from 38 nations to the Winter Games. In words and pictures our preview issue indicates who and what to watch for in the major sports and the best bets for medals in every event, and William Oscar Johnson chronicles the glories and perils of that Olympic centerpiece, the downhill.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED (ISSN 0038-822X) is published weekly, except semi-weekly during the second full week in March, also two issues combined at year end, by Time Inc., 541 N. Fairbanks Ct., Chicago, Ill. 60611, principal office Rockefeller Ctr., N.Y., N.Y. 10020. J.R. Shepley, President; J. Winston Fowlkes, Treasurer; C.B. Bear, Secretary. Second-class postage paid at Chicago, Ill., and additional mailing offices. Authorized as second-class mail by Post Office Dept., Ottawa, Canada and for payment of postage in cash U.S. subscription: \$30.00 a year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Sports Illustrated, TIME/LIFE Building, 541 N. Fairbanks Court, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

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Sport Illustrated

FEBRUARY 4, 1980

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