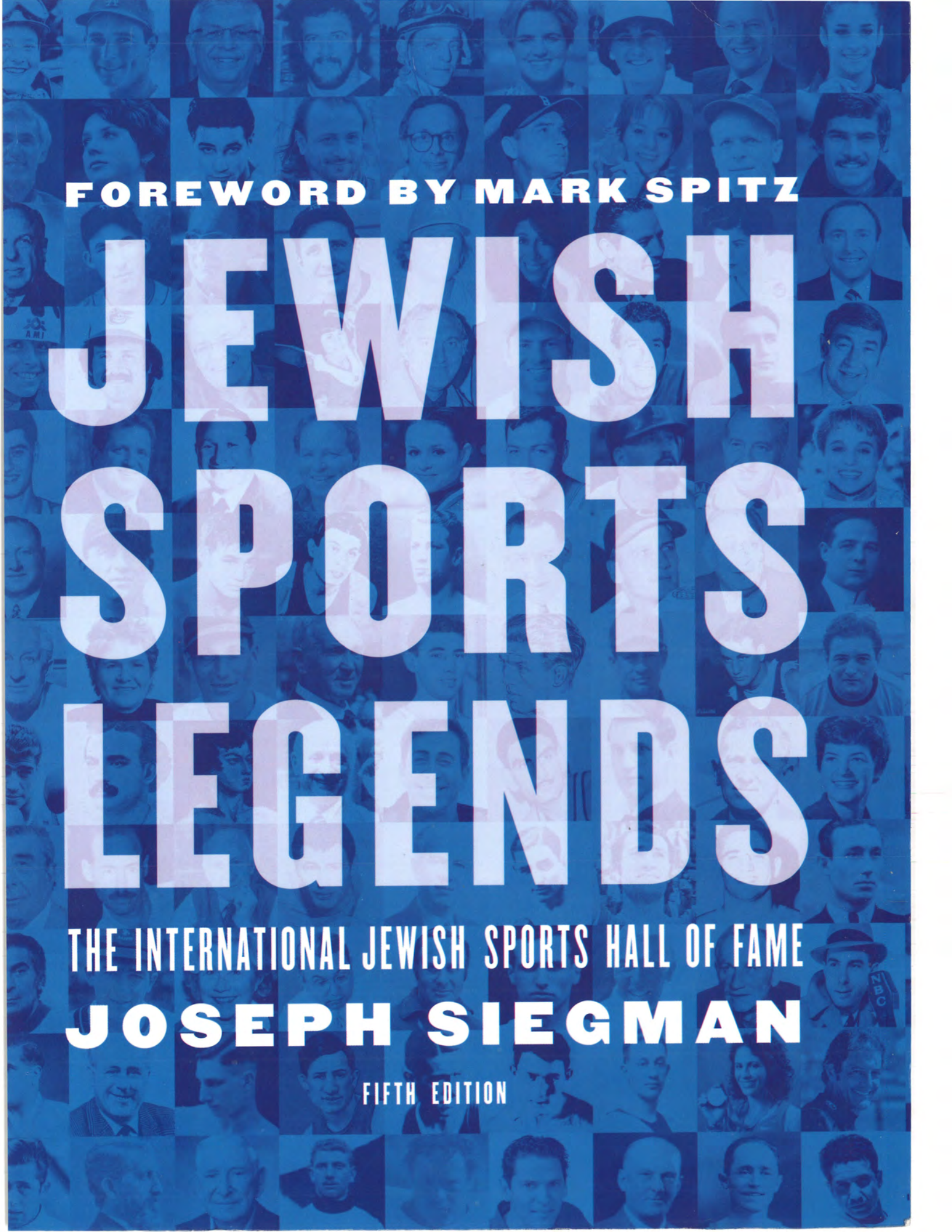




FOREWORD BY MARK SPITZ

JEWISH SPORTS LEGENDS

THE INTERNATIONAL JEWISH SPORTS HALL OF FAME

JOSEPH SIEGMAN

FIFTH EDITION

JEWISH SPORTS LEGENDS



JEWISH SPORTS LEGENDS

The International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame

Fifth Edition

JOSEPH SIEGMAN

Foreword by Mark Spitz

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To Sam and Ellen Sporn and Syd Kronenthal,
who have so generously supported the
International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame

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FOREWORD

Mark Spitz



Perhaps the most idyllic of Max Nordau's dreams and certainly the greatest individual achievement in the history of twentieth-century Olympic Games, was the winning of seven gold medals by American swimmer Mark Spitz in 1972. Spitz, here with his wife, Susie, received the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame induction award at a special ceremony in March 1983 in Beverly Hills, California.

I find it fascinating that Jewish men and women can reach the highest levels of success in such areas as medicine, law, science, and the arts, with little to no notice paid to their religious heritage, while successful Jewish athletes are celebrated nearly as much for being Jewish as they are for their competitive accomplishments. To many, particularly Jews themselves, the Jewish athlete is a novelty.

Facts belie the misconception. During the twentieth century and parts of the nineteenth, Jews played a significant role in sports, both in participation and development. As this wonderful book underscores, early athletes, such as England's Daniel Mendoza, led a long line of Jewish world boxing champions. Canada's Louis Rubenstein and Hungary's Lili Kronberger

pioneered world figure skating. American Lipman Pike was so good, he was paid to play baseball, becoming the first professional ballplayer. John Brunswick and his family pioneered billiards and tenpin bowling. Nine gold medals were won by Jewish athletes at the first modern Olympics in 1896. And today's National Basketball Association owes its origins to Jewish players, coaches, and entrepreneurs. The list of Jewish contributions to sports, past and present, on and off the field of play, is impressive.

There is merit to the observation that Jews have not made big names for themselves in sports in great numbers, at least not the kind of numbers that our people have enjoyed in other careers and professions. Nevertheless, if we have overachieved in some areas, the fact that we have merely succeeded in sports in proportion to our numbers doesn't make us underachievers.

Without doubt, sociological and traditional elements have played an important role in the Jews' involvement in sports. But, then, haven't these same elements played similar roles in the participation of non-Jews as well? There are simply fewer Jews in the equation.

Following the 1972 Olympics, one writer labeled me "the first great Jewish athlete." A compliment was intended, but the statement is hardly accurate. Long before there was a Mark Spitz there was a Hank Greenberg, a Barney Ross, a Benny Leonard, a Sandy Koufax, a Nat Holman, a Sid Luckman, and so many others. I may have been the Jewish champion of the moment, but many great athletes preceded me, and quite a few have succeeded me.

Anyone with doubts about this need only thumb through the pages of this fascinating book. Nearly four hundred of the world's all-time greatest athletes, teams, and contributors to sports are celebrated on these pages. And all of them are Jewish. Every one of those pictured represents the best of his or her sport and the best of his or her era. I am honored to be counted among these remarkable people.

PREFACE



Baseball legend Sandy Koufax receives his Hall of Fame induction medal from IJSHOF chairman Joe Siegmán at a pregame ceremony at Dodgers Stadium in June 1982.

This book profiles many of the world's greatest athletes, sportsmen, and sportswomen. All of them are Jewish, and each is an elected member of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. Some of these athletes date back to the eighteenth century. Not all are famous. But all are or were great sportsmen and sportswomen—Olympic and professional champions, world record holders, and others who have made extraordinary contributions to the world of sports.

The concept of a Jewish Sports Hall of Fame was conceived by a group of veteran athletes returning from the July 1977 World Maccabiah Games in Israel. Their idea: to honor Jewish athletes, sportsmen, and sportswomen of hall-of-fame stature—the highest achieving athletes and sport contributors—“among the best” by anyone's standards. With the Maccabiah Games on their collective minds, the organizing group adopted as their motto: “The Deeds of the Past Shall Inspire the Achievements of the Future.”

In early 1979, armed with the invaluable resource, *The Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports* (Bloch, 1965) by Roy Silver, Jesse Silver, and Bernard Postal, the organizing group selected its first slate of candidates. The electors were fifty-eight members of the executive board of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel, forerunner of today's Maccabi USA. The USCSPFI was responsible for securing Israel's entry into the Olympics family, and participation in the 1952 Games.

Beyond the promotional value of media exposure, the organizing group had initially given little thought to formalizing an actual hall of fame. However, the unexpected positive response of the elected athletes encouraged the organizers to plan a formal induction event. In May 1979, the first formal inductions took place at a Hollywood-laced black-tie dinner in Beverly Hills, California.

Inductees attending the inaugural event were U.S. sports icons Red Auerbach, Jackie Fields, Hank Greenberg, Nat Holman, Jimmy Jacobs, Irving Jaffee, Sid Luckman, Dolph Schayes, Dick Savitt, and Sylvia Wene Martin. Also present were family members representing deceased honorees Hirsch Jacobs, Benny Leonard, Barney Ross, and Abe Saperstein. (Biographies of each of these original inductees appear on the pages that follow.)

It was arguably the most remarkable gathering of Jewish sports legends ever assembled on the same dais, and likely one of the greatest sports star daises, Jewish or otherwise, of any kind. Comedian Dick Shawn was master of ceremonies, with presenters that included entertainment stars Milton Berle, Shelley Berman, Jack Carter, Elliott Gould, and Pat Henry. Guests in attendance included honorees' former teammates and local and national media. The evening was not only special for the guests of honor, but also indelibly memorable for the 450 guests who attended the gala affair.

Soon after that induction event, Washington-based Sports for Israel vice president Alan Sherman, who had attended the induction dinner, persuaded the event's organizer, Joe Siegmán, that the Beverly Hills event should be followed by securing a location for an actual Hall of Fame museum in Israel. At personal expense, Sherman journeyed to the Holy Land, vetted potential sites, and chose the new student union building at the Wingate Institute of Physical Education in Netanya, then in the process of development.

In 1980 a second Hall of Fame induction dinner was organized, again in Beverly Hills. With five hundred guests on hand, another group of outstanding Jewish sportsmen were honored: Mel Allen, Isaac Berger, Marshall Goldberg, Harry Litwack, Ron Mix, Al Rosen, and Gretel Bergamm (Mrs. Margaret Lambert), the 1930s German high jump champion who was denied a place on the 1936 German Olympic team because she was Jewish. Attendees also included family members representing deceased inductees, as were several inductees from the previous year. Presenting

entertainers included Jack Carter, George Jessel, and Marty Krofft, national radio-TV newscaster Alex Dreier, LA sports columnist Bud Furillo, and LA Dodgers vice president Al Campanis.

Nearly one year later, on July 7, 1981, on the eve of the eleventh World Maccabiah Games opening ceremonies, Eliezer Shmueli, director general of Israel's Ministry of Education and Physical Culture, and honorary chairman of the newly named International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame—Yad Le'ish Hasport Hayehudi—cut the ceremonial ribbon at Wingate to mark the IJSHOF museum's formal opening.

As of the summer of 2020 more than four hundred athletes, officials, sports pioneers, and innovators have found their place among the permanent exhibits at the Wingate sports museum. Originally, all of the honored were Americans. Since 1981, the honor roll covers the achievements of individuals and teams worldwide. As it has since its 1981 dedication, the IJSHOF's Pillar of Faith marks the names of the eleven Israeli Olympians murdered by Arab terrorists at the 1972 Games in Munich (see page 323).

The International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame has stood as the paradigm for Jewish athletes and sportsmen whose benchmark was excellence. We have recorded the past for future generations to emulate, or surpass. "The deeds of the past shall inspire the achievements of the future."

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Most of the information in this book has been gathered over the past forty-two years to conduct the various election processes of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. This fifth edition of *Jewish Sports Legends* is the official publication of the IJSHOF. Therefore, expressions of gratitude to the sources of information described on these pages are expressed not only by the author but by those involved in the development and managements of the Hall of Fame.

No single individual has been more important to the collection of records, background stories, and photographs of those honored by the IJSHOF than Dr. Uriel Simri. He has been especially effective in acquiring biographical vitae of European athletes and sportsmen whose outstanding achievements were performed long before statistics became a science.

And no single publication has been a more treasured research tool than the *Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports* (1965, Bloch New York) and two of its authors, Jesse Silver and Roy Silver.

Through the years, information collected by the IJSHOF has been gathered from many sources and individuals. Significant among them are Bill Henry's *An Approved History of the Olympic Games*, *The Ring Record Book and Boxing Encyclopedia*, *Sports Illustrated Sports Almanac*, Amateur Athletic Foundation's Paul Ziffren Library, *Jewish Sports Review*, and Ken Blady's *The Jewish Boxers' Hall of Fame*.

There have been countless individuals who contributed to the research and background knowledge of the athletes and sportsmen enshrined in the IJSHOF, none more significant than Dr. George Eisen, author of the chapter "Jewish Olympic Medalists" of this book, and the aforementioned Roy Silver and Jesse Silver. Family members, universities, and professional sport franchises, have generously contributed to the details of various careers.

Much of the photography that appears in this book has been acquired or gifted by the Wingate Institute photo archives, the Amateur Athletic Foundation (and its predecessors), Nahum Goldman Museum of the Diaspora, Pierre Gildesgame Maccabi Museum; and individuals Hank Kaplan, Bill Schroeder, Wayne Wilson, Shirley Ito, Michael Solomon, and Braven Dyer Jr.

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PROLOGUE

Muscular Judaism

Uriel Simri

Uriel Simri was one of the world's foremost educators and authorities on physical culture. Executive director of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame from its inception in 1981 through 1989, Simri was associated with Wingate Institute in various positions since 1966. He served as its deputy director, scientific director, director of the Instructional Media Division, and director of the Department of Social Sciences. An international lecturer and governmental advisor, he is a past president of the Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport in Asia, and was secretary-treasurer of the International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport. Simri was the first Israeli selected to officiate at Olympic Games competition, named in 1956 as a basketball referee for the Melbourne Olympics. From 1954 to 1961, he served as an international basketball referee under FIBA.

It was Max Nordau's call for the creation of a "new Jew" and for "muscular Judaism" at the second World Zionist Congress in 1898 that marked the beginnings of a new awareness of physical culture among Jews, particularly in Europe. At the turn of the century Jewish gymnastics clubs were established, encouraging thousands of youngsters to engage in physical exercise and serving as a framework for nationalistic activity.

As early as 1895, German Jews living in Constantinople had established the first Jewish gymnastics club after being expelled from the local nationalistic German club. In 1897 a Jewish gymnastics club called Gibor (later changed to Samson) was founded in Phillipople, Bulgaria. While the Jewish club in Constantinople was created as a result of anti-Semitic activity, the one in Bulgaria was an expression of newly aroused Jewish national consciousness—following the example of "Sokol," the national Slavic gymnastics movement. Anti-Semitism and Jewish nationalism, then, were responsible for the spread of the Jewish gymnastics movement.

Max Nordau's exhortation did not fall upon deaf ears. In 1898 the Bar Kochba Club was organized in Berlin, and within a short time, dozens of other Jewish gymnastics clubs sprang up, mainly in German-speaking countries. This widespread activity resulted in the establishment in 1903 of the Jüdische Turnerschaft, an umbrella organization for Jewish gymnastics clubs. The gymnastics displays that members of the Turnerschaft performed for delegates of the Seventh Zionist Congress in Basel, and for subsequent Congresses, aroused emotion and pride. They are tangi-

ble evidence of the connection between Jewish physical culture and the Jewish national movement.

Following the German tradition, the first Jewish sports clubs were devoted solely to gymnastics. Beginning in 1906, however, broader-based sports clubs were also established. Hungarian Jews were pioneers in the field, establishing the VAC Club, the Hungarian fencing and athletic club *Vivó és Athletikai Club* in Budapest that year, and in 1909 the Hakoah Club of Vienna.

By the beginning of World War I the Jewish athletic movement had spread to other European and Middle Eastern countries as well. Though the war closed many clubs, it also provided the impetus for the creation of new ones. A case in point is the Warsaw club. The Russian regime had forbidden the organization of a Jewish athletic club, but German occupation authorities, in 1915, allowed Jews to form a Maccabi club. This was to be the largest Jewish athletic club in Europe during the period between the two world wars.

The political changes wrought by World War I led to the establishment of dozens of new Jewish sports clubs, and a new umbrella organization was created in 1921—the Maccabi World Union (MWU). The MWU united most of the Jewish athletic clubs. The regulations of the organization stated: “The goal of the Union is the physical and moral rejuvenation of Jews for the sake of restoration and existence of the Jewish land and people.”

In the period between the two world wars the activities of the MWU spread throughout the Jewish world, reaching as far as Australia, South America, and South Africa. The center of activity, nonetheless, remained in Europe in the form of hundreds of Maccabi clubs. Most prominent were the previously mentioned Hakoah Club of Vienna and Hagibor Club of Prague, whose notable achievements in national and international track and field and swimming competitions aroused pride and identification among European Jewry. The greatest of them all was the Hakoah soccer team, which captured the Austrian Championship in 1925. The best Jewish soccer players in Central Europe joined its ranks, bringing the team worldwide acclaim. Everywhere the club went—Europe, the United States, and Eretz Israel—it aroused enthusiasm and pride among fellow Jews.

In addition to athletic activities, the Maccabi clubs became the center of extensive cultural and social activities. They were more than just sports organizations that promoted physical fitness; they also wielded considerable influence among Jewish communities.

The Maccabi World Union was not the only organization concerned with physical culture. During the 1930s the Hapoel organization in Eretz Israel operated dozens of athletic clubs in the Diaspora, mainly in Poland, Latvia, and Lithuania. Despite prevailing political and financial limitations, they carried out numerous athletic and social activities. Betar was also

active in promoting sports for Jewish youth. The Betar clubs in China and Manchuria were outstanding both in the scope of their activities and in the quality of their athletic achievements.

In addition to these avowedly Zionist frameworks, other Jewish athletic clubs should be mentioned—the clubs of the Bund in Poland, the United States, and Canada, and the network of sports facilities established in the magnificent Jewish community centers (JCCs) built by North American Jewry. These centers continue to flourish today.

Max Nordau's exhortation to rejuvenate "muscular Judaism" has fallen on fertile ground indeed. Today in Israel, as well as in the Diaspora, sports have become an accepted endeavor for Jews of all classes and all ages. For athletes and fans alike, sports have become a focus of identification and an integral part of our lives.

JEWISH SPORTS LEGENDS

AUTO RACING



Kenny Bernstein

Kenny Bernstein

United States

Born: September 6, 1944, Clovis, New Mexico

Driver-owner Kenny Bernstein is a six-time National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) Champion. In 1996 he was the first driver to win NHRA Championships in both Top Fuel and Funny Car. He has also won the International Hot Rod Association Winston Funny Car Championship and is a six-time Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association All-American. He is the only race team owner to have collected wins in each of America's three major motorsports series: NHRA, NASCAR, and IndyCar.

Bernstein earned the title "King of Speed" when he was clocked at 301.70 mph in March 1992, becoming the first NHRA driver to break the 300 mph barrier. He has set both ends of racing's world performance records: speed (332.18) and elapsed time (4.477 seconds). He is ranked sixth on the NHRA's Top 50 Drivers, 1951–2000.

Bernstein made a sponsorship pact with Anheuser-Busch (Budweiser) in 1980, a relationship that continues long after he retired as a driver in 2002.

Mauri Rose

United States

Born: May 26, 1906, Columbus, Ohio

Died: January 1, 1981

Maury Rose won the Indianapolis 500 three times: 1941 in a Wetteroth-Offenhauser racer and 1947 and 1948 in a Deidt-Offenhauser. He was inducted into the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in 1994 and the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in 1996.



Mauri Rose

Rose finished in the Indy Top Five six times and Top Ten seven times. In 1934 he finished second, was fourth in 1936, fifth in 1939, third in 1940, and third in 1950. He held the pole position only once (1941), but started in the front row five times. He won the AAA National Championship in 1936.

Even with all his racing success, Rose, an engineer with the Chevrolet Division of General Motors, considered his invention of the device that allows amputees to drive an automobile as his greatest achievement.



Jody Scheckter

Jody Scheckter

South Africa

Born: January 29, 1950, East London, South Africa

When Jody Scheckter won the Formula One World Championship in 1979, he became the first South African to win a world title. He joined the Formula One circuit in 1974, winning the British and Swedish Grand Prix. That year he placed third in World Championship rankings and was

named "Driver of the Year" by the British Guild of Motoring Writers.

In 1976 he again ranked third in the World Championships. The following year Scheckter was runner-up in his quest for the world title with triumphs in Argentina, Monaco, and Canada. In 1979, following wins in the Belgium, Monaco, and Italian Grand Prix, he captured the World Formula One Racing Car Championship.

Prior to entering the Grand Prix circuit, Scheckter was a prominent stock car racer in his native South Africa, graduating to Formula Ford and Formula Two racing in the early 1970s. In 1972 he won the American Formula 5000 Championship and was awarded South Africa's Springbok honors, his nation's highest sports commendation. He retired in 1980 at age thirty.

Sheila Van Damm

Great Britain

Born: January 17, 1922, Paddington, London

Died: August 23, 1987

Sheila Van Damm won fifty-six major auto races and was the leading women's competitor in motor rallying in the 1950s.

Her victories include the 1953 Coupe Des Dames at the Alpine Rally, the highest award for women in racing; the Ladies Prize victory in 1954 and 1955 European Touring Championships (with Anne Hall); and 1955 Monte Carlo Coupe des Dames.

She broke a class speed record for 2-3 liter cars in 1953 driving the prototype Sunbeam Alpine Sports car at an average of 120 mph in Belgium. At the 1963 Alpine Rally, she and Anne Hall won both Coupe des Dames and Coupe des Alps. At Monte Carlo in 1954, 1955, and 1956, Van Damm, Leslie Johnson, and Stirling Moss won the team prize.



Sheila Van Damm

BASEBALL



Morris "Moe" Berg

Morris "Moe" Berg

United States

Born: March 2, 1902, New York, New York

Died: May 29, 1972

A Major League Baseball catcher and shortstop with five teams between 1923 and 1939, Moe Berg was a solid albeit journeyman player, with a lifetime batting average of .243. He had a Columbia University law degree and several degrees from

Princeton related to language and linguistics. The source of his remarkable background on physics is unknown. Berg had the ability to speak in twelve languages, including Japanese, Spanish, Latin, German, and Portuguese.

It was the language credentials, combined with his baseball persona, that motivated the U.S. government in 1942 to persuade Berg to leave his coaching job with the Boston Red Sox and undertake a secret mission in South America. Following a successful trip, he accepted a position in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS, the World War II intelligence organization) and was assigned to the European theater of operations, specializing in scientific intelligence. The complete range of his activities may never be known, but his success was so important to the war effort that Berg was awarded the U.S. Medal of Freedom in October 1945, America's highest civilian honor, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Two months after receiving the medal he returned it, explaining he was "uncomfortable" with it.

Berg's first known taste of the cloak-and-dagger business occurred long before the war. In 1934 on a Major League Baseball goodwill trip to Japan with Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, and others, he was recruited by the U.S. government to acquire some seemingly harmless information. Using his nonplaying time and sightseeing tours, Berg photographed the industrial skyline and other landmarks of Tokyo. Eight years later his "VIP tourist" photographs served as the foundation for Gen. Jimmy Doolittle's renowned "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" 1942 raid.

After the December 7, 1941, sneak attack bombing of Pearl Harbor, Berg, who enjoyed considerable popularity with the Japanese sporting public, having made baseball-themed visits to the Far

East, offered to speak to the Japanese people in an effort to inspire the populace to demand that its warlords cease further outrages of war. The offer was accepted, and broadcasting arrangements were handled by the U.S. government.

In early 1942 Berg resigned as a coach with the Boston Red Sox and was induced by Nelson A. Rockefeller, then chief of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, to become a goodwill ambassador to Latin America. Berg's assignment was to be a morale builder for American troops stationed in South America and teach baseball to the locals—and get a firsthand feel for Germany's influence among the United States' Latin American neighbors. The six-month excursion by plane, train, jeep, and foot took him through twenty countries.

Upon his return to the United States, Berg was recruited by the OSS as a civilian operative. He was assigned to infiltrate European scientific circles in concert with Allied troop liberations of cities and hamlets from German occupation. Experiencing extraordinary success, he was given the top-secret task of learning whether or not Germany had developed an atomic bomb. When Berg was within seconds of assassinating Germany's top nuclear fission physicist, he learned that Germany did not have the devastating A-bomb.

Following World War II, Berg countered Soviet Union intelligence operatives, scouring Europe for prominent scientists to offer them a scientific haven in America.

Although the war had ended, the very private Moe Berg adhered to the no-longer-binding wartime code of secrecy regarding recollections of his spying escapades. Decades passed before Berg's accounts of his intelligence activities became public. Without commenting on specifics, government officials have referred to Berg as "a hero" and described the results of his efforts as "invaluable to our country."

It was Moe Berg, the athlete, who inspired a baseball scout in 1922 to coin the classic remark

"Good field, no hit." He began as a shortstop, but enjoyed most of his career behind the plate as a catcher. He played for the Brooklyn Dodgers (1923), Chicago White Sox (1926–30), Cleveland Indians (1931 and 1934), Washington Senators (1932 and 1934), and Boston Red Sox (1935–39). He also coached the Red Sox until 1942.



Harry "the Horse" Danning

Harry "the Horse" Danning

United States

Born: September 6, 1911, Los Angeles

Died: November 29, 2004

Harry "the Horse" Danning was a four-time Major League All-Star catcher for the New York Giants, 1933–42. He hit better than .300 three consecutive seasons (1938–40) and finished his career with a .285 batting average.

He did not become a starting player until 1937, midway into his fifth year with the Giants, and only because the everyday catcher was injured.

He hit .306 in 1938, his first full season, and was named to the National League All-Star Team. He batted .313 in 1939 and .300 in 1940, and was again selected to the NL's All Star Team. Danning made his fourth consecutive trip to the All-Star contest in 1941.

Behind the plate, the Horse caught three of the National League's premier pitchers: Carl Hubbell, Fred Fitzsimmons, and Hal Schumacher. At the start of the 1939 season, Giants manager Bill Terry said of the man he kept on the bench the better part of five seasons: "Danning will be the best catcher in the National League this year, possibly in baseball, and I include Gabby Hartnett and Bill Dickey."

After the 1942 season, Danning was drafted into three years of military service. When World War II ended he decided not to resume his baseball career.

He was dubbed "the Horse" by sportscaster Ted Husing during the 1936 World Series. Noting the hardworking manner of the Giants' substitute catcher, Husing borrowed "Harry the Horse" from one of storied journalist Damon Runyon's cast of offbeat characters.

Ike Danning, Harry's older brother, preceded him as a Major Leaguer. Also a catcher, Ike saw limited action with the American League's St. Louis Browns in 1928.

Barney Dreyfuss

United States

Born: February 23, 1865, Freiberg, Baden,
German Confederation

Died: February 5, 1932

Barney Dreyfuss owned the National League's Pittsburgh Pirates from 1900 to 1932 and created baseball's World Series. An innovator during professional baseball's tumultuous formative years, Dreyfuss built the first modern steel-frame triple-tier stadium, Forbes Field, in 1909.



Barney Dreyfuss

In 1897 Dreyfuss obtained co-ownership of the Louisville Colonels, then a Major League team in the National League. In late 1899 he acquired the Pittsburgh Pirates team, bringing with him from Louisville future Hall of Famers Honus Wagner, Rube Waddell, and Fred Clarke. During his thirty-two-year reign as president and general manager of the Pirates, Pittsburgh finished in the first division twenty-six times, winning six pennants—1901, 1902, 1903, 1909, 1925, 1927—and the World Series in 1909 and 1925.

Dreyfuss led the successful battle to obtain a commissioner for baseball. A visionary who rose above the petty disputes rampant in the sport at the turn of the century, Dreyfuss arranged the first World Series in 1903, when the Boston Pilgrims, champions of the upstart American League, accepted his challenge to meet the National League champion Pirates in an eight-game postseason

tournament. The Pirates lost, but the World Series became a permanent fixture in baseball.

Dreyfuss was also a pioneer in professional football, as co-owner and manager of the Pittsburgh Athletic Club, winners of the pro football championship in 1898, professional football's fourth organized season.

Sidney Gordon

United States

Born: August 13, 1917, Brooklyn, New York

Died: June 17, 1975

A thirteen-year Major League infielder-outfielder, Sid Gordon was a National League All-Star in 1948 and 1949, and a career .283 hitter. One of the consistent power-hitters of the postwar era, Gordon hit 30, 26, 27, 29, and 25 home runs in consecutive seasons (1948–52). During this period, his extra-base hits ranked him among the National League's top ten slugging averages.

Gordon's statistics include 202 career homers and four grand slams during the 1950 season. In 1,475 career games, Gordon had 1,415 hits.



Sidney Gordon

The Brooklyn-born third baseman-outfielder played his first full season in 1943 with the New York Giants, then joined the U.S. Coast Guard for the duration of World War II. He rejoined the Giants in 1946, was traded to the Boston Braves in 1949 and the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1954, and finished his career with the Giants in 1955.



Photograph © Tony Florez

Shawn Green

Shawn Green

United States

Born: November 10, 1972, Des Plaines, Illinois

Shawn Green is a two-time Major League All-Star who spent fifteen big league seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays (1993–99), Los Angeles Dodgers (2000–2004), Arizona Diamondbacks (2005–6), and New York Mets (2006–7). His career batting average was .282, with 328 home runs and 1,071 runs batted in.

To compare stats: Hall of Fame legend Hank Greenberg hit only 3 more career home runs, with 1,276 runs-batted-in (RBIs).

In various seasons, Green had more than 100 RBIs four times, scored 100 runs or more four times, hit 40 or more home runs three times (49, 42, and 42), and led the league in doubles, extra-base hits, and total bases.

Green set or tied various MLB records, including home runs in a game (4), most home runs in two consecutive games (5), and most total bases in a game (19).

He received both the Golden Glove (superior fielder) and Silver Slugger (best offensive player) Awards in 1999.

Green was one of only four active players with at least 300 home runs, 1,000 RBIs and runs scored, 400 career doubles, a .280 batting average, and 150 stolen bases (including 35 in 1998).

Henry Benjamin "Hank" Greenberg

United States

Born: January 1, 1911, New York, New York

Died: September 4, 1986

Hank Greenberg starred as the Detroit Tigers' first baseman-outfielder from 1933 to 1946 (in military service 1941–45), finishing his active career in 1947 with the Pittsburgh Pirates. His bronze plaque dedicated in 1956 at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York, begins, "One of baseball's greatest right-handed hitters."

Greenberg was the American League's Most Valuable Player in 1935 and 1940. The 1935 MVP marked the first time national sportswriters elected a player by unanimous vote. He won the American League home run championship four times—1935 (tied), 1938, 1940, 1946—hitting 331 career Major League homers, including 11 grand slams.



Henry Benjamin "Hank" Greenberg

He holds the Major League single season record of most games with two or more home runs in a game—11, in 1938; and that same year he tied two Major League single season marks—11, most home runs by a right-handed batter, 58. (Until the mid-1960s, only Roger Maris, Babe Ruth, and Jimmie Foxx hit as many or more.) And he hit four homers on consecutive appearances in two games. Greenberg played in four World Series, batting .318, hitting 5 home runs, and 22 RBIs in 23 games.

"Hammerin Hank" had a lifetime batting average of .313 and 1,276 career RBIs, including an American League-leading 139 in 1934, 170 in 1935, 183 in 1937, 150 in 1940, and 127 in 1946. Seven times he drove in more than 100 runs in a season. His statistics are all the more startling when compared with the diminished number of games played in his career, 1,394.

Greenberg played only twelve games in 1936, the year following his first Most Valuable Player

Award season, because of a broken wrist. And he was the first American League player to register for military service only nineteen games into the 1941 season, the year following his second MVP year. "I made up my mind to go when I was called. My country comes first."

After most of the 1941 season, however, he was honorably discharged when Congress released men age twenty-eight years and older from service, being released on December 5, 1941, two days before Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. Five days later, Greenberg reenlisted and volunteered to serve in the Army Air Force. By 1944 he had been promoted to the rank of captain and served in the China-Burma-India theater.

Greenberg was discharged from the military in June 1945. Two weeks later he rejoined the Tigers and helped lead them to the American League pennant and World Series victory over the Chicago Cubs.

Already en route to becoming a baseball legend during his second big league season in 1934—he would finish the year with a .339 batting average, 139 RBIs, and lead the League in doubles—Greenberg became an indelible signature in both Jewish and baseball folklore. With the Jewish New Year (Rosh Hashanah) approaching and the Tigers moving closer to their first American League pennant in twenty-five years, fans, rabbis, and the media were caught up in a controversy concerning whether or not Greenberg should play in a game scheduled on Rosh Hashanah. After considerable soul-searching, Greenberg played on the holiday, hitting two home runs in a Detroit victory. However, there was also a crucial game scheduled a week later on Yom Kippur—the holiest day of the Jewish year. Greenberg did not play in that game, opting to spend the holy day in synagogue. The Tigers lost.

Nonetheless, Detroit won the pennant, and Greenberg won the respect of his peers, the fans of baseball, and the general public who followed his front-page story in the media. The celebrated

American poet Edgar Guest was moved to write "Speaking of Greenberg" (in part):

The Irish didn't like it when they heard of
Greenberg's fame
For they thought a good first baseman should
possess an Irish name;
And the Murphys and Mulrooneys said they
never dreamed they'd see
A Jewish boy from Bronxville out where
Casey used to be.
In the early days of April not a Dugan tipped
his hat
Or prayed to see a "double" when Hank
Greenberg came to bat.
In July the Irish wondered where he'd ever
learned to play.
"He makes me think of Casey!" Old Man
Murphy dared to say;
And with fifty-seven doubles and a score of
homers made
The respect they had for Greenberg was
being openly displayed.
But on the Jewish New Year when Hank
Greenberg came to bat
And made two home runs off Pitcher
Rhodes—they cheered like mad for that.
Came Yom Kippur—holy fast day world-wide
over to the Jew—
And Hank Greenberg to his teaching and the
old tradition true
Spent the day among his people and he didn't
come to play.
Said Murphy to Mulrooney, "We shall lose
the game today!
We shall miss him on the infield and shall
miss him at the bat,
But he's true to his religion—and I honor him
for that!"

Greenberg played on four consecutive All-Star teams, 1937–40. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1956.

Kenneth Holtzman

United States

Born: November 3, 1945, St. Louis, Missouri

Left-hander Ken Holtzman pitched fifteen seasons in Major League Baseball, 1965–79, with the Chicago Cubs, Baltimore Orioles, New York Yankees, and Oakland A's, winning 174 games. In a career that included a partial season because of military service (he only pitched on weekends), and several "limited" seasons attributed to personal conflicts with management, Holtzman nonetheless pitched 215 innings or more in each of eight big league seasons, throwing 2,867 innings, with a 3.49 career earned run average.

In a four-year period with the Oakland A's, Holtzman never won fewer than eighteen games a year, winning seventy-seven regular season games, plus two League Championship Series and four World Series contests. After he had twenty-one



Kenneth Holtzman

victories in 1973, *Sporting News* named him "Left-handed Pitcher of the Year." He was on the American League All-Star team in 1972 and 1973.

Holtzman pitched two Major League no-hit games: the first in 1969, beating the Atlanta Braves 3–0, and the second in 1971, defeating the Cincinnati Reds 1–0. Both were with the Chicago Cubs. His career pitching record was 174 wins and 150 losses, with 1,601 strikeouts.

An event that some might call "sporting poetry" occurred during the closing days of the 1966 baseball season—Ken Holtzman's first full Major League season and Los Angeles Dodgers ace Sandy Koufax's last. Facing each other the day following Yom Kippur at Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago Cubs, Koufax, the veteran Jewish left-hander limited the Cubs to only four hits. But Holtzman threw a no-hitter against Los Angeles for seven innings, finishing with a two-hitter and a 2–1 victory. Although Koufax went on to pitch in the World Series, his head-to-head against Holtzman was his last regular season game.

Sanford "Sandy" Koufax

United States

Born: December 30, 1935, Brooklyn, New York

Sandy Koufax was the most dominant pitcher of his time. He played his entire career for the Dodgers—in Brooklyn and Los Angeles—from 1955 to 1966. He was the first pitcher in Major League Baseball to hurl four no-hit games, including a perfect game in 1965.

The left-hander won the Cy Young Award (baseball's highest pitching honor) three times in four years (1963, 1965, 1966), won the ERA (earned run average) title five consecutive seasons (1962–66), won twenty or more games three times, and was National League MVP in 1963. He had eleven shutouts in 1963 and tossed forty career shutouts.

The Dodger pitching legend was the Major League strikeout leader four times, including a



Sanford "Sandy" Koufax

record 382 strikeouts in 1965. His career strikeouts numbered 2,396, and in three seasons he fanned 300 or more batters. In twelve Major League seasons, Koufax won 165 games, while losing only 87. More remarkably, in his five final seasons his win-loss record was 111-34. Over the span of 2,324.1 career innings, Koufax's ERA was a lifetime 2.76.

In his final year, Sandy Koufax was professional baseball's highest salaried player, as he led his Dodgers to the World Series with a 27-9 record and 1.73 ERA.

The Brooklyn Dodgers signed Koufax to a "bonus contract" in 1955 (a \$14,000 bonus and \$6,000 salary), following his freshman year at the University of Cincinnati, which he attended on a basketball scholarship. But Sandy never spent a day in the minor leagues. Under the rules of the period, teams signing players to bonus contracts were required to keep "bonus babies" on their Major League roster for the player's first two big league seasons. Consequently, with Brook-

lyn immersed in pennant races in 1955 (World Series champions) and 1956 (National League pennant winners), the team could ill afford to allow a rookie many opportunities to develop at the Major League level. So Sandy saw little action during his first two seasons with the Dodgers, tossing only 42 innings in his rookie season and 59 innings the following year.

A severe arm injury caused his early retirement following the 1966 season. In 1972 Koufax became the youngest player ever elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.



Mike Lieberthal

Mike Lieberthal

United States

Born: January 18, 1972, Glendale, California

A two-time Major League Baseball All-Star, Mike Lieberthal had a fourteen-year MLB career, 1994-2007. Thirteen of those years were with the Phil-

adelphia Phillies, and a final season was with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Drafted in the first round of the 1990 MLB draft by the Phillies, he enjoyed a career year in 1999, batting .310, with 31 home runs and 96 RBIs. That same year he won a Gold Glove Award (defense) with a .997 fielding average. Lieberthal compiled a career batting average of .274, with 150 home runs and 610 runs batted in.

After he injured his leg in 2001 and again in 2002, he was awarded the Sporting News National League Comeback Player of the Year, the first catcher to receive the honor. When he left the Phillies in 2006, he was his team's all-time catching leader in home runs, RBIs, and games caught (1,138).

Marvin Miller

United States

Born: April 14, 1917, Brooklyn, New York

Died: November 27, 2012

Marvin Miller is the labor negotiator who changed the character of elite sports. The first executive director of Major League Baseball's Players Association from 1966 to 1981 and again from 1982 to 1984, Miller presided over the suspension of baseball's "reserve clause" (that bound players to the team that held their contract), the introduction of "salary arbitration" in player-management disputes, and the birth of "free agency" (allowing

a player to seek the best offer for his services). The MLBPA won \$20 million in salary and pension benefits in Miller's first six years. By the time Miller stepped down as executive director, players' salaries averaged more than \$500,000 per season!

Miller negotiated the MLBPA's first five labor contracts and successfully led players in the strikes of 1972 (thirteen days) and 1981 (fifty days). His sixteen years as MLBPA executive director had a direct and irrevocable influence on baseball and drew the blueprint for significant changes in all professional and amateur sports.

Wrote Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Red Smith: "When you speak of Babe Ruth, he is one of the two men, in my opinion, who changed baseball the most. The second most influential man in the history of baseball is Marvin Miller."

Miller was elected to the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in December 2019.

Miller spent the better part of his adult life in labor management. Prior to his involvement with baseball, he was associated with the United Steelworkers of America for sixteen years in various positions, including its chief economist and associate director of research.

Charles "Buddy" Myer

United States

Born: March 16, 1904, Ellisville, Mississippi

Died: October 31, 1974

Buddy Myer won the American League batting Championship in 1935 with a .349 average. A Major League shortstop and second baseman from 1925 to 1941 with the Washington Senators and Boston Red Sox, he owned a .303 lifetime batting average.

Myer was with the Senators for fifteen of his seventeen big league seasons, spending 1927–28 with the Red Sox. He hit .300 or more nine times during his career, with his lowest full-season average .279. In 1928, during his stint with Boston,



Marvin Miller, holding 2001 U.S.HOF award



Charles "Buddy" Myer

Meyer won the American League base-stealing title with thirty thefts.

The Senators reacquired Myer for the 1929 season in a trade for five players, converting him from a shortstop to the second base position. In 1935 he set the American League double play record for second basemen with 138 twin killings. That year proved to be his banner season, as he finished fourth in AL Most Valuable Player balloting, behind winner Hank Greenberg.

Myer was named to the annual All-Star Game in 1935 and 1938. His career stats include 2,131 hits in 1,923 games, 353 doubles, 130 triples, 156 stolen bases, and, for a batter who generally hit at the top of the lineup, 850 RBIs.

Lipman "Lip" Pike

United States

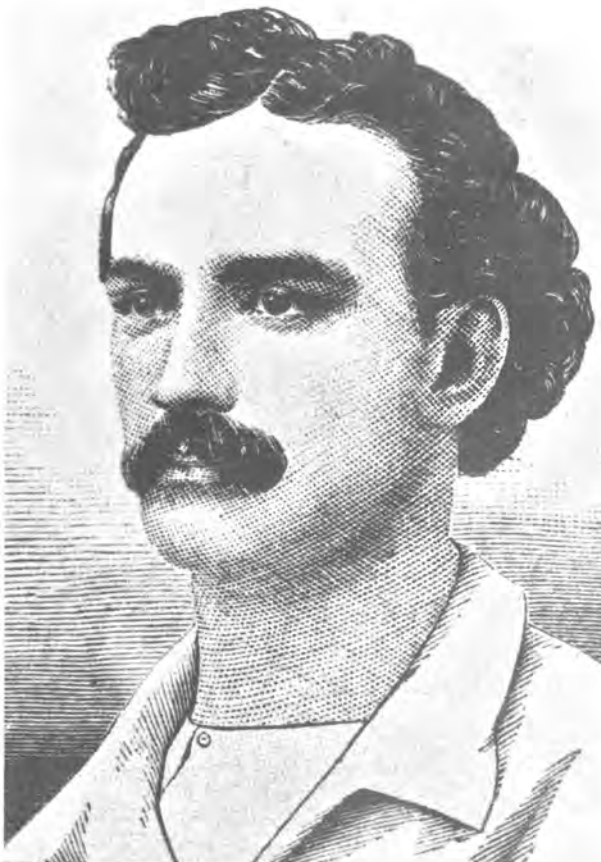
Born: May 25, 1845, New York, New York

Died: October 10, 1893

By accepting \$20 a week to play third base for the Philadelphia Athletics in 1866, Lip Pike became baseball's first professional player. Other top players soon followed suit, and within three years the first all-pro team was born in Cincinnati.

In 1871 the National Association—the first professional league—was founded, and Pike played and managed the NA Troy Haymakers, batting .351. His five-year NA batting average was .321. From 1875 to 1881 his five-season National League average was .306, with 5 home runs, 36 doubles, 16 triples, and 88 RBIs.

Pike was also baseball's first home run champion. Although the exact number of his round-trippers is not known, it is recorded that he hit



Lipman "Lip" Pike

six homers in one game in July 1866. Primarily an outfielder, Pike played every position and batted and threw left-handed.

His career spanned 1865–87, playing, playing and managing, or managing numerous teams in six leagues. Among his teams were the Brooklyn Atlantics, Philadelphia Athletics, Lord Baltimores, Troy Haymakers, St. Louis Brown Stockings, Cincinnati Red Stockings, Hartford Nutmegs, and the original New York Mets.

Pike's athletic career was not confined to baseball. Known for his remarkable speed, he ran competitively, often running for cash purses in challenge races. He once raced and beat a famous trotting horse named Clarence in a 100-yard sprint (in 10 seconds flat), winning a \$250 prize.

Jimmie Reese (James Hymie Solomon)

United States

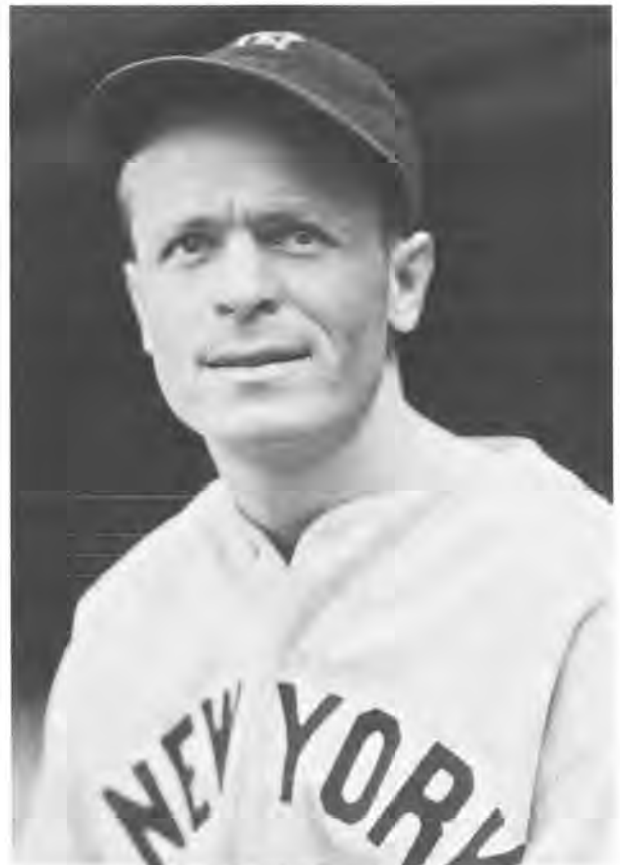
Born: October 1, 1901, New York, New York

Died: July 13, 1994

Jimmy Reese was involved in professional baseball for seventy-eight years. In 1973 he became a coach for Major League Baseball's California Angels, and he remained active with the American League team until his death at age ninety-two.

Reese was hired as a batboy for the original Los Angeles Angels in 1917, a job he held until 1923. That year he became a player with the minor league Oakland Oaks, where he toiled until 1929, when he was sold to the big league New York Yankees.

Babe Ruth's roommate with the Yankees in 1930 and 1931, Reese was one of a long line of Jewish prospects the Bronx Bombers hoped would develop into a hometown hero. And he responded by hitting .336 that first year. But playing behind star second baseman and future Hall of Famer Tony Lazzeri presented little opportunity and made him good trade material. So Reese was sold to the St. Louis Cardinals in 1932, where again it



Jimmie Reese (James Hymie Solomon)

was his fate to play behind another future Hall of Fame second baseman, Frankie Frisch. He remained in the big leagues only three seasons, hitting a respectable .278 in 742 at-bats.

Reese would continue to play and manage in the minor leagues until entering the army in World War II. He then served as a scout, coach, or manager for seven Minor League clubs before joining the Angels in 1973.

Al "Flip" Rosen

United States

Born: February 29, 1924, Spartanburg, South Carolina

Died: March 13, 2015

In 1953 the Cleveland Indians' Al Rosen was Major League Baseball's first unanimous selection as Most Valuable Player since Hank Greenberg in

1935. Having played partial seasons from 1947 through 1949, Rosen became the Indians' full-time third baseman in 1950 and proceeded to knock in 100 or more runs for five consecutive seasons (1950–54). He led the American League in runs batted in 1952 (105) and 1953 (145).

Rosen was American League home run champion twice. In 1950, which is considered his rookie season, he hammered thirty-seven round-trippers and became the first AL rookie to win the home run title. He again captured the long ball championship in 1953 with forty-three homers—just missing the coveted Triple Crown when his .336 batting average fell .001 short of winning the American League batting title. Rosen led the American League in total bases in 1952 and 1953, as well as slugging percentage in 1953. Four consecutive times he was elected to the Major League All-Star Game (1952–55), clubbing two home runs and five RBIs in the 1954 contest.

Persistent injuries forced Rosen's premature retirement following the 1956 season. He soon moved to the management side of baseball, rising to general manager of the San Francisco Giants, Houston Astros, and New York Yankees. He was the first to win both the Most Valuable Player Award (1953) and Executive of the Year (1988) with the Giants.



Al "Flip" Rosen



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Al Schacht

Al Schacht

United States

Born: November 11, 1892, Bronx, New York

Died: July 14, 1984

Onetime Washington Senators pitcher Al Schacht was known as "the Clown Prince of Baseball." He earned fourteen victories and two saves as a member of the Senators' 1919–21 pitching staff before suffering a career-ending knee injury during his third big league season. This injury forced him to move from the Washington Senators' lineup to the team's third base coaches' box.

Presumably bored with the limited role of a baseline coach, he created a unique "coaches' box" comedy routine that became a major attendance attraction wherever the Senators played. By 1934 Schacht's antics had become so popular that he retired from coaching and took his comedy act full-time to Major and Minor League ballparks throughout the baseball world.

After nearly fifty years as the sport's goodwill ambassador, his resume included performances at twenty-seven World Series and eighteen All-Star Games. In addition, from the late 1930s through the mid-1950s, Schacht averaged 130 shows per year at Major League and Minor League ballparks—as well as more than 300 wartime appearances for soldiers and hospitals in Europe, the South Pacific, and Korea.



Allan "Bud" Selig

Allan "Bud" Selig

United States

Born: July 30, 1934, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Bud Selig was the ninth commissioner of Major League Baseball. Appointed "acting commissioner" in 1992, he was elected full-time commissioner in 1998, and he continued to serve until completion of the 2014 season.

Selig had been owner and president of the Milwaukee Brewers National League franchise at the

time of his ascendance to the commissioner's office, and he had overseen baseball's development into the twenty-first century. Among changes that took place during his twenty-plus years of leadership are the introduction of the "wild card" for AL and NL playoffs, the introduction of interleague play (1997), the addition of two expansion teams in 1998 (Tampa Bay and Arizona), the transfer of the Montreal franchise to Washington DC (2004), conditional instant replay, and the merging of the National and American Leagues under the Office of the Commissioner.

Selig instituted a modern concept of revenue sharing among MLB teams, overseeing a 400 percent increase of MLB revenues and annual record-breaking attendances. During his term of service, nineteen MLB cities have built new stadiums. And he has presided over controversial player issues concerning performance enhancing drugs and instituted rule changes and penalties to govern that situation.

Harry Simmons

Canada/United States

Born: September 29, 1907, New York, New York

Died: January 14, 1998

Harry Simmons was Major League Baseball's schedule maker for twenty years, as well as MLB's first official historian and its top authority on rules of the game. He wrote the weekly *Saturday Evening Post* magazine column "So You Think You Know Baseball" from 1949 to 1961. The *Post* column provided the title of his best-selling book. And for many years he wrote the baseball portion of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

Simmons worked for the International Baseball League (IBL) from 1945 to 1966, much of the time headquartered in Montreal. Following that assignment, he was an executive in MLB's New York, New York Commissioner's office until his retirement in 1982.



Harry Simmons

In 1979 MLB executives named Simmons “King of Baseball.” In 1990 the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) recognized his contributions to the game. In 2002 Simmons was inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame.

Steve Stone

United States

Born: July 14, 1947, Euclid, Ohio

Baltimore Orioles pitcher Steve Stone received Major League Baseball’s American League Cy Young Award in 1980. That “career” season he had a 25-7 win-loss record and a run of fourteen straight victories. The Baltimore right-hander was the American League’s 1980 All-Star Game starting pitcher, and he retired all nine batters he faced. *The Sporting News* named him 1980 “American League Pitcher of the Year.”

Stone was drafted out of Kent State University by the San Francisco Giants in the fourth round of the 1969 amateur draft. His KSU battery mate was future New York Yankee legend Thurman Munson.

Stone made his Major League debut with the Giants in April 1971. Although he was a flame-

throwing rookie with San Francisco, persistent arm trouble turned him into a control pitcher as his career progressed.

In what began as a promising career, Stone was traded to the Chicago White Sox following his first two big league seasons with the Giants. After a year on Chicago’s Southside, the Sox traded him to the Chicago Cubs. Following three seasons with the Northsiders, Stone became a free agent and returned to the White Sox for another two years. In 1979 he signed a free agent deal with Baltimore, where he finished his career.

Since 1935, only two American League pitchers have won more games than Stone did in 1980. The 1980 Cy Young Award season gave notice that he had finally hit his stride as a big league hurler. But severe arm trouble put him on the disabled list less than two months into the following year’s schedule, and before the end of the 1981 season his injury forced him to retire. He registered a 107-93



Steve Stone



Albert Von Tilzer

win-loss record and 3.97 ERA during his eleven injury-plagued Major League seasons.

In 1983 Stone was back with the Cubs, this time in the TV broadcast booth, where he wrapped twenty-four on-air seasons in 2004, serving as color commentator alongside play-by-play personality Harry Caray and, following Caray's death, his grandson Chip Caray. After leaving the Cubs, Stone took various on-air positions until 2008 when he was named color commentator for the Chicago White Sox radio broadcasts.

Albert Von Tilzer

United States

Born: March 28, 1878, Indianapolis, Indiana

Died: October 1, 1956

In 1908 Tin Pan Alley songwriter Albert Von Tilzer wrote the American baseball anthem "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" (lyricist Jack Norworth). This has been the preamble played at every Major League ballgame (and wherever baseball is played) for more than a century.

In 2008 the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp honoring the song and its writers. Von Tilzer, a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame, also wrote such universal hits as "Put Your Arm around Me Honey," "Life Is Just a Bowl of Cherries," "You're the Cream in My Coffee," "Sunny Side Up," and "I'll Be with You in Apple Blossom Time."

Von Tilzer was a pseudonym for the family name, Gumm. Professionally Albert took his mother's maiden name and added Von for a turn-of-the-nineteenth-century "upper-crust" cache.

Kevin Youkilis

United States

Born: March 15, 1979, Cincinnati, Ohio

Kevin Youkilis was a key figure on the fabled Boston Red Sox team that won the 2004 World Series, breaking baseball's infamous "curse of the Bambino" that haunted the American League team.

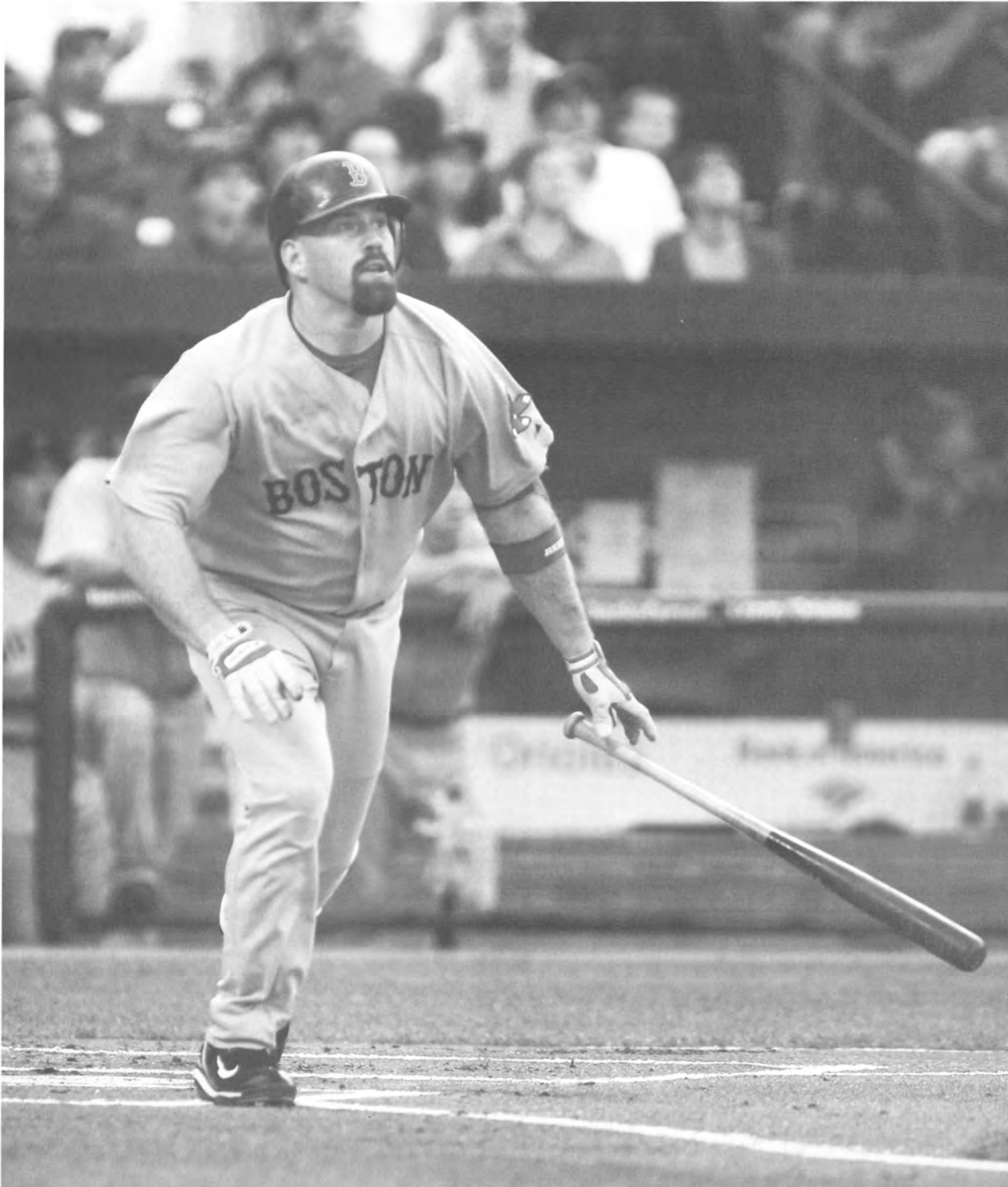
The three-time American League All-Star—2008, 2009, and 2011—was also a major force in the Red Sox 2007 World Series victory. He registered 14 hits and a .500 batting average in the American League championship series that preceded the Series.

Youkilis's 1,000 fielding average (2,002 chances without an error) earned him the 2007 AL Gold Glove Award for best defensive first baseman. His

238 errorless games over two seasons (2007–8) set the Major League record for most consecutive games at first base without a miscue.

Youkilis won the 2008 American League Hank Aaron Award presented annually to the best hitter

in each league. Before injuries forced him to retire, Youkilis earned a .281 career batting average, with 150 home runs and 618 RBIs. Nine of his playing years were with the Red Sox and the final two with the New York Yankees and Chicago White Sox.



Kevin Youkilis

BASKETBALL



Arnold "Red" Auerbach

Arnold "Red" Auerbach

United States

Born: September 20, 1917, Brooklyn, New York

Died: October 28, 2006

When he was head coach of the National Basketball Association's Boston Celtics, 1950–66, Red Auerbach's team's won nine World Championships, eight in succession, nine within ten years, and eleven division titles. They won 1,037 and lost 548.

While other NBA coaches in contemporary times have produced dominating franchises, Auerbach is considered the most successful professional basketball coach of all time. He also coached the Basketball Association of America's (BAA) Washington Capitols, 1946–49, and

the NBA's Tri-Cities, 1949–50. (The BAA and NBA merged in 1949.) His 1946–47 and 1948–49 Caps teams won division titles.

When he was general manager of the Celtics, the Boston team won NBA titles in 1968, 1969, 1974, 1976, and 1981. In 1980 he was named NBA Executive of the Year.

Red has received practically every honor that can be bestowed on a professional basketball coach and executive, including election to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1968. In 1971 during the NBA's twenty-fifth anniversary commemoration, he was named the "Silver Anniversary Coach," signifying the league's honor as best coach of its first quarter century.

Auerbach's colorful trademark was the lighting up of a long cigar on the team bench when he was certain his Celtics had a game "in the win column"—while the contest was still being played. He wrote the highly regarded book *Basketball for the Player, the Fan, and the Coach*.

Sam Balter

United States

Born: October 15, 1909, Detroit, Michigan

Died: April 8, 1998

A UCLA All-America in 1929, Sam Balter was a member of the U.S. gold medal basketball team in 1936. The Berlin Olympics of 1936 marked the entry of basketball as an Olympic medal sport, and Balter was one of the "starting five" on the national champion Universal Pictures AAU team that was selected to represent the United States.

Following the Olympics, Balter became a sports-caster, and in 1938 he broadcast (on the Mutual Network) the first U.S. coast-to-coast radio sports



Sam Balter

commentary. He would go on to become the top sports broadcaster on the West Coast.

From 1945 to 1952 Balter was “the voice of UCLA Bruins” football and basketball radio sportscasts. He did play-by-play for the Hollywood Stars and Los Angeles Angels (Pacific Coast League) baseball teams, and he was the radio voice of the Los Angeles Stars of the American Basketball Association. In 1942 he did baseball play-by-play for the Cincinnati Reds.

For eighteen years Balter hosted the popular *One for the Book* feature sports commentary on the Mutual Network. And from 1955 to 1964 he was a sports columnist for the *Los Angeles Herald-Express*.

Balter received numerous professional honors, among them the Southern California Broadcasters Hall of Fame, UCLA Athletic Hall of Fame, Top Sportscaster of the Year award presented by the *Los Angeles Times*, and “Nations #1 Sportscaster” designation by *Variety* in 1953. He was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1970 and is also honored by Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Hall of Fame.

Louis Bender

United States

Born: March 8, 1910, New York, New York

Died: September 10, 2009

Columbia University’s Lou Bender was an All-America 1930 and 1932 and All Ivy League 1930, 1931, and 1932. He was the Ivy League’s top scorer in 1930 and 1931 and one of the most celebrated major college stars of his era.

Bender led his Columbia Lions to Ivy League championships in 1930 and 1931. He went on to play professionally for the Boston Celtics (1934–35), Union City Reds (1936–37), Boston Trojans (1938–40), and New York Whirlwinds (1941).

During Bender’s playing era, statistics were generally limited to points scored and personal fouls. Pro leagues were scattered, and there were no true national or international leagues or tournaments. Ivy League and East Coast collegiate basketball was considered “as good as it gets.”



Louis Bender



Senda Berenson

Senda Berenson

United States

Born: March 19, 1868, Vilna, Lithuania

Died: February 16, 1954

The "Mother of Women's Basketball," Senda Berenson introduced women's basketball in the United States. She organized the first women's game at Smith College on March 22, 1893.

From 1892 to 1911 Berenson was the first director of physical education at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. In 1901 she published the *Basketball Guide for Women*, the first book of rules for women's basketball.

Berenson held her position at Smith for nineteen years and served as chair of the U.S. Women's Basketball Committee from 1905 through 1917. In 1987 she was one of the first three women inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame.

Harry Boykoff

United States

Born: July 7, 1922, Brooklyn, New York

Died: February 20, 2001

St. John's University's Harry Boykoff was the first big-man superstar in college basketball, entering the sport one year prior to DePaul's eventual 6-foot-10 legend George Mikan.

The gangly 6-foot-9 Boykoff was a consensus All-American for three varsity seasons under celebrated coach Joe Lapchick. As a sophomore in 1942-43, Boykoff led the St. John's Redmen to a 21-3 record, the National Invitational Tournament (NIT) championship, and the tourney's MVP award for himself. The NIT was basketball's major postseason competition of the era, college or professional. In a game against rival St. Joseph's, he scored 45 points, setting a new Madison Square Garden record.

Soon after, Boykoff enlisted in the army and spent the next couple of years as a World War II



Harry Boykoff

field artillery instructor. He returned to St. John's following the war, led the Redmen to 1946 and 1947 NITs, and registered 54 points against a 1947 opponent, setting another Madison Square Garden scoring record.

In the space of a few years, Boykoff played a couple of seasons of pro ball with the Toledo Jeeps and Waterloo Hawks of the NBL (National Basketball League), which merged with the rival BAA (Basketball Association of America), which was absorbed by the new National Basketball Association (NBA). Boykoff spent the 1950–51 season splitting time with the NBA's Boston Celtics and Tri-Cities Blackhawks franchises before retiring.

He was such a prolific shot blocker at St. John's, Boykoff's talent prompted creation of the original goaltending rule (1944), which disallowed interference of a shot on its downward flight.

Tal Brody

Israel

Born: August 30, 1943, Trenton, New Jersey

Tal Brody is Israel's first modern-day sports hero. A University of Illinois All-American in 1965, Brody joined the Maccabi-Tel Aviv team after leading his U.S. team to a gold medal in the 1965 Maccabiah Games.

In 1967 he was named Israel's Sportsman of the Year after leading the Maccabi-Tel Aviv team to a second place finish in the European Cup Basketball championships. In 1969 he took Israel to its first Maccabiah Games basketball gold medal, and in 1970 he officially made Aliyah.

In what was then Israel's greatest international sporting achievement, Brody led his 1977 Maccabi team to the European Cup Championship. In Israel's quest for the title, competition on the court needed to occasionally surmount political intrigue. At the height of the Cold War and a Soviet boycott of Israel, the Middle East champions were matched against CSKA Moscow (Red



Tal Brody lofting Israel's 1977 European Championship Cup.

Army team), champions of the Soviet Union and winners of the four previous European Cups. The Soviets refused to play their semifinal match versus Maccabi in Tel Aviv and would not allow the Israelis to come to Moscow. Virton, Belgium, was selected as a neutral site, but the location did not help the Bolsheviks. Brody's Maccabi team triumphed 91–79.

The championship contest against Italy's Mobil Girgi was held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, also a communist country at the time. The El Al plane that delivered Maccabi-Tel Aviv to the event was the

first Israeli plane allowed to land in the country. "The little team that could" won the tournament of twenty-three national champion teams by defeating Italy's best, 78-77, to capture the European title.

During his playing career, Brody's Maccabi-Tel Aviv teams won ten Israeli Championships and six Israeli State Cups.

At the University of Illinois, the 6-foot-1½-inch guard won All Academic honors in 1965. He was the thirteenth player picked in the NBA draft by the Baltimore Bullets (the Bullets' number two pick), but opted to return to UI for his master's degree. That summer he was selected to the U.S. Maccabiah team and traveled to Israel for the first time. One year later, he accepted an offer by Maccabi-Tel Aviv to play a season with the Israeli team.

In 1968 Brody was drafted into the U.S. army, where he served primarily on the All-Army and All-Armed Forces teams. His Armed Forces team finished third in the World Championships in Belgrade.

In 1979 he was awarded the Israel Prize, the country's highest civilian honor.

Lawrence Brown

United States

Born: September 14, 1940, Brooklyn, New York

A University of North Carolina basketball star from 1961 to 1963, Larry Brown won an Olympic gold medal in 1964 as a member of the champion U.S. Basketball Team.

Named to the 1963 All-Atlantic Coast Conference team and drafted by Baltimore of the National Basketball Association (NBA), Brown opted to play for Goodyear's (Akron, Ohio) AAU team, winning the Most Valuable Player Award in the 1964 Amateur Athletic Union Tournament.

Brown played five seasons in the American Basketball Association (ABA)—three times an All-Star guard—with New Orleans, Oakland, Washington, Virginia, and Denver, averaging 11.3 points per



Lawrence Brown

game. He led the ABA in assists and had been the All-Star Game's most valuable player as a point guard for the Oakland Oaks.

Brown turned to coaching in 1972, winning the ABA Championship with the Carolina Cougars in his first season. He won his second ABA crown at the helm of the Denver Nuggets in 1974-75 and was named the league's Coach of the Year. The Brown-led Nuggets won their Division title in 1975-76 (final season of the ABA).

He continued as coach of the Denver franchise when it joined the NBA for the 1976-77 season, winning two Division titles in three seasons. At the beginning of February during the 1978-79 season, Brown resigned as Nuggets coach.

Less than two months later, he accepted the head coaching position at UCLA. In his first collegiate coaching season, Brown led the Bruins to the NCAA Final Four, losing to Louisville in the 1980 championship game. His No. 3 nationally ranked UCLA team again qualified for the NCAA Tournament the following year, but enjoyed less success, prompting him to resign.

Later that year, Brown was back coaching in the NBA, taking over the head-coaching job of the New Jersey Nets. The Nets were an Eastern Division last place team before Brown took the helm, but he led them to the playoffs in his first two full seasons. Under Brown, the Nets were 91-69 from 1981 to 1983, but he opted to sign on for the top coaching job at the University of Kansas for the season that followed.

Between 1984 and 1988 the Brown-led Kansas Jayhawks enjoyed a 129-44 record and captured the NCAA Tournament championship in 1988, American college basketball's top prize.

But Brown decided to return to the NBA, and from 1988 to 1992, he coached the San Antonio Spurs to the playoffs in the last two of three full seasons. Nonetheless, holding a 21-17 win-loss record, he left the Spurs thirty-eight games into the 1991-92 season (his fourth) and took over the Los Angeles Clippers with thirty-five games left in the same season. The Clippers finished the NBA season with 23 wins and 12 losses and did something the franchise had not done for years—they made the playoffs. Again, the following season, the Los Angeles team made the playoffs, this time with a 41-41 win-loss record. However, at season's end, with two years left on his contract, Brown resigned as Clippers coach.

He next led the Philadelphia 76ers for six seasons, coaching them to the NBA playoffs five consecutive years (1997-2002). He coached Philadelphia into the NBA finals in 2001 and was named NBA Coach of the Year. The following season, his last in Philadelphia, Brown was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

When the NBA's 2003-4 season launched, Larry Brown was at the helm of the Central Division's Detroit Pistons, the same NBA franchise coached by brother Herb Brown from 1975 to 1978. Larry promptly accomplished the improbable—he coached his underdog Pistons to the NBA championship over the highly favored Los Angeles Lakers. By leading the Pistons to the playoffs, Brown became the first coach in NBA history to guide seven franchises into the annual postseason.

He coached the NBA's New York Knicks from 2005 to 2006, and the Charlotte Bobcats (Hornets) from 2008 to 2010. From 2012 to 2016 he coached Southern Methodist University basketball to a record of 94-39.

Over thirty-one professional seasons (four ABA), Coach Brown's teams compiled a 2,338-1327 regular season win-loss record, plus 120-115 postseason.

In preparation for the 2004 Olympic Games, Brown was appointed head coach of the U.S. Men's Senior Basketball Team, leading it to victory at the 2003 FIBA Americas Olympic Qualifying Tournament in Puerto Rico. In the summer of 2004, he coached the U.S. Olympic Team to a bronze medal at the games in Athens.

Brown was a member of the 1961 U.S. gold medal Maccabiah basketball team.

William Davidson

United States

Born: December 5, 1922, Detroit, Michigan

Died: March 13, 2009

Bill Davidson was one of professional sports' most successful team owners. He became the majority owner of the National Basketball League's Detroit Pistons in July 1974, owned the WNBA's Detroit Shock, and owned the National Hockey League's Tampa Bay Lightning. He owned both the teams and the arenas where they played. The Lightning and Pistons won NHL's Stanley Cup and the NBA championship eight days apart in June 2004. The



William Davidson

Pistons also won NBA World Championships in 1989 and 1990.

When the Shock won the WNBA title in 2004, it marked the first time in sports history that an owner won championships in three professional leagues within one year. The Shock won WNBA titles again in 2006 and 2008. At various times, Davidson was also co-owner of the Detroit Fury of the Arena Football League and sole owner of the Detroit Vipers of the International Hockey League.

Davidson and NBA commissioner David Stern were key figures in ushering the NBA into the modern and lucrative era. He spent lavishly on his franchises, building the state-of-the-art Palace of Auburn Hills (basketball stadium) in 1988 with \$90 million of his own money—making him the first team owner to totally finance his own arena. He also built a state-of-the-art practice facility for his Pistons and Shock and was the first to purchase a team airplane. Davidson was the first team owner to encourage Commissioner Stern to consider a global approach to marketing the NBA.

Bill Davidson was elected to the NBA Naismith Hall of Fame in 2008. When he died in March 2009, his Pistons were valued at \$430 million. Thirty-five years earlier, he had bought the franchise from its original owner for \$6 million.

Max Friedman

United States

Born: July 12, 1889, New York, New York

Died: January 1, 1986

Max Friedman is the “other half” of the “Heavenly Twins,” the title bestowed upon him and New York Whirlwinds playing partner Barney Sedran (also an IJSHOF honoree). While some consider the Whirlwinds, featuring the “Twins” and Nat Holman, one of the greatest professional basketball teams of all time, few will disagree that they were the most dominant team of the early 1920s.

Friedman turned professional at age sixteen. Standing a shade under 5-foot-8 and weighing 128 pounds, he was a defensive star and team leader in the infant days of pro basketball. Graduating the Hebrew Technical Institute in 1908, he played with a seemingly infinite number of teams, playing and/or coaching in every pro league in the eastern United States, occasionally with more than one team at the same time, and often with his back-court compadre Barney Sedran.

He closed out his playing career with the Cleveland Rosenblums in 1927.

Max Friedman played a role in pioneering basketball internationally during his World War I tenure with the Army Air Corps. When the conflict ended, Friedman helped organize an athletic program for expeditionary troops that remained in Europe. When the Inter-Allied Games were held in Paris in 1919, he organized and captained the U.S. team that beat the French and Italians for the championship.

Although his high school, Hebrew Technical Institute, had no basketball team, Friedman played amateur hoops with the University Settlement House AAU team from 1906 to 1908. The Settlement team captured three consecutive New York Metropolitan AAU championships in the 115-pound division. Thereafter, he played professional ball.

Among the rosters that featured Marty Fried-



Max Friedman

man were the New York Roosevelts 1908–9 (Independent League), Newburgh Tenths 1909–10, 1911–12 (Hudson River Valley League), Hudson Company F 1910–11 (New York League), Utica Utes 1912–15 (New York), Carbondale 1914–15 (Pennsylvania Inter-County League), Philadelphia Jaspers 1915–17, 1922–23 (Eastern League), Brooklyn Trolley Dodgers 1915–16 (Interstate League), New York Whirlwinds 1920–21 (Independent), Passaic City Athletic Association 1919–20 (Interstate), Turners Falls Athletics 1919–20 (Interstate), Trenton 1920–21 (Pennsylvania), New York Giants 1921–23 (Eastern), Brooklyn Dodgers 1921–23 (Metropolitan League), Easthampton Hampers 1920–22 (Interstate), Albany Senators 1919–23 (New York), Bridgeport Blue Ribbons 1920–21 (Connecticut League), Mohawk Indians 1921–22 (New York),

Gloversville Wonder Wonkers 1923–24 (New York), and the Cleveland Rosenblums 1925–27 (American Basketball League). He was player-coach of the Rosenblums in his two final seasons as a player and closed out his career coaching the ABL's Troy Haymakers 1938–39.

Friedman was elected to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 1972.

Harry Glickman

United States

Born: May 13, 1924, Portland, Oregon

Died: June 10, 2020

Harry Glickman, a founder of the NBA's Portland Trailblazers, is considered the "father" of professional sports in Oregon. He served as the Blazers' president from 1987 through 1994, when the team captured the NBA championship.

Earlier, in 1960, Glickman organized the Portland Buckaroos of the Western Hockey League. His Bucks won nine league championships and four playoff titles.



Harry Glickman

Glickman was elected to the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame in 1986. In his honor, the Oregon Sports-writers and Broadcasters Association renamed the State Athlete of the Year Award after Glickman.

Julius Goldman

Canada

Born: September 22, 1910, Mayesville,
South Carolina

Died: February 19, 2001

As Canada's representative on the 1936 Olympic Basketball Rules Committee, Julius Goldman suggested the elimination of the rule that called for a "jump ball" after every field goal. The 1936 games marked basketball's first appearance in the Olympics. The Rules Committee agreed with Goldman, and the game was forever changed. (The lone objecting vote was that of basketball creator James Naismith.)

American-born and primarily Canadian-educated, Goldman captained the Windsor Fords team that won Canada's 1935-36 national championship, qualifying them to represent Canada in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. However, Goldman's



Julius Goldman

U.S. citizenship made him ineligible to play for another country, so he was made an assistant coach and Canada's representative to the Olympic Basketball Rules Committee. The Canadian team won a silver medal.

Named the top student athlete at W. D. Lowe Secondary School (formerly Windsor-Walkerville) and a legendary college player and coach at Detroit Institute of Technology, "Goldie" was elected to the Windsor-Essex County Sports Hall of Fame in 1990.

An electrical engineer with a master's in business engineering and a member of Mensa, Goldman designed and developed the 155mm howitzer anti-tank shell during World War II that allowed the Allied Forces to turn the 1944 tide against Germany's "invincible" Tiger tanks.

Alexander Gomelsky

Soviet Union

Born: January 18, 1928, Kronstadt, Russia

Died: August 16, 2005

Alexander Gomelsky was the father of modern basketball in the Soviet Union. The success of Soviet (now Russian) basketball in the international arena is directly attributable to the coaching talents of this man.

Gomelsky coached four Soviet Olympic teams—1964, 1968, 1980, 1988—winning a silver medal in Tokyo at his first Olympiad, the gold medal in his final assignment in Seoul, and a pair of bronze medals in 1968 and 1980. He was a Soviet assistant coach for the 1956 Olympic Games. Had the Soviets not boycotted the 1984 Olympics, he would have coached that year's Olympic team.

Gomelsky's teams won World Championships in 1967 and 1982, were runner-up in 1978, and finished third in 1963 and 1970. They were also victorious at eight European Championships (1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1979, 1981) and winners of fifteen Soviet Union national titles.



Alexander Gomelsky

The 5-foot-5 Russian basketball mentor began coaching in 1945 at the age of seventeen, following two years as an All-State player at Leningrad's High School No. 79. He was an All-State star three years running at the Coaches College in Leningrad.

Gomelsky coached SKA Leningrad 1948–52, ASK Riga 1953–66, CSKA Moscow 1966–88, and the Sbornaya (the Soviet National Team) 1958–60, 1962–70, and 1976–88. He also coached Spain's Tenerife 1988–89, the European All-Star Team 1989–90, and Limoges CSP (France) 1990–91.

Although he was relieved of his duties on five occasions when his international teams failed to win a gold medal, bringing home "only" silvers and bronzes, Gomelsky was always recalled, and he enjoyed great popularity in and out of the former Soviet Union.

He was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in May 1995.

Edward Gottlieb

United States

Born: September 15, 1898, Kiev, Ukraine

Died: December 7, 1979

Eddie "the Mogul" Gottlieb was a founder of the National Basketball Association and one of the innovative pioneers who promoted and held together pro basketball during its long and painful emerging decades.

Gottlieb coached and managed the Philadelphia Warriors from 1947 to 1955, piloting them to the Basketball Association of America's first league championship in 1947. (The BAA, organized after World War II, merged with the National Basketball League to become the National Basketball Association in 1949.) The Warriors won their first NBA title in 1956.

In 1952 Gottlieb purchased full ownership of the Warriors from his partners for \$25,000 to save professional basketball for the city of Philadelphia. He sold the franchise to San Francisco in 1962.

Prior to the establishment of the NBA, Gottlieb was associated with the legendary Philadelphia SPHAS (South Philadelphia Hebrew Association), first as a player in 1917 and subsequently as its

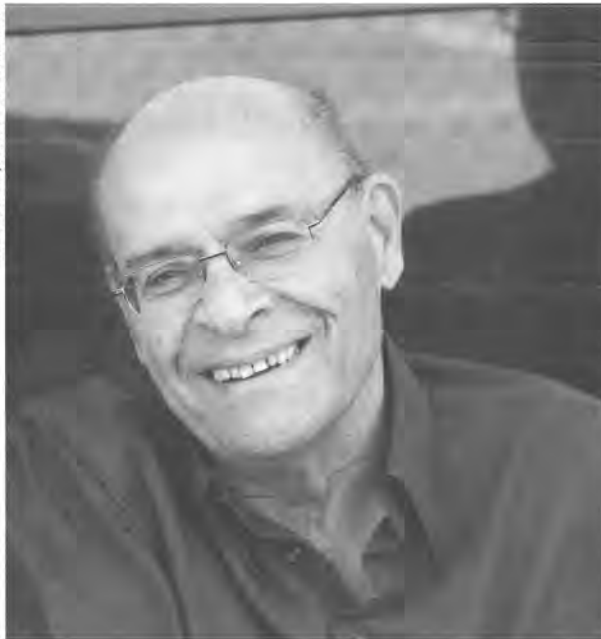


Edward Gottlieb

coach and owner. He and two friends organized the SPHAS shortly after high school graduation, and he led the SPHAS to eleven Eastern and American League championships, including American Basketball League (ABL) titles in 1934, 1936, 1937, 1940, 1941, 1943, and 1945.

Many of pro basketball's existing rules are attributable to Gottlieb. From 1952 until his death in 1979 he was the official schedule maker for the NBA. Gottlieb was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1971.

Dotan Doron, Wikimedia Commons.



Baruch Hagai

Baruch Hagai

Israel

Born: 1944, Tripoli, Libya

Multisport Paralympics champion Baruch Hagai is known as “Mr. Basketball” of wheelchair sports. His extraordinary career includes ten basketball gold medals: Paralympic Games 1968, 1980; Stoke-Mandeville Games 1967, 1969, 1981; World Championships 1971, 1975; and European Championships 1971, 1978, 1981.

Hagai also captured five Paralympics table tennis gold medals: singles in 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976;

doubles in 1968 (and bronze in 1964). Also in 1964 his Paralympics medals included a pair of swimming honors—gold in the 50-meter breaststroke and bronze in medley.

He was honored as a “Man of Peace” by the International Olympic Committee in 1986 and was a recipient of the Israel Prize in 2001.

Hagai was born in Libya where he contracted polio at age two. He did not receive treatment for the illness until he was seven, when his family of thirteen immigrated to Israel.

Lester Harrison

United States

Born: August 20, 1904, Rochester, New York

Died: December 23, 1997

A pioneer basketball professional as a player, coach, and team owner, Lester Harrison is one of the founders of the National Basketball Association (NBA) and was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1979.

Having organized traveling semipro teams as early as the 1920s, Harrison formed the Rochester



Lester Harrison

Pros in 1944 in his hometown of Rochester. The following year, when Harrison purchased a franchise in the National Basketball League (NBL), the Pros became the Rochester Royals. In 1946 the NBL merged into the Basketball Association of America, and in 1949 Harrison's Royals joined with seven other teams to form the National Basketball Association.

With Harrison as owner-coach, the Royals won league championships in 1946, 1947, and 1951. His original Royals franchise moved to Cincinnati in 1956, then to Kansas City, and is now the Sacramento Kings.

There was little media fanfare in 1946 when Harrison signed Dolly King to play for his NBL Royals. The Rochester kingpin had also convinced the owner of his league rival Buffalo Bisons to sign player William "Pop" Gates. A year before Jackie Robinson integrated Major League Baseball, King and Gates became the first blacks to play organized professional basketball.

Nat Holman

United States

Born: October 19, 1896, New York, New York

Died: February 12, 1995

Nat Holman was one of the great players, coaches, and innovators of the sport. In 1950 American sportswriters named him to the First Team of the Half-Century and the third greatest player from 1900 through 1950.

In 1919, at the age of twenty-three, Holman became the youngest college coach in the United States, taking the basketball helm at City College of New York, a job he held until 1960 (less three seasons in the 1950s). His CCNY teams boasted a remarkable 422-188 win-loss record. Holman's 1949-50 team was the first and last to win the "grand slam" of American college basketball: championships of both the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Tournament and the



Nat Holman

National Invitational Tournament in the same season.

While coaching at CCNY, the 5-foot-11 Holman played professional basketball on weekends, at first with the New York Whirlwinds in 1920 and early 1921. He joined the legendary Original Celtics at the end of the 1921 season and continued to play for them until 1929. Holman was regarded as the finest ball handler, playmaker, and set-shot artist of his day—a player with undefinable "court savvy" that helped lead the Celtics to an incredible 531-28 win-loss record.

It was with the Celtics that Holman devised the "center pivot" play, an offensive concept that revolutionized basketball. Every Celtic game was a virtual basketball clinic as college coaches flocked to watch Holman demonstrate his "cutting off the pivot" and executing the "give-and-go."

The Celtics joined the American Basketball League in 1926, but the team's lopsided winning ways continued. Having no reasonable competition to conquer, the team disbanded in 1929.

Holman was a member of the group that organized the U.S. team for the first Maccabiah Games in Palestine in 1932. In 1949, under sponsorship of the U.S. State Department, he was the first American to coach in Israel, setting up clinics to develop the sport of basketball in the Holy Land. Under State Department auspices, he also conducted basketball clinics in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Mexico, Canada, and Turkey.

In 1973 Holman began a four-year term as president of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel, sponsors of the U.S. Maccabiah Games team.

He was elected to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 1965.

William "Red" Holzman

United States

Born: August 10, 1920, Brooklyn, New York

Died: November 13, 1998

When he retired, Red Holzman was the second winningest coach in NBA history (Red Auerbach is No. 1), with 696 victories in regular season play, mostly with the New York Knickerbockers. His Knicks teams won NBA championships in 1970 and 1973.

He coached New York from December 1967 until his "first" retirement in 1977. He returned in November 1978 and continued through the 1981–82 season. Holzman also coached NBA teams in Milwaukee (as player-coach) in the 1954–55 season and St. Louis in 1956–57.

A City College of New York (CCNY) All-America in 1942, Holzman joined the professional National Basketball League's Rochester Royals following four years in the U.S. Navy. In 1946 he made the All-NBL team, and two seasons later the Royals became one of the franchise teams in the Bas-



William "Red" Holzman

ketball Association of America. The BAA soon became the National Basketball Association. Red was a member of the Royals 1950–51 NBA championship team—the NBA's first season—completing his playing career with the Milwaukee Hawks for the 1953–54 season.

The Basketball Hall of Fame inducted Holzman in 1986. In 1996 he was named one of the Top Ten Coaches in NBA history.

Rudy LaRusso

United States

Born: November 11, 1937, Brooklyn, New York

Died: July 10, 2004

One of the NBA's early star power forwards, Brooklyn's 6-foot-7 Rudy LaRusso, was a five-time National Basketball Association All-Star with the Minneapolis/Los Angeles Lakers 1959–67 and San Francisco Warriors 1967–69.



Rudy LaRusso

For nearly eight seasons with L.A., his strength and defensive prowess provided the perfect complement to superstar Elgin Baylor in the Lakers' starting frontcourt.

LaRusso's career stats: 736 games, 33.3 MPG, 11,507 points (16.9 PPG), 6,936 rebounds (10.2 RPG), and 1,556 assists (2.3 APG).

In 1968 with the Warriors, LaRusso finished seventh in the league with a career-best 21.8 PPG. He was named to the NBA's All-Defensive Second Team in 1969.

Harry Litwack

United States

Born: September 20, 1907, Galicia, Poland

Died: August 7, 1999

Harry Litwack was head coach of the Temple University Owls for twenty-one years, 1953–74, leading his team to fourteen consecutive winning seasons. He is credited with creating the innovative "zone defense." The zone changed the posture of the game of basketball, and this made it necessary

to develop totally new methods of coaching and playing.

An outstanding basketball player in his own right at Temple, 1927–29 (captain 1928–29), as well as star player and coach for several years of the Philadelphia SPHAS, Litwack's remarkable record at Temple was 373 wins and 193 losses, including the 1969 National Invitational Tournament (NIT) championship.

At the time of his retirement in 1974, Litwack's record ranked fifth best among America's active college basketball coaches.

He was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1975.



Harry Litwack

1935–36 Long Island University Basketball Team

United States

Inducted: 2018

Although they were expected to be the United States' entry in the 1936 Olympics basketball competition, the Long Island University Blackbirds

voted to boycott the Berlin Games. The Blackbirds, who had won thirty-three consecutive games by an average margin of 23 points over the 1935–36 period, rejected the opportunity to compete in Germany in the first Olympiad that included basketball on its menu.

LIU's starting five were Jules Bender, Ben Kramer, Leo Merson, Marius Russo, and Arthur Hillhouse. Bender and Kramer, both All-Americans, and Merson were Jewish. Coach Clair Bee's team voted by secret ballot on the premise that if one player voted to participate, that would be the team's decision. Other LIU players included Bill Schwarz and Harry Grant.

In their place, a composite AAU (corporate "amateurs") Olympic squad was selected, including seven players and the coach of the Universal Studios team. UCLA's former All-American Sam Balter was a starter on the team. They were undefeated gold medalists.

Donna Geils Orender

United States

Born: 1957, Long Island, New York

Donna Orender was president of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) from February 2005 to December 2010. Within a year, Fox Sports named her the seventh most powerful woman in sports.

As Donna Geils, she was a regional All-America basketball player at Queens College (NY), and played three seasons as an All-Star point guard in the Women's Professional Basketball League (WPBL). During that period, the only three seasons the league was active, Geils wore the uniforms of the New York Stars (1978–79), New Jersey Gems (1979–80), and Chicago Hustle (1980–81).

Before accepting the WNBA top spot, Orender was an executive with the PGA (golf) Tour for seventeen years and rose to senior vice president of



LIU's 1936 national champions: (left to right) Coach Clair Bee, Willie Schwartz, Julie Bender, Ben Kramer, Ken Norton, Leo Merson, Marius Russo, and Arthur Hillhouse. Schwartz, Bender, Kramer and Merson are Jewish.



Donna Geils Orender

strategic development. In that position, her duties included producing *Inside the PGA Tour* for television, and she helped negotiate TV contracts that marketed the Tiger Woods phenomenon. Prior to this, she ran the Tour's worldwide television and production business.

In 2005, in addition to the FoxSports.com Top Ten designation, Orender was named to *The Sporting News's* annual Power 100 list. In 2007 she was featured on *BusinessWeek's* "Power 100 Sports" and was the "WISE Woman of the Year."

Orna Ostfeld

Israel

Born: December 23, 1952, Jerusalem, Israel

Orna Ostfeld was recipient of the International Olympic Committee's 2005 European Women and Sport Award, recognizing her dedication to and advancement of women's sports in Israel.

Ostfeld coached Israel's Anda Ramat Hasharon team to four championships and State Cup basketball titles (in seven years), the first in 1998. In November 1981, as a player for Israel's Ramat Khen, she once scored a record 108 points, and



Orna Ostfeld

she is listed in the Guinness Book of Records for most points scored in a single game.

In 2004 Ostfeld's passionate advocacy for increased funding and meaningful media coverage of women's sports resulted in Israel's High Court of Justice order that funding of women's sports associations be issued at a rate of 1.5 times the sum given to equivalent men's sport associations.

Ostfeld is one of the founders of the Ramat Hasharon Sports Association.

Philadelphia SPHAs

United States

Organized in 1918, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Disbanded in 1949

The SPHAs were organized as an amateur team by Eddie Gottlieb, Harry Passon, and Hughie Black shortly after their high school graduation. Always a team of considerable prowess whether the competition was amateur or professional, the SPHAs, from 1933 to 1946, were the most dominant team in the professional American Basketball League, capturing seven league championships in thirteen seasons.

Called the SPHAS because the South Philadelphia Hebrew Association bought the players' uniforms, the team featured many of the eastern United States' top college graduates, including Harry Litwack (IJSOF honoree), Cy Kaselman, Davey Banks, Moe Goldman, Shikey Gotthoffer, Irv Torgoff, Red Wolfe, Max Posnack, and many others. All but a few SPHAS players were Jewish during the club's many years of amateur and professional existence.

Originally an independent team sponsored by the Young Men's Hebrew Association, the players found a new home at the South Philadelphia Hebrew Association when the YMHA withdrew its sponsorship. Soon their local skills earned them a spot in the Philadelphia League, where they won two consecutive championships, after which the league disbanded. The SPHAS then joined the Eastern League for 1925–26, but it went out of business that same season.

Refusing to keep his team idle, owner-coach Gottlieb, the consummate basketball entrepreneur, promoted a series of exhibition games against

leading pro teams from New York's Metropolitan League and the new American Basketball League, then in its first year of operation. When the SPHAS won five of six games, losing only to the ABL's top team, the Cleveland Rosenblums, Gottlieb arranged for best-of-three series against both the Original Celtics and the New York Rens (an all-black team). The SPHAS defeated the fabled Celtics in three games, and the Rens twice by scores of 36–33 (in overtime) and 40–39. Within approximately six weeks, the minor league SPHAS had won nine of eleven matches against the most celebrated teams in professional basketball.

When the Eastern League found new life in 1929, the SPHAS once again joined its ranks, winning three championships in four seasons. This success led to an invitation from the newly reorganized American Basketball League, which had been dormant for two Depression years.

In 1933 the SPHAS were Eddie Gottlieb's ABL franchise entry. The team promptly captured three league championships in four years, eventually winning seven titles in thirteen years (1933–34,



1933 edition of the Philadelphia SPHAS

1935–36, 1936–37, 1939–40, 1940–41, 1942–43, 1944–45), and they were runners-up twice.

The team's uniform tops featured a *samach, pey, hey, aleph*—Hebrew letters spelling “SPHAS”—and a Jewish star. In case opponents or spectators didn't get the inclination, the backside of the team's road uniforms said “Hebrews”!

In 1946, following World War II, the Basketball Association of America, forerunner of the NBA, debuted, and the ABL ceased to be a major league. With Gottlieb establishing the Philadelphia Warriors as his BAA franchise, his SPHAS continued with the minor league ABL and as a touring opponent of the Harlem Globetrotters. Gottlieb sold the team in 1950 to former SPHAS star Red Klotz, who changed the name of the Globetrotters' regular opponents to the Washington Generals.

SPHAS Primary Players 1930–46

Eastern League

1930–31 (champions): Heshie Forman, Lou Forman, Dave Gordon, Cy Kasselman, Harry Litwack, Babe Lyman, Chickie Passon, Red Sheier, Yock Welsh, Red Wolfe

1931–32 (champions): Solly Bertman, Max Posnack

1932–33 (lost playoffs): Gil Fitch

American League

1933–34 (champions): Ed Beron, Moe Goldman, Shikey Gotthofer, Louis “Inky” Lautman

1934–35: Red Rosan

1936–37 (champions): Jim Fox

1937–38: Mike Bloom, Lou Dubin, Beno Resnick, Lou Wisner

1938–39 (runners-up): Sol Miehoff, Petey Rosenberg

1939–40 (champions): Cy Boardman, Leo Gottlieb, Phil Rabin

1940–41 (champions): Lou Possner, Irv Torgoff, Butch Weintraub

1941–42: Ossie Schectman, Chink Morganstein, Solomon “Butch” Schwartz, Eddie Gottlieb (one game at age forty-three)

1942–43 (champions): Irv Davis, Red Klotz

1943–44 (runners-up): Dutch Garfinkel, Herb Knuppel, Paul Nowak, Jerry Fleishman, Moe Becker

1944–45 (champions): Art Hillhouse, Bernie Oppen, George Senesky, Howie and Lenny Rader, Irv Rothenberg

1945–46 (last pro year): Ralph Kaplowitz, Jules Kassner, George Senesky

Note: Names listed under each season are primary players added to the roster that year. Core players played for many years, but some were in and out during the war. Others not mentioned also played for the SPHAS.

Maurice Podoloff

United States

Born: August 18, 1890, Elizabethgrad, Ukraine

Died: November 24, 1985

Maurice Podoloff was the first commissioner of the National Basketball Association (1949–63), president of the Basketball Association of America (1946–49), president of the American Hockey League (1940–52), and president of the Canadian-American Hockey League (1936–40).

It was under Podoloff's leadership that the NBA developed the 24-second clock, the innovation credited as the foundation for the success of professional basketball in the United States.

In 1946, when the Basketball Association of America was being organized by a group of leading U.S. arena owners, they elected Podoloff president of their new eleven-team league. Three years later, in August 1949, he presided over the merger of the four-year-old BAA and eleven-year-old National Basketball League in the formation of the NBA. The new NBA consisted of ten BAA and



Maurice Podoloff

seven NBL teams during its first season (1949–50). The league was pared to eleven teams for 1950–51.

Together with his father and two brothers, Podoloff built the New Haven Arena in 1926, an achievement that introduced him to the Canadian-American Hockey League. In 1935 he was named secretary-treasurer of the league, and a year later he was elected its president. Two years later Podoloff merged his CAHL with the International Hockey League, and in 1940 the American Hockey League was born, with Maurice as its president.

Podoloff, a Yale graduate, was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1973.

Leonard Rosenbluth

United States

Born: January 22, 1933, Bronx, New York

In 1957 University of Kansas's 7-foot giant Wilt Chamberlain was the most intimidating collegiate player in the United States. But University of North Carolina's 6-foot-5 Lennie Rosenbluth was the country's best player. The Tarheels' consensus All-America led UNC to a 1957 undefeated 32-0 season and the NCAA championship. Rosenbluth registered 27.9 points and 8.6 rebounds per game

during the regular season. The Helms Hall of Fame named him Collegiate Player of the Year.

North Carolina ranked No. 1 after the 1957 season, and its basketball success not only brought the campus to the forefront of the college sports but also legitimized the credentials of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC). The 1957 NCAA title also launched the Tarheels' long and successful winning tradition and reputation as the "cradle for development" of basketball superstars.

In 1955 sophomore Rosenbluth's 25.5 PPG and 11.7 rebounds drew national attention and third team All-America recognition. (Freshmen did not play varsity sports during the 1950s.)

In 1956 he again led the Tarheels in scoring, 26.7 PPG, and his All-America honors were split between various first and second team selections.



Leonard Rosenbluth

It all came together for UNC and their star forward in 1957, as Rosenbluth and the university basketball program produced the first undefeated ACC team to win the NCAA. The 1957 final game match-up produced what is considered to this day one of college basketball's greatest battles, as Rosenbluth's Tarheels defeated Chamberlain's Kansas Jayhawks 54–53 in triple overtime. The UNC forward scored 20 points in the championship final, was the tournament's overall top scorer, 28.0 PPG, and was named to the All-Tournament Team.

In 1989, when the NCAA selected five All-Decade Final Four teams, Rosenbluth was named to the All-1950s team, along with such future professional legends as Chamberlain, Elgin Baylor, Oscar Robertson, Bill Russell, and Jerry West. He is also a member of the Helms College Basketball Hall of Fame and is listed as one of the 100 Greatest College Players of All-Time.

Lennie Rosenbluth's honors include three-time All-ACC selections (1955–57); 1957 ACC Player and Athlete of the Year; MVP of the 1957 ACC Tournament; and All-Tournament at three Dixie Classics. He and Antawn Jamison, UNC's most-recent superstar, and Duke's Christian Laettner are the only collegians to be named NCAA National Player of the Year, ACC Player of the Year, ACC Tournament MVP, and NCAA regional MVP in the same season.

As of 2005, the North Carolina court legend held eight Tarheel basketball records, including most points in a single season (895) and highest single-season average (28.0). Rosenbluth's three-season total of 2,045 points still ranks third all-time at UNC, despite his career's absence of a freshman season and the three-point shot.

Rosenbluth was selected by the Philadelphia Warriors in the first round of the 1957 NBA draft and played for the Philadelphia Warriors from 1957 to 1959.



Mendy Rudolph

Mendy Rudolph

United States

Born: March 8, 1926, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: July 4, 1979

Mendy Rudolph was a National Basketball Association referee for twenty-two years, 1953–78. He was the first and only NBA floor official to work 2,000 games as of February 1975. At career's end, he had logged 2,112 NBA officiated games.

Rudolph officiated at one or more NBA Finals contests for twenty-two consecutive years, including all games of the 1961 Boston Celtics–St. Louis Hawks Finals (with Earl Strom, also an IJSHOF honoree). He also called eight All-Star Games. He was named NBA's referee-in-chief in 1967 and elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame that same year.

Rudolph wrote the *NBA Officials Manual*.



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Abe Saperstein

Abe Saperstein

United States

Born: July 4, 1902, London, England

Died: March 15, 1966

Abe Saperstein was founder, owner, and coach of the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team. In 1927, following an unspectacular semipro baseball and professional basketball career—he stood 5-foot-3—Saperstein took over an all-Negro basketball team called the Savoy Big Five (named for Chicago's Savoy Ballroom), changed its name to the Harlem Globetrotters, and created a legend that is currently well into its second half-century.

The early Trotters were a serious basketball five, sporting a 101-6 record the first year, 145-13 in 1928, and 151-13 in 1929. Finding difficulty locating willing opponents, Saperstein conceived the idea of fancy, comedic, razzle-dazzle type of play, and soon the team became a must-see attraction on the professional basketball barnstorming circuit. It

wasn't until 1940 that the Trotters starting showing a profit, and through those lean years, Saperstein was not only its coach, chauffeur, and trainer, he was also the team's only substitute.

All their clowning notwithstanding, the Globetrotters won the World Basketball championship in 1940, providing substance to Saperstein's long-ignored claim that, given the opportunity, they were among basketball's best. In 1943-44 the Trotters captured basketball's International Cup.

Over the years, the Globetrotters developed into an international entertainment attraction, playing in more than eighty countries on five continents, as well as on television and in motion pictures. They are undoubtedly the most famous sports organization in the world, with Saperstein labeled the "Barnum of Basketball," and his Trotters known as "America's number one goodwill ambassadors." Saperstein was also a pioneering entrepreneur in America's Negro Baseball League and a key figure in opening the way for blacks into professional sports.

Lesser known about Saperstein is his tenure as founding commissioner of the American Basketball League (ABL), which would eventually merge into the National Basketball Association, during which he "fathered" the three-point shot and current dimensions of the NBA's free-throw lane.

Adolph Schayes

United States

Born: May 19, 1928, New York, New York

Died: December 10, 2015

A New York University All-America in 1948, Dolph Schayes starred for the professional National Basketball Association's Syracuse Nationals (later Philadelphia 76ers) from 1948 to 1964. His 1955 Nats won the NBA championship. He was selected to twelve consecutive NBA All-Star Games, 1951-62, and named to the NBA's Fiftieth Anniversary All-Time Team.



Adolph Schayes

The league's Rookie of the Year in 1949, Schayes owned five NBA records by the time he retired as an active player: most consecutive games played—764 games (February 17, 1952, to December 27, 1961); most minutes played—29,800; most field goals—6,135; most free throws made—6,979; most points—19,249.

He finished his career fourth all-time in rebounding, winning the rebound title in 1951 with 1,080 boards. On January 11, 1958, Schayes became the highest scorer in NBA history, reaching 11,770 points to surpass the great George Mikan. It was Wilt Chamberlain who eventually topped his scoring record. Regarded as the first true "power forward," Schayes had a career scoring average of 18.2 points per game.

He became player-coach of the 76ers in 1964, confining himself to coaching after that season. His Philadelphia team won the 1965–66 NBA championship, and Schayes was named the league's Coach of the Year. From 1966 to 1970 he also served as supervisor of NBA referees. Schayes

coached the NBA Buffalo Braves franchise from 1970 to 1972.

In 1977 Schayes was head coach of the U.S. Maccabiah Games basketball team, and with the inspired play of Danny, his 6-foot-11 high school-age son, the Americans won the gold medal.

Schayes was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1972.

Barney Sedran (Sedransky)

United States

Born: January 28, 1891, New York, New York

Died: January 14, 1964

Elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1962, Barney Sedran is considered one of the great professional basketball players of the 1912–25 era, decades before the term "superstar" was coined.

Sedran, who stood 5-foot-4 (1.62m) and weighed 115 pounds, played the equivalent of high school basketball for the University Settlement House because he was too small to make his DeWitt Clinton High School (Bronx) team. The Settlement team won the 115-pound division



Barney Sedran (Sedransky)

championship 1905–6 and the Metropolitan AAU title 1906–7.

At City College of New York (CCNY), Sedran was the school's leading scorer for three consecutive seasons, 1909–11, and was named to various college All-Star teams.

The smallest player enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, "The Mighty Might of Basketball" turned pro after leaving CCNY, teaming successfully and often with 5-foot-7 Hall of Famer (Naismith and IJSHOF) Max Friedman. They were known as the "Heavenly Twins." In an era of barnstorming, short-lived leagues, and schedules that often called for as many as three games a day, Sedran is said to have been pro basketball's highest paid star.

His many teams of record include Newburgh Tenthys 1911–12 (Hudson Valley League), Utica Utes/Indians 1912–14 (New York State), Carbondale Pioneers 1914–18 (Pennsylvania), Brooklyn Trolley Dodgers 1915–16 (Interstate), Kensington Jaspers 1915–17 (Pennsylvania), Jersey City Skeeters 1917–18 (Central), Scranton Miners 1918–19 (Pennsylvania), Albany Senators 1919–20, 1921–24 (New York), Passaic Athletic Association 1919–20 (Interstate), Turners Falls Athletics 1919–20 (Interstate), New York Whirlwinds 1919–21 (Eastern), Bridgeport Blue Ribbons 1920–21 (Central), Trenton Tigers 1920–21 (Eastern), Easthampton Hampers 1920–22 (Interstate), Mohawk Indians 1921–22 (New York), Cohoes Cohosiers 1921–22 (New York), New York Giants 1921–22 (Eastern), Brooklyn Dodgers 1921–23 (Metropolitan), Philadelphia DeNeri 1922–23 (Eastern), Yonkers Chippewas 1923–24 (Metropolitan), Cleveland Rosenblums 1924–26 (American Basketball League), Brooklyn Jewels 1932–36 (Metropolitan), and New York Whirlwinds 1936–38 (Metropolitan).

Among Sedran's court highlights: He led Newburgh in 1912, Utica 1913 to 1915, Carbondale in 1917, Easthampton 1920 and 1921, and Albany in 1921 to league championships. After his Utica club won the 1913–14 New York State League title, the

Utes defeated Trenton, champions of the Eastern League, to claim the World Professional championship. Sedran once scored 34 points on a court without backboards; another time, 34 points shooting at rims without a net. He averaged 7.3 points per game during his career, with a single season high 13.2 PPG in 1917.

As a pro coach, Sedran was player-coach of the Passaic Athletic Association (1919–20) in the Interstate League, and coach of the following American Basketball League (ABL) teams: Kingston Colonials (1938–40), Kate Smith Celtics (1938–40), Troy Celtics (1939–41), Wilmington Blue Bombers (1941–45), and New York Gothams (1945–46). The Kate Smith Celtics won 1939 and 1940 ABL championships. Wilmington won ABL titles 1941–42 and 1943–44. Sedran's New York Whirlwinds team of 1919–21 is considered by many to have been the greatest professional basketball team of the first half of the twentieth century.

Note: Depending upon the league, basketball seasons often lap over from one year to another. Other times a season begins and ends in the same calendar year.

Morris "Moe" Spahn

United States

Born: May 3, 1912, New York, New York

Died: June 11, 1991

A City College of New York (CCNY) All-America in 1932 and 1933, Moe Spahn played on five American Basketball League championship teams during the 1930s. He was the ABL's Most Valuable Player in 1937–38 and MVP runner-up the previous two seasons.

Spahn captained CCNY in his senior year and led the team to a 33–2 record during his two All-America seasons. Upon graduation, he became an assistant coach at his alma mater under Nat Holman as he worked toward his master's degree.



Morris "Moe" Spahn

Turning pro in 1934, Spahn played with various teams in the American Basketball League—Brooklyn Visitations, Jersey Reds, New York Jewels, and the Philadelphia SPHAS. From 1934 through 1938 Spahn led the ABL in free throws made, and he was the league's second leading scorer for two seasons, 1936–38.

Holman considered Spahn to be one of his ten greatest players of all time.

David Stern

United States

Born: September 22, 1942, New York, New York

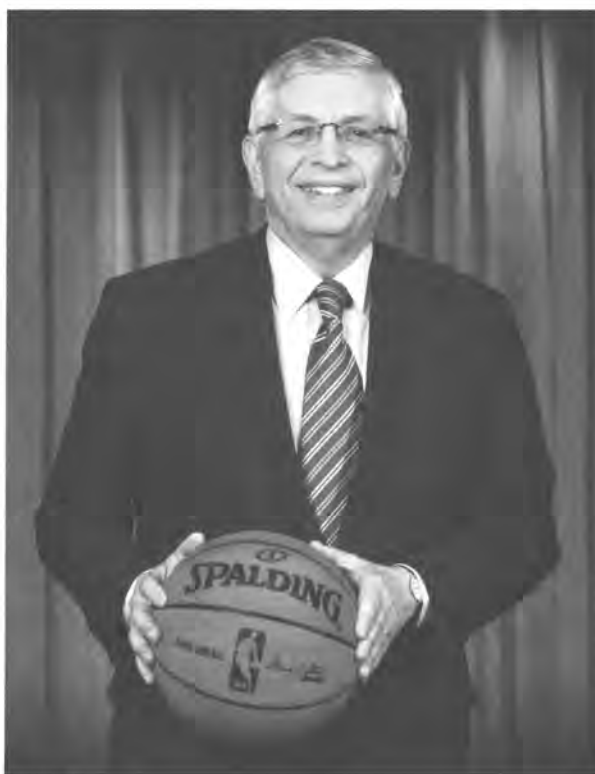
Died: January 1, 2020

David Stern was elected commissioner of the National Basketball Association (NBA) in February 1984. He was the fourth commissioner since the NBA's establishment in 1949.

Under his leadership, the NBA added six franchises, and its revenues increased fivefold (through the year 2001). With Stern at the helm, the NBA became a television staple. The WNBA women's professional league was successfully launched, and NBA offices opened in eight cities outside North America, with NBA games televised in 175 countries. He retired on February 1, 2014.

During his tenure, Stern's hand appeared in virtually every matter that has shaped the NBA and provided blueprints for other professional sports organizations. He was key to the 1976 landmark settlement between the NBA and its players that led to "free agency"; to the collective bargaining agreement that introduced revenue sharing and the salary cap; to pro sports' first antidrug agreement; to development of NBA Properties as the league's marketing arm; and to the creation of NBA Entertainment.

David Stern's association with the NBA began in 1966, when he became its outside legal counsel. He joined the league in 1978 as general counsel and became its executive vice president in 1980.



David Stern

Earl Strom

United States

Born: December 15, 1927, Pottstown, Pennsylvania

Died: June 10, 1994

Earl Strom was the third National Basketball Association referee elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame (1995). He is often referred to as "the greatest of its referees."

Beginning in 1957 as one of the NBA's first full-time court officials, Strom spent twenty-nine seasons in the NBA and three years in the American Basketball Association (ABA). He officiated in twenty-nine NBA and ABA Finals and fifty NBA and ABA Final games.

Strom officiated 2,400 regular season games during his thirty-two-year pro career and 295 playoff games. He also refereed seven NBA All-Star Games.

He wrote the autobiography *Calling the Shots: My Five Decades in the NBA*.



Earl Strom

Sidney Tanenbaum

United States

Born: October 8, 1925, Brooklyn, New York

Died: September 4, 1986



Sidney Tanenbaum

Sid Tanenbaum was a New York University All-America forward/guard in 1946 and 1947. He starred for NYU from 1944 to 1947 and was team captain in 1947.

A two-hand set-shot artist, Tanenbaum overcame the rigors of rheumatic fever to become the greatest scorer in NYU history with a career total of 992 points.

His health limited him to only two professional seasons—New York in the BAA 1948–49 and Baltimore in the NBA in 1949. (The BAA merged with the ABL to form the National Basketball Association for the 1949–50 season.)

Tanenbaum was elected to the Helms Hall of Fame in 1947 and received the Bar Kochba Award as America's outstanding Jewish athlete. He was selected first team All-Met in each of his four varsity seasons and twice won the Haggerty Award as the outstanding player in New York.

Tanenbaum was stabbed to death during a 1986 robbery.

Dave "Pep" Tobey

United States

Born: May 1, 1898, New York, New York

Died: January 25, 1985

In 1961 Pep Tobey became the first Jew to be elected into the Basketball (Naismith) Hall of Fame. Known as the "Coach of Coaches," Tobey actually celebrated two successful careers: (1) as a coach and (2) as a referee.



David "Pep" Tobey

As a basketball official, he refereed every important professional game in New York from 1918 to 1925. During the next twenty years, he was in demand to referee major contests throughout the country. He retired from officiating in 1945, according to the Basketball Hall of Fame, as "one of the top officials of all time." His book *Basketball Officiating* was the first important treatise on the task of refereeing. He was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame as a referee.

In 1946 Tobey turned exclusively to teaching and coaching—his "day jobs" during most of his officiating years—and amassed more than 700 coaching victories. As a high school coach, his teams were 367 wins and 130 losses. His college teams went 348-210. Players and assistant coaches who developed into Pep Tobey's most prominent coaching protégés include Lou Carneseca, Honey Russell, Don Kennedy, Tom Carmody, George Wolf, Bo Adams, and Jim McDermott.

Max Zaslofsky

United States

Born: December 7, 1925, Brooklyn, New York

Died: October 15, 1985

Max Zaslofsky was a Basketball Association of America (BAA) and NBA star from 1946 to 1956 with the Chicago Stags (1946-50), New York Knicks (1951-53), Baltimore and Milwaukee (1954), and Fort Wayne (1954-56). (Note: The BAA merged to form the new NBA for the 1949-50 professional basketball season.)

When the NBA reached its quarter-century mark in 1971, Zaslofsky was named one of the Greatest 25 Players of the First 25 Years.

Zaslofsky led the BAA in scoring in 1948 (1,007 points and 21.0 average), and was a first team BAA All-Star in 1947, 1948, and 1949 and an NBA All-Star in the league's 1950 premiere season.

He joined the Stags following two years in the navy and a brief stop at Brooklyn's St. John's University. When he retired in 1956, Zaslofsky was the third highest scorer in NBA history with 7,990 points. He led the BAA in scoring in 1948 with a 21-point average, and was the NBA free-throw champion in 1950 with an 84.3 percentage.



Max Zaslofsky

BILLIARDS

Michael Sigel

United States

Born: July 11, 1952, in Rochester, New York

Pocket billiards champion Mike Sigel was the game's most dominant player in the 1980s, winning ten World Championships and six U.S. Open championships. Sigel amassed thirty-eight 14.1 (straight pool) and 9-Ball titles during the decade.

A winner of 105 "majors" during his professional career, he was elected to the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame in 1989, the youngest man ever elected. The International Pool Tour describes him as "the greatest living player of the 20th century."

Sigel won the World 8-Ball championship in 1976 and World 9-Ball title in 1977. In 1979 he won the PPPA World Open championship with a tournament high run of 133 balls and captured the event again in 1981. In 1985 and 1988, his runs of 150 shots-and-out earned him a pair of World Straight Pool titles. Somewhat less flamboyantly, he also won the 1989 World Straight Pool championship.

Sigel won the last of his victories in 1992 with a run of 150 shots-and-out. When he wrapped his twenty-one-year professional career in 1994, he was ranked No. 2 in the world.

Sigel was technical advisor to Paul Newman and Tom Cruise for the film *The Color of Money* and appeared as himself in the motion picture *Baltimore Bullet*.



Michael Sigel

BOWLING



John M. Brunswick

John M. Brunswick

United States

Born: October 6, 1819, Bengarten, Switzerland

Died: July 25, 1886

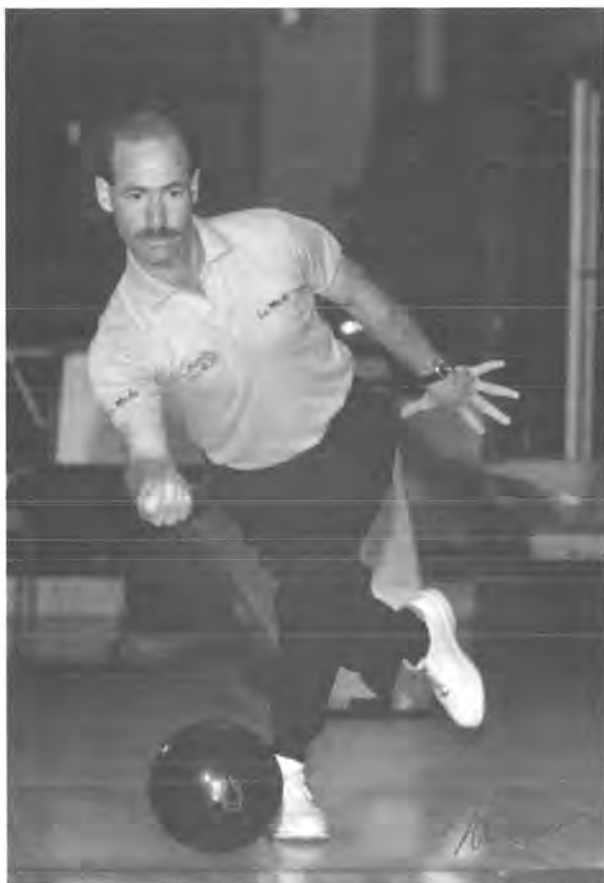
John Brunswick is founder of the bowling and billiard manufacturing empire. A small carriage manufacturer in Cincinnati, Ohio, Brunswick built his—and America's—first billiards table in 1845, a milestone that would spark the growth and popularization of the game worldwide. Within two years orders were arriving from both sides of the Atlantic. Brunswick's tables were outrageously ornate by contemporary standards, and the best of them were often considered works of art.

In 1888, two years after his death, the company entered the bowling manufacturing business. In 1890 Brunswick's son-in-law, Moses Bensinger, was named president, and under his stewardship the Brunswick company became a major factor in developing and popularizing various versions of the sport of bowling, particularly tenpin bowling, throughout the world.

Brunswick emigrated to the United States in 1834, and after working as an errand boy in New York, New York, he found employment in Philadelphia as an apprentice carriage maker. Eventually settling with his family in Cincinnati, Ohio, he worked for two years as a steward on an Ohio River steamer, before opening his own carriage works in 1845. In 1848, sensing the need to expand his burgeoning billiards business, Brunswick summoned his half-brothers from Switzerland, and a sales office was established in Chicago.

As the company grew to become a worldwide household name, it underwent several name changes. In 1872 John M. Brunswick & Brothers became known as J. M. Brunswick Billiards Manufacturing Co. In 1884, after successful mergers with Julius Balke's Great Western Billiard Manufactory and Hugh Collender's Phelan & Collender Company, the name was transformed into Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company (a name it retained until becoming the Brunswick Corporation in 1960).

In 1995 the Illinois State Historical Society presented the Brunswick Corporation with its Sesquicentennial Business Award in commemoration of the company's 150th anniversary. It was the first Sesquicentennial Award ever conferred by the Society. The company has also been recognized as Chicago's oldest continuously independent public company.



Marshall Holman

Marshall Holman

United States

Born: September 29, 1954, Medford, Oregon

Marshall Holman was elected to the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) Hall of Fame in 1990. In 1987 both the PBA and Bowling Writers Association (BWA) named him Player of the Year.

He was the first professional bowler to top \$1.5 million in prize earnings, and his career winnings total \$1,695,890. At the time of his tour retirement, he ranked seventh all-time with twenty-two major PBA championships.

Holman was just nineteen when he won his first PBA title in 1974. He captured the United States Open Tournament twice, 1981 and 1985. In 1976, and again in 1986, Holman won the Brunswick World Tournament of Champions. In 1982, 1984, and 1987 he led the PBA Tour in average.

Mortimer Lindsey

United States

Born: December 20, 1888, Newark, New Jersey

Died: May 16, 1959

Mort Lindsey was one of the original American Bowling Congress Hall of Fame inductees in 1941. One of bowling's first colorful performers, he won three ABC Tournament championships—1912, 1914, and 1919.

Lindsey began bowling in 1902, but semipro baseball occupied most of his interest as a youth. His first and second ABC Tournament titles came with the New Haven Brunswicks in 1912 and 1914. In 1919 he rolled 1933 to win the ABC Individual All Events crown.

Lindsey held numerous titles and won countless challenge matches during tenpin bowling's informal amateur/professional years prior to World War II. Most of his tournament victories were won in the greater New York area, but occasionally he would venture out to the Midwest, where he won many events, including the Petersen Classic in 1934. Lindsey was considered the greatest "money" bowler of the first half-century.



Mortimer Lindsey

His consistency led all ABC tournament bowlers from 1916 to 1925 with a 201 average, and his forty-six-year tournament average is 192.

Mark Roth

United States

Born: April 10, 1951, Brooklyn, New York

Mark Roth is acknowledged by his peers as the “father of modern tenpin bowling.” His hard-throwing, hard-cranking style won him election to the Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Fame in April 1987 (the first year he was eligible), and he has brought about significant changes in the nature of alley bowling.

From his first PBA title in 1975 (King Louie Open) to his last major tournament victory in 1987 (Great Buffalo Open) Roth captured thirty-four PBA championships. His most remarkable years were 1975 to 1979, when he captured twenty-two titles, including a record eight in 1978.

He has received the PBA “Player of the Year” honor four times—1977–79 and 1984—and numerous other tenpin awards and titles. His 215-plus



Mark Roth

average over 8,000 games (dating back to 1976) is the best long-term pace in the history of the PBA.

Roth won the George Young Memorial High Average Award five times (three of four years between 1976–79, 1981, and 1988), and his 221.6 pace during the 1979 season is a PBA one-year-average record.

In 1984 Roth's career earnings elevated him to the PBA's Millionaire's Club, joining legendary Earl Anthony as the association's second professional to reach the exclusive winners' plateau.



Louis Stein

Louis Stein

United States

Born: 1858, Winstorten, Holland

Died: October 3, 1949

New York tenpin bowling champion Louis Stein attended a meeting of the New York Bowlers Association on September 9, 1895, that laid the foundation for what was to become the American Bowling Congress.

At that meeting he proposed that bowling be scored on a 300-point system, instead of the then-popular 200-point system. He also proposed that

sixteen pounds be the maximum legal weight of a bowling ball. Both proposals were accepted and remain in effect worldwide to this day.

At the time of his death in October 1949, Stein was the last surviving charter member of the American Bowling Congress, the governing authority of American tenpin bowling.

Sylvia Wene (Martin)

United States

Born: 1930, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sylvia Wene was best known as the lady bowler with the most 300 (perfect) games. A winner of numerous bowling crowns, she was the first woman to ever bowl three sanctioned 300 games, the first on March 28, 1951.

Her second “perfecto” came in the December 11, 1959, finals of the World Invitational Match Game Tournament. It was the first time a woman had scored 300 in match game competition. A month later, on January 8, 1960, she rolled her third 300 game—this time in the qualifying rounds of the Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America All-State Tournament, which she went on to win.

Wene twice captured the BPAA Individual Match Game title in 1955 and 1960, and in both those years she was named Woman Bowler of the Year by the Bowling Writers Association of America. Other records include all-time high league average of 206, 1952–55; fourteen three-game “700” series (six in one year); and a member of the All-America teams five times, 1955–59 and 1962.

In 1966 Wene was elected to the Women’s International Bowling Congress (WIBC) Hall of Fame.



Sylvia Wene (Martin)

BOXING



Ray Arcel

Ray Arcel

United States

Born: August 30, 1899, Terre Haute, Indiana

Died: March 7, 1994

Ray Arcel trained twenty world boxing champions—his first in 1923 and last in 1982. In 1934 five of his fighters won world titles. In 1982 he became the first of only two trainers elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame. At one time Arcel teamed with Whitey Bimstein to form the most successful training tandem in boxing.

Ray handled more than two thousand fighters during his seventy-year career in the ring, and

none of them was ever seriously hurt. His world champions are Frankie Genaro (flyweight, 1923), Abe Goldstein (bantamweight, 1924), Charlie Phil Rosenberg (bantamweight, 1925), Jackie “Kid” Berg (welterweight, 1930), Lou Brouillard (middleweight, 1933), Teddy Yarosz (middleweight, 1934), Barney Ross (lightweight, 1933, and welterweight, 1934), Sixto Escobar (bantamweight, 1934), Bob Olin (light-heavyweight, 1934), James J. Braddock (heavyweight, 1934), Tony Marino (bantamweight, 1936), Freddie Steele (middleweight, 1937), Ceferino Garcia (middleweight, 1939), Billy Soose (middleweight, 1941), Tony Zale (middleweight, 1946), Ezzard Charles (heavyweight, 1950), Kid Gavilan (welterweight, 1951), Roberto Duran (lightweight, 1972, and welterweight, 1980), and Larry Holmes (heavyweight, 1982).

Champions Barney Ross, Tony Zale, Ezzard Charles, Jackie Berg, Sixto Escobar, Frankie Genaro, Ceferino Garcia, and Kid Gavilan are in *The Ring* magazine’s Boxing Hall of Fame. Berg, Goldstein, Olin, Ross, and Charley Phil Rosenberg are in the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Abe Attell

United States

Born: February 22, 1884, San Francisco, California

Died: February 7, 1970

Abe Attell, the “Little Hebrew,” held the world featherweight championship 1903–4 and 1906–12.

The 5-foot-4, 122-pound Attell won his title four months short of his seventeenth birthday, defeating Johnny Reagan in twenty rounds. He lost his crown to Tony Sullivan one year later but regained it in February 1906 with a decision over Jimmy Walsh. Attell successfully defended his champi-



Abe Attell

onship twenty-one times during the nine years he held the title.

Attell was both a boxer and puncher, winning twenty-three of his first twenty-nine fights by knockout. He claimed to have fought 365 times, but although his official record indicates less than half that number, he was known to have fought as often as three times a week, often giving away as much as thirty pounds to an opponent.

His official professional record was 171 bouts—won 124 (53 by KO), lost 19, drew 24, 2 no decisions, and 2 no contests. Attell was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1955 and the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1990.

Monte Attell

United States

Born: July 28, 1885, San Francisco, California

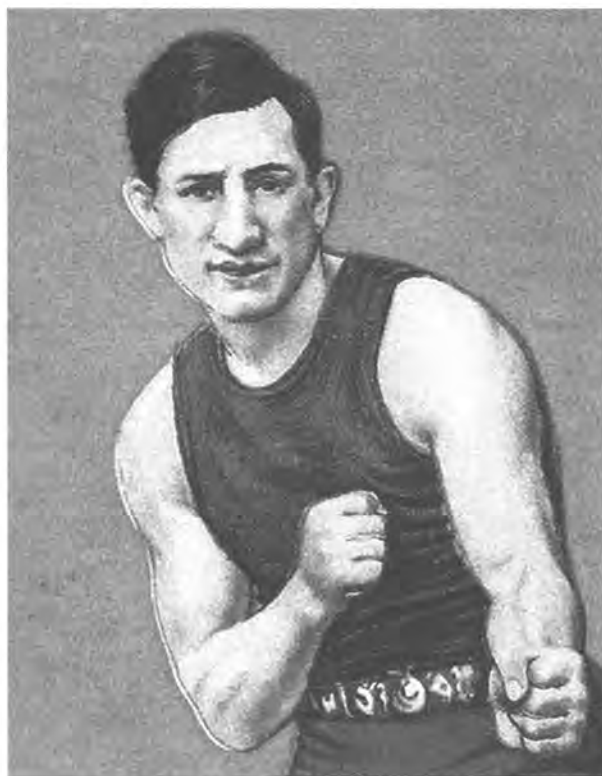
Died: November 11, 1960

San Francisco's Monte Attell (the Nob Hill Terror) captured the vacant world bantamweight championship on June 19, 1909, with an eighteen-round knockout of ex-titleholder Frankie Neil.

Attell, who became a pro at the age of seventeen, battled more than seven years in the ring before getting a shot at the world title. Eight months later, on February 22, 1910, he lost the crown on a forty-second round KO by Frankie Conley.

During the period Monte held the bantamweight crown, his brother, Abe Attell, was world featherweight champion (1906–12). The brothers are the only known siblings to hold simultaneous world titles.

Monte Attell's professional record was 106 bouts—46 wins (18 KOs, 1 by foul), 21 draws, 38 losses (9 by KO), and 1 no contest.



Monte Attell



Maximilian Baer

Maximilian Baer

United States

Born: February 11, 1909, Omaha, Nebraska

Died: November 21, 1959

Max Baer was world heavyweight boxing champion 1934–35. His eleventh round knockout of Primo Carnera on June 14, 1934, gave him the world heavyweight title. He held the title until June 13, 1935, when he lost a fifteen-round decision to James Braddock.

The Omaha-born champion was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1968, World Boxing HOF in 1984, and International Boxing HOF in 1995. *The Ring Magazine* (in 2003) named Baer No. 22 on the list of the “100 Greatest Punchers of All Time.”

Max Baer’s professional record was 83 bouts—70 wins (52 by KO, 18 by decision), 8 losses by decision, 3 by KO, and 2 by foul.

Benny Bass

United States

Born: December 15, 1904, Kiev, Ukraine

Died: June 25, 1975

Benny Bass was world featherweight champion 1927–28 and world junior lightweight champion 1929–31.

The 5-foot-1½ Bass, whose career weight ranged from 120 to 135 pounds, had 63 knockouts in 172 victories en route to winning two world titles within twenty-five months. He won the world featherweight crown in September 1927 and lost it five months later to Tony Canzoneri. Moving up a class, he captured the world junior welterweight championship in December 1929 and held the title for nineteen months.

In 1920, at age sixteen, Bass won the U.S. middle states flyweight championship. He turned pro as a bantamweight in 1922 and did not retire until 1940. His professional record was 227 bouts—172 wins (63 by KO), 38 losses, 10 draws, 1 no decision, and 2 no contests.



Benny Bass



Jackie "Kid" Berg (Judah Bergman)

Jackie "Kid" Berg (Judah Bergman)

Great Britain

Born: June 28, 1909, London, England

Died: April 22, 1991

Jackie Berg, the "Whitechapel Windmill," was world junior welterweight champion 1930–31. He knocked out American Mushy Callahan to win the title and lost it thirteen months later to world lightweight champion Tony Canzoneri.

The son of an East End Orthodox family, Berg's amateur experience occurred in the streets of London. Only fifteen years of age in 1924, he volunteered for his first pro fight. By 1928 he was boxing in the United States, and in 1930 he celebrated his most impressive year. In January of that year, he decisioned Canzoneri, and a month later he stopped Callahan for the world welterweight crown. In August he handed Kid Chocolate his first defeat in more than 100 bouts; and in Octo-

ber he avenged his first two American losses by decisioning Billy Petrolle in New York.

Berg's professional record was 192 bouts—157 victories (57 by KO), drew 9, and lost 26.

Samuel Berger

United States

Born: December 25, 1884, Chicago, Illinois

Died: February 23, 1925

Sam Berger was the first Olympic heavyweight boxing champion, winning his gold medal at the St. Louis Olympiad in 1904, the first year that boxing was included on the Olympic program.

A longtime leading amateur boxer representing the San Francisco Olympic Club, the 6-foot-2, 200-pound Berger turned professional immediately after the Olympics but fought as a pro for only two years. His most notable professional bout was a six-round no decision over the light-heavyweight champion of Philadelphia, Jack O'Brien, in July 1906.



Samuel Berger



Jack Bernstein (John Dodick)

Jack Bernstein (John Dodick)

United States

Born: November 5, 1894, New York, New York

Died: December 26, 1945

The 5-foot-3, 128-pound Jack Bernstein won the world junior lightweight championship on May 30, 1923, decisioning titleholder Johnny Dundee in New York, New York's Velodrome. He lost the crown back to Dundee seven months later in a controversial fifteen-round decision.

Bernstein and Dundee fought a "rubber" third bout on September 15, 1924, three months after Dundee lost his junior lightweight title. This time the fifteen-round decision went unanimously to Bernstein.

Bernstein fought the three boxers who would succeed Benny Leonard as lightweight champion,

all in nontitle bouts. He beat Jimmy Goodrich (Leonard's successor) twice. Against Rocky Kansas (who followed Goodrich), Bernstein won the first, drew the second, and lost a third bout. His first fight against Sammy Mandell (Kansas's successor) ended in a fifteen-round draw. The second was a no decision. And their third meeting was a ten-round loss for Bernstein. All three Mandell fights took place within six months.

Bernstein's *recorded* professional record was 89 bouts—60 wins (14 KOs, 1 foul), 8 draws, and 21 losses (1 KO).

Morris "Whitey" Bimstein

United States

Born: January 10, 1897, New York, New York

Died: July 13, 1969

Over his storied fifty-year career, Whitey Bimstein was reputed as a great trainer and "cutman" for twenty-five world boxing champions, among them Jack Dempsey, Rocky Marciano, Jake LaMotta, Barney Ross, Gene Tunney, Max Baer, James J. Braddock, Primo Carnera, Rocky Graziano, Mickey Walker, Jackie "Kid" Berg, Benny Leonard, Louis "Kid" Kaplan, Charley Phil Rosenberg, Ingemar Johansson, and Slapsie Maxie Rosen-



Morris "Whitey" Bimstein

bloom. More than a dozen of his fighters are in the Boxing Hall of Fame.

Bimstein teamed with IJSHOF honoree Ray Arcel from 1925 to 1934, forming the most successful training combo in boxing history. After World War II Bimstein enjoyed a successful partnership with trainer Freddie Brown.

Whitey was known for his ability to motivate fighters both psychologically and physically, and he was universally regarded as a cornerman whose expertise with swabs, antiseptics, and astringents between rounds was unsurpassed.

Bimstein was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 2006.

Joe Choynski ("Chrysanthemum Joe")

United States

Born: November 8, 1868, San Francisco, California

Died: January 25, 1943

Although he was never given a chance to fight for the world heavyweight championship, Joe Choynski nonetheless fought the great boxers of his time in nontitle bouts. Unfortunately for "Chrysanthemum Joe," who often gave away thirty to seventy pounds to an opponent, the light-heavyweight division wasn't created until 1903, a year before he retired.

In 1894, the 5-foot-10, 170-pound Choynski knocked out future heavyweight champion Bob Fitzsimmons in the fifth round of their nontitle match. Three years later, Joe fought future heavyweight champion James J. Jeffries to a twenty-round draw. In 1901 Choynski stopped the great Jack Johnson (also before he wore a heavyweight crown) in three rounds. He also battled young Jim Corbett three times in 1889—three years before "Gentleman Jim" took John L. Sullivan's heavyweight crown. The first fight was a "no contest" battle, while the last two were won by Corbett. Each is described as a "nontitle barn-burning bout."



Joe Choynski ("Chrysanthemum Joe")

When Corbett, Fitzsimmons, Jeffries, and Johnson were world champions, they refused to give Choynski a title bout. Both Fitzsimmons and Corbett were later to acknowledge that the hardest blows they ever took in the ring were delivered by Joe Choynski. Said Corbett about their June 1889 battle in his 1925 autobiography, *The Roar of the Crowd*: "Choynski was to be the very toughest battle I had ever fought or was to fight; one in which I was to receive more punishment than I have ever had in all my battles put together." Commenting on his draw with Choynski, Jeffries said: "In that fight, I received the hardest blow I ever took in my life."

Choynski retired in 1904 after twenty years in the ring. As testimony to his regard in the boxing world, he was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame

in 1960, long before most world champions were to be so honored.

His recorded professional record was 77 bouts—won 50 (25 KOs), lost 15, drew 6, 6 no decisions 6, and 1 no contest.

Robert Cohen

France (Algeria)

Born: November 15, 1930, Annaba, Algeria

Robert Cohen was world bantamweight champion 1954 to 1956. The 5-foot-3½ Algerian won his world title less than seven months after winning the European bantamweight crown.

The 115–20 pounder won the French bantamweight title in November 1953 and took the European Championship just three months later. On September 19, 1954, he decisioned Chamrern Songkitrat in Bangkok for the world title.

Cohen's professional record was 43 bouts—36 wins (13 KOs), lost 4, drew 3.



Robert Cohen



Dutch Sam (Samuel Elias)

Dutch Sam (Samuel Elias)

Great Britain

Born: April 4, 1775, London, England

Died: July 3, 1816

Samuel Elias stood 5-foot-6 and never weighed more than 135 pounds for a match. Nonetheless, the London-born son of Dutch parents is regarded as the greatest small man in bare knuckles ring history.

Dutch Sam fought his first match in 1801 and had more than 100 fights with only one loss—the last match of his career. He faced his younger opponent that day at the age thirty-nine, four years and fifteen thousand glasses of gin after he had

retired. (One hundred fights in this era were considered an enormous number.)

Known as "the Terrible Jew," he was the most scientific and feared pugilist of his day. Sam usually fought men significantly taller and heavier than himself, and many of his fights lasted thirty-five to sixty rounds.

His mentor was Daniel Mendoza, the first great Jewish boxer (and IJSHOF honoree), who was his cornerman from time to time.

Although Dutch Sam never won a World Championship—in the bare knuckles era, there were no weight classes, just one champ—he was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1997.



Leone Efrati

Leone Efrati

Italy

Born: May 16, 1915, Rome, Italy

Died: April 16, 1944, Auschwitz Concentration Camp

As Italy's featherweight boxing champion, Leone Efrati came to the United States in December 1938 to challenge Leo Rodak, one of several world featherweight division title claimants. Efrati lost the ten-round decision but opted to remain in the United States because of the specter of World War II. He was able to stay in America until 1943.

From the outbreak of World War II, Italy was partnered with Germany and Japan against the United States and its allies. Although his supporters attempted to persuade U.S. officials that a return to Italy meant certain death, he was nonetheless deported. A short time after his return, the Italian champion was arrested in Rome and sent to Auschwitz, where he was put to death in 1944.

Efrati was elected to the IJSHOF as a representative of Italian Jewish athletes who died in the Holocaust.

Jackie Fields (Jacob Finkelstein)

United States

Born: February 9, 1908, Chicago, Illinois

Died: June 3, 1984

World welterweight champion 1929–30 and 1932–33, Jackie Fields was only sixteen in 1924 when he captured the Olympic featherweight championship—the youngest ever to win an Olympic boxing crown.

Fields won the National Boxing Association (NBA) welterweight championship in March 1929, with a decision over Young Jack Thompson. Four months later, on July 25, he captured the world welterweight crown when a second round foul disqualified defending champion Joe Dundee. Fields lost the world title to Thompson in May 1930 but



Jackie Fields (Jacob Finkelstein)

regained it with a decision over Lou Brouillard, who had taken the crown from Thompson.

Legendary fight manager Jack Kearns in 1962 called Fields the “best all-around battler the United States has ever produced.”

As an amateur, Fields won 51 of 54 bouts. His pro record: 87 fights—won 74 (30 KOs), drew 3, lost 9, and no contest 1. He was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1977.

Charley Goldman

United States

Born: December 22, 1887, Warsaw, Poland

Died: November 11, 1968

Charley Goldman is most recognized as the trainer of five world champions. The most famous of them was undefeated heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano. He also trained middleweight champion

Al McCoy, lightweight titleholder Lou Ambers, featherweight champion Joey Archibald, and welterweight champ Marty Servo.

Goldman was elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1992.

Lesser known is the fact that the 5-foot-1, 105-pound Goldman was himself a boxer and bantamweight contender in a career that spanned 1904 to 1914. He became a professional boxer in New York State when prizefights were only legal under certain conditions—not often the conditions of his matches—which explains why Goldman is estimated to have fought more than 400 mostly unrecorded bouts. Of his 137 fights on record, he won 36 (20 by KO), and lost 6. The other 94 were ruled either a no decision or a draw.

A protégé of bantamweight champion Terry McGovern, Goldman fought his first professional bout at age sixteen in a Brooklyn saloon. The fight



Charley Goldman

was designated a draw when police stopped the match after forty-two rounds.

Goldman's ten-round nontitle fight against world bantamweight titleholder Johnny Coulon in November 1912 ended in a no decision. He fought rival Whitey Kitson sixty times. Once they fought twice on the same day, another time, twelve bouts in twelve nights.

Charley was not only a principal boxing teacher of the twentieth century but also one of its most colorful. With his signature black derby, horn-rimmed glasses, and big cigar, the gruff-faced, diminutive Goldman was a perfect fit for the offbeat New York boxing theater. Goldman is quoted by the *New York Times*: "Training a promising kid is like putting a quarter in one pocket and taking a dollar out of the other."

Abe Goldstein

United States

Born: September 10, 1898, New York, New York

Died: February 12, 1977



Abe Goldstein

In 1924 Abe Goldstein defeated Joe Lynch to win the world bantamweight championship. He is recognized as the No. 5 ranked bantamweight of all time.

The 5-foot-5 Goldstein, who had lost two previous title battles against reigning flyweight champions, the first in 1921, moved up a weight class to capture the bantamweight title. He successfully defended his title twice before surrendering the crown nine months later.

At retirement his record was 128 bouts—34 KOs, won 56 decisions, drew 11, lost 18 (4 by KO), and 4 no decisions.



Reuven "Ruby" Goldstein

Reuven "Ruby" Goldstein

United States

Born: October 7, 1907, New York, New York

Died: April 23, 1987

Ruby Goldstein spent more than thirty-five years in the boxing ring, first as a prizefighter, and later as the referee of matches featuring some of the greatest boxers of all time. Although he enjoyed an outstanding career as a lightweight and middleweight contender, he is mostly remembered by contemporary boxing observers as the third man in the ring for thirty-nine World Championship fights.

During his twenty-one years as a boxing official (1943–64), Goldstein refereed such historical battles as the brutal 1946 Tony Zale / Rocky Graziano classic, the 1952 Sugar Ray Robinson / Joey Maxim opus, the 1959 Ingemar Johansson / Floyd Patterson clash, and Joe Louis's title fights against Jersey Joe Walcott and Rocky Marciano (Louis's last). Only Arthur Donovan refereed more heavyweight championship fights, and no one worked more title bouts in all divisions than Goldstein.

Putting on the gloves for his first professional fight at the age of seventeen and on the cover of *The Ring* magazine just one year later, Goldstein went on to win his first twenty-three bouts, developing into a remarkable lightweight and middle-weight contender. His extended boxing career he retired periodically—ranged from 1925 until 1937. Billed as the “Jewel of the Ghetto,” he won fifty of fifty-five professional fights—thirty-four by knockout. All five of his losses were by early knockouts in or before the fourth round. In thirty of his own kos, his opponent also failed to make it past the fourth round—and a dozen took place in round one!

Goldstein is ranked by *The Ring* and author Ken Blady, in his book *The Jewish Boxers' Hall of Fame*, as one of the top ten Jewish American boxers of all time. Fred Graham's book *The Third Man in the Ring*, celebrates Goldstein's career as a referee.

Alphonse Halimi

France (Algeria)

Born: January 18, 1932, Constantine, Algeria

Died: November 12, 2006

Alphonse Halimi was world bantamweight champion 1957–59. He took the title April 1, 1957, in Paris, decisioning reigning champion Mario D'Agata. Earlier he held the French amateur bantamweight title 1953–55 and won the All-Mediterranean title in 1955.



Alphonse Halimi

Turning professional after 189 amateur fights, Halimi won his first seven pro bouts by knockout—five of them in the first round.

Fifteen months after losing his world title in July 1959, Halimi captured the European bantamweight crown. He lost that title seven months later, only to regain it on June 26, 1962, in Tel Aviv against Piero Rollo. The bout marked the first professional boxing match held in Israel.

His professional record was 50 bouts—won 41 (21 kos), lost 8, and drew 1.



Harry Harris

Harry Harris

United States

Born: November 18, 1880, Chicago, Illinois

Died: June 5, 1959

Harry Harris was world bantamweight champion 1901–2. He was the first of the modern Jewish boxing champions, turning professional in 1896, at the age of sixteen.

Harris stood a shade less than 5-foot-8 and weighed only 105 pounds. He was nicknamed the “Human Hairpin.” At the turn of the century there was no class to accommodate his weight, so he was relegated to the 116-pound bantamweight division. At the outset of his career Harris weighed only 96 pounds, pitting him against opponents who were as much as twenty pounds heavier.

Harris claimed the bantamweight title in 1900, when the titleholder (Terry McGovern) vacated the throne due to excess weight. However, two

Englishmen, Harry Ware and Pedlar Palmer, also claimed the title, so Harris sailed to England to meet them. Ware declined to fight him, preferring to forfeit his title claim. Palmer accepted the challenge.

The day before the fight, with unusually heavy betting generating feverish excitement, a telegram arrived addressed to Harris that his twin brother, Sammy, had died. Scheming officials withheld the message until the following night, as Harris entered the boxing arena. Their expectation was the tragic news would render the American unwilling to go on with the match or emotionally unable to carry on a solid fight. However, the grief-stricken American decided to go on with the bout, floored Palmer four times, and won a fifteen-round decision to gain the undisputed bantamweight title. A year later, weight problems forced Harris to relinquish his championship.

Harris successfully fought five more bouts as a featherweight and retired. In 1906 he returned to the ring as a lightweight, registering one victory and three no decisions. Although the win was over the leading lightweight title contender, Harris decided to retire for good.

His career record was 54 bouts—39 wins (15 by KO, 1 by foul), drew 7, lost 2, and 5 no decisions.

Michael Jacobs

United States

Born: March 10, 1880, New York, New York

Died: January 1953

Mike Jacobs was the world’s top boxing promoter from 1935 to 1949, when he sold his boxing empire. During his reign as president of the Twentieth Century Sporting Club, he controlled the champions of every division.

In 1933 Jacobs organized his Sporting Club in opposition to Madison Square Garden. The club’s initial bout was staged in January 1934 between Barney Ross and Billy Petrolle. But it wasn’t until



Michael Jacobs

1935, when Jacobs gained control of young heavy-weight sensation Joe Louis, that he became a major player in fight promotions.

With some creative persuasion, Jacobs convinced heavyweight titleholder James Braddock, scheduled to fight Max Schmeling under the auspices of Madison Square Garden, to instead defend his crown against young Joe Louis. Braddock was promised, should he lose, a percentage of the earnings of the new heavyweight champion for the next ten years.

On June 27, 1937, Louis defeated Braddock and went on to hold the title for a decade. Every fight Louis fought as a champion was promoted by Jacobs.

Among his many special achievements, in 1937, Jacobs negotiated the first paid radio sponsorship for a series of boxing matches, eighteen weeks, from the New York Hippodrome, heard on WHN, New York. Sam Taub was the blow-by-blow reporter.

In September 1944 Jacobs secured the first commercial sponsorship of a television boxing match—the featherweight title bout between Willie Pep and Chalky Wright. During World War II he promoted a boxing extravaganza that realized \$36 million in U.S. war bonds.

Three times during his career Jacobs promoted million dollar fights. His biggest championship fight gate was the Louis–Billy Conn rematch in 1946 that grossed \$1,925,564.

In his heyday, the stretch on Manhattan's 49th Street between Broadway and Eighth Avenue was known as "Jacobs Beach."

He sold his Twentieth Century Sporting Club and boxing empire in 1949 to . . . Madison Square Garden.

Jacobs was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1982.



Ben Jeby

Ben Jeby

United States

Born: November 11, 1907, New York, New York

Died: October 5, 1985

Ben Jeby was world middleweight champion in 1933. He won his title on January 13, 1933, in a twelve-round TKO over Frankie Battaglia.

Following several successful title defenses, Jeby lost the middleweight crown via KO to Lou Brouillard on August 9, 1933.

Jeby had his first pro fight in 1927 at the age of seventeen but didn't get a crack at the title until five and a half years later, when reigning world champion Marcel Thil vacated his middleweight crown. He fought 73 pro fights, winning 54 (22 by KO), drew 4, lost 14 (12 by KO), and 1 no contest.

Louis "Kid" Kaplan

United States

Born: October 15, 1901, Kiev, Ukraine

Died: October 26, 1970

World featherweight champion 1925–26, Louis "Kid" Kaplan defended his crown only three times before outgrowing the featherweight division. He



Louis "Kid" Kaplan

won the vacant featherweight title with a nine-round TKO over Danny Kramer in Chicago on January 2, 1925. He was undefeated in his next sixteen fights, but relinquished his crown on July 6, 1926.

After vacating the title, the 5-foot-4 Kaplan was often referred to as the "uncrowned lightweight champion," a compliment given him after top lightweight fighters of the era, such as Tony Canzoneri, Al Singer, and Al Mandell refused to fight him and his punishing style.

Kaplan's professional record was 150 bouts—won 108 (26 KOs), drew 13, lost 17, and 12 no contests.



Solly Krieger

Solly Krieger

United States

Born: March 28, 1909, Brooklyn, New York

Died: September 24, 1965

Solly Krieger was world middleweight champion 1938–39.

A Golden Gloves amateur champion who turned professional in 1928, Krieger did not get

a shot at the title until his tenth year in the ring. On November 1, 1938, in his ninety-first professional bout, Krieger won the world middleweight crown by decisioning titleholder Al Hostak. Seven months and eight fights later, Hostak regained the championship. Krieger retired in 1941. His professional record was 112 bouts—won 81 (54 KOs), drew 7, and lost 24.

Benny Leonard (Benjamin Leiner)

United States

Born: April 7, 1896, New York, New York

Died: April 18, 1947

Benny Leonard held the world lightweight championship from May 28, 1917, to January 15, 1925, retiring his crown undefeated. His seven-year, seven-and-a-half-month reign is the longest in the history of the lightweight division.



Benny Leonard (Benjamin Leiner)

One of the greatest boxers and punchers in any weight to ever enter the ring, Leonard lost his first professional fight and then went on to win his next 88 matches—68 by knockout. In his first year as champion, Leonard defended his title fourteen times, beginning just one week after winning it.

Although he retired from the ring a millionaire, he lost nearly everything in the stock market crash of 1929. After a seven-year layoff, he attempted a comeback, retiring once again after losing to young Jimmy McLarnin in October 1932.

Wrote veteran sports writer Dan Parker: “Leonard (as champion) moved with the grace of a ballet dancer and wore an air of arrogance that belonged to royalty.” Said Hearst papers editor Arthur Brisbane of Leonard: “He has done more to conquer anti-Semitism than a thousand textbooks.”

Leonard was a key supporter of the first Maccabiah Games in 1932, as well as the Maccabiah of 1935.

After several years in the U.S. Maritime Service during World War II, Leonard returned to boxing as a referee in 1943. Four years later, he collapsed and died in the ring while refereeing a match in New York’s St. Nicholas Arena.

His professional record was 213 bouts—180 wins (69 KOs), lost 21, drew 6, and 6 no decisions.

Leonard was elected to *The Ring* magazine’s Boxing Hall of Fame in 1955 and the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1990.

Battling Levinsky (Barney Lebowitz)

United States

Born: June 10, 1891, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: February 12, 1949

World light-heavyweight champion 1916–20, Battling Levinsky began his boxing career under the name Barney Williams. However, the former Barney Lebowitz got little attention until he took on a manager named “Dumb” Dan Morgan in 1913, who changed his name and his boxing fortunes.



Battling Levinsky (Barney Lebowitz)

True to his new name, Battling Levinsky fought thirty-seven times in 1914—nine times during the month of January alone. In January 1915, he began the year with three ten-round bouts on New Year's Day—one each in Brooklyn, Waterbury, Connecticut, and New York, New York.

After two title-match losses to light-heavyweight champion Jack Dillon (April 1914 and April 1916), Levinsky wrested the crown from Dillon on October 24, 1916. After fifty-nine bouts, almost four years to the day, he lost his championship to France's Georges Carpentier.

In an era when boxing titles changed hands only because of a knockout—non-KO championship fights were labeled “no decision”—Levinsky fought all comers, including future heavyweight champions Gene Tunney and Jack Dempsey (losing both matches). Levinsky loved to fight, although his claim to having fought as many as 500 bouts is impossible to substantiate.

His official professional record was 287 bouts—won 192 (34 KOs), lost 52, drew 34, and 9 no decisions.

Levinsky was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1966.

Harry Lewis (Besterman)

United States

Born: September 16, 1886, New York, New York

Died: February 22, 1956

Harry Lewis was world welterweight champion 1908–12. *The Ring* magazine's Nat Fleischer ranked Lewis the sixth greatest welterweight of all time.

Lewis, whose fighting weight ranged from 130 to 155 pounds, defeated Mike “Twin” Sullivan in February 1907, two months before Sullivan took the world welterweight title from champion Honey Mellody. When Sullivan outgrew the welterweight division a year later, Lewis claimed the vacant



Harry Lewis (Besterman)

crown, fortifying his claim with a three-round KO of No. 1 title claimant Frank Mantell in January 1908 and a four-round knockout of ex-champ Melody three months later.

Lewis successfully defended his title six times before weight problems forced him to vacate the title. During the years he laid claim to the welterweight crown, Lewis fought fifty-four times, defending his title six times. Within that period he registered forty victories, including twenty-two knockouts, with seven losses (two by foul), and drew seven. Most of his fights during those years were in heavier weight classes.

Many of Lewis's bouts from 1910 to 1913 were staged in France and England. One remarkable feat took place May 19, 1910, in Paris, at which time Lewis dispatched three opponents on the same card. That afternoon, in fewer than five full rounds, he recorded a first-round KO, a two-round KO, and a third match victory on an opponent's second-round foul.

Harry Lewis's professional record was 171 bouts—won 110 (47 KOs and 1 foul), lost 36 (2 by KO, 3 on fouls), drew 24, and 1 no contest.

Ted "Kid" Lewis (Gershon Mendeloff)

Great Britain

Born: October 24, 1894, London, England

Died: October 20, 1970

Ted "Kid" Lewis was world welterweight champion 1915–16 and 1917–19. He was nicknamed the "Aldgate Sphinx." He fought in six divisions, at weights from 116 to 166 pounds, during his twenty-year career.

Lewis became England's youngest boxing champion in October 1913, when he won the British featherweight title at the age of seventeen. Just a few months later, in February 1914, he captured the European featherweight crown.

When he won a twelve-round decision over world welterweight champion Jack Britton in



Ted "Kid" Lewis (Gershon Mendeloff)

Boston on August 31, 1915, the "Kid" became the first Brit to win a world boxing title in the United States. Lewis and American Britton were to fight twenty times between 1915 and 1921, with Lewis losing the title to Britton in 1916, regaining it the following year, and losing it for the final time in March 1919.

Lewis relinquished his claim to the British Empire and European welterweight titles in December 1920. In June 1921 he won the British middleweight crown and, less than four months later, the European middleweight title. In May 1922 Lewis was stopped by Georges Carpentier for the world light-heavyweight championship, but in mid-June he KO'd Frankie Burns to win the Empire middleweight title. Lewis lost the last of his European boxing crowns in November 1924.

In 1913 Kid Lewis was the first boxer to use a protective mouthpiece. It was designed for him by his dentist (and ex-fighter) Jack Marks. The mouthpiece soon became—and continues to be—standard equipment in the sport of boxing.

Lewis's professional record was 283 bouts—won 215 (71 KOs), lost 44, and drew 24.

He was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1964 and the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1992.

Al McCoy (Rudolph)

United States

Born: October 23, 1894, Rosenhayn, New Jersey

Died: August 22, 1966

Al McCoy was world middleweight champion 1914–17. He won his title at the age of eighteen and was the first southpaw (left-hander) ever to win a World Championship.

McCoy flattened champion George Chip in the first round of their April 7, 1914, title bout to win the middleweight crown. In an era when a champion could only lose his crown by knockout, McCoy battled through forty-six fights. He lost



Al McCoy (Rudolph)

the middleweight title on November 14, 1917, on a sixth-round KO by Mike O'Dowd.

Al McCoy's professional record was 157 bouts—99 wins (26 KOs), lost 40, and no decisions 18.



Daniel Mendoza

Daniel Mendoza

Great Britain

Born: July 5, 1764, London, England

Died: September 3, 1836

Daniel Mendoza was the first Jewish prizefighter to become a champion. Though he stood only 5-foot-7 and weighed 160 pounds, Mendoza was England's sixteenth heavyweight champion (world champion) 1792–95. Always proud of his heritage, he billed himself as "Mendoza the Jew."

He is the father of scientific boxing. At a time when the sport of boxing consisted primarily of barehanded slugging, Mendoza introduced the concept of defense. He developed the guard, the straight left, and made use of sidestepping tac-

tics. This new strategy, the “Mendoza School,” also referred to as the “Jewish School,” was criticized in some circles as cowardly. But it permitted Mendoza to fully capitalize on his small stature, speed, and punching power.

His first recorded prizefight was a knockout of an opponent known as “Harry the Coalheaver,” whom he dispatched in forty rounds. A victory in his first professional fight in 1787 won him the patronage of the Prince of Wales (later George IV), the first boxer to earn this honor. His acceptance by British royalty (he was the first Jew ever to speak to England’s King George III) helped elevate the position of the Jew in English society and stem a vicious tide of anti-Semitism that many Englishmen read into Shakespeare’s characterization of Shylock in his play *The Merchant of Venice*.

Following storied matches against rival Richard Humphries in 1788, 1789, and 1790 (Mendoza lost the first battle in twenty-nine rounds but won the latter pair in fifty-two and fifteen rounds), he laid claim to the English boxing title in 1791 when the prevailing champion, Benjamin Brain, retired.

Another top English boxer, Bill Warr, contested Mendoza’s claim. In May 1792 the two met to settle the matter in Croydon, England. Mendoza was victorious in twenty-three rounds. Warr and Mendoza met again in November 1794, and this time it took the champion only fifteen minutes to dispose of the challenger.

Mendoza, a descendant of Spanish Marranos (Jews coerced to convert to Christianity) who had lived in London for nearly a century, became such a popular figure in England that songs were written about him, his name appeared in numerous plays, his personal appearances would fill theaters, portraits of him and his fights were popular subjects for artists, and commemorative medals were struck in his honor.

Daniel Mendoza was one of the inaugural group elected in 1954 to the Boxing Hall of Fame, as well as the inaugural class of the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1990.



Samuel Mosberg

Samuel Mosberg

United States

Born: June 14, 1896, New York, New York

Died: August 1967

Sam Mosberg won the Olympic lightweight (135 pounds) championship at the 1920 Games in Antwerp, Germany. En route to his gold medal, Mosberg scored what historians list as the quickest knockout in Olympic boxing history, finishing an opponent in a matter of seconds.

In a career that began in 1912, Mosberg fought 250 amateur fights prior to turning pro after his Olympic victory. He retired in 1923 with fifty-seven professional fights under his belt, enjoying limited success.

Said Spike Webb, perennial U.S. Olympic boxing coach during the first half of the twentieth century: “Sammy Mosberg is the greatest Olympic champion I ever coached.” Webb’s Olympic proteges include Jackie Fields, Fidel LaBarba, and Frankie Genaro—all gold medalists who went on to become professional world champions.

Mosberg coached the U.S. boxing team at the 1953 Maccabiah Games.



Bob Olin

Bob Olin

United States

Born: July 4, 1908, New York, New York

Died: December 16, 1956

Bob Olin won the world light-heavyweight championship on November 16, 1934, decisioning Maxie Rosenbloom in fifteen rounds. He lost his crown eleven months later to John Henry Lewis in a fifteen-round decision.

Olin was undefeated in thirty-five amateur bouts, including the 1928 City of New York Golden Gloves at 175 pounds in an open championship.

A cagey boxer with a good punch, Olin had a quality but spotty record against the top pro fighters of his era. He registered 55 victories (25 by KO) in 85 career pro bouts, drew 4, and had 27 losses.

Victor "Young" Perez

Tunisia

Born: October 18, 1911, Tunis, Tunisia

Died: February 4, 1943, Gleiwitz, Poland
Concentration Camp

Victor Perez was world flyweight champion 1931–32. The 5-foot-1, 110-pound puncher captured the French flyweight title in Paris in June 1931.



Victor "Young" Perez

In October of the same year, he won the International Boxing Union's version of the world flyweight crown with a second-round knockout of American champion Frankie Genaro.

After losing his title one year later to England's Jackie Brown, Perez moved up to the bantamweight class, but lost a championship bout decision to Panama Al Brown in February 1934. He continued to box until December 1938.

His professional record was 133 bouts—won 92 (28 KOs), lost 26, and drew 15.

Following fifteen months in the Auschwitz concentration camp, he died at the Gleiwitz Camp in Poland.

Charley Phil Rosenberg (Charles Green)

United States

Born: August 15, 1902, New York, New York

Died: March 12, 1976

World bantamweight champion 1925–27, Charlie Phil Rosenberg won his title on March 20, 1925,

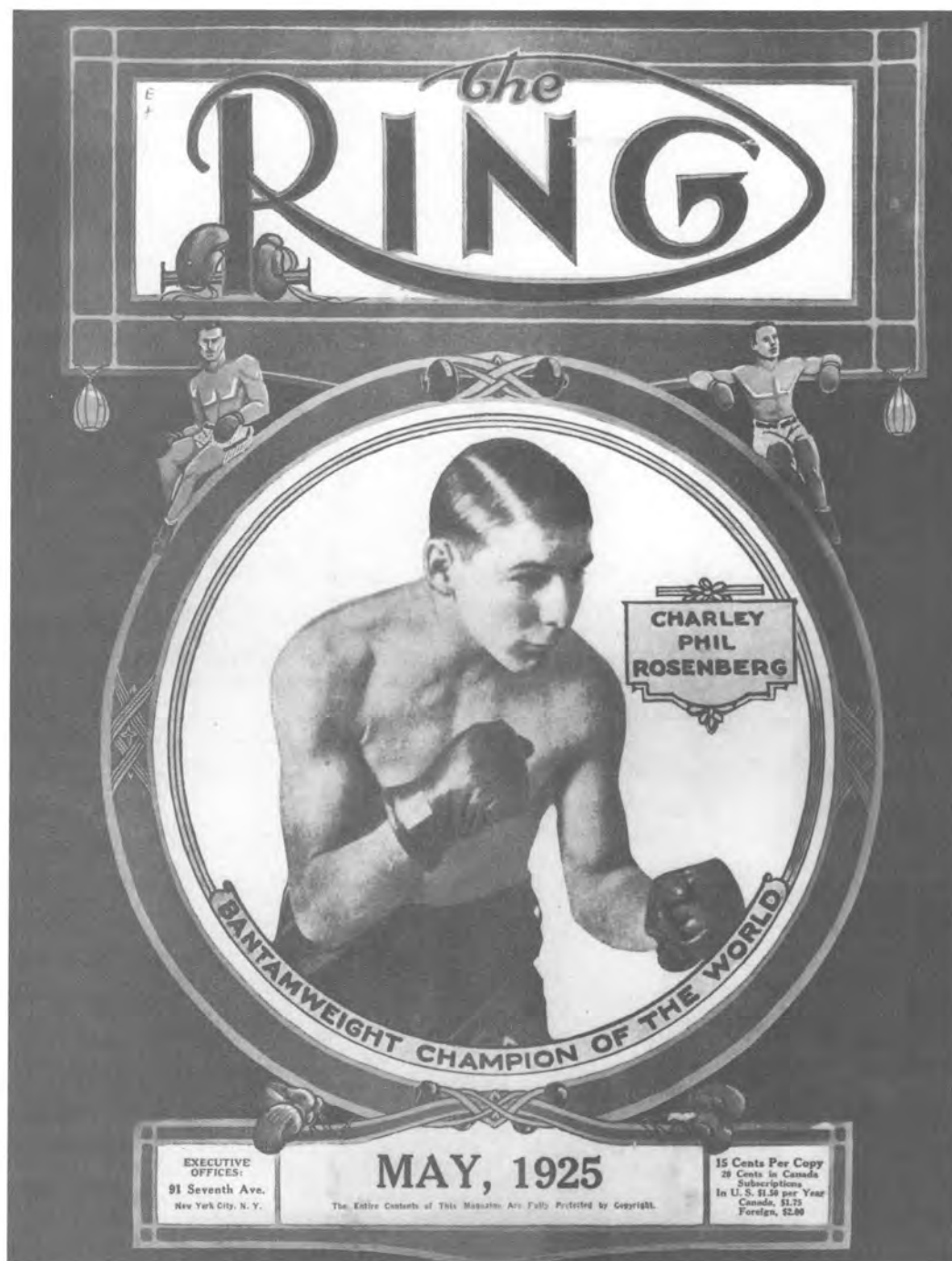
in New York, New York, decisioning Eddie Martin in fifteen rounds. In order to make weight for the title fight, the 5-foot-4 Rosenberg had to lose thirty-nine pounds in ten weeks.

He remained champion until February 4, 1927, when he was forced to relinquish his crown when he could not make the division's legal weight in a title defense against contender Bushy Graham. The

fight itself went on as scheduled, and Rosenberg won a fifteen-round decision.

Rosenberg fought only two more bouts, winning both, including a victory over former featherweight champion Johnny Dundee, before deciding to retire.

His professional record was 65 bouts—33 wins (7 KOs), drew 8, lost 17, and 7 no decisions.



Charley Phil Rosenberg (Charles Green)

Max "Slapsie Maxie" Rosenbloom

United States

Born: November 1, 1907, Leonard's Bridge,
Connecticut

Died: March 6, 1976

Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom was world light-heavyweight boxing champion 1930–34. He was the busiest titleholder in ring history, fighting 106 times during his four-and-a-half-year reign—the equivalent of fighting one bout every fifteen days!

Rosenbloom decisioned world champion Jimmy Slattery to win the light-heavyweight title on June 25, 1930. He lost the crown to Bob Olin by decision on November 16, 1934.

Journalist Damon Runyon, writing about Rosenbloom's colorful persona and unique open glove style of boxing, dubbed him "Slapsie Maxie," a nickname that followed him throughout his boxing career.



Max "Slapsie Maxie" Rosenbloom

Upon retirement, Rosenbloom's sharp wit and broken syntax brought him new success in motion pictures. He appeared in nearly one hundred films during his post-boxing career.

His professional boxing record, one that began in 1923 and closed in 1939 was 299 bouts—223 wins (19 KOs), losses 42, drew 32, and 2 no contests.

He was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1972 and the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1993.



Barney Ross (left) with Featherweight champion Willie Pep at Ross's discharge from WWII military service.

Barney Ross (Beryl David Rosofsky)

United States

Born: December 23, 1909, New York, New York

Died: January 17, 1967

Barney Ross was the world lightweight and junior welterweight champion from 1933 to 1935 and world welterweight champion in 1934 and 1935–38. He was the first professional boxer to hold the lightweight and welterweight titles simultaneously and the first boxer to hold three World Championships at the same time.

Ross defeated Tony Canzoneri for the world lightweight and world junior welterweight titles

on June 23, 1933. On May 28, 1934, he beat Jimmy McLarnin for the world welterweight crown, giving him his third World Championship belt.

Three months later, Ross lost the welterweight title back to McLarnin. He relinquished his world lightweight crown in April 1935, but barely a month later, he regained the world welterweight championship from McLarnin. He then gave up his junior welterweight title. Ross held on to the welterweight crown until May 31, 1938, when he lost it to Henry Armstrong.

Barney Ross was not the picture-perfect teenager. The Rosofskys moved to Chicago when young Beryl was a schoolboy, and when he was fourteen, his father was shot to death in a petty holdup. Angry and bitter, Beryl became a street tough, scratching and scraping for his family's living as well as his own turf. Luckily he found the prize ring, and although an amateur for some 250 bouts, he would sell his medals and trophies for enough cash to support his family. After Beryl's first few professional fights, his managers changed his name to Barney Ross.

Restless for action after retiring from the ring, Ross joined the U.S. Marines in 1942 and found himself a hero in the storied World War II battle of Guadalcanal. Barney was awarded the Silver Star for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action" and received a Distinguished Service Cross and presidential citation from U.S. president Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The Hollywood version of his battleground heroism was portrayed in the motion picture *Monkey on My Back*. A personal account of that chilling chapter in Ross's life is found in his autobiography, *No Man Stands Alone*.

Including his extraordinary amateur boxing career, Ross fought 329 bouts, 81 of them as a professional. His pro record: won 74 (22 KOs), lost 4 (all by decision), and drew 3.

Ross was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1956 and the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1990.

Isadore "Corporal Izzy" Schwartz

United States

Born: October 23, 1900, New York, New York

Died: July 1988

Isadore "Corporal Izzy" Schwartz was New York world flyweight champion from 1927 to 1929.

With the flyweight championship vacant and rife with title claimants following the sudden death of champion Pancho Villa, Schwartz won the New York version of the world title on December 16, 1927, decisively defeating California contender Newsboy Brown in fifteen rounds. Thirteen months earlier, he defeated another California claimant, Johnny McCoy. In a pair of 1928 bouts within thirty-one days—February (ten rounds) and March (twelve



Isadore "Corporal Izzy" Schwartz

rounds), both in Toronto—Schwartz decisioned NBA and IBU flyweight champion French Belanger.

Within six months of winning the flyweight crown, the 5-foot-1, 112-pound “Ghetto Midget” stepped up in weight. On May 23, 1928, he fought Bushy Graham for the vacant New York world bantamweight title, but lost the fifteen-rounder.

Corp. Izzy Schwartz learned to box in the army. He defended his flyweight title successfully five times, officially retiring his crown. Actually Schwartz lost his last title fight by a fifteen-round decision to Willie LaMorte. However, Izzy’s manager had become the opponent’s manager the night before the match. New York State refused to recognize the bout as a championship, declaring the title vacant because of the manager’s deception.

Schwartz’s professional record was 124 bouts—won 69 (7 KOs), lost 34 (3 KOs), drew 14, and 8 no decisions.



Eric Seelig

Eric Seelig

Germany

Born: July 15, 1909, Bromberg, Germany

Died: January 19, 1984

Twenty-three-year-old Eric Seelig was Germany’s middleweight and light-heavyweight boxing champion in 1933, when Hitler came to power. On a July evening that summer, the night before Seelig was scheduled to defend his middleweight title in Berlin, Nazi goons threatened him with death if he entered the ring. Seelig fled to France that night.

Stripped of his German titles, Seelig competed in France for several years before immigrating to the United States in 1935 via Cuba. While in Paris, he fought two middleweight title bouts against world champion Marcel Thil, both ending unsuccessfully by decision.

A punishing battler, Seelig enjoyed considerable success in the United States, with a career record of 40 bouts—25 victories (11 KOs), 7 draws, and 8 losses. His highest *Ring* magazine ranking was No. 6 in 1938.

To this day, Germany has not restored recognition of his stripped titles.

Al Singer

United States

Born: September 6, 1909, New York, New York

Died: April 20, 1961

Nicknamed the “Battling Bronco of the Bronx,” 5-foot-4 Al Singer was a quality boxer with “pop.” He captured the world lightweight championship on July 17, 1930, with a first round knockout (1:47) of champion Sammy Mandell. Four months and three bouts later, Singer surrendered the title to Tony Canzoneri in a first-round KO. Three years earlier, the two had battled to a ten-round draw.

Singer fought only six of nine years between 1927 and 1935, being inactive between 1932 and 1934. He



Al Singer

made a comeback in 1935, but called it quits before the end of the year. He fought 72 bouts—won 61 (25 KOs, 2 by foul), drew 2, and lost 9.

Jack Solomons

Great Britain

Born: December 1900, London, England

Died: December 8, 1979

Jack Solomons was Great Britain's top boxing matchmaker and promoter from the late 1930s to the 1960s. He is credited with reviving prize fighting in the Commonwealth following World War II.

In 1946 Solomons brought American world light-heavyweight champion Gus Lesnevich to London to face England's Freddie Mills, opening the door to many more transatlantic matches.

His association with America's top promoter Mike Jacobs (an IJSHOF honoree) provided Solomons's access to the best U.S. talent. Some of his title bouts headlined U.S. champions, such as

Sugar Ray Robinson, Jimmy Carter, Dado Marino, Chartchai Chionoi, Ike Williams, Archie Moore, Joe Brown, Emile Griffith, Joey Maxim, and Sugar Ramos.

The stylish "Sultan of Sock" had the knack for creating an air of excitement around his fights. Among the twenty-six title matches he promoted during a career spanning nearly fifty years, the July 1951 Sugar Ray Robinson–Randy Turpin middle-weight London title fight was his most memorable. Britisher Turpin, a 33-1 underdog, pulled off the upset of the decade, winning the world middle-weight crown in a fifteen-round decision.

Solomons originally became involved in boxing in the 1930s as manager and operator of the Devonshire Club, a boxing venue for young, promising London fighters. He also worked as a matchmaker



Jack Solomons

for Britain's leading promoters before venturing out on his own.

His first major ring promotion was the Bruce Woodcock-Jack London British heavyweight title fight. In June 1963 he brought young Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) to England to fight Henry Cooper. Clay's fifth-round TKO victory over Cooper was his last match before facing Sonny Liston and winning the world heavyweight crown.

That same year Solomons opened the private World Sporting Club, staging many ring promotions through its auspices. He also promoted the very first fight card in the State of Israel.

As a teenager, Solomons fought briefly under the name of Kid Mears. Only nineteen, his girlfriend threatened, "It's the ring or me!" He chose the ring—the ring on his fiancée's finger. Fay and Jack Solomons were married until her death twenty-five years later.

He was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1995.

Jack Solomons' Annual of the Ring, London, Play Fair Books, was originally published in 1948, and *Jack Solomons' International Boxing Annual* first appeared in 1953.

Lew Tondler

United States

Born: September 28, 1898, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: November 15, 1970

Lew Tondler was called "the greatest southpaw (left-hander) in ring history" by *The Ring's* editor-publisher Nat Fleischer. In 1961 Tondler became the sixteenth prizefighter elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame. Yet, as great a fighter as he was, Tondler never won a championship.

From his first professional fight in 1913 at age fifteen until his final bout in 1928, Tondler fought the best in four weight classes, including seven world champions. A brilliant lightweight and wel-



Lew Tondler

terweight, the Philadelphian made just one career "mistake": fighting in the same era as the legendary Benny Leonard.

He would fight champion Leonard in two classic and wildly heralded matches, losing the first bruising battle on a "no decision." Although the younger Tondler had soundly thrashed Leonard throughout their twelve-round bout, the State of New Jersey (site of the July 27, 1922, match) had a "no decision" law—meaning a champion could only lose his title by knockout.

On July 24, 1923, nearly a year later, a New York crowd of 58,519 paid \$452,648 to see the pair clash again for the title. It was the largest gate ever for the lightweight division. This time Leonard prevailed in a fifteen-round decision—decisions being legal in New York.

Lefty Lew moved up a weight class and defeated the two top contenders for the welterweight championship, Ted Marsh (four-round KO) and Sailor Friedman (ten-round decision). Just eleven months after his second fight with Benny Leonard on June 2, 1924, Tendler battled Mickey Walker for the world welterweight crown. He lost a ten-round decision.

His professional record was 167 bouts—won 59 (37 KOs), 3 on fouls, lost 7, 1 KO-by, drew 2, 94 no decisions, and 1 no contest.



Gyula Török

Gyula Török

Hungary

Born: January 24, 1938, Kispest, Hungary

Died: January 12, 2014

Gyula Török won the flyweight (112 pound) gold medal at the 1960 Rome Olympics. One year earlier, the 5-foot-3 Hungarian was flyweight silver medalist at the European Championships.

Always boxing as an amateur, he captured Hungarian flyweight titles in 1957 and 1958 and bantamweight championships in 1961, 1962, and 1964.

Irving Ungerman

Canada

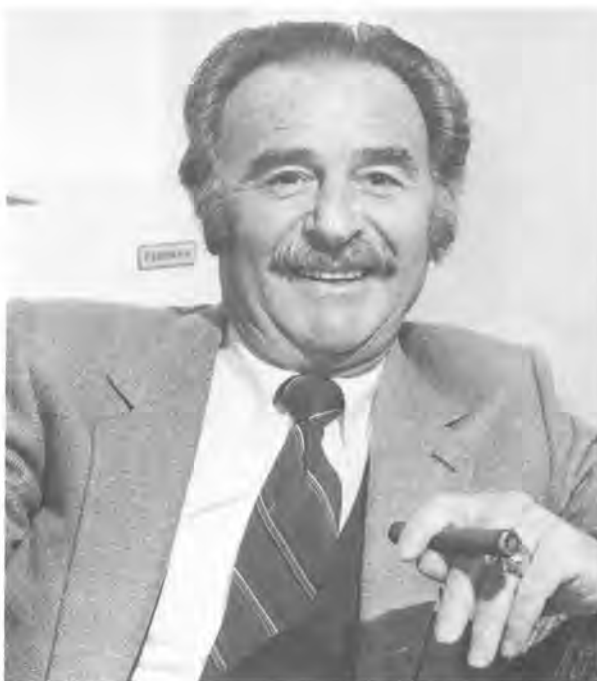
Born: February 1, 1923, Toronto, Canada

Died: October 27, 2015

Canada's premier boxing promoter and manager of championship class boxers, Irv Ungerman, in 1973, was the first person ever elected to the Canadian Boxing Hall of Fame.

He instituted boxing on Canadian closed-circuit television in the early 1960s and was responsible for establishing Canada's *Friday Night at the Fights* on commercial TV.

In addition to the world of boxing, Ungerman served on the 1972 organizing committee that developed the inaugural hockey series between Team Canada and the Soviet National Team. And he was a key figure on the organizing committee responsible for bringing Major League Baseball to Toronto.



Irving Ungerman



Matt Wells

Matt Wells

Great Britain

Born: December 14, 1886, London, England

Died: June 27, 1953, London

Matt Wells was world welterweight boxing champion in 1914 and 1915.

On March 21, 1914, in Sydney, Australia, 5-foot-4 Wells scored a twenty-round decision over Irish Tom McCormick to win the world, British, and Empire welterweight titles. He held the world crown for a little more than fourteen months, before losing a twelve-round decision and his title to challenger Mike Glover in Boston.

Wells spent six years in the ring before winning his World Championship, and he continued to battle seven more years before retiring.

In June 1911 Wells defeated Freddie Welsh to win the British lightweight championship. Welsh, one of the top lightweights of all time, would later be elected to both *The Ring* magazine and the International Boxing Halls of Fame.

He held the British amateur lightweight crown from 1905 to 1907. Wells represented Great Britain at the 1908 Olympic Games and reached the

quarter-finals before losing to the eventual gold medalist Frederick Grace.

Young Dutch Sam (Samuel Elias)

Great Britain

Born: January 30, 1808, London, England

Died: November 4, 1843

In the 1820 and 1830s bare knuckles era, London-born Young Dutch Sam, at 5-foot-9, fighting at 145 pounds or less, was recognized as world welterweight boxing champion. (There were no official "weight" divisions in boxing until the late 1880s.)

The son of champion boxer Dutch Sam (a previous IJSHOF honoree), he did not lose a fight from 1823 to 1834. His opponents included Jack Cooper, Tom Cooper, Dick Davis, Ned Neale, Harry Jones, and Ned Stockham.

Like his father, he was elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 2002 as a Pioneer. They are one of only two father-son tandems in the International Boxing Hall of Fame.



Young Dutch Sam (Samuel Elias)

CANOEING



Champions Laszlo Fabian (*back left*) and Janos Uranyi (*front left*) being congratulated by the German silver medalists.

Laszlo Fabian

Hungary

Born: July 10, 1936, Budapest, Hungary

At the Melbourne Olympic Games in 1956, Laszlo Fabian (with Hungarian partner Janos Uranyi) won the gold medal in the 10,000-meter kayak doubles event (43:37.0). They were the first Hungarians to medal in Olympic canoe-kayak competition.

Fabian is also the winner of four World Kayak championships and seven European Championships. His world titles occurred in 1958 in the K-2 10,000-meter (with Uranyi); 1963 (with Istvan Timer); 1963 in the K-4 10,000-meter (with Timer, Otto Koltai, and Laszlo Urogi); and 1966 in K-2 (with Imre Szollosi).



Myriam Fox-Jerusalmi

Myriam Fox-Jerusalmi

France

Born: October 24, 1961, Marseille, France

France's Myriam Fox-Jerusalmi won the ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships eight times: K-1 (canoe single)—1989 and 1993; K-1 (canoe team)—1983, 1985, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1996; and silver medals in K-1 individual and team in 1987.

She won the overall World Cup championship in 1989, 1990, and 1991 and was the K-1 bronze medalist at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games.

Leonid Geishtor

Russia

Born: October 15, 1936, Gomel, Belarusian SSR

Russian Leonid Geishtor won the C-2 1,000-meter canoe event (with Sergei Makarenko) at the 1960 Rome Olympics. It was the first Olympic gold medal won by a Belarusian athlete.



Leonid Geishtor

He and his partner won the 10,000-meter event at the 1963 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships in Bosnia Herzegovina.

He was awarded the Order of the Badge of Honor in 1960.

Joe Jacobi

United States

Born: September 26, 1969, Bethesda, Maryland

Joe Jacobi won a gold medal in the 400-meter Canadian slalom (C-2) pairs (with Scott Strausbaugh) at the 1992 Olympic Games. The Barcelona champions were the first Americans to win a gold medal in whitewater canoeing.

They experienced a "career year" in 1992. In addition to their Olympic championship, he and Strausbaugh captured their fifth consecutive U.S. title in the C-2 (two-man) National championships and were ranked fifth overall in the International Whitewater series.

Leading up to their Olympic gold medal victory, Jacobi and Strausbaugh finished first in the C-2 slalom event at the 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival. In 1991 they were U.S. national C-2 champions. That same year Jacobi won the C-2 mixed national title and finished second in the C-1 International Whitewater series overall ranking.

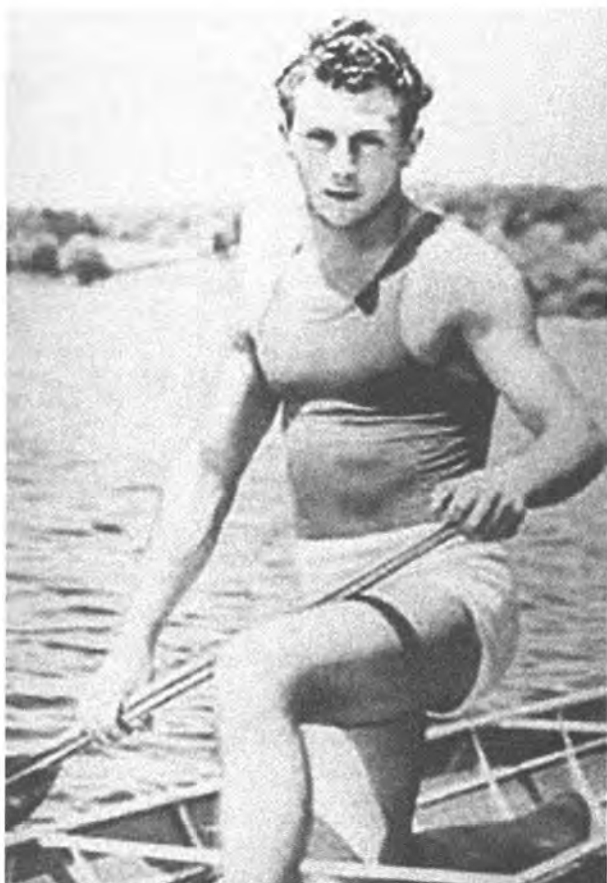
Following the 1992 Olympics, Jacobi enjoyed considerable success paddling both C-1 and C-2 events through 1995. Thereafter, he devoted his attention to C-1 whitewater almost exclusively, but fell short of qualifying for the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games. In 2002 he began a new C-2 partnership with Matt Taylor in time to make a run to qualify for the 2004 Athens Olympics.

A dozen years after his gold medal victory in Barcelona, Jacobi and Taylor won the 2003 U.S. National C-2 Slalom championship and were fourth at the 2003 World Championships in Augsburg, Germany.

The pair took third place at the U.S. C-2 Olympic time trials and qualified for the 2004 games. They finished ninth in the finals in Athens.



Joe Jacobi



Leon Rottman

Leon Rottman

Romania

Born: July 22, 1934, Bucharest, Romania

Died: January 25, 2013

Leon Rottman captured two gold medals in canoeing at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games. He won the 1,000-meter Canadian singles championship with a time of 5:05.3 and 10,000-meter Canadian singles event in 56:41.0.

At the 1960 Olympics in Rome, Rottman won a bronze medal in the 1,000-meter Canadian singles.

CONTRIBUTORS



Jehoshua Alouf (Wolpiansky)

Jehoshua Alouf (Wolpiansky)

Palestine/Israel

Born: March 4, 1900, Slonim, Poland

Died: 1980

As a leading figure of Maccabi Jerusalem and Maccabi Tel Aviv, Alouf organized the first five World Maccabiah Games. In the 1930s he was one of the founders of the Amateur Sports Association and the Eretz Yisra'el Olympic Committee.

An outstanding gymnast with "Maccabi Warsaw" 1916–29, Alouf studied physical education in Denmark. Immigrating to Palestine in about 1930, he was a pioneer teacher of physical education and sports in the Holy Land. He authored numerous books and publications on physical education.

In 1935 Alouf became supervisor of physical education in Palestine and served as director of the Israel Department of Physical Education from 1953 to 1957.

Robert Atlasz

Germany and Israel

Born: 1898, Germany

Died: 1990

Robert Atlasz was deputy chairman of Berlin's Bar Kochba organization during the rise of Nazism, when he became director of Maccabi Germany in 1933 and led the German delegation to the 1935 Maccabiah Games. Two years later, Atlasz settled in Palestine, serving the Maccabi World Union as its chairman of track and field from 1937 to 1952, and sports director from 1939 to 1965.

Atlasz (a dentist) was in charge of sports for the World Maccabiah Games of 1950, 1953, 1957, and 1961. He was a member of the Israel Olympic Committee from 1959 until his passing, and he represented Israel at numerous international forums.



Robert Atlasz

Baruch Bagg

Palestine/Israel

Born: December 3, 1901, Riga, Latvia

Died: 1993

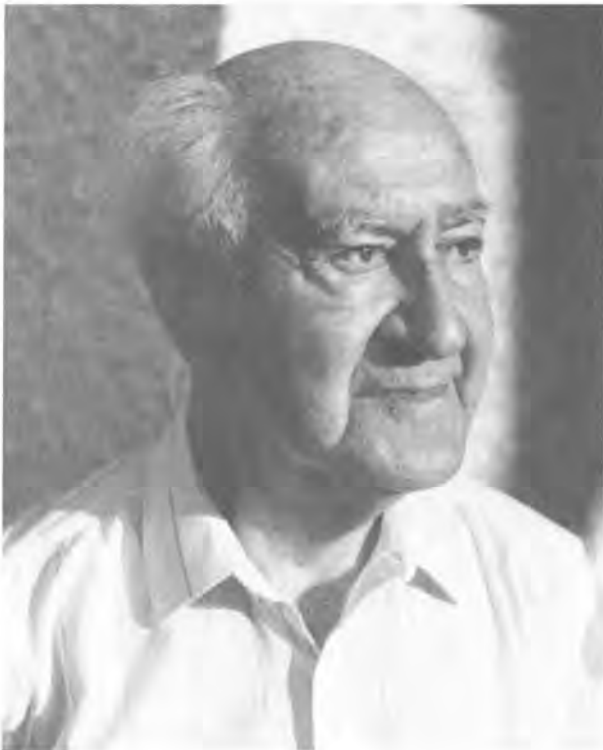
Baruch Bagg was general secretary of the Palestine/Israel Physical Training Department from 1939 to 1953.

Bagg was instrumental in the establishment of the Wingate Institute for Physical Education (Israel) in 1957. From 1957 to 1969 he was Wingate's first administrative director.

As a member of Hapoel, Bagg organized its first Maritime Congress in Haifa in 1932. He was secretary of Hapoel 1932–33, and he represented the Histadut and Hapoel in Poland in 1934–35.

Bagg was secretary/organizer of the physical fitness training department of the National Committee 1939–48 and the Ministry of Education's succeeding department from 1948.

He was one of the initiators of the Independence Day Run, and author of many articles on sport and physical education.



Baruch Bagg

In 1920 Bagg established the "Jewish Scouts" in Latvia and was a physical fitness teacher in Jewish schools from 1922 to 1929. He settled in Palestine in 1929 and graduated from Technion in 1931.

Richard Blum

Germany

Dates Unknown

In 1903 Richard Blum was one of the founding fathers of the Jüdische Turnerschaft, an umbrella organization for Jewish gymnastics clubs in Germany. The Turnerschaft was forerunner of the Maccabi World Union.

Alfred Brull

Hungary

Born: December 10, 1876, Budapest, Hungary

Died: 1944, Auschwitz Concentration Camp

A pioneer Hungarian sports administrator and sponsor, Brull was president of the Hungarian



Alfred Brull

Training Club (MTK) from 1905 until 1940, when it disbanded. He was also president of the International Amateur Wrestling Federation (IAWF) between 1924 and 1928.

A patron of Hungarian sports, he was president of the Hungarian Soccer League, a national swimming official, and president of the Hungarian Gymnastic Society (1908).

Brull was deported to Auschwitz in 1941, where he died in 1944.



Haskell Cohen

Haskell Cohen

United States

Born: March 12, 1914, Worcester, Massachusetts

Died: June 28, 2000

Haskell Cohen was public relations director of the National Basketball Association (NBA) from 1950 to 1969. He created the first NBA East-West All-Star Game and structured the first NBA college draft.

Cohen was a member of the Basketball Hall of Fame Board of Trustees, a member of the U.S. Olympic Basketball Committee, and a member of the Amateur Basketball Association USA, representing the National Jewish Welfare Board.

He was president of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel (Maccabi USA/Sports for Israel) 1961–79 and a principal member of that organization at its very beginnings. From 1981 to 1989 Cohen was the first chairman of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Cohen is the first non-Israeli to receive the Israel Olympic Medal and was U.S. chairman of the Hapoel Games in Israel.

A Yeshiva student and Boston University journalism graduate, Cohen held the post of sports editor for the Jewish Telegraph Agency (JTA) for seventeen years. As a longtime contributing editor to the *Parade Magazine* Sunday newspaper supplement, he originated the National Association of College Basketball Coaches All-America Team as well as the High School All-America Team.

Lajos Domeny-Deutsch

Hungary

Born: 1880, Budapest, Hungary

Died: 1914

In 1906 Lajos Domeny-Deutsch, a Hungarian lawyer and prominent Zionist politician, founded the Hungarian Fencing and Athletic Club (VAC) in Budapest. It was the first exclusively Jewish sports club in Europe.

Domeny-Deutsch also established the Jewish National Fund and the *Jewish News*, the first Zionist newspaper. He died in World War I.

Pierre Gildesgame

Great Britain

Born: June 20, 1903, Galicia, Poland

Died: March 3, 1981

Pierre Gildesgame was the first chairman of the Maccabi World Union. Under his leadership, the International Maccabiah Games Committee was founded in 1963 to serve as the organization



Pierre Gildesgame

responsible for overall supervision of the quadrennial World Maccabiah Games.

Born in Poland, young Gildesgame and his older brother Leon walked from Galicia to Palestine. Pierre eventually emigrated to Great Britain and Leon to the United States.

Gildesgame died in an auto accident in 1981 in England.

The Pierre Gildesgame Maccabi Sports Museum was established in 1981 and is located at the Kfar Maccabiah in Ramat Gan, Israel.

Emmanuel Gill (Glickman)

Palestine/Israel

Born: 1906, Vilna, Poland

Died: 1987

One of the founders of the Hapoel Sports Organization, Emmanuel Gill was sports director of Hapoel for thirty-five years. He was also chairman

of the Israel Sport Federation 1967–71, a director of the Israel Olympic Committee, and honorary secretary of the Israel Soccer Federation.

As a youth, Gill was a member of Maccabi Riga (Latvia) and competed for the Latvian track and field team. He was also one of the founders of Hapoel Riga. Gill immigrated to Eretz Yisra'el in 1935. He was one of the founders of "Sports for All," the organization that sponsors such activities as the Mount Tabor Fun Run and the Cross Kinneret Swim.

He wrote the books *Hazak-Strength*, *The Encyclopedia on Sports and Body Culture*, *Five Interlocking Rings*, and *The History of Hapoel*. Gill also wrote numerous articles on sport and was editor of several sport journals.



Emmanuel Gill (Glickman)



Chaim Glovinsky

Chaim Glovinsky

Palestine/Israel

Born: 1902, Poland

Died: August 22, 1986

Chaim Glovinsky headed Israel's first Olympic team in 1952 and again in 1956 and 1964. He served as honorary executive director and treasurer of the Israel Olympic Committee from 1952 until his death in 1986.

Glovinsky was also chairman of the Israel Sports Federation from 1961 to 1963, chairman of basketball in Israel from 1963 to 1972, and president of the Palestine-Israel Soccer Football Federation from 1938 to 1954. He was a founder of Sporttoto, Israel's Sports Lottery Agency, and was one of the initiators in establishing the Sports Stadium in Ramat Gan.

Glovinsky settled in Palestine in 1920. In 1927 he was one of the founders of the Hapoel Sports Organization. He was also Israel's representative to FIFA congresses.



Arthur Abraham Gold

Arthur Abraham Gold

Great Britain

Born: January 10, 1917, London, England

Died: May 25, 2002

Arthur Abraham Gold was honorary secretary of the British Amateur Athletic Board from 1962 until 1977, serving as leader of British Olympic teams of 1968, 1972, and 1976. From 1988 to 1992 he was chairman of the British Olympic Association.

In 1976 Gold was elected vice president of the board and president of the European Track and Field Association. He was awarded England's CBE in 1974 for services to athletics and knighted in 1984 for his services to sports. Gold received the Silver Olympic Order in 1991.

Kenneth Gradon (Gradenwitz)

Great Britain

Born: July 20, 1919, Berlin, Germany

Died: May 24, 2002

Ken Gradon was involved in the Maccabiah Games from 1950 to 2001. He served as honorary president of Maccabi Europe for seventeen years and



Kenneth Gradon (Gradenwitz)

its chairman for seven years. He was president of Maccabi Great Britain for nineteen years and later honorary life president.

Gradon was a founding member of the International Maccabiah Committee and chairman of the IMC Sports Committee. At the time of his death, Gradon was honorary vice president of Maccabi World Union.

A scion of a German rabbinic dynasty, Gradon left Berlin to study in England in 1935. At the outbreak of World War II, he changed his name (born: Kurt Gradenwitz), volunteered for the British army, and was among the first Allied troops to enter Berlin, where he was involved in liberating concentration camps. His parents died in the camps, but his brother and sister escaped to Palestine.

Gradon had the breadth of interests and character to span the full spectrum of Jewish life—from the most *frum* to the most secular. In addition to his role as an active Jewish sportsman, he was especially devoted to the development of religious studies and facilities for Jewish youth and housing for the elderly and needy.

With his brother-in-law, IJSHOF honoree Fred Worms, Gradon founded the B'nai B'rith Housing Society in 1966. He was a member of the executive of B'nai B'rith's student service, Hillel, and house committee chairman of London's Hillel House.

In 1977 Gradon facilitated the establishment of Kisharon School, an Orthodox sheltered school for Jewish children with special needs. In 1984 he was instrumental in reorganizing the finances and educational structure of the Jewish Secondary Schools Movement (Great Britain).

Ludwig "Poppa" Guttmann

Germany/Great Britain

Born: July 3, 1899, Tost, Upper Silesia

Died: March 18, 1980

Ludwig Guttmann is the "father" of organized physical activities for the handicapped. He created the Stoke-Mandeville Games/Paralympics (Handicapped Olympics).

One of Germany's leading neurosurgeons at the Jewish Hospital in Breslau, Guttmann was forced to flee to England in 1939. In 1944 the British government invited him to found the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke-Mandeville (near London), and appointed him the centre's director, a position he held until 1966.

The Paralympics became an international event in 1952 and is held every four years, usually following and in the same city as the quadrennial Olympic Games.

In 1960 Guttmann founded the British Sports Association of the Disabled. He has received both Great Britain's OBE and CBE, and he has been honored by eighteen other nations.



Ludwig "Poppa" Guttmann



Arthur Hanak

Arthur Hanak

Israel

Born: July 1, 1912, Olomuc, Moravia

Died: July 28, 1993

Arthur Hanak was a founder of Israel's Pierre Gildesgame Sports Museum and Archives in 1981 and its first curator. The Museum exhibits the history of the Maccabi Movement and provides a chronicle of Jews in sports from the end of the nineteenth century to modern times.

As the longtime archivist of the Maccabi World Union, Hanak recorded the history of the organization, authored numerous MWU historical publications, and collected artifacts and memorabilia that would one day find its home in the Gildesgame Museum. He also served on the directorate of the MWU and helped organize many World Maccabiah Games.

Hanak immigrated twice to the Holy Land. In 1939 he arrived on an illegal immigrant ship and was intercepted and interred by the British. A former Czech army officer, he reenlisted, and for

bravery on the Russian front, he earned medals from both the French and Czech governments.

Near the end of World War II, he located his younger sister at the Theresienstadt concentration camp, the only survivor of his family. In 1949 he successfully immigrated to Israel and enlisted in the Israeli army. After serving thirteen years in the IDF, he retired with the rank of major.

Joseph Inbar (Burstein)

Palestine/Israel

Born: May 17, 1913, Legnasz, Galicia

Died: December 19, 1989

Co-chairman of the Israel Olympic Committee from 1964 to 1976, Inbar was a member of the executive committee of Hapoel for forty-four years, 1938–82, and its general secretary from 1962 until 1976. He also served as chairman of Israel basketball, 1982–86, and chairman of the Israel Soccer Football Federation in 1961.



Joseph Inbar (Burstein)

Inbar was head of the State Lottery Board from 1964 through 1976. From 1980 until his death he was honorary treasurer of the Sportoto. He settled in Palestine in 1932.



Ferenc Kemeny (Kaufmann)

Ferenc Kemeny (Kaufmann)

Hungary

Born: 1860, Zrenjanin, Serbia

Died: November 21, 1944

A Hungarian sports administrator and pedagogue, Ferenc Kemeny was a founding member of the International Olympic Committee in 1894, the first secretary of the IOC, and one of the handful of Pierre de Coubertin's colleagues who organized the first modern Olympic Games in 1896.

Upon the founding of the Hungarian Olympic Committee in 1895, Kemeny was named the organization's secretary. Although he was one of Coubertin's friends and pioneer allies, he was, nonetheless, a target of frequent anti-Semitism from other HOC members. These attacks eventually resulted in his resignation in 1907 as Hungary's IOC representative and from sports life itself.

It is reported that Kemeny and his wife converted to Christianity prior to Germany's occupation of Hungary at the outbreak of World War II. If true, his reputation as Hungary's most prominent Jewish sports pioneer could not escape him. On November 21, 1944, at the advent of being taken away by members of the Hungarian Arrow Cross Party (Nazi surrogates), the Kemenys committed suicide.

In 1980 a new sports stadium in the Hungarian city of Eger was named after Kemeny. At the time of the founding of the IOC in 1895, Kemeny was headmaster of the modern school in Eger.



Herman Lellewer

Herman Lellewer

Germany

Born: 1891

Died: 1947

Herman Lellewer was the dynamic leader of the Maccabi World Union from 1927 until 1935, when the movement's world headquarters were in Berlin. Lellewer spearheaded Maccabi's resistance to Nazism until 1935, when the movement moved its chief offices to London.

It was under Lellewer's leadership that the first World Maccabiah Games were held in Eretz Yisra'el in the spring of 1932.

Ferenc Mezo (Grunfeld)

Hungary

Born: March 13, 1885, Poloskefo, Hungary

Died: November 21, 1961

The first official historian of the Olympic Games, Ferenc Mezo was awarded a gold medal for literature in the 1928 Paris Olympics Art Competitions for his book *The Olympic Games in Antiquity*.

Mezo-Grunfeld became enthralled by the Olympics as a child and at an early age decided to devote his life to them. He wrote more than seventy works on the Olympics, his first published in 1911.

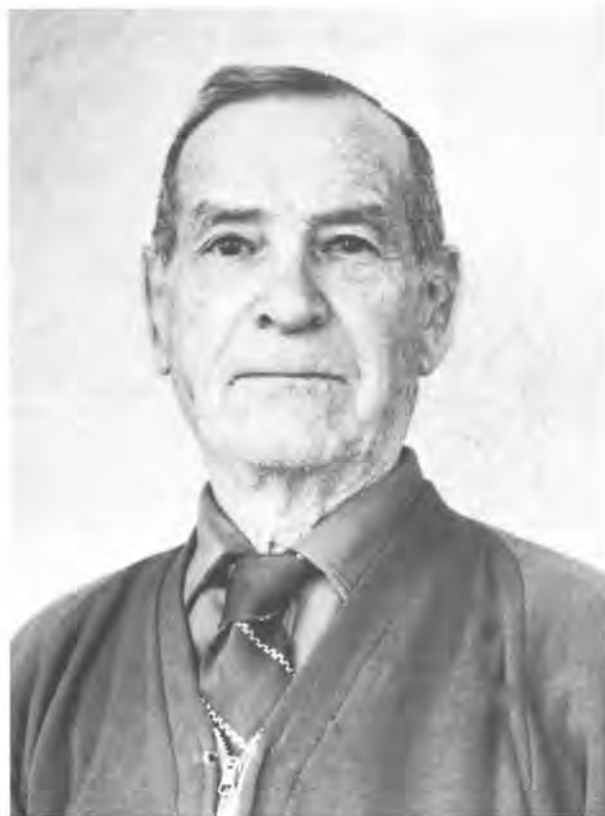
The historian collected documents and relics related to sports history, and in the early 1920s, his library was one of the most extensive in the world. Upon his death in 1961, the Mezo Collection was deposited in the Museum for Sport and



Ferenc Mezo (Grunfeld)

Physical Education in Budapest. It includes more than 5,500 books, innumerable original documents, photographs, medals, coins, countless relics, prizes, and charters.

He was a founding co-president of the Hungarian Olympic Society, and the Hungarian member of the International Olympic Committee from 1948 until his death in 1961.



Zvi Nishri (Orloff)

Zvi Nishri (Orloff)

Palestine/Israel

Born: January 4, 1878, Starokostyniv, Ukraine

Died: July 22, 1973

Zvi Nishri is the father of modern physical education in Israel. The Hebrew language owes to Nishri its basic terminology of both physical education and sports, as well as its first professional publications.

Nishri immigrated to Palestine in 1903, and in 1906, after working as a laborer for several years

in the town of Petach Tikvah, became involved in physical education. Two years later he began teaching, and by 1912 he was training others to be physical education teachers.

In 1913 Nishri wrote the first of scores of publications he authored in Hebrew—for many years, the only published works on physical education ever written in Hebrew. Nishri is also one of the founders of the Maccabi and Scout movements in pre-Israel Palestine. He was still professionally active at age ninety-five.

The Zvi Nishri Library and Archives are located at Israel's Wingate Institute.

Charles Ornstein

United States

Born: April 18, 1894, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: September 8, 1966

Charles Ornstein was one of the leading figures in the amateur sports movement within the United States for more than forty years. He was a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee from 1924 until his death in 1966. Ornstein was chief spokesman for the American Jewish community on all matters concerning amateur athletics.

His early years on the USOC were as representative of the U.S. Army, and for nearly four decades he represented the National Jewish Welfare Board on the USOC. Ornstein was a member of the executive committee of both the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and the USOC.

In 1948 the hotelier (by profession) was named chairman of the U.S. Food and Housing Committee, with responsibility for providing housing and food for all U.S. athletes participating in the Olympic Games. His reputation as a provider had spread so, that at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, he also fed the Canadian and British athletes—in all, more than one thousand athletes daily.

As chairman of the Jewish Welfare Board's national Health and Physical Education Com-

mittee from its inception in 1943 until his death in September 1966, Ornstein played a leading role in the creation and expansion of sports and recreational activities at Jewish Community Centers and YM-YWHAs throughout the world.

With AAU president Jeremiah T. Mahoney, Ornstein was in the forefront of a dramatic but unsuccessful effort to have the United States boycott the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Although many American and international athletes refused to be included in "Hitler's Games," the Berlin Olympiad went on as scheduled.

Ornstein was one of the four founders, with Harry Henshel, Edward Rosenblum, and Harold Zimman, of the United States Committee Sports for Israel (Maccabi USA) in May 1948. In 1950 he and the Committee were key figures in assisting



Charles Ornstein

Israel to obtain membership on the International Olympic Committee.

The organizer and first president of the New York Hotel Association, he died in an auto accident on September 8, 1966.

Emmanuel Simon

Palestine/Israel

Born: 1898, Berlin, Germany

Died: May 1989

Emmanuel Simon was an athlete, doctor, and pioneer in physical education and sports medicine in Israel. He was a founder of World Maccabi and a member of its board. In 1944 Simon was among those who conceptualized the idea to create Israel's Wingate Institute of Physical Education and Sport.

Simon taught physical education at Reali School in Haifa and initiated a youth army cadet training program during the British Mandate in 1938.



Emmanuel Simon

He was a member of the first and second Maccabiah Games Organizing Committees and in 1939 founder of the Physical Education Department of the National Committee. When Israel became a state, Simon was the first director of the Israeli governmental body responsible for sports (1948–53).

Germany's 800-meter champion in 1919 and 1921, Simon immigrated to Palestine in 1924, where he won the Maccabi 5,000-meter championship.

He received the Dov Hoz Prize in 1975, the UNESCO Noel Baker Prize for Research in 1975, and the Joseph Schneider Prize from Wurzburg University in 1982.

Uriel Simri

Palestine/Israel

Born: May 22, 1925, Vienna, Austria

Died: February 18, 2016

The first executive director of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, Dr. Simri is recognized as one of the world's leading authorities and educators on physical education and culture.

The Austrian-born Simri was the author of more than twenty books, an international lecturer, and a governmental advisor.

He served as president of the Society of the History of Physical Education and Sport in Asia, as well as secretary-treasurer of the International Society for Comparative Physical Education and Sport.

An international basketball (FIBA) referee from 1954 to 1962, Simri was the first Israeli selected to officiate at Olympic Games competition—as a basketball referee at the 1956 Melbourne Games.

Beginning in 1961, Simri was associated with Israel's Wingate Institute of Physical Education and Sport, the only physical education campus in the Middle East. He has held various key positions at Wingate, including terms as deputy director and scientific director.



Uriel Simri

He emigrated to Eretz Yisra'el in 1934.

In 1963 the Israeli government assigned him to Ethiopia where he served as director of athletics at Haile Selassie University of Addis Ababa.

Artur Takac

Yugoslavia

Born: June 9, 1918, Varazdin, Austro-Hungaria

Died: January 28, 2004

With the exception of the 1956 Olympics, Artur Takac served in key positions for every Olympiad from 1948 through 1984—as a national leader, delegation secretary, or technical/program advisor to the organizing committee of the Games.

A prisoner of war in Italy during World War II, Takac was liberated in 1943 after the fall of Mussolini. But because the German army occupied Yugoslavia, his return home stalled in Switzerland, where he was assigned to a Swiss prisoner

of war internment camp. Takac was one of ten men in his camp selected by the Red Cross to join other POWs in a physical training rehabilitation program at Lausanne's Olympic Institute. His talents and enthusiasm were noticed by program director Francis Messerli, who made the Yugoslav his assistant.

Messerli, along with Takac and several other POWs, organized the 1944 mini-Olympic Games for escaped Yugoslav, American, English, Greek, Italian, and French prisoners detained in Switzerland. Soon after, however, although he could have remained safely in neutral Lausanne for the balance of the war, Takac went to France to join the army of liberation.

Returning to his homeland in postwar 1945, Takac became secretary general of the Yugoslavian Athletics Federation and founded the Partisans Sports Club in Belgrade (which has since become one of Europe's biggest sports associations). Three summers later, he was head of the Yugoslav athletics team (track and field) for the 1948 Olympic Games in London.



Artur Takac

Following the 1964 Olympics, Takac was appointed by IOC president Avery Brundage to assist technical development of the competition program for the 1968 Games in Mexico City. He next was named technical director of the 1972 Olympics, then to a similar position for the 1976 Games in Montreal.

It was during these assignments that he set out to update some of the rules of the Olympic charter and policies of the original IOC, specifically in matters affecting the awarding of medals, the balance between sports and events, and the participation of women. In women's competitions alone, Takac's input resulted in the addition of basketball, rowing, handball, the marathon, cycling road races, shooting, and a broad increase of events in other sports. He was also an early and active advocate favoring drug and gender testing for athletes.

In 1978, when the 1984 Winter Olympics was assigned to Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, Takac, who had also taken on the position of vice president of the Eighth Mediterranean Games Organizing Committee, was named director of operations. Included in his portfolio was the organization of sports, electronic technology, medical services, and the opening and closing ceremonies. After the success of Sarajevo, IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch awarded Artur Takac the Olympic Order and appointed him his personal advisor for matters of organization of the Olympic Games.

Chaim Wein

Palestine/Israel

Born: 1905, Doniovitch, Ukraine-Russia

Died: 1984

One of Israel's sports pioneers and teachers, Chaim Wein was a founder of the Eretz Yisrael Sports Federation in 1931 and served its successor, the Israel Olympic Committee, as deputy chairman from 1957 to 1963. He was named a member of the

Presidium of Israel's Sports Federation in 1957 and served as its chairman for many years.

Wein was chairman of the Sports Committee of Maccabi World Union (MWU) from 1944 to 1962 and head of the Organizing Committee for the ninth (1973) and tenth (1977) Maccabiah Games. He took an active role in every Maccabiah from 1932 to 1981, and was involved in preparations of the Twelfth Games, but passed away a year before the 1985 event.

In 1983 International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch presented him with the prestigious Olympic Order. He was the first Israeli to be awarded the honor.

Wein immigrated to Palestine in 1921 and was schooled in physical education in Denmark 1931-32, where he received his degree. A Holy Land physical education teacher, Wein was director of the Palestine-Israel Physical Education Teachers College from 1944 to 1960 and supervisor of physical education in Israel from 1960 to 1981.



Chaim Wein



Joseph Yekutieli

Joseph Yekutieli

Israel

Born: March 12, 1897, Bereza, Russia

Died: September 25, 1982

The lone delegate from Palestine to the 1929 World Maccabi Congress, Joseph Yekutieli presented a concept for what he called the Maccabiah Games. His proposal was unanimously approved, and plans were organized to stage the first Maccabiah in Tel Aviv from March 29 to April 6, 1932.

Active on many committees, he was a founder of the Soccer Football Federation in 1928; one of the founders of the Amateur Sports Association in 1931; and a founder of the Eretz Yisra'el Olympic Committee in 1933. He was Israel's representative to the Asian Sports Federation Games and received the Israel Prize for Lifetime Achievements in 1979.

Yekutieli immigrated to Palestine in 1908. After several years of physical education schooling in Jerusalem and Jaffa, he was conscripted to serve as a physical education instructor and translator in the Turkish army and was decorated with the Ottoman Iron Ribbon. In 1979 he received the Israel Prize.



Aviezer Yellin

Aviezer Yellin

Israel

Born: October 19, 1890

Died: December 3, 1971

In 1906 Aviezer Yellin founded the first gymnastics club in Palestine. In 1911 he started the first Maccabi Club in Jerusalem and, a year later, the National Maccabi Association in Palestine.

Paul Ziffren

United States

Born: July 18, 1913, Davenport, Iowa

Died: May 1991

A well-regarded attorney and civic leader, Paul Ziffren was chairman of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee (LAOOC), which staged the 1984 Olympic Games. Upon the death of Zif-



Paul Ziffren

fren, Los Angeles mayor Tom Bradley said, "One of his greatest contributions, and a legacy of his leadership, were the Olympic Games of 1984. He chaired the Organizing Committee, which produced the greatest Games in the history of the Olympic movement."

A *Los Angeles Times* editorial wrote: "Only the most optimistic could have predicted that the Games would prove such a winner. And fewer still had the chutzpah to say so. Ziffren was one of them. For although the hands-on operator who put the Games together was Peter Ueberroth, it was Ziffren, as chairman of the LAOOC, who coalesced corporate support behind the Games and gave Ueberroth the necessary freedom to make things work. The soft-spoken civic leader wielded his influence so quietly that most residents probably don't know who he was. Yet many people were affected at least indirectly by

the public activities he worked at so effectively, usually behind the scenes."

The Paul Ziffren Sports Resource, arguably the largest and most inclusive repository of sports information in the United States, is located at the LA84 Foundation campus in Los Angeles.

Harold O. Zimman

United States

Born: 1916, Lynn, Massachusetts

Died: December 18, 1994

Harold Zimman published *The Olympian*, the official monthly magazine of the Olympic Society, from 1977 until his death. He served as a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee beginning in 1952, and for many years he sat on its executive board.

Zimman is recipient of the Olympic Gold Order, the International Olympic Committee's highest honor. Through 1994, he was one of thirty



Harold O. Zimman

Americans to have received the Olympic order and the first honoree who was not an athlete or sports leader.

Zimman joined the board of directors of the Jewish Welfare Board in 1948 and became chairman of its health and physical education committee in 1958. In 1966 the JWB appointed him to serve as the USOC's representative of the American Jewish community.

In 1948 Zimman and three others—Charles Ornstein, Harry D. Henshel, and Edward Rosenblum—founded the United States Committee Sports for Israel—with the vision of helping Israel obtain membership in the international Olympic community. Goal accomplished—Israel competed in the 1952 Olympic Games—Zimman remained active in the USCFSI's numerous other U.S.-Israel sports-related projects, including the World Maccabiah Games. He was also a prime mover in the development of sports facilities in the United States and Israel.

The Tufts University graduate founded the USOC's public relations and media committee.

CRICKET



Aron "Ali" Bacher

Aron "Ali" Bacher

South Africa

Born: May 24, 1942, Johannesburg, South Africa

One of the greatest cricketers in South African history, Ali Bacher played in twelve "test" matches for his country, captaining his teams in four. Making his first class debut in 1959, at age seventeen, he made a total of 120 first-class appearances during his career. As an active player he scored 7,894 runs (averaging 39.07 per match), 18 centuries, and made 110 catches.

He captained the Balfour Park Cricket Team in 1962 and captained Transval the following year.

Bacher's bowling style was leg-brake, his batting style right-hand leg. His highest single match

score came against Australia in 1966, when he rang up 235 runs for his Transvaal side in the first ever victory for a South African team against an Australian team in South Africa.

In 1972 he was awarded South Africa's Sports Merit Award, the country's highest athletics honor. Bacher cut short his playing career in 1974 at age thirty-one, when South Africa was banned from international competition (due to the country's apartheid policy).

EQUESTRIAN



Margie Goldstein-Engle

Margie Goldstein-Engle

United States

Born: March 31, 1958, Wellington, Florida

Between 1984 and 2005 dressage champion Margie Goldstein-Engle recorded six World Cup and twenty Nations Cup victories. The FEI (Federation Equestre Internationale) ranks her No. 8 all-time with most starts (166). Her highest FEI ranking reached No. 6 in 1998.

As a member of the 2000 U.S. Olympics team, Goldstein-Engle helped the American equestrian team to a sixth place overall finish. At the 2006

World Equestrian Games and Pan American Games, she helped the United States to a pair of team silver medals.

She is the American Grand Prix Association's (AGA) only ten-time Rider of the Year—1989, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1999/2000, 2000/2001, 2003, 2005, and 2006. She has set numerous records including career earnings over \$3 million and most AGA wins with the same horse in the same season—five wins on Saluut II in 1991.

Goldstein-Engle has won more than 175 Grand Prix, including most Grand Prix victories in a single season (11) and two Grand Prix wins in two days. She is the first rider to place six horses in ribbons in a single Grand Prix and the first rider to ever place first through fifth in a single Grand Prix.

Robert Dover

United States

Born: June 7, 1956, Chicago, Illinois

Dressage equestrian Robert Dover represented the United States at six Olympic Games (1984–2004) and won four consecutive team bronze medals: 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004. He was captain of each of the six Olympic teams. Dover's six quadrennial appearances mark the most for an American dressage rider.

The U.S. Olympic Committee named him 1994 Male Equestrian of the Year, and the following year he was awarded the Whitney Stone Cup by the U.S. Equestrian Federation.

The Chicago-born rider amassed more than one hundred Grand Prix victories during his career. He recorded one of his most celebrated triumphs in 1987, when he defeated six-time Olympic gold



Robert Dover

medalist Reiner Klimke to win the Aachen (Germany) Grand Prix.

Dover has been named USEF Dressage Champion five times and ridden seven times in the FEI World Cup Final. In 2002 *Chronicle of the Horse* magazine listed Dover as one of the fifty most influential horsemen. He was inducted into the USDF Dressage Hall of Fame in 2008.

FENCING



Albert Axelrod

Albert Axelrod

United States

Born: February 12, 1921, New York, New York

Died: February 23, 2004

Albert Axelrod was America's most enduring fencing champion. Ranked No. 1 in the United States in 1955, 1958, 1960, and 1970, and No. 2 nine times, his bronze medal in individual foil competition at the 1960 Olympic Games was only the fourth Olympic fencing medal ever won by an American.

Axelrod was a member of five consecutive U.S. Olympic teams, 1952 through 1968, and was ranked in the U.S. Top Ten twenty-two times from 1942 to 1970. Five times his team won the National Foil Team championship (1940, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1958), and five times his team captured the National Three-Weapon Team crown (1949, 1952, 1954, 1962, 1963).

Axelrod was also a member of four U.S. World Championship teams—best finish fifth in 1958—and four U.S. Pan American Games teams, winning three team gold and one silver medals, and four silver medals in individual foil.

In 1948 he was U.S. intercollegiate foil champion and led City College of New York (CCNY) to the National Team Foil championship. He competed in six World Maccabiah Games, beginning in 1957, winning numerous gold and silver medals in both foil and saber competition.

Daniel Bukantz

United States

Born: December 4, 1917, Bronx, New York

Died: July 26, 2008

Daniel Bukantz was a fencing judge at eight Olympiads between 1952 and 1984 (except the U.S.



Daniel Bukantz

boycotted 1980 Games) and three World Championships in 1958, 1967, and 1983. Nearly every event he officiated was a final or semifinal match. Three times, 1952, 1956, and 1960, he was both a competitor and a referee. He was inducted into the Fencing Hall of Fame in 1978.

At the 1983 World Championships and 1984 Olympics, Bukantz was *directoire technique*. Chaba Pallaghy, chair of the Referees Commission of the IFF (COMARB FIE, 1992–96), wrote, “Dr. Bukantz’ acceptance and recognition when fencing was totally dominated by Europeans at an elevated level, by inviting him to referee at the most important event, the Olympic Games, is extraordinary in itself.”

Bukantz was a member of the U.S. Olympic fencing team in 1948, 1952, 1956, and 1960. His U.S. foil team finished fourth in 1948 and 1956. He was U.S. national foil champion in 1949, 1952, 1953, and 1957.



Jeno Fuchs

Jeno Fuchs

Hungary

Born: October 29, 1882, Budapest, Hungary

Died: March 14, 1955

A winner of four Olympic gold medals, Jeno Fuchs won his first gold medals in individual and team saber at the 1908 London Olympic Games. Four years later, he repeated those twin victories at the 1912 Games in Stockholm. Fuchs was undefeated at the 1912 Olympiad en route to his gold medals.



Tamas Gabor

Tamas Gabor

Hungary

Born: April 24, 1932, Budapest, Hungary

Died: May 6, 2007

Tamas Gabor won the World Individual Épée championship in 1959 and was a gold medalist in

team épée at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games. In 1961 he won the World Games' individual épée bronze medal, and one year later he took the silver medal in the same event. He also won world team silver medals in 1957 and 1958. Gabor captured European honors in individual and team épée.

Janos Garay

Hungary

Born: February 23, 1889, Budapest, Hungary

Died: March 5, 1945, Mauthausen Concentration Camp

Janos Garay won three Olympic medals for Hungary in the saber event. He won a team gold medal at the 1928 Amsterdam Games and an individual bronze and team silver four years earlier at the 1924 Paris Olympics.

In 1925 Garay captured the Individual European (World) Saber Championship gold medal and a team saber gold medal at the 1930 Europeans. The



Janos Garay

European Championships were the predecessor to the World Championships, first held in 1937.

Garay perished in the Mauthausen (Austria) concentration camp in 1945, shortly before the end of World War II.



Oszkar Gerde

Oszkar Gerde

Hungary

Born: July 8, 1883, Budapest, Hungary

Died: October 8, 1944, Mauthausen-Gusen Concentration Camp

Oszkar Gerde won gold medals in team saber at both the 1908 London and 1912 Stockholm Olympic Games. He later became a judge at international fencing competitions.

Gerde died in the Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp.



Sandor Gombos

Sandor Gombos

Hungary

Born: December 4, 1895, Zombor, Hungary

Died: January 27, 1968, Sobibor Concentration Camp

Sandor Gombos won a gold medal in team saber at the 1928 Olympic Games. The Hungarian won gold medals in individual saber at the 1926 and 1927 European Championships and gold medals in team saber at the 1930 and 1931 Europeans. The European Championships were predecessors to the World Championships, first held in 1937.

Gombos died at the Sobibor Concentration Camp.



Sada Jacobson

Sada Jacobson

United States

Born: February 14, 1983, Rochester, Minnesota

Sada Jacobson won team gold medals twice in the saber event at the World Championships in 2000 and 2005. She was only seventeen in 2000.

Jacobson also won team silver medals in 2004 and 2006 and an individual bronze in 2006. She earned an individual bronze medal at the 2004 Olympics, the first year the individual saber event was contested in the Olympics. She then captured the individual silver in 2008 as well as a team bronze.

At the 2003 Pan American Games, Jacobson won the individual gold.

The Yale University undergraduate was NCAA collegiate saber champion in 2001 and 2002 and U.S. women's saber champion in 2004 and 2006.

In 2004 Jacobson became the first American to be ranked No. 1 in women's world saber rankings, and she was top-ranked in the United States from June 2003 to October 2005. She was U.S. Fencer of the Year in 2003.

Allan Jay

Great Britain

Born: June 30, 1931, London, England

World foil champion in 1959, Alan Jay won a pair of silver medals at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games in individual and team épée. At the Melbourne Olympics four years earlier, he finished fourth in individual foil. He fenced for Great Britain at five Olympics and was team manager at three others.

No fencer in modern times had won two gold medals at the same World Championships or Olympic Games, but Jay nearly did. In 1959 he won the world individual foil and tied for first place in individual épée. However, the Englishman lost a



Allan Jay

barrage 4–5 and had to settle for a silver medal in the event. Jay was the first fencer to finish first and second in *two* weapons with electrical judging and the fourth all-time.

At other World Championships, Jay earned a bronze medal in team foil in 1955 and a bronze in individual foil in 1957. In 1965 he was a silver medalist in team épée.

Jay fenced in both the foil and épée events at the 1950 and 1953 Maccabiah Games in Israel, winning three gold medals at each quadrennial competition.



Endre Kabos

Endre Kabos

Hungary

Born: November 5, 1906, Budapest, Hungary

Died: November 4, 1944

Saber maestro Endre Kabos won four Olympic medals for Hungary. He captured the individual saber gold medal at the 1936 Olympics Games

and team saber gold medals at the 1932 and 1936 games. He also won an Olympic bronze medal in individual saber in 1932.

Kabos gained national prominence in 1928 when he won the individual saber gold medal at the Slovakian championships. In 1930 he took the individual silver medal at the European Championships. Between 1931 and 1935 Kabos won numerous European individual and team saber honors: individual gold medals in 1933 and 1934 and team gold medals in 1931, 1933, 1934, and 1935. (In 1937, the European Championships were renamed World Championships.)

Kabos was more economically challenged than most of his top-level Hungarian fencing compatriots. Following the Hungarian team's triumph at the 1934 Europeans, Kabos retired from competition to open a grocery store. However, through the good graces of a patron, he was able to resume his fencing career and lead Hungary to its 1935 Euro team title and a pair of 1936 Olympic gold medals.

There are various accounts of Kabos's fate during Germany's World War II occupation of Hungary, but each ends with the same outcome. Kabos was sent to a forced labor camp where he was interred for at least three months. With the aid of a compassionate guard, he escaped and joined the Hungarian underground. According to one report, the Olympic saber champion lost his life defending the Margit Bridge, which separates the cities of Buda and Pest. Another account claims he was killed when a munitions truck he was driving exploded as he attempted to cross the bridge, plunging the truck into the Danube River.

Grigori Kriss

Soviet Union

Born: December 24, 1940, Kiev, Ukraine

Grigori Kriss won four Olympic medals in three Olympiads. He captured a gold medal in individual épée at the 1964 Games. In 1968 he earned



Grigori Kriss

silvers in the individual épée and team épée events. And in 1972 he won a bronze medal in team épée.

In World Championships competition, Kriss won the individual épée silver medal in 1967 and individual gold medal in 1971. He won four world team épée medals: bronze in 1965, silver in 1966, gold in 1969, and silver in 1971.

Alexandre Lippmann

France

Born: June 11, 1881, Paris, France

Died: February 23, 1960

Alexandre Lippmann competed in three Olympiads for France, winning five medals, including two golds.

He won a gold medal in team épée and a silver in individual épée at the 1908 games in London. He took the silver in individual épée and bronze in team épée at the 1920 Olympics in Antwerp.

He won his second gold medal, in team épée, at the Paris Games of 1924.

Lippmann was the great-grandson of celebrated French novelist-playwright Alexandre Dumas.



Alexandre Lippmann

Mark Midler

Soviet Union

Born: September 24, 1931, Moscow, Russia

Died: May 31, 2012

Mark Midler was captain of the Soviet Union's Olympic gold medal foil teams in 1960 and 1964. He was also a member of Soviet foil teams that won world team championships five times.



Mark Midler

Midler won a World Championships silver medal in individual foil in 1957 and individual bronze medals in 1959 and 1961. His world foil team's five gold medals were captured in 1959, 1962, 1963, 1965, and 1966. In 1967 Midler's Soviet foil team won a silver medal.

The foil master joined the Soviet national team in 1954 and was one of the early prodigies of the Soviet Union's budding fencing program. Midler served through the years as one of the old Soviet Union's and Russia's Olympic coaches.

Armand Mouyal

France

Born: October 16, 1925, Oran, Algeria

Died: July 15, 1988

Armand Mouyal won the World Championships individual épée gold medal in 1957. At the 1956



Armand Mouyal

Melbourne Olympic Games, he won a bronze medal in team épée.

The French gendarme was also a key factor in leading his national épée team to seven World Championships team medals: gold in 1951, silver 1953, 1955, 1961, 1963, and bronze 1954 and 1958. Mouyal was ranked No. 5 in the world in 1955 and No. 8 in 1956.

He captured the French national individual épée titles in 1952, 1953, 1954, 1957, and 1959.

Ivan Osier

Denmark

Born: December 16, 1888, Copenhagen, Denmark

Died: December 23, 1965

One of few athletes to receive the Olympic Diploma of Merit, Ivan Osier represented his country in seven Olympiads between 1908 and

1948. He missed only the 1936 games, when he refused to participate in Berlin as a protest against the Nazis. He has participated in more Olympics than any other athlete. Osier won his only Olympic medal in 1912, a silver in individual épée, at the Stockholm Games.

Osier won a total of twenty-five Danish National championships in all three fencing weapons—foil, épée, and saber. He was also Scandinavian foil titleholder in 1920, 1921, 1923, 1927, 1929, and 1931; épée champion in 1920; and saber champion in 1921, 1923, 1927, 1929, 1931, and 1933.

Osier began his athletic career as an oarsman and achieved considerable renown in the sport before he turned to fencing. He was a longtime head of the Denmark Fencing Federation.



Ivan Osier



Attila Petschauer (second from left) and Endre Kabos (third from right) with Hungary's 1932 Olympic gold medal team.

Attila Petschauer

Hungary

Born: December 14, 1904, Budapest, Hungary

Died: January 30, 1943, Ukrainian Work Camp Davidovka

Attila Petschauer was the winner of three Olympic events, including two gold medals. He won his first gold in team saber and a silver in individual saber at the 1928 Amsterdam Games. Petschauer actually tied with countryman Odon Tersztyanszky for the individual saber gold medal. But he lost a *barrage* (fence-off) to finish silver. Four years later, at the Los Angeles Olympics, he won a team gold medal in team saber.

A fencing prodigy prior to reaching his teens, Petschauer was dubbed “the new d’Artagnan” by his mentor. In 1923, barely age nineteen, he earned the individual saber bronze medal at the European (World) Championships. In years that followed, he earned individual Euro silver medals in 1925 and 1929 and bronze medals in 1927 and 1930. At the Euros of 1930 and 1931, Petschauer’s Hungarian saber team won gold medals.

The German occupation of Hungary at the outset of World War II resulted in the deportation of most Jews to concentration camps. But Petschauer’s reputation as a celebrated sportsman accorded him a special “document of exemption.” Nonetheless, during a routine check of identification while he was out walking, Petschauer found he had left

some of his papers at home—an unacceptable explanation to his Nazi inquisitor.

Shortly thereafter, he was deported to a labor camp in the Ukrainian town of Davidovka. During a lineup of prisoners, Petschauer was recognized by a military officer, Lt. Col. Kalman Cseh, who had been an equestrian competitor for Hungary in the 1928 Olympics. The two had once been friends, but Cseh exhorted camp guards to taunt his one-time comrade.

IJSHOF wrestling honoree Karoly Karpati was an inmate of the same camp and recalls: “The guards shouted: ‘You, Olympic fencing medal winner . . . let’s see how you can climb trees.’ It was midwinter and bitter cold, but they ordered him to undress, then climb a tree. The amused guards ordered him to crow like a rooster and sprayed him with water. Frozen from the water, he died shortly after.” The 1999 motion picture *Sunshine* is fictionally based largely on Petschauer’s life and death.

Julia Jones-Pugliese

United States

Born: May 9, 1909, New York, New York

Died: March 6, 1993

In 1929 Julia Jones, with students from Cornell, Bryn Mawr, New York University, and the University of Pennsylvania, founded the U.S. Intercollegiate Women’s Fencing Association. Forty-one years later, for the 1970 World University Games



Julia Jones-Pugliese

in Turin, Italy, she was the first woman appointed to coach an international U.S. fencing team. (The IWFA was predecessor to the NIWFA—National Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association).

Jones won the first IWFA individual fencing title in 1929, leading her New York University fencers to the team championship. From 1931 to 1938 she was either a competitor or coach of NYU's women's fencing teams, winning IWFA championships in 1931, 1932, 1933, and 1938.

Retiring for nearly two decades to raise a family, Jones-Pugliese returned to coaching at Hunter College in 1956. Her Hunter fencers won the NIWFA championship in 1970, and she was named Coach of the Year. Twenty-two years later, in 1992, she again was awarded Coach of the Year honors.

Julia married Anthony Pugliese, the sculptor-artist who designed the NIWFA competition medal awards (depicting a silhouette of Julia lunging), which are presented in her name. The same design is also serves as the NIWFA's logo.

The NIWFA is America's oldest continuous intercollegiate championship competition for women in any sport. Julia attended every IWFA/NIWFA championship, with the exception of two events during World War II.

Jones-Pugliese was U.S. women's and men's fencing coach at the 1977 and 1981 World Macca-

biah Games in Israel and an active supporter of the New York Fencers Club's Rene Pinchart Junior Olympic Program.

In addition to her recognition by the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, Jones-Pugliese has been elected to the halls of fame of the U.S. Fencing Association, Helm's, New York Sports, Hunter College, and New York University.

Mark Rakita

Soviet Union

Born: July 22, 1938, Moscow, USSR

Mark Rakita was one of the best of the first generation of outstanding Jewish fencers in the Soviet Union. A saber specialist, Rakita won team gold medals at the 1964 and 1968 Olympic Games, an individual saber silver medal in 1968, and a silver in team saber at the 1972 Munich Games.

At the 1967 World Championships, Rakita captured gold medal honors in individual saber. He



Mark Rakita

also earned World team saber gold medals in 1965, 1967, 1969, and 1971.

He also won a silver medal in individual saber at the 1971 World Championships and world team honors: gold medals in 1965, 1969, 1970, and 1971, and bronze medals in 1962 and 1963.

After competitive retirement, Rakita coached the Russian national fencing team for seventeen years. Four of his protégés won Olympic medals.

Sergei Sharikov

Soviet Union/Russia

Born: June 18, 1974, Moscow, Russia

Died: June 6, 2015

Saber specialist Sergei Sharikov won four medals, two of them gold, competing in three Olympic Games for Russia. In Atlanta in 1996, he won a gold medal in team saber and a silver medal in individual saber. He again took a team gold medal at the 2000 Sydney Games and a team bronze at the 2004 Olympics.

Sharikov won the gold medal in individual saber at the 2001 Universidad and a team saber gold medal at the 2001 European Championships. He

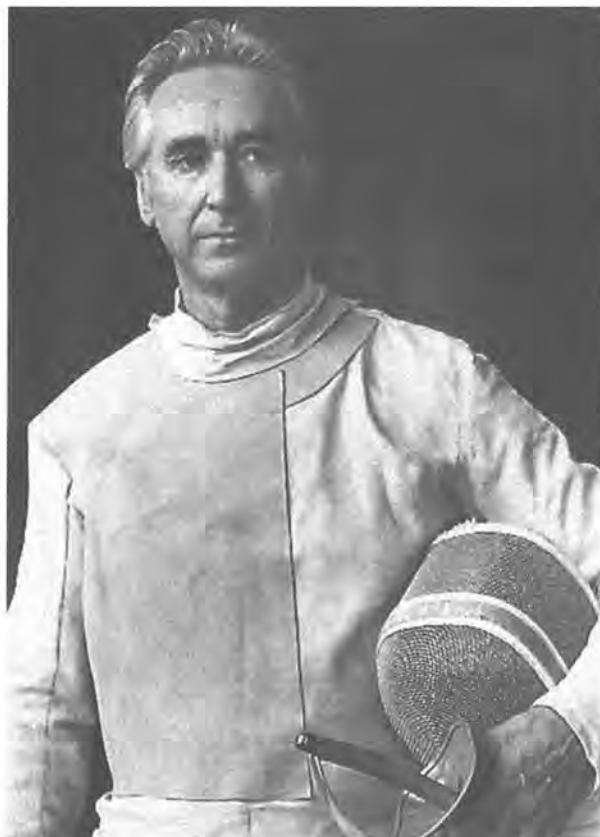


Sergei Sharikov (second from left) with Russia's 1996 Olympic gold medal team.

also earned bronze medals in individual saber at the 1998 and 2000 World Championships.

In 1994 Sharikov won the individual gold medal at the World Junior Championships. The following year he earned a team silver medal at the World Championships and an individual silver at the World Cup.

Sharikov coached the 2001 Russian Maccabiah Games fencing team.



David Tyshler

David Tyshler

Soviet Union/Russia

Born: July 13, 1927, Kherson, Ukraine

Died: June 7, 2014

David Tyshler was one of the first generation of internationally successful Soviet Union fencers. But he is most celebrated as coach of Soviet-Russian fencers who captured twenty-seven Olympic medals, seventeen of them gold.

His protégés include Mark Rakita, Mark Midler, and Sergei Sharikov (all three IJSHOF honorees), Victor Krovopuskov, Victor Sidjak, and Mikhail Burtsev. Between them they also captured forty World Championships medals, thirty-one of them gold.

Tyshler was coach of the 1964 Soviet Olympic gold medal team and served as a coach of the USSR national team for thirteen years.

As a competitor, he won either silver or bronze team medals at five consecutive World Championships (1955–59) and a team bronze medal at the 1956 Olympic Games. He also took individual silver medal honors at the 1958 World Championships.

Tyshler wrote forty books on training and coaching, most translated into various languages.



Eduard Vinokurov

Eduard Vinokurov

Soviet Union/Kazakh SSR

Born: October 20, 1942, Baizhansai,

S. Kazakhstan, USSR

Died: February 10, 2010

Soviet Olympic fencing champion Eduard Vinokurov won team gold medals in saber com-

petition at the 1968 and 1976 Olympic Games. He also earned a silver medal in 1972.

Vinokurov was a member of the Soviet gold medal teams that captured six consecutive World Championships: 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, and 1975.

Lajos Werkner

Hungary

Born: October 23, 1883, Budapest, Hungary

Died: November 12, 1943

Lajos Werkner won gold medals in team saber at the 1908 and 1912 Olympic Games. At the 1908 games, his teammates included Jewish fencers Jenő Fuchs and Oszkar Gerde, both IJSHOF honorees, and Dező Foldes.

In 1912 his Jewish gold medal teammates were again Foldes, Fuchs, and Gerde.



Lajos Werkner

FIELD HOCKEY

Carina Benninga

Netherlands

Born: August 18, 1962, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Carina Benninga's Dutch women's field hockey team won gold medals at the 1984 Olympic Games and 1983 and 1990 World Championships. Captain of the 1990 Dutch championship team, Benninga was also named captain of that year's honorary Women's world field hockey team. In 1984 and again in 1988, Benninga was voted field hockey's Best European Player.

Her Dutch teams captured the Champions Trophy in 1987, and they were bronze medalists in 1991. They won European Cups in 1984 and 1987 and finished fourth in 1991. They also earned a bronze medal at the 1988 Olympics and finished sixth at the 1992 games. Her 1989 Maccabiah women's team won the gold medal in Israel.

Benninga was selected to be her country's flagbearer at the opening ceremonies of the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. She was the first woman to present the Dutch colors at an Olympic Games.

Benninga was knighted by the queen of Holland in 1994.



Carina Benninga

FIGURE SKATING-ICE DANCING



Ilya Averbukh

Ilya Averbukh

Russia

Born: December 18, 1973, Moscow, Russia

In 2002 Ilya (Ilya) Averbukh was World ice dancing champion with his wife, Irina Lobacheva. They were silver medalists at the 2002 Olympic Games, took silver at the 2003 World Championships, and won the 2003 European Championship.

Between 1997 and 2003 Averbukh-Lobacheva never finished lower than fourth at the annual World Championships.

Averbukh partnered with Marina Anissina in 1990 and 1992 to win gold medals at the World Junior Championships.

Ellen Burka

Canada

Born: August 11, 1921, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Died: September 12, 2016

Ellen Burka's unique figure skating training techniques and groundbreaking choreography produced twenty-six Canadian Olympic and World Championships medalists.

Her most prominent pupils included 1965 world figure skating champion Petra Burka (her daughter), Elvis Stojko, a three-time world champion and two-time Olympic silver medalist, and Toller Cranston, the 1976 Olympic bronze medalist who, together with coach Burka, developed *Theater on Ice*, changing the face of men's artistic skating choreography.

Burka herself was a national skating champion. She won the 1946 and 1947 Dutch women's figure



Ellen Burka

skating singles championships—after she and her family survived the World War II Westerbork and Theresienstadt concentration camps. It was there that she met her future husband, with whom she immigrated to Canada in 1950.

Burka received the Order of Canada in 1978 and was inducted into the Canadian Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 1992 and Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 1996.



Petra Burka

Petra Burka

Canada

Born: November 17, 1946, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Petra Burka won the World Figure Skating championship in 1965. A year later she took the bronze medal at the 1984 Winter Olympic Games. Burka also won bronze medals at the 1964 and 1966 World Championships.

At the 1962 Canadian Championships, silver medalist Burka was the first woman to land a triple Salchow.

Burka was named Canada's Outstanding Female Athlete of the Year in 1964 and 1965. She was also inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Upon competitive retirement after the 1966 Worlds, Burka joined *Holiday on Ice* and later became an Olympics, World Championships, and European Championships figure skating commentator for CBC and CBS.

Burka is the daughter of her coach, renowned figure skater Ellen Burka, who was elected to the IJSOF in 2010. The Burkas immigrated to Canada from Holland in 1951.

Alain Calmat

France

Born: August 31, 1940, Paris, France

After taking a silver medal at the 1964 Olympic Games, Alain Calmat won the Men's World Figure Skating Championship in 1965. He was also a silver medalist at the World Championships of 1963 and 1964 and won bronze medals at the 1960 and 1982 championships.



Alain Calmat

Calmat captured the European Figure Skating championships in 1962, 1963, and 1966.

At the 1968 Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble, France, Calmat was selected to carry the torch and light the Olympic flame. He was the first and, to date, the only Jew to ever be so honored.

Calmat would later enter the political arena. Having served in various governmental capacities, he was elected mayor of Livry-Gargen in 1995 and deputy in the French National Assembly in 1997.

Sasha Cohen

United States

Born: October 26, 1984, Los Angeles, California

Sasha Cohen was the 2006 Olympic figure skating silver medalist, a winner of two women's singles World Championships, and a World singles bronze.

Following recovery from a back stress fracture, she finished fourth at the 2002 Winter Olympics



Sasha Cohen

and World Championships. In 2002 and 2003 she won skating's Grand Prix Final.

Before and after the 2002 Olympic success Cohen was a gold, silver, or bronze medalist at numerous international events through 2006. She was elected into the U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 2016.



Sarah Hughes

Sarah Hughes

United States

Born: May 2, 1985, Long Island, New York

In one of the major upsets in Olympic figure skating history, sixteen-year-old Sarah Hughes won the women's gold medal at the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

The New York teenager surged from fourth place in her free skate to defeat the U.S. favored

Michelle Kwan (bronze) and Russia's Irina Slutskaya (silver) to win the Olympic title. The high school junior's best previous achievement was a bronze medal at the 2001 World Championships.

Hughes, who first put on skates at the age of three, earned serious attention when she won the U.S. National Junior title in 1998. One year later, just past her thirteenth birthday, she won the Vienna Cup, the individual gold at the "USA versus the World Pro Am," and was seventh at the 1999 World Championships.

As a high school freshman and sophomore, Hughes finished in fifth place at the 2000 World Championships, third at the 2001 World Championships, and was either first, second, or third at

international and U.S. national events throughout 2000–2001.

She was the recipient of the 2002 Sullivan Award, presented annually by the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) to America's top amateur athlete, and was named 2002 Sportswoman of the Year by the U.S. Olympic Committee.

Following her 2002 Winter Games triumph, Hughes completed high school and enrolled at Yale University, eschewing the tedious training regimen that dominated her everyday pre-Olympics life. Nonetheless, she managed to medal at the few events she entered and finished second at the 2003 U.S. Figure Skating Championships and sixth at the 2003 World Championships.

Hughes was a member of the media at the 2004 Summer Olympics as a reporter-interviewer for New York's WCBS television. In 2005 she again laced up her skates to headline the *Stars on Ice* touring ice show. She was elected to the U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame in January 2010.



Gennadi Karponosov and Natalia Linichuk skating to the 1980 Olympic gold medal.

Gennadi Karponosov

Soviet Union

Born: November 21, 1950, Moscow, Russia

Gennadi Karponosov and partner Natalia Linichuk were gold medalists at the World Championships of 1978 and 1979 and the 1980 Olympic Games. They were bronze medalists at the 1974 and 1977 World Championships and won the silver at the 1980 world event. They also finished fourth at the 1976 Olympics.

The pair won the European Ice Dancing Championships in 1979 and 1980, after taking a silver medal in 1978 and bronze medals 1974 through 1977. They won the World Universiade in 1972.

Karponosov and Linichuk were married in July 1981 and reemerged as successful coaches. Their Russian skaters Oksana Gristchuk and Evgeny Platov won the Winter Olympics gold medal in 1994, and Anjelika Krylova and Oleg Ovsiannikov

took a silver medal in 1998. Their ice dancers won World Championships in 1994–96, 1998, and 1999, as well as eleven European gold, silver, and bronze medals between 1993 and 1999.



Lili Kronberger

Lili Kronberger

Hungary

Born: November 12, 1887, Budapest, Hungary

Died: May 21, 1974

Hungary's first world champion, Lili Kronberger, reigned as women's world figure skating champion from 1908 to 1911.

At the first recognized World Championships that included women in 1906, Kronberger finished third. The following year, she again took third place honors. Thereafter, she was No. 1 until her competitive retirement.

In winning her final world title in 1911, Kronberger was the first skater to attempt an entire free skating program with musical accompani-

ment. Lili was inducted into the Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 1997

Emilia Rotter

Hungary

Born: September 8, 1906, Budapest, Hungary

Died: January 28, 2003

With partner Laszlo Szollas, ice dancer Emilia Rotter won the World Figure Skating Championship four times in five years, 1931–35. In 1932, the only year during this run that the duo did not win the championship, they were world silver medalists.

Rotter and Szollas won Olympic bronze medals in 1932 and 1936. They also won the European Figure Skating Championship in 1934 (Prague), earning silver medal honors in 1930 (Vienna) and 1931 (St. Moritz).



Emilia Rotter



Louis Rubenstein

Louis Rubenstein

Canada

Born: September 23, 1861, Montreal, Canada

Died: January 3, 1931

In February 1890, Louis Rubenstein won the gold medal in the first World Figure Skating Championships. The unofficial championships (no sport federation yet existed) were held in St. Petersburg, Russia, attended by competitors from Germany, Finland, Sweden, and Russia. Organizers tried first to prevent the Jewish skater from participating and later tried to deny his victory.

Rubenstein was North America's first famous figure skater, winning Canadian championships from 1882 to 1889, the North American crown in 1885, and U.S. titles in 1888, 1889, and 1891.

Elected to Canada's AAU Hall of Fame in 1949, its very first year, and the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 1984, Rubenstein was a career sportsman. After retiring from active skating, he

held the presidency of various Canadian organizations representing tenpin bowling, curling, bicycling, tobogganing, lifesaving, and ice skating. He is considered "the father of bowling in Canada."

Rubenstein served as a Montreal alderman for seventeen years. In 2016 his country named him a National Historic Person.

Irina Slutskaya

Russia

Born: February 9, 1979, Moscow, Russia

Irina Slutskaya won World Figure Skating Championships in 2002 and 2005. In 1998, 2000, and 2001, she was the World silver medalist. She was a silver medalist at the 2002 Winter Olympics and bronze medalist at the 2006 games.

In 1996 Slutskaya became the first Russian woman to win a European title. Ten years later,



Irina Slutskaya

she was the first woman to register seven Euro figure skating championships.

In 2000 Slutskaya was the first woman to land a triple lutz–triple loop combination in competition. One year later, she was the first woman to land a triple Salchow/triple loop/double toe-loop combination. She invented the double Biellmann spin with foot change.

Laszlo Szollas

Hungary

Born: November 13, 1907, Budapest, Hungary

Died: October 4, 1980

Laszlo Szollas and skating partner Emilie Rotter won four World Figure Skating championships: 1931 (Berlin), 1933 (Stockholm), 1934 (Helsinki), and 1935 (Budapest). In 1932 they won the World Championships silver medal (Montreal).

The Hungarian pair also won Olympic bronze medals in 1932 and 1936. In European competitions, they were champions in 1934 (Prague) and silver medalists in 1930 (Vienna) and 1931 (St. Moritz).

Szollas was also a prominent European sports doctor.



Laszlo Szollas

FOOTBALL



Joseph Alexander

Joseph Alexander

United States

Born: April 1, 1897, Silver Creek, New York

Died: September 12, 1975

Joe Alexander was a three-time All-America lineman at Syracuse University, 1917 and 1918 at guard and 1919 at the center position. Alexander's roving style was akin to the modern linebacker—unique in the early days of college football—and he was the team's offensive signal caller from his line position.

He played professional football with an assortment of teams, including the Rochester Jeffersons,

Philadelphia Quakers, Frankford Yellow Jackets, Rochester Kodaks, Milwaukee Badgers, and finally the New York Giants from 1925 to 1927.

When the Giants were granted a National Football League franchise in 1925, Alexander was the first player signed by the New Yorkers. He was named to the NFL All-Star team that year.

A practicing physician since his college graduation in 1921, Alexander was one of the few Giants to receive a yearly salary. He took over as Giants head coach in 1926, but relinquished the job in his final year with the team.

In 1937 the *New York World Telegram* named Alexander to its All-Time All-America team at guard. Football expert George Trevor selected him as the greatest collegiate guard of the 1919–29 decade. The National Football Foundation elected him to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1954.

Lyle Alzado

United States

Born: April 3, 1949, Brooklyn, New York

Died: May 14, 1992

One of the premier defensive ends in professional football for nearly two decades, Lyle Alzado played sixteen years (as defensive end and tackle) with three NFL American Conference teams—Denver Broncos, Cleveland Browns and Oakland/Los Angeles Raiders.

Named All-Pro in 1977 with Cleveland and 1978 and 1980 with Denver, Alzado won the Whizzer White Award as NFL Players' Association Man of the Year in 1977 (voted by the NFL players) and American Conference Defensive Lineman of the Year the same season. Alzado's specialty was "sacks," registering 97 in 196 career games.



Lyle Alzado

He was voted Comeback Player of the Year in 1982 (his first season with the Raiders) by *Pro Football Weekly*. In 1983, when he sparked the Raiders to the Super Bowl championship, he was one of five finalists for NFL Man of the Year.

Harris Barton

United States

Born: April 19, 1964, Atlanta, Georgia

San Francisco 49ers offensive tackle Harris Barton was an NFL All-Pro selection for four consecutive years: second team in 1990, first team in 1991, 1992, and 1993. He played in the 1993 Pro Bowl. Barton anchored the 49ers' storied offensive line for quarterbacks Joe Montana and Steve Young that provided the foundation for three San Francisco Super Bowl victories in 1989, 1990, and 1995.

During his ten-year pro career, 1987–96, Barton played 138 career NFL games, including 89 consecutive games.



Harris Barton

The 1986 University of North Carolina All-America was the 49ers' No. 1 draft choice in 1987. In his first season with the 49ers, Barton was named to the NFL's All-Rookie team by the UPI, Pro Football Writers of America, and *Pro Football Weekly*.

Arthur "Bluey" Bluethenthal

United States

Born: November 1, 1891, Wilmington, North Carolina

Died: June 5, 1918

Bluey Bluethenthal was Princeton's varsity center 1910–12, and an All-America in 1911 and 1912.

There isn't much to write about linemen, even great linemen, except that his 1911 Tigers were undefeated (8-0-2), and yielded only 15 points. In the early days of American football, more so than the contemporary game, one great player could carry a team to success. The 5-foot-9, 186-pound Bluethenthal was that kind of athlete.

Following graduation, Bluethenthal took the position of line coach at Princeton, then at the University of North Carolina, jobs he held part-time for several years while he worked for his

father's dry goods company in New York City and as a tobacco broker. However, with World War I brewing, he joined the American Field (ambulance) Service in May 1916, serving at the Battle of Verdun with the French 129th Infantry Division. He was awarded France's Croix de Guerre with Star for his conspicuous bravery.

After several transfer duties, Bluethenthal joined the French Foreign Legion in the summer of 1917 and requested assignment to flight training. By March 1918 he was assigned to what French authorities called the La Fayette Flying Corps, the group of Americans in service of France as pilots. But the stocky, muscular North Carolinian, now a sergeant, instead reported to the Escadrille 227—the La Fayette Escadrille. He was the only American in the squadron.

Less than three months after joining the Escadrille, the twenty-seven-year-old American was hit by enemy fire and crashed while carrying out an artillery observation mission over Maignelay-Montigny. France posthumously awarded Bluethenthal a Croix de Guerre with Palm as well as the Medaille Militaire.

His hometown of Wilmington named its airport Bluethenthal Field.



Arthur "Bluey" Bluethenthal



Al Davis

Al Davis

United States

Born: July 4, 1929, Brockton, Massachusetts

Died: October 8, 2011

Trailblazer, maverick, renegade—Al Davis was one of the most important, controversial and effective figures in American professional football history. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1992.

Davis, whose work ethic is famously reflected in his motto "Just Win Baby," was the principal owner of the National Football League's Oakland/Los Angeles Raiders from 1972 until his death in 2011. He coached the Raiders to Super Bowl victories in 1976, 1980, and 1983; the American Football League championship in 1967; and American Football Conference titles in 1967, 1976, 1980, 1983, and 2002.

Following college graduation, Davis spent much of the 1950s assistant coaching football at Adelphi College, the Citadel, and the University of Southern California. His first pro football experience came as offensive end coach of the AFL's Los Angeles / San Diego Chargers 1960–1962.

In 1963 he was appointed the Chargers' head coach and general manager, the youngest person in pro football history to hold the positions, and was named the AFL's Coach of the Year.

In April 1966 team owners named Davis AFL Commissioner, whereupon he embarked on an

aggressive player signing campaign against the NFL. The campaign would eventually lead to the first Super Bowl (January 1967) and a merger of the two leagues in 1970.



Benny Friedman

Benny Friedman

United States

Born: March 18, 1905, Cleveland, Ohio

Died: November 24, 1982

As quarterback and halfback of the University of Michigan Wolverines 1924–26, Benny Friedman was football's first great passer. The consummate "triple threat man" (runner, passer, kicker), he was named a first team All-America in 1925 and 1926.

Friedman moved easily from the college gridiron to professional football stardom. He was All-Pro 1927–31, playing seven pro seasons beginning with the Cleveland Bulldogs in his rookie year. In 1928 Friedman starred for the Detroit Wolverines, then the New York Giants 1929–31. The Giants purchased the entire Detroit team in order to acquire Friedman's contract, and the \$10,000 the New Yorkers paid him made Benny the highest-paid player in the pro ranks. He finished his playing career with the Brooklyn Dodgers (football team) 1932–34.

Benny's multiple talents had a lasting effect on the evolution of the sport. Sparked by his example,

football changed from a straightforward running contest to the modern pass-and-run game. Not the least of the many Friedman-inspired innovations was the slenderizing of the football to take better advantage of the forward pass.

In 1934 Friedman took the head coaching reins at City College of New York (CCNY), a job he held until he joined the U.S. Navy in 1941. From 1949 to 1963 he served as head football coach and athletic director at Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts.

In 1926 Friedman received the Chicago Tribune Silver Football Award as Big Ten's most valuable player. In 1954 he was one of the early college stars to be elected to the College Football Hall of Fame. In 2005 he was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Sid Gillman

United States

Born: October 26, 1911, Minneapolis, Minnesota

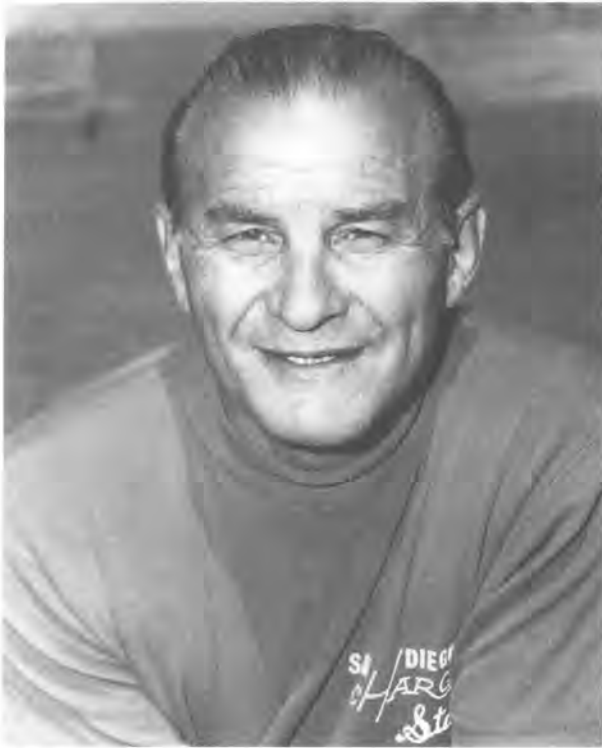
Died: January 3, 2003

One of football's great innovators, Sid Gillman served as head coach of the National Football League's Los Angeles Rams, 1955–59, and AFL-NFL Los Angeles / San Diego Chargers, 1960–71.

Before he made his name as a professional coach, Gillman was an All-America end for Ohio State University in 1932 and 1933, and played one season for the Cleveland Rams of the American Football League.

He served as either coach or head coach for twenty-one years in college football at Ohio State, Dennison (Ohio), Miami of Ohio, West Point Academy, and Cincinnati. His collegiate teams won 81, lost 19, and tied 2.

As head coach of the NFL's Rams, Gillman won one division title. With the American Football League Chargers, he captured five division titles as well as the 1963 AFL championship. He was the first head coach to win division titles in both the



Sid Gillman

NFL and AFL. Poor health forced his retirement in 1971.

The venerable Gillman (also the Chargers' general manager) is credited with the idea for the Super Bowl (the AFL versus NFL championship game) and the use of game and practice films as an integral aspect of coaching. He was the first to put players' names on their jerseys. On the field, Gillman was a strong advocate and brilliant strategist of the wide-open forward pass offense, and he is credited with being one of the developers of the "two-platoon system."

Some of Gillman's coaching protégés are George Allen, Al Davis, Paul Dietzel, Dan Henning, Ara Parseghian, Chuck Noll, Bum Phillips, Bo Schembechler, Dick Vermeil, and Bill Walsh. Many credit the success of the "upstart" American Football League to Gillman's skillful organizational techniques.

With improved health, Sid joined the Houston Oilers in 1973 as their general manager. Halfway through the season, he fired the head coach, took over the job, and led the Oilers on and off the field

through 1974, after which he was fired. Nevertheless, he was named 1974 NFL Coach of the year.

Health, once again, forced Gillman into retirement, until he resurfaced in 1977 as the Chicago Bears offensive coordinator. That year the Bears made the league playoffs for the first time in fourteen seasons. Sid moved to the Philadelphia Eagles in 1979, but following heart bypass surgery, his duties were narrowed to quarterback development.

Gillman was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1983 and the College Football Hall of Fame in 1989.



Marshall "Biggie" Goldberg

Marshall "Biggie" Goldberg

United States

Born: October 25, 1917, Elkins, West Virginia

Died: April 3, 2006

Marshall Goldberg was a two-time University of Pittsburgh All-America, 1937 and 1938, and four-time National Football League (NFL) All-Pro.

He was a West Virginia high school legend, captaining his Elkins High School football, bas-

ketball, and track teams in 1935 and elected All-State in each sport.

Goldberg's 1936 Pittsburgh football team won the Rose Bowl, and the 1937 Panthers earned the National Collegiate championship. In twenty-nine college varsity games, Goldberg, as halfback and fullback, gained 2,231 yards and scored eighteen touchdowns.

Playing on woeful Chicago Cardinal NFL teams in 1939 and the early 1940s, Goldberg was nonetheless named All-Pro in 1941. He spent 1944–45 in military service. In an era when football players played both offense and defense, Goldberg was named All-Pro Defensive Back in 1946, 1947, and 1948. His Cardinals won the NFL championship in 1947 and captured the division title in 1948.

Sports Illustrated named Goldberg to the 1930s "College Football Team of the Decade." He is a member of the National Football Foundation College Hall of Fame (1958) and the Halls of Fame of West Virginia, the City of Pittsburgh, and Pop Warner Football.

Charles "Buckets" Goldenberg

United States

Born: April 12, 1911, Odessa, Ukraine

Died: April 16, 1986

An All-Midwest and All-Big Ten running back for the University of Wisconsin, 1930–33, Buckets Goldenberg was named All-Pro guard three times (1939, 1940, 1942) during his celebrated thirteen-year career with the NFL Green Bay Packers (1933–45).

Goldenberg, at 5-foot-10 and 220 pounds, came into the NFL as a highly touted fullback and rushed for ten touchdowns before Packer coach Curley Lambeau got the idea of turning him into a lineman. Throughout most of his career, he played blocking guard on offense and middle guard on defense. (Players played both ways during this era). Three times his Packers won the National



Charles "Buckets" Goldenberg

Football League championship—1936, 1939, and 1944—and the Pack took the Western Conference title in 1938.

When the NFL commemorated its fiftieth anniversary in 1969, Goldenberg was named to the league's 1930s All-Decade team. He is a member of the Green Bay Packers All-Time team.

He was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1958 and Wisconsin Hall of Fame in 1973.

Sid Halter

Canada

Born: April 18, 1905, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Died: October 24, 1990

Sid Halter was the first commissioner of the Canadian Football League and held the position from the CFL's inception in 1958 until 1966. At his 1966 induction into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame, he was acknowledged as "the architect of the modern day Canadian Football League."

A Winnipeg lawyer, Halter was commissioner of the Western Inter-Provincial Football Union



Sid Halter

from 1953 to 1957. The Union merged in 1958 with the Eastern Big Four to form the CFL. Halter drew up many of the new league's rules and bylaws and is credited with steering the league through its evolutionary years.

From 1938 to 1946 Halter was president of the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada. Between 1934 and 1953 he operated in various executive capacities, including president of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers Rugby Football Club. During the 1960s he was also chairman of the Manitoba Horse Racing Commission.

Halter is recipient of the Order of Canada. He has been inducted into the Canadian Amateur Hall of Fame, the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame, and the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame.

During World War II, Halter served in the RCAF and retired with the rank of squadron leader. Two years after the war, he was appointed King's Counsel.

Sigmund Harris

United States

Born: July 2, 1883, Dubuque, Iowa

Died: November 8, 1964

Sig Harris was University of Minnesota's All-America quarterback in 1903 and 1904. He called every play during the 1903 season, when the Gophers won a share of the Western Conference title (14-0-1), and every play in 1904, when the team went undefeated (13-0-0).

Minnesota's 6-6 tie with Michigan in 1903 was the only game neither team won that season, and it was the contest that inaugurated the Little Brown Jug rivalry that continues to this day.

The 5-foot-5½ and 140-pound Harris called all of his team's plays because sideline coaching was penalized during college football's early years. He was also the team's punter, punt returner, and defensive safety. In his first year as starting quarterback (1902), Minnesota finished with a 10-2-1 record. During the following undefeated season, the Gophers scored 656 points to their opponents' 12! And 6 of those opposition points were registered in the Michigan tie game. In Minnesota's undefeated-untied season of 1904, the Gophers registered 725 points to 12 for its opponents (Nebraska was the only team to score).



(l-r) Sig Harris, Minnesota coach Bernie Bierman, and an unidentified man with The Little Brown Jug in 1919.

It is significant to note that during this era, college football was played on a 110-yard field. First downs were 5 yards in three downs and no forward passing. A touchdown counted for five points.

Following graduation, Harris signed on as the sole assistant coach at Minnesota (under Henry Williams) and held that position until 1920. He returned for other coaching stints in 1926–27 and 1930–41, while devoting himself to the machinery business that he founded in 1905 and continued to head until his death.



Lew Hayman

Lew Hayman

Canada

Born: September 30, 1908, Paterson, New Jersey

Died: June 29, 1984

Lew Hayman, often referred to as “the architect of Canadian football,” was involved in the CFL for nearly fifty years as a head coach, general manager,

owner, and league official. Between 1933 and 1951 the teams he coached competed in five Grey Cups (Canadian Football League championships) and won them all!

Upon graduation from Syracuse University, where he was a basketball All-America (1931) and varsity football star, Hayman signed to coach the University of Toronto basketball program. In his spare time he moonlighted as an assistant to Buck McKenna, head coach of the Argonauts, Toronto’s professional CFL football team. McKenna took ill partway into the 1932 season, and Hayman was appointed the team’s interim head coach. The following year management dropped “interim” from his title and, in his first full season, the twenty-five-year-old ex-UT basketball coach led the Argos to a Grey Cup victory. Hayman would coach Toronto for two more Grey Cup championships in 1937 and 1938.

At the outbreak of World War II, Hayman joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. In 1942 Wing Commander Hayman was assigned to coach RCAF football, a job he stayed with through the end of the war. His RCAF Toronto Hurricanes defeated the Winnipeg RCAF Bombers to capture the 1942 Grey Cup.

In 1946 Hayman took over the floundering Montreal CFL franchise and gave it a new nickname: the Allouettes. As coach, general manager, and part-owner, Hayman’s franchise immediately broke Canadian football’s color barrier by signing the CFL’s first black players. The bold move introduced integration to professional Canadian sports and winning pro football to French Canadian fans. In 1949 the Allouettes won their first Grey Cup, marking Coach Hayman’s record fifth national championship.

Other CFL “firsts” attributed to Hayman include playing night games (1946), playing on Sundays (1946), and televising his team’s games.

Following the 1951 season, Hayman left the sidelines to serve full-time as Montreal’s general manager. In 1955 he sold his interest in the Allouettes.

Less than two years later, he resurfaced in Toronto as Argonauts GM and president, a position he held until 1969, when he served a year as CFL president.

Hayman was elected to the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 1975. The CFL's Eastern Division award for "Outstanding Player of the Year" is called the Lew Hayman Trophy.



Marv Levy

Marv Levy

United States

Born: August 3, 1925, Chicago, Illinois

Coach Marv Levy led the National Football League's Buffalo Bills to four consecutive Super Bowls from 1990 to 1993. Although victory eluded Buffalo at all four, Levy's teams won six division titles and four conference (AFC) championships between 1990 and 1993. UPI named him NFL Coach of the Year in 1988 and 1995 and AFC Coach of the Year in 1993.

Levy served seventeen years as an NFL head coach with Kansas City from 1978 to 1982 and with Buffalo from 1986 to 1997. When he entered his

final season in 1997, his twelve-year tenure with the same team made him the dean of NFL head coaches. Upon retirement, Levy ranked eleventh on the list of all-time most winning coaches 143-112 (117-68 at Buffalo) and fifth among NFL coaches in postseason victories with 11 wins in 19 games.

A thirty-year coaching veteran, Levy was color commentator on Buffalo Bills game day telecasts from 1983 to 1986, joining the Buffalo coaching staff in 1986 directly from the press box. In 1984 he took leave of the broadcast booth to coach the Chicago Blitz in the U.S. Football League.

From 1973 to 1977 Levy coached the Montreal Alouettes in the Canadian Football League. The CFL team enjoyed a 50-34-4 record and made the playoffs all five seasons, winning Grey Cup (CFL) championships in 1974 and 1977. Earlier Levy was an assistant coach with the NFL's Washington Redskins, Los Angeles Rams, and Philadelphia Eagles.

Success was synonymous with Marv Levy as head coach at the College of William and Mary (1964-68), the University of California-Berkeley (1960-63), and the University of New Mexico (1958-59). He was named Conference Coach of the Year in 1958, 1959, 1964, and 1965.

Marvin Daniel Levy was himself a standout running back and sprinter. A Phi Beta Kappa at Coe College in 1950, he earned a master's degree in English history at Harvard University in 1951.

Benny Lom

United States

Born: June 29, 1906, San Francisco, California

Died: June 29, 1984

A three-time University of California (Berkeley) All-America, 1927-29, Benny Lom was one of the great "triple threat" players (runner, passer, kicker) of his time.

Although he often thrilled spectators with long touchdown runs and all-around versatility, he is



Benny Lom

usually remembered as an active participant in an unforgettable incident in U.S. football history. It occurred in the 1929 Rose Bowl classic that matched Cal against Georgia Tech.

The game was scoreless when Lom, at defensive safety, hit a Georgia Tech running back so hard it caused him to fumble. Cal center Roy Riegels picked up the loose ball and headed for the goal line. However, in the excitement of the moment, a disoriented Riegels ran the wrong way—toward his own goal line.

Everyone in the stadium, except Riegels, instantly recognized the faux pas, but only Lom set off in hot pursuit of his confused teammate. As Lom raced after Riegels, he shouted to the lineman to reverse his field, but could not be heard over the roar of an estimated hundred thousand spectators. Only steps from crossing the goal line, Lom managed to catch and tackle Riegels before he set foot in the wrong end zone. Lom had saved the day momentarily. In the next series of downs, attempting to punt from his own end zone, Lom's kick was blocked for a safety.

Nevertheless, that day Benny Lom passed for a touchdown, kicked the extra point, and was named Outstanding Player of the game. But Cal lost the contest, 8–7.

Sidney Luckman

United States

Born: November 21, 1916, Brooklyn, New York

Died: July 5, 1998

An outstanding college tailback at Columbia University from 1936 to 1938, and selected All-America in 1937 and 1938, Sid Luckman blossomed as the “master of the T-formation” with the National Football League's Chicago Bears.

Converted from a single-wing college star to the Bears' new-concept T-formation quarterback, coach George Halas's “Monsters of the Midway” (1939–47) won four NFL championships (1940, 1941, 1943, 1946) and five Western Conference titles. En route Luckman set numerous offensive records and was named All-Pro five times—



Sidney Luckman

1941–44 and 1947, and second team 1946. He also played full-time defensive safety throughout his career.

Luckman was the NFL's Most Valuable Player in 1943, the year he threw a single-game record seven touchdowns against the New York Giants and twenty-eight touchdowns during the Bears ten-game regular season. The seven TD spectacular led to a 56–7 rout over the Giants on Sid Luckman Day at New York's Polo Grounds. Later that season, he tossed five touchdowns in a 41–21 NFL title game romp over the Washington Redskins. Following his remarkable 1943 season, Luckman joined the U.S. Merchant Marines, serving until 1946.

His mastery of the new T-formation system helped “open up” and popularize professional football. In his nine pro seasons, Luckman completed 904 of 1,747 passes for 14,683 yards (8.42 yards per pass), and 139 touchdowns.

Luckman is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame (finished third for the 1938 Heisman Trophy, behind Davey O'Brien and Marshall Goldberg), and he was elected to the NFL's Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1965.

Joseph Magidsohn

United States

Born: December 20, 1888, Takum, Kurland, Russia

Died: February 14, 1969

Joe Magidsohn was a University of Michigan All-America halfback in 1909 and 1910. He did not play high school football because it was not offered at his school, and he played only two years of college football. Nevertheless, he was the first Jew to win an “M” (college letter) in University of Michigan athletics.

His powerhouse Wolverines lost only one game during the two seasons he starred at halfback. Michigan's stunning 12–6 defeat of the University of Pennsylvania in 1909, in which Magidsohn

scored both touchdowns, was the first time that any western team had beaten one of the Big Four of American college football—Penn, Yale, Princeton, and Harvard.

Of the celebrated times a Jewish athlete has taken a day off on the Jewish High Holy Days, Magidsohn is likely the first to do so. According to Magidsohn, his coach “reluctantly excused [him] from workouts for two days to attend Rosh Hashanah services.”

He was a Western Conference football official for thirty-five years from 1912 to 1946 and was assigned to many of the college “big games,” including Army-Navy, Rose Bowl, and College All-Star games.



Joseph Magidsohn



Ron Mix

Ron Mix

United States

Born: March 10, 1938, Los Angeles, California

From 1960 to 1972 Ron Mix was a nine-time All-League and All-Pro offensive lineman with the AFL San Diego Chargers and Oakland Raiders.

A University of Southern California All-America in 1959, he was the first draft choice of both the NFL Baltimore Colts and AFL Boston Patriots. The Patriots traded their rights to Mix to the Los Angeles Chargers in 1960, and one year later the franchise moved to San Diego, where he starred at both offensive tackle and offensive guard. He retired in 1970 but returned to play one season with the Oakland Raiders.

Mix played in eight All Star Games, and when he completed his active career the Chargers retired his jersey, number 74.

He was unanimously named to the All-Time AFL team, and in 1979 he was the second AFL player and sixth offensive lineman inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Edward Newman

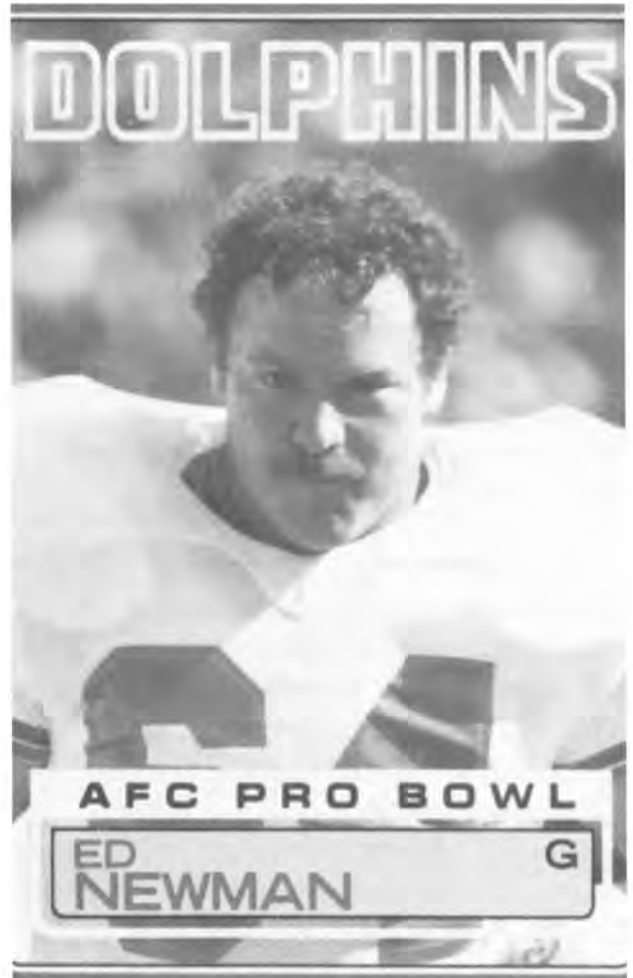
United States

Born: June 4, 1951, Woodbury, New York

An All-Pro guard for the Miami Dolphins 1981–84, Ed Newman played in three Super Bowls during his thirteen-year career with the NFL's Florida franchise.

Newman won All-America honors in football at Duke University in 1971 and was Atlantic Coast Conference Heavyweight Wrestling Champion in 1971 and 1972.

An athlete who had to overcome severe physical adversity, Newman survived cancer surgery in 1975 and knee operations in 1978 and 1982. A third knee surgery led to his retirement following the 1985 NFL season.



Edward Newman

Harry Newman

United States

Born: September 5, 1909, Detroit, Michigan

Died: May 2, 2000

University of Michigan's triple-threat quarterback, 1930–32, Harry Newman was everybody's All-American during his senior year at Ann Arbor. Among the many honors he received in 1932 were the Douglas Fairbanks Trophy as Outstanding College Player of the Season (predecessor of the Heisman Trophy) and the Helms Athletic Foundation Player of the Year.

In his three gridiron seasons at Michigan, aside from a single loss and two ties, the Wolverines won every game. Of the total of 480 minutes of game time during his undefeated senior year, Newman played 437 minutes. (College players played both offense and defense until the mid-1950s.)

Newman moved to professional football in 1933 with the New York Giants and was immediately one of the pro game's highest paid performers. He signed a percentage contract based upon attendance. In his rookie year, he led the Giants to the NFL championship game against the Chicago Bears. Although the Bears won the contest 23–21, Newman tossed two touchdown passes and at one point completed thirteen straight passes.

He picked up where he left off the following year but suffered two broken bones in his back in a midseason game against Chicago, and his career appeared to be ended. Although the Giants went on to defeat the Bears in the 1934 NFL title game without Newman, he was summoned back at mid-season 1935, in hopes of reviving the faltering New Yorkers. Newman led the Giants to the Eastern Conference title that year, but it was to be his final season (only his third) of professional football.

In 1952 Newman was in the first group of college football stars elected to the College Football Hall of Fame.



Harry Newman

GOLF



Amy Alcott

Amy Alcott

United States

Born: February 22, 1956, Kansas City, Missouri

Nineteen-year-old Amy Alcott was named the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Rookie of the Year in 1975. Twenty-four years and

thirty-four professional victories later, she was elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame in 1999.

Alcott's career highlights include twenty-nine LPGA Tour wins and five major titles. Her five majors are the 1979 Peter Jackson Classic, the 1980 U.S. Women's Open, and the 1983, 1988, and 1991 Nabisco Dinah Shore.

In 1983 her winnings made Alcott the LPGA's sixth millionaire. She became the third LPGA player to top \$2 million in career earnings in 1988 and crossed the \$3 million mark in 1994. At the time of her IJSHOF election, Alcott's \$3.4 million in career earnings ranked No. 14 all-time on the Ladies Tour.

Alcott is the seventeenth woman to be inducted into the World Golf (LPGA) Hall of Fame.

Herman Barron

United States

Born: December 23, 1909, Port Chester, New York

Died: June 11, 1978

One of the top professional golfers of the 1930s and 1940s, Herman Barron won his first major tournament title, the Philadelphia Open, in 1934, and his last, the World Seniors championship, in 1963.

While among the PGA's leading money winners during his tournament career, his hottest streak occurred in 1946, when within three weeks he won the Philadelphia Inquirer Open, finished fourth in the U.S. Open, and captured the rich All-America championship at Tam O'Shanter in Chicago. His U.S. Open finish was one stroke behind the legendary Ben Hogan, the only PGA golfer in 1946 to win more prize money than Barron's \$23,000. (During this pre-television period, barely one dozen pro golfers made their living on the Tour.)



Herman Barron

The Port Chester native was on America's Ryder Cup team that defeated England in 1947, but soon afterward, failing health sent him into tournament retirement. For the next fifteen years Barron was a PGA teaching pro.

He returned in the early 1960s to the PGA Senior Circuit, defeating Paul Runyon for the 1963 Senior championship, while lowering the tournament record by six strokes. His last competitive headline came in November 1964, when he registered the eleventh hole-in-one of his career. Barron was instrumental in the development of Israel's first golf course at Caesarea.

GYMNASTICS



Valeri Belenki

Valeri Belenki

Azerbaijan and Germany

Born: September 5, 1969, Baku, Azerbaijan

One of the world's top gymnasts during the 1990s, Valeri Belenki was ranked No. 1 in the world in 1990 and ranked among the Top Ten between 1992 and 1997.

At the World Championships in 1991, Belenki won the gold medal in the pommel horse and a team gold medal in the all-around.

Competing for the Unified team (Soviet Union) at the 1992 Olympic Games, Belenki won a gold medal in team combined exercises and took a bronze in individual all-around. At that year's World Championships, and again at the 1993 WC, he won bronze in parallel bars.

With the breakup of the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan was left without a gymnastics federation. So Belenki became a German citizen and represented his new country at the 1994 World Championships. He finished third (tied) in the rings event, helping his new country to an overall fifth place finish.

Belenki represented Germany at the 1996 Olympics but did not medal. It wasn't until 1997 at the World Championships that he won his last gold medal in the pommel horse event.



Alfred Flatow

Alfred Flatow

Germany

Born: October 3, 1869, Danzig, Poland

Died: December 28, 1942, Theresienstadt

Concentration Camp

Alfred Flatow won three gold medals in Athens, Greece, at the first modern Olympiad in 1896. He also won a silver medal. Alfred and cousin Gustav

Felix Flatow were among ten athletes selected to compete for Germany at the Athens Games.

Alfred captured his gold medal honors in individual parallel bars, team parallel bars, and team horizontal bars. He took the silver medal in the horizontal bars event.

Note: Victorious Athens athletes did not receive awards of gold and silver medals for first and second places. And bronze awards were not designated until the 1904 Olympic Games. Factually Flatow finished first in three events and second in one event.

In 1903 Flatow assisted the founding of the Jüdische Turnerschaft, the historic and pioneering Jewish sports organization in Europe. He was prominently active in German gymnastics until expelled by the Nazis in 1936. Alfred died in the Theresienstadt concentration camp in 1942.

In 1997 the city of Berlin honored the memory of Alfred and Gustav Flatow by renaming its Reichssportsfeld Strasse (street of the national sports complex) Flatowallee (Flatow Boulevard). There is also a Flatow-Sporthalle (sports hall) at Berlin-Kreuzberg commemorating both athletes.

One year earlier, the German postal service issued a set of four stamps commemorating the modern Olympic centennial. One features Germany's first Olympic gymnastics champions, Alfred and Gustav Flatow.

Gustav Felix Flatow

Germany

Born: January 7, 1875, Berent, West Prussia

Died: January 29, 1945, Theresienstadt

Concentration Camp

Gymnast Gustav Flatow won two gold medals in 1896 at the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in team horizontal bar and team parallel bars. He was one of ten German athletes who competed in the Athens Olympics. He also participated at the 1900 Games, but did not medal.



Gustav Felix Flatow

Gustav fled to Holland at the beginning of World War II but was caught and interred in the Theresienstadt concentration camp. He died there just months before the end of World War II.

Mitchell Gaylord

United States

Born: March 10, 1961, Los Angeles, California

Mitch Gaylord won four medals at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles—a gold in team event, a silver in vault, and bronze medals in both rings and parallel bars.

He was the first American to score a perfect 10 in Olympic gymnastics. Two of the routines he created for his Olympics performance have been named for him—the Gaylord Flip and Gaylord II.

Gaylord saw his first international competition at the eleventh Maccabiah Games in 1981, dominating the gymnastics events while winning six gold medals. The only gold he did not win was won by his brother, Chuck, who took top honors in the vault, with Mitch winning a silver medal.

Gaylord was elected to the Olympic Hall of Fame in 2006.



Mitchell Gaylord



Maria Gorokhovskaya

Maria Gorokhovskaya

Soviet Union

Born: October 17, 1921, Yevpatoria, Ukraine

Died: July 22, 2001

Maria Gorokhovskaya was a winner of seven medals at the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki—two gold and five silver. She won gold in the individual and team all-around events and silver medals in each of the five other gymnastic disciplines: vault, parallel bars, balance beam, floor exercise, and team hand apparatus. At the time, it was the most medals won by a woman in a single Olympics.

The year 1952 was the Soviet Union's debut year in the Olympic Games, and Gorokhovskaya's gold medal was her country's first. She was thirty-one years old at the time, ancient for a world-class gymnast. The Soviets awarded her its highest sports honor, the Order of Red Banner, as well as Honorary Master of Sport, and she was the subject of a Russian postage stamp.

Between 1948 and 1954 Gorokhovskaya won numerous Soviet and Russian championships. In 1954 she competed in the World Gymnastics championships and, though a factor in the Soviets' road to a team gold medal, managed only an individual bronze in floor exercises.

Maria volunteered for military service in World War II. She served in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) hospitals during the German army's three-year siege of the city, which cost the lives of one million Russians and nearly her own. She was decorated with the Order of the Great Patriotic War, as well as other honorable citations.

Gorokhovskaya immigrated to Israel in early 1990, and it was only then that it became known that she was Jewish.

In the year 2000 Russia issued several sets of stamps representing the greatest Russian achievements in the twentieth century. The nation's first Olympic gold medal, won by Gorokhovskaya at the Helsinki Games in 1952, was commemorated

with a two-ruble stamp depicting a pair of images of the celebrated gymnast.

In the history of the modern Olympic Games, her seven medals rank thirteenth in total medals won by one women athlete. And her five silver medals rank second (tie) among all Olympic women. Even more remarkable, compared with peers ranked higher on these "best" lists, Gorokhovskaya is the lone athlete who competed in only one Olympiad.



Abie Grossfeld

Abie Grossfeld

United States

Born: March 1, 1934, New York, New York

Abie Grossfeld represented the United States as a gymnastics competitor or coach in seven Olympic Games, seven World Championships, and five Pan American Games, in addition to numerous other major gymnastics events.

He was head coach of the U.S. men's Olympic gymnastics teams of 1972, 1984, and 1988. His

1984 team won the combined exercises championship. He was also assistant coach of U.S. men for the 1964 Olympics and U.S. women for the 1968 games.

In 1966, 1981, 1983, 1985, and 1987, Grossfeld served as head coach of the American Men's World Gymnastics championships teams. From 1981 to 1988 he was a national coach of the U.S. gymnastics team.

In 1982 Grossfeld head coached the U.S. World Cup men's team. He was head coach of the U.S. men's gymnastics teams for the 1983 and 1987 Pan American Games and was head coach of U.S. men competing in the 1986 International Goodwill Games. He also coached U.S. gymnasts for three World Maccabiah Games—1973, 1977, and 1981. His 1981 squad won three team gold medals.

Grossfeld competed internationally for the United States for fifteen years, including the 1956 and 1960 Olympic Games, World Championships of 1958 and 1962, Pan American Games of 1955, 1959, and 1963, and the World Maccabiah Games in 1953, 1957, and 1965.

Of his fifteen Pan Am Games medals, eight are gold and include three horizontal bar championships. His horizontal bar gold medal record of 1955 stood for thirty-two years. Competing in three Maccabiah Games, he captured seventeen gold medals, including seven in seven events in 1957.

Grossfeld is a 1960 University of Illinois graduate (master's, 1962). He established the first gymnastics program at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. Since 1963 he has been a professor of physical education and head gymnastics coach at Southern Connecticut State University.

His many honors include Federation Internationale de Gymnastique Master of Sports Award in 1960, election to the National Gymnastics Hall of Fame in 1979, Gymnastics Federation Coach of the Year in 1984, and the naming of a street in New Haven, Connecticut, Abie Grossfeld Circle.



George Gulack

George Gulack

United States

Born: May 12, 1905, Riga, Latvia

Died: July 27, 1987

George Gulack won a gold medal in flying rings at the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. His gold medal marked the United States' last Olympic men's gymnastics championship for fifty-two years—until the U.S. team captured an assortment of medals at the 1984 Olympic Games. (Only one U.S. gymnast won a medal during the fifty-two-year drought, a bronze in 1976.)

As a sixteen-year-old student, Gulack won the Latvian all-around championship in 1921. Between 1928 and 1935 he won four U.S. Amateur Athletic Union titles, two on the rings and one each on parallel bars and floor exercises.

Upon retiring from competition in 1935, Gulack became a force on the administration side of gymnastics. In 1948 he helped draft a new set of AAU rules designed to conform with international regulations—a major advance in the U.S. national gymnastics program. That same year, he served as manager of the U.S. men's and women's Olympic gymnastic teams.

Gulack served as a member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, 1934–58; chairman of the AAU Gymnastics Technical Committee, 1936–58; chairman of the AAU Gymnastics Committee in 1958; U.S. Olympic Gymnastics chairman, 1960 and 1964; executive committee of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) in 1960 and FIG vice president, 1964–72; president of the Pan American Gymnastics Federation in 1959; and honorary chairman of the Central American Gymnastics Federation in 1970.

Agnes Keleti (Klein)

Hungary

Born: June 9, 1921, Budapest, Hungary

Gymnast Agnes Keleti won ten Olympic medals over three Olympiads, including five gold medals. She ranks third all-time (tie) among women gymnasts for most Olympic medals (seven) and third all-time as a winner of Olympic gold medals (three).

A budding champion on the eve of World War II, Keleti's Olympic hopes were scotched when the 1940 and then the 1944 Games were canceled. Nazi Germany invaded Hungary in 1944, and Keleti's father and other relatives were sent to Auschwitz where they perished. The gymnast and her mother went into hiding and escaped a similar fate with



Agnes Keleti (Klein)

the aid of Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who provided documents permitting them to flee Hungary.

After the war, Keleti resumed her gymnastics quest, but a last-minute injury prevented her from competing at the 1948 Olympic Games in London. Nonetheless, she was awarded a team silver medal for having been a member of the runner-up Hungarian team.

At the 1952 Olympics, now at the "ancient" gymnastics age of thirty-one, Keleti won her first Olympic gold medal in floor exercises, bronze medals in team hand apparatus and uneven parallel bars, plus a team silver medal. She also finished sixth in the individual all-around.

Between Olympics Keleti captured three medals at the 1954 World Championships, winning the uneven bars gold medal, a silver medal in team exercises (portable apparatus), and a bronze on the balance beam.

At the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne, Australia, the thirty-six-year-old Keleti won four gold and two silver medals—golds on the balance beam, parallel bars, free standing event (tie), and team combined exercises (portable apparatus); silvers in the individual all-around (missing the gold medal by thirty one-hundredths of a point), and team combined exercises (nine exercises).

Following the 1956 Games, Keleti defected to the West. (This was the year of a major Hungarian uprising against the ruling Communist government.) She has lived in Israel since 1957 and served as a coach for the Israeli gymnastics team.

In 2002 Keleti was inducted into the International Gymnastics Hall of Fame. She and swimmer Dara Torres are the most successful Jewish female athletes in Olympic history. Only one Jewish male athlete owns more Olympic honors than Keleti's ten medals: swimmer Mark Spitz, who captured eleven Olympic medals.

Tatiana Lysenko

Soviet Union/Ukraine

Born: June 23, 1975, Kherson, Ukraine

Just fifteen years old and a shade under 4 foot 7, Tatiana Lysenko won the all-around event at the 1990 World Cup—No. 1 on uneven bars, No. 3 floor exercises, and No. 4 vault and balance beam. Two years later, she won three Olympic medals at the 1992 Barcelona Games. She captured gold medals in the balance beam and team events and a bronze medal in the vault.

In 1991 Lysenko and her Unified (CIS) team won the gold medal at the World Championships despite Tatiana breaking several fingers during her uneven bars routine. At the 1993 World Championships, her third-place bronze finish in the all-around earned Unified's only competition medal.

Following the Barcelona Olympics, Lysenko entered Ukrainian State University of Sport and Physical Education, making her eligible to com-



Tatiana Lysenko

pete in the 1993 World University Games. Tatiana won the individual all-around and balance beam gold medals, and she and Natalia Kalinina led Unified to a team gold medal.

After her graduation in 1996 (bachelor's in physical education), Lysenko emigrated to the United States and has held several coaching positions, including stints at the Woodward Gymnastics Camp and Berks Gymnastics in Reading, Pennsylvania. In recent years, she produced *Flip Gymnastics Video Magazine*.

Netherlands 1928 Women's Olympic Gymnasts

Women's gymnastics made its debut at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games, and Netherlands's lady gymnasts won the gold medal. Five members of the 1928 Dutch team were Jewish, as was their coach, Gerrit Kleerekoper. Although the 1928 women gymnasts competed in various events—drill, apparatus, and jumps—gold, silver, and bronze medals were awarded only for all-around team performance.

Four of the five Jewish gymnasts and their Jewish coach perished in the Holocaust. Only Elka de Levie survived the war. She died in Amsterdam at the age of seventy-four.

Estella Agsteribbe

Born: April 6, 1909

Died: September 17, 1943, Auschwitz

Anna Dresden-Polak

Born: November 24, 1906

Died: July 23, 1943, Sobibor

Lea Kloot-Nordheim

Born: August 1, 1903

Died: July 2, 1943, Sobibor

Elka de Levie

Born: November 21, 1905

Died: December 29, 1979

Judikje Themans-Simons

Born: August 20, 1904

Died: March 3, 1943, Sobibor

Coach Gerrit Kleerekoper

Born: February 15, 1897

Died: July 31, 1944, Auschwitz



Netherlands 1928 Women's Olympic Gymnasts: Helena Nordheim (*second from left*), Anna Polak (*third from left*), Estella Agsterribe (*fourth from left*), Judikeje Simmons (*front row far right*), and Elka de Levi (*back row, far right*).

Alexandra Raisman

United States

Born: May 25, 1994, Needham, Massachusetts

Aly Raisman, captain of the 2012 and 2016 U.S. women's Olympic gymnastics teams, won a pair of gold medals and a bronze in London in 2012 and a gold and two silvers at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro games, leading her team to repeat Olympic championships.

Raisman's U.S. women's "Fierce Five" won the 2012 team gold medal, and she won an individual gold medal in floor exercises and an individual bronze on the balance beam. Aly and a Russian competitor finished with matching scores for third place in the individual all-around event, but Olympics tie-breaking rules gave the Russian the event's bronze medal.

Four years later, in 2016, Raisman again won a gold medal in the team event and silver medals in the individual all-around and floor exercises.

Raisman was a gold medalist in balance beam and floor exercises at the 2012 Visa championships. She won a team gold medal and individual bronze at the 2011 World Championships. And she was a



Alexandra Raisman

team gold medalist at the 2010 Pacific Rim championships, while capturing individual all-around, balance beam, and floor exercises silver medals.



Yelena Shushunova

Yelena Shushunova

Soviet Union

Born: May 23, 1969, St. Petersburg, Russia

Died: August 18, 2018

Yelena Shushunova needed a perfect 10 to win the all-around gold medal at the 1988 Olympic Games. And she nailed it! The nineteen-year-old Russian medaled four times at the Seoul Olympics—gold in the all-around and team events, a silver medal in balance beam, and a bronze on the uneven bars. She also placed seventh in floor exercises and eighth on vault.

Her Olympic victory was something of a comeback. A year earlier, at the 1987 World Championships in Rotterdam, Shushunova won the vault and floor exercises (tie with Daniela Silivas), but could *only* muster a silver medal in the all-around. She also took the silver on the balance beam and bronze on the uneven bars. At the 1987 European Championships in Moscow, she again finished second in the all-around and won the vault.

The 1985 European Championships in Helsinki served as Shushunova's "breakthrough." She captured the all-around gold medal over East Germany's Maxi Gnauck and won the vault, floor exercises, and uneven bars (tie with Gnauck), and added a bronze on the balance beam. Later that year at the World Championships in Montreal, she was gold in the all-around (tie with Soviet teammate Oksana Omelianchik), took a silver in floor exercises, a bronze medal on the balance beam, and a team gold medal.

The Russian gymnast would likely have enjoyed success at the 1984 Olympics, but her Soviet team boycotted the Los Angeles Games. In 1986 would-be 1984 Soviet Olympians competed in the inaugural Goodwill Games, and Shushunova captured four gold and two silver medals.

She retired from competition following the 1988 Olympics and was inducted into the International Gymnasts Hall of Fame in 2004.

Kerri Strug

United States

Born: November 19, 1977, Tucson, Arizona

Kerri Strug's heroic performance at the 1996 Olympic Games ensured the United States' first team gold medal in women's gymnastics, and she received the 1996 Olympic Spirit Award.

She participated in five World Championships, winning team silver medals in 1991 (at the age of thirteen) and 1994, and a team bronze in 1995. At the 1992 Olympic Games, she won a bronze medal in team combined exercises.

The diminutive 4-foot-9, 88-pound American gave the Olympic Games one of its memorable moments on July 23, 1996. As the final U.S. performer in the vault event and the U.S. women's team on the brink of capturing its first gymnastics gold medal, U.S. coaches and Olympic media estimated that the American team needed points



Kerri Strug

only Kerri could provide in her final set of vaults to give the Yanks the championship.

But, in her first vault, the seventeen-year-old Arizonan fell and suffered torn ligaments and a third degree sprain in her left ankle. In severe pain and barely able to walk, she consulted with coach Bela Karolyi, then opted to attempt her second vault. Fellow competitors, arena spectators, and a massive world TV audience held their collective breath as Strug readied herself, then sprinted toward the vault apparatus. She was virtually flawless, nailing a near perfect landing. The gold medal in women's gymnastics team belonged to the United States.

A member of the U.S. Senior Gymnastics team from 1991 to 1997, specializing in floor exercises and uneven bars, Strug won her first U.S. national title in the all-around event in 1989 at American Classic in Oakland, California. In 1991 she was No. 1 in the vault and third in all-around at the U.S. championships. She would go on to finish No. 1, No. 2, or No. 3—individual or team—in virtually every U.S. national and international competition she entered for the next five years.



Galina Urbanovich

Galina Urbanovich

Soviet Union

Born: September 5, 1917, Baku, Azerbaijan

Died: May 8, 2011

In 1952, the year the Soviet Union made its first appearance in the Olympic Games, thirty-four-year-old Galina Urbanovich won a gold medal in team all-around and silver in team portable apparatus. Individually she finished fifth in the all-around, horse vault, and balance beam events.

The core years of her gymnastics career, however, were accomplished prior to the Soviet Union's entry into the Olympics family. Urbanovich won her first Soviet championship gold medal in 1939 and was all-around Soviet champion seven times, rings seven times, uneven bars five times, pommel horse three times, horse vault, balance beam, floor exercises twice each, and one victory on horizontal bars.

She worked as a coach for several years after retiring following the 1952 Olympics.

HANDBALL



Victor Hershkowitz

Victor Hershkowitz

United States

Born: October 5, 1918, Brooklyn, New York

Died: June 23, 2008

"As immortals are recorded in the heroics of handball, the towering figure of Victor Hershkowitz will stand apart and above all," wrote the U.S. Handball Association in November 1968.

Beginning in 1942, by winning the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) National One-Wall doubles championship (with Moe Orenstein), Vic Hershkowitz accumulated forty national and interna-

tional titles, including nine straight Three-Wall singles championships, 1950–58, a feat no other player has equaled.

In 1952 he captured handball's "grand slam," the USHA's Three- and Four-Wall singles crowns and the AAU One-Wall singles championship. "The grand slam," explains the *Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*, "is akin to a baseball pitcher winning twenty-five games and the batting championship during the same year." His Three-Wall victories from 1950 to 1955 are considered international titles.

In 1954 Hershkowitz was the first handball player to win a career fifteenth U.S. national title, and between 1947 and 1967 (except 1959) he won at least one national championship each year. Jimmy Jacobs, who shared dominance of the sport with Hershkowitz beginning in 1955, called his senior court rival the "Babe Ruth of Handball."

James Jacobs

United States

Born: 1931, St. Louis, Missouri

Died: March 23, 1988

Jimmy Jacobs dominated the sport of four-wall handball from 1955 to 1969, winning every match he played during that fifteen-year span.

Jacobs won the American Handball Association Singles and Doubles championships (with Marty Decatur) six times—singles 1955–57, 1960, 1964, 1965. In 1960 and 1965 he captured both the singles and doubles crowns. He also won the National Three-Wall championship three times. He did not compete in the national championships several years because of either health and injury problems or the lack of meaningful competition.



James Jacobs

It was Jacobs who coined the “sword and shield” handball concept: He relied on his left hand as his shield and the right hand as his sword. In a 1966 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, onetime Major League Baseball star-turned-author Jim Bouton wrote: “Jacobs might be the greatest athlete of his time in any sport.”

There were multiple sides to Jimmy Jacobs. He also reached international prominence as a sports historian and boxing manager. He collected the largest library of boxing films in the world. A quirky 1912 U.S. law prohibited interstate commerce of boxing films, so most prizefights filmed in America during in the first forty years of the twentieth century were sold commercially in Europe. During the 1950s, as Jacobs toured European military bases performing handball exhibitions to entertain U.S. troops, he exercised his passion for fight films, collecting everything he could get his hands on.

In 1961 Jacobs merged his collection with that of another collector, businessman and TV producer

Bill Cayton (*Greatest Fights of the Century*), and the two organized the film library Big Fights, Inc. The partners continued to track down rare and “lost” prints and would eventually possess more than sixteen thousand films. Big Fights also produced more than one thousand boxing features and documentaries, including Academy Award nominees *Legendary Champions*, *The Heavyweight Champions*, and *Jack Johnson*.

Jacobs and Cayton managed the careers of three world boxing champions: welterweight (also junior and super) Wilfred Benitez, lightweight Edwin Rosario, and heavyweight Mike Tyson.

Jacobs was elected to the U.S. Handball Hall of Fame in 1972 and International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1993.

Fred Lewis

United States

Born: September 8, 1947, Bronx, New York

Fred Lewis became a six-time U.S. national four-wall handball singles champion and a three-time national three-wall singles champion, all between



Fred Lewis

1972 and 1981. He was inducted into the Handball Hall of Fame in 1993.

For the 1970s, Lewis was named "Handball Player of the Decade." He played in a National Open singles final or doubles final (four-wall or three-wall) every year of that decade. In all, he made the finals of the National Open championship fourteen consecutive years.

Lewis captured two U.S. National Collegiate Singles championships (as a University of Miami student) and won sixteen titles on the professional tour.

Steve Sandler

United States

Born: 1940, New York, New York

Died: July 8, 2014

Known as "the one-wall kingpin," Steve Sandler won the U.S. Handball Association Singles championship in 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, and 1981 and was elected to the Handball Hall of Fame in 1985.

He is remembered as much for his domination of one-wall handball as for his entertaining challenge matches. At the top of his game, he was considered handball's best volleyer, server, and shooter. He was also known to play with such handicaps as one hand tied behind his back or using only his backhand.

Sandler also won the AAU singles championship in 1961, 1966, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1972, and 1974.



Steve Sandler

HORSE RACING



Walter Blum

Walter Blum

United States

Born: September 28, 1934, Brooklyn, New York

Walter Blum won back-to-back American riding championships in 1963 and 1964. In his distinguished twenty-two-year jockey career, he rode 4,382 winners. His 1,704 mounts in 1963 (including 360 firsts) were the second-highest number ever ridden in a single season.

In 1964 Blum was presented the George Woolf Award, an honor given to the jockey whose career has best reflected credit to his profession. In 1974 his four thousandth winning mount made Blum only the sixth U.S. jockey ever to achieve that level.

Blum, who rode his last mount in 1975, was elected to the National Horse Racing Hall of Fame in 1987.

Robert Frankel

United States

Born: July 9, 1941, Brooklyn, New York

Died: November 16, 2009

Bobby Frankel received thoroughbred horse racing's Eclipse Award (for Outstanding Trainer) five times, including four years in a row: 2000–2003. His horses won six Breeders' Cups, and he trained the winners of twenty-eight races worth \$1 million or more. He was elected to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 1995.

Frankel saddled his first winner in 1966 and established himself as "King of the Claimers" for his ability to select promising horses to purchase before a race.

At the time of his death, Frankel had amassed 3,654 first place victories. Combined with



Robert Frankel

\$227,947,775 in career earnings, Frankel was the second-winningest trainer in racing history.

He trained eleven champions: Squirtle Squirt, Aldebaran, Possibly Perfect, Wandesta, Ryafan, Intercontinental, Leriodesanimaux, Ghostzapper, Bertrando, Ginger Punch, and Stardom Bound.



William Harmatz

William Harmatz

United States

Born: February 9, 1931, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania

Died: January 27, 2011

One of America's leading jockeys for nearly twenty years, Willie Harmatz won more than 1,800 races between 1953 and 1971. He won in excess of \$10 million in purses and rode such great horses as Silky Sullivan and Round Table.

The 5-foot, 108-pound Harmatz captured the Preakness aboard Royal Orbit in 1959 and rode in the Triple Crown's Kentucky Derby four times and in the Belmont Stakes. He won twelve races worth

\$100,000 or more and once rode six winners on the same day, April 23, 1954, at Bay Meadows.

Willie received the Jockey's Guild Meritorious Award in 1957 and the George Woolf Sportsmanship Award in 1958.

In 1968 Harmatz co-founded the Jockey's Association and was its executive director from 1972 to 1978.

Hirsch Jacobs

United States

Born: April 18, 1904, New York, New York

Died: February 13, 1970

One of horse racing's premier trainers, breeders, and owners, Hirsch Jacobs saddled 3,569 winners in his lifetime, more than anyone else in the history of thoroughbred racing.

He was known as the "voodoo veterinarian," having been incredibly successful at turning con-



Hirsch Jacobs

firmed losers into winners for nearly fifty years. Unlike other great trainers, Jacobs bred and trained horses he owned with his partner, Isidor "Beebe" Bieber. His finest year was 1936, when he saddled 177 winners.

Some of the horses Jacobs brought into prominence are Action, Paper Tiger, Hail To Reason, Affectionately, Palestinian, Straight Deal, Regal Gleam, and Stymie, a horse he bought for a \$1,500 claiming price. Stymie raced 131 times and won \$918,485 by the time he retired in 1949—that era's all-time money winner.

Horses Jacobs trained earned more than \$12 million in purses. He was the top money-winning trainer in the United States in 1946 and 1960, one of only seventeen trainers to hold the annual top position more than once. Jacobs led the United States in total number of yearly winners eleven times between 1933 and 1944. In 1940 he finished second.

Jacobs was elected to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame as a trainer in 1958.

Walter Miller

United States

Born: 1890, Brooklyn, New York

Died: 1959

Recognized as the greatest jockey of the early twentieth century, Walter Miller rode his first race in 1904 at the age of fourteen and his last in 1909. During a four-year period, he had 1,094 winners, and more than half his mounts finished in the money.

In an era when most jockeys seldom failed to go to the post 500 times a year, Miller had 178 winners in 888 mounts in 1905; 388 firsts in 1,384 races in 1906 (and 300 seconds, 199 thirds); 334 wins in 1,194 races in 1907; and 194 winners in 870 mounts in 1908. He won the National Riding championship in 1906 and 1907.



Walter Miller

Miller enjoyed his greatest success under the colors of the James R. Keene and Newcastle Stables. He accomplished his extraordinary riding record in the days of six and seven race cards and abbreviated racing seasons. Among the horses he rode were Colin, Ballot, and Peter Pan. His first manager is said to have been his mother. She was replaced by legendary "Sunny Jim" Fitzsimmons, who advised Miller through most of his riding career.

He was the first jockey to eclipse 300 winners in one year. And his 388 first place finishes in 1906 stood alone as the most single season wins for forty-five years—until 1950, when Joe Culomex and Willie Shoemaker tied his mark, and 1952, when Shoemaker broke the record.

Miller holds the record of riding eight consecutive winners—the last five on April 3, 1906, and the first three on the following day (at Benning's Track). While quite a few modern-day jockeys

have won five winners in a day, in most instances they rode six or seven mounts. Miller rode winners in five mounts three times.

By 1910 Miller had grown too big for American riding, and he opted to race in Europe where he continued to enjoy success. Miller was elected to the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in 1955 and the Jockey Hall of Fame in 1957.



Georges Stern

Georges Stern

France

Born: 1882, France

Died: October 1928

Georges Stern, “the King of the Derbies,” was one of Europe’s outstanding jockeys. His most memorable season was 1908, when he captured three European Derbies—the era’s most challenging racing events—the French, Austrian, and German, and finished second in the Belgian Derby.

Stern won his first victory at age seventeen. One year later, in 1900, he scored his first major success in the debut running of the Grand Prix de Deauville aboard Amedee. He repeated at Deauville with victories the next two years, atop Jacobite in 1901 and Maximum in 1902. In 1909 he again won the Deauville aboard Biniou.

One of the few jockeys to ride both in England and France, Stern rode Sunstar to the 1911 Epsom Derby crown, having finished second in 1905 and 1909. Six times he found the winners’ circle at the Prix Du Jockey Club’s French Derby—in 1901 (Saxon), 1904 (Ajax), 1908 (Quintette), 1913 (Dagor), 1914 (Sardanapale), and 1922 (Ramus). He also scored Grand Prix de Paris victories in 1904 (Ajax), 1913 (Bruleur), and 1914 (Sardanapale).

Stern retired in 1926, following a distinguished career that saw him riding against the best collection of American jockeys ever to invade Europe. Wrote the British trainer of Sunstar: “A more fearless rider I never knew.”

ICE HOCKEY



Gary Bettman

Gary Bettman

United States

Born: June 2, 1952, Queens, New York

Gary Bettman was named commissioner of the National Hockey League (NHL) in February 1993. Under his stewardship, NHL revenues have grown from \$400 million to more than \$4 billion.

Bettman has overseen the league's expansion from twenty-four to thirty franchises. He made television coverage deals with Fox at \$155 million for five years, followed by an ABC/ESPN five-year pact for \$600 million. By 2011 the NHL TV package reached \$2 billion with Comcast/NBC, plus an additional \$2 billion Canadian broadcast agreement in 2013.

Among the advancements to the game under Bettman, the NHL implemented overtime and the "shootout," which eliminate tied games. And the introduction of a two-referee system revo-

lutionized hockey officiating around the world. Other Bettman innovations include development and advancement of video review, which was later replicated by the National Football League, Major League Baseball, and National Basketball Association.

Commissioner Bettman has also focused attention on the NHL's international makeup and appeal. Since 1998 NHL players have stocked the rosters at each of the succeeding Olympic Winter Games. And NHL games are televised in more than 160 countries in eight languages: Czech, Finnish, French, German, Russian, Slovak, Swedish, and English.

Before joining the NHL, Bettman was the National Basketball Association (NBA) senior vice president and general counsel where, in 1983, he developed the "soft salary cap" that continues in effect to this day. He was named Sports Executive of the Year in 2014 by the *SportsBusiness Journal* and *SportsBusiness Daily*.

Hyman "Hy" Buller

Canada

Born: March 15, 1926, Montreal, Canada

Died: August 3, 1968

One of the top National Hockey League defenseman of the early 1950s, the New York Rangers' Hy Buller set an NHL record for most points by a rookie defenseman (35) and was selected to play in the 1951–52 NHL All-Star game. At the close of his first season he was named to the NHL All-Star second team and runner-up for the Calder Trophy (NHL's Rookie of the Year).

For the 1951–52, 1952–53, and 1953–54 seasons, Buller ranked second in goals among all NHL



Hyman "Hy" Buller

defensemen, fourth in points, and third in points per game.

Prior to entering the NHL, he enjoyed a distinguished career with various American Hockey League teams, most prominently the Cleveland Barons, where he was named its outstanding player for the 1950–51 season. He left the league holding AHL records for most career goals and points for a defenseman.

Buller made a brief NHL debut in 1943–44 at the age of seventeen with the Detroit Red Wings. To this day, he remains the youngest player to ever suit up for the Red Wings.

Buller played five seasons for the Rangers. He was traded to the Montreal Canadiens in 1954. But before the season began, reluctance to uproot his family, inadequate salary, and injuries he had endured over the course of his playing career convinced him that he should retire.

Nikolay Epshtein

Soviet Union

Born: 1918, Kolomna, Russia

Died: August 27, 2005

Nikolay Epshtein is a near-legendary sports figure in Russia and former Soviet Union. An innovative hockey coach for twenty-two years (1953–75) in



Nikolay Epshtein

the Soviet National League—he was head coach of Chimik in Voskresensk, Russia—during an era when the league was comparable to the professional National Hockey League (NHL).

Epshtein developed many of the great Soviet hockey players. Among them were A. Ragulin, E. Ivan, V. Nicotine, U. Morozov, and V. and A. Golikov. Igor Larinov, star center on the Soviet's famed KLM line (Vladimir Krutov, Larinov, and Sergei Makarov), wrote in his autobiography: "Nikolai Semenovich Epshtein did not copy his technique from anyone. . . . I consider him a specialist on the scale of the legendary Anatoli Tarasov or Chernyshev."

Epshtein was head coach of the Soviet National Team and the Soviet Junior National Team that won a European Championship. He was one of the inaugural inductees to the Russian Ice Hockey Hall of Fame that opened in Moscow in March 2004, the fiftieth anniversary of the first participation of the USSR in the World Championships.

Cecil Hart

Canada

Born: November 28, 1883, Bedford, Quebec

Died: July 1940

A pioneer Canadian sportsman, Cece Hart coached the National Hockey League's Montreal Canadiens to back-to-back Stanley Cup champi-



Cecil Hart

onships in 1929–30 and 1930–31. He coached the Canadiens for eight full seasons, and in each of those NHL campaigns, the Canadians qualified for the Stanley Cup playoffs.

A direct descendant of Canada's first Jewish settler, Aaron Hart, Cece enjoyed great success from 1900 to 1922, playing, coaching, organizing, and managing amateur baseball and hockey teams for the Star Club of Montreal. In 1910 he organized and served as secretary-treasurer of the Montreal City Hockey League and took on the responsibilities of secretary-treasurer of the Eastern Canada Amateur Hockey Association.

Ben Hatskin

Canada

Born: September 30, 1917, Winnipeg, Canada

Died: October 18, 1990

Canadian Ben Hatskin was chairman of the World Hockey Association (WHA), the rival professional league that reshaped the NHL.

In a scenario reminiscent of the upstart American Football League rivalry with the National Football League, Hatskin was a driving force within the new pro league as he lured NHL super-



Ben Hatskin

star Bobby Hull with a then-astounding \$1 million offer to jump from the NHL to the WHL in 1972. It was a move that legitimized the league among both fans and the media.

With the Hull signing, WHA doors were now a palatable destination for other NHL stars, and the league became a serious concern to the long established NHL. The WHA operated successfully from 1972 to 1979, after which the two leagues merged, resulting in four WHA teams joining the expanded NHL: Hatskin's own Winnipeg Jets, Edmonton Oilers, New England Whalers (now Carolina Hurricanes), and Quebec Nordiques.

In 1973 he was named *Sporting News Magazine's* Executive of the Year in Sports Award.

Alfred Kuchevsky

Soviet Union/Russia

Born: May 17, 1931, Moscow, Russia

Died: May 15, 2000

Soviet defenseman Alfred Kuchevsky was one of the top Russian ice hockey stars of the 1950s. His teams won an Olympic gold medal in 1956 and a bronze in 1960.



Alfred Kuchevsky

At the World Championships, Kuchevsky and the dominating Soviets were gold medalists in 1954 and 1956, silver medalists in 1955 and 1958, and bronze finishers in 1960. He and his teams also won European Championships in 1954, 1955, 1956, 1958, and 1960.

Kuchevsky played his entire club career for Moscow Krylya Sovetov (1949–61). A three-time Soviet Hockey League All-Star in 1953, 1954, and 1960, he was inducted into the Soviet and Russian Hall of Fame in 1954.

Mathieu Schneider

United States

Born: June 12, 1969, New York, New York

Mathieu Schneider was a twenty-one-season (1987–2010) high-scoring National Hockey League “offensive defenseman” with ten NHL teams. He played multiple seasons for Montreal, New York Islanders, Toronto, New York Rangers, Los Angeles, and Detroit and single seasons with Anaheim, Atlanta, Vancouver, and Phoenix.

Playing 1,289 NHL games, Schneider scored 223 goals, which at the time of his retirement ranked

him the fourteenth-highest goal-scoring defenseman in National Hockey League history.

Schneider ranks tenth all-time in “power play” goals (100). Combined with assists, he scored 743 career points. He led all NHL defensemen in goals in 2005–6. His Canadiens team won the Stanley Cup in 1993, and he was named to NHL All-Star games in 1996 and 2003.

Schneider was a member of the 1996 U.S. World Cup championship team (vs. Canada), the 1998 Olympic “DreamTeam” (first American team to use pro players), and the 2006 U.S. Olympic team. A serious abdominal injury kept him out of the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Matt was elected to the United States Hockey Hall of Fame in 2015.



Mathieu Schneider

JUDO



Yael Arad

Yael Arad

Israel

Born: May 1, 1967, Tel Aviv, Israel

In 1992 Yael Arad earned the first Olympic medal won by an Israeli—a silver medal in the judo half-middleweight (61 kilograms) event—at the Barcelona Olympic Games. Wrote the *Jerusalem Post*, “When the history books of Israeli sport are written . . . the name of Yael Arad will be one of the most seminal.”

After serving in the Israel Defense Forces, Arad began her judo training in Europe and Japan.

In 1990 she defeated the world’s No. 1 and No. 2 judokas before taking the silver medal at the German Open championships. Following the 1992 Olympics, Yael earned silver medals at both the 1993 World Championships and European Championships.

During her active international judo career, Arad captured seven gold, eight silver, and nine bronze medals

Rena “Rusty” Kanokogi (Glickman)

United States

Born: July 30, 1935, Brooklyn, New York

Died: November 21, 2009

Born Rena Glickman, Rusty Kanokogi is considered “the mother of women’s judo.” In 1980 she ran up \$25,000 on her credit card to organize the first Women’s World Judo championships at New York’s Madison Square Garden.

After threatening the International Olympic Committee with legal action for its refusal to recognize women’s judo (men’s judo had been introduced in 1964), the female event made its bow at the 1988 games, with Kanokogi coaching the U.S. women’s team.

Rusty Glickman took up judo as a youngster, but found training accommodations in New York sparse and female competition virtually nonexistent. In 1959, posing as a man, she won the New York State YMCA judo championship, but had to return her medal after officials learned she was a woman. With no options to compete in the United States, she traveled to Tokyo in 1962 and became the first woman to practice at the Kodokan’s main dojo. It was there she met and married martial arts black belt Ryohei Kanokogi.



Rena "Rusty" Kanokogi (Glickman)

Among her numerous honors, Rena was inducted into the International Women's Sport Hall of Fame in 1984 and received the World Pioneer of Women's Judo Award from the International Judo Federation Congress. In 2008 she was given the Emperor's Award of the Rising Sun, bestowed upon foreigners who have had a positive influence on Japanese society.

Daniela Krukower

Argentina

Born: January 6, 1975, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Judoka Daniela Krukower was a gold medalist at the 2003 Judo World Championships in Osaka, Japan. Her perfect "ippon" defeated Cuba's reigning Olympic champion, Driulys Gonzales, in the half-middleweight (63 kilograms) class event. This victory marked the first gold medal (and only the second medal) won by an Argentine in world or Olympic competition.

A gold medal favorite at the 2004 Olympic Games, Krukower broke her hand in the semifinals and had to withdraw from the competition. She also competed at the 2000 (70 kilograms) and 2008 (63 kilograms) Olympics, finishing in ninth position both times.

She was a gold medalist at the 2009 Pan American Judo championships, having won a silver and three bronze medals over the previous four years. She was a bronze medalist at the 2003 and 2007 Pan Am Games.

Krukower immigrated with her family from Argentina to Israel in 1982, where she developed her judo skills. After completing IDF military service, she returned to South America in 1999 and thereafter represented Argentina.



Daniela Krukower

LACROSSE



Victor Ross

Victor Ross

United States

Born: November 13, 1900, Kiszalo, Hungary

Died: 1974

According to *The Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*, Victor Ross was the all-time All-America lacrosse player. He received All-America honors in 1922, 1923, and 1924.

In 1923 he led his Syracuse team to the International Lacrosse Trophy championship in Great Britain. After college he played for the New Rochelle and Brooklyn amateur teams in New

York. He also coached two years at Syracuse and Brooklyn and helped introduce lacrosse at Union, Williams, and Springfield Colleges.

Ross was one of the organizers of the Box Lacrosse League. He was elected to the Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1962.

MEDIA



Jesse Abramson

Jesse Abramson

United States

Born: March 3, 1904, Mountaindale, New York

Died: June 11, 1979

In the *New York Times* obituary, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Red Smith described Jesse Abramson as “a distinguished figure in sports journalism for fifty-six years and widely recognized as the nation’s leading track and field writer.” Dan Parker of the *New York Daily Mirror* called him “The Book” in recognition of his profound knowledge of track and his phenomenal memory for detail.

At the *New York Herald-Tribune*, Abramson edited Grantland Rice’s condensed cable dispatches from the 1924 Olympic Games, and he attended every summer Olympics through 1976. He covered the games for the *Herald-Tribune* until 1964, was foreign press liaison at the 1968 Olympics, covered the 1972 games for the *International Herald-Tribune*, and was foreign press liaison in Montreal in 1976.

Abramson received the Grantland Rice Award of the Sportsmen Brotherhood, the James J. Walker Award for service to boxing, and the Career Achievement Award from the New York Track Writers Association. He was a founder and longtime president of the New York Track Writers Association, and the NYTA’s annual award to the outstanding athlete of the year is named for him. He was also president of the New York Football Writers Association.

In 1981 Abramson was honored as the first media person elected to the Track and Field Hall of Fame.

Maury Allen

United States

Born: May 2, 1932, Brooklyn, New York

Died: October 3, 2010

Maury Allen, an author, reporter, and columnist for fifty-three years, mostly covered baseball for the *New York Post* (1962–89), *Sports Illustrated*, and the *Gannett Journal News*.

He authored forty sport-themed books, including *Where Have You Gone, Joe DiMaggio?*, *Mr. October: The Reggie Jackson Story*, *Joe Namath’s Sportin’ Life*, *Jackie Robinson: A Life Remembered*,



Maury Allen

Brooklyn Remembered: The Days of the Dodgers, and Yankees: Where Have You Gone?

In addition, Allen wrote hundreds of magazine articles and made frequent appearances on radio and television as a baseball authority, including ESPN Classic programs.

The Brooklyn-born journalist was elected to the Brooklyn Dodgers Hall of Fame, B'nai B'rith Hall of Fame, City College of New York (CCNY) Hall of Fame, and was a voting member of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Mel Allen (Melvin Allen Israel)

United States

Born: February 14, 1913, Birmingham, Alabama

Died: June 16, 1996

One of the first great American sportscasters, Mel Allen was the "Voice of the New York Yankees" baseball team from 1939 to 1964. In 1978 he and fellow sportscaster Red Barber were the first to

be honored with the Ford Frick Award, Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame recognition for broadcasters.

Educated as a lawyer, the Alabaman also broadcast New York Giant baseball games from 1939 to 1943, twenty World Series, twenty-four All-Star baseball games, and a season of Cleveland Indians games (1968), as well as fourteen Rose Bowl games, two Orange Bowls, two Sugar Bowls, and countless other major sporting events.

Allen was present for nearly every major Yankees event from Joe DiMaggio's fifty-six-game hitting streak (1941) to Roger Maris's record-breaking sixty-one home runs (1961). It was Allen who introduced Lou Gehrig to a packed Yankee Stadium on July 4, 1939, for his historic farewell: "Today, I am the luckiest man in the world." In 1948 he introduced a cancer-stricken Babe Ruth at his sad adieu at Yankee Stadium. He dubbed DiMaggio "Joltin'



Mel Allen (Melvin Allen Israel)

Joe,” Tommy Henrich “Old Reliable,” and Phil Rizzuto “The Scooter.” His endearing signature phrase was “How about that!”

Allen came out of retirement in 1978 to call the New York cable TV coverage of Yankee games (through 1985) and served as host of the long-running weekly television series *This Week in Baseball*.

A winner of numerous industry, listener, and viewer awards, Allen was elected to the National (USA) Sportswriters and Broadcasters Hall of Fame in March 1972. He was inducted into the American Sportscasters Hall of Fame in 1985.

Ira Berkow

United States

Born: January 7, 1940, Chicago, Illinois

In 2001 *New York Times* sports feature writer-columnist Ira Berkow was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for national reporting for his feature article “The Minority Quarterback.” The story was a segment of the *Times* series *How Race Is Lived in America*. He was also a Pulitzer finalist in 1988 for distinguished commentary.

Ira Berkow has been the only sportswriter featured at least once for five decades (since 1969)



Ira Berkow

in the highly regarded publication *Best American Sports Writing*, and he was featured in David Halberstam's 1999 edition of *The Best American Sports Writing of the Century*.

A *New York Times* writer-columnist since 1982, Berkow co-wrote the best-selling book *Hank Greenberg: The Story of My Life*, which provided a foundation for the 2000 award-winning film documentary *The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg*.

Among the books Berkow has written are *Red: A Biography of Red Smith*, *Rockin' Steady*, *Court Vision*, *To the Hoop: The Seasons of a Basketball Life*, *The Gospel According to Casey* (Casey Stengel), *The Walt Frazier Story*, *The Minority Quarterback and Other Lives In Sports* (based on his Pulitzer Prize-winning *New York Times* article), and his memoir, *Full Swing: Hits, Runs, and Errors in a Writer's Life*.

Simon Burick

United States

Born: June 14, 1909, Dayton, Ohio

Died: December 10, 1986

Si Burick was sports editor and featured columnist for the *Dayton Daily News* for fifty-eight years. He received the J. G. Taylor Spink Award in July 1983, an honor that represented induction into the writers section of the Baseball Hall of Fame. He is the only writer from a city *without* a Major League Baseball team to be enshrined in Cooperstown.

In 1984 Burick received the Bert McGrane Award from the Football Writers' Association of America. One year later he was inducted into the National Sportswriters and Sportscasters Hall of Fame. In 1986 Si was honored by the National College Football Hall of Fame as well as the Associated Press Sports Editors, who elected him their Red Smith Award recipient, America's most prestigious sports writing honor.

The son of a rabbi, Burick saw his first byline in the *Daily News* on August 26, 1925, two months



Simon Burick

past his sixteenth birthday. In early November 1928, he was made sports editor of the Cox-published newspaper, and on November 16 his first daily column, *Si-ings*, appeared.

Burick was also an Ohio radio personality as early as 1935, when he became WHIO's first sportscaster. His daily fifteen-minute programs aired until 1961. For a period during the earlier years, he hosted the Cincinnati Reds' pregame show before home games. In 1949, when WHIO-TV went on the air, Si was one of its featured personalities and continued to be so for the next ten years.

In 1971 Burick was elected president of the National Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association; in 1972, elected president of the Football Writers Association of America; and in 1973, elected director of the Turf Writers Association of America.

He wrote three books: *Alston and the Dodgers*, *The Main Spark* (biography of Sparky Anderson), and *Byline* (a collection of his columns).

Murray Chass

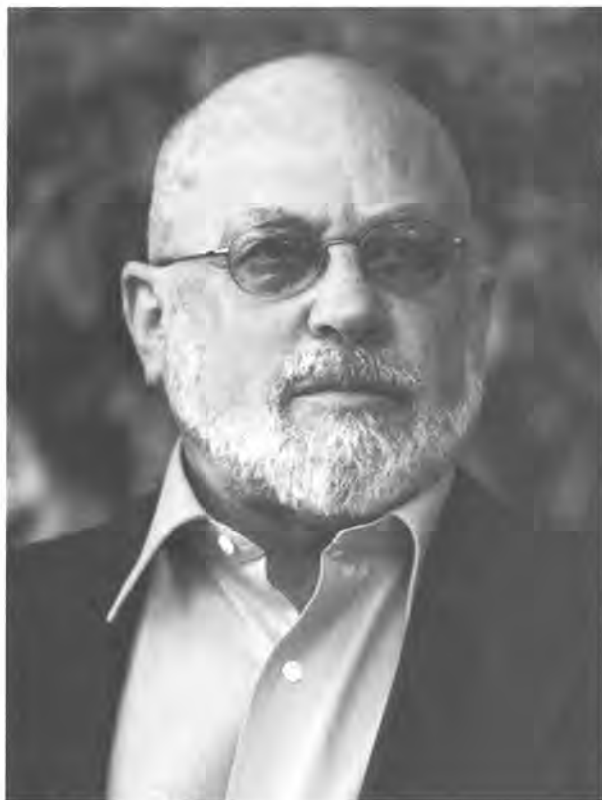
United States

Born: October 12, 1938, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Murray Chass was a *New York Times* sportswriter from 1969 until 2008. He was the *Times* beat writer for the New York Yankees 1970–86, after which he was named its national baseball writer.

Following college graduation in 1960, Chass went to work for the Associated Press in Pittsburgh, and three years later was assigned to AP's New York sports department. Here he developed a reputation as the vanguard of sports legal and labor relations reporting. In 2003 he received the Baseball Writers' Association of America's G. Taylor Spink Award, media's election to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

When Chass left the *New York Times* sports section in 2008, he started a website, Murray Chass on Baseball, where he writes columns similar to what he wrote for the *Times*.



Murray Chass



Howard Cosell (Cohen)

Howard Cosell (Cohen)

United States

Born: March 25, 1918, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Died: April 23, 1995

Howard Cosell was arguably the most colorful and controversial national sports reporter and broadcast personality in American media. On ABC's *Monday Night Football*, his provocative style redefined sports play-by-play and color commentary from the 1960s through most of the 1980s.

He came into prominence as a blow-by-blow radio-TV reporter of early Cassius Clay/Muhammad Ali fights. An attorney by profession, his meteoric rise as a sports journalist paralleled the equally meteoric career of Clay/Ali. During the 1960s and 1970s, Cosell called every Ali fight and virtually every major championship boxing match originating in the United States.

The most enduring Cosell imprint was created as a member of ABC's original *Monday Night Football* broadcast corps. Teamed with two former football legends, Don Meredith and Frank Gifford, Cosell was both praised and deplored by viewers and critics alike for his colorful and provocative commentaries. But he was nonetheless effective

in establishing the innovative Monday TV football telecasts as an American tradition.

For many years Cosell was the color commentator of other top-lined sports commentary shows on both television and radio. He also hosted *Saturday Night Live with Howard Cosell* for four weeks on ABC-TV.

His many honors include election to the American Sportscasters Hall of Fame and the National Sportscasters and Sportwriters Hall of Fame, both in 1993.

Dan Daniel (Margowitz)

United States

Born: June 6, 1890, Springfield, Massachusetts

Died: July 1, 1981

For nearly fifty years, Dan Daniel was America's most prolific baseball writer. A sportswriter with the *New York World-Telegram* and its successor, *World-Telegram and Sun*, he is identified internationally as "the writer who had more words



Dan Daniel (Margowitz)

published in the *Sporting News* (1910–50) than any other man,” according to C. C. Johnson Spink, chairman of TSN.

Daniel covered countless sports assignments, especially college football. He and Nat Fleischer founded boxing’s *The Ring* magazine. He is also credited with staging the first college basketball games in New York’s Madison Square Garden.

In 1972 Daniel received the Baseball Writers’ Association of America’s J. G. Taylor Spink Award, the Baseball Hall of Fame’s highest honor for sportswriters. In 1977 he was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame.

Massimo Della Pergola

Italy

Born: July 11, 1912, Trieste, Italy

Died: March 12, 2006

Massimo Della Pergola was secretary-general of the International Sports Press Association from 1977 to 1988 and became its vice president in 1989. As Italy’s premier sports journalist, he contributed to more than sixty-five newspapers and periodicals and to Italian and international radio, television, and press agencies. Della Pergola reported eleven Summer Olympic Games, three Winter Olympics, and eleven soccer World Cups.

In 1946, as editor in chief of the Milan newspaper *Gazzetta dello Sport*, he founded the organization that launched Totocalcio, the football (soccer) pools system, to finance Italy’s national soccer program and the Italian Olympic Committee. He was a founder of the Italian Sporting Press Union and served in various capacities in the Italian and world sports community.

Della Pergola was a Grande Ufficiale of the Republic of Italy, recipient of the Prize of the International Universities Sports Federation (he coined the name “Universiades” for the World University championships), and the winner of other honors.



Massimo Della Pergola

From 1960 on, Massimo was president of the Italian Maccabi Federation. From 1961 to 1989 he organized every Italian Maccabi team competing at the World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Al Munro Elias

United States

Born: June 5, 1872, Charleston, South Carolina

Died: August 1, 1939

In 1913 in New York, New York, Al Elias and his brother Walter began what today is known as the Elias Sports Bureau. The Elias brothers’ methods of collecting and presenting statistics set the form and precedent for recording baseball information and influenced the universal collection and presentation of other sports information.

In 1916, three years after the brothers opened shop selling baseball scorecards featuring team and player statistics in saloons and haunts of base-



Al Munro Elias

ball fans, the *New York Telegram* began publishing their weekly compilation of “batting and pitching averages.” In 1919 the brothers were appointed official statisticians for the National (Major) League and International (Minor) League (and later the American League).

In 1937 the Al Munro Elias Bureau took over publication of the *Little Red Book*, the official statistics journal of Major League Baseball. In 1938 the Bureau began producing *The Pocket Cyclopedia of Major League Baseball*, and for many years it published the official *Green Book*, the National League’s annual summary.

Al Elias died in 1939. Until March 2019, the Elias Bureau was headed for 67 years by Seymour Siwoff. It also records statistics for the National Football League (NFL), National Basketball Association (NBA), National Hockey League (NHL), Major League Soccer (MLS), and Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA).

Red Fisher

Canada

Born: August 22, 1926, Montreal, Quebec

Died: January 19, 2018

Montreal Gazette sports editor and sports columnist Red Fisher covered the National Hockey League beginning in 1954. He was elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1985, the second year the Elmer Ferguson Award was awarded.

Fisher began covering the NHL and Montreal Canadiens for the *Montreal Star* in 1954, when he joined the newspaper as its beat hockey writer and assistant sports editor. One year later, he added the duties of daily columnist. In 1969 Fisher was named the *Star*’s sports editor, but he continued to cover the Canadiens.

In 1971 he won the Canadian National Newspaper Award for sportswriting. When the *Star* shuttered in 1979, Red moved to the sports editor’s desk at the *Montreal Gazette*, where he continued to cover NHL hockey. In 1991 Red again won the Canadian National Newspaper Award.



Red Fisher



Nat Fleischer

Nat Fleischer

United States

Born: November 3, 1887, New York, New York

Died: June 25, 1972

Nat Fleischer was a founder of *The Ring* magazine, the boxing “bible,” in 1922 and its editor until 1972. He was elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1990.

A sportswriter for several New York City newspapers, Fleischer wrote more than forty million words on boxing, including fifty-seven books.

Fleischer not only refereed and judged more than one thousand fights but also participated in the awarding of championship belts and assisted in establishing boxing commissions throughout the world. He is one of the founders of the original Boxing Hall of Fame and Museum.

Marty Glickman

United States

Born: August 14, 1917, New York, New York

Died: January 3, 2001

One of America’s premier sports broadcasters for five decades, Marty Glickman was the radio and television play-by-play voice of the National Football League’s New York Giants 1948–71, NFL’s New York Jets 1972–79 and 1987–89, and the NBA’s New York Knickerbockers 1946–70.

Glickman, whose voice was heard in movie houses throughout in the world for fifteen years as a sports narrator for theatrical newsreels *Paramount News* and *News of the Day*, was virtually a nonstop on-air reporter. He was heard or seen as a commentator for both major and non-mainstream sports.

He received numerous honors and awards, including the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame’s Curt Gowdy Award in 1991, election to the



Marty Glickman

National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Hall of Fame in 1992, and the American Sportscasters Hall of Fame in 1993.

A few years before Glickman embarked on his successful broadcasting career, the Syracuse University freshman (and onetime New York James Madison High School track and football phenom) was named to the U.S. Olympic Team and selected to compete in the 4×100m relay at the 1936 Berlin Games.

As Glickman explained, the United States was literally running away with the Olympic sprint events in Berlin when, shortly before the relay trial heats, eighteen-year-old Glickman and relay teammate Sam Stoller, a University of Michigan senior, the only Jews on the U.S. Olympic track team, were summoned by their coaches. To the astonishment of the entire U.S. Olympic track squad, Glickman and Stoller were withdrawn from the race and replaced by a pair of teammates, Ralph Metcalfe and Jesse Owens. Owens had already captured three gold medals and Metcalfe a silver medal. The newly configured U.S. relay team won the 4×100m in world record time, but the substitution of runners, to this day, has never made sense.

The official “spin” was that the Germans were reportedly concealing a pair of “super” sprinters and were holding them out of competition until the relay event. Thus more experienced runners were necessary to replace collegians Glickman and Stoller.

To no one’s surprise, there were no “secret weapons” in Germany’s Olympic track and field arsenal. Hitler’s best could manage only a third-place bronze medal in the 4×100m relay.

Analysts questioned why any Olympic team, especially a host country with an unsuccessful track team, would hide its fastest runners for just one event. (Germany did not win a single gold or silver medal in any of the running events, while the United States captured six golds and four silvers, *before* the 4×100m relay.) Observers suggested that perhaps U.S. officials made the relay

switch as a token of “Hitler appeasing” diplomacy. American track officials steadfastly denied this scenario, yet never offered a realistic explanation.

Immediately following the Berlin Games, the U.S. track team competed at international meets in Paris and London. Glickman was reinstated to the relay team, but Stoller, disappointed by the Berlin snub, returned home. In London the U.S. relay foursome—Jesse Owens, Ralph Metcalfe, Frank Wykoff, and Glickman—ran the 4×100-yard relay in a world “best” mark of 37.4. (Because the race was run in yards, not meters, the IAAF makes a distinction between a “record” and a “best.”)

In 1998 William J. Hyde, president of the U.S. Olympic Committee, citing “great evidence of anti-semitism was there,” presented Glickman and Stoller with a special plaque “in lieu of the gold medals they didn’t win.” Glickman’s autobiography (with Stan Isaacs), *Fastest Kid on the Block*, was published in 1996.



Al Greenberg

Al Greenberg

United States

Born: April 13, 1924

Died: March 24, 1990

From 1970 until 1986 Al Greenberg was editor-in-chief of *Skiing*. Under his guidance, the magazine invested more time and money on product testing and evaluation than all other U.S. publications combined.

In the mid-1970s Greenberg was one of the founding members of the American Society for Testing and Materials Committee on Skiing Safety, and until his retirement he represented ASTM at meetings of the International Standards Organization (ISO). According to a former ASTM chairman, Greenberg “was the heart, the soul, the intellectual brains, and certainly the moral force behind skiing safety standards.”

Bud Greenspan

United States

Born: September 18, 1926, New York, New York

Died: December 25, 2010

Bud Greenspan was the preeminent master of sport films. A four-time producer of official films of the Olympic Games, Greenspan produced the official motion pictures of the 1984 (Los Angeles), 1988 (Calgary), 1992 (Barcelona), and 1996 Olympic Centennial Games (Atlanta). He also produced a two-hour TV special on the 1994 Lillehammer Winter Olympics.

His multiscreen visual/musical tribute to the quadrennial games, *The Spirit of the Olympics*, is on permanent display at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, Switzerland. His book *100 Greatest Moments in Olympic History*, published in November 1995, has had multiple printings.

Greenspan produced numerous other Olympic-related productions, among them *16 Days of Glory*,

Los Angeles, Triumph and Tragedy: The 1972 Olympics, *The Measure of Greatness*, *An Olympic Dream*, the television series *For the Honor of Their Country*, and the two-hour docudrama *Time Capsule: The 1936 Berlin Olympic Games*. The TV series *The Olympiad*, produced with his wife, Cappy, has been seen in more than eighty countries around the world.

He earned numerous industry honors, including the Directors Guild of America Lifetime Achievement Award in 1995 and the TV Academy Emmy Awards for *The Olympiad* series, his Olympic vignettes, and both of the *16 Days of Glory* films—Calgary (1988) and Lillehammer (1994).

Greenspan was awarded the Olympic Order in 1985 by International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch, the seventeenth American to receive this honor.



Bud Greenspan



Jerome Holtzman

Jerome Holtzman

United States

Born: July 12, 1926, Chicago, Illinois

Died: July 19, 2008

Jerome Holtzman, the Chicago baseball beat writer, covering the Windy City's Cubs and White Sox for twenty-eight years, received the J. G. Taylor Spink Award in 1989, symbolizing election to the writers' wing of Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

Holtzman began his Chicago newspaper career in 1943, covering sports for the *Chicago Sun-Times*. He wrote for the *Sun-Times* for thirty-eight years and for the *Chicago Tribune* from 1981 until retirement in January 2000, when he was appointed MLB's first official historian.

The "dean of America's baseball writers" was a weekly contributor to the *Sporting News* for thirty

baseball seasons, his byline appearing in more than one thousand consecutive issues. He wrote the twenty-thousand-word chapter on baseball that appears in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, and for many years he summarized each MLB season for the *Official Baseball Guide*.

Bothered by inequities in prevailing statistics that failed to provide "an accurate index of effectiveness" for relief pitchers, Holtzman created the "save" statistic in 1960. The unique formula appeared as an unofficial stat in the weekly *Sporting News* until 1966, when MLB adopted it as an official statistic. The "save" was the first new vital statistic adopted by MLB since the RBI (run batted in) in 1920. Holtzman was tabbed "the patron saint of the bullpen."

He wrote nine books, all on baseball. Most celebrated is *No Cheering in the Press Box*, published in 1974 and reissued in 1995 with six additional chapters. In 2003 *No Cheering* was named "one of the best 100 sports books ever written" by *Sports Illustrated*.

Holtzman, who served as national president of the Baseball Writers' Association of America (BWAA), was recipient of the prestigious Red Smith Award in 1997 "for contributions to sports journalism." In 1996 he was named Chicago Press Veteran of the Year, and in 2002 he received the Ring Lardner Award from the Chicago Athletic Association.

Jerry Izenberg

United States

Born: September 10, 1930, Neptune City, New Jersey

The *Newark Star-Ledger's* Jerry Izenberg received the coveted Associated Press Red Smith Award in 2000 for "contributions to sports journalism."

He is one of only three daily newspaper journalists to have covered every National Football League Super Bowl since the storied game's inception in 1967.



Jerry Izenberg

His career with the New Jersey daily newspaper began in 1951 while he was a student at Rutgers University, and his daily column continued until his 2007 retirement. Since then, he continues to write a sports blog for the *Star-Ledger*.

Izenberg has written seven books, including *How Many Miles to Camelot: The All-American Sport Myth* (1972) and *Through My Eyes* (2009).

Hank Kaplan

United States

Born: April 15, 1920, Brooklyn, New York

Died: December 14, 2007

He was described by the *New York Times* as “the leading authority on the Sweet Science” and nicknamed “Lord of the Ring” by the *Miami New Times*. Historian/journalist Hank Kaplan was inducted into the World Boxing Hall of Fame in October 1994. He was editor of *Boxing World*

magazine and *Wide World of Boxing Digest*, and was a boxing consultant to *Sport Illustrated*, the *London Times*, *Der Stern*, and numerous other publications.

Marveled by contemporaries as a “living encyclopedia of prize fighting,” Kaplan owned the world’s largest private boxing library and most extensive collection of boxing photographs and research resources.

He was the first elected president of the World Boxing Historians Association and was permanent chairman of the International Boxing Hall of Fame Selection Committee in Las Vegas.

In April 2003 the Boxing Writers Association of America conferred its James J. Walker Award upon Kaplan, recognizing his fifty-plus years of “long and meritorious service to boxing.” He was also a recipient of the 1999 Ray Arcel Award presented by the Ring 8 of New York Veteran Boxers’ Association, and the 1999 Rochester Boxing Hall of Fame George Beahon Award. In 2004 Kaplan received the American Association of Professional Ringside Physicians (AAPRP) Award for “Outstanding Contribution to Boxing.”



Hank Kaplan



Max Kase

Max Kase

United States

Born: July 21, 1898, New York, New York

Died: March 20, 1974

Max Kase was sports editor of the *New York Journal-American* for twenty-eight years. He became the newspaper's sports editor in 1938 and was known to readers through his popular BriefKase column.

In 1951 Kase's exclusive story that members of the City College of New York's "double" National championship basketball team (they won both the NCAA and NIT titles that year) were being questioned by the New York District Attorney's Office regarding "point shaving" exposed what was to become the biggest sports scandal of the postwar era. Kase subsequently received a Pulitzer Prize for this coverage of the scandal.

He was the guiding force behind the *Journal-American* Sandlot Baseball program in New York, New York, which had the annual Hearst Sandlot Classic as its showcase. Kase was also one of

the founders of the influential B'nai B'rith Sports Lodge of New York and served two terms as its president.

In 1957 Kase was instrumental in arranging Hearst Newspapers' underwriting and promotion of the Israeli National Basketball Team's first visit to the United States.

Kase joined the International News Service (INS) in 1917, then left to become sports editor of the *Havana Telegram* in 1923. He returned to the INS from 1925 to 1934, then moved to the sports editor's desk at the *Boston American* for four years.

Leonard Koppett

United States

Born: September 15, 1923, Moscow, Russia

Died: June 22, 2003

Leonard Koppett is the only sports journalist elected to both the baseball and basketball halls of fame. Koppett received the J. G. Taylor Spink Award from the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1992 and the Basketball Hall of Fame's Curt Gowdy Media Award in 1994.



Leonard Koppett

Moscow-born and New York bred, “Koppy” launched his newspaper career in 1944. Following college, he became a reporter and columnist for the *New York Herald-Tribune*, later moving to the *New York Post*. In 1963 he began the first of sixteen years with the *New York Times*.

In addition to his *Times* assignments, Koppett wrote sixteen books on sports, including *The Thinking Fan's Guide to Baseball* (1967/1991), *The Essence of the Game Is Deception: Thinking about Basketball* (1973), *Concise History of Major League Baseball* (1998/2004), *24 Seconds to Shoot: The Birth and Improbable Rise of the NBA* (2003), and *The Rise and Fall of the Press Box* (2003), described as part autobiography and part memoir about changes in sports media coverage.

A. J. Liebling

United States

Born: October 18, 1904, New York, New York

Died: December 28, 1963

A. J. Liebling was a chronicler of the ring, a media critic of extraordinary wit, and a biographer of diverse individuals for the *New Yorker* magazine from 1935 until his death. A collection of many of his *New Yorker* boxing stories, published in 1956 as a book, *The Sweet Science*, is considered the most critically admired and widely read book on prize fighting ever written.

In 1935, following nearly a decade of intermittent employment at the *New York Times*, *New York World Telegram*, and *Providence Journal*, Liebling went to work at the *New Yorker*. He first came into prominence on the eve of World War II as the magazine's Paris correspondent, eventually following the Allied Army's First Infantry Division across North Africa and into northern France. After the war, he took over the *New Yorker's* Wayward Press department, first directed by the storied Robert Benchley.



A. J. Liebling

An amateur boxer in his youth, Liebling's interest in the sport was reflected in his accounts of boxing's mayhem and beauty and his sketches of ring personalities that appeared from time to time in the magazine. Another acclaimed compilation of his *New Yorker* boxing stories was published under the title *A Neutral Corner*.

Liebling wrote on a number of subjects in addition to the prize ring, including politics, food, war, the media, and horse racing. Among his other published works are *The Wayward Press* (his first collection of articles in book form, 1948), *Between Meals*, *The Most of A. J. Liebling*, *The Honest Rainmaker*, *Chicago—The Second City*, *The Telephone Booth Indian*, *The Earl of Louisiana*, and *The Jollity Building*.

Liebling was elected to the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1992, and awarded the Cross of the Legion of Honor by the French government for his work as a World War II correspondent.



Willy Meisl

Willy Meisl

Germany and Great Britain

Born: December 26, 1895, Vienna, Austria

Died: June 12, 1968

Willy Meisl was Germany's leading sportswriter from the 1920s through the mid-1930s. From 1924 through 1933 Meisl was editor of Berlin's *Vossische Zeitung*, Germany's leading newspaper. He was also editor of the influential book *Sport am Scheidewege*, which featured articles by Bertold Brecht, Egon Erwin Kisch, and Arnold Bronnen, three of Germany's most prominent intellectuals.

After the April 1933 Nazi "Machtergreifung," Meisl wrote an extensive *Vossische Zeitung* article about Germany's top Jewish sportsmen that, in the context of the times, was a daring piece of journalism. Nonetheless, the publisher of the *vz* stood between journalistic license and the infuriated "new order" German authorities. But this protection lasted less than a year, and by January 1934 Meisl was forced to emigrate to England.

In 1936 Meisl joined the staff of *World Journalist*, the official publication of the British Olympic

Committee. He served in the British army 1940–43 and at the British Foreign Office 1943–46. Following World War II, he was the London sports correspondent for Sweden's leading dailies, *Dagens Nyheter* (morning) and *Exporessen* (evening), as well as newspapers in Switzerland, Germany, and England.

Meisl was a primary contributor to the German books *Olympia 1928* and *Olympia 1932*. He authored the books *Der Schwimmsport* (with P. Winter) in 1925, *Boxen* 1925, *Der Fussballsport* 1925, *Der Sport am Scheidewege* 1928, *Fussball, der Welsport* 1930, and *ABC des Fussballspiels*. His 1955 book, *Soccer Revolution*, discussed modern soccer systems, and he coauthored a booklet, *Sonderabdruck aus dem Sammelwerk: Juden im Deutschen Kulturbereich*, published just before his death in 1968.

Meisl received his doctorate of law degree in Vienna in 1922. As a student, he ranked among Austria's top all-around athletes. In the years "around World War I" he was goalkeeper for Austria Wein (amateur soccer team) and toured Sweden with his club. In 1920 Meisl was goalkeeper for the Austrian national soccer team. He coached the Hammarby IF soccer team in Stockholm a year later. He was also a member of the Austrian national water polo team and a champion swimmer, boxer, and tennis player. In 1954 Meisl was accorded the title "World's No. 1 Soccer Critic."

Barney Nagler

United States

Born: August 24, 1912, Brooklyn, New York

Died: October 22, 1990

For nearly forty years, Barney Nagler wrote a newspaper column devoted mainly to boxing and thoroughbred racing. The column, *On Second Thought*, first appeared in 1950 in the *New York Morning Telegraph* and was spiced with jargon of the gym and stable. When the *Telegraph* ceased



Barney Nagler

publication in 1972, Nagler's column moved to the *Daily Racing Form*, continuing until the writer's death in October 1990.

His numerous books include *James Norris and the Decline of Boxing*, *The American Horse*, *Brown Bomber: The Pilgrimage of Joe Louis*, *Only the Ring Was Square* (with Teddy Brenner), and *Shoemaker, America's Greatest Jockey*.

Before joining the *New York Telegraph*, Nagler was a writer for Bill Stern's *Colgate Sports Newsreel* on national radio. During the 1950s and 1960s, he was a producer of sports events on the NBC and ABC television networks, including the 1964 Winter Olympic Games and *Wide World of Sports*.

Nagler served as president of the New York Boxing Writers Association twelve times between 1960 and 1980. From 1984 to 1989 he was president of the Boxing Writers Association of America, and he received the BWAA's James A. Farley Award in

1989. In 1978 Nagler received the National Turf Writers Association's Walter Haight Award for excellence in reporting thoroughbred racing.

Ben Olan

United States

Born: March 31, 1924, New York, New York

Died: November 11, 2019

Ben Olan was a writer and editor for the Associated Press wire service beginning in 1952. By the time he had completed his fortieth AP year, Olan had already been elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame (the Elmer Ferguson Award in 1987), named Honorary Lifetime Member of the Baseball Writers' Association of America (1957), and had published thirteen books on sports.

Olan was AP hockey editor 1954–67 and covered college and professional basketball as well as baseball and major boxing matches. He was the first editor of *Hockey Illustrated Magazine*, 1962–67.



Ben Olan

As editor-writer and special projects editor for AP *Newsfeatures*, Olan assigned and edited an estimated five thousand stories produced by major sportswriters throughout America. Named to the special projects position in 1974, he produced sports books including *The Associated Press Sports Almanac* (1975–79), *The Sports Immortals*, *The 101 Greatest Athletes of the Century*, *The 1980 Winter Olympics Book*, and *A Century of Champions*.

Other books he wrote include *Big Time Baseball* (1956), *Baseball's Unforgettable Games* (1959, with J. L. Reichler), *Pro Football's 100 Greatest Players* (1984), and *Pro Football's 50 Greatest Games* (1985, with George Allen and nine others). Among the publications he served as editor between 1969 and 1984 were *Boxing Today*, *Boxing Scene*, *Sports Scene*, and *Pro Football Today*.

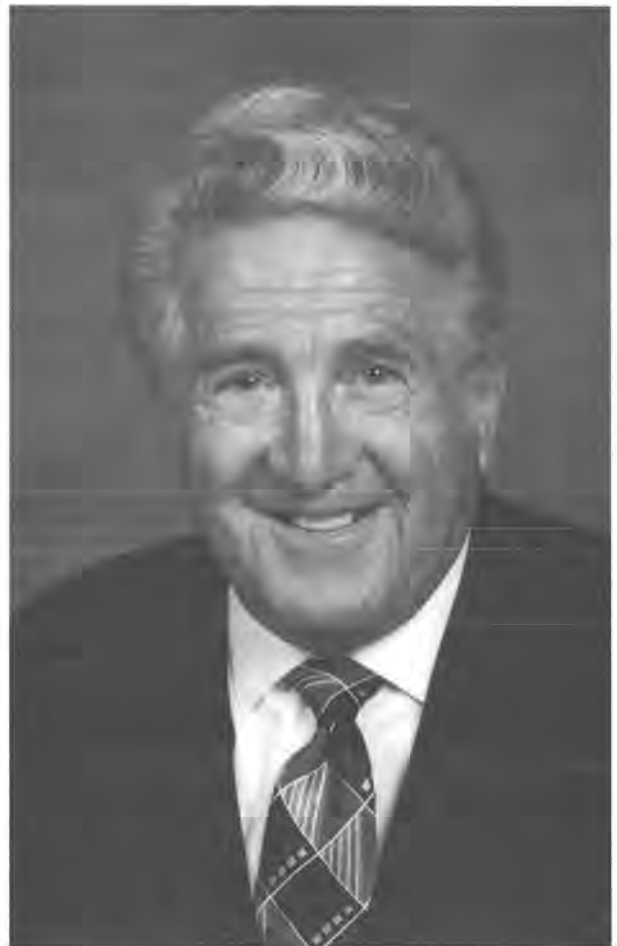
Murray Olderman

United States

Born: March 27, 1922, Spring Valley, New York

Sports columnist and cartoonist Murray Olderman's work appeared in 750 daily newspapers for the greater part of thirty-five years. He was syndicated by the Newspaper Enterprise Association (NEA). Olderman is also the author of eleven books and illustrator of nine others, the founder of the Jim Thorpe Trophy for the NFL's Most Valuable Player, and the founder of the Maurice Podoloff Trophy for the National Basketball Association's (NBA) MVP. His football murals hang at the Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

With a University of Missouri journalism degree, a Stanford degree in science and humanities (Phi Beta Kappa), and a Northwestern master's degree in journalism, Olderman joined the NEA in 1952, becoming its sports editor in 1964, its executive editor in 1968, a contributing editor in 1971, and "loosely" retired in 1987. Among numerous publications he has contributed to as a writer and/or cartoonist are *Sports Illustrated*,



Murray Olderman

Saturday Evening Post, *Sporting News*, *Tennis and World Tennis*, *Golf Digest*, *Inside Sports*, and *Skiing Magazine*.

In 1974 and again in 1979, Olderman was named Sports Cartoonist of the Year by the National Cartoonists Society. In 1979 he received the Pro Football Writers Association's Dick McGann Award. In 1991 the college Football Writers Association of America honored him with their McGrane Award, and he later became its president.

Among the books Olderman either authored or coauthored are *Just Win, Baby*, *The 20th-Century Encyclopedia of Baseball*, *Tennis Clinic*, *The Warrior Way*, *The Greats of Sports Up Close*, *The Al Davis Story*, *Starr*, and the Prentice-Hall series *The Pro Quarterback*, *The Running Backs*, *The Defenders*, and *Mingling with Lions*. He was inducted into the National Sportswriters Hall of Fame in 1993.



Bernard Postal

Bernard Postal

United States

Born: November 1, 1905, New York, New York

Died: March 5, 1981

Bernard Postal and Jesse and Roy Silver wrote the *Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*, the comprehensive 526-page reference book of Jewish achievements in sports, published in 1965.

But Postal was better known for his books on Jewish American history, and he held such posts as editor of the *Jewish Daily Bulletin* (New York, New York), 1929–31; editor of the *Jersey City Jewish Standard*, 1931–33; reporter and editor of *Seven Arts Feature Syndicate*, a New York Anglo-Jewish news service, 1933–38; public relations director of B'nai B'rith in Washington DC, 1938–46; public relations director for the National Jewish Welfare Board (New York, New York), 1946–70; associate editor of *Jewish Week*; and early career positions

with the *New York Times* and *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*. He was founder and editor of *Jewish Digest* from 1955 until his death.

Among the books he authored are *The Jewish Tourist's Guide to the United States* (Jewish Publication Society, 1954, with Lion Koppman); *Landmarks of a People: A Guide to Jewish Sites in Europe* (Hill and Wang, 1962, with S. H. Abramson); the four-volume *American Jewish Landmarks* (Fleet Press, 1977–79, with Koppman); and *Guess Who's Jewish in America* (Shapolsky Books, 1986, with Koppman).

Postal received the American-Jewish Tercentenary Award and various professional honors for his historical and reference writings.



Shirley Povich

Shirley Povich

United States

Born: July 15, 1905, Bar Harbor, Maine

Died: June 5, 1998

Shirley Povich became a sports columnist and reporter for the *Washington Post* in 1923. He celebrated his retirement in 1973, but continued to write more than six hundred pieces for the *Post*.

In 1975 he received the Baseball Writers' Association of America's J. G. Taylor Spink Award, the Baseball Hall of Fame honor for sportswriters.

Povich joined the *Post* as a reporter during his second year as a Georgetown University law student, and in 1925 he was named sports editor. In 1933 he became a sports columnist, a responsibility that continued until his death with only one interruption. In 1945 Povich took on the assignment of *Washington Post* war correspondent in the Pacific theater. Following the war, he returned to his sports desk.

Povich is the author of *The Washington Senators* (G. P. Putnam Sons, 1954) and *All These Mornings* (Prentice-Hall, 1969).

Among his prestigious honors are the National Headliners 1964 Grantland Rice Award for Sportswriting, the Red Smith Award in 1983, and election to the National Sportswriters Hall of Fame in 1984. He was president of the BWAA in 1955.

Povich's first name accounted for his listing in *Who's Who of American Women* in 1962! He is the father of American television personality Maury Povich.

Joe Reichler

United States

Born: January 1, 1915, Manhattan, New York

Died: December 12, 1988

Joe Reichler was the ranking Associated Press baseball writer from 1943 to 1966, mostly covering New York City baseball teams. In 1966 he took the position of MLB public relations director under Commissioner William Eckert and later special assistant to baseball commissioner Bowie Kuhn.

The uniquely opinionated Reichler carried the reputation as a "fact-ferreting and trade-sniffing writer and historian." He wrote more than a dozen books, including *The History of Baseball: Its Great Players, Teams, and Managers*, *The Great All-Time Baseball Record Book*, and *Baseball's Great*



Joe Reichler

Moments, and he edited numerous editions of the *Ronald Encyclopedia of Baseball* between 1960 and 1980.

In 1980 he received the J. G. Taylor Spink Award, marking his election to Major League Baseball's Hall of Fame.

Harold U. Ribalow

United States

Born: July 1, 1919, Kiev, Ukraine

Died: October 22, 1982

Harold U. Ribalow authored three books that sparked awareness of the subject of Jews in sports following World War II. *The Jew in American Sports*, first published in 1948, was accorded six editions through 1985, including four printings between 1948 and 1952. He also penned *Jewish Baseball Stars* (1984) and *Great Jewish Chess Champions* (1986), written with his son, Meir.

A sports columnist for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the *National Jewish Post* from the



Harold U. Ribalow

1940s through the early 1950s, Ribalow was also a contributing writer on the subject of Jews in sports for the *Encyclopaedia Judaica*. He was an internationally influential literary anthologist of Jewish literature, writing fifteen volumes on various Jewish subjects. Hadassah's annual literary award is the Harold U. Ribalow Prize.

Ed Sabol

United States

Born: September 11, 1916, Atlantic City, New Jersey

Died: February 9, 2015

Ed Sabol was founder and president of NFL Films, which has recorded every National Football League game since 1964.

A men's clothing salesman, Sabol created the Blair Motion Pictures company in 1962 (named for his daughter Blair) and made a successful bid (\$3,000) to film the NFL Green Bay Packers–New York Giants championship game that year at Yankee Stadium. The film, *Pro Football's Longest Day*, was such a success that he was given the rights to

film the NFL's championship contests the following two seasons.

In 1964 Sabol convinced the NFL that it needed its own motion picture entity to promote and preserve the history of the game, and NFL Films was born. Sabol's concept not only achieved its original goals but developed into an award-winning genre of film making, a staple of sports coaching, and a multimillion dollar industry.

Often honored, Sabol's NFL Films has (to date) won 126 Emmy Awards and numerous international awards. And Sabol himself has received numerous personal honors. In 1987 the NFL Alumni Association gave him their Order of the Leather Helmet Award, given to "those who have made deep and lasting contributions to the game of professional football." That same year he received the NFL's Bert Bell Memorial Award for "outstanding contributions" to the League. And in 1991 Sabol was the third person to be honored by the NFL Hall of Fame with the Pete Rozelle Award, presented "for exceptional longtime contributions to radio and TV in professional football." He was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2011.



Ed Sabol

As an All-America athlete in the mid-1930s, Ed Sabol was a world-class swimmer (50-yard and 100-yard freestyle) at Ohio State University when he was selected for the 1936 U.S. Olympic team. He declined the honor, publicly stating that he would not swim in a pool built by Adolf Hitler!



Dick Schaap

Dick Schaap

United States

Born: September 27, 1934, Brooklyn, New York

Died: December 21, 2001

A celebrated journalist for more than fifty years, Dick Schaap's media were radio, television, newspapers, magazines, and books. Upon his sudden passing, *ESPN The Magazine* wrote: Dick Schaap was known "for his humorous, often brutally honest approach to sports."

Among Schaap's major media assignments, he was editor of *Sport Magazine* 1973–77, featured on NBC's *Nightly News* and *The Today Show* 1971–80, and an ABC-TV theater critic for several years. His broad journalistic expertise resulted in his being the only person qualified to vote for both Tony (Broadway theater) and Heisman (college football) awards.

As host of *ESPN Magazine's Sports Reporters* and *ESPN Classic's: Shaap: One on One*, he was seen internationally on cable TV. He was also heard on ESPN Radio's *The Sporting Life* (with son Jeremy) and was a frequent contributor to *ESPN The Magazine*.

Schaap, who coined the term "Fun City" in describing Manhattan, began the career he called a "fantasy" as a high school junior, writing a weekly sports column, *Scanning the Sports Scene*, for the *Long Island Leader*. He also apprenticed for future Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Jimmy Breslin at the *Nassau (NY) Daily Review-Star*. From 1959 to 1963 Schaap was a writer/senior editor for *Newsweek*, editor at *Parade*, and city editor and then columnist at the *New York Herald Tribune* and *World Journal Tribune* 1964–66.

He wrote thirty-three books (mostly sports-themed), including the seminal sports best seller *Instant Replay* (with Jerry Kramer). His *As Told to Dick Schaap* autobiographies include baseball stars Hank Aaron and Tom Seaver, basketball star Dave DeBusschere, football icons Joe Namath, Joe Montana, and Bo Jackson (the best-selling autobiography *Bo Knows Bo*), and actor-comedian Billy Crystal. Schaap's nonsports books include *RFK*, the biography of Robert F. Kennedy, .44, with Jimmy Breslin, about the infamous Son of Sam serial killer David Berkowitz, and *Turned On*, about upper-middle-class drug abuse. Schaap's autobiography, *Flashing before My Eyes*, was published shortly before his death.

His honors were many. Schaap's profiles of Olympian Tom Waddell and comedian Sid Caesar for ABC's *20/20* series earned him Emmys in

1983 and 1988. He won an Emmy for sports reporting in 1986 for four features that aired on ABC's *World News Tonight*. And he won Emmy Awards for writing in 1991 and 1994. Schaap was awarded a CableACE Award as best commentator/analyst for his work on ESPN, and the Women's Sports Foundation honored him "for excellence in covering women's sports."

He graduated from Cornell University in 1955 and attended the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism on a Grantland Rice Memorial Fellowship.

Jesse Silver

United States

Born: March 29, 1929, New York, New York

Jesse Silver is coauthor of the *Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*, the most extensive publication on the subject ever published. His coauthors were Bernard Postal and Roy Silver.



Jesse Silver

Silver wrote a weekly sports column for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency from 1964 to 1971. Since 1960 he has also written or contributed to numerous articles on the Jews/sports subject.



Roy Silver

Roy Silver

United States

Born: January 20, 1929, Bronx, New York

Died: October 5, 2000

Going to work for NBC in 1952, Silver was with the network for thirty-six years, first as a radio and television sportswriter, later as news writer and producer. Among the NBC sports icons with whom he was closely associated were Bill Stern, Mel Allen, Russ Hodges, Red Barber, Chris Schenkel, Bud Palmer, and Joe Garagiola.

During this period he wrote a sports column with cousin Jesse Silver for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, and in 1965 the two Silvers and JTA edi-

tor Bernard Postal produced the *Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*.

While still a New York University student, where he was sports editor of NYU's *Commerce Bulletin*, Silver was a sports stringer for the Associated Press and United Press International wire services, as well as the *New York Times* and *New York Herald-Tribune*.



Bill Stern

Bill Stern

United States

Born: July 1, 1907, Rochester, New York

Died: November 19, 1971

Bill Stern was one of the first influential American radio sports broadcasters. Launching his career as an NBC sports announcer in 1935, Stern broadcast a spectrum of top events that included boxing championships, the Olympics, and major college football games. He also hosted the popular NBC network radio sports series *Sports Newsreel* for many years.

What Stern reported on his highly stylized, entertaining, and sometimes controversial radio series was the "hot topic" for more than a decade. From 1940 to 1952 he was the top-rated national sports commentator in the *Radio Daily Magazine* poll of U.S. radio editors. He left NBC in 1953 to join the ABC network and later became sports director of the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Stern's numerous credits include the first remote TV sports event (Princeton vs. Columbia baseball game) and the nation's first remote sports telecast of a professional baseball game (New York vs. St. Louis). For fifteen years his voice was familiar to moviegoers as the narrator of *News of the Day*, MGM's popular newsreel feature.

He was elected to the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Hall of Fame in 1974 and the American Sportscasters Hall of Fame in 1984.

György Szepesi (Friedlander)

Hungary

Born: February 5, 1922, Budapest, Hungary

Died: July 25, 2018

György Szepesi was a member of the Hungarian Olympic Committee from 1962 through 2000 and chairman of the executive committee of the Federation Internationale de Football (FIFA) from 1982 to 1994. In 1994 Szepesi received the FIFA Medal, and the following year Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, presented him with an Olympic Order.

Szepesi was a fixture at Hungarian Radio beginning in 1945, when he was appointed editor in chief. He began covering the Olympic Games in 1948 and continued to do so through the 2000 Games in Australia. He also covered every football World Cup since 1954.

It was during his term as chairman of the Hungarian Football Association (HFA) from 1978 to 1986 that contact was first made with the Israeli Football Association.



György Szepesi

Receiving his doctorate in sports history from the University of Physical Education in Budapest, Szepesi played basketball for Hungary's VAC until the Fascists disbanded the club in 1942.

Sam Taub

United States

Born: September 10, 1886, New York, New York

Died: July 10, 1979

Sam Taub was boxing's first radio blow-by-blow broadcaster, announcing more than seven thousand matches during his long career. He became an NBC radio announcer in 1924, following a successful newspaper career, and he called the first broadcast of a boxing match in the late 1920s.

In 1937 he was the ringside commentator for the first commercially sponsored series of boxing broadcasts—eighteen weeks from the New York Hippodrome—sponsored by Adams Hats.

The radio package was promoted by Mike Jacobs and Nat Fleischer, who are also IJSHOF honorees.

In 1938 Taub was at the microphone for the first regularly televised bouts aired in the United States, from Ridgewood Grove, St. Nicholas Arena, and Jamaica, all in New York. His description of the Max Baer vs. Lou Nova bout on April 4, 1941, was the first boxing telecast from Madison Square Garden.

Taub was elected to the Boxing Hall of Fame in 1978 and to the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1995.



Sam Taub

RACQUETBALL



Sherman Greenfeld

Sherman Greenfeld

Canada

Born: June 3, 1962, Winnipeg, Canada

Sherman Greenfeld was the International Racquetball Federation's world champion in 1994 and 1998, and he won Tournament of the Americas championships in 1990, 1994, and 1998.

The most dominant racquetball player in Canada during the 1980s and 1990s, Greenfeld won more international championships in all sports than any other Canadian. He also earned bronze medals at the 1993 World Games and 1995 Tournament of the Americas, now known as the Pan American Racquetball championships.

Greenfeld was a ten-time Canadian racquetball champion in 1986–88, 1990–91, 1993–96, and 1998. The Canadian junior racquetball championship trophy is the Sherman Greenfeld Award.

Marty Hogan

United States

Born: January 22, 1958, St. Louis, Missouri

A winner of nearly one hundred international and U.S. tournament championships during his fourteen-year career, Marty Hogan was ranked either No. 1 or No. 2 in the world from 1976 through 1990. He revolutionized the sport of racquetball, changing it from a "control" game into a "power" game. Competitors say he is an athlete who is able to jump both horizontally and vertically at the same time while driving a ball as fast as 142 mph.

At the time of his retirement in 1990, Hogan was racquetball's all-time leading money winner. In 1989 he captured his final national (U.S.) racquetball title and retired the following year.



Marty Hogan

ROWING



Allen Rosenberg

Allen Rosenberg

United States

Born: November 29, 1931, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: December 7, 2013

Head coach of many U.S. national rowing teams from 1961 to 1976, coxswain Allen Rosenberg's 1964 U.S. Olympic team won two gold medals—in eights and pairs with coxswain—as well as a 1976 silver in double sculls and a bronze medal in four without coxswain.

Rosenberg's teams also captured medals at the 1965 (silver) and 1974 (gold) World Championships, as well as the 1975 Pan American Games (two gold, one silver, one bronze), and an array of

other international competitions. His U.S. Maccabiah Games teams of 1961 and 1965 each took home three gold medals.

As a competitor, the Temple University pharmacy and law graduate won four U.S. and three Canadian national titles: 1954 (U.S.) four with coxswain, (CAN) eight oared shell; 1955 (U.S.) eight oared shell; 1957 and 1958 (U.S. and Canada) eight oared shell.

He competed in the World Championships of 1958 and 1962, winning a silver medal in 1958 (eight oared shell). He earned gold (eight oared shell) and silver honors (four with coxswain) at the 1955 Pan American Games and won a Maccabiah Games gold medal in 1961.

Rosenberg's techniques are known internationally as the Rosenberg Style, and his concepts are employed by 75 percent of today's world-class rowing crews. His success earned him a position as first national director of American rowing, and he served as president of the Rowing Coaches of America. He was inducted into the Rowing Hall of Fame in 1984.

Donald Spero

United States

Born: August 9, 1939, Chicago, Illinois

One of America's most celebrated rowing athletes, Don Spero won the World Rowing Single Sculls championship in 1966 in Bled, Yugoslavia. Later that year, he took the gold medal at the National championships at St. Catherine's, Ontario. In 1965 Spero won the Henley Regatta Diamond Sculls championship (England) and the Duisberg International Regatta Single Sculls gold medal (Germany).



Donald Spero

Spero was U.S. national champion 1963, 1964, and 1966 in single sculls; double sculls champion in 1963; and quadruple sculls titlist in 1965.

Although injured in the 1964 Olympic semifinals, Spero managed to finish sixth in single sculls at the Tokyo Games, and won a bronze medal in the same event that year at the European Championships in Amsterdam. In 1963 Spero took a silver medal in double sculls at the European Championships held in Copenhagen.

His first international competition came at the World Maccabiah Games in 1961, when he captured a gold medal in four with coxwain.

In 1966 Spero co-founded the National Rowing Foundation and was its director from 1967 to 1984. Among his many honors include election to the Helms/Rowing Hall of Fame in 1966, Cornell University Hall of Fame in 1984, and New York Athletic Club Hall of Fame in 1986.

RUGBY



Aaron "Okey" Geffin

Aaron "Okey" Geffin

South Africa

Born: May 28, 1921, Ponevess, Lithuania

Died: October 16, 2004

Okey Geffin, the Transvaal star who set a world test match record with five penalties from five attempts and later scored 35 of 47 points to set another world test match record, honed his rugby talents while a World War II prisoner of war!

Captured at Tobruk during the North African campaign, Sergeant Geffin would spend three years as a POW. He escaped in Italy, only to be recaptured and sent to Germany, where he again escaped and was recaptured twice. Geffin was incarcerated in the German camp with 1928 rugby Springbok Bill Payn.

"We used to scrum for hours on end," explains Geffin. "And he coached me. Payn arranged rugby games in camp: South Africa against the New Zealanders. Our gear was dyed underpants and vests, but no boots. We played barefoot. Payn encouraged my development and told me I would be a Springbok if I continued to play after the war."

Shortly after his release at war's end in 1945, Geffin was selected to play for Transvaal, for whom he would compete for seven years, including winning two Currie Cup finals. Transvaal lost the first cup final by two points. But Okey was Transvaal's placekicker for the 1950 Currie Cup, making 12 of 22 points scored in the victory.

A year earlier, in his first test match as a South African Springbok (1949 versus New Zealand), Okey broke the world record with five penalties from five attempts. South Africa, losing the match 11-0, came back to win 15-11.

In a four-match test against the All-Blacks of New Zealand, all of them victorious for South Africa, Geffin scored 35 of his team's 47 points—another world record. Geffin's handprints and boot prints are displayed in the New Zealand National Rugby Museum in tribute to his 1949 feat. Other South African international matches in which he competed included tests against Great Britain, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, and France.

Upon retiring from rugby, Geffin continued as a prominent South African sportsman, first as a three-handicap golfer and then as a bowls national champion. At the 1969 World Maccabiah Games in Israel, Okey led South Africa to a gold medal sweep of the four bowls events.



Jonathan Kaplan

Jonathan Kaplan

South Africa

Born: November 7, 1966, Durban, South Africa

In 2009 international Rugby Union official Jonathan Kaplan became the first referee to reach the milestone of fifty international test matches, making him the most experienced test referee of all time. At his retirement in February 2013, his career record stood at sixty-eight matches.

Other officiating records held by Kaplan are most Bledisloe Cup matches (7), most Tri Nations matches (7), and most Six Nations matches (16). He was the only referee to have participated in four British and Irish Lions tours and to have had officiated matches in all three tour countries. Kaplan also holds officiating records for most Rugby World Cup appearances (3 in 1999, 2003, 2007), most World Cup games (9), most Super 14 games (75, including 3 finals and 4 semifinals), and most Currie Cup matches (13, including 5 finals and 4 semifinals).

Kaplan began refereeing in 1984, while still a Durban high school student. He made his first-class debut in 1991 and was appointed to South Africa's national panel of referees in 1993. He made his international debut in May 1996.

Kaplan was a touch judge for the 1999 Rugby World Cup and referee for the 2003 Rugby World Cup. He was one of the twelve referees appointed to officiate at the 2007 Rugby World Cup in France.

He is the only official awarded South African Referee of the Year four years in succession (2003–7).

Sydney Nomis

South Africa

Born: November 15, 1941, Johannesburg, South Africa

Died: June 16, 2018

Syd Nomis was a Springbok (national team) wing and center in fifty-five international rugby matches from 1966 to 1971. He represented South Africa in a record twenty-five consecutive test international matches.

His test match tours include 1966 in Argentina, 1967 at home against France, 1968 at home against the British Lions, 1968 in France, 1969 at



Sydney Nomis

home versus Australia, 1970 in the United Kingdom, 1970 at home against New Zealand, 1971 at home against France, and 1971 at home versus the British Lions.

Nomis also represented Transvaal fifty-four times over eleven years, the first time in 1963. He was selected for the Quaggas Invitational South African team in 1961 and 1962.



Wilf Rosenberg

Wilf Rosenberg

South Africa

Born: June 18, 1934, Capetown, South Africa

Died: January 14, 2019

Transvaal's Wilf Rosenberg was recognized as one of South Africa's great rugby stars while still a teenager. He played in his first test (international) match in 1955 against Great Britain and toured internationally with the South Africa team until 1959, when he turned professional for the Leeds (England) Rugby League Club.

In 1960–61 Rosenberg broke the Leeds' single season scoring record with forty-eight tries, a record that still stands.

For eighteen years after his playing career, Rosenberg was the rugby columnist for South Africa's *Sunday Times*, and he continued to be a journalist for overseas newspapers and magazines. He was a TV rugby commentator for the South African Broadcasting Company, and during the rugby season he hosted his own program, *Wilf's Whistle*.

Albert Rosenfeld

Great Britain and Australia

Born: 1885, Sydney, Australia

Died: 1970

In 1988 the British Rugby League Hall of Fame became the United Kingdom's first national sporting hall of fame, and Albert Rosenfeld was one of its nine inaugural honorees. The Australian-



Albert Rosenfeld

born wing/three-quarter originally played for the Aussie Eastern Suburbs Club in 1908 and 1909, representing his country in four international test matches. He made his test debut in Australia's first international series versus New Zealand in 1908.

In 1909 Rosenfeld was a member of the inaugural Kangaroo Tour, the first Australian touring party to visit the UK, where he made two lasting impressions. His play so impressed his hosts that he was offered a spot with the Huddersfield (England) Rugby Club. He also captured the heart of a local mill manager's daughter who became his wife.

Rosenfeld averaged more than a try per game for Huddersfield (386 tries in 376 games) during his fifteen-season career. As of 2009, the 5-foot-5½ Rosenfeld still holds the record for the number of tries scored in a single season: 80 in 1913–14, topping his previous record of 78 tries during the 1911–12 season. (*For perspective: 2004's top scorer, Lesley Vainakolo, scored 36 tries.*)

In February 2008 the NRL and ARL named Rosenfeld to its list of Australia's 100 Greatest Players 1908–2007.

Joel Stransky

South Africa

Born: July 16, 1967, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

Joel Stransky had twenty-two caps (international appearances) for South Africa between July 1993 and August 1996.

The “fly-half” earned a place in rugby union immortality for his performance in the epic 1995 World Cup final versus New Zealand, when he scored *all* of South Africa's points, including a dramatic “drop goal” that sealed the victory.

In the opening match of that same 1995 World Cup versus Australia, Stransky became the first Springbok to score all four possible ways in one test match: a try, conversion, penalty goal, and drop goal.



Joel Stransky

The Springboks recorded a 16-6 win-loss record during his four years, with Stransky scoring 240 Test points. Stransky joined England's Leicester Tigers in 1997, scoring 100 points by his eighth game. He scored a club record 459 points in 1998 and finished his Leicester career with 896 career points in seventy-three matches.

SAILING



Joanne Aleh

Joanne Aleh

New Zealand

Born: May 15, 1986, Auckland, New Zealand

New Zealand sailing champion Jo Aleh is an Olympic and two-time World Championships 420 class gold medalist. She and partner Olivia Powrie won the Olympic 2012 (London) gold medal, and silver 2016 (Rio) 420 events, as well as the 2007 and 2013 World titles.

The pair, known affectionately as “Team Jolly,” was the silver medalist at the 2010 Worlds and took the bronze in 2011.

At age twenty-two, Aleh was ranked No. 1 in the world in March 2008 in women’s laser radial class (singles), and No. 1 in women’s 470 class in 2013.

Her father is Israeli and her British-born mother is a former member of the Israel Defense Forces.

Zephania Carmel

Israel

Born: December 21, 1940, Baghdad, Iraq

Died: September 1980

Israel’s first world champions in any sport, Zephania Carmel and Lydia Lazarov, won their World title in 1969 in the team 420 non-Olympic sailing class at Sandham, Sweden. Carmel also won the World Championship in the individual event.

As teammates on Israel’s Zevulun Bateam Club, the twosome won the Israeli National championship in 1966 in the 420 class and topped an international field of competition in the same event on New York’s Hudson River in August 1967.

Carmel won the Israel national individual event in 1970. He drowned in September 1980 while training on a windsurfing craft.



Zephania Carmel



Gal Fridman

Gal Fridman

Israel

Born: September 16, 1975, Hadera, Israel

Gal Fridman won the 2004 Olympic mistral windsurfing event in Athens, and with the victory he became Israel's first Olympic gold medalist.

In twelve previous Olympiads, dating back to Israel's 1952 entry into the international games, Israeli athletes had earned only one silver and three bronze competition medals—one of them by Fridman in 1996. The victory-platform presentation of twenty-eight-year-old Fridman's gold medal marked the first time that the Israeli national anthem ("Hatikvah") was played at an Olympic awards ceremony.

Fridman took a bronze medal in the Mistral at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. Illness prior to the 2000 Olympiad kept him out of those games.

In December 2002 the Israeli windsurfer won the Mistral World Championship. Three months

earlier, he was silver medalist at the European Championships.

In February 2003 Fridman was listed No. 1 on the International Surfing Association Federation rankings. Just before the start of the 2004 Olympics, he was ranked seventh in the world.

Lee Korzits

Israel

Born: March 25, 1984, Hadera, Israel

Israel's Lee Korzits won four World Sailing championships.

In 2003 the little-known nineteen-year-old who ranked twenty-ninth in World Championships competition edged the three-time Olympic medalist and reigning world champion to capture the women's mistral-class at the World Sailing championships in Spain. Winning the event made Korzits the first female Israeli individual world champion in any sport, and the youngest windsurfer to win the World title.

At the 2004 Olympics, she finished thirteenth in mistral, and at the 2012 games she was sixth (RS:X).

Injuries halted Korzits's chances at continuing success, but she returned to sailing in 2010. One



Lee Korzits

year later she was silver RS:X medalist at the European Championships, and she won her second world gold medal (RS:X) in Australia. In 2012, she won her third world title (RS:X) in Spain and her fourth in 2013 (RS:X) in Brazil. Korzits was recipient of the Israel Sports Woman of the Year.



Lydia Lazarov

Lydia Lazarov

Israel

Born: January 16, 1946, Sofia, Bulgaria

Israel's first world champions in any sport, Lydia Lazarov and Zephania Carmel won their world title in 1969 in the team 420 non-Olympic sailing class at Sandham, Sweden.

As teammates on Israel's Zevulun Bateam Club, they won the Israeli National championship in 1966 in the 420 class and topped an international field of competition in the same event on New York's Hudson River in August 1967.

Walentin Mankin

Soviet Union

Born: August 19, 1938, Kiev, Ukraine

Died: June 1, 2014

Walentin Mankin is the only sailor to win Olympic gold medals in three different classes of boats at three different Olympiads.

He won his first gold in 1968 (Mexico City) in the Finn class. He took his second in the Tempest class (with Dyrdyra) at the 1972 Munich Games. And he won his third gold medal in the Star class (with Muzyschenko) at the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Mankin also won an Olympic silver medal in the Tempest class at the 1976 Montreal Games.

In the late 1980s Mankin became technical director and coach of the Italian Sailing Federation in Livorno, and he founded Italy's Olympic Training Center.



Walentin Mankin

SOCCER



Arthur Baar

Arthur Baar

Austria

Born: 1890, Vienna, Austria

Died: 1984

Arthur Baar was the leader of the soccer section of the Hakoah-Vienna Sports Club and mentor of the internationally renowned Hakoah-Vienna Soccer Club from 1911 to 1927.

From 1927 to 1938 Baar served as vice president of Hakoah of Vienna. When Germany annexed Austria in 1938, he emigrated to Israel. Baar soon was given responsibility for organizing all Hapoel soccer activities, during which time he established courses for coaches and referees. In 1945 the British Palestine Authority appointed him to select a national soccer team. Baar was manager of the Israel's National Soccer Team from 1948 to 1954.

In the late 1940s, he and Ignaz Korner established the Hakoah Federation of Israel.

Jozsef Braun

Hungary

Born: February 26, 1901, Budapest, Austro-Hungary

Died: February 20, 1943, Kharkiv Concentration Camp

Jozsef Braun began his soccer career in Hungary before finishing it in the American Soccer League. He earned twenty-seven caps with the Hungarian national team, scoring eleven goals.

In 1916, at the age of fifteen, Braun signed with MTK Budapest in the Hungarian League where he played primarily as a right wing back. In 1919 he was named the Hungarian Player of the Year.

During his years with MTK, Braun's team won nine Hungarian championships and two Hungarian cups. He was a member of the Hungarian soccer team at the 1924 Summer Olympics.



Jozsef Braun

In 1925 Braun retired from playing after suffering multiple injuries. Four years later he moved to the United States where he attempted a comeback with Brooklyn Hakoah of the American Soccer League. Braun played seventeen games before moving to the Brooklyn Wanderers. He played eleven games for the Wanderers, then retired permanently.

Thereafter, he coached for several years: 1934–38 SK Slovan Bratislava, 1937–1939 MTK Budapest.

Braun died at the forced labor camp in Nazi-occupied Kharkiv, Ukraine in 1943.

Bela Guttmann

Hungary

Born: January 27, 1899, Budapest, Hungary

Died: August 28, 1981

Bela Guttmann won more honors with world-class teams in Europe and South America than any other coach in soccer history. He coached for forty-one years, 1933–1974, in ten countries, including the national teams of Hungary, Austria, the Netherlands, Italy, Brazil, Uruguay, and Portugal. Guttmann's teams won two European Cups, ten National championships, and seven National Cups.

As a player, he was halfback or center-half for the famed Budapest-based MTK team that won a pair of Hungarian national championships in 1920–21 and 1921–22. He crossed the border to play for the storied Hakoah-Vienna Club from 1922 to 1926 (and 1933), winning the 1924–25 Austrian title.

The next time he represented his homeland was May 1924, against Germany in Zurich. He also played with the Hungarian national team in Paris at the 1924 Olympics against Poland and Egypt.

In September and October 1926, Hakoah-Vienna enjoyed an extraordinarily successful ten-match tour of the United States, including a crowd of forty-six thousand spectators who attended a game at New York's Polo Grounds.



Bela Guttmann

Following the tour, Guttmann and some of his teammates decided to remain in the United States. He signed with the New York Giants of the American Soccer League and played eighty-three games over two ASL seasons. He then joined New York Hakoah for 1928–29, a team made up of Hakoah-Vienna players who had stayed in the United States following the 1926 tour. His team in 1929–30 and 1931–32 was Hakoah All-Stars, sandwiching in one season with the New York sc.

Guttmann retired after the following season at the age of thirty-two. In all, he appeared in 176 ASL games from 1926 through 1932.



Hakoah-Vienna Club

Hakoah-Vienna Club

Austria

Founded: 1909, Vienna, Austria

Hakoah-Vienna was an all-Jewish soccer club that won Austria's National championship in 1924–25 and finished second in 1921–22. This outstanding team attracted Jewish soccer stars from many countries and gained a worldwide reputation through its many travels.

Hakoah-Vienna was the first international side to defeat an English team when it decisively romped (5–0) past the Westham of London Club in 1923.

Its top players included Jozsef Eisenhoffer, Sandor Fabian, Richard Fried, Max Gold, Max Grunwald, Jozsef Grunfeld, Bela Guttmann, Alois Hess, Moritz Hausler, "Fuss" Heinrich, Norbert Katz, Alexander Nemes-Neufeld, Egon Pollak, Max Scheuer, Alfred Schoenfeld, Erno Schwarz, Joseph Stross, Jacob Wagner, and Max Wortmann.

Hakoah-Vienna, the parent association of the famous soccer club, founded in 1909, was the largest sporting organization in the world in its time, numbering more than five thousand members, and offering a wide variety of sports activities. With the rise of Nazism, the club disbanded in 1938, reestablishing itself after World War II on a modest scale.

Kurt Lamm

United States

Born: March 10, 1919, Salmuenster, Germany

Died: July 1, 1987

Kurt Lamm was known as the "roving ambassador" for the development and growth of soccer in the United States. He was inducted into the U.S. National Soccer Federation Hall of Fame in 1979.

For forty-three years Lamm served as a soccer player, coach, and manager; then administrative director, vice president, and president (1962–67) of the American Soccer League. He was general secretary of its successor, the U.S. Soccer Federation, from 1971 to 1987.

As a player, Lamm was a fullback-forward for twenty-nine years (twenty years as an amateur) with FC Schmalnau and FC Borussia Fulda, both in Germany, and Prospect Unity, New York Americans, Eintracht, and FC Hakoah in the United States. His Eintracht team, of the German-American League, won the 1944 National Amateur Cup championship.

During his fourteen years as a coach, Lamm's New York Hakoah team won three successive



Kurt Lamm

American Soccer League championships from 1957 to 1959. He was named ASL Manager of the Year for the 1957–58 and 1962–63 seasons.



Gyula Mandi (Julius Mandel)

Gyula Mandi (Julius Mandel)

Hungary

Born: July 21, 1899, Budapest, Hungary

Died: November 27, 1969

A member of the Hungarian national soccer team for many years, Gyula Mandi became its coach and led the team during its prime years into the 1950s. From 1956 to 1958 Mandi coached the Brazilian national team, and from 1959 to 1963, he was coach of the Israel national team.

Hugo Meisl

Austria

Born: November 16, 1881, Maleschau, Bohemia

Died: February 17, 1937.

One of the great soccer authorities in the history of the sport, Hugo Meisl led the Austrian Soccer

Federation from 1912 to 1937 and was its general secretary during the 1920s and 1930s. Convinced that the concept of sports, particularly the game of soccer, was a peaceful way to positively connect nations, he founded the Mitropa Cup in 1927, the first international club competition.

Meisl was manager and mentor of the Austrian national Wunderteam, which he organized in 1931 and led until his passing in 1937. The team earned its name by defeating fourteen consecutive top European teams, setting the standard of excellence in world soccer during the era. The Wunderteam's string of victories was halted by a loss to England in 1932 and later a semifinal defeat by Italy at the 1934 World Championship.

A devotee of soccer from early childhood in Maleschau, Bohemia (now Malesov, Czech Republic), Meisl moved with his family to Vienna in 1893. As a player, referee, journalist, and official, he was honored by his adopted country, Austria, and other European nations for his considerable achievements.



Hugo Meisl

SOFTBALL

Harry "Coon" Rosen

United States

Born: 1908, Lincoln, Nebraska

Died: January 4, 1997

It is estimated that Harry Rosen pitched 3,000 victories, 300 no-hitters, and 195 perfect games during his remarkable fast pitch softball career.

In 1933 he was the winning pitcher in the first Amateur Softball Association championship game, played during the Chicago World's Fair, hurling his Windy City J. L. Friedman team to the ASA title over Briggs Beautyware of Detroit. He allowed just one hit, while striking out sixteen. It was the Briggs team's only loss of the season.

During that single-elimination championship series, Rosen won eight games in three days. By newspaper accounts, 350,000 spectators watched the tournament. That season Rosen's record was 108 victories and 11 losses.

From 1933 until he retired in 1946, the onetime University of Illinois baseball star pitched in twelve national softball championship tournaments and was named to eight All-Tournament (first) teams (the predecessor of All-America selections). He was the tournament's Most Valuable Player five times.

In 1935 Rosen, originator of the "figure eight" style of delivery, was featured in "Ripley's Believe It or Not" for having lost two 1-0 games on the same day, despite giving up only one hit in the double-header and striking out thirty-seven of thirty-nine batters! (Errors were responsible for both unearned runs.) In 1939 pitching for the Phoenix

Lettuce Kings, he struck out twenty-six of twenty-seven batters in a regulation nine-inning game.

During most of Rosen's career, softball was played with a sixteen-inch ball and without gloves. The pitching mound at the time was 43.5 feet from home plate, while today it is 46 feet.

At the age of eighty-one, Rosen was the oldest person ever elected to the National Softball Hall of Fame as well as the first Jew. He was also honored by the Chicago and Arizona Sports Halls of Fame and the San Diego Hall of Champions.



Harry "Coon" Rosen

SPEED SKATING

Irving Jaffee

United States

Born: September 15, 1906, New York, New York

Died: March 20, 1981

One of America's first great Winter Olympics champions, Irving Jaffee won gold medals in both the 5,000-meter (9:40.8) and 10,000-meter (19:13.6) speed skating events at the 1932 Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York.

However, it was Jaffee's unsuccessful quest for an Olympic gold medal in the 10,000-meter event four years earlier that resulted in one of the winter games' most lasting controversies. The competition had completed six of eight heats in the 10,000-meter, with Jaffee, having topped Norway's world champion Bernt Evansen, holding the gold position.

High temperatures caused the St. Moritz ice to be unskatable, and in an unprecedented move the Norwegian referee ruled the competition "no contest." The International Olympic Committee conferred and overruled the referee, recognizing Jaffee as the event winner. However, nearly forty-eight hours later, the International Skating Federation overturned the IOC's decision.

Two days earlier, Jaffee's fourth-place finish in the 5,000-meter event marked the highest Winter Olympics finish by an American.

In 1934, although he had never skated more than 10,000-meter, Jaffee set the world record in the 25-mile skating marathon.

Jaffee was elected to the U.S. Skating Hall of Fame in 1940.



Irving Jaffee

SURFING



Shaun Tomson (Tomchinsky)

Shaun Tomson (Tomchinsky)

South Africa

Born: August 21, 1955, Durban, South Africa

In the sport of surfing's first decade of professionalism, 1976–85, South Africa's Shaun Tomson captured more international tour victories than any other competitor. He was International Pro-Surfing's (IPS) world champion in 1977 and was the only surfer to hold an IPS "Top 6" ranking for ten years (1976–85).

Tomson, who first picked up a longboard at the age of ten and eventually made the transition to shortboards, firmly established himself as the most advanced surfer of his time at Hawaii's 1975 Pipeline Masters and at Off The Wall and Backdoor Pipeline in the winter of 1976. His stunning performances, captured in Bill Delaney's influ-

ential surfing film *Free Ride*, solidified Tomson's eminence as the world's best.

At the time of his competitive retirement, Tomson ranked as the second-highest winner of major competition titles and the third-highest money winner in the history of surfing.

In 1978 he was voted Surfer of the Year by *Surfer Magazine*, and he is one of only three world surfers to be featured on the cover of *Surfing Magazine* (the others were Duke Kahanamoku and Mark Richards), a benchmark in the sport of surfing.

Said *Surfing Magazine*: "After more than ten years as one of the sport's great performers [Tomson is] the most popular surfer of the past decade."

Tomson wrote the best-selling book *The Code—The Power of "I Will"* and the feature film *Bustin' Down the Door*, about the benchmarks in the mid-1970s surf era, as well as other surfing films and books.

He was voted South African Sportsman of the Year in 1978.

SWIMMING



William Bachrach

William Bachrach

United States

Born: May 15, 1879, Chicago, Illinois

Died: July 1959

William Bachrach, head coach of the 1924 and 1928 U.S. Olympic swimming teams, was the most successful water sport coach prior to World War II. His swimmers captured thirteen gold medals in Paris in 1924 and ten gold medals at the Amsterdam Olympics of 1928.

Bachrach himself developed four swimmers who won gold medals at the 1924 games: Johnny Weissmuller (100-meter and 200-meter freestyles and 800-meter relay), Bob Skelton (200-meter

breaststroke), Ethel Lackie (100-meter freestyle and 400-meter relay), and Sybil Bauer (100-meter backstroke). Weissmuller also won a pair of gold medals at the 1928 Olympics in 100-meter freestyle and 800-meter relay.

Other champions developed by Bachrach were American champion Mike McDermott, and Olympic star Norman Ross Sr., winner of gold medals in the 400-meter and 1,500-meter freestyles and 800-meter relay at the 1920 games in Antwerp.

As a coach, Bachrach was called “the Great Bach” and “the beloved tyrant.” Starting out as a swimming instructor at the Chicago Central YMCA, he later moved to the Illinois Athletic Club and reigned there as coach of swimming and water polo from 1912 to 1954. His 1914–17 IAC water polo teams captured the U.S. national championships for four consecutive years.

He was one of sixteen children and served in the Spanish-American War.

Semion Belits-Geiman

Russia

Born: February 16, 1945, Moscow, Russia

Semion Belits-Geiman set the world 800-meter freestyle record at 8:47.4 at a meet in Kharkov, Ukraine, in March 1966. That same year he won gold medals in the European Championships’ 1,500-meter and 4×200m freestyle relay and silver in the 400-meter freestyle.

Swimming lead at the 1968 Olympics 4×100m freestyle relay, he won a silver medal, along with a bronze swimming second leg of the 4×200m freestyle relay. He also swam a pair of individual freestyle events, 200-meter and 400-meter, but did not medal.



Semion Belits-Geiman

Belits-Geiman competed at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, with his Soviet relay team finishing seventh in the 4×200m freestyle and eighth in the 4×100m freestyle.

A holder of sixty-seven Soviet national freestyle records, he was named president of the Moscow Swimming Federation in 1974.

Judith Deutsch

Austria

Born: August 18, 1918, Vienna, Austria

Died: November 20, 2004

An Austrian swimming champion and freestyle record holder, 1933–35, Judith Deutch was elected Outstanding Austrian Female Athlete of 1935 and selected to represent her country in the 1936 Olympic Games.

But she refused to compete at the Berlin Olympics in protest, proclaiming: “I refuse to enter a contest in a land which so shamefully persecutes my people.” Suspended from competition by Austrian authorities, she emigrated to Palestine and represented the Holy Land from then on.

Deutsch is one of many world-class athletes, Jews and non-Jews, who had the opportunity to compete in the 1936 Olympiad but refused to do so in protest over German policies toward Jews

and other minorities. Some of those world-class sportspersons who boycotted the 1936 games are Deutsch’s swimming teammates Lucy Goldman and Ruth Langer, French bobsled champions Philippe de Rothschild and Jean Rheims, American women’s swimming coach Charlotte Epstein, the U.S. defending women’s Olympic discus champion Lillian Copeland, Canadian amateur welterweight boxing champion Sammy Luftspring, U.S. Harvard track champions Milton Green and Harold Cahnners, and French fencing champion Albert Wolff.



Judith Deutsch

Leo Donath

Hungary

Born: February 7, 1888

Died: 1941

A graduate of England’s Oxford University, Leo Donath is referred to as “the administrative genius behind the Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur / International Swimming Federation (FINA). As its honorable secretary and treasurer, he ran the world swimming organization from 1928 until his death in 1941.

An outstanding swimmer himself—Donath swam for Oxford University—he defeated two-time Hungarian Olympic sprint champion Zoltan de Halmay in a 1906 event.



Leo Donath

In 1911 Donath was one of the founders of the Hungarian Swimming Association. Through his initiative, the European Swimmers League was established in 1925, and he was elected its first secretary-general and treasurer. Based upon his suggestion, the first European Swimming championships were staged in 1926.

Charlotte “Eppy” Epstein

United States

Born: September, 1885, New York, New York

Died: August 27, 1938

Charlotte Epstein established women's swimming as a recognized sport in the United States and was responsible for its inclusion on the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games program.

In October 1914 she founded the National Women's Life Saving League, which later became the New York Women's Swimming Association. She was the organizer, the manager, the continuity, and the tenacity that made it go and kept it going.

Within months of the WSA's establishment, Eppy persuaded the U.S. Amateur Athletic Union to permit women, for the first time, to register as athletes with the AAU.

Referred to as “the mother of women's swimming”, Epstein was a court stenographer by trade. She led the U.S. lady swimmers to the 1920, 1924, and 1932 Olympiads. During this time, American female swimmers dominated the games, and her protégés were champions Claire Galligen, Gertrude Ederle, Aleen Riggins, Helen Wainwright, and Eleanor Holm.

The success of the U.S. women's swim team at the Antwerp Olympics led to the inclusion of track and field and other sports for women in future Olympic Games. (*Note: Women's archery and golf first appeared in the 1900 and 1904 Olympics, and had been the only events open to females. A short list of ladies' track and field events appeared for the first time at the 1928 Olympic Games.*)

Epstein's name and face were seldom in public print. Nevertheless, she was assistant manager of



Charlotte “Eppy” Epstein

the 1932 U.S. women's Olympic swim team, the first woman to be named for such an honor. Four years later, she was invited to coach the 1936 U.S. women's Olympic swim team, but she declined and resigned from the U.S. Olympic Committee in protest against Nazi Germany's policies.

During her twenty-two years with the WSA, Epstein's swimmers set fifty-one world records and registered thirty-one national champion relay teams.

Anthony Ervin

United States

Born: May 26, 1981, Valencia, California

Between the 2000 Olympics and the 2013 World Championships, Anthony Ervin won gold and silver Olympic medals and four World Championship golds.



Anthony Ervin

At the Sidney Games in 2000, Ervin won a gold in the men's 50-meter freestyle and silver as leadoff leg for the U.S. 4×100m relay team. At the 2001 World Championships, he captured gold medals in the 50-meter and 100-meter freestyles.

Ervin sat out competition until 2012, when he qualified for the London Olympics and finished fifth in the 50-meter freestyle finals. That same year, at the World Championships, he won gold medals as leading leg of both the U.S. 4×100m freestyle and medley relays and earned a silver medal in the 50-meter freestyle.

At the 2013 World Championships, he won a silver medal in the U.S. 4×100m freestyle.

Ervin was age thirty-five at the 2016 Rio Olympics when he and his USA teammates captured the 4 x 100m relay gold medal victory.

He participated in the torch lighting ceremony at the 2017 Maccabiah Games in July 2017 in Jerusalem and won four gold medals during the two-week event.

Harry Getz

South Africa

Born: January 16, 1909, Capetown, South Africa

Died: September 4, 1969

Harry Getz, president of the South African Amateur Swimming Union and a three-term executive member of the International Swimming Federation, was South Africa's ambassador to the world sporting community.

Beginning at the 1948 Olympic Games, the South African officiated swimming and water polo (timekeeper or referee) at every Olympiad until his death. He was named chief judge of swimming at both the 1964 Tokyo and 1968 Mexico Olympic Games, despite the exclusion of South African athletes from both quadrennial events. When he wasn't officiating, Getz was often a radio or television commentator on swimming, water polo,



Harry Getz

and soccer events, including the Olympic Games of 1948 and 1952.

One South African sportswriter dubbed him “Hurry” Getz because of his constant globetrotting. He held many key positions in South African sports, including pre-World War II secretary and postwar chairman of the Water Polo Olympics and British Empire Games Association, and president of the Water Polo Association of South Africa.

In 1954 he was appointed to the FINA International Technical Swimming Committee, a selection that made him the first South African to ever serve on a FINA committee. From 1960 until his death, Getz was an executive member of FINA, serving on FINA’s International Water Polo Board.

An outstanding swimmer and water polo athlete himself, Getz was a Western Province Curry Cup (national championship) competitor from 1928 to 1934.

Alfred Hajos-Guttman

Hungary

Born: February 1, 1878, Budapest, Hungary

Died: November 1955

Competing in the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896, Alfred Hajos-Guttman was the first Olympic swimming champion and the first Hungarian Olympic gold medalist. He won two gold medals in Athens: the 100-meter freestyle (1:22.2) and the 1,200-meter freestyle (18:22.2).

Years later Hajos-Guttman became a world renowned architect specializing in sport facilities. In a special arts competition at the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, he was awarded an Olympic silver medal for architecture, the highest honor presented in that competition.

Prior to the Athens Olympics, Hajos-Guttman was 100-meter European swimming champion in



Alfred Hajos-Guttman

1885 and 1886. A versatile athlete, he won Hungary's 100-meter sprint (track) championship in 1898, as well as the national 400-meter hurdles and discus titles. He also played forward on Hungary's national soccer championship teams of 1901, 1902, and 1903.

In 1953 he received the Olympic Diploma of Merit.



Otto Herschmann

Otto Herschmann

Austria

Born: January 4, 1877, Vienna, Austria

Died: June 14, 1942, Izbica Ghetto

Otto Herschmann is one of only three athletes to have won Olympic medals in different sports. He won a silver medal swimming the 100-meter free-style in 1896 at the first modern Olympic Games in Athens and a bronze medal in team saber (fencing) at the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm.

Dr. Herschmann also served as president of the Austrian Olympic Committee during the 1912

games, and as such he was the only president of a National Olympic Committee to win an Olympic medal while in office.

He was arrested in Vienna by the Nazis and deported on January 14, 1942, to the Sobibor concentration camp, where he perished later that year.

Lenny Krayzelburg

United States

Born: September 28, 1975, Odessa, (Ukraine) USSR

Lenny Krayzelburg is a four-time Olympic gold medalist. He won his first gold medals in each of the three events he swam at the 2000 Olympic Games—100-meter backstroke, 200-meter backstroke, and 4×100m medley relay. He established new Olympic records in the 100-meter, 53.72, and 200-meter, 1:56.76. And he set the pace for the 4×100m relay gold medal victory that set a new world record of 3:33.73.

Despite knee and shoulder surgeries that kept him out of most competition for three years following the 2000 Games, Krayzelburg came back to qualify for the 2004 Athens Olympics and won a gold medal, his fourth, with the U.S. 4×100m medley relay team.

The Ukraine-born Southern California backstroke champion has held five world records, setting three of them at the 1999 Pan Pacific championships: 50-meter backstroke, 24.99; 100-meter backstroke, 51.28; and 200-meter backstroke, 1:55.87. World marks No. 4 and No. 5 are the 200-meter backstroke short course, 1:52.43, and the aforementioned 400m medley relay at the 2000 Olympics.

Krayzelburg won his first two U.S. national championships (100-meter and 200-meter) in 1996. Success at the 1997 NCAA championships was his breakthrough, taking the 200-meter backstroke title in the fourth fastest time in history.

At the 1998 World Championships, Krayzelburg became the first swimmer in twelve years to sweep



Lenny Krayzelburg

the backstroke events at a World Championships or Olympics. In August 1999, at the U.S. Nationals, he set a new American record in the 200-meter backstroke for the fifth time since 1997. Later that same month, he reset the world 200-meter mark, clocking 1:55.87 at the Pan Pacific championships. At the same event three days earlier, he established a new world record in the 100-meter backstroke, 53.60.

Krayzelburg won numerous other titles, including gold medal victories in various events such as the 1998 Goodwill Games, the 1999 and 2000 FINA World Cup meets, the Short Course World Championships, and eleven U.S. national titles in the 100-meter and 200-meter events.

The newly crowned three-time Olympics 2000 champion skipped the 2001 World Championships, opting instead to join the U.S. team at the World Maccabiah Games in Israel, where he won a pair of gold medals.

Following the Maccabiah, Krayzelburg had surgery to repair his left shoulder. Recovery kept him from competing in 2002. A problem with his

left knee the following year forced Krayzelburg again under the knife, causing him to skip the 2003 World Championships. Nonetheless, just prior to the knee surgery, he won the 2003 U.S. national 100-meter backstroke title, his eleventh career U.S. championship.

The Krayzelburg family moved from Odessa to the United States and Southern California in 1989. Lenny became a U.S. citizen in 1995. He had shown considerable swimming promise as a junior in Odessa, and he continued his development in America, enrolling at Fairfax High School in Los Angeles and the Westside Jewish Community Center. His first major age group competition was at the 1990 Maccabi Youth Games.

In 1993 Krayzelburg came under the tutelage of Santa Monica Community College swimming coach Stu Blumkin, who introduced him to University of Southern California swim coach Mark Shubert. The backstroke phenom was awarded a full USC athletic scholarship. He majored in finance and investment and graduated in 1998.

Krayzelburg was named Sportsman of the Year by the U.S. Olympic Committee in 1998 and was chosen USA Swimmer of the Year each of the following two years. In 2001 he was inducted into the Southern California Jewish Sports Hall of Fame and USC Hall of Fame.

Keren Leibovitch

Israel

Born: July 25, 1973, Hod HaSharon, Israel

Israel's most celebrated women's Paralympic athlete, thirty-one-year-old Keren Leibovitch, won three swimming gold medals at the Sydney 2000 Games—50-meter and 100-meter freestyles and 100-meter backstroke.

At the 2004 Athens Paralympics, Leibovitch won the 100-meter backstroke gold medal, a pair of silver medals in women's 50-meter and 100-meter freestyles, and a bronze medal in the 200



Keren Leibovitch

freestyle. She also captured three World Championships titles and five European Championships gold medals.

While serving in the Israel Defense Forces, a training accident left Leibovitch with a 90 percent paralysis of her legs. In freestyle events, she is prohibited from making a diving start and instead has to compete at a disadvantage of pushing off the side of the pool.

Jason Lezak

United States

Born: November 12, 1975, Irvine, California

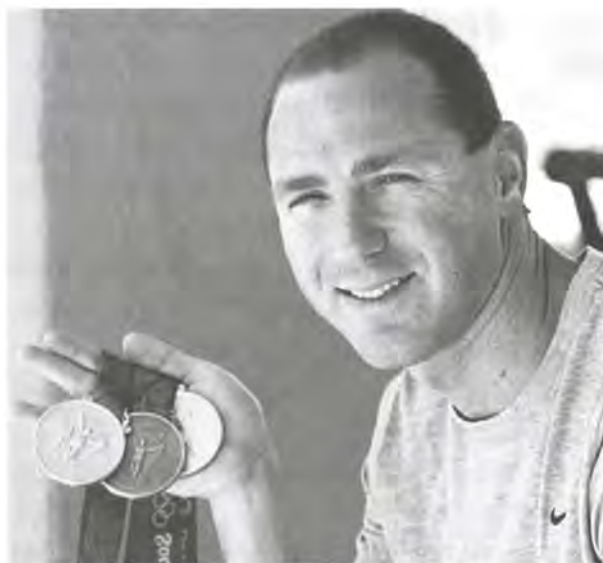
American sprinter Jason Lezak owns eight Olympic medals. He was the No. 1 sprinter in the world in 2002, holding the world's top ranking in the 50-meter freestyle. He was the world's No. 1 100-meter freestyler in 2004.

He earned his first Olympic gold medal at the 2000 Games in Sydney and last at the 2012 London Olympics.

At the 2008 Games, swimming as the U.S. team's anchor leg, Lezak recorded the fastest 100-meter split (46.06) in the 4×100m freestyle relay history. The remarkable feat captured a gold medal victory for his team and included the record eighth gold medal for his celebrated teammate, Michael Phelps. Lezak's anchor sprint was six-tenths of a second faster than the previous record, and his four-man U.S. team literally smashed the existing event highmark by four seconds to set a new world record of 3:08:24.

The thirty-two-year-old Lezak, the oldest male competitor and co-captain of the U.S. men's 2008 Olympic swim team, also anchored his 4×100m medley relay foursome to a world record-setting gold medal in 3:29.34, and he took bronze honors in the 100-meter event, his first individual medal in three Olympiads. He closed his long and distinguished Olympics career with a 4×100m relay gold medal at the 2012 Games in London.

Twelve years earlier, at the 2000 games, the super sprinter won his first Olympic gold medal in the 4×100m medley relay, plus a silver in the 4×100m freestyle relay. In Athens in 2004, Lezak again won gold in the Olympic 4×100m med-



Jason Lezak

ley relay, anchoring his U.S. team to a 3:30.95 world record, topping the world mark set by the same foursome a year earlier, plus a bronze in the 4×100m freestyle relay.

Lezak's distinguished competitive record includes five World Championship gold medals—including two golds in 2003 and another pair in 2005—plus two silver medals and a bronze, as well as numerous U.S. championships and records.



Alfred Nakache

Alfred Nakache

France

Born: November 18, 1915, Constantine, Algeria

Died: August 4, 1983

In 1941 Alfred Nakache set the world 200-meter breaststroke record (2:36.8) in Marseilles and was one-third of the French 3×100m relay team that established a world record in August 1946—3:19.9—at Toulouse. Only one month later, the Frenchmen lowered their relay mark to 3:12.3 in Marseilles.

Between 1936 and 1946 Nakache won the French 100-meter freestyle six times, the 200-meter freestyle four times, the 200-meter breaststroke four times, and an assortment of other French swimming titles, many of them setting national records.

He was a member of France's Olympic swimming teams of 1936 and 1948 and also played Olympic water polo for France in 1948. But his aquatic career was interrupted and put on hold during the German occupation of France during World War II.

Following his defeat of the German champion, Joachim Balke en route to his world breaststroke record in 1941, and soon after setting another European swimming record, a French journalist wrote: "The Jew Nakache should not be allowed to hold any European titles because he is Jewish." All sorts of shenanigans were employed to keep Nakache from competing in German-occupied France, but other French swimmers withdrew from national competitions in support of their fellow athlete.

In spite of this support, he was eventually arrested and deported with his wife, also a ranking swimmer, and their two-year-old daughter to Auschwitz in January 1944. Of the 1,368 men, women, and children in their death camp "convoy," only forty-seven survived. His wife and daughter perished. Nakache's role in setting the 3×100m world relay record in 1946 occurred less than a year after his liberation from Auschwitz.

Paul Neumann

Austria and United States

Born: June 13, 1875, Vienna, Austria

Died: February 9, 1932

In 1896 Paul Neumann won a gold medal in the 500-meter freestyle (8:12.6) at the first modern Olympic Games in Athens. He was the first of only two Austrians to win a medal at the Athens Games.



Paul Neumann

Neumann first gained swimming notoriety in 1892, when he won Austria's National River Swimming championship.

Following the Athens Olympiad, Neumann emigrated to the United States as a University of Chicago medical student. Competing for the Chicago Athletic Association in 1897, he set world records in the 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-mile swimming events. That same year he also won both the American and Canadian national freestyle swimming championships.

Marilyn Ramenofsky

United States

Born: August 20, 1946, Phoenix, Arizona

Marilyn Ramenofsky set the world record for the 400-meter freestyle three times in 1964, including the U.S. Olympic swimming trials, lowering the mark to 4:39.5. She also set the American record in the 220-yard freestyle that year, 2:17.3. The Ameri-



Marilyn Ramenofsky

can swimmer won a silver medal in the 400-meter freestyle at the 1964 Olympics.

The 1961 Maccabiah Games were Ramenofsky's introduction to international competition. She won a gold medal in the 4×100m freestyle relay and a bronze in the 4×100m freestyle. She returned to Israel for the 1965 Maccabiah to win gold medals in both the 200-meter and 400-meter freestyles.

Ramenofsky was named to the 1962, 1963, and 1964 All American Women's Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Swimming Teams.

Margalit Sonnenfeld

Israel

Born: 1925, Brno, Czechoslovakia

Died: November 2, 2017

Margalit Sonnenfeld taught and coached 125 amputee and paralyzed water sport athletes who competed in the Paralympics and Stoke-



Margalit Sonnenfeld

Mandeville Games from 1964 through 1992. Sonnenfeld's athletes won thirty-two gold medals, twenty-six silvers, and eighteen bronzes.

She emigrated to Israel in 1940, and in the late 1950s began to teach swimming to polio-stricken invalid children. With the establishment of the ILAN (now Israel) Sports Center in Ramat Gan, she organized and coached competitive swimming classes for children as young as three years old, many of whom developed into international athletes.

Mark Spitz

United States

Born: February 10, 1950, Modesto, California

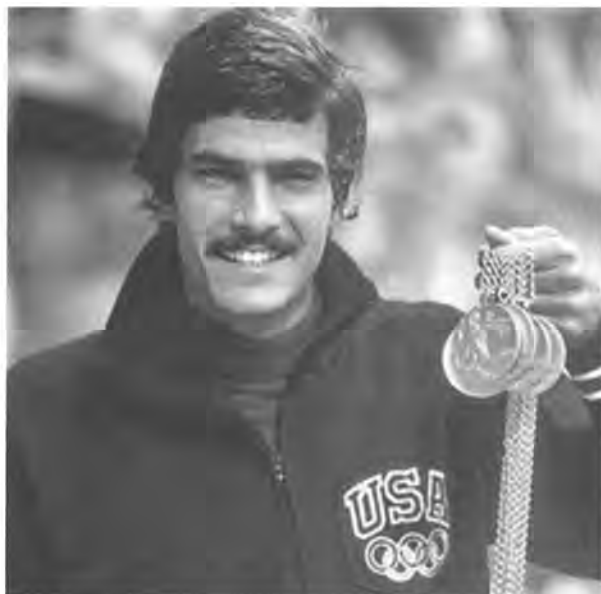
Mark Spitz is holder of one of the most extraordinary achievements of the modern Olympic Games, winning seven gold medals and setting world records in seven events in the same Olympiad.

Spitz won eleven medals over two Olympic Games, but will always be remembered best for his remarkable seven gold feat at the 1972 Games. That summer in Munich, Spitz set four individual world records: 100-meter (51.22) and 200-meter freestyle (1:52.78), and 100-meter (54.27) and 200-meter butterfly (2:00.70)—and he participated in three relay event world records: 4×100m freestyle (3:26.42), 4×200m freestyle (7:35.78), and 4×100m medley (3:48.16). He swam the third leg of the 200m freestyle relay and 100m medley relay, as well as the anchor leg of the 100m freestyle relay.

His final victory came only hours before Palestinian terrorists took hostage and eventually murdered eleven Israeli athletes in the Munich Olympic Village. Spitz was unceremoniously whisked out of the country under heavy security guard.

In 1968 Spitz won “only” four Olympic medals at the Mexico Games: golds in two relay events, 4×100m (3:31.7) and 4×200m (7:52.3), a silver in the 100-meter butterfly (56.4), and a bronze in the 100-meter freestyle (53.0). Mark swam the final leg of the world record-setting 4×100m event and in third position on the 4×200m team.

Between 1965 and 1972 Spitz won nine Olympic gold medals, one silver, and one bronze; five Pan American golds; thirty-one National USA Ama-



Mark Spitz

teur Athletic Union (AAU) titles; and eight USA National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championships. During those years he set thirty-three world records.

He was World Swimmer of the Year in 1967, 1971, and 1972. In 1971 Spitz became the first Jewish recipient of the James E. Sullivan Award, given annually to the Amateur Athlete of the Year. In 2000 *Sports Illustrated* named him No. 33 on its list of Top 100 Athletes of the Twentieth Century.

The 1965 Maccabiah Games were Mark's first international competition, and he returned to Israel in 1969, following the Mexico Olympics, to again compete in the Maccabiah. In all, Spitz won ten Maccabiah gold medals.

Eva Szekely

Hungary

Born: April 3, 1927, Budapest, Hungary

Died: February 29, 2006

Between 1940 and 1958 Eva Szekely set ten world and five Olympic swimming records. She set an Olympic record in the 200-meter breaststroke (2:51.7) en route to a gold medal at the 1952 Helsinki Games, and she captured a silver medal in the same event at the Melbourne Olympics in 1956. Szekely was fourth in the 200-meter breaststroke at the 1948 London Games.

Among her world records were the 100-meter breaststroke (1:16.9), set May 1951, 400-meter individual medley (5:50.4), set April 10, 1953, and 4×100m freestyle relay team (4:27.2) in 1952. She also earned ten World University championships and sixty-eight Hungarian national titles.

In the early 1940s, Szekely was expelled from her local team as a "religious undesirable," and during 1944–45, she lived with her family in a Swiss-run "safe house" in Budapest.

She turned to a successful career in coaching following her competitive days. One of her most successful protégés was her daughter Andrea, who



Eva Szekely

won a silver medal at the 1972 Munich Olympics in the 100-meter backstroke and a bronze in the 100-meter butterfly, establishing a world record while taking first place in her semifinal heat.

Szekely wrote three books: *Only Winners Are Allowed to Cry, I Came—I Saw—I Lost*, and *I Swam It / I Survived*. She was elected to the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1976.

Judit Temes

Hungary

Born: October 10, 1930, Sopron, Hungary

Died: August 11, 2013

Judit Temes won a pair of medals at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics—gold in women's 4×100m relay and bronze in 100-meter freestyle.

A member of the Hungarian national swim team from 1944 to 1956, she played a major role in setting three world records: 3×100m freestyle



Judit Temes

relay (4:24.4) in 1952, 4×100m medley relay (3:41.2) in 1950, and 4×100m medley relay (5:07.8) in 1954.

During her career, Temes amassed twenty-nine Hungarian titles—twelve in individual events and twelve championships (eight individual) at the Universiade meets of 1949, 1951, and 1954. She represented her country but did not medal at the 1948 (age seventeen) and 1956 Olympics.

In 1955 Temes received a medical degree cum laude from the Budapest University of Medicine and retired from the competitive pool one year later. Years later she served as president of the European Swimming Federation.

Dara Torres

United States

Born: April 15, 1967, Beverly Hills, California

One of the Olympic Games' most celebrated women athletes, Dara Torres, competed in five Olympiads over twenty-four years, winning twelve medals and setting three world records.

She competed in the Games of 1984, 1988, 1992, 2000 and 2008, establishing herself as one of the most celebrated female athletes of all-time. Torres won a gold medal in the 4×100m freestyle relay (3:43.43) at her first Olympics in 1984 in Los Angeles. At the 1988 Seoul Games, she earned a silver medal in the 4×100m medley relay and bronze in the 4×100m freestyle relay. Voted U.S. Olympic team captain in 1992 by her fellow athletes, Torres won gold again in Barcelona in the 4×100m freestyle relay and contributed to a new event world record, 3:39.46.

In 1999, after a seven-year absence from competitive swimming, Torres decided to attempt to qualify for the 2000 Olympics. She not only qualified for the Sydney Games but she captured five medals, including a pair of golds—in the 4×100m freestyle relay in new world record time, 3:36.61, and 4×100m medley relay, setting another world record, 3:58.30. Torres also took home three indi-



Dara Torres

vidual bronze medals, one each in the 50-meter freestyle, 100-meter freestyle, and 100-meter butterfly.

Sixteen months after giving birth to her first child, and following her forty-first birthday, Torres returned to the Olympics pool again in 2008. She became the oldest American Olympic swimmer in history and the first to appear in five Olympiads. She again medaled—a silver in the 50-meter freestyle, and silvers in the 100-meter freestyle and 4×100m freestyle relay.

From 1983 to 1986 the native Southern Californian held the world's best time in the 50-meter freestyle, 25.62. In 1988 she owned the world record in the 100-meter freestyle, 55.30.

As a University of Florida undergraduate, Torres earned twenty-eight NCAA All-America swimming awards, the maximum number of All-America honors possible. Her career U.S. record includes eight national 50-meter freestyle titles won from 1982 to 2000, four 100-meter freestyle championships 1985–2000, and the 1991 200-meter freestyle championship.

Garrett Weber-Gale

United States

Born: August 6, 1985, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

With all the storied American Olympic swimming champions of the post–World War II era, Garrett Weber-Gale was the first to break 48 seconds in the 100-meter freestyle (47.78 at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials).

He was second leg of the 2008 games' highly charged 4×100m freestyle relay (47.02 split) that captured the gold medal from the pre-race favorite, France. His Beijing Olympics teammates were Michael Phelps, Cullen Jones, and IJSHOF honoree Jason Lezak. The victory marked Phelps's history-making ninth gold medal of the games. Weber-Gale also won a second 2008 Olympics gold in the 4×100m medley relay.



Garrett Weber-Gale

Garrett earned gold medals competing on U.S. 4×100m freestyle and medley relay teams at seven World Championships between 2005 and 2012.

The Wisconsin-born sprinter and his teammates were recipients of the Golden Goggles Award for their breathtaking gold medal victory at the 2008 Olympics, and in 2009 they received an ESPY for “Best Moment” for their 4×100m freestyle relay performance.

At the 2013 World Maccabiah Games in Israel, Weber-Gale was opening ceremonies flagbearer for the U.S. team. He captured gold medals in both the 50-meter and 100-meter freestyles at the quadrennial event.

Ben Wildman-Tobriner

United States

Born: September 21, 1984, San Francisco, California

Sprinter Ben Wildman-Tobriner won gold medals at three World Championships before earning an Olympic gold in the 4×100m freestyle relay at



Ben Wildman-Tobriner

the 2008 Beijing Games. In a preliminary heat, his U.S. team set the event world record (3:12.23).

At the 2005 World Championships, Wildman-Tobriner won gold in the 4×100m freestyle. In 2007 he was gold in the 50-meter freestyle and 4×100m relay events.

A 2007 biomechanical engineering graduate of California's Stanford University, he earned more than a dozen All-America honors.

Wallace Wolf

United States

Born: October 2, 1930, Los Angeles, California

Died: March 12, 1997

At the 1948 Olympics, seventeen-year-old Beverly Hills high school sprinter Wally Wolf swam the second leg of the U.S. world record-setting gold medal for the 4×200m relay victory (8:46.0).

Wolf and the U.S. relay swim team repeated the gold medal achievement at the 1952 Olympics with his second heat leg setting a new Olympic record of 2:11.4.

In 1956 and 1960 Wolf was a member of the U.S. Olympic water polo team. The 1956 team finished fifth and the 1960 team seventh. Wolf was named to the 1964 U.S. Olympic water polo team, his fifth consecutive selection to a U.S. Olympics team, but did not accept the appointment.

Wolf was a University of Southern California swimming and water polo All-America in 1949, 1950, and 1951. He was one of the inaugural honorees elected to the Water Polo Hall of Fame in 1976.



Wallace Wolf

TABLE TENNIS



Ruth Aarons

Ruth Aarons

United States

Born: June 11, 1918, Stamford, Connecticut

Died: June 6, 1980

Ruth Aarons won gold medals in the singles competition at the World Table Tennis championships in Prague in 1936 and in Baden in 1937. She is the only American to win a table tennis world singles title.

Those same years she led the U.S. women's team to Corbillion Cup (World Championship) victories. In 1936 (with partner Jimmy McClure) Aarons won the 1936 world mixed doubles championship.

Time magazine referred to the teenage American blonde as "the Ginger Rogers of table tennis."

After her gold medals achievements, she paired with Hungary's world champion Sandor Glancz to become a popular table tennis supper club entertainment attraction.

In 1966 Aarons was inducted in the USATT Hall of Fame.

Angelica Adelstein-Rozeanu

Romania

Born: October 15, 1921, Bucharest, Romania

Died: February 22, 2006

Angelica Adelstein-Rozeanu is considered the world's greatest female table tennis player in history.

She won seventeen world titles, including six straight singles championships between 1950 and 1955. She took the world women's doubles title twice and the world mixed doubles crown three times.

Adelstein-Rozeanu was the first Romanian woman to win a world title in any sport. She first won the Romanian National Women's championship in 1936 and captured it every year until 1957 (excluding the war years 1940–45, when she did not compete).

From 1950 to 1960 Rozeanu served as president of the Romanian Table Tennis Commission, and in 1954 she was presented the highest sports distinction in Romania—the title of Merited Master of Sport. She also received four Order of Work honors from her government.

Rozeanu moved to Israel in 1960, and in 1961 she won the Maccabiah Games table tennis championship.



Angelica Adelstein-Rozeanu

Viktor Gyozo Barna (Braun)

Hungary

Born: August 24, 1911, Budapest, Hungary

Died: February 1972

Viktor Barna won thirty-two World Championship medals, among them twenty-three gold, six silver, and three bronze. His championship victories include five singles events, eight doubles, three mixed-doubles, and seven team titles. He was described by Sir Ivor Montagu, president of the International Table Tennis Federation (1926–67), as “the greatest table tennis player who ever lived.”

In 1929 Barna was a member of the Hungarian national team that won the Swaythling Cup, the award presented in recognition of the Men’s World Team Table Tennis championship. One

year later, he won the first of his five world singles championships.

Barna’s greatest performance came in February 1935 at the World Championships in Wembley, England, when he captured the world singles, doubles (with Miklos Szabados), and mixed doubles (with Anna Sipos) crowns. Later that year, his Hungarian team was again awarded the Swaythling Cup.

In May 1935 Barna’s championship singles career was effectively ended when his right (playing) arm was severely injured in an auto accident. He nonetheless managed to win the world doubles title (with Austria’s Richard Bergmann) in 1939. All of Barna’s doubles titles (1929–35, 1939) were won with Miklos Szabados as his playing partner, with the exceptions of teaming with Sandor Glanz in 1933 and Bergmann in 1939.



Viktor Gyozo Barna (Braun)



Laszlo Bellak

Laszlo Bellak

Hungary

Born: February 12, 1911, Budapest, Hungary

Died: September 20, 2006

Known as the “Clown Prince of Table Tennis,” the acrobatic Laszlo Bellak won seven World Championship gold medals, including six Swaythling Cups (men’s World Championships) as a member of the Hungarian national team. The Swaythling victories came in 1928, 1930, 1931, 1934, 1935, and 1938.

Bellak won the world mixed doubles title in 1938 (with W. Woodhead of Great Britain). He also captured the U.S. men’s singles in 1938 and the U.S. men’s doubles in 1937.

The “Clown Prince” moniker wasn’t always a compliment, and many thought his clowning antics prevented Bellak from attaining greater competitive success. Bellak was inducted into the USA Table Tennis Hall of Fame in 1980 and International Table Tennis Foundation Hall of Fame in 1993.

He wrote *Table Tennis: How a New Sport Was Born*.

Richard Bergmann

Austria and Great Britain

Born: April 10, 1920, Vienna, Austria

Died: April 5, 1970

A winner of seven World Championships, including four singles crowns, Richard Bergmann was regarded as the greatest defensive player in table tennis history.

In 1936 he won his first world title as a member of the Hungarian Swaythling Cup (World Championship) team. He won his first world singles championship one year later, and in doing so became the youngest player ever to win that title.

When the Nazis invaded Austria in 1938, Bergmann fled to England. The following year he won his second world singles crown as well as the world doubles title (pairing with Viktor Barna). Following World War II, he reclaimed his title as world



Richard Bergmann

singles champion in 1948 and again in 1950. His last World Championship came as a member of the 1953 English Swathling Cup team.

In the mid-1950s Bergmann toured extensively with the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team.

In 1993 he was one of the twelve founding members inducted into the International Table Tennis Foundation Hall of Fame. The Richard Bergmann Fair Play Trophy was established in 1967.



Traute Kleinova

Traute Kleinova

Czechoslovakia

Born: August 13, 1918, Brno, Czechoslovakia

Died: April 9, 1975

Table tennis champion Traute Kleinova, of the Maccabi Club of Brno, was a member of the Czechoslovakian Corbillion Cup (World Championship) women's teams of 1935 and 1936. In 1936, with partner Miloslav Hamer, she also won the world mixed doubles title.

Deported by the Nazis in 1941, Kleinova survived both the Theresienstadt and Auschwitz prison camps. She emigrated to the United States after the war.



Erwin Kohn

Erwin Kohn

Austria and Argentina

Born: December 20, 1911, Baden bei Wein, Austria

Died: March 18, 1994

In 1936 Erwin Kohn won the world doubles championship (with Richard Bergmann), and his Austrian team won the Swathling Cup, the men's World Table Tennis Championship.

In 1932 and 1935 Kohn took bronze medal honors in men's world singles. In 1933 (with Paul Flussmann) and 1934 (with Miroslav Hamr), he won bronze medals in men's world doubles.

In 1929 and again in 1934, Kohn's Austrian team was the silver medalist at the World Championships and bronze finishers in 1932, 1933, and 1935. He was Austrian national table tennis champion in 1928 at the age of sixteen and European Champion at seventeen.

In 1938, at the outset of World War II, Kohn escaped to England, smuggling out his protégé and doubles partner Richard Bergmann, then emigrated to Argentina where he was three-time South American champion, and dominated table tennis between 1940 and 1952.



Ivor Goldsmid Montagu

Ivor Goldsmid Montagu

Great Britain

Born: April 23, 1904, London, England

Died: November 5, 1984

Ivor Montagu is one of ten men who met in Germany in January 1926 and set in motion a series of events that made table tennis an international sport. In 1926 he initiated the creation of the International Table Tennis Federation and served as its first president for forty-one years until 1967.

The ITTF began with four member countries and grew to 160 national associations under his leadership. The constitution and laws of the sport

of table tennis were adopted, and the World Table Tennis Championships were established at a meeting at the family home of Lord and Lady Swaythling, Montagu's parents.

At age eighteen, he was a founder of the English Table Tennis Association and served as its chairman, 1923–29, 1932–33, and 1936–58. He was also the ETTA's president 1927–31 and 1958–66.

The trophy presented annually to the men's world champion table tennis team bears the name Swaythling Cup, named for Montagu's mother, Lady Gladys Goldsmid Montagu Swathling.

Montagu was the first nonplayer elected to the ITTF Hall of Fame.

Anna Sipos

Hungary

Born: April 3, 1908, Szeged, Hungary

Died: January 1, 1988

Anna Sipos won eleven gold medals at World Championships. She is ranked the second best female player of her era.



Anna Sipos

Among Sipos's many victories: she captured the world singles title in 1932 and 1933, the world doubles championship (with M. Mednyanszky) 1929–34, and won the world mixed doubles on three occasions—with Istvan Kelen in 1929 and Victor Barna in 1932 and 1935.

Sipos was the first female player to use the “pen-holder grip,” but she changed to the “shake-hand grip” in 1932. After changing her grip, she was able to defeat her old nemesis and doubles partner Mednyanszky.

In all, Sipos won twenty-one medals in World Championship competitions.

Milklos Szabados

Hungary

Born: March 7, 1912, Budapest, Hungary

Died: January 12, 1962

Milklos Szabados was one of the top two most successful table tennis players of his time (the other was Viktor Barna). Szabados won fifteen World Championship titles, including the world singles crown in 1931.

From 1928 to 1935 Szabados captured six world doubles titles (with Barna) and four mixed doubles in 1930, 1931, 1933, and 1934 (with Maria Mednyanszky). Five times he was a member of the Hungarian World Championship (Swaythling Cup) team, 1929–31 and 1933–35. In 1931 the Hungarian table tennis champion won all four world events—men's singles, doubles, mixed doubles, and the Swaythling Cup.

In 1937 Szabados and countryman Istvan Kelen embarked on a two-year exhibition tour of the Far East and South America, eventually settling in Australia. There he won numerous national titles while devoting himself to the development of table tennis down-under.

He was inducted into the International Table Tennis Foundation Hall of Fame in 1993.



Milklos Szabados

Leah Thall-Neuberger (Miss Ping)

United States

Born: December 17, 1915, Columbus, Ohio

Died: January 25, 1993

Leah Thall-Neuberger was ranked as the third top table tennis player in the world in 1951. She was the United States' greatest women's table tennis player, of whom the *New York Times* once wrote: “Her paddle is her passport.”

Thall-Neuberger won the world mixed doubles championship in 1956 with teenager Erwin Klein. In 1980 she was elected a charter member of the Table Tennis Hall of Fame. Leah captured twenty-nine national titles between 1949 and 1974: nine singles, twelve doubles, and eight mixed doubles. She also won forty-one Canadian championships, including eleven singles titles.

In 1971 she accompanied the Canadian table tennis team on its historic Ping-Pong Diplomacy



Leah Thall-Neuberger (Miss Ping)

Tour to the People's Republic of China. The only American woman in the Canadian entourage and the first U.S. citizen in decades to visit China and speak face to face with Chinese premier Zhou Enlai, her chat sparked a series of events that led to the ending of the U.S.-China Cold War.

Thelma "Tybie" Thall-Sommer

United States

Born: 1924, Columbus, Ohio

Tybie Thall-Sommer won two World Table Tennis championships. In 1948 she and Richard Miles were the first Americans to win the world's mixed doubles title. One year later in Stockholm, she and her U.S. team captured the women's World Championship (Corbillion Cup).

Thall-Sommer and Miles won the English Open mixed doubles in 1949, and she captured the English Open women's doubles with Peggy McLean.

Tybie is the younger sister of Leah Thall-Neuberger (IJSHOF 1999). The sisters won three U.S. women's doubles championships (1947, 1948, and 1949), and Canadian national doubles in 1947 and 1948.

In 2005 Tybie and Leah were recipients of the USA Table Tennis Mark Mathews Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2012 Tybie presented the inaugural Thall Sisters Cup, USTTA's award to the U.S. Open women's singles table tennis champion.

The Ohio-born champion was inducted into the U.S. Table Tennis Association Hall of Fame in 1980.



Thelma "Tybie" Thall-Sommer

TENNIS



Angela Buxton

Angela Buxton

Great Britain

Born: August 16, 1934, Liverpool, England

The first British woman to reach a Wimbledon final in seventeen years, Angela Buxton won the Wimbledon doubles championship with American Althea Gibson in 1956.

October 1953 marked a turning point in Buxton's then modest playing career when she won the Maccabiah Games singles title, easily defeating No. 8 world seed Anita Kanter, who had recently beaten No. 1 world seed Doris Hart.

Inspired by her success in Israel, Buxton was able to earn a No. 4 British ranking in 1954. One year later, she reached the 1955 Wimbledon singles quarterfinals and the ninth spot in world rankings.

Buxton played the Wightman Cup for Great Britain in 1952, 1955, and 1956.

She was ranked No. 5 in the world in 1956, after capturing the Wimbledon doubles and reaching the singles finals, taking the English indoor and London grass court singles championships, the English hardcourt doubles crown (with Darlene Hard), reaching the semifinals of the French singles, and winning the French Open doubles (with Althea Gibson).

It was Buxton's best competitive year, and she was at the top of her game in late 1956 when she suffered a severe wrist injury. Although she managed to win the French doubles and Maccabiah singles titles in 1957, her playing career was prematurely curtailed.

Angela Buxton has written several books, including *Tackle Lawn Tennis This Way*, *Starting Tennis*, and *Winning Tennis and Doubles Tactics*. She is one of the six founders of the Israel Tennis Centers.

Pierre Darmon

France

Born: January 14, 1934, Tunis, Tunisia

A schoolboy tennis prodigy, Pierre Darmon was the top-ranked tennis star in France from 1957 to 1969 (shared No. 1 in 1957 and 1969). In 1963 he reached his highest world ranking, No. 8.

Darmon won the French national championship nine times, his first title in 1957 and last in 1968. In 1963 he was French Open singles runner-up, losing



Pierre Darmon

the Grand Slam final to Roy Emerson—6-3, 1-6, 4-6, 4-6. That same year he reached the Wimbledon doubles finals (with Jean Claude Barclay), before falling to Mexico's Antonio Palafox and Rafael Osuna in the title match.

Darmon was a member of France's Davis Cup team from 1956 to 1967. In all, he played sixty-eight Davis Cup matches, winning forty-four. In November 2002 the International Tennis Hall of Fame and International Tennis Federation honored Darmon with the Davis Cup Award of Excellence, given to individuals who represent the ideals and spirit of Davis Cup competition.

Off the court, Darmon was tournament director of the French Open at Roland Garros from 1969 through 1978 and director of the European Tennis Bureau of the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) in 1973. He was a member of the ATP board of directors 1974 to 1979 and a member of the Men's International Professional Tennis Council 1974 to 1979. That year Darmon took on the position of European director for Proserv through 1990, whereupon he returned to ATP Europe as its chief executive through 1996.



Umberto de Morpurgo

Umberto de Morpurgo

Italy

Born: January 12, 1896, Trieste, Italy

Died: February 26, 1961

Baron de Morpurgo was Italy's No. 1 tennis player in 1927 and 1929–31. He ranked in the world's top ten from 1928 to 1930: No. 9 in 1928, No. 10 in 1929, and No. 8 in 1930. American tennis icon Bill Tilden ranked him No. 6 in the world in 1929.

De Morpurgo was a member of Italy's first Davis Cup team (1922) and played on every Italian Davis Cup team through 1933. His Davis Cup won-loss record was singles 39-14 and doubles 16-10.

American Tennis Magazine labeled him the "Tilden of his country." In 1929 the Baron was named Italian commissioner of tennis by Benito Mussolini.

Herb Flam

United States

Born: November 7, 1928, Brooklyn, New York

Died: November 25, 1980

Between 1951 and 1957 Herb Flam was ranked in the world's top ten four times. His highest position was No. 5 in 1957 (*World Tennis* magazine). From 1948 to 1958 he ranked in the U.S. top ten (except 1953–54, when he served in the U.S. Navy), reaching the No. 2 spot in 1950, 1956, and 1957.

Flam first gained attention in 1943, when he won the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association fifteen-year-old boys singles championship. As a Beverly Hills High School junior in 1945, he captured the USLTA Interscholastic singles and doubles titles with Hugh Stewart. The pair repeated their doubles success in 1946.

The Brooklyn-born Californian earned national prominence in 1948, when he entered the USLTA singles championships unseeded and reached the tournament semifinals, defeating the third and



Herb Flam

sixth seeds en route. The achievement earned the twenty-year-old UCLA undergrad a No. 9 U.S. ranking.

In 1950, the year he won the USLTA Intercollegiate singles and doubles with Gene Garrett, Flam reached the finals of the U.S. singles, becoming the first Jewish tennis player ever to advance to the championship round. He lost to Art Larsen in five sets. Nonetheless, Flam won the U.S. National Clay Court singles that year and teamed with Larsen to win the Clay Court doubles crown as well.

Flam reached the Wimbledon singles semifinals in 1952 and made the English grass court's final eight three times. He reached the quarterfinals of the U.S. singles six times.

Upon his return from navy service, Flam won the 1955 U.S. hardcourt championship. A year later he won his second U.S. clay court title.

Competing in his first Davis Cup matches for the United States in 1951, and his last in 1957, Flam won twelve of fourteen matches.

Flam was inducted into the International Tennis Association Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame in 1987 and the UCLA Hall of Fame in 2006.



Ian Froman

Ian Froman

South Africa

Born: May 6, 1937, Johannesburg, South Africa

Ian Froman is one of six founding members of the Israel Tennis Center and ITC's countrywide program. Froman conceived the idea for the ITC in 1973, and within a year he met four Americans, Rubin Josephs, Harold Landesberg, William Lippy, and Joe Shane, and English tennis star, Angela Buxton, who agreed to secure the necessary funds and sites to make the dream a reality.

In the summer of 1976, a fourteen-court tennis center was opened in the town of Ramat Hasha-

ron. It would be the first of what is now fifteen centers throughout Israel: Akko, Arad, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Beersheva, Galille-Sajur, Haifa, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Kiryat Shemona, Ofakim, South Tel Aviv, Tiberias, Yokneam, and Ramat Hasharon.

A Johannesburg dentist who emigrated to Israel in 1964, Froman has devoted his time to the origination and development of the Israel Tennis Centers. He represented his native South Africa in Davis Cup competition and at Wimbledon.

Since the outset, Froman accepted the hands-on responsibility for ITC's development. The ITCs have brought the world of tennis to two hundred thousand children, offering an environment of social integration in a multicultural nation.

In presenting the Israel Prize to Froman in 1989, Israeli president Chaim Herzog stated: "You have created a virtual social revolution throughout Israel."

Brian Gottfried

United States

Born: January 27, 1952, Baltimore, Maryland

Brian Gottfried won twenty-five career singles and forty-nine doubles titles, including three Grand Slam doubles championships. He was ranked among the world's top ten ATP players from 1976 to 1978—third in 1977—and ranked in the world's top twenty through the early 1980s.

He and Raul Ramirez captured the Wimbledon doubles championship in 1976 and French Open doubles titles in 1975 and 1977. They were Wimbledon runners-up in 1979 and French Open runners-up in 1976 and 1980. They also won four consecutive Italian Open doubles titles from 1974 to 1977 and claimed the WCT world doubles title in 1975 and 1980. In 1979 Brian captured the ATP professional doubles championship with Ilie Nastase.

Days after he won the 1977 French Open doubles with Ramirez, Gottfried was runner-up in the French Open singles to Guillermo Vilas. He was



Brian Gottfried

the first American to reach the finals at Roland Garros Stadium in twenty-two years. *Newsweek* labeled him “the best male tennis player in the world.”

Tennis magazine named Gottfried professional rookie of the year in 1973. Brian reached the finals of fifteen tournaments in 1977, winning five. From 1976 to 1978 and in 1982, he was a member of the U.S. Davis Cup team.

As a junior player, Brian won the 1962 national twelve-and-under doubles title with Jimmy Connors and repeated the victory the following year with Dick Stockton. In 1964 he won the twelve-and-under singles crown. In 1970 Brian won the U.S. National Junior Outdoors Singles championship, one of fourteen junior titles he would win while at Trinity University in Texas, where he was an All-America in 1971 and 1972.

Brian won the 1984 ATP Sportsmanship Award and was inducted into the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Hall of Fame in 1990.

Jim Grabb

United States

Born: April 14, 1964, Tucson, Arizona

Jim Grabb was the world's No. 1 ranked doubles player in 1989 and 1993. The right-handed serve-and-volleyer won a pair of Grand Slam events: the 1989 French Open (with Patrick McEnroe) and 1992 U.S. Open (with Richey Reneberg). He and Reneberg were runners-up at Wimbledon in 1992.

Grabb won two singles titles on the pro tour, 1987 Seoul Grand Prix (defeating Andre Agassi) and 1992 Taipei Grand Prix. With various partners Grabb played a combined fifty Grand Prix-ATP Tour-Grand Slam doubles finals, winning twenty-three.

His highest world singles ranking was No. 20 in 1990, and he logged career victories over Michael Chang, Ivan Lendl, Stefan Edberg, Mats Wilander, and Agassi. He was a member of the 1993 U.S. Davis Cup team.



Jim Grabb



Ladislav Hecht

Ladislav Hecht

Czechoslovakia

Born: August 31, 1909, Zilina, Slovakia

Died: May 27, 2004

According to the *New York Times*, Ladislav Hecht was "perhaps the best tennis player on the European continent immediately before World War II."

In his prime during the 1930s, Hecht was ranked sixth in the world. He defeated celebrated players such as Bobby Riggs, Fred Perry, and Jack Crawford. In 1938, when Don Budge achieved a Grand Slam by winning the world's four major tournaments, Hecht twice had him at match point at Wimbledon.

He played in all major European tournaments and was captain of Czechoslovakia's Davis Cup team, representing his country in consecutive Davis Cup competitions from 1930 to 1939.

In 1932 he won the tennis championship at the first World Maccabiah Games in Palestine. Hecht's signature game featured a topspin forehand and

underhit backhand. He was a tactician who didn't hesitate to use drop shots and lobs.

After Germany annexed part of Czechoslovakia in 1938, an aide to Adolf Hitler, unaware that Hecht was a Jew, invited him to play for the German Davis Cup team. He declined the offer. Three days before the Nazis invaded his country, Hecht escaped to the United States. The Czech émigré worked in a U.S. munitions factory during the war. Later he returned to the court and became the No. 1 ranked player in the eastern United States.

A Slovakian national hero, the City of Bratislava named its multisport stadium honoring Hecht in 1966.

Gladys Heldman (Medalie)

United States

Born: May 13, 1922, New York, New York

Died: June 22, 2003

Gladys Heldman was a prime mover in the stimulation and development of American tennis through the pages of *World Tennis* magazine, which she founded and served as editor and pub-



Gladys Heldman (Medalie)

lisher. The magazine first appeared in 1953, having been published originally for five years under the name *Houston Tennis*. (She sold the magazine to CBS Publications in 1972.)

Heldman was a key organizer of the Virginia Slims Tennis Tour, the first all-women's tennis circuit. Rushing in "where wise men feared to tread," Heldman underwrote the 1959 National (U.S.) Indoor championships when the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association decided that such an undertaking for the USLTA was financially unsound.

The entire Heldman family—husband, Julius, and daughters, Julie and Carrie—have played a prominent role in American tennis. Julie ranked No. 2 USA in 1968 and 1969, and No. 5 world in 1969. She won the Maccabiah Games singles, doubles (with Marilyn Aschner), and mixed doubles (with Ed Rubinoff) in 1969.

Phi Beta Kappa and first in her class at Stanford University (BA 1942), with a master's degree at the University of California, Berkeley (1943), Heldman was herself a promising tennis star. She ranked No. 1 in Texas and No. 2 in the Southwest in 1954, and that same year she played in the early rounds at Wimbledon.

Heldman was elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1979, the Texas Tennis Hall of Fame in 1988, and the ITA Women's Hall of Fame in 1998.

She is the author of *Pancho Segura's Championship Strategy: How to Play Winning Tennis*.

Julie Heldman

United States

Born: December 8, 1945, Berkeley, California

Julie Heldman was one of the world's top ten women's singles players four times—No. 5 in 1969, No. 7 in 1970, No. 9 in 1973, and No. 5 in 1974. With eight other top-ranked female tennis stars, she is one of the founding players of the Virginia Slims Tour, the first women's professional tour.



Julie Heldman

Heldman first appeared in U.S. top ten singles rankings in 1963 at No. 10. Her best was No. 2 in 1968 and 1969. She ranked on America's top ten singles list all but three years (temporary retirement and injuries) between 1963 and 1975.

In doubles competition, her highest U.S. ranking was No. 2 in 1965 (with Tory Fretz) and 1969 (with Peaches Bartkowicz).

In all, the Stanford University graduate won twenty-five championships, including the Italian, Canadian, Belgian, Mexican, Argentine, Swedish, Welsh, Russian, and Chilean singles titles.

A member of the United States' victorious Federation Cup (women's Davis Cup) teams of 1966, 1969, and 1974, she also played on the U.S. championship Wightman Cup teams (U.S. vs. UK) in 1969, 1970, and 1971. Heldman was also a member of Federation Cup teams in 1970 and 1975 (captain) and Wightman Cup teams in 1965, 1966, 1974 (captain) and 1975 (captain) that were less successful.

In 1969 Heldman won the Maccabiah Games singles in Israel, as well as the Maccabiah doubles (with Marilyn Aschner) and mixed doubles (with Ed Rubinoff). She would finish the year, her best, ranked No. 2 in the United States and No. 5 in the world.

From 1973 to 1975 Heldman provided commentary for the U.S. Open on CBS television. She then joined the NBC Wimbledon telecast team from

1975 to 1977. She was the first woman to provide commentary on a men's tennis event.

Julie Heldman is the youngest of two daughters in U.S. tennis's "first family." Father Julius was a leading amateur player in the 1930s and 1940s, scoring impressive victories over the era's top players. Mother Gladys played at Wimbledon before becoming the "patron saint" of women's tennis as editor and publisher of *World Tennis* magazine.



Ilana Kloss

Ilana Kloss

South Africa

Born: March 22, 1956, Johannesburg, South Africa

Ilana Kloss was the world's No. 1 ranked women's doubles player in 1976, winning the U.S. Open, U.S. Clay Courts, British Hard Courts, Italian Open, German Open, and Hilton Head Open (mostly with Linky Boshoff). That same year she

also captured the French Open mixed doubles crown (with Kim Warwick).

Her highest World Tennis Association (WTA) singles ranking was No. 19 in 1979.

The youngest player ever ranked No. 1 in South Africa, Kloss gained tennis world notoriety by winning both the Wimbledon and U.S. Open junior singles titles before turning professional.

In 1991 she succeeded Billy Jean King as executive director of World Team Tennis (WTT) and was named its CEO/commissioner in 2001.

Zsuzsa "Suzy" Kormoczy

Hungary

Born: August 25, 1924, Budapest, Hungary

Died: September 16, 2006

Suzy Kormoczy won the 1958 French Open singles, defeating British champion Shirley Bloomer Brasher, who had won the same event the previous



Zsuzsa "Suzy" Kormoczy

year (6-4, 1-6, 6-2). She is the only Jewish woman to win a Grand Slam singles event.

She nearly repeated in 1959, falling to England's Christine Truman Janes 6-4, 7-5 in the title match.

The Hungarian court champion was ranked the world's No. 2 player in 1958, winning eight of the nine tournaments she entered and reaching the semifinals at Wimbledon.

Kormoczy made her first appearance in the world's top ten rankings in 1947, and thereafter made the top ten list nine times over the next fourteen years.



Harold Landesberg

Harold Landesberg

United States

Born: March 28, 1922, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Died: April 21, 1999

Harold Landesberg is one of the six founders and prime mover of the Israel Tennis Centers project in the Holy Land. The first ITC was developed in Ramat Hasharon, and fourteen additional centers have since been developed throughout Israel.

Landesberg was the first chairman of the ITC committee and first president of the ITC Association. The Philadelphian's co-ITC builders were

Angela Buxton, Rubin Josephs, William Lippy, and Joseph Shane.

William Lippy

United States

Born: August 30, 1928, Warren, Ohio

One of six founders of the Israel Tennis Centers (Israel), Lippy was ITC president from 1981 to 1987 and international board chairman from 1987 to 1989.

An internationally recognized otologist, Lippy joined with fellow American ITC founders—Joe Shane, Harold Landesberg, and Ruben Josephs—to develop and build the original Israel Tennis Center at Ramat Hasharon.

The Ohio doctor has been the primary fundraiser for the ITC since its inception and has been directly responsible for its growth throughout Israel.



William Lippy



Nicholas Massu (Fried)

Nicholas Massu (Fried)

Chile

Born: October 10, 1979, Vina del Mar, Chile

Nicholas Massu was Chile's first Olympic gold medalist, capturing both the singles and doubles championships (with Fernando Gonzales) at the 2004 Games. That same year he was ranked No. 9 in world singles.

"Vampiro," as he was known in his home country, was the first man to win gold medals in both Olympic singles and doubles in the same Games.

At age eighteen Massu won the 1997 junior doubles championships at both Wimbledon and U.S. Open.

He joined Chile's Davis Cup team, has served as its captain, and has a 29-17 Davis Cup singles record. Massu represented Chile at the 2002 and 2008 Olympics.

Tom Okker (the Flying Dutchman)

Netherlands

Born: February 22, 1944, Amsterdam, Holland

Dutch tennis champion Tom Okker was ATP ranked among the world's top ten singles players for seven consecutive years, 1968-74. He reached No. 4 in 1968, 1969, and 1973. (ATP rankings began in 1968.)

Okker was the Dutch national champion from 1964 until 1968, when he turned professional. He is one of only five players to have won one hundred or more pro championships.

"Open" tennis began in 1968, and the professional game suited Okker's court talents. His frequent tournament victories and top finishes made him one of the pro tour's top money winners. In 1973 the "Flying Dutchman" was second in Grand Prix standings. One of pro-tennis's first millionaire winners, his WTC career earnings stood at \$1,257,200 when he retired in 1980.

Okker's seventy-eight doubles titles are an all-time professional record and include both the 1973 Italian Open and French Open doubles (with John Newcombe), 1973 London Grass Court doubles (with Marty Reissen), 1973 Spanish Open doubles (with Ilie Nastase), 1975 Opel International (with Arthur Ashe), 1976 U.S. Open doubles (Reissen), and 1978 WCT World doubles (Wojciech Fibak).

Among Okker's singles titles: 1968 Italian Open, 1970 German Open and Belgian Open, 1973 Dewar Cup and Canadian Open, and 1974 WCT Roth-



Tom Okker (the Flying Dutchman)

mans. He was also a runner-up in twenty-four singles events.

From 1964 through 1968 Okker represented the Netherlands in Davis Cup play. In 1965 he won both the singles and doubles at the Maccabiah Games.



Daniel Prenn (left)

Daniel Prenn

Germany and Great Britain

Born: September 7, 1904, Vilna, Lithuania

Died: September 3, 1991

Following Davis Cup triumphs over Britain's top seeds Fred Perry and Bunny Austin and a victory over America's Frank Shields in 1932, Daniel Prenn was labeled "Europe's number one man" by *American Lawn Tennis* magazine. The German tennis star was the world's eighth ranked player in 1929 by Bill Tilden, No. 6 in 1932 by England's A. Wallis Myers, and No. 7 in 1934 by *American Lawn Tennis*.

Prenn was at the top of his game and ranked No. 1 in Europe, when he represented Germany in Davis Cup competition 1928 through 1932. He played thirteen events, winning seventeen matches and losing five. However, when the Nazis came to power in 1933, he was barred from competition.

Despite his major success on the court, the German Tennis Federation passed these resolutions (in part) in April 1933: "1. No Jew may be selected for a national team or the Davis Cup. 2. No Jewish or Marxist club or association may be affiliated with the German Tennis Federation. 3. No Jew may hold an official position in the Federation." And they added: "The player Dr. Prenn (a Jew) will not be selected for the Davis Cup team in 1933."

Prenn soon moved to England and became a British subject. Although he continued to play competitive tennis, he never quite matched the brilliance that once was his in his homeland.

Richard "Dick" Savitt

United States

Born: March 4, 1927, Bayonne, New Jersey

In 1951 Dick Savitt won the Wimbledon singles championship, the Australian singles title, and was the number one player on the U.S. Davis Cup team. In his prime, Savitt was considered the greatest backcourt player in the game and was ranked No. 2 in the world in 1951 and 1952 by *World Tennis*.

The 6-foot-3, 180-pound Cornell University graduate ranked four times in the world's top ten between 1951 and 1957—No. 2 in 1951; and six times in the U.S. top ten between 1950 and 1959, when he was No. 2. (The player ranked ahead of Savitt on the 1951 U.S. top ten list, Vic Seixas, was ranked No. 4 in the world, two spots below Savitt on the weighty world roster. It should also be noted that Savitt did not compete 1953–55.)

Although at the top of his game, Savitt abruptly retired from competitive tennis after winning the



Richard "Dick" Savitt

1952 U.S. National Indoor singles championships. Although he has never publicly discussed his decision, it was considered most likely the result of a never-explained snub by the U.S. Davis Cup coaching staff.

Savitt had played and won his early 1951 Davis Cup matches en route to leading the American team into the championship round against Australia. His coaches, however, did not select him to compete against the Aussies whom, only months earlier, he had dominated at Wimbledon and in Australia. He had trounced Australia's top seed Ken McGregor in three straight sets to win at Wimbledon and won the Australian singles championship, becoming the first non-Aussie to win that title in thirteen years. To the surprise of few, with Savitt not playing singles, the United States lost the 1951 Davis Cup to Australia.

Savitt returned to the competitive tennis scene part-time in 1956, and though his limited tournament competition prevented him from receiving an official ranking, he was nonetheless considered the top player in the United States.

Among Dick Savitt's major U.S. victories are the 1952, 1958, and 1961 National Indoor championships. He was the first to win that crown three times.

In 1961 he won both the singles and doubles championships with Mike Franks at the World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Savitt was elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1976.

Joseph Shane

United States

Born: Unknown

Died: October 1997

Joe Shane is one of six founders of the Israel Tennis Centers. He was the builder, construction supervisor, founder, and Israel government liaison for the original tennis complex in Ramat Hasharon.

Shane is known in the tennis community as "the father of tennis in Israel."



Joseph Shane



Harold Solomon

Harold Solomon

United States

Born: September 17, 1952, Washington, DC

Harold Solomon was a marquee American tennis star in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He ranked among the world's top ten singles players four out of five consecutive years: 1976, 1978, 1979, and 1980, when he reached his highest ATP ranking, No. 5 in the world. Solomon was ranked seven consecutive years in the world's top 20, 1974 to 1980.

The diminutive 5-foot-6, 130-pound Rice University All-American turned professional in 1972, at the close of his sophomore year. As a pro, employing a slow, methodical style (described by one tennis broadcaster as "the human backboard approach") and a powerful two-fisted right hand backhand shot, Solomon captured twenty-two singles titles, including the 1980 ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) championship. His ATP career won-loss record is 564-315 with career prize winnings of \$1,802,769 (not including the Senior Tour).

Although he never won a singles Grand Slam, Solomon was a French Open finalist in 1976, semi-finalist 1974 and 1980, quarter finalist 1972 and 1975, and U.S. Open semifinalist in 1977.

Solomon was a member of U.S. Davis Cup teams in 1972, 1973, 1974, and 1978. His 1972 and 1978 teams won Davis Cup championships.

Playing with doubles partner Eddie Dibbs (media pundits dubbed the twosome the "Bagel Twins"), the partners reached No. 4 in the world in 1976 and ranked in the world doubles top ten from 1974 to 1976.

Solomon took on coaching responsibilities in the early 1990s and is mostly identified with women's pro Mary Jo Fernandez, whom he tutored for five years. He has also aided and refined the careers of Mark Courier, Justin Gimelstob, Jennifer Capriati, Monica Seles, Mirjana Lucic, Anna Kournikova, and Daniela Hantuchova.

Solomon was president of the Association of Tennis Professionals from 1980 to 1983.

Brian Teacher

United States

Born: December 23, 1954, San Diego, California

Brian Teacher won the Australian Open singles in 1980, only the second Jewish player to win a men's



Brian Teacher

Grand Slam singles event. (The first was IJSHOF honoree Dick Savitt.)

His career-high world singles ranking was No. 7 in 1981 and No. 5 world doubles the same year.

The serve-and-volleyer was a UCLA All-American 1973 to 1976 and a member of the Bruins' 1975-76 NCAA championship teams.

After turning pro, Teacher won eight career singles championships and sixteen doubles titles.



Eliot Teltscher

Eliot Teltscher

United States

Born: March 15, 1959, Rancho Palos Verdes, California

Eliot Teltscher ranked among the world's top ten tennis players three times between 1980 and 1984. The right-hander with an outstanding one-handed topspin backhand ranked among the U.S. top ten singles players for seven of eight years between 1980 and 1988. His top spot was No. 6 in May 1982.

Turning professional in 1979, Teltscher won ten ATP championships, including the San Francisco,

Atlanta, Johannesburg, and Japan Open titles. His pro career earnings were \$1,653,997.

In doubles, Teltscher was U.S. No. 6 in 1979 (with Francisco Gonzalez); No. 4 in 1980 (with Terry Moor); and No. 8 in 1981 (Moor). In 1983 he won the French Open mixed doubles (with Barbara Jordan).

Teltscher was a member of the 1982, 1983, and 1985 U.S. Davis Cup teams and played a key role in the 1982 victory over France.

Coaching tennis at Southern California's Pepperdine University, Teltscher had a hand in producing some top professionals, including Pete Sampras, Jeff Taramo, Jim Grabb and Justin Gimelstob. He was the U.S. Tennis Association's national coach from 1998 to 2000, returning to the USTA in 2002 as its high performance coach. In 2003 he was named USTA director of high performance.

TRACK AND FIELD



Harold Maurice Abrahams

Harold Maurice Abrahams

Great Britain

Born: December 15, 1899, Bedford, England

Died: January 14, 1978

British sprinter Harold Abrahams won the 100-meter sprint gold medal at the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, equaling the Olympic record of 10.6. (He had previously equaled the record in a qualifying heat.) Abrahams was the first non-American to win the sprint event. He also earned a silver medal at the Paris Games, running the lead leg

of the 4×100m relay, and he finished sixth in the 200-meter.

Abrahams created considerable controversy in his homeland when he hired a coach—the first British athlete to hire a personal trainer. The tactic paid immediate dividends, as Abrahams established new records in the events he would soon take on at the Olympics. His Olympic story, albeit with much Hollywood license, is portrayed in the 1981 Academy Award-winning motion picture *Chariots of Fire*.

The film centers on the personal battle between Abrahams and his “Chariots” protagonist, Scottish track star E. H. Liddell, and their competitive struggles to win the 100-meter sprint. In actuality, Liddell did not compete in the real 100-meter event because its finals were held on a Sunday, and Liddell, a devout Presbyterian, would not compete on the Sabbath. In real life, Abrahams and Liddell met up in the Olympic 200-meter sprint, and the best the rivals could achieve was a bronze medal for Liddle and a sixth place finish for Abrahams. Liddell won an Olympic gold medal in the 400-meter event, a race Abrahams did not enter.

Though seldom noted, Abrahams made his initial Olympic appearance at the 1920 games in Antwerp, the first Olympiad following World War I. However, his promise at home would not be realized on this international stage. His trial heat times failed to qualify for the finals of the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints, he had no success in the long jump, and his British 4×100m relay team managed only a sixth place finish.

A year after his 1924 Olympic triumph, a serious leg injury cut short Abraham’s competitive career. A lawyer by profession, he nonetheless continued to distinguish himself as a writer, broadcaster, and leader of England’s amateur sports establishment.

He was particularly committed to the development of Jewish sports activities in Great Britain.

Abrahams represented England and Northern Ireland on the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), the governing body of track and field. In 1948 he was inducted into the Veterans of the IAAF with such luminaries as King Gustaf VI Adolf of Sweden.

Gerald Ashworth

United States

Born: May 1, 1942, Haverhill, Massachusetts

Gerald Ashworth won a gold medal at the 1964 Olympic Games running the second leg of the U.S. 4×100m relay team (Paul Drayton, Ashworth, Dick Stebbins, and Bob Hayes). The victory, in 39.0, set a new world record.

In 1961 Ashworth's 6.1 mark tied the world record in the 60-yard dash. He set the world record for 100 yards, 9.4, in 1962 and matched it again in 1964.



Gerald Ashworth

The Dartmouth College sprinter was ranked world No. 7 indoors in 1963 and No. 8 outdoors in 1964 in 100 yards and meters distances.

Gretel Bergmann (Margaret Lambert)

Germany

Born: April 12, 1914, Laupheim, Germany

Died: July 25, 2017

Teenager Gretel Bergmann was Germany's national female high jump champion during the 1930s. She was one of three Jews named to the German team for the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

In 1933, after Bergmann and other Jews were denied the opportunity to train and compete in their country of birth, she was sent by her parents to live in England. With an eye on competing for Britain in the 1936 Olympics, she won the 1934 British high jump championship. News of her success crossed the channel fast. Facing threats to her family if she did not return home and compete for Germany, Bergmann complied.

She was not allowed to train with other German "Olympic nucleus team" members, from which the three best in each event would be chosen for the games, and she competed with them only on special occasions. On June 30, 1936, one month prior to the opening ceremonies of the Berlin Olympics, Bergmann equaled the German and European high jump record of 5 ft. 3 in. (1.60m). Two weeks later, German sport authorities informed her that her achievement was not good enough to represent Germany in the Olympics.

The rejection was delivered in writing only days after the U.S. Olympic team, subject of a passionate Olympic boycott movement, sailed for Germany. With several German Jews announced as participants in the 1936 Olympic Games, ice hockey player Rudi Ball, fencer Helene Mayer, and Bergmann, the international movement to boycott the Nazi-influenced Olympiad had subsided.



Gretel Bergmann (Margaret Lambert)

The eventual Olympic women's high jump gold medalist three weeks later equaled Bergmann's German record mark. Without the Jewish high jumper, Germany's remaining women jumpers finished third and fourth in the event. (The fourth place finisher would reveal thirty years later that she was a man.)

In 1937 Bergmann immigrated to the United States. That year she won the U.S. women's high jump and shot put championships, and captured the ladies' high jump title again in 1938. Shortly before the 1939 U.S. track and field championships, World War II broke out in Europe and Bergmann stopped competing.

In August 1995, at the initiative of the German National Sports Federation, the Gretel Bergmann Sports Arena was dedicated in the Berlin district of Wilmersdorf. Bergmann (now Mrs. Margaret Lambert), who had previously stated that she would never again set foot in Germany, did not attend. Nonetheless, she was an honored guest of

the German Olympic Committee at the opening ceremonies of the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

At the request of the German government, Bergmann relented and accepted an invitation to attend 1999 ceremonial activities related to the Berlin sports arena named in her honor. The event also marked the beginning of restoration of Berlin's 1936 Olympic Stadium, the one Germany's best female high jumper was not allowed to enter as an Olympian.

Bergmann-Lambert was elected to the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame as a representative of all Jewish athletes, including twenty-one other German Jewish Olympic candidates, who were not permitted by Nazi Germany to compete in the 1936 Olympic Games.

In July 2004 HBO premiered its film *Hitler's Pawn*, a critically acclaimed documentary about Bergmann's travails. She published her own account of her experience, *By Leaps and Bounds*, in 2005. She died in 2017 at the age of 103.

Lillian Copeland

United States

Born: November 25, 1905, New York, New York

Died: July 7, 1964

One of the world's first great female athletes, Lillian Copeland capped her extraordinary track and field career in 1932, winning an Olympic gold medal in Los Angeles in the discus, establishing a world record of 133 ft. 2 in. (40.58m). Four years earlier, at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games—the first Olympics to include women's track and field—Copeland set a world record of 121 ft. 8 in. (37.08m) en route to winning a silver medal in the discus event.

As an undergraduate at the University of Southern California, Copeland, who excelled at tennis and basketball, won every women's track and field event she entered. She captured the first of her nine U.S. national championships in 1925 with



Lillian Copeland

a victory in the shot put. A year later Copeland established herself as one of the world's top women athletes when she won a trio of U.S. titles—the shot put, discus, and javelin. Her victories in the javelin (112 ft. 5.5 in./34.28m) and discus (101 ft. 1 in./30.81m) set new world records.

In 1927 Copeland lengthened her world javelin mark to 125 ft. 8.5 in. (38.32m), and in 1928 she upped the world shot put record to 40 ft. 4¼ in. (12.30m). Between 1925 and 1932 Copeland set six world records in the shot put, javelin, and discus.

Disappointed that her favorite event, the shot put, was not included on the 1928 women's Olympic program, Copeland instead entered the discus event and captured a silver medal. She set a world discus record of 115 ft. 8.5 in. at the U.S. Olympic trials and then ran the leadoff leg on the world record-setting U.S. 4 × 110yd relay (400m). Copeland had never seen, let alone tossed, a discus prior to preparing for the 1928 Olympics.

In 1935 Copeland was a member of the U.S. contingent that competed in the second Maccabiah Games. To no one's surprise, she captured gold

medals in each of her specialty events. Copeland prepared to defend her Olympic discus championship at the 1936 Games in Berlin. But in the heat of a U.S. movement to boycott Hitler's games, Copeland was one of many U.S. athletes who chose not to compete.

It should be noted that Copeland minimized broader career success in track and field when she opted to attend University of Southern California Law School from 1928 to 1932. Following the 1932 Olympics, she served twenty-four years as a juvenile officer for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. In 1994 she was inducted into the U.S. Track and Field Hall of Fame.



Milton Green

Milton Green

United States

Born: October 31, 1913, Lowell, Massachusetts

Died: March 29, 2005

Milton Green equaled the world indoor record in the 45-yard high hurdles three times in 1935–36 and matched the world indoor mark in the

60-yard high hurdles in 1936. He was invited to the U.S. Olympic team's final qualifying meet at Randall's Island, New York, in 1936 and was considered a "lock" to make the team. Nevertheless, in support of the U.S. movement to boycott the Nazi Games, he refused to participate.

Running for Harvard University, Green tied the world mark of 5.8 seconds in the 45-yard high hurdles in a triangular meet vs. Yale and Princeton, a quadrangular meet vs. Yale, Dartmouth, and Cornell, and in an invitational event at the Boston Gardens. His world indoor record-tying performance in the 60-yard high hurdles came at the 1936 Millrose Games in New York's Madison Square Garden.

Green set many collegiate records in the high and low hurdles and long jump events and was elected to the Harvard Athletic Hall of Fame in 1961.

Gary Gubner

United States

Born: December 1, 1942, New York, New York

Gary Gubner broke the world indoor shot put record on multiple occasions in 1962, eventually establishing the world indoor record of 64 ft. 11¾ in. (19.80m). He was ranked No. 1 in the world indoors in 1962 and 1963. Outdoors, he was ranked No. 2 in 1962 and No. 5 in 1963.

Injuries hampered Gubner's certainty of making the U.S. team at the 1964 U.S. Olympic track and field trials. So he turned his attention to weightlifting, made the U.S. Olympic weightlifting team, and finished fourth in the 1964 games heavyweight class. Gubner went on to establish four junior world lifting records in the heavyweight class: 387.5 pounds in the press, 324 pounds snatch, 423.5 pounds clean and jerk, and 1,135 pounds total. In 1965 he set a U.S. press mark of 412 pounds en route to lifting 1,180 pounds.



Gary Gubner

In 1961, after touring Europe with the U.S. track and field team, which included a shot put victory over the vaunted USSR entry and a "statement" visit to Friday night services at a Moscow synagogue, Gubner competed in the sixth Maccabiah Games in Israel, winning gold medals in the shot put, discus, and heavyweight weightlifting events.

Lilli Henoch

Germany

Born: October 26, 1899, Königsberg, Germany

Died: 1942, Riga, Latvia Ghetto

Lilli Henoch set world records in the discus (twice), shot put, and 4×100m relay events. She set her first world record in the discus on October 1, 1922, in Berlin, with a toss of 24.90m. Less than a year later she bettered the mark with a distance of 26.62m (July 8, 1923, in Berlin).

On August 16, 1925, in Leipzig, Henoch set the world shot put record with a toss of 11.57m.



Lilli Henoch

In 1926 she ran the first leg on the foursome (Henoch/Poting/Voss/Kohler) that set a new world 4×100m relay record, 50.4 seconds, at the German tournaments in Koln.

Between 1922 and 1926 Henoch won ten German national championships: shot put 1922–25, discus 1923–24, long jump 1924, and 4×100m relay 1924–26.

The German government deported Henoch and her mother on September 5, 1942. They were shot and buried in a mass grave in the woods surrounding Riga, Latvia.

Harry D. Henshel

United States

Born: June 29, 1890, Rochester, New York

Died: May 15, 1961

Col. Harry D. Henshel was a founder of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel in 1948 and served as the organization's first president. He was a member of the U.S. Olympic Basketball Committee from its inception in 1936 until his death in 1961, serving as its chairman in 1956.

Henshel was a major influence on and benefactor of American Jewish charitable organizations and projects. His son, Harry B. Henshel, was a longtime American track official and developer of the Bulova Phototimer in 1948, the first sports automatic timing device. Harry B. was president



Harry D. Henshel

of the Bulova Watch Company, and Harry D. was Bulova's vice president.

Maria Leontyavna Itkina

Soviet Union

Born: February 3, 1932, Roslavl, Russia

Maria Itkina was among the world's leading sprinters in 100-meter to 400-meter events during the 1950s and 1960s. Running for the Dynamo Club in Minsk, Itkina established a 400-meter world record of 53.9 seconds in 1955, and subsequently tied or broke her mark six times. She eventually lowered the record to 53.0 on August 29, 1964. In July 1956 she set a world record of 23.6 in the 220-yard event, and in September 1959 she lowered the world 440-yard record to 53.7.

In 1963 Itkina ran the third leg of the Soviet women's 800-meter relay team that established a world record of 1.34.7. Itkina's mark of 11.4 in the 100-meter ranks her among the best in these events.



Maria Leontyavna Itkina

The Soviet sprinter did not fare as successfully in three Olympiads, managing fourth place finishes in four events (including one 4×100m relay) at the 1956 Melbourne and 1960 Rome Olympics and a fifth place finish (relay) in 1964 in Tokyo.

She was a European champion four times. In 1954 at Bern, Itkina took gold medals in the 200-meter and 4×100m relay; in 1959 (Stockholm), first in the 400-meter in 1962 (Belgrade), another gold in the 4×100m; and in 1965, still another 400-meter gold medal victory. She also held seventeen Russian track and field titles.

She is a Merited Master of Sports in the Soviet Union, the highest national honor bestowed on Soviet athletes.

Elias Katz

Finland

Born: 1901, Abo, Finland

Died: December 1947

At the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, Elias Katz won a gold medal as a member of Finland's champion-

ship 3,000-meter cross-country team (8:32.0). His teammates included the legendary Paavo Nurmi and Willie Ritola.

Katz also won a silver medal in Paris in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, finishing second to Ritola, who set an Olympic record in the event. Earlier, Katz established that Olympic record, 9:43.8, in his first heat of the steeplechase. His best time in the 3,000-meter steeplechase was 9:40.9 in 1923.

He ran the second leg on his Finnish club's 4×1,500m relay team that set two world records—the first, 16:26.2 in July 1926; the second later that same year, lowering the mark to 16:11.4.

In 1925 Bar Kochba of Berlin, the first Jewish national sports club in Central Europe (founded in 1898), invited Katz to represent the club. He did, but returned to his native Finland in 1927 to prepare for the 1928 Olympic Games. When a severe foot injury ended his chances to compete in the Amsterdam Olympiad, Katz returned to



Elias Katz

Germany and Bar Kochba. His presence encouraged many outstanding German Jewish athletes to join the club, which flourished until forced to disband by the Nazis in the mid-1930s.

Katz immigrated to Palestine in 1933 and was selected to coach the Israeli Olympic track team for the 1948 games in London. This would be Israel's first team in the Olympics. But neither he or the Israeli team ever got to England. Israel was not admitted into the Olympic family until the 1952 Olympic Games, and Katz was murdered by Arab terrorists in December 1947 while working as a film projectionist at a British army camp near Gaza.

Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska

Poland

Born: May 24, 1946, St. Petersburg, Russia

Died: June 29, 2018

One of the greatest women track and field athletes of all time, Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska won medals at four consecutive Olympic Games—a feat never accomplished before by any runner, male or female. Her seven medals placed her eleventh all-time and No. 1 in track and field among women Olympic athletes.

Eighteen years old at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, Kirszenstein won a gold medal as a member of Poland's world record-setting 4×100m relay team (43.6), a silver medal in the 200-meter sprint (her mark of 23.1 set the European event record), and a silver medal in the long jump.

In Mexico City four years later, now Kirszenstein-Szewinska, Irena won the 200-meter event, setting a new world record (22.5) and breaking her own world mark set three years earlier. She also took a bronze medal in the 100-meter event.

After giving birth to a son in 1970, Kirszenstein-Szewinska won bronze medals in the 200-meter sprint at the 1971 European Championships and the 1972 Olympics in Munich. In 1974 she changed



Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska

to the 400-meter event and was the first woman to break 50 seconds at that distance. Two years later, at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, she set a new world record (49.29) winning the 400-meter gold medal.

In all, Kirszenstein-Szewinska won three Olympic gold medals, plus two silvers and two bronzes, as well as five European gold medal championships (and five other medals), a record unequaled in the history of women's track and field.

Other highlights of her extraordinary career include tying the 100-meter world record in 1965 (11.1), lowering her own world record in the 200-meter (22.0) in 1974, and lowering her 400-meter world mark (49.0) at the World Championships in Dusseldorf in 1977. She won thirty-eight consecutive 200-meter (1973–75) and thirty-six consecutive 400-meter (1973–78), both longest winning streaks in these events in recorded history.

Kirszenstein-Szewinska was Poland's Athlete of the Year in 1965. The same year, TASS, the official

Soviet press agency, named her the Outstanding Woman Athlete in the World. She was *World Sport Magazine's* Sportswoman of the Year in 1966, United Press International's (UPI) Sportswoman of 1974, and the 1974 *Track and Field News* Woman Athlete of the Year.

Abel Kiviat

United States

Born: June 23, 1892, New York, New York

Died: August 24, 1991

Abel Kiviat won a silver medal at the 1912 Stockholm Olympic Games in the 1,500-meter run (3:59.9). A onetime roommate of Jim Thorpe, the 1912 Games' pentathlon and decathlon gold medalist, Kiviat was the oldest living American Olympian at the time of his death at ninety-nine.

One of the great middle distance runners in the world prior to World War I, Kiviat once simultane-

ously held world indoor records in the 600-yard, 1,000-yard, and 1-mile events—the only person in history to accomplish that feat.

Kiviat established his first world record while still a high school student. In 1909 he registered 2:47.2 in the $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile run. The previous mark had stood for twenty-one years. On June 2, 1912, Kiviat broke the world record in the 1,500-meter, clocking 3:56.8. Six days later, he lowered that record to 3:55.8 at the U.S. Olympic trials. That mark stood as a world record for six years and as a U.S. record until 1928.

Kiviat won nine U.S. national championships between 1911 and 1914, at distances from 600 yards to cross-country. He also won the Baxter Mile at the New York Athletic Club Games, the most important mile event in America.

He established himself as one of the great indoor distance runners of all time in 1911, when the 5-foot-5, 110-pound trackster won the U.S. Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) 600-yard and 1,000-yard indoor championships. It was the first time “the double” had ever been achieved. In 1913 he repeated this feat, this time capturing both victories on the same night! That same year he demonstrated his versatility by winning the U.S. 6-mile cross country title and establishing the U.S. indoor 1-mile record of 4:18.2.

In 1985 Kiviat was inducted into the U.S. Track and Field Hall of Fame.



Abel Kiviat

Shaul Ladany

Israel

Born: April 2, 1936, Belgrade, Serbia

One of the top race-walkers of the 1960s and 1970s, Shaul Ladany set the world 50-mile record in 1972. His 7:23:50 mark shattered the previous world's best of 7:44:47.2, a record that had endured since 1935. Five decades later, Shaul's record was yet to be broken.



Shaul Ladany

Ladany was gold medalist at the 1972 World Championships in the 100km event (9:31:00). He was top walker at the U.S. Championships five times between 1973 and 1981, winning the 75km championships in 1974–77, and 100km title in 1974. He won championships in Belgium 1971 and 1972; Switzerland 1972; and South Africa 1975. In 1976 he was the first walker to capture both the U.S. 75km open and 40+ masters titles, a feat he repeated in 1977 and 1981 when the event bumped up to 100 kilometers.

As an eight-year-old in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, during World War II, young Shaul was sent to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. A U.S.-inspired ransom deal saved two thousand camp prisoners and brought him to the United States, where he lived for several years. Soon after Israel became a nation, Ladany immigrated to the Holy Land.

He began his track career as a marathoner but changed to walking in the early 1960s. He was the lone male member of the 1972 Israeli Olympic track team and one of only five who survived the Arab terrorist attack that took the lives of eleven team-

mates. (Ladany had competed the day before the attack in the 50km walk but did not medal. He had previously represented Israel at the 1968 Olympics without medaling.)

Helmut Henry Laskau

United States

Born: September 12, 1916, Berlin, Germany

Died: May 7, 2000

Known as “Mr. Walking” in U.S. track and field circles, Henry Laskau set the world outdoor 1-mile record in 1951 at 6:19.2. His record stood for twelve years.

A budding distance runner in Germany, he exited his homeland in 1939 after serving three months in a forced labor camp, and he picked up his running career in the United States. When the United States entered World War II, Laskau enlisted and served in the army through 1946,



Helmut Henry Laskau

whereupon he decided to resume his track career as a race-walker.

Laskau dominated U.S. race-walking competition. He was unbeaten in the United States from 1947 to 1956, winning forty-two National Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) championships. His U.S. outdoor titles included the 2-mile in 1952–55, 1957; 3km in 1948–52, 1956; 10km in 1947–57; 15km in 1947, 1953–56; 20km in 1951–55; and 25km in 1956. Indoors he won every U.S. 1-mile championship from 1948 to 1957. In addition to his world record, Laskau also set three American marks: in the 1951 10km (46:45), the 1952 3km (12:52.7), and the 1956 15km (1:12:40).

A three-time member of the U.S. Olympic race walking team—1948, 1952, 1956—his best Olympic finish was seventh place in the walk in 1948 (47:05). At the Melbourne Olympics in 1956, at the age of forty, Laskau finished twelfth in the 20km walk.

In the years 1950, 1953, 1957 and 1965, Laskau won gold medals at the World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Fred Lebow (Fischel Lebowitz)

United States

Born: June 6, 1932, Arad, Romania

Died: October 9, 1994

Since its inception in 1970, Fred Lebow was director of the New York, New York Marathon. The first marathon in 1976 drew 2,000 runners. In 1994, 31,129 competed! Lebow was president of the New York Road Runners Club (NYRR) from 1972 until his death. Under his stewardship, the NYRR grew from 270 members in 1972 to 29,000 members in 1994, making the club the world's largest organization of its kind.

Acknowledged as one of the major influences behind the running boom throughout the world, the *Washington Post* wrote: "Lebow took this race [the New York Marathon] from a quaint little jog



Fred Lebow (Fischel Lebowitz)

around Central Park into a citywide event with big-name runners, 25,000 entrants, and thousands of dollars in prize money! Every top marathon runner in the world knows New York, thanks to Lebow."

A contributor of innovative ideas and programs to the sport of running, Lebow staged the first women-only distance running event in the world, the Women's Mini Marathon. Lebow himself ran and completed sixty-nine marathons throughout the world. He was elected to the U.S. Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1994.

Fania Melnik

Soviet Union

Born: July 9, 1945, Bakota, Ukraine

Died: December 16, 2016

One of the world's all-time greatest female discus throwers, Fania Melnik set a world record of 210 ft. 8 in. (62.22m) in her international debut at the 1971 European Championships. She dominated the discus event for seven years, holding the No. 1 world ranking from 1971 to 1977—the



Fania Melnik

third longest world's No. 1 streak in women's track and field history.

At the 1972 Munich Olympic Games, Melnik won the discus gold medal, bettering her world mark by more than 2 meters and resetting the Olympic record three times with a final toss of 66.62m.

During the next four years, Melnik topped her own world record several more times. Although she managed only a fourth place finish at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, she had her best career toss that year, 70.50m, making her the first woman to break the 70m mark. In 1977 she won the first World Cup discus competition in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Laurence E. "Lon" Myers

United States

Born: February 16, 1858, Richmond, Virginia

Died: February 16, 1899

Lon Myers was the greatest short-distance sprinter of the nineteenth century. He was the first to run the quarter-mile in less than 50 seconds (49.2). From 1880 to 1888 he held world records for the 100-yard, 440-yard, and 880-yard events.

His best event was the quarter-mile, which he lowered from 50.4 to 48.8. At one time or another over twenty-one years Myers held every U.S. record for races 50 yards to a mile! He also held ten Canadian and three British national championships. Myers ran more 880s under two minutes and more 440s under fifty seconds than the total run by all amateur and professional athletes of his era.

At the 1879 National (U.S.) Amateur Athletic Union championships, Myers won a triple victory (220, 440, 880), setting records in each event. In 1880 he won four titles in the AAUS, the 220, 440,



Laurence E. "Lon" Myers

and 880 events and the 100-yard dash, a feat he repeated one week later at the Canadian Nationals.

Myers was the first and probably the only track and field athlete ever to capture eight national titles in one week.

Zhanna Pintusevich-Block (Tarnopolskaya)

Ukraine

Born: July 6, 1972, Nezhin, (Ukraine) USSR

Zhanna Pintusevich stunned the sports world at the 1997 World Track and Field Championships when she defeated American superstar sprinter Marion Jones to capture the 200-meter gold medal (22.32). Adding to the drama of those championships, Jones (10.83) needed a photo-finish to edge Pintusevich (10.85) in the world 100-meter. Zhanna became Pintusevich-Block in 1999 when she married sports agent Mark Block.

At the 2001 World Championships, the Ukrainian again faced Jones in the 100-meter, an event that Jones had won the previous forty-two times she ran the race. But on this day the gold medal went to Pintusevich-Block in 10.82, defeating Jones (10.85) in a victory considered one of the greatest upsets in international track and field history. The triumph marked the first time in four years that Jones had lost a 100-meter race.

Pintusevich was the World Championship's 100-meter bronze medalist in 1993, and she finished fifth in the 200-meter in 2003. The same year she won the 60-meter World Indoor Championship (7.09). She had finished third in the event in 1993.

Zhanna did not fare well at the Olympic Games of 1996, when her 100-meter finish was eighth and 200-meter best was the quarterfinals, or at the 2000 Olympics, where she finished fifth in the 100-meter and eighth in the 200-meter. The European junior champion in both the 100-meter and 200-meter in 1991, Pintusevich took silver medal honors in both events in 1994 and another silver in the 200-meter in 1998. From 2001 to 2003 she



Zhanna Pintusevich-Block (Tarnopolskaya)

was ranked the world's No. 2 in the 100-meter, behind Jones.

Myer Prinstein

United States

Born: December 22, 1878, Szczuczyn, Poland

Died: March 10, 1928

A five-time Olympic track and field medalist (four golds), Myer Prinstein won his first gold medal in the 1900 Paris Olympics triple jump with a leap of 47 ft. 6 in. (14.47m). That year he also took a silver medal in the long jump event with a mark of 23 ft. 6.5 in. (7.175m).

Prinstein's lone silver medal was a subject of controversy. At the completion of the long jump trials on Saturday, he was leading the competition. The finals were scheduled for the following day.



Myer Prinstein (*right*) captained the 1901 Philadelphia relay team.

As a Syracuse University student, Prinstein was instructed, along with many other U.S. student athletes, not to compete on Sunday (Syracuse is a Methodist school). While he followed instructions, a few other American athletes did compete on that Sunday, including his arch long jump rival, University of Pennsylvania's Alvin Kraenzlein. In Prinstein's absence and six unchallenged leaps, Kraenzlein managed to top the Syracuse undergraduate's event leading mark to win the gold medal.

In 1904, running for the Irish-American Athletic Club at the St. Louis Olympiad, Prinstein captured gold medals in the long jump, setting an Olympic record of 24 ft. 1 in. (7.34m), and the triple jump with a mark of 47 ft. 1 in. (14.35m). At the unofficial Athens Olympics in 1906, Prinstein again took gold medal honors in the long jump with a leap of 23 ft. 7.5 in. (7.20m).

Mel Rosen

United States

Born: March 24, 1928, Bronx, New York

Died: March 25, 2018

Mel Rosen was head coach of the 1992 U.S. men's Olympic track and field team, guiding U.S. runners to eight gold medals, five Olympic records, and three world records. The twenty U.S. track and field medals won at the Barcelona Games represented the U.S. men's best track and field showing since the 1956 Olympics.

During his twenty-eight years as head coach at Auburn University, Rosen coached 7 Olympians, 147 All-Americans, 63 Southeast Conference indoor and outdoor champions, and 8 NCAA champions. Among the great Tiger sprinters who developed under Rosen's tutelage are Olympic gold medalists and world record holders Harvey Glance and Willie Smith.



Mel Rosen

A University of Iowa middle distance runner as a college undergraduate, Rosen was a track assistant coach at his alma mater before and after a stint in the army. In 1955 Rosen enrolled at Auburn to complete his PhD and gather additional coaching experience by joining the staff of the university men's track and field coach Wilbur Hutsell. When Hutsell retired in 1963, after forty-two years as head coach, Rosen was elevated to the top spot, a position he held until 1991, when he was appointed head coach of the 1992 U.S. Olympic team. Between 1989 and 1991 Rosen coached both the Auburn men's and women's track and field teams.

Among his major track assignments, Rosen was head coach of the 1976 U.S. team at the Baron de Coubertin Games in Buenos Aires; manager of U.S. track at the 1977 World Championships, Sofia, Bulgaria; manager of the 1979 U.S. Pan American Games team in Puerto Rico; head coach of U.S. track for the 1977, 1981, 1989, and 1993 Maccabiah Games in Israel; head coach of U.S. track at the 1980 Eight-Nation Meet (Olympics alternative) in Tokyo; assistant coach of U.S. track at the 1984 Olympic Games, Los Angeles; 1987 head coach of the U.S. team at the World Track and Field championships in Rome; and head coach of U.S. track and field at the 1991 World University Games in Sheffield, England.

His numerous honors include election to the following Halls of Fame: U.S. National Track and Field (in 1995, the first year he was eligible), USA Track Coaches Association (2001), Alabama Sports, University of Iowa Track and Field, and City of Auburn Tiger Trail. He was 1979 NCAA and Southeastern Conference indoor and outdoor Coach of the Year, 1980 NCAA indoor Coach of the Year, and SEC indoor Coach of the Year in 1985.

Rosen received the U.S. Giegengach Award for contributions to track and field and the USATF President's Award. He was chairman of USATF Men's Track and Field Committee, president of

the NCAA Track and Field Committee, and a member of the USATF International Competition Committee.

Rosen coauthored *Track: The Running Events*, published by *Sports Illustrated*, with his daughter, sportswriter Karen Rosen.



Fanny "Bobbie" Rosenfeld

Fanny "Bobbie" Rosenfeld

Canada

Born: December 28, 1903, Katrinaslov
(Dneproetrovsk), Ukraine

Died: November 14, 1969

In 1922, while excelling in basketball, softball, tennis, and ice hockey, Bobbie Rosenfeld decided to devote herself to track and field. Three years later, she equaled the world record of 11.0 in the 100-yard dash. At the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, the first in which women's track and field athletes participated, Rosenfeld won a gold

medal as lead-off leg of the 4×100m relay team that set a world record (48.4). She also won a silver medal in the 100-meter sprint. In 1950, Bobbie Rosenfeld was named Canada's Female Athlete of the Half-Century by the sportswriters of Canada.

During her extraordinary career, Rosenfeld held a variety of Canadian records: the standing long jump, running long jump, shot put, discus, and javelin.

In 1924, even though she was "devoting" herself to track and field, she won the Toronto Ladies Grass Court Tennis championship.

She was elected to the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame in 1949. In 1996, to commemorate the Centennial Olympic Games, the Canadian Postal Service issued a set of stamps featuring five of the country's greatest gold medalists, including Fanny Rosenfeld.

Esther Roth-Sachamarov

Israel

Born: April 16, 1952, Tel Aviv, Israel

Esther Roth was the first Israeli to *qualify* for an Olympic track and field final (100-meter hurdles). But she never ran the medal race. The year was 1972, and it was the Olympics of the Munich massacre of eleven Israeli athletes and coaches, including her longtime coach, Amitzur Shapira. The 1972 games continued after little more than a brief pause, but Roth withdrew from the competition.

Two years later, Roth returned to competition at the 1974 Asian Games and was a three-time gold medalist. She won the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints and the 100-meter hurdles.

The Israeli sprinter was back at the Olympics in 1976 and again sprinted through the prelims, qualifying for the 100-meter hurdles final. Although she finished sixth, Roth was the first Israeli to run in an Olympic final event.

As an eighteen-year-old, Roth established herself as a world-class performer at the 1970 Asian



Esther Roth-Sachamarov

Games, winning gold medals in the 100-meter hurdles and pentathlon, and a silver in the long jump. In 1971 she was named Asia's Sportswoman of the Year.

Fred Schmertz

United States

Born: November 10, 1888, New York, New York

Died: March 25, 1976

Fred Schmertz was one of the founders of the Millrose Athletic Association in 1908 in New York. In its heyday the Millrose Games, in New York's Madison Square Garden, was the world's premier indoor track and field meet. It continues today as one of the major international indoor track events.

In 1915 Schmertz became assistant director of the Millrose Games, known as the Indoor Olympics, and served at that post until 1933, when he



Fred Schmertz

became meet director. He held that position until 1974, retiring at age eighty-five, when his son, Howard, took the Millrose Games helm.

Schmertz also served in an official capacity with several U.S. Olympic teams dating back to 1928. In 1961 he was chairman of the U.S. Maccabiah track team.

Sam Stoller

United States

Born: August 8, 1915, Cincinnati, Ohio

Died: May 29, 1985

Sam Stoller was “the other half” of a pair of Jewish American sprinters who were subjects of a controversial incident that occurred at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Stoller and Marty Glickman, along with sprinters Frank Wykoff and Foy Draper, were the foursome assigned to represent the United States in the 4×100m relay. But neither Stoller nor Glickman ever got to the starting blocks.

Stoller, about to enter his senior year at the University of Michigan, was the 1936 U.S. indoor—60-yard (6.1), 100-yard (9.5), and 100-meter (10.3)—champion. Nonetheless, shortly before the start of his Olympics event, he and Syracuse

University speedster Marty Glickman were pulled from their relay positions in favor of teammates Ralph Metcalfe and Jesse Owens. Owens, who had already won three gold medals, questioned the replacement move. Reportedly, U.S. assistant coach Dean Cromwell pointed his finger at Owens and said: “You’ll do as you’re told.”

The rearranged U.S. team easily won the relay and set a new world record. But a rational explanation for the unusual decision to exclude the two sprinters selected and trained to run the event and were the only Jews on the U.S. track team was never offered. Various Olympics observers, recognizing that the U.S. team had already dominated the 1936 track competition, opined that American track bosses wanted to spare further embarrassing Chancellor Adolf Hitler from enduring another U.S. gold medal victory captured, in part, by a pair of Jews.

In William O. Johnson’s *All That Glitters Is Not Gold*, published in 1972, Stoller called the snub “the most humiliating episode of my life.” Stoller’s diary describes a conversation he had with U.S. head track coach Lawson Robertson as they sailed home from the Olympics: “Coach Robertson came



Sam Stoller

up to me today on board ship and very apologetically said that he had made a terrible mistake not letting me run in place of Metcalfe.” Robertson also told Glickman the day after the relay victory: “I just wanted to apologize to you. We have caused a terrible injustice. I’m sorry.”

In 1998 the U.S. Olympic Committee presented Glickman, for himself and the late Sam Stoller, an award in lieu of the gold medal that never was. usoc president Bill Hyde commented, “We tried to set the record straight.”



Allen Tolmich

Allen Tolmich

United States

Born: March 30, 1917, Detroit, Michigan

Died: March 20, 2012

Wayne State University’s Allan Tolmich broke the world record in the 200-meter hurdles twice on the same day. On July 3, 1937, at the AAU (American Athletic Union) Championships in Milwaukee, Tolmich’s 23.4 in the first heat of the 200-meter hurdles competition set a new event record. He lowered his new world mark to 23.3 in the 200-meter finals. (The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) lists Tolmich’s record setting event as hurdles, not specifying “high” or “low” hurdles.)

Between 1936 and 1941 Tolmich established the world indoor 60-yard hurdles record at 8.4 seconds (1940). He also set ten and tied five additional U.S. Indoor track and field records. As the captain of Wayne State University’s track and field team (1936–37), his U.S. indoor records included the 110-yard and 120-yard hurdles. He was a national AAU champion in 1937, 1939, 1940, and 1941.

Tolmich won All-America honors 1937 to 1941, but had the misfortune of coming into his prime during the onset of World War II, when Olympics and World Championships were suspended. In 1976 he was among the first-class of honorees inducted into the Wayne State University Athletic Hall of Fame.

VOLLEYBALL



Doug Beal

Doug Beal

United States

Born: March 4, 1947, Cleveland, Ohio

Doug Beal's volleyball career as a player, coach, and administrator spans three decades. When he was head coach of the U.S. Olympic volleyball team in 1984, the United States captured its first Olympic gold medal in the sport.

Beal was named head coach of the U.S. national team in 1977 and became the driving force for establishment of a full-time, year-around volleyball training center in San Diego, California. Although he stepped down as head coach following his team's 1984 Olympics victory, his pioneering offensive and defensive systems continued to impact the U.S. volleyball program, yielding gold medals at the 1985 World Cup, the 1986 World

Championships, and the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul.

Beal was appointed head coach of volleyball at Bowling Green State University in 1971 and Ohio State University 1972–74. He also competed as a member of the U.S. men's national team from 1970 to 1976.

He was a five-time All-America player at Ohio State University and selected to three U.S. Olympic teams, two World Championships teams, and to four NORCECA zone championships teams. He was the 1969 Most Valuable Player of the Midwest Intercollegiate Volleyball Association and of the 1975 USVBA Open championships.

Beal served a two-year stint, 1990–92, as head coach of the Italian Professional League's Mediolanum Gonzaga team in Milan. MG won the World Club Championship in 1991 and finished third in 1992.

Returning to the United States, Beal was named executive director of the National Volleyball League, the first professional league organized and operated under the auspices of U.S. Volleyball.

Books he has written include *Spike*, *Sports Illustrated Volleyball: The Keys to Excellence*, *Volleyball Coaching Tips for the '90s*, and *Volleyball Notes*.

Beal was elected to the Volleyball Hall of Fame in 1989.

Adriana Behar

Brazil

Born: February 14, 1969, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Brazilian beach volleyball star Adriana Behar, teaming with Shelda Bede, won six International Beach Volleyball Federation (IVB) Tour titles, 1997–2001 and again in 2004.



Adriana Behar

The pair won World Championships in 1999 and 2001, a World silver medal in 2003, and a bronze in 1997. They also captured a gold medal at the 1999 Pan American Games in Winnipeg.

Behar and Bede were silver medalists at the 2000 and 2004 Olympic Games—the first repeat medalists in Olympic beach volleyball. They were the world's No. 1 ranked team in 2000, 2001, and 2004.

The Brazilian star began her athletic career as a figure skater, switching to indoor volleyball when she was sixteen. She played professionally in Italy before turning to the beach version of the game, first teaming with Bede in 1995.

Behar's IVB winnings rank fourth all-time with \$1,198,437.50. Her overall earnings are \$1,210,237.50, with thirty-three tournament victories. Behar and Bede also finished second thirty times, third twenty-five times, and fourth fifteen times.

Arie Selinger

Israel

Born: April 5, 1937, Kraków, Poland

As coach of Israel's national women's volleyball team in the 1960s, Arie Selinger helped change the face of the sport by introducing new types of quicker offensive systems that include one-sets, crossing plays, and combination attacks.

In 1975 he took the head coaching position for the U.S. women's volleyball team. Immediately before the Western nations' boycott of the 1980 Olympics, Selinger made his team a gold medal favorite for the approaching Games. But the American team, at the direction of President Jimmy Carter, refused to compete in that year.

Four years later, they won the silver medal in Los Angeles, the first medal for a U.S. women's volleyball team.

In 1992 Selinger coached the Netherlands men's Olympic volleyball team, which won the silver medal. He coached the Japanese women's national volleyball team from 1992 through 2006.

Selinger was born in Poland and spent 1942–45 in the Bergen-Belzen concentration camp before immigrating to Palestine. He was a member of the Israeli national volleyball team from 1954 until 1963 and a first division active player through 1969.



Arie Selinger

His innovations and team successes resulted in his election to the Volleyball Hall of Fame in 1995.

Eugene Selznick

United States

Born: March 19, 1930, Los Angeles, California

Died: June 10, 2012

Gene Selznick was the most celebrated member of the 1960 and 1966 U.S. volleyball World Championship teams. In 1966 he was the first American to be named to the International Federation of Volleyball (FIVB) All-World volleyball team.

One of the most dominant indoor players in the history of the game, FIBA named Selznick one of the two top American players of the twentieth century (with Karch Kiraly). The U.S. Volleyball Hall of Fame honored him as the Most Valuable

Player of the seventy-fifth anniversary men's 1953–77 All-Era team and their selection as All-Time Great Male Player. He was elected to the Volleyball Hall of Fame in 1988.

The Southern California spiker led his teams to seven U.S. Open championships, 1951–53, 1956 (Hollywood YMCA), 1960, 1965 (Los Angeles Westside Jewish Community Center), and 1966 (Santa Monica Sand and Sea Club), plus seven runner-up finishes.

Selznick teams also won Pan American Games gold medals in 1955 and 1959. In 1965 his Los Angeles Westside JCC team won both the USVBA Open and Senior Open.

From his first selection in 1951, Selznick was named to the U.S. All-America first team ten times. And he was captain of the U.S. national team for seventeen years, 1953 to 1967.

One of the early proponents of California beach volleyball, dating back to 1949, Selznick's contributions to the development of the now popular Olympic sport were recognized by his designation as the First King of Beach Volleyball. He teamed with Everette Keller to win his first major beach victory at the 1950 State (CA) Beach Men's Open. He later enjoyed dominating sand success with playing partners Don McMahon, Bernie Holtzman, and Ron Lang. At the 1956 international competition involving twenty-four teams, the event's all-star team MVP honor, Mr. All-World, was awarded to Gene Selznick.

He led his gold medal winning 1963 U.S. women's Pan American Games team to the 1964 Olympic Games and his women's teams to USVBA titles in 1959, 1961, and 1963–65. His Nick's Fish Market (Los Angeles) women's team won national championships in 1978 and 1979.

At the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, Selznick coached Sinjin Smith and Carl Henkel to a near upset of eventual gold-medal winners Karch Kiraly and Kent Steffes. In 2000 his coaching helped Misty May and Holly McPeak qualify for the Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.



Eugene Selznick

Hagai Zamir**Israel****Born: November 15, 1950, Kibbutz Zikim, Israel**

In 1976 Hagai Zamir, captain of Israel's national handicapped volleyball team, won a gold medal at the Paralympics, World Championships, and European Cup. In his seventeen-year volleyball career as captain of the Israeli national team, Zamir won fifteen medals in the three major international handicapped volleyball competitions.

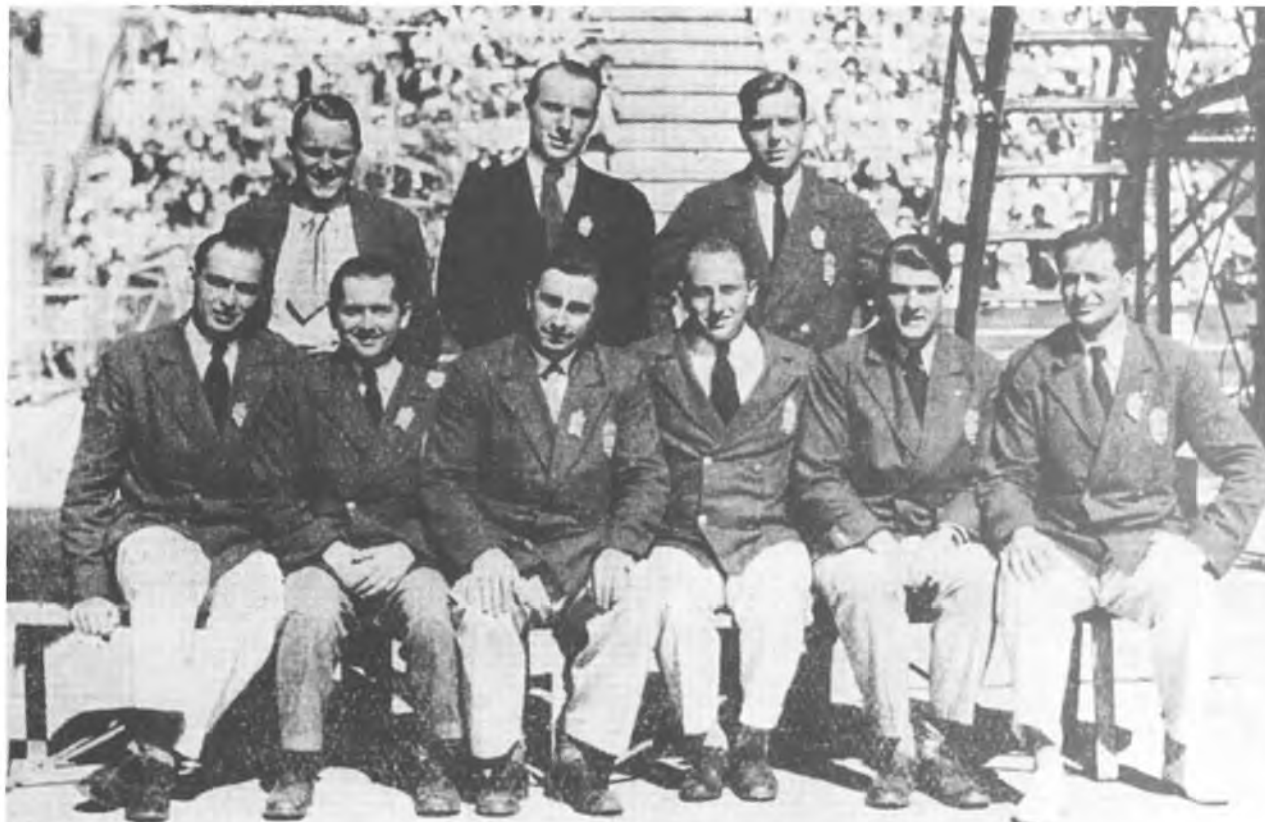
Zamir lost a leg and suffered severe hand and facial injuries in 1970 while serving as a paratrooper in the Israeli Defense Forces. A Division II volleyball star for Ashkelon prior to sustaining the injuries, he returned to the game to win Paralympic gold medals in 1976, 1980, and 1984, plus a silver medal in 1988.

At the Handicapped World Championships, Hagai won gold medals in 1976 and 1983 and silver medals in 1986 and 1989. His Israeli teams won the European Cup in 1976, 1979, and 1983, a silver medal in 1985, and bronze medals in 1973, 1987, and 1989.



Hagai Zamir

WATER POLO



Istvan Barta (*far right*), György Brody (*second right*), and Miklós Sárkány (*third from left*) with Hungary's 1932 Olympic gold medal water polo team.

Istvan Barta (Berger)

Hungary

Born: August 13, 1895, Almosd, Hungary

Died: February 16, 1948

Istvan Barta was goalkeeper for Hungary's 1928 Olympic silver medal water polo team and backup goalie for the 1932 Olympic gold medal champions.

A member of Hungary's national water polo team from 1923 to 1932, he was Hungary's Olympic goalie at the 1924 games, finishing fifth, and in-goal for Hungary's European Championships teams of 1926, 1927, and 1931.



Hungary's 1936 Olympic gold medal water polo team, with Miklós Sárkány (third from left) and György Brody and István Bart (holding game balls).

György Brody

Hungary

Born: July 21, 1908, Budapest, Hungary

Died: August 5, 1967

György Brody is considered one of the greatest water polo goalies of all time. His Hungarian teams won gold medals at the 1932 Los Angeles and 1936 Berlin Olympic Games.

Brody was also a member of the 1928 Hungarian National Championship team and played with the team seventy-four times during his career. His 1931 and 1934 national teams won the European Championships.

Bela Komjadi

Hungary

Born: March 15, 1892, Budapest, Hungary

Died: March 5, 1933

The most innovative water polo coach of his time, Bela Komjadi developed Hungary into a water polo power. His Olympic teams won a pair of gold medals and one silver medal. One of the gold medals was earned posthumously.

Komjadi's 1928 Olympic team took silver medal honors, edged out for the gold by Germany. His team returned the favor four years later in Los Angeles, capturing the 1932 championship and



Bela Komjadi

gold medal with Germany returning home with a silver medal. The Hungarian team also won the 1932 World Championships and the 1926, 1927, and 1931 European titles.

“Uncle Komi” died in 1933 while playing water polo at the age of forty-one. But his team returned to the Olympic arena in 1936, half the ten-man roster veterans of the previous Olympiad, including the brilliant “goal defying” goalie György Brody. With the spirit of Komjadi infusing the determination of the Hungarians and the specter of rising Nazism on his home ground, this competition had more on the line than the gold medal.

In his book *Ghetto to the Games*, Andrew Handler writes:

On a rainy and chilly 14 August, they [Hungary] battled the Germans to a 2–2 tie in the Schwimmstadion, where 20,000 German fans shouted deafening encouragement. Thus the decisive matches were played the following day. Germany beat Belgium 4–1. Hungary had to win by a wider margin of goals against France to retain its better goal average and the Olympic title. In a nerve-wracking match of many missed opportunities on both sides, Brody proved unbeatable. Few Hungarians failed to

bring to mind Uncle Komi on that tearfully joyous day. The late “Great Master” earned Hungary’s second consecutive gold medal in water polo as much as did the players he had coached to world fame.

Upon returning home from Berlin, the water polo Olympians held a memorial salute to Komjadi at his graveside. In 1976 a new Olympic-size swimming pool in Budapest was named for him. He was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1995.

Miklős Sárkány

Hungary

Born: August 15, 1908, Szamarnemeti, Hungary

Died: December 20, 1998

A member of Hungary’s dominating pre–World War II water polo national teams, Miklős Sárkány won gold medals at both the 1932 and 1936 Olympic Games. He was also a member of Hungary’s European water polo championship teams of 1931, 1934, and 1938.

Following his playing career, Sárkány trained Hungary’s national water polo team for many years.



Miklős Sárkány

WEIGHTLIFTING



Isaac Berger

Isaac Berger

United States

Born: November 16, 1936, Jerusalem, Israel

Ike Berger is a three-time world featherweight weightlifting champion, winner of three Olympic medals, owner of twenty-three world weightlifting records, and twelve-time U.S. national titleholder.

An ordained cantor and the son of a rabbi, Berger was the first featherweight in history to lift more than 800 pounds and the first to press double his body weight.

In the featherweight class at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, Berger won the gold medal with a lift of 776.5 pounds / 352.5 kilograms. Four years later, he took a silver at the Rome Olympiad (798.75 pounds / 362.6 kilograms). And in 1964, at the Tokyo Games, he again won the featherweight class silver (841.5 pounds / 382.5 kilograms).

His 1964 Olympic record of 336 pounds in the jerk, at a body weight of 130 pounds, made him pound-for-pound the strongest man in the world, a record that stood for nine years. He was undefeated in six competitions against the Soviet Union.

Competing in the fifth Maccabiah Games in 1957, Berger became the first athlete to establish a world record in the State of Israel, pressing 258 pounds / 117.1 kilograms in featherweight competition.

In 1965 Berger was elected to the U.S. Weightlifters Hall of Fame.

Ben Helfgott

Great Britain

Born: November 22, 1929, Pabianice, Poland

Ben Helfgott is one of only two known survivors of a Nazi concentration camp to compete in the Olympic Games. (The other was French swimmer Alfred Nakache.) He captained the British Olympic weightlifting teams of 1956 and 1960.

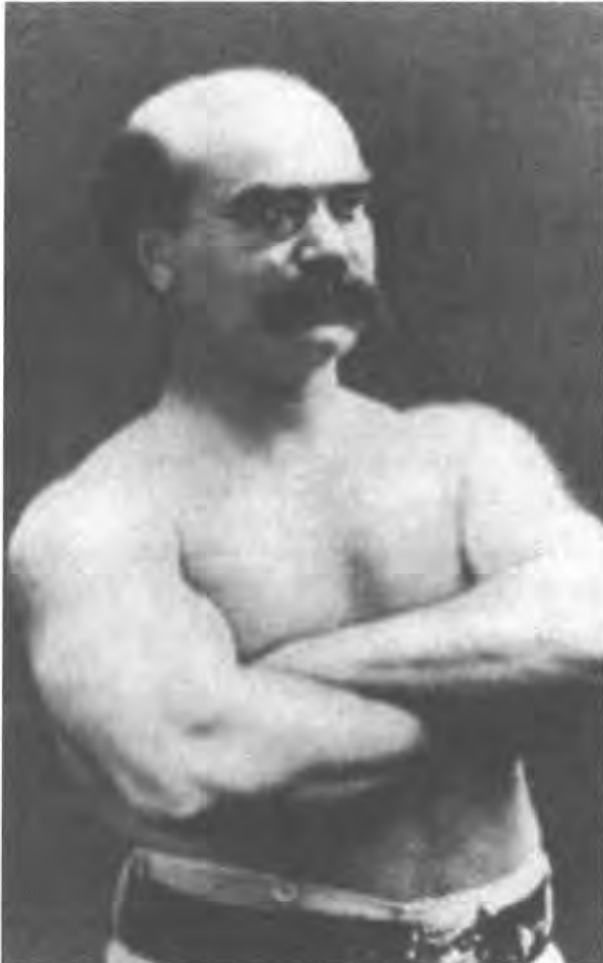
The Polish-born Briton was England's 11-stone champion in 1954, and lightweight titleholder in 1955, 1956, and 1958. He was also a member of the British 1954, 1955, 1958, and 1959 World Championships teams.



Ben Helfgott

Helfgott won the lightweight gold medals at the 1950, 1953, and 1957 World Maccabiah Games.

Imprisoned in three World War II concentration camps—Auschwitz, Buchenwald, Theresienstadt—he was the only member of his family to survive.



Edward Lawrence Levy

Edward Lawrence Levy

Great Britain

Born: December 21, 1851, London, England

Died: May 1932

In March 1891, in open competition against champions from Brussels, Hamburg, Vienna, Rome and Berlin, E. L. Levy won the first world weightlifting competition. The three-day event consisted primarily of repetition and alternate pressing with 56 or 84 pounds in each hand.

Just two months earlier, at the age of forty, Levy won the first British Amateur Weightlifting championship. Between 1891 and 1894 he set fourteen world records.

In 1896, at the first modern Olympics in Athens, he served as a member of the International Weightlifting Jury. Levy was founder of the Amateur Gymnastics Federation of Great Britain and Ireland.

Grigori Novak

Soviet Union

Born: March 5, 1919, Chernobyl, Ukraine

Died: July 10, 1980

A holder of more than fifty weightlifting records, Grigori Novak won the world light-heavyweight championship in 1946 (936.5 pounds / 82.5 kilograms) and the 1952 Olympics men's middleweight silver (82.5–90 kilograms)

Novak also won European Championships in 1947 (82.5 kilograms) and 1952 (90 kilograms), and at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics, he captured a



Grigori Novak

silver medal in the middle-heavyweight division (903.75 pounds / 410 kilograms).

Novak was a pioneer in the technique in the press, whereby when the "clean" was completed, the athlete would drive the bar off his chest.



Frank Spellman

Frank Spellman

United States

Born: September 17, 1922, Malvern, Pennsylvania

Died: January 12, 2017

Frank Spellman established two Olympic records en route to a gold medal at the 1948 Olympic Games in London. His clean and jerk of 336.25 pounds set a new Olympic middleweight record, as did his record setting total lift of 859.5 pounds (390 kilograms).

In 1954 Spellman established a new world record at the U.S. squat championships, with a squat lift of 510 pounds at a personal weight of 170 pounds. In 1946 his press of 257.75 pounds set a U.S. middleweight record. He bettered that mark two years later with a press of 260 pounds and upped it again in 1950 to 261.75 pounds.

Representing the York Barbell team of York, Pennsylvania, Spellman won his first U.S. championship, the middleweight junior title, in 1942. In 1946 and again in 1948, he won the U.S. national middleweight title. He captured the North Amer-

ican middleweight crown in 1949. And in 1961, at the age of thirty-nine, he won his third U.S. national middleweight championship.

Spellman also placed third at the 1946 World Championships in Paris and second in the World event the following year in Philadelphia. At the U.S. nationals, in the years he did not win a gold medal, the Pennsylvanian finished second in 1947, 1949, 1952 (lightweight), 1954 (light-heavyweight), and third in 1951.

In 1950 Spellman took the middleweight gold medal at the World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Spellman enjoyed a long and successful career as a weightlifter, winning his last championship in 1971, at the age of forty-nine. He has been elected to the U.S. Weightlifting Hall of Fame, the Helms (Amateur Athletic Federation) Hall of Fame, and the Porterville Quarterback Hall of Fame.

Oscar State

Great Britain

Born: 1911, London, England

Died: 1984

Secretary-general of the International Weightlifting Federation from 1960 to 1974, Oscar State managed and coached British and Empire lifters for the 1948 Olympics and the 1950 and 1958 Empire Games.

During his years of service, the somewhat loose structure of the IWF became clearly defined. State created the first annual rankings and an All-Time Ranking List. He instituted the registration of junior world records and implemented the controversial rule that "world records were not to be recognized unless confirmed by international referees."

The IWF's first coaching conferences, 1962 in Munich and 1964 in Paris, were additional practical ideas organized by State, as were the first doping controls of medal winners at the 1966 World Championships in East Berlin.



Oscar State

State earlier served as secretary of the British Weightlifting Association, 1946–50, and secretary of the British Empire and Commonwealth Weightlifting Committee, 1948–72. He organized Olympic weightlifting in Great Britain in 1948 and 1956, as well as many World Championships and Empire Games.

State received the OBE (Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) from Queen Elizabeth II. Following his death, the International Federation of Body Builders (IFBB) created the annual Oscar State Memorial Award in memory of the weightlifting pioneer.

Ben Weider

Canada and United States

Born: February 1, 1924, Montreal, Canada

Died: October 17, 2008

Ben Weider was president of the International Federation of Bodybuilders. He and his brother,



Ben Weider

Joe Weider, founded the IFBB in 1946 in Montreal in order to unify, control, and coordinate the sport of bodybuilding throughout the world.

As a member of the General Association of International Sports Federations since 1969, the IFBB represents 168 countries in the area of physical culture and bodybuilding. Among its many activities, the IFBB provides research to national Olympic committees, international sports federations, and the International Federation of Sports Medicine.

Since 1946 the World Amateur Bodybuilding Championships have been sanctioned by the IFBB. In support of youth fitness programs and sports research worldwide, Weider has contributed state-of-the-art training gymnasia to many countries, including Canada, Germany, Israel, Lebanon, China, Syria, and the United States.

Honored throughout the world for his dedicated service, Weider was a recipient of the Order of Canada and was a nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984.



Joe Weider

Joe Weider

Canada/United States

Born: November 29, 1920, Montreal, Canada

Died: March 23, 2013

Since 1939 Joe Weider had been the primary force in advancing the sport of bodybuilding throughout the world. He accomplished this via magazine publications, sponsorship of physical development contests, including Mr. and Mrs. Olympia, and the development, manufacture, and marketing of exercise equipment and nutritional products.

In 1939, seven years before he and his brother, Ben, founded the International Federation of Bodybuilders (IFBB), Joe published his first issue of *Your Physique* magazine. In 1968 *YP* was renamed *Muscle and Fitness*, and today it is the flagship publication of the Weider Health and Fitness Company publishing empire. Other Weider magazines are *Shape*, *Men's Fitness*, and *Flex*. Weider nutritional aids and exercise equipment are distributed throughout the world.

WRESTLING



Boris Maksovich Gurevich

Boris Maksovich Gurevich

Soviet Union

Born: March 23, 1931, Moscow, Russia

Died: January 10, 1995

Boris Maksovich Gurevich was the gold medalist in the Greco-Roman flyweight division (114.5 pounds / 52 kilograms) at the 1952 Helsinki Olympic Games. In 1953 and 1954 he won World Championship titles in the same flyweight division.

Gurevich won Soviet wrestling titles in 1950 and 1955, finishing second in 1952, 1959, and 1960 and third in 1963. Following competitive retirement he coached wrestlers in Moscow, where an annual international tournament has been held in his honor since 1996.



Boris Mikhaylovich Gurevich

Boris Mikhaylovich Gurevich

Soviet Union

Born: February 2, 1937, Kiev, Ukraine

Boris Mikhaylovich Gurevich won the 1968 Olympic freestyle middleweight (191.5 pounds / 87 kilograms) gold medal at the Mexico City Games.

In World Championships competition over nine years, Gurevich was a middleweight class silver medalist in 1961, a gold medalist in 1967, and a gold medalist in 1969 at 90 kilograms.

Nikolaus "Mickey" Hirschl

Austria

Born: March 20, 1908, Vienna, Austria

Died: October 10, 1991

Mickey Hirschl, Europe's heavyweight wrestling champion in 1932, won Olympic bronze medals that year in Los Angeles in both the heavyweight freestyle and Greco-Roman events. His Hakoah-



Nikolaus "Mickey" Hirschl

Vienna wrestling team captured 127 international titles between 1929 and 1934.

At age fifteen Hirschl was Austria's junior champion in shot put and discus. A year later he was junior champion in heavyweight weightlifting. At seventeen he was Austrian pentathlon champion, a title he held for seven years. And by the time he reached the age of eighteen, Hirschl was heavyweight wrestling champion of Austria, a title he held for ten years.

In 1932 Hirschl won the gold medal in the heavyweight division of the European Wrestling Championships, flooring the best of Germany, Hungary, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Poland, and Italy. He was the favorite to gain top honors in the Los Angeles Olympics that same year but was injured in a Greco-Roman preliminary round. He, nevertheless, insisted on continuing and managed bronze medals in two Olympic events.

Although some of his Jewish countrymen did compete in the Berlin Olympics of 1936, Hirschl refused to participate.

Karoly Karpati

Hungary

Born: July 2, 1906, Eger, Hungary

Died: September 23, 1996

Hungarian wrestling champion Karoly Karpati performed in three Olympic Games, winning a

gold medal in 1936 in the lightweight freestyle class. His victory in Berlin provided special significance because it came at the expense of Germany's vaunted titleholder Wolfgang Ehrl.

Karpati had won a silver medal in the lightweight freestyle class at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics, and in 1928, at the Amsterdam Games, he finished fourth in the same weight class.

He was Hungary's first "freestyle" wrestler, winning his first Hungarian national junior title in 1925. He went on to win ten Hungarian national championships, as well as European lightweight wrestling crowns in 1927, 1929, 1930, and 1935. He also won a silver and two bronze medals in European Championships competitions.

Karpati survived World War II Nazi labor camp imprisonment in the Ukraine.

Karpati was a Hungarian wrestling master trainer-coach, including Olympics coach, for many years and wrote six books on the sport of wrestling.

In 1982 international Olympic committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch presented the



Karoly Karpati

bronze medal of the Olympic Order to Karpati for his lifelong work with youth in sports education.

Fred Oberlander

Canada and Europe

Born: May 23, 1911, Vienna, Austria

Died: July 6, 1996

Fred Oberlander's "reach" extends beyond two continents and four countries. As a wrestler, between 1930 and 1950, he won two Austrian junior titles, five French heavyweight championships, seven British heavyweight championships, and the 1950 Canadian heavyweight title.

He also won the 1935 (Brussels) World Championships and the 1937 Moulin Rouge International Championship, took first place in the Allied Championships of 1944, and won the Commonwealth Games title in 1948, as well as several silver and bronze achievements along the way.

Oberlander was nominated to represent Austria at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, but he writes: "For obvious reasons, being Jewish, I refused." At

the 1935 World Championships Oberlander was listed as "stateless."

His first match in that competition was against the German champion Kurt Siebert. Recalls Oberlander: "The German coach objected to the Hakoah of Vienna emblem on my wrestling attire, claiming that it was a political insignia. I answered that it was my club's emblem, which it was. Finally, the referee decided that the Swastika on Siebert's jersey was also a political insignia. On that note, the match began . . . and finished in my favour."

After representing Great Britain at the 1948 Olympic Games (he was team captain at the age of thirty-seven), Oberlander emigrated to Canada, where he founded the Canadian Maccabi Association. In 1953 he won the Maccabiah Games heavyweight wrestling championship and was named Outstanding Jewish World Athlete. The award was presented to him by Israel's first prime minister, David Ben Gurion.

An entire floor in the Pierre Gildesgame (Maccabi) Sport Museum in Ramat Gan, Israel, is named in honor of Fred Oberlander.



Fred Oberlander

Yakiv Punkin

Ukraine

Born: December 8, 1921, Zaponishia, Ukraine

Died: October 12, 1994

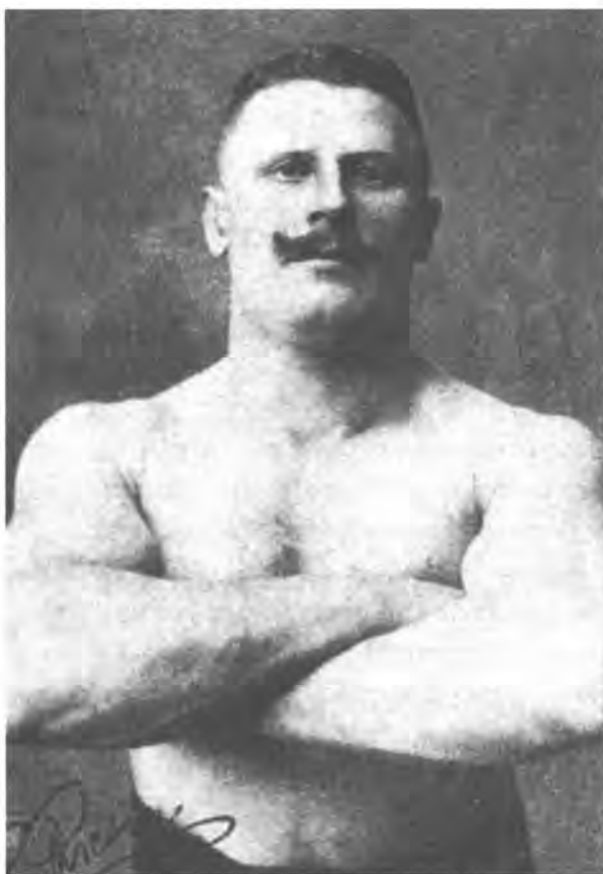
Yakiv Punkin won the featherweight (62 kilogram) Greco-Roman gold medal in 1952 when the Soviet Union first competed in the Olympic Games.

Punkin first took up wrestling in 1938. He joined the Soviet army in 1941, was captured by the Germans, and spent the rest of the war in a series of POW camps. When liberated in 1945 he weighed only 35 kilograms (77 pounds). Nonetheless, Punkin returned to active duty with the Soviet army and won the 1947 army featherweight wrestling championship.

Between 1949-50 and 1954-55 he won four Soviet titles.



Yakiv Punkin



Richard Weisz

Richard Weisz

Hungary

Born: April 30, 1879, Budapest, Hungary

Died: December 4, 1945

Richard Weisz became Hungary's first Olympic heavyweight wrestling champion when he won a gold medal in the Greco-Roman heavyweight class at the 1908 Olympics in London.

Possessor of a twenty-inch neck and a fifty-inch chest, Weisz was Hungarian heavyweight wrestling champion from 1903 to 1909.

Henry Wittenberg

United States

Born: September 18, 1918, Jersey City, New Jersey

Died: March 9, 2010

In London 1948, at the first Olympic Games following World War II, Henry Wittenberg won the Olympic freestyle light-heavyweight (191.5 pounds) gold medal. He received a silver medal four years later at the 1952 Helsinki Games.

One of the world's all-time great wrestlers, amateur or professional, Wittenberg won more than three hundred consecutive matches between 1939 and 1951. His undefeated record is even more remarkable considering he did not participate in high school sports and only took up wrestling in 1938 as a college sophomore.

He graduated in 1940 from City College of New York, where he finished third in the 165-pound class at the Amateur Athletic Union nationals in 1938 and second at 175 pounds in 1940. Representing the New York West YMCA, Wittenberg won his first U.S. national AAU 191-pound class championship. Through 1952, he would win seven more AAU 191-pound titles: 1941, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1947, 1948, and 1952.

Following U.S. Army service, when he was a hand-to-hand combat instructor, Wittenberg joined the New York City Police Department.



Henry Wittenberg

Nonetheless, wrestling was a postwar hot item in New York, and he managed to continue his undefeated streak representing the YMCA.

Absent a formal invitation, the New York cop decided to try out for the U.S. Olympic team. He won the U.S. light-heavyweight Olympic qualifier by defeating University of Minnesota champion Verne Gagne (who would later become a superstar of American professional wrestling). At the London Olympics, Wittenberg was undefeated in five straight matches en route to his gold medal.

After the Olympics, Wittenberg retired from wrestling. His departure lasted until 1951, when his wife, Edith, thought it would be a great idea for him to make a run at qualifying for the Helsinki Olympics. Taking his wife's advice and inspiration, he earned a spot on the U.S. team, but it came at the expense of his extraordinary undefeated streak. He was injured and lost his first match in thirteen years at the 1951 national AAU finals, a defeat he would later reverse at the Olympic Trials.

He lost only one other match during his distinguished career, to 1952 Olympic gold medalist Wiking Palm. Nonetheless, Wittenberg scored a personal highlight victory on the road to his silver medal by defeating the reigning world champion, Russia's August Englas. That victory marked the first time an American had defeated a Russian in international competition. The Helsinki silver medal Wittenberg earned made him only the second American to win two Olympic wrestling medals. (Bantamweight George Mehnert medaled in 1904 and 1908.) *(Note: Wittenberg's police employment prevented him from competing at the periodic World Championships.)*

Wittenberg actually took a short hiatus from retirement in 1950 to win a gold medal at the World Maccabiah Games, the first postwar Maccabiah and first in the new State of Israel. He repeated his Maccabiah winning ways in 1953, both times capturing victories in the freestyle heavyweight class. He retired for good following the 1953 Maccabiah.

After more than a dozen years, Wittenberg left the NYC police force to enter the printing business, but he continued wrestling. In 1959 he coached the first U.S. national team to compete in the Soviet Union. From 1959 to 1967 he was wrestling coach at New York's Yeshiva University. From 1967 through 1979 he returned to his alma mater, CCNY, as professor of physical education and wrestling coach. For the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City, he was head coach of the U.S. Greco-Roman team.

Wittenberg visited Jerusalem before attending the 1972 Munich Olympics, giving pointers to the Israeli wrestling team. The night of September 4, he and wife Edith spent time at a Munich hotel with their friend Yosef Gutfreund, an Israeli wrestling referee. The next day, Gutfreund and ten Israeli athletes and coaches were killed when Palestinian terrorists invaded the Olympic village.

Henry Wittenberg was elected to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1977.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Lifetime Achievement Award is presented annually, honoring those individuals who have made significant contributions to the State of Israel and society through sports.



Sam Sharrow

Honored: 1992

Location: Miami Beach, Florida

Sam Sharrow, a Professional Golfers' Association (PGA) teaching professional, was a moving force behind the development of golf in the State of Israel. Through Sharrow's efforts, funds were raised and equipment was acquired for building Israel's first golf course, in Caesarea. Sharrow was also responsible for attracting leading PGA professionals to the Caesarea links.



David Pincus

Honored: 1993

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

David Pincus was a Philadelphia apparel manufacturer and philanthropist who is founder and first chairman of American Friends of the Israel Sports Center for the Physically Disabled (the ILAN Center) in Ramat Gan, Israel.

A senior vice president of Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel for more than twenty-five years and organizing chairman of the U.S. Maccabiah track and field teams of 1985 and 1989, he has also provided private scholarships to promising Israeli track athletes.



Karl Ribstein

Honored: 1994

Location: Munich, Germany

Karl Ribstein is the major benefactor of the Ribstein Center for Research and Sports Medicine Sciences, located on the campus of Israel's Wingate Institute.

In addition to its research studies, the Ribstein Center provides medical services that benefit all sectors of Israel's population. Mr. Ribstein has also helped develop other facilities and services at Wingate.



Monty Hall

Honored: 1995

Location: Beverly Hills, California

Canadian-born American television personality Monty Hall, original host of the daytime game show *Let's Make a Deal*, used his celebrity to raise millions of dollars for Jewish and secular causes. He was a moving force in the original and continuing development of the Israel Tennis Centers.

Since 1972 the annual Monty Hall Diabetes Tennis Tournament has benefited the Diabetes Center at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. And from 1985 to 1995, the annual Monty Hall Golf Classic benefited youngsters participating in the World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

There is scarcely a major Jewish organization that has not honored Hall with its highest award. He has also aided charitable and nonprofit activities throughout the world, primarily through Variety Clubs.



Yariv Oren

Honored: 1996

Location: Netanya, Israel

Born in the agricultural village of Kfar Hadar (now Hod HaSharon), Yariv Oren served twenty-five years as deputy director-general of Israel's Ministry of Education, Sport, and Culture and director of the Israel Sport Authority (ISA).

Among his many accomplishments as ISA director, Oren created the Sport for All Association to advance an awareness of physical activity in all sectors of Israel's population. He directed the building of 1,500 sports facilities in partnership with local authorities and established the Elite Sport Department to supervise training of Olympic athletes. He also created a Sports-Gifted Center and a program for the advancement of women in sports.

The onetime elite track and field athlete was chairman of the Track and Field Committee, vice president of the International Council for Health, Physical Education, and Sport in Europe, and chairman of the board of the Wingate Institute.



Alan Sherman

Honored: 1997

Location: Potomac, Maryland

Alan Sherman has been one of the most significant Americans engaged in Israel-United States sports relations. A longtime vice president of Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel since 1973, the Potomac realtor is primarily recognized for his leadership of U.S. participation in the quadrennial World Maccabiah Games.

Serving from 1973 to 1989 on the International Maccabiah Committee (Maccabiah equivalent of the International Olympic Committee), Sherman was all-sports chairman of U.S. teams organized for the 1977 and 1985 Maccabiah Games and the U.S. team's general chairman from 1977 to 1979. He introduced the heralded Maccabiah pre-camp program in 1985 at Rutgers University. Four years later, he initiated an expanded version of Jewish-Israel orientation for all American athletes that has become a staple of the Maccabiah experience.

Alan Sherman conceived and co-founded the North American (now JCC) Maccabi Youth Games (for athletes sixteen and under) that made its debut in 1982 in Memphis with three hundred athletes. The event currently registers more than six thousand participants annually. He was also instrumental in the early development of the Israel Tennis Centers.

In 1978 Sherman organized a basketball exhibition tour of Israel by the NBA world champion Washington Bullets. He later organized two U.S. tours by the amputee volleyball team of Israel's Beit Halochem and initiated Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel's support for the Israel Sport Center for the Disabled. In 1980 he organized a successful tour of Israel's world champion wheelchair basketball team on the East Coast to be followed by another tour in 1982 playing in eight U.S. cities.

For many years Sherman was U.S. liaison to the Israel Olympic Committee and Israel Sports Federation. Since 1989 he has been chairman of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, and from the early 1990s he has served as president of American Friends of Wingate Institute for Physical Education and Sports.

Sherman was a member of the executive committee of Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel as well as an executive committee member of the U.S. organizing committee for the Maccabiah Games.



Moshe Rashkes

Honored: 1998

Location: Israel

Moshe Rashkes, director of the Israel (ILAN) Center for the Physical Disabled, Ramat Gan, since 1965, is an icon among Israel's remarkable rehabilitative sports programs for disabled children and world-class disabled athletes.

Rashkes was seriously wounded in Israel's 1948 War of Independence and awarded a Citation of Valour. In 1950 he was named chairman of the Israel Disabled War Veterans Organization, where he was responsible, through 1958, for rehabilitation of more than six thousand disabled war veterans. Among his pioneering ideas were sports activities keyed to assisting disabled veterans' reintegration into society.

When Rashkes joined what was then the ILAN Center for the Disabled in the Tel Aviv suburb of Ramat Gan, the facility provided services for fewer than one hundred children. As the Israel Sports Center, it grew to become one of the largest and most successful rehab sports facilities in the world, encompassing more than 2,500 disabled athletes.

A primary result of Rashkes's efforts has been an increase in public awareness and understanding of the crucial nature of sports activities for the disabled and recognition of these activities as an integral part of sports both in Israel and throughout the world.

Rashkes has written four books, including *Doomed to Glory*, which outlines his philosophy of rehabilitative sports.



Fred Worms

Honored: 1999

Location: London

Philanthropist Fred Worms succeeded Pierre Gildesgame as Maccabi World Union president from 1982 to 1986. In 1994 he was elected honorary president of the Maccabi World Union (MWU).

Worms, who died in 2012, served six years as chairman of the European Maccabi Confederation and represented Great Britain on the MWU executive committee for many years. He was also a member of the MWU International Trust Fund, served in high-level positions with Maccabi London, and as honorary secretary of Maccabi Union Great Britain.

Born in Frankfurt, Germany, and arriving in England in 1937, young Worms was interned briefly as an "enemy alien." Following World War II, as a chartered accountant, he became an entrepreneur in the engineering and motor car industry.

In 1998 Worms received an OBE (Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) from Queen Elizabeth for exceptional efforts as chairman of the B'nai Brith Housing Association of Great Britain (housing for the elderly).

He was a founder of the Kfar Maccabiah (Maccabiah Village) in Ramat Gan, Israel, and he championed development of the Pierre Gildesgame Sports Museum (MWU sports history), situated at the Kfar. Worms is also a founding member of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Executive Board.



Joseph Luttenberg

Honored: 2000

Location: Israel

Joseph Luttenberg has been Israel's dominant figure in the field of disabled sports throughout the second half of the twentieth century. Most notably he has headed the Israeli delegation to the Paralympic Games since 1960, and beginning with its construction in 1974, he has been director of the Beit Halochem Center in Tel Aviv.

Luttenberg was severely wounded in Israel's 1948 War of Independence. An original member of the Zahal Disabled Veterans Organization and the first chairman of its Sports Committee, Luttenberg served as ZDVO's national chairman from 1987 through 2000.

Luttenberg was the visionary behind the concept of the Beit Halochem rehabilitation centers. Today, in addition to the original facility in Tel Aviv, there are also state-of-the-art centers in Haifa and Jerusalem. Together the Beit Halochem centers serve nearly ten thousand veterans and their families.

As national chairman of the Israel Sports Association for the Disabled (ISAD), Luttenberg has led every Israeli team of competitors to the Paralympic Games since 1960. And he was personally responsible for preparing Israel's Paralympic teams for seventeen years. Nearly half of the one thousand ISAD athletes who vie in fourteen competitive sports are disabled veterans. Israel's remarkable success at the Paralympics is attributable to ISAD and Beit Halochem's outstanding training facilities.



Robert Spivak

Honored: 2001

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Robert Spivak was president of Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel from 1981 to 2001. During that period he was also general chairman of the U.S. teams that competed in the 1985, 1989, and 1993 Maccabiah Games in Israel. Under Spivak's guidance, U.S. participation in the Maccabiah Games increased from 350 athletes in 1981 to more than 600 in 2001.

He initiated an athlete endowment and sponsorship program to perpetuate Maccabi USA's future. He is also responsible for the Maccabiah Games pre-camp, a unique enrichment week prior to competitions that provides American athletes the opportunity to focus on Judaism, heritage, and Holy Land historical sites.

Early in Spivak's twenty-year tenure as Maccabi USA's president, the organization co-founded the North American Maccabi Youth Games (later JCC Maccabi Games), a Maccabiah-like sportsfest and cultural in-gathering for

athletes sixteen years and younger. Spivak's MUSA also became a participant in the Special Olympics and an active supporter of the Israel (ILAN) Sports Center for Physically Disabled in Ramat Gan.

His MUSA underwrote the Russian émigré housing program at Wingate Institute, and in addition to initiating and supporting numerous youth and adult projects in Israel, MUSA, with the Jewish National Fund (JNF), Spivak launched a sports and recreation facility project in Ben Shimon Forest at Modi'in (between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv) in 1994.

The Philadelphia insurance and securities executive has been a delegate to the U.S. Olympic Committee and served on the board of directors of the International Maccabiah Committee (IMC), American Friends of Haifa University, Anti-Defamation League (ADL), Jewish Community Center of Philadelphia, the Delaware chapter of the Jewish National Fund, and Boys Town Jerusalem. He was also an associate member of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Spivak co-chaired the organizing committee of the 1979 Pan American Maccabi Games and was a board member of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame 1981–2001.



Uri Afek

Honored: 2002

Location: Israel

Uri Afek has been a major presence in Israeli sports for more than thirty years, serving as director-general of the Israel Olympic Committee and Israeli chef de mission for the Olympic Games of 1984, 1988, and 1992. Afek has been a member of the board of directors of Wingate Institute in Netanya, the Track and Field Athletic Center at Tel Aviv's Hadar Yosef, and the Olympic Shooting Range in Herzliya. He served as chairman of the board of the Elite Sports Center at Tel Aviv University.

During the 1980s and 1990s, Afek was the Israel-U.S. liaison officer to Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel, and he headed the delegation to the thirteenth and fourteenth Hapoel Games as well as the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth Maccabiah Games.

During his distinguished career, Afek has been a national volleyball coach, an international volleyball referee, and author of numerous books and hundreds of articles on volleyball, sport training, coaching, and physical education.



Lester Fein

Honored: 2003

Location: Brooklyn, New York

In 1968 Lester Fein answered a U.S. State Department request to coach, teach, and counsel basketball in the State of Israel. The four-month undertaking, headquartered at the Wingate Institute for Physical Education in Netanya, took him throughout the country. It led to a lifetime commitment to supporting Wingate's programs and activities, in particular the campus's Nat Holman School for Coaches.

From 1941 through 1967 Fein coached championship basketball and volleyball teams at four New Jersey high schools as well as at a U.S. military airbase. His most successful year was the 1966–67 season, when his Weequahic High (Newark) basketball team went undefeated (26-0) capturing the New Jersey State championship. Weequahic was named “the No. 1 high school team in the United States,” and Fein was honored as USA Coach of the Year.

Fein coached basketball at Riverdale Country School in 1941, where his youngsters were Private School League champions. In 1942 he led Woodridge High to the Catskill Mountain League title and Interstate Sectional championship.

Coach Fein entered the U.S. Army Air Force in 1942 and guided the Lakeland AAF Florida team to the Third Air Force championship.

From 1946 to 1949 Fein led Fallsburgh Central High to the Basketball Interstate Sectionals three successive seasons, and four successive State Volleyball championships. Fallsburgh volleyballers were undefeated all four years.

Fein is celebrated most for his extraordinary twelve years of success at Newark's Weequahic High School, where he was both chairman of the athletic department and athletic director. Between 1955 and 1967 his Weequahic basketball teams won three state championships in 1962, 1966, 1967; seven state sectional titles in 1958–60, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1967; three Essex County titles 1962, 1966, 1967; and eight Newark City League titles 1956–59, 1962, 1963, 1966, 1967. Fein's success in New Jersey high school basketball registered a 210-69 win-loss record, a .753 winning percentage.

Following successful college basketball careers, five of his high school players went on to play in the National Basketball Association: Al Attles (Philadelphia Warriors), Jerry Greenspan (Philadelphia 76ers), Dennis “Mo” Layton (Phoenix Suns), Dana Lewis (Philadelphia 76ers), and Bill Manor (New York Knicks). More than fifty of his players received basketball scholarships to major universities.

Fein wrote *The Tall and Short of It, Third Quarter—One to Go*, and *Everyone Can Play Volleyball*. He won New York University's prestigious Arch Award for Leadership, and in 1988 he was one of the original inductees to the Newark Athletic Hall of Fame. Fein served many years on the executive board of Maccabi USA.



Shimon Mizrahi

Honored: 2004

Location: Jerusalem, Israel

In the summer of 1969, Shimon Mizrahi began his storied association with Maccabi Tel Aviv. For thirty-five years he was voluntary chairman of the Maccabi Tel Aviv Basketball Club. During that period, Maccabi TA has won thirty-three League championships and twenty-five National Cups, and qualified for ten European Cup for Champions finals, winning titles in 1977, 1981, 2001, and 2004.

Under his leadership, Maccabi TA organized and hosted the Euroleague Final Four games in 1994 and 2004 in Tel Aviv and the Eurostars game in 1998. Mizrahi has served as acting chairman of the Israel Basketball Association, and he served on the Israel Olympic Committee, the Judicial Commission of FIBA (the International Basketball Federation), and the Euroleague Board and its Euroleague Judicial Commission.

He is the grandson of one of the first Jewish citizens of Tel Aviv and a founder of the Tel Aviv commercial center. The TA streets Mizrahi A and Mizrahi B are dedicated to his grandfather.

Mizrahi was drafted into the Israel Defense Forces in 1957, serving as a reserve officer through and beyond three wars—Six-Day, Yom Kippur, and Peace for Galilee. Since 1965 he has been a lawyer, specializing in civil law, but still holds the rank of colonel in the IDF reserve.



Sidney Greenberg

Honored: 2005

Location: Toronto, Canada

Sidney Greenberg was president of Maccabi Canada from 1985 to 1993, with responsibilities that included selecting athletes and funding Canadian participation in the 1985, 1989, and 1993 World Maccabiah Games in Israel. During that same period, he served as vice chairman of Maccabi World Union.

For twenty years, 1983 to 2003, Greenberg was a board member of the Canadian Olympic Committee, and he served 1990–98 as president of Basketball Canada, the association that governs Canadian amateur basketball. From 1994 to 2004 he was a board member of the Toronto Raptors (NBA basketball team) Foundation.

In 1989 the Montreal-born entertainment executive-sportsman underwrote and was responsible for the participation of the first Russian contingent of athletes in the World Maccabiah Games in Israel. Shortly thereafter, he effected the formation of Maccabi Russia. Greenberg is also one of the founders of the North American Youth Games.



Alex Gilady

Honored: 2006

Location: Tel Aviv, Israel

Alex Gilady has been Israel's leading sports internationalist since September 1994, when he was elected his nation's first member of the International Olympic Committee. Gilady's initial Olympics involvement came as deputy team leader of the Israeli television delegation to the ill-fated 1972 Munich Games. Four years later, he was head of sports and executive producer for Israel TV's coverage of the 1976 Montreal Olympics. This coverage led to a promotion to executive producer of all Israel TV special events, including Egyptian president Anwar El-Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem in 1977 and the subsequent Israel-Egypt peace talks. To organize the coverage, Gilady was granted the first Israeli passport to enter Egypt.

Alex Gilady's distinguished career in sports media began in 1964 when he took an entry-level position with the Israel's daily newspaper *Yedioth Ahronoth*. Less than a year later he was elevated to the position of journalist and correspondent. In 1969 he joined the newly established Israel State Television as a sports commentator and editor and later became its head of sports and executive producer. In 1980 Gilady became a member of the European Broadcasting Union's Operation Group to the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, while continuing on as Israel TV's sports chief and on-air basketball and track and field commentator.

Developing an impressive international "can-do" reputation in high-level broadcasting suites, the Teheran-born Israeli was invited to join NBC Sports in 1981. Less than a year later, his expertise resulted in the network's acquisition of the broadcast rights to the first World Track and Field championships in Helsinki. He then played a major role in NBC's acquisition of broadcast rights to the summer and winter Olympic Games of 1988, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008.

In 1984 Gilady was promoted to network vice president for liaison to the IOC Radio-Television Commission and then senior vice president of global operations. The following year he was named chairman of the IAAF TV Commission, which was charged with responsibility for revolutionizing broadcast coverage of track and field. In 1986 he joined the Executive Group of the IOC Radio-TV Commission, the recognized authority for broadcasting the Olympic Games. In 2004 he became chairman of the FIBA TV Council.

In 1993 Keshet Broadcasting, Gilady's bid to become Israel's first commercial television channel, was granted a franchise, with the founder serving as its president and CEO. The transaction was completed with NBC's blessing.

Among the numerous honors Alex Gilady has received are the 1977 Israel Broadcasting Association (IBA) Award for coverage of President Sadat's first visit to Jerusalem, Israel's 1977 Man of the Year honors in recognition of his

production of the first Israeli broadcast from Egypt, and the Emmy Awards for television coverage of the Olympic Games in 1992 (Barcelona), 1996 (Atlanta), 2000 (Sydney), and 2002 (Salt Lake City).



Joyce Eisenberg-Keefer

Honored: 2007

Location: Beverly Hills, California

Los Angeles philanthropist Joyce Eisenberg-Keefer, president of the Ben B. and Joyce E. Eisenberg Foundation, is the largest financial supporter of the Israel Tennis Centers / Israel Children's Centers. Since the early 1980s, the Foundation has endowed numerous RTC/ICC projects, including development of the Ben and Joyce Eisenberg Children's Tennis Center in Jerusalem.

For more than two decades, Mrs. Eisenberg-Keefer's philanthropy has also benefited medical and educational facilities in Israel and the United States, such as the Weizmann Institute of Science (Rehovot); the pediatric wing and thoracic care unit at Shaare Zedek Hospital (Jerusalem); the Joyce Eisenberg-Keefer Breast Center at the John Wayne Cancer Institute-St. Johns Hospital (Santa Monica); Eisenberg Village and Joyce Eisenberg-Keefer Medical Center at the Jewish Home for the Aging (Reseda, California); and American Jewish University (Los Angeles).



R. Stephen Rubin

Honored: 2008

Location: London

Stephen Rubin, chairman of United Kingdom sporting goods giant Pentland Group, is responsible for decades of generosity via its corporate brands and associated companies: Reebok International, Adidas, Speedo, La Chemise Lacoste, and others.

For many years Pentland outfitted Israeli and United Kingdom teams competing at the World Maccabiah Games. The Rubin family has long supported Israel's Wingate Institute of Physical Education and Sport, including development of its state-of-the-art Aquatic Center.

Since earning his barrister's degree at the age of twenty-one, Rubin has been associated with the sports industry for nearly forty years. He became Pentland chairman in 1969, when the company was known as Liverpool Shoe, and was responsible for developing the first women's tennis shoe actually made on a woman's last. Rubin was world chairman of the Textile Institute 1994-96 and president of the World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry 1995-2001.

Pentland, under Rubin's stewardship, has been concerned with corporate social responsibility, including industry efforts to eliminate the exploitation of child labor and involvement in the "Caring for Climate" UN Global Compact and the World Swim against Malaria. He is engaged in many corporate partnership activities in the developing world, with particular emphasis on creating peace through sport.

Rubin was appointed Officer of the British Empire (OBE) in 2002, a year following his receipt of the Sports Industries Federation Lifetime Achievement Award. He has served as honorary chair of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame since 1992.



Michael Kevehazi

Honored: 2009

Location: Tel Aviv, Israel

Michael Kevehazi was chairman of the Maccabi World Union from 1986 to 1994. He devoted much of his adult life to MWU, as Maccabi's honorary treasurer (1968–88), chairman of the Maccabiah Organizing Committees of the eleventh games (1981) and twelfth games (1985), and honorary president of the fifteenth (1997), sixteenth (2001), and seventeenth (2005) Maccabiot.

There was no major feature or tiny detail of MWU that did not bear the stamp of Kevehazi's leadership, including development of Kfar Maccabiah, whose board of directors he chaired from 1994 to 2002. His efforts made the Kfar (the Maccabiah Village in the Tel Aviv suburb of Ramat Gan) the center of MWU and the national Maccabi Sports Federation in Israel.

He was a major force in modernizing MWU's international profile, spreading Maccabi throughout the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The remarkable growth of the Maccabiah in scope and participants was inspired by Kevehazi's vision and influence. In 1969, not long after he made aliyah from Great Britain, 1,456 athletes representing twenty-seven national delegations competed. By 1993 the number of athletes had almost quadrupled, as 5,061 participants representing forty-eight countries took part in the games. In 1997 Kevehazi received MWU's Yakir Maccabi Award, the movement's highest honor.

Kevehazi was born in Budapest in 1932. Surviving the ghetto, fascist Arrow Cross, and camp deportations, he emigrated to England in 1947 at the age of fifteen. Introduced to Maccabi London by his cousin, Fred Worms (the IJSHOF 2001 Lifetime honoree), Kevehazi quickly became a leader within the organization, serving as its honorary treasurer and secretary during the 1950s and 1960s. He organized the Maccabi Great Britain delegation to the 1965 seventh Maccabiah.

Michael and Jean Kevehazi and their four children made aliyah in 1968. An established auditor in the UK, Michael took a senior position with Israel's Kesselman and Kesselman (PricewaterhouseCoopers) and brought his sharp business acumen into play as honorary treasurer of the 1969 Eighth Maccabiah. Years later, the Israeli leader played a major role in redeveloping Maccabi Hungary, which had been forced to shutter during World War II. In recognition of his efforts, he was named honorary president of Maccabi Hungary.



Moshe Theumim

Honored: 2010

Location: Tel Aviv, Israel

Chairman of the board of Israel's GITAM/BBDO and the Porter Novelli Company, Moshe Theumim headed a group of Israeli businessmen who purchased the foundering Hapoel Tel Aviv Soccer Club in 1997 and managed it to 1998 and 1999 Israel National Cup championships.

At his direction, the club's professional activities included a comprehensive program directed at employing soccer as a tool for social change. They established hundreds of soccer schools in low socioeconomic neighborhoods, serving twenty thousand children in all sectors of Israel, including new immigrants, Arabs and Druze, those with special needs, boarding schools, and sheltered workshops for at-risk youths.

In earlier years, Theumim was editor of *DARBAN*, Israel's national student newspaper and editor and journalist of Israel's leading daily newspaper, *Yediot Ahronoth*. A chair for communications was established in his name at Tel Aviv University, recognizing his contributions to the communications and media sector of Israel.



Robert Levy

Honored: 2011

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Bob Levy, chairman emeritus of the Philadelphia Sports Congress, is a name synonymous with sports in the City of Independence. The Robert P. Levy Tennis Pavilion, built in 1973 and expanded in 1978, is the indoor home of the University of Pennsylvania's tennis programs.

Levy was head coach of the Quakers women's team in 1985 and a volunteer assistant on some of the outstanding varsity teams in the early 2000s.

He chaired the U.S. World Maccabiah Games men's and women's tennis teams in 1977, 1981, 1985, and 1989 and was honorary chair of the 1993 team.

The Robert P. Levy Stable is a highly successful thoroughbred racing and breeding venture that includes four Eclipse Awards and a Belmont Stakes champion. Levy has chaired the board of the Atlantic City Racing Association and is a longtime director of the Thoroughbred Racing Association.

In 1953 Levy founded and organized the Little Quakers football team, an age and weight group of young Philadelphia All-Stars that, to this day, maintains a reputation as one of the finest youth teams in America.

His many honors include recognition by the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame and the John B. Kelly Award for “unselfishly contributing directly to extending the future of our youth through the medium of sports.” He was inducted into the University of Pennsylvania Tennis Hall of Fame in 1952 and the University’s Athletics Hall of Fame in 2012.



Michel Grun

Honored: 2012

Location: Antwerp, Belgium

Michel Grun was chairman of the European Maccabi Confederation from 1984 through 1999 and co-chair of the 1987 (Copenhagen), 1991 (Marseilles), and 1995 (Amsterdam) European Maccabi Games. When the executive board member of Antwerp’s Diamant Kring and Diamond High Council accepted the leadership role in EMC, the Confederation had seventeen territorial organizations. When he retired from the top position fifteen years later, EMC membership stood at thirty-two, including the reappearance of Maccabiah delegations from Hungary, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Turkey, Czechoslovakia, Spain, and Russia.

Grun joined the Maccabi World Union Executive and International Maccabiah Committee in 1977, serving as MWU’s vice president from 1998 until 2006. In 2002 Grun was named honorary president of the European Maccabi Confederation. No one serving the EMC or MWU has been a top leadership member as long as Grun.

The son of Holocaust survivors, Grun chaired the first Maccabiah International Safety, Security, and Medical Services Committee in 2001, and again in 2005 and 2009. SSMS is an extension of Grun’s professional life: security of Antwerp’s diamond district. In 2004, “for exceptional services to his trade,” King Albert of Belgium honored him as an Officer in the Civil Order of Leopold II, one rank above those entitled to Ridder (“Knight” or “Sir”).



William Steerman

Honored: 2013

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

For five decades, Bill Steerman was one of the leaders of the American Jewish sports community. Beginning in 1964, when he first served as a national vice president of the Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel, he continued in that position through the 1993 summer Maccabiah Games.

With USCSFI and its successor, Maccabi USA, he took on such responsibilities as co-chair of the seventh (1965) Maccabiah Games soccer committee and assistant coach of the 1965 Maccabiah U.S. soccer team. He was chef de mission of the 1973 U.S. Pan American Maccabi Team (Mexico), where he was awarded the Jacobo Pimstein Maccabi Spirit Trophy, and 1977 chef de mission for the U.S. Pan Am Maccabi Team (Brazil).

Steerman is co-founder of the U.S. "pre-camp" heritage program for Maccabiah athletes, a concept that brings American athletes to Israel the week prior to the start of sport competitions to see and learn about the Holy Land, and he chaired the housing and transportation and security committees of various Maccabiot.

He was an American delegate to the International Maccabiah Organizing Committee (IMC) for four decades and U.S. delegate to the Thirty-Fifth Zionist Congress in Jerusalem in 2006.

Bill was a member of the Temple University men's varsity soccer team that won 1952, 1953, and 1954 NCAA national championships, and was inducted into the Temple University Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009.

A former assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1960-64), Bill Steerman has served on the board of directors of the Aharon Netanel Maccabiah Village in Ramat Gan and the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. He is co-founder and an elected member of the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.



Harry Swimmer

Honored: 2014

Location: Charlotte, North Carolina

Harry Swimmer, a Charlotte community activist and member of the Maccabi USA Board of Directors for the past thirty-five years, was a member of the Maccabiah organizing committees of the eleventh and twelfth Maccabiahs. He has also organized annual fund-raising golf tournaments benefiting the quadrennial event for many years.

May 2014 marked the twentieth anniversary of the Misty Meadows Mitey Riders project, developed by Harry and his wife, Marilyn, at their Charlotte

horse-breeding farm, to provide creative and therapeutic equine-assisted activities to children with special needs. An estimated eight hundred boys and girls have participated in the free annual fall through spring program. In 2016, CNN named Swimmer one of its top ten CNN Heroes of the Year.

At the request of Jewish community leadership, Harry headed the capital campaign for Charlotte's Shalom Park and raised \$7 million from more than five hundred participating families.



Robert Kraft

Honored: 2015

Location: Brookline, Massachusetts

Robert Kraft is owner of the New England Patriots, the National Football League's six-time Super Bowl champion (XXXVI, XXXVIII, XXXIX, XLIX, LI, LIII). He is also owner of Major League Soccer's New England Revolution and chairman and chief executive officer of the Kraft Group.

Kraft has owned the Patriots since 1994 and Revolution, a charter MLS franchise, since its founding in 1996. The Kraft Group is a diversified holding company with assets in paper and packaging, sports and entertainment, real estate development, and a private equity portfolio.

The Kraft family has gifted more than \$100 million to a variety of philanthropic causes, most significantly those related to health, education, children and women's issues, and Israel. Included are the Kraft Family Stadium in Jerusalem and the Kraft Family Israel Football League, in support of American Football Israel.

Among Kraft's numerous personal honors are the NCAA's Theodore Roosevelt Award and induction into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2012 he was the first NFL owner in the forty-three-year history of the Pro Football Writers of America's George Halas Award to receive the annual honor.



Uri Schaefer

Honored: 2016

Location: Tel Aviv, Israel

Uri Schaefer was deputy director general and sport authority director of Israel's Ministry of Culture and Sport from 2008 to 2016. He was also vice chairman of the National (Israel) Sports Council and acting president of the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE).

From 1997 to 2008 he was director general of Wingate Institute for Physical Education and Sport in Netanya and a member of the Elite Sport Unit for Olympic Preparations of the Israel Ministry of Culture and Sport and the National Olympic Committee.

In 1994 Schaefer, together with professional colleagues from Germany, Great Britain, Canada, and China, initiated the establishment of the International Council for Coaching Excellence.

In 1997, upon the inauguration of the Council at the Wingate Institute, he was elected president and served in this position until 2005. From 1985 to 1997 Schaefer was the director of Wingate's Nat Holman School for Coaches and Instructors, which was the only institution for coach education in Israel.

Schaefer received his bachelor's degree in physical education and education at Wingate College and Tel Aviv University in 1971, master's degree in education at Tel Aviv University in 1980, and PhD in 1993 at the Hungary University of Physical Education and Sport in Budapest.

Among the many honors he has received are the 1992 ICSSPE Sport Science Award of the International Olympic Committee President, the 1998 Israel Olympic Committee Award for Outstanding Leadership and Contribution to Coach Education, and the 2016 Rupin Academic Center Award.



Victor Vaisman

Honored: 2017

Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Victor Vaisman is recognized for his fifty years as lay leader of Maccabi Argentina, CLAM (Latin America Maccabi Federation), HACOAJ (Club Nautico Hacoaj), the original Argentine Jewish sports club, FACCMA (Federación Argentina de Centros Comunitarios Macabeos), and Maccabi World Union, during which he set a standard of commitment and dedication.

As president of CLAM for sixteen years, Vaisman's "recovery of small communities" program revived areas that had reduced their participation in the Jewish sports world, including Brazil, who sent more than four hundred athletes to the fifteenth Maccabiah Games. He had similar success with Jewish athletes in Chile and Peru. Vaisman was also vice president of the World Confederation of Jewish Community Centers (WCJCC) and chairman of ten Pan American Maccabi Games. He has participated in the World Maccabiah Games since the mid-1970s as an athlete, coach, chef de mission, and International Sports Committee chairman.

As recipient of Maccabi's Yakir Award in 2013, Vaisman was recognized for bringing leadership, creativity, and a profound human touch to the Latin America and Argentina Jewish communities, allowing them to manage their organizations through difficult years. Vaisman was awarded the Shem Tov Award by FACCMA.



Joseph Siegman

Honored: 2018

Location: Los Angeles, California

Organizer, author, and sportsman Joe Siegman was recognized for his decades of leadership and participation in Jewish-related and conventional sport activities. He founded the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1979, which was originally a fund-raising vehicle for the U.S. Maccabiah team. Subsequently, in collaboration with then Maccabiah Games vice president Alan Sherman, the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Museum was dedicated at the Wingate Institute in Netanya, Israel, in 1981. He also assisted in the establishment of five U.S. regional halls of fame.

The Chicago-born television producer-writer wrote *The International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame*, published in 1992 (SPI Books). He has since published a series of five volumes titled *Jewish Sports Legends*, featuring Jewish sport history, biographies, and photos of iconic Jewish sportsmen and sports-women who have been elected to the IJSHF. The books were published in 1997 (Brasseys), 2001 and 2005 (Potomac Books), and 2020 (University of Nebraska Press).

Siegman was a member of five U.S. Maccabiah teams between 1973 and 1989: the 1973 cricket team and the quadrennial lawn bowls teams that followed. He later served as team chairman. He organized a series of fund-raising events in the Los Angeles area to aid the participation of U.S. Maccabiah athletes and sports teams, several that featured performances by comedians Jerry Seinfeld, Billy Crystal, Bill Maher, Shelley Berman, Milton Berle, Dick Shawn, and many others.

Siegman was western regional vice president of U.S. Committee Sports for Israel and organizer of U.S. Maccabiah teams from 1977 through 1985. In 1982 he wrote and produced the documentary *Two Weeks to Experience: A Lifetime to Remember*, the USCSFI's first promotional film.

In 1969 Siegman, representing the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, served as publicity director of the second Special Olympics Games. He was responsible for bringing the Hollywood community into the project by creating a volunteer board of "celebrity coaches."

From 1964 to 2003 Siegman and motion picture agent Jack Gilardi produced Hollywood Stars Night at Los Angeles Dodgers Stadium, an annual Hollywood exhibition baseball event that preceded the evening's Major League game. Over thirty-nine years, more than six hundred celebrities participated in the contest, among them Dean Martin, Jackie Gleason, Jerry Lewis, Kevin Costner, Billy Crystal, Tom Selleck, Robin Williams, Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau, Gene Hackman, Mark Harmon, Keanu Reeves, Bob Newhart, Ray Romano, and Kevin James. His coffee table book about the event, *Bats, Balls,*

and *Hollywood Stars: Hollywood's Love Affair with Baseball*, was published in 2015 (Educator's International Press).

As a television producer, his resume of reality shows includes the popular 1970s series *Celebrity Bowling*, which aired for seven seasons, and *Celebrity Tennis*, which ran for three seasons on American television.

On the bowling green, Siegman won the National Open pairs championship in 1989 and 2004 U.S. championship Pairs. He and partners qualified for four U.S. championships finals. He also served as manager of the U.S. men's bowls teams that competed internationally from 1991 to 2006, including the 1992 World Bowls championships.

Off the green, he served as president of the Southwest Division of the American Lawn Bowls Association, published and edited the quarterly *BOWLS Magazine* 1992–2002, and twice represented the United States on the World Bowling Board Federation. He is an elected member of the BowlsUSA Hall of Fame and the Southern California Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.



Roy Salomon

Honored: 2019

Location: Montreal, Canada

Roy Salomon, Canada's "Mr. Maccabi," is the IJSHOF 2019 Lifetime Achievement recipient in recognition of his forty years as architect of Canadian participation in the World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Among his numerous posts and achievements, Salomon co-chaired the North American Confederation of Maccabi World Union, 1991–2001, and was president of Maccabi Canada, 1993–2002. Salomon was organizer of the North American JCC Maccabiah Youth Games in 1982.

Salomon began his Maccabiah career as captain of Canada's 1969 Maccabiah Games basketball team. A graduate of Duke University, he played varsity ball for the Blue Devils. An inducted member of the Montreal Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, which he founded in 1979, he was a recipient of the Maccabi World Union's prestigious Yakir Maccabi Award.

IJSHOF CHAIRMAN'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Samuel P. Sporn, 2010

New York, New York attorney Sam Sporn was presented with the IJSHOF's first Chairman's Award of Excellence for his achievements representing U.S. teams in France, Spain, Switzerland, India, and Canada as a member of the International Lawn Tennis Club of the United States.

His remarkable record as the Eastern Tennis Association's No. 1 or No. 2 singles and doubles rankings at various age levels include gold, silver, or bronze medals at six quadrennial World Maccabiah Games and four Pan American Maccabiot between 1981 and 2013. He earned four gold medals and a combined nine silver and bronze honors.

Sporn has served many years as masters and grand masters chairman of U.S. Maccabiah tennis teams, as well as a member of the executive committee of Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel.



Teddy Kaplan, 2011

Teddy Kaplan received the IJSHOF's Chairman's Award of Excellence in recognition of his achievements as a masters athlete spanning five decades in three disciplines: track and field, weightlifting, and bodybuilding. Between the ages of forty-five and seventy as a weightlifter, the South African-born Israeli won seven gold medals and one silver medal at nine world masters championships, and five gold medals at the European masters championships. Kaplan holds fifteen world records in multiple masters age groups.

In masters track and field, Kaplan competed in four world and two European Championships, winning a bronze medal and earning three finals berths.

Teddy Kaplan represented South Africa and Israel as a weightlifter at numerous Maccabiah Games.



Reuven Heller, 2012

Reuven Heller has been head coach (later sports director) of the Israel Center for the Physically Disabled in Ramat Gan, Israel, since 1964. The center has grown to provide facilities for more than 2,500 disabled participants in twenty-four sport disciplines. From 1966 to 1980 Heller coached the Israel National Wheelchair Basketball team, which earned World Championships, World Cups, European Championships, and two Paralympic titles.

He was team manager of Israeli delegations to the Paralympic Games in Heidelberg, Toronto, Arnheim, Stoke-Mandeville, Seoul, Barcelona, Atlanta, and Sydney. And he has served in various high-level positions within the international disabled sports community. In 2009 he was awarded Lifetime Achievement honors by the Israeli Olympic Committee.



Zohar Sharon, 2013

Zohar Sharon has won four World Blind Golf Championships since 2004. Aided by Shimshon Levi, his longtime caddie-coach and eyes, and guide dog Dylan, he won his 2012 title at the Truro Golf Club in Nova Scotia, Canada.

Sharon lost his sight while serving with the Israel Defense Forces during the 1970s. He credits much of his golfing success to the support and resources from Beit Halochem, the Israeli rehabilitation organization that serves disabled IDF veterans.



Anita Shkedi, 2015

Anita Shkedi, the British-born pioneer of therapeutic horse riding in Israel, is an internationally acknowledged expert in the treatment of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Since 1996 she has served eight years as a member of the International Paralympics Committee.

Anita has spent more than thirty years doing remarkable work with clients of all ages by means of riding for the disabled. She has produced life-changing results for individuals across Israel's social and religious spectrum, including many former soldiers with significant physical and mental injuries.

In 1988 Anita founded and developed the diploma course for therapeutic riding instruction in Israel, in conjunction with the Nat Holman School of Coaches at Netanya's Wingate Institute, and has subsequently trained many including two riding instructors from Jericho. In succeeding years she established similar workshops and clinics in the UK and various European and Scandinavian countries. She designed and authored the first school curriculum of Israel's equine studies for challenged learners.

Shkedi's published books and articles include *Traumatic Brain Injury and Therapeutic Riding*, "The Fear Factor" (for the *Scientific Journal of the Federation of Riding for the Disabled*), *The Role of Therapeutic Riding in Education*, and *Courage and Determination: The Need for Therapeutic Riding in Israel*.

In 2009, upon joining the Therapeutic Riding Professional Committee of Israel, she wrote the new national Israeli curriculum for therapeutic riding. Since 1998 Anita has conducted clinics and lectures on her specialty throughout the world.



Arie Rosenzweig, 2016

Arie Rosenzweig organized the Middle East Mediterranean Scholar Athlete Games in 2000, bringing together students from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Israeli Arab youth, and Israeli Jewish youth for one week of sports, art, and culture on the campus of Tel Aviv University. They participated as individuals, with no national flags, just in friendship.

In 2006 the first Friendship Games took place in Tel Aviv and have since become an annual event, with students from many countries spending a week together enjoying friendly competitions and leisure time in the spirit of friendship and brotherhood for all nations.

In 1982 Arie cofounded the North American Maccabi Youth Games for ages sixteen and under. The competitions today feature participation of more than six thousand junior athletes annually.

Rosenzweig has enjoyed a long and distinguished career that includes major responsibilities for organization of the World Maccabiah Games. He was president of the organizing committee for the 1989 and 1993 Maccabiot, having served as assistant to the sports director for the 1965 and 1969 games. In 2017 some eight thousand athletes representing sixty countries, participating in thirty-two branches of sport, participated in the quadrennial international event.

Rosenzweig served as general secretary of the Israel Olympic Committee from 2000 to 2008 and was active in forming the EUSA (European University Sports Association) and ENAS (European Network of Academic Sport Services). From 2012 through 2016 he was an EUSA executive committee member.

In 1974 Rosenzweig headed the department of sports and recreation at Tel Aviv University. The department became the largest sports and recreation center in Israel, with ten thousand students, faculty members, and alumni. From 1996 to 2012 Rosenzweig was president of the Academic Sports Association, organizing the sporting activities of three hundred thousand Israeli students.



Lenny Silberman, 2017

Lenny Silberman has spent his professional life working to integrate sports, summer camp, and Judaism. In 1994, following ten years with the Pittsburgh Jewish Community Centers, Silberman joined the New York staff of the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America where, for fourteen years, he was continental director of the JCC Maccabi Games. The program included more than six thousand Jewish teenagers, thirteen through sixteen, who participated each summer in five host communities. As vice president of program services, Lenny also supervised the JCC Association camping, athletic and teen consultants, and JCC Maccabi Israel programs.

In 2008 Silberman was named CEO of the Henry Kaufmann Camps and grounds, an organization that welcomes sixteen independent New York JCC/YM-YWHA day camps to its three facilities. HKC is the largest day camp organization in the world, with five thousand campers and staff on a daily basis.

He also sits or sat on the boards of the Israel Sports Center for the Disabled (Ramat Gan), URJ's 6-Points Sports/Camp, and Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel. For fourteen years he represented the JCC Association on the U.S. Olympic Committee, and for two years he was Israel conference chairman of the North American Alliance of Jewish Youth.

Lenny Silberman was honored with the prestigious Hershey's STRIVE Award in 2005 as the United States Youth Sports Administrator of the Year. He has been honored by the Western Pennsylvania Jewish Sports Hall of Fame and elected to the Staten Island Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

ABOUT THE HALL OF FAME

The Deeds of the Past Shall Inspire the Achievements of the Future.



The International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame / Yad Le'ish Hasport Hayehudi was formally inaugurated on July 7, 1981, at the Wingate Institute for Physical Education and Sport in Netanya, Israel. Its predecessor, the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, was founded in the United States in May 1979 and only honored Americans. The IJSHOF honors athletes and sportsmen and sportswomen throughout the world.

The guiding principle of the IJSHOF is to honor Jewish men and women worldwide who have accomplished extraordinary achievements in sports and to honor those who have made significant contributions to society.

In addition, its Lifetime Achievement Award annually honors those individuals who have contributed to Jewish life, Israel, and the community

at large through sports. The Chairman's Award of Excellence is presented periodically in recognition of special accomplishments in the world of sports and physical education.

Elections to the IJSHOF are made annually, and results are announced on or about December 1 for the succeeding year. Anyone can submit nominations to the executive director, IJSHOF, Wingate Institute, Wingate Post Office, 42902 Israel, or JewishSportsLegends@earthlink.net.



Among the original eighteen inducted into the Hall of Fame on May 20, 1979, were: (l-r) Red Auerbach, Jerry Saperstein (Abe's son), Dolph Schayes, Irving Jaffee, Dick Savitt, Sylvia Wene Martin, Hank Greenberg, Nat Holman, and Joe Leonard (Benny's brother).

WINGATE INSTITUTE

The Wingate Institute of Physical Education and Sport was dedicated on April 7, 1957, in honor of British officer Maj. Gen. Orde Charles Wingate (1903–1944), an ardent supporter of Jewish independence in Palestine during the British Mandate that followed World War I.

Wingate, an intelligence officer, arrived in Palestine in 1936 at a time when casualties from Arab attacks on Jewish settlements had reached alarming numbers. The British army captain, a Christian, organized and trained Jewish settlers into “night squads” to combat the anti-Jewish violence. He would tell his trainees: “Our purpose here is to found the Jewish army!”

The Jews of Palestine called him Hayedid, meaning “friend.” Wingate Institute is one of many entities within Israel that are named in honor of Hayedid.

As early as 1942, before the establishment of the Jewish State, the General Council of Jews in Palestine approved the development of a national center for physical education. The first buildings were erected in 1955 on a barren wilderness of sand dunes and scrub near the city of Netanya. Today Wingate is situated on 125 acres of verdant landscape overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. It lies approximately twenty miles north of Tel Aviv on the main Haifa-Tel Aviv Highway—six kilometers south of Netanya.

With its exceptional sport fields, arenas, swim stadium, and athletic facilities, Wingate serves as a training center for Israel’s teams competing in international events, including the Olympic Games, and it sponsors national and international conferences and seminars.

The campus encompasses the following schools, departments, and amenities:

Zinman College of Physical Education: Elevated to university status, it is empowered to award its own bachelor of education degree and conducts a master’s degree program.

Nat Holman School for Coaches and Instructors: The school prepares professional manpower for all competitive and noncom-



Maj. Gen. Orde Charles Wingate.

petitive sports in Israel and conducts courses for the elderly and the social rehabilitation of the underprivileged.

Ribstein Center for Research and Sports Medicine Sciences: Provider of a host of medical services that benefit all sectors of Israel's population.

Elite Sports Unit: Supervises training of Israel's Olympic Team.

Turner Pedagogical Center: Provides facilities for academic research and a reference library for the three thousand students who attend Wingate daily.

Center for Sports-Gifted: Cultivates young, talented athletes who are potentially Israel's future Olympians.

Sports Facilities:

Five gymnasia.

Eight tennis courts.

Five soccer pitches.

Covered courts for basketball, handball, volleyball, squash, badminton, and table tennis.

Olympic complex for gymnastics.

Stadium with a 400-meter synthetic running track.

State-of-the-art swim stadium, plus an Olympic-size training pool.

Training halls for dance, movement, wrestling, weightlifting, fencing, and martial arts.

Floodlit courts and outdoor playing fields.

Illuminated golf driving range and instruction center.

The campus also features:

Three auditoriums.

An open-air theater, with seating for two thousand spectators.

A sports hotel, with seventy-two twin-bed room accommodations.

Residence halls for more than 450 students.

Two dining rooms.

A Student Union building, with its own cafeteria, post office, and sporting goods shop. The IJSHOF museum is located on the third floor of the Union in the grand foyer of the Herschtritt Auditorium.

Herschtritt Auditorium, with a seating capacity of seven hundred and facilities for simultaneous translation. Serves as a center for national and international conferences, seminars, and workshops.

DISTINGUISHED AUTHORITIES ON SPORTS

For nearly four decades, the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame has been served by the expertise and advice of a distinguished group of world sport authorities. It was fortunate to have had Dr. Uriel Simri as its first executive director. Simri was one of the world's foremost authorities on international sports and one of the few authorities on Jews in sports. Professor, author, international lecturer, and Wingate scientific and faculty leader, Simri served as curator of the IJSHOF through its first eight years.

Haskell Cohen was chairman of the International Selection Committee during its first eight years. He served as publicity director of the National Basketball Association in its earliest years, 1950–69, and he is a longtime member of the Basketball Hall of Fame board of trustees, which elects individuals into the hall. For seventeen years, Cohen served as sports editor for the Jewish Telegraph Agency (the Anglo-Jewish news wire service) and was a contributing sports editor to the *Parade Magazine* Sunday newspaper supplement.

Joseph Siegman, IJSHOF founder and its first chairman, succeeded Cohen as chair of the selection committee in 1989. Alan Sherman, previously IJSHOF Founders chairman, succeeded Siegman as chairman.

Assisting the executive director and selection committee chairman in gathering and evaluating information regarding candidates for election to the IJSHOF have been the following distinguished sports authorities:

Robert Atlasz. A leader of the German Maccabi movement during the 1930s, he served the Maccabi World Union in Eretz Yisra'el in various capacities beginning in 1937, including

sports chairman of the 1950, 1953, 1957, and 1961 Maccabiah Games. He became a member of the Israel Olympic Committee in 1959.

Massimo Della Pergola. Secretary-general of the International Sports Press Association, 1977–88, and its vice president beginning in 1989. Della Pergola was Italy's premier sports journalist in virtually all media. He reported on twelve Summer Olympics, four Winter Olympics, and twelve soccer World Cups.

George Eisen. An internationally published author and lecturer on subjects relating to the history of sport and physical education. Dr. Eisen was a consultant to the National Holocaust Museum in Washington DC, director of the Institute for Regional and International Studies at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and executive director and associate vice president at Nazareth College of Rochester, New York.

Kenneth Gradon. A prominent British sports official for four decades, he was the honorary president of Maccabi Europe and president of Maccabi Great Britain.

Frank Greenberg. A former president of U.S. Track and Field (1988–92) and an international track and field master official, with Olympic Games and World Championships among his numerous assignments. He was a member of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) International Doping Commission.

Arthur Hanak. Maccabi World Union archivist and first curator of Israel's Pierre Gildes-game Sports Museum and Archives. Hanak authored numerous research publications on Jewish and Maccabi sports.

Hank Kaplan. A boxing historian and archivist, he was editor of *Boxing World* and *World Wide Boxing Digest* for the life of those publications. He was the first elected president of the World Boxing Historians Association. A boxing consultant for *Sports Illustrated*, Kaplan maintained the largest private boxing library and research resource collection in the world. He was chairman of the selection committee of the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Stuart Lustigman. Chairman of the European Maccabi Confederation. Beginning in 1998 he was co-chair of the Maccabiah International Sports Committee. He previously served as sports director of Maccabi Great Britain and the European Maccabi Confederation.

Richard Macales. Veteran newspaper sports writer and columnist, an American in Jerusalem, for various international Anglo-Jewish publications. Contributor to the anthology/encyclopedia *American Sports: A History of Icons, Idols, and Ideas* and *Abe Saperstein and the American Basketball League, 1960–1963*. He is a member of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR).

Ephraim Moxson. Publisher of the *Jewish Sports Review*, the monthly national magazine that covers Jewish activity in professional and amateur sports worldwide, American collegiate and high school achievements.

Fred Oberlander. Won heavyweight wrestling championships in Austria, France, Great Britain, and Canada nineteen times in twenty-one years (1930–51). A member of Hakoah-Vienna during his youth, he is the founder of the Canadian Maccabi Association.

Ben Olan. Associated Press writer and editor for more than forty years. He has written numerous books on sports and written and edited countless sports magazines.

Murray Olderman. Author and cartoonist whose work appeared in 750 daily newspapers for thirty-five years. Elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1979 and the (American) National Sportswriters Hall of Fame in 1993.

Israel Paz. Sports editor of *Haaretz*, Israel's leading Hebrew-language daily newspaper.

Louis Platius. Chairman of Maccabi Australia.

Bernard Postal. One of three authors of *The Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*. Postal was associate editor of New York's *Jewish Week*, editor of the Seven Arts Feature Syndicate, distributor of news to Anglo-Jewish newspapers worldwide, and author of numerous books on Jewish American history.

Ephraim Shen. The Czechoslovakian-born tennis and table tennis champion immigrated to Eretz Yisra'el in 1939. He was a founder of the Mevoot-Yam Maritime School (originally Boating and Fisheries School) in 1951. In 1958, on behalf of the Israel Foreign Ministry, he led Hapoel's first youth sports delegation to Germany, initiating Israel's first postwar contact with German sport clubs.

Jesse Silver. Author with Roy Silver and Bernard Postal of *The Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*. He wrote a weekly sports column for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for eight years and contributed to the *Encyclopedia Judaica* and to many publications about Jewish sportsmen for thirty years.

Roy Silver. Author with Jesse Silver and Bernard Postal of *The Encyclopedia of Jews in Sports*. He was a sportswriter/producer for the NBC and ABC television networks for many years.

Robert Slater. Author of *Great Jews in Sports* and four novels, including *Golda*, a biography of Israel's prime minister Golda Meir. A *Time* magazine reporter since 1976, he headquartered at the publication's Jerusalem bureau and was chairman of the Foreign Press Association in 1987.

David Spaner. Author of *From Greenberg to Green*, a seminal chapter on Jewish ballplayers that appears in the fifth edition of *Total Baseball*, the official encyclopedia of Major League Baseball. His writings have also appeared in *Total Hockey* and various other sport reference books.

Mervyn Tankelowitz. Chairman of Maccabi South Africa.

Shel Wallman. A sports columnist-reporter for the *Jewish Post* and editor-publisher of the national monthly *Jewish Sports Review*.

Elli Wohlgelernter. Former managing editor of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency (New York) and a reporter for the *Jerusalem Post* (Israel). He is a longtime reporter-editor of Anglo-Jewish newspapers as well as broadcast media.

International Executive Board

Since its establishment in 1979, the IJSHOF has been directed by the following members of its International Executive Board:

Uri Afek, Israel
 Michael Almog, Israel
 Paul Ash, United States
 Simon Atlas, United States
 Richard Batchley, United States
 Jerome Bloomberg, United States
 Jay Blumfield, United States
 Stanley Bobb, United States
 Zeev Braverman, Israel
 Ray Brenner, United States
 Harvey Brodsky, United States
 Harvey M. Brown, United States
 Jeffrey Bukantz, United States
 Yigal Carmi, Israel
 Ron Carner, United States
 Itzhak Caspi, Israel
 Mel Chaskin, United States
 Allan Dalfen, United States
 Yehoshua Dekel, Israel

Simon Dennenberg, United States
 Aharon Doron, Israel
 Mordechai Ehrlich, Israel
 Leland Faust, United States
 Alex Fisher, Canada
 Mickey Fishman, United States
 Yair Frishman, Israel
 Harry Glickman, United States
 Chaim Glovinsky, Israel
 Mark Goldstein, United States
 Frank Greenberg, United States
 Sidney Greenberg, Canada
 Yig'el Griffel, Israel
 Ady Gross-Prywes, Israel
 Barry Gurland, United States
 Alan Hahn, United States
 Arie Halevy, Israel
 Oded Hecht, Israel
 Joseph Inbar, Israel
 Merton Isaacman, United States
 Peter Kahn, United States
 Syd Kronenthal, United States
 Herbert Kupersmith, United States
 Jeffrey Laikind, United States
 Harvey Leff, United States
 Bert A. Levin, United States
 Sanford Litvack, United States
 Jack Lurie, South Africa
 Alan Malasky, United States
 Alan L. Meltzer, United States
 Joseph Merback, United States
 Azrikam Milchan, Israel
 Melvyn K. Miller, United States
 Arnold Nelson, United States
 Yoram Oberkovich, Israel
 Dennis Oberman, United States
 Isaac Ofek, Israel
 Yariv Oren, Israel
 M. William Perel, United States
 Judah Rand-Lakritz, Israel
 Richard Reff, United States
 Leonard Reifman, United States
 Lowell Rothschild, United States

R. Stephen Rubin, Great Britain
Roy Salomon, Canada
Dr. Uri Schaefer, Israel
Fred Schoenfeld, United States
Zipora Seidner, Israel
Adam T. Sherman, United States
Alan Sherman, United States
Eliezer Shmueli, Israel
Sheldon Sidlow, United States
Howard Siegman, United States
Joseph Marcus Siegman, United States
Joseph Siegman, United States
Dr. Uriel Simri, Israel
Robert L. Sockolov, United States
Robert E. Spivak, United States
William Steerman, United States
Mervyn Tankelowitz, South Africa
Gary Ulrich, Canada
Chaim Wein, Israel
Gilad Weingarten, Israel
Barry Weinstock, United States
Leonard P. Weiss, United States
David Weissman, United States
Steven B. Wertheim, United States
Martin J. Wolff, United States
Fred Worms, Great Britain
Michael Wrubelsky, Australia
Efraim Yaacobi, Israel
Harold O. Zimman, United States
Efraim Zinger, Israel

HALL OF FAME GIFTS AND BENEFACTORS

The following dedications of objets d'art and memorabilia to the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame Museum were made through the generosity of the following:

Pillar of Faith: A memorial to the eleven Munich Olympic Games murder victims. Dedicated by the Bender Foundation, Washington DC.

Pillar of Achievement: An honor roll of outstanding contributions to sports and society through sports. Dedicated by Harry, Dorothy, Neil B., Debbie, and Denise Blumenthal, San Francisco, California; and by Richard S., Carole R., Stuart, Dennis, and Cindy Shostak, Encino, California.

Chai-Life Sculpture: Designed by American sculptress Marcia Raff. Dedicated by the Rubin Foundation, London, England.

Display Case: Dedicated by the Sherman Families—Ernest, Charles, Alan, and Neil, Washington DC.

Display Case: The Maccabi USA / Sports for Israel, in honor of its 1982 Sportsman of the Year, Harold Landesberg, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Display Case: Dedicated in honor of Lester Harrison, Rochester, New York.

Jewish Sports Legends: Fifth edition of IJSHOF series, dedicated by Sam Sporn family, New York, New York, and Sydney Kronenthal, Los Angeles, California.

Piero Brolis Sculpture: Dedicated to the eleven Israeli Olympians slain at the 1972 Games in Munich. Sculptor Piero Brolis (Bergamo, Italy, 1920–78). Donated by his widow and family in 1982.

Ziva Liebliich Sculpture: Sculptor Ziva Liebliich, Tel Aviv. Presented by Y. Dalva Studio, Y. Sharon. Donated in 1981 by the Jerry Oren Family, Beverly Hills, California, in memory of Ahuva and Reuven Lavitz.

Maurice Podoloff Window: Stained glass window, a permanent exhibit in the original Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, Springfield, Massachusetts. Donated by the Basketball Hall of Fame, through the efforts of Haskell Cohen.

JEWISH OLYMPIC MEDALISTS

George Eisen

The following list of Jewish Olympic medalists was compiled by Dr. George Eisen, formerly executive director and associate vice president at Nazareth College of Rochester, New York. Eisen is the author of many books, studies, and articles, including the award-winning *Children and Play in the Holocaust: Games Among the Shadows* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1988), which is translated in numerous languages; and *Sport and Physical Education in Jewish History* (Wingate Institute, Israel). Eisen compiled the *Bibliography of Sport and Leisure in Jewish History and Culture*, and was primary consultant to the special exhibition, *The Nazi Olympics/Berlin 1936* at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC.

1896 Athens

GOLD

Alfred Flatow, Germany: gymnastics, parallel bars; gymnastics, team parallel bars; gymnastics, team horizontal bar

Gustav Felix Flatow, Germany: gymnastics, team parallel bars; gymnastics, team horizontal bar

Alfred Hajos-Guttman, Hungary: swimming, 100-meter freestyle; swimming, 1,500-meter freestyle

Paul Neumann, Austria: swimming, 500-meter freestyle

SILVER

Alfred Flatow, Germany: gymnastics, horizontal bar

Otto Herschmann, Austria: swimming, 100-meter freestyle

1900 Paris

GOLD

Meyer Prinstein, United States: athletics, triple jump

SILVER

Jean Bloch, France: soccer

Henri Cohen, Belgium: water polo

Meyer Prinstein, United States: athletics, long jump

*Otto Wahle, Austria: swimming, 100-meter freestyle; swimming, 200-meter obstacle race

BRONZE

*Siegfried Flesch, Austria: fencing, individual saber

1904 St. Louis

GOLD

Samuel Berger, United States: boxing, heavyweight

Meyer Prinstein, United States: athletics, long jump; athletics, triple jump

SILVER

Daniel Frank, United States: athletics, long jump

Philip Hess, United States: lacrosse

Albert Lehman, United States: lacrosse

BRONZE

*Otto Wahle, Austria: swimming, 400-meter freestyle

1906 Athens (unofficial)**GOLD**

- Henrik Hajos-Guttman, Hungary: swimming, 800-meter freestyle relay
 Meyer Prinstein, United States: athletics, long jump
 *Otto Scheff, Austria: swimming, 400-meter freestyle

SILVER

- Edgar Seligman, Great Britain: fencing, team epee

BRONZE

- Hugo Friend, United States: athletics, long jump
 *Otto Scheff, Austria: swimming, 1500-meter freestyle

1908 London**GOLD**

- Dezső Földes, Hungary: fencing, team saber
 Jenő Fuchs, Hungary: fencing, individual saber; fencing, team saber
 Oszkár Gerde, Hungary: fencing, team saber
 Alexandre Lippmann, France: fencing, team epee
 Jean Stern, France: fencing, team epee
 Richard Weisz, Hungary: Greco-Roman wrestling, heavyweight
 Lajos Werkner, Hungary: fencing, team saber

SILVER

- Harald Bohr, Denmark: soccer
 Alexandre Lippmann, France: fencing, individual epee
 József Munk, Hungary: swimming, 4×200m freestyle relay
 Edgar Seligman, Great Britain: fencing, team epee
 Harry Simon, United States: shooting, free rifle

Edwin "Barney" Solomon, UK (Ireland): rugby

Bethel "Bert" Solomon, UK (Ireland): rugby
 Imre Zachar, Hungary: swimming, 4×200m freestyle relay

BRONZE

- Odon Bodor, Hungary: athletics, 1,600-meter relay
 Charles "Clair" Jacobs, United States: athletics, pole vault
 *Otto Scheff, Austria: swimming, 400-meter freestyle

1912 Stockholm**GOLD**

- Dezső Földes, Hungary: fencing, team saber
 Jenő Fuchs, Hungary: fencing, individual saber; fencing, team saber
 Oszkár Gerde, Hungary: fencing, team saber
 Jacques Ochs, Belgium: fencing, team epee
 Gaston Salmon, Belgium: fencing, team epee
 Lajos Werkner, Hungary: fencing, team saber

SILVER

- Samu Foti, Hungary: gymnastics, team combined exercises
 Imre Gellert, Hungary: gymnastics, team combined exercises
 Abel Kiviat, United States: athletics, 1,500-meter run
 Alvah T. Meyer, United States: athletics, 100-meter dash
 Ivan Osier, Denmark: fencing, individual epee
 *Felix Pipes, Austria: tennis, doubles
 Jenő Rittich, Hungary: gymnastics, team combined exercises
 Edgar Seligman, Great Britain: fencing, team epee

BRONZE

- *Margarete Adler, Austria: swimming, 4×100m freestyle relay

*Albert Bogen, Austria: fencing, team saber
 Otto Herschmann, Austria: fencing, team
 saber

*Klara Milch, Austria: swimming, 4×100m
 freestyle relay

Josephine Stricker, Austria: swimming,
 4×100m freestyle relay

1920 Antwerp

GOLD

Samuel Mosberg, United States: boxing,
 lightweight

SILVER

Gerard Blitz, Belgium: water polo

Maurice Blitz, Belgium: water polo

Samuel Gerson, United States: freestyle wres-
 tling, featherweight

Alexandre Lippmann, [country?]: fencing;
 individual epee

BRONZE

Gerard Blitz, Belgium: swimming, 100-meter
 backstroke

Montgomery "Moe" Herscovitch, Canada:
 boxing, middleweight

Alexandre Lippmann, France: fencing, team
 epee

Frederick Meyer, United States: freestyle
 wrestling, heavyweight

1924 Chamonix/Paris

GOLD

Harold Abrahams, Great Britain: athletics,
 100-meter dash

Louis Clarke, United States: athletics,
 4×100m relay

John "Jackie" Fields, United States: boxing,
 featherweight

Elias Katz, Finland: athletics, 3,000-meter
 team cross-country

Alexandre Lippmann, France: fencing, team
 epee

SILVER

Harold Abrahams, Great Britain: athletics,
 4×100m relay

Gerard Blitz, Belgium: water polo

Maurice Blitz, Belgium: water polo

János Garay, Hungary: fencing, team saber

Alfred Hajós-Guttman, Hungary: Olympic
 art competition, stadium design

Elias Katz, Finland: athletics, 3,000-meter
 individual steeplechase

Dezső Lauber, Hungary: Olympic art compe-
 tition, stadium design

BRONZE

János Garay, Hungary: fencing, individual
 saber

Sidney Jelinek, United States: rowing,
 coxed-fours

Baron Umberto Luigi de Morpurgo, Italy:
 tennis, singles

1928 St. Moritz/Amsterdam

GOLD

Estella Agsteribbe, Netherlands: Women's
 gymnastics, team combined exercises

János Garay, Hungary: fencing, team saber

Sándor Gombos, Hungary: fencing, team
 saber

*Hans Haas, Austria: weightlifting,
 lightweight

Elka de Levie, Netherlands: women's gymnas-
 tics, team combined exercises

Ferenc Mezö, Hungary: Olympic art compe-
 tition, epic works

Helena Nordheim, Netherlands: women's
 gymnastics, team combined exercises

Attila Petschauer, Hungary: fencing, team
 saber

Annie Polak, Netherlands: women's gymnas-
 tics, team combined exercises

Fanny Rosenfeld, Canada: athletics, 4×100m relay

*Judijke Simons, Netherlands: women's gymnastics, team combined exercises

SILVER

Istvan Barta, Hungary: water polo

Lillian Copeland, United States: athletics, discus throw

Attila Petschauer, Hungary: fencing, individual saber

Fanny Rosenfeld, Canada: athletics, 100-meter dash

BRONZE

Harold Devine, United States: boxing, featherweight

Harry Isaacs, South Africa: boxing, bantamweight

Samuel Rabin, Great Britain: freestyle wrestling, middleweight

Ellis Smouha, Great Britain: athletics, 4×100m relay

1932 Lake Placid/Los Angeles

GOLD

Istvan Barta, Hungary: water polo

György Brody, Hungary: water polo

Lillian Copeland, United States: athletics, discus throw

George Gulack, United States: gymnastics, flying rings

Irving Jaffee, United States: speed skating, 5,000-meter; speed skating, 10,000-meter

Endre Kabos, Hungary: fencing, team saber

Attila Petschauer, Hungary: fencing, team saber

Miklos Sárkány, Hungary: water polo

SILVER

Phillip Erenberg, United States: gymnastics, Indian clubs

*Hans Haas, Austria: weightlifting, lightweight

Peter Jaffe, Great Britain: yachting, Star-class
Károly Kárpáti, Hungary: freestyle wrestling, lightweight

Abraham Kurland, Denmark: Greco-Roman wrestling, lightweight

Ruth Miller, Germany: Olympic art competition, graphic art

BRONZE

Rudolf Ball, Germany: ice hockey

Nathan Bor, United States: boxing, lightweight

Nickolaus Hirschl, Austria: freestyle wrestling, heavyweight

Greco-Roman wrestling, heavyweight

Endre Kabos, Hungary: fencing, individual saber

Emilia Rotter, Hungary: figure skating, pairs

Albert Schwartz, United States: swimming, 100-meter freestyle

László Szabados, Hungary: swimming, 4×200m freestyle relay

András Székely, Hungary: swimming, 4×200m freestyle relay

László Szollás, Hungary: figure skating, pair

1936 Garmisch-Partenkirchen/Berlin

GOLD

Samuel Balter, United States: basketball

György Bródy, Hungary: water polo

*Robert Fein, Austria: weightlifting, lightweight

Endre Kabos, Hungary: fencing, individual saber; fencing, team saber

Károly Kárpáti, Hungary: freestyle wrestling, lightweight

Miklos Sárkány, Hungary: water polo

SILVER

*Viktor Kalisch, Austria: kayak pairs, 1,000-meter

Irving Maretzky, Canada: basketball

BRONZE

Rudi Ball, Germany: ice hockey
 Gerard Blitz, Belgium: water polo
 Felix Kasper, Austria: figure skating
 Emilia Rotter, Hungary: figure skating, pairs
 László Szollás, Hungary: figure skating, pairs

1948 St. Moritz/London**GOLD**

Frank Spellman, United States: weightlifting, middleweight
 Henry Wittenberg, United States: freestyle wrestling, light-heavyweight
 Wallace Wolf, United States: swimming, 4×200m freestyle relay

SILVER

Steve Seymour, United States: athletics, javelin throw

BRONZE

Éva Földes, Hungary: Olympic art competition, epic works
 James Fuchs, United States: athletics, shot put
 George Worth, United States: fencing, team saber

1952 Oslo/Helsinki**GOLD**

Robert Antal, Hungary: water polo
 Sándor Geller, Hungary: soccer
 Maria Gorochovskia, USSR: gymnastics, all-around individual exercises; gymnastics, team combined exercises
 Boris Gurevitsch, USSR: Greco-Roman wrestling, flyweight
 Valeria Gyenge, Hungary: swimming, 400-meter freestyle
 Ágnes Keleti, Hungary: gymnastics, floor exercises
 Claude Netter, France: fencing, team foil

Mikhail Perelman, USSR: gymnastics, team combined exercises

Yakov Punkin, USSR: wrestling, Greco-Roman featherweight

Eva Székely, Hungary: swimming, 200-meter breaststroke

Judit Temes, Hungary: swimming, 4×100m meter relay

SILVER

Leonid Gissen, USSR: rowing, eight-oared shell with coxswain

Maria Gorochovskia, USSR: gymnastics, vault; gymnastics, asymmetrical bars; gymnastics, balance beam; gymnastics, floor exercises; gymnastics, team exercises with portable apparatus

Agnes Keleti, Hungary: gymnastics, team combined exercises

**Aleksandr Moiseyev, USSR: basketball

Grigoriy Novak, USSR: weightlifting, middle-heavyweight

Henry Wittenberg, United States: freestyle wrestling, light-heavyweight

BRONZE

James Fuchs, United States: athletics, shot put

Agnes Keleti, Hungary: gymnastics, asymmetrical bars; gymnastics, team exercises with portable apparatus

Herbert Klein, Germany: swimming, 200-meter breaststroke

Judit Temes, Hungary: 100-meter freestyle

Lev Vainschtein, USSR: shooting, free pistol

1956 Cort. d'Ampezzo/Melbourne**GOLD**

Isaac Berger, United States: weightlifting, featherweight

László Fábian, Hungary: kayak pairs, 10,000-meter

Agnes Keleti, Hungary: gymnastics, asymmetrical bars; gymnastics, floor exercises;

gymnastics, balance beam; gymnastics, team exercise with portable apparatus
 Aliz Kertész, Hungary: gymnastics, team exercise with portable apparatus
 **Alfred Kuchevsky, USSR: ice hockey
 Boris Razinsky, USSR: soccer
 Leon Rotman, Romania: canoe, 1,000-meter Canadian singles; canoe, 10,000-meter Canadian singles
 Igor Rybak, USSR: weightlifting, lightweight

SILVER

Rafael Gratsch, USSR: speed skating, 500-meter
 Agnes Keleti, Hungary: gymnastics; individual combined exercises; gymnastics, team combined exercises
 Aliz Kertész, Hungary: gymnastics, team combined exercises
 Claude Netter, France: fencing, team foil
 Eva Szekely, Hungary: swimming, 200-meter breaststroke

BRONZE

Yves Dreyfus, France: fencing, team epee
 Imre Farkas, Hungary: canoe, 10,000-meter Canadian pairs
 Boris Goikhman, USSR: water polo
 Armand Mouyal, France: fencing, team epee
 David Tyschler, USSR: fencing, team saber

1960 Squaw Valley/Rome**GOLD**

**Leonid Geishtor, USSR: canoe, Canadian pairs 1,000-meter
 Mark Midler, USSR: fencing, team foil
 Irina Press, USSR: track & field, 80-meter hurdles
 Tamara Press, USSR: track & field, shot put
 Gyula Török, Hungary: boxing, flyweight

SILVER

Isaac Berger, United States: weightlifting, featherweight

Boris Goikhman, USSR: water polo
 Allan Jay, UK: fencing, individual epee; fencing, team epee
 Jean Klein, France: rowing, coxed-fours
 Guy Nosbaum, France: rowing, coxed-fours
 Vladimir Portnoi, USSR: gymnastics, team combined exercises
 Tamara Press, USSR: track & field, discus

BRONZE

Albert Axelrod, United States: fencing, individual foil
 Moyses Blas, Brazil: basketball
 Imre Farkas, Hungary: canoe, 1,000-meter Canadian pairs
 Klára Fried-Bánfalvi, Hungary: kayak, 500-meter pairs
 **Rafael Gratsch, USSR: speed skating, 500-meter
 Robert Halperin, United States: yachting, Star-class
 Alfred Kuchevsky, USSR: ice hockey
 Vladimir Portnoi, USSR: gymnastics, long horse vault
 Leon Rotman, Romania: canoe, 1,000-meter Canadian singles
 David Segal, UK: athletics, 4×100m relay

1964 Innsbruck/Tokyo**GOLD**

Gerald Ashworth, United States: athletics, 4×100m relay
 Lawrence Brown, United States: basketball
 **Boris Dubrovsky, USSR: rowing, double sculls
 Tamás Gábor, Hungary: fencing, team epee
 Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska, Poland: athletics, 4×100m relay
 Grigory Kriss, USSR: fencing, individual epee
 Mark Midler, USSR: fencing, team foil
 **Georgy Mondzolevsky, USSR: volleyball
 Árpád Orbán, Hungary: soccer

Irina Press, USSR: track & field, pentathlon
 Tamara Press, USSR: track & field, shot put;
 track & field, discus
 Mark Rakita, USSR: fencing, team saber

SILVER

Nelly Abramova, USSR: volleyball
 Isaac Berger, United States: weightlifting,
 featherweight
 Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska, Poland: athlet-
 ics, 200-meter dash; athletics, long jump
 Marilyn Ramenofsky, United States: swim-
 ming, 400-meter freestyle

BRONZE

**Aron Bogulyubov, USSR: judo, lightweight
 James Bregman, United States: judo,
 middleweight
 Petra Burka, Canada: figure skating
 Yves Dreyfus, France: fencing, team epee

1968 Grenoble/Mexico City**GOLD**

Boris Gurevitsch, USSR: freestyle wrestling
 middleweight
 Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska, Poland: athlet-
 ics, 200-meter dash
 Valentin Mankin, USSR: yachting, Finn class
 **Georgy Mondzolevsky, USSR: volleyball
 Mark Rakita, USSR: fencing, team saber
 Mark Spitz, United States: swimming, 400-
 meter freestyle relay; swimming, 800-
 meter freestyle relay
 **Yuri, Venherovsky, USSR: volleyball
 Eduard Vinokurov, USSR: fencing, team
 saber

SILVER

Semyon Belits-Geiman, USSR: swimming,
 4×100m freestyle relay
 Alain Calmat, France: figure skating
 **Alexandr Gorelik, USSR: figure skating,
 pairs

Grigory Kriss, USSR: fencing, individual
 epee; fencing, team epee
 Mark Rakita, USSR: fencing, individual saber
 Mark Spitz, United States: swimming, 100-
 meter butterfly
 Yosif Vitebsky, USSR: fencing, team épée

BRONZE

Semyon Belits-Geiman, USSR: swimming,
 4×200m freestyle relay
 Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska, Poland: athlet-
 ics, 100-meter dash
 **Naum Prokupets, USSR: canoeing, 1,000-
 meter Canadian pairs
 Mark Spitz, United States: swimming, 100-
 meter freestyle
 Peter Bakónyi, Hungary: fencing, team sabre

1972 Sapporo/Munich**GOLD**

Sándor Erdős, Hungary: fencing team epee
 Gyorgy Gedo, Hungary: Boxing, light
 flyweight
 Valentin Mankin, USSR: yachting, tempest
 class
 Faina Melnik, USSR: athletics, discus throw
 Mark Spitz, United States: swimming, 100-
 meter freestyle; swimming, 200-meter
 freestyle; swimming, 100-meter butterfly;
 swimming, 200-meter butterfly; swim-
 ming, 4×100m freestyle relay; swimming,
 4×100m medley relay; swimming, 4×200m
 freestyle relay

SILVER

Andrea Gyarmati, Hungary: swimming, 100-
 meter backstroke
 Mark Rakita, USSR: fencing, team saber
 Neal Shapiro, United States: equestrian, team
 jumping
 **Eduard Vinokurov, USSR: fencing, team
 saber

BRONZE

Peter Asch, United States: water polo
 **Efim Chulak, USSR: volleyball
 Don Cohan, United States: yachting,
 Dragon-class
 Andrea Gyarmati, Hungary: swimming, 100-
 meter butterfly
 Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska, Poland: athlet-
 ics, 200-meter dash
 Neal Shapiro, United States: Equestrian, indi-
 vidual jumping
 Peter Bakonyi, Hungary: Fencing, team sabre

1976 Innsbruck/Montreal**GOLD**

Ernest Grunfeld, United States: basketball
 Irena Kirszenstein-Szewinska, Poland: athlet-
 ics, 400-meter run
 **Valery Shary, USSR: weightlifting, light
 heavyweight
 Eduard Vinokurov, USSR: fencing, team
 saber

SILVER

**Efim Chulak, USSR: volleyball
 Natalia Kushnir, USSR: volleyball
 Nancy Lieberman, United States: basketball
 Valentin Mankin, USSR: yachting, tempest
 class

BRONZE

Leonid Buryak, USSR: soccer
 Edith Master, United States: equestrian team
 dressage
 Wendy Weinberg, United States: swimming,
 800-meter freestyle
 Victor Zilbermann, Romania: boxing,
 welterweight

1980 Lake Placid/Moscow**GOLD**

Gennady Karponosov, USSR: ice-dancing,
 pairs
 Valentin Mankin, USSR: yachting, star class
 Shamil Sabyrov, USSR: boxing,
 light-heavyweight

SILVER

**Svetlana Krachevskaya, USSR: athletics,
 shot put

1984 Sarajevo/Los Angeles**GOLD**

Carina Benninga, Netherlands: field hockey
 Mitchell Gaylord, United States: gymnastics,
 team
 Dara Torres, United States: swimming,
 4×100m freestyle relay.

SILVER

Daniel Adler, Brazil: yachting, sailing class
 Robert Berland, United States: judo,
 middleweight
 Mitch Gaylord, United States: gymnastics,
 vaulting
 Bernard Rajzman, Brazil: volleyball

BRONZE

Mark Berger, Canada: judo, heavyweight
 Mitchell Gaylord, United States: gymnastics,
 rings; gymnastics, parallel bars

1988 Calgary/Seoul**GOLD**

Mike Milchin, United States: baseball, exhibi-
 tion event
 Yelena Shushunova, USSR: gymnastics, all-
 around; gymnastics, team

SILVER

Yelena Shushunova, USSR: gymnastics, bal-
 ance beam

Dara Torres, United States: swimming,
4×100m medley relay

BRONZE

Seth Bauer, United States: rowing, eight-
oared shell with coxswain

Carina Benninga, Netherlands: field hockey

Brad Gilbert, United States: tennis, singles

Yelena Shushunova, USSR: gymnastics,
uneven bars

Dara Torres, United States: swimming,
4×100m freestyle relay

1992 Albertville/Barcelona

GOLD

Valeri Belenki, CIS/Azerbaijan: gymnastics,
team combined exercises

Joe Jacobi, United States: canoeing, Canadian
slalom pairs

Tatiana Lysenko, CIS/Russia: gymnastics,
balance beam; gymnastics, team combined
exercises

Dara Torres, United States: swimming,
4×100m freestyle relay

SILVER

Yael Arad, Israel: judo, light middleweight

Avital Selinger, Netherlands: volleyball

BRONZE

Valeri Belenki, CIS /Azerbaijan: gymnastics,
individual combined exercises

Ben Greenbaum, United States: volleyball

Tatiana Lysenko, CIS/Russia: gymnastics,
horse vault

Oren Smadga, Israel: judo, lightweight

Kerri Strug, United States: gymnastics, team
combined exercises

Robert Dover, United States: equestrian, team
dressage

1994 Lillehammer (winter)

1996 Atlanta

GOLD

Sergei Sharikov, Russia: fencing, team saber

Kerri Strug, United States: gymnastics, team
combined exercises

SILVER

Yanina Batrichina, Russia: rhythmic
gymnastics

Sergei Sharikov, Russia: fencing, individual
sabre

BRONZE

Miryam Fox-Jerusalmi, France: canoe, k-1
slalom

Gal Friedman, Israel: sailing

Mariya Mazina, Russia: fencing, women team
epee

Robert Dover, United States: equestrian, team
dressage

1998 Nagano (winter)

2000 Sydney

GOLD

Anthony Erwin, United States: swimming,
50-meter freestyle

Lenny Krayzelburg, United States: swim-
ming, 100-meter backstroke; swimming,
200-meter backstroke; swimming, 4×100m
medley relay

Maria Mazina, Russia: fencing, team epee

Sergei Sharikov, Russia: fencing, team sabre

Dara Torres, United States: swimming,
4×100m freestyle relay; swimming,
4×100m medley relay

SILVER

Adriana Behar, Brazil: beach volleyball

Anthony Erwin, United States: swimming,
400-meter freestyle relay
Scott Goldblatt, United States: swimming,
800-meter freestyle relay
Jason Lezak, United States: swimming, 400-
meter freestyle relay
Yulia Raskina, Belarus: rhythmic gymnastics
Dara Torres, United States: swimming, 50-
meter freestyle; swimming, 4×100m free-
style relay; swimming, 4×100m medley
relay
Sara Whalen, United States: soccer

BRONZE

Robert Dover, United States: equestrian, team
dressage
Michael Kolganov, Israel: canoe/kayak, men
k-1,500-meter

2002 Salt Lake City (winter)**GOLD**

Sarah Hughes, United States: figure skating

SILVER

Ilya Averbukh, Russia: ice dancing, pairs
Irina Slutskaya, Russia: figure skating

2004 Athens**GOLD**

Gal Friedman, Israel: sailing
Scott Goldblatt, United States: swimming
4×200m freestyle relay
Lenny Krayzelburg, United States: swimming
4×100m medley relay
Jason Lezak, United States: swimming,
4×100m medley relay; swimming, 4×200m
medley relay
Nicolas Massu, Chile: tennis, singles; tennis,
doubles

SILVER

Adriana Behar, Brazil: beach volleyball
Gavin Fingleson, Australia: baseball

BRONZE

Robert Dover, United States: riding, team
dressage
Sada Jacobson, United States: fencing, indi-
vidual saber
Deena Kastor, United States: athletics,
marathon
Jason Lezak, United States: swimming,
4×100m freestyle relay
Sarah Poewe, Germany: swimming, 4×100m
medley relay
Sergei Sharikov, Russia: fencing, team saber
Arik Ze'evi, Israel: judo, 100kg

2006 Turin (winter)**SILVER**

Sasha Cohen, United States: figure skating
Ben Agosto, United States: ice dancing
Tanith Belbin, United States: ice dancing

BRONZE

Irina Slutskaya, Russia: figure skating

2008 Beijing**GOLD**

Jason Lezak, United States: swimming,
4×400m freestyle relay
swimming, 4×400m medley relay
Garrett Weber-Gale, United States: swim-
ming, 4×100m freestyle relay; swimming,
4×100m medley relay
Ben Wildman-Tobriner, United States: swim-
ming, 4×100m freestyle relay

SILVER

Vasyl Fedoryshyn, Ukraine: wrestling, 60 kg
Sada Jacobson, United States: fencing, indi-
vidual sabre
Merrill Moses, United States: water polo
Dara Torres, United States: swimming, 50-
meter freestyle; swimming, 4×100m free-

style relay; swimming, 4×100m medley relay

Josh West, Great Britain: rowing, eights

BRONZE

Sada Jacobson, United States: fencing, team sabre

Gisele Kanevsky, Argentina: field hockey

Jason Lezak, United States: swimming, 100-meter freestyle

Sharar Zubari, Israel: windsurfing

2010 Vancouver (winter)

GOLD

Steve Mesler, United States: bobsled, 4-man

2012 London (summer)

GOLD

Aly Raisman, United States: gymnastics, individual floor exercise; gymnastics, team

Jo Alah, New Zealand: sailing, 470 class

SILVER

Jessica Fox, Australia: canoeing, k-1

Jason Lezak, United States: swimming, 4×100m freestyle relay

BRONZE

Aly Raisman, United States: gymnastics, balance beam

Felipe Kitadai, Brazil: judo, extra-lightweight (60 kg)

2014 Sochi, Russia (winter)

BRONZE

Jason Brown, United States: figure skating

Dylan Moscovovitch, Canada: figure skating

Simon Shnafir, United States: figure skating

2016 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (summer)

GOLD

Anthony Ervin, United States: swimming, 50-meter freestyle; swimming, 4×100m freestyle relay

Aly Raisman, United States: gymnastics, team all-around

SILVER

Jo Alah, New Zealand: sailing, 470 class

Zoe De Toledo, Great Britain: rowing, coxed eight

Aly Raisman, United States: gymnastics, individual all-around; gymnastics, individual floor exercises; gymnastics, team all-around

BRONZE

Yardon Gerbi, Israel: judo, 63kg

Ori Sasson, Israel: judo, over 100kg

Jessica Fox, Australia: kayak, k-1

2018 Pyeongchang, South Korea (winter)

GOLD

Areille Gold, United States: Snowboarding, half pipe

*There are some questions about the Jewishness of these athletes.

**The opening of the Soviet Union during the mid-1980s provided a window to Jewish athletes in this part of the world. We include herein many of these names based upon recommendations of authorities who are familiar with Russian and Soviet Union Jewry.

A note from the author: The decision to include or exclude an athlete from this list, and who is Jewish or assigned by society as Jewish, is not a simple task. This issue of identification is not characteristic only to the Jewish people, but other ethnic or religious groups as well. What is unique about Jewishness is that it can be either a religious or ethnic marker for an individual

or social group. For the purpose of compiling this list, there were two selection criteria. One was an obviously Jewish—i.e., "halachich"—consideration, which stipulates that the mother of the individual should be Jewish. The second criterion was the self-identification of an individual with at least one Jewish parent as a Jew. On the final account, however, like every list, this roster of Jewish Olympic medalists may contain mistakes; it may include athletes who might not be Jewish or omit Jewish athletes who should be listed. Any reader knowledgeable of incorrect listings or missing listings is invited to contact George Eisen at: education_pro@hotmail.com.

THE MACCABIAH GAMES

The Maccabiah Games are quadrennial Jewish Olympics, held in Israel the year following the Olympic Games. Every four years, the best Jewish athletes in the world compete in open, masters, juniors, and disabled competitions.

The Maccabiah is staged under the auspices of the Maccabi World Union (MWU), a worldwide cultural and sports organization devoted to furthering Jewish identity and traditions via cultural, social, and educational activities. The MWU is headquartered in Israel.

The Games are organized by an International Maccabiah Committee and are sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee and World Federation of Sports. The Maccabiah Games rank among the three largest sports gatherings in the world (in number of participants) and are considered regional games by the IOC.

For each participant, the Maccabiah Games are “two weeks to experience, and a lifetime to remember.” For many, the Maccabiah is the athlete’s most significant connection to the State of Israel and, for some, Judaism itself. For the young open athlete, generally sixteen to twenty-three years old and immersed in the machinations of high-level competition, connection with Jewish contemporaries from the far reaches of the world, in the land of Jewish roots, inspires an awakening of heritage.

While all Maccabiah matches, games, and races are keenly competitive, some events measure up to world-class competition. Numerous Olympians and national champions have sought Maccabiah gold, silver, and bronze medals. Among the Olympic gold medalists, world champions, and world record holders who have competed in the Maccabiah Games are Mark Spitz and Marilyn

Ramenofsky (swimming), Debbie Lipman (diving), Mitch Gaylord, Abie Grossfeld, Aly Raisman, and Agnes Keleti (gymnastics), Larry Brown, Ernie Grunfeld, and Danny Schayes (coaches), Nat Holman and Dolph Schayes (basketball), Sergei Sharikov (fencing), Lillian Copeland, Gerald Ashworth, Fanny Rosenfeld, and Gary Gubner (track and field), Angela Buxton, Julie Heldman, Allen Fox, Tom Okker, and Dick Savitt (tennis), Angelica Rosenau (table tennis), Isaac Berger and Frank Spellman (weightlifting), and Fred Oberlander and Henry Wittenberg (wrestling).

The concept of the Maccabiah Games was the brainchild of fifteen-year-old Russian-born Yosef Yekutieli. The Eretz Yisrael teenager was so energized by news of the 1912 Olympic Games that he conceived the fanciful notion of a worldwide Olympics for Jewish athletes in Palestine. With little encouragement and not a small amount of ridicule, Yekutieli spent the next ten years developing his unique idea.

In 1928 Yekutieli presented his far-fetched proposal to the Jewish National Fund, with the notion that the Maccabiah Games could be organized to commemorate the 1,800th anniversary of the Bar Kochba Rebellion (Jewish revolt against the Romans). Coincidentally, the Maccabi organization was formulating ideas to provide a means of participation by athletes living in the British Mandate of Palestine in important international sporting events, one that would also act as a form of international recognition of Palestine as the Jewish national home.

Yekutieli’s Maccabiada, as the Games were originally called, was the right idea at the right time. With the hechture of the Eretz Yisrael Soccer Association, other Holy Land sports groups fell

in line to give the proposed games their blessings. But approval of the ruling British Palestine high commissioner was the final hurdle to realization.

In the fall of 1931, Great Britain appointed Sir Arthur "Andy" Wauchope to be high commissioner of Palestine. Contrary to previous high commissioners, he admired the achievements of Zionist Palestine, including the burgeoning Jewish sports movement. The new high commissioner gladly extended his patronage to the Maccabiada, on the condition that it host Arab and official British Mandate athletes as well as Jewish sportsmen. The Maccabiada was scheduled for March 1932.

With approval came the next conundrum: reaching the world Jewish community with news of this sports extravaganza. So, in a world absent television, the internet, significant radio, and common language print media, two delegations of Jewish motorbikers set off from Tel Aviv on an epic promotional tour to the Jewish communities of Europe, where most Jews lived. The first troupe of promoters hit the road in 1930, biking from Tel Aviv to Antwerp, Belgium. The second set of riders left Tel Aviv for London a year later. Yekutieli himself rode with one of the delegations.

On the second tour, May 10 to July 16, 1931, the intrepid Maccabiah bikers covered 5,825 miles (9,37km). From Tel Aviv they traveled across the Sinai desert through Cairo and Alexandria (Egypt); hopped a ship to Salonika (Greece); then on to Gorna, Sofia, (Bulgaria); Belgrade, Novy, Sad (Serbia), Osijek and Zagreb (Croatia); through Vienna and Linz (Austria) to Nuremburg and Frankfurt (Germany); through Metz to Paris (France); and by ferry to Brighton and the English cities of London, Birmingham, Manchester, and Leeds; to Glasgow (Scotland); and then home via Beirut (Lebanon). Wherever they went, they announced the "Jewish Olympics," the Maccabiah, taking place the following spring in Eretz Yisra'el (the land of Israel).

The original Maccabiah was held from March 28 to April 6, 1932. Its overwhelming success guar-

anteed its permanent future. Originally conceived as a quadrennial event, the second Maccabiah was moved up a year to 1935 because of the rising tide of Nazism in Europe. The rumblings of World War II forced postponement of the third Maccabiah. The delay was fifteen years. The Games were reborn in 1950 in the new State of Israel, and Maccabiah IV was held in 1953. Thereafter, the Maccabiah established its current quadrennial formula, held the year following the Summer Olympic Games.

The Maccabiah Games by Year

Maccabiah I, 1932

The first Maccabiah is held in the spring of 1932 in Tel Aviv, a city of fifty thousand residents. Israel's first sport stadium is completed barely in time for the Games. The Maccabiah is opened by a colorful parade through the streets of Tel Aviv, led by Mayor Meir Dizengoff riding a white horse. In attendance are 390 athletes from eighteen countries, including sixty-nine participants from Egypt and Syria. The U.S. delegation is the smallest—only ten participants. Poland, Austria, and the United States finish first, second, third in team medals won. The Maccabiah stirs an athletic spirit throughout Palestine and inspires the development of sports in the Holy Land.

Maccabiah II, 1935

Despite opposition by British Mandatory Police, Maccabiah participants parade through Tel Aviv streets to open the games. Twenty-one sports are on the competition menu, and the number of participants is 1,350, representing twenty-eight countries, including a large contingent from Germany.

These Games are being held during a period of strict restrictions on Jewish immigration, but many athletes seize the opportunity to remain in the country. The Bulgarian team members remain

in Palestine, sending only their musical instruments back to Sofia.

Maccabiah III, 1938/1950

Scheduled to be staged in 1938, the games are canceled because of political events in Europe, Arab violence in Palestine, and Mandate authorities' concern that the Maccabiah Games will create huge illegal immigration. In 1950 the Games resume—this time in the independent State of Israel. Nineteen countries send eight hundred athletes, and the opening parade and track and field events are held in the new fifty-thousand-spectator stadium in Ramat Gan, a suburb of Tel Aviv. Israeli president Chaim Weitzmann “opens” the Games, and Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion tells the competitors: “Existence in our ancestral home requires physical might no less than intellectual excellence.” Argentina, Canada, India, Libya, and Sweden are first-time entries.

Maccabiah IV, 1953

Israeli president Yitzhak Ben-Zvi “opens” the Games involving 890 athletes representing twenty-one countries. First-time entries include Australia, Brazil, and Chile.

Maccabiah V, 1957

Twenty countries send 980 athletes, and Mexico presents its first contingent of athletes. The presence of so many world-class Jewish athletes elevates the quality of competition.

Plans are set to build a “Maccabiah Village” to house athletes for Games in the future.

Maccabiah VI, 1961

The games attract one thousand athletes from twenty-seven countries. First-time countries include Guatemala and Congo. The new Kfar Ha'Maccabiah Village houses the athletes.

Because the MWU has been designated an Organization of Olympic Standing by the 1960 Olympic Congress, the Maccabiah Games are now recog-

nized as a regional sport event under the auspices and supervision of the International Olympic Committee and International Sports Federations.

The International Maccabiah Games Committee (IMGC) is established and includes non-Maccabi affiliated organizations such as Hapoel, the Canadian Maccabiah Committee, and the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel.

Maccabiah VII, 1965

Twenty-five nations send 1,200 athletes to compete in twenty-one sports. First-time Maccabiah Games flags belong to Iran, Jamaica, Peru, and Venezuela. The City of Tel Aviv opens Yad Eliyahu, a new indoor stadium for basketball, boxing, and judo events. The first international shooting range and championship lawn bowling greens debut in the Tel Aviv suburb of Ramat Gan, while golf makes its Maccabiah bow at a new course in Caesarea. And fifteen-year-old American swimmer Mark Spitz wins three gold medals in his first international competition.

Maccabiah VIII, 1969

Twenty-seven countries send 1,500 athletes to compete in twenty-two sports. Germany and Greece send teams for the first time since the 1935 Games, and a new swimming pool at Yad Eliyahu is dedicated. Deborah Turner, Israel's sprint champion, an émigré from Great Britain, is the first woman to present the opening ceremonies torch and light the Maccabiah Games flame.

Maccabiah IX, 1973

The ninth Maccabiah takes place in the shadow of the murders of eleven Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympic Games. An overflow crowd of sixty thousand spectators, including Israeli leaders Golda Meir and Abba Eban, pay homage to the slain Israelis.

American-born Tal Brody, who had led the United States to a Maccabiah gold medal in basketball in 1969 and Israel to the European Cup

championship three years later, carries the Maccabiah torch into the Ramat Gan arena, past 1,500 athletes from twenty-seven countries, and lights the opening ceremonies flame. Moments later, the stadium is cast into darkness, save for the light of the Maccabiah flame, and eleven additional memorial torches are lit, one by one, for each Israeli who died in Munich.

Closing ceremonies take place at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, following a parade of Maccabiah athletes, coaches, staff, and officials past thousands of festive Israelis through the historic streets of the Old City.

Maccabiah X, 1977

Labeled the "Jubilee Maccabiah," the number of competing athletes nearly doubles for the tenth Maccabiah, in which 2,700 athletes from thirty-three countries will compete in twenty-six sports. Competition venues are spread throughout the Holy Land, north to Haifa and among Israel's kibbutzim. It is the largest sporting event ever held in the Middle East. Bridge and chess are debut events. For the first time, international seminars on sports medicine and the history of Jewish sport and physical education are held within the Maccabiah framework.

Maccabiah XI, 1981

The eleventh Maccabiah brings 3,450 athletes to Israel from thirty nations. The competition menu of thirty sports includes sailing and softball for the first time. New facilities for squash, wrestling, karate, and judo are introduced.

Maccabiah XII, 1985

The number of participating athletes tops four thousand, coming to Israel from forty countries to compete in twenty-eight sports.

Thirteen years after his first appearance in the Maccabiah, Olympic champion Mark Spitz returns to Israel to carry the opening ceremonies torch into Ramat Gan Stadium. He is accompanied by

Shirli Shapiro, Anok Spitzer, and Shlomit Romano, children of three of the Israelis slain at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Maccabiah XIII, 1989

It is the "Bar Mitzvah" Maccabiah, and 4,500 young men and women representing forty-five countries participate. For the first time since World War II, athletes from Hungary, the (former) Soviet Union, and (former) Yugoslavia take part. The opening ceremonies Maccabiah torch is carried by 1988 Paralympics swimming gold medalist Hanoach Bodin, a disabled Israel Defense Forces veteran.

Maccabiah XIV, 1993

The Maccabiah welcomes 5,061 competitors from forty-eight countries. Many Eastern European countries send delegations for the first time since World War II. They are joined by a huge contingent from South Africa, making its first official Maccabiah appearance since a twenty-year boycott by international sports federations.

Maccabiah XV, 1997

The six-thousand-plus athletes of the fifteenth Maccabiah usher in celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the State of Israel. Fifty nations send their finest Jewish sportsmen and sportswomen to compete in forty-three sports.

A Junior Maccabiah for youngsters thirteen to sixteen and a Masters Maccabiah for athletes over thirty-five enjoy their largest number of entries. Athletes honored in Israel's International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame march in the opening ceremonies at Ramat Gan Stadium.

The 1997 opening ceremonies, however, provide the setting for improbable tragedy at the very outset of the otherwise successful Maccabiah. A temporary bridge, in place to allow parading athletes and officials to enter Ramat Gan Stadium for the opening march-by, suddenly collapses as the first athletes are crossing. Four Australian compet-

itors lose their lives, and many others are injured. The ceremonies and competitions are suspended. The following evening, a huge memorial service attended by all Maccabiah athletes, coaches, and officials is held at Modi'im. Because so many athletes and supporters from the corners of the globe had traveled to Israel for the Maccabiah, it is decided that the competitions would continue following a day of respect and reflection for the victims.

Maccabiah Games XVI, 2001

On the verge of cancelation because of ongoing Palestinian violence, the sixteenth Maccabiah nonetheless attracts more than 2,200 athletes from forty-six countries. The opening ceremony is held for the first time ever at Teddy Stadium in Jerusalem. Israeli president Moshe Katsav opens the games in the presence of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Israeli cabinet ministers, the prime minister of Romania, and numerous other dignitaries. Israeli Olympic pole-vaulter Alex Averbukh carries the Maccabiah torch into Teddy Stadium, and the flame is lit by Israel's 2000 Paralympics triple gold medal swimmer Keren Leibovitch.

Women's basketball returns to the games and women's soccer is added. U.S. Olympic gold medalist and world record holder Lenny Krayzelburg earns a gold medal and sets a new Maccabiah record in the 100-meter backstroke. Russian Olympic fencing gold medalists Sergei Sharikov and Maria Mazina, coached by former Soviet Olympic fencing gold medalist Mark Rakita, win Maccabiah gold medals.

Maccabiah Games XVII, 2005

The seventeenth Maccabiah brings 6,667 athletes from fifty-four countries. At the extraordinary opening ceremonies, families of the victims of the 1997 bridge tragedy lead the parade of delegations into Ramat Gan Stadium, and Israeli children injured in the Palestinian terrorist campaign form the color guard for the Maccabiah banner.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon beams and waves to the athletes, while Olympic champions Mark Spitz and Lenny Krayzelburg march in with Team USA. Russian gold medal Olympic fencers Maria Mazina and Mark Rakita lead the Russian delegation, and Hungarian gymnasts cartwheel past the review stand.

Maccabiah Games XVIII, 2009

Maccabiah Chai, named as such because the sum of letters that form the Hebrew word for "life," *chai*, represents the number eighteen, and this year's games are the world's largest sports event of 2009. Record crowds of local sports fans grace this Maccabiah. It is standing room only at the Wingate Institute pool, where seven-time U.S. Olympic medalist Jason Lezak sets world-class times. Spectators come from all over the country for the baseball competition at Tel Aviv Sportek, sponsored by the Los Angeles Dodgers. The main stand at Herzliya Stadium is packed to the rafters as Australia takes its first rugby gold. And there is a heartwarming moment as the team from India, perennial also-rans, sponsored by generous donors from Los Angeles, wins their country's first medal (silver) in cricket.

Some of the world's best chess masters compete, including Judit Polgar of Hungary, soon-to-be World Cup champion Boris Gelfand of Israel, and dozens of highly rated young players. The competition is sponsored by former Los Angeles mayor Richard Riordan.

Delegations from fifty countries parade into the opening ceremony at Ramat Gan Stadium. The spectacle opening presentation is themed on Jews becoming a nation and building a home in Eretz Yisrael. The moving closing ceremony takes place at the IDF Armor Corps Memorial in Latrun. The eighteenth Maccabiah is viewed by millions worldwide via satellite. They are the first games to be televised beyond Israel's borders.

Maccabiah Games XIX, 2013

The nineteenth Maccabiah Games brings together 7,500 athletes, making it the third largest international sporting event in the world after the Olympics and the FIFA World Cup. The Maccabiah holds competitions in forty-two disciplines in thirty-four sports. A number of new sports are introduced or brought back, including archery, equestrian, and handball. Ice hockey is brought back for the first time since 1997. Debuting countries are Albania, Armenia, Aruba, Bahamas, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cuba, Curacao, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nicaragua, and Suriname.

The opening ceremonies for the nineteenth Games take place for the second time at the Teddy Stadium in Jerusalem. The Games are officially opened by Prime Minister Shimon Peres. President Barack Obama greets the Maccabiah through a prerecorded video, as does British prime minister David Cameron. U.S. Olympic gold medalist Aly Raisman lights the Maccabiah flame.

Maccabiah Games XX, 2017

The twentieth edition of the quadrennial Maccabiah is held July 4–17. A total of ten thousand athletes participate in the world's the third largest sporting competition. Eighty-five countries compete in forty-five sports, including first-time entries Bahamas, Cambodia, Cayman Islands, Haiti, Morocco, Philippines, Singapore, and South Korea.

Seven athletes participate in the traditional opening ceremonies torch lighting, including Olympic gold medalists Anthony Ervin and Fabien Gilot, Olympic medalists Ori Sasson and Yarden Gerbi, gymnast Neta Rivkin, the NBA's Omri Casspi, and Paralympic world champion Moran Samuel. Opening ceremonies take place at Jerusalem's Teddy Stadium. Closing ceremonies are held in Latrun. President Reuven Rivlin and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greet the thirty thousand spectators, with British prime minister Theresa May and Canadian prime minister Justin Trudeau offering good wishes via prerecorded video.

THE MUNICH ELEVEN



In the late summer of 1972, at the Olympic Games in Munich, Germany, eleven Israeli athletes were murdered by Arab terrorists.

Pillar of Faith (*foreground*) is a permanent memorial to the Munich Eleven.

David Berger
Zeev Friedman
Yosef Gottfreund
Eliezer Halfin
Yosef Romano
Amitsur Shapira
Kehat Shorr
Mark Slavin
Andre Spitzer
Yaacov Springer
Moshe Weinberg

Of the many essays of consolation published regarding the atrocity, Wingate Institute (who lost three of their staff members in the horror) published the following poem from the *Ceylon Times* in its monthly newsletter:

Weep tears again;
Hot bitter tears
For Moshe, slain.

With thousands more like him
Bright, radiant, strong,
He came to speak his word to sing his song;
Bright, radiant, strong, he came
With thousands more like him to play a game.

Tell me, I beg you once again,
Tell me
Why was young Moshe slain?
For some ten thousand year old bond of hate?
For some unknown untold caprice of fate?
Or was it as they say because he was Moshe?

Poor young Moshe, they'll lay you soon
Into the sand where never sun nor moon,
Where never sound nor light
Will touch your endless night.
How sad young friend, that as they say,
You had to die

Because you were Moshe.

Weep tears again poor world,
Weep tears again,
Hot bitter tears,
For Moshe, slain.

by Nalini

"As a piece of reference material it is a fine accomplishment. It's exhaustive research into a myriad of sports, and the accompanying biographies and pictures are done first class. . . . It is an education."—***Los Angeles Times***

"The impressive achievements of Jews in sports are well documented in this encyclopedic reference volume. . . . A first-rate account of Jews in sports since the end of the nineteenth century."

—***Jerusalem Post***

"Any sports enthusiast, armchair or otherwise, will find this book a fascinating read. This is indeed a keepsake to read and hold for many years for those interested in sports of all ages."

—***National Jewish Post and Opinion***

"It is the ultimate book for the serious sports fan."

—***Jewish News***

"Jewish stars shine! The book should put to rest the notion that there are few great Jewish athletes. The book profiles the nearly 250 members of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame." —***Washington Jewish Week***

"Libraries with a strong emphasis on sports collections may want to add this title to their collection." —***American Reference Books Annual***

"This encyclopedic and lavishly illustrated volume covers a dizzying array of sports. . . . I was amazed!" —***Canadian Jewish News***

Following the 1972 Olympics one sportswriter referred to Mark Spitz, winner of seven gold medals, as "the first great Jewish athlete." He couldn't have been more wrong. As *Jewish Sports Legends* shows, Jews have excelled at athletics for centuries. This engaging volume illuminates the lives and unforgettable accomplishments of Jews in virtually every major sport played worldwide. Baseball stars Sandy Koufax and Hank Greenberg, basketball's Red Auerbach and Dolph Schayes, and football's Sid Luckman and Marv Levy are only a few notable examples.

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Joseph Siegman is a Los Angeles-based entertainment executive. He founded the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1979 and is its past chairman.

Mark Spitz set a multitude of swimming world records and is a nine-time Olympic gold medalist.

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