

SHORT HISTORICAL NOTES XXIX

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Ph.D. Anton Gajdoš born on 1.6.1940 in Dubriniči (today Ukraine) lives most of his life in Bratislava (ex TCH, nowadays SVK). He comes from gymnastics family (his brother Pavel have world championship medals) and he devoted his life to gymnastics. His last achievement is establishment of Narodna encyklopedia športu Slovenska (www.sportency.sk). Among his passion is collecting photos and signatures of gymnasts. As we tend to forget old champions and important gymnasts, judges and coaches, we decided to publish part of his archive under title Short historical notes. All information on these pages is from Anton's archives and collected through years.



12th World Championship 1950 in Basel

The first World Championship (WC) in gymnastics after WWII was held in Basel (Switzerland) in 1950. Switzerland was determined as WC organizer already for year 1942, but war begun and all competitions were canceled. After the WWII it took quite a lot of time to start activities again, so it took 12 years from Prague in 1938 to Basel 1950.

What was so exceptional with this world championship?

The Basel WC was the last championship where other activities, disciplines besides artistic gymnastics were involved.

On the first day of competition at stadium, where 20.000 spectators were present, track and field disciplines were held for men:

- pole jump, 300 cm of height for 10 points,
- high jump, 160 cm of height for 10 points
- 100 m run, 12.2 s for 10 points.

Photo on right: Esa Seeste (FIN) was excellent in track and field disciplines



Gymnasts next day competed in compulsory exercises on apparatus on free exercise, pommel horse, rings, vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar and on the third day on same apparatus in optional exercises.

MEN RESULTS

Teams (all disciplines included):

1. Switzerland 852.25
2. Finland
3. France
4. Italy
5. Yugoslavia
6. Egypt

All around (all disciplines included)

1. Lehmann (SUI)
2. Adatte (SUI)
3. Rove (FIN)

Free exercise:

1. Gebedinger, Stalder (both SUI)
2. Dot (FRA)
3. Rove, Lampinen (FIN)

Pommel horse:

1. Stalder (SUI)
2. Adatte (SUI)
3. Lehmann (SUI)

Rings:

1. Lehmann (SUI)
2. Rove (FIN)
3. Eugster (SUI)

Vault:

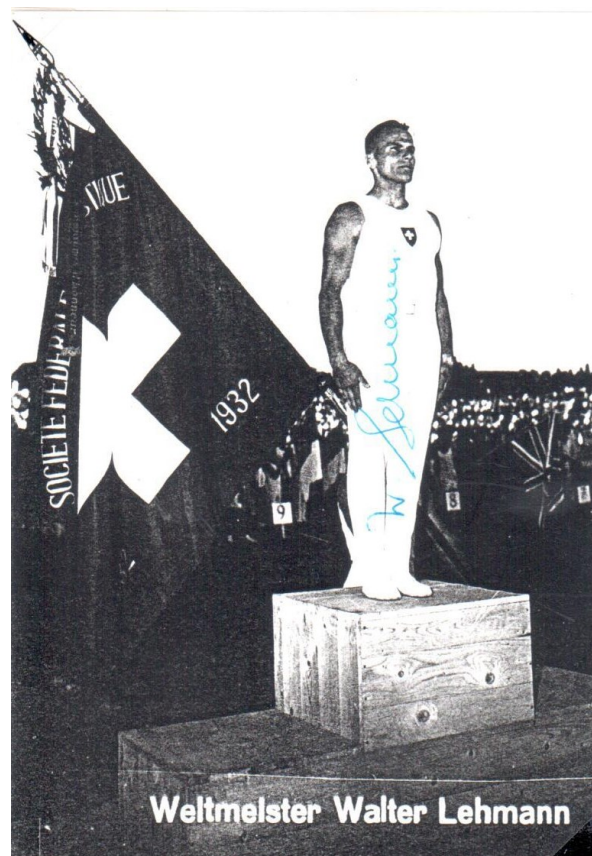
1. Gebedinger (SUI)
2. Rove (FIN)
3. Lehmann (SUI)

Parallel bars:

1. Eugster (SUI)
2. Rove (FIN)
3. Dot (FRA)

Horizontal bar:

1. Aaltonen (FIN)
2. Stalder, Lehman (both SUI)



The best gymnast in Basel Walther Lehmann (SUI)

WOMEN RESULTS

Women had compulsory and optional exercise on beam, vault, free exercise, uneven bars or swinging rings and group free exercise.

Teams

1. Sweden
2. France
3. Italy
4. Yugoslavia
5. Poland
6. Austria
7. Belgium

All around:

1. Rakoczy (POL)
2. Petersson (SWE)
3. Kolar (AUT)

Beam:

1. Rakoczy (POL)
2. Nuti (ITA)
3. Machini (ITA)

Vault:

1. Rakoczy (POL)
2. Kolar (AUT)
3. Lemoien (FRA)

Free exercise:

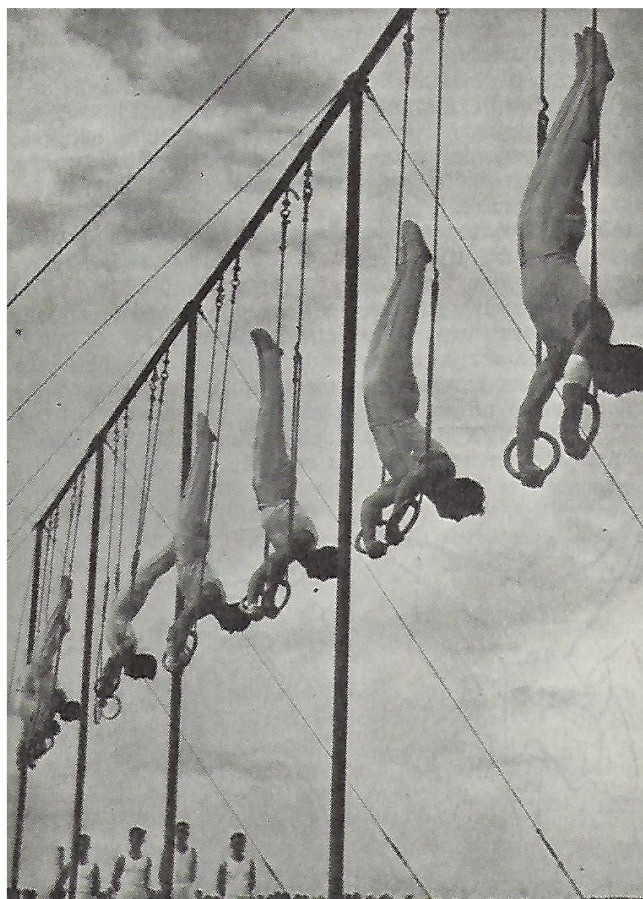
1. Rakoczy (POL)
2. Kočiš (YUG)
3. Reindlova (POL)

Swinging rings or uneven bars:

1. Kolar (AUT), Petersson (SWE)
2. Rakoczy (POL)
3. Sandahl (SWE)



The best gymnast in Basel Helena Rakoczy (POL)



During WC Switzerland had also country canton gymnastics festival, where simultaneous exercises were present.