

SHORT HISTORICAL NOTES XXVI

Anton Gajdoš, Bratislava, Slovakia

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.



Eberhard Gienger (July, 21, 1951, Kunzelsau, Germany)

Eberhard Gienger was one of the world best high bar gymnasts in period between 1971 and 1981. Even today his name is used at almost every high performance international championship, as he was the first to perform on high bar salto backward piked with 180 degrees turn into regrasp. Element named by Gienger – Gienger salto – is today performed on horizontal bar and on uneven bars.



Photo on right by: Albrecht Gaebele



Gienger salto as is drawn in FIG Code of Points since 1977

As he was very tall gymnast, by his words before training session his body height was 177 cm and after one centimeter less. Beside high bar, he was very successful on pommel horse and parallel bars, however his height was very contradictory towards rings exercises.



The first big international competition he attended was European Championship in 1971 in Madrid, where he took 6th place on vault and his last at European Championship in 1981 in Rome, where he won on horizontal bar and placed third on parallel bars.

Photo on left by: Albrecht Gaebele

His most prominent results are:

OG	Muenchen	1972	5. Team, 14. AA
OG	Montreal	1976	3. HB, 5.team, 16. AA
WC	Varna	1974	1. HB
WC	Strssbourg	1978	2. HB, 2. PH, 4. AA, 6 PB
WC	Moscow	1981	2. HB, 8.PB
EC	Madrid	1971	6. VT
EC	Grenoble	1973	1. HB
EC	Bern	1975	2. AA, 2. HB, 3. PH
EC	Vilnius	1977	2. PB
EC	Essen	1979	3. PB
EC	Rome	1981	1. HB, 3. PB
WCup	London	1975	2. HB, 4. AA
Wcup	Oviedo	1977	1. HB, 5. AA
Wcup	Sao Paulo	1978	1. HB, 2. PB, 6. AA
Wcup	Tokyo	1979	1. HB



During his very successful sports career, he was named twice as German Sportsman of the year in 1974 and 1978, and became teacher of physical education. After retirement from gymnastics he was among many functions he had, member of German National Olympic Committee, FIG Men's technical committee and from 2001 he was for twenty years member of German Parliament and serving in the Committee for Sports and Committee on Education, Research and Technology assessment.

