

SHORT HISTORICAL NOTES XII

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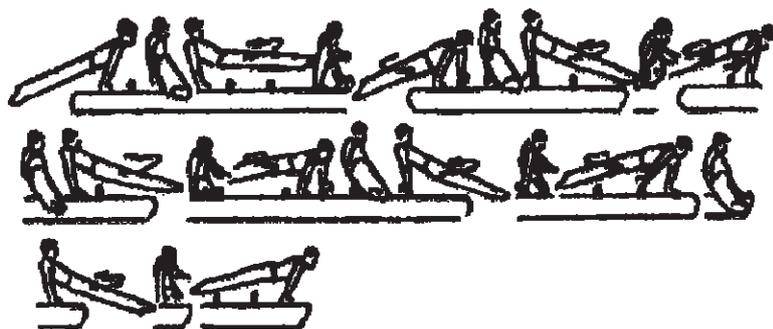
Ph.D. Anton Gajdoš born on 1.6.1940 in Dubriniči (today Ukraine) lives most of his life in Bratislava (ex TCH, nowadays SVK). He comes from gymnastics family (his brother Pavel have world championship medals) and he devoted his life to gymnastics. His last achievement is establishment of Narodna encyklopedia 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.



ZOLTÁN MAGYAR (born 15.12.1953, Budapest, Hungary)

Zoltan Magyar is probably the most important inventor on pommel horse since Emil Hafner inventor of double leg circles. Even nowadays his two elements: cross support travel from the beginning to the end of horse and spindle are included into each high quality exercise. His elements were also further developed and performed in various beginning and end positions with legs together or split. Even today they belong into group of D elements, what mean both elements are difficult and require high abilities to maintain rhythm and angular velocity to stay on the horse and continue with further elements.

Why was Zoltan such a phenomena on pommel horse? Story goes like: *...behind nine seas, nine mountains and nine rivers there was a very small gym where only pommel horse was possible to work on. Place was even so small, dismount was not possible to perform, and Zoltan who loved gymnastics used all horse in different positions and directions...* Of course this is just a fairy tale, but it is not far from real events, as his coach László Vigh guided him through his career and at the beginning his gym was really not something what we call today gymnastics hall.



Magyar travel (FIG COP MTC, 2013-2016)



Magyar spindle (FIG COP MTC, 2013-2016)

From the 1973 European Championship up to 1980 Olympic Games he always won on major competition like OG, WC and EC. His achievement is astonishing:

Olympic Games

1976 Montreal (Canada)	1st Pommel horse, 4th Team, 9th All Around
1980 Moskva (Russia, ex. Soviet Union)	1st Pommel horse, 3th Team, 9-10th All Around

World Championship

1974 Varna (Bulgaria)	1st Pommel horse, 4th Team, 15th All Around
1979 Strasbourg (France)	1st Pommel horse, 6th Team, 12th All Around

World Cup

1975 London (Great Britain)	1st Pommel horse
1978 Sao Paolo (Brazil)	1st Pommel horse

European Championship

1973 Grenoble (France)	1st Pommel horse
1975 Bern (Switzerland)	1st Pommel horse
1977 Vilnius (Litva, ex. Soviet Union)	1st Pommel horse

Zoltan Magyar in action from last major competition in Moskva, with his sign on photo of unknown photograph.

