

# SPORTS HISTORY

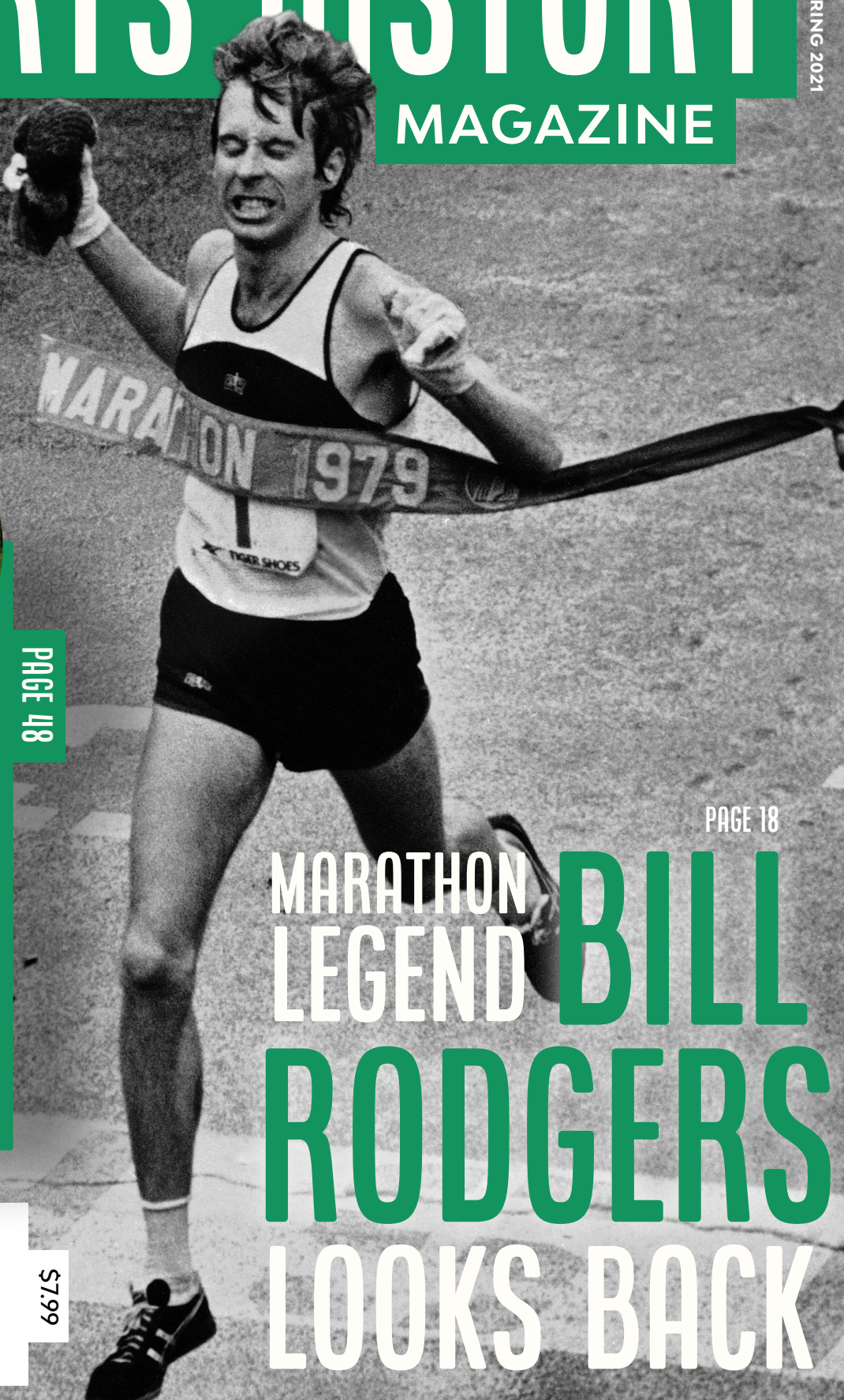
ISSUE 10: SPRING 2021

## MAGAZINE



PAGE 48

INTERVIEW WITH  
**KARRIE WEBB**



PAGE 18

MARATHON  
LEGEND **BILL  
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LOOKS BACK

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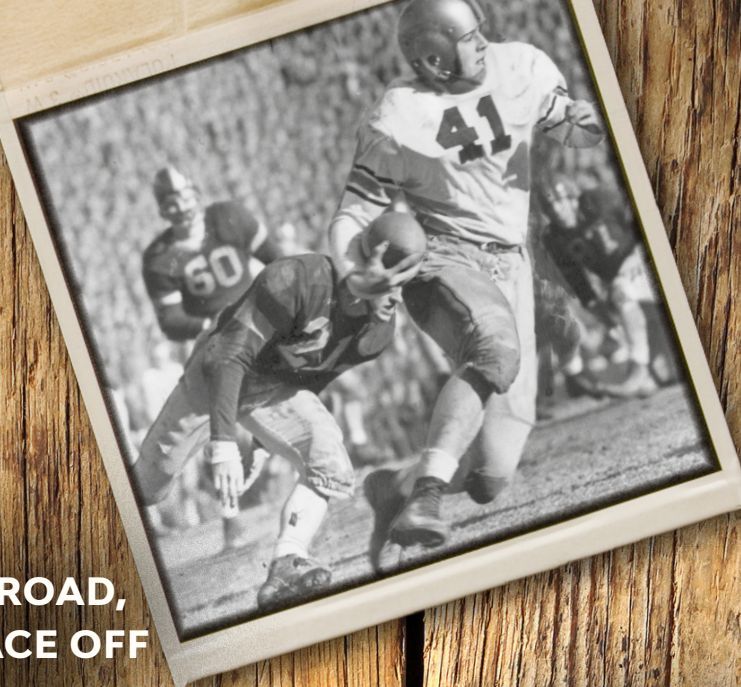
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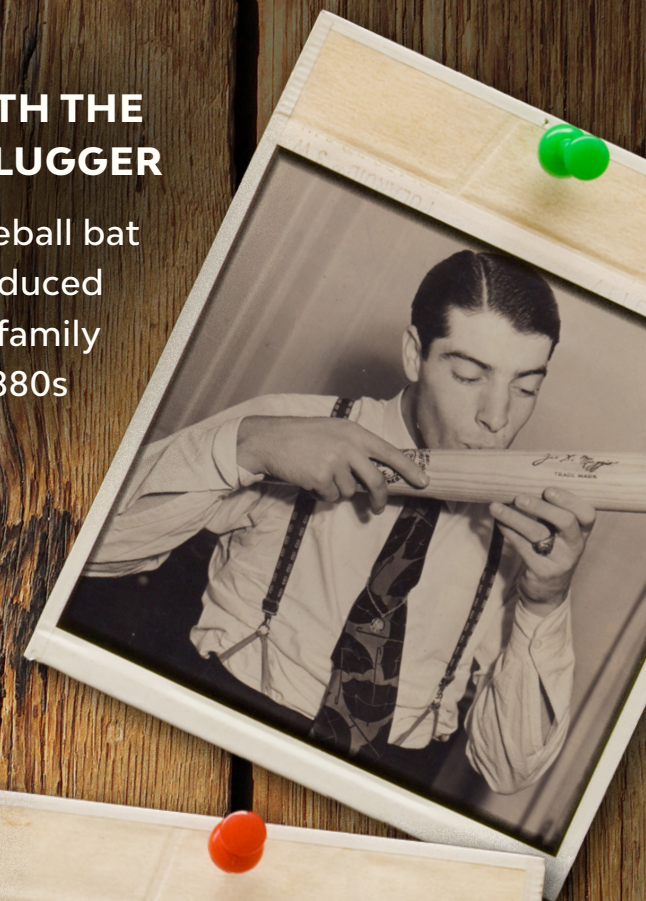
## INTERVIEW WITH CYCLING CHAMPION, ALBERTO CONTADOR

One of the greatest cyclists, Contador overcame a serious vascular disorder at a young age



## AT HOME WITH THE LOUISVILLE SLUGGER

The famed baseball bat has been produced by the same family since the 1880s



## A GOLF TOURNAMENT FOR THE AGES

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# SPORTS HISTORY MAGAZINE

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**EDITOR IN CHIEF**  
GILL SCHOR

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**CONTRIBUTORS**

HANK GOLA, KEVIN SHEA,  
RON KAPLAN, DAVID PIERCE,  
HAL WERT, KEVIN BURKE,  
JONATHAN YATES, ROB RUCK,  
RUSS COHEN, RICHARD NAUGHTON,  
CHRIS WILLIS, KEITH HIRSHLAND,  
MICHAEL RENOUF, FIONA SKILLEN  
CECIL HARRIS AND  
CORYE PEREZ BEENE.

**DIGITAL MARKETING**  
ANDREW BECKS  
[301DIGITALMEDIA.COM](http://301DIGITALMEDIA.COM)

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## CONTENTS



2  
FORD TAKES ON FERRARI

10  
GERMANY NAZIFIES  
AUTOMOTIVE RACING

18  
MARATHON LEGEND, BILL  
RODGERS, LOOKS BACK

24  
OH, THOSE QUIRKY FINNS

26  
SUMO TAKES OFF  
IN AMERICA

32  
OWENS, LOUIS, ROBINSON  
AND THE REPUBLICAN VOTE

38  
THE GREATEST BASEBALL  
FAN TO OCCUPY THE  
WHITE HOUSE

42  
WHEN KEEPING A FOUL BALL  
MEANT RISKING ARREST

48  
VETERAN KARRIE WEBB, STILL  
ON TOP OF THE LPGA TOUR

56  
THE WOMAN BEHIND  
THE TROPHY

60  
A GOLF TOURNAMENT  
FOR THE AGES



# Ford Takes On Ferrari

## His Ego Bruised, Henry Ford II Exacts Revenge on the Race Track.

SHMagazine

**NOTHING DEFINED THE GOLDEN AGE OF** auto racing more than the ear-piercing, tire-screaming, high-performance competition between Ford and Ferrari. In 1963, Henry Ford II and Enzo Ferrari were in advanced talks for a Trans-Atlantic merger when the deal fell apart in the 11th hour. Almost immediately, the two industrial titans unleashed a war of egos that played out on the racing circuits of North America and Europe. It culminated 3 years later when Ford finally dispatched Ferrari at the world's premier endurance race, the 24 Hours of Le Mans. Mid-century America saw GM, Ford and Chrysler dominate the domestic automotive market with oversized luxury tail-fins that were sold to a growing affluent public. But a younger, post-war generation was hooked on racing and hungry for speed and horse power over size and comfort. 'Win on Sunday, sell on Monday' became the axiom echoed in the executive corridors of Detroit's big three car companies. In 1953, GM

launched the Corvette, which came to embody America's sports car with its sexy European styling and agile road performance. Three years later, Corvette made its racing debut at the 1956 12 Hours of Sebring and by 1960, it became the first American vehicle to participate in the all-important 24 Hours of Le Mans. While Ford rolled out the Thunderbird as an answer to the Corvette, the Thunderbird was still a production vehicle and the company needed a long-distance racing machine to move the sales needle. HFII, grandson of the original founder of the company that bore his name, understood that nothing drew greater media attention and consumer interest than a strong showing at one of the prestigious endurance events. Racing was the marketing arm for a constructor, since it meant a durable engine and superior technology that would be transferred from the track to the showroom. He started eyeing Ferrari, the undisputed king of racing. From 1956-1963, the Italian company >>



Henry Ford II stands at the Le Mans 24-hour race at Circuit de la Sarthe on June 18, 1966.

1966 TURNED OUT TO BE THE  
'TRIPLE CROWN' CHAMPIONSHIP  
IN ENDURANCE RACING FOR FORD.



A trio of Ford GT40s ahead of their photo finish at the 1966 Le Mans race.

Ken Miles driving the Ford GT40 Mark II at the 1966 Le Mans.



conquered Sebring 6 times and Le Mans 5 times. At the European Grand Prix competitions, the red cars were perennial winners. What's more, founder and owner Enzo Ferrari didn't race cars to sell vehicles. He sold vehicles in order to race cars. Unlike the corporate bean counters in the U.S., Enzo was a former driver with Alfa Romeo before breaking out on his own and his passion lay on the asphalt, not the assembly line. Ford and Ferrari could not have been any different. In a dark irony, the two companies had met under very different circumstances during WWII when the Ferrari factory was bombed twice by American B-24 aircrafts that were assembled at Ford's Willow Run plant in Michigan. Following the war, to help finance racing in Europe, Enzo started selling limited editions of Ferrari in the

## THE LEGENDARY GT40 RACING CAR WAS BORN.

U.S. after making his first victorious mark at Le Mans in 1949. His winning driver, Luigi Chinetti, set up the first North American Ferrari dealership in New York.

But Enzo's racing exploits were burning cash and he needed a corporate partner. After spending several

million dollars sending a team of accountants, engineers and lawyers to audit Ferrari's operations, HFII made a \$15 million takeover bid.

The contract was drawn

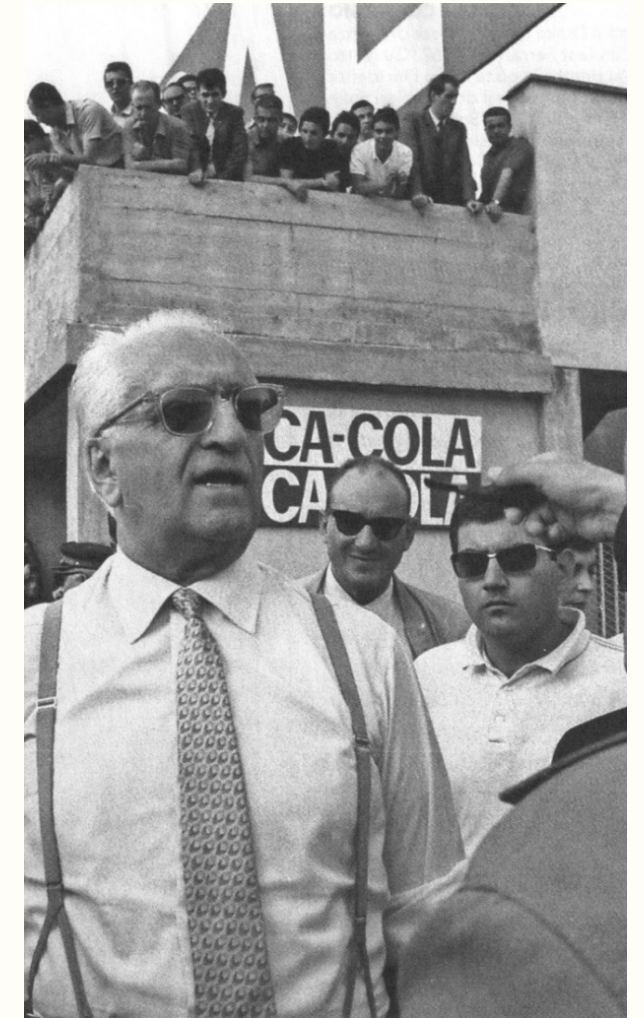
and ready for signatures when the imperious Italian executive abruptly pulled out. While Enzo was given directorship of the racing division, he balked at the clause that provided Ford with decision powers over the team's budget and over which races Ferrari could enter and with which >>



Jean Guichet in the Ferrari 330 P3 at the 1966 Le Mans.

## *HENRY FORD II SPARED NO EXPENSE, NOR MINCED ANY WORDS TO REALIZE HIS GOAL.*

drivers. Disappointed and embittered, HFII was further humiliated when it was speculated that Enzo was merely dangling Ferrari in front of the Americans so he could force a buyout price from Fiat, the Italian car manufacturer. Fiat did end up assuming a small share in Ferrari two years later and in 1969, they raised their stake to 50%. With his board room ego bruised, the powerful American businessman proclaimed war on the competition with a stated goal of winning Le Mans and humbling Ferrari on their own European turf. The unsigned purchase contract between Ford and Ferrari remains an historical artifact kept at Ford Archives, along with an internal document marked 'Confidential Memo' that was drafted just weeks after the negotiations failed. In it, Ford outlines the formation of a new high-performance unit and as its first project "A racing GT car that will have the potential to compete successfully in major road races such as Sebring and Le Mans". The legendary GT40 racing car was born. The GT40s were assigned to Ford's Advanced Vehicle Group in the UK. In 1964, Ford and Ferrari tussled for the first time at Le Mans' 8.36-mile open road circuit. Despite being driven by prominent pilots Phil Hill and Bruce McLaren, all three of Ford's cars failed miserably and none finished the 24-hour chase. Ferrari went on to claim the event 1, 2, 3 with its P Series prototypes. Coming in 4th place was a Shelby Daytona Cobra Coupe driven by Dan Gurney and Bob Bondurant. Dissatisfied with the GT40's performance, HFII transferred the racing



Above: Enzo Ferrari at the 1967 Italian Grand Prix.

program to Carroll Shelby, a Texas-born chicken farmer-turned-racer-turned-constructer. As a driver, Shelby won the 1959 Le Mans piloting an Aston Martin. As a builder, his Shelby-American, Inc. Cobra vehicles were showing results against Ferrari's GTs. Shelby's story with Ford was dramatized in the 2019 Hollywood release, "Ford v. Ferrari", with Matt Damon playing Shelby's greater-than-life character. The following year, Ford was buoyed by its 2nd place finish at Sebring on a rain-flooded race track. Three months after that, with HFII in attendance at Le Mans for the first time, the Detroit company entered 6 vehicles to meet Ferrari's 10. But once again, the GT40s sub-performed with gearbox >>

Henry Ford II standing center with Bruce McLaren (left) and Chris Amon (right), winners of the 1966 24 Hours of Le Mans.



and gasket failures that left the cars dead on the track. And once again, for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Ferrari took the checkered flag 1, 2 with its 250 LM prototypes. After a couple of years of losses due to car breakdowns, constructors Alan Mann Racing and Holman-Moody were added to the development project. As more resources were now dedicated to beating Ferrari, the teams were tasked with reinventing the GT40 for the 1966 season. They improved the aerodynamics, modified the body and suspension, and leveraging off their NASCAR experience, devised a quick-change brake system that could be swapped during pit stops. HFII spared no expense, nor minced any words to realize his goal. When a Pennsylvania foundry that manufactured brake rotors couldn't meet Ford's rush orders, HFII cut an \$8 million check and bought out the vendor. At an executive meeting in Dearborn, Michigan, he passed out name cards to his Divisional heads

with his own hand-written note in the back, "You better win- HF". In the end, the effort paid off. 1966 turned out to be the 'Triple Crown' championship in endurance racing for Ford. At the inaugural 24 Hours of Daytona, the GT40 Mark II came in 1, 2, 3 to beat out Ferrari which placed 4th with their 365 P2 car. At Sebring, the Detroit company repeated the GT40's triple sweep. At Le Mans, after countless man-hours and \$25 million in estimated related costs, HFII was finally vindicated. The GT40s finished 1, 2, 3 and Ferrari a distant 8 and 10. The Italian sports car lost its dominance of Le Mans and Ford went on to claim the long-distance French circuit for the next three years. Ford was already funding Indy cars, stock cars, and drag racers and it's not clear if showroom sales got a marginal boost after the company planted its flag in Le Mans. Nevertheless, it worked out for the man at the top and a new generation of racing vehicles. ●



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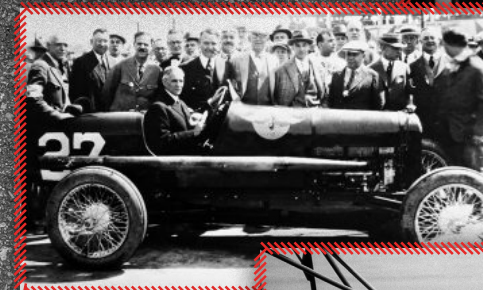
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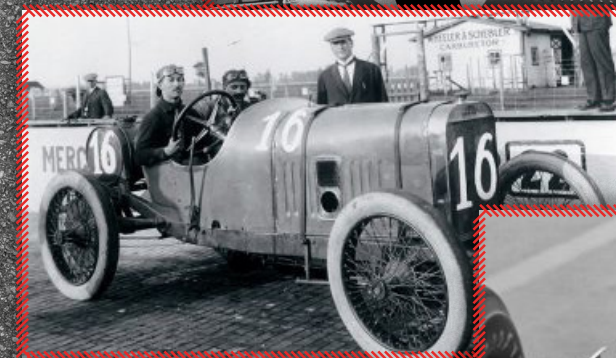
**HENRY FORD**  
FOUNDER OF FORD  
MOTOR COMPANY



**AJ FOYT**  
INDY500 (1961, 1964, 1967, 1977)



**BRUCE MCLAREN**  
FOUNDER OF  
MCLAREN  
RACING TEAM



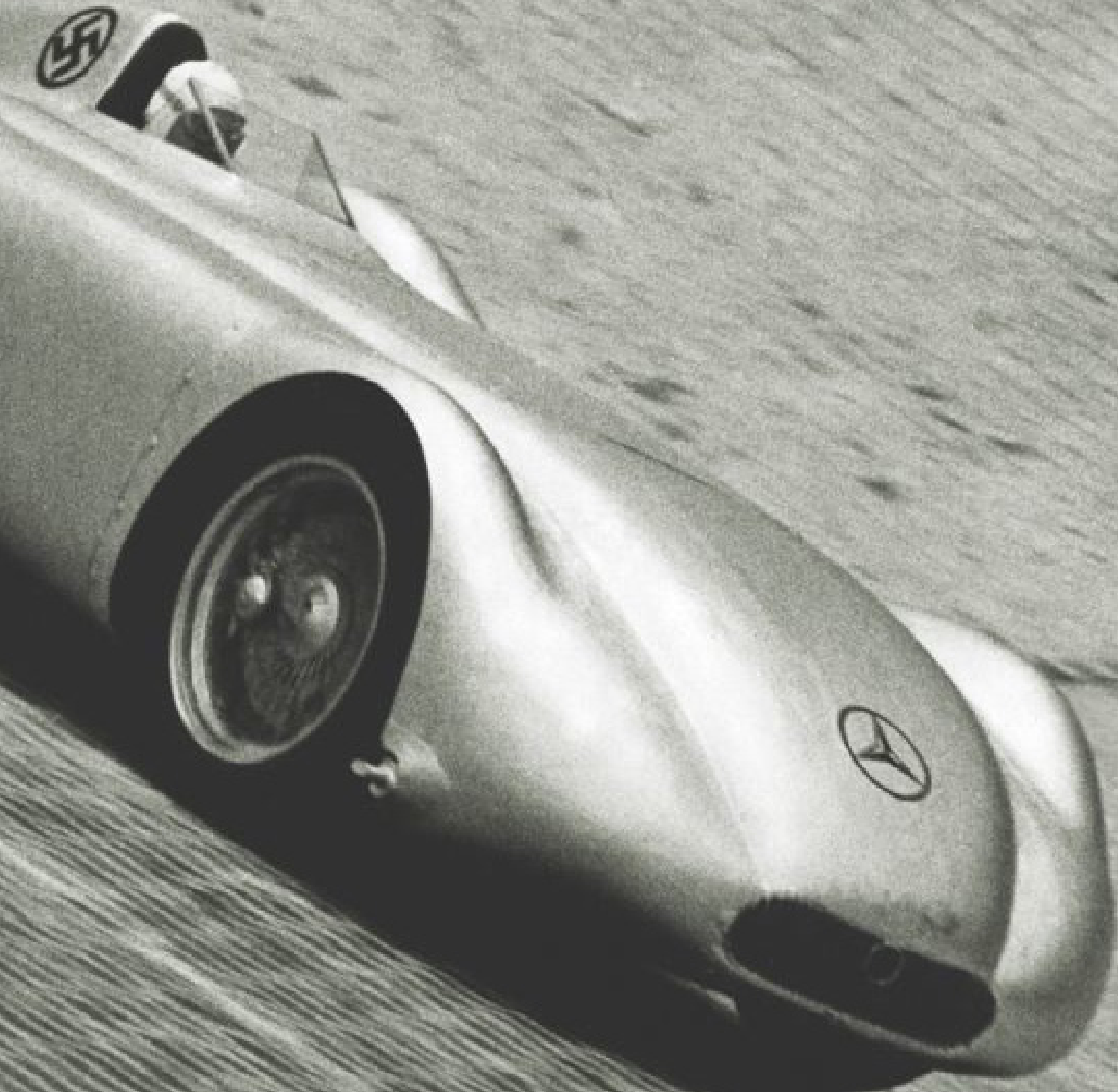
**JULES GENOUX**  
FIRST FOREIGNER TO  
WIN THE INDY500 (1913)



**DAN GURNEY**  
GRAND PRIX FRANCE (1962, 1964),  
MEXICO (1964), BELGIUM (1967)

**GRAHAM HILL**  
INDY500 (1962), F1 WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIP (1966,  
1968), LE MANS (1972)

Rudolf Caracciola driving the Mercedes W25 Streamliner at the 1937 Avus Autorennen.



# Germany Nazifies Automotive Racing

## Hitler's Silver Arrows Take Hold of the Grand Prix.

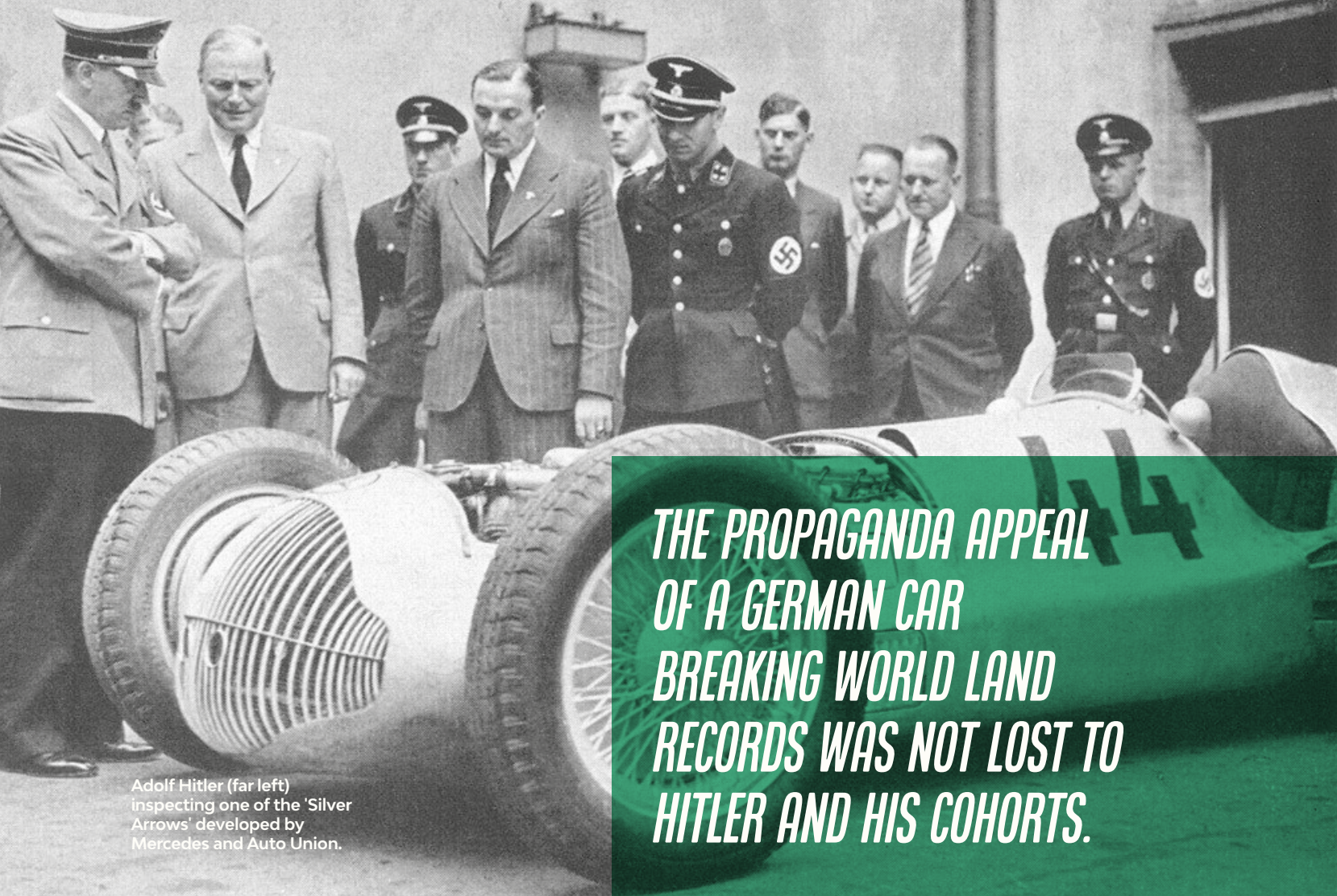
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### IN 1931, GERMAN RACE CAR CHAMPION

Rudi Caracciola was asked to deliver a custom-built vehicle to a special client. It was a 7.7 liter, black convertible Mercedes with bulletproof windows, steel-plated side panels, and a glove compartment fitted with a hidden pocket for a revolver. The request for the delivery came from Wilhelm Kissel, CEO of Daimler-Benz, and the special client was Adolf Hitler. Hitler was a car enthusiast and even had a portrait of Henry Ford hung in his office at the Nazi Party national headquarters in Munich. The fascist leader was still 2 years away from the Chancellorship and 8 years from unleashing war on Europe, but his

head was already swirling with ideas of German automotive nationalism. For years, Munich's Mercedes dealership supplied discounted vehicles for Hitler's cross-country political campaigns. Daimler-Benz, the parent company that produced the cars, advertised in Nazi newspapers and its board members helped raise funds for the party. For the industrial concern, that relationship paid off when the Nazis seized power in 1933. One of the Fuhrer's first major public speeches after taking office was at the opening of the prestigious Berlin Motor Show. The Nazi leader announced his intention to cut taxes and regulations on the country's >>





Adolf Hitler (far left) inspecting one of the 'Silver Arrows' developed by Mercedes and Auto Union.

## THE PROPAGANDA APPEAL OF A GERMAN CAR BREAKING WORLD LAND RECORDS WAS NOT LOST TO HITLER AND HIS COHORTS.

automotive industry, build a nationwide highway system, and dominate international motorsport. Reeling from the Great Depression, Germany was weighed down by bank failures, corporate bankruptcies, massive unemployment and political instability. Car and truck sales were half what they were 5 years earlier and Hitler's goal of crushing labor unions and reviving a military-based economy was welcome news for the auto companies. International racing was one area where the new Germany could showcase its superior engineering and boost car sales. For most of the 1920s and early 1930s, victories at the European Grand Prix races belonged primarily to French (Bugatti) and Italian (Alpha Romeo) constructors. With a few exceptions, German cars and drivers lagged at the elite racing podiums. But

in 1931, Rudi Caracciola, a rising star behind the wheel, won the German GP and then the Italian open road Mille Miglia, both in a Mercedes SSK. Designed by Ferdinand Porsche before he went on to found his own company, the SSK entered the tracks in 1928 and was a supercharged, agile racing vehicle that reached top speeds of 120 mph. Nevertheless, deteriorating economic conditions forced Mercedes to discontinue its racing program after the 1931 season. German car companies were struggling and the following year, 4 firms - Audi, Horch, DKW, Wanderer-merged to create Auto Union, the predecessor of today's Audi with its 4-ring logo.

As the Nazification of German life started to take hold, auto racing was no exception. Adolf

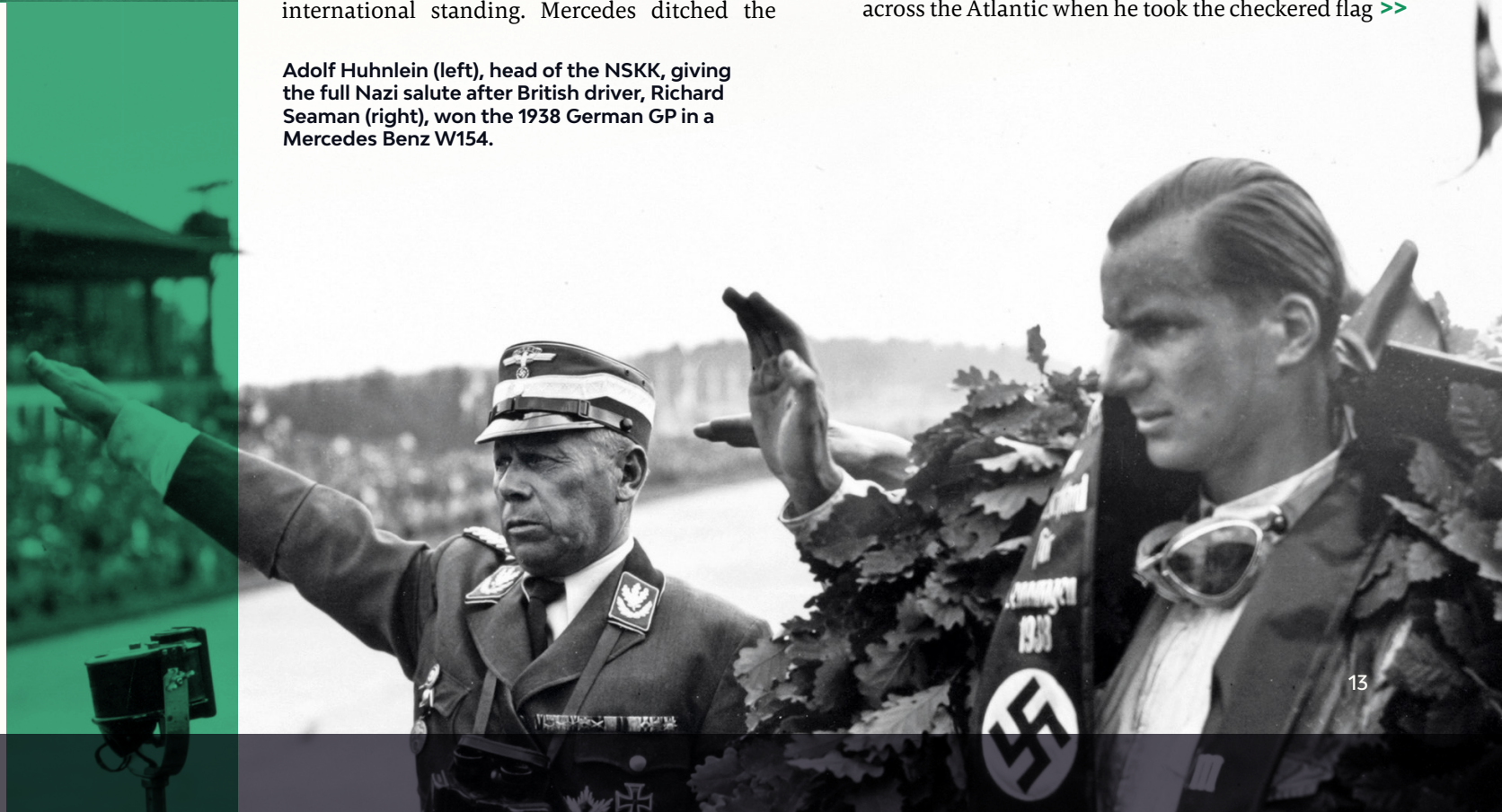
Huhnlein, a roughneck associate of Hitler since the failed Beer Hall Putsch of 1923, was put in charge of the National Socialist Motor Corps (NSKK), the country's motor clubs association. The NSKK trained legions of men in motor skills, eventually forming the core of the Wehrmacht's mechanized army. All race car drivers had to

## AS THE NAZIFICATION OF GERMAN LIFE STARTED TO TAKE HOLD, AUTO RACING WAS NO EXCEPTION.

become members of the NSKK. German racing teams did not enter the leading Grand Prix events of 1932 and 1933. For 1934, Daimler-Benz requested 1 million marks from the Reich for a racing subsidy, but received only half. The government grant was also shared with Auto Union, since Hitler believed that 2 competing racing enterprises will further Germany's international standing. Mercedes ditched the

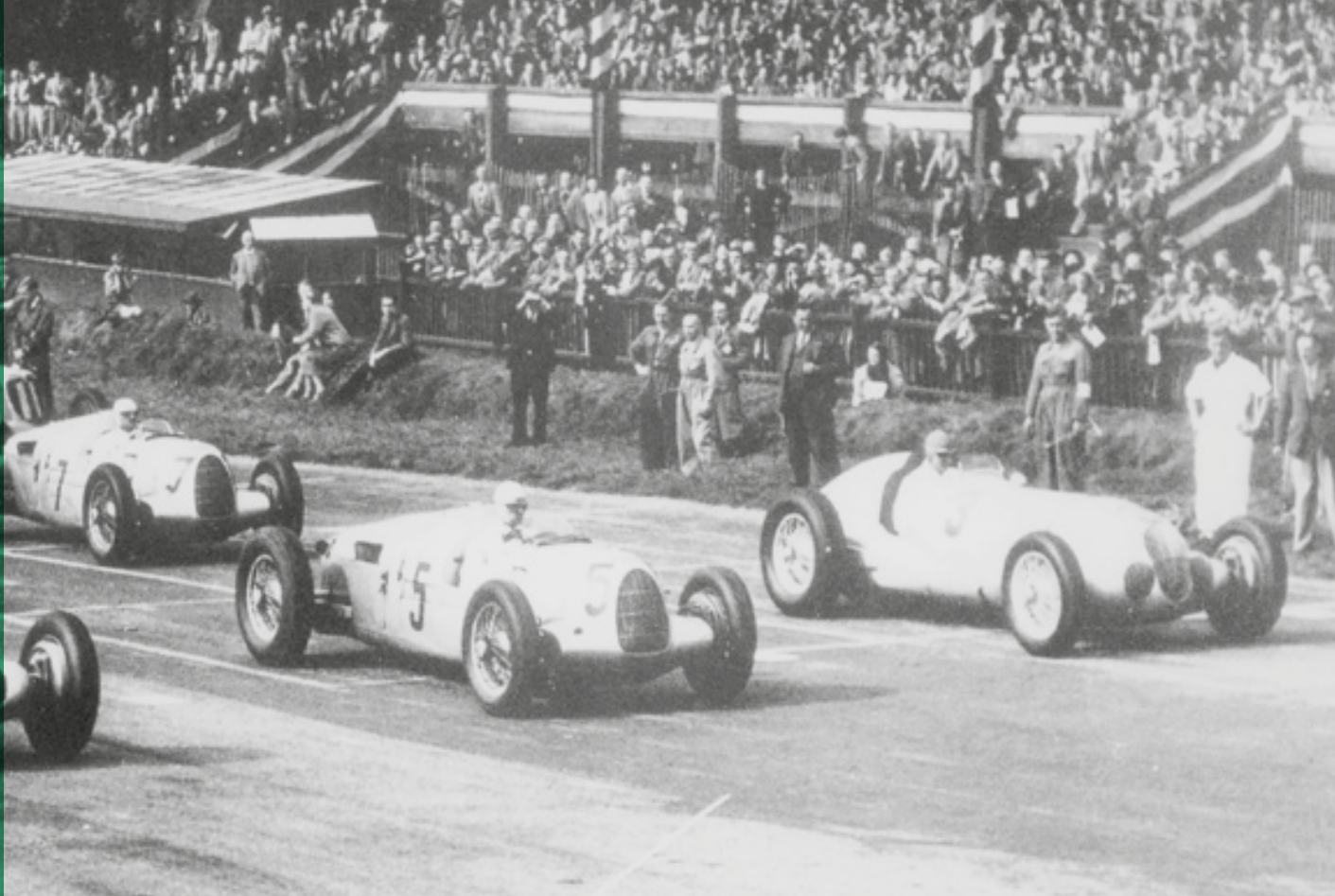
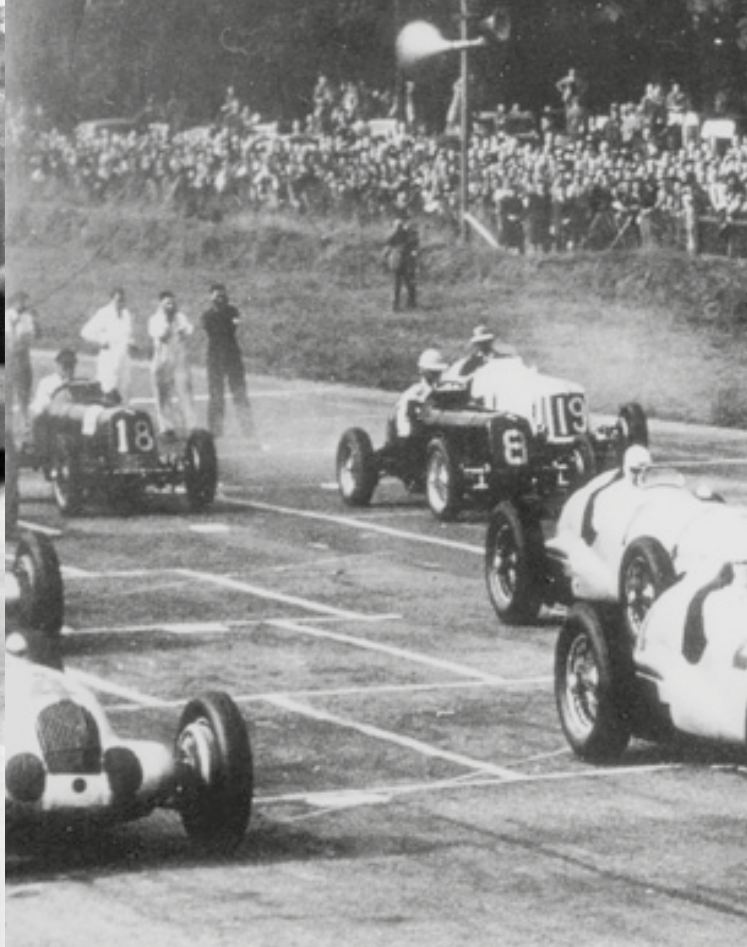
old SSK cars and develop the revolutionary W25, a lighter machine that kicked up to 500 hp. Auto Union released the P-Wagen, a vehicle designed by Porsche who now joined Auto Union. With their sleek, aluminum cast bodies, both cars resembled silver bullets on wheels and were dubbed the 'Silver Arrows'. The shiny tubular speedsters were unveiled to 80,000 mesmerized spectators at the 1934 French GP. Aerodynamic and futuristic, they took the international racing world by storm and made the competition appear like antiquated clunkers. Eager onlookers were cordoned off at a distance to avoid revealing the secret works under the hood. The Silver Arrows won their first race a few weeks later at the German GP, chasing the Nurburgring circuit in front of 150,000 exuberant fans. Beating out Scuderia Ferrari, Maserati, and Bugatti, Auto Union took 1st place and Mercedes nabbed 2nd. More German victories followed and for the next 4 years, the Silver Arrows would outmatch their French and Italian counterparts at many of the premier Grand Prix events. Caracciola, piloting for Mercedes, won the European driver's championship three times (1935, 1937, 1938) and Bernd Rosemeyer, his rival at Auto Union, won the title once (1936). The latter even gained notoriety across the Atlantic when he took the checkered flag >>

Adolf Huhnlein (left), head of the NSKK, giving the full Nazi salute after British driver, Richard Seaman (right), won the 1938 German GP in a Mercedes Benz W154.



Caracciola (Mercedes) and Rosemeyer (Auto Union)  
duel at Avus as they did for much of the 1930s.





Clockwise from above: Rudolf Caracciola at the 1936 Frankfurt A.M-Heidelberg record ride; a line of 'Silver Arrows' at the start of the 1937 Grand Prix in Donington Park, Great Britain; Bernd Rosemeyer in his Auto Union Type C silver arrow at the 1936 German GP.

in a Silver Arrow at the 1937 Vanderbilt Cup in Long-Island, New York. On the victory mast at Roosevelt Raceway, the swastika flag fluttered in the breeze. Off the race track, German cars returned to the showroom. Production figures grew by double digits every year, exports rose, and profits were back. At the same time, the implements of war were also rolling out of the Daimler-Benz factories such as military trucks and armored vehicles. Mercedes' W25 was succeeded by the W125, an 8-cylinder 600 hp racing beast. Auto Union answered with a new generation



## *WITH THEIR SLEEK ALUMINUM CAST BODIES, BOTH CARS RESEMBLED SILVER BULLETS ON WHEELS AND WERE DUBBED THE 'SILVER ARROWS'*

of the P-Wagen. In 1937, both were retrofitted for a land speed duel between two of Germany's most celebrated drivers, Caracciola and Rosemeyer. Taking the wheel of a closed seater shaped like a spaceship, Caracciola recorded 268 mph on a one-mile stretch, a new world record. Rosemeyer followed with a P-Wagen, but lost control and was killed in a crash. Despite Rosemeyer's death, the

propaganda appeal of a German car breaking world land records was not lost to Hitler and his cohorts. In general, with NSKK oversight, the Third Reich's participation at the Grand Prix was accompanied by all the Nazi pomp and glory. The auto companies, whose racing coffers were filled with government support, found it best not to interfere. By the end of 1935, Germany's new racial laws reached motor racing as well. Auto pilot Adolf Rosenberger was instrumental in founding Porsche GmbH and creating Auto Union, but as a Jew he was denied a license to compete. Rene Dreyfus, an accomplished French driver whose father was Jewish, was refused a place with the Mercedes team. Both Rosenberg and Dreyfus fled Europe for the U.S. The Silver Arrows kept winning Grand Prix races into the summer of 1939. In the 6 years since Hitler rose to power, the Nazis came to monopolize speed and prestige on the automotive race track, but it would all come crashing down with the outbreak of WWII. ●

# Marathon Legend, **Bill Rodgers,** Looks Back

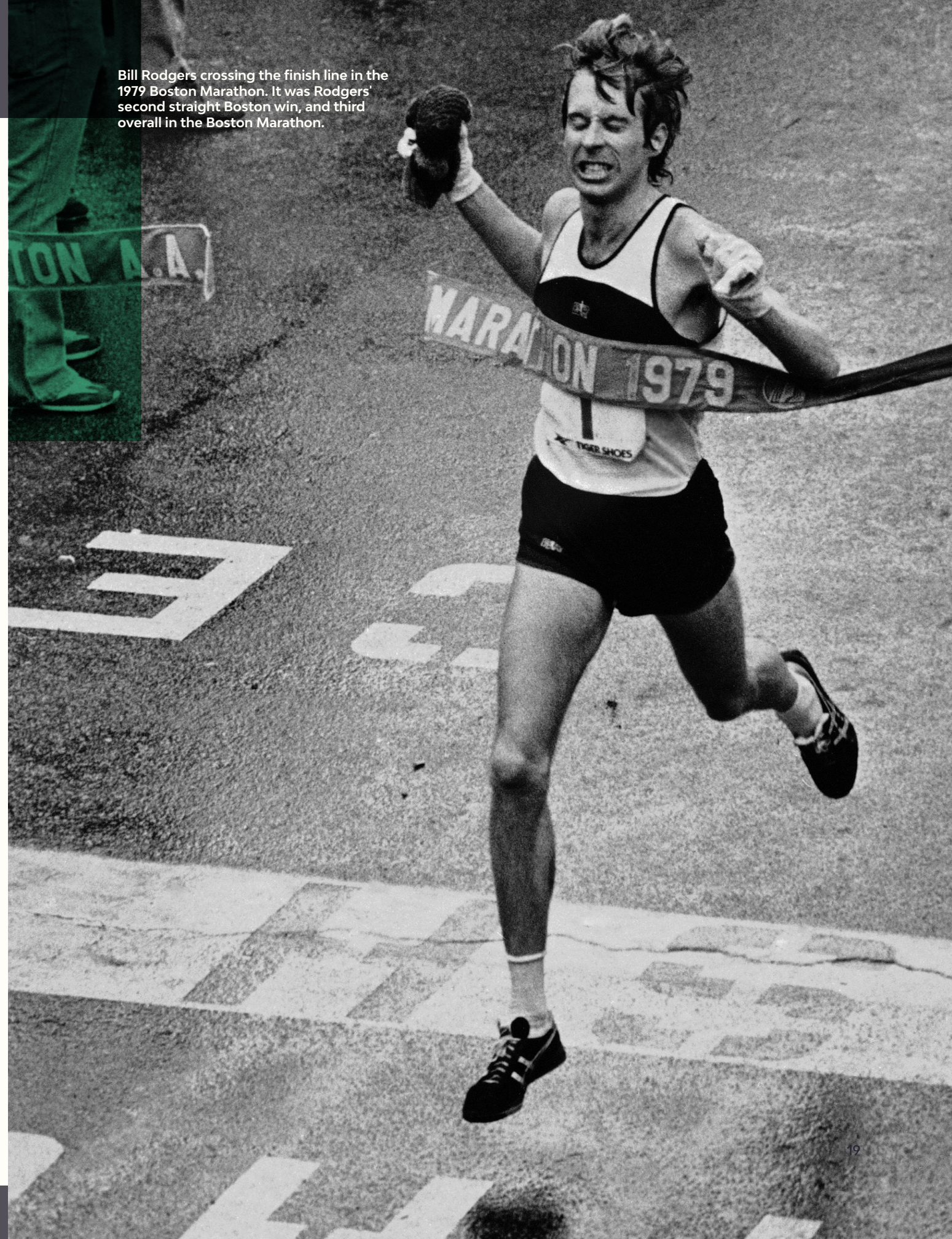
Slacking Off in College, Losing His Job, and Hitting Rock Bottom Before Climbing to Stardom.

SHMagazine

**“I ALWAYS NEEDED SOMEONE TO PULL me along”**, says Bill Rodgers about his early years. The veteran long-distance runner, who still holds the record for most victories at the New York and Boston Marathon races, was hardly the model of a champion athlete. But his story growing up reflected the culture of the time as much as his own personal journey. At 73, Rodgers is still running. He’s down to ½ marathons at this stage of his life, but the veteran street racer did more than his share of the 26.2-mile chase. By the time he turned 40, he ran 50 marathons around the world with noteworthy finishes. Bursting into national prominence at the 1975 Boston Marathon, he repeated his victory in ‘78, ‘79 and ‘80. In

New York, he stayed on top four consecutive years- 1976, ‘77, ‘78, ‘79. To this day, Rodgers remains the only marathoner who has held simultaneous titles of three majors (1977)- Boston, New York, Fukuoka. After a decade of either not participating, or not finishing, he ran his final challenge at the 2009 Boston Marathon, completing the course in 4:06:49. More symbolic than anything, the native New Englander managed to finish because he ran with a supportive group of friends. Friends is how Rodgers discovered the sport and found inspiration. Born outside Hartford, Connecticut, he started running with his older brother, Charlie, and best friend, Jason. In high school, he joined the track & field team his sophomore year when >>

Bill Rodgers crossing the finish line in the 1979 Boston Marathon. It was Rodgers' second straight Boston win, and third overall in the Boston Marathon.





Rodgers in far right leading the field over the Verrazano Bridge at the 1976 NYC Marathon. Running behind wearing #4 is rival Frank Shorter.

directionless. Living in Boston, one day he saw his old college running buddies, Amby and Jeff, participate in the marathon. Watching Gallaway finish in the top 10 reignited his passion for the grueling road discipline. He joined the YMCA and started training again. Rodgers is fond of saying that “when you run you change your life”. He raced his first Boston Marathon in 1973 but dropped out at Heartbreak Hill after failing to pace himself accordingly. It was a warm Spring day and he walked back home despondently. Rodgers would later discover that he excelled in cold weather marathons. In 1974, he came in 14<sup>th</sup>, and in 1975 he swept the Boylston Street finish line, clocking 2:09:55, a new American record. That year, he fared poorly in New York but when the Big Apple race was moved from early September to the end of October for cooler temperatures, he won. Trailing him in 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Below: Rodgers clearing the finish line at the 1980 Boston Marathon.

*“WE RAN ON A GRASS FIELD AND JUST HAD FUN”, RECALLS RODGERS WITH A WISP OF NOSTALGIA.*

at the 1976 New York Marathon was Frank Shorter, the man credited with triggering the running boom in America. Shorter won gold in the marathon event at the 1972 Olympics, the first time since 1904 that an American claimed the top accolade. Shorter became an inspiration to millions of people, including Rodgers himself who was now competing neck-and-neck with the country’s most celebrated long-distance runner. Rodgers made the 1976 Olympics team but placed 40th at the race in Montreal due to a foot injury. Meanwhile, Shorter picked up the silver medal. >>

the program was added to the sports curriculum. “We ran on a grass field and just had fun”, recalls Rodgers with a wisp of nostalgia. In contrast to today’s competitive high school landscape, Rodgers’ running world was an innocent frolic. “We didn’t run more than 3 miles and the coach didn’t want us to get hurt”, he remembers. Still, the young man’s talents shined and in his senior year he placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Connecticut State cross country competition and 6th at the New England Cross Country Championships. At Wesleyan where he attended college, Rodgers teamed up with older classmates Amby Burfoot and Jeff Gallaway. Burfoot, who was also his roommate, won the 1968 Boston Marathon while still a senior in college. In later life, he became editor-in-chief at Runner’s World magazine. Gallaway, an All-American at the time, went on to compete at the 1972 Olympics. On campus, Rodgers

smoked, studied sociology, and got involved with the Anti-Vietnam war movement. His diverse interests at a Division III liberal arts college were hardly the formula for developing a gifted athlete. But Rodgers was anchored by the support structure he found with his coach and older teammates. “They taught me how to pace myself and build up”. It was after college that Rodger came unraveled. The support, the motivation, and the team-focused drive was gone. Running at the time was not a lifetime activity, so he stopped his pounding routines and like most college graduates, took up life. He did his selective service as an orderly at a Boston hospital, transporting patients in wheelchairs and stretchers. It wasn’t long before the Wesleyan graduate began to slide and hit rock bottom. He was fired from his low-wage job, had his motorcycle stolen, and found himself broke and



## BILL RODGERS

### 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE FINISHES

#### BOSTON MARATHON

1975: 2:09:55  
1978: 2:10:13  
1979: 2:09:27  
1980: 2:12:11

#### NYC MARATHON

1976: 2:10:10  
1977: 2:11:28  
1978: 2:12:12  
1979: 2:11:42

“Running lifts all boats”, Rodgers claims. His life was once again purposeful with a teaching job and a Master’s degree in Special Education on the way from Boston College. Running kept him busy with invitations to compete around the world. While his travel and lodging expenses were paid, it was logistically difficult to fly overseas for a weekend race and be back in the classroom by Monday morning. Endorsements also came in as he was winning more marathons. After his inaugural triumph in Boston, he was offered \$3,000 by ASICS to wear their brand, an amount that increased to \$13,000 the next year, and \$40,000 the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. But it was still difficult to make a steady living in the sport and by the end of the decade, Rodgers and his brother opened a running store, which they would manage successfully for the next 35 years. All hopes for competing at the 1980 Olympics were dashed when the U.S. moved to boycott the games. Rodgers became one of 40 renowned athletes who pressed for change on behalf of runners that found themselves at the mercy of a quadrennial event, especially



Below: Bill Rodgers in hat at the 1979 Boston Marathon.

*“WHEN YOU RUN YOU CHANGE YOUR LIFE”*

with no financial rewards. Nike sponsored the first race with a \$10,000 prize. Within a few years, New York and Boston were offering marathon purses. Rodgers attributes his athletic success to a concept

he calls “running within yourself”, a form of mental and physical self-awareness. He stresses that the marathon is not an easy undertaking, since “it takes 2 to 3 years to get into it”. He also views long-distance running as a unique sport, as it offers both competition and support from the same people.

Residing today west of Boston in the town of Boxborough, Rodgers still travels to local and

regional marathons and stays in touch with old colleagues. He wasn’t present at the 2013 terrorist bombing and found out about the attack when one of the officials called him home. Just weeks before the bombing, Rodgers released his autobiography titled “Marathon Man: My 26.2 Mile Journey From Unknown Grad Student to the Top of the Running World”. Autographed copies can be obtained by emailing Sports History Magazine directly at [info@sportshistoryweekly.com](mailto:info@sportshistoryweekly.com) ●

# Oh, Those Quirky Finns

## Olympic Glory Gives Way to Swamp Soccer and Wife-Carrying Competitions.

SH Magazine

IN 1998, THE REMOTE HAMLET OF Hyrynsalmi, situated almost 400 miles north of Finland's capital, Helsinki, launched a swamp soccer tournament. Thirteen teams answered the call to compete in a knee-deep mud event with the hope of laying claim as the world champions of swamp football. Since then, the annual festival grew to about 200 teams and the game's popularity has even crossed borders. It's all tongue-in-cheek summer fun, but has Finland traded its rich sports heritage for quirky recreations? With roughly a quarter of its geography inside the arctic circle, Finland's 5½ million people live in darkness for most of winter. As summer breaks, the sun-starved population takes to the outdoors with a burst of energy. Six weeks of vacation a year and open access to endless rivers, lakes and forests have created a robust northern stock. The Finns are consistently ranked among the most physically active people in Europe. Swamp soccer is just one expression of the Finns' love for all things rugged and eccentric. At another village, the annual Wife-Carrying World Championships got going in 1992. Steeped in local lore, the competition involves a race of men carrying women on their backs through an obstacle course. And then, as a nod to one of the national pastimes, there's the World Sauna Championships.



The winner is, you guessed it—the last person to stay in the sauna before walking out. That event lasted from 1999 until 2010 when one of the schvitz athletes died and the championships were discontinued. Despite a penchant for offbeat competitions, Europe's most sparsely populated country has a serious sports legacy. Boasting a Summer Olympics medal for every 18,135 inhabitants, Finland is the winningest nation at the quadrennial Games as measured in medals per capita. Sweden and Norway are closest at 20,046 and 34,427, respectively, making the Nordic family of nations the greatest takers of medals in relation to their demographics. Add the Winter Olympics to the mix and the math is even more skewed in favor of the Scandinavians. After Finland declared independence from Russia in 1917, sports became an important vehicle for building a national identity and thrusting the country on the international stage. Going back even earlier, the Finns were represented at the 1908 and 1912 Summer Olympics as the Grand Duchy of Finland, since they refused to march under the flag of Imperial Russia. Among the 28 countries that competed at the 1912 Games, the Finns came in 4th with 26 total medals. Athletics and wrestling comprised most of the country's accolades. Early running champions like Hannes Kolehmainen, Ville Ritola, and Paavo Nurmi were long-distance record holders known as the 'Flying Finns'. In recognition of their achievements, Kolehmainen and Nurmi lit the flame at the 1952 Olympic Games when the tournaments came to Helsinki.

Kolehmainen was the first in a generation of talented runners, winning 4 gold medals at the



5,000m, 10,000m, cross country and marathon racing events in 1912 and 1920. He competed for a number of years with the Irish American Athletic Club in New York and ended up becoming a U.S. citizen. Paavo Nurmi more than doubled his predecessor's medal count and broke multiple records. He dominated the long-distance events in the 1920's, earning 9 gold and 3 silver medals in three Olympiads: Antwerp, Paris and Amsterdam. Nurmi made a habit of always running with a stop watch and is credited with introducing a pace strategy to long distance racing. Later becoming an international celebrity and ambassador of the sport, his training methods and analytic approach helped popularize running as an athletic discipline. Nurmi's stature was celebrated in stamps, bank notes, paintings and statues. In 1996, Time magazine selected the Finnish champion as the greatest Olympian of all time. In Greco-Roman wrestling, the Finns took gold in most weight categories during the inter-war years. Oskar Friman won both lightweight and featherweight, while Vaino Kokkinen won middleweight twice. Overall, in the first half of the 20th century, spanning 9 Summer Olympics, Finland averaged 21 medals at each global event. In 1924, they even placed second behind the U.S. as the most accomplished nation in the medals count. But then it all started to decline. Over the past 60 years, Finland has averaged under 6 medals at each Summer Olympics, hitting a low

point in 2016 in Rio with just a single bronze in women's lightweight boxing. With the exception of Lasse Viren's gold-winning performance in the 5,000m and 10,000m races at the 1972 and 1976 Games, Finland has watched its illustrious history at the Olympic podium steadily fade into memory. Gone were the days when stars like Nurmi drew crowds and plaudits and stood in greatness next to legendary sports figures like Jack Dempsey, Babe Ruth, and Bill Tilden. Nevertheless, the Finns' drive for sports elitism hasn't diminished. The country remains a winter sports powerhouse, winning the Ice Hockey World Championships three times since 2015, and consistently ranking in cross-country and ski jumping events. In other prestigious competitions such as motorsports, Finnish driving champions Keke Rosberg, Mika Hakkinen and Kimi Raikkonen have ensured their country's place in the annals of Formula One racing. Finland also remains the most successful nation in the World Rally Championship in terms of the number of their citizens who have won the endurance car chase. Their days of Olympic glory behind, the Finns nevertheless seem perfectly content pursuing non-traditional games and elevating them to serious tournaments. Most importantly, it's the spirit of athleticism and competition, regardless of its form, that has remained ingrained among these hardy northern Europeans. ●

# Sumo Takes Off in America

## A Californian Launches the U.S. Sumo Open.

SHMagazine

### IF YOU NEVER HEARD OF THE US SUMO

Open then you're not alone. But last Fall, the 1,500-year-old Japanese sport, which has a niche following in the U.S., celebrated the 20th anniversary of the first US Sumo Open. Launched by Californian Andrew Freund, the annual event is the world's largest and longest running sumo tournament outside Japan. Standing 6'0" and weighing just 160 lbs., Freund is the unlikely promoter of a sport that features 300-500 lb. wrestlers who are deified in Japan but are largely unknown in the U.S. A former math major at UC Santa Barbara, Freund ventured into the martial arts craft after returning home from a year of teaching English in Japan. Landing a teaching spot at UCLA, he stumbled on the idea of setting up a sumo club on campus. Within a few years, Freund was flying in professional wrestlers

from Mongolia and Japan to hold exhibition matches in Southern California. With no experience in business or event management, the budding sports entrepreneur took out a bank loan, ran up his credit cards, and put a lien on his car to get the first sumo tournament rolling in America. One of his coups was Konishiki, a 600 lb. retired professional from Hawaii who agreed to take part in the inaugural competition. Fortunately for Freund, he was able to attract a sponsor to cover the cost of Konishiki's transportation, since the famed wrestler took up 3 seats on the plane and was also accompanied by two of his handlers. Held at UCLA's John Wooden Center, the first US Sumo Open took place on August 4th, 2001 with 25 behemoths from 9 different countries doing battle in the ring. Besides Konishiki, the list of athlete guests >>

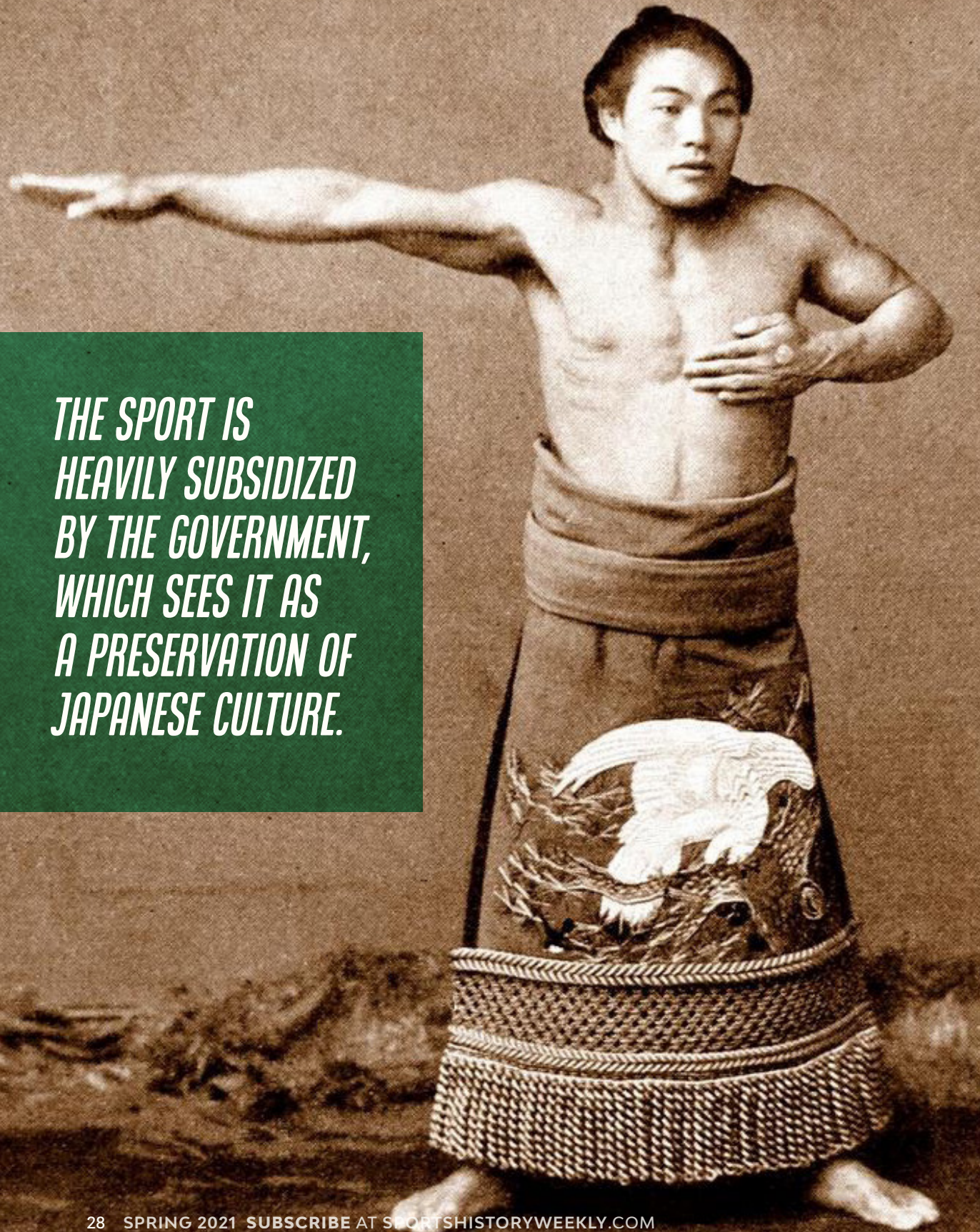


Byambajav Ulambayar (left) won the heavyweight and openweight gold at the 2016 U.S. Sumo Open.



A photograph of a sumo wrestler from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**THE SPORT IS HEAVILY SUBSIDIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH SEES IT AS A PRESERVATION OF JAPANESE CULTURE.**



Above: Andrew Freund, founder of the US Sumo Open, with 3 of his stars, all with Pro Sumo experience. From left to right: Yama, Byamba, and Hiroki.

included Bulgaria's Svetoslav Binev, a two-time amateur World Sumo Champion. Though fewer than 1,000 spectators attended, the novelty of the tournament drew media attention and paved the way for future competitions. Steeped in history and tradition, sumo wrestling is as rooted in Japan as it is alien in America. And while the rules of the sport are fairly simple, the culture around it is highly complex. With two competitors facing each other in the middle of a 15-foot diameter ring, the goal is to push the opponent outside the circle, or force him on the ground. Punching, kicking, gouging, and hair-pulling are not permitted; slapping and tripping are allowed. In the pros, there are no weight categories and 200 lb. athletes have been known to defeat 600 lb. leviathans. Remarkably, wrestlers train for up to 200 hours a month for just several minutes of competition a year: most wrestlers engage in 42 matches annually, with each match lasting

less than 10 seconds. Sumo has been part of the World Games since 2001, but it has not yet been accepted as an official sport at the Olympics.

Outside the wrestling ring, the pros in Japan lead a single-purpose, hierarchical existence. Some

**GUESTS PAYING \$100-\$200 CAN ENJOY A 'SUMO SUSHI SHOW' WHERE THEY MEET, GREET, AND EAT WITH THE STARS.**

600-700 of them live among 40 teams in the same enclave around Tokyo where they follow a strict dietary regimen and practice centuries-old training techniques. Teams are housed together with little, or no personal life outside their day-to-day rituals. Young entrants are practically >>



**Above: Byamba hoisting and dropping his 440 lb. opponent in what became known as the 'Sumo Slam' (2013).**

indentured to the top ranked combatants, cooking and cleaning for their masters as they make their way up the sumo pecking order. In the kitchen, 'chanko-nabe' is the magic stew that keeps wrestlers in peak strength. Packed with nutrient-dense proteins and vegetables, it's consumed in a bowl of hot broth after every morning workout. Contrary to popular belief, most sumo athletes are immensely muscular and elite performers can carry body fat as low as 11% of their weight. While pro-sumo champions are handsomely rewarded through endorsements and corporate gifts, the sport is heavily subsidized by the government, which sees it as a preservation of Japanese culture. Few outsiders have reached professional status in Japan and sumo as a competitive sport remains

an amateur pursuit beyond the Nippon islands. Over the years, the US Sumo Open has attracted an eclectic group of amateur participants from different countries and across all weight categories. For the 20th anniversary in 2020, 6,000 seats were pre-booked and 90 athletes were set to step into the ring. As in prior years, Freund had an impressive lineup of lightweights, middleweights, and heavyweights to rouse up a crowd, but Covid-19 upended those plans and the event was postponed. The most memorable US Sumo Open in the past two decades took place in 2013 when Byamba, a 360 lb. wrestling legend from Mongolia, hoisted his 440 lb. opponent 6 ft in the air and dropped him flat on the ring. The match got nearly 8 million views on youtube and became known as the 'sumo slam'. Byamba won the Open 8 consecutive times from 2007-14 and his overall record was an astounding 110 wins and 7 losses. Sadly, he died from a protracted



## ***IN THE KITCHEN, 'CHANKO-NABE' IS THE MAGIC STEW THAT KEEPS WRESTLERS IN PEAK STRENGTH.***

illness in February, 2020 at the age of 35. Working as an English-speaking color commentator for TV broadcasts of professional sumo matches, Freund has built contacts in the opaque world of Japan's sumo culture. Despite his thin stature, he's also competed and won 2 amateur National Championships in his weight division. While the US Sumo Open has become his labor of love, the entertainment and exhibition side of

the business pays the bills. Between the annual tournaments, Freund produces sumo road shows across the country and around the world, while acting as announcer, referee, and interpreter. His exhibitions have taken him from casinos in upstate New York to sporting venues in far-flung India. For his champions, he also books film spots, TV shows, commercials and corporate and family parties. Guests paying \$100-\$200 can enjoy a 'Sumo Sushi Show' where they meet, greet, and eat with the stars.

Looking beyond the pandemic, which has interrupted all sports, Freund hopes to keep the US Sumo Open dynamic, expand amateur participation, and add more venues for his traveling exhibitions. Most importantly, while exploiting commercial opportunities to increase sumo's popularity, he continues to remain true to an ancient art. ●

# Owens, Louis, Robinson and the Republican **Vote**

When Three of America's Most Prominent Athletes Endorsed Republicans.

SHMagazine

**BEFORE THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA OF THE** 1960s, the Republican party of Abraham Lincoln still carried substantial weight with black voters. Three of the most prominent black athletes from the first half of the 20th century- Jesse Owens, Joe Louis, Jackie Robinson- even campaigned on behalf of Republican Presidential candidates. Owens campaigned in 1936, Louis in 1940, and Robinson in 1960. They were tasked with galvanizing African-American support for a Republican White House, though on each occasion their political patrons failed to reach the Executive office. In 1936, Jesse Owens emerged from the Berlin Olympics with 4 gold medals around his neck. As an African-

American who was the most successful athlete of the games, he almost single-handedly dispelled Adolf Hitler's myth of Aryan supremacy. An overnight international sensation, the track & field legend returned home to a ticker-tape parade in New York City and was thronged by thousands of spectators who lined the streets of lower Manhattan. But despite the roaring cheers and marching bands, Owens was still a black man living in a white, segregated America. The athlete hero who placed first at the 100m, 200m, 4x100m relay, and long jump events still had to ride the freight elevator at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel to attend his own reception. But what really seemed to trouble Owens was that Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the Democratic President at >>



Jesse Owens shaking hands with Alf Landon, the Republican Presidential candidate whom Owens supported at the 1936 elections.

**ROBINSON'S  
ENDORSEMENT FAILED  
TO CARRY THE AFRICAN-  
AMERICAN BLOCK, SINCE  
NIXON ENDED UP WITH  
ONLY A THIRD OF THE  
BLACK VOTE.**



Above: Jackie Robinson greeting California Senator and Vice-Presidential candidate Richard Nixon whom he endorsed at the 1960 Presidential elections.

the time, never invited him to the White House, or even bothered to send him a congratulatory telegram. When the incumbent party asked him to support them at the 1936 Presidential race, the renowned sports figure instead endorsed Alf Landon, the Republican nominee who was running against FDR. On October 10, 1936, at a Republican rally held in Baltimore, the world's fastest human took the stage alongside politicians railing against the New Deal, stating "...remember that the President did not send me a message of

congratulations because people said, he was too busy...Governor Alfred M. Landon did send me a message and he was very nice to me." Landon ended up suffering a crushing defeat at the ballot, carrying only 2 states and gaining just 8 electoral votes against Roosevelt's 523. Owens needed money and he was paid to campaign for Landon. He had abandoned his amateur athletic career in the hopes of landing lucrative endorsements, but his dreams ran up against a harsh reality. There were few opportunities for black men, even famous ones. For extra cash, he picked up odd entertainment jobs like challenging racehorses to a sprint. Explaining this decision, he said "...what



**AT A REPUBLICAN RALLY  
HELD IN BALTIMORE, THE  
WORLD'S FASTEST HUMAN  
TOOK THE STAGE ALONGSIDE  
POLITICIANS RAILING  
AGAINST THE NEW DEAL.**

Above: A campaign button showing Joe Louis' support of Republican Presidential runner, Wendell Willkie.

was I supposed to do? I had four gold medals, but you can't eat four gold medals". In the case of Joe Louis, the celebrated prize fighter who won the heavyweight title a year after Owens swept the Olympics, the motivation for endorsing a Republican candidate was more genuine and less financial. At the 1940 elections, with FDR running for a third term in office, the fisticuffs champ lent his name behind the Republican nominee, Wendell Willkie. Campaigning on the streets of Harlem and in the outer boroughs of >>

Joe Louis in Harlem where he tried to bring out the black vote for Wendell Willkie.



New York City, the ringmaster repeated his talking points, “I am for Willkie because he stands for what is best for us colored people. Because this administration failed to pass the anti-lynching bill and because you all know that jobs are better than relief.” A highly popular figure among both whites and blacks, Louis was also a focal point of anti-Nazi sentiment. Twice he boxed against Germany’s Max Schmeling in Yankee Stadium, losing the first bout in 1936 but then defeating him in 1938 to retain the world heavyweight title. Before the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. was still leaning towards an isolationist policy, but Willkie was advocating greater American involvement to support Britain’s war effort across

## *IN THE CASE OF JOE LOUIS...THE MOTIVATION FOR ENDORSING A REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE WAS MORE GENUINE AND LESS FINANCIAL.*

the Atlantic. Nevertheless, at the 1940 elections, FDR won an unprecedented third term in office, sweeping 38 of 48 states and carrying 449 electoral votes versus Willkie’s 82. Louis fought his last match in 1951, losing to Rocky Marciano in an 8th round TKO at Madison Square Garden. Though still a much liked personality, he later fell on hard times with unpaid tax bills and failed business ventures and he ended up living partly on the charity of friends, including his old ring rival, Max Schmeling. Around this time, another celebrity black athlete would come to endorse a Republican candidate. In 1956, Jackie

Robinson retired from the Brooklyn Dodgers with a legacy as the first black sportsman to join Major League Baseball. A 6x All-Star, he played in 6 World Series and helped the Dodgers win the national championship in 1955. He was now looking to fill his retirement years. Though he staunchly supported measures to advance the social and economic status of black Americans, he also espoused conservative values. In 1960, Democratic candidate John F. Kennedy was running against Richard Nixon, the Republican party’s choice to succeed the outgoing President, Dwight Eisenhower. Robinson decided to throw his lot with Nixon, believing that the Massachusetts Senator was weak on civil rights since he was courting southern Democrats for the nomination, some of whom were segregationists. Even though Kennedy helped release Martin Luther King from a Georgia jail when he was held on trumped-up charges, Nixon reminded the ex-ballplayer that it was just an opportunistic ‘grandstand play’. Nevertheless, at election time, Robinson’s endorsement failed to carry the African-American block, since Nixon ended up with only a third of the black vote. In a close race, JFK went on to take the White House with 303 electoral delegates against Nixon’s 219.

When the civil rights era arrived in the 1960s, African-Americans started to swing permanently towards a Democratic base. Whereas 39% of blacks re-elected Republican President Dwight Eisenhower in 1956, 94% backed the 1964 Democratic winner, Lyndon Johnson. By then, Jackie Robinson had also distanced himself from Republicans after they nominated for the White House Barry Goldwater, an Arizona Senator who opposed the 1964 Civil Rights Act. At the 1968 elections, the former Dodger ditched Nixon in favor of the Democratic candidate, Hubert Humphrey. While some black athletes like Joe Louis continued to endorse Republican office seekers, their mission became even more difficult in a changing political landscape. ●

# The Greatest Baseball Fan to Occupy the White House

## Herbert Hoover Attended More Baseball Games Than Any Other American President.

By Hal Wert

**FOR HERBERT HOOVER, THE 31<sup>ST</sup> PRESIDENT** of the United States who served from 1929-1932, nothing compared to being at the ballpark. His record of sitting behind the diamond and rooting for a team is unmatched by any other elected executive who occupied the White House. Blamed for the Great Depression of the 1930s, rightly or wrongly, the one-term President saw baseball as a metaphor for what he admired most in American life- a competitive arena that provided an opportunity for talent and ambition to succeed through hard work. Hoover was elected President in 1928 in a landslide victory over Al Smith. The following spring, he hurled the ceremonial first pitch to open the baseball season. That inaugural day at Washington, DC's Griffith Stadium saw the Philadelphia Athletics whip the Senators 14-3. For the next 3 years, the man at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue would launch the first ball to kick off the season for the home team. Perhaps it was the atmosphere at Griffith Stadium, the crack of the bat, the hawkers selling peanuts, or just the temporary escape from the ever-increasing demands of his office. But for whatever reason, Hoover's nostalgic fondness for America's game was reignited. Brought up in a Quaker household and orphaned at the age of 9, the future Commander-in-Chief wasn't much of a ball player but he loved the sport. His first taste of playing sandlot baseball in his hometown of West Branch, Iowa was short-lived since he was soon packed off to Oregon to live with his uncle.

As a sophomore at Stanford University, he made the team but after suffering a thumb injury he decided to become the team's business manager. Revealing the beginnings of his unbridled ambitions, Hoover challenged a San Francisco professional ball club to a header, which was thankfully called off at darkness after the hapless college amateurs trailed 30-0. In October of 1929, Hoover traveled to Philadelphia to watch the first game of the World Series between the Athletics and the Chicago Cubs. Will Rogers in his weekly syndicated column wrote: "That was a mighty fine thing of the President and Mrs. Hoover, going clear to Philadelphia to see a baseball game. Baseball is still and always will be our national game." Attending the 5th and final game, he received a telegram from Cubs fan Bud Garrett: "If you do any rooting today... please root for the Cubs as I have my last five spot on them." Within days, the bottom fell out of the New York stock market and the nation plunged into the Great Depression. Even amidst economic turbulence, Hoover's name didn't stray too far from baseball. In March of 1930, Babe Ruth signed an \$80,000 contract with the New York Yankees, which made him the highest-paid player of all time. Asked by a reporter what he thought of making more than the President of the United States, the Babe cracked: "Why not? I had a better year than he did." In fact, and largely unknown to the public, Hoover donated a fifth of his salary to charity. With the economy



Above: Hoover (right) shown with Babe Ruth in 1933.

front and center, the President still attended a game in July and was back in Philadelphia for Game 1 of the World Series. For the second year in a row, Connie Mack's Athletics won the Fall Classic by defeating the St. Louis Cardinals 4-2. The following year, with the Senators' former star pitcher and now manager Walter Johnson by his side, Hoover threw out the first pitch. Once again, the World Series landed in Philadelphia and the President, eager to attend, arranged to see Game 3. He reasoned his presence might help to lift the spirits of those "suffering from a severe attack of jitters." The economy was flat and the mood of country was beyond jitters. It ranged from dour, to bitter, to desperate. The prohibition of alcohol, now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year of federal law, was also testing the country's frustration. As Hoover was exiting the stadium, the crowd turned against

him with a chorus of boos and a loud boisterous drumbeat chant, "WE WANT BEER, WE WANT BEER!" Hoover lost the 1932 election to Franklin Roosevelt, who swept the popular vote on a wave of widespread business failures and high unemployment. He left office under a cloud, his reputation in tatters, and was held responsible for the Great Depression. It was some time before he realized that he owned it—an albatross around his neck. Ironically, it was he that tagged the slump a depression. His wife, Lou Henry, wrote to their son Allen that his father was "utterly brain tired," that his presidency had been "a long dull deadly grind." She opined, "...it will be a slow process getting back to normal," much like "recovering from an illness." Out of office, >>

Below: Hoover throwing the first ball at a 1960 old-timers game in Yankee Stadium. To his left is Bob Feller.





Above: President Herbert Hoover throwing the ceremonial first pitch on April 14, 1931 in a game between the Washington Senators and Philadelphia Athletics.

Hoover played solitaire, read stacks of Eastern newspapers, railed against Roosevelt and the New Deal, attempted to fish, and drove eight thousand miles throughout the West in his V-16 Cadillac. In 1936, he returned to the diamond for Game 5 of the World Series, a ten-inning affair that saw the New York Giants defeat the New York Yankees 5-4. The following day, he traveled across Central Park to the Polo Grounds to watch the Yankees clinch the championship 13-5 in the 6th and final game. 1937 witnessed another subway series with Hoover in attendance at the Bronx ballpark. For half-a-dozen years, the former President had stayed for stretches of time at the Waldorf Astoria and in 1940, he permanently moved into a ten-room apartment in the luxurious building. He was now a full time Big Apple resident, enjoying the pleasures of America's favorite pastime during one of baseball's greatest eras. From 1949-1960, Hoover sat in twenty-two World Series games and two opening day games. Baseball recognized

*PERHAPS IT WAS THE ATMOSPHERE AT GRIFFITH STADIUM, THE CRACK OF THE BAT, THE HAWKERS SELLING PEANUTS, OR JUST THE TEMPORARY ESCAPE FROM THE EVER-INCREASING DEMANDS OF HIS OFFICE.*

his love for the sport and on August 8, 1959 at a Yankees Old Timers' contest, they honored him with the same first pitch he had done on the Senators' opening day for all four years of his presidency. He was invited back the following season and under the gaze of Joe DiMaggio, Red Ruffing, and Cleveland Indians pitching ace, Bob Feller, the 76-year old hurled the ball far enough that it bounced off home plate. That year, Hoover made his final ballpark appearance at Game 3 of the World Series, which saw the Yankees wax the Pittsburgh Pirates 10-0.

As an octogenarian looking back at the game he loved, Hoover observed, "I pride myself on being one of the oldest fans. I can certainly count up about seventy years of devotion." "Baseball", he concluded, "is the greatest of all team sports." ●

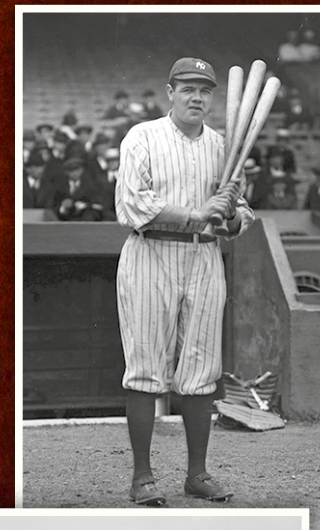
Hal Wert is Professor Emeritus at Kansas City Art Institute. He is the author of "Hoover The Fishing President: Portrait of the Private Man and His Life Outdoors".



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**BABE RUTH (1935)**  
OUTFIELD  
NEW YORK YANKEES



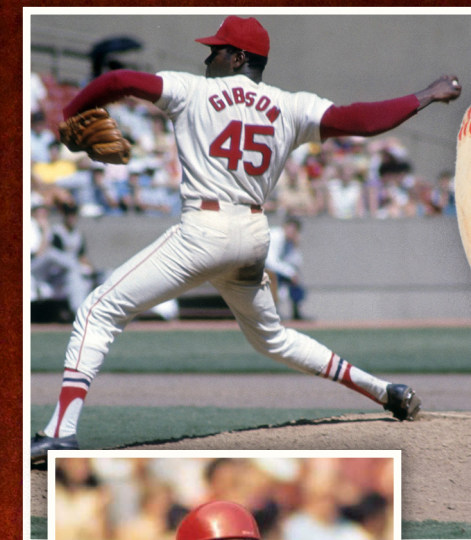
**TY COBB (1936)**  
CENTER FIELD  
DETROIT TIGERS



**CHARLES COMISKEY (1939)**  
EXECUTIVE  
CHICAGO WHITE SOX



**BOB GIBSON (1981)**  
PITCHER  
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS



**JOHNNY BENCH (1989)**  
CATCHER  
CINCINNATI REDS



**RICKEY HENDERSON (2009)**  
LEFT FIELD  
OAKLAND ATHLETICS



# When Keeping a Foul Ball Meant Risking Arrest

A Legal Precedent Dating Back to  
1922 Allows Fans to Keep Foul Balls.

SHMagazine

**IN 1998, THE PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES** named 87-year old Robert Cotter “Fan of the Century” and presented him with an autographed baseball of the entire team. It wasn’t that Cotter stood out as the club’s most passionate fan, but the Phillies were making amends for an incident that took place more than 75 years earlier when Cotter was just 11 years old. On a summer day in July, 1922 the youngster was enjoying a Phillies game at the National League Park in Philadelphia when he caught a foul ball that sailed his way. Cotter pocketed the souvenir and refused to return it as was dutifully required at the time. As a result, the little tyke was hauled to the police station where he ended up spending a night in jail. There was a time when baseballs were relatively

costly and team owners were too miserly to give them away. Most spectators in the early part of the 20th century accepted that reality and when they got hold of balls in the stands they threw them back just as basketballs today are returned to the court when they land in the chairs. But as the game evolved and stadiums increased in size to accommodate larger crowds, fans became less compliant with the ballpark norm. The romance of catching a foul ball and keeping it became part of the thrill at a baseball game, especially a ball that was struck by a renowned slugger. In 1904, a rule change in baseball allowed teams to post security employees in the stands to >>

**Right: Charles Wheegman (right), owner of the Chicago Cubs and the only baseball executive who supported fans' desire to keep foul balls.**







Left: The old Polo Grounds in NYC around the time when 'Reuben's Rule' was born in 1922.

*BY THE TIME COTTER'S MOTHER ARRIVED TO THE PRECINCT TO BAIL OUT HER SON, THE COURTHOUSE WAS CLOSED AND THE RAGAMUFFIN WAS PLACED IN DETENTION FOR THE NIGHT.*



Above: Philadelphia Phillies owner William Baker, who tried to make an example of an 11-year old boy by charging him with theft of a foul ball.

retrieve foul balls that ended up in the bleachers. Sending the hapless guards to reclaim the errant projectiles angered fans, but most franchise owners supported the measure as a way to protect their property. The only executive who spoke out against the practice was Chicago Cubs owner, Charles Wheeghman, who saw it simply as poor public relations. In 1916, he publicly announced that Cubs fans were allowed to keep foul balls and admonished the other team owners by saying “it isn’t always good business

to be pennywise.” Fans and owners kept tugging back and forth on the issue. They came to a truce during WWI when they agreed that all foul balls were to be donated to servicemen who needed them for on-base recreation. But after the war ended, the dispute resurfaced. With a mischievous innocence reminiscent of the “Little Rascals” television gang, Robert Cotter used to climb up a drain pipe and sneak under a gate at the National League Park to watch his home-team play. On the day he caught the foul

ball and tried to escape with it, Phillies owner William Baker and business manager William Shettsline decided to make an example of the little boy and charge him with larceny. By the time Cotter’s mother arrived to the precinct to bail out her son, the courthouse was closed and the ragamuffin was placed in detention for the night. However, on his arraignment the following day it wasn’t America’s juveniles who got the judicial whipping, but the team brass. Lambasting the Phillies owners and

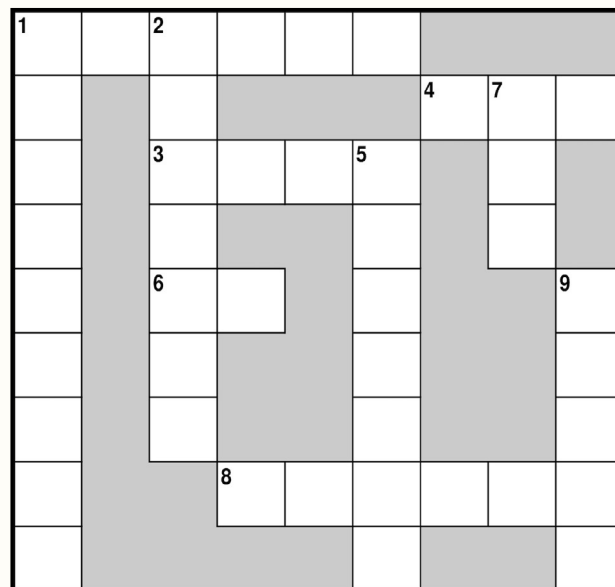
managers, Judge Charles Brown ruled in favor of Cotter, stating “Such an act on the part of a boy is merely proof that he is following his most natural impulses. It is a thing I would do myself.” The story made the local press and even reached papers as far as Boston. Realizing the public relations nightmare that was unfolding in front of their eyes, it didn’t take long for the Phillies to change their foul ball policy and for other teams to follow. While Robert Cotter’s account followed the tale of a baseball-loving kid, a year earlier it was an adult fan who poked a legal hole into the game’s contentious debate around foul balls. In May, 1921, 31-year old Giants fan Reuben Berman was sitting in the box seats at the Polo Grounds in New >>

## THE GIANTS CHANGED THEIR BALLPARK POLICY AND "REUBEN'S RULE" THAT ALLOWS FANS TO KEEP FOUL BALLS AFTER CATCHING THEM WAS BORN.

York when he caught a ball that came his way. Instead of turning it over as demanded by an usher, he tossed it several rows back to another group of spectators. Berman was subsequently removed from his seat, taken to the Giants office, chastised and threatened with arrest. He ended up being ejected from the stadium and put out on the street with his ticket refunded. Team Secretary Fred Knowles then made it clear to reporters: "In the future I will not be so lenient and any person caught trying to steal a ball will be arrested and the complaint pushed". But it wasn't the last the Giants heard from Berman. At the end of the summer, the stockbroker from Hartford, Connecticut came back with a \$20,000 lawsuit, alleging humiliation, loss of reputation, and mental and bodily duress. It took over a year for the Giants to respond to the filing but when they finally retorted with an explanation, the franchise argued that if Berman suffered any damages then it was due to his own personal misconduct. The case was tried and the plaintiff ended up collecting \$100. Soon after, the Giants changed their ballpark policy and "Reuben's Rule" that allows fans to keep foul balls after catching them was born. Whether they know it or not, for the last 100 years in American baseball, every kid who showed up to the ball park with a glove and every adult who stretched out his arms to try and catch a flyball gift, owes a gratitude to Robert Cotter and Reuben Berman.

For team owners, it was a lesson learned generations ago that fans are customers who need to be indulged with sensible public relations practices. ●

### BASEBALL PLAYERS 1920S-1940S



#### ACROSS

- 1 Died of namesake disease, Lou \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 The "Babe"
- 4 Yankee, \_\_\_\_\_ DiMaggio
- 6 24x All-Star with Cardinals, initials
- 8 Pitched for Indians in their 1948 World Series, Bob \_\_\_\_\_

#### DOWN

- 1 Tigers first baseman, Hank \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Won 1926 World Series with Cardinals, Roger \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Pitcher with NY Giants, Carl \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 1st NL player to surpass 500 career home runs, Mel \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 14 years with Red Sox as second baseman, Bobby \_\_\_\_\_



Karrie Webb holding the trophy after winning the 1999 du Maurier Classic.



# Veteran Karrie Webb, Still on Top of the LPGA Tour

At 46, the Australian Native is the  
Winningest Active Golfer in the Circuit.

SHMagazine

**SHE DOESN'T PLAY AS MANY TOURNAMENTS** today, but Karrie Webb is still swinging with the best and the youngest in the field. At 46, the Australian-born veteran has 41 LPGA Tour wins behind her, more than any other active golfer playing the circuit. She turned pro in 1994, and two years later was both 'Rookie of the Year' and 'Money Winner' at the premier ladies' Tour. Her biggest personal moment was the 1995 British Open where she became the youngest female ever to take the course, firing a -10(278) with a 6-stroke margin that set her on a career championship path. Ten years on, the Queensland prodigy became the youngest woman to be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame (since broken by

South Korea's Pak Se-ri). Sports History Magazine caught up with Karrie and asked her to share her story with our readers.

**You were born in a small town in northern Australia. When did you realize that golf was your calling?**

Golf was a part of my family's life right from when I was born. Being the eldest child of three girls, I just wanted to be like my parents and grand-parents. I loved golf right from my first memories of it. I'm not sure if that was my calling but I thought golf was always going to be a part of my life. >>



Left: Celebrating after her winning putt at the 2010 ANZ Ladies Masters.

she was more methodical and precise. She didn't make a lot of mistakes and didn't get too up or down. As we both matured, Annika got a lot longer which changed her approach to how she played. I really just refined what I already had. There's no doubt that we pushed each other to be better.

**To date, you've had 57 professional wins in the U.S., Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. What are some of your most memorable games?**

I am very fortunate to have had success on the golf course. It is hard to narrow down which are the best of the bunch. If I had to pick, I would say first is winning the '95 British Open; that win really set me on my way. The second would be my first win on Australian soil, the '98 Australian Ladies Masters. Third would be the '01 US Women's Open. It was the most complete tournament I ever played in a major. Lastly, I would say the win at the '06 Kraft Nabisco Championship, holing out on the 72nd hole to eventually force a playoff and win was the most emotion I've ever experienced on a golf course.

**What are your favorite golf courses?**

I have to say now that my playing career is slowing down, I have a long bucket list of courses I need to get out and play. As far as ones I have played, I have a soft spot for Australian courses. The Melbourne sandbelt courses are all some of the best in the world. If I had to narrow it down, though, I would say Kingston Heath GC. Another favorite would be New South Wales GC in Sydney.

**Did you have any trainers, or even caddies, who made a difference in your performance?**

My first and only coach until I was 29 was Kelvin Haller. The Ayr Golf Club where I learned to play

## *I WAS VERY RAW WITH NATURAL TALENT AND UNDERSTOOD THE GAME VERY WELL AT AN EARLY AGE.*

didn't have a teaching professional at the club when I first started. Kelvin who was one of the best players in the club and good friends with my parents took the job of coaching me and led me all the way to being the best player in the world. When I was 16, Kelvin was left a quadriplegic after an accident. He continued coaching me and inspiring me with his will to just get on with life. Kelvin is still a huge part of my life now and I still practice with him when I'm home in Australia.

**In 2001, you teamed up with David Duval to play against Tiger Woods and Annika Sorenstam in a made-for-TV tournament between the 2 best male and 2 best female players in the world. How enjoyable was that event?**

It was a really great event, especially considering it's never been done again. For me, I think it would have been more enjoyable for Annika and myself had it not been scheduled for the Monday of our British Open. It was an opportunity to put Women's golf on the map playing alongside Tiger and David so we couldn't turn it down. Our minds, rightly so, were always ahead and thinking about the major we were about to play in a couple days half way round the world.

**Is the strategy behind the game any different for men than it is for women?**

I don't believe the strategy to playing golf is any different from one person to the other. At the end of the day, you play and plan your game >>

**Growing up, did you have any golf heroes, or heroines?**

Women's golf was not visible at all when I was growing up, so my biggest hero was Greg Norman. He was one of the most dominant players in the world in the '80s and '90s. Coming from Australia, it was easy to look up to someone that was so successful all over the world.

**In 1996, you were both 'Rookie of the Year' and 'Money Winner' at the LPGA Tour. That was quite an accomplishment for a young person. What do you remember most from that season?**

Well, I had come off a very successful rookie year on the European Tour, winning the 1995 British

Open. So, I came to the LPGA Tour with already a bit of belief in myself. Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought I was going to achieve the things I did in my Rookie year in '96. I guess my memory is that early on I just couldn't believe that I was winning against the best players in the world. By the end of the year, I was more comfortable and knew that I belonged out on the LPGA.

**How do you compare your style of play with someone like Annika Sorenstam who was probably your biggest rival on the golf course?**

I think early on in our careers our games were quite different. I was very raw with natural talent and understood the game very well at an early age. Annika wasn't as long as me back then, so

## KARRIE WEBB'S MAJOR WINS

### 1999 du MAURIER CLASSIC

-11 (277)  
PRIDDIS GREEN CC,  
ALBERTA,  
CANADA

### 2000 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

-6 (282)  
MERIT CLUB  
LIBERTYVILLE, IL

### 2000 NABISCO CHAMPIONSHIP

-14 (274)  
MISSION HILLS CC  
RANCHO MIRAGE, CA

### 2001 LPGA CHAMPIONSHIP

-14 (270)  
DUPONT CC  
WILMINGTON, DE

### 2001 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

-7 (273)  
PINE NEEDLES  
LODGE AND CC  
SOUTHERN PINES, NC

Contemplating a  
misplaced shot at the  
2017 Australian Open.

### 2002 WOMEN'S BRITISH OPEN

-15 (273)  
TURNBERRY GOLF CLUB  
SOUTH AYRSHIRE,  
SCOTLAND

### 2006 NABISCO CHAMPIONSHIP

-9 (279)  
MISSION HILLS CC  
RANCHO MIRAGE, CA



## KARRIE ANNE WEBB

### BORN

December 21, 1974  
Queensland,  
Australia

### TURNED PRO

1994

### PRO WINS

54 (41 LPGA Tour,  
7 Majors)

### ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

1995 Ladies Euro,  
1996 LPGA

### LPGA TOUR MONEY WINNER

1996, 1999, 2000

### LPGA VARE TROPHY

1997, 1999, 2000

### WORLD GOLF HALL OF FAME

2005

based upon your strengths and weaknesses no matter who you are. Certain people are capable of playing certain shots due to strength, but other than that the goal is the same for everyone.

**Do you think young women today are more drawn to golf than they were a generation ago, or has the interest remained the same?**

I think golf in general has had its ups and downs with participation levels. I think Women's golf is not immune to that. I think in the late '90s and early 2000s the Women's game was at its most popular in the Western world. Currently, I think women from all walks of life are being drawn to the game. It definitely became more global.

**You're still active in the LPGA Tour after 24 years. How is your swing holding out?**

My game is in fine shape for the work that I currently put into it. I don't play tournament golf as much, so therefore I'm not putting the time into it I once was. You only get out what you put in. I worked my butt off for over 20 years and squeezed every bit of talent I had out of me. My expectations are a lot lower now but having achieved what I have, I think you always believe there's some magic left in there somewhere.

**What's next for you on life's agenda?**

I'm currently working on what the next steps are for my life. I was never one to look at the next step while I was in the current stage of my life. Putting 110% into my playing career was my focus for all of those years. Now I am taking the time to see what the next steps are. I have one piece of the puzzle started already. I have formed a golf course architecture firm with Ross Perrett, called Perrett Webb Golf Architects. We have a couple of projects already up and running and are looking for more work to keep us busy. So that's an exciting step. ●

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# The Woman Behind the Trophy

## A New Biography of Daphne Akhurst Sheds Light on Australia's First International Female Tennis Star.

SH Magazine

**MARGARET COURT HOISTED IT 11 TIMES**, Serena Williams lifted it 7 times, and Naomi Osaka displayed it proudly in a beautiful ocean setting. What these women held in their hands was the Daphne Akhurst Memorial Cup, a large silver trophy that has been awarded to the Ladies' Singles Champion of the Australian Open every year since 1934. But who was Daphne Akhurst? Richard Naughton is author of a newly-released biography of Daphne Akhurst, Australia's leading tennis player of the 1920s. Akhurst won the Australian Open 5 times and was a semi-finalist at Wimbledon. Her contribution to the grand slam event and to her nation's standing in tennis was recognized in the form of an annual trophy bearing her name. In an era when few women competed in sport, the champion from Down Under reached the #3 world ranking and was her country's first international female tennis star. "Daphne Akhurst: The Woman Behind the Trophy" goes beyond the protagonist's personal story. It touches on the development of tennis and women's sport during her playing days. Tennis and swimming were the first sports that Australian women competed in the early 20th century and Akhurst, along with swimmer Fanny Durack, an Olympic gold medalist in 1912, were legitimate global stars. Naughton recounts the experience of two female tennis teams that traveled abroad in 1925 and 1928, an historical episode that hasn't been fully explored. Besides Akhurst, there were five or six other Australian women capable of competing at an international level. It was an extraordinary decade in the world of tennis with stars like Suzanne Lenglen,

Bill Tilden, Jean Borotra, and Helen Wills. On her second trip overseas, Daphne beat the best South African player Bobbie Heine, the top Englishwoman Eileen Bennett, and two future Wimbledon champions – Cilly Aussem (Germany), and Helen Jacobs (USA). Though nicknamed "The Shy Lady of Wimbledon", she was part of a group of female trailblazers who became more aggressive in their style of play, with their on-court clothing radically altered to reflect that they were serious athletes rather than delicate ladies. Daphne was also a gifted pianist who was trained at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, a schoolteacher, and a newspaper columnist. Offering a window into the past, one enjoyable part of the book is Daphne's lively observations of the crowd at Wimbledon and her description of New York, which she penned back to the Australian public during her 1925 tennis journey. At Wimbledon:

*"The keenness of the public is remarkable. Seats are booked up months in advance. People are in queues from early morning and even then, only get standing room around the centre court. I shall never forget the day Miss Ryan played Suzanne Lenglen – 15,000 people watching, the King and Queen in the Royal Box, and hardly a sound heard during the rallies, everyone so intent on the match. Suzanne lost the first two games, and then won twelve in succession. She was marvelous that day. ... (I)t is my opinion that Wimbledon will always hold its popularity and attract players from all over the world, just because it is Wimbledon."*

Daphne was mesmerized by the Frenchwoman, Lenglen, who had added movie star glamour to the sport.

*"Suzanne Lenglen, not content with setting the style in tennis, seems to have decided to become also the leader of Wimbledon's fashion. Her frocks are silk, short cut, and sleeveless, and the skirt is box pleated. But her colour scheme of bandeau, sweater and scarf to match are as unique as some of her shots. She never appears in the same colour two days running. Even while watching a match from the gallery, she has been known to run down to the dressing room and change her dress. Once while playing in France, Suzanne suddenly left the court before her match and rushed to the dressing room. Mrs Utz saw her and asked the matter. "My dear", she said, "I have*

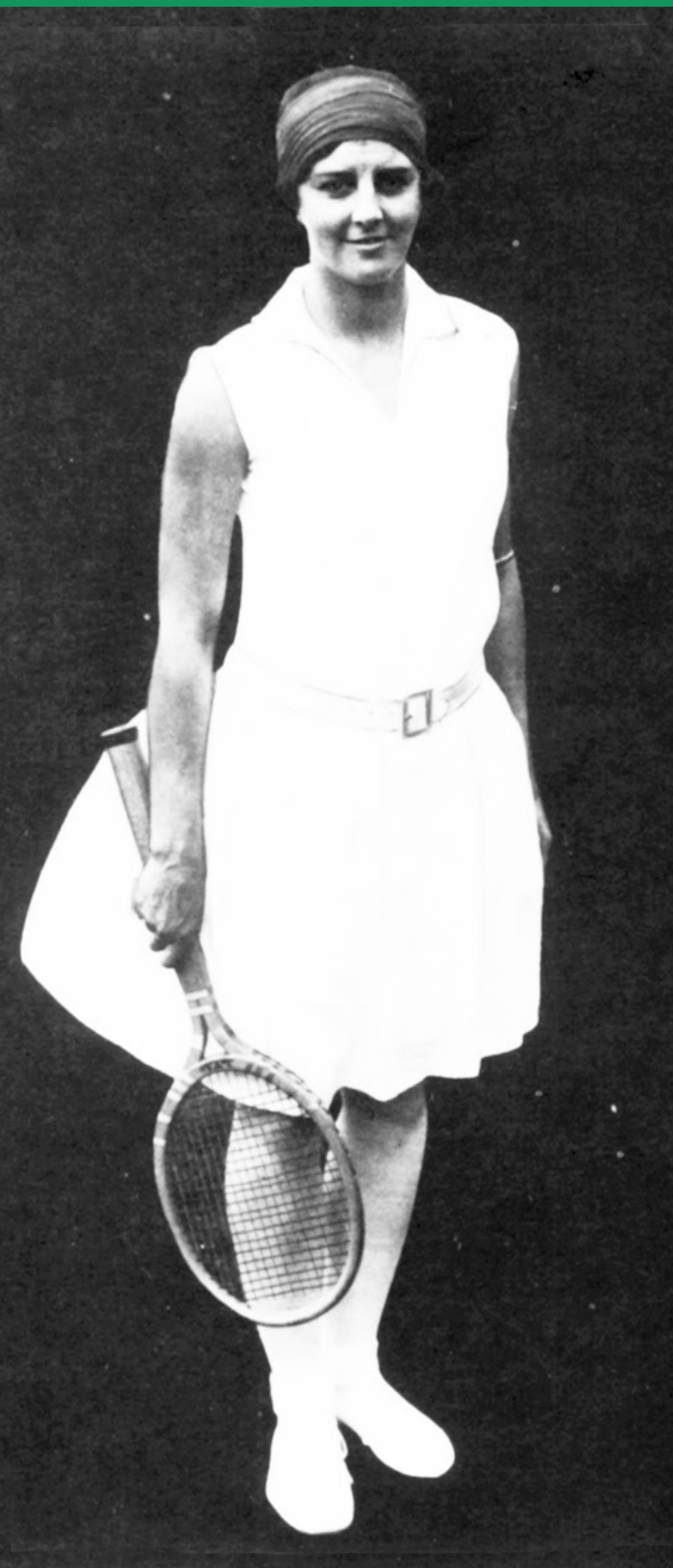
*just seen someone in the same colour bandeau as myself". It is impossible because she is so fat. The same colour bandeau as mine - and oh, so fat! Voila!"*

Her impressions of New York:

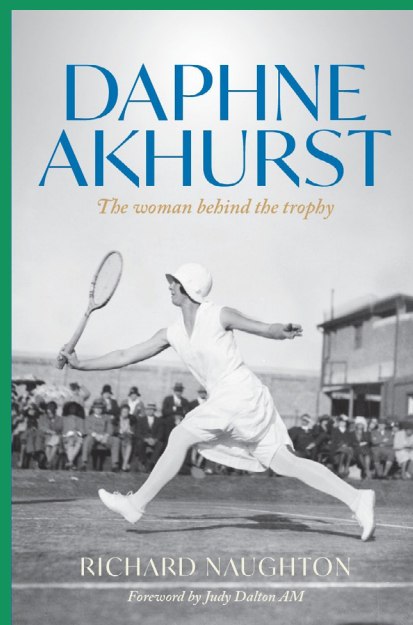
*"My first glimpse of America was Long Island – it seemed to stretch for miles – then Coney Island, the famous amusement place, and in the distance the skyscrapers. A very impressive sight is the Statue of Liberty at the entrance of the Harbour. It seems to greet you as you come in, and looks very stately (needless to say, there was a rush of cameras to the side of the boat). The height of the buildings simply amazed me, the tall Woolworths, with its 56 floors, standing out. More cameras for snaps, and my delight at the approach of the city was >>>*



Above: Daphne Akhurst, Australia's first international female tennis star.



Left: The Australian tennis prodigy, Daphne Akhurt. Below: Richard Naughton's new biography of Daphne Akhurst.



greatly appreciated by the Americans on board who had been telling me all about it. Arrangements had been made us to stay at the Vanderbilt Hotel, where nearly all the sporting visitors stay, and our ride up Fifth Avenue to get there was an eye-opener. Lovely, wide streets – huge buildings either side, and beautiful shops had me gazing everywhere. What fascinated me very much was the way the traffic was regulated with lights automatically changing from red to green for the traffic to stop or move on. We had opportunities of seeing some theatres in New York, and never missed a night going somewhere, except before our match, even if it were just to walk along Broadway and see the bright lights. It is a wonderful sight at nights, just one blaze of coloured lights.”

Tragically, Daphne’s death at the age of 29 was sudden and unexpected. On January 9, 1933, she died of ectopic pregnancy, leaving behind a husband, a son, and a bereaved tennis world. A year later, the New South Wales Lawn Tennis Association donated the grand slam trophy in her memory. ●



# WORLD GOLF HALL OF FAME

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NANCY LOPEZ



DINAH SHORE



BABE ZAHARIAS



PATTY SHEEHAN



KARRIE WEBB





# A Golf Tournament for the Ages

Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, and Jack Nicklaus Do Battle at the Foot of the Rocky Mountains.

SHMagazine

**IN THE SUMMER OF 1960, BEN HOGAN,** Arnold Palmer, and Jack Nicklaus did battle at the foot of the Rocky Mountains outside Denver, Colorado. The drama didn't just witness the greatest comeback in U.S. Open history, but it also featured three generations of past and future legends colliding at an inflection point in their remarkable careers. At the end of that three-day championship run, the world saw the crowning of a new king, the arrival of a young prodigy, and the exit of a celebrated legend. On June 16, 1960, a record number of spectators streamed into the Cherry Hills Country Club to watch the 60<sup>th</sup> edition of the U.S. Open. The warm summer air belied the expansive snow-capped mountains in the

distance as one by one, golf's greatest players of the day took their turn teeing off. Laid out in a true classic design, the 71-par Cherry Hills course was the first to entertain a U.S. Open west of Minneapolis (1938) and it was now hosting its second such challenge. Unlike today's schedules that are stretched over 4 days, the competitions then were squeezed into 3 days of intensive grinds, with Saturdays serving up 36 holes of gut-wrenching highs and lows. Ben Hogan, 4-time winner of the U.S. Open, was gunning for his 5<sup>th</sup> title. A veteran champion of all 4 majors, Hogan's prime years were between 1938 and 1959 when he won 63 professional golf tournaments despite the interruption of World War II and a near-fatal accident that left him with multiple >>



At the 1960 U.S. Open, it was almost impossible to take your eyes off the stacked leaderboard.



**Above: Mike Souchak at the 1960 U.S. Open where he led the field in the first 3 rounds only to fall back in the 4<sup>th</sup> round and lose the tournament. Right: Arnold Palmer celebrating his win at the 1960 U.S. Open where he delivered the greatest comeback in tournament history.**

fractures. The Hogan mystique lay with the golf swing, in which he combined theory and practice to near perfection. The 47-year old had already written two books on the game, one of which, “Five Lessons: The Fundamentals of Golf” (co-authored), was the most widely read golf tutorial. Fresh from his win at the Masters where he birdied the last 2 holes to defeat Ken Venturi by a single stroke, Arnold Palmer was hoping to carry his good fortunes to the next calendar major. The 31-year old native of Latrobe, Pennsylvania who turned pro six years earlier was coming up when television was just starting to broadcast the game across America. His humble working-class roots and plain-spoken popularity helped change the perception of golf from an elite, clubby pastime to a sport for anyone and everyone. Little did the world anticipate that Palmer’s signature would dominate golf for the next decade. Joining the elders in the gallery was Jack Nicklaus, the reigning amateur champion. An all-around high school athlete, Nicklaus made his mark sweeping a variety of state and regional junior titles before clinching the 1959 U.S. Amateur. He played in his first U.S. Open two years earlier and though he >>



Ben Hogan playing off the water at the 1960 U.S. Open. The tournament helped mark the end of his winning career.



missed the cut, he survived the 1958 event to tie with a 41<sup>st</sup> place finish. Following his dazzling performance at the 1960 Open battleground, Nicklaus announced his big arrival. The 20-year old student from Ohio State would turn pro the following year and forge a brilliant career that saw a record 18 major titles out of 117 professional victories.

**HOGAN, FALLING BACK TO PAR (284) AND TIED FOR 9<sup>TH</sup> PLACE, WAS NOW A REVERED RELIC.**

The 1960 U.S. Open was packed with other luminaries such as old-timer Sam Snead, South Africa's Gary Player, and defending champion, Billy Casper. On the amateur ranks, the unlikely musician and big band singer Don Cherry was also making a run for a piece of the \$60,000 purse. But leading the pack from day one through the last hole of the third round was Mike Souchak, the 11-time PGA Tour winner who made the cover of Sports



Above: Palmer standing following his victory. Seated to his left are USGA President John Cook, amateur Jack Nicklaus, and his dad.

Illustrated in its preview of the Bing Crosby Pro-Am. Souchak maintained a wire-to-wire lead, firing a -5 (208) and keeping Hogan and Nicklaus who were tied for 5<sup>th</sup>, at 3 strokes behind. Not even posting in the top ten, Palmer was 7 strokes behind the leader and tied for 15<sup>th</sup> going into the final round. It was then that the drama started to unfold. The afternoon tension was punctuated with cheers and gasps as the field traded tight leads. Souchak started his death march in the >>

1960 U.S. OPEN CHERRY HILLS CC, ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO	R1	R2	R3	R4	FINAL	PLACE
ARNOLD PALMER	72	71	72	65	-4 (280)	1 <sup>st</sup>
JACK NICKLAUS*	71	71	69	71	-2 (282)	2 <sup>nd</sup>
MIKE SOUCHAK	68	67	73	75	-1 (283)	T3
BEN HOGAN	75	67	69	73	Par (284)	T9

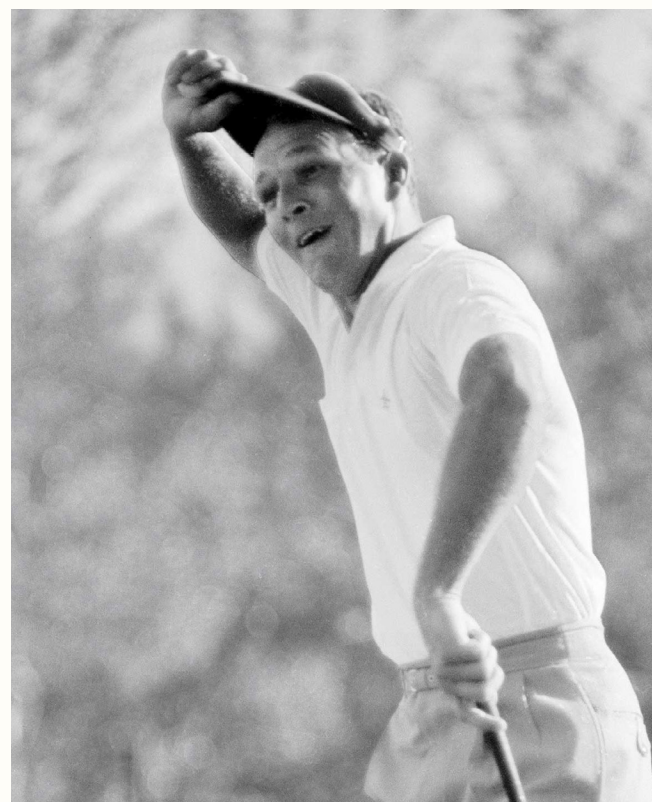
\*AMATEUR

Right: Arnold Palmer was already a household name at Cherry Hills, but he added to his legend even more.

morning with a double bogey that ended his third round at 73. Though still in the lead, he cratered with more misses to a final round of 75. Hogan saw his fate sealed at the par-5 17<sup>th</sup> hole when he spun the ball in the water to produce a bogey.

## FLINGING HIS CAP IN THE AIR, GOLF'S NEW RULER [ARNOLD PALMER] CELEBRATED HIS FIRST AND WHAT WOULD BE HIS ONLY U.S. OPEN VICTORY.

Trying to recover from his blunder, an aggressive swing to start off the 18th did him even worst with a triple bogey. The young man barnstorming through the course landed an eagle at 5<sup>th</sup> and birdie at 9<sup>th</sup> to briefly capture the lead, but lost it with a 3-putt bogey from just 10 feet away on the 13th, and then fell short again on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Before the day was out, the Cherry Hills grounds were littered with casualties. At 1.42 pm when Palmer stepped up to launch his fourth round, nobody believed he was still in contention. But luck and skill played into his hands as the one rule in golf that always holds constant asserted itself with fury: for one player to claim the trophy, others have to miss their shots. Starting his sprint from behind, Palmer managed to conquer his biggest frustration at the tournament, the first hole. The 346-yard, par-4 challenge with an elevated tee kept him off the green since the opening round. But this time he drove the stretch and 2-putted a birdie on the 1st, then proceeded to chip in from 90 feet for a birdie on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, tapped it in after a



near eagle on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, and then sunk an 18-footer for a birdie on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Two more on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> closed him out with a 30. After coasting with pars in the back 9, the future "King" pulled away with a 65 for the round, completing the tournament in -4 (280) and delivering the greatest comeback in U.S. Open history. Flinging his cap in the air, golf's new ruler celebrated his first and what would be his

## NICKLAUS WAS RUNNER-UP AT -2 (282) AND ON HIS WAY TO STARDOM.

only U.S. Open victory. Nicklaus was runner-up at -2 (282) and on his way to stardom after producing the best amateur performance since Johnny Goodman won in 1933. Hogan, falling back to par (284) and tied for 9<sup>th</sup> place, was now a revered relic. A new era in professional golf had begun. ●

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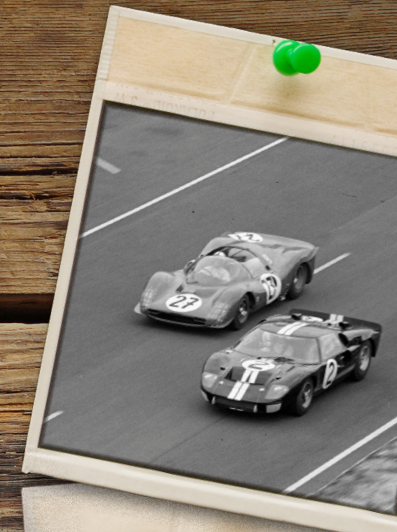
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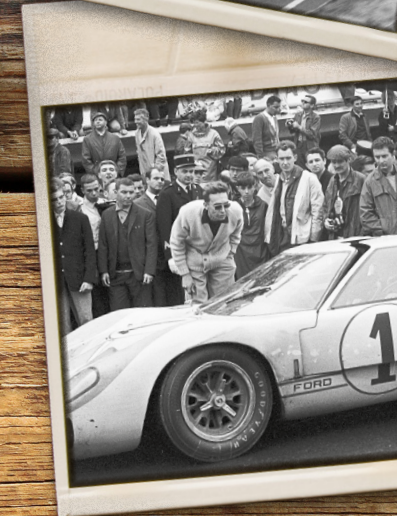
### THE MOST BIGOTED MAN IN BASEBALL

Phillies manager Ben Champman hurled endless racial epithets from the bench



### FORD TAKES ON FERRARI

His ego bruised, Henry Ford II takes revenge on the race track



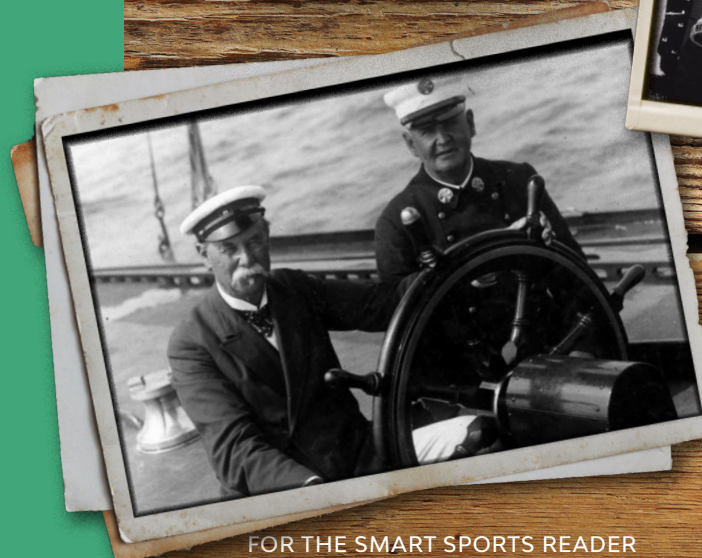
### THE WORLD'S BEST LOSER

Tea Magnate Thomas Lipton is honored for losing the America's Cup 5 times



### LOOKING BACK WITH HALE IRWIN

The 3x U.S. Open champion recalls his playing days



### FOR A TOUCHDOWN, OR FIELD GOAL, CALL GEORGE BLANDA

With a powerful arm and an accurate foot, Blanda played until he was 48 years old



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