1997 BUILDERS

DR. JAN HARVEY-KILAM

SWIMMING

Since arriving in Lethbridge in 1985 Dr. Harvey-Kilam has spent countless hours donating her time and skills to various athletic groups in southern Alberta with a special focus on swimming.

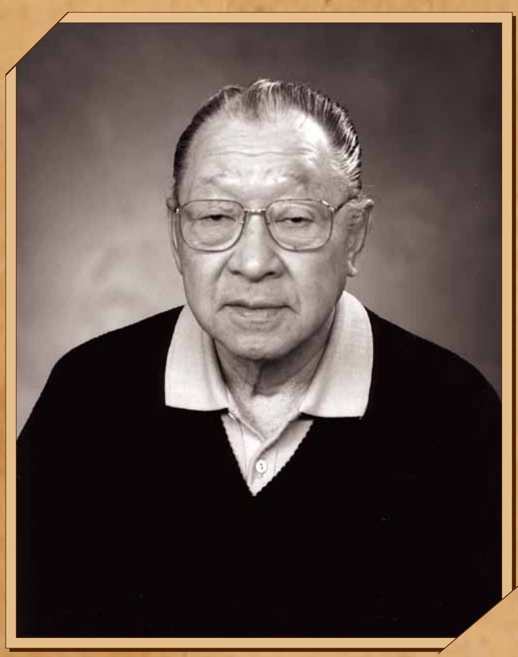
Dr. Harvey-Kilam served on the Board of Directors of the Lethbridge Amateur Swim club from 1985-1994 in roles from President to Officials Chair. She continues to serve as team physician for the LA Swim Club and also serves as a Master Official for Swimming Canada.

She has donated her medical skills for a variety of athletic events including the World Ironman Triathlon Championship in Hawaii, Team Alberta for the Canada Summer Games and was Deck Physician at the Olympic Swim Trials in Montreal in 1996.

Dr. Harvey-Kilam has also served as Team Physician and Team Manager for the World Short Course Swim Championships in Rio De Janeiro in 1995 and will serve in the same role for the national swim team at the 1997 World Championships in Gotenburg, Sweden.

She continues to serve on the Board of Directors of Swim Canada's executive council where she is currently Chairman of Domestic Services.

Whether at the local pools, at international events or in the boardrooms Dr. Jan Harvey-Kilam continues to donate her expertise in both the medical and organizational areas of sports.



GEORGE YOSHINAKA

BASEBALL

For 60 years, baseball has been a way of life for George Yoshinaka.

He started playing the game in 1937 as a teenager in Vancouver. In 1952, while living in Crowsnest Pass, he became player-manager of the JCCA Niseis, a team sponsored by the Lethbridge and District Japanese-Canadian Association. The Niseis reached the provincial final that year before losing out to the Lacombe Rockets.

Yoshinaka guided the Niseis to several other Southern Alberta titles until the club folded in 1963.

He moved on to coaching his eldest son in baseball, up to Pony League. Then in 1967, he organized a team of 12-year-old Japanese-Canadian sanseis (third generation Canadians). The squad captured the Southern Alberta, Alberta and Western Canadian Championships.

In 1972, Yoshinaka was involved in organizing a senior team, the Lethbridge Lakers, which won the league championship and placed third in the Canadian Championships in New Brunswick.

Yoshinaka helped bring professional baseball to Lethbridge in 1975, serving on the board of directors for the city's first Pioneer League franchise, the Lethbridge Expos, and later the Lethbridge Dodgers.

From 1983 to 1995, Yoshinaka coached his grandsons in Little League baseball, and was Manager of the Southwest Senior Little League All-Stars, who came within one game of reaching the Canadian Championships in 1994.

Yoshinaka also umpired baseball for many years, and for years was a zone representative for the Alberta Baseball Association.

GLORIA GOUTHREAU

MULTI SPORTS

To say Gloria Gouthreau is involved in sports is an understatement akin to saying Steven Spielberg works in the film industry.

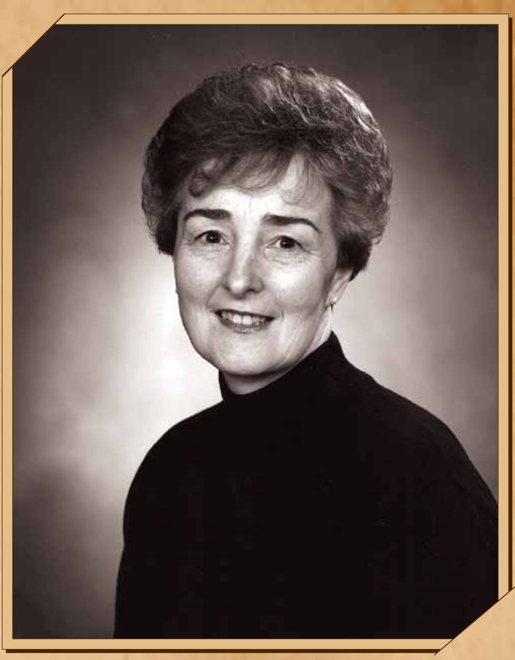
Gouthreau and sports have gone together hand-and-glove since she was a teenager assisting her father, Ed MacDonald, who coached minor hockey and Little League baseball.

She has carried on the family tradition, contributing to the southern Alberta sports scene as a parent, coach, executive member and participant.

Gouthreau served on the youth bowling executive in the late 1970s and early '80s, and was also involved in Lethbridge Minor Softball, where she coached and served as President, Vice-President and Past President. In 1985, she was elected Zone 1 Southern District Organizer for Alberta Softball a position she held through the 1990s.

She's a founding member of the Lethbridge Softball Association, was on host committees for the 1986 Canadian Men's and Women's Slowpitch Championships, the 1987 Scott Tournament of Hearts, and the 1994 Canadian Men's and Women's Broomball Championships.

In 1995, Gouthreau was a torch bearer in the local rally for the Canada Winter Games in Grande Prairie. On top of all that, she has been involved with Oldtimers hockey and as a Director with the Alberta Broomball Association.



DAN NIEHAUS

GYMNASTICS

Ever since Dan Niehaus was a young competitor with the Westwind Gymnastics Club, coaching has been in his blood.

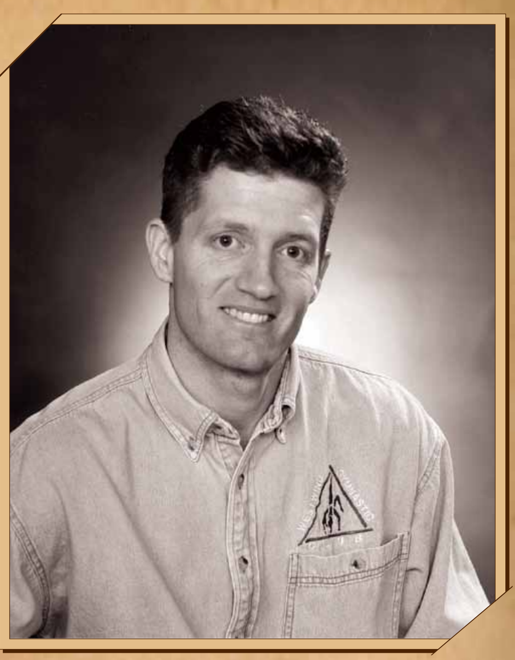
Niehaus started in the sport in 1978 and was just 13 when he began coaching at a recreational level. He continued to compete until 1983, then turned his full attention to coaching, becoming Head Coach of the Westwind women's program in 1984.

It didn't take Niehaus long to show he was a talented teacher. In 1985, one of his athletes qualified for the Canadian Championships. He has sent one or more competitors to the nationals each year since then.

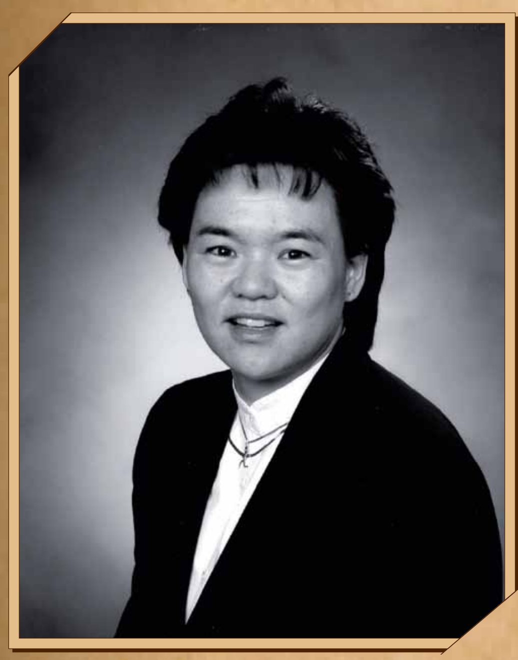
Niehaus later became the club's Executive Director and, while doubling as Head Coach, has helped the Westwind club build an enviable reputation on the provincial and national gymnastics scene. Two of his competitors have attained the High Performance Level and earned spots on the Canadian Gymnastics Team. In addition, three of his female gymnasts have received full scholarships to American universities.

In 1993-94, Niehaus became the youngest coach ever to achieve NCCP Level IV certification. He was named Coach of the Year in 1994 by the Alberta Gymnastics Federation, and has twice been runner-up for national Coach of the Year honours.

He introduced an adaptive gymnastics program for the disabled in southern Alberta, and has also been involved in setting up gymnastics programs for kindergarten and elementary students.



1997 ATHLETES



LORI CHAKI-FARRINGTON

TRACK & FIELD

As a teenager, Lori Chaki-Farrington was an all-around athlete, competing in volleyball, basketball and softball while attending Lethbridge Collegiate Institute.

But it was in track and field that she excelled, becoming one of the best track athletes the area has produced.

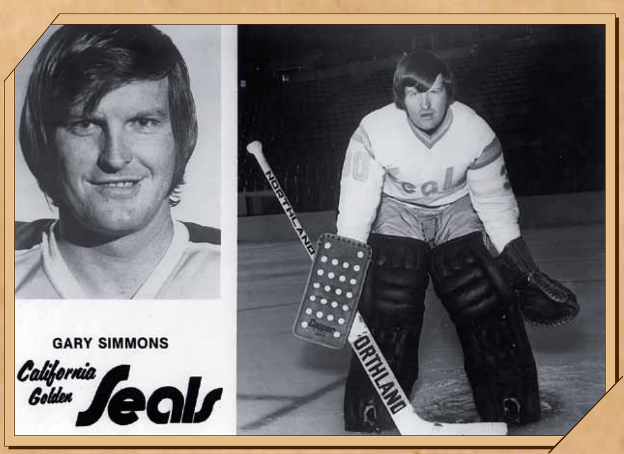
A member of the Lethbridge Track and Field Club during her high school days, Chaki-Farrington was the Canadian Junior record holder in the 50-metre dash and was ranked number one in Canada overall in the event. She was also a gold medalist at the Canada Games in 1977 and won gold medals at the National Legion Track and Field Championships.

Chaki-Farrington was named the Outstanding Athlete at the National Junior Track and Field Championships in 1979, winning two gold and two bronze medals. She was a bronze-medal winner at the Canadian Senior Championships the same year.

She received Alberta Achievement Awards in 1977 and 1979 for outstanding achievement in track and field.

Chaki-Farrington, who specialized in sprints, long jump and relay events, went on to the University of Montana at Missoula on a track scholarship. There she was named the university's Outstanding Female Track Athlete of 1981, was Conference Champion in the 55-metre sprint in 1983, and received the Coaches Award honouring track and field performance and leadership in 1983 and 1984.

Academics were also important to her, and she won the Agnes Stoodley Award in 1984 as the Outstanding Student in the Department of Health and Physical Education. In addition, she was initiated into the Mortar Board in recognition of high scholarship, leadership and service.



GARY SIMMONS

HOCKEY

It was a long road to the National Hockey League for Gary Simmons, but once he got there, he showed he belonged.

Simmons, born in Charlottetown, P.E.I, and raised in Lethbridge, was 30 years old when he made his NHL goaltending debut for the California Golden Seals, blanking the Atlanta Flames 3-0 in the second game of the 1974-75 season.

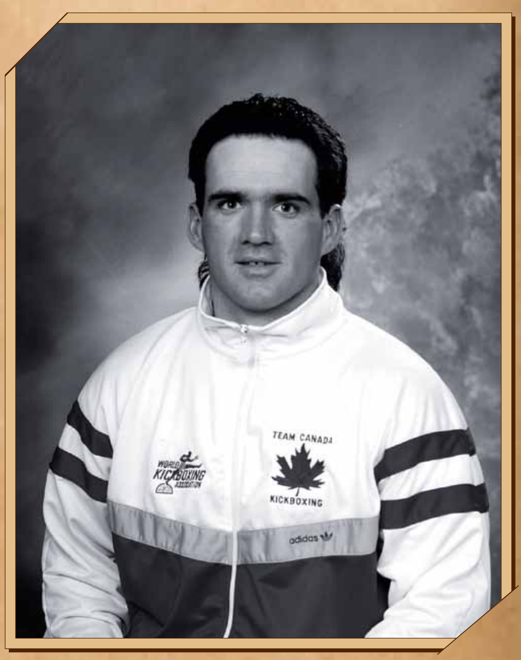
Simmons went on to play four seasons in the NHL, with the Seals, the Cleveland Barons and the Los Angeles Kings, finishing with a respectable 3.56 goals-against mark and five shutouts in 107 games. In his best season, 1975-76, he turned in a solid 3.33 goals-against average and two shutouts in 40 games for the Seals.

The six-foot-two netminder's pre-NHL training included a stint in 1965-66 with the Edmonton Oil Kings, who reached the Memorial Cup finals.

In 1969-70, he backstopped the Calgary Stampeders to the Western Canada Senior Hockey Championship.

Before joining the NHL's Seals, Simmons spent two seasons with the Phoenix Roadrunners of the Western Hockey League, leading the team to the Patrick Cup Championship both years.

Simmons was also an outstanding fastball player, excelling as both a pitcher and hitter for Lethbridge's Alberta Senior A Championship club in 1973 before signing with the Calgary Beta Well Braves of the Western Major Fastball League in 1974.



REGINALD DENNIS "JUNIOR" OLSEN

KICKBOXING

Kickboxing does not hold a high profile as sports go, but Lethbridge kickboxer Junior Olsen certainly earned himself a lofty perch in the sport.

In his early teens, Olsen competed in motocross and boxing before taking up Kung-fu and kickboxing. By 1986, he had obtained a black belt in Kung-fu at the Lethbridge Martial Arts Centre.

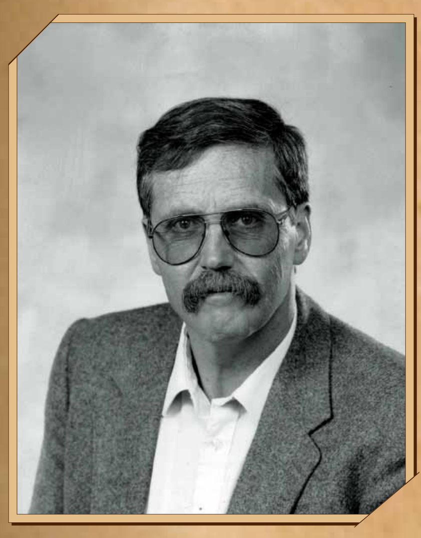
Olsen lost his first kickboxing bout, at age 16, but it proved to be his last defeat. In October 1987, in just his second year of kickboxing, he captured the Alberta Amateur Middleweight Title.

In March 1989, he defeated Bruce Walker of Victoria in Burnaby, B.C., to win the World Karate Association Canadian Junior Middleweight Crown. Seven months later, he claimed the WKA Canadian light-heavyweight title by beating Regina's Don Laliberte, who outweighed Olsen by 20 pounds.

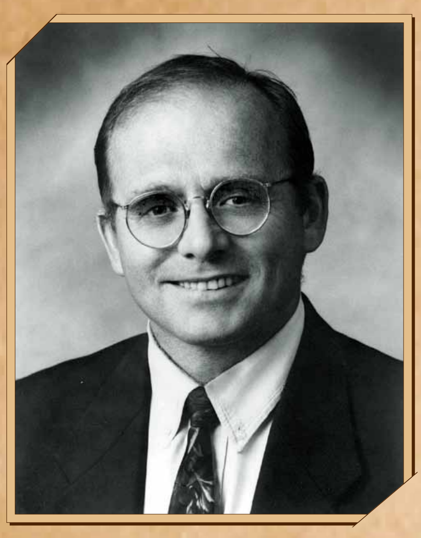
The Lethbridge kickboxer added a still more prestigious title in March, 1990 in Vancouver, flattening Detroit's Jeff Taylor with an early knockout to win the WKA North American Junior Middleweight Championship.

Olsen, who was undefeated in some 20 bouts as a professional, now passes his expertise on to younger kickboxers as operator, with Trevor Hardy, of the Lethbridge Kickboxing Club.

1997 TEAMS



BILL GILLESPIE



BOB KASTING

1972 LASC 4X 100 FREESTYLE RELAY TEAM

SWIMMING

In the early 1970s, the Lethbridge Amateur Swim Club ranked as one of the top swim clubs in the country.

The club, coached by Stan Siwik reached its high-water mark at the 1972 Canadian Swimming Championships in Winnipeg. The event doubled as the Olympic trials for the Summer Games in Munich, Germany, so competition was stiff.

LASC's 4 x 100-metre freestyle relay team of Bob and Norm Kasting, Lorne Kemmet and Bill Gillespie responded to the challenge by winning the gold medal, setting a Canadian record of 3:41.20 in the process.

Bob Kasting and Kemmet were selected to the national team, and Kasting was named captain of Canada's Olympic swim team.

It marked the pinnacle of success for the four young men, who owned a string of outstanding swimming achievements leading up to the nationals.

By age 12, Bob Kasting had already set 10 provincial records and three Canadian records while Gillespie, at the same juncture, held 17 provincial marks and one Canadian record. Kemmet once broke three provincial marks in his age group at the Killarney Swim Meet in Calgary.

1994 LCC GOLD & GOLD KODIAKS

SOCCER

Back Row (L-R): Nicole Tweter, Alicia Hinger, Kristi Wright, Lori Carkner, Stacey Woodcock, Colene Graham, Sabine Peterson, Kelly Wright, Coach Alvin Tietz

Front Row (L-R): Manager Knud Petersen, Brenda Cooper, Alison Kanewischer, Jody Fomradas, Michelle Ratkai, Dianna Schmaltz, Nicole Petersen, Melissa Smith

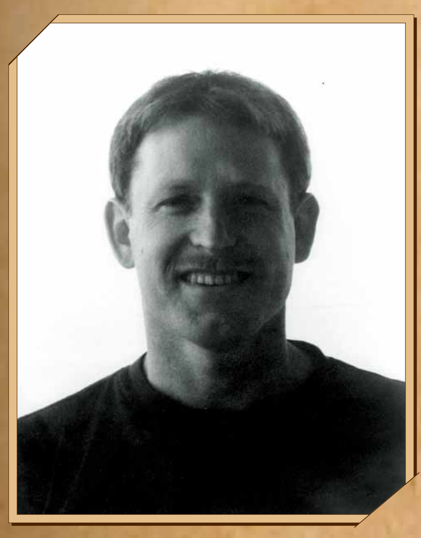
In 1994, the Lethbridge Community College women's soccer program was born. But the LCC Kodiaks did not perform like a fledgling team; far from it. When the season ended, the Kodiaks were Canadian Collegiate Champions.

Coached by Alvin Tietz and Knud Petersen, the Kodiaks, most of them developed in the Lethbridge Chargers' soccer program, rolled through their inaugural season undefeated, with two ties.

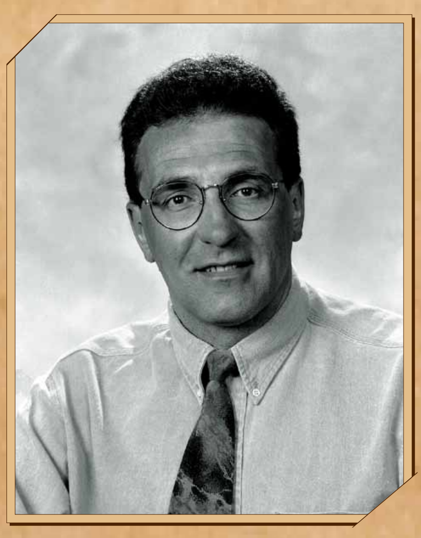
LCC clinched the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference crown by blanking Grant MacEwan Griffins 4-0 at Lethbridge's Civic Centre pitch.

At the national championships in Abbotsford, B.C., the Kodiaks earned a thrilling 1-0 victory over top-ranked Langara College of Vancouver. Nicole Petersen's penalty kick with 10 seconds remaining in the second overtime provided the winning margin.

Kodiaks started the season with 15 players and were down to 12 by the end of the gold-medal game at Abbotsford. Stiker Sabine Peterson served as a great inspiration to the team despite suffering a broken leg in mid-season.



NORM KASTING



LORNE KEMMET

1997 SPECIAL

KEITH JORGENSEN

SPECIAL AWARD

Keith Jorgensen just can't get enough of working with and helping kids. After spending his day teaching, Keith spends his evening hours and weekends volunteering his talents for various sports groups and organizations.

Keith began volunteering his services when he coached baseball and soccer in 1968. Since that time he has gone on to coach, manage, organize and direct a number of different sports teams, leagues and organizations.

Keith began working with Little League Baseball in 1976 before joining the American Legion Baseball Program. He was a key figure behind the establishment of the Southern Alberta High School Baseball League. Keith recently served as the first President of the Prairie Baseball Academy.

Jorgensen has served in a variety of roles with other groups including the Southern Alberta Football Association as President. In basketball he has worked for years officiating games and has served as President of the Alberta Basketball Official's Association.

Keith continues to donate his time and efforts to various sports groups passing on his organizational skills and coaching experience to others in his attempt to aid and assist athletics in southern Alberta.

GORDON ORSER

SPECIAL AWARD

Gordon Orser gave two decades of service to amateur hockey, not just in Lethbridge, but provincially and nationally as well.

He served with the Lethbridge Minor Hockey Association in a variety of capacities from 1960 to 1967 ranging from Secretary and Equipment Manager to Chairman of the Discipline Committee. He also managed the Juvenile Maple Leafs Hockey Club and received numerous awards for his contributions to the LMHA during that time.

From 1967 to 1979, he was involved with the Alberta Amateur Hockey Association, serving two terms as Vice-President and also seeing duty as Southern Alberta Zone Chairman.

In addition, he was Chairman of intermediate and senior hockey for the AAHA, and held the same title for the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association from 1976-79. In 1979, he received the CAHA's Meritorious Service Award; only two such awards are presented annually, one in Eastern Canada and one in the West.

His hockey contributions include serving as a driver and transportation co-ordinator for the Lethbridge Sugar Kings from 1970-75, and volunteering as Technical Director of Hockey Operations for the 1976 Canada Winter Games in Lethbridge.

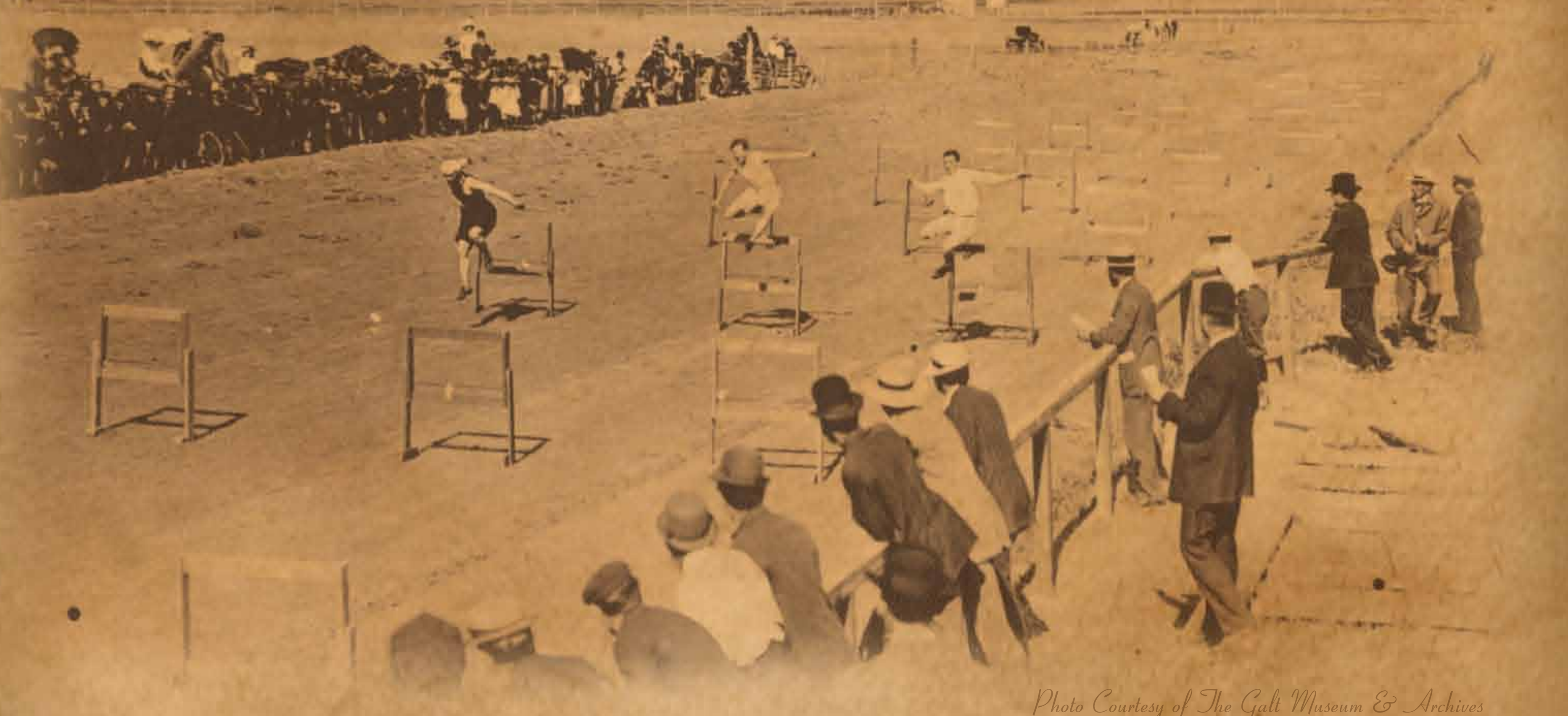


Photo Courtesy of The Galt Museum & Archives

Track & Field Meet – Victoria Park (now Gyro Park) 1909