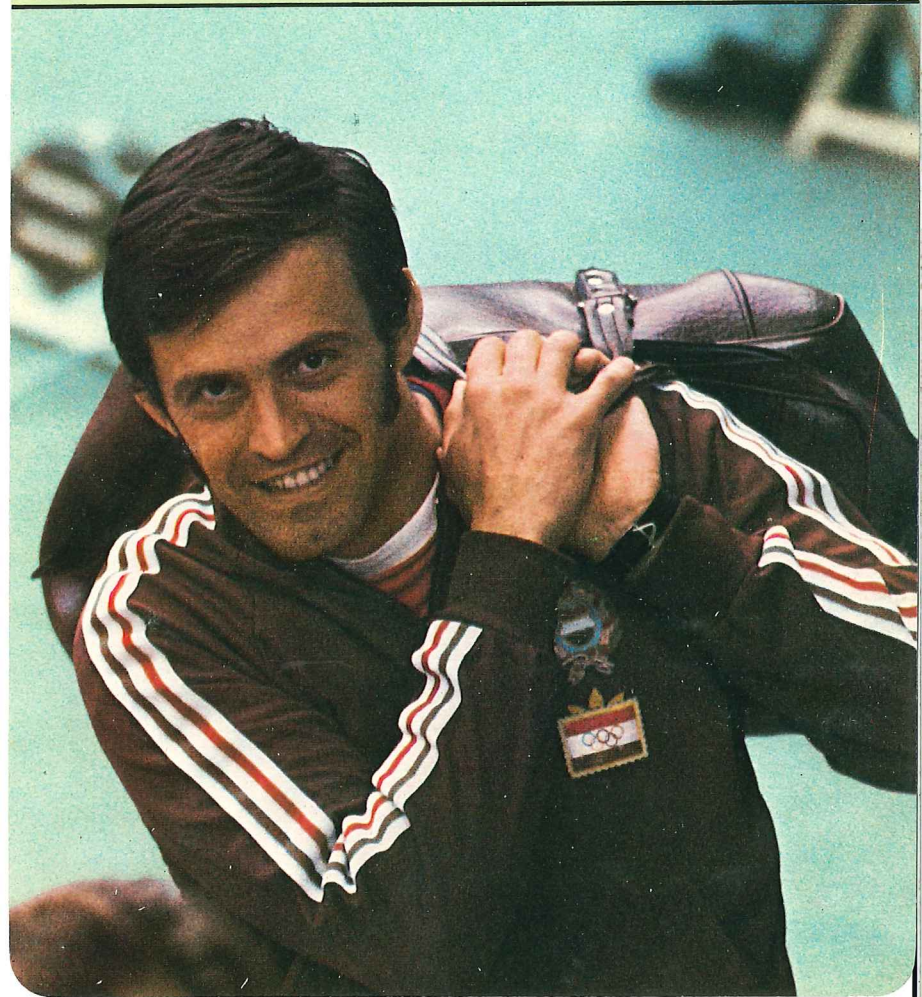


Track and Field



Miklos Nemeth



Track and Field



Miklos Nemeth

Twenty-Eight Years After His Father

1976 olympic champion in the javelin in Montreal, the Hungarian Miklos Nemeth accomplished a feat which is unique in the annals of olympic athletics history: he won a gold medal 28 years after his father, Imre Nemeth, olympic hammer champion in London in 1948. Miklos Nemeth, born 23 October 1946 in Budapest, found at Montreal a late confirmation of his ability, since he took his olympic title with a world record set in the first round (94.58 m). Before the 1976 Olympic Games, he had one victory in international competition, at the World Student Games in 1970. Neither at the Munich Olympics in 1972 (7th) nor in the European championships (5th in 1966, 7th in 1974) had he managed to surpass himself as he did at Montreal.

His father was singularly qualified to direct his athletic career. Olympic champion in 1948, bronze medalist four years later in Helsinki, he twice beat the world hammer record before becoming president of the Hungarian Athletics Association and the stadium director in Budapest. However, it was another Olympic medalist, a friend of

his father, Jozsef Varsegi (3rd in the javelin in 1948) who taught Miklos Nemeth the rudiments of throwing the javelin.

Miklos Nemeth trained for the 1976 Olympic Games under the supervision of a third Olympic medalist, Gergely Kulcsar. It seemed as though he might have reached his peak too early. He had made the best throw of the year in 1975 with 91.38 m. Before the Olympics he had only been third with a throw of 89.56 m. So, at Montreal, he improved on his personal best by more than 3 m. Miklos Nemeth's personal best in the hammer is 52.19 m (his father was world record-holder with 59.88 m in 1950).

MIKLOS NEMETH

Born Oct. 23, 1946, in Budapest, HUN

AWARDS AND RECORDS

1976 OG : gold medal, javelin
world record with 94.58 m, 26 July 1976
1970: World Student Games, champion in the javelin

A certain smile, 28 years after his father