

The Russian world and Olympic champion figure skater **Serguei Grinkov** died in late November at age 28, during a training session in Lake Placid (USA). With his partner and wife Ekaterine Gordeeva, Grinkov had won the Olympic pairs gold medal at the Games in Calgary in 1988, and at Lillehammer in 1994. After several years of professional skating, from 1991 to 1993, the couple made a successful comeback to the amateur fold, winning the European and Olympic titles.

Estonian athlete **Osvald Käpp**, Olympic gold medalist in freestyle wrestling at the Games of the IX Olympiad in Amsterdam in 1928, died on 22 December 1995 at age 90.

Russian athlete **Elena Mirochina**, who won a silver medal in high diving at the 1992 Games of the Olympiad in Barcelona, died tragically at the age of twenty-one, apparently in a fall from the window of her Moscow apartment. Ms Mirochina was also European champion in her event in 1987 and 1991, and first runner-up to the world championship in 1991. She stopped competing in 1993.

Olympic champion **Charlie Jewtraw** died on 30 January 1996 at the age of 95. He won the first gold medal in 500m speed skating at the first Olympic Winter Games in Chamonix in 1924. His Olympic medal is on display at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC (USA).

**Marathon runner dies at 96**

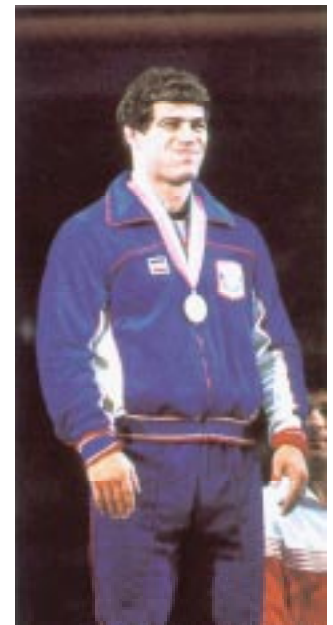
Fitness guru **Noel Johnson**, who took up exercise during retirement at the age of 70, and at 80 was the oldest runner to complete the New York City marathon, died at the age of 96 on 25 January 1996. *"We create our own destiny. We become whatever we want to become"*, he wrote in his

best-selling book *"The Living Proof"*. Johnson ran 21 marathons after age 70 and set world records at the mile and half-mile in his age group. *"Most people my age can't even walk. They say I'm one in five billion. It doesn't have to be that way"*, he said when he was 92.



With the death of **Erich Kamper** in November 1995, Olympic history lost its writer. Born on 22 June 1914 in Mitterdorf/Mürztal (AUT), Kamper was the doyen of Olympic historians and statisticians. His numerous reference works include *Who's who at the Olympic Games 1896 - 1992*, *Encyclopaedia of the Olympic Games* and *The Golden Book of the Olym-*

*pic Games* (in collaboration with Bill Mallon). A founding member of the Association of Track and Field Statisticians (ATFS), Kamper was also the honorary president of the International Society of Olympic Historians (ISOH). He was given the Olympic Order in 1987, in a fitting tribute to his years of service to the Olympic Movement



American athlete **Dave Schultz**, Olympic freestyle wrestling champion (welter weight) at the Games of the XXIII Olympiad in Los Angeles in 1984, died in late January 1996. This high-level athlete who was also world champion, had become one of the top wrestling trainers in the United States.