

(More Les)

I am always amazed when a reporter asks a football end, for instance, "How did you feel when you dropped the pass that would have made your team #1 in the nation & you would have won the Rose Bowl?"

But I am certainly pleased to answer it "with 45 years of hindsight". In the 40's era of male macho and men divorcing women because they couldn't handle the spouse making more money than they did, Les was not one of these. When Pudge began receiving international recognition for her exploits and herself, I enjoyed (reveled in) every moment of it! Did I resent being billed as "Pudgy Stockton and her Husband", Mr. and Mrs. Pudgy Stockton" - not even once!

We sold (or sent) thousands of pictures worldwide. I hope some of them served as an inspiration for improvement or satisfaction.

The fact that this quiet, sensitive, publicity shy, ever striving, without driving ambition female could have an impact on her generation was extremely satisfying to me. And the fact that I am able to still enjoy her daily presence is a privilege beyond words. I am thankful.

If you want a short "How did you feel?" answer, here it is, "Some people are given the privilege of being close to a personality who is something very special & exceptional in some phase of our civilization - I was that person with Abby "Pudge" Eville & Stockton. Al Thomas put it best, I think, so I paraphrase "Every moment with Pudge was always a proud pleasure".

3. Physiques - I should have read question 3 (before I started on 2) because in my ramblings above, some (most?) of the answer is there.

Question: When did the PC scene peak?

In our very specialized area of P.C., lifting weights for W.L. competition or total well being or physique competition, it is easy to generalize and feel that the whole world (or at least the people of the United States) is fully aware of the benefits of this activity. As a matter of fact (what a trite start!) a relatively small percentage of our population even now is acquainted with weightlifting (a continually smaller number) & competitive body building. Arnold Schwarznegger (& Steve Reeves) are publicized in movies & have certainly enlarged the "sphere" but I am certain not too many people are interested enough to find out what they did to look that way.

Unfortunately, the Olympian, Ben Johnson, thing made many more people much more aware of the drug aspect of body building than the exercise or nutritional involvement portions. It is unfortunate that the use of steroids does have a "beneficial" effect on the performance level of the competition. Controlling this problem will be difficult as long as the immediate bottom line results in this outstanding improvement. The emphasis among the (some) athletes will be how to avoid positive testing not not taking the steroids. (two "nots", wow!)

If the continual testing is effective, & the competitors are forced to stop (there is no other way), the performance of the physique will not reach the heights reached by the drug related results. This I believe is an unfortunate truism.