

Hoffie mob. Joe had insisted, over my protests, of labelling me THE WORLDS GREATEST WEIGHTLIFTING AUTHORITY. I said not to do this but he did it anyway Hoffie sneered at this asking, and rightly in my opinion, what champions I had ever trained. When Doug came along, I saw what potential he had grabbed hold of him and showed offie just how good I was as a trainer.

Other men to my home? Well Reg Park spent a lot of time there as did Doug. Then there was Abe Goldberg, Horvath, Val Pasqua, Mike Mazurki, Verne Gagne, both wrestlers, and others I knew well. Including Dav's Rudy Sablo, and some whose names I have forgotten.

The man who impressed me most AT THE TIME was his first appearance, MELVIN WELLS. He caused a sensation at one of Hoffie's bashes at some place, where I can remember. The crowd went wild and Grime slumped into high dudgeon.

I don't know about how Eder ate. But he had a loving Jewish mother whose cooking was alleged to be the best. So I am sure Marvin didn't go hungry. I don't know too much about his personal life. But he was in my opinion the strongest man, pound for pound I have ever met, and ALL without steroids. Val Pasqua was always a "Mr Clean." Good lad, straight and clean living. About the only one I can say with absolute surety that he lived "clean."

I think the greatest never winner was Dave Sheppard. He never won a world title but could lift! Held world records and national marks but never won the GOLD.

Considering the times in which he appeared, I think Art Harris, a black kid I first came into contact with at the Bronx YMCA, and trained for a while, had the greatest potential but, so far as I know, NEVER WON THE MR AMERICA CONTEST and no man was as stacked as he was, who ever took that title. Look at some of his shots. GREAT fairly screams at you.

If I could have witnessed the three lifts they would be Saxons ALLIGED two hands anyhow of 448 (I don't believe it.) Louis Cuys back lift and Goerner's two hands dead lift in which he hoisted over 300 with a man standing on each end of the bar.

As for the best lifter America ever produced, it would be hard to express an opinion without hurting the feelings of many who were great. I like to watch THREE lifters, Davis, Schemansky and Tommy Kono. Ski made even his limits seem so easy. Nothing to it, was the impression he created. I recall him once warming up with an empty bar. 45 pounds. He then loaded the bar up 290 pounds and snatched that three times running. So help me, you couldn't tell there was any difference twixt the snatch with the empty bar and the one loaded to ~~290~~ 290, it was that bloody easy, or so it appeared.

So far as I remember, NO ONE ever won as many titles, as many world and olympic titles, and made so many records as Davis and Kono. Tops. Good men to

the current crop of female bodybuilders? I watch them posing with those skimpy bikinis, look at the bras they wear and wonder what in the bloody hell they are hiding. However while some have conflict with dames in weight training I have none. I don't FEEL THREATENED BY WOMEN IN LIFTING. So there.

I do feel there should be apparatus free "lifting. We had it in the old days and NO ONE seemed to mind. So my feeling, right or wrong, is that we are not getting a true reflection of what men are really capable of. How soon will it be before we see derricks or cranes used, or "cat chaws" joining in and helping the "lifter" create records. We have the nasty steroid problem, but this I regard as a symbol of the times we live in. Do things