

# The 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah 2005



## FOR 10 DAYS

Telfed welcomes all Southern Africans from the continent of Africa as well as from nearly everywhere else. The unfolding saga of Southern African migration was so poignantly encapsulated by one perplexed English squash player who at the 16<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah observed, “Funny thing is, whatever country I play against, I always end up swapping my T-shirt with someone with a South African accent.”





No doubt there will be other bewildered athletes from Chili to Singapore who at these Games will soon discover that their opposite number on the *field, track, court* or *green* with a peculiar accent and forever saying “*ja*” might just as easily be playing for Israel, Australia, Canada, the UK or the USA as he might for South Africa.

And as for Singapore, this will be the first time this Asian country will be competing in the Maccabiah, as will China. Hong Kong will march under a different flag. With over 8000 athletes competing – up from 3500 in 2001 - “This will be the biggest Maccabiah in history,” says South African **Jeanne Futeran**, the first woman President of the Maccabi World Union.



**Jeanne Futeran**,  
President of the Maccabi  
World Union

Looking forward to meeting their former kin, both on and off the field, court or whatever, are former Southern Africans who will be competing for Israel.

Dentist **Brian Segal** is the Maccabi coordinator for squash. “We have between 8-10 countries that will be competing. Our chances are good, but the highlight will be the juniors. We have never had

such a large delegation of youngsters. This is so important because while the Maccabiah is essentially a sports event, it is no less a Zionist activity. I still find the participation very emotional.”

**Issy Kramer** is the only South African associated with water polo in Israel. A past president of the Israeli Water Polo Association and currently its treasurer, Issy has helped build the sport in Israel over many years. However, he too asserts, “that the Maccabiah is so much more than about sport. Winning is not the purpose of the Maccabiah, *participation* is.”

## SHOOTING STARS

“Netball will be experiencing its best turnout in Maccabi history,” says **Jody Carreira** referred to as “the living spirit” behind the sport in Israel. Cited on the Maccabiah website as the “fastest growing sport at this year’s Games”, Israel will be taking on South Africa, the UK and Australia at the Hayovel Hall in Herzliya.



South African Maccabiah Delegation 1950

# COVER STORY

Formerly of Johannesburg, Jodi feels, “it an absolute privilege to play as an Israeli in a sport that I am so passionate about.” Together with many of her fellow South Africans, Jodi has worked hard at developing netball in Israel and feels that the Maccabiah “is a wonderful opportunity to promote the sport in Israel.”

For Jodi this Maccabiah will be a family affair, as her husband will be representing Israel in rugby. Also in her team will be another former South African **Carol Levin**, whose daughter will be playing in the juniors. As the ‘goal shooter’ in the team, “it is my job to put the ball into the net’. And she is training pretty hard to do just that. Netball is far from being a “girly sport” - a female adaptation of “men’s basketball” - and Carol has quite a few bruises to verify this point.

## MEN ONLY

With seven countries participating in rugby – Israel, South Africa, the UK, Chili, Canada, the US and Australia – the “men’s game” is a far cry from its inaugural entry into the Maccabiah in 1981, when only two teams competed. “Rugby is the most popular sport at the Maccabiah,” says **Cyril Morris**, executive administrator of the Israeli Rugby



Israel's  
Netball Team:  
Captain **Jodi Carreira**  
(center), 2nd from left - **Carol Levin**

Union (IRU). “Preliminary matches have attracted some 3000 spectators in the past, while the finals have been known to draw as many as 12,000. This year we expect a record number of spectators,” says Cyril.

Captaining the 1981 Israeli squad was **Paul Hammar**, an ex-Zimbabwean. Today, he is coaching, the national team, with former South African **Jeremy Schauder**. The Israeli squad lost so devastatingly to Latvia and Lithuania recently, that someone was heard to quip, “*Oy veh*, more pogroms from those guys!” Anyway, the exposure to international competition has prepared the local boys well and according to Paul, “are raring to prove themselves.”

“We are going to wipe out the competition



in the junior section,” boasts **Stanley Perlman**, chairman of the Israel Cricket association since 1994. He has good reason to be confident. With over a two-year spate of spectacular wins, “our junior development programme has been rated as the best in the world,” says Stanley. While Israel is one of the lowest ranked nations in international cricket, “we have been receiving accolades for our innovative programmes. Malcolm Speed, the CEO of the International Cricket Association, will be attending the Maccabiah to see how our cricketers perform. No doubt, he is particularly keen to see our juniors in action.”

Should the Chairman himself take to the field this July in the senior division, it will be his 7<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah. *Howzat* for a record!



Rugby icons: **Cyril Morris** (l) seen here with the late **Dr. Dannie Craven**.

“This Maccabiah there will be literally thousands upon thousands of tennis balls flying through the air,” says **Ian**

**Froman**, Chairman of the Israel Tennis Association. “Tennis will have the largest entry of players, as well as the number of

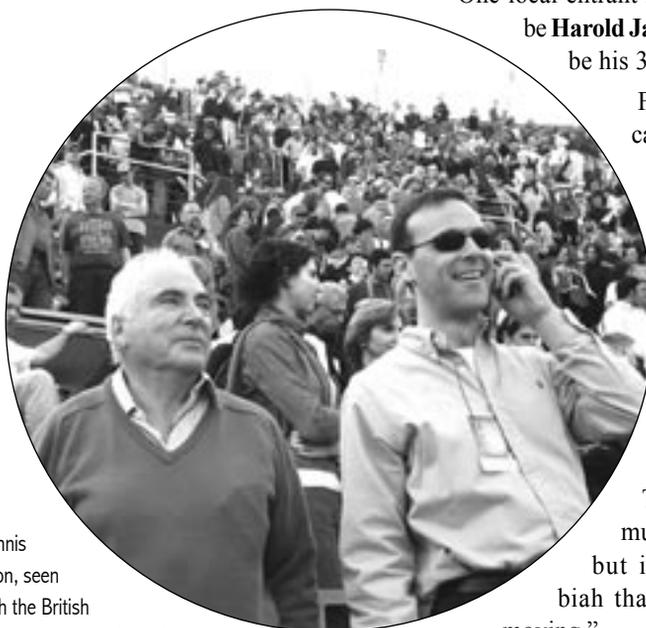
participating countries. We also have a grand Masters’ series, comprising eight groups – men’s & women’s - from age 35 to 75.”

One local entrant in the Masters’ will be **Harold Jankelowitz**. This will be his 3<sup>rd</sup> Maccabiah.

For Harold, the Maccabiah has a very special significance. His late mother, Miriam won a Gold in the 1963 Maccabiah representing South Africa for bowls and “led directly to our family coming on *aliyah*.”

True, we were very much a Zionist family, but it was the Maccabiah that really got things moving.”

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**Dr. Ian Froman**, President of the Israel Tennis Association, seen here with the British Ambassador at the recent Israel/

UK Davis Cup clash in Ramat Hasharon. The victor is evident from the facial expressions.



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right: Playing in his third Maccabiah, Tennis'

**Harold Jankelowitz.**



mendous amount of organization with 251 games scheduled."

**Itz Kalmonowitz**, Chairman of the South African Zionist Federation in Israel (Telfed)

is particularly upbeat about this Maccabiah. "We can be truly proud of the large numbers of our community in Israel participating in the 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah. It reflects the huge contribution they have made and continue to make in nearly every sport in Israel.

In many instances, they are the driving force behind the success stories of these sports."

As with so many *sporting* South-ern Africans in Israel, who will tell you that it was because of Maccabi that they came on Aliyah, Itz expresses the hope that "many who are participating in this Maccabiah will one day decide to make Israel their home. **Telfed** is ready to welcome you." •

Top: **Issy Kramer**, Former President of the Israel Water Polo Association says, "Winning is not the purpose of the Maccabiah, participation

is." Above: Israel's rugby coach in his heyday, **Paul Hammer**. Left: **Ivan Kantor** plays squash and is the convener of Bowls Organising Committee.

## MARATHON MAN

Being the convener of the organizing committee for bowls was not enough for one energetic **Ivan Kantor**. He will also be playing squash in the Masters. So, "if I run out of breath, it will be less for what's happening on court and more because I will be running between the Raanana Bowling Club and the Raanana Squash Club."



Fortu- nately for Ivan, the clubs are next door to each other. Ivan, who is also a director of World Bowls, which governs the activities of some one million bowlers world-

wide, says, "For bowls, the 17<sup>th</sup> Maccabiah will be the biggest ever. We will have over 100 bowlers from Israel, the UK, South Africa, Australia and even Grenada There is a tre-





*Shira, daughter of David Yellin of Tel Aviv and Diana Yellin of Raanana, married Uri, son of Haim and Yael Meitlis of Petach Tikvah.*

## Mazal Tov



*Dov, son of Ilana and Mendy Joselowitz of Raanana married Shoshana, daughter of Marla and Gerry Farkas of Efrat.*



*Gila, daughter of Jack and Vivienne Hotz of Raanana married Jason, son of Sheila and Monty Nussbaum of Johannesburg.*

continued on  
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## Mazal Tov



*Chanan, son of Ian and Lorraine  
Tuffias, married Kerenorr,  
daughter of Dror and  
Lemmi Ben Natan.*



*Carmel, daughter  
of Max & Yvonne  
Leibowitz of  
Benoni, married  
Avshalom, son of Shalom & Mazal  
Madmone of Kfar Saba.*



*Dalya, daughter of Malcolm and Pam  
Zaidel, married Jonathan, son of Liz and  
Hilton Sack of Sydney, Australia*

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# A WOMAN OF STEEL

**I**n her 87th year, **Sylvia Winnikow** has come out with a delightful autobiography – **“I REMEMBER MAMMA”** – The recollections of Sylvia Smaller Winnikow. I found this to be a fascinating read, especially as I remember her as a vivacious bat-mitzvah aged girl as far back as 1929 and as a gifted member of the Cape Town Young Judeans. (I was her Secretary at the time)

Sylvia takes the reader nostalgically back to the early Jewish quarters of Cape Town – Who would have dreamt at that time that young Sylvia would develop into a major industrialist operating across three continents in South Africa, Israel, and Australia.



From an early age Sylvia held down one challenging job after another and together with her first husband, the late Cecil Smaller, set up the Union Metal Exchange, which traded locally and represented overseas conglomerates, mainly in the steel trade. Ultimately, they established a landscaped industrial park, encompassing vast enterprises and employing hundreds of workers. She records her father’s advice “Do your best my child, let others do their worst. Oil floats.”

Her active business career did not restrict her from involvement in Zionist affairs - Chairman of the Bnoth Zion (twice), a leading member of

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## BOOK NOOK

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the Western Province Zionist Council and Board of Deputies, as well as of one the pioneers of the Herzlia Jewish Day School. Often these interests would coincide.

She recalls in the early 1950's a call from a friend "to subscribe for \$1000 shares in the extensions to the Sharon Hotel in Herzlia Pituach. This small hotel, the first in what was to become a chain and which would transform Israel into a tourist attraction, was ready to redouble its facilities. We thought rather than buy shares in the project to preferably supply the reinforcing steel the building would need." Taking advantage of the slump in the steel market, the Smaller's acquired a large tonnage from a Belgian Company at a "very low price" and passed on the "bargain" to the hotel developers.

Sylvia includes in her book a gem on fund-raising strategy. "We always pestered lawyers to recommend to their clients to remember us (Israeli projects) in their wills. This was not always easy as there are those suspicious among us who feared it might hasten their

demise if they planned for it. So we always imparted the WIZO directive:

"When you make your will,  
May the paper on which it is written  
Become yellow with age."

Following her frequent visits to Israel, Sylvia became Chairman of the Friends of the Haifa and Tel Aviv Universities. She later married Shlomo Winnikow in Israel. Miraculously he had escaped the ravages of the Second World War in Poland and had arrived in Palestine with a prototype of a diamond-cutting and polishing machine. He would later become the first President of the Diamond Merchants' Association.

Despite bouts with life-threatening illnesses, there remains no holding back of this remarkable woman. As irrepressible as ever, Sylvia, who lives in Tel Aviv, still divides her year between three continents, overseeing her vast business interests.

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*Since this review, Sylvia's husband Shlomo has regrettably passed away.*



*The Chairman, Executive members and Staff of the SAZF  
(Israel) extend sincere condolences to the families concerned  
on the loss of their beloved relatives:*

Alon Schmidt of *Rishon Lezion*  
Anne Passwell of *Herzliya*  
Benjamin Rabinowitz of *Raanana*  
Doris Saffer of *Kibbutz Matsuva*  
Elaine Miller of *Tel Aviv*  
Emanuel Glassman of *Jerusalem*  
Ettie Cohen of *South Africa*  
Grace Liferow of *Netanya*  
Helen Block of *South Africa*  
Hilda Kaplan of *Kibbutz Yotvat*  
Jack Ellis of *Raanana*  
Laura Woolf of *South Africa*  
Lily Kostrometzky of *Holon*  
Lucie Shapiro of *Raanana*

Lydia Klass of *Ramat Gan*  
Margot Lax of *Haifa*  
Marigold Gelfand of the *USA*  
Michael Kruss of *Ashkelon*  
Mickey Alswang of *Netanya*  
Monte Freedman of *Tel Mond*  
Reuven Avram of *Hod Hasharon*  
Shmuel Littman of *Haifa*  
Solly Kessler of *Cape Town*  
Irene (Renee) Katz of *Cape Town*  
Adi Shaked of *Herzliya*  
Michal Tabancholowitz of *Haifa*  
Shlomo Winnikow of *Tel Aviv*



**Monte Freedman** once proudly admitted publicly to two love affairs. “First with my wife Rose, who unfailingly stands besides me and lifts my spirits. The second is with Israel. I remember going there on leave from the army and falling in love with the ruggedness of the terrain as well as the poverty yet richness of its people.”



The passion that Monty exhibited in both these “affairs” fueled a lifetime of devoted community service both in South Africa and in Israel. In South Africa, Monty had been active at the King David Schools and SA Board of Education, a member of the SAZF, SAJBOD and Chairman of the JNF.

On his tenure as Chairman of the JNF, Adv ‘*Mookie*’ **Friedman**,



Chairman of the SAZF had said, “Five years ago the JNF was a badly run down department, but with your *vigour* it is now back on the right path.”

It was this same vigour and passion that Monte displayed as Chairman of the **Telfed Regional Committee** in Netanya, which he took on soon after he made *aliyah* in 1997.

Monte will be sadly missed by his wife Rose and sons Leigh, David, Stan and their families.

David Kaplan



**Lionel Hodess** passed away in Sydney on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the age of 81. Active in Zionist youth movement activities in Cape Town, Lionel would later come to Israel on Machal during the War of Independence. On his return he became chairman of the Machal committee in South Africa. A well-known lawyer, Lionel wrote several legal books. He was a senior member of the World Jewish Congress in London and for several years, had been Director of the **South African Zionist Federation**.

Lionel is survived by his wife Ruth, four children and twelve grandchildren.



The Telfed Chairman, Executive and staff extend sincere condolences to **Annette Milliner**, Vice-Chair of Telfed, and her family, on the loss of her beloved mother, *Irene (Renee) Katz*.



The Telfed Chairman, Executive, staff and the Telfed Magazine Editorial Committee extend sincere condolences to family of **Becky Rowe Littman** and **Tal Littman** on the loss of Tal’s father, *Shmuel Littman*.



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