

## **Marjory Shedd (1926 -**

Born March 17, 1926. Marjory won her first Canadian Badminton Championship in 1953. In total she has won 6 national singles titles, 5 mixed and 12 ladies doubles titles. She also excels in volleyball and basketball. She flexed her coaching skills when she was coach to the University of Toronto volleyball team.

Marj Shedd, the tall southpaw playing out of the Carleton Club in Toronto, is a prime candidate for the woman athlete of the last half century.

She is an amazing athlete who was a Canadian Champion in three sports. A member of a National Champion Basketball team before taking up badminton, she was still performing at the national level when she turned her attention to volleyball. She was captain of a volleyball team that won the Canadian Championship and came within points of a North American title.

Her badminton exploits are legendary. She has won more provincial and national titles than any other man or woman in Canada (44 provincial and 23 national)

Marj won six national singles titles, a record twelve doubles titles and five mixed doubles diadems. In addition, she amassed eleven Canadian open titles including four singles and eight doubles. Her provincial record is almost unbelievable. She reigned supreme for more than 20 years, capturing a record 13 consecutive singles titles, 19 women's doubles titles (11 consecutive from 1953-1963), and 12 mixed championships (eight consecutive). These championship titles included and incredible eight consecutive triple crowns.

Always "on her toes", Marj was a fierce competitor. Her aggression, speed of movement, sound tactics, and a powerful smash were major elements in her command of both singles and doubles.

She captured her women's doubles titles playing with three different partners and her mixed titles with two, Marj won her last championship 25 years after winning her first!

Marj participated in the All-England Championships in 1955 and 1957. She lost in the semi-finals both times to the number one and number two players in the world, Judy Devlin and Margaret Varner of the U.S.A. These latter two met in the All-England final five times. Marj Shedd was at her best at the "wrong time". She lost to Devlin in 1955 who was in turn beaten by Varner. In 1957, she was beaten by Varner, who in turn was beaten by Devlin.

Marj ranked in the top six women in the world.

Marj made a record five international appearances for Canada over the period 1956 to 1969, starting with her playing in the first International Women's Uber Cup events in 1956-57. She also was a team member in the 1959-60, 1962-63, 1965-66, 1968-69 ties. She played both singles and doubles.

In addition to her successes in Provincial and National play, Marj won innumerable events in invitational tournaments in Canada and the United States.

There is no doubt that Marjory Shedd is Canada's "Lady of Badminton" for the last half century. Marj Shedd was honoured for her achievements by being inducted into the Canadian Amateur Sports Hall of Fame in 1970.