

COLORADO
SKI & SNOWBOARD



MUSEUM AND HALL OF FAME

2009 HALL OF FAME
NOMINATION

VLADIMIR PETER "SPIDER" SABICH
1945-1976

ATHLETE
ACHIEVEMENTS 1962-1972

NOMINATED BY JIM "MOOSE" BARROWS
SECONDING LETTERS BY
DAVID GORSUCH
BOB BEATTIE
BILLY KIDD

Nomination of Spider Sabich
to the
Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame

It has been 33 years since Spider's untimely death in Aspen. I believe it is appropriate to include Spider in the Hall of Fame to be recognized along with all the other members he challenged and influenced in his short but storied career.

Spider came to Colorado from Kyburz, California in September of 1962 to ski for the University of Colorado and pursue his ski racing career. It was to be his home for the rest of his life.

His Ski racing success is impressive;

- National DH champion 1968
- 3 world Cup wins
- 5th 1968 Olympic Slalom, Grenoble, France
- World Pro Skiing Champion, 1971 & 1972

Significantly, It was Spider's charisma and flamboyance while accomplishing these titles that promoted skiing to new heights of world recognition during the incredible growth of the early 1970's.

Most important, is the respect that he received from his peers for his perception and commitment to modernizing skiing and ski racing for Colorado and the world. His iconic performances attracted and introduced masses of new converts to the sport during his World Pro Skiing campaigns.

The contributions to Colorado Skiing during his tenure at CU and the years of living in Aspen are well documented. It is time for the Hall along with the members who are forever indebted to Spider for his efforts to recognize his life before these memories fade into the Colorado mountains.

Vladimir Peter Sabich
1945-1976

BOB BEATTIE
P>O> BOX 182
WOODY CREEK, CO. 81656
MARCH 17, 2009

**COLORADO SKI HALL OF FAME
NOMINATION SUPPORT-SPIDER SABICH**

PLEASE CONSIDER SPIDER SABICH AS A PERSON I FEEL WOULD BE A GREAT MEMBER OF THE COLORADO SKI HALL OF FAME. AS HIS COACH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, THE U.S. SKI TEAM, THE 1968 OLYMPIC TEAM AND AS THE STRONGEST MEMBER OF OUR WORLD PRO SKI CIRCUIT WE WERE OBVIOUSLY VERY CLOSE.

A FEW NOTES:

1. SPIDER GREW UP IN ZYBURG CALIFORNIA^{IA}, HIS FATHER WAS A HIGHWAY PATROLMAN AND A PILOT IN WWII (POW IN SIBERIA). SPIDER WAS A TOP JUNIOR BEFORE COMING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO. AT CU HE MAJORED IN AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING.
2. HE WAS THE TOP U.S. RACER IN THE 1968 OLYMPICS IN GRENOBLE, FRANCE, 3RD AFTER THE 1ST RUN OF SLALOM AND ENDING UP 5TH.
3. HE WON THE WORLD CUP SLALOM IN HEAVENLY VALLEY CALIFORNIA IN 1969 AND REACHED THE PODIUM 3 TIMES IN 1969 INCLUDING 2ND IN WENGEN, SWITZERLAND (THE TOUGHEST SLALOM ON THE WORLD CUP TOUR).
4. "MAN AGAINST MAN" SKI RACING SEEMED PERFECT FOR HIM, SPIDER WON THE WORLD PRO SKIING TITLE IN 1971 AND 72. HE WAS BATTLING IT OUT WITH JEAN CLAUDE KILLY IN 1973 WHEN HE FELL AND INJURED HIS BACK THE LAST WEEK-END OF THE SEASON.

RECENTLY I HAD DINNER WITH THE WRITER OF THE MOVIE " DOWNHILL RACER" AND HE TELLS ME THAT ROBERT REDFORD PATTERNED HIS PART AFTER SPIDER !

AFTER COLLEGE AND THE U.S. SKI TEAM BOULDER, SPIDER MOVED TO ASPEN, WHERE HIS BROTHER HELPED HIM BUILD HIS OWN HOME. I FEEL SPIDER WOULD BE A GREAT MEMBER OF THE COLORADO HALL OF FAME. HE WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST U.S. SKI RACERS AS A JUNIOR, COLLEGE RACER, OLYMPIAN AND PROS. IN ADDITION, I CAN ATTEST HE WAS A GREAT FRIEND TO ALL WHO NEW HIM.

To: The Selection Committee

Re: Seconding letter for Valadimir Peter (Spider) Sabich

Dear Members:

This letter is to second the nomination of Spider Sabich. My name is David Gorsuch, my address is 263 East Gore Creek Dr. Vail, CO. Phone number is 970 476-2294.

I knew Spider quite well as a fellow competitor, a good friend and a co-worker at race camp. Spider was a great competitor in his amateur days and an even better one when he turned professional. As you can see in his bio Spider had many podium finishes in his racing carrier.

I worked with Spider as an assistant coach at his summer race camp and saw a very dedicated person putting as much positive energy into the young racers as he put into his own race carrier. He was creating a future that would be a great benefit to the sport, young people and the community he lived.

Spider was a good ambassador for the sport and an inspirational individual who was on his way to do great things in the ski world.

I think it is a good idea to honor this person for his past achievements. He should not be forgotten.

Sincerely,

David Gorsuch
2002 HOF Inductee

Seconding Letter: Spider Sabich

Dear Justin,

I would like to second the nomination of Spider Sabich to the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

Spider was not only one of the best skiers in American History, but had a strong presence and influence on our sport in Colorado.

I was fortunate to be his teammate at the University of Colorado and on the US Ski Team, to compete and travel with him at the Olympics and World Championships, and to see how well he represented himself, his country and the sport of skiing throughout the world.

His contributions to skiing in Colorado should be recognized, and I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Billy Kidd
Director of Skiing
Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation
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Steamboat Springs, CO 80487
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