

Svetlana Khorkina

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Svetlana Khorkina,
Russian gymnast,
Olympic champion in
the uneven bars,
three-time absolute
world champion and
three-time absolute
champion of Europe.
Honored Master of
Sports of Russia.



Svetlana was born January 19, 1979 in Belgorod, where her parents moved from Mordovia . With 4 years became involved in gymnastics section . Although it was part of the sport too high , but still physically weak , coach Boris Pilkin decided not to deny Khorkina , relying on her perseverance and hard work - and not lost! First, it was the best in his section , then in the city, and finally came the moment for which many athletes wait - she was invited to the Russian team . But here, at first choreographer team " rejected " gymnast (not becoming completely on the toes), while Svetlana promised myself that proves to everyone who does not believe in her , that she is worthy of Olympic medals .

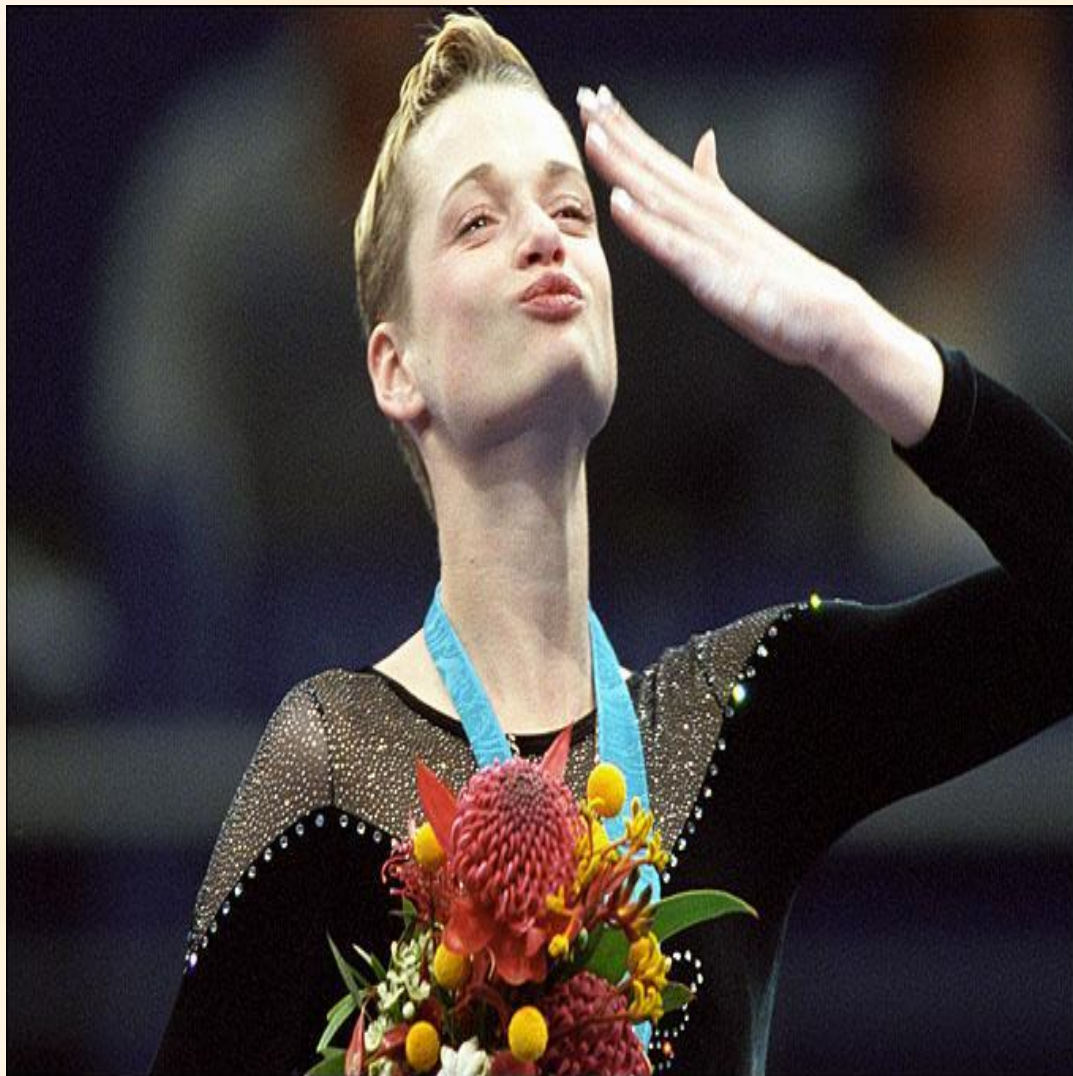


Svetlana Khorkina statements about your coach .

I want to thank to Boris Pilkin . He opened me like a gymnast when I was little and an unknown girl. And now the whole world knows me and him too. We are grateful to each other. We have seen the world , the world saw us.

For me Boris Pilkin - beloved mentor, teacher and just one battle . We have been with him for three Olympics , a lot of world championships, European , Russian . He was a great man and a brilliant coach. Elements that now bear the name of Khorkina , invented Pilkin - imagine they dreamed it !



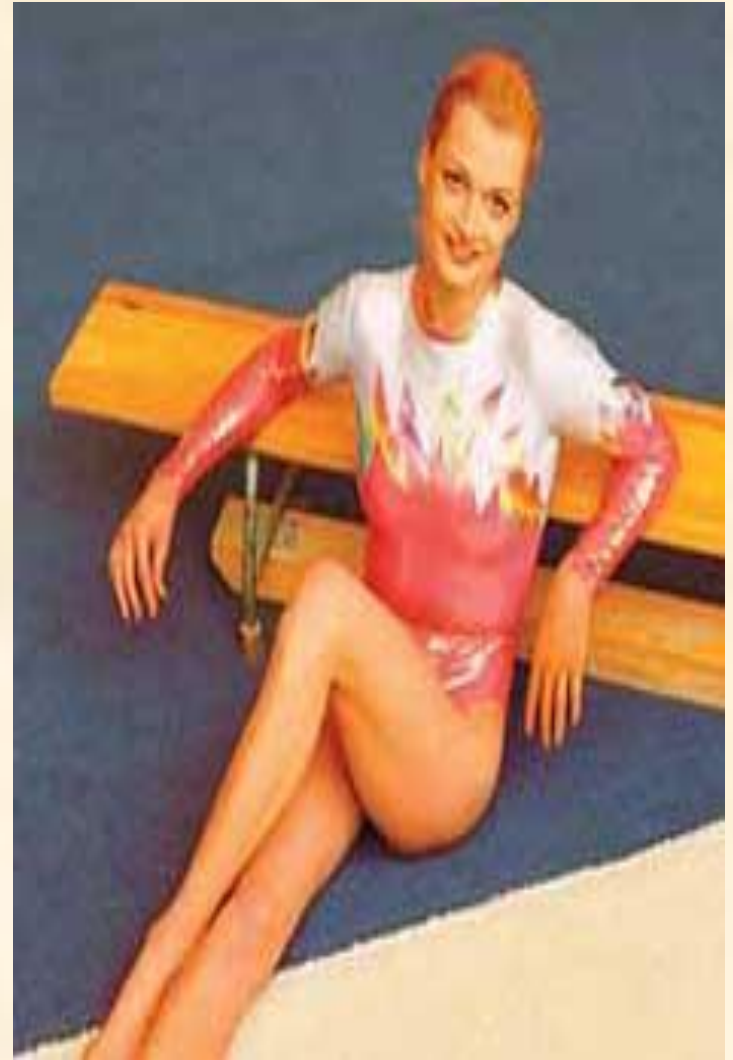


Khorkina won her first international medal adult in 1994 at the World Championships in Brisbane: a silver medal on vault and silver on the bars yet. She performed more successfully at the European Championships in the same year. There she won the silver medal in the all-around behind teammate Dina Kochetkova and gold on the uneven bars. Khorkina also participated in the Goodwill Games and World Team Championship this year.

Her first victory came in mnogobroe in 1995 in the European Cup , where she also won a medal in a jump , uneven bars and floor exercise . She was a top contender for the gold in the all-around at the world championships in the same year . It takes triple twist in the floor exercise instead of a double . This led to a lower estimate of the program , but flawless execution of exercises on the balance beam and jump , and stellar performance on the bars helped her to take second place in a Ukrainian Lilia Podkopayeva . In the final exercise on the bars Khorkina won the gold medal with an incredible rated 9.90 , beating Mo Huilan from China.



Before the Olympics , Svetlana retained European and world champion titles on the uneven bars , and also helped the Russian team to win silver at the European Championships and took bronze in the vault . Falling off a log in the all-around stop her fight for a medal , it took only the sixth place , but it is not a surprise. Thanks to its recent successes, Svetlana considered the favorite at the games -1996 in Atlanta. And the Russian team looked much stronger than at the Games - 1992, after the collapse of the USSR . Nevertheless, the Olympics were a disappointment and Svetlana , and the Russian team. Svetlana and more experienced members of the team - Rosalia Galiyev Kochetkova and Dean have done their program, but younger athletes made some mistakes , they seemed excited because of the noise of the crowd and the strong performance of the U.S. team . Do not become a comfort and all-around - floor exercise doing fine , beam exercises and jump, Svetlana not cope with nerves and falls from his favorite projectile - the boards , finishing exercise only in 15th place . However , Khorkina sweetened the pill itself gold in the individual uneven bars .





Khorkina performances during the following 4 years were unstable, as its performance compatriot Alexei Nemov. Svetlana can perform exercises or succumb great excitement. Ratings have been a sore point. at the 1997 World Championships in Lausanne, changes in the ratings system had a negative impact on Svetlana, however, she won her first title of absolute world champion after a stellar performance on the uneven bars, received the highest score. She pushed Olympic champion Simon Amanar to second place

Over the next two years after winning the World Cup , skill Svetlana was almost perfect, with a few exceptions . She introduced a new complex elements on all shells , especially on the uneven bars and balance beam . Khorkina continued to dominate on the bars and soon earned the nickname "Queen of the boards ." Khorkina won the all-around at the European Championships in 1998 , but it failed at the Goodwill Games . World Cup 1999 she started in the status of favorite all-around , but after a disastrous performance on the balance beam , was left without a medal. Nevertheless , she went on a winning streak on the uneven bars , winning its fourth consecutive world title



Sydney Olympics began again in the status of all-around favorite . In the team championship Khorkina performed very complicated jump , which no one had seen , he was subsequently named Khorkina II. She has also performed well in the floor exercise and uneven bars , qualified for the final. Her score on the beam also allowed her to reach the final, but were stronger Russian gymnast on beam - and Lobaznyuk Produnova , and according to the rules of one country only two athletes may be in the final. The rest of the team was successful in the preliminary competition , easily defeating Romania and it seemed that it would Olympiad Russian gymnasts. However , in the finals was a nightmare. Khorkina fell from favorite bars , Produnova sat on the floor exercise , and Lobaznyuk Zamolodchikov and fell off the beam . The first three mistakes were not catastrophic , as according to the rules lower assessment on shells discarded , so that the fall did not destroy the chances of the team . Less well-known gymnasts were more confident , but it is still not possible to win a gold medal . Russians completed their performance in the second place - for the Romanian national team . With unerring speech to Russia won the first gold in gymnastics.



Khorkina did guilty - if it accurately fulfilled its program , the team did not lose to gold. Going down from the dais , Khorkina removed the silver medal. Her second Olympics in a row the team won only silver. When started around, it turned out that the horse jumping set to 5 centimeters lower than necessary. A number of gymnasts made uncharacteristic errors because of this when performing their jumps. Khorkina complained about it to the judges , but her words were ignored , but Svetlana said that the bug was fixed . Leading after the first jump, she falls on the second , because of the wrong height horse. Devastated and distraught after the incident , Khorkina first time for many breaks performances on the uneven bars . Finally discovering his mistake, the judge allowed the victims to repeat their jumps , but estimates for other shells can not be corrected , and Khorkina refuses to repeat the jump , then occupying 10th place , leaving the platform in tears. She showed excellent results on the carpet and on the balance beam , and if not jump easily would have won the gold in the all-around. In several interviews after the Olympics Khorkina called the incident " a black spot in my soul ." In a tense struggle Svetlana manages to retain the title of Olympic champion on the uneven bars . Once again she wins Chinese woman , this time Ling Ji . She also won a silver medal , losing to his compatriot Elena Zamolodchikova . Khorkina also had the right to participate in the final vault , but gave it to Elena Zamolodchikova.



Khorkina decided to take part and the next Olympics. At the World Championships in 2001 she won the title of absolute champion , as well as gold and jump on the bars . With five world champion titles and two Olympic champion titles , Khorkina became the most titled gymnast on a single projectile . From 1995 to 2001, she won all the titles of the world championships and the Olympic Games on the uneven bars . In 2002, Khorkina won the all-around at the European Championships , it is believed that she won only because of the location of the judges. In 2003 Svetlana admitted that gymnastics is largely affected her body and that she was "feeling his age ," but promised to speak at the Olympics. At the World Championships in Anaheim, it has become an absolute champion for the third time , that was not possible before any woman



Khorkina is the favorite games again , it was her last Olympics. Went to the final only to the all-around and uneven bars. In competition she had confident performances helped Russia win the bronze medal , which was met with enthusiasm, which contrasts sharply with the reaction of silver in 2000 (in 2004 the team was much weaker) . Finally winning a medal in the all-around Olympic games, but only the silver . At a press conference after the speech , Khorkina said that the victory was given to an American before the start of the competition , in fact accused the judges of bias , which is not surprising after such a clear and brazen undervaluation. Alexei Nemov



Sports career completed in autumn 2004. Gave birth to a son, Svyatoslav July 21, 2005 in Los Angeles , giving him thus a U.S. citizen. Vice - President of the Federation of Artistic Gymnastics Russia . ember of "United Russia ". December 2, 2007 ? elected to the State Duma of the V- th convocation. On July 26, 2010 - Member of the Patriarchal Council for culture (Russian Orthodox Church) ? Succeeding Nikolai Baskov, led TV project "Dom -1" TNT TV channel . ? Mentioned in the series' Gymnast » (« Make It Or Break It ») season 4 episode 3 as a gymnast that has achieved huge success with unsuitable for the growth of different size boards .

6 October 2012 appointed referent Presidential Control of the Russian Federation

