



Peter Hollis, vice president of Gordon's Gin Company, Ltd. (right), presents award to basketball star Calvin Murphy.

## Jumper wins Tanqueray Award

Franklin Jacobs, a little man with a lofty motivation that put him up higher on his own power than any other American in history, is the winner of the Tanqueray Achievement Award for excellence in amateur athletics.

Jacobs received a silver trophy for his record high jump of 7-feet, 7¼-inches. In a gathering of track and field notables at Gallagher's, he was dwarfed by the cross bar from Madison Square Garden which he cleared at the Millrose Games last January 27th. At 5-feet, 8-inches he was nearly two feet under the standard, but he is convinced he can go considerably higher in his quest for a gold medal at the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow.

Zealand, Olympic mile champion and world record miler. 1975 — David Thompson, All-America college basketball player from North Carolina State. 1974 — Ivory Crockett, World Record 100-yard dash runner. 1973 — Olga Korbut, Soviet gymnastic champion. 1972 — Dr. Delano Meriwether, National sprint champion. 1971 — Chi Cheng, Nationalist Chinese woman sprint champion, woman athlete of the year. 1970 — Billy Kidd, Amateur World Champion skier. 1969 — Maureen Orcutt, cited for all-time excellence in Women's Amateur Golf. 1968 — Arthur Maroldi, civic leader in physical programs for youth.



CHAMPION HIGH JUMPER FRANKLIN JACOBS WINS 1978 TANQUERAY AWARD — Shown at a recent gathering of sports buffs at Gallagher's Restaurant in Manhattan, Franklin Jacobs, right, accepts the Tanqueray Achievement Award for excellence in the field of amateur sports from John E. Heilmann, president of Somerset Importers, Ltd., a Norton Simon Inc. company. Franklin Jacobs was honored for his record 7-foot, 7¼-inch jump at the Millrose Games last January, that put him up higher than any American in history. His ultimate objective is to win a Gold Medal at the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow. Somerset Importers, Ltd., has sponsored the Tanqueray Achievement Award for the past eleven years.

"That is my ultimate objective," said Jacobs. "More than anything else I want to win that gold medal for America. All you have to do is want something bad enough. And my size doesn't have that much to do with it. I also weigh only 150 pounds so I don't have that much to get up there. My advantage is just that I want to win more than anybody else and I don't care who they are."

John Heilmann, president of Somerset Importers, Ltd., sponsor of the Tanqueray Achievement Award, viewed Jacobs' performance in going nearly two-feet over his height as "perhaps the most spectacular in the eleven years that we have recognized excellence in amateur sports with this annual citation."

"When you think of Franklin's size, it is just about the greatest defiance of the laws of gravity since the cow jumped over the moon," said Heilmann. "And, very seriously, what an inspiration he is to legions of young people. He has achieved these marks very early in his career. He is a great competitor with a big drive and it seems likely he will go higher and higher. We are proud to bring him in to our distinguished family of winners."

Jacobs, who lives in Paterson, New Jersey, where his mother, Mrs. Jannie Jacobs raised her own family of eleven children plus four cousins, said that "I feel like I'm up in the air again in a really great jump, to be in such high company as the other winners of this award."

"That's a pretty good bunch," he said when he looked over the list of former winners.

The list of previous winners since the award was established: 1977 — Howard Davis, Sugar Ray Leonard (co-winners), Olympic boxing champions. 1976 — John Walker, New

## Sports Talk

by Ron Sykes  
Sports Editor

Calvin Murphy, star Houston guard, and latest recipient of the Gordon's Gin Good Guy Award for helping young women raise their level of self-esteem through baton twirling . . . says "it creates pride and self respect in the girls."

The former Norwalk, Connecticut resident, and one-time Niagra stand-out, earlier this month received the Gordon's Award in ceremonies at Houston's Summit Stadium. Murphy was nominated by Houston's *Forward Times* newspaper.

The Gordon's Gin Good Guy Award honors athletes who have demonstrated an awareness and sensitivity to others not as fortunate as themselves.

Murphy, who has been a baton twirler since the age of four, is the organizer of "Murphy's Marchers" a group of nearly 100 school-age women who have become the pride of Houston.

Now it might seem ironic to NBA followers that a man mentioned as an NBA enforcer would also be a national baton twirling champ. But, then, when you're an "enforcer" . . . you can undoubtedly do anything you want to.

Murphy has been known for years to never back down from a fight. As former Blazers' Sidney Wicks, 6'9" and the 6'10" Dale Schlueter can readily attest to.

Murphy, beginning his seventh year with Houston and the team's leading scorer last year, will have a new running mate at guard due to the

departure of John Lucas, who was awarded to Golden State by Commissioner Larry O'Brien as compensation to Golden State in the Rick Barry deal.

In addition to receiving the Gordon's Gin Good Guy Award, Gordon's also donated \$200 to Murphy's Marchers.

The 29-year-old athlete linked forces with Houston's Project Pull after moving to that city. The federally-funded project is aimed at getting the city's children involved in creative activities and keeping them away from areas that breed mischief.

With the aid of Pull, Murphy now has nearly 100 girls in his twirling classes — has formed a senior corps called Marching Thunder, a group which performs regularly around the city . . . and educators report Murphy's baton twirlers have even excelled in their studies. Murphy reportedly has used lots of his funds to keep the baton twirling group in operation.

Past winners in the Gordon's Gin Good Guy Awards have been presented to Rick Monday of the Los Angeles Dodgers; Elston Howard of the New York Yankees; Brooks Robinson, legendary third baseman of the Baltimore Orioles; Rich Caster of the New York Jets; Joe Torre, manager of the New York Nets; Lyle Alzado of the Denver Broncos; former boxer Carmen Basilio; and New York Rangers captain Phil Esposito.

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