

A story of tenacity, luck, toughness - and controversy. Joseph Gutnick -known variously as Diamond Joe for his mining exploits, Demon Joe for his presidency of the AFL Melbourne Demons, and the Lubavitcher Rebbe's Special Emissary for the Integrity of the Land of Israel - is a fantastic mix of contradictions.

June The diamond mining magnate entered the club during as the white knight of the anti- merger Demon Alternative group. Introduced to Brian Dixon through a mutual friend the two became the leaders of the campaign to stop the proposed amalgamation with Hawthorn. Gutnick had been a Melbourne fan since a child, but with religious obligations keeping him from ever attending games on Saturday he never became a member of the club until his emergence in He remained unable to attend Friday or Saturday games during his presidency. As it did not go ahead due to Hawthorn fans rejecting it Gutnick replaced Ridley as president. The last of his payments was made in November In his book *The Urge To Merge* Ian Ridley , the opponent of Gutnick and Dixon in the merger fight, claims that the mining magnate was ready to change sides and support a union with Hawthorn as long as the players supported it as one. When no such guarantee came he stayed on the anti-merger side. In a statement Gutnick said, The board of the Melbourne Football Club believes that the club has a fundamental duty to its members, supporters, players and employees, and to the game itself, to ensure that the club conducts itself with complete honesty and public openness. It is for this reason that the AFL and the public has been informed of the breaches. He soon became one of the most controversial AFL presidents, giving a speech before Round 4, attacking the AFL for perceived untrustworthy, discriminatory and bullying tactics. Writing in the Herald Sun that week he said Given the atmosphere of secrecy and the suspicions that some clubs are treated more favourably than others, it is not surprising that clubs will explore all opportunities available to them to ensure their future. Sydney, and even though Gutnick claimed he had the numbers to oust Evans no challenge was forthcoming. Despite media speculation Gutnick denied he put pressure on recruiting staff not to pick Jewish player Ezra Poyas in the Draft , but said "My faith does not allow me to attend football matches on the sabbath and neither does it allow me to preside over an organisation that requires or permits Jews to play football on the Sabbath. For this reason, I would resign the presidency of the Melbourne Football Club if a Jewish player were to be selected and chose to play on the Sabbath. After the Round 3 clash between David Schwarz and Justin Murphy where Schwarz was alleged to have vilified his opponent Gutnick risked a fine by publicly commenting on the matter. He counter claimed that an AFL commissioner had racially vilified him, but was forced to change his story to claim that he had merely been abused. Soon after his conflict with the AFL erupted, Gutnick announced a plan to cut the size of the Melbourne board in half at the end of the year. The plan was announced against the backdrop of rumours about businessman Ron Walker challenging for the Presidency. Gutnick launched broadsides at his critics, accusing some board members of showing up to meetings drunk. He announced he would call an extraordinary general meeting to ask the members to vote the three directors out. He said "There will be an EGM as soon as one can be arranged. The members will have their say. Soon after Gutnick became aware that several of his directors were intending to make a move against him and sought a Supreme Court injunction to halt that meeting. When he was denied the injunction on May 24 he promptly resigned as President. On Thursday May 31 he conducted a public rally with supporters and announced that he would delay his challenge until the end of the season. He said "It has become increasingly clear to me that the playing fortunes of the club must come first. While it is clearly evident to me that I would win an election if it is held immediately, and I have a wealth of contenders for my ticket, I have now decided to move for an election as soon as possible after the end of the season". As part of a deal with the new board he was given the opportunity to fill his own vacancy and named Michael Givoni as his successor on the board. Surveys conducted in the Herald Sun indicated that a vast majority of supporters would vote him back in given the chance. No Melbourne First candidates were elected to the board. Gutnick received the most votes of his ticket with 4, but fell well short of the 6, that the tenth and last Team Vision candidate got. He has had no involvement with the club or league since. An autobiography "Diamonds and Demons" was released in July

2: Joseph Gutnick and 8 related entities | Entities Finder

A story of tenacity, luck, toughness - and controversy. Joseph Isaac Gutnick - variously known as Diamond Joe for his mining exploits, Demon Joe for his presidency of the Melbourne Demons, and the Lubavitcher Rebbe's Special Emissary for the integrity of the Land of Israel is a fantastic mix of contradictions.

And one of the boldest these days is Joseph I. And only weeks ago, he told the Sydney Morning Herald that he intends to move as much as half his business interests to the United States. As president of the Melbourne Demons, the oldest team in the Australian Football League, he has contributed millions to keep the team solvent. It was there that Gutnick earned worldwide notice in , when he helped secure the election of hawkish Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Gutnick may be most revered for his charitable work. An ordained rabbi, he has supported religious projects worldwide—particularly those of the ultraorthodox Lubavitch Hasidic movement, whose Yiddish-speaking members gratefully call him the goldener rebbe, or the golden rabbi. Once asked his formula for getting rich, Gutnick replied: Although the charities profited, other investors were left with heavy losses. In addition, Gutnick has had dealings with Nachum Goldberg, who is currently serving five years in an Australian prison for tax evasion that involved charities. Another individual with ties to Gutnick is Judah Wernick, who is now awaiting trial for stock manipulation in New York. Although Australian securities regulators have investigated Joe Gutnick for half his career, Gutnick has never been charged with any crime. The case is on appeal. But despite his proven appetite for publicity in other areas, Gutnick did not answer us. All dollar figures in this story are U. By his own account, Gutnick made more money mining the stock market in the s than by mining the earth. He dealt mainly in thinly traded mining stocks, and at one point he managed three mutual funds that traded in the very stocks he was promoting to other investors. Some years later, the bank wrote off a substantial portion of those loans as losses. But Gutnick had even grander backers than the government. Indeed, those predictions were mentioned in a video shown at New York brokerage houses such as Datek Securities and Bishop Rosen as part of the U. One beneficiary of this rise was Colel Chabad, a charity promoting religious education, which owned 1. A month after the U. This indicates that the charity sold some or all of its shares at or near the peak. After the initial run-up, shares of Great Central Mines bounced between 4 and 10 until the price of gold began to slip in Gutnick is appealing the ruling. Among the other Gutnick stocks whose prices rose on heavy trading in their U. Gutnick has enjoyed his wealth, too, owning a yacht, flying in a private jet and chauffeuring his wife and 11 children in a fleet of Rolls Royces and Bentleys. Not surprisingly, Gutnick wields political influence in his home country. Huberfeld and David B. Bodner seem to be without peer. With green marble floors and lush cherry paneling, their offices high above Carnegie Hall project an image of prosperity and propriety. But appearances can be deceptive. In , each pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge. Broad Capital is not a brokerage firm, but rather does its investment banking business on the unregulated fringes of the securities industry. In , Huberfeld settled administrative charges with the Securities and Exchange Commission, without admitting or denying guilt, that he had fraudulently promoted a mining stock. Rabbi Katsof says his organization lacks the resources to hire professional money managers, so it relies instead on a board member to review its investments. But when it comes to investing in small stock deals, Bodner and Huberfeld seem to call the shots. Huberfeld and Bodner gave us the opportunity to invest in this companyâ€. Their deals have worked, as far as I know. As it turns out, Rabbi Katsof has personally invested in at least seven Broad Capital stocks, several of which stocks turn up in the coffers of the Jerusalem Fund as well. Through such a merger, a company can become publicly traded without disclosing as much about itself as it would have to if it chose the more typical route, an initial public offering. After our interview with Rabbi Katsof, he did not respond to e-mails, faxes and other messages asking about his personal investments in stocks promoted by Broad Capital. Bodner and Huberfeld, through their attorney, reject any suggestion of impropriety. The Ace Foundation is a private philanthropic foundation with the Brooklyn address â€ and initials â€ of Aaron Elbogen and his wife Chaya. As it happens, Elbogen was the Datek Securities principal who prosecutors claimed set up the exam scam that got Bodner and Huberfeld in trouble. The charges against Elbogen were later dropped. He did not respond to

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requests for comment. Datek Securities, it should be noted, is the former parent of Datek Online Holdings, the well-known online broker. Mystery in Brooklyn By his own account, Joseph Gutnick in the s had many levers to pull when it came to promoting his stocks, including three mutual funds he ran and a maze of companies he controlled. Consider the Jacobs family. Investing in Australian stocks also appears to be a family sideline. Asked about this, Herman Jacobs, the year-old president of Allou, was dismissive: I lost money on them. He insisted he has no connection to Whiting: I can assure you one billion percent, Whiting has nothing to do with Herman Jacobowitz. Kersey Mining and Quantum Resources. Australian securities regulators say they suspect that Whiting was actually a vehicle for manipulating the shares of Gutnick stocks. Also injecting equity into Whiting was another Bahamas corporation, Zarf Inc. Judging from the fax transmission stamps visible on documents in the lawsuit, Zarf and Whiting share a fax number. Apples and oranges and nectarines and potatoes together. Jacobs added that Schwartz called on him for favors, asking Jacobs if he could receive faxes for him and prevailing on an Allou employee to notarize documents. Jacobs does not deny that he himself transferred shares of Gutnick stocks into the Whiting account, though he says he sold them to Whiting.

3: Formats and Editions of Diamonds & demons : the Joseph Gutnick story [www.enganchecubano.com]

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