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ROBIN HUNTINGTON LEE AND MARIBEL YERXA VINSON.

1937 United States Singles Champions.

Robin is holding the George H. Browne Memorial Bowl for the U. S. Men's Championship which he won for the third time this year. Maribel won the Gertrude Cheever Porter Trophy for the U. S. Ladies' Championship for the ninth time at Chicago.

The 1937 National Championships

MARGARETTA S. DRAKE

The Figure Skating Club of Chicago

"O Young Lochinvar came out of the west, . . ."

Only in this case there were two Lochinvars, and the prize each carried off on his shining blades was a championship title.

Skating history was made in more ways than one at the National Championships in Chicago on February 12 and 13. The Arena, recently converted into an ice rink and new home of the Chicago Figure Skating Club, under whose auspices the competition was conducted, was the setting for the two day event. For the first time in the history of the Association, the Nationals were held away from the Atlantic seaboard. There was a record number of entries and the quality of skating displayed in all events was exceptionally high. But the outstanding feature of the meet was undoubtedly the participation of a contingent of skaters from the Pacific coast and the very fine showing made by them and by mid-westerners. Besides winning the Men's Novice and Men's Junior titles, the same sections of the country claimed second and third places in the Ladies' Novice and in the Men's Junior events, and second in both the Ladies' Juniors and Junior Pairs. The bounds of the figure skating kingdom are spreading ever wider and the newer territories are beginning to be felt as a power in the land.

But the East still keeps a firm hold on its share of trophies, notably in the senior divisions. Here the entries were exclusively from eastern clubs. In the Men's Senior Singles, Robin Lee, a mid-westerner but skating under the colors of The Skating Club of New York, won a close decision over his club mate Erle Reiter, with W. J. Nagle third. Robin skated superbly to retain his title for the third year. He wrenched his bad knee again in the middle of his program, an accident of which most of the spectators had no inkling, for he showed no let down but in fact went on to pull off two double jumps in perfect style. Erle Reiter gave him a very close run and there were many onlookers who felt he might actually dethrone the champion in the final count.



Loaned by The Skating Club of Boston

MISS MARIBEL Y. VINSON AND MR. GEORGE E. B. HILL
United States Pair Champions, 1933-1935-1936-1937

Among the Senior Ladies, again all easterners, Maribel Vinson was unanimously awarded her ninth title, though the excellent performances of Polly Blodgett in free skating and Katherine Durbrow in figures showed it took a Maribel to outclass them.

It was almost bound to be a Boston win in the Senior Pairs, with four out of the five entries from that club. Here Miss Vinson and Mr. Hill edged out the Maddens for first place, with Joan Tozzer and Bernard Fox, last year's Junior Pair Champions taking third. Polly Blodgett and Roger Turner apparently had an off night. So did Mr. and Mrs. Bruns, the fifth entry, from Bear Mountain, N. Y., but it was they who brought down the house. Skating less smoothly than they had done in practice, they nevertheless immediately won the backing of the audience, which did not hesitate to express strong disapproval of the lower marks awarded by the judges in loud boos and hisses, and insisted its favorites return to the ice to take a bow.

Boston also took the Ladies' Junior Singles when Joan Tozzer was pronounced winner. Frances Johnson, with the disadvantage of a leg badly spiked just three days before the competition, made sure of second place for Minneapolis over Jane Vaughn of Philadelphia who was third.

The skating in the Men's Juniors was of an exceptionally high order. St. Louis's Ollie Haupt, Jr., in winning, showed himself fully ready for senior company next year. The ease and height of his jumps were spectacular and the smoothness and flow of his dance steps were a joy. Eugene Turner of Los Angeles, in placing second promised to prove a serious threat to eastern competitors, senior as well as junior, before many more championships are past. Gene Reichel skated a fine free program, but like Turner, was comparatively weak in figures.

The Junior Pair event attracted a field of nine couples in which competition was very keen. The crown eventually went to Ardelle Kloss and Roland Janson of New York for a lovely smooth performance of an excellent program. The Detroit entry of Helen Barrett and Ted Harper turned in the most rhythmical performance of the day to win second, with Marjorie Parker and Howard Meredith, New York, third and the Hellmunds of Kansas City a close fourth.

Once more the novice events had the largest entry lists—twelve ladies—seven men. Marcia Zeiget of Philadelphia and Dorothy Snell of Minneapolis had a battle for first place, won in the final count by Miss Zeiget, with Shirley Bowman of Minneapolis third. Outstanding in the free skating in this class was little Suzanne Uksila from Oakland, California, whose program was far above novice standard. One would like to speak of each of the others in turn, for there was much promising talent shown in this group—competent observers remarked that they really were junior class skaters rather than novice.

Probably the sensation of the meet was the free skating of Robert Scott of Oakland, who walked off with the Men's Novice Title. Practically tied, in the figures, with Dwight Parkinson of Dartmouth and Michael Driscoll of Boston, Bob produced a free skating program of much higher than novice calibre, performed with freedom and pace, and outstanding in fine jumps and spins. His first appearance in national competition gives promise that he will be heard from again. Michael Driscoll, second, and Dwight Parkinson, third, skated well but lacked the sureness and ease of the winner.

The National Dance Championship went unanimously to Nettie

Prantel and Harold Hartshorne, with Marjorie Parker and Joseph Savage a close second and Ardelle Kloss and Roland Janson in third place, making it a "New York sweep."

Two innovations marked this year's conduct of the championships. First, was the open marking introduced in last year's Olympics and now accepted procedure in all international competitions. It met with general favor and approbation, from both judges and public. Difficult as it is for judging to be absolutely objective and impersonal, this system is a distinct help toward that end. And obviously the public has much keener interest and enjoyment in a contest which can be followed more intelligently, as this marking makes possible. Partially a result, no doubt, of the open marking, was the publication by the papers, of relative standings of competitors at the conclusion of the school figures, and also the official announcement through the press of the winners in novice and junior events as soon as these results were tabulated, in contrast to the traditional custom of withholding all results until the conclusion of all events and the distribution of prizes on the last night.

For a city with as little knowledge and experience of the technique of figure skating as has Chicago, the reaction and interest of both public and press were most gratifying and augur well for the development of the sport here. There was a surprisingly large number of onlookers all through the school figures, and on Saturday evening for the senior free skating and dance finals the large audience was most responsive—or should I say expressive? At any rate there was no doubt of its interest and enthusiasm. The press, for its part, both in quantity and quality of notice given to the competition, showed a sympathetic interest and an intelligent appreciation of the sport.

Lastly, this article cannot close without an expression of sincere thanks to the U.S.F.S.A. for the honor and privilege of entertaining the Nationals on their first trip west, and to each and every competitor, whose entry helped make the competition one of the best in the Association's history. The Chicago club has gained immeasurably by the experience,—in the opportunity to observe first class skating, in experience in the procedure and conduct of competitions, in stimulation of interest and support, in the widening of our skating horizon to a national outlook, and last but not least, in the associations and fellowship, which among figure skaters, have a flavor all their own. We echo the words of one of our busiest and hardest working committee members, who managed to take time out every

little while to comment enthusiastically "Am I having fun! This is the doggonedest good time I *ever* had."

So, Nationals, we're glad you came—we hope you'll come again. Meanwhile, with our new rink and the inspiration you gave us—excuse us a moment while *we* learn to skate!

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Readers are referred to rules 28, 29 and 30 in Rules and Regulations for Competitions Booklet for information on the method of obtaining results. There were five judges in each event. This year only the ranking, the total places and the total points in each event are to be given; this will permit printing fuller reports of other events and more news of general interest.—Ed.

MEN'S SENIOR SINGLES		<i>Total Places</i>	<i>Total Points</i>
1. Mr. Robin Lee, The Skating Club, Inc., New York		6	977.09
2. Mr. Erle Reiter, The Skating Club, Inc., New York		9	964.92
3. Mr. W. J. Nagle, Manhattan Figure Skating Club		15	717.89

WOMEN'S SENIOR SINGLES			
1. Miss Maribel Vinson, The Skating Club of Boston		5	998.6
2. Miss Polly Blodgett, The Skating Club of Boston		11	934.36
3. Miss Katherine Durbrow, The Skating Club, Inc., New York		14	911.56

SENIOR PAIRS			
1. Miss Maribel Vinson } Mr. George Hill	The Skating Club of Boston	5	56.4
2. Miss Grace Madden } Mr. James Madden	The Skating Club of Boston	11	53.7
3. Miss Joan Tozzer } Mr. M. Bernard Fox	The Skating Club of Boston	14	52.5
4. Miss Polly Blodgett } Mr. Roger Turner	The Skating Club of Boston	20½	50.1
5. Mr. and Mrs. William Bruns, Bear Mountain Skating Club		24½	49.1

MEN'S JUNIOR SINGLES			
1. Mr. Ollie E. Haupt, Jr., St. Louis Figure Skating Club		5	482.6
2. Mr. Eugene Turner, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club		10	446.6
3. Mr. Eugene Reichel, Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis		15	414.7



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JUNIOR LADIES AT CHICAGO.

Frances Johnson, Joan Tozzer, Jane Vaughn, Charlotte Walther,
Ardelle Kloss.

WOMEN'S JUNIOR SINGLES

1. Miss Joan Tozzer, The Skating Club of Boston	6	526.4
2. Miss Frances Johnson, Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis	11	505.5
3. Miss Jane Vaughn, Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society	14	499.2
4. Miss Charlotte Walther, The Skating Club, Inc., New York	22	470.7
5. Miss Ardelle Kloss, The Skating Club, Inc., New York	22	468.4

JUNIOR PAIRS

1. Miss Ardelle Kloss } Mr. Roland Janson }	The Skating Club, Inc., New York	12	49.5
2. Miss Helen Barrett } Mr. Ted Harper }	Olympia Skating Club, Detroit	13	48.3
3. Miss Marjorie Parker } Mr. Howard Meredith }	The Skating Club, Inc., New York	13	49.4
4. Mr. and Mrs. Eduardo Hellmund,	Kansas City Skating Club	15½	48.7
5. Mr. and Mrs. James Lowden,	Olympia Skating Club, Detroit	25½	45.8
6. Miss Frances Johnson } Mr. Eugene Reichel }	Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis	26	45.6
7. Miss Angeline Knapp } Dr. Jay Pike }	Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis	35½	42.5
8. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Preusch,	St. Paul Figure Skating Club	39½	41.1

MEN'S NOVICE SINGLES

1. Mr. Robert Scott,	St. Moritz Club, Oakland, Calif.	5	214.8
2. Mr. Michael Driscoll,	The Skating Club of Boston	12	199.1
3. Mr. Dwight Parkinson,	Individual Member, U. S. F. S. A.	16	196.5
4. Mr. Arthur Vaughn,	Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society	21	182.6
5. Mr. Leonard Brennan,	St. Paul Figure Skating Club	26	174.8
6. Mr. A. Newbold Morris,	The Skating Club, Inc., New York	26	175.3
7. Mr. Herman Witz,	Newton Figure Skating Club	34	153.8

WOMEN'S NOVICE SINGLES

1. Miss Marcia Zieget,	Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society	7	221.3
2. Miss Dorothy Snell,	St. Paul Figure Skating Club	10	217.1
3. Miss Shirley Bowman,	Hippodrome Skating Club of St. Paul	24	203.7
4. Miss Marjorie Parker,	The Skating Club, Inc., New York	25	205.2
5. Miss Suzanne Uksila,	St. Moritz Club, Oakland, Calif.	25	204.0
6. Miss Mary Taylor,	Los Angeles Figure Skating Club	29	199.8
7. Miss Jeanne Schulte,	St. Louis Skating Club	32	200.2
8. Miss Gloria Haupt,	St. Louis Skating Club	43	193.3
9. Miss Margaret McKean,	The Skating Club of Boston	44	194.3
10. Miss Jennie McKean,	The Skating Club of Boston	47	191.0
11. Miss Mary Bendix,	Manhattan Figure Skating Club	54	187.6
12. Miss Virginia Bucher,	Kansas City Skating Club	50	187.0
13. Miss Nancy Meyer,	Figure Skating Club of Chicago	65	170.8