

The United States Championships

By Harry N. Keighley

The Figure Skating Club of Chicago.

THERE IS SOMETHING very interesting and exciting about handling the work in connection with the holding of a Championship. Tony Forbes will testify to this. He said he came to Chicago for the ride, and to see a little skating, but he presently found himself doing the announcing, and otherwise up to his ears in work. Last fall when the Figure Skating Club of Chicago was awarded the Mid-Western Championships, all of us thought that we had planned a rather busy year. Now, after having conducted two major championships in the space of five weeks, some of us are beginning to wonder what we ever did with our time during previous skating seasons.

The fact that the country is at war was, of course, the reason the Nationals were moved inland from the West Coast. This also undoubtedly affected the size of our entry list which totaled eighty-six as against about one hundred last year. However, the war did not keep the spectators away. A crowd of thirty-seven hundred, the largest ever to witness the event, saw the finals on Saturday night, and stayed until the last cup had been presented. They saw a great show.

The quality of the skating was excellent, and it would take more space than is available to describe it all. As usually is the case in National Championships, all of the events were closely contested. Even in the four in which all of the judges agreed as to the winner, one has to see the judges' cards to appreciate what a difference a few points one way or the other would have made in the results.*

With last year's champion in the ranks of the professionals it was anybody's guess as to who would be the new champion of the Senior Men. Bobby Specht won the title, and he won it because of his fine performance in the school figures. He actually had a lead going into the free

skating, which was a novel experience for him, and something of a surprise to almost everyone else. While his free skating program did not have the content of that of Bill Grimditch or Buddy Vaughn, his smooth performance was rated superior by the judges, the result being five firsts on the cards. Bobby has worked very hard during the past two years and has developed into a great skater. He is a fine champion.

Jane Vaughn Sullivan successfully defended the Senior Ladies' title. Although she was fourth on the judges' cards at the end of the school figures, the point totals were so close to each other that the difference between first and fourth was infinitesimal, and it was obvious that the red figures in the free skating marks would decide the result. Jane skated a fine program with poise and assurance, and won a well-deserved victory. It is interesting to note that the draw had both Jane and Bobby skating first in their respective classes, proving that this spot is no handicap to a champion.

The marvelously smooth, flowing performance of Doris Schubach and Walter Noffke in the Senior Pairs received the unanimous approval of the judges. Neither of the two young skaters in this pair is an outstanding singles performer, which may account for the fact that they work so well together, and that their pair has so much balance and real pair content.

Once again the Novices and Juniors amazed everyone with their ability. Both of last year's Novice Champions, Dorothy Goos and Wally Sahlin, added to their winning records by taking the first places in their respective Junior classes. Dorothy also had the distinction of receiving the highest marks given in the Championships, one judge rating her free program 9.8 - 9.8. And she became the only two-event winner when she and Eddie LeMaire

*The complete marks have been sent all competitors and officials by Mr. Denniston, Chairman of the Records Committee; others may purchase copies from SKATING by sending 25c plus 6c for postage.

won the Junior Pairs. The youngest contestants in the Championships skated in the Junior Pairs. Nine-year-old Donna Jeanne Pospisil teamed with eleven-year-old Jean Pierre Brunet to take second place, while the bronze medals went to nine-year-old Karol Kennedy and her brother Peter, age 14. One would not believe it possible to crowd so much skating talent into such tiny packages.

Mabel MacPherson and Richard More won well-deserved victories in the Novice singles from strong fields. Both will bear watching in the future.

In the Dance, Edith Whetstone and Alfred Richards skated to top honors. The new champions have a very fine competitive record and are worthy successors to the title. Unfortunately there was no competition in the Fours. The St. Paul Four, current holders of both National and North American titles, skated an exhibition for the Saturday night audience.

Although considerably outnumbered by the Mid-Western and Eastern competitors, the eleven West Coast skaters who came to Chicago did very well. They did not take back any championships, but they were never far from the top. It was somewhat surprising to see that of the four finalist couples in the Dance, two represented West Coast clubs.

During the three days of the competitions, the skaters held the center of attention, but now we should take a peek behind the scenes. No Championship ever ran itself, and this one was no exception. The Committees for the club, headed by Harry Radix, General Chairman, had to work very hard in order to do all the necessary preliminary work in the five weeks which elapsed between the Mid-Westerns and the Nationals. But everyone pitched in and did his job, so that when the time came for action, not many details had been overlooked. Committees handled everything, even to the serving of hot coffee to the judges, recorders and checkers for the purpose of keeping them in working order. During the five-and-one-half hours it took to skate the Senior Ladies' school figures, this was much appreciated.

All the technical details of the Championships passed through the hands of Joseph

Savage, Chairman of the USFSA Competitions Committee. It was a privilege and a pleasure to work with him. Heaton Robertson handled the refereeing in his usual competent manner, assisted by Henry Beatty, who also drew the tough assignment of judging the Dance. As a matter of fact, none of the judges had an easy job, and they co-operated splendidly. They were always ready on time, even at eight o'clock in the morning.

Because of the practical impossibility of using an orchestra to advantage, all the music came from records. Mrs. R. C. Sackett and her committee did an outstanding job. Walter Powell handled the timer's stop-watch and whistle.

We were very sorry that neither Henry Swift nor James Ryburn found it possible to come to Chicago. Mr. Swift headed the committee which was to have handled the Championships on the Coast, and it must have been a great disappointment to him to have to give them up. They would have done a marvelous job, and will no doubt have a chance to prove it when more favorable conditions prevail.

With interest in figure skating increasing daily, and new clubs springing up in all parts of the country, it seems probable that Chicago will not see the Nationals again for some years to come. It was a privilege to have had the handling of them this year, and we hope that our guests enjoyed being with us as much as we enjoyed having them.

LADIES' SENIOR FOR GERTRUDE CHEEVER PORTER TROPHY

JUDGES: Egbert S Cary, Jr., *Philadelphia*; Mrs. Suzanne Davis King, *Boston*; Alex J. Krupy, *Chicago*; Joseph K. Savage, *New York*; Alex Young, Jr., *San Francisco*.

1. Jane Vaughn Sullivan
Phila. S. C. & H. S.
1 2 1 1 1 6
2. Gretchen Merrill
The S. C. of Boston
2 1 3 3 3 12
3. Phebe Tucker
The S. C. of New York
3 3 4 2 2 14
4. Ramona Allen
Oakland F. S. C.
4 5 2 4 4 18
5. Dorothy Glazier
The S. C. of Boston
5 4 5 5 5 24
6. Audrey Miller Naegeli
St. Paul F. S. C.
6 6 6 6 6 30

(Continued on Page 40)

U. S. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Continued from Page 6

MEN'S SENIOR FOR GEORGE H. BROWNE MEMORIAL BOWL

JUDGES: Egbert S. Cary, Jr., *Philadelphia*; Carl R. Engel, *New York*; Joel B. Liberman, *New York*; Charles A. McCarthy, *Chicago*; Roy W. McDaniel, *Minneapolis*.

1. Bobby Specht
Chicago F. S. C.
1 1 1 1 1 5
2. William H. Grinditch, Jr.
Phila. S. C. & H. S.
2 2 2 2 2 10
3. Arthur Vaughn, Jr.
Phila. S. C. & H. S.
3 3 3 3 3 15

SENIOR PAIRS FOR HENRY W. HOWE MEMORIAL CUP

JUDGES: Mrs. Suzanne Davis King, *Boston*; Charles A. McCarthy, *Chicago*; Roy W. McDaniel, *Minneapolis*; Joseph K. Savage, *New York*; Alex Young, Jr., *San Francisco*.

1. Doris Schubach & Walter Noffke
Springfield Ice Birds
1 1 1 1 1 5
2. Janette Ahrens & Robert Uppgren
St. Paul F. S. C.
2 2 2 2 2 10
3. Margaret N. Field, *Skate & Ski C.* & Jack
Might, *St. Moritz I. S. C.*
3 3 3 3 3 15

LADIES' JUNIOR

JUDGES: Henry M. Beatty, *Cleveland*; Carl R. Engel, *New York*; Mrs. Suzanne Davis King, *Boston*; Joel B. Liberman, *New York*; Alex Young, Jr., *San Francisco*.

1. Dorothy Goos
The S. C. of New York
1 1 1 1 1 5
2. Janette Ahrens
St. Paul F. S. C.
2 4 3 2 3 14
3. Betsy C. Nichols
The S. C. of Boston
5 5 2 4 2 18
4. Joan Mitchell
Chicago F. S. C.
3 2 4 6 6 21
5. Hildegard H. Balmain
The S. C. of New York
4 3 5 3 5 20
6. Jane Zeiser
Arena F. S. C. of St. Louis
6 7 6 7 4 30
7. Roberta Jenks
The S. C. of Boston
8 6 7 5 7 33
8. Barbara Raymond
Chicago F. S. C.
7 8 8 8 8 39
9. Caroline Brandt
Cleveland F. S. C. 489.1
10. Marjorie E. Newell
*Arena F. S. C. of
Minneapolis* 484
11. Marcella E. May
Skate & Ski C. 451.8

MEN'S JUNIOR FOR THE IRVING BROKAW TROPHY

JUDGES: Egbert S. Cary, Jr., *Philadelphia*; Carl R. Engel, *New York*; Emil Quistead, *Chicago*; Joseph K. Savage, *New York*; Alex Young, Jr., *San Francisco*.

1. Walter Sahlin
F. S. C. of Minneapolis
4 1 1 2 1 9
2. Edward Le Maire
The S. C. of New York
3 3 3 1 4 14
3. Robert Premer
St. Paul F. S. C.
1 5 4 3 2 15
4. Arthur F. Preusch, II
St. Paul F. S. C.
2 4 2 4 5 17
5. Jack Might
St. Moritz I. S. C.
5 2 5 5 3 20
6. Bruce Sheffer
St. Paul F. S. C.
6 6 6 6 6 30

JUNIOR PAIRS

JUDGES: Morgan Doyle, *San Francisco*; Mrs. Lyman M. Drake, Jr., *Chicago*; Mrs. Suzanne Davis King, *Boston*; Roy W. McDaniel, *Minneapolis*; Joseph K. Savage, *New York*.

1. Dorothy Goss & Edward Le Maire
The S. C. of New York
3 1 2 1 1 8
2. Donna Jeanne Pospisil & Jean Pierre Brunet,
Elysium F. S. C.
2 2 1 2 4 11
3. Karol & Peter Kennedy
Olympia F. S. C.
1 3 5 3 5 17
4. Gail Sparks & Edward Van Der Bosch
Chicago F. S. C.
4 4 4 5 2 19
5. Barbara Lundgren & Dick Mershon
Chicago F. S. C.
5 5 3 4 3 20

LADIES' NOVICE

JUDGES: Mrs. Suzanne Davis King, *Boston*; Joel B. Liberman, *New York*; Arthur F. Preusch, *St. Paul*; Emil Quistead, *Chicago*; Alex Young, Jr., *San Francisco*.

1. Mabel MacPherson
Phila S. C. & H. S.
1 1 1 1 1 5
2. Patricia Ann Sonnekson
Pikes Peak F. S. C.
3 2 3 2 2 12
3. Margaret S. Grant
St. Paul F. S. C.
7 4 2 4 3 20
4. Margaret N. Field
Skate & Ski C.
5 6 4 3 4 22
5. Joan H. Yocum
Chicago F. S. C.
4 5 5 5 6 25
6. Ann Robinson
New Haven S. C.
2 3 6 7 7 25
7. Marilyn M. Telfer
Ind. Member of U. S. F. S. A.
6 8 8 6 5 33
8. Joyce Metternich
Chicago F. S. C.
8 7 7 8 8 37
9. Joan Hyldoft
Phila S. C. & H. S. 376.9
10. Shirley I. Lander
Seattle S. C. 375.8
11. Madelon Olson
St. Paul F. S. C. 375.5

- 12. Doris M. Tufts
Commonwealth F. S. C. 363.3
- 13. Mary Frances Greschke
Olympia S. C. 363.5
- 14. Ruth B. Flint
The S. C. of Boston 363.4

MEN'S NOVICE

JUDGES: Henry M. Beatty, *Cleveland*; Egbert S. Cary, Jr., *Philadelphia*; Morgan Doyle, *San Francisco*; Mrs. Lyman M. Drake, Jr., *Chicago*; Roy W. McDaniel, *Minneapolis*.

- 1. Richard W. More
Buffalo S. C.
1 1 1 2 1 6
- 2. Marcus Nelson
Oakland F. S. C.
3 2 3 1 3 12
- 3. James K. Lawrence, Jr.
St. Paul F. S. C. 16
2 3 6 3 2
- 4. James Lothead
Skate & Ski C.
4 6 2 4 4 20
- 5. Herman Torrano, Jr.
Oakland F. S. C.
5 5 4 5 7 26
- 6. Charles M. Anderson
Chicago F. S. C.
6 4 5 7 6 28
- 7. Wilhelm Junker
Commonwealth F. S. C.
7 7 6 7 34

DANCE FOR HARRY E. RADIX CUP

JUDGES: Arthur F. Preusch, *St. Paul*; Joel B. Liberman, *New York*; Stanley W. Dwinell, *Minneapolis*; Henry M. Beatty, *Cleveland*; Mrs. Lyman M. Drake, Jr., *Chicago*.

- 1. Edith B. Whetstone & Alfred N. Richards, Jr.
Phila S. C. & H. S. 8
3 1 2 1 1
- 2. Sandy Macdonald & Harold Hartshorne
The S. C. of New York
1 2 1 2 2 8
- 3. Ramona Allen & Herman Torrano, Jr.
Oakland F. S. C. 15
2 4 3 3 3
- 4. Marcella E. May & James Lothead, Jr.
Skate & Ski C. 19
4 3 4 4 4
- 5. Helen Barrett & Herbert E. Cook
Olympia S. C. 311.6
- 6. Dorothy Burkholder & Charles A. McCarthy
Chicago F. S. C. 306.1
- 7. Janet Raymond, F. S. C. of Chicago & George Mairs
St. Paul F. S. C. 149.2
- 8. Georgia Lou Rowley & Peter R. Girardot
Olympia S. C. 147.6
- 9. Mrs. Herbina Brown, *Buffalo S. C.* & Dr. Siegel
Brooklyn F. S. C. 145

**BEDELL H. HARNED TROPHY
FOR CLUB WINNING MOST POINTS**

- 1. Philadelphia S. C. & H. S. 50
- 2. The S. C. of New York 41
- 3. St. Paul F. S. C. 25
- 4. F. S. C. of Chicago 19
- 5. Springfield Ice Birds 15
- 6. The S. C. of Boston 13
- 7. Oakland F. S. C. 12
- 8. F. S. C. of Minneapolis 10
- 9. Skate & Ski C. 8
- 10. St. Moritz I. S. C. 6
- 11. Elysium F. S. C. 6
- 12. Buffalo S. C. 6
- 13. Olympia F. S. C. (Washington) 5
- 14. Pikes Peak F. S. C. 3

INDEX TO

Advertisers

Books

Bocckl, Willy 39

Hotels

Hotel Belvedere, New York 47
Hotel New Weston, New York 41
Hotel St. Paul, St. Paul 43

Professionals

Ted Meza 43
Edi Scholdan 2

Records

Christensen Recording Studio 43
"Bob" Kittinger 39

Skates & Boots

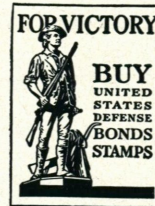
Arnold Authentics 48
C. C. M., Inc. 47
Olympiad 45
Planert 39
G. Stanzione 45

Skate Guards

Barnard Guards 45

Summer Skating Centers

Broadmoor Ice Palace 2
Icelandia, Toronto 41
Lake Placid 47
McIntyre Community Bldg., Schu-
macher Cover
Pullar Ice Stadium, Sault Ste. Marie... 37
Rochester Figure Skating Club 41
St. Paul 1



WE WELCOME

the Dallas (Texas) Figure Skating Club, the Ann Arbor (Michigan) Figure Skating Club, and the Charter Oak (Conn.) Figure Skating Club, whose names are now appearing on our list of group subscribers for the first time.