

# MEN

For the second consecutive year, Gordon McKellen, Jr., faced stiff opposition in the compulsory figures but pulled ahead brilliantly in the short program and free skating to be named Men's champion. Not one to be overshadowed, Terry Kubicka took the Silver medal with rousing free skating performances. In other highlights, Randy Gardner duplicated Ken Shelley's feat of 1968 by capturing the Junior Men's title after placing in Senior Pairs, while Shane Douglas wrapped up the Novice title.

In Senior Men's figures, Charlie Tickner established command. McKellen had a shaky start on the first figure (a rocker), placing fifth, but he moved up to second on the second figure (change loop) and won the last (paragraph double three). Tickner, however, skated well enough

throughout to maintain his lead. Meanwhile, Terry Kubicka was gathering momentum and moved up to third entering the short program, ready to burst upon the scene.

Tickner skated early and did a clean job, but it was only good for third in the short program. His effort seemed incidental as Kubicka opened his program with a triple Lutz/double toe-loop combination. A fine slow step sequence also helped Terry move into a challenging position.

Gordie's choice of "Flight of the Bumblebee" was just right for him, and his lightning-quick head and arm movements brought out the frenzied character of the music. A stylish jumper, he completed his huge delayed Axel and double Axel in the air before coming down. He made use of his patented knee slide in the stepwork. McKellen won the short program and was back in first place.

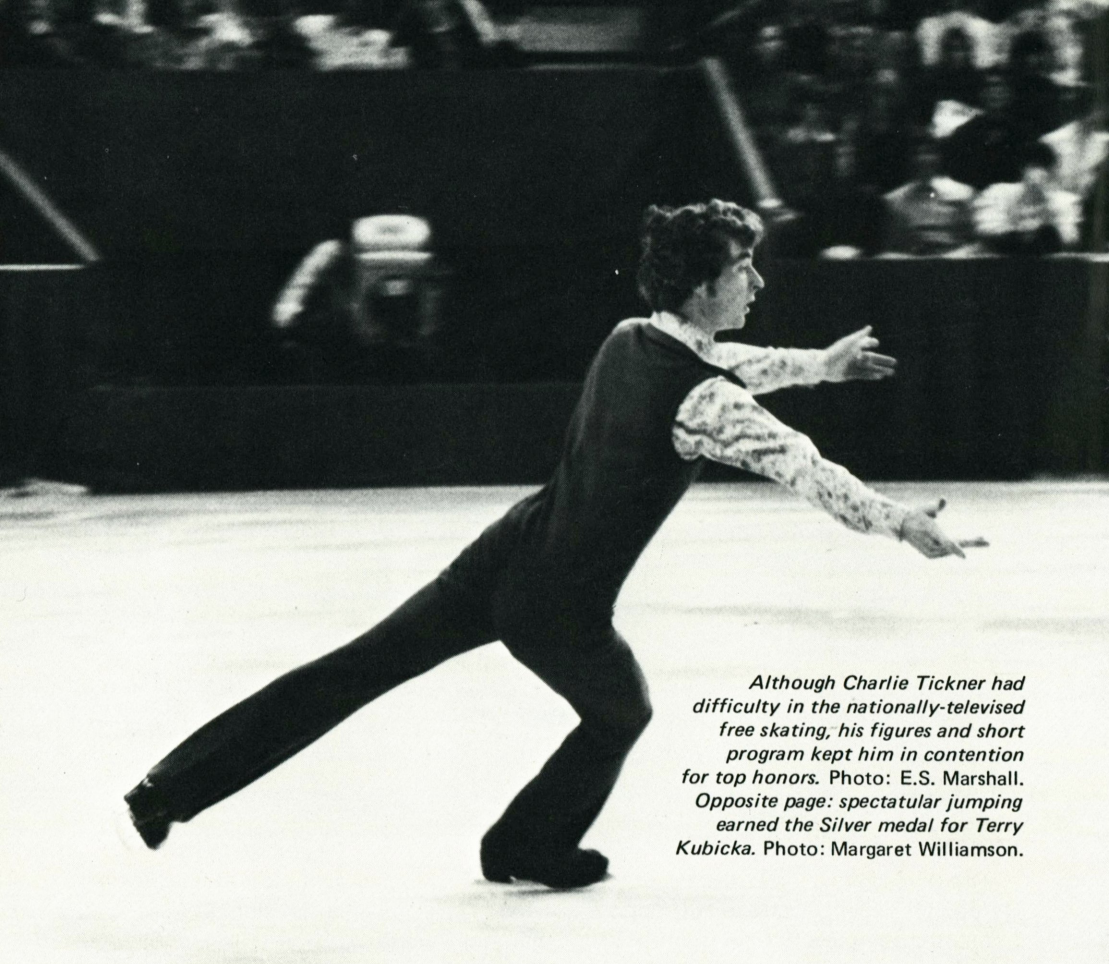
In the free skating on Saturday afternoon, it was all Kubicka and McKellen as they led off the second half of the draw. Skating to a pop medley of "Jesus

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*A quiet moment after the dynamic Men's Championship—Champion Gordie McKellen, right, with runner-up Terry Kubicka.*

*Photo: Margaret Williamson. Above, Gordie triumphs in the free skating. Photo: David Leonardi.*





*Although Charlie Tickner had difficulty in the nationally-televised free skating, his figures and short program kept him in contention for top honors. Photo: E.S. Marshall. Opposite page: spectacular jumping earned the Silver medal for Terry Kubicka. Photo: Margaret Williamson.*

Christ Superstar," "Gentle on My Mind" and "Let It Be," Kubicka had the audience gasping from the start. He displayed a smooth, springy style in three double jumps in a row early in his program. Then he completed the first clean triple Lutz the Nationals had ever seen. He followed with two more triple jumps and an interesting double Axel directly from a spread eagle in Bauer position.

Then came McKellen, equally as brilliant—especially in his glittering, ice blue outfit. Gordie's program, set to music by Bartok, Shostakovich's "Dance with Friends" and the theme from "Lady Caroline Lamb," demonstrated his maturing choreographic talent, characterized by careful positioning of the head and hands. His athletic talent was equally apparent, with triple Salchows, triple loop and three high double Axels. He

showed his composure by losing his balance in mid-air on a double flip and regaining it without difficulty. Kubicka presented a serious challenge to the defending champion, but McKellen won the free skating and retained his title with style.

In second place as he entered the free skating, Charlie Tickner fell twice and was off on his jumps from the beginning. Tickner stopped midway through his program to let his coach check his blades for foreign substance. Allowed to continue his program from the stopping point, he still missed a double Axel, and Kubicka was on his way to Munich.

Tickner's misfortune carried through to the award ceremony later that afternoon. When the men were called out to receive their medals, Charlie, who finished third, was nowhere to be found. Having read the competition schedule, which

slated the Men's award ceremony for that evening, Tickner left the arena. Only when he watched ABC's "Wide World of Sports" and saw McKellen and Kubicka standing on the podium—the third spot conspicuously empty—did he learn that the ceremony had been rescheduled for the afternoon. Fortunately, the mix-up was corrected Saturday evening when Tickner received his Bronze medal and a hearty ovation from the audience.

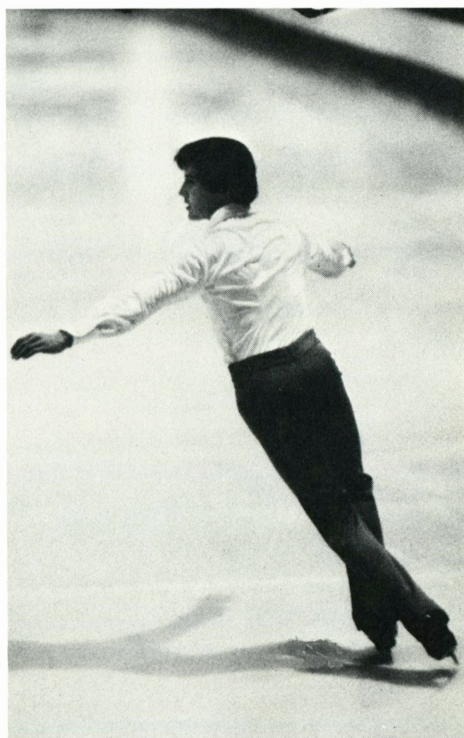
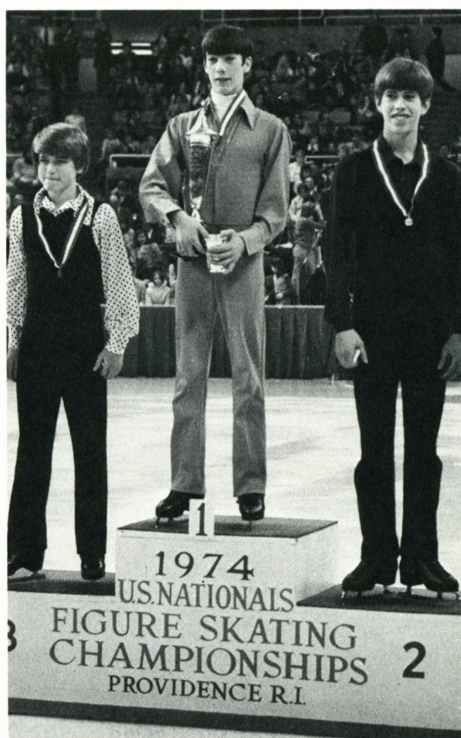
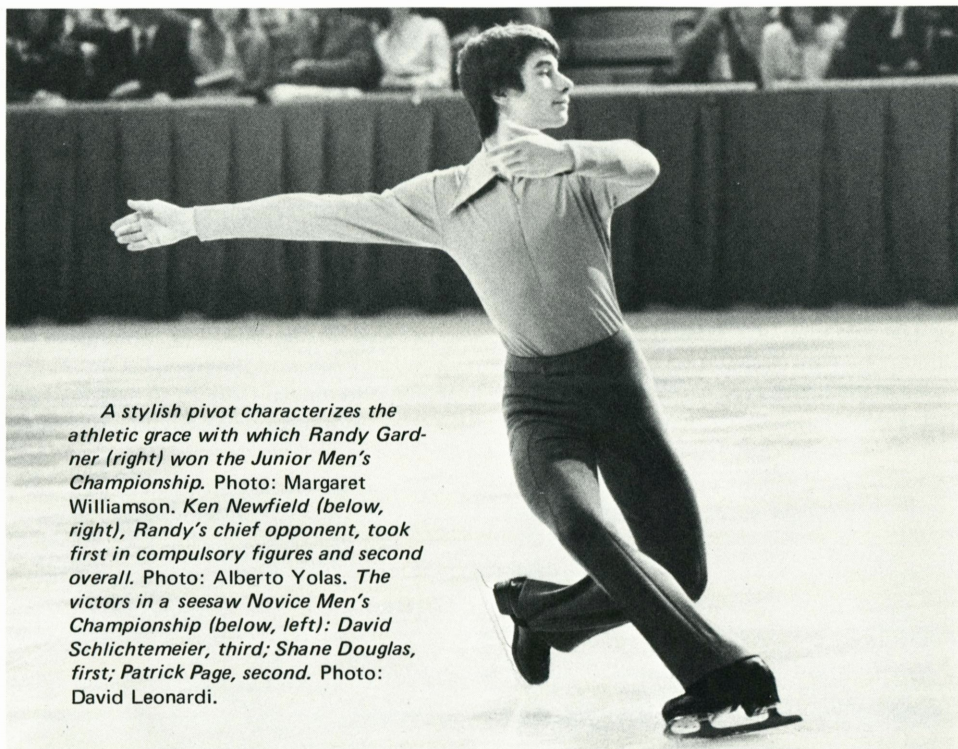
The two men who emerged as the Junior and Novice champions encountered some blade difficulty also, but with far less unfortunate results than Tickner's. Randy Gardner loosened a blade while

skating his free program and had to stop. After the screws were tightened, he restarted and had all the jumps, including a very quick double Lutz without a long preparation. Figure leader Ken Newfield dropped to second, losing first by one judge, while Perry Jewell took third to make it a sweep for the Los Angeles FSC.

In Novice Men Shane Douglas's pants strap came apart and he had to restart. This time he skated well enough to maintain the lead he had gained in compulsory figures. Pat Page won the free skating, however, and moved from third after figures to second overall, switching places with Dave Schlichtemeier.







Placements in the singles' championships are reported as follows: the first number in parentheses records each competitor's placement in compulsory figures; the second number in parentheses, for seniors only, records placement in the short program only; the final number in parentheses records placement in free skating only.

**1974 UNITED STATES FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS  
PROVIDENCE FSC, R.I.  
FEBRUARY 6-9, 1974**

**MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP**

JUDGES: A—Dr. Gordon Brown, Ann Arbor, Mich.; B—Mrs. Dora May Coy, Lakebay, Wash.; C—Mrs. Blanche Horsman, Buck Hill Falls, Pa.; D—Barlow Nelson, Tulsa, Okla.; E—Mrs. Ardelle Sanderson, Lake Placid, N.Y.; F—Mrs. Betty Sonnhalter, Seal Beach, Calif.; G—Mrs. Jane Sullivan, Aspen, Colo. REFEREE: Hugh Graham, Jr., M.D., Tulsa, Okla. COMPULSORY FIGURES: Group I—21b, 31a, 36b.

**SHORT PROGRAM: Group 3.**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	M
1. (2) (1) (1)	Gordon McKellen, Jr., SC of Lake Placid							
	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7/1
2. (3) (2) (2)	Terry Kubicka, Arctic Blades FSC							
	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	7/2
3. (1) (3) (3)	Charles Tickner, Denver FSC							
	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	6/3
4. (4) (4) (6)	John Carlrow, Jr., Arctic Blades FSC							
	4	4	4	4	5	4	3	6/4
5. (5) (8) (4)	David Santee, Chicago FSC							
	8	5	5	5	4	5	5	6/5
6. (7) (5) (5)	Scott Cramer, Wissahickon SC							
	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6/6
7. (6) (6) (8)	John Baldwin, Individual Member, USFSA							
	5	7	7	7	7	7	6	7/7
8. (10) (7) (7)	James Demogines, Troy SC							
	7	8	8	8	8	8	7	7/8
9. (11) (10) (9)	Mahlon Bradley, SC of Boston							
	9	11	9	9	10	11	9	4/9
10. (8) (11) (10)	Stephen Savino, SC of New York							
	11	9	10	10	9	10	11	5/10
11. (9) (9) (11)	William Schneider, Los Angeles FSC							
	10	10	11	11	11	9	10	4/10

**JUNIOR MEN**

JUDGES: A—Newbold Black, IV, New York, N.Y.; B—Mrs. Jane Lincoln, Minneapolis, Minn.; C—Mrs. Henrietta Nelson, Los Angeles, Calif.; D—Mrs. Edith Shoemaker, San Francisco, Calif.; E—Mrs. Mary Louise Wright, Belmont, Mass. REFEREE: Charles Foster, Boston, Mass. COMPULSORY FIGURES: Group I—16, 23a, 29b, 20a, 33b.

	A	B	C	D	E	M
1. (2) (1)	Randy Gardner, Los Angeles FSC					
	1	1	2	2	1	3/1
2. (1) (3)	Ken Newfield, Los Angeles FSC					
	3	3	1	1	2	3/2
3. (3) (2)	Perry Jewell, Los Angeles FSC					
	2	2	3	3	3	5/3
4. (5) (4)	Tom Reagan, City of Denver					
	4	5	6	4	4	3/4
5. (4) (5)	Tim Zink, Charleston FSC					
	5	4	4	5	5	5/5
6. (6) (6)	Michael Giordano, Individual Member, USFSA					
	7	7	8	6	6	4/7
7. (8) (10)	Scott Sherman, Skokie Valley SC					
	6	8	7	7	9	3/7
8. (7) (9)	David Hold, Broadmoor SC					
	8	6	9	8	7	4/8
9. (10) (8)	Bill Woehrl, Buffalo SC					
	10	11	10	9	8	4/10
						TOM 37
10. (9) (11)	Kent Schlichtemeier, Denver FSC					
	9	10	11	10	10	4/10
						TOM 39
11. (11) (7)	Charles Carapazza, Metropolitan FSC					
	11	9	5	11	11	5/11

**NOVICE MEN**

JUDGES: A—Dr. Gordon Brown, Ann Arbor, Mich.; B—Mrs. Blanche Horsman, Buck Hill Falls, Pa.; C—Barlow Nelson, Tulsa, Okla.; D—Mrs. Henrietta Nelson, Los Angeles, Calif.; E—Mrs. Ardelle Sanderson, Lake Placid, N.Y. REFEREE: Robert McLeod, Norwalk, Calif. COMPULSORY FIGURES: Group I—27b, 19a, 29b, 30a.

	A	B	C	D	E	M
1. (1) (2)	Shane Douglas, Broadmoor SC					
	1	1	5	6	1	3/1
2. (3) (1)	Patrick Page, Portland ISC					
	2	2	2	2	4	4/2
3. (2) (3)	David Schlichtemeier, Denver FSC					
	3	3	1	7	3	4/3
4. (5) (4)	Richard Rigby, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC					
	5	4	3	4	2	4/4
5. (4) (5)	Reggie Stanley, Washington FSC					
	4	5	4	5	5	5/5
6. (8) (6)	Mark Hayes, Colorado SC					
	6	7	7	10	7	4/7
7. (6) (9)	Richard Perez, Crystal Springs ISC					
	7	6	8	1	9	3/7
8. (7) (7)	Mike Botticelli, SC of Boston					
	9	8	6	3	8	4/8
9. (10) (8)	Scott Hamilton, Bowling Green SC					
	8	9	9	9	6	5/9
10. (9) (10)	David Hicks, Diablo FSC					
	10	10	10	8	10	5/10