

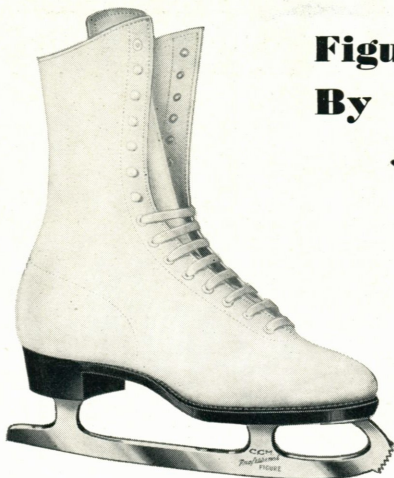
# Skating



**VOL. 25, NO. 5**

**MARCH, 1948**

Official Publication of the United States Figure Skating Association



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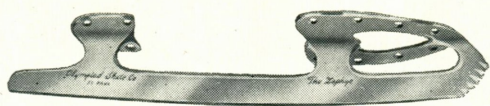
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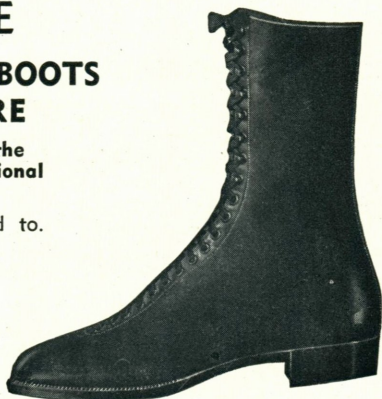
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# Contents

VOL. 25, NO. 5

MARCH, 1948

## Articles

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS OF EUROPE . . . . .	7
1948 CHAMPIONSHIPS . . . . .	8
THE OUTSIDE ROCKER TURNS . . . . .	10
<i>Marcus Nikkanen</i>	
SOME THOUGHTS ON JUDGING . . . . .	12
<i>T. D. Richardson</i>	
THE WESTERN CANADIAN CHAM- PIONSHIPS . . . . .	13
<i>John D. Whitehead</i>	
HINTS ON INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUNIORS	14
<i>Nancy Rush and Jean Kern</i>	
THE THRILLS OF COMPETING . . . . .	17
<i>Patricia Ann Watts</i>	
ON THE PRINTED WORD . . . . .	18
OBJECT OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES . . . . .	27
<i>Ruth Randall Edstrom</i>	
A NEW SUB-SECTIONAL . . . . .	28
<i>H. Kendall Kelley</i>	
MUSIC BY WIRE RECORDING . . . . .	29
<i>Richard E. Clemson</i>	
SUB-SECTIONALS	
Inter-City Dance . . . . .	32
Informal Dance . . . . .	32
Northwestern States . . . . .	32
Lake Erie . . . . .	33
OPERATION: WESTMINSTER . . . . .	34
<i>Loretta Walsh Phelps</i>	

## Departments

CHILDREN'S CORNER . . . . .	16
ROCKERS AND COUNTERS . . . . .	21
PEOPLE . . . . .	25
OLYMPIC NOTES . . . . .	26
OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS . . . . .	28
INDEX TO ADVERTISERS . . . . .	40

## Special Features

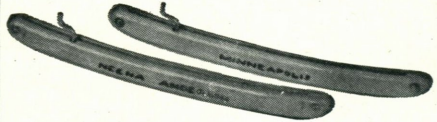
PICTURE PAGES . . . . .	6, 20
ALEXANDRE J. PEELOFF . . . . .	31
USFSA TESTS PASSED . . . . .	38
CFSA TESTS PASSED . . . . .	40

This Month's Cover Picture features Gretchen Van Zandt Merrill, The Skating Club of Boston, photographed on the descent of a jump while practicing in St. Moritz last winter. Photo courtesy of Max Wagner, St. Moritz.

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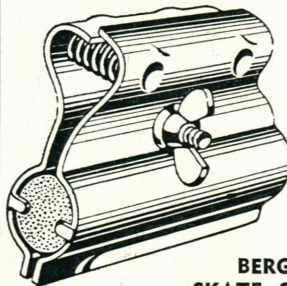
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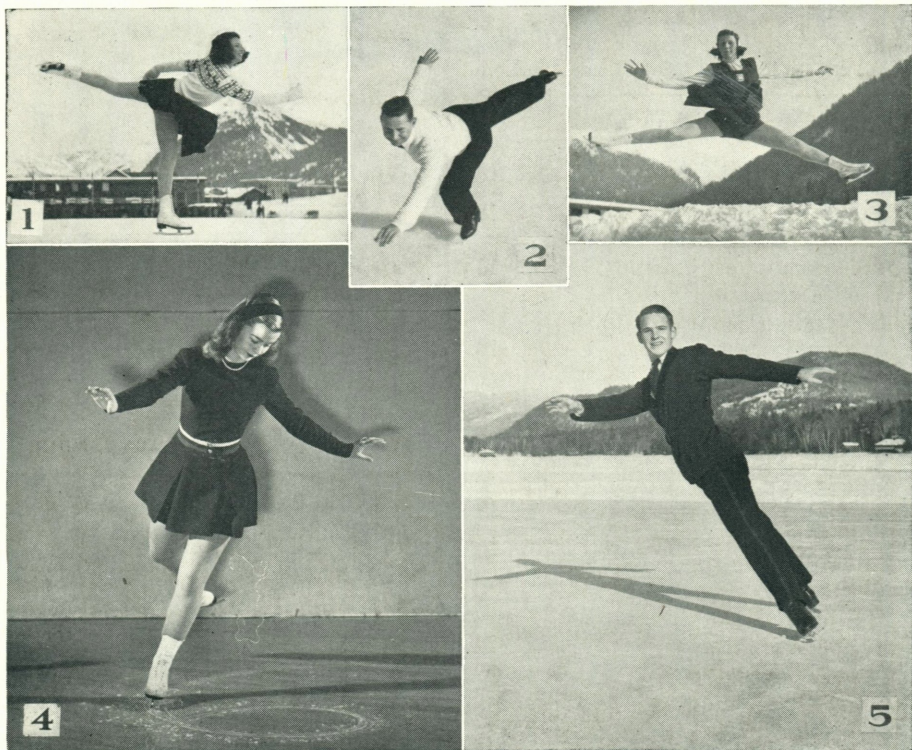
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IN THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

(1) **Jirina Nekolova**, Czechoslovakia. (2) **Hans Gerschwiler**, Switzerland. (3) **Aya Vrzanova**, Czechoslovakia. (4) **Barbara Ann Scott**, Canada. (5) **Richard Button**, United States. Photo Credits: (1) (3) Gehri, Davos-Platz; (2) Nachrichterhaus, Sumatrasteigs, Zurich; (4) Frank Royal, Ottawa; (5) Pierson Studio, Lake Placid.

LADIES

1. Barbara Ann Scott, Canada
2. Eva Pawlik, Austria
3. Aya Vrzanova, Czechoslovakia
4. Jirina Nekolova, Czechoslovakia
5. Jeannette Altwegg, England
18. Roberta Scholdan, United States

MEN

1. Richard Button, United States
2. Hans Gerschwiler, Switzerland
3. Edi Rada, Austria
4. Ede Kiraly, Hungary
5. John Lettengarver, United States

PAIRS

1. Andrea Kekessy & Ede Kiraly, Hungary
2. Blazena Knittlova & Karel Vosatka, Czechoslovakia
3. Hertha & Emil Ratzenhofer, Austria
4. Joan Thompson & Robert Ogilvie, England

The order of rankings above is only as complete as was the information available at presstime; these results do not indicate the total number of entries in each event.

# The Championships of Europe

THE 1948 FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS of Europe were held at an artificial open air rink in the Winter Stadium in Prague on Jan. 13, 14 & 15, under the auspices of the Cesky Bruslarsky Svar (Czechoslovakian Skating Association) which is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Barbara Ann Scott, Lady Champion of the World, and Richard Button, Champion of North America, won the Singles Championships, while Andrea Kekessy & Ede Kiraly of Hungary took first place in the Pairs. The North American continent was represented by only four contestants in these Championships, and took the crown in the two events entered. The other two entries were Roberta Scholdan and John Lettengarver of the United States. Both Barbara Ann and Richard capitalized on their last chance to win the European Championships since Western Hemisphere contestants will not be allowed to compete in the Europeans after this year.

Seven countries were represented at this competition, and the judges' panel included Maj. K. M. Beaumont of Britain, Melville Rogers of Canada, Albert Winkler of Switzerland, H. Meissner of Austria, Zdenek Zoukup of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Ede Tertak of Hungary, and Col. H. Storke of the United States who is stationed with the U. S. Army in Vienna.

The Pair title was decided on Tuesday, Jan. 13, when Andrea Kekessy & Ede Kiraly of Hungary took the lead over Blazena Knittlova & Karel Vosatka of Czechoslovakia. Hertha & Emil Ratzenhofer of Austria, and Joan Thompson & Robert Ogilvie of Great Britain were third and fourth respectively.

The men also skated the school figures on Tuesday, and although Richard Button held a narrow edge over the Swiss Champion, Hans Gerschwiler, in points, the latter was ahead in placings 15-14. However, Button took a definite lead in the free skating on Wednesday and held it, ending with five first places and two thirds which totalled 11 place points

against Gerschwiler's 18. Third was Edi Rada, Austria; fourth, Ede Kiraly, Hungary; fifth, John Lettengarver, United States.

The ladies' school figures scheduled for Tuesday were postponed until Wednesday because of poor ice conditions and high temperatures. The ice surface was not too much better on Wednesday and a tricky wind was against the skaters, but tended to equalize conditions for all. Barbara Ann was well ahead in the school figures all the way, receiving five first places, a second, and a fifth from the British judge, while Jirina Nekolova and Aya Vrzanova of Czechoslovakia ended second and third. Canada's top skater expanded her lead in the free skating, and finished the competition with an almost unbelievable unanimous choice of first place by all seven judges, giving her a total of 7 place points. The colorful and acrobatic skating of Eva Pawlik of Austria, who had placed fourth in figures, boosted her to second in the final decision with 22 place points. Third, fourth, fifth, and sixth, respectively: Aya Vrzanova, Czechoslovakia; Jirina Nekolova, Czechoslovakia; Jeannette Altwegg, Great Britain; Dagmar Lerchova, Czechoslovakia.

From newspaper reports of the Championships it would seem that Prague went completely wild over Barbara Ann; photographers followed her constantly and the spectators shouted, stomped and even whistled as she finished her free skating. Afterwards at a civic reception she was presented a gold medal by the ISU, and the Lord Mayor of Prague gave her a cut glass vase as a token of esteem. Dick Button's free skating performance was hailed as a "wonderful exhibition—greater than anything seen in Czechoslovakia in years." Whistling is commonly a sign of disapproval at European sporting events, but one Prague newspaper had carried a long account of it as a method of cheering in the U. S., and the crowd clapped, shouted and whistled following the announcement of Button's victory.

In these Championships the school figures were selected by the International Skating Union and announced in the autumn. In accord with a new ISU rule the starting foot for the first figure was drawn by lot by Referee H. J. Clarke of Great Britain, and then the starting foot was alternated for the remaining figures. The ladies skated Nos. 6, 19, 21, 22, 37, 38; the men, Nos. 20, 23, 25, 33, 34, 39. An International Dance Competition closed the Europeans on Jan. 16.

It was reported that the 1947 European and World Pair Champions, Micheline Lannoy & Pierre Baugnet, had intended to compete, but due to bad weather their plane was unable to arrive on time.

The 1948 European Championships marked the return of Hungarians and

Austrians to international competition; these two countries have not been represented since 1939. Edi Rada of Austria, third placing man, was one of the leading pre-war competitors and had competed in the 1938 and 1939 World and European Championships as well as the Austrian and German Nationals. Ede Kiraly, in fourth place, was second in the 1940 Hungarian Men's Championship. Emil Rattenhofer, who ranked third in the pairs, was another well known pre-war Austrian competitor, and with Hertha won fifth place in the 1940-41 German Pairs.

It is of interest that Button's victory marks the first time that an American man has ever won an international title (excepting the North Americans) or competed in the European Men's event.

## 1948 Championships

### United States

#### DAILY SCHEDULE

*Subject to minor changes when the number of entries in each event is known.*

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

9:00-12:00 a.m.	Ladies' Novice School Figures
12:00	Resurface
1:00- 3:30 p.m.	Men's Novice School Figures
3:30- 6:30 p.m.	Men's Junior School Figures
6:30	Resurface
7:00-10:00 p.m.	Special Event

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 1

8:00- 1:00 p.m.	Ladies' Junior School Figures
1:00	Resurface
2:00- 4:00 p.m.	Men's Senior School Figures
4:00- 8:00 p.m.	Practice and Resurface
8:00- 8:45 p.m.	Ladies' Novice Free Skating
8:45- 9:30 p.m.	Men's Novice Free Skating
9:30-10:00 p.m.	Junior Pairs

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 2

8:00- 1:00 p.m.	Ladies' Senior School Figures
1:00	Resurface
2:00- 2:30 p.m.	Men's Senior Free Skating (1st Performance)
2:30- 5:00 p.m.	Silver Dance Elimination
5:00- 7:00 p.m.	Dance Conference
7:00	Resurface
8:00- 8:30 p.m.	Men's Junior Free Skating
8:30- 9:30 p.m.	Men's Senior Free Skating
9:30-10:00 p.m.	Silver Dance Final
10:00-10:30 p.m.	Senior Pairs (1st Performance)
10:30-10:45 p.m.	Fours (1st Performance)

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 3

9:00-11:30 a.m.	Gold Dance Elimination
11:30-12:30 p.m.	Ladies' Senior Free Skating (1st Performance)
1:30- 2:00 p.m.	Gold Dance Final
2:00- 4:30 p.m.	Judges' Conference
4:30- 7:00 p.m.	Club Officers' Meet-

8:00- 8:05 p.m.	ing (Little Theatre) Exhibition, Junior Pair Champions
8:05- 8:10 p.m.	Exhibition, Ladies' Novice Champion
8:10- 8:15 p.m.	Exhibition, Men's Nov- ice Champion
8:15- 9:15 p.m.	Ladies' Junior Free Skating
9:15- 9:20 p.m.	Exhibition, Men's Jun- ior Champion
9:20- 9:25 p.m.	Exhibition, Ladies' Junior Champion
9:30-10:00 p.m.	Ladies' Senior Free Skating
10:00-10:10 p.m.	Exhibition, Silver Dance Champions
10:15-10:40 p.m.	Senior Pairs
10:40-10:50 p.m.	Fours
10:50-11:00 p.m.	Exhibition, Gold Dance Champions
11:00-	Award of Prizes

## Canadian

THE CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS will be held at The Glencoe Club, Calgary, on March 25 & 26, 1948, and possibly the 27th, depending upon the number of entries.

The Junior figures and free skating for both ladies and men will be held on Thursday, March 25, as well as the Junior Pairs.

The Senior figures and free skating will take place on Friday, March 26. The Senior Pairs, Waltzes, Tenstep and Dances will take place also on Friday. The figure events and all Junior events will take place Friday evening with the Senior Pairs, Fours, free skating and dances.

## PRACTICE ICE

PRACTICE ICE will be available to all contestants without charge, after registering for the competitions. Patches will be available at a nominal charge of 50¢ per hour, per patch. Further details may be obtained by writing Mr. Vern Turner, Manager, Broadmoor Ice Palace, Colorado Springs. The area of ice to be used for free skating is 80' x 175'.

## CONFERENCES

A JUDGES' CONFERENCE for school figures and free skating is scheduled tentatively for Saturday afternoon, April 1; a Dance Judges' Conference will also be held, probably on Friday afternoon. The fee is \$1.00 and all interested persons are urged to attend.

A general meeting and Round Table Discussion for visiting officials of other clubs will be held on Saturday, April 3.

## PARTY

A BUFFET SUPPER will be served following the events on Saturday night, with all contestants and judges invited as guests. Others wishing to attend may purchase tickets for \$3.50 apiece; the admission will be by ticket only. Dress will be optional.

## ISU Dance Conference

THE TEMPORARY USFSA DANCE CHAIRMAN, William O. Hickok, IV, has announced that the International Dance Conference will be held in London from February 23 through March 1, 1948.

The United States Dance Champions will be present to demonstrate the American methods of doing the standard dances. British dancers will give exhibitions of their version of doing these same dances.

The Representatives of three countries, Mr. R. J. Wilkie of England, Professor M. Nicaise of Belgium, and Mr. William O. Hickok, IV, of the United States, in Mr. C. L. Parker's place, will try to reach an agreement for the correct methods of performing certain dances, so that ice dancing can be standardized and international dance competitions be held in the future.

On his return to the United States after the Conference, Mr. Hickok will describe what was accomplished through a series of articles to be published in SKATING. The first actual report on the results of the Conference will most likely be made at the Dance Conference at Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, at the time of the United States Championships.

# The Outside Rocker Turns

Marcus Nikkanen

Professional, The Granite Club, Toronto

IT IS WELL KNOWN that it is difficult to express a series of complicated movements in exact words. It is my intention, however, in spite of the difficult task ahead of me, to try to give you a picture of the movements a skater should execute in an outside rocker turn.

During the past 20 years the opinion of the shape of the rocker and the technique used in connection herewith has varied to a certain extent. In general rocker turns have been executed with a too forced edge, but in recent years we have learned that an outside rocker can be executed without a forced edge and without a spoon at the top of the turn itself.

Before going into detail, I wish to point out the general principles in executing the rocker turn. The body of the skater is moving along the imaginary line B' C' D (See Fig. 1) and during the time required therefore, the skating foot must perform the rocker turn. The skating foot travels from B' to C on the heel of the skate. At point C the motion has stopped, and the skate changes its direction toward D and D'. No change of edge must take place during this motion. In addition the weight has changed from the heel to the ball of the skate as soon as the skate moves from point C toward D.

Let us now see how the arms, shoulders, hips and free leg are working during the rocker turn movement. It would undoubtedly be much easier to show this turn by taking a slow motion picture of a top skater executing the turn, but I will try to describe the movement here.

When starting an outside rocker (right foot), please do not start on a too bent knee. The body must be upright and you must have a good hip position—that is, a position where the line from the employed hip to the shoulder should be straight, and where you lean on your employed hip. The free hip's position should be maintained throughout the figure. The free leg is kept behind until about point

A when you gradually bring it forward crossing over the skating knee (See dotted line on Fig. 1). From the beginning of this forward outside edge the skater must stay on the heel of his skate.

When the skater reaches position B', the free foot is brought quickly from position I to II (dotted line Fig. 1) whereby it is possible to "shoot" the skating foot out toward point C, the top of the turn to come. At point B' the skating knee must be bent very much, otherwise the skater cannot shoot the foot out toward C. As stated previously, the skater is on the heel of his skate up to point C. The free foot cannot move further and will change direction toward D and the new circle to come, because the body is moving in that direction from C' to D and D'. When the skating foot is at point C the body is on the long axis going through O' C' O.

The free leg, shown at a dotted line on Fig. 1, is actually working as a pendulum, but with the difference that it does not return to the point where it started the pendulum movement marked I. While the skating foot is making the turn, the free leg has moved naturally with the

---

In answer to our request for an article of an instructive nature, the author has kindly submitted this description of performing outside rocker turns.

Marcus Nikkanen was for many years the top singles skater in Finland. He held the Singles Championship of Finland for over 10 years, and competed in the Olympics in 1928, 1932, and 1936, placing sixth, fourth, and seventh, respectively.

Before coming to this country in 1936 he worked in the American Consulate in Helsingfors. He decided to become a teaching professional and arrived here in the summer to instruct at The Skating Club of New York during the 1946-47 season. This winter he is with The Granite Club in Toronto.—Ed.

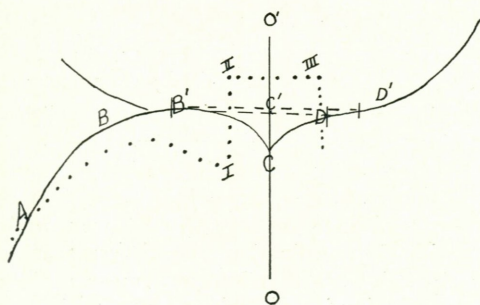


Fig. 1—Forward Outside Rocker Turn

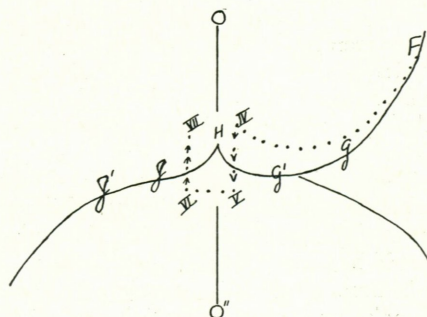


Fig. 2—Backward Outside Rocker Turn

body's motion along the line B' C' D, and reaches a point marked III slightly sooner than the skating foot reaches point D and will cross the skating foot on its way toward D' in a position similar to an outside backward loop position. The skating knee must be very bent in order that the skater can hold this awkward position, which must be held for a while and the free leg can return to its usual outside backward edge position.

At point B' the right arm is almost in a horizontal position and vertical to the long axis and the left arm is held slightly inside the circle. When the body has reached point C' on the long axis, the left arm is almost 90° against the left shoulder. As soon as the turn is made the arms will change—the left travels into the center of the new circle to come and the right will move so it will form an almost 90° angle with the right shoulder. (Same position as in an outside backward loop position.) This motion is completed when the free leg has crossed the skating foot about at D'. In this connection I should like to emphasize that the motion of the arms should not affect the position of the shoulders, which are almost vertical to the long axis during the execution of the turn. One might believe that the shoulders have rotated, but it is an illusion due to the movement of the arms.

As soon as the skating foot has passed B' on its way toward C, the ankle should be slightly dropped and loose and in such a way the turn will be clean and not forced. It requires a lot of practice to learn this trick.

At position F for the backward rocker turn (See Fig. 2) the skater must have an almost completed outside edge position with the free leg slightly inside the circle (See dotted line Fig. 2). The backward turn follows the same principles as the forward turn. When reaching point G the free leg's hip is lower than the skating hip—the body upright with the right shoulder slightly lower than the left. At point G' the shoulders are almost vertical to the long axis.

Now we come to the problem of how the skating foot should perform the turn. In order to be able to shoot the skating foot backward toward point H, we must again use the help of the free leg through a pendulum movement (See dotted line IV and V). In addition the skating knee must be well bent at point G' in order to assist in making the push backward. The skater must perform this motion on the ball of his skate. At the top of the turn marked H, the direction of the skate will change toward J and J' on account of the free leg's motion back to point VII and the body's travel toward J and J' in the new circle. It is to be observed that the skater's weight on his skate moves from the ball to the heel after leaving point H, and will remain so until the new circle has been completed. The skating knee must be well bent at J and J' in order to hold the difficult outside edge position after the turn.

The arms: When reaching the turn the left arm is inside the new circle to come O'' and almost 90° against the shoulder. When the free leg makes its pendulum

movement the arms will do a small similar movement. The right arm is almost vertical to the long axis. After the turn is made, the arms are in a forward outside edge position with the right shoulder lower than the left.

The position of the body and the shoulders are the same as for the forward turn. The same trick with the ankle should be used.

It usually takes a long time to learn to make an outside rocker light and clean,

but hard practice using this method will give results.

There are three words which in my opinion every figure skater should bear in mind and they are: "Why," "Coordination," "Relax." You can never reach a higher grade of skill in skating without knowing why a certain movement should be performed in a certain manner, and without coordinating the different motions in one flowing movement. The word relax is self explanatory.

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## Some Thoughts on Judging

T. D. RICHARDSON

Chairman, N.S.A. of Great Britain Figure Committee

*Reprinted in part from The Skating Times, October 1947 issue, published in London*

TO MY MIND two of the chief attributes of a good judge are knowledge and courage. Much the more important is knowledge, for without it no amount of courage is of the slightest use.

Obviously the pre-requisite to judging is knowledge, for it is only by keeping abreast with new methods, by taking trouble, by enquiry, by discussion and, if possible, by practice, that knowledge can be attained and improved, and the confidence that is so necessary for harmony and good feeling between teachers, candidates and judges alike, be maintained.

Judges must realize that they, as well as candidates for tests and competitions, are always learning.

It is most necessary so to train the powers of observation that the eye can take in any and every variation of movement quickly and clearly in each detail of a school figure or free program. A judge must learn to assess quickly but, at the same time, make an unhurried judgment.

There is another advantage that seems to be possessed by the younger judges and those who keep themselves conversant with modern trends and have this "feeling for the figure," and that is that they do not seem to have any need to attempt to make comparison between one skater and another during the actual competition, an almost impossible proceeding when a dozen or more are competing and one definitely to be discouraged. They are able to assess the figures purely against an ideal, a standard that is in their mind's eye as perfection.

There are, of course, many excellent championship judges who have never passed a gold medal test, both among the older and the younger generations, but these have studied, and continue to study and to practice the figures and to pay regular attention to all that is new in free skating. This is of paramount importance and should be borne in mind by those inclined to criticise.

# The Western Canadian Championships

John D. Whitehead

The Glencoe Club, Calgary

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, marked a very successful conclusion to the Second Annual Competition of the Western Canadian Figure Skating Championships at The Glencoe Club, Calgary. A much larger entry list than last year was obtained, with a high of 13 in the Ladies' Novice.

In the Senior Ladies' event Jeane Matthews retained her title against Sheila Smith, and in the Men's Senior Roger Wickson skated a superb performance to retain his Men's Singles title, far exceeding the average of 7.5 required when only one contestant has entered a particular event.

The Junior Ladies' title was won by Joan Penfold of the Wascana Club who came from behind in the school figures to turn in a brilliant free skating performance to place first. In the Men's Junior,

Malcolm Wickson, who last year won the Novice, took the title over Ronald Kinney of The Glencoe Club who skated a very good performance but was low on figures.

Rosemary Henderson of the Winnipeg WC, competing against 12 other girls, skated her free program with animation to place first in the Ladies' Novice. The de Witt twins again turned in a sparkling performance to retain their crown in the Ladies' Pairs, as did Sheila Smith & Ross Smith in the Senior Pairs. Shirley Martin & Ronald Kinney, the only entry in the Junior Pairs, won without effort.

There were five entries in each of the dances, the Waltz going to Sheila Smith & Ross Smith, the Tango to Beverly Ann Brodie & Ronald Kinney, the Fourteenstep to Joan Prince & Ronald Kinney, and the Foxtrot to Rosemary Rees & Alex Monroe.

## SENIOR LADIES

1. Jeane Matthews, *Vancouver SC*
2. Sheila Smith, *Winnipeg WC*

## SENIOR MEN

1. Roger Wickson, *Connaught SC*

## JUNIOR LADIES

1. Joan Penfold, *Wascana WC*
2. Frances Abbott, *Winnipeg WC*
3. Sonja Currie, *Glenora SC*
4. Reta David, *Vancouver SC*

## JUNIOR MEN

1. Malcolm Wickson, *Connaught SC*
2. Ronald Kinney, *The Glencoe Club*
3. Ronald Vincent, *Vancouver SC*

## NOVICE LADIES

1. Rosemary Henderson, *Winnipeg WC*
2. Yvonne Page, *Winnipeg WC*
3. Joan Prince, *The Glencoe Club*
4. Dianne Williams, *The Glencoe Club*
5. Betsy Ann Landru, *Wascana WC*
6. Cathryn M. Ryan, *The Glencoe Club*
7. Patricia Hogarth, *Connaught SC*
8. Lorraine Perkins, *Vancouver SC*
9. Mary Lou Coy, *Wascana WC*
10. Yvonne Gareau, *Wascana WC*
11. Barbara Cowan, *The Glencoe Club*
12. Gayle Wakely, *Vancouver SC*
13. Karen M. Dixon, *The Glencoe Club*

## SENIOR PAIRS

1. Sheila Smith & Ross Smith, *Winnipeg WC*

## JUNIOR PAIRS

1. Shirley Martin & Ronald Kinney, *The Glencoe Club*

## LADIES' PAIRS

1. Jean de Witt & Joan de Witt, *Wascana WC*
2. Joan Penfold & Mary Lou Coy, *Wascana WC*
3. Diana Keltie & Arlene Jones, *Glenora SC*

## WALTZ

1. Sheila Smith & Ross Smith, *Winnipeg WC*
2. Connie Shutek & Stanley Angus, *Trail SC*
3. Rosemary Rees & Alex Munroe, *Glenora SC*
4. Beverly Ann Brodie & Ronald Kinney, *The Glencoe Club*
5. H. Caldwell & A. Cartwright, *The Glencoe Club*

## FOURTEENSTEP

1. Joan Prince & Ronald Kinney, *The Glencoe Club*
2. Connie Shutek & Stanley Angus, *Trail SC*
3. Rosemary Rees & Alex Munroe, *Glenora SC*
4. H. Caldwell & A. Cartwright, *The Glencoe Club*
5. Sheila Smith & Ross Smith, *Winnipeg WC*

## FOXTROT

1. Rosemary Rees & Alex Monroe, *Glenora SC*
2. H. Caldwell & A. Cartwright, *The Glencoe Club*
3. Sheila Smith & Ross Smith, *Winnipeg WC*
4. Joan Prince & Ronald Kinney, *The Glencoe Club*
5. Connie Shutek & Stanley Angus, *Trail SC*

## TANGO

1. Beverly Ann Brodie & Ronald Kinney, *The Glencoe Club*
2. Sheila Smith & Ross Smith, *Winnipeg WC*
3. H. Caldwell & A. Cartwright, *The Glencoe Club*
4. Connie Shutek & Stanley Angus, *Trail SC*

# Hints on Instructions for Juniors

*Nancy Rush and Jean Kern*

Professionals, Pasadena Winter Garden

HERE ARE OUR INSTRUCTIONS for beginners and more advanced skaters which have been very successful over a period of years. To build up a junior club successfully we feel there are some Do's and Don'ts.

1. Interest in figure skating must be created and kept alive.

2. Variety such as School Figures, Free Style (jumping, spring, spiral, free skating steps), Dancing, Games, Racing, Grand March, Drills for Carnival, Exhibitions and Parties are a necessity.

3. Tests and Competitions are a "must."

4. Maintain law, order and proper supervision.

5. Plan carefully for the session always.

6. Instructions.

Interest in figure skating can only be kept alive by avoiding monotony, such as not keeping children too long on one subject, especially school figures; change frequently from one figure to another; also, separate the boys from the girls. The physical size and age of children in various groups must be considered. Do not promise them anything without the intention of keeping the promise; live up to a promise and you retain their respect. All complaints of the youngsters must be carefully considered, as well as those of their parents. The latter are a very important factor; don't forget Ted Lewis' motto: "Is Everybody Happy?"

Do not allow any horseplay and keep an eye on possible ringleaders. The juniors are important. Make them realize the fact for the well-being of the club, frequently ask for their opinions and wishes, and you will find a more interested and attentive group of skaters.

Our carnivals are planned so that everyone, even three-year-olds, takes part on skates. Distribute various parts evenly and do not leave anyone out. Everybody should feel that he or she is most important for a good show, even a straight skat-

ing part. Give thought to their suggestions on carnival practice; try them and see the surprising results and the happy smiles and good behavior when you have control over 200 youngsters during carnivals.

For tests we use our own ideas and have made a special test for those not yet ready for the USFSA first tests. The following have proved very successful:

**JUNIOR FIGURE SKATING TEST:** 1. Circle ROF-LOF; 2. Circle RIF-LIF; 3. Change Eight (Serpentine) ROF-RIF, LIF-LOF; 4. Change Eight (Serpentine) RIF-ROF, LOF-LIF; 5. Waltz turn in Figure Eight form, starting ROF to LOF; 6. Waltz turn in Figure Eight form, starting ROB-LOB. Factor 1—Maximum, 60 points. Minimum points for medals, 33.6 points; for Blue Ribbon, 20 points.

**FREE SKATING TEST:** 1. Fourteenstep starting LOF (men's steps); 2. ROF or LOF Spiral; 3. Two-foot Spin starting from third turn; 4. ROB or LOB Spiral starting from Waltz turn or count six; 5. Waltz Jump to OB—Short Spiral to Pivot Stop starting from count six or Waltz turn; 6. Swedish Mohawks in circle. Factor 1—Maximum, 60 points. Minimum points for medals, 33.6 points; for Blue Ribbon, 20 points.

**JUVENILE TEST:** 1. Straight skate long glides; 2. Circle ROF-LOF; 3. Circle RIF-

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Nancy Rush and Jean Kern, Professionals at the Pasadena Winter Garden in Pasadena, California, describe here the methods which they use in their group classes to build up proficiency in junior skaters and maintain their interest in the sport. In the exercises which they mention Nancy is responsible for the ballet movements and Jean is the originator of the steps.—Ed.

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LIF; 4. Two-foot Spin any style; 5. Short Spiral any style; 6. Skating backward any style.

Factor 1—Maximum, 60 points.

Minimum points for Blue Ribbon, 33.6 points; for Junior Figure Skating Club Emblem, 20 points.

In order not to create any hard feeling we use a point system which prevents too many failures and disappointments, for example:

(a) School figure total	30.8
(b) Free style	<u>38.2</u>
Total of a & b	69.0
Average of a & b =	34.5

In other words, if Marie is low on school figures and better on free style add both together for the total and divide by 2, which must be 33.6 or better for a small silver medal; if lower than that but over 20 points, she gets a Blue Ribbon. This system has proven very satisfactory. The judges for this must be first or higher test skaters, as others will not be accepted as judges. Nobody likes to be judged by people who do not or are not able to skate and are simply judges for the social color of it. The results are given to the skaters on completion of the tests so that they know if they passed or not.

A yearly competition is held and is divided into four categories according to ability. It is judged strictly on the standards advocated by the USFSA. Prizes, cups and medals are given to those placing first, second and third. By now we have learned to treat the children just like grown ups to be successful.

The hour-and-one-half session is divided as follows: 1. School figures, for 30 minutes; 2. Free skating steps, for 10 minutes; 3. Spins, for 10 minutes; 4. Jumping, for 10 minutes; 5. Dancing, for 20 minutes; 6. Grand March and Exhibitions, for 10 minutes.

To develop free style, two 2½ minute programs are allowed per session, in rotation. The instruction is divided into various groups: 1. Straight skaters, beginners; 2. Boys; 3. Intermediate group; 4. Advanced group.

The first group is taught correct forward skating, crossovers in front, also in

back of skating foot, proper turning out of free foot, kneebend and most proper anklebend. No edges are taught to beginners, just a flat straight run of the blade forwards to cut down unnecessary wobbliness. Crossing behind the skating foot going forward teaches the young skater various important functions: To attain proper coordination of ankle and kneebend; to prevent stepping wide, also reaching forward; to create softer knee, proper glide. To get sufficient speed we recommend they take three to five to seven steps forward and cross approximately three to six steps, and try to make long glides with a firm body, especially proper hip position. Two-foot stops and two-foot spins are taught first at the rail to prevent too many falls. Short forward spiral, backward skating, also crossover in front and back of the skating foot, going backwards, are practiced. We emphasize especially well-pointed toes of the free foot in front or back.

To eliminate fear we make them do simple jumps—bunny hop, Waltz jump—landing first on two feet and later on one foot, according to their ability. "Shoot the duck" is great stuff with the youngsters, forward and backward, left and right foot. For exercises we use leg stretching for spirals; first, second, third and fifth ballet positions for spread eagles and mohawks; also hand and arm positions for grace and balance. Three-turns are taught to the juniors; with one hand on the railing they are easily taught and learned by the small skater. The same exercises are taught in more advanced form to all other groups of skaters, depending on their ability.

The boys are handled by a male instructor only, following the lines recommended above. Group practice by various methods, such as straight line by holding hands, or singly, also in circles. For straight forward skating, crossovers, both ways, forward and backward, are practiced. Circles are formed for spiral and mohawk practice, both singly and hand in hand.

The intermediate group is taught the fundamentals of outside edges first, also

*(Continued on Page 33)*



(1) Roger Harvey, San Diego FSC. (2) Judy Lomax, Mrs. Allen Lomax, Kathy Collins, Olympia SC. (3) Fred Ingerson, Jr., Washington Jr. FSC. (4) Patricia and Carl Neufelder, Great Falls FSC. (5) Young Silver Blades SC of Spokane members grouped around Santa Claus at Christmas Party. Photo Credits: (1) Wm. Rogers Studio, San Diego; (2) Donald Lee, Detroit Times; (3) Adolf Moré, Bethesda, Md.; (5) Sam Gordon, Spokane.



## Children's Corner

I am 7 years old and have been ice skating almost a year. I was featured in the opening "Tulip Time" of the San Diego FSC "Ice Revue of 1947." I like to skate very much and hope to make good as it is my favorite pastime.—Roger Harvey.

Judy Lomax, aged three, and Kathy Collins, four, are shown getting an early start in figure skating. They are only two of about 150 youngsters who are getting acquainted with this sport during

junior sessions of the Olympia SC, Detroit, every Saturday. Mrs. Allen Lomax, Judy's mother, one of the senior members of the club, helps to instruct the tiniest children during the junior sessions.

I am ten years old. I skate at the Washington Junior Figure Skating Club. I have passed my first test. I think skating is a lot of fun. I enjoy it very much.

At the club's Halloween party, I won three prizes for the fastest skating. I like SKATING magazine a great deal. I think it is fun to read all the skating news of the United States.—Fred Ingerson.

My sister is 8 and I am 12. We do all our skating on an outdoor rink and although we find it sort of cold at times we

do enjoy skating very much. I think that figure skating is the most fascinating sport we have.

We attended Miss Mary Rose Thacker's summer skating school in Vancouver, B. C. for five weeks and while there Patricia passed her pre test and I passed the second.

We had a wonderful time at summer school and it was a pleasure to meet so many good skaters from the other clubs throughout the United States and Canada.  
—*Carl Neufelder.*

A few of the children of the Silver Blades SC of Spokane were photographed with Santa Claus at the big club Christmas Party held at the Spokane Arena on Dec. 23. Shown standing in the back row are Elaine Heiber, Jeanne Knott, Susan Murphy, Dora Powell, "Santa," Beryl Ehrenberg, Mike Meighan, and Jake Meighan. In front of them are Sharon Williams, Mike Williams, Charles Murphy, Gayle Galles, Daphne Bailey, and Douglas Stevens.

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## The Thrills of Competing

PATRICIA ANN WATTS

*Los Angeles Figure Skating Club*

SKATERS, all sizes and shapes; some are jumpers, some spinners, and others adept at free skating steps. These are the thrills of competition. This is the most important thing of all—the wonderful skaters that you never dreamed existed.

In most cases, until you either witness or enter a competition, you do not realize the importance of school figures. They are, of course, the fundamentals of all skating, and count 60% of your total mark. If you find an interest in them after seeing the advanced skaters, you will gradually form a liking for them.

Secondly, you meet many new people, many to meet again at other competitions. It is a wonderful experience to come back

for future competitions to see and remember these people; and still *more* thrilling to have them remember you.

One of the most important thrills or experiences is finding out just how you compare with the different skaters. Then, in the following years, viewing how these skaters change their places; some, placing low one year, will make a lot of progress and move up in place and class; others that were high will fall back and may not place so well. Yet others may remain about the same.

It seems quite definite that there are styles in skating as there are in fashions. Some years the trend will turn toward heavy classical music, (probably and more commonly) ballet music, or the light classic, operetta, or popular music. As the music trends change, so do the styles of free skating—the smoothness, ballet style, and athletic style.

In recent years ice dancing has become more and more important in amateur competition. Last year for the first time they added dancing to the North American Championships. If a skater doesn't particularly care to enter singles, he or she might find great pleasure in entering dance events. Ice dancing adds variation to any competition, and is very pleasant to watch.

Lastly is the interest of the feminine skater—the costumes. The attire for the school figure division of the competition gives a certain dignity to the skater. Typical costumes are the pleated skirt, either in a dress or a skirt topped with a blouse or sweater, and tailored shorts which make it easier to see your school figures. Last but not least, the long woolen "Kumfortites," to keep the legs warm and limber. Then we turn to the free skating, where we witness the dazzle and sparkle of velvets, satins, laces, chiffons, sequins, spangles, bugle beads and even marabou. There is a real splendor in these costumes—that of a professional show, only in the formal and dignified manner of an amateur competition.

Isn't it wonderful to think of yourself as being a competitive skater? *You*, actually in competition!

# On the Printed Word

IN THE BEGINNING this article started out to be a feature on some of the papers which clubs throughout the country publish regularly for their members. An individual club publication is generally recognized as one of the best mediums for keeping members informed of past, present and future events. It outweighs the club bulletin board in some respects by bringing news of club activities and personalities to the home of every member.

Our attention was diverted, however, from the weekly and monthly papers to some of the very interesting yearbooks and scrapbooks which have been issued. And so this story will describe those, too, because of their historical value in themselves.

**SEATTLE SKATING CLUB.** Theirs is a four-page publication entitled "The Skating Blade." The copy before us at this writing happens to be dated May 28, 1947. The first page contains a message from the Club President, Roy Bumstead; an announcement of the then-forthcoming annual club picnic; a report of the USFSA Annual Meeting written by Seattle's delegate and newly-elected second USFSA Vice-President, Edmund C. Bold; a resumé of the North American Championships—the latter two being continued to the last page. The inside contains an editorial; reports on the club's Open House Exhibition and Dance Session, and the Shirley Lander Banquet; news of the Juniors; pointers from the USFSA Rulebook; miscellaneous personal announcements about club members; skating news from here and there; and two classified advertisements about skating equipment for sale.

In the summer Seattle also published a 22-page Annual, size  $4 \times 7\frac{3}{4}$ ", printed by the offset method, bound in a pale green cover on which appears the club crest as well as the title. The Annual for the 1947-48 season contains, among other items, the Board of Trustees; Seattle's champions of the last 10 years with their titles; a report on the organization of the

club; the officers; committee appointments; the list of club judges; special events for the 1947-48 season; official sessions of the club; publication of ice ethics and policies; club history highlights; listing of the Northwest section and Pacific Coast section clubs; a short report on the USFSA organization; and the club roster. The Annual is illustrated with a few sketches, and contains a small amount of advertising.

**MILWAUKEE FIGURE SKATING CLUB.** In the scrapbook class, the Milwaukee club may well be proud of its hand-made scrapbook, a picture of which is on the next page. This unusual and attractive book was made by the Club President, William C. Firestone. The covers measure  $17 \times 22$ " and are made of hand-hammered  $1/16$ " copper. The club emblem, the winged skate and M.F.S.C., is mounted in the center and is made of  $1/8$ " thick polished stainless steel. Underneath the emblem, and also of stainless steel, are the numerals 1939, which is the year the club was formed. The pages are of heavy parchment alternated with heavy triple thickness buff leaf. Pictures and clippings will be mounted on the buff leaf, and the parchment will be used for writing.

The scrapbook will contain pictures, clippings, and a complete written history of the club and its members from the date of its formation; also a running account of the club and its activities will be maintained through the years. This book was presented to the club by its President at the close of the 1947 season, and is to serve as a source of authentic information concerning the club.

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In the January 1944 issue of **SKATING**, a Round Table on Club Papers was published which included several publications not described here, and told more in detail the comparative costs and printing processes used.

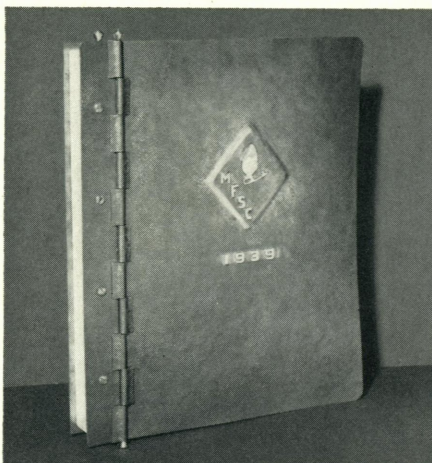
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**BUFFALO SKATING CLUB.** Buffalo's monthly paper, "On Your Edges," is four pages, printed, and folded to 6x9" size. The number before us (April 1947) contains a few observations on the final two events of last season—the carnival and club competitions. The results of club elections are announced, with a listing of the new officers for this year. Page 2 lists the then-current officers, directors, committee chairmen, "On Your Edges" staff, and professional staff. Also included are the placings in the club competitions, an announcement of the new silver membership buttons, list of club tests passed, announcement of the professional staff for this season, and "Balcony Whispers"—which make the doings of individuals an open secret to the rest of the club!

**CLEVELAND SKATING CLUB.** The "Skate 'N Racket" published by the Cleveland SC is also a four-page printed pamphlet, size 6x9", but differs from Buffalo's paper in being a self-mailer. The last half-page is free of editorial writing; this space contains the wording "Sec. 562, P.L. and R." meaning that the pamphlet conforms to and is mailed under the governing postal laws and regulations for that type mail. For a return corner card, Cleveland is pleasingly different in using an attractive skating sketch of a girl, under which the type appears as follows: "The April Skate 'N Racket for" and below in the center space is inserted the addressee's name and address. The pamphlet for mailing is folded to size 6x4½", so that the above-described last one-half page becomes the face of the circular for mailing purposes. It is then secured in this folded size by affixing a one-cent pre-cancelled stamp to the bottom open edges.

This particular issue contained an announcement and plans for the Tenth Anniversary carnival, including rehearsal schedules; new rules on membership applications; club championship results; rink guest rules; dining room service announcement; and report of the members' trip to the Akron SC's show, "Frozen Frolics."

**PENGUIN ICE SKATING CLUB, BERKELEY.** "Penguin Chatter," unlike any of the other

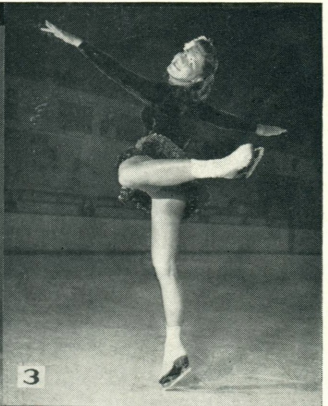


papers described above, is done by the ditto process. It is not as finished as a printed job but nevertheless is attractive, permits illustrative material to be used, and in every way serves its purpose. This copy at hand lists the officers, announces the next business meeting, reports the last social meeting, covers the Halloween party, contains an editorial, a listing of new members, and announces miscellaneous ear-to-the-ground bits about members in the column "Chatterings."

**ST. LIDWINA SKATING CLUB, OAKLAND.** The "St. Lidwina Ice Sheet" is mimeographed on several sheets of colored 8½x11" paper, one side only, and all pages are stapled together to form the complete copy. It is an attractive reproduction with copy set in two columns and lines spaced to an even length for better appearance. The first part contains the club news in general—reports of past events, announcement and plans of coming events, and the last part is devoted to newsy bits about individual members—all written in a light, informal style which makes pleasant reading.

**ICE CLUB OF GREATER WINNIPEG.** This club, newly elected to the CFSA, has for the second year published a Year Book. This is nicely done on white coated paper with an attractive blue cover. Its 24 pages contain a foreword; editorial; articles by

*(Continued on Page 36)*





# Rockers and Counters



EDITED BY ELSIE L. WINKLER

## Carnivals

AS THE MARCH ISSUE OF SKATING goes to press in mid-January, the Rocker department is flooded with news of carnivals, shows and exhibitions, both in the past and future tense. Heading the list of those already presented is the **Akron SC "Frozen Frolics"** which held a capacity group of spectators enthralled on Dec. 19, 20 & 21, and was deemed the most successful show this club has ever put on. Guest skaters included Barbara Jones, **The SC of Boston**, the **St. Paul FSC Four**, and Rex Cook of Baltimore. Four large club numbers, "Hansel and Gretel," "Christmas Party," "Ballet Claire de Lune" with Kay Crum as the Premier Danseuse, and "Fiesta" gave the spectators a chance to see the extent of talent in their own club, to say nothing of the solos, pairs and octette also performed by members.

The office of Chairman of the **Glenora SC** (Edmonton, Alta.) Carnival Committee has been accepted by Frank J. Mills, and plans are underway to produce a show that will be a credit to the club; stage direction will be handled by Marian Kinney Rouse. By starting the training early, Miss Rouse feels that there will be practically no interference with the club's skating

sessions. **The Winter Garden FSC** of St. Louis was invited to skate four numbers in the annual Silver Skates Carnival held Jan. 16. Solos by Joan Landow and Claire Hopewell, a pair number by Sally Haas & Bob Knoll, and a dance number with eight couples completed the club program.

"Entry of the Gladiators" was skated by the **Hamilton SC "12"** at the **WC of St. Catharines** benefit show for Suzanne Morrow and Wallace Diestelmeyer, Jan. 3. The program opened with St. Catharines members skating seven figures judged by Dr. Priestman. Marlene Smith skated a beautiful single, and the Gratton sisters a pair, while Suzanne and Wally each did a single and climaxed the evening with a pair. One of the highlights of the evening was the Ice-Lacrosse game between the St. Catharines Mann Cup team and the Minto Cup team, both National Champions. It was understood to be the first time that lacrosse had been played on skates. On Dec. 29 & 30 the **Arctic Blades FSC** held their Christmas revue, a presentation for the benefit of the competition fund. Featured were Juveniles Patsy Riedel and Patty Robertson; Novices Joanna Kelly, Toni Skaggs, Nancy Kay Bates-Lane, Diana Pilgrim, Charlotte Mueller, Ronnie Robertson and Lloyd

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(1) Patricia Ann Watts, Los Angeles FSC, is the author of the article which appears on Page 17 of this issue. (2) Jean Coulter, Tulsa FSC, shown in a spread eagle, passed the Seventh Test, and the Westminster and Blues of the Gold Dance at Lake Placid last summer. (3) Britta Rahlen, Swedish skater nominated for the Olympics but who will not enter, is skating this winter at the Chicago FSC. (4) Arctic Blades FSC Championship Southern California Inter-club Formation Fourteenstep group: Norman Fuller & Ann Dillon, Bill Tiejie & RoseMary Lyons, Roland Junso & Joanna Kelly. (5) Martha & Edith Harvey, San Diego FSC. (6) Part of the Akron SC "Peppermint Sticks" precision group in the club carnival "Frozen Frolics": Barbara Taylor, Julie Bierce, Dorothy Gieger, Lotta Terry, Ruby Reid, Marsha Passmore. (7) Audrey Corsan, Joan Harrell, Irene Turtle, Vancouver SC. (8) Ann & Austin Holt, St. Moritz ISC members featured in the benefit Shrine Show directed by Pro Ollie Haupt last September. (9) Jane Schellentrager & Riki Bliss, Cleveland SC dance pair who won the Silver Dance event in the 1948 Lake Erie Championships. (10) Jill Hood Linzee & Marion Davies, British skaters who placed third and second respectively in the British Figure Skating Championships on Dec. 16. Photo Credits: (1) Carl Nelson, Los Angeles; (2) D. LeRoy Randall, Tulsa World; (5) Wm. Rogers Studio, San Diego; (6) Lewis Henderson, Akron Beacon Journal; (8) John Martin Brenneis, Cal-Pictures, San Francisco; (10) British Information Services, New York.

Marschall; Junior Barbara Aden; Junior Pair Joan Zamboni & Norman Fuller; and the Senior dance group.

For the first time since 1936 **The SC of Boston** will hold its carnival at the Boston Arena. "Ice Chips of 1948," planned for Apr. 9, 10 & 11, will be witnessed by a larger crowd than has been possible for the last 11 years at the club rink which has a seating capacity of 1250 compared to the Arena's 5000. The Arena ice sheet, being almost identical in size to the club's, lends itself readily to carnival plans; members will do most of their rehearsing at the club and transfer the finished performances to the Arena for one or two dress rehearsals before the grand opening.



**The Toronto SC** will resume the Carnival, suspended during war years, at the Maple Leaf Gardens on Mar. 15 through 19. In recent years this club has presented small shows at its own rink, but nothing to assume the proportions of the mammoth carnival at the Gardens. Jeane Matthews, 1947 Western Canadian Ladies' Champion, of the **Vancouver SC**, has been skating at the Toronto SC this season and has given some fine free skating exhibitions at the Saturday afternoon Tea Hour.

The four clubs in the Los Angeles area, **Arctic Blades FSC**, **Blade & Edge Club**, **Los Angeles FSC** and **All Year-Mercury FSC**, applied their talent for the Olympic Games Benefit at Pan Pacific Auditorium in December. The program, arranged by Claude Gilker, assisted by Otto Dallmayer and Latham Pollock, with Johnny Heater as Master of Ceremonies, included the Southern California Inter-Club Championship Formation Fourteenstep group from Arctic Blades FSC. On Dec. 29 the **University SC** of Toronto sent a small group of skaters to the **Peterborough SC** to give

a demonstration of figure skating, principally ice dancing. Afterwards a party in their honor made it possible for them to meet a number of distinguished townspeople, including the mayor. Members of Spokane's **Silver Blades SC** skated a major part in the Vernon, B. C., annual Rotary Ice Carnival on Dec. 27, 28 & 29, and also enjoyed the skating of the North American Pair Champions, Suzanne Morrow & Wallace Diestelmeyer, who were featured in the show.

### Parties

NEWS OF A FEW MORE Christmas and New Year's parties has just reached us in time to be included in this issue. On Dec. 28 the **Wascana WC** (Regina, Sask.) had a party in their club lounge which was gaily decorated with streamers and wreaths, and a huge sparkling Christmas tree. A skating exhibition was held first; then young and old lined up to receive gifts from Santa Claus, after which chocolate milk and ice cream were served. Santa even donned his skates and provided a hilarious half hour for everyone. Once again the Christmas Party of the **Trail FSC** was very successful, with 50 members and their friends present. Two solos highlighted the evening: one by Jacqueline Porteous of the **WC of Winnipeg**; the other by Eddie Catalano, a for-



mer club member. Coffee parties, sleigh rides and inter-club skating have provided successful social functions for the seniors of the **Hibbing SC**.

Tuesday, Dec. 23, was a big day for all junior members of Spokane's **Silver Blades SC**, for it brought Santa Claus to the Spokane Arena where a big Christmas Party was in progress. Exhibitions by older juniors, a preview of some of the numbers being worked on for the "Ice Parade of

1948," the dramatic entrance of Santa in full costume to the tune of "Jingle Bells," and a Grand March led by Santa right to the Club House provided thrills and gala entertainment for the youngsters. **The Capitol City FSC** (Sacramento) held a raffle in December for the benefit of their competition fund, which included items such as skates, blades and merchandise orders at neighboring department stores. In addition, the mothers of club members and the club officers planned, cooked and served a delicious dinner for members and guests.

Two parties highlighted the Christmas season for **Porcupine SC** (Schumacher) members. The one on Dec. 21 was preceded by splendid skating exhibitions by Dorothy Belec, Kitty Hill, and Pauline & Caroline Perkovich in a pair. Dinner followed with an orchestra to supply soft music, and entertainers drawn from the club membership. During the evening Santa distributed small gifts and caused much merriment. Medals and bars for tests passed during the Summer Session of 1947 and Winter Session of 1946-1947 were presented at this party. The juniors celebrated at a party on Dec. 27. Following the usual skating and dance sessions the children adjourned to the auditorium where tables laden with all sorts of good things awaited them. Carol singing and a short program with Roger Todhunter as Master of Ceremonies came next, and the juniors were also presented their medals for tests passed during the preceding year. **The Winter Garden FSC** (St. Louis) Christmas party was held at the home of Pres. J. C. Hopewell, on Dec. 30, with refreshments served in the Rathskeller.

A party was held at Iceland, Hynes, Calif., by the **Arctic Blades FSC** on Christmas morning for the benefit of their competition fund. Providing fun for skaters of all ages included a Grand March, dancing, games on ice, races, a raffle, free skating periods and a free lunch. On Jan. 18 the **Penguin Club** (Berkeley) ski enthusiasts left their skates behind and took to the hills for a day in the snow. The outcome of this rash venture has not yet been reported. **Los Angeles FSC** members celebrated New Year's Eve at the Polar Pal-

ace. After dancing, ringing, or serpentin- ing in the New Year, members played games, one of which was a "reverse fourteenstep," and a "reverse continental waltz" with the men and ladies taking each others parts. Winners of the games, planned by Pro Gene Turner, received gag prizes, after which everyone proceeded to a midnight buffet supper of chicken a la king in the coffee shop. Open House was held at the **Washington FSC** on Jan. 1, and the evening session was followed by an Egg Nog Party.



Embarking on trips is a popular pastime with the **Hamilton SC**; this time it was to the **Toronto SC** Open House Dance Session on New Year's Day. Later, another trip was planned for Jan. 19 to Waterloo, Ont., to see a former member, Myrna Gepfert, in the Ice Cycles Show. Over 30 members took part in this expedition. Owing to the large membership of the **Glenora SC** the official opening of the club was divided into two parties for the junior and senior groups, the former on Nov. 22 and the latter on Dec. 7.

Christmas week came to a glorious climax for the **St. Moritz ISC** with the New Year's Eve "Circus" party for adult members. Animals were everywhere—on the

WE ARE PLEASED to introduce to you Eleanor Blizzard, the originator and artist responsible for the fetching little skating Miss appearing in this issue for the first time. Miss Blizzard has never studied art and has only drawn for a hobby until three years ago when she began making Christmas cards professionally. She also designs and makes her own skating costumes.

A member of the Seattle SC, Miss Blizzard is particularly interested in ice dancing. She is Chairman of the Club's Remembrance Committee and her original cards of sympathy and congratulations to the various members are gratefully received. Her other hobbies include swimming, gardening and music.



walls, in the skate shop and on the ice as skaters blossomed out in costumes depicting every phase of circus life. A "big top" miraculously appeared in the lobby under which pink lemonade was served along with delicious refreshments, the turkey and ham substantial enough for the most active performer. A live orchestra (their first for a party) moved obligingly from its rinkside station to the lobby to provide late dancing after the usual greeting to the New Year at midnight on the ice. The **Golden Gate SC** Christmas party was held on Dec. 17 with cocktails served at the rink, followed by an exodus to the Vista Del Mar restaurant directly following the session for a party on San Francisco's famous Fishermen's Wharf.

### Icicles

NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD Barbara Ann Scott, of the **Minto SC**, has received one of the *Mademoiselle* Merit Awards to "ten young women of the year." Official announcement of the Award, given "for signal achievement as a skater," appeared in the January issue of *Mademoiselle*. The other Awards were given to young women proficient in the fields of science, music, teaching, writing, designing, law, social work, and campaign organizing. Barbara Ann was unable to attend the breakfast party at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on Dec. 31 to receive the silver citation embossed with

the *Mademoiselle* rose, because she was in Switzerland training for the Olympics at the time. The **Cambridge SC** is this year celebrating its 50th year; the present Superintendent, Frank Milligan, has been with the club 48 years, and two charter members, Martha Sever and Philip P. Sharples, the Secretary, are still active skating members.

A new club has been formed in San Francisco to train young people for ice skating competitions; its name is the **Competitive Figure Skaters of San Francisco** and meets every Friday night at the Sutro Ice Rink. Feeling the need for a club that would develop material for competitions, the **Skate & Ski Club**, **Golden Gate SC** and **San Francisco FSC** have cooperated and chosen the most advanced skaters from their children's sessions to form this intermediate group. Dave Dorward and Irma Treacy representing the Skate & Ski Club, with the assistance of Mrs. W. Lindley Abbott and Mrs. Jack Harris, have formed the club and picked the best available "teen-age" skaters in San Francisco for its members. The first club meeting on Jan. 9 was very successful, and the general hope of the sponsors is that a club has been established which will become famous for its many wonderful skaters.

The New Year's Eve party planned by **Great Neck FSC** members was snowed out of existence as a result of the terrific snowstorm suffered in New York City and surrounding areas shortly after Christmas. Members of this club started skating late in October, and although their rink is too small for most of the set pattern dances, the fact doesn't discourage them. They found that the Viennese and Westminster just fit once around the rink, and



with the help of a variable speed turntable, they are managing very well. Nearly half the ice time is devoted to figure practice, with 15 two-lobe patches available. It is believed that **Trail FSC** ranks third in Canada with regard to number of club

members who are on the Silver Dance Judges List. Six members are qualified: Mrs. Paul Gavrilik, Betty Lou Millen and Connie Shutek, Ron Beattie, Nick Zuk, and Stan Angus.

After three short seasons the Hanover FSC of Hanover, N. H., is showing great progress. Although dependent on natural ice except when the club can use the Dartmouth Hockey Rink during college vacations and Sunday afternoons, many members are ready for the Preliminary Test, and several for the First. The Hanover FSC has recently purchased its own sound equipment for music, and has started a good record collection. About Feb. 20 the young members expect to take part in the Hanover "Children's Carnival" consisting of a competition for children of varying age groups in skiing, ice racing and figure skating.

The Peter Tarsh Trophy went this year to Claudia Adams on Jan. 8 at the annual Los Angeles FSC competition for the best lady's solo continental waltz. It was reported that the standard of dancing of the nine ladies who competed was very high, making the choice of the winner most difficult. The University SC has finally secured ice time on Sundays at the Royal Skating Rink in Toronto, and is able to have Sunday skating again after a lapse of two years. Members are very pleased with the facilities offered by this rink and hope it will be a permanent arrangement. A half hour is devoted to free group instruction in dancing, with the remaining time allotted to figures, free skating and dancing.

### ISU Booklets

THE FOLLOWING PRINTED MATERIAL may be had from the International Skating Union Headquarters, Davos, Switzerland: *Constitution*, published in English in 1947, one Swiss franc; *Regulations*, published in English in 1947, one and a half Swiss francs; *Minutes* of the 22nd ISU Congress at Oslo, 1947, in English, four Swiss francs.

G. HASLER  
Secretary, ISU

## People



### BIRTHS

**Berkeley**—To Mr. and Mrs. Donald May, a daughter.

**Boston**—To Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur O'Brien, a son, Kenneth Thomas, Jan. 10.

**Toronto**—To Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Reburn, a son, Dec. 29.

### ENGAGEMENTS

**Cleveland**—Miss Barbara Beatty, daughter of USFSA Pres. & Mrs. Henry M. Beatty, to Mr. James A. Young.

**New Haven**—Miss Gertrude Evelyn Rapp to Mr. Lawrence O. Griffith, Jr., of Port Alleghany, Pa.

**Seattle**—Miss Dolores J. Mastodi to Mr. Robert English—Miss Catherine M. Morrison to Mr. John W. Thorburn.

**Springfield**—Miss Margaret Louise Bridgman to Mr. William L. McDermott of New York.

**Toronto**—Miss Cecile Edith Gates to Mr. Charles E. Cruess of New York—Miss Charlotte deCoursy O'Grady to Mr. Gordon Frank Ranson Norton—Miss Joyce Phillips to Mr. Gerald J. Keeley.

### MARRIAGES

**Brooklyn**—Mr. Albert Lee and Miss Julia Stagl, Dec. 6.

**Buffalo**—Mr. Eugene Levering Bennet of Niagara Falls, and Miss Herbina Brown, in Santa Rosa, Jan. 8.

**Providence**—Mr. George E. Sinkinson and Miss Jacquelyn Sawyer, Apr. 2.

**Sacramento**—Mr. W. J. Keith, Jr., and Miss Jeanne Cooper—Mr. James Tammen and Miss Marilyn McDonald.

**Seattle**—Mr. Charles D. Draper and Miss Glee Patten, Dec. 30.

**Springfield**—Mr. Richard F. Nims and Miss Lois Arnold, Aug. 1.

**Toronto**—Arthur Frank of Como, P. Q., and Miss Jean Isabelle MacPherson, Dec. 20.

**Trail**—Mr. Walter Dembicki and Miss Joan Harvey, Aug. 18.

**Washington**—Mr. Albert Eugene Smith and Miss Catherine Simonson, Dec. 27.

### DEATHS

**Hynes**—Mrs. George Voigt, mother of Jeanine Voigt, Dec. 17.

**Toronto**—Capt. John Burton Holland, father of Mrs. Pinkam of Vancouver, B. C. and Mrs. MacLean of Houston, Texas, on Jan. 2—Mrs. Caroline Adelaide Kirkpatrick, Dec. 17.

### TURNED PROFESSIONAL

**Hamilton**—Barbara Baseman to teach at the Victoria Club of Guelph, Ont.



# Olympic Notes



*(With the U. S. Team to Europe went the best wishes of the United States Figure Skating Association. Printed below is the letter sent by Mr. Henry M. Beatty, President of the USFSA, to each member of the Team.—Ed.)*

January 12, 1948

Gretchen Merrill	
Eileen Seigh	Yvonne Sherman
Richard Button	Robert Swenning
James Grogan	Peter Kennedy
John Lettingarver	Karol Kennedy

Yours is a rare privilege!

To represent the United States in international competition is the highest goal in American amateur sports. To quote a sports magazine, you are part of "the strongest American figure skating team in the history of the Winter Games." As such, you have the dual responsibility of skating well and showing true American sportsmanship. Your selection for the team indicates our confidence in your ability to discharge this responsibility completely.

If fortunate enough to win, win gracefully. If unable to win, acknowledge your loss generously. Encourage each other, help keep the morale of the entire team high.

Those of us who cannot be with you are proud of our opportunity to contribute time and effort in order to send a great team to Europe. This letter is intended as an expression of confidence in you as a member of that team. The best wishes of the United States Figure Skating Association for your success and happiness.

kindest personal regards,  
HENRY M. BEATTY

## Swedish Skater

NEWS COMES from Britta Rahlen of Stockholm, Sweden, nominated for the

Swedish Olympic Team, who writes that she is skating at the Chicago FSC this winter and will not be able to return to represent Sweden in the Olympic Games, as was originally planned.

## Prizes

WHEN THE EARLIEST Olympic Games started, about 776 B.C., a laurel wreath constituted the prize awarded to each winner. The object, as the Games developed in those faraway days, was simply to pick the best athlete in each of the different contests on the program. When the Games were revived, however, in Athens in 1896, a more modern way of scoring was introduced and prizes were given to those winning first, second and third places.

The Olympic Games are not and never have been a competition among the different countries. That is purely a method of scoring which the newspapers introduced in order to make the Games more interesting to the general public. Although many newspapers keep a score, as at a track meet, of the first six places and announce which country has won, this is not official.

Of course everyone likes to see the competitors from his own country do well, and now that there are such large fields in every event it seems only right that full honors should be given to those who place high but do not necessarily win an Olympic title. The first three place winners receive almost equal honor and are given medals, statues and certificates. The certificates are alike for all; the medals are gold, silver and bronze, and the athletes placing first and second receive also a gold and a silver statue, respectively. These prizes are awarded with much fanfare at the closing ceremony of the Games, which is a very impressive occasion.

# Object of the Olympic Games

*Ruth Randall Edström*

THE OLD SAYING "A sound soul in a sound body" expresses the object of the Olympic Games. This was the case when the Olympic Games were inaugurated by the ancient Greeks. The Grecian Youth should be fostered to a strong, hardy generation, through the Antique Olympic Games, a half-religious festival.

The conditions today and the mind of the modern man are similar to those of the old Hellenic time. We find the same inclination for war, the same desire for colonies, the rapid development in economic and cultural questions, the same political upheavals.

Our parents were inferior to the ancient Greeks in physical culture and perhaps in art. The athletic movement was almost entirely unknown (or forgotten) to our grandfathers. About 40 years ago the thought of reviving the old Olympic Games took form. The world must always be thankful to the man who proposed these modern Olympic Games and who devoted nearly 40 years of his life to organizing them. It was the Frenchman Pierre de Coubertin. He was assisted by some colleagues, Prof. W. Sloan of U.S.A. and Victor Balck of Sweden, Dr. Jiri Guth of Bohemia, Sir John Astley, Great Britain, Mr. Bikelas of Greece. We can be happy that these men kept the old Greek ideals when they revived the Games. They understood that it was necessary to work for the bodily and spiritual improvement of the youth. Justice, generosity, nobility, firmness and strength were the aims they were striving for. The Olympic Games were the means of obtaining this goal.

The Athletic Games are of value only if they aim toward the development and improvement of humanity—bodily and spiritually. As long as the Hellenic Nation saw something of value and nobility in the athletic victories, as long as the sport and athletic effort in itself was able to give satisfaction and joy, as long as through this joy the youths of ancient times were

driven to bodily action and a simple healthy way of living—so long was Hellas a world power, just so long could the Greek culture live and thrive.

Through the impetus that the sport gave it was possible for the small Greek nation to uphold its position in the world and to become a great nation, with a culture that in its noble temperance and its spiritual strength has never been surpassed! Later on, when the Greek Games were turned into display only—Hellas grandeur passed.

So with us in modern times: As long as the competing masses take part in the Games for the sport itself, so long are the Games beneficial. If the Games become a field for national passions or take place with the object of political or pecuniary aims, they will become simple display and lose both value and purpose. As long as their leaders keep to their high ideals, the Games will be a lever for the development of progress and joy to humanity.

"The important thing in the Olympic Games is not the Victory but the Fight. The essential thing is not to have won but to have fought well." (Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the International Olympic Committee and first President.)

"May joy and good fellowship reign. And in this manner, may the Olympic torch pursue its way through the ages, increasing friendly understanding among nations for the good of humanity, always more enthusiastic, more courageous and more pure." (Baillet-Latour, second President of the International Olympic Committee.)

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Reprinted from the Bulletin Du Comité International Olympique, 15 November 1947, published by the International Olympic Committee, Mon Repos, Lausanne, Switzerland. Mrs. Edstrom is the late wife of J. Sigfrid Edstrom, President of the International Olympic Committee.—Ed.

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**OFFICIAL USFSA, CFSA  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## *A New Sub-Sectional*

H. KENDALL KELLEY

*Cleveland Skating Club*

### **Change in Sections**

THE TRANSFER of the State of Colorado from the Pacific Coast to the Mid-Western section has been effected. Henceforth, Member Clubs and Individual Members in the State of Colorado will be eligible for entry in the Mid-Western Championships instead of the Pacific Coast. Approval of this transfer has been obtained by all the Member Clubs involved.

LYMAN E. WAKEFIELD, JR.  
*Secretary, USFSA*

### **Suggestions for ISU**

MR. G. F. C. WITT OF HOLLAND, Chairman of the Figure Skating Committee of the International Skating Union, has written that his committee will be pleased to receive any suggestions for the betterment of international figure skating regulations. By universal cooperation the committee hopes to lay before the next ISU Congress proposals which will ultimately lead to the improvement of the regulations.

Skaters in the United States desiring to make suggestions are requested to send them through Mr. Walter S. Powell, 1610 Washington Ave., St. Louis 3, Mo., a member of Mr. Witt's committee. Mr. Powell will in turn forward them to Mr. Witt for consideration, and thus be kept informed of the ideas of American skaters for better international regulations.

HENRY M. BEATTY  
*President, USFSA*

THE LAKE ERIE INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT, a new sub-sectional, was held at the Cleveland Skating Club on January 10 & 11, 1948, for the purpose of encouraging and giving competition experience to a larger number of lower test skaters than could be obtained in a sectional competition. Entrance requirements and figures to be skated were one test lower than those required for sectionals. Similarly, dance conditions were slightly modified.

Invitations were extended to Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Akron, Toledo, Detroit and Flint Skating Clubs, and to the Arena FSC of Cleveland. In spite of some defects in publicity and in spite of its being a new kind of tournament, there was a good-sized entry list, particularly in the Veterans' Dance, Similar Pairs, Ladies' Junior and Novice events.

A series of 14 Gold Dance Tests were given on the morning of January 10. These tests were of great interest to local and visiting skaters; they drew an excellent attendance, and also provided six trial judges with some good experience.

Among the judges were Mr. & Mrs. William O. Hickok, IV, of Hershey, Mrs. Lyman Drake of Chicago, Mrs. Rex Rial of Buffalo, Mr. & Mrs. Louis Cody of Cleveland, Mr. Henry M. Beatty of Cleveland, President of the USFSA who acted as Referee-in-charge, assisted by Mr. H. Kendall Kelley of Cleveland who was in charge of the competition.

The results of the new Lake Erie Championships are listed on Page 33 of this issue.

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### CHECKING OF MARKS

ATTENTION is called to the fact that no competition is official until the marks and ranking have been checked and approved by the Chairman of the USFSA Competitions Committee. Since there was no time to study and approve the results of all the competitions reported in this issue, they are published subject to correction.

# Music by Wire Recording

*Richard E. Clemson*

President, Southern Connecticut Figure Skating Club

THE SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT Figure Skating Club, through the efforts of its president, is one of the few clubs in the country to enjoy the benefits of magnetic wire recording and reproduction for dance sessions. For an hour and a half a prearranged program of music for dancing and free skating, with appropriate announcements in between, is played without any attention at all from the music committee.

Our wire recorder is homemade. It is a portable box about 8"x15"x18" and plugs in on any standard public address system. The parts cost about \$150; the cost of labor is difficult to estimate because the instrument had to be developed by trial and error. Like the tape recorders on the market, it has a capstan drive; that is, the wire is wrapped around and driven by a pulley attached to the motor shaft. A system built around a capstan drive assures an absolute constant speed. This recorder uses 80-minute spools which will take 14 small records, or 28 sides, which is reduced to about 22 sides after allowing for the announcement of dances and 20-second pauses for the choosing of partners. The reels are three inches in diameter and one inch thick. Their size could be increased almost indefinitely; each quarter-inch increase in diameter would add considerably more than another 80 minutes.

A reel can be shuttled all the way forward or backward in 23 minutes, a ratio of only three and one-half to one. The next change in this machine will be an increase in shuttling speed to eight to one and the addition of a footage indicator and automatic stopping system.

Obviously, the advantage of wire recording is that it offers the maximum compactness. There is no denying it is harder to handle than tape, but it can be handled. Incidentally, while wire can be joined by a very compact square knot and the knot is never "heard" with the wire travelling at two feet per second, the wire will eventually break at the knot if, indeed, the whole reel is not lost sooner due to the

knot becoming tangled with layers of wire under and on top of it. The only satisfactory solution is never to break the wire, which is entirely possible with a capstan drive.

The outstanding advantage of magnetic recording for skating rinks is that a switch can be turned on at the beginning of a session and turned off at the end; it requires no changing, regulating, watching, or any further attention. To be sure, an 80-minute reel takes perhaps two or three hours to record. Yet, once made, it is on hand forever, far more durable and indestructible than phonograph discs. One season's supply of reels should bring the Record Committee's problem down to a point where perhaps only one reel per season would have to be made—three hour's work!

Many phonographs discs which were not usable before because part of the record was played at a different speed by the orchestra can now be put on the wire, varying the phonograph speed as the record is recorded to standardize the orchestra's tempo. Once this is on the wire, of course, it will be played at the standard tempo.

Free skating recordings combining a number of records can now be put on the wire meticulously, then played back with ease. Announcements of particular dances can be put on the wire. It would seem that a vocal announcement is more effective than a visual one, because you are likely to hear no matter where you are, whereas you are not always looking at a schedule of dances.

Compactness has already been mentioned. It would seem entirely possible and desirable to put all a club's music on a single reel of wire or tape. The 80-minute reel weighs half a pound. This indicates that your supply of music would weigh one and a half or two pounds.

Where direct recordings can be made, you will get very much better reproduction due to the absence of needle scratch.

An advantage of magnetic recording that has not been mentioned is the ability to erase. The first reel used by our club was recorded in perhaps two hours. In playing this back, it was obvious that changes recently made in the instrument had changed the recording level, so that the entire reel was again recorded at a slightly lower volume. In playing this back, it was found that seven or eight records, including several of Weber's Westminster Waltzes, were slightly distorted on the highs. Accordingly, these seven or eight records were put on the wire a third time, at which point the reel was regarded as completely satisfactory. This example shows that there is a great deal of flexibility to this medium. Turn your switch to "Record," run the wire forward, and whatever was on the wire will be erased (if your eraser is good); there will be a period of silence on the wire. Or, turn your switch to "Record," run the wire forward, play a record into the preamplifier and this record will replace whatever was on the wire before. Even experienced recorders still leave things on the wire they don't want, with results that they have to play the whole reel, erasing leftovers. So, try to remember that you are erasing only when the switch is on "Record."

A magnetic wire or tape recorder superimposes an invisible magnetic field pattern on the wire or tape which the head can play back. In both cases sound is converted to a wave pattern in recording and reconverted to sound in reproducing. The wire or tape system is potentially equal or superior to the phonograph system, but is not likely to supplant it because wire or tape recording can not be mass-produced to the same extent. The invisible nature of the magnetic pattern which makes it superior in so many ways, eliminating needle scratch and various mechanical noises, is the very thing which prevents mass production of recordings. At the same time, phonograph changers are as obsolete as a Model T right now.

Making your own recordings on wire or tape is as simple as plugging your phonograph into the recorder instead of into the amplifier. There are, of course, a few precautions. Although any old magnetic re-

recorder will reproduce speech well in spite of marked irregularity in the speed and electronic shortcomings of the instrument, it takes a good recorder to reproduce the general run of phonograph records and a very good recorder to reproduce piano, whether directly or on discs. Skating's long suits at the moment, the organ and harpsicord, fall into line with the general run of recording rather than piano, so far as magnetic recording is concerned.

Given a good recorder (and a very good one if you are interested in piano recordings), a preamplifying and equalizing circuit is necessary, because wire and tape are a little reluctant at the bass end of the sound scale and a little too willing at the treble end. The preamp circuit can correct this and in the case of wire recording (as against tape) makes it possible to have a self-contained portable sound system no bulkier than a portable phonograph.

Discs must be played into the preamplifier at the proper volume. If too low, the music on your wire won't fill your rink. If too high the high notes will sound like someone kicking a tin can, or perhaps these notes will merely rattle your speaker a bit. It isn't your speaker, it is overloaded wire or tape. You can monitor the volume by means of a voltage indicator, a neon bulb with its own amplifying circuit, or simply the numbers on the recorder volume control. The volume control without considerable electronic red tape jumps around too much. The neon light *with its own amplifying circuit* is very useful, especially for direct recordings of a piano or orchestra. The calibrated volume control is completely satisfactory for skating purposes. We record speech with the volume control about halfway, records with the control advanced a quarter, piano records a little lower.

There really is nothing difficult about magnetic recording, once you have the recorder. However, finding the recorder is the difficulty. Tape recording is perhaps the ideal thing for a rink if you don't mind the cost (over \$500) and the bulk (a 12-inch supply and a 12-inch takeup reel for 2¼ hours of recording in addition to the mechanism itself). With two 15-inch

reels, several one-hour programs can be recorded on one reel and the proper part of the reel for a particular session can be selected very quickly and played. One, or at most two, of these reels should handle a club's dance problem for the season, inasmuch as each reel will be equivalent to 30 records, or 60 dances, which will still make the tape recorder less bulky than a phonograph system. The tape system is a little safer than the wire with regard to threading and handling. It can be shuttled forward or backward at 40 feet per second, which means the 15-inch reel can be run all the way forward or backward in three minutes. There is not believed to be any appreciable difference in tonal response as between wire and tape potentials.

The wire recorder manufacturers appear to be waiting. One or two models are available at less than \$200, but they

have many disappointing features. Outstanding of these is the drive system. The takeup reel is driven when going forward and the supply reel is driven when rewinding. The result is that the wire speed is a function of the "build-up" in the takeup reel. Since constant speed is a prerequisite for skating music, this method of drive would appear to make this type of wire recorder unsuitable. Other features which should be borne in mind by prospective buyers are fast rewind only (no fast forward speed), reels limited to one hour due to drive system, incomplete erasure, almost useless volume indicator, no obvious provision for direct recording (dynamic mike must be used) and reproducing through an amplifier. Before you buy one, ask the salesman to record Duchin's "I Guess I'll Have To Change My Plan"—and listen carefully as he plays it back!

## Alexandre J. Peeloff



EVER SINCE the considerable interest at Lake Placid last summer in the Peeloff system of starting the dances, Walter Arian and Eugene Turner have been delving into the archives of ancient skating to uncover more facts about that fabulous, that eccentric, ice-dance devotee, Alex-

andre J. Peeloff, originator of the Peeloff dance starts.

Their efforts were only partly successful in that most of the data was of a somewhat intangible variety. Unfortunately, no old photograph or tintype, no autobiography or notes were brought to light, only disconnected morsels of information gleaned from far-flung sources.

Gene then collaborated with Forrest Burke who has, in a sketch, attempted to show Peeloff in one of his most characteristic poses.

In this "two-phase" action sketch we see Peeloff at first admonishing the next starting couple not to start too soon, meanwhile beating time with the other hand. Then he sends them *flying*, at the exact moment, on the exact beat, while beating time with the other hand, as usual.

Messrs. Arian, Turner and Burke, in submitting this to SKATING, hope it will bring back fond memories to some of its old-time readers who may have, at one time, enjoyed dancing under the guidance of this extraordinary personage.

## Inter-City Dance

THE FIFTH INTER-CITY DANCE COMPETITION, between the Washington FSC, Baltimore FSC and Hershey FSC, was held in Washington on January 18. The Washington FSC Club Team, consisting of Vera Halliday & Edward Picken, Eleanor Werner & Richard Queisser, Carol Hinricks & Donald Laws, won the Challenge Cup for the fifth time.

### SENIOR DANCE

1. Vera Halliday & Edward Picken, *Washington FSC*
  2. Anne Davies & Donald Laws, *Washington FSC*
  3. Patsy Jones & Carleton Hoffner, Jr., *Washington FSC*
- (12 Couples)

### JUNIOR DANCE

1. Carol Ann Peters & Edward Neva, *Washington FSC*
  2. Mary Lou Sullivan & Carney Werner, *Washington FSC*
  3. Eleanora Hayden & Jeff Barber, *Washington FSC*
- (10 Couples)

### VETERANS' DANCE

1. Betty Lee Dent & Robert Rudy, *Washington FSC*
  2. Hazel Fosman & Edward Picken, *Washington FSC*
  3. Patsy Jones & Edgar McPeak, *Washington FSC*
- (7 Couples)

## Informal Dance

THE INFORMAL DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS between the International FSC of Philadelphia, the Penguin FSC of Allentown, and the Hershey FSC was held in December at the International FSC. This was the first part of a three-part competition, the remaining two to be held at the other clubs later.

### FIRST DIVISION

1. Sally Dudevoir & Walter Wisniewski, Jr., *International FSC*
2. Jean Houser & Carl Hessinger, *Penguin FSC*
3. Anne Rosso & Charles Yost, *Penguin FSC*

### SECOND DIVISION

1. Betty Grasso & Hilary Lyons, *International FSC*
2. Mary L. Fox & Charles C. Schrader, *Hershey FSC*
3. Sally & Joseph Dudevoir, *International FSC*

### THIRD DIVISION

1. Mr. & Mrs. William O. Hickok, IV, *Hershey FSC*
2. Lucille Mohrey & George Sill, *Penguin FSC*
3. Theda Beck & Robert Frey, *Penguin FSC*

## Northwestern States

THE 1948 NORTHWESTERN STATES CHAMPIONSHIPS were held on January 17 at the Lakewood Ice Arena under the auspices of the Lakewood Figure Skating Club.

### SENIOR LADIES

1. Lois Secreto, *Tacoma FSC*
  2. Frances Dorsey, *Seattle SC*
  3. Gloria Peterson, *Seattle SC*
- (4 Contestants)

### JUNIOR LADIES

1. Shirley Givens, *Seattle SC*
  2. Patty Ruby, *Silver Blades SC*
  3. Evelynne Olsen, *Seattle SC*
- (3 Contestants)

### NOVICE LADIES

1. Janet Money, *Seattle SC*
  2. Marlene Jackson, *Tacoma FSC*
  3. Patricia Firth, *Seattle SC*
- (7 Contestants)

### JUVENILE GIRLS

1. Sherry Dorsey, *Seattle SC*
  2. Suzanne Mayn, *Seattle SC*
  3. Patricia Helgason, *Seattle SC*
- (11 Contestants)

### NOVICE MEN

1. Richard Bromley *Seattle SC*
  2. Joe Driano, *Seattle SC*
  3. Waldo Barber, *Bremerton FSC*
- (4 Contestants)

### JUVENILE BOYS

1. Tommy Moore, *Seattle SC*
  2. Bruce Hendrickson, *Seattle SC*
- (2 Contestants)

### JUNIOR PAIRS

1. Patsy Hamm & Jack Boyle, *Lakewood FSC*
  2. Sharon Choate & Richard Bromley, *Seattle SC*
  3. Sherry Dorsey & Tommy Moore, *Seattle SC*
- (3 Pairs)

### LADIES' PAIRS

1. Patsy Hamm & Diane Jacobsen, *Lakewood FSC*
  2. Shirley Ingham & Vivian Ingham, *Silver Blades SC*
- (2 Pairs)

### SILVER DANCE

1. Janet Money & Ray Armstrong, *Seattle SC*
  2. Dora M. Coy & Joseph Shensky, *Lakewood FSC*
  3. Jean Johnson & Marvis Pedersen, *Lakewood FSC*
- (6 Couples)

### BRONZE DANCE

1. Sharon Choate & Richard Bromley, *Seattle SC*
  2. Vivian Kindred & George Teltoft, *Seattle SC*
  3. Patsy Hamm & Jack Boyle, *Lakewood FSC*
- (6 Couples)



# Lake Erie

THE FIRST LAKE ERIE Invitational Tournament was held at the Cleveland SC on January 10 & 11, 1948. A brief story on this new sub-sectional championship appears on Page 28.

## SENIOR LADIES

1. Helen Geekie, *Cleveland SC*
2. Ann McGean, *Cleveland SC*  
(2 Contestants)

## JUNIOR LADIES

1. Eleanor Ann Bond, *WC of Indianapolis*
2. Nancy Mineard, *Akron SC*
3. Patsy Herrick, *Cleveland SC*  
(12 Contestants)

## JUNIOR MEN

1. Robert Keyes, *Cleveland SC*
2. David Jenkins, *Cleveland SC*
3. Gary Kepler, *Akron SC*  
(3 Contestants)

## NOVICE LADIES

1. Gertrude Rankin, *Cleveland SC*
2. Bernice Moore, *Akron SC*
3. Mary Trenkamp, *Cleveland SC*  
(9 Contestants)

## NOVICE MEN

1. Peter Acker, *Cleveland SC*
2. Joseph Nook, *Cleveland SC*
3. David Arnold, *Cleveland SC*  
(3 Contestants)

## SENIOR PAIRS

1. Nancy Sue & Hayes Alan Jenkins, *Cleveland SC*
2. Jane Schellentrager & Riki Bliss, *Cleveland SC*  
(2 Pairs)

## JUNIOR PAIRS

1. Renee Clark & William Lang, *Akron SC*
2. Kay Crum & Gary Kepler, *Akron SC*
3. Eleanor Ann Bond & John Glossbrenner, *WC of Indianapolis*  
(4 Pairs)

## SIMILAR PAIRS

1. Nancy Holtzcher & Sue Deckop, *Buffalo SC*
2. Robert Keyes & George Scragg, *Cleveland SC*
3. Nancy Wilson & Betty Trenkamp, *Cleveland SC*  
(6 Pairs)

## GOLD DANCE

1. Nancy Sue & Hayes Alan Jenkins, *Cleveland SC*
2. Betty Davis & Louis F. Cody, *Cleveland SC*  
(2 Couples)

## SILVER DANCE

1. Jane Schellentrager & Riki Bliss, *Cleveland SC*
2. Mildred Messer & William Lang, *Akron SC*  
(2 Couples)

## VETERANS' DANCE

1. Dr. & Mrs. Fred Rittinger, *Cleveland SC*
2. Mrs. P. K. Ranney & Ralph E. Creig, *Cleveland SC*
3. Mary Anderson & J. P. Anderson, *Cleveland SC*  
(9 Couples)

## HINTS ON INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUNIORS

(Continued from Page 15)

the importance of skating on the back half of the blade while going forward. Inside edges are recommended after the outside edges are learned proficiently. Crossover in circle form backward must be done on the front half of the blade. Three-turns are taught away from the rail on a correct pattern.

Swedish mohawks are next in line to improve the various types of choctaws and mohawks, Waltz eights, long spirals, left and right, back and forward, one-foot spin starting from the Waltz turn or three-turn. Various new jumps are added in this group, such as counter, Salchow, toe jumps, and various spins.

Advanced group school figures are taught as far as the Seventh Test, advanced jumps and spins, free skating steps and all the standard dances, also ballet positions for arms, hands and feet in advanced position or form.

For the group instruction, 25¢ was collected at the door. Out of that the instructors were paid, and the rest put in a fund and spent back on parties and events during the year. The last party was attended by well over 500 children with the members bringing their friends as guests. In a year-and-one-half to three years, membership in junior clubs here has taken great strides.

During the carnival, the junior waltzers received a larger ovation than those of the senior group. We put juniors in the Hawaiian, Can Can and Indian numbers, which were well-executed, much to our surprise and delight. They did not click during practice but were a large hit on the three show nights, performed with not one single mistake.

We have had some very spectacular results, especially with carnivals and tests. The majority of the starting members have today already passed the Second Test and Bronze Dance Test.

# "Operation: Westminster"

Loretta Walsh Phelps

Golden Gate Skating Club

"OPERATION: WESTMINSTER" is the Golden Gate Skating Club's answer to the age-old problem of how to give maximum skating to a group of dancers whose levels of ability vary considerably.

It was apparent immediately to the Program Committee that we could not arrange a well-balanced dance program without some accurate tally of the ability of our members. So we whipped off a "by-guess-and-by-gorra" program for opening night, and a form listing the Gold, Silver and most popular "special" dances. Everyone was asked to check each dance which he felt he could not do well enough to attempt at standard tempo. These lists, which in theory seemed such a neat way to go about arranging the program, posed some very unhappy problems. For example, of our 36 members, eight said that they could not do the Westminster and seven, the Quickstep. To put two Westminsters into each program was, in effect, to tell almost 25% of our members to sit on the bench, and yet to program only one was certain to produce yowls of dismay from the other 75%. There seemed only one solution to us—to get those eight people doing a fair Westminster in the shortest possible time. And so our Instruction Program, with "Operation: Westminster" as its opening phase, was born.

We originally planned to devote only seven or eight minutes each evening to instruction, but by popular request this was increased to twelve minutes (the equivalent of three ten-inch dance records). We used no music at all for the first two-thirds of this period, and for the last third we used standard tempo music. Incidentally, we "saved" one record out of our evening's program (to say nothing of our legs) by playing only half a ten-inch record for both the Killian and the Fourteenstep.

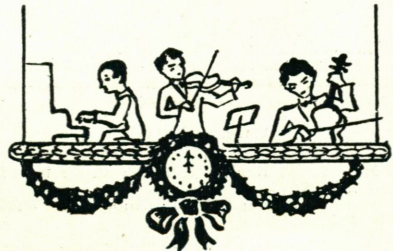
One half the rink was used by those who did not know the steps and the other half by those who wished to polish small sections of the dance. Our neophytes in

the "teaching end" were allowed to select their own partners from our strong skaters, and our Gold Dance Medalist, Betty Abbott, called off the edges of a short sequence of the dance while a demonstration couple executed them, and then the whole group attempted that part.

We taught a third of the dance each week and on the fourth week we straightened out the pattern by giving the "bunnies" the entire rink for one number, while the rest of the club sat as judges in an informal competition to decide who had made the most progress. "Operation: Westminster" has just been successfully completed, and our beginners now know the steps well enough to skate in a reserved dance. The little competitive angle has stimulated even more interest in "Operation: Quickstep," which will follow.

We do not intend to attempt teaching the Killian for two reasons: first, because we feel it might be hazardous, and second, because during our scheduled Killian only half the rink is reserved for couples, and the other half is made available to those wishing to solo or to work on the steps with a partner.

We are blessed with 36 members with boundless enthusiasm, and have convinced them that this is the fastest possible course to having all 36 of them skating every dance. Our greatest asset is perhaps the flexibility of the program, and we plan to Gallup-poll our members frequently for suggestions as to how we can improve it.



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## CLUB PAPERS

(Continued from Page 19)

two of the club's professionals, also several articles by members on the club's events of the year; a dance diagram; write-ups of all the club competitions with pictures of the winners; resumé of all the club's trips; and a prevue of activities for the coming season.

The above by no means exhausts the number of club publications which are published exclusively by and for club members. Those which are mentioned represent different types, and an effort has been made to present a variety for contrast. THE BROOKLYN FIGURE SKATING CLUB issues a bulletin periodically which is prepared on the ditto machine. The "St. Moritz Blade," by the ST. MORITZ ICE SKATING CLUB, is a printed publication issued regularly, similar in style and content to Cleveland's "Skate 'N Racket." THE SKATING CLUB OF BOSTON publishes "Chips" at regular intervals, making note of all club activities, new members, and announcements of schedules and activities. This also is a printed pamphlet. "The Lakewood Skater," published by the LAKEWOOD FIGURE SKATING CLUB OF TACOMA, first made its appearance last September. It is mimeographed, three columns to a page, and apparently has a rotation in editors for each number.

One of the oldest and most complete scrapbooks in existence is kept by the TORONTO SKATING CLUB. Theirs now runs to many volumes, consisting mainly of newspaper clippings of club activities. It is kept in the club lounge for availability to all, and never fails to furnish endless delight to the visitors who leaf through its many pages of news items and pictures.

This year the CAMBRIDGE SKATING CLUB plans to issue a book commemorating the club's 50th Anniversary. Their only regret to date is that more complete records of the club were not kept through the years, as such a history would be of inestimable value now.

It became increasingly evident on reading these various publications that they

are attractive, apparently complete in their news coverage, and supposedly enjoy a constant popularity among the membership from the fact of their continued existence. A new, or comparatively new, club may consider seriously another function that the publication or scrapbook fulfills, that of becoming, by its nature, the Club History.

---

# Thanks



### WE CONGRATULATE

the following additional clubs which, on January 27, had *exceeded* their last year's total subscription records:

Buffalo SC  
IC of Washington (D. C.)  
Milwaukee FSC  
Minneapolis FSC  
Philadelphia SC & HS  
Quaker City FSC (Phila.)  
St. Moritz ISC (Berkeley)  
Washington FSC (D. C.)  
WC of Indianapolis  
Winter Garden FSC of St. Louis  
Outdoor SC (Toronto)  
Toronto SC  
Windsor FSC

### AND COMMEND

the following additional clubs which had *equalled* their last year's total subscription record:

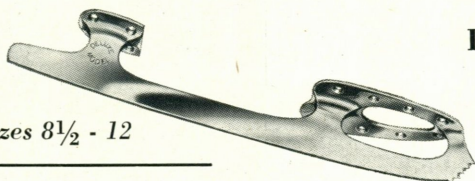
The SC of Boston  
Newton FSC  
Syracuse FSC

### AND WELCOME

the following club which appears on our subscription records for the first time:

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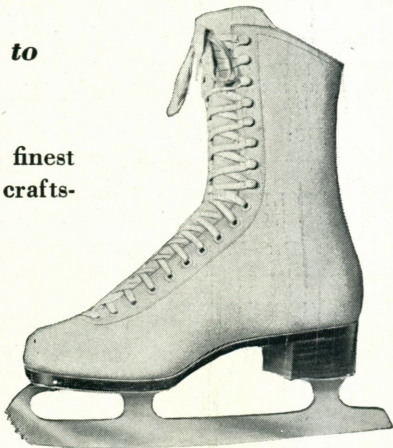
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# USFSA Tests Passed

FOLLOWING are all Tests passed and recorded with this Committee from December 12, 1947 to January 15, 1948. Bronze and Silver Dance Tests will be listed only when the complete Test has been passed. All errors should be reported first to the Chairman of the Local Test Committee and then to the Chairman of the USFSA Test Committee.—C. E. LINDSTROM, *Chairman, USFSA Test Committee*, Room 526, 30 Huntington Ave., Boston 16, Mass.

**AKRON SC:** Pre—James Thorpe, Muriel Thorpe.

**ALL YEAR-MERCURY FSC:** 3—Eleanor Bannick.

**ARCTIC BLADES FSC:** 1—Sandra Freiberg. 2—Ronnie Robertson. 3—Lloyd Marschall.

**ARENA FSC OF CLEVELAND:** Pre—Nadyne Bodnar, Ann Devitt, Maria Morris, Vera Nydegger, Patricia Tataro, Beverly Wilkie, Mary Ann Wulf. 1—Karen Creadon, Pat Garsick, John Shilliday, Arden Stahl, Norma Tvrdy, Emma Urbanec.

**BLADE & EDGE CLUB:** Pre—Sally Gwaltney. 1—Sheralyn Miller. 2—Barbara Anne Hall, Joan Murphy. 3—Kristina Hunting. 4—Boothe deForest. 6—Barbara Lee Smith. **Bronze Dance:** Bertha Duval.

**BROADMOOR SC:** Pre—Sandra Carter. 1—Susan Johnston. 2—Barbara Sykes.

**BROOKLYN JUNIOR FSC:** 1—Lynn Marks. 4—Carole Hoag.

**BUFFALO SC:** Pre—M. Buckley, Sarah Buckley, Alice Stone. 2—Marcia Allard. 3—Dorothy Deckop.

**CLEVELAND SC:** 8—Helen Geekie (at Chicago FSC).

**DALLAS FSC:** Pre—Geraldine Holloway, Joan Holmberg, Eileen McCoy, Evelyn Savage, Mrs. Pat Ward, Gerry Watkins.

**FSC OF CHICAGO:** 8—Bonnie Patterson.

**FSC OF OMAHA:** Pre—Barbara Carleman, Marjorie Kavan.

**INTERNATIONAL FSC OF PHILADELPHIA:** 4—Harriet Beloff.

**JUNIOR FSC OF KANSAS CITY:** Pre—Martha Brady, Nancy Fredricks, Janice George, Katie Harrington, Lou Ann Koerner, Joel Kratz, Janet Krider, Julie Lapin, Mary McIntosh, Norma Wilcher. 1—Judy Henry, Jo Ann Johnson, Judy Johnson. 2—Betty Jane Kennedy, Betty Manners.

**LOS ANGELES FSC:** Pre—Christine Schaber. 1—Kim Carson, Joan Elmliner. 3—Jacqueline Bredburg.

**PENGUIN FSC:** 4—Roy Miller (at International FSC of Philadelphia).

**PHILADELPHIA SC & HS:** Pre—Peter Pender, Margaret Stroud.

**PITTSBURGH FSC:** Pre—F. D. Colburn, Mrs. F. D. Colburn, Marion Hibbard, Marie Louise Riedel, Anne Sterner, Mary Vallo.

**PROFESSIONALS:** 6-7—Joanne Scotvold, Joyce Scotvold (both at St. Moritz ISC).

**PROVIDENCE FSC:** Pre—Norma G. Weeks. 1—Dorothy Willmarth. 3—Joseph J. Sullivan.

**EYE FSC:** 1—Ruby Andrade, David Bochkor, Hugh F. Seaman. 2—Robert Goodfellow.

**ST. MORITZ ISC:** 2—Kenneth Butcher, Robina Deepenbrook, Dick Peterson, Modesta Regalia. 3—Betty Hallenbeck, Pat Lightbody. 4—Anne Wright Holt. 5—Dorothy Lindgren, Anna-Marie Regalia, Evy Scotvold. 8—Barbara Uhl Torrano, Helen Uhl.

**ST. PAUL FSC:** 8—John Lettengarver (at FSC of Chicago).

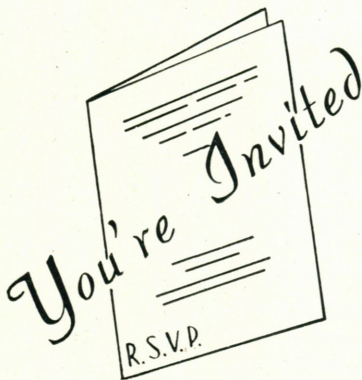
**SILVER BLADES SC (SPOKANE):** 3—Roberta Irvine.

**SKATE & SKI CLUB:** Pre—Sue Blabon. 1—Beatrice Born. 5—Jeannde Taylor (at St. Moritz ISC). 6—Ray Alperth, Frances Pappas (at St. Moritz ISC), Jeannde Taylor (at St. Moritz ISC).

**TULSA FSC:** Pre—Ralph Gordon, Trenna Kay Tate. 1—Kay Bradley. 3—Marilyn Hulsizer.

**WASHINGTON FSC:** Pre—Edward Neva. 1—Kathryn Bowling, Barbara Coteler, Mary Lou Sullivan. 2—Donald Wilson.





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# CFSA Tests Passed

FOLLOWING are all Tests passed and reported from December 15, 1947 to January 12, 1948. Errors should be reported to the local Test Officer and to the Secretary of the CFSA, Mr. C. H. Cumming, Minto Skating Club, 155 Waller St., Ottawa, Ont.

*In the November issue Barbara Court and Jeanette Taylor of the WC of St. Catharines were incorrectly listed as Beverley Court and D. Taylor in passing their First Tests. Also Murray E. MacLean of the Minto SC should have been reported as having passed the Bronze Dance instead of the Silver.*

**CONNAUGHT SC:** 4—John Harding. 6—Marianne McMillan, Jeanne Watkins.

**GLENCOE CLUB:** Pre—Mary Ryan, Mary Saucier, Jacqueline Skorey. 1—Mary Ryan. 3—Joan Prince. 4—Ronald Kinney, Ellen F. Sweeney. **Bronze Dance:** June Brighton, W. Clarke, Mack Low, Gwen Sweeney, John D. Whitehead. **Silver Dance:** Helen Caldwell.

**HALIFAX SC: Bronze Dance:** Margaret Lane, Phillip Fraser.

**MINTO SC:** Pre—Catherine Grimes, Susan Lynch, Charlotte McFaul, Mary Pierce.

**MONTREAL FSC:** Pre—Rose-Marie Brown, Rita Dominick, Iris Donati, Barbara Farr, Mary-Jean Morgan, Joan Lise Petit, Robert Pichette, Joan Roberts, Doreen Stevens, Madeleine Therrien, Joan Watts. 1—Madeleine Therrien. 2—Margaret Milne, Gertrude Rooney.

**WINNIPEG WC:** 8—Sheila Smith.

**UNIVERSITY SC:** Pre—Alayne Frizzell, Jo McClure, Gwen Vasey.

## INDEX TO

# Advertisers

### Clothes, Equipment, Jewelry

Barnard Guards.....	5
A. Berghman Co.....	5
E. R. Carpenter.....	35
Dorothy Georg, Inc.....	2
Al Green.....	5
Minneapolis Knitting Works.....	Outside Back Cover

### Publications and Books

Willy Boeckl.....	37
Ice Skating News.....	37

### Skates and Boots

C. C. M., Inc.....	Inside Front Cover
Gross Bros. Mfg. Co.....	35
M. C. McLoughlin.....	37
Oberhamer Shoe Co.....	37
Olympiad Skate Co., Inc.....	2
G. Stanzione.....	2

### Summer Seasons and Resorts

Bremerton.....	Inside Back Cover
Broadmoor Ice Palace.....	4
Lake Placid.....	39
Mirror Lake Inn.....	39
Rochester.....	3
St. Paul.....	Inside Front Cover
Sault Ste. Marie.....	35
Vancouver.....	4

*ANNOUNCING!!*

*the transfer of*

*Mary Rose Thacker's*

# SUMMER SKATING SCHOOL

from the FORUM, Vancouver B. C. to the

## NEW ICE BOWL

BREMERTON, WASH.

THIRD CONSECUTIVE SEASON

*(For folders and information write Mary Rose Thacker, manager and instructor.)*

## Do You Know

**That Members of the SKATING Family last year spent a total of \$1,863,540.00 on skating equipment and activities?**

\$128,775.	on Skates
134,215.	on Boots
200,600.	on Skating Clothes
533,035.	on Club Dues & Rink Admissions
429,420.	on Lessons
18,020.	on Skating Books
330,225.	on Summer Skating (1946)
89,250.	on Miscellaneous Items

**Read SKATING for complete news coverage of the sport  
\$3.00 a year for Eight Issues, November through June**

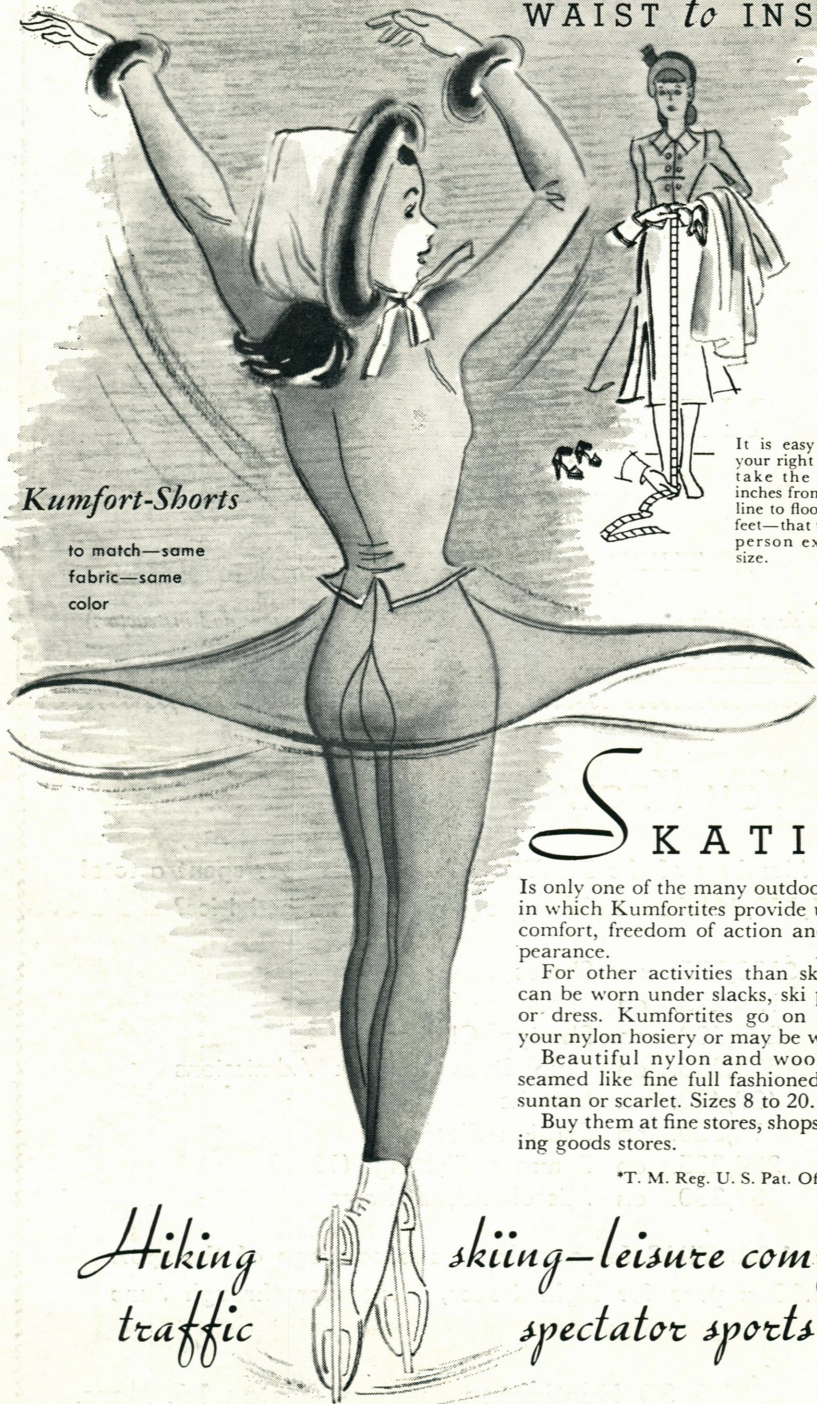
*Skating* 30 Huntington Avenue, Boston 16, Mass.

Please mention SKATING when answering advertisements.



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to match—same  
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For other activities than skating they can be worn under slacks, ski pants, coat or dress. Kumfortites go on right over your nylon hosiery or may be worn alone.

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