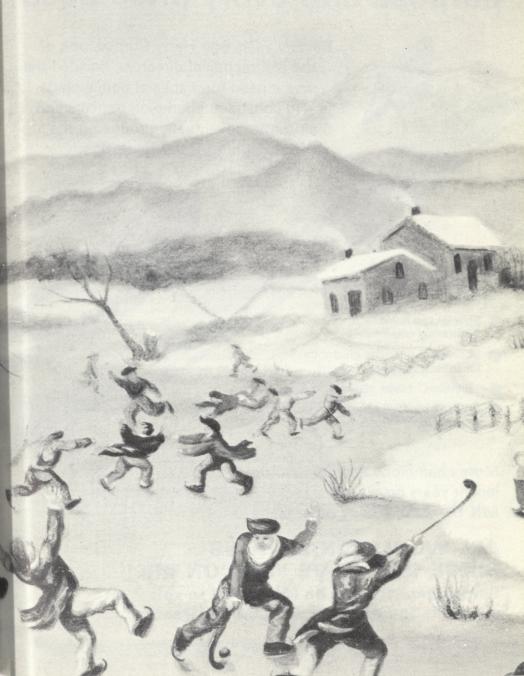
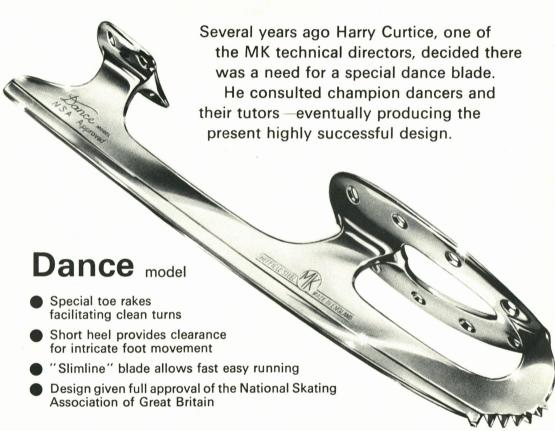
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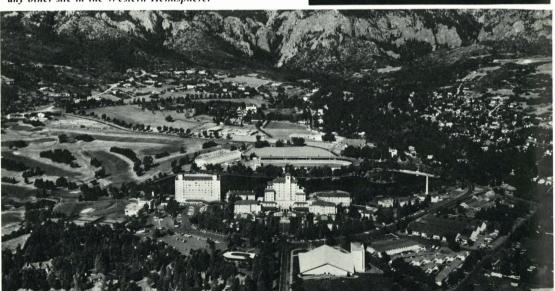
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PHOTO CREDITS: David Leonardi, page 9; Nancy Gupton Aitken, page 11; M.W. Martin, stamps on pages 12-15; Michael Cutlip, page 19; Eleanor J. Lapp, page 20; Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce, pages 24-25; family records of Ann Robinson Adair, pages 28 & 29, top; Laurie Adair, page 29, bottom. COVER: Artist John Toole captures a lessthan-regulation hockey game in "Skating

National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

' circa 1830. Photo courtesy of the

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CHARMING IDEA

I find amazing the number of people that do not know you can purchase from the USFSA an emblem (or pin, to be more precise) for each figure or dance test passed...For the few tests I have passed, I have bought the test pins. On each pin I have had the hook removed and the bar twisted into a ring by a jeweler so that I can use the pin on my charm bracelet. It is my "ring of confidence" and I am quite proud of it and my accomplishments, small as they are. I suggest that the USFSA consider offering these pins as charms as well. They would make great Christmas gifts for skaters!-Mrs. Teri Farnsworth, Winnetka, III.

JUDGING SUGGESTION

It is my opinion that we are in need of a change in judging rules on the local and Regional level as well as the World and Olympic level.

For example, I feel that a judging system for Ice Dancing should be set up in this manner. First, each couple in the competition would only be identified by a number. The couple would wear this number on their costumes while skating, and it would be the only identification listed on the judges' sheets. No proper names or home clubs would be listed. This might eliminate some prejudices that do at times, I believe, enter into judging. Second, I would not allow any judge to see how the other judges are marking throughout the entire competition...-John R. Nicolette, SC of Florida CENTRAL CONCERN

Dear Editor:

Our sympathy goes out to you! Month after month we see you trying to choose the most interesting and informative stories possible, trying to gather enough public response to post in Club Notes, Readers Write and People. And how about the time you spend bent over the photo file searching for up-to-date photos of our amateur skaters?

We can't understand why our young skaters and their parents wouldn't be proud to contribute a photo or story to the magazine. After all, they are our only source of keeping skating in the public eye.—Employees of the USFSA Central Office.

The Editor welcomes all letters provided they are signed. Names will be withheld on request. Send mail to SKATING, 178 Tremont St., Boston, Mass. 02111.

ders write I in this issue

Like a puzzle picture created from interlocking pieces, each issue of SKATING should form a composite whole. Every month we try to bring together several features that, when combined, make a statement about some aspect of figure skating. That is, until this month.

Now, before you dismiss our December offering as a "nondescript hodgepodge," consider the other view. Picture, if you will, the living room floor on Chrismas morning-after the presents have been opened. Crumpled wrappers and shiny ribbons litter the carpet. Watch your step, lest you crush some newly-opened treasure. Chaos? No. The clutter will soon be cleared away and the gifts will be unearthed.

You might compare this issue of SKAT-ING to those gifts on Christmas morn. Amid the seeming disarray, each article is a distinct entity. Each holds a special appeal, like the "perfect gift" for a particular person. This issue then is our gift to you. May you find in these pages some article with significance just for you!

For those of an international bent, Nancy Gupton Aitken chronicles the exchange of views between Alexei Mishin, a Soviet skating official, and American skaters in Denver last summer. In an interview with Mrs. Aitken, Mishin was both extremely cooperative and concerned that nothing he said would reflect poorly on either Russian or American methods. So, despite his generally good English, Mishin turned to his dictionary frequently to check word meanings and go over what Mrs. Aitken had written.

If your perspective is more historical, you will enjoy "Ice in Their Veins." Marylee Hickey turns the spotlight on the descendents of Jackson Haines, famed American free skater of the nineteenth century. As you might expect, dedication to the icebound sport runs in the family.

For the skater concerned with more technical matters, Richard Stephenson has good news. He has developed—after several years of experimentation—a sound method of grinding skate blades by hand.

Perhaps your view of skating is more artistic than technical. Then turn to Cecilia Colledge's account of a noted home where skating is seen "Through the Artist's Eye."

Whatever your preference, we hope you find it in these pages. Merry Christmas to all!

GORDIE'S STORY

by William C. Haponski

If you're a boy, and your godmother is Sonja Henie, your parents own an ice rink, your father was a leading ice comedian for many years, your mother was a skater with a professional show and now teaches skating, what do you do? Skate, of course.

And skate he did—so well that by 1971 Gordon McKellen, Jr., was a member of the U.S. World Team and last year a member of the World and Olympic teams.

With so much ice in his family tradition, Gordon might be excused were he a cold person, but he's far from that. He has to be one of the most personable, likable fellows in competitive skating. The smile and warmth he displays in shows is not just for show—that's Gordon.

For the first year of his life, Gordie travelled with his parents in Sonja Henie's show. His father, "Tuffy," and his uncle Gil, who now teaches skating in California, had joined the Ice Follies back in 1938. They soon became a world famous comedy act, "The McKellen Brothers." Years later, Gordie's parents retired from show skating and in 1955 built a studio rink in Reading, Pennsylvania.

It was here that Gordie started on skates (rentals) at age two and a half. Being a comedian like his father, Gordie used to delight the crowd by pushing off and coasting on one foot all the way around the rink. He was soon joining the older boys at hockey, broom hockey and public skating— "just playing around," as Gordie now explains it. When he was six his grandmother suggested to Mrs. McKellen that Gordon seemed to have as much talent as some of the other boys taking lessons and that perhaps he too should have some lessons.

With that, Gordon was off and skating, winning his first competition at age eight in Philadelphia against much older boys. Competitions and titles followed with dazzling speed: South Atlantic and Eastern Juvenile champion, 1963; South Atlantic Novice champion, 1964; South Atlantic and Eastern Junior champion, 1965 and 1966; the same in 1967 plus National Junior Men's Silver medalist; North Atlantic Senior champion, 1969 and 1970; then National Senior Men's Bronze medalist in 1971 and 1972.

In 1963 it became obvious to Mr. and Mrs. McKellen that Gordon had outgrown the studio rink and needed a large rink and a top instructor. They found both in Lake Placid's Olympic Arena and Gustave Lussi who taught there. By 1967 they had sold the the Reading rink and moved permanently to Lake Placid where they now operate one of the village's largest and most popular skating lodges.

Gordon remembers his first lesson with Mr. Lussi. "There will be many times when you hate my guts," his new coach sternly warned him. "Oh, no! Mr. Lussi," the abashed Gordon replied. But after that first lesson—in which he worked as he had never dreamed possible and his hands turned red from the terrific force of the spin Mr. Lussi was teaching him—Gordon saw the wisdom behind that warning. It was clear he was expected to work, and work he did. It was with Mr. Lussi that Gordon learned his explosive free skating, and in Lake Placid's weekly ice shows that he developed force and confidence on the ice. Also during these years he was fortunate to have another Lussi pupil, Mary Batdorf Ludington, to work with him on programming, and Mary still does his show programs.

The McKellen family would be an excellent source for someone writing a book on



the humor in skating. Things seem to, well, happen to them and around them. In 1969, for example, Gordon was invited to skate at St. Gervais. He was pleased at the invitation, both because of the skating and because Mrs. McKellen would finally get to Europe, having missed the tour with the Sonja Henie revue because of the impending birth of Gordon. The skating part of St. Gervais was great—Gordon placed fourth in his first international competition. But the rest?

As Gordie tells it, they took every sightseeing tour in Paris. Additionally, in one day they walked all over the city, got lost several times, and finally found themselves at Napoleon's tomb, so tired and footsore that Gordie says, "If I could have found his sword I'd have stabbed her." Then in Geneva Mrs. McKellen thought it would be nice to have a quiet dinner on one of the boats in the lake. They ordered their dinner, but the beautiful weather suddenly changed. A storm roared up the lake, tore the entire top off the boat, flooded it, and their dinner order never came. So after the commotion settled down, they patiently ordered again. Much later, when Mrs. McKellen started to pay the bill, she discovered she had no money. Gordon let her fret for some time until he finally reached in his pocket and gave her the money he knew he had all along.

Gordon's aplomb on the ice likewise sometimes drives his mother to distraction. Time after time in recent years Mrs. McKellen has watched Gordon's warm-up for free skating. She says he seems to do nothing but pull down his jump suit and tie his boot laces while doubles and triples are going on all around him. Actually, Gordon learned early not to do much more in the warm-up than just that—get warmed up—which has worked well for him. He saves his doubles and triples for the program.

In late 1970 Gordon went to skate at the Sky Rink in New York under Mr. Pierre Brunet. He liked Mr. Brunet's simplified, systematic figure techniques and found—contrary to the preferences of most skaters—that he enjoyed figures. He especially likes

The Russians have Landed

by Nancy Gupton Aitken

"Have you seen the Russians?"

The arrival of Sergei Chetverukhin of Moscow was the exciting highlight of the first annual summer school at the Colorado Ice Arena in Denver. Accompanied by Alexei Mishin, Chetverukhin, who won the Silver medal in the 1972 Men's Olympic and World Championships, arrived August 22nd. During the trip, Mishin, a World Pair medalist in 1969, served as the official representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Figure Skating Association.

What followed was a three-week exchange of coaching methods and techniques. "We learned as much from them as they did from us," commented Carlo Fassi, head coach and director of ice acitivities at Denver's newest sports facility. This is the first time that a Soviet athlete has trained in the United States in a summer session.

During both patch and free style sessions, Mishin worked with many skaters at the summer school. "I had a Russian lesson this morning" became a favorite expression. In addition to helping with figures, jumps and spins, the Soviet trainer introduced some deft, intricate footwork to several top U.S. skaters.

Chetverukhin and Mishin, who both speak English moderately well, were impressed with the tremendous amount of skating talent in the United States. However, they were surprised that competitions in this country attract so many participants. Mishin commented that Soviet competitions seldom include more than twenty-five contestants in a division. In Russia figure skating competitors are hand picked.

The two Soviet skaters were also surprised, but thought it was very good, that top U.S. coaches often teach beginning students as well as skaters with no particular aptitude for the sport.

The Russians were very complimentary about the Arena's well-run summer school, noting that patch and free style sessions on the two adjacent ice surfaces were well organized, and that there was plenty of ice time for competitive skaters. Russian figure skaters must constantly vie with hockey players for ice. While they were in Denver, Chetverukhin and Mishin toured several rinks in the area, observed ice-making methods and watched skate-sharpening techniques. They found ice conditions here equal to those in the Soviet Union.

The biggest difference in Russian and U.S. skaters comes in the field of personal dedication, Mishin said. He feels that U.S. competitors would benefit greatly by being more disciplined in their training methods. Chetverukhin, for example, runs a mile and lifts weights for a couple of hours every day; on Saturdays he plays hockey. "I'm sure he inspired our skaters because he works so hard," Fassi commented. "We hope this visit made better skaters of our pupils."

Although Fassi found that there were considerable differences in the fields of training and discipline, he said that many of the techniques, particularly in spins and jumps, were almost alike. In figures, the Russians put more emphasis on the use of the shoulder while Fassi stresses the hip.

Although teaching methods may be similar, Russian and American competitions are run quite differently. "I don't agree," Mishin said when officials here explained that only the top eight figure competitors in Regional competitions may free skate. "If I take part in a competition, I should take part in all of it," he explained. "The competition exists for skating, not for part of it."

Please turn to page 40

Russian visitors pause for off-ice discussion. Left to right: Sergei Chetverukhin, Dorothy Hamill (U.S. World Team member), Mrs. Eileen Seigh Honnen (professional), Alexei Mishin and Carlo Fassi.





Peggy Fleming on Paraguayan stamp



Symbolic Polish issue commemorating the XI World Students Winter Sport Championships, 1956

Gumbacked



World's first skating stamp

German issue for the 1936 Olympics



by M.W. Martin

Since the world's first stamp depicting ice skating was issued in 1925 by Hungary, some fifty countries have issued stamps commemorating the sport.

The world's leader in skating stamps is Russia, which entered the "skating stamp club" early in 1935 and has since issued such stamps on at least seventeen different occasions. Ice skating is exceedingly popular in Eastern Europe, and the postage stamp issues of those countries reflect the popularity of the sport and its recognition by the authorities. Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland and Bulgaria have all issued stamps for numerous skating events. Between them, these countries have issued skating stamps on at least thirty-five different occasions. Nor have these been just single stamps. Entire sets have been issued depicting men and ladies in various events and different positions. Figure skaters and ice dancers have appeared on numerous issues.



1972 Canadian issue for the World Championships, Calgary



From Romania, issue for the 1964 Winter Olympics at Innsbruck

Masterpieces

In recent years stamps commemorating the Winter Olympic Games have been issued around the globe in ever-increasing numbers, and many of these modern sets have included stamps for the skating events. This has added many Asian and African states—where ice skating is virtually unknown—to the skating stamp club. The fact that these countries include skating stamps in their Olympic issues bears witness to the growing demand for them by collectors. Most of these commemorative stamps are sold only to collectors and never see any postal service in their countries of issue.

The first Olympic skating stamp was issued by Germany for the 1936 Winter Games in Berlin. After a gap of many years, the next Olympic skating stamp was issued by Norway for the 1952 Games in Oslo. Since then skating has formed part of all designs for stamps issued for the Olympics. Such stamps were issued by several nations for the XI Games in Sapporo.



1971 issue of Andorra for the World Championships at Lyon, France

Romanian stamp of pond skaters











World Figure Skating Championships have been depicted on the stamps of a number of nations, including Canada, which issued one for the Championships held last March in Calgary. Other skating stamps have been issued for various winter sports championships that included skating events. Many of the Eastern European and Russian stamps have been issued for Spartacist Games, which are popular physical fitness events in that part of the world. Ice dancing competitions have also appeared on stamps, notably on a number of stamps from Hungary.

The United States has not yet issued a skating stamp, but the increasing popularity of the Winter Olympics may foster an American issue in the future. All those interested in seeing an American skating stamp should write to the Postmaster General asking that the next American issue for a Winter Olympiad include a stamp depicting ice skating.

Collecting skating stamps falls in the realm of topical collecting—collecting a single subject—which is a worldwide hobby. In this country alone, some ten thousand topical collectors are banded togeth-





er in the American Topical Association. The ATA has local chapters throughout the country, issues a monthly magazine and other handbooks and holds shows where members can exhibit for a trophy. The many services available to members include free translation and information services on nearly every stamp subject. Readers interested in joining the ATA are invited to write the author for free details in care of SKATING Magazine.

A collection of skating stamps can be formed without a major expenditure, since the stamps are not so expensive as to make them inaccessible. Many skating events have also been commemorated with special postal cancellations, and various organizational cachets have been used on such letters. These interesting postal pieces are not easy to find and searching for them can take up many a rainy afternoon.

Collecting skating stamps can be a pleasant adjunct to the sport. In addition, many worldwide friendships can be easily formed, for stamp collectors are a friendly bunch and ever ready to help out a newcomer to the hobby.O

A one-of-a-kind set from Hungary (opposite page and below), this unusual series was issued in 1963 to commemorate the European Championships, Budapest.



DDR stamps for the 1968 Winter Olympiad



French commemorative of the X Winter Olympic Games at Grenoble, 1968



Commemorative for the 1972 Winter Olympics at Sapporo, issued by host nation Japan



FALL MEETING REPORT

by Virginia K. Burnham

The 1972 Fall Meeting of the USFSA Executive Committee was held at the O'Hare Inn in Chicago, III., October 6-8. President Frederick LeFevre opened the meeting by introducing five newly-elected members of the Executive Committee. They follow by Section: Eastern—Jerome Ross and Mrs. Lloyd B. Sanderson; Midwestern—Jack L. Might and Dr. Franklin S. Nelson; Pacific Coast—Dr. Harland L. Burge.

A memorial resolution was adopted by the Committee for Henry M. Beatty, who served during thirty years of skating activity as the Senior USFSA Past President, a World Referee, a Chairman of many USFSA Standing Committees, a Member and Honorary Member of the Executive Committee and the USFSA, an ISU Representative and member of the ISU Council, as well as General Chairman of the Organizing Committee for four World Championships held in the United States. A memorial resolution was also adopted for Henry R. Heebner, who served the Association as Vice President, Secretary, Standing Committee Chairman, Executive Committee member and Sectional Referee.

Roy Winder, Chairman of the Amateur Status Committee, announced that the following persons have been reinstated as Restricted Amateurs (B): Mrs. Joanne Bishop, Portland, Ore.; Rosemarie E. Dean, New Castle, Del.; Susan L. Engbrecht, Barrington, III.; Mrs. Harriett B. Goodwin, Penn Valley, Penn.; Mrs. Barbara D. Kennedy, Wayne, Penn.; Mrs. Jule H. Lawson, Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Georgiana

Maddux, San Marino, Calif.; and Mrs. Gloria L. Stair, Burton, Wash.

The Executive Committee, acting as the Board of Appeal provided for in the Amateur Status Rules, also reinstated Susan L. Engbrecht to full Amateur Status. The Executive Committee approved an amendment of the Amateur Status Rules to provide that persons applying for registration for the first time would not be held responsible for violation of ASR 4.012 (skating in unsanctioned competitions and exhibitions), before applying.

Charles U. Foster, Chairman of the Selections Committee, announced the following assignments for the 1973 National Championships: REFEREE—Charles U. Foster, Worcester, Mass.; ASSISTANT REF-EREES—Spencer E. Cram, Hendersonville, N.C.; Harry N. Keighley, Evanston, III.; DANCE REFEREE-Howard G. Taylor, Walnut Creek, Calif.; ACCOUNTANT— Roy Winder, Seattle, Wash.; ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT-Herman Birnbaum, St. Paul, Minn.; JUDGES-Eastern-E. Newbold Black, IV, New York, N.Y.; Mrs. Carl W. Gram, Jr., New York, N.Y.; Mrs. Lloyd B. Sanderson, Lake Placid, N.Y.; Mrs. Betsy N. Talbot, Westwood, Mass.; Mrs. Mary Louise Wright, Belmont, Mass.; Midwestern-Louis Bodek, Birmingham, Mich.; Mrs. L.A. Graham, Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Frederick LeFevre, Troy, Ohio; Mrs. Margaret Ann Reed, Tulsa, Okla.; Matthew H. Zats, St. Paul, Minn.; Pacific Coast-Raymond C. Alperth, San Francisco, Calif.; Mrs. Winston F. Coy, Lakebay, Wash.; Mrs. Eleanor B. Curtis, Granada Hills, Calif.; Norman E. Fuller, Chino, Calif.; Mrs. John R. Shoemaker, San Francisco, Calif.

Judges named by the Selections Committee for the World Championships in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, are: MEN—Mrs. Ramona A. McIntyre, Oakland, Calif.; LADIES—Mrs. Mary Louise Wright, Belmont, Mass.; PAIRS & DANCE—Mrs. John R. Shoemaker, San Francisco, Calif.

Chairman Foster also announced the selection of judges for the following International Competitions:

1972 Richmond Trophy—Mrs. Yvonne S. McGowan, Colorado Springs, Colo.

1972 Prague Skate—Dr. Hugh C. Graham, Jr., Tulsa, Okla.

1972 Moscow Skate-E. Newbold Black, IV, New York, N.Y.

1973 St. Gervais and Oberstdorf-Mrs. Charles A. DeMore and Charles A. DeMore, Team Leader, Cleveland, Ohio 1973 Canada Skate-Norman E. Fuller,

Chino, Calif.; Mrs. Betsy N. Talbot, Westwood, Mass.

1973 Richmond Trophy-Mrs. Frederick C. LeFevre, Troy, Ohio

1973 Prague Skate—Charles U. Foster, Worcester, Mass.

The following people were nominated to the ISU for appointment: INTERNA-TIONAL JUDGE-Mrs. Carl W. Gram, Jr., New York, N.Y.; Mrs. Harry Meiss, Cincinnati, Ohio: ISU TEST JUDGE-Wilhelm A.C. Appeltofft, South Hamilton, Mass.; Frank E. Holcombe, Denver, Colo.; Mrs. James S. Lincoln, Jr., Minneapolis, Minn.; Roger F. Turner, Sr., Walpole, Mass.; ISU DANCE TEST JUDGE-Mrs. William O. Hickok, IV, Wynnewood, Penn.; Margaret G. Ridgely, Baltimore, Md.

Otto Dallmayr, Los Angeles, Calif., was appointed Honorary National Judge. Appointed as National Referee and National Dance Referee was Dr. Gordon C. Brown, Ann Arbor, Mich. Mrs. Marjorie L. Schleh, Sacramento, Calif., was appointed a National Judge, and Thomas W. Easton, Pasadena, Calif., and Mrs. Vivian Howland, Seattle, Wash., were appointed Gold Test Judges.

The following trophies were accepted: 1) The Gertrude C. Vinson Memorial Trophy for Novice Ladies in New England Regionals, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Goldblatt and Mrs. Ronna Gladstone. 2) The Gwenn Hes Memorial Trophy for Intermediate Ladies in North Atlantic Regionals, presented by the Clinton Figure Skating Club, Clinton, N.Y.

3) The William J. Kerth Memorial Trophies for Silver Dance in Central Pacific Regionals, presented by the Capital City Figure Skating Club, Sacramento, Calif. 4) The G.J. Hurley Memorial Trophy for Junior Men in Northwest Pacific Regionals, presented by the Lakewood Winter Club, Tacoma, Wash.

5) The Jack Kuppig Memorial Trophy for Intermediate Ladies in Midwestern Sectionals, presented by the Chicago Figure Skating Club, Chicago, III.

The Executive Committee approved changes in figure tests to provide that loops will be the last figures in all tests and that free skating will only be part of the fourth, sixth and eighth tests, effective October 1, 1973.

The Committee voted to recommend to the Governing Council that the fee for the second and each subsequent Individual Member in the same family be raised from \$10 to \$15. The Executive Committee approved the clarification of the sanctions fee payable for the appearance of World and Olympic Team members to be \$25 for each skater, pair or dance couple, with the money collected to be turned over to the USFSA Memorial Fund annually.

Upon the recommendation of F. Ritter Shumway, Chairman of the Memorial Fund, the Executive Committee once again approved the Competitor's Assistance Fund, through which a payment of \$150 will be made to each competitor at the National Championships to defray travel, living and training expenses.

Elected to the Nominating Committee for 1972-73 were: Eastern Section-F. Ritter Shumway, Rochester, N.Y.; Midwestern Section-Spencer E. Cram, Hendersonville, N.C.; Pacific Coast Section-John R, Shoemaker, San Francisco, Calif. These three members will serve with the three Vice Presidents, Dr. Gordon C. Brown, Robert T. McLeod and Benjamin T. Wright. Spencer E. Cram was appointed chairman of the committee.

Following adjournment of the Executive Committee Meeting, a dinner was held in the Riviera Room for the Committee and members of Chicago area clubs. Among the honored guests was Mrs. Florian Nowicki, mother of our National Lady champion, Janet Lynn. Through the courtesy of Carl W. Gram, Jr., Chairman of the Olympic Figure Skating Committee, the assembled guests were were treated to a showing of the film of the Olympic Games in Sapporo.O

Sharp Idea

by Richard Stephenson

Every serious skater is only too familiar with the problems of sharpening blades. In order to lengthen the time between sharpenings, various types of hand-sharpeners have been developed. However, these have served only as honers or polishers, not as substitutes for conventional sharpening. For the past three years, this writer has been carrying out research on abrasives to see whether it is possible to design a hand-sharpener which would enable a skater to do all of his own sharpening, without ever having to send his skates out for mechanical sharpening. Although the project proved to be much more difficult than was anticipated, the results show that it is, in fact, possible to produce such a sharpener.

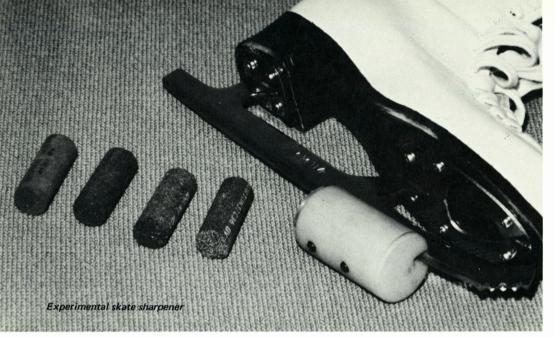
To understand the problems involved, let us first discuss how grinding wheels, stones and other types of abrasives are manufactured. They are all made in the same general way that china dishes and clay pots are made. First, the basic abrasive material is crushed and screened to obtain a powder having the desired average size or "grit." This powder is then mixed with a suitable binder, usually a clay, molded into the desired shape and heated in a furnace to obtain the final hard abrasive. The properties of the end material depend on the nature of the fundamental abrasive material that is used, the fineness or coarseness of the abrasive powder and the type of binder that is used.

The difficulties arose because of the many variables which had to be optimized. The most important were the following:

1) Fundamental abrasive material. Abrasives used commercially include diamond, boron nitride, silicon carbide and aluminum oxide. Although they do differ in hardness, all common abrasives are substantially harder than steel. In practice, most industrial grinding is done with silicon carbide or aluminum oxide, and only these were used in this work.

2) Shape of abrasive. An important factor turned out to be the shape of the individual crystals of the abrasive. For example, silicon carbide consists of long, needlelike crystals whereas aluminum oxide crystals are plate-like. Thus, even though silicon carbide is a harder material, aluminum oxide is better for grinding skates. 3) Grit. Standard grit sizes range from twelve (very coarse) up to 600 (very fine). The grit represents the approximate number of openings per linear inch in the screens used to size the abrasive powder. Thus thirty grit is one which will pass through a screen with twenty-seven openings per inch and be retained on a screen with thirty-three openings per inch. The coarse abrasives grind much faster, but the fine abrasives give a more accurate finish and better polish.

- 4) Type of binder. Abrasives can be made using a vitrified, resinoid, rubber, shellac or silicate bond. For grinding of skates, it was felt that only the vitrified bond should be used.
- 5) Hardness or grade. The hardness of the finished abrasive can be varied within wide limits by modifying the binder which is used. Hardnesses are measured



by a scale ranging from A (very soft, such as talcum powder) to Z (very hard, such as china). All abrasives used in this work ranged in hardness from K to P.

- 6) Structure. The structure number designates the proportion and arrangement of the abrasive and bond. Normally this is not a matter of concern, since for each grade and grit there is a standard structure which gives best performance.
- 7) Coating or "loading" of the stone. One of the most difficult problems turned out to be the tendency for the surface of the abrasive to become coated with steel, thereby preventing further grinding action. All stones did this to some extent, but some were very bad. Since there was no way to theoretically predict this effect, it could only be found experimentally. Experimental Work

Abrasives are specified by the use of a standard code. The first letter or letters gives the type of abrasive (A=ordinary aluminum oxide, 37C=silicon carbide). This is followed by a number giving the grit, a dash, a letter giving the hardness and a final letter giving the type of bond (V=vitrified, R=rubber). So, an abrasive coded A24-NV would be an aluminum oxide of 24 grit, hardness "N" and a vitrified bond. An abrasive coded 37C200-KV would be a silicon carbide of 200 grit, hardness "K" and vitrified bond.

For recommendations as to the best abrasive for grinding skate blades, the writer travelled to the Norton Company, a leading manufacturer of abrasives in Worcester, Massachusetts. To his great surprise, they had absolutely no information on the hand-grinding of steel! However, they were willing to make experimental batches of different abrasives, and only through their cooperation has it been possible to complete this study.

All abrasives used in this work were supplied by the Norton Company in the form of round, finished sticks, threequarters of an inch in diameter and two inches long. A slotted, nylon holder was used to hold the abrasive parallel to and centered directly over the blade. Grinding was done merely by running the abrasive stick back and forth using moderate hand pressure. To test a particular stone, a dull skate blade was painted with a felt-tip pen and fifty back-and-forth passes were made with the abrasive. Visual inspection readily showed the uniformity and effectiveness of the grinding. After about one hundred passes, the stick was rotated in the holder to expose a new grinding surface.

The following abrasives were tested: 37C36-OV, 37C60-NV, 37C120-KV, 37C120-NV, A16-OV, A24-NV, A36-OV, A60-NV, 38A60-PV, A120-NV and

19

Pond



Performer

by Jane Hall

Our family moved to a small, northern Michigan town late one fall in the Forties. I was at that awkward age when my size-seven feet constantly confirmed my alienation to the school of gracefulness. But we weren't even unpacked when I got my first glimpse of our mailman and discovered that he, not I, was the world's most clumsy-footed creature.

Cornelius Van Wyck was an old man—a semi-toothed, gander-shanked bachelor—and he delivered our mail at a pace as un-zippy as Fourth Class snail service. He kept his nose rammed deep in his mail packet (reading all the postcards, my Ma said)—and stumbled along the sidewalk like a drunken sailor.

Poor Cornie seemed so unsure of his footing that I felt I should offer to help him down the street. Me—Miss Fumble Foot! Still, he always made it and had time left to talk with every kid on the block.

Winter roared into our town almost overnight and a sub-zero siege thickened the ice on Diggens' pond. My Pa bought me a pair of terribly flexible ice skates and hustled me off to sure disaster. When I saw Cornie plodding through the snow toward the pond, black skates instead of a mailpouch slung over his shoulder, I wondered if the ice was ready for our double onslaught.

But fairytales do come true. Like Clark Kent became Superman, Cornelius Van Wyck became the Flying Dutchman. The moment his skates kissed the ice, he was transformed into a graceful swan. Honest! You could have put a hockey puck in my mouth with no trouble at all—that's how surprised I was.

Old Cornie sailed across the glossy surface like a self-propelled statue doing a buckand-wing. Then he leaned back in a daring spread eagle, etching a perfect pie in the pond's crust. Hands clasped behind him, he cruised backward, deftly weaving in and out of the unpredictable, spraddle-legged traffic.

But this hero was not a show-off. He just loved to skate. And seeing him, a veritable scarecrow of clumsiness, conquer the ice gave us much needed courage in the frightening adolescence of life. How patiently he guided us gawky girls around the rink, seemingly unmindful of our wet-noodle ankles.

"Hans Brinker didn't do it in a day," he'd say.

Well, we didn't do it in a whole winter, but we sure tried. Round and round the pond we went, clinging to each other for support. Cornie was always there to nod his encouragement and to remind us to "master the simple stuff first—one foot at a time."

Of course, someone always has to think he can be an instant success. Wanda Nielson had a head start there because she was pretty and had nice, white skates with ankle supports inside. One day she decided to try a fancy leap and beat us all to greatness. She got into the air all right, did a frantic little splits and just about broke her bottom when she landed. Cornie helped her up, wiped the icy tears off her cheeks and chided, "That's the hard way to be an ice cracker!" Wanda rubbed her sore bottom and sniffled a little, but she got the message.

Cornie wiped away lots of tears that winter. He spliced laces, held snowballs on our bruised noggins, kept a fire going in the oil drum stove in the old railroad car warming house and sent us home when our toes tingled.

At the pond, he was master. But back on the the mail route Cornie still stumbled along—a fish out of water, a Flying Dutchman without skates.O

Tutoring Tutors To Tutor (too!)

This fall the Professional Skaters Guild of America initiated a series of "On Ice Teaching Seminars." Drawing on the talents of leading coaches, USFSA judges and student demonstrators, the seminars were designed to assist both novice skating instructors in need of guidance and seasoned coaches looking for a fresh approach to perennial problems. Mrs. Gram, a National Judge, reports on the first PSGA seminar, held September 11th in Westwood, New Jersey.

by Anne H. Gram

The nearly one hundred people who gathered at the Fritz Dietl Rink for the first PSGA Teaching Seminar did not know what to expect. We came—some merely curious as to what our role would be, others hopeful of help—because we were fascinated by the concept of the seminar. Despite our uncertainty, just what was going to happen was obviously clear to the panelists and the chairman, Marc Nelson. In a word, the seminar was well organized.

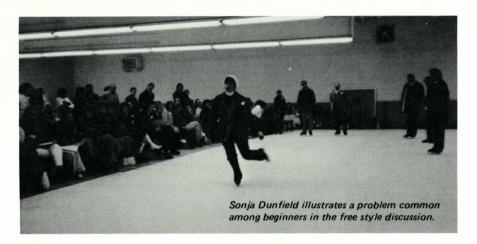
The basic emphasis of the seminar, as outlined by the PSGA, was to be teaching basic skills to the beginning level skater.

Discussion focused on how to convey lesson material to the student.

The format used was the panel discussion system, and panelists were recruited from the ranks of leading instructors throughout the Northeast. With the sanction of the USFSA, student demonstrators were selected from neighboring clubs.

First under fire were common faults of beginning skaters and teaching techniques for the basic figures. The panel consisted of Fritz Dietl, Sonia Dunfield, Hans Gershwiler and Joan Ogilvie. Forward and back takeoffs, circles, threes and loops were discussed. Panelists as well as students demonstrated. Questions on how, why and what to do were shot at the panelists by the audience and by the panelists at each other. The exchanges were sharp and the answers to the point. The judges present were questioned as to what they considered important points for tests and competitions, and they were once again made aware of where the difficulty in different figures lay.

Following the figure discussion, a fascinating demonstration of group teaching was presented by Panelists Peter Dunfield, Ralph Evans, Marc Nelson and James



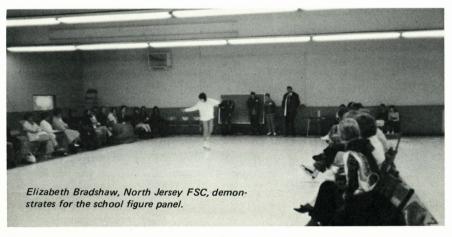
Tester. It included what would be called "group dynamics" in social work, as well as very practical suggestions for handling groups. The discussion ranged from how to use such teaching aids as cones to what rate of progress could be expected in a group situation. This is an area that is vital to us in the USFSA, since it is from these groups that our skaters will come. Furthermore, group teaching (underestimated by many) can produce results far above the level of basic skating.

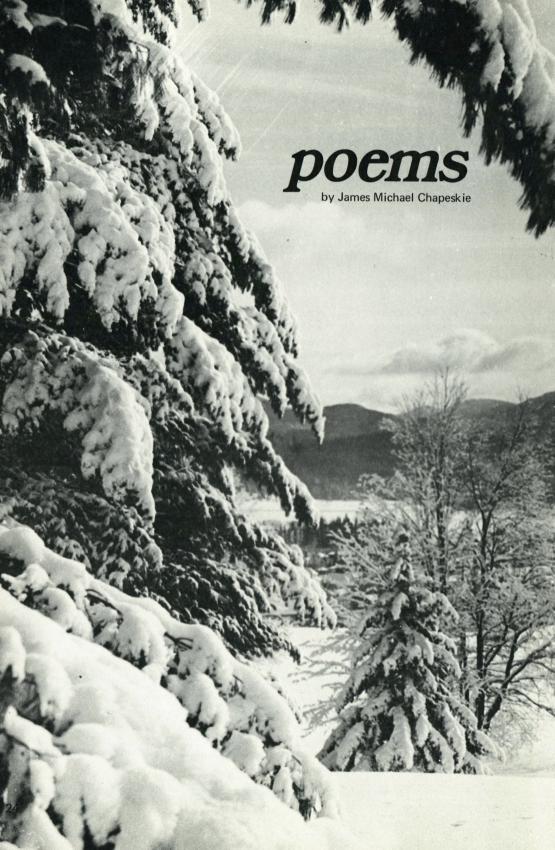
Dance instruction was ably handled by Panelists Mary Lou Butler, Joseph Mastrioni, Walter Muehlbronner and Harry Stafford. Applause rang through the audience as the difference between cross behinds and progressives was clearly demonstrated. Again, techniques of teaching and problems that face the skater were discussed, and, as before, the exchange of questions

and answers was sharp.

Free skating, under Panel Leaders Arthur Bourke, Peter Burrows, Fritz Dietl and Robert Ogilvie, dealt with problems in jumping and spinning. When to start the student was debated. Different types of takeoffs and positions, along with common faults and failings were demonstrated. The discussion was greatly enhanced by a surprise participant, John Misha Petkevich.

The seminar lasted from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch was prepared and served by volunteers of the North Jersey Figure Skating Club, and a cocktail party was given at the end of the day by Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Dietl at their home. Similar teaching seminars have been scheduled in Los Angeles, Buffalo and East Lansing, Michigan. I trust they will all be as successful as this initial effort! O





Snow Crystals: Flowers and Stars

Winter's here, the days are drear The nights are cold and raw... Three pallid months that come each year With seldom break or thaw.

There are no blossoms on the vine That climbs the garden wall; No ivy laurels now entwine Or from the trellis fall.

At thirty below we sweep the snow And skate till zero hour; The leaves, we see then, had to go, And same with every flower.

But, are not snowflakes flowers too In winters of the years Just as drops of morning dew Resemble fallen tears.

From South and Arctic Pole we hear That winter's just begun; In science it comes to every sphere That whirls around the sun.

Perhaps the stars are made of ice: We've never touched their fire... The gods, I think, have cast their dice, And now their deeds suspire.

Therefore 'neath the pale moon's glow In evening's waning hours In window frost and flakes of snow I see both stars and flowers!



December comes, the weather numbs
Our fingers and our toes;
Strange icy candelabrums
Crown the rooftop snows;
The spirit grieves for fallen leaves
And flowers that are gone
While fields and tree-clad hillsides
Shrouds of whiteness don.
But, there is fun in winter too
With skates and skis and such,
'Neath frosty canopies of blue
We feel her magic touch.

Then we recall with sullen pride
The seasons pass'd on wing:
Winter now is our Bride
Not Summer, Fall or Spring—
Let them have their sunny regions
Where the grapes and oranges grow;
Satan would, I think, give legions
For a single flake of snow!
Let them talk of Summer breezes
And the colored scenes of Fall,
We are satisfied with sneezes
Muffled in a woolen shawl.

MORNING

by Dorothy Sharp

Have you ever been a Morning Glory? Yes, I said "been," not "grown." I only discovered that I was one when I was composing a telegram of congratulations for our senior skating instructor, who was getting married. The good wishes were from the entire Tuesday and Thursday morning ladies group.

I began to write all twelve names-Jean, Esther, Francine...

"Why don't you just sign it 'The Morning Glories'?" suggested Gwen, our lady instructor.

"Morning Glories!" I said. "Is that what they call us?" It sounded distinctly derisive to me.

Gwen laughed. "It's just a custom," she said. "It's not meant to be unkind."

Well, I suppose there were worse things the instructors could have called us—"The Snapdragons?" "The Deadly Nightshades?" At least with a captive dance partner we were not "Wall Flowers." Now I realize that there is a modicum of affection in the title, and I won't stop being a Morning Glory until I can no longer afford the modest group lesson fee or old age deprives me of locomotion altogether.

Why would twelve housewives between the ages of thirty-five and fifty hustle children and husbands out of the house, whisk through bed-making and dish-washing, and be at the indoor rink with skates on by ten a.m. twice a week from October to May? Because—in spite of petrifying cold when the warm air fans don't function, in spite of falls which give a terrible jolt to one's ego, in spite of such comments from teachers as "Stand up! You're like a piece of boiled spaghetti."—it is fun!

First, the air is clean and crisp. I read that the human brain functions best at about forty degrees Fahrenheit, and I believe it. After half an hour at the rink, I feel twice as alert and alive.

The ice is a beautiful, shining thing in itself, and its treacherous slipperiness sets up just enough tension to make gliding on it exciting. Though there is no comparison in the degree of risk, the same lure of danger tantalizes the skater and the racing driver or the trapeze artist.

Although most of us would be relectant to wear a mini-skirt on the street, it's fun to feel properly attired at the rink in a very short skirt. Needless to say, the skating skirt is a strong incentive to retain or regain your youthful shape. A middle-age bulge above and below the waistband makes you resemble one of Walt Disney's tu-tued elephants in "Fantasia." But a sensible



GLORIES

diet and regular skating can reduce your figure considerably.

Then there are the other group members. Most have not skated since they raced around the corner rink as children. Some, like me, only took up the sport a few years ago when their children were grown. We are so dependent on each other that there is little room for rivalry; but the desire not to be left behind makes you work harder than you would without competition.

"I'll hold you hand while you do Mohawks if you hold mine while I do some three turns," Peggy says to Anne.

"Velma, show me how you do that turn from backward to forward. You do it so easily," says Jean admiringly.

Thus we learn from each other as well as from the instructors.

And speaking of instructors...the first one I was confronted with had been an international competitor. Though he was no Apollo, he really had descended from Olympian heights. I was completely awed by his skating skill and would have tried barrel jumping if he had suggested it. His name was Colin, and he found his nervous, awkward Morning Glories an amusing challenge.

He controlled us with a mixture of tyranny and affection. "Stand up!" he would order in his English accent. "Pull in the re-ah and keep you feet togethah. I could drive a two-ton lorry between them!"

He paid no attention to pleas of fatigue or fear. "You can always go home and take up knitting," he remarked, spurring us to furious effort.

On the other hand, he knew the names of all our children and was happy to chat about anything from Jimmy's school report to the latest play in town. Most important, he never failed to give each of us a word of encouragement that felt like a pat on the back.

Since then I have known half a dozen teachers, some only half my age. I now realize how intimidating it must be for a young person oriented toward teaching children to have to cope with a group of strong-minded matrons. I find, however, that a mutual respect is always established. We admire his or her skating ability, youthful grace and enthusiasm. He is impressed with our persistent, if pathetic, efforts in the face of all discouragement.

And we do progress—from stroking to the Dutch Waltz to the Fiesta Tango to even (oh, dizzying heights!) the Fourteenstep!

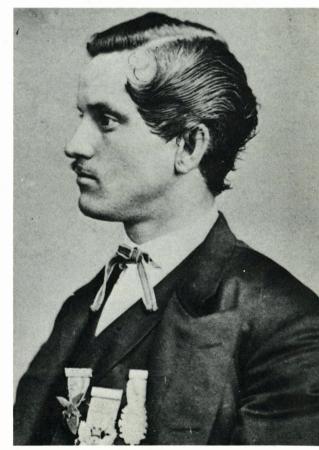
So I say to any lady of spirit, "Discover the friendship, the exhilaration, the healthy discipline of group skating"; and to the instructor who likes a challenge, "Cultivate your Morning Glories!"O

The influence of Jackson Haines, founder of the "international style" of skating and free skater extraordinaire, is most often felt in the artistic aspect of modern figure skating. But now we learn that his memory is perpetuated in the human aspect as well—through the skating achievements of his descendents.

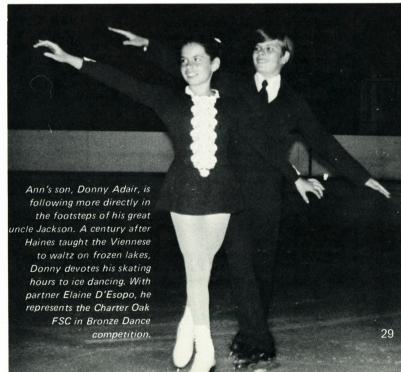
Ice in their Veins

by Marylee Hickey

Born around 1840, Jackson Haines is claimed as a native son by both Chicago and Troy, New York. Haines studied ballet as a child, then turned to skating, in which he found an artistic potential similar to that of ballet. Concerned with the graceful posing of the arms and legs, Haines nevertheless developed notable technical skill on the ice. He employed a fantastic array of costumes and introduced the use of music in his skating performances. In 1864 Haines emigrated to England, where the Victorians dismissed his innovative style as "theatricalism." Undaunted, he embarked on a triumphal exhibition tour of Europe. But it was in Vienna that he made the deepest impression. Under Haines's tutelage the waltz-mad Viennese began to dance on ice and developed the "international style" of skating. Modern free skating and ice dancing owes much to this early master.









BORN

To Dennis and Patricia (Herrick) Silverthorne, a son, Dennis Alfred, Jr., August 14.

To Mr. and Mrs. Richard Vallee of Sault St. Marie, Ont., a son, Brent Richard, September 17.

MARRIED

Benjamin Wills, Jr., and Kathleen M. Garrett, Washington FSC, August 26. DIED

John Flynn, three-term president of Chicago FSC, September 21.

Louise King Hill, Buffalo SC, in September.

For a quarter of a century, Jack Kuppig gave most generously of his time and energy to figure skating. His death in August will be mourned by the USFSA and Chicago area skaters. A member of the Chicago FSC since 1947, Jack served two terms as club president and joined many club committees. He was also active in the Northbrook Skokie Valley SC and the Saddle and Cycle FSC. As Co-Chairman of the USFSA Olympic Committee for the past eight years, Jack worked dilligently to raise funds for the U.S. team. For many years he organized an annual dinner party of Chicago skaters to benefit the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled Children. Jack's friends plan to continue the benefit in memory of his many years of service.

Eugene Malczewski, charter member of South Bay FSC, September 19.

William A. More, former president and honorary member of Buffalo SC, in August. TURNED PROFESSIONAL

Debbie Conner, Buffalo SC, will teach in Amherst, N.Y.

Melissa Selleck, Buffalo SC, plans to teach in Amherst and Lockport, N.Y.

Jenny Walsh, 1972 FISU Ladies champion, will teach at Olympic Arena, Calif.

OFFICIAL NOTES .

ISU rules were recently changed to provide that unless an ISU test is passed, no fee, report or test papers will be submitted to Union headquarters. To comply with this ruling, the Executive Committee voted at its Fall Meeting to no longer charge the USFSA fee for failed ISU tests, effective immediately. TR 5.07 will be revised accordingly in the Rulebook issued in Ocotber, 1973.

club notes

That old saw, "There's a first time for everything," has been getting quite a workout among the clubs. Indeed, Washington FSC has established a New Trends and Ideas Committee to evaluate just such occurrences. The new committee will study how the club's membership policies are affected by costs, ice-time scheduling, etc.

Washington FSC's Diane Nelson is not immune to the innovation bug either. As a student at the Univeristy of Denver last winter, Diane added a new facet to skating—cheerleading. She and two other girls formed a "cheerleading team on ice" for university hockey games. The cheerleading team was so successful that the univeristy formally recognized the girls and allocated \$300 for their expenses this season.

The SC of Phoenix reports a "first" among test achievements at its rink. Diana Stahl spent the summer training at the Phoenix rink. On the morning of July 22nd, Diana passed her Gold Figure Test. That afternoon she tested successfully on the Westminster Waltz and thereby completed the requirements for her Gold Dance medal!

Everyone at the Broadmoor SC agreed that the club's First Annual "Non-Competitor" competition was an unique learning experience. The most unusual facet of the event was the judging—handled solely by skaters between the ages of twelve and eighteen with previous competition experience.

Members of the FSC of Cincinnati have cause to praise their club president. Gravce M. Reuhlman, Last February Miss Reuhlman was the first woman to be appointed Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio. The skating assistant district attorney also set a record at her home club by being the first president of the Cincinnati club to serve a third term. In addition to skating, volunteer work claims much of Miss Reuhlman's time. As a Junior League volunteer, she has been a legal aid public defender in Police Court. She is also a guide for the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati and last year served as vice-president of the Shut-In Society, a group which aids chronic invalids. Though members of the FSC of Cincinnati are proud of Grayce, they are not alone in their admiration. The Cincinnati chapter of the Federal Bar Association selected Miss Reuhlman as its nominee for the annual Young Federal Lawyer Award.

colendar

DECEMBER

- 1- 2 "'73 on Ice," Class of 1923 Rink, Philadelphia, Penn.
- 1- 3 Southwest Pacific Championships,
- 8-10 San Diego FSC, Calif.
- 6- 7 British Figure Championships, Richmond, England.
- 6- 9 Northwest Pacific Championships, Overlake SC, Bellevue, Wash.
- 7- 9 Southwestern Championships, Broadmoor SC, Colorado Springs, Colo.
- 7- 9 Upper Great Lakes Championships, Northbrook Skokie Valley SC, Northbrook, III.
- 7-10 North Atlantic Championships, SC of New York, N.Y.
- 8-10 New England Championships Commonwealth FSC, South Weymouth, Mass.
- 13-17 Sixth International Senior Championships of Zagreb, Yugoslavia.
- 14-16 Eastern Great Lakes Championships, Columbus FSC, Ohio.
- 14-17 South Atlantic Championships, Wissahickon FSC, Philadelphia, Penn.

JANUARY

- 4- 7 Eastern Championships, SC of Lake Placid, N.Y.
- 11-13 Midwestern Championships, Denver FSC, Colo.
- 11-13 Pacific Coast Championships, All Year FSC, Culver City, Calif.
- 11-13 Second Explorer Olympics, Lake Placid, N.Y.
- 13-27 International Ice Dance Reunion, Cresta Palace Hotel, Celerina, Switzerland.
- 15-21 Canadian Figure Skating Championships, Vancouver, B.C.
- 24-27 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, Edina, Minn.

FEBRUARY

- 6-11 European Championships, Cologne, BRD.
- 27- World Figure Skating Champion-March 4 ships, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia. MARCH
- 31- Fifth Annual Nassau County Free April 1 Style Championships, Cantiague Park Rink, Hicksville, N.Y.

newsmokers

You may think the winter competition season has just begun, but—for South African skaters—it's already over. Reverend Kevin Reynolds, SKATING's southernmost correspondent, reports that Cape Town basked in sunny, spring weather while it hosted the 1972 National Championships September 28-30. But let Reverend Reynolds tell it:

"This year a record number of ninety-six skaters from the South African Ice Skating Association's five Provinces competed in nineteen sections of these championships. It was particularly encouraging that the three 'new' Provinces (established since 1970)— Northern Transvaal, Western Province and Eastern Province—entered a good number of competitors along with the older Provinces, Southern Transvaal and Natal.

"With assistance from the South African Government's Department of Sport and Recreation, the SAISA was able to bring Dr. Suzanne Francis, an ISU-appointed referee from the CFSA, to South Africa for a month to conduct Provincial and National judges' clinics and referee the championships.

"Competition and interest was heightened because all three National titles, Men, Ladies and Pairs, were vacant at the start. Robert Dunn (Natal) became the Champion of South Africa in Figure Skating for 1972 and Ann Broadhurst (Southern Transvaal), the Lady champion. Michael Ashton and Doreen Crofton (Northern Transvaal) became the new South African Pair champions.

"The most encouraging aspect of this year's championships was an improvement in the standard of skating in several sections, partially resulting from keener competition among contestants from more of the Association's Provinces. It was particularly pleasing that the new Provinces did so well. Northern Transvaal won nine of the nineteen sections. In years to come, as the younger skaters from the new Provinces move into higher sections of the championships, competition should be even keener with a corresponding improvement in standards."

Reporting on a competition schedule more akin to our own, Howard Bass writes that Britain's Janet Sawbridge and Peter Dalby won the southern regional Ice Dance title for a third successive year. The couple was nevertheless closly challenged by Hilary Green and Glyn Watts, in a duel that promises to be close at Nationals and Worlds.



by Cecilia Colledge

It was my third visit to Stockholm and the first since World War II. Madame Gillis Grafstrom was to be my hostess, a lady of great culture, humor and charm, who—although I had met but a few times—I felt I had known all my life.

Madame Grafstrom met me at Arlander Airport, and, after taking the bus into Stockholm, we went by taxi to the delightful suburb of Djursholm where she has her home. The charming little house stands in a garden which was fragrant with the scent of lilac and the blossoms of apple and cherry.

On entering the house I was amazed, for it is a treasury of skating and everything that goes with it, full of unique and precious works, all with the ice and skating as their theme. In the entrance hall hang two delightful oil paintings of skating scenes on moonlit lakes, the figures clad in furs and velvet. On a shelf halfway up the staircase lies a collection of fascinating old skates dating from the earliest times—bone skates, skates with no heels and great front coils, clamp-on skates, strap-on skates, skates of unique radius and grind. Needless to say, most of the specimens would give the present day, "hot house" skater a problem or two!

The walls of the staircase are decorated with prints and lithographs of great originality and humor, representing the works of Dutch and Danish artists, Avercamp among them, of the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. And when the staircase shade is drawn, a delightful couple appear in the center. At the head of the stairs, at the entrance to the living room, stands a showcase of porcelain objects enough to beggar the imagination. Figurines, little boxes, candle sticks, what you will! Some old, others modern, all fascinating.

The walls of my bedroom were hung with delightful prints of Russian origin—all furs, ice, snow and excitement. On going downstairs again I found souvenirs, posters and more skates. Bronze figures of consummate grace were to be seen, in groups, in pairs and as solos. There were Delft plates and tiles too. Included in this wonderful museum is a superb skating library. Books in many languages and by unusual authors stand on its shelves.

Many of these treasures were gifts to Madame Grafstrom's husband, Gillis Grafstrom, a skater and artist for all time. Others were acquired in the pursuit of their hobby. The house is a manifestation of skating as viewed through the eye of the artist, and it is interesting to note that it is always seen in the light of grace, beauty, elegance, gaity and style. Nothing is unpleasing to the eye or to the senses. Even the caricatures and humor are in the best taste.

How many rewarding and fascinating days one could spend there! I left Djursholm with a "heavy-light" heart. Heavy because I was leaving Madame Grafstrom and her home. Light because I had been supported in my belief that beauty, love and kindness still exist. O



TESTS PASSED BY USFSA SKATERS

Testing is an important part of a figure skater's progress. The following USFSA sanctioned tests in figure, pair & dance were reported passed. Only tests which were received and processed by the USFSA Central Office during the period of July 21 through August 7 appear in this issue. Any errors should be reported to the USFSA, 178 Tremont Street, Boston, Mass. 02111.

GOLD MEDAL WINNERS

GOLD FIGURE— Myra Chrien, Plaza FSC

Forrest Craig, St. Moritz ISC Sara Hopkins, Wissahickon SC Terry Kubicka, Arctic Blades FSC Donna Reed, Lachine FSC (CFSA) Michelle Siatka. Rye FSC

Michelle Siatka, Rye FSC Diana Stahl, SC of Phoenix Dawn Wieburg, Lakewood WC

GOLD DANCE— Debbie Amelon, Professional

David Siebert, Garden State FSC

GOLD FREE— Jeannette Stasukinas

ALBUQUERQUE FSC: Pre—Leigh Herbert. 4—Patricia Van Dersarl, Paula Van Dersarl. 5—Terry Franchini. Pre D—Melinda Meahl.

ALEXANDRIA BAY FSC: 2—Susan Tague.

ALL YEAR FSC: Pre—Charlene Thompkins. 1—Larry Lummis. 4—Rebecca Baldwin. Bronze—Mike Griggs.

ANN ARBOR FSC: Pre—Judy Gaglis, Kim Pollock, Suzanne Poznanski, Jan Reinke, Jill Veigel. 1—Amy Hymans, Kim Leonard. 2—Karin Borcherts. 3—Stephanie Savarino. Pre D—Susan Armstrong, Rhonda Graham, Amy Hymans. Bronze—Cindy Newton.

ARAPAHOE ISC: 2—Donna Miller. 4—Mark Hayes, Michelle Miller, Debra Russell.

ARCTIC BLADES FSC: 1—Donna Dawson, Mari Tomlin. 2—Ruth Lyon. 5—Lisa Pezick, Kathy Stiles. 6—JoAnn Schneider.

ARROWHEAD FSC: 3—Leslie Welsch. Pre D—Leslie Welsch.

ATLANTA FSC: Bronze-Patty Hug, Tamy Sewell.

ATLANTIC CITY FSC: Pre-Silver-Michelle Brunetti.

BALTIMORE FSC: Pre—Christine Langham, Tracey Molner. 2—Cindy Miller, Judith Robins. 6— Barbara Lofgren. Pre D—Tracey Molner. Bronze—Robin Bowers, Jerry Bruno. Pre-Silver— Karen Metzbower.

BAY PATH FSC: 2—Kelly Wiggins. 3—Grace Jones. 4—Paula Zeigler. Pre D—Julie Levites. BEAR MOUNTAIN FSC: Bronze—Malcolm Wane.

BEMIDJI FSC: 2—Pamela Dreyer. Pre D—Pamela Dreyer, Jean McClellan.

BERKSHIRE HILLS FSC: 1—Christine Curletti, Karen Keppler, Cindy Redman. Pre D—Dorothy Wendling.

BOULDER FSC: Pre—Lynn Cook, Elizabeth Hale, Carla Maes. 1—Susan Allegretti, Mary Dalton. BOWLING GREEN FSC: 4—Kriss Walters. Pre D—Eileen Townsend.

BRAEMAR-CITY OF LAKES FSC: 2—Karen Meltzer. 3—Cynthia Shelstad. 4—Marie Peper. 5—Melissa McCandless, Lisa Swanson. 7—Sue Stillwell. Bronze—Heather Godfrey.

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BROADMOOR SC: Pre-Charles Jackson. 2-Casey Kelly. 3-Bill Sencenbaugh, Louise Sencenbaugh. 4—Lesli Miles. 5—Shane Douglas, Jeanette Evans. 6—Carey Byron. 7—Gail Hamula, Linda Juckett. Bronze—Casey Kelly. Pre-Silver—Grushenka Wolfgang. BURIEN SC: 1—Elizabeth Aurich. 2—Trish Alexander, Greg Herr. Bronze—Trish Alexander, Kathy Towne. Pre-Silver—Mary Pinkston. CANTIAGUE FSC: 1—Carolyn Peterson. CAPITAL CITY FSC: Pre-Sandi Sullivan. CAROUSEL FSC: Pre-Karen Bloom, Kristine Warrant, Pre D-Lauren Zell. CHAMPLAIN VALLEY SC: Pre—Julia Cilley, Mary Jacques. Pre D—Julia Cilley.

CHAPARRAL FSC: Pre—Lisa Curry, Jeanne Diehl, Cheryl Laird, Virginia Lindell, Joan Penland,

Marcia Silva. 1—Lisa Thoreen. 3—Dick Penland. CHARLESTON FSC: Silver-Martha Davis. CHICAGO FSC: Pre—Kim Lange. 1—Anita Petkofski. 2—Sue Engbrecht. 3—Diana Himmel, Calla Urbanski. 4-Laura McDonald. 6-Anita Hartshorn. Pre D-Jamie Goldstein, Mary Melchert. Anita Petkofski, Allison Roberts. Bronze—Sonja Bachmeier. CLEVELAND SC: 3-Heather Hazle. CLINTON FSC: 1-Amy James, Donna Lella. 2-Donna Iles. 4-Susan Karr. Pre D-Lynn Wilkinson, Bronze-Suzanne MacWilliams, COLONIAL SC: Pre D-Nancy Fillebrown. Pre-Silver-Marilyn Murray, Michelle Sandmeyer. Silver-Patty Kokotailo. COLUMBUS FSC: Pre-Cindy Bailey, Janet Letson. 1-Andrew Ouellette. 3-Carrie Deyo. Pre D-Carol Bailey. COMMONWEALTH FSC: 1—Janine Keating. 2—Diane Creighton. 4—Susan Connell. 5—Bruce Eckstein, Lou Ann Finn, Jeanne Giblin. DALLAS FSC: Pre-Janet Gray. DENVER FSC: Pre—Susan Ballinger, Jill Crews, Cindy King, Chris Spieker. 1—Elizabeth Blackwell, Nancy Blackwell, Elaine Collins, Michelle Houser, Gay Willson. 3—Kelly Burchett. 4—David Schlichtemeier. 5—Debbie Weinstein. 6—Tom Reagan. 7—Kitty DeLio, Robert Steiner. DETROIT SC: Pre-Julie Dunlop. 1-Kandi Amelon. 7-Lisa Delaney. Bronze-Kandi Amelon. Pre-Silver-Gordon Black, Donald Ross. Silver-Kathryn Acheson, Mary Klein. DIABLO FSC: 2—Lisa Redmond. DULUTH FSC: 2—Cindy Carlson, Darlene Sponberg. 3—Leslie Stewart. Pre D—Cindy Carlson, Beth Martin, Nancy McConn, Patty Petrich. EL CAMINO ISC: Pre-Julee Montes, Kim Sutter. 1-Laurie Miller. 3-Lisa Barton, Jenny Cunningham. 4-Sally Anderson, Faye Talkov. 6-Sue Gogol. 7-Jayne Meyer. Pre D-Angela Marini. ESSEX SC OF NEW JERSEY: 1—Pamela Faatz. 6—Valerie Otto. Pre D—Joan Pelson, Bronze— Daniel DeSantis, Mary Haggerty, Rose Haggerty. Pre-Silver-Collette Peters. EUCLID BLADE & EDGE CLUB: 1—Tammy Chiad. 4—Jeff Marshall. 5—Alan Dole. Pre D— Tammy Chlad, Andrea Marshall. FALMOUTH FSC: 6—David Hold, Barbara Parrish. Bronze—Barbara Parrish. FSC OF CINCINNATI: 2—Lisa Shaw. FSC OF GREEN BAY: Pre-Beth Adamson, Jackie Barstow, Mary Berg, Anita Held, Nancy Patton, Christine Rector, Ann Sensenbrenner, Mark Weintraub, Sharon Wiltanen, Kimiko Yamaguchi. Bronze—Patrick Hughes. FSC OF MADISON: Pre-Kellie Catalano, Mike Craig, Barbara Frerker, Mary Kobussen, Kathy Laabs, Beverly Lucia, Maureen McClintock, Alice Wentworth, Will Winsborough, Cindy Wojick. 1—Erik Falk, Lisa Gingles. 2—Sandi Sutter. Pre D—Kathy Laabs, Beverly Lucia. Bronze-Jeff Theisen. FSC OF RIVERDALE: 2-Judy Greenberg. 3-Connie Kershner. Pre D-Susan Hinkson. FLINT SC: Pre-Mark Mosier, Diane Wagner. 1-Rod Helmer, Anita Lehoux. 2-Judy Parks. Pre D—Laurie Adams, Anita Lehoux, Mark Mosier, Judy Parks, Sue Stevens. Bronze—Martha Baker, Karin Martin, Claudia Mosier, Terry Wood. FORESTWOOD FSC: Pre—Sue Curry, Barbara Golias, 1—Lisa Andonian, 3—Amanda Vayruska, Pre D—Maryann Baker, Sue Curry, Jacki Scott. FORT WAYNE ISC: Pre—Karen Dilling, Mary Kleber. Bronze—Denise Mezzei. FREE STATE FSC: 1—Diane Gaffney. 2—Debbie Motzno. 4—Cynthia Epstein. Bronze—Joseph Bates. GATEWAY FSC: 1-Mary Melick, Christine Panek. Pre D-Mary Melick. GENESEE FSC: 2—Annette Matthews. Bronze—Annette Matthews. GLACIER FALLSFSC: Pre-Mina Garrett. 7-Cindy Solberg. Bronze-Cindy Solberg. GLENWOOD FSC: Pre—Susan Bergstrom, Julie Carden, Mark Kwasinski, Maria Miezio, Christopher Reed. 1—Shari Makowski, Kathy Ryan. 2—Vanessa Vela. Pre D—Kathy Ryan. Bronze— Margo Mankus, Vanessa Vela. Pre-Silver-Vicki Fisher, David Ireland. GREAT NECK FSC: 5-Karen Zeitel. GREATER MILWAUKEE FSC: 1-Mary Hermacinski. Pre D-Mary Hermacinski. HAYDEN RECREATION CENTRE FSC: 4—Sheryl Franks, 5—Rebecca Berry. HERSHEY FSC: Pre-Jan Barrick, Cynthia Cravener, Sherri Stevenson. Bronze-Suzy Nolt.

HUNTSVILLE FSC: Bronze—Peter Oppegard.

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Laurie Cowieson, Noel Parent. Pre-Silver—Chris Kearney. Silver—Chris Kearney.

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Masciello. Pre-Silver-Kathy Walters.

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PROFESSIONAL: Pre-Kathy Thomas. 2-Cathy Clarry. 6-Kathy Ryan. 7-Stephanie Nelson. Bronze-Sue Veguez. Pre-Silver-Larry Skutnick. Silver-David Mitchel, Larry Skutnick. Silver Free-Jeannette Stasukinas. Pre-Gold-Fay Andreas.

QUAKER CITY FSC: 3-Maureen McBride, Bronze-Nancy Pole,

QUEEN CITY FSC: 5—Patricia Scheidle.

RIVERVIEW FSC: Bronze-Janet Stumpf.

ROCHESTER FSC: Pre-Jason Crawford, Jill Edwards, Mary Petitt, Ann Wallace, Kristin Washburn. 1—Chris Nash, Mary Schumacher. 2—Kurt Bahn. 3—Linda Bayrd, Vikki Orwoll. 4-Nancy Raiston.

ROXBURY WC: 1-Debbie Gold. 2-Terri Lowenthal. Silver-Terri Lowenthal.

R.P.I. FSC: Pre-Krissy Nordagaard, Lori Silvers. 1-Karen Krivit. 5-Patti Tashman. 6-Rudd Young. Pre D—Denise Detwiler, Lynn Jenkins. Bronze—Greg Anthos, Nancy O'Keefe. Pre-Silver-Margaret Duffy. Pre-Gold-Patti Tashman.

RYE FSC: 3-Leslie Gates, Susan Hyman. 6-Gale Fuhrman, Amy Griswold. 7-Joel Fuhrman. ST. LOUIS SC: Bronze-Lolanda Bentmann.

ST. MORITZ ISC: Pre-Diane Chinn, Melinda Potter, Lynn Smith. 2-David Narron, Kathy Rose. 3-Liz Abel, Beverly Blair.

ST. PAUL FSC: Pre—Sally Kluegel, Sandy Reinhardt, Sally Turcotte, Mary Wild. 1—Terryl Hage. 2—Heather McKay. 4—Laurene Nelson. 6—Carol LeClaire.

SAN DIEGO FSC: Pre-Dori Rimmer. 1-Wendy Craig, David Evans, Diane Fey, Donna Fey, Joanna Gomes, Jennifer Meeks, Tammy Morrison, Lonnie Peterson, Dana Sphueler. 2—Karen Hauslein, Frank Weber. 5—Jan Shinski. Pre-Silver—Frank Weber.

SANTA MONICA FSC: Pre—Deborah Kitashima. 1—Deanne Kitashima.

SANTA ROSA FSC: Pre-Liz Bellus, Susan Doyle, Karen Hutton. 1-Tami Johnson. 3-Jim Hartley, 4-Jill Schulz,

- SEATTLE SC: Pre—Cammie Church, Richard Moss, Jeff Orth, 1—Trina Bangsund, 2—Shari Bolvin, Jennifer Krogstadt. 6—Terri Karis. SILVER BLADES FSC: Pre—Karen Buckstead, Kenneth Jones, Joyce Moyer, Bryan Sinclair. 1-
- Lee Mengwasser. 2—Dana Paul, Wendy Strauss. 3—David Miller, Beverly Resch, Kelly Sayler. 4—Diane Wharton. 5—Barbara Lenk, Jamie Shields. 6—Kelly Flynn, Claudette Mahler, Eileen Van Buskirk. 7—Patrick Van Buskirk. Pre D-Karla Rusnak. Bronze-Susan Leiter.

SILVER BLADES SC OF COHASSET: Pre—Lisa Fichtner, Cheryl Robertson, Mariane Shields, Cindy Weatherby. 1—Ellen Ferriter, Scott Garland, Natalie Gray, Michele Julian. 2—Ellen Geminiani, Mary Larson.

SILVER EDGE FSC: 2-Marilynn Scoggins. 3-Dani Griffin. 5-Deborah Ingalls.

SC OF BOSTON: 2—Charles Donovan, Allison Slack, Kate Wilkins, 3—Olivia Biddle, Bonnie Burton. 4—Peter Freeman. 7—James Webb. Silver—Ronald Zeghibe.

SC OF FLORIDA: 5—C. Lynn Grimditch. SC OF HARTFORD: 5—Debra Beardsley.

SC OF LAKE PLACID: 7—James Huffer. Pre D—Priscilla Hill. Bronze—Priscilla Hill.

- SC OF NEW YORK: Pre-Bill Wilkinson. 1-Victoria Lynch, Elizabeth Zsak. 2-Elizabeth Weeden. 3-Karen Wagner, Bronze-Deborah Levinson, Marlene Rehkamp, Lesley Schultheis, Robin Wagner. Pre-Gold-Gioia Covo.
- SC OF PHOENIX: Pre—Caroline Aldridge, Susan De Rosa, Beckie Kravetz, Anita Mitchell, Ellen Snyder, Cindy Wheeler. 1—Stephanie Anderson, Nancy Beard, Dana Elliott, Jim Jordan, Becky Leverant, Trisha Tait, Betty Wentz. 2-Sheila Bourgue, Bob Cooper, 4-Linda Beard. Pam Hornung, Sundee Witt. 5-Linda Stein. Pre D-Ileen Vinesky. Bronze-Pegi Nelson. Pre-Gold—Kim Manning, Ann Murphy, Jennifer Handley.

SC OF RHODE ISLAND: Pre-Susan Webber. 1-Kathleen Flynn, John Kells, Jr. 3-Lynne Voepel.

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SOUTH BAY FSC: Pre-Linda Annis. 1-Jill Hartel.

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SPOKANE FSC: 1—Heidi Harbert, Cathy Huckaby. 2—Randy Clark, Theresa Mengert. 3—Charles Bauer, Donna Henjum. Pre D-Sherri Corkle, Heidi Harbert. Pre-Silver-Donna Henjum. Silver-Ruth Brandt.

SQUAW VALLEY FSC: Pre-Deborah Dinkel, Lisa Magnuson, Jan Meyer, Teresa Rodgers, Lacey Tuttle. 1—Jan Meyer. 3—Brenda Rodgers. Pre D—Betty Noga.

STORRS FSC: 4-Varda Freudmann. Silver-Varda Freudmann.

SUN VALLEY FSC: Pre-Wendy Rubin, Leslie Stein, Claire Werner. 3-Lani Walker.

SUPERIOR FSC: 1—Toni Mataczynski. 2—Katy Garvey, Lori Missinne. 4—Patti Fagan, Mary Missinne. 5—Jean Bourgeois. Pre D—Linda Cohen, Pamela Dean, Catherine Fruehauf, Toni Mataczynski.

SYRACUSE FSC: 1—Elizabeth Falcone, Sherri Spaid. Pre D—Elizabeth Falcone.

TOLEDO FSC: 2-Patti Vasaturo. Pre D-Kathy Crawford.

TRENTON COMMUNITY SC: Pre-Lauren Murchland. 1-Marcia Kagala. Pre D-Lauren Murchland.

TROY SC: Pre-Jennifer Bauer, Bonnie Foster, Anita Gordon, Molly Kalmar, Pam Materne, Allene Simmons. 1-Mindy Fischer, Joni Ireton. 3-Editha Dotson. 5-Sarah Shuler. Pre D-Karla Boyles, Bonnie Foster, Joni Ireton, Lynn Ireton, Joan Teaford.

TULSA FSC: Pre—Theresa McMichael. 1—Lenora Broadway, Julie Judkins. UNION COUNTY FSC: Pre—Frances Smith.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA: Pre-Andy Dubovsky, Valintina Dubovsky, Wynn Eldredge, Lynn Smith.

WAGON WHEEL FSC: Pre-Jan Hamilton, Marcia Santrach, Lisa Shafrin. 1-Katheryn Russell. 3-Sharon Aho, Jamie Weier. 4-Sandy Lenz. Pre D-Reno Novak, Nan Peterson.

WALLA WALLA FSC: Pre—Tara Cornforth, Claudia Mace. 1—Roberta Chastain, Donna Goebel. 4—Terri Wolfson. 6—Joyce Hanson. Pre D—Barbara Heins, Claudia Mace. Pre-Gold—Kay Fleenor.

WASHINGTON FSC: Pre-Gregory Bell, Lorraine Engler, 1-Gregory Bell, Michael Scheinine, 3-Robin Holderness. 4-Kristy Chubb. Pre D-Scott Holderness, Kelly Johnson, Cindy

McKinney, Amy Robertson, Ruth Robertson. Bronze-Gail Cormack, Cindy McKinney. WATERTOWN SC: 2-Kelly Stone.

WAUWATOSA FSC: Pre D-Pam Treul.

WESTCHESTER FSC: 2—Heliene Hare.
WESTMINSTER FSC OF ERIE: 1—Firouz Zadeh, Parviz Zadeh. 3—Denise Devlin. Bronze—Denise Devlin

WHEELING FSC: Pre—Kevin Dean, Melissa Dean. Pre D—Kevin Dean, Melissa Dean, Tami Jeffers, Tim Orr, Susan Schellhase, Suzanne White. Bronze—Amy Dalson, Lynna Lanham.

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WOODLAND SC: 1-Ellen Seager. 4-Sara Secunda. Pre-Gold-Carol Manfredo, Susan Secunda.

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GORDIE'S STORY

doing them when, as sometimes happens, he can have all the ice to himself. "It's a very alone feeling, skating like that, but I get a real sense of of accomplishment out of it. I can skate for hours and hours on compulsory figures."

Gordon feels that his greatest competition is not another skater but himself. "I've learned to pay attention only to my own skating. I don't worry about others; I'm pleased or disappointed based on what I do in relation to what I think I could have done."

He thinks that in the last year or so he has matured as a skater and person. "My concentration has improved, and I'm trying hard to do my best. Also, I've learned what it really means to have such swell parents as I do."

About a year ago Mr. Brunet began teaching at the Wagon Wheel Ice Palace in Illinois. Gordon followed him there and says that the combination of Mr. Brunet primarily on figures and Miss Slavka Kahout on free skating and training is great. Being friends with Janet Lynn who skates there has also been good for him. He is impressed with Janet's attitude on training procedures and her drive.

Gordon has a variety of interests besides skating. He is currently enrolled at Rockford College, so his school work plus his skating keep him busy. But he still enjoys many other sports and participates as much as possible. He was often to be found on the ski slopes in Lake Placid, and in high school he lettered in golf, track and baseball. He has no definite plans for the distant future as yet, but thinks that he might like to skate professionally or do public relations work or sports commentary like Dick Button. Completion of college is one immediate goal, and then of course there are his goals in skating—to be National champion and to do well in the 1976 Olympics.

What has been Gordon's greatest thrill so far in skating? He has had many big moments, but perhaps the greatest came at his first World competition in Lyon, France, when the announcer called out, "Gordon McKellen of the United States." Gordon keenly felt the impact of representing the people of his country, and he frankly admits that tears came to his eyes so that his vision was somewhat blurred for the first few seconds of his program.

Many skating enthusiasts who have watched Gordon's skating in the past several years have no doubt that there are many more international competitions ahead for him and that in ice rinks throughout the world there will be a very familiar ring to those words, "Gordon McKellen of the United States." O



You saw Miss Mary Ellen Kinsey on NBC in "SNOOPY'S INTERNATIONAL ICE FOLLIES."

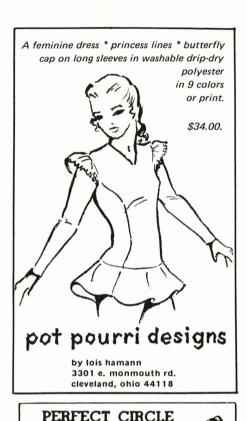
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THE RUSSIANS HAVE LANDED

However, the Russians may accomplish this same "weeding out" process in their competitions if they wish. In a system somewhat comparable to the U.S. testing method, skaters whose marks fall below a minimum standard when averaged after the first two figures may be removed from the competition by the head judge. Mishin added that this rule is seldom used.

Panel judging was equally strange to Mishin. and understanding it required a rather detailed diagram and description-not surprising since many Americans don't understand it either. Laughing, Mishin commented, "I get it! It's maybe American style: rush, rush, rush! do figure! get marks! put in pocket! go home!"

Russian skating competitions are divided into two divisions, Senior and Junior, with five categories within each division: III Juniors, Il Juniors, I Seniors, Candidates for Master of Sports and Master of Sports, Singles competitors over sixteen or seventeen years of age must move up to the Senior level, while Pair skaters may wait until they are eighteen to move up. Although young, talented athletes can work up to the Senior divisions at an earlier age, the older skaters are not permitted to compete in the Junior divisions.

Russian skaters who place in the top three in the European Championships or in the top six in World or Olympic competitions receive the title of Master of Sports, International Class, a title they retain for life.

The highest honor in Soviet figure skating is the Meritorious Master of Sports Award. It is given only to those athletes who are excellent in what Mishin described as the "broadest" sense of the word: fine athletes, good sports, gentlemen and ladies on and off the ice. Only eleven Russian skaters currently hold this title: Chetverukhin, Ljudmila Pakhomova and Alexandr Gorshkov (1972 World Dance champions), and pairs Mishin and Tamara Moskvina, Ljudmila and Oleg Protopopov, Irina Rodnina and Alexei Ulanov (1972 World and Olympic Pair champions), and Tatiana Zhuk and Alexandr Gorelik. All four pairs have won World medals.

The idea for the Russians' visit originated with a suggestion Chetverukhin made to Fassi during a casual, luncheon conversation at the World Championships in Calgary, He then expressed a desire to come to the U.S., not only to train, but also to observe U.S. methods and facilities. Fassi discussed the matter with Ms. Anna Sinilkini, the Russian team leader who is now president of the Soviet Skating Association, who felt the visit could be worked out. U.S. State Department officials were equally helpful. O

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SHARP IDEA

A120-PV. The writer still has a limited quantity of many of the abrasives which were tested. He is willing to make these available at cost to anyone wishing to carry out his own experiments. For further information, write to Richard Stephenson, c/o SKATING Magazine, 178 Tremont Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02111. Conclusions

The best conditions for hand-grinding appeared to be as follows:

- a) Under similar conditions, aluminum oxide seemed to grind faster and showed less loading of the surface than did silicon carbide.
- b) The optimum hardness was about Grade "O." It was found that Grade K crumbled under strong hand pressure and was thus unsatisfactory. Grade P was too hard.
- c) The ease of grinding depended strongly on the grit. Very dull skates required a coarse grit such as A16-OV. The A36-OV showed fairly slow grinding on skates which were not too dull, and the finer grits could be used for final polishing, although anything finer than 36 grit showed very slow grinding action.
- d) The coarse abrasives showed much less loading of the surface. This probably was a direct result of the fact that the coarse abrasives were also more porous. Increasing the hardness from

N to O seemed to reduce the tendency for the abrasive to load up.

e) The writer could detect no appreciable difference in performance between blades sharpened with a coarse stone and those which were highly polished. Any imperfections ran the length of the blade and did not appear to retard the motion of the skate on the ice.

In summary, it is possible to produce a handsharpening kit which would make the average skater completely independent of any outside sharpening. Necessary materials would include a holder, a flat honing stone to remove burrs, one or two sticks of A16-OV, A24-OV, A36-OV and possibly a finer grade for final polishing.

It must be understood that hand-grinding will not produce as sharp or as polished a surface as a good machine grinding. However, as noted above, it is very unlikely that the average skater could tell the difference. Hand-grinding also has several advantages. It is convenient and costs little, it it easy to control the hollowness of the grind merely by using a stick of the proper diameter, and, since only small quantities of material are removed, there is very little chance of damaging the blade—a frequent hazard of machine sharpening. For these reasons, hand-grinding at last offers a viable alternative for skaters dissatisfied with conventional methods. O



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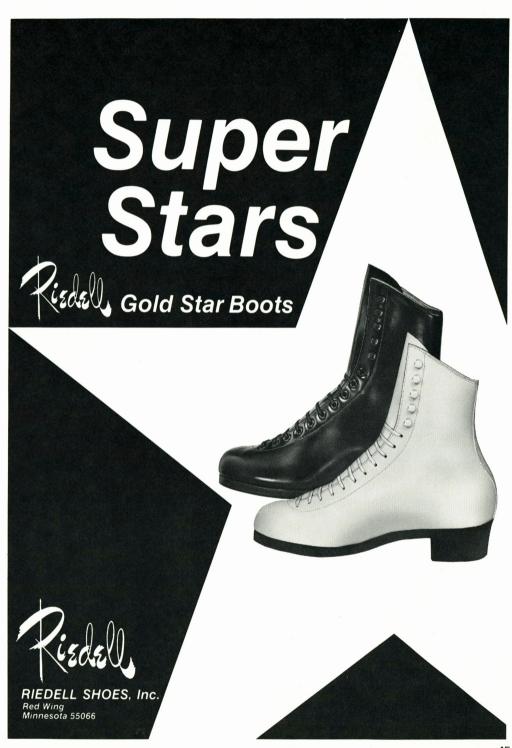
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