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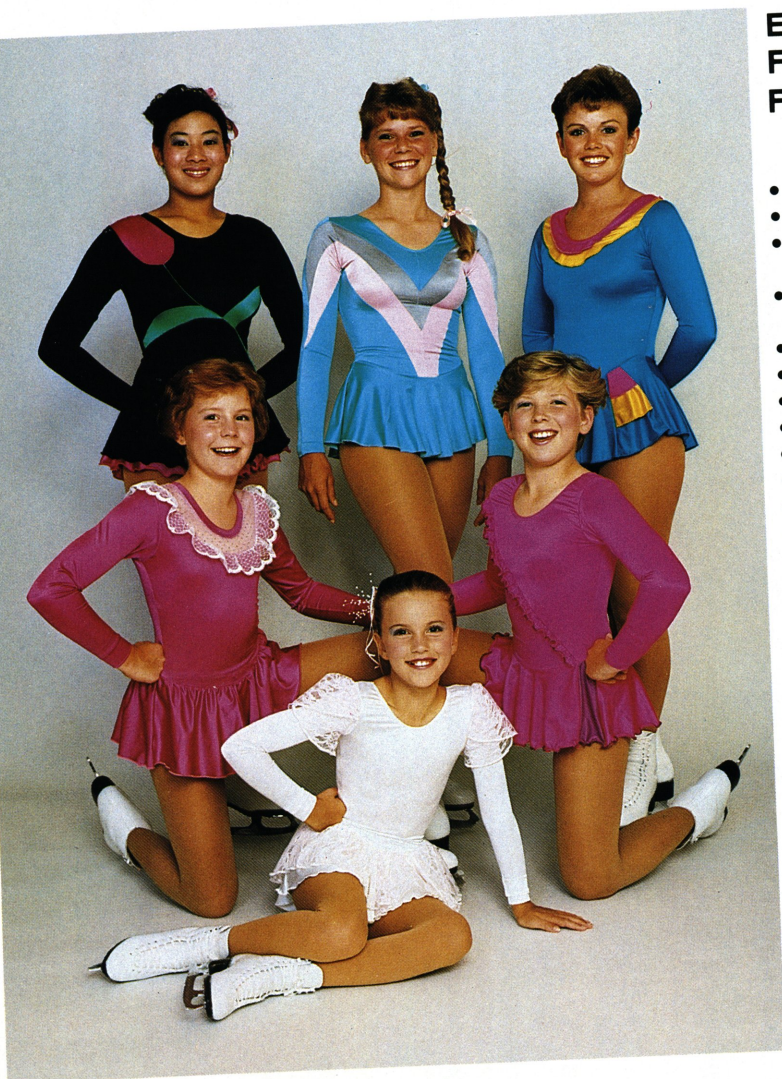


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COVER:
America's history on ice could not be better
illustrated than by Jackson Haines,
"The American Skating King" of the 1860's,
and his descendant Donald Adair,
1986 U.S. Dance Champion.
A full report of "Celebration . . .
America on Ice" will be featured
in the December issue.

PHOTOS: The World Figure Skating Hall of Fame
and Museum & Judy Hammond

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Editor
DALE MITCH

Art Director
PAMELA S. GUIRE

Managing Editor
IAN A. ANDERSON

Advertising/Production
MARY ANN PURPURA

Contributors

T. Sundae Bafo-
Howard Bass – U.K.
Dennis L. Bird – Germany
Nigel Brown – Switzerland

Per Cock-Clausen – Denmark
Mary L. Clarke
Eva Gyorgy – Hungary
Ricky Harris
Junko Hiramatsu – Japan

Vivi-Anne Hulten
Frank Loeser Nowosad – Canada
Libby Slate
Eugene Turner
Benjamin T. Wright

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SKATING (ISSN: 0037-6132) is published by the United States Figure Skating Association, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. Phone (303) 635-5200. Subscription rate: United States and Canada, one year **\$12.00**. Foreign, one year **\$27.00**. Allow 6-8 weeks delivery of the first issue. Second Class postage paid at Colorado Springs and at additional mailing offices. SKATING is published monthly October through July (10 issues per year). Copyright 1986 by The United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA). **Postmaster: Please send FORM 3579 to SKATING, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.**

USFSA President – Hugh C. Graham, Jr., M.D.

Executive Director – Ian A. Anderson



Member: International Skating Union

SKATING is the official publication of
The United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA).



Group A Member

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION. 1. **Title of publication:** SKATING. 2. **Date of filing:** September 9, 1986. 3. **Frequency of issue:** monthly, except August and September. 3A. **No. of issues published annually:** 10. 3B. **Annual subscription price:** \$12.00. 4. **Location of known office of publication:** 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. 5. **Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the publishers:** 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. 6. **Publisher:** The United States Figure Skating Association, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. **Editor:** Dale Mitch, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. **Managing Editor:** Ian A. Anderson, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. 7. **Owner:** The United States Figure Skating Association (a Colorado Trust with no stockholders), 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. 8. **Known bondholder, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities:** none. 9. **For completion by non-profit organizations authorized to mail at special rates (Section 132.122, Postal Service Manual).** The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes: have not changed during preceding 12 months. 10. **Extent and nature of circulation:**

	Average 12 mos.	Single Issue
A. Total no. copies printed	31,104	32,032
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales	NONE	NONE
2. Mail Subscriptions	27,318	26,713
C. Total paid circulation	27,318	26,713
D. Free distribution by mail, carrier, or other means, samples, complimentary, and other free copies	276	274
E. Total Distribution	27,594	26,987
F. Copies not distributed		
1. Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing	3,510	5,045
2. Returns from news agents	NONE	NONE
G. Total	31,104	32,032

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

(signed)

Dale Mitch
Editor

News Briefs

In answer to inquiries about the United States Open Professional Figure Skating Championships, the event will be held in Rochester, Minnesota, December 19 to 21, at the Recreation Center. The Challenge Event will be held on Friday evening, with the Dance OSP, Ladies' and Pairs' short on Saturday afternoon, and the Dance Free, Men's Short, and Pairs' Long on Saturday evening. Sunday afternoon will include the Ladies' and Men's Long, the awards ceremony, and an exhibition.

For additional information write to U.S. Professional Championships, P.O. Box 5904, Rochester, MN 55903.

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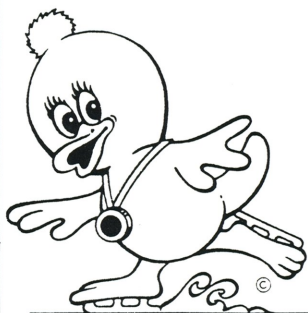
The USFSA Membership Committee will sponsor Membership Seminars at all of the regional competitions this year. Please check with the Regional Championship chairman for the exact date and time. The seminars are open to all clubs and club members who are interested in discussing ways and means to serve current members, seek and increase membership, and other individual concerns.

☆ ☆ ☆

The XVth Olympic Winter Games Organizing Committee is now accept-

ing ticket orders for the Calgary Games to be held February 13 to 28, 1988. Telephone 403-270-6088 for order forms or write Olympic Tickets, P.O. Box 1988, Station M, Calgary, Alberta T2P 4E7, Canada. Forms are also available at travel agencies and selected American Automobile Association (AAA) Clubs. Tickets will be issued on a first-come basis, allocated by "best available seating." Distribution will be determined by date of postmark. Allow 60 days for written confirmation of orders. Details on skating tickets will be published as they are known.

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Since "Gooley" the duck first took to the ice in New York with "Bebie" the beaver, he (she) has been an instant hit as the mascot for the 1987 U.S. Championships in Tacoma. Though Gooley is shy by nature, in the coming months, he will make several hundred appearances throughout the Seattle-Tacoma area and surrounding vicinity for promotion of the championships. In reality,

Gooley is not one but five different young ladies from the Lakewood Winter Club who will be skating incognito to the hit song "Gooley, Gooley" (or Louie, Louie).

For most of us unfamiliar with the Northwest, the name Gooley is something of an inside joke, because geoduck is not really a duck at all. It is a giant clam found in the Puget Sound waters that is a great delicacy. The name supposedly comes from its extended shape out of the shell, resembling a duck. So don't go running to your Funk and Wagnalls to look up Gooley under water fowls. You won't find him there. You will find him winning the hearts of children and adults alike and waiting to greet you in Tacoma.

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"A Party on the Pond," the gala opening of Donald Trump's gift to New York City, the new Wollman Rink in Central Park, will take place November 22. Produced by Dick Button and Aja Zanova Steindler, the "party" will feature guest artists to kick off the skating season, Scott Hamilton, Dorothy Hamill, Jayne Torvill, Christopher Dean, Robin Cousins, Judy Blumberg, Michael Seibert, Peggy Fleming, Debi Thomas, the Hot Fudge Sundaes Precision Team, and Jessica Mueller Kramer and an ensemble of New York Skating Club members.

☆ ☆ ☆

ATLANTA DISCARDS THE OLD AND WELCOMES THE NEW

by Catherine M. Hackney

Have you ever imagined skating on an ice rink that has a ceiling support beam going right up the center, or skating on a rink which is an old garage converted from an wrestling arena? Well, the Atlanta Figure Skating Club has had several home rinks during its history, some of which were just like the ones mentioned above. Through the years the AFSC has been based at various rinks, and they are now in a new facility which just opened October 6.



Left to right, Ricky Bentley, manager, and Mary and Bruce Stultz, owners.

Without the assistance and support of Bruce and Mary Stultz the new rink would never have materialized. It all started in 1974 when the Atlanta FSC moved its principal skating headquarters to the Parkaire Olympic Ice Rink, managed by Mr. Stultz and located in the Parkaire Mall, one of the first rinks of its kind in the Southeast. Mr. Stultz's dream of promoting quality figure skating in Atlanta was made a reality by the rink's emphasis on the development of the figure skater. He is the driving force behind the opening of the *new* Parkaire Olympic Ice Rink which is part of the mall area redevelopment. When

completed the complex will be known as the Parkaire Landing. It will contain several separate buildings, the ice rink, specialty shops and stores, built and owned by Sigma Development, Inc.

The ice surface is regulation size, there are comfortable dressing room areas, a snack bar, a second floor workout room with glass windows overlooking the rink, and adequate seating for both figure skating and hockey events. The new brick-faced building is at the opposite end of the mall where the former rink was located, but is in a building completely separate from any of the shops. The old rink will soon be torn down and replaced with specialty stores. Although it retains the same name, the new rink, located at the corner of Lower Roswell Road and Johnson's Ferry Road, offers expanded facilities and the best possible equipment and environment for training for skaters of all levels.

The new rink contains the finest equipment by Ice Systems, Inc. and will provide quality ice year-round. There will be full skating programs available, including hockey for all ages, and even off-ice training under the direction of Lawton Hydrick, the Assistant Athletic Director of Sports for Georgia Tech.

Atlanta and the Atlanta FSC has grown into quite a hub for figure skaters in the Southeast, producing numerous national competitors and quality judges. Many of the Atlanta FSC's judges are active in various USFSA Committees. Susan Johnson, currently Chairman of Judges and on the Executive Committee was the Atlanta FSC's first International Judge. Jacki Farrell, Leslie Sikes, Paul Binkley, Valory Vennes, and Laura



Coach Dale Wright, with national competitors Colin VanderVeen, Mary Anne Morgan, and coach Susan Dabney.

Steele are examples of skaters who have trained with and represented the Atlanta FSC.

Competing in the 1986 U.S. Championships, Pete Roberson, Colin VanderVeen, Debbie Walls, and Mary Anne Morgan can also be added to the list of the Atlanta FSC's national competitors. Mary Anne Morgan and Colin VanderVeen both placed fourth in the Novice Division. After narrowly missing third in Figures, Mary Anne received a first, two seconds, and two thirds in the Free Skating event. She performed a very balanced program and missed a bronze medal by a fraction of a point. She started her skating career in Atlanta and is guided by her skating pro Susan Dabney. Mary Anne hopes to achieve her goals at competitions in this year's Junior Ladies' Division. Colin VanderVeen's performance in Novice Men was also outstanding. He was one percentage point behind first place in Figures and finished Fourth over all. Colin is trained under the direction of Dale Wright and Lew Elkin and also hopes to do well in Junior Men this year.

The Atlanta FSC is very excited about its new home. The new Parkaire Olympic Ice Rink is owned by Mr. Bruce

Stultz, managed by Ricky Bentley, and under the figure skating direction of Lynn Thompson (PSGA Master Rated). The Club plans to continue hosting qualifying competitions, an annual ice show, The Atlanta Open Figures and Free Skating competition, and to develop strong competitors and judges. In the South, the Atlanta FSC is one of the leaders in nurturing young skaters and encouraging people of all ages to participate in the fun of figure skating.



The Last Brush-up by Parkaire Staff (sitting, Tom Zink) front row, left to right, Lew Elkin, Dale Wright, Julia Janas, Susan Dabney, Charles Miller, Michael Sweat, and Vicki Ballard. Back row, left to right, Tami Mickle, Lynn Thompson (director), Bill Close, Agnes Zink, Pam Levitt, and Marcia Chaffee.



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Recently, a professional acquaintance of mine told of watching a pupil perform outrageously on a test. "She didn't line anything up, didn't trace, didn't make circles—it was horrible. And she *passed!* All three judges!" I asked the pro if he had walked onto the ice to see the test afterward. "Of course not," he replied, "but I could tell. It was so obvious!"

Uh-huh. Obvious. Perhaps I should have begun this differently. Maybe it should have started with a quote from a short piece in a 1939 *Skating* magazine.

"The Lake Placid Open Summer Competitions were conducted by a committee of United States and Canadian Senior competitors . . . We skaters witnessed another important situation: that of judging from the audience vs. judging on the ice. The false impressions of school figures that many of the audience get have brought a lot of unfair criticism on the heads of qualified judges. Take, for example, a situation in the Placid competition. A young skater did an apparently very good forward change double three, tracing it very well. But on examining the turns more closely, it was noticed that out of the twelve threes ten had sizable flats. How easily a spectator in the stands could be misled into supposing that the figure was good in all respects . . ."

The author? Yeah, you guessed it. I was eighteen then, and nothing has occurred since to change my mind. Here are four stories to back up that opinion:

Case No. 1. He was a young professional on his eighth test. A hard worker, he had developed the test to where it was in good shape. For instance, flats were non-existent. On the day of the test, he showed up with a serious ingrown toenail (if you've never had one, don't laugh!) and a heavy cold, but still, nothing to fear, he was solid, and seemed so all the way through—until the judges spoke up. "Sorry, every single turn was flat." *Flats?*

Case No. 2. This one concerns a lovely young skater with an odd style of skating figures. Some would be put off by it, as was one particular instructor who followed the girl's teacher during a National Senior figures event, scratching his head, mumbling, sometimes uttering a doleful comment, until the girl's coach was a nervous wreck. The girl finished with firsts across-the-board, but



the coach needed reassurance. The first judge he questioned said, "Marvelous figures. You were worried?"

Case No. 3. Same story. Same coach. Different pessimistic professional "friend." Different situation, too: Gold figure test. "Friend" more pessimistic. Coach dying. Test over. Judges total. Result set. Judge approaches, "Finest Gold test I ever judged!"

Case No. 4. The professional watches his daughter with horror. She looks terrible doing her competitive figures. Her mother has been coaching her and has reassured him the girl traces beautifully, but she appears spastic. The event finishes, still no results, and from the back seat of the car comes "How d'you think I did, Dad?" Dad winces. "Terry, better be prepared for the worst!" Car is filled with gloom. I phone. "Please, would you check the board?" Long pause. "You said her name is Terry Turner? She's first?" I snort. "You don't understand. Check again. T-E-R-R-Y T-U . . ." The voice was patient. "Yes, as I said, she is first!" More disgust. "No, look, get someone else to check, there's no way . . ."

There are a dozen other stories, but perhaps that's enough . . . I hope, and so much for "distant" decisions.

Eugene Turner, 1940 and 1941 U.S. Men's as well as Pairs' Champion with partner Donna Atwood, skated professionally as partner to Sonja Henie and coached many national, world and Olympic medalists, among them Tenley Albright. He was inducted into the U.S. Figure Skating (now World Figure Skating) Hall of Fame in 1983.



PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FOR AMATEUR SKATERS: WHAT BIOMECHANICS CAN DO FOR FIGURE SKATING

by Sergei Yu. Aleshinsky, Ph.D.

Figure skating competitions are extremely popular all over the world. Why is this event so attractive? Why is the audience so enthusiastic about it? Of course, it is impossible to give an exhaustive answer. However, the greatest contribution in "the figure skating phenomenon" is made by a unique combination of the highly competitive atmosphere for this "action sport" and a spirit of the theater's artistry and creativity.

Figure skating technique has been making continuous progress. Comparison of the pictures of the first champions, executing single jumps or plain spirals in a very proud, but sometimes slightly awkward manner (Fig. 1), with the modern performances (Fig. 2), evokes a kind of smile. Perhaps twenty to forty years from now, videotapes of the present will produce the same reaction from our grandchildren. Who knows? One thing is

clear—the existence of "the figure skating phenomenon" is a great gift to us.

Rapid growth of the skater's technique is especially evident for the jumps. Combinations with triples, sometimes including a triple Lutz or even a triple Axel (Brian Boitano), can be seen at high ranking competitions; attempts to accomplish quadruple jumps have already been made.

The teaching and refinement of such a complicated technique definitely is not an easy task. How keen must the eye of a coach be to correct mistakes in the position of body segments during flight, if angular velocity of a skater, relative to the vertical axis of rotation, can exceed 2,000 degrees per second? Filming or videotaping can help "to stretch



Fig. 1 Herma Szabo.



Fig. 2 Denise Biellmann.

performance" and serve as "the first technical aid." However, movement registration per se, can give neither objective data (speed, jump height and length, etc.) nor recommendation for performance improvement. Biomechanical analysis can give such information because what audience and judges evaluate in skating is the quality of mechanical movement. The study of mechanical movement of/in biological systems is the subject of biomechanics. Without a doubt, high physiological and psychological qualities are also extremely important for an athlete but only as contributions to the perfectly organized mechanical movement.

Although biomechanics originated as a science dealing with living organisms, (Aristotle was probably the first biomechanist), only recently has biomechanical study been focused on the technical problems of some chosen sports. Such a study requires performance registration (filming, for example), input into the computer of the positions (coordinates) of the important body points (usually joint's centers of rotations are taken) and subsequent calculation and analysis of the biomechanical characteristics of performance.

Some of the reasons why figure skating has not been previously studied by biomechanics are:

- (1) The movements in figure skating are very fast and three-dimensional and consequently are difficult to record;
- (2) All segments of the skater's body are involved in motion and processing the information is a very time-consuming task;
- (3) Mathematical description of a skater's body motion in three-dimensional space is a complicated problem.

The consolidation of newly developed equipment with the concepts of modern theoretical biomechanics can already help overcome all of the obstacles enumerated above. These techniques are:

- (1) Precise high-speed cameras with resolution less than 1 mm are now available. Such cameras can produce several hundred pictures of the skater's sequential positions during the jump flight phase, which lasts only about half a second.

We know that film gives only a planar (two-dimensional) image of the

three-dimensional real world. For some sports when the movements of all of the relevant body segments are approximately in the same plane (cycling, for example), two-dimensional filming is quite adequate for analysis.

The art of figure skating depends greatly upon the ability to use forces generated while gliding around curves and, therefore, this sport requires a three-dimensional approach. The solution of the three-dimensional problem is based upon the technique of simultaneously filming the same scene from different positions with more than one camera. If, also, a stationary object of known size resting in the field of view of all cameras is filmed, (a cube, for example), then a special computer program can reconstruct (in the computer's memory) three-dimensional body positions from two-dimensional films. This method is named Direct Linear Transformation (or DLT).

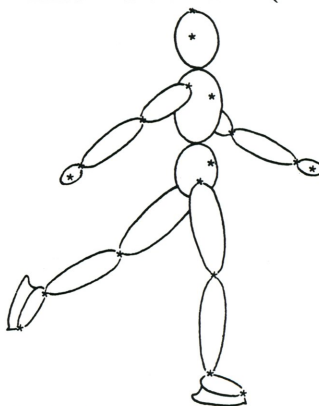


Fig. 3 15-link model of a figure skater's body. Asterisks correspond to the 21 reference points, whose coordinates are the base for the computerized biomechanical analysis.

- (2) To apply DLT we need to input the body segment coordinates into the computer. For this purpose, special "digitizing systems" are used. Each of the two-dimensional films taken (of the same performance) is projected frame after frame on the special "digitizing tablet." The operator then moves "the cursor" over the surface of the tablet and presses the button when the cursor's crosshair and joint's center are

superimposed. At this instant, the relative coordinates of the joint are read out to the computer's memory. Such semi-automatic method of digitization radically reduces processing time compared to the manual measurement method.

- (3) Now the computer "knows" about the skater's movement. To answer the question, "Why did the skater move in this particular way?" (calculations of muscular forces developed by the skater must be made to accomplish this), we must supply the computer with the skater's body build features (i.e. weight of the different segments of the body, their moments of inertia, and so on).

Results of the radio-isotopic method recently developed in the Moscow Central Institute of Physical Culture, allow for the above-mentioned "internal parameters" to be predicted on the basis of external measurements (such as body weight, height, segmental circumferences, and skinfold thickness).

Thus, the computer now has the information of "how it moves" and "what moves." The answer to the question "Why?" can be found through the use of the method developed for the three-dimensional biomechanical analysis of human movement.¹ This method is based on the representation of the human body by a model (Fig. 3) which is comprised of a branching chain links. Each link has parameters such as mass, length, circumference, and so on, which correspond to those of the studied human object. From the filming of this subject's performance, the motion of the model's links can be obtained. From the results of the radio-isotopic method, link parameters can

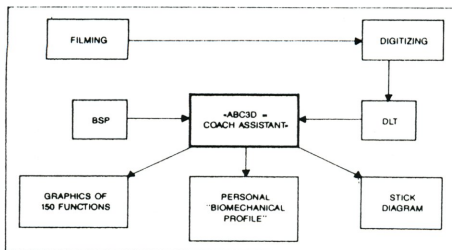


Fig. 4 Block-scheme of biomechanical analysis.

be predicted. The methods of theoretical mechanics, applied to the moving model, allow for the determination of all of the valuable biomechanical characteristics of the movement including the joint muscular moments produced by a subject.

In the summer of 1985, at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, the practical realization of the methods of the biomechanical analysis for figure skating was begun.² The crucial feature of this project was the creation of the computer program "ABC3D=COACH ASSISTANT" (ABC3D means "Analysis Biomechanical Computerized Three-Dimensional").

The entire procedure consisted of (Fig. 4): (1) the filming of the chosen figure skating element by three precise high-speed cameras (Locam, with filming frequency 100 frames per second), situated around the ice rink; (2) digitization (a computerized digitizing system contains a Vanguard projector and Talos digitizing tablet) of each of the films providing the three sets of two-dimensional positions for the 21 points representing the figure skater's body (principal joints and also point on the head and trunk); (3) transformation (DLT computer program) of this data into the one set of three-dimensional positions for the above-mentioned 21 body points; (4) calculation of the individual body segment characteristics (results of the radio-isotopic

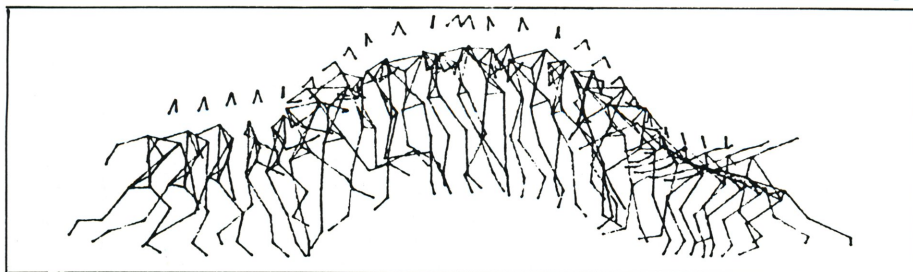


Fig. 5 Example of the information output in the form of a stick-figure diagram.

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method) for the skater; and, finally (5) processing all of the information (computer Data General/Eclipse System MV/4000) with the computer program "ABC3D=COACH ASSISTANT." This program is based upon the mathematical description of the three-dimensional human body model of the movement. The body model consists of 15 links, corresponding to the principal segments (hands, lower and upper arms, feet, lower and upper legs, head, pelvis, and chest, see Fig. 3). The completeness and precision of the analysis is unique (normally only two-dimensional movements of extremities, represented by two or three links, are considered). The program ABC3D provided 542 biomechanical characteristics for each registered attempt, which can be presented in digital and/or graphical form. Also, consecutive positions of the body can be observed with the "stick-figure" diagram representing the movement (Fig. 5).

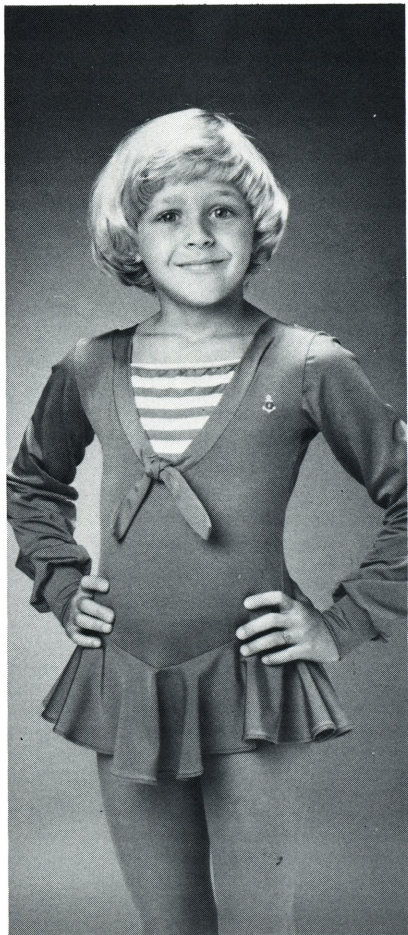
For the verification of the method, the figure skating jumps were chosen due to their technical complexity and significance. Four subjects executed Axel, Salchow, toe loop and flip jumps. It is important to emphasize that the only goal of the first step in the pilot study was to unite the above enumerated procedures into the system of biomechanical analysis of figure skating technique and to examine the viability of the method. However, some unexpected facts about jump techniques were brought to light which will be discussed next month.

FOOTNOTES

¹S. Yu. Aleshinsky and V.M. Zatsiorsky, *Journal of Biomechanics*, (1978), Vol. 11, pp. 101-108.

²Division of Sports Medicine and Science Director - Robert O. Voy, M.D., Sports Science Program Director - Dr. Charles J. Dillman, Project Director - Dr. Sergei Yu. Aleshinsky.

Dr. Sergei Yu. Aleshinsky, former Member of the Council of the USSR Sports Committee on the Problems of Biomechanics, is the author of more than sixty scientific publications. He holds a Ph.D. from the Department of Mechanics and Mathematics of the Moscow University. Dr. Aleshinsky (Junior Men Moscow Champion and later leading soloist of the Moscow State Ensemble "Ballet On Ice") has been invited to the U.S. Olympic Training Center for biomechanical study of figure skating techniques.



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1986 Goodwill Games Impressions from Moscow

by Tiffany Chin

My first glimpse of Russia was from the plane, while we were approaching the Sheremetyevo airport. Sheremetyevo is a city just outside of Moscow. Russia was not only different from the plain landscape I thought it would be, but it was also one of the most beautiful sights that I had ever seen. It was so green and lush, it almost seemed tropical. I couldn't wait to see what it would be like on the ground.

After gathering our bags and joining the other team members, we took a forty-five minute bus ride to the Rossiya Hotel in Moscow. The Rossiya was unique in that its shape was like a hollowed-out cube. It was twelve stories high and had the capacity to house 3,000 people. All the athletes participating in the Goodwill Games stayed here. One funny thing about the hotel was that each of the entrances had the same glass doors, the same type of guards, and the same flags. Some of us found ourselves circling the building in confusion trying to locate the right door. I think we would have been fine if they had a huge sign saying something like Door #1 or Door #2 to help us.

While in Moscow, I always had to remember to carry my pass. No one could get anywhere without it. Guards were at the doors of the hotel and at the rink to check the passes. I was surprised at how conscientious the guards were, to not only check that we had our passes, but to actually look at our pictures on our passes! Guards became a common sight and were to be seen everywhere. The streets in town were no exception. They were at the intersections, in front of buildings, or just patrolling the streets. Even going to the rink, we (the skaters) had our own guard.

Luckily entrances, passes, and guards were all minor details for me. My real problem was

adjusting to the time change. Most of us had some trouble since it would be light until 10:00 P.M. and then the sun would come out at 4:00 A.M. Guess who was up to greet the sun every morning? *Me!* I never adjusted to the time schedule, which meant quite a few naps.

Walking around was a wonderful way to become more familiar with the surroundings. It was also an education. The people on the streets usually walked with a quickness and a sense of purpose. It was common to see most of them traveling towards the same direction. Often a street or an intersection would be very crowded—masses of people—while all the other streets would be empty. The crowd didn't just fade off, they disappeared, along with the same type of face—solemn. The first impression is that they are not very friendly and that it would be wise to stay away from them. A smile on the streets was rarely seen. It almost seemed as if a smile was a sign of weakness. But, once a conversation was started, it was plain to see that they are just as warm and kind as you or me.

Our skating schedule was well planned. It could be compared with the type held at Nationals or Worlds. The practice times were



Exterior of Lenin Stadium Palace of Sports.

TIFFANY CHIN

organized by the countries and events. Each had two practice sessions a day. The Lenin Stadium Palace of Sports was big and the ice was wonderful. If anyone at practice had a question, there was always an interpreter with us to help out. We (the skating team) had four interpreters. They were all very kind, patient, and eager to help.

The trip wouldn't have been as successful, or fun without the help of our team leaders, Bonnie McLauthlin, Joyce Komperda, and Dr. Howard M. Silby. They were great! They worked hard to take care of everything: schedules, transportation, airline tickets, and passports, just to name a few. Many things were hard to get, like souvenirs. Thanks to our team leaders, we bought everything available. One service that was unexpectedly used was that of our team doctor. At least half of the team needed his help for either sickness or injury. We all were very grateful that he was there.

One of the highlights of this trip was the chance to see a Russian circus. It was amazing what they did with the amount of space they had. In a one-ring circus they had half a dozen galloping horses, incredibly wonderful people on skateboards, and much more! The most amazing thing was that the ground that supported all of this was removable, and a swimming tank was underneath! Seals and synchronized swimmers occupied the water.

Our three days of practice went by quickly which brought us to the fifteenth and sixteenth of July. Showtime! And what a show it was to be. One exhibition was performed

on each night. It was quite a long exhibition, though just the American and Soviet skaters were performing, plus Petr Barna of Czechoslovakia. With a long list of skaters and a wide variety of styles came many very entertaining programs. The excitement didn't let up for a minute, and neither did the crowd.

Some skaters worried a little over how well our music would be received by them. Well, worries were quickly put to rest for they loved it and were very warm and receptive to our American programs. It was wonderful to be in a show with so much top quality skating. Besides the wonderful performances were the friendships that were made or strengthened.

In the late afternoon of the seventeenth, all of us (the U.S. skating team) were on the bus heading back towards the airport. This was a wonderful chance to reflect on all that had taken place. With the show behind us, we were looking forward to going home. Our trip to Moscow was one that none of us will ever forget! So many new experiences, friendly people, and good times were shared together. I felt we gained much during our stay.

Besides the success of the show, we now have a better understanding of the Russian people and their life. We saw their homes and surroundings and heard their music and language. By living among them for a short time, we gained a better understanding of their actions and thoughts. By now many familiar tunes were being sung on the bus. Songs from home. It was time to move on. Good-byes were said, or as the Russians say, "Dah svedahn yah!"





1986 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAKE PLACID, NEW YORK, AUGUST 19-24, 1986

by Mary-Lucile Ager

The second annual National Collegiate Figure Skating Championships were held again in Lake Placid in late August. Under the capable chairmanship of Patricia Hagedorn, the competition brought together an outstanding academic group of dedicated young people, each with the same common bond, skating and education. All entrants were fulltime college students, had passed the Senior freestyle or figure tests, or both, and had prior competitive experience.

Although strangers to each other when they arrived in the Olympic Village, all were good friends upon leaving. Their "rap sessions" contained many high-level subjects, other than skating. The 1985 Collegiate Ladies' Champion, Kathaleen Kelly, of Harvard University, summed up beautifully the feeling in saying, "I love this competition. It's

great! You meet so many wonderful people from across the country, see what they're doing, and exchange ideas. It was terrific to see so many from California!"

For this year's championships, figures were added to the competition as a separate event from the freestyle. The competitors liked the separation as it gave them a choice. Not all of the skaters entered both events.

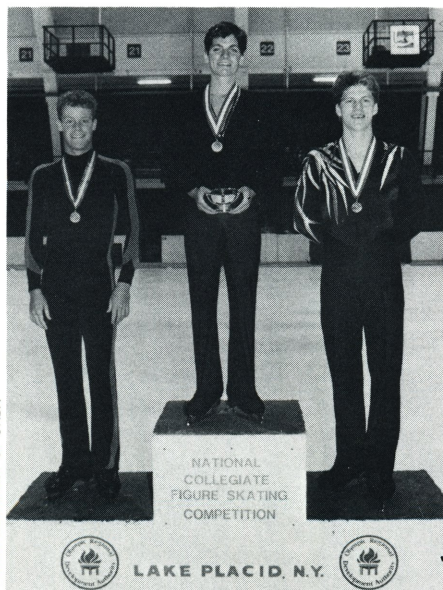
The men's division was particularly strong with five of the seven athletes being current national competitors, including two former U.S. Junior Champions. Harvard University's Paul Wylie, who placed fifth in the 1986 U.S. Senior Men's Championship, was the competition's big winner, taking the gold in both figures and freestyle, but not without having to come from behind in the latter.

In the figure event, Wylie won all three figures. William Lawe, El Camino Community College, was second and Tom Zakrajsek, University of Denver, was third. Kelby Riley, State University of New York, Plattsburgh, was fourth, while Steven Rice, Pierce College, finished fifth.

In the short program of the freestyle competition, skating to "Fabulous Feet" from *Tap Dance Kid*, Wylie's own feet crossed him up, making him miss his combination and putting him in third place. Tom Zakrajsek, who placed twelfth in the 1986 U.S. Championships, won the event with a stunning triple Lutz/double toe, plus all the other elements solidly done.

A college junior in the honors program, Tom juggles skating, school, and a job. He was the only one who said that skating and carrying a full educational program wasn't difficult. He said, "School helps balance me as a person and actually improves my skating." This is a well-organized person, feet solidly on the ground with a bright future ahead, no matter what his endeavors.

William Lawe, 1984 U.S. Junior Champion, skating to "Mack and Mabel" was sec-



MEN'S FIGURES

Paul Wylie, Gold; William Lawe, Silver;
Tom Zakrajsek, Bronze

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ORDA



MEN'S FREESTYLE

Paul Wylie, Gold; Tom Zakrajsek, Silver;
William Lawe, Bronze

ond. Lawe, also a college junior who will switch to the University of Southern California in December, is recently back on ice after suffering a stress fracture and broken ankle. He too budgets his time well to fit in skating, bike riding, jazz classes, plus a small self-owned business as an art representative. He is not yet back to full strength, but daily physical therapy has him rapidly improving. David Jamison, Community College of Philadelphia, was fourth in the short program, and Steven Rice, fifth.

Paul Wylie, incoming freshman at Harvard, has been on the competition trail for most of his twenty-one years. He was the 1980 U.S. Junior Pairs Champion with Dana Graham, and 1981 Junior Men's Champion, and has won many other titles, including silver medalist at this year's U.S. Olympic Festival. Skating the same medal-winning long program as in Houston, he dazzled the audience with a display of triple jumps (flip, Lutz, and two toe loops, one in combination) plus superb spins and footwork, confidently relaxed and smiling. He skates with an artistic style that rivals the best in the world. Performing to a blend of music from *The Natural*, *The River*, "1984 Olympic Fanfare,"

and "Montreal Olympics," he brought the audience to its feet, and himself from third to a solid first-place finish.

Tom Zakrajsek took the silver with his strong skating, triples (Lutz, toe, Salchow, and flip on which he fell). His high delayed Axel and tuck Axel were very reminiscent of Charlie Tickner's. William Lawe, skating smoothly to a beautiful medley from *Porgy and Bess*, won the bronze. Steven Rice, displaying a solid program of multi-jumps, spins, and intricate footwork, placed second in the freestyle, which pulled him up to a final fourth place. A smooth and stylish David Jamison was fifth. Kelby Riley, sixth and Robin Lewis, University of Alabama, junior, was seventh.

Lewis is seeking dual degrees (Bachelor of Science, business management major, and Bachelor of Arts, humanities, music major). He has been a victim of the many rink closings, and been without ice until very recently. His presence was a decided asset to the competition, and he said emphatically, "I will come back again."

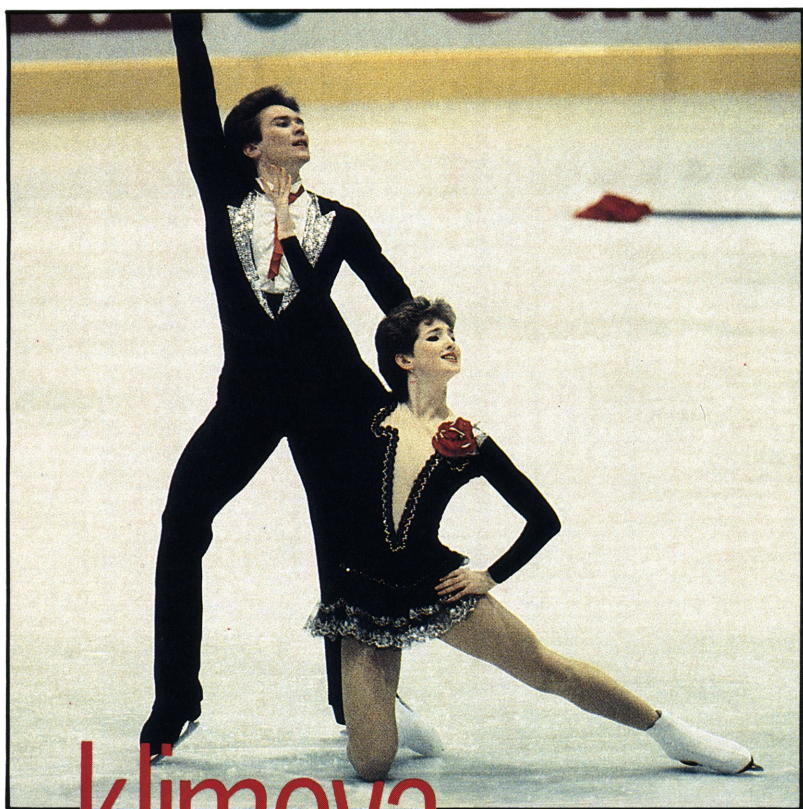
The ladies' division was also a strong group this year. Only two of last year's competitors

Continued on page 36



LADIES' FIGURES

Eileen Groth, Gold; Kathaleen Kelly, Silver;
Stefanie Schmid, Bronze



INGRID BUTT

klimova & ponomarenko

Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko were official guests of the United States Olympic Committee at the U.S. Olympic Festival - '86 in Houston, where they performed in exhibition. Their appearance was part of the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation signed between the U.S. Olympic Committee and the National Olympic Committee of the Soviet Union, which covers numerous exchanges between the two Olympic committees.

From Houston, Klimova and Ponomarenko traveled to Colorado Springs to train and appear as guest artists in the annual Broadmoor summer ice review. While there, the couple visited the USFSA Headquarters and the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame and Museum, where they were interviewed for this exclusive *Skating* feature.

Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko first garnered international attention and acclaim at the 1984 Olympic Winter Games in Sarajevo where they were awarded the bronze medal in dance. Their win in the free dance over Judy Blumberg and Michael Seibert, with tied ordinals and the heavily reported dispute over acceptable music, only fueled the attention given the young couple. Since that time, they have gone on to establish themselves as one of the most successful and popular international dance teams.

Relaxing in the Hall of Fame gallery, Marina and Sergei speak enthusiastically about their visit to the United States. They were here once before, for the 1984 World Tour, but did not stay long enough in one place to really relax and enjoy the sights and meet many people. The two weeks in Colorado they call a type of vacation, despite daily workouts, performances, and teaching.

Though generally quiet and very unassuming, they are heartily good natured and laugh about adjustment to climate changes. "We have traveled and been in warm places, but I have never been so hot as in Houston. The arena was very warm, but so were the people to us. After skating, I was a little dizzy. Then I come to Colorado, and I am dizzy from the altitude. But Marina was too, a little. But it is very good also, to practice in the altitude. Some people never think of it, but when you travel, it is something you should be ready for."

Sergei is more fluent verbally in English than Marina, though she understands quite well if one speaks slowly, and she answers slowly, carefully translating into a second language. In answer to questions, the two often confer in Russian, laughing in trying to find the right word in English. Marina pokes Sergei in the ribs. "My English is as good as his. He just talks more and faster," and they both laugh again.

Giving a brief biography, Sergei, who is twenty-six, relates, "I was born in Moscow and went to school there. Everyone in Moscow skates when they are young. I started skating serious at about age ten. I worked first in men's singles, and then later skated pairs before I begin dance under coach Natalia Dubova in 1976," with whom he has studied ever since.

"And football," Marina adds.

"Soccer," Sergei smiles. He is an avid soccer fan, and it is a little hard to imagine when he admits that at one time he "seriously considered playing soccer instead of skating. I still like to play."

"He plays better soccer than chess," Marina chides, and Sergei states that chess is a hobby, and he is working to improve his game.

Marina, now twenty, was born in Sverdlovsk. "I think I began to skate when I was about six. But I also started dancing. I was drawn to *both* dance *and* skating. I studied ballet and skating before I went to Moscow, and also joined with Natalia in 1978. It was there



DALE MITCH

Sergei and I met and became partners."

"She was the best in her division and we matched well from the first day," Sergei adds.

They matched well on the ice and off, and the autumn following the Olympic Games, were married. They now reside in Moscow only "twenty minutes by car



DALE MITCH

from the rink at the Spartak Club," which is their training center.

The Spartak Club is more than just a local club, as we might think of it. It is a large training center that includes several ice surfaces for both figure skating, hockey, and speed skating training, as well as facilities for track and field and other sports and complete off-ice training rooms for weight lifting, exercise, and a dance studio. Each of the departments is under the direction of separate supervisors who work closely to develop individualized training programs for each athlete.

A normal training schedule for Marina and Sergei may not be as extensive as expected. They begin about nine in the morning for two hours and then attend classes at the Moscow Institute of Physical Culture. They then have an hour ballet class before their second ice session which lasts another two and one-quarter hours. During the competition season they may have an occasional short evening session but not on a regular schedule. However, in the summer when they are planning and developing new programs, they usually spend another hour and one-half in the evening after dinner on the ice.

Recently they have added weight training and workouts with the track and field coaches as part of their regular routine, which Sergei says he enjoys very much. "It is working with weight machines," he explains, "and the first time we started it was great, and we really like it." Anyone who has seen the Ponomarenkos perform are aware of their individual strength and seemingly endless reserve of energy, as evidenced in their seven and one-half minute exhibition number, "A Salute to Ballet."

They work exclusively with coach Natalia Dubova, and Elena Kholina acts as their choreographer as well as for others at the Spartak Club. Their rise on the international scene has been steady. In 1985 Marina and Sergei won the Moscow News competition, where they received their first mark of 6.0 in the free dance, and went on to win the Soviet National Championships, where they received another 6.0 in the compulsory Waltz. They also placed second in both the 1985 Europeans and Tokyo Worlds. In 1986 they were second in the Soviet Championships, with two more 6.0's in the free dance, and second in the Europeans, with one 6.0, as well as second at the Geneva Worlds, again.

They speak of the rivalry between themselves and fellow countrymen and World champions, Natalia Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin as "good natured?"

"They also live in Moscow but train at a different club. We are friends off the ice and competitors on the ice. Our styles are very different, and that is good. Sometimes people try to make more out of the competition between us, because we are number one and number two, than there is. It is no different than any other skaters who compete?"

When asked about the apparent division of judges at times between the two dance couples and their differing styles, they shrug. "We think about judges when we practice, maybe, what they will be looking for and what they will see. When we skate at competition, we cannot think about such things then. We skate the best we can for the joy it gives us. Then maybe . . . after competition, we wonder about the judges. At the time, there is too much around you and in your head. Worry is before and after."

In speaking of their style, which is more classically oriented, Sergei says simply, "This is where we feel more comfortable. We like the classical, though maybe traditional is better word. Our

background has been in the traditional. But for us, it is really the way we can best express ourselves, to bring together all that we wish to express, and relate back and forth with the audience. It is . . . something that comes from within. It is our manner?" Without divulging much detail, Sergei stated that the new program for the 1987 season will be based on "classical folk music and incorporate many new ideas?"

When asked to compare training methods between the two countries, he commented, "They are all the same. American skaters are good, strong, with fine lines and good jumps, especially in singles. But I think it is the individual person more than anything else. We especially like to watch Brian Boitano, Wachsman and Waggoner, your ladies, Debi Thomas, Tiffany Chin, and Caryn Kadavy. Kadavy we especially like?"

They smile when asked about the 1987 World Championships. "We look forward to coming back to the U.S. and, of course, we hope to be in Canada for the Olympics." Americans are also looking forward to seeing Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko in Cincinnati, and many may enjoy their artistry in the national tour following the Worlds.



DALE MITCH

Sergei Ponomarenko, Caryn Kadavy, Brian Boitano, and Marina Klimova relax following the final performance of the Broadmoor summer ice revue in Colorado Springs.

'86 SKATE AMERICA

PORTLAND, MAINE
OCTOBER 16-19, 1986

MEN

JUDGES: 1-Irina Absaliamova, USSR; 2-Maria Bialous-Zuchowicz, Poland; 3-Donald McKnight, Australia; 4-Noriko Shiota, Japan; 5-Seppo Kurtti, Finland; 6-Fabio Bianchetti, Italy; 7-Georg Krummenacher, Switzerland; 8-Susan Blatz, Canada; 9-J. Barlow Nelson, USA. SUBSTITUTE: Rudolf Zorn, Austria. REFEREE: Tjasa Andree Prosenc, Yugoslavia. REFEREE: Tjasa Andree Prosenc, Yugoslavia. ASSISTANT REFEREE: John McKay, Canada.

	CF	SP	FS		PLACES
1.	2	1	1	Brian Boltano, USA	2.6
2.	4	2	2	Victor Petrenko, USSR	5.2
3.	3	3	3	Daniel Doran, USA	6.0
4.	5	5	4	Grzegorz Filipowski, Poland	9.0
5.	1	9	7	Heiko Fischer, Federal Republic of Germany	11.2
6.	7	7	5	Matthew Hall, Canada	12.0
7.	6	8	6	Paul Wylie, USA	12.8
8.	11	4	10	Tatsuya Fujii, Japan	18.2
9.	10	13	9	Cameron Medhurst, Australia	20.2
10.	14	11	8	Philippe Roncoli, France	20.8
11.	8	6	14	Oliver Hoener, Switzerland	21.2
12.	9	15	11	Alessandro Riccitelli, Italy	22.4
13.	13	10	12	Jaimee Eggleton, Canada	23.8
14.	15	12	13	Peter Johansson, Sweden	26.8
15.	12	14	15	Oula Jaaskelainen, Finland	27.8

LADIES

JUDGES: 1-Ubavka Novakovic, Yugoslavia; 2-Sally Rehorick, Canada; 3-Ingrid Reetz, Federal Republic of Germany; 4-Marina Sanaia, USSR; 5-Judit Furst-Tombor, Hungary; 6-Bjorn Elwin, Sweden; 7-Junko Hiramatsu, Japan; 8-Anne Shean, USA; 9-Monique Georgelin, France. SUBSTITUTE: Colin Jackson, Australia. REFEREE: Donald Gilchrist, Canada. ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hugh C. Graham, Jr., M.D., USA.

	CF	SP	FS		PLACES
1.	1	2	2	Tiffany Chin, USA	3.4
2.	8	1	1	Tonya Harding, USA	6.2
3.	4	3	3	Agnes Gosselin, France	6.6
4.	2	5	4	Tracey Damigella, USA	7.2
5.	3	7	8	Patricia Schmidt, Canada	12.6
6.	5	10	6	Claudia Villiger, Switzerland	13.0
7.	6	12	5	Patricia Neske, Federal Republic of Germany	13.4
8.	7	6	7	Pamela Giangualano, Canada	13.6
9.	9	4	10	Natalia Gorbenko, USSR	17.0
10.	10	9	9	Sachie Yuki, Japan	18.6
11.	13	8	11	Tamara Teglasy, Hungary	22.0
12.	11	11	13	Zeljka Cizmesija, Yugoslavia	24.0
13.	12	13	12	Lotta Falkenback, Sweden	24.4
14.	14	14	14	Pauline Lee, Taipei	28.0

PAIRS

JUDGES: 1-Ingrid Reetz, Federal Republic of Germany; 2-Marina Sanaia, USSR; 3-Georg Krummenacher, Switzerland; 4-Joseph L. Inman, USA; 5-Colin Jackson, Australia; 6-Junko Hiramatsu, Japan; 7-Bjorn Elwin, Sweden; 8-Norris Bowden, Canada; 9-Fabio Bianchetti, Italy. SUBSTITUTE: Ubavka Novakovic, Yugoslavia. REFEREE: Charles U. Foster, USA. ASSISTANT REFEREE: Alexandr Vedenin, USSR.

SP	FS	PLACES
1. 3	1 Katy Keeley & Joseph Mero, USA	2.2
2. 2	2 Denise Benning & Lyndon Johnston, Canada	2.8
3. 1	3 Ludmila Koblova & Andrey Kalitin, USSR	3.4
4. 4	4 Laurene Collin & John Penticost, Canada	5.6
5. 5	5 Kristi Yamaguchi & Rudy Galindo, USA	7.0
6. 6	6 Lori Blasko & Todd Sand, USA	8.4
7. 7	7 Cheryl Peake & Andrew Naylor, Great Britain	9.8

DANCE

JUDGES: 1-Mary A. Parry, Great Britain; 2-Lino Clerici, Italy; 3-Irina Absaliyeva, USSR; 4-Ronald T. Pfennig, USA; 5-Judit Furst-Tombor, Hungary; 6-Armelle VanEybergen-Flichy, France; 7-Rudolf Zorn, Austria; 8-Patricia Allen, Canada; 9-Noriko Shirota, Japan. SUBSTITUTION: Maria Bialous-Zuchowicz, Poland. REFEREE: Joyce Hisey, Canada. ASSISTANT REFEREE: Benjamin T. Wright, USA.

CD	OSP	FD	PLACES
1. 2	2	1 Isabelle Duchesnay & Paul Duchesnay, France	3.0
2. 1	1	2 Suzanne Semanick & Scott Gregory, USA	3.0
3. 3	3	3 Jo-Anne Borlase & Scott Chalmers, Canada	6.0
4. 5	4	4 Jodie Balogh & Jerod Swallow, USA	8.6
5. 4	5	5 Jill Heiser & Michael Verlich, USA	9.4
6. 6	6	6 Stefani Calegari & Pasquale Camerlengo, Italy	12.0
7. 7	7	7 Elizabeth Coates & Alan Abretti, Great Britain	14.0
8. 8	8	8 Melanie Cole & Martin Smith, Canada	16.0
9. 9	9	9 Ursula Holik & Herbert Holik, Austria	18.0

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Calendar

OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

13-16 **1987 Central Pacific Figure Skating Championships**, sponsored by the Peninsula FSC, at Belmont Iceland, 815 Old County Rd., Belmont, CA 94002. For information contact: Wesley Mark, Chairman 1987 Centrals, 654 Scorpio Lane, Foster City, CA 94404, 415-349-5583.

15-16 **Winterfest Weekend**, sponsored by the Greater Houston Skating Council at the Galleria Ice Capades Chalet Rink and the Sharpstown Ice Center. Annual citywide skating party featuring singles, pairs, dance, precision, and hockey exhibitions. For information contact: Mary Ann Carroll 713-223-8465.

DECEMBER

5-7 **Ice Crystals - A Musical Celebration on Ice**, sponsored by the Sierra Nevada FSC, at the Meadowood Ice Arena, Meadowood Mall, Reno, NV. For information contact: Sherry Eisan, Pres., or Meadowood Ice Arena, P.O. Box 70874, Reno, NV 89570-0874, 702-826-8991 or 702-825-4757.

27 **Lansing Christmas Freeskating Competition**, sponsored by the Lansing SC, at the Lansing Ice & Gymnastic Centre, 1475 Lake Lansing Rd., Lansing, MI 48912. For information contact: Don Thompson, 517-321-2591.

JANUARY

3 **Edith Scheonrock International Competition**, sponsored by the Port Huron FSC, at the McMorran Place Arena. For information contact: Marilyn Anderson, P.O. Box 562, Port Huron, MI 48060, 313-987-2155.

17 **Official Eastern Precision Judges School**, sponsored by the Northern New York Council of FSC's, at Lake Placid, NY. For information contact: Dorene Meyer, 95 Ruger St., Plattsburgh, NY 12901, 518-563-0149.

17-18 **Sixth Annual Omaha Winterfestival Invitational**, sponsored by the FSC of Omaha and Blade & Edge FSC of

Omaha, at the Hitchcock Park Ice Arena, Omaha, NE. Competition featuring Figures, Freestyle, Compulsories, Solo, Partner, and Adult Dance events among others, Beginner through Junior levels. For information contact: Daniel McNamara, P.O. Box 6592, Omaha, NE 68106, 402-342-2902 or Mrs. Barbara Bene, 402-333-5109.

24-25 **Fourth Annual Open Competition**, sponsored by the SC of New Hartford, at the New Hartford Recreation Center, Mill St., New Hartford, NY 13413. For information contact: Mrs. Mary Breslow, President, 13 Harrogate Rd., New Hartford, NY 13413, 315-797-6328.

30-31 **Fantasy on Ice in Space**, sponsored by the Pittsfield FSC, at the Pittsfield Boys' Club Rink, 16 Melville St., Pittsfield, MA. For information contact: Cynthia Jensen, Old Post Rd., Box 117, Worthington, MA 01098, 413-238-5348.

31 **Fraser Mid America Precision Team Championships**, sponsored by the Fraser FSC, Fraser, MI. Juvenile, Novice, Junior, Senior, and Adult events. For information contact: Roger Geary, 33043 Stoner, Sterling Heights, MI 48077, 313-977-0789.

31 **Marcella Sedwick Memorial Dance Competition**, sponsored by the Buffalo SC, at the Dann Memorial Rink, 1250 Amherst St., Buffalo, NY 14216. For information contact: Buffalo SC, 716-875-1419.

FEBRUARY

9 **Ice Carnival**, sponsored by and held at the Essex Hunt Club, Peapack, NJ 07977. For information contact: Mrs. Marie Toto, Essex Hunt Club, 201-234-0062.

14-15 **Twenty-Third Annual Elizabeth Sigrist Inter-Club Competition**, sponsored by the Buffalo SC, at the Dann Memorial Rink, 1250 Amherst St., Buffalo, NY 14216. For information contact: Buffalo SC, 716-875-1419.



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TACOMA UPDATE

The tentative schedule of events for the 1987 U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Tacoma, Washington, is as follows:

Tuesday, February 3

Sprinker Arena

7:30 A.M. Novice Ladies' Figures

11:00 A.M. Novice Men's Figures

2:30 P.M. Junior Men's Figures

Tacoma Dome

7:30 P.M. Senior Compulsory Dances

Wednesday, February 4

Sprinker Arena

7:00 A.M. Junior Ladies' Figures

11:00 A.M. Senior Ladies' Figures

Tacoma Dome

10:30 A.M. Junior Compulsory Dances

2:15 P.M. Novice Men's Freestyle

4:00 P.M. Novice Ladies' Freestyle

7:00 P.M. Opening Ceremony

7:30 P.M. Junior Men's Short Program

9:30 P.M. Senior Pairs' Short Program

Thursday, February 5

Sprinker Arena

7:00 A.M. Senior Men's Figures

10:30 A.M. Junior Dance OSP

12:30 P.M. Junior Men's Freestyle

3:00 P.M. Senior Dance OSP

7:00 P.M. Junior Ladies' Short Program

9:00 P.M. Senior Pairs' Freestyle

Friday, February 6

Tacoma Dome

10:30 A.M. Junior Pairs' Short Program

12:30 P.M. Senior Ladies' Short Program

3:00 P.M. Junior Ladies' Freestyle

7:00 P.M. Senior Men's Short Program

9:15 P.M. Senior Free Dance

Saturday, February 7

Tacoma Dome

10:00 A.M. Junior Free Dance

12:00 M. Senior Ladies' Freestyle

3:30 P.M. Junior Pairs' Freestyle

7:30 P.M. Senior Men's Freestyle

Sunday, February 8

Tacoma Dome

3:00 P.M. Exhibition of Champions



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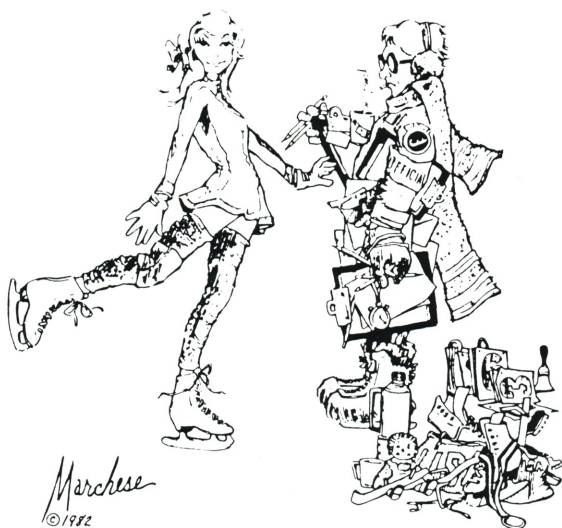
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Jumping is the forceful propulsion of oneself off the ice. Your body weight is used as a means of achieving thrust and propulsion. Your jump will be higher if your knee is well bent on the takeoff. More height will allow you the additional time needed for more revolutions. The preparation and takeoff become the most important aspects in jumping. The body must be aligned properly at the takeoff as once you are in the air it is difficult to correct.

Body alignment encompasses an erect head with the shoulders down and back, in order to hold the tension in the back. The ribcage should be open and wide. The bent knee should be directly over the toe. Practicing the takeoff position on and off the ice with the proper body alignment, is very helpful.

The jumping elements in a skating program are the most exciting to watch for most people, as well as to perform, especially when there is the optical illusion of flight to moments of elevation. The force that takes you up in the air, comes from the quick straightening of the leg that you are jumping from, aided by the fast springing of the feet. All good jumpers have "fast twitch" muscles that explode fast between the beginning of a jump and the takeoff. The muscles on each side of the upper leg, as well as those of the calf and hamstrings, stretch when you are bending the knee to prepare to jump, and contract when you begin the takeoff.

Obvious factors determining jumping ability are leg strength and body weight. It's hard to haul all that extra fat that has no purpose into the air, and of course we know that muscles will contract more forcefully when the legs are stronger. Speed and timing also play an important part in jumping, as the faster you go, the more chance there is of you jumping higher. The rhythm of the jump is important as each jump has a certain timing that makes the jump work better. Some skaters have a natural rhythm, while others have to train themselves by counting, or other methods, to develop a certain rhythm for the timing of a jump.

It's reasonable to assume that proper body alignment, good balance, coordination, and agility are all assets to being a better jumper. It is also believed that where the muscles are located in the leg can make a difference. John M. Cooper, professor of physical education

Ricky Harris



On *Aspects of Jumping*

at Indiana University and Director of the biomechanics laboratory there says, "The higher the muscle is on the bone, the better the jumper is. Having heavy thighs is all right if the girth is up high, near the center of gravity, and on all good jumpers, the calf is up near the knee."

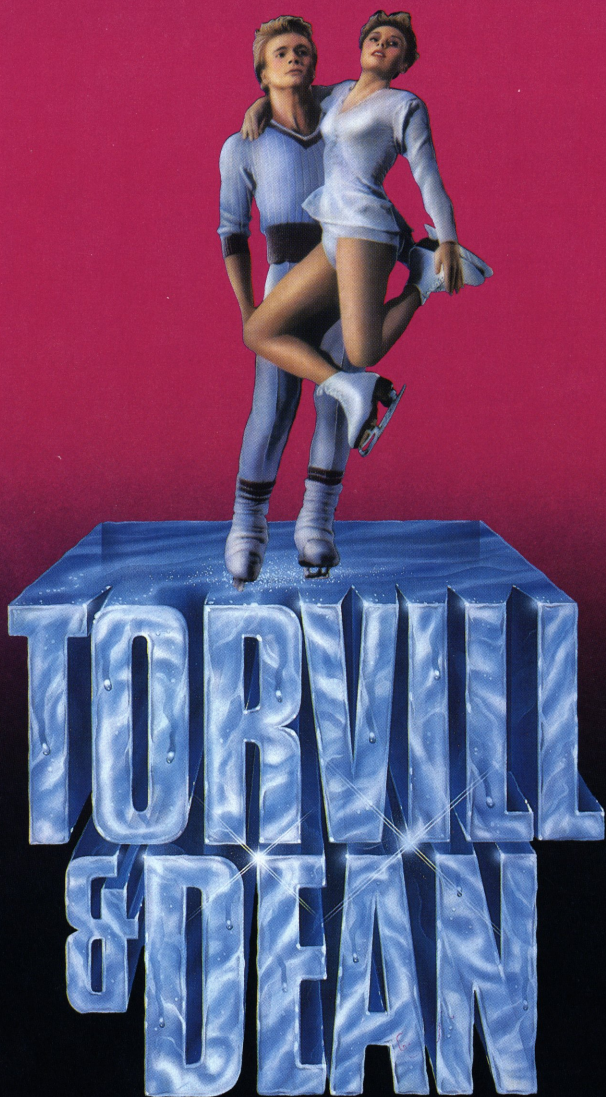
In spite of the above, jumping ability can be improved through exercises that will develop the strength in the calves and thighs, balance and flexibility. In the field of dance, muscles are developed properly through barre and other floor exercises. Dancers do not learn by trial and error as skaters do on the ice. They have perfected their technique enough through exercise so that they get few major problems in their jump ability.

To improve the flexibility of the knees, a good exercise is to stand on one leg with knee straight and slowly lift the other leg up with the knee bent as high as it can go. The object is to eventually be able to have your heel touch your buttocks.

More strength in the calves can be achieved by standing with your feet together, knees straight. Without bending the knees, raise to your tiptoes fifteen to twenty times. You can get better results doing this exercise with bare feet or soft shoes.

Knee bends to a squat position are very good for exercising the quadriceps or thigh muscles. Keep your heels down as you do this, and your arms back. Stay in the squat position for five slow counts before coming up.

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- 10 Milwaukee, WI
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- 12 Philadelphia, PA
Spectrum
- 14 Pittsburgh, PA
Civic Arena
- 15-16 Landover, MD
Capital Center
- 19 Binghamton, NY
Broome County Arena
- 21 Troy, NY
R.P.I. Field House
- 22 Providence, RI
Civic Center
- 23 Boston, MA
Boston Garden
- 28 Portland, ME
Cumberland Civic Center
- 30 Hartford, CT
Civic Center

DECEMBER

- 4 Springfield, MA
Civic Center
- 5 Glens Falls, NY
Civic Center
- 6 Lake Placid, NY
Olympic Arena
- 7 Utica, NY
Memorial Auditorium
- 9 Roanoke, VA
Civic Center Arena
- 10 Hampton, VA
Coliseum
- 11 New Haven, CT
Memorial Coliseum
- 12, 14 New York, NY
Madison Square Garden
- 13 Rochester, NY
War Memorial Arena
- 27 Madison, WI
Dane County Arena
- 28 Chicago, IL
U. of IL Pavillion
- 30 Ft. Wayne, IN
Memorial Coliseum
- 31 Muskegon, MI
Walker Arena

JANUARY

- 2 Saginaw, MI
Civic Center
- 4 Detroit, MI
Joe Louis Arena
- 7-8 Green Bay, WI
Brown County Arena
- 9-10 Minneapolis, MN
Met Center
- 11 Grand Forks, ND
University Arena
- 12 Bismarck, ND
Civic Center Arena
- 15 Seattle, WA
Coliseum
- 17 Los Angeles, CA
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- 18 San Diego, CA
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- 22-23 Denver, CO
McNichols Arena
- 24 Kansas City, MO
Kemper Arena
- 27 Oklahoma City, OK
Fairgrounds Coliseum
- 28 Houston, TX
Summit
- 31 Wichita, KS
Kansas Coliseum

FEBRUARY

- 1 Ames, IA
Hilton Coliseum
- 4 Duluth, MN
Arena
- 5-6 Green Bay, WI
Brown County Arena
- 7-8 Chicago, IL
U. of IL Pavillion
- 10 Kalamazoo, MI
Wings Stadium
- 17 Erie, PA
Civic Center
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Richmond Arena
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Norman Lesser, SC of Western New York

Jon Jackson, Utah FSC

Linda Kaumeyer, Plymouth FSC

Marge Heslin, Pittsburgh FSC

BRONZE DANCE TEST

Heather Quencer, Alexandria Bay FSC

Dorothy Brown, Baltimore FSC

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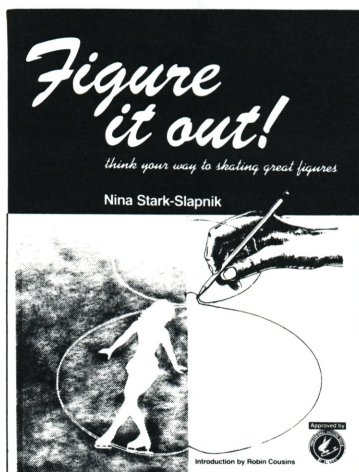


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World Championships	Queen City FSC & FSC of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH	March 9-14, 1987
Skate America Int'l.	Kennebec SC, Portland, ME	Oct. 16-19, 1986

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lakewood WC, Tacoma, WA	Feb. 1-8, 1987
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SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Eastern	Capital Regional Council of FSC's, Alexandria, VA	Dec. 8-13, 1986
Midwestern	Skokie Valley FSC, Wilmette, IL	Dec. 3-6, 1986
Pacific Coast	SC of Phoenix & Arizona FSC, Phoenix, AZ	Dec. 9-14, 1986

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

EASTERN

New England	Smithfield FSC, Smithfield, RI	Nov. 3-8, 1986*
North Atlantic	SC of Morris, Morristown, NJ	Nov. 10-15, 1986
South Atlantic	SC of Wilmington, Wilmington, DE	Nov. 3-8, 1986

MIDWESTERN

Eastern Great Lakes	Academy FSC, Trenton, MI	Nov. 2-8, 1986
Upper Great Lakes	Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, Edina, MN	Nov. 2-8, 1986
Southwestern	Mile High FSA, Denver, CO	Oct. 26-Nov. 1, 1986

PACIFIC COAST

Northwest Pacific	Great Falls FSC, Great Falls, MT	Nov. 5-8, 1986
Central Pacific	Peninsula FSC, San Francisco Bay Area, CA	Nov. 13-16, 1986
Southwest Pacific	Arctic Blades FSC, Paramount, CA	Nov. 6-9, 1986, Nov. 20-23, 1986

PRECISION TEAM SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Easterns	Genesee FSC, Rochester, NY	February 21-22, 1987*
Midwesterns	FSC of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN	March 6-7, 1987*
Pacific Coast	Utah FSC, Salt Lake City, UT	Feb. 27-28, 1987
Nationals	Tulsa FSC, Tulsa, OK	April 11-12, 1987

*Please note change of dates.

Official Notes

Continued from page 33

SILVER DANCE TEST

Steffie Wright, Philadelphia SC & HS
Laura Maki, Ann Arbor FSC

NOVICE COMPETITION FIGURE

Judith Edmunds, Colonial FSC of MA

NOVICE DANCE COMPETITION

Shirley Bourquin, Rye FSC

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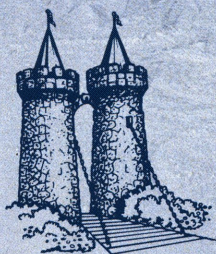
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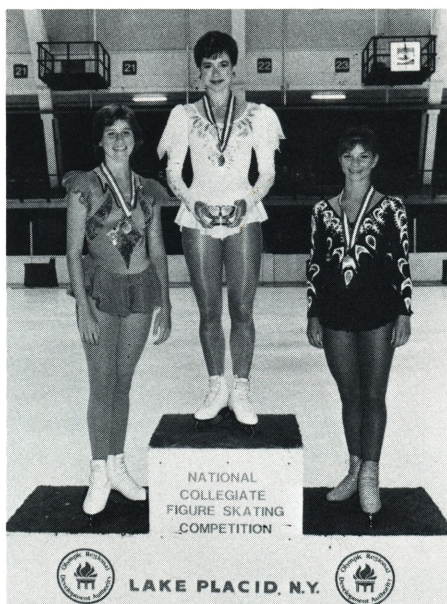
National Collegiate Report

Continued from page 17

returned, Eileen Groth, Central Connecticut State University, and Kathaleen Kelly, Harvard University. The others were either academically ineligible, had stopped skating, or turned professional. Twenty-year-old Miss Groth won the ladies' figures. Eileen is a college senior, a straight A student on the dean's list. A history major, with concentration on English and religion, she is the number one student in her class, and has plans to go on to graduate school. A USFSA Intermediate Figure Judge she has been competing for many years. A delightfully down-to-earth young lady, she was thrilled with her first gold medal. She stood beaming on the podium, medal around her neck, clutching the silver bowl in her hands. When the cameras stopped, she quietly handed the bowl back, not realizing it was hers. Almost speechless she said, "I thought I just got to hold it while the pictures were being taken. I didn't know I could keep it!"

Kelly was second and Stefanie Schmid, incoming freshman at the University of California, Los Angeles, was third. Another Californian, Tajsha Thomas, University of Southern California, was fourth, Maria Zarko, St. Mary's College, was fifth, Kristi Kirkbride, California State University, a sophomore business major, was sixth, with Karla Earnhardt, Northern Arizona University, seventh.

Nineteen-year-old Jan Bombassei, University of Connecticut student, unknown except for local similar pairs competitions, began competing in singles only after finishing high school. An exceptionally strong free skater, with powerful jumps, she swept both of the free skating events, winning the short program using a double Lutz/double toe for her combination, a high Axel, and beautiful spin combination. Kristin Kriwanek, University of California, who placed second included a lovely Ina Bauer into a double Axel/double toe combination. Kristi Kirkbride was third. Kathaleen Kelly's music stopped as she skated, but she kept going in silence. It suddenly blared back in the middle of her double Axel, which obviously undid her, and she finished fourth. Stefanie Schmid was fifth, and Eileen Groth sixth.



LADIES' FREESTYLE

Jan Bombassei, Gold; Kathaleen Kelly, Silver;
Kristin Kriwanek, Bronze

Miss Bombassei again did a strong final free skating program, well choreographed to musical excerpts from "Fanfare," "Grace—The Olympic Album," *The Natural*, and *Rocky*. She skated solidly and fast, covering the ice with strong jumps, elegant spins, connected with artistic moves, to capture first place. Kathaleen Kelly, placed second in the long by skating consistently after an opening triple toe loop jump and finished with the silver medal. Kristin Kriwanek, suffering from a flu bug, did not skate her best, falling twice, but she had enough content to take the bronze. Stefanie Schmid was fourth, with a beautiful Ina Bauer circling half the rink into a double Axel. Kristi Kirkbride was fifth, while another strong free skater, Maria Zarko, St. Mary's College, was sixth.

Among others skating in the championships were Jennifer Marie Hayes, University of California, and Diana Harrison, University of Michigan.

In every competition there are several stories which in part sum up the concept for its justification. In this one, Karla Earnhardt was the only college graduate in the group. Karla began skating when she was four. At twelve, she won the Pacific Coast Bronze

Dance and in the following year passed her Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Figure Tests. At thirteen, with a promising competitive career ahead of her, she was struck down with severe scoliosis that required major surgery and many months in heavy, painful body braces. The disease ended her free skating. Undaunted, and with more courage and determination that can be imagined, she went back on the ice before that year was out. Four years ago she entered the university, but kept working on her skating. Two years ago she finally passed her Gold Figure Test and Gold Dances. Last spring, at age twenty, she graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice. At the Collegiate competition she was only able to compete in figures. She lives and skates with a permanent metal rod in her spine.

Today, this outstanding young woman is looking for a job in probation or as a

behavior health counselor, dealing with drug and alcohol problems, or may return to graduate school. She will definitely keep skating and would love to compete in the National Collegiates again, if eligible.

An inspiration to everyone she knows, her mother Gloria, a USFSA Sectional Accountant says, "The important thing is that skating . . . and your life . . . *can* go on, in spite of a handicap." This strong parental backing, plus Karla's own courage are what brought her to Lake Placid to compete in the second National Collegiate Championships, figures only. The competition offers an opportunity which might not otherwise be available to dedicated student skaters.

Special thanks to Brian Grant, for technical back-up.

People

PLACES & FACES

SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR

Debi Thomas, 1986 U.S. and World Champion, was named the "McDonald's Amateur Sportswoman of the Year" by the Women's Sports Foundation. Debi received the award at the Women's Sports Foundation dinner, "A Salute to Women in Sports" held at the Plaza Hotel in New York on September 22.

The award, a large piece of engraved Tiffany glass, was presented to Debi by Dorothy Hamill. Also at the gala were Peggy Fleming, Martina Navratilova, Billie Jean King, Mary Lou Retton, and other outstanding athletes, along with Bob Hope and announcers Jim Lampley and John Naber.

The Women's Sports Foundation is a national non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public on the value of sports for all girls and women. Through grant-making, national award programs, referral service, and other educational programs, the

Foundation works to heighten public awareness of women in sports.

Last year, Debi was the winner of the Foundation's "Up and Coming Athlete," a designation which she more than lived up to in her 1986 performances.



PAUL HARVATH

BIRTHS

Born to **Jennifer and Roger Slakey** a girl, **Stephanie**, on August 18. Jennifer, formerly De'Angeles, was a past member of the Baltimore FSC.

Continued on page 58



ABROAD

COUPE DES ALPES 1986

GRAND PRIX INTERNATIONAL

SAINT GERVAIS, FRANCE

AUGUST 20-24, 1986

by Jean-Christophe Berlot

In addition to being the traditional first international contest of the skating season, the Grand Prix at Saint Gervais had this year a particular event to celebrate: its twentieth birthday. The U.S. Team won three out of the four events and truly captured the French audience, as generous in their support to skaters as ever. However, it was regrettable that in spite of all the organizers' efforts, the Russian Team was not allowed to leave their country for the Grand Prix, because of a visa problem. Of course their participation would have given an even more significant value to the placements of the main contenders.

In the Pair's event, America's Ashley Stevenson and Scott Wendland proved their superiority and mastery during the training sessions. Unfortunately, they ran out of shape for their competition programs, allowing Canadian Melanie Gaylor and Lee Barkell to overtake them to win the event. Great Britain's Lisa and Neil Cushley placed third.

The Dance competition was dominated by Karen Knieriem and Leif Erickson, from the U.S. The quality of their skating, their clean and fast steps, were warmly applauded. Finishing second were Italy's Roberto Pelizzola and new partner Lia Trovati. Their original Viennese Waltz particularly delighted the audience of the Grand Prix. The young Dominique Yvon and Frederic Palluel of

France came from fourth to take third place, thanks to a brilliant and original Free Dance.

It was no surprise that Erik Larson won the Men's event, even though the other contestants clearly demonstrated their strength. Larson proved to be the most consistent in all three sections. The first half of his Free program, including an amazing double Axel/triple toe loop combination, was particularly brilliant. Canada's Kurt Browning, a bit less technical, but more artistic than Larson placed second, and France's Frederic Harpages obtained a deserved third place after winning the Figures, bringing the biggest pleasure to the French audience.

Holly Cook, from the U.S., nicely completed the American triumph by winning the Ladies' final. Canadian Pamela Giangualano placed second, ahead of the Federal Republic of Germany's Cornelia Renner.

When the time came for the exhibitions, the audience's favorites Fernand Fedronic, from France, and Norbert Schramm, from the Federal Republic of Germany, joined the winners of the Grand Prix. Their brilliant and exuberant exhibitions drew well-deserved ovations and were like the last fires of the twentieth Grand Prix. In the eyes of the skaters, there was a special light wishing a "Bon Anniversaire, Saint Gervais!"

MEN

1. Erik Larson, USA
2. Kurt Browning, Canada
3. Frederic Harpages, France
4. Darren Kemp, Canada
5. Frederic Lipka, France
6. Thomas Wieser, Federal Republic of Germany
7. Erik Millot, France
8. Paul Sonderegger, Switzerland

LADIES

1. Holly Cook, USA
2. Pamela Giangualano, Canada
3. Cornelia Renner, Federal Republic of Germany
4. Julie Wasserman, USA
5. Linda Florkevich, Canada
6. Ingrid Karl, Federal Republic of Germany
7. Florence Copp, France
8. Kathrin Schroeter, Switzerland

9. Pauline Lee, Taiwan
10. Astrid Winkelmann, Netherlands
11. Nathalie Gaveriaux, France
12. Sophie Estermann, Switzerland

PAIRS

1. Melanie Gaylor & Lee Barkell, Canada
2. **Ashley Stevenson & Scott Wendland, USA**
3. Lisa Cushley & Neil Cushley, Great Britain
4. **Shanda Smith & Brandon Smith, USA**

DANCE

1. **Karen Knieriem & Lelf Erickson, USA**
2. Lia Trovati & Roberto Pelizzola, Italy
3. Dominique Yvon & Frederic Palluel, France
4. Michelle McDonald & Michael Farrington, Canada
5. Danielle Biss & David Crofts, Great Britain
6. **Colette Huber & Ron Kravette, USA**



PATRICIA S. FRENCH

Left to right: Team Leader Gay Barnes, Ashley Stevenson, Lelf Erickson, Julie Wasserman, Ron Kravette, Colette Huber, Erik Larson, Shanda Smith, Brandon Smith, Karen Knieriem, Scott Wendland, and Holly Cook.

NEBELHORN TROPHY OBERSTDORF, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AUGUST 26-30, 1986

MEN

1. Vitalij Egorov, USSR
2. **Erik Larson, USA**
3. Kurt Browning, Canada
4. Lars Dresler, Denmark
5. Thomas Wieser, Federal Republic of Germany
6. Daniel Weiss, Federal Republic of Germany
7. Darren Kemp, Canada
8. Henrik Valentin, Denmark
9. Rudy Luccioni, France
10. Eric Millot, France

LADIES

1. **Holly Cook, USA**
2. Cornelia Renner, Federal Republic of Germany
3. Claudia Villiger, Switzerland
4. **Julie Wasserman, USA**
5. Pamela Giangualano, Canada
6. Linda Florkevich, Canada
7. Carola Wolff, Federal Republic of Germany
8. Scarlett Fajfr, Federal Republic of Germany
9. Larissa Samotina, USSR
10. Heike Gobbers, Federal Republic of Germany
11. Pinuccia Ferrario, Italy
12. Michele Claret, Switzerland
13. Helene Persson, Sweden
14. Connie Sjöholm-Jørgensen, Denmark
15. Sophie DuPont, France
16. Magali Marti, France

PAIRS

1. Melanie Gaylor & Lee Barkell, Canada
2. **Ashley Stevenson & Scott Wendland, USA**
3. Lisa Cushley & Neil Cushley, Great Britain
4. **Shanda Smith & Brandon Smith, USA**

DANCE

1. Antonia Becherer & Ferdinand Becherer, Federal Republic of Germany
2. Svetlana Ljapina & Georgij Sur, USSR
3. Michelle McDonald & Michael Farrington, Canada
4. **Karen Knieriem & Lelf Erickson, USA**
5. Michela Malingambi & Andrea Gilardi, Italy
6. **Colette Huber & Ron Kravette, USA**
7. Cheryl Rushton & Mark Poole, Great Britain
8. Petra Zietemann & Frank Ladd-Oshiro, Federal Republic of Germany

COUPE DES ALPES 1986 (Team Trophy)

1. **USA.** 2. Canada. 3. Federal Republic of Germany.
4. France. 5. Italy. 6. Switzerland. 7. Great Britain.

FRITZ GEIGER MEMORIAL TROPHY 1986 (Team Trophy)

1. **USA.** 2. Federal Republic of Germany. 3. USSR.
4. Canada. 5. Switzerland. 6. Italy. 7. Denmark.
8. Sweden. 9. Great Britain. 10. France.



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Continued on page 58

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New Test Abbreviations are as follows: PRE = Preliminary Figure; 1 = First Figure; 2 = Second Figure; 3 = Third Figure; 4 = Fourth Figure; 5 = Fifth Figure; 6 = Sixth Figure; 7 = Seventh Figure; 8 = Eighth Figure; PF = Preliminary Free; JF = Juvenile Free; IF = Intermediate Free; NF = Novice Free; JRF = Junior Free; SRF = Senior Free; PPR = Preliminary Pair; BPR = Bronze Pair; SPR = Silver Pair; GPR = Gold Pair; P DT = Preliminary Dance Test; BR DT = Bronze Dance Test; PS DT = Pre Silver Dance Test; S DT = Silver Dance Test; SFD = Silver Free Dance; PG DT = Pre Gold Dance Test; G DT = Gold Dance Test; GFD = Gold Free Dance; I DT = International Dance Test; B ADT = Bronze Adult Dance Test; PS ADT = Pre Silver Adult Dance Test; S ADT = Silver Adult Dance Test; PG ADT = Pre Gold Adult Dance Test; G ADT = Gold Adult Dance Test.

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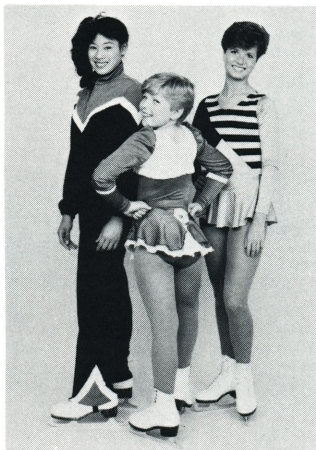
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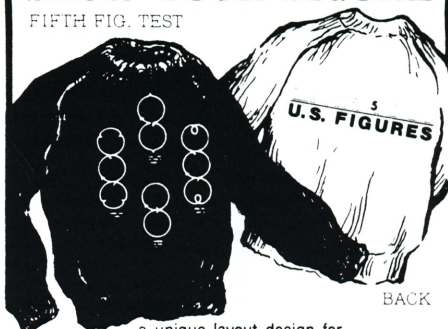
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PLYMOUTH FSC: PRE-Carrie Wolak. 1-Lisa Riolo. 2-Brian Scherle, Dawn Rice, Kristen Komlen, Raquel Tonriste, Sandra Hejka. 3-Jennifer Branton, Jenny Patero. PF-Allison Branton, Jennifer Katulski. JF-Brian Scherle, Jennifer Dejohn, Kristen Komlen, Rachael Bohlander, Sandra Hejka. IF-Brian Scherle, Gina Tonriste, Jennifer Branton, Jenny Patero, Raquel Tonriste, Tammie Beacher. P DT-Elizabeth Sorokac. B ADT-Rachael Bohlander. PS ADT-Jenny Patero, Kristin Haar.

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PORTAGE LAKE FSC: PRE-Cindy Collins. 2-Kristen Tiberger. PF-Cindy Collins. IF-Julie Halborg. P DT-Cindy Collins. S DT-Kristen Tiberger, Tracy Haines.

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PRINCETON SC: PRE-Jane Zander. 1-Josephine Lee. JF-Marita Zander. P DT-Marita Zander. PS DT-Christina Fitzgerald.

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PUEBLO FSC: 1-Katie Anne Robeda, Shauna Carpenter. PF-Charlene Cornwell, Laura Rodgers, Maryann Whitmire. JF-Karri Ann Cass. P DT-Greg Wallar.

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QUEEN CITY FSC: 1-Cathy Hartley, Julie Hulbert. 5-Katie Gorman. IF-Melody Polston. P DT-Meredith Brock. PS DT-Julia Lippert.

SC OF RADNOR: P DT-Valerie Kummerer.

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TIMBERLINE FSC OF READING: P DT-Tammy Trace.

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TRIANGLE FSC: 1-Julie Green. PG DT-Tina Speagle.

TROY SC: 3-David Kastan. 6-Scarlett Ctvrtneck. 7-Mary Shaeffer. JF-Jennifer Malman. NF-Jennifer Ctvrtneck. JRF-Scarlett Ctvrtneck, Steven Moore.

TUCSON FSC: PRE-Kym Hardy. 1-Rosalind Montgomery, Wendy Zoucha. PF-Kym Hardy. IF-Shari Rohde. BR DT-Rosalind Montgomery.

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Garrett, Katrina George. PS DT-Jill Rowley. PS ADT-Nancy Dent. SFD-Jean Carlsen. PPR-Clay Sniteman, Julie Guinn, Macy Pew.

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VALLEY FSC: 3-Karin Sue Brice.

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WAUPUN FSC: JF-Jill Prince. BR DT-Jill Prince.

WEST SHORE FSC: NF-Kathy Joyce.

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WHEELING FSC: PF-Ericka Eugeni.

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WINTER CLUB OF INDIANAPOLIS: PRE-Laura Morrison. 2-Tammy Tyner. PF-Christine Seaman. IF-Laura Beth Cash. P DT-Tammy Tyner. S ADT-Mary Diana.

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WISSAHICKON SC: 4-Marla Brody. 5-Michele Lynn Kelly. JRF-David Warneke. P DT-Kimberly Ongaro. SFD-James Curtis.

YAKIMA ISC: P DT-Emily Wark.

YALE FSC: 7-Christie Clark.

YARMOUTH ICE CLUB: 1-Karen Lothrop. IF-Cindy Linnell, Leigh Nixon. PPR-Dawn Feest.

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Continued from page 41

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Coming next month: A complete report on Skate America '86, a review of "Celebration... America on Ice" spectacular, the Board of Directors' Report of Action, a special interview with Tai Babilonia and Randy Gardner, St. Ivel International results, part two of the Sports Medicine study of biomechanics of figure skating, our regular columns by Eugene Turner, Ricky Harris, and features on Precision Skating, Club Management, the Calendar of Events, News Briefs, and much more.

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Executive Committee member, **Hal Mar-ron** and wife **Molly** of Phoenix, Arizona, are proud parents of a baby boy born September 17, named Christopher Andrew.

BEREAVEMENTS

Vonita Tickner, mother of former Men's Champion of the United States, Charles Tickner, passed away on September 6. The Association extends it deepest sympathy to her family.

1987 WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS



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When you pack a thermos of piping-hot Campbell's® Soup alongside that sandwich, you're packing your child's lunch box with a lot more than you think.

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