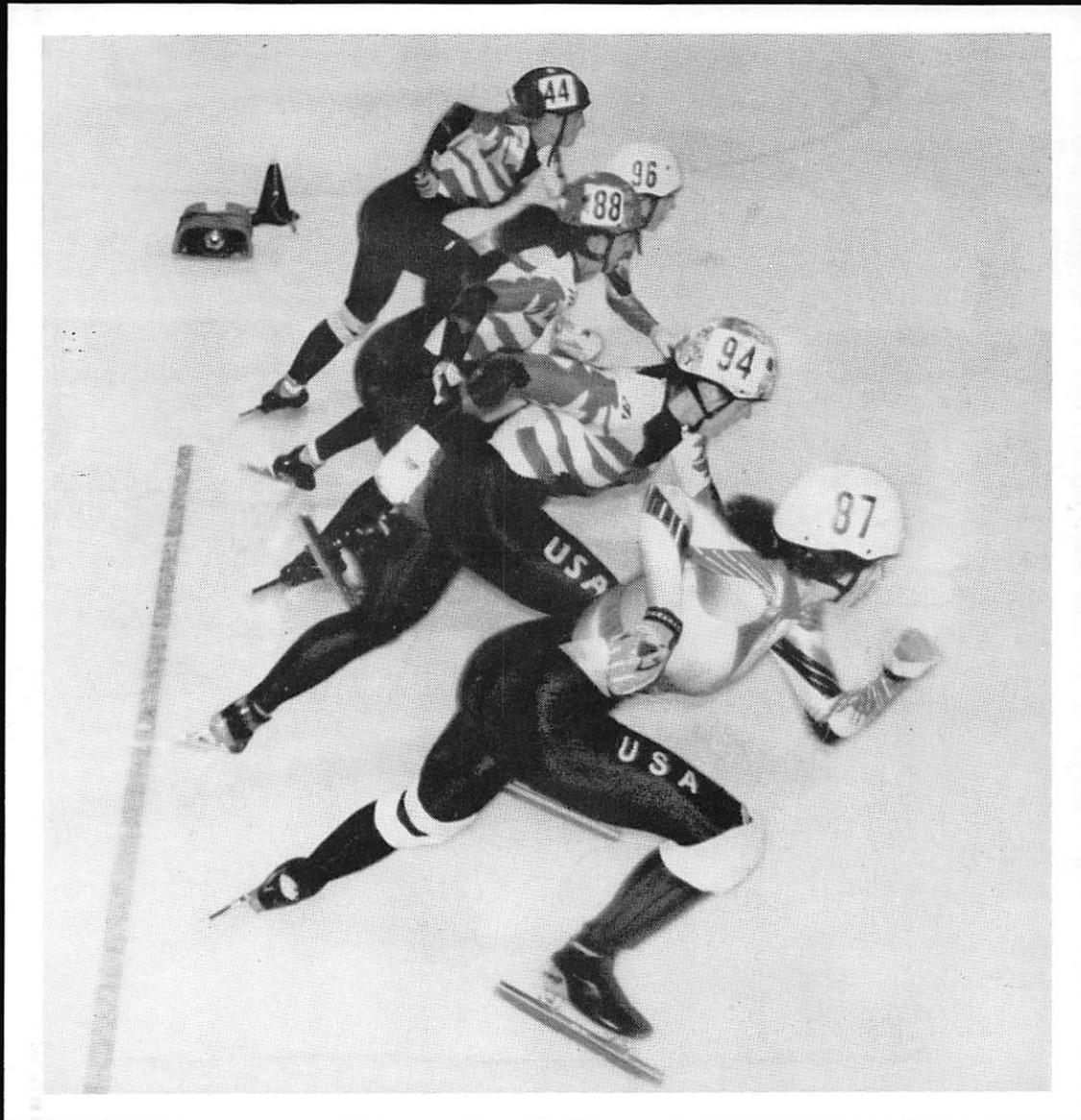


The Racing Blade[®]

VOLUME XXVII
NUMBER 2



DECEMBER, 1993



Subsidy Planned for NA Championships • Tour Skating in the Netherlands

National Speedskating Championships Short Track 1994

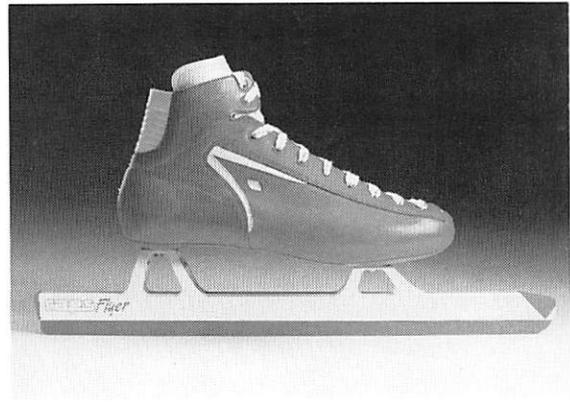
North American Long Track Championships • 1993 Revisions to ASU Handbook

NATIONAL SPEEDSKATING NEWS PUBLISHED BY THE AMATEUR SPEEDSKATING UNION OF THE U.S.

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The Racing Blade®

VOLUME XXVII

ISSUE No. 2

DECEMBER, 1993

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Northern New York Skating Association provides the word on the meet, the rink and the ambiance of Saratoga Springs.

National Speedskating Championships

Short Track 1994

By Dr. Larry Clever

When you mix the ambiance of a World renowned resort area like Saratoga Springs with the country's newest 100'x200' International size ice rink and then add a commitment to excellence and detailed planning, you have the perfect ingredients for an outstanding event March 18-20 when the Northern New York Skating Association welcomes you to the 1994 National Short Track Championships in Saratoga Springs, New York!

Competitors and their families, officials and spectators alike will find the unhurried elegance of Saratoga a delight, as do tens of thousands of visitors each year. Known as "The summer place to be," Saratoga is never out of season with its soothing mineral baths, impeccably preserved Victorian architecture and gracious hospitality. Attractions range from the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame to tours of the nearby Saratoga National Battlefield, turning point of the Revolutionary War, to quaint shops and chic boutiques.

Speedskating has deep roots in the Saratoga area, flourishing for nearly a century. The dream of a decade was realized this fall when the new Saratoga Springs Ice Arena opened for recreational and competitive skating. It features seating for over 1200, with first class locker facilities, and has been equipped with all new, state of the art safety padding.

Meet Director Tom Campbell, of the Saratoga Winter Club and the entire NNYSA committee has devoted months to planning a National Championship worthy of the name. Arrangements are now being fine tuned to insure speedskating enthusiasts from California to Maine the opportunity for a first class competition and a memorable experience.

Saratoga Springs is easily accessible by interstate highway, with three exchanges on I-87 (Adirondack Northway). Air travelers are advised to use the Albany County Airport in Albany, New York, which is serviced by a number of major airlines including USAIR. It is approximately 25 miles from the airport to the City of Saratoga Springs.

The Holiday Inn, Broadway at Circular, Saratoga Springs (518) 584-4550, will serve as official headquarters. Reservations can be made by calling (518) 584-4550. Mention that you are with the "Speedskating Nationals" and you will receive the special \$45.00 rate for a double. Registration will be at the Holiday Inn on Thursday evening and Friday morning. On Thursday evening a hospitality party will be held at the hotel to welcome all participants and get the weekend off to a rousing start. The Saturday night banquet will be held across the street from the Holiday Inn, and will feature



A clear span building enclosing a 100x200 ice surface.
John Needham Photo

a buffet including pasta and a short program with the awarding of the day's medals. Full details will be included in the comprehensive registration packet.

Practice time will be available on Thursday, March 17 from 7:00-9:00 p.m., with one hour sessions by class to familiarize skaters with the new facility. The Championship includes three days of competition scheduled for 12:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 18, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 19, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 20. All competition will be conducted in accordance with the Amateur Speedskating Association format and rules. An Officials meeting will be held at the Arena on Friday, March 18, prior to the

(Continued)



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Subscriptions or change of address requests should be directed to ASU National Office at the address shown below.

Requests for advertising information should be addressed to the Advertising Director, William Anderson, 12546 Lakeshore Drive, Grand Haven, Michigan 49417, (616) 396-9340.

Letters to the Editor, articles of interest, and features about an Association's officials or skaters should be sent to the Editor, Robert R. Vehe, 404 HiLusi Avenue, Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056. (708) 253-4195 (call for FAX). Unsigned letters and manuscripts cannot be accepted.

Further information about speedskating, becoming a member of the Amateur Speedskating Union, or establishing local organizations can be obtained from the ASU National Office, Shirley A. Yates, Executive Secretary, 1033 Shady Lane, Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137, Phone (708) 790-3230, FAX (708) 790-3235. The ASU is a non-profit, charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Staff Photographer: Shirley Yates

ADVERTISING SPACE

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Flea Market Ad
(20 word maximum).....\$ 15.00
Up to Quarter Page.....\$ 40.00
Half Page.....\$ 75.00
Full Page.....\$125.00
Back or Inside Back or
Inside Front Cover.....\$150.00
Back Issues
of the Racing Blade.....\$ 3.00

Our Tenth Cover

by BOB VEHE

It hardly seems possible that we now have completed 2 years of our new magazine format with the photographs on the cover. That translates into 10 times that I have fretted over what can be used or more commonly whether I had anything to use. This time is no exception, however, I may be handling my frustration with more equanimity.

All of the previous covers weres "bleeds." The entire cover is a phtograph and it goes off the edges of the paper leaving no borders. This is why vertical photographs are needed. To enlarge a horizontal photo to eleven inches high would provide a width of fifteen and half inches. Since the cover is eight and a half inches wide, seven inches would have to be cropped. There aren't many photographs that could stand such cutting.

Now, as is obvious, I didn't have a vertical shot for this issue, but I did have a very interesting horizontal shot taken by Jerry Search from a very high angle. The shot was in color and would have been a real eye-catcher if we could have afforded to print it in color. The bright reds and clean whites were grabbers. Maybe someone would like to subsidize the printing of the cover of an issue in color. We could dedicate the issue to the sponsor and have a brief article explaining what a fine and thoughtful person did this. Think about it! A discount could be arranged for multiple buys.

The printing of the last issue was very late and no one had it prior to the deadline for this issue. This is partial explanation for many of the missing reports from Associations, but it really shouldn't be, since the deadlines for the entire year are published in each issue. Please watch the dates and try to get the items in ahead of time.

**Items for the next
issue are due**

January 1, 1994

March 1, 1994

June 1, 1994



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ASU TO ELECT MEMBERS TO USISA BOARD

In the spring it will be time again to elect eight individuals from the ASU to the USISA Board Members Committee. The four receiving the most votes will be members of the Board of Directors. The next four will be members of the President's Advisory Board. This committee will be seated at the September 1994 USISA Board Meeting. The term will run through May, 1996.

When considering submitting your name for this position, it should be remembered that these positions belong to the ASU - not to an individual. It is expected you will support ASU goals, not your own or those of USISA.

Members must attend the two major USISA meetings each year - in September and April - at their own expense for transportation, food and lodging. The committee meetings take place on Friday afternoon and evening. The board meeting is all day Saturday and half day on Sunday.

Members must also attend the May ASU Convention each year which convenes Friday morning and runs to about noon on Sunday. Again, transportation, food, lodging and any other expenses are assumed by the individual.

Board members are expected to involve themselves on USISA committees and be active and vocal in support of ASU positions on those committees and at board meetings.

QUALIFICATIONS:

ASU Executive Committee Members, and their spouses are not eligible to run for this committee. Applicants should have a basic working knowledge of ASU and USISA and have some experience at the club and state association level.

Applicants should be comfortable speaking before a group of 50-75 people to make or advance a point.

DIRECTIONS:
Send a resume of your qualifications before April 1, 1994, to:

ASU NATIONAL OFFICE
1033 Shady Lane
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

No applications will be accepted after April 1, 1994. If you wish to give reasons why you want to be a member of the board, limit them to 50 words or less.

A ballot will be sent to each association by May 1, 1994, for its consideration. The ballot must be cast in person at the Convention by the Board of Control member.

Each Board of Control member, including the Skater Representative to the Board of Control, will have one vote for each of the eight positions available.

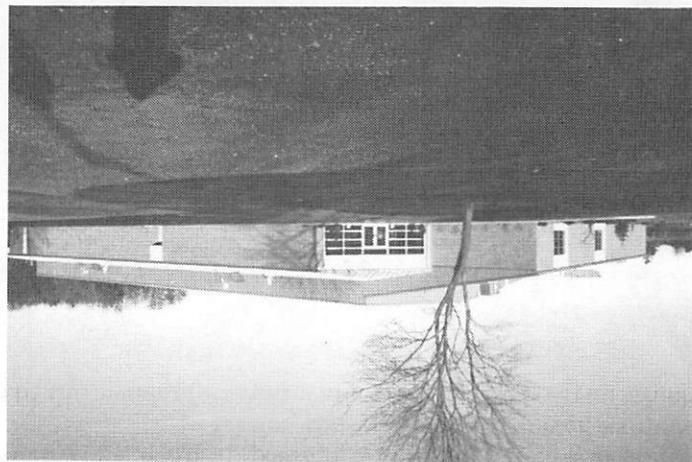
Tact is the rare ability to keep silent while two friends argue and all the time you know they both are wrong.

TOM CAMPBELL, Meet Director
3 Pinehurst Drive
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
(518) 587-2522

For more information, please contact:

cheer on their favorites.
all those who thrill to the sport to join as spectators to Short Track Championships on March 18-20 and invite finest competitors in the sport to the 1994 National Skating Association look forward to welcoming the members and officers of the Northern New York start of competition.

The new Saratoga Springs Ice Rink opened for the Saratoga Winter Club on October 12
John Needham Photo



A portion of the skate changing area.
John Needham Photo



A primer on canal skating and communing with natural ice.

Tour Skating in the Netherlands

by EUGENIA KLOPSIS

The earth speaks when you skate over her.

Tours are an interesting thing. First you have to reconcile yourself to the biting cold. Out in the middle of nowhere, with no warm hut or canteen in which to warm up your poor feet should they (God forbid) become cold, it is possible to begin to think in terms of, "Hey, I could get frostbite out here; perhaps I'd better skate faster, whether I know how to skate or not." Out on the windy canals, it's get with it or die. Get rhythm or die. Skate or die.

Seriously. You begin to easily think in terms of death. Not, how do I take this bend paying attention to my form and what not, but rather, how do I skate this bend and stay warm and upright. Perfect technique is for the ice oval where the ice is predictable, man-made. And yet, on natural ice, a perfect technique is required too. Only, it is not the same perfect technique as that which is expressed on oval ice.

Natural ice is bumpy. There's no two ways about it. It's a lot like inline skating. But not quite, because skating on natural ice is still a pure thing. What's true is that your skates never make that fine 'ssss... ssss... ssss...' sound like they do on the ice oval with each stroke, but rather a rolled Spanish-R sound, like you're going over vegetal debris and bits of soil, as well as ice.

Ice echoes. So not only do you have that loud banging sound of the ice shifting and expanding, or that sound of car doors slamming underwater as the ice fidgets and snuggles into place, but you also have the echoes of every other skater out there whose skates are making that rolled Spanish-R sound. So what sounds on the surface like rolled Spanish-Rs

under your feet sounds within the broad expanse of ice like ominous rumbling. It sounds like there is running water under the ice, but there isn't. Actually, it was questionable as to what exactly some of those sounds were. Until today when I got it all figured out.

Really, you have to be the owner of

broken glass will lie scattered about, in testimony to someone's skate getting caught in a groove and breaking off a chunk of the ice, thereby widening the groove in that spot. (We of course also have to accept the possibility of a broken skate or ankle. For those who have never skated natural ice, this is the level on which



Just flying by

a fine pair of outside edges to skate natural ice. Talk about balance. To get over the roughness, you of course have to go fast. But going fast over such roughness, takes a little practice. This is the circle into which you must break. And, there are grooves, or cracks, where the ice splits and expands. Fault-lines. These grooves can be anywhere from hairline-width to one-and-a-half inches wide. Some grooves show themselves by spewing water, creating a dark area on the frosty surface which you can easily avoid. (The surface of the ice during a tour is usually whitish and snowy where eight zillion skates have chopped it up.) Some grooves, however, lie hidden in the white snowy layer of ice-chips. Ice-chips like pieces of

we are speaking.) However, where unbalanced or unlucky souls have fallen there is a big cleared spot in the whitish snowy covering, and so seeing that warning sign, you can easily watch out. Always your eyes are on the ice before you. Otherwise you go down. Really fine and beautiful Lycra-coated skaters have suddenly become airborne before my very eyes. Some wear kneepads. It seems that, no matter how accomplished a skater you become, you cannot always foresee a fall. (If that's what your aim is, to foresee all possible falls, you'll never do it. The point is to transcend maintaining such a separate mental or spiritual position from the ice.) One fine skater hit a groove, and his skate stayed there for a moment, while the

(Continued)

rest of his body and mind went flying out ahead. For a moment he looked like Superman, but then he hit the ice and was in pain. Then he got up and worked off the pain.

*"At every stroke...
this may be the stroke
on which you fall."*

The tour was kind of like a parody of a forced march through the Russian Steppes. A tour is not just skating, as in "skating-itself," as in what you do on the ice oval (and especially on the indoor wind-less cold-less ice ovals whereupon you can push the edges of the envelope even further with regards to pure speed). Skating natural ice is quite different from this. There is a lot more to distract you, a lot more to reduce your confidence and your purpose. It is terribly psychological. There are countless obstacles. At every stroke, you resign yourself to the fact that this may be the stroke on which you fall. When you get used to that, you push through it, you overcome it, you transcend it, you unite with it, and then you skate. But first you must acknowledge the strength of the ice, its superiority over you. Then you ride with it. And you never assume to ride on it, as that is already too possessive an attitude. And you do fall. Always.

(One man told me that his old teacher always told him that he would do well to have a conversation with the ice when he first gets out on it. Talk to it, discuss the weather, reach down and touch it with your fingertips, make contact with it, get to know its mood, and how it will respond to you).

I remember one particular time when I fell. My blade hit a hairline groove, the kind you can't even see, much less foresee. That ice-line was softer than the rest of the ice, and I cut into it and went flying onto my right hipbone. Little lightning bolts shot out from that spot, and I thought, "Get up." But the pain was too strong, and I had to sit through it instead, which is always worse. It was so cold. Then, I got up and skated, and

was finally fine.

With road-skating, the rubber wheels catch the rough grooves. With ice-skating, it's a little crispier, firmer, ice-chippier. It's more like crystal than like rubber. There is no shock-absorption. All is metal and rock-hard brittle ice. There were oftentimes sharp corners of once-broken now-frozen-over icebergs jutting up from the general surface of



Stopping for a cigarette—difficult to roll one in the wind, but these men seem to have no problem

the ice. It actually looked like the ice was melting, some areas of it being white with air-bubbles, some areas black and solid and clean. It resembled a thaw, and I wouldn't go near such an ice surface. But the experienced skaters knew better: that ice was frozen, no matter how it looked. These fine skaters skated over this choppy mess of ice; don't ask me how. There was no flat surface on which to lay the gentle curve of the blade. You should hear the sound. They were so light on their fast feet. They just went right over and across bumps that were inches high and inches deep. It was, as usual, all in the balance and the swiftness. (Needless to say, one's blades are absolutely destroyed after such a tour. Most fine skaters wear their cheap Vikings™ rather than their good ones, although many skaters in the Netherlands have two pairs of good skates, one for

natural ice and one for oval ice.)

On one tour, when it was -14° Celsius (about 15° Fahrenheit), after about 15 of 20 minutes into the tour my toes froze and I had to stick them into someone's armpits to try to warm them. (Luckily, this someone was my boyfriend.) But that hardly worked out there in the lost tundra, so I continued skating in a frozen way (I was actually *shivering—I never have shivered while skating before*), until I got to a place where I could go inside and have a bowl of split-pea soup and a cup of hot chocolate with whipped cream. My feet went from green to yellow, to white, to deep purple, to rosy, to sick-looking.

*"Some brave souls
were out there
with no socks on."*

Then I put my skates back on and did the rest of the tour with toasty feet. (They weren't frostbitten. Many women have the problem of cold feet early into a day of skating. Once

they warm up, however, they are positively toasty for the rest of the day.) Some brave souls were out there with no socks on. They must be used to it. Dear reader, you would have been an icicle. Either that, or you would have handled it beautifully. I believe it just takes some getting used to. It's a whole different way of skating, a whole different mentality. But it felt good. I felt alive as only a good strong fight against the cold can make you feel.

Men and women and children and mothers and elderly people and ordinary people and racers were just everywhere. (And, oh yes, new mothers with their babies in strollers were out there on the ice. The rough surface made it possible to push a stroller while skating behind it.) Folks whose houses opened out onto backyards bordering one of the countless canals had it made. Over

(Continued)



Stopping just to look at the people and the land

the bridges, or to connect canals, they kindly laid out "klunning" material: black rubber runners, or strips of carpet, or cardboard or just hay.

"You can spend a lifetime... learning about...natural ice."

Cars stopped for endlessly long lines of duck-walking skaters to cross the road. Coming back onto the ice is difficult. You easily trip on the hay and bits of earth and vegetation. You are not being helped by the ice in the slightest out there, and in this way you need a different kind of balance than you need on the oval, where the ice tends to help you out a little more. Out there you are not being helped in the slightest. You can spend a lifetime, I think, learning about the personality of natural ice. I was skating fine, but I didn't feel as though I was. I wanted to get lower, but couldn't. Those who were low astounded me. One swift man had a *full* backpack on his back, was *totally* bent over, and was absolutely flying in dark blue tights and full beard, slightly graying. He was doing a cross-country tour, and had clothes and food and water and a sleeping bag on his back. was gone before I could snap a photo.

What you have to do is concentrate. Not on skating, or on stroking, or on outside edges, mind you, but just on

one thought. Or, *one point*, be it a visual point before your eyes on the ever-moving ice, or a point in your mind, or a point in what you're hearing, or a point in your fingertips in your mittens behind your back. You mustn't think *about skating*, however, because the terrain is too tough, and you have to just take the randomly strewn bumps as they come. What you are concentrating on does not matter, just so long as it is *one thing*. And, alley-oop, you begin to skate and swing the hips. Just concentrate on one thing, and move your legs. The rest follows naturally. You are on ice, wearing speedskates, and there are bumps, and you won't make the movements of soccer-playing, or of horseback riding, or of bicycle riding. You are in the environment perfect for making the skating movement, and so unless you are totally closed to all feeling whatsoever (and no one is), you *will* make that movement, simply given the fact that you are surrounded by those materials: skates, ice, cold. So it makes no sense to concentrate on *skating*, because you body will do that naturally, as naturally as you breathe while in air and hold your breathe while underwater.

In fact, consciously thinking about skating will only mess you up, being involved with pre-conceived notions

"You miss the wave and forget to jump on the new one..."

about what skating is, or worse, what skating *should be*. If you occupy yourself with all that, you never see the actual skating which is before you. You miss the wave and forget to jump on the new one before you, too concerned with the one you missed, its dimensions and so forth. If you study the past too much, you forget where you are *now*. Just concentrate on nothing, and on something, and move the legs, and everything will go effortlessly. Try to skate laboriously, on the other hand, and, from what I have seen tour skating to be, you fall flat. Here is where effortlessness is the key. Here is where all pre-conceived notions are at best useless weight, and at worst downright dangerous.

Midwives say that practicing breathing techniques before labor is incorrect, as when the time comes the breathing will have to be accommodated to what is happening *now*, not what you planned two weeks ago. IT is the same on ice, I think. Forget perfect form. Forget *everything* and just *move*, and you will be skating. It is surely the same, in a different way, on oval ice, but on natural ice this way of non-thinking and non-dualism and non-linearity is absolutely essential. A tour-day is a day filled with noticeable non-dualism. Any inspired poem would have summed it up as precisely as any summation could, I suppose. It is that essential one thing, that unified whole, that gets you through.

Look at vision. You turn your head, and slowly a new view comes into place, attached to the old view now slowly moving out of vision. All is connected into a while. Now look at a view, close your eyes, turn your head all the way around, and open your eyes, and voila, total disorientation. Were this the case with your mind's visions (and not merely your eyes' visions) you would be what psychologists call schizophrenic. But this is not the case. You see all

(Continued on page 20)

*Now is the time to make your reservation
for an exciting weekend.*

Wisconsin To Host North American Championships

by BRAD GOSKOWICZ

The first International Long Track Packstyle Championship in the Pettit Ice Center's short history will be held on February 5th & 6th. This marks the first time the North American Long Track will be held in the U.S. on an enclosed oval.

We are expecting a large turnout of both Canadian and United States speed skaters as new record times will be set in each event. Although it will be February outside, inside the racing should be red hot.

Host Headquarters—

The headquarters for the North American will be the Quality Inn - West. (formerly the Holiday Inn - West). This large comfortable hotel boasts an inside pool, play and game area, as well as quick and easy access to the rink. If you are arriving by air, the hotel has a shuttle which will pick you up if you call ahead. Room rates are \$49.95 per night with up to four persons staying in a room. Reservations **must be made by January 21st** to guarantee the special rate. Fifty rooms have been set aside on a first come, first serve basis. Make your reservations early. Mention Wisconsin Speedskating Association when making your reservations.

North American Banquet-

There will be a North American Skaters Banquet to be held in the Hall of Fame room at the Pettit National Ice Center on Saturday evening, February 5th. Exact times and ticket information will be available with the North American entry blanks.

If you have any special questions or concerns, contact Meet Director, Brad Goskowitz, at 414-425-3444 or 414-425-4979 (FAX).



Pettit National Ice Center
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



A 400 meter track and two 60 x 30 meter surfaces
under one roof.

SKATERS, HELP IS ON THE WAY!

by SHIRLEY YATES

For years the ASU has had a dream - a goal that at times seemed to be beyond achieving. But this year, in quite a simple move, we figured how to do it!

Our goal has been to fund skaters to the North American Championship in Canada every year. We have been frustrated, and often quite embarrassed, at the poor turnout of U.S. skaters at some of the finest meets ever held in North America.

From Matane to Sardis, and points in between, the Canadians have proven to be incredible hosts as they tried everything to entice our skaters North of the border. They were so often disappointed. Those Americans who did participate in the Canadian meets always came back raving about the excellent competition, the well-organized events, the hospitality, the special amenities and sometimes, our gold medals!

But still our people did not go and it was almost always the same excuse - the cost of the trip. The Canadian skaters have continued to very nicely support the North American Championship in this country - sometimes with as many skaters as we had. Yes, the Canadian skaters' expenses are subsidized - not by their National organization, the Canadian Amateur Speedskating Assn., or the Federal government but by their own associations. Obviously assistance has not come for our skaters from that quarter and probably never will. Still the representatives from CASSA to the ASU kept pushing us to find a solution to this obvious financial problem.

During the 1992-93 season the ASU Executive Board worked on a Five-Year Strategic Plan. We all contributed our "pet projects" and the North American skater subsidy surfaced. It was placed on the Strategic Plan for accomplishment in 1996.

But during the summer we worked out a method for achieving this goal in 1994! We made the cost of this project part of our budget request for our 1993-94 development grant from the United States International Speedskating Assn. and it was approved at their September meeting. This is real money for a real program. Not only will this personally benefit many skaters in the years to come but it will have a decided effect on the development of speed skaters in the U.S. in the future. Who better for our skaters to compete against than the Canadians - they're on top of the world in Short Track and no slouches in Long Track!

HOW CAN YOU CASH IN ON THIS WINDFALL?

Here are the details of how the subsidy will work. The ASU and CASSA, in compliance with the North American Alliance, alternate the Long Track and Short Track Championships. We have the Short Track one year, CASSA has the Long Track that year and the following year it's reversed.

This year we have the North American Long Track so our skaters will be traveling to Quebec for the North American Short Track. At our National Championships in Saratoga Springs the preceding weekend, the first and second-place finishers in overall points in each class, Midget through Senior, will be given up to \$250 for expenses for the North American in Quebec. They will present receipts for travel, lodging and food to the ASU following the meet and will be immediately reimbursed!

The only other requirement will be that the skaters traveling to Quebec by air will be expected to use Austin Travel to book their flights. To do this you simply call Austin Travel at 800/486-1154, ask for Lisa and tell her you're with ASU. Be sure to mention which club you're with too for extra benefits for your club.

If one of the top two finishers is not planning to compete in the Canadian competition, the third-place skater would move up to the second position. The subsidy would not go beyond the fourth place skater. The North American Championship is clearly a prestigious event and both ASU and CASSA strive to qualify its best skaters for that meet. The Alliance permits each association to qualify four skaters per class, Midget through Grand Master, for the North American. Those who receive the subsidy would be included in the association quotas.

The meet is open to skaters of any country and in the past has drawn fine competitors from such countries as Australia, Japan and England. The new North American Committee, comprised of representatives from Canada and U.S., has made increasing the number of International skaters its primary goal.

Good luck to all the skaters at the National Short Track Championship! Remember, you will not only be competing for National awards but for a sizeable bounty that could take you to the North American Championship.

ATTENTION SKATERS

We are in the process of checking with all of the colleges and universities in the Milwaukee area to see if partial scholarships, grants or financial aid may be available to skaters who would like to go to school part-time while training at the Pettit Center.

If you are interested in going to school the spring semester of '94, summer school or the fall semester of '94, please contact one of the following:

KRIS RIBAR (414) 355-9524 or
BOB LUNDA (608) 257-1686

If there is interest from the athletes, we will continue to gather the information. Some of the schools have shown interest and Kris is waiting for others to get back to her.

Revisions to the 1992-1993 Speedskating Handbook

1. Article VI-Commissioner of Racing Officials. Pg.25, para.1b. Paste over.

b. Prepare and administer a written examination for the Chief and Assistant, Referees, Starters, Clerks of Course and Chief Judges. These officials shall be required to take the written examination, return it to the Commissioner's office by the date specified, and score a minimum grade of 80%. Failure to comply with these requirements shall mandate that an Official not receive a National or North American assignment or be allowed to assist in any National or North American event during that season. An official removed from the ASU Officials List for not complying with this section shall be eligible for resubmission the following year. Any National or North American meets worked towards advancement requirements for Chief position may be carried forward with a removed official.

2. Article II-Duties and Powers of the Board of Control. Pg 18, para.15b. Delete old para. and paste at left margin.

b. A ballot will be sent to each Association by May 1 for its consideration and direction to its Board of Control member. The ballot must be cast in person at the Convention for up to eight different candidates. No mail votes will be allowed.

3. Article VI, Commissioner of Racing Officials. Pg 25, para 1f. Delete para. and paste new para at left margin.

f. Attend all National and North American Championships held in the USA (with the exception of the National Marathon Championships), file a written report on all officials to the Board of Control and give the report at the annual meeting. Lodging or transportation expenses, whichever is greater, for this will be included in the Commissioner's ASU budget.

4. Article X, Championship Events. Pg 56, para.7d. Paste over.

d. All members of a team shall be uniformly dressed to the point of having a jersey, bib or helmet cover of the same color. Teams which do not comply with this may be excluded from the relay event.

5. Article IV Conduct of Races. Pg 43, para.2b. Cross out 2b and paste new para. at left margin.

b. Obtain and wear the specified number assigned for the meet. At Long Track meets this shall be worn on the lower back. For National and North American Short Track meets it shall be in accordance with the Official Protocol requirement. Numbers shall be black on a white background with at least 1/2 inch white background around the number. Helmet numbers shall have a minimum height of 3 inches and a maximum height of 4 1/2 inches. Numbers worn on the back shall have a minimum height of 5 inches and a maximum height of 7 inches.

Any helmet number previously on the competitor's helmet shall be totally covered prior to the number issued for the National or North American Short Track Championships being applied.

6. Article III Committees. Pg 19-20, para.3c. Delete 3rd word "Board" and replace with "Committee."

7. Article V, Changes in Territory. Pg.12, para.3. Under Minnesota, delete "Douglas Count" and replace with "Dakota" County.

8. Article IV Conduct of Races. Pg 45, para.3b(4) Delete "6" and replace with "10."

German Night at the Pettit National Ice Center

The Saturday night banquet at USISA's Fall meeting on September 17-19 was held at the Pettit Center and featured items that made Milwaukee famous.



LOTS OF EXPERIENCE HERE!
Elaine Passarella, USISA President, Bill Cushman,
Paul and Rita Mueller



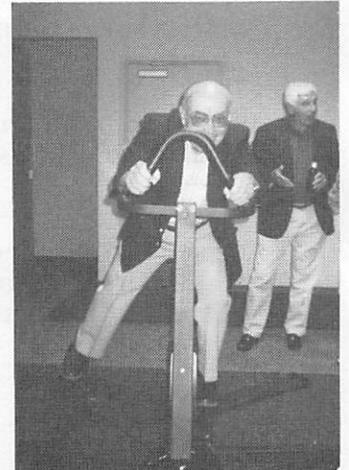
ASU President Bill Cawthra, Sharon Cawthra and David Howick,
Director of Oquirrh Park Fitness Center in Salt Lake City Center
where the 400m oval will be



Bob Lunda explaining an award being made to Jack Byrne while
Clair Young, Jack Byrne and Bill Cushman await the punch line



Four time Olympian Mary Docter
and Coach Susan Sandvig



Hall of Fame member Dick
Somalski shows how to use an
exercise machine while Hall of
Fame member Terry McDermott
makes a point.



ASU Vice President Jim Chapin, Ed Wentland,
Kay Klaiber and Jack Byrne



Hall of Fame member Dan Immerfall and Pat Seltsam

9. Article IX, Competitions, Selections, Expenses and Permits. Pg 52, para.3. Delete para. and renumber balance

10. Article II Officials Required. Pg.36,para.2a, Add"2 Observer Referees" after "2 Assistant Referees."

11. Article II, Officials Required Pg.36,para.2.Add new sub-para.b. Paste at top of pg.37.

b. Two Observer Referees, when available, who shall be positioned off the ice near the beginning or end of the curves.

12. Article III, Powers and Duties of Officials. Pg.37,para.2. Cross out and paste new para. at left margin.

2. The Assistant/Observer Referees shall perform all duties assigned to them by the Chief Referee. Immediately after a race, they shall report any foul or irregularity they observe to the Chief Referee.

- a. Observers are positioned off the ice near the beginning or end of the curves.
- b. Observers must be ASU approved Referees.

13. Article III, Powers and Duties of Officials. Pg.38,para.4c. Paste over.

- (1) If the time is recorded electronically (any read-out) the electronic time is the official time.
- (2) If an electronic time is not available, the official time will be the official manual time with 0.20 seconds added to it.

14. Article III, Powers and Duties of Officials. Pg 41, para.7. Paste over.

7. The Lap Counter shall keep a tally of laps completed by each competitor in races of more than one lap and shall notify competitors by card or voice of both the number of laps remaining to be skated. He shall, by the sound of a bell signal when the leading skater enters the last lap. At Short Track meets, the Lap Counter shall be off the ice, downstream from the finish line, near the start of the turn. It is recommended that the lap cards be elevated 3 feet above the railing for better visibility for the competitors and officials.

15. Article XVI, Short Track Safety Padding. Pg 63 & pg. 166. Delete para.1,6 & 7 and renumber.

16. Article X Championship Events. Pg.56,para.7f. Paste over.

f. A competitor may be relayed at any time except during the last two laps. These laps must be skated by one skater. A warning shot will be fired to indicate the start of the last three laps. In case of a fall during the last two laps, the skater may be relayed.

17. Article IV, Conduct of Races, Pg.46, Para 7b. Add sub-para.(6). Paste at bottom of page.

(6) Fails to yield the track when being lapped by another skater(s).

18. Article II, Officials Required, Pg.37, Delete Para.4 & renumber Para.5 to 3.

Dear Bob,

Here's a poem about skating for the Blade. It was inspired by my new correspondence friendship with an East Coast marathoner, Eugenia Kloppis, of Philadelphia, who has also recently sent you an article.

Hope all's well with you.

HOT STUFF

by BILL McCONOCHIE

(The least modest and best Grand Master skater west of the Mississippi.)

He said, "I'm a skater, and greater than most"
She said, "If true, you deserve proper toast,
But if not then you'll suffer an irreverent roast"
"How clever", he countered, "your rhymes are the most"

"So, show us", she challenged, "this prowess in skating
We've all gathered 'round, we're breathlessly waiting"
"Let the contest begin, it's the waiting I'm hating",
He nervously mumbled, cold fingers berating.

Breath fogged the air, 'twas too cold to talk
To the edge of the lake the townsfolk did walk
A suitable challenge to cause all to gawk
His opponent forthcoming, a white winterhawk.

For, you see, our bold skater had let out the word
That he skated as fast as a high flying bird
As fast as a goose, or a duck rounding third
On its way to home plate, though this may sound absurd

So they fired the gun to get the race started
The skater took off, the hawk soon departed
To the edge of the ice hot drinks were next carted
For the race round the oval was far from half-hearted

A marathon race of five thousand laps
The kind of a race that from weak souls soon saps
Every sinew and fiber built up in long naps
And even the spirit an Olympian taps

They skated and flew, so fast but a blur
So hot in their effort they needed no fur
To warm their limbs flailing, while spectators burr
Around and around, the crowd was astir

From such great beginnings, most epic tales start
Gunga Din and Ulysses, though eons apart,
Set out on great missions with great spunk and heart
With purpose and fire, great courses to chart

But recall ye the fate of Icarus lad?
Too close to the sun, the adventure he had?
And the fate of the tigers whom Sambo did chase?
So fast 'round the tree as to melt in that place?

Well, our hero, vain fellow, he won the race well
But skated so fast that the ice, let me tell,
In spite of the cold, it melted, it's true,
And the skater went down and disappeared through

Through a crack in the ice that opened and shut
In the blink of an eye, when he hit a deep rut.
So beware the big head when you hear the crowd roar,
For winning the battle may not win the war.

And at night on the lake when the ice is so thick
That it bounces right back when hit with a stick
The ghost of our skater can be heard as he tries
To crack through the ice from beneath where he lies

The deep throated cracks that rumble and snap
Remind us to sometimes remove that smart cap
In respect of the effort of that other chap
Who skates far from swiftly but is willing to scrap.

ANNOUNCEMENT ASU Licensing Program

The Amateur Speedskating Union announces that it has a licensing program for its trademarks and service marks. These marks include ASU, ASU and design, SPEEDSKATING HALL OF FAME, THE RACING BLADE and others. It is expected that this program will provide additional revenue to the Amateur Speedskating Union and will assist in publicizing speedskating. The licenses are non-exclusive and are at reasonable cost to the licensee.

The ASU currently has licensees for credit card services and for clothing. A license, and use, of ASU marks can greatly enhance the value of many products and improve the market appeal of those products. Local and regional organizations, and individuals, may want to consider obtaining licenses. The ASU provides assistance with style and format for use of the marks. Some artwork is available. All licenses must be approved by the ASU Executive Board.

Inquiries should be directed to:

AMATEUR SPEEDSKATING UNION
c/o Shirley Yates
1033 Shady Lane
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137-4822

19. Article III, Powers and Duties of Officials. Pg.38, Para.3d. Paste over.

d. Have competitors draw for their positions in races of 1000m and under and record their starting positions on the heat card. If a computer system is being used, the lane assignments may be made by the computer using a random number system, otherwise the lane assignments shall be drawn in the heat box.

20. Article III, Powers and Duties of Officials. Pg.41, Para. 11a. Insert "a minimum" after the word "consist"

21. Article IV, Conduct of Races, Pg.43, Para 1a. Add "(except the National Marathon Championship.)" at the end of second sentence.

22. Article IV, Conduct of Races, Pg.46-47. Renumber para. 5,6,7,8,9 to 4,5,6,7,8.

23. Article VII, Classification of Competitors, Pg.50, Para.1b. Paste new 3rd sentence vertically in left margin.

Skaters scoring points in the Master Class may skate in the Senior Class.

24. Article X, Championship Events, Pg.55, Para 6. Mark sentences following "Fourth Place - 1 Point" as Para "e."

25. Article X, Championship Events, Pg.56, Para. 7h(2). Replace word "completed" with "clearly started"

26. Article X, Championship Events, Pg.54, Para.1. Add 600m to Juveniles and 400m to Midgets

27. Article X, Championship Events., Pg.55, Para. 2. Delete 777m events for Master, Senior, Intermediate and Junior. Delete Para. 5 and renumber following para.

28. Diagram for 111.12 Meter Track, Pg.81. Extend finish line 1.5 meters(4ft. 11 inches) toward center of rink.

29. Diagram for 400 Meter Track, Pg.76. An approved track may have 25.5 m. radii for ASU competitions.

1994 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

MARCH 20, 1994 CAMBRIDGE, ONTARIO

TICKET SALES INFORMATION:

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE BY
MAIL ORDER ONLY - LIMITED SEATING

COST: \$10.00 PER PERSON
MAKE CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER
PAYABLE TO: CAMBRIDGE SPEED SKATING CLUB

SEND TO: CAMBRIDGE SPEED SKATING CLUB
18 PORTLAND STREET
CAMBRIDGE, ONTARIO
N1R 4C6

HOTEL INFORMATION:

HOST HOTEL: HOLIDAY INN
200 HOLIDAY INN DRIVE
CAMBRIDGE, ONTARIO
N3C 1Z4

FOR RESERVATIONS: IN CANADA & THE U.S.A.
PHONE: 1-800-HOLIDAY
DIRECT LINE: (519) 658-4601
(Mention the 1994 World Speed Skating Championships)

1994 WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

TICKET ORDER FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (_____) - _____ - _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUIRED: _____

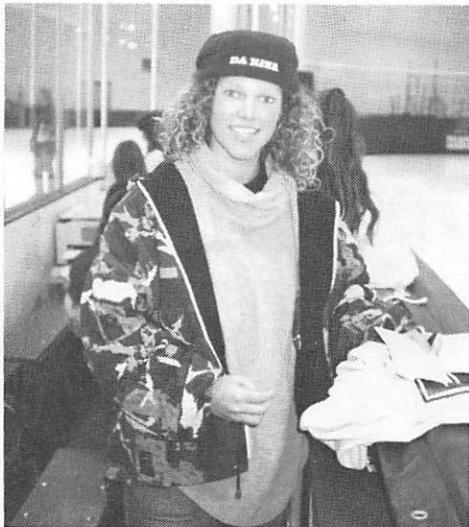
AMOUNT ENCLOSED: CHEQUE: \$ _____ MONEY ORDER: \$ _____

NOTE: IN THE EVENT THAT TICKETS ARE SOLD OUT, PAYMENT WILL BE REFUNDED.

USOEC Names Speedskating Coach

MARQUETTE, Michigan—A very respected coach has traveled from Holland to coach the U.S. Olympic Education Center Short Track speedskating team.

Wilma Boomstra of Heerenveen, Holland, is coaching the team while USOEC Short Track coordinator and U.S. National Team coach Jeroen Otter is training the U.S. National Team in Lake Placid, NY. She will direct the USOEC program for at least the next year.



WILMA BOOMSTRA

"I'm really excited to be part of the USOEC," said Boomstra, 23. "The facilities here at the USOEC are great. The athletes training here can feel proud, because they're getting the best."

"If I was a skater, I would be happy to be here."

"Her coaching background is much more developed than what we have in the U.S.," said U.S. International Speedskating Association Executive Director Katie Marquard. "In Holland, speedskating is the national sport, so they get formal training as a speedskating coach. We feel she will bring an added dimension of knowledge and experience to the USOEC program."

"Wilma has specific schooling in exercise physiology

directly linked with speedskating," said USISA Short Track Speedskating Program Coordinator Jack Mortell. "Holland is one of the few countries in the world where you can get this type of training. It's something we don't have in the United States."

"Jeroen Otter had a similar background, and he worked out great for the USOEC," said Mortell. "And we're confident Wilma will do an excellent job also."

The USOEC, located on the Northern Michigan University, in Marquette, Michigan is the first and only Olympic facility where athletes train for elite competition and pursue an education simultaneously.

1992 Olympic gold and silver medalist Cathy Turner is a perfect example of the USOEC. Just two months before winning her medals, she earned a bachelor's degree in computer science and graduated with honors from NMU.

In addition, seven of the eight U.S. Olympic skaters in 1992 were USOEC athletes including relay silver medalist Amy Peterson, Nikki Ziegelmeyer and Darcie Dohnal. Turner rounded out the relay team.

Boomstra, who began speedskating when she was seven, studied at the CIOS Sports Academy in Heerenveen, where she received specialized training in Short Track and Long Track speedskating.

"I coached members of the national team at the Olympic Oval in Holland, which was a great experience," said Boomstra. "I also had a chance to work under Dutch Olympic coach Henk Gemser at the Pro Action International Speedskating School in Heerenveen. He taught me a great deal about the sport."

Boomstra is excited to be coaching in America and believes she can help the U.S. skaters develop a tradition like Holland's, which is regarded as one of the 10 best teams in the world.

"The talent in the U.S. is definitely there, but the technique is better in Holland and only because there is no real formal training here," said Boomstra. "I think I can bring a lot of the proper techniques and put them on a program that will have them ready for Olympic competition. My goal is to have my athletes peaking at the Olympic Trials and I believe this will happen."

The name of our organization is AMATEUR SPEEDSKATING UNION OF THE UNITED STATES. Everything now should bear the new name including entry forms to all meets. We are only being permitted to use up existing supplies of materials with the old name on them. As new materials are ordered, they must bear our new name. We know it will be a long time before the old name completely disappears but we hope you will cooperate in our effort to eventually make it only a part of our history!

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Scholarship Fund Committee has announced that there will be a grant for the next college year to be awarded at the ASU Convention in May, 1994. Applications are available from the ASU National Office, 1033 Shady Lane, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137, and must be submitted not later than February 15, 1994. All members of the ASU can help build the fund by encouraging friends and relatives to donate to the Scholarship Fund through tributes and memorials.

Carol Blatchford Memorial Trust Fund Transferred to the ASU

By BOB VEHE

After more than 20 years as a charitable trust dedicated to providing financial assistance to female speedskaters in Illinois, the assets of the Carol Blatchford Memorial Trust were transferred to the ASU. The proviso in the transfer was that the fund was to be set up as a separate scholarship fund with its own trustees to provide assistance to registered ASU female speedskaters from any association who are attending Northern Michigan University and are actively participating in the sport. The fund will be known as the Carol Blatchford Memorial Scholarship Fund.



NAT BLATCHFORD

Carol's father, Nat Blatchford, has been a speedskating official for over 30 years and as a trustee of the fund from its inception was instrumental in the reorganizing of the fund. He felt that by broadening the base of the awards to skaters from the entire country and encouraging their education, the sport would be served even better.

The Carol Blatchford Memorial Trust was initiated and set up by William Bacon Jr., who was a principal in the brokerage firm of Bacon & Whipple in Chicago and was a long time friend of the Blatchfords. Funding was arranged by Mr. Bacon



Sam Hicks Photo

Carol Priest
Blatchford

1954-1969

through the generosity of friends of both of the families and the trust was established September 16, 1969. The purpose of the trust as stated in the agreement was "...to devote and apply the property...vested in the Trustees...and the income...exclusively for the purposes of (a) providing financial support to young persons...within the State of Illinois, to assist them, directly and indirectly, in pursuing their interest in amateur ice skating...as the Trustees, in their sole discretion, may from time to time deem fitting, as a memorial for Carol Blatchford..."

Carol Blatchford was an avid speedskater as was the entire Blatchford family. Sisters Sally and Holly won many National and North American titles as did their brother, Neil. Neil and Sally were members of the 1968 Olympic Team and Neil repeated in 1972. Two other sisters, Kathie and Julie, also were a part of the sport.

Carol was born August 1, 1954, and was a freshman at Glenbrook High School in Northbrook, Illinois, on April 11, 1969, when she was killed in an automobile accident near Chesterton, Indiana, while on her way to a dance.

The fund during the 1970s through the 1980s helped numerous Illinois girls with a portion of their expenses for training in Europe in the Fall before the rinks in the United States were open. This was before the largess of USISA became commonplace and many skaters were on their own to obtain this training. Among the many who were helped were Denise and Celeste Chlapaty, Bonnie Blair, Nancy Swider, Jan Goldman, Debbie Carlstrom, Lydia Stephans and Anne Henning.

Details of the procedure for applying for the scholarship will be announced in a future issue of The Racing Blade.

THANK YOU AUSTIN TRAVELERS

The ASU is grateful to the following members who used Austin Travel in 1992 and 1993. Some of them were multi-users. When you use Austin Travel, you benefit the ASU but you also can benefit your club because every time you book with Austin, if you ask them to credit your club with the booking, they will keep track of it and eventually when your club has recorded a total of 20 bookings, your club will get \$100 worth of free skating equipment.

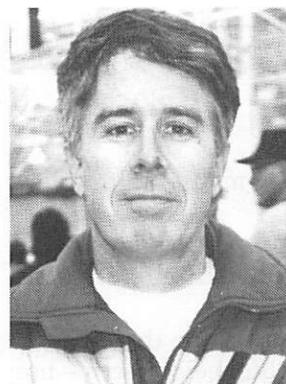
Haj Sano	Joseph & Marya Altuchoff
Julie Marquard	Jim & Shirley Yates
Jason Hedstrand	Ken & Joann Altuchoff
Brad, Norma & Duane	Mary Lou & Tim Quinn
Rubash	Fred & Karen Cashman
John & Whitney McGill	Lavinia Paun
Christie & Robert Smith	Bob Vehe
Pam, Cara, Chad &	Sara & Marty Hill
Mike Garofola	Peg Hassett
George Ralston	Ken & Matthew Vraa
Tom Healy	Tom, Erin & Todd Porter
Randy Menzer	Csilla Rappai
Seth Davidowitz	Rusty Smith
Jerry Search	John Diemont
Joseph Umansay	Katie Krall
Bill, JoEllen, Todd &	Michelle & Patricia Hill
Kelly Anderson	Benjamin Lucas
Joseph Franz	Nancy Kubler
Wayne Rutledge	Tim Glader
Joey Fresquez	Dana & Karen Gross
Jim Chapin	Greta Hall
William Heinhofer	Jan Vandenbeltd
Shirley & Doc Savage	Jan Leung
Mark Davey	

Those are the people who chose to call Austin because they knew it would help the ASU. Many others used Austin but they were officials, officers, coaches - people who were on "official" business for the ASU and were instructed to call Austin.

Who of the above were our "best customers"? Those who traveled most frequently, and consistently called Austin whether for business, speedskating events or pleasure trips, were Haj Sano, Karen and Fred Cashman, Ken Altuchoff, Tom Porter and Tim Quinn Sr. A very special thank you to them!

The ASU officers and committee chairmen work hard to set up programs and find fund raisers in which our members can participate. Sometimes it means negotiating contracts and promising more than what we can eventually deliver because we tend to have great faith in our members to come through, and sometimes they don't.

Whether it is a raffle, a Business Card Blitz, an ASU credit card or booking all your flights through our travel management company, it is important for you to support the ASU. The above members recognize that and realize that as small as their contribution may seem to be, it is important.



PREPARE FOR YOUR RACES

by JERRY SEARCH

Southern California Speed Skating Association

Here is a guide to help skaters be better prepared at National level meets. Just like anything else, preparation for a meet will result in better skating if you have a PLAN, especially your on-ice warm-up. Rather than just skating some laps and doing some starts, have a well thought out PLAN, similar to the one below, in your mind or even written on a piece of paper. This will make your warm-up better and more productive, which will show in your races.

If the warm-up time is too limited for the following plan, then shorten each item. And remember the 5 P's, from Pat Maxwell: "Proper Preparation Precedes Positive Performance", just as "Poor Preparation Predicts Poor Performance"

A. BEFORE THE ON-ICE WARM-UP:

1. Easy 5 minute jog.
2. 5-10 minutes stretching.

B. ON THE ICE:

3. 15 laps EASY (or 3 x 5 laps, resting 1 minute between, if you like).
4. 3-5 minute rest.
5. 10 laps FASTER (or 2 x 5 laps resting 1 minute between).
6. 3-5 minute rest.
7. Sprints: (90%): 1 lap, 2 laps, 3 laps, 1 lap, with a 2 minute rest between each sprint.
8. Starts: ½ lap, 3 each, with 1-2 minute rest between.
9. Crazy Starts: ½ lap, 3 each, with a 1 minute rest between.
10. 15 laps EASY (Warm-down), (or 3 x 5 laps, resting 1 minute between).
11. You're done. SHARPEN YOUR SKATES NOW!!

(Continued)

C. BEFORE YOUR RACE (Off the ice):

1. Double check your skates (blades sharp, nuts tight, both small and big ones!), and helmet, gloves, knee pads, number.
2. 5 minute EASY jog.
3. Stretching a lot.
4. 3 x 25-50 meter running sprints.
5. Go to the heat box EARLY, and sit nearby where you can hear.

D. IN THE HEAT BOX:

1. Listen to make sure how many skaters they are "picking".
Anything you are not sure of, ask now, NOT when you are getting on the ice or on the starting line.
2. Put on your skates, and tighten them EASY (make sure they are tightened correctly—not too tight).
3. Again, check your gloves, helmet, etc. (make sure you have YOUR helmet, the one with YOUR number).
4. Relax!! Now you can visit with the other skaters.

E. IMMEDIATELY! AFTER EACH RACE:

1. Find out how long until your next race.
2. Check your skates NOW, not later. If you have ANY doubts, sharpen!
3. Set ALL of your equipment together: Helmet, gloves, knee pads and skates, and make sure they are ready.
4. Eat a little something.
5. NOW you can go visit, watch races, etc.
You are READY!

The Alumni Arena

by SHIRLEY YATES



Notes from our Alumni Club members started arriving with the first batch of enrollment cards when the club was formed three years ago. I've always enjoyed reading these little notes although, most often, I don't know the writers.

I think you will enjoy their comments too and perhaps occasionally will find an old friend among our Alumni Club members. Unfortunately, you may from time to time also discover that an old friend has passed away.

Our new little column will report on the activities of our alumni and the news they send us. We hope you will become a part of this circle. If not now, when you have at least given your all to the sport—when you have hung up your skates, launched your last child out of the nest, attended your last speedskating meeting, coached your last little novice or officiated at your last meet—but still want to stay in touch with the sport.

Then we have the perfect niche for you—the Alumni Club! You don't have to worry about the proper channels to go through for membership, who to contact for information or to get The Racing Blade with its important information and news that long-time members want to see. You join the Alumni Club and YOU are personally contacted each year with a renewal form to continue your membership. It couldn't be easier!

Now for some alumni news items we've been holding onto for a long time:

FROM:

PHILIP JANKIEWICZ of Yorkville, NY—Keep up the good work—best thing that ever happened for skating!

(Continued)

DOC ASKS . . .

Why are the new and renewed clubs requesting the coaching manuals in greater percentages than the old established clubs? Of the 45 sets that have been requested and sent to ASU clubs thus far, 10 have gone to new clubs. These excellent coaching manuals were purchased with a grant from the USOC. Each club is entitled to one free set for use by all of its members.

Check with your club president or secretary to see who is custodian of your coaching manuals. If your club set has not been ordered, order a Coaches Manual form from the National Office (1033 Shady Lane, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137, 708/790-3230). Have a club official fill it out and send it to Doc Savage, 2614 N. 115th Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226 (no phone calls, please).

TOUR SKATING

(Continued from page 8)

realities as interconnecting, forming one whole. All varying realities merge into one. It is an unspeakable thing. It is inexplicable. But, it is ultimately *expressible*, in poetry, in song, in dance, and finally, in skating.

If anybody out there has any remedy for early-on cold feet (lack of circulation, even with loosely-laced toes and good Vikings™ with a spacious toebox), please write to me and let me know!

Eugenia Klopsis
311 Spruce Street #2
Philadelphia, PA 19106

JUDY PHELAN of Olympic Valley, CA—What are the possibilities of having a Short Track meet in Squaw Valley? It would have to be planned around the weather because the rink is outside and on top of Squaw Peak (9,000 feet). They charge for the tram ride to the rink, but maybe they would make exceptions for a meet. There is also a rink in Reno, NV (indoor), nice rink for a meet. Reno is about 40 miles from Squaw Valley. It could be a Western States Invitational meet for Far West Invitational Short Track meet. What do you think?

The first year of the Alumni Club we received this wonderful little note from **JOHN McCARTEN** of Poughkeepsie, NY. "My last competition was at the International Indoor Senior Olympics in Long Beach, NY, late 1970's, early 1980's—200, 400, 800, 1000 meters. Now 86 years old. Also in 1924 ran 5000 meters in first Army tryouts for the Olympic Team—1924-1926 played football and basketball for New York Aggies."

Late in 1991 we received this from his daughter, **JEANNE MARIE SCOTT**:

"My father, **JOHN J. McCARTEN**, an alumni member of your association, died July 29, 1991. He loved ice skating, skating competitively into his 80's. He was 88 years old when he died. He was a sweet, kind, delightful person who brightened up whatever place he found himself in. He lived with us for his last year and it was a privilege to love him. Please move his name to your list of deceased members. I am sure he is watching you from heaven and smiling at your joy in skating." What a beautiful tribute to a father.

JIM ARENBERG of Eagan, MN, (to the Yates Family) It's been a long time, but my thoughts have often taken me back to my very short, yet very rewarding association with the Glen Ellyn Speedskating Team. Still manage to get the skates out once in awhile, but not as much as I wish I could. Hope all is well with you. I'd be curious to hear how Mike is doing, well I'm sure. Never forgot that no matter how good Mike got, he would take the time to help me out with a few pointers.

DAVID ROSS of Woods Hole, MA—Pleased to continue my Alumni membership. Could I ask a favor? I am interested in long-distance Senior (I am 56) skating in my area. Cape Cod is far from most skating areas and clubs. The Racing Blade is helpful, but frequently arrives too late. If you have any info or person I could contact, I would appreciate it. (Mr. Ross is chairman of the Dept. of Geology & Geophysics at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.)

JOHN STORM of Apple Valley, CA—We can't ice skate in the Mohave Desert, but we roller skate. ASU also stands for Arizona State University, as you might already know. There is at least one lady in Southern

California Association who is an Arizona S. U. alumni. She is now a teacher, speedskater and cyclist. She graduated about four years ago. In this area one sees people with "ASU" sweatshirts etc. from time to time.

BRUCE BAUER of White Bear Lake, MN—I skated from 1950-1962, East Side Speedskating Club, EMSA. Skated in Nationals and North Americans through 1960. Worked as a coach with St. Paul novices and White Bear Lake novices for 12 years from 1972-1984. President of EMSA for six years, president of Midway for six years. Active with Long Blade skating clubs in Twin Cities for past 15 years. Just an idea—how about an Alumni get together or dinner at the Nationals each year? Might be fun!

(Bruce had a full career as a skater, administrator and coach and is now back as an official and father of a young skater. We are especially impressed because, he has also elected to join the Alumni Club.)

Remember I said the news in this column would not always be happy news.

When the first mailing was sent to potential Alumni Club members we received the following:

FROM:

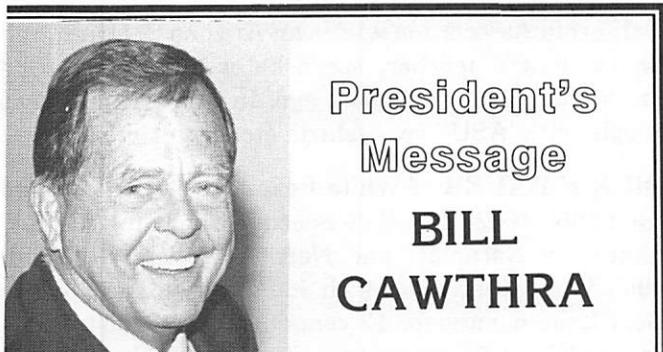
MARILYN STILLMAK—Steve Stillmak is deceased as of 1981. I, another member of the Stillmak Family, skated for 14 years. Please keep me on your mailing list to contact later.

But here's one with good news as well as sad.

JOHN C. RUDDER of Jeffersonville, MO—Lottie passed away on September 8, 1991 from complications resulting from a stroke she suffered in January, 1990. We enjoyed our sons participating in speedskating and as you know, Paul is again participating and helping coach at the local arena. Enclosed is my check for \$100. (The cost of joining the Alumni Club is only the cost of the The Racing Blade, but many people have been very generous, knowing how much ASU needs such donations.)

Look for more recent news in the next Alumni Arena about our Northern California Association member, Dr. Lowell C. Miller, and Doc Savage's friend from Arizona, Donald Kuban.

ALUMNI CLUB MEMBERS, REMEMBER TO SEND NEWS ITEMS AND PICTURES FOR THIS COLUMN TO SHIRLEY YATES AT THE NATIONAL OFFICE, 1033 SHADY LANE, GLEN ELLYN, IL.



President's
Message
**BILL
CAWTHRA**

The 1993-94 season is well underway and what an exciting one it's going to be. Opportunity abounds... the new Roseville 400 meter oval, the Olympic Games, the first-ever Junior Short Track World Championships to mention only a few. What a terrific time for our skaters.

It's an old message but true...we as an organization need to take advantage of these opportunities. We must use these events to share our great sport with as many people as possible. Speedskating needs you!

The ASU has implemented programs to address both membership growth and fundraising. I hope each of you will make a commitment in your club in this same effort. If each club in the ASU added just five skaters our membership would grow by over 300 skaters...proceeds from the first-year dues would add over \$3000 to our treasury; proceeds from the following year's dues would add over \$9000. Yes indeed, you can make a difference. Each and every club, each and every member is important. You are the life blood of the ASU.

Here are a few of the national programs that you can get involved with. If you have any ideas on how the ASU can increase our membership or raise funds, I would like to hear from you.

AUSTIN TRAVEL

Book all of your travel needs through Austin Travel, the ASU receives credit. Mention your club so the club can receive credit toward the purchase of skating equipment.

MBNA MASTERCARD

Rebates are being issued to the ASU.

SKATERS' REPRESENTATIVE

Intermediate and older skaters, become involved in the decision-making process by running for Skaters' Representative to the ASU Board of Control.

RACING BLADE CONTEST

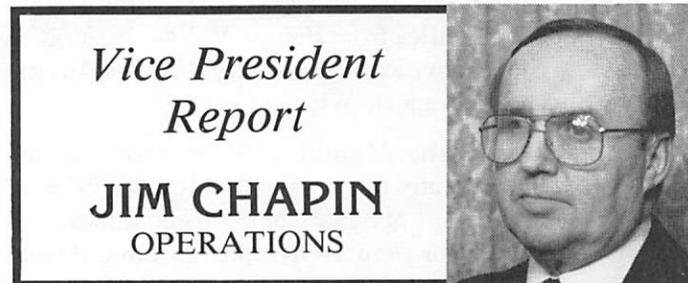
Skaters, Midget through Senior, write an article for the contest "What I would like the ASU to do for me". We want to hear from you!

1994 ASU CONVENTION

Officials, parents and skaters, plan now to attend the 1994 ASU Convention in May to be held in the Chicago area. Participation by all gives us strength.

ASU TRAINING CAMPS

Skaters, plan to attend a camp next summer. Three great camps are planned...Colorado Springs, Northern Michigan and Lake Placid. Look for details in upcoming Racing Blade issues.



*Vice President
Report*

JIM CHAPIN
OPERATIONS

— THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS —

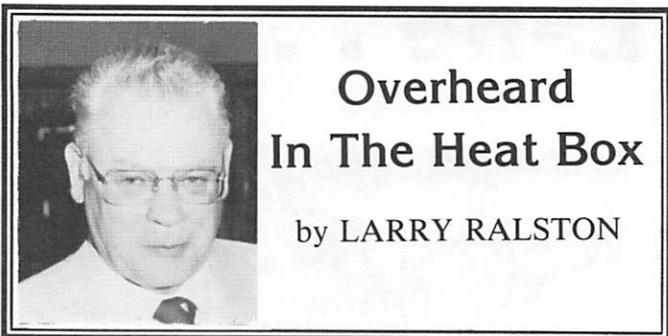
The ASU Racing Blade is no longer a simple newsletter. Our devoted and dedicated Editor, Bob Vehe, has transformed the Racing Blade into a five issue magazine. I hope each family member, who can read, takes the time to go through the RB cover to cover. I hit most of it but not in one sitting anymore.

The publication is not without its problems ranging from deadlines, timely data, meet information and not the least - financial. The RB is a major ASU budget item. Since part of each ASU Registration goes towards the RB, in theory, it pays for itself, mostly. The difference from membership dues is helped tremendously by the many loyal advertisers we have in the publication. The support of these individuals, past and present, has been a main reason for the upgraded quality magazine Bob is able to present our members.

I purposely stated this as individuals not as companies or businesses. Yes, in reality the individuals are associated in their own business as a company entity, but due to their individual and personal participation or activity within our sport they help make our magazine what it is. We are indebted to them for their support and when you see one of our great advertisers tell them you appreciate what they do and a thank you would probably be appreciated and remembered.

These individuals also help support many competitions across the country in various ways which also helps local clubs put on better competitions. This too is greatly appreciated.

The ASU is still in need of an Advertising Director. John McGill did a great job for two years. There has to be someone in this area of expertise in the ASU membership who can handle this job. It is a non-paying and challenging position that can offer you great satisfaction when you see the results of your efforts in each issue of the magazine. The main thing however, it is important to the ASU and our future. The phone line is open, waiting for your call.



Overheard In The Heat Box

by LARRY RALSTON

- ★ Past President Leon Wilmot is on the mend after taking a nasty fall and breaking two ribs.
- ★ The on again - off again Coaching Seminar in Dallas, TX, is off again as promoters can't seem to get their acts together in deciding whom to invite and when ice time is available. Maybe by next Spring they will be able to make a decision.



HALLOWEEN — 1993

Larry Ralston, Ruth Vehe, Edna Ralston,
Bob Grant and Bette Grant

- ★ There must have been a number of past and present ASU officials with ringing ears over the Halloween weekend as the Grants, Vehes and Ralstons assembled in Michigan for a weekend of fun. Betty Grant is the former Illinois Secretary and her husband, Bob is a former Illinois Board of Control member and past chairman of the National Records Committee. After long deliberation they decided if the present ASU and USISA organizations would only listen to them, they could solve all the respective difficulties and problems with a minimum of expense. As retired persons they know the meaning of the word, frugality.
- ★ Betty Roche, wife of Past President and Hall of Famer Dave, has been having a difficult time healthwise over the past few months. Some cards and letters of cheer from old friends would be appreciated and a few prayers couldn't hurt either. Write to P. O. Box 102, Stony Creek, NY 12878.
- ★ Dr. Richard Vehe is the new Medical Director of Pediatric Rheumatology at the Gillette Children's

Hospital in St. Paul and is an Assistant Professor in the same specialty at the University of Minnesota. He recently was the featured speaker on a television segment dealing with joint problems of young people.

- ★ While the U.S. Postal Service is swimming in red ink they managed to find a spare \$100,000.00 to have a New York Advertising Agency design a new Eagle logo. Did anyone else notice all those ads that appeared on the field covers of Professional Sports Stadia during the 1993 World Series and League Championship series games, advertising the U.S. Postal Service? Only in America, Folks. Thank for helping pay the bill.
- ★ Looking for a long-lasting gift for someone you love or admire? Why not consider joining many of your skating friends in giving a gift in perpetuity: Sponsorship of a set of National Medals. For further information please contact me at 616-423-8810. Your friends will love it and the cost is tax deductible.

WHAT'S NEW FROM THE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

by SAM HICKS



The racing season is underway and it's going to be a great year. Our skaters have put a lot effort and hard work into preparation for the coming season and I wish all of them the best of luck. With the upcoming Olympics, World Short Track, The National and North American Long and Short Track Championships. This should be a very exciting year.

The convention is a long way off, but plans are set to have Official's Clinics on Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome including parents, skating friends and assistant officials for the the three separate clinics for referees, starters and clerks. This is an excellent opportunity to participate in the convention process, gain new skating friends, have a voice in rule changes, get a better knowledge of the ASU rules, and attend a two hour clinic on the specialty you choose.

Clinics will be conducted by selected chief officials in their category. Anyone wishing to attend the official's clinic and the banquet on Saturday would only be required to pay the cost of the banquet. It is important that all associations encourage their membership to take advantage of the multiple clinics and a social evening with skating friends.

My thanks to the Executive Committee for finding the time for the above clinics. Interested parents and assistant officials please call or write if you plan to attend. Anyone having questions, please call me at 708/328-1419.

Down Memory Lane . . .

by BOB VEHE



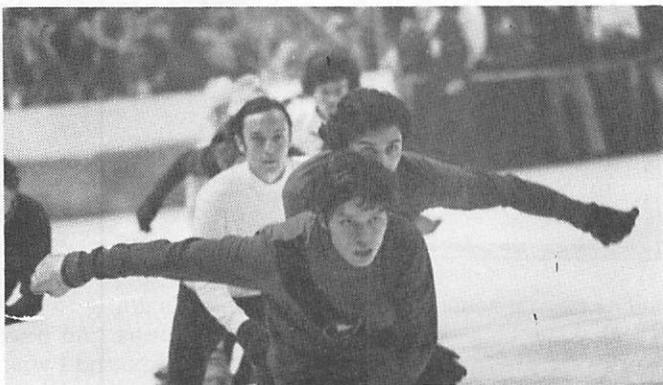
LUMINARIES AT THE 1974 CONVENTION

Gary Eikaas of Minnesota, Einar Jonland of Illinois, Duncan MacPherson of California, Leon Wilmot of Colorado and Robert Fitzgerald who was inducted into the ASU Speedskating Hall of Fame. Fitzgerald is one of a number of members whose pictures have never been obtained by the Hall of Fame. Eikaas, Jonland, MacPherson and Wilmot all served as President of the ASU. Jonland and MacPherson are deceased.



OLD SKATERS BECOME BARREL JUMPERS! (and some return to competition)

Chuck Burke, a member of the 1952 and 1956 Olympic Teams and Rich Widmark do their thing in front of a large crowd. Dick still competes and placed second in the National Long Track in 1992 as a Grand Master.



Billy Anderson of Glen Ellyn leading Lee Mazzilli of Yonkers and Alan Rattray of California. Anderson is now Dr. William Anderson, a surgeon. Lee Mazilli retired after a long career in the major leagues with the New York Mets and the Pittsburgh Pirates. Alan works for Hughes in California and was inducted into the ASU Speedskating Hall of Fame in 1990.



ILLINOIS AWARDS BANQUET 1969

Bob Haensch of Mt. Prospect, Jeff Edwards of United Commercial Travelers (UCT), Bob Knight of Mt. Prospect, Michael Timpono of UCT, Gary Jonland of Mt. Prospect, and Ray Timpone of UCT. Jonland was a member of the 1972 Olympic Team. Edwards has returned to skating and competed at a recent Great Lakes meet as a Master. Notice how well dressed they all are.



YOU NAME THEM

Looks like a football line at the Illinois State Outdoors on lake Ellyn many years ago.



ACTION AT THE OUTDOOR NATIONALS

Neil Blatchford of Northbrook leading Michael Passarella of Northwest at St. Paul.

Notice the rubber hoses used as track markers.

Down Memory Lane . . . (Continued)

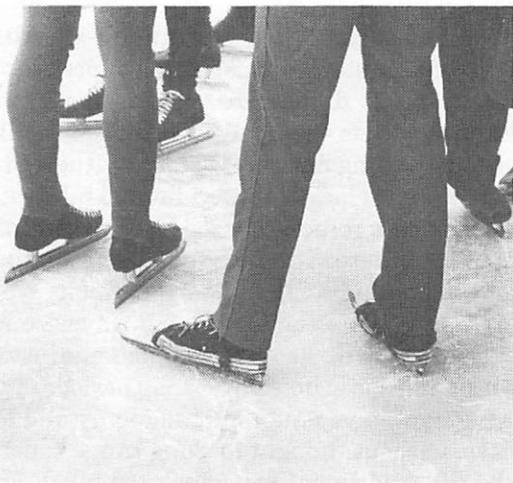


The Chicago Tribune Silver Skates

Every year the Tribune took a similar picture. This was when the meet was still held outdoors and the skates were silver plated.

(Left to right, standing) Robbie Blair, UCT; Bob Vehe, Mt. Prospect; Raymond Timpone, UCT; Leah Poulos, Northbrook; Holly Blatchford, Northbrook; Mike Passarella, Northwest. (Seated) David Pogorzelski, Missouri; Zack Wallerstedt, Mt. Prospect; Celeste Chlapaty, Northwest; Denise Chlapaty, Northwest; Kay Lunda, Wisconsin; Katie Iden, Glen Ellyn.

Leah Poulos was a member of the 1972, 1976 and 1980 Olympic Teams and was World Sprint Champion in 1974 and 1979. Passarella was a member of the 1968 Olympic Team. Poulos, Passarella and Celeste Chlapaty are members of the ASU Speedskating Hall of Fame.

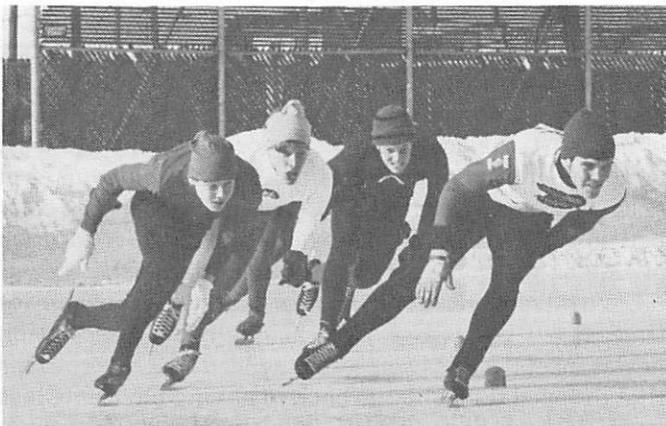


Please! Can't I get a new pair of skates? My gym shoes are wearing out. Who said that skates are hard to find. Action at Humboldt Park in Chicago in the 1960's.



ILLINOIS AWARDS BANQUET 1969

Fort row: Debbie Klak and Dorie Boyce. Back row: Peggy Dixon, Kim Vala, Mary Saxton, Chris Lind and Helen Lutsch. Dorie Boyce was a member of the 1978 and 1979 U.S. Short Track Teams. In 1978, she was a member of the winning Relay Team in Solihull, England, along with Sarah Docter, Peggy Hartrich and Patty Lyman. In 1979 at Quebec City, the Relay Team placed 3rd. The other teammates were Cathy Turner, Peggy Hartrich and Maggie Burns. Dorie was a member of the 1984 Olympic Team.



ACTION AT MILWAUKEE

Bob Haenisch of Mt. Prospect leading Peter Mueller of Wisconsin, John Schoof of Northbrook and Ed Jacquin of Missouri. Mueller was a member of the 1976 and 1980 Olympic Teams and was gold medalist at the 1976 Games in Innsbruck. Currently, he is the Long Track coach for USISA.



Jim Durlak of the Northwest Club in Chicago believes in staying close to the leader. Jim went on to graduate from the Air Force Academy.

Dick Berg Photo



Glen Berg of the Northbrook Club and Deanna Prather of the FOP-Champaign Club show their trophies. Deanna now is a coach for the Champaign-Urbana Club.

Dick Berg Photo

Notes from . . .

The National Office

by
SHIRLEY YATES



We are usually filled with such excitement and high expectations at the beginning of a new season. I am an unabashed optimist about speedskating and I always think that the panacea for many ills is to keep the spirits up and work hard because through high spirits and hard work, all things are possible!

But this year, this early in the season, there are little ripples of fear and dissatisfaction emanating from so many different levels, even I am a little disturbed. A long-time Illinois speedskating parent, STEVE COHEN, asked me at the Chicago Silver Skates to address one particular problem. That problem started me thinking about all the other "signs" I've been seeing which resulted in this editorial lead-in to my column.



STEVE COHEN

Steve was upset because so many of the skaters who normally would have been at the Silver Skates (traditionally it's the first big meet of the season in the Midwest) were gone, decreasing by at least one-third the number of entries in the meet. Both Steve and I know where the skaters were - at Long Track time trials on the 400-meter oval in Milwaukee (at the beginning of our fall Short Track season!) and at an expense-paid trip to a meet in Matane, Canada!

Steve pointed out the dangers of what is happening and I agree with him. If our skaters (and their parents) do not support local and regional meets, we are in serious trouble. Many clubs are paying \$150-\$250 an hour for the ice needed for an open regional two-day meet. How do you think they pay for that? In large part, with entry fees from participants. If a meet has been regularly attended by 150 skaters and you suddenly drop to 100, that can mean \$500-\$1000 less in revenue but you still have to pay for that ice because you contracted for it.

IF THE CLUBS LOSE, WE ALL LOSE IN A BIG WAY

No club can sustain losses like that for long. What happens? They drop the meet. Sometimes it's one that may have a 25-50 year-old tradition! Without the local and regional meets, where do the new and younger skaters

go for competition? Few travel to out-of-state meets and shouldn't be expected to so what do these skaters do? No one wants to just practice every week. Every athlete is practicing towards competing. Without it, they gradually lose interest in the sport. You know what that does? That can gradually kill clubs. There go the hosts for your local and regional meets.

We understand the need for the "elite" skaters to seek the best competition they can each weekend but that "elite" competition used to be at the regional meets. When it's necessary to always travel for competition, it becomes a very expensive sport for everyone. Does the argument that we have fewer skaters today impact on this issue at all? I don't think so. In 1984 we had half the skaters we have now and we had a full schedule of local regional meets. We survived that period. Maybe because ALL skaters supported their regional meets.

Maybe the direction the ASU Open Meet Schedule has taken in recent years has served to undermine some excellent regional events. In the past, the Meet Scheduling Committee was always one of the heaviest attended meetings at the Convention with the most hotly debated issues. The committee chairmen have done a good job but at the last Convention it was all a "done deal" in 15 minutes. A superior job of pre-planning and ironing out of differences before the Convention? Perhaps. A classic example of apathy? More likely. One of the encroaching dangers we have witnessed in recent years is the total lack of respect for and interest in Tradition. The elders reluctantly see it disappear, oftentimes without the wherewithal to stop it. The young laugh at it, not understanding the importance of it. We're all for progress but before the traditional ways are lost to the past, they must be heavily weighed against progress. Traditional ways evolved over long periods of time. Progressive new ways tend to hit suddenly and look so attractive, without thought for long-range repercussions. Maybe the traditional ways took too much hard work!

BACK TO THE BASICS

We recently have started preaching a "back to the basics" philosophy. If your club is faltering because of the lack of "elite" skaters, forget them. That's not what the ASU is all about anyway. Remember, we're the grass roots organization that has as its purpose the promoting of the sport, the development of skaters of any age with the proper instruction and competition development of skaters of any age with the proper instruction and competition to do this. We obviously have done a good job of this or we would not be in our 66th year!

Concentrate on recruiting new skaters. Keep your ice time at all costs. Use it occasionally for association novice meets. It has been recommended that associations that dropped the policy go back to having novices (Class B) skate both days at a regional meet - at least occasionally. That will draw families with novices from nearby associations and will again give local novice skaters and parents a look at the impressive performances of older and more-skilled skaters.

(Continued)

Here's a rule that's at the top of the list - involve the parents, not just with the practice/meet jobs but socially. It doesn't matter how many new young skaters you add to your club every year, if you don't "hook" their parents. Without the parents, you won't keep the youngsters because it is not a baby-sitting service like school and park district programs. It is a family sport, meaning kids can't do it alone. Maybe we should change our recruiting techniques. Recruit parents!

You're really lucky if you entice older skaters into the sport. They don't have to rely on Mommy and Daddy for the money to support them in the sport or to take them to weekend competitions which more and more parents seem reluctant to do. Once older skaters are hooked, you think they're not going to involve their kids in the sport?! If they're not married with kids now, they may be later.

But they have a responsibility to the sport that youngsters do not have. Parents are expected to assume these responsibilities for their children because there are many jobs youngsters can't do that older skaters and parents can - like hauling safety pads on and off the ice! Older skaters can coach novices, serve in administration, conduct fundraisers and help out at meets. But there is one thing they should never do. You know how obnoxious it is when a self-centered, insensitive kid acts like a brat. It's twice as obnoxious when an adult acts

that way. The sport functions for no one level, age or category but for all people interested in speedskating.

LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE GRANDPAS!



JAY GLAD

Some older skaters have brought their grandchildren into it! Grandfather JAY GLAD came back into the sport with his four grandchildren (next year he says there will be five!) and launched the UTAH SPEEDSKATING CLUB two years ago, building it into one

of our biggest non-association clubs, and with a 400-meter oval being built there, you know what the speedskating future of the Salt Lake City area will be.

Broaden your horizons. Spread out into new areas. Establish new clubs. The best way to do that is with older skaters. If they want to practice, compete or just recreational skate, they will band together, find ice time, raise funds for safety pads and take care of all the administrative duties. I personally have never seen a club started by new parents with new little skaters but they almost always will prefer to go to the club closest to them so the more clubs you have scattered throughout your association, the easier it will be to recruit.

The MIDDLE ATLANTIC ASSN. just recently added its ninth club, the most of any association. In the last

(Continued)

**68th ANNUAL
ST. LOUIS**



**SILVER SKATES
MARCH 5-6, 1994**

**KENNEDY
RECREATION
COMPLEX**

SAFETY FIRST!

Long sleeves, approved helmets and gloves required. Shin guards and knee pads highly recommended

1994 ST. LOUIS SILVER SKATES ENTRY FORM

Silver Skates is sponsored by the Missouri Skating Association and the St. Louis County Parks and Recreation Department. The meet is sanctioned by the Missouri Skating Association and the Amateur Speedskating Association of the United States.

Skater's Name _____ D/O/B _____ Sex _____ Division _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone Number _____

Club Affiliation _____ Association _____ ASU Number _____ Skating Class _____

The skater who signs below and his or her parent or guardian (who must sign if the skater is under 18 years of age) are aware of the hazards of short track (indoor) speed skating and assume all risks incident to this indoor competition. The undersigned, in consideration of acceptance of this entry, for his/her or their representatives, heirs, executors and administrators does hereby waive, relinquish and release any and all expenses for which I or we may have or hereafter be entitled to as a result of participation in this meet. This waiver and release extends to and is for the benefit of the Amateur Speedskating Union of the United States, the Missouri Skating Association, Kennedy Recreation Complex and the St. Louis County Parks and Recreation Department, and their agents, servants, employees and representatives.

Skater Signature (If over 18) _____ Parent/Guardian Signature (required if skater is under 18) _____

Mail entry fee (\$20.00 for Class A, Masters, Senior B; \$10.00 for novice) to James L. Jeter, Meet Registrar, 5812 Waterman Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63112, (telephone: 314-725-2378) or FAX to 314-863-0121. Entries close on Tuesday, March 1, 1994. No voice telephone entries accepted. Make checks payable to The Missouri Skating Association.

year a new club was started in CENTRAL PARK and two old clubs were reinstated: the CENTURY CLUB and the NEWBURGH WINTER CLUB. And you know what? They were all started by adult skaters - but they are in place now and the young skaters and their parents will come. A week after I received the official notice of reinstatement, I was able to steer a father to the Newburgh Club. The week before when he called I had had to refer him to a club much further away.

This is an old sport going back to the last century in this country and the ASU is a well-structured organization with a good network of contacts and support from the local to the National level. This network can help you strengthen the sport on your level - use it.

MORE NEW CLUB NEWS!

In October MICHAEL BAUTISTA of Idaho Falls called, all fired up and ready to establish a speedskating club. I always get excited about a call like this although I have learned to take them with some trepidation because sometimes nothing happens. But I sent off the usual packet of items plus registration forms and by mid-November a lot happened. Michael had registered, officially established the Ice Speedskating Club of Idaho Falls, scheduled ice time, ordered a copy of our Certificate of Insurance, called DOC SAVAGE to order seven pairs of skates and 10 sets of our Instructional patches and started making arrangements for one of Doc's weekend "pioneering" seminars at which he is sure he will have at least 12-15 participants.

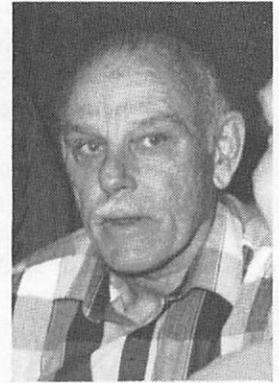
JERRY SUHRSTEDT AND THE TACOMA CLUB are another "success story". Just a year ago Jerry called with the news that he and a group of in-line skaters were forming a speedskating club and this is a fast-moving group! They are already conducting meets (look for info in this issue on one scheduled for January), hosted a combined in-line/ice speedskating camp during the summer and are working towards forming the Northwest Speedskating Assn. with Oregon. By November many Washington skaters had already registered for the 93-94 season.

At the September meeting of ASAI (the Illinois association), the JOLIET CLUB was officially accepted as a provisional club, thanks to the efforts of many but especially MARK DRING, A GLEN ELLYN CLUB member, who is now coaching that fledgling group and scrounging for skates for all the interested skaters in that area. Last season TOM AND ANITA HEALY and Doc helped Mark put on a Saturday seminar which included on-ice demonstrations and videos.

And good news from PETER FITTERER, president of the GARDEN STATE CLUB in New Jersey. To quote from his letter announcing that his club is excited about hosting the 1994 National Marathon Championship at Lake Placid, Peter said, "The Garden State Games Committee has recently approved our proposal to include speedskating in their 1994 Games. Our hopes are that the exposure will further develop our sport within New Jersey."

PATCH PROGRAM PICKING UP

DOC SAVAGE is now the custodian of the ASU Instructional Badge Program. Additional patches are on order to fill out the existing inventory and next year the patches will be redesigned, a whole new inventory will be ordered and the instructional guide for coaches to utilize this program will be rewritten by the Coaching Committee. Any club that has used this program or any parent who



DOC SAVAGE

has had a child enrolled in an Ice Skating Institute of America badge program knows this concept works. Kids love these patches, work hard for them and display them proudly on their jackets and jerseys.



MARK JASTRZEMBSKI

Doc is worried about the Novice Questionnaire he mailed to his committee members and all the association Novice Coordinators. It's the usual thing - he sent out 32 and by Nov. 8 had received only one in return! Good old MARK JASTRZEMBSKI! It's people like Mark who keep hard-working Doc

fired up. The deadline was Dec. 1 so, of course, Doc was hopeful of receiving more. The questionnaire is vital to Doc's program because it gives direction to Growth and Development for the coming year. Of particular importance this year was Doc's request for ideas on some new designs including those for the instructional patches.

Doc has informed us that Idaho member, DANA GROSS, donated an almost-new pair of Zanstra speed skates to the ASU for "speedskating development". Our heartfelt thanks to Dana but that doesn't mean Dana is getting out of the sport. On the contrary, Doc says he may be moving to the Midwest where, of course, speedskating is more accessible but if he doesn't, this Boise resident will join the Idaho Falls group and he won't be nearly as lonely in speedskating as he has been!

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR GOLDEN GATE SKATERS?

SAN JOSE COLLEGE in our Northern California Assn. wants to add speedskating to its curriculum. They are working towards establishing a training center at the college. Director DR. DAVID MCGOWAN and the association secretary, MARY WONG, have met to discuss details. This, along with the recent announcement that the first "girls' high school speedskating conference" has been established in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, is exciting news for the sport. Watch for news of a similar school program which is soon to be launched in the Sunny South!

(Continued)

Mary Wong wrote to report on activities in the association but added this, "So much is going on for us that is non-skating related, it helps to keep it in perspective. I'm having so much fun coaching a cross-country team of 44 K-8th grade children. What a terrific group. Kids are usually so much easier to work with than adults! I have a few wonderfully supportive parents! I wish I could magically transport them all to the ice. (Working on it!)"

SHORT ITEMS OF GREAT IMPORT

A warm welcome to the newest member of the Ohio Assn. - **ABIGAIL KATHRYN MARQUARD**, born Oct. 4 to long-time association secretary and coach, **DENNIS**, and Olympian and **USISA Executive Director, KATIE**. Weighing in at 7 lb., 6 oz., this little girl has her destiny all laid out for her - her first appearance at skating practice was at the age of four weeks!



Abigail Kathryn Marquard

Olympian **BILL DISNEY** of our Southern California Assn. is recovering nicely from a late summer triple bypass. Bill was a member of the 1960 and 1964 teams, winning a silver medal in the 500m in the '60 Games. He was inducted into the Speedskating Hall of Fame in 1971 in Squaw Valley.



Ted Gulczynski of Wisconsin, Mary Smith of NNY, Jerry Steele and Betty Gulczynski of Wisconsin, Joyce Leggatt of CASSA and Joe Balbo of Ohio got a special deal at "John's" Bob Webster Photo

Our apologies to a lovely lady from the Wisconsin Skating Assn., **BETTY GULCZYNSKI**, who appeared in a Montana Convention picture spread in the June issue with some Convention "sightseers" (remember the happy group sporting the little white hats?) and she was the only one who wasn't identified! We all knew it was Betty but still what an indignity not to see your name in print when it should be!

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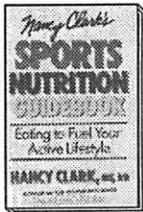
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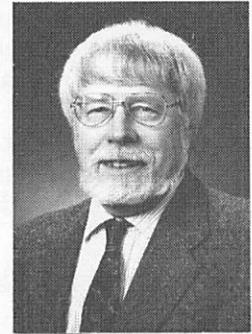
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Coach's Couch

by DONALD A. KANGAS



USOC Coaching Seminar

The winds of change are blowing across the land of Olympic sports. Set in motion with the message, sent on a gentle breeze at the annual USOC Coaching Seminar, that the Olympic Committee has changed its slogan to, "Go for Excellence", replacing the old slogan, "Go for Gold". Jim Page, USOC Deputy Executive Director for Programs, explained that the USOC decided a change was needed when they realized that the relative number of Olympic medals won by US athletes has not increased for many, many years. It is true that the total number of medals won by U.S. athletes has increased. However, this has happened only because the total number of medals available has also increased.

Page explained further that the Olympic Committee realized that Olympic medals are the result of sending a continuous stream of World Class athletes to the Olympics with support of the best coaching, sports science and sports medicine possible. So the ultimate goal of the U.S. Olympic Committee has not really changed. They would still like to win more medals than any other country. What has changed, is that, it is now recognized that the medals are the result of developing elite athletes to their maximum potential. Therefore, the primary focus must be on the athlete and improvement of athletic performance, rather than on the number of medals won. Page concluded with the observation that the Olympic Committee focused on coaching as the critical "Missing Link" for improvement of athletic performance.

Tom Crawford, Director of the Olympic Committee's Division of

Coaching Development, which sponsors the annual USOC Coaching Seminar, went on to explain how this philosophical change will be actually implemented and the subsequent impact on National Governing Bodies, NGB's. For the sport of speedskating the NGB function is managed by USISA and ASU administers grass root activities with speedskating clubs, that actually deliver the sport of speedskating to new and experienced skaters, both young and old, all across the land.

Crawford said the changes, which are starting right now, will be aimed at enhancing the quality of coaching at every level of participation and improving the status of coaches at every level. He emphasized that the quality of coaching must improve for introductory level coaches as well as elite coaches in order to develop the broad base of participation required to supply the desired continuous stream of elite World Class athletes. This is the only way to provide athletes the opportunity to make informed decisions before they commit to the rigorous regimen required to aspire to World Class competition.

Some specific programs mentioned by Crawford will:

1. Increase attendance at the USOC Annual Coaching Symposium and move it around the country to provide larger facilities and availability to as many coaches and administrators as possible.
2. Broaden the distribution and improve the content of the Division of Coaching Development's publication, "Olympic Coach".
3. Sponsor high performance summit type seminars for Olympic and National Team coaches.
4. Set National standards for what

(Continued)

a coach needs to know and be able to do at every level of participation from introduction to sport to World Class competition. These standards will include not only knowledge of content but also experience and ethical considerations.

The Olympic Committee is reinforcing its dedication to the importance of coaching development programs by making each NGB's funding contingent upon having effective programs for every level of their sport. To assist NGB's in the implementation of coaching development, USOC has formed what is called a publication partnership with Cooper Publishing Group. This will be very helpful for sports such as speedskating with limited numbers of participants who have a hard time getting short publication runs at a reasonable price.

An additional goal of the Olympic Publication Partnership is to produce an introductory level handbook for every Olympic Sport that can be displayed in a single display in every bookstore in the country. The intention is to make information available for every young person about any sport they might be interested in so they can at least have an opportunity to give it a try.

I think that speedskating should jump on this band wagon and start to qualify someone in every rink in the country to teach speedskating. This is a golden opportunity for growth by introducing speedskating in any place that has an indoor skating facility. How else could someone have a chance to try our exciting and beautiful sport?

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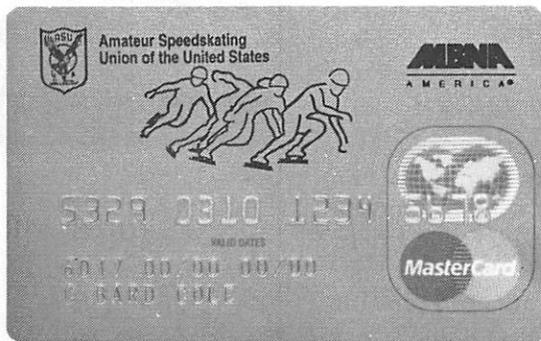
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LETTERS

November 10, 1993

Dear Shirley,

It saddened me to read "Death Knell Sounding for ASU Adult Camps" in the Racing Blade's October issue. Your piece really hit home. Members of our Syracuse Club, who attended the 1992 camp, raved about their experience. And, those of us who had planned on participating in this summer's Lake Placid ASU camps were prevented from doing so by the 25-year age cut-off.

Adult Camps are a good concept, but flawed in their implementation. One week formats are too long for many, especially for those with limited vacation time or other summer pursuits, such as cycling. For us in the Northeast, home to many 25-year plus speedskaters, traveling to the Midwest is an added burden.

ASU Adult Camps can be re-born, in a slightly different form. Three or four day camps including the week-end, in a central Northeastern location such as Colonie or Saratoga, with ice time, and emphasis on skill developments and general conditioning, I believe would be successful. Several adult Syracuse speedskaters have expressed interest.

Focusing training opportunities on the elite, and, thereby limiting camps to under 25-year olds limits the sports potential for growth. Adults and non-Olympic bound youth don't need to suffer for the elite, all can be part of speedskating. As Bob Vehe questions in his editorial, "are we paying too much attention to too few skaters instead of creating an atmosphere of congeniality...?"

Sincerely,
Russ Zaczekwycz

Dear Shirley,

Seven members of our club had a fun and informative rich weekend spent with Don Kangas and Larry Ralston recently. As our club is young and growing, we have a lot of energy and enthusiasm. We have plenty of chiefs, now we need many more Indians! I am excited about our newest members coming over from the in-line population!

My only regret is that I didn't start skating when I was a kid, but the good news according to my friend, Elmars Bitte, is that I can do this until I am 100.

Thanks again,
Barbara Kull
Eugene, Oregon

Dear Mr. Vehe,

Thanks for all the returns! Volume XXVI No. 5 should be submitted for a possible award. I know that school yearbooks were put in a contest and an award was given by the Boston University School of Journalism. Perhaps the Missouri School of Journalism knows where you can submit publications such as THE RACING BLADE?

Best wishes,

Ted Nowak

Dear Bob

Your editorial comments in the last issue were among the best that you have ever done. I hope everyone takes the time to read it and does some thinking. What with the low turn out at Glen Ellyn and the cancellation of Park Ridge (and of course the Evanston problem with the festival trials) we do have a problem. The "elite" will be gone in a few years and then what happens?

You are so right. It used to be fun. We still remember Carnival time at Mt. Prospect!

Ted and I just wanted to let you know that we agree 100% with you.

Sincerely,

Kay Klaiber

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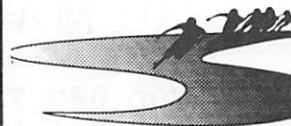
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To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to make a few comments on the deletions of safety pad rules for Short Track. The 15-1 vote amazed me. To start with, do we no longer care about safety? On February 21st of this year, I broke two vertebrae in my back and was told I could not skate for at least three months! During this time period I had to wear a very restrictive brace and missed my last shot for the Olympic Festival. I believe that this might have not happened if the mats had been checked, because it came to my attention that there was only one layer of mats, not two as specified there should have been.

About seven months later and thousands of dollars in hospital bills, I am skating again. The incredible pain involved in breaking my back I am sure will never be equaled again.

If any of the 15 who voted "no" ever felt this pain, I am positive their minds would change.

After the devastation of my season, I plead with the Board to look at its decision again. I hope for the safety of the skaters that these rules are reinstated and that methods are found to test mats.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marc Norman

* * * *

October 13, 1993

Dear Marc:

I have been asked on behalf of the ASU to respond to your letter.

We certainly care for the safety of our skaters who in many cases are members of our families.

Furthermore, we are very sympathetic to your severe injuries and delighted with your remarkable recovery. However, there were necessary objective reasons for deleting a portion of the Short Track Safety Padding section in our rules. You will observe that only 3 of 7 paragraphs of that section were deleted by an almost unanimous 15-1 vote - 15 State Associations for deletion and 1 against.

The only portions removed were those dealing with three exact specifications, including density, as well as the paragraphs dealing with the duty of checking the specifications.

All other padding sections are intact relative to height, covering material, tie tabs to avoid falling, amount of pads, and when to use a double layer of pads.

The reason for the deletions is not because of our lack of concern for safety but for the impossible task of applying and enforcing the rules as written. There is no way to test 80 or so pads at a rink before and during a meet. The minimum specifications required were unclear and unknown even to many bedding and pad manufacturers. Our Commissioner of Officials, who is a lay person not in the pad manufacturing business, couldn't possibly test the pads accurately with equipment available at an ice rink. Also, the pads' various measurements may change after several impacts. Moreover, even if they could be tested, 80 pads or more would have to be stripped of their outer shells and measured before each competition and then recovered. One can see the problems.

Additionally from an insurance and legal viewpoint, we open ourselves up to possible lawsuits after each injury if that particular pad didn't follow our own rules and specifications in some minor way. It is far more difficult and more expensive to buy insurance with the exact specifications in our rule book.

I hope this response answers the questions and concerns in your letter and explains the 15-1 vote you refer to.

Sincerely,

FRED I. BENJAMIN, ASU Attorney

TOM HEALY, ASU Racing Committee
Chairman

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United States International Speedskating Association News

USISA NATIONAL OFFICE NEWS

by KATIE MARQUARD



U. S. Short Track Skaters Fail To Medal But Women's Relay Gets U. S. Record

The U. S. Short Track Speedskating team failed to win a team medal at the season's first competition, but the U. S. coaching staff is not worried about the lack of awards.

The Canadian International Challenge, October 15-16 in Montreal was a team format, meaning no individual awards are given. Skaters earn points for their team by order of finish. All races are heats—there are no finals. The meet was also contested on an unusually small rink—a rink much smaller than will be used at the 1994 Olympics.

Some of those bright moments included several U. S. skaters winning their heats. Eric Flaim won his 1000m heat, but was disqualified for a controversial passing violation in the 3000m. Randy Bartz, Andy Gable, John Coyle and Cathy Turner each won a 500m heat and Amy Peterson and Brian Arsenau each won a 1000m heat.

"All our top skaters won at least one of their races," said Mortell. "We were never told exactly why Eric was disqualified, but he would have broken the U. S. record by six seconds since he skated a 5:10.00."

This was Cathy Turner's first race since winning the 1992 Olympic gold medal in the 500m. "Cathy got off to a good start but had equipment problems," said Mortell. "Cathy looked good in 1000 and won her heat in the 500. Her times were not spectacular and she was under a lot of pressure. She is getting her 'racing feet' under her."

The U. S. women's 3000m relay team (Turner, Amy Peterson, Karen Cashman and Darcie Dohnal) finished second on Saturday, breaking an American record at 5:35.90. The U. S. won the 1992 Olympic silver medal in 4:37.85. The old American record was 4:36.50 set in March at the 1993 World Championships in Beijing.

Results - 1993 Canadian International Challenge Montreal, Canada

TEAM FINAL POINT STANDINGS

WOMEN

1. Canada - 1, 115 pts.; 2. Canada - 2, 77 pts.;
- Japan, 74 pts.; 4. USA, 69 pts.

MEN

1. Canada - 1, 122 pts.; 2. Japan - 2, 87 pts.;
3. Canada - 2, 77 pts.; 4. USA, 69 pts.

MEN'S 500m, 10/16/93

1. Bjornar Elgetun, Nor. 44.72
2. John Coyle, W. Bloomfield, Mich., USA-1 . . . 44.79
3. Randy Bartz, Roseville, Minn., USA-1 44.81

(Continued)

The 1994 Olympic season is under way and things are busy. The publicity push is strong during this year. The USISA has a public relations person, Susan Polakoff, to handle all of the inquiries and get the competition results out to the press. Susan comes to the USISA after working for the United States Gymnastics Federation so she knows what needs to be done when it comes to getting Olympic sports in the news. She is working on our first-ever Media Guide. The cover photo was taken by Dave Black, a well known sports photographer, it should be impressive. The Media Guide will be on sale for \$5 while supplies last.

Besides the preparation for the Olympic Games themselves, the USISA is involved in many other events this winter. The following is a list of USISA Competitions this season:

- December 6-7 Short Track Junior World Series
Pettit Center, Milwaukee
- Dec. 31-Jan. 1-2, 7-9 Long Track Olympic Trials
Pettit Center, Milwaukee
- January 1-2, 8-9 Short Track Olympic Trials
'80 Olympic Rink, Lake Placid
- January 15-16 Long Track
Junior National Championships
Pettit Center, Milwaukee
- January 21-22 Long Track World Cup
Pettit Center, Milwaukee
- January 30 Short Track Pacific Rim
'80 Olympic Rink, Lake Placid
- February 5-6 World Championship for Ladies
High Altitude Center, Butte
- March 12-13 Olympic Festival Trials
Circle Pines, MN

The USISA held its Fall Board Meeting on September 18-19. Many important selections procedures were approved. These procedures are printed elsewhere in this issue. See you at the rink!



United States International Speedskating Association News

- 4. Denis Mouraux, Can..... 44.84
- 5. Tatsuyoshi Ishihara, Japan..... 44.89
- 6. Eric Flaim, Pembroke, Mass., USA..... 44.91
- 9. Andy Gabel, Northbrook, Ill., USA..... 45.35
- 17. Tony Goskowicz, Wauwatosa, Wis., USA-2. 45.21
- 23. Brian Arsenau, Buffalo Grove, Ill, USA-2. 46.66
- 30. Todd Porter, Saratoga Springs, USA-2... 55.21

MEN'S 1000m, 10/16/93

- 1. Tatsuyoshi Ishihara, Japan..... 1:34.50
- 2. Charles King, Studio City, Calif., USA-2. 1:35.13
- 3. Marc Gagnon, Can..... 1:35.41
- 4. Alexia Sodogas, Fra..... 1:35.58
- 5. Yuchi Akasaka, Japan..... 1:35.82
- 6. Michel Daignault, Can..... 1:36.38
- 7. Brian Arsenau, Buf. Grove, ILL., USA-2. 1:37.50
- 11. John Coyle, W. Blmfld Hills, MI USA-1.. 1:38.41
- 13. Andy Gable, Northbrook, Ill., USA-1... 1:39.02
- 16. Tony Goskowicz, Wauwatosa, Wis.,USA-21:39.68
- 21. Eric Flaim, Pembroke, Mass., USA.... 1:39.92
- 25. Randy Bartz, Roseville, Minn., USA-1... 1:41.70
- 28. Todd Porter, Sara. Springs, NY, USA-2.. 1:42.45

MEN'S 3000m, 10/16/93

- 1. Sylvain Gagnon, Can..... 5:11.31
- 2. Saturo Terao, Japan..... 5:11.62
- 3. Brian Arsenau, Buf. Grove, Ill.,USA-2... 5:13.71
- 4. Stephen Gough, Can..... 5:14.69
- 13. Andy Gable, Northbrook, Ill. USA..... 5:38.72
- 14. Todd Porter, Sara. Springs. NY, USA-2.. 5:43.34
- 16. Eric Flaim, Pembroke, Mass., USA-1..... DQ

**MEN'S 5000m Relay
10/15/93**

- 1. Canada-1.... 7:22.55
- 2. USA-1..... 7:26.09
- 3. Japan..... 7:26.18
- 4. USA-2..... 7:42.28

**MEN'S 5000m Relay
10/16/93**

- 1. Canada-1.... 7:18.99
- 2. Japan..... 7:25.86
- 3. USA-1..... 7:30.53
- 4. Canada-2.... 7:31.53

WOMEN'S, 500m, 10/16/93

- 1. Nathalie Lambert, Can.-1..... 46.60
- 2. Isabelle Charest, Can.-1..... 46.61
- 3. Sylvia Daigle, Can.-2..... 46.74
- 4. Amy Peterson, Maplewood, Minn..... 48.54
- 5. Annie Perreault, Can.-2..... 48.56
- 6. Cathy Turner, Rochester, NY..... 48.86
- 14. Karen Cashman, Quincy, Mass., USA.... 49.73
- 19. Nikki Ziegelmeyer, Imperial, Mo..... NT

WOMEN'S, 1000m, 10/16/93

- 1. Ayako Tsubaki, Japan..... 1:39.37
- 2. Amy Peterson, Maplewood, Minn..... 1:39.57
- 3. Sandrine Daudet, Fra..... 1:39.64
- 4. Patricia Lemelin, Can.-2..... 1:40.86

- 5. Angela Cutrone, Can.-1..... 1:41.79
- 6. Darcie Dohnal, Wauwatosa, Wis..... 1:42.10
- 10. Cathy Turner, Rochester, NY..... 1:46.46
- 20. Nikki Ziegelmeyer, Imperial, Mo..... 1:55.95

WOMEN'S, 3000m, 10/16/93

- 1. Sylvie Daigle, Can.-2..... 5:47.72
- 2. Ikue Teshigawra, Japan..... 5:47.82
- 3. Angela Cutrone, Can.-1..... 5:47.91
- 4. Ayako Tsubaki, Japan..... 5:51.61
- 5. Isabelle Charest, Can.-1..... 5:54.01
- 6. Darcie Dohnal, Wauwatosa, Wis..... 5:55.76
- 7. Karen Cashman, Quincy, Mass..... 5:57.16

WOMEN'S 3000m RELAY, 10/16/93

- 1. Canada-1 4:32.17
- 2. USA..... U. S. RECORD..... 4:35.90
- 3. Japan 4:47.46
- 4. France 4:41.53

MEN'S 500m, 10/15/93

- 1. Stephen Gough, Can.-2..... 44.95
- 2. Marc Gagnon, Can.-1..... 45.31
- 3. Mark Lackie, Can.-1..... 45.45
- 4. Michel Daignault, Can.-2..... 45.46
- 5. Denis Mouraux, Can.-2..... 45.49
- 11. John Coyle, W. Bloomfield, Mich..... 45.96
- 14. Eric Flaim, Pembroke, Mass..... 46.12
- 15. Randy Bartz, Roseville, Minn..... 46.20
- 16. Tony Goskowicz, Wauwatosa, Wis..... 46.31
- 22. Brian Arsenau, Buffalo Grove, Ill..... 47.21
- 23. Todd Porter, Saratoga Springs, NY..... 47.27
- 24. Charles King, Studio City, Calif..... 47.29
- 31. Andy Gabel, Northbrook, Ill..... D.Q.

MEN'S 1000m, 10/15/93

- 1. Saturo Terao, Japan..... 1:35.86
- 2. Martin Johansson, Swe..... 1:36.14
- 3. Tatsuyoshi Ishihara, Japan..... 1:36.34
- 4. Sylvain Gagnon, Can.-1..... 1:36.84
- 5. Tony Goskowicz, Wauwatosa, Wis..... 1:36.97
- 8. Randy Bartz, Roseville, Minn..... 1:37.71
- 12. Eric Flaim, Pembroke, Mass..... 1:38.04
- 20. Todd Porter, Saratoga Springs, NY..... 1:39.63
- 25. Andy Gabel, Northbrook, Ill..... 1:40.30
- 26. Charles King, Studio City, Calif..... 1:40.37
- 27. Brian Arsenau, Buffalo Grove, Ill..... 1:40.46
- 31. John Coyle, W. Bloomfield, MI..... 2:19.75

MEN'S 3000m, 10/15/93

- 1. Marc Gagnon, Can.-1..... 5:13.46
- 2. Saturo Terao, Japan..... 5:14.24
- 3. Eric Flaim, Pembroke, Mass..... 5:15.46
- 4. Tony Goskowicz, Wauwatosa, Wis..... 5:15.48

(Continued)



United States International Speedskating Association News

- 5. Michel Daignault, Can.-2.....5:16.04
- 13. Charles King, Studio City, Calif.....5:35.71
- 15. Randy Bartz, Roseville, Minn.....5:40.57

WOMEN'S 500m, 10/15/93

- 1. Christina Boudrais, Can.-2.....47.72
- 2. Isabelle Charest, Can.-1.....47.74
- 3. Nathalie Lambert, Can.-1.....48.22
- 4. Sylvie Daigle, Can.-2.....48.41
- 5. Angela Cutrone, Can.-1.....48.58
- 6. Amy Peterson, Maplewood, Minn.....48.63
- 11. Karen Cashman, Quincy, Mass.....49.30
- 17. Cathy Turner, Rochester, NY.....51.19
- 24. Nikki Ziegelmeier, Imperial, Mo.....1:05.69

WOMEN'S 1000m, 10/15/93

- 1. Isabelle Charest, Can.-1.....1:40.58
- 2. Ikuo Teshigawara, Japan.....1:40.84
- 3. Tania Vicent, Can.-1.....1:41.01
- 4. Rie Sato, Japan.....1:41.59
- 5. Karen Cashman, Quincy, Mass.....1:41.75
- 8. Amy Peterson, Maplewood, Minn.....1:41.86
- 12. Cathy Turner, Rochester, NY.....1:45.75
- 21. Darcie Dohnal, Wauwatosa, Wis.....1:49.17

WOMEN'S 3000m, 10/15/93

- 1. Nathalie Lambert, Can.-1.....5:33.80
- 2. Ayako Tsubaki, Japan.....5:34.28
- 3. Sylvie Daigle, Can.-2.....5:35.11
- 4. Ikuo Teshigawara, Japan.....5:35.30
- 5. Amy Peterson, Maplewood, Minn.....5:38.02
- 6. Darcie Dohnal, Wauwatosa, Wis.....5:38.51

WOMEN'S 3000m, Relay, 10/15/93

- 1. Canada-1 4:34.20
- 2. Canada-2 4:37.62
- 3. Japan 4:38.04
- 4. USA 4:46.01

1995 USOC LEVEL 1

LONG TRACK 10 MEN - 8 WOMEN

The positions will be filled in the following order until the maximum quotas are met. All eligible skaters must sign a Letter of Intent for the 1994-1995 skating season, by a date to be set later, in order to be given Level 1 funding.

- 1. Members of the 1994 Olympic Team, including any alternatives.
- 2. A. Members of the 1994 Men's World Championship Team.

- B. Members of the 1994 Women's World Sprint Championship Team.
- 3. A. Members of the 1994 Men's World Sprint Championship Team.
- B. Members of 1994 Women's World Championship Team.
- 4. Members of the 1994-1995 Senior National Team.
- 5. A. The 1994 Men's Junior National Long Track Champion.
- B. The 1994 Women's Junior National Long Track Champion.
- 6. Any remaining position will be filled by skater(s) demonstrating exceptional results and potential. The competitiveness and depth of our Olympic and World Championships Teams will be considered.

SHORT TRACK

MEN

Olympic Team (5)

LADIES

Olympic Team (2)

If funding for 5—then the next 3 positions from the 1994 World Team Trials Final Classification (3).

1994 OJOP QUALIFICATION

LONG TRACK

Top eight (8) in any distance in the 1994 Olympic Trials.

SHORT TRACK

Top eight (8) overall in 1994 Olympic Trials or 1994 World Team Trials.

SHORT TRACK SELECTION PROCEDURES

SELECTION FOR GOODWILL GAMES

The 2 ladies and 2 men skaters that actually participate in the 1994 World Championships shall be the first skaters eligible for the 1994 Goodwill Games. The next skaters in line from the 1994 Olympic Trials Final Classification shall move up if needed.

NATIONAL TEAM

MEN—Olympic Team (5)

LADIES—Olympic Team (2)

Next 3 positions from the 1994 World Team Trials Final Classification. (3)

1995 USOC LEVEL 1

MEN—Olympic Team (5)

LADIES—Olympic Team (2)

If funding for 5—then the next 3 positions from the 1994 World Team Trials Final Classifications. (3)

(Continued)



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CATEGORY I SENIORS FOR 1994

MENS AND LADIES

Top 8 from the 1994 World Team Trials
Final Classification

CATEGORY I JUNIORS FOR 1994

MEN AND LADIES

Top 6 from the 1994 Junior World Team Trials Final Classification. Top 2 from the Olympic Festival Trials Final Classification that have not already qualified for Category 1.

OLYMPIC FESTIVAL COACHES/MANAGERS

Priority will be given to those that can attend camps. A notice will be published asking for people interested.

ADDENDUM 1994 OLYMPIC TRIALS SHORT TRACK

Seeding for the 1000m Pack-Style Semi-Finals, January 1, 1994: In the event the Head Referee advances 1 or more skaters to the 1000m Semi-Finals, then after the prior 1000m Heats, skaters shall be ranked **FIRST** by 4 lap Time Trial final points. **SECONDLY** by performance points. All ties will be broken based upon the guidelines on the attached Tie Breaking Sheet.

Semi A

#1 after 1000m Heat #4 #5 #8 #9 #12 If needed

Semi B

#2 after 1000m Heat #3 #6 #7 #10 & #11 If needed
The top 2 skaters from each Semi advance to the Final.

Seeding for the 500m Pack-Style Semi-Finals, January 2, 1994: In the event the Head Referee advances 1 or more skaters to the 500m Semi-Final, then after the prior 500m heats, skaters shall be ranked **FIRST**, by final points (including Time Trial final points). **THEN**, ranked by performance points. All ties will be broken based upon the attached Tie Breaking Sheet.

Semi A

#1 after 500m Heat #4 #5 #8 #9 #12 If needed

Semi B

#2 after 500m Heat #3 #6 #7 #10 & #11 If needed
The top 2 skaters from each Semi advance to the Final

Seeding for the 500m Pack-Style Semi-Finals, January 8, 1994: In the event the Head Referee advances 1 or more skaters to the 500m Semi-Final, then after the prior 500m heats, skaters shall be ranked only from points scored on January 8, 1994. **FIRST**, by the 1000m Time Trial final points. **SECONDLY**, by performance points. All ties will be broken based upon the attached Tie Breaking Sheet.

Semi A

#1 after 500m Heat #4 #5 #8 #9 #12 If needed

Semi B

#2 after 500m Heat #3 #6 #7 #10 & #11 If needed
The top 2 skaters from each Semi advance to the final.

Seeding for the 1000m Pack-Style Semi-Finals, January 9, 1994: In the event the Head Referee advances 1 or more skaters to the Semi-Finals, then after the prior 1000m heats, skaters shall be ranked only from points scored January 8-9, 1994. **FIRST**, by final points (including Time Trial final points). **SECONDLY**, by skaters who completed the 500m Final but scored no final points. **THEN**, ranked by performance points. All ties will be broken based upon the attached Tie Breaking Sheet.

Semi A

#1 after 1000m Heat #4 #5 #8 #9 #12 If needed

Semi B

#2 after 1000m Heat #3 #6 #7 #10 & #11 If needed
The top 2 skaters from each Semi advance to the final.

In addition, the following items from the first draft were corrected: The word—"SEMI" was inadvertently omitted from the last sentence of 500m Heats January 9, 1994.

The first page is updated to reflect the number of starting positions now known for the 1994 Winter Olympics (3 MEN, 2 WOMEN, MENS RELAY).

On Tie Breaking Sheet: January 1-2 and January 8-9 were inadvertently listed as January 1 and January 8 in the first draft.

A final section was added for ties for Last Qualifying Position as follows:

Ties for the Last Qualifying Position after the 4 Lap Time Trial Pursuit, January 1, 1994: If two or more skaters are tied for the last qualifying position then additional 4 lap Time Trial Pursuits will be skated until the tie is broken.

1994-95

SHORT TRACK MOVE-UP POLICY

- Step 1. The Short Track Committee decides prior to selection trials, criteria for National Team and Category 1.
- Step 2. Selection trials are held and skaters earn National Team and Category 1 status.
- Step 3. USISA Short Track provides a funded (when possible) National Team program for National Team Members.

(Continued)



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- Step 4. USISA Short Track provides an opportunity for Category 1 to either participate in the National Team Program or an alternate program.
- Step 5. Skaters maintain their National Team status as long as they participate in committee approved, mandatory, funded national Team Program training.
- Step 6. Skaters that do not wish to participate in the National Team Program will retain Category 1 status but will relinquish their National Team status. (This will not affect USOC Level 1 Funding).
- Step 7. When a skater opts out of National Team status, then the following "move-up" procedure will go into effect:

"MOVE-UP" CLAUSE

Should one of the top 5 National Team decide not to follow the National Team Program, he/she will give up National Team status and become a Category 1 skater. The #6 skater from final selection trials classification would "move-up" to the top 5. If a second skater chooses not to follow the National Team Program, then the #7 skater would also "move-up" to the top 5. If a third skater chooses not to follow the National Team Program, then the #8 skater would also "move-up," etc., until Category 1 is exhausted. **Only Category 1 skaters are eligible to "move-up."**

In the event skaters are needed to "round out" traveling competition teams, training camps or miscellaneous programs and Category 1 is exhausted then skaters will receive an invitation to participate in the following fashion:

- 1. Remaining Non-Category 1 skaters from the Junior World Trials in descending order up to the 10th skater,
- 2. Remaining Non-Category 1 skaters from the Olympic/World Team Trials in descending order,
- 3. Remaining Non-Category 1 skaters from the Olympic Festival Trials.

Invited skaters will **NOT** receive Category 1 status.

ADDENDUM TO "MOVE-UP" CLAUSE

If 3 or **less** ladies or 3 or **less** men decide not to follow the National Team Program, then the "move-up" procedure stand as explained above.

If 4 or **more** ladies or 4 or **more** men decide not to follow the National Team Program, then the "move-up"

clause will be expanded up to the #10 skater from the final World Team selection trials classification for the men or the ladies.

1993-1994 WORLD CUP TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

- 1. Fall 1993.
 - A. The USISA will fund the 1994 Elite and National Team Members to the Fall World Cups.

Dan Jansen	Bonnie Blair
Nate Mills	Chantal Bailey
Brian Smith	Peggy Clasen
Dave Tamburrino	Kristen Talbot
Brian Wanek	
 - B. Other skaters **may** be added to the Fall 1993 World Cup Team at the coaches' recommendation, with the approval of the Chairman of the Long Tack Committee. Skaters being considered must have demonstrated exceptional results and potential during the Fall 1993 season.
 - i. The following quotas cannot be exceeded.

	Men	Women
500m.....	3	4
1000m.....	4	4
1500m.....	4	4
3000m.....		4
5000m.....	4	
 - ii. There **will not** be any USISA funding for skaters added to the Fall 1993 World Cup Team, unless funds become available.
- 2. Winter 1994.
 - A. The members of the Winter 1994 World Cup Team will be the members of the 1994 Olympic Team and, if needed to fill quotas, Senior World Championships Team Members.
 - B. USISA funding will commence with the selection of the Olympic and World Championships Teams and end with the conclusion of the 1994 Olympic Winter Games for Olympic Team Members and the conclusion of the respective World Championships for World Championship Team Members. In the event a skater is a member of both Olympic and World Championship Teams, the later date will govern.
 - C. Skaters in the top 6 places in overall World Cup standings after the Olympic Game/World Championships, which ever is later, shall be eligible to compete in the remaining World Cup races. These skaters will receive funding to these events if it becomes available.

Continued



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1994 SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

Mens World Sprint Championship Team.

Two (2) start positions.

1. The start positions will be filled by the 2 men having the best 4 race samalog using the best 2 x 500m. and best 2 x 1000m. from the 1994 Olympic Team Trials.
2. The ISU qualifying times of 39.50 sec. (500m.) or 1:19.00 (1000m.) must be met during the 1993-1994 skating season, prior to the 1994 World Sprint Championships. The time must have been made with electric timing and the meet must have a published protocol. It is the responsibility of the skater to provide verification of the time.
3. The alternate (1) will be the Olympic Team Member with the next best 4 race samalog. ISU qualifying times must be met.

Women's World Sprint Championship Team.

Three (3) start positions.

1. The start positions will be filled by the 3 women having the best 4 race samalog using the best 2 x 500m. and best 2 x 1000m. from the 1994 Olympic Team Trials.
2. The ISU qualifying times of 44.00 sec. (500m.) or 1:28.00 (1000m.) must be met during the 1993-1994 skating season, prior to the 1994 World Sprint Championships. The time must have been made with electric timing and the meet must have a published protocol. It is the responsibility of the skater to provide verification of the time.
3. The alternate (1) will be the Olympic Team Member with the next best 4 race samalog. ISU qualifying times must be met.

Men's World Championships Team.

Three (3) start positions.

1. The start positions will be filled by the 3 men having the best 4 race samalog using the best 500m., 1500m., 5000m. and 10,000m. from the 1994 Olympic Team Trials.
2. The ISU qualifying time of 7:25.00 (5000m.) must be met during the 1993-1994 skating season, prior to the 1994 World Championships for Men. The time must have been made with electric timing and the meet must have a published protocol. It is the responsibility of the

- skater to provide verification of the time.
3. The alternate (1) will be the skater with the next best 4 race samalog. ISU qualifying times must be met.
 - i. The alternate will not receive any USISA funding, except as eligible for as an Olympic Team or other World Championship Team Member.
 - ii. The alternate will only travel to the World Championships if it is determined by the coaches and Chairman of the Long Track Committee that the alternate is needed to replace a skater in a start position. The alternate will receive USISA funding to the World Championships under these circumstances. It will be the decision of the skater in the start position as to whether he is too ill or injured to start.
 - iii. The alternate is required to keep himself in "racing condition" to remain an alternate.

Women's World Championship Team.

Two (2) start positions.

1. The start positions will be filled by the 2 women having the best 4 race samalog using the best 500m., 1500m., 3000m. and 5000m. from the 1994 Olympic Team Trials.
2. The ISU qualifying time of 4:45.00 (3000m.) must be met during the 1993-1994 skating season, prior to the 1994 World Championships for Women. The time must have a published protocol. It is the responsibility of the skater to provide verification of the time.
3. The alternate (1) will be the skater with the next best 4 race samalog. ISU qualifying times must be met.
 - i. The alternate will not receive any USISA funding, except as eligible for as an Olympic Team or other World Championship Team Member.
 - ii. The alternate will only travel to the World Championships if it is determined by the coaches and Chairman of the Long Track Committee that the alternate is needed to replace a skater in a start position. The alternate will receive USISA funding to the World Championships under these circumstances. It will be the decision of the skater in the start position as to whether she is too ill or injured to start.
 - iii. The alternate is required to keep herself in "racing condition" to remain an alternate.

(Continued)



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1994 JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Men's Junior World Championship Team.

3 start positions.

- a. The 3 start positions will be filled by the 3 skaters having the best 4 race samalogs (500m., 1500m., 3000m. and 5000m.) from the Junior National Long Track Championships in Milwaukee, WI January 15-16, 1994.

2. Women's Junior World Championship Team.

3 start positions.

- a. The 3 start positions will be filled by the 3 skaters having the best 4 race samalogs (500m., 1000m., 1500m. and 3000m.) from the Junior National Long Track Championships in Milwaukee, WI January 15-16, 1994.
- b. A junior has not reached the age of 19 by July 1 preceding the competition.

1994 JUNIOR/JUNIOR A COUNTRY MATCH TEAM

1. Junior Country Match Team

3 men and 3 women.

- a. The mens and womens Junior Country Match Team will consist of the members of the 1994 Junior World Championships Team.

2. Men's Junior A Country Match Team

3 start positions.

- a. A "junior A" has not reached the age of 21 by July 1 preceding the competition.
- b. The 3 start positions will be filled by the skaters having the 3 best 3 race samalogs (500m., 1500m., 5000m.) from the 1994 Olympic Team Trials in Milwaukee, WI December 31, 1993, January 1-2 and January 7-9, 1994 provided the samalog is in the top 10 of all competitors over these distances.
 - i. If this criteria is not met, the remaining position(s) will be filled by juniors, commencing with the 4th place finisher over 4 distances at the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships.
- c. There will be no "passing" of positions. If a Junior A qualified for a position on this team cannot or does not wish to compete in the Country Match, their position will not

be passed to another Junior A. The position will be filled by juniors, commencing with the 4th place finisher over 4 distances at the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships. However, the position will remain vacant if the Team has already left for Europe.

3. Women's Junior A Country Match Team

3 start positions.

- a. A "junior A" has not reached the age of 21 by July 1 preceding the competition.
- b. The 3 start positions will be filled by the skaters having the 3 best 3 race samalogs (500m., 1500m., 3000m.) from the 1994 Olympic Team Trials in Milwaukee, WI December 31, 1993, January 1-2 and January 7-9, 1994 provided the samalog is in the top 10 of all competitors over these distances.
 - i. If this criteria is not met, the remaining position(s) will be filled by juniors, commencing with the 4th place finisher over 4 distances at the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships.
- c. There will be no "passing" of positions. If a Junior A qualified for a position on this team cannot or does not wish to compete in the Country Match, their position will not be passed to another Junior A. The position will be filled by juniors, commencing with the 4th place finisher over 4 distances at the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships. However, the position will remain vacant if the Team has already left for Europe.

FORMAT FOR 1994 JUNIOR NATIONAL LONG TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. In addition to the "Junior Classification" and a 1994 Junior National Long Track Champion being named, the following age classifications will also be recognized and age group champions named. Skaters placing in the top 3 over the 4 race samalog in each age group will qualify for Category 1 for 1994-1995. The age as of July 1 preceding the competition will be used for the age group classifications.
 - a. A skater must be a Junior for the 1994-1995 season to be considered for Category 1.
 - b. The 4 races for the 14 and under year old boys will be 500m., 1000m., 1500m., 3000m.

(Continued)



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AGE GROUP CLASSIFICATIONS

- A. 15-16 years B. 14 and under

QUALIFYING STANDARDS FOR THE 1994 JUNIOR NATIONAL LONG TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

A skater wishing to compete in the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships must have skated an Olympic Style time trial during the 1993-1994 skating season. It is the responsibility of the skater or parent(s) to provide verification.

1995 NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

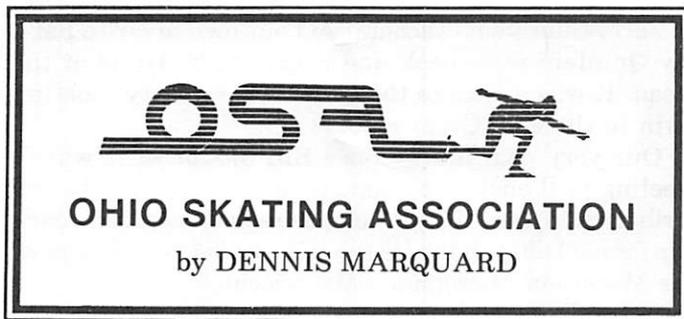
1. National Team—**one** of the following criteria must be met.
 - a. Place in the top 16 overall in the 1994 Mens World Championships, 1994 Ladies World Championships or 1994 World Sprint Championships.
 - b. Place in the top 16 in any distance at the 1994 Olympic Winter Games.
 - c. Place in the top 10 in any single distance at the 1994 Mens World Championships (excluding 500m.), 1994 Ladies World Championships (excluding 500m.) or 1994 World Sprint Championships.
 - d. Place in the top 10 overall in the 1994 World Cup Standings.
 - e. Place in the top 6 twice in any distance in any 1994 World Cup. This can be at different distances.
 - f. Equal or better **one** of the following times in an official meet with electric timing and a published protocol: Men—500m., 37.35; 1000m., 1:14.41; 1500m., 1:54.95; 5000m., 6:54.37; 10,000m., 14.25.00. Ladies—500m., 40.91; 1000m., 1:21.63; 1500m., 2:07.00; 3000m., 4:26.30; 5000m., 7:37.23.
 - e. Place in the top 6 overall in the 1994 Junior World Championships if this is final season as a junior.

1995 JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

1. The Junior National Team will be comprised of the top 3 finishers, Men and Women, that will be Juniors next year, in the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships.
 - A. The skaters must be junior age for the 1994-1995 season.
 - B. A "Junior" is a skater who has not reached the age of 19 by July 1 preceding the season.

1994-1995 CATEGORY 1 SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Place in the top 6 in one for the following at the 1994 Olympic Team Trials.
 - A. Sprint: 4 races samalog using the best 2 x 500m. and 2 x 1000m.
 - B. All-around men: 4 race samalog using the best 500m., 1500m., 5000m. and 10,000m.
 - i. A junior skater will not have to skate the 10,000m. If he is in the top 6 after 3 distances (500m., 1500m., 5000m.) he will replace the 6, 5, 4 place finishers over 4 distances.
 - C. All-around women: 4 race samalog using the best 500m. 1500m., 3000m. and 5000m.
 - i. A junior skater will not have to skate the 5000m. If she is in the top 6 after 3 distances (500m., 1500m., 3000m.) she will replace the 6, 5, 4 place finishers over 4 distances.
 - D. All Category 1 positions will be filled. If there is a vacancy(ies) created due to retirement, it will be filled by the skater(s) occupying the next position(s) in the above categories.
2. Junior A: Place in the top 8 in one of the following at the 1994 Olympic Team Trials. The skater must be a Junior A for 1994-1995 season.
 - A. Sprint: 4 race samalog using the best 2 x 500m. and 2 x 1000m.
 - B. All-around men: 4 race samalog using the best 500m., 1500m., 5000m. and 10,000m.
 - C. All-around women: 4 race samalog using the best 500m., 1500m., and 5000m.
3. Place in the top 6 of returning Juniors at the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships. The skater must be a Junior for the 1994-1995 season.
4. Place in the top 3 in their age classification at the 1994 Junior National Long Track Championships. The skater must be a Junior for the 1994-1995 season.
 - A. 15 - 16 years.
 - B. 14 and under
5. Junior Age: The ISU defines "Junior" as a skater who has not reached the age of 19 by July 1 preceding the season.
6. Junior A Age: A skater who has not reached the age of 21 by July 1 preceding the season. *(Continued)*



The OSA is back recruiting new skaters for the 1993-94 season. The Lakewood Club has 15 potential new skaters going through the six week Learn-to-Speedskate Program. The Lakewood Club lost almost ten skaters from last year. When asked why they aren't coming back most say they enjoyed speedskating but they want to try another sport or school sports conflict with skating practice times. It is really hard when you work with a group of skaters for a year then they choose to let speedskating be the sport they drop from their program.

Bob Reppenhagen is confident that he will be able to organize a club this year at Elyria. Bob said 19 skaters have signed up for their program scheduled to start in November. Skaters and coaches will try to entice some parents to get the ball rolling. We wish him the best of luck and our support will be there.

Jim Pugsley, from the Mentor Club, has 19 skaters signed up this Fall. Jim has been grateful over the years for his coaches, Joe Golish and Rich Van Demotter. It seems that Joe doesn't let his age stop him from teaching the kids every week. Joe, a young 70 years of age, had been helping the Mentor Club for many years and has been a great asset to the club. He has a lot to be proud of too. Andrew Ryan, one of his skaters who is a pony boy, is showing great promise. Andrew trained during the summer and has a new pair of skates. It really made a difference in his skating so far this year.

The Brooklyn and Lakewood Clubs have been busy during the early Fall weekends delivering phone books to raise money which will help defray ice costs. This is the fourth year for this project. The parents and skaters love it because they don't have to ask anyone to buy something.

The Fall sports are winding down and we are starting to see more participation at practices. Scott Koons and Therese Lease have just finished cross country. Scott made it through Districts and his team finished 6th at Regions. Therese ran at the Districts. It was her first year running cross country. She is hoping it will help her with skating this year. Soccer is again a big sport with our skaters and Ron and Kristen Biondo were no exception. Blake Gembala is also a member who trades skates for soccer shoes in the Fall.

With the energy our new members have this year, we hope to have a very productive season. We also want to take this enthusiasm in preparation for the North American Championships to be held in Cleveland in 1995.

On a final note, we would like to announce that Katie and Denny Marquard are the proud parents of Abigail Kathryn. Abbie was born on October 4, 1993. She weighed in at 7 lbs. 6 ozs. and was 18½ in. long. Both Katie and Abbie are doing fine. Abbie has been to several skating practices and will be attending her first out of town meet in November.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

(Continued)

tract with SJSU for figure and hockey classes and they are talking speedskating too. (Huh?) Yes. They asked me to prepare a sample syllabus. The ASU "Beginning Speedskating" and the ACEP materials were a big help.

This is a real long shot, but what if SJSU did come through? The builders were talking about writing grants for skates and pads. The general manager started asking me "What if you could have any ice time you wanted, what would it be? How much can your group pay? How many skaters do you have now? What events do you think you would like to see here?" That is when the subjects of ASU camps and Nationals came up. He asked me if I really could get the Nationals. I said, "Why not?" and I asked for my one phone call. Bill Cawthra's number is easy to remember. We explained the procedure of bidding at the convention, then gave him an "agreement in principle." I also asked about whether the rink has discussed with the college arrangements for dormitory room and board, for training camps. Would skaters come to sunny San Jose for a camp?

This man's can-do attitude is infectious and I wish we could all work with people like him. During our conversation, we started using the phrase "No Problem" again and again. He wants to help us get a group started in the San Jose area. Not enough skaters? No problem. Is it NCSA putting on sessions or special events? No, "We" are doing it. This is the first time I felt a rink was actually offering to help us.

So, while I do the glamour jobs, wearing the hard hat and visiting construction sites, my colleagues are finalizing race dates and ice prices at our "home rink" in San Mateo. You skaters west of the Rockies, look for the Western States Championship in late Feb., early March. If you want an entry, please call or write. We may be offering lodging and transportation.

If you think you would be interested in a west coast ASU camp, PLEASE write a note to Bill and Sharon Cawthra. They have to start planning NOW!!!

A special thank you to Bill, Sharon and Shirley Yates for their help in developing our contact with the new rink.



LANE SPEEDSKATING CLUB

by BARBARA F. KULL

Greetings from Oregon!

Our club is the smallest user group at Lane County Ice. We are always on the look-out for opportunities to raise funds and infect others in our community with our speedskating enthusiasm.

This summer we were offered the chance to have a booth at the Lane County Fair. With very little time and a million reasons not to, we took the challenge and the risk. We pooled our resources and talents to find ourselves hawking ice cream and cold beverages for six days and nights. Mother Nature not only dampened our fair, she did her best thunder and lightning display, the likes of which we rarely see in our valley. Our fragile tarp roof collapsed under the weight of the rain and drenched all but our spirits. The sudden storm closed the fair early and the cool days following did not contribute to record ice cream sales. Our dreamed financial success was not realized, but we were champions in our own right for putting together a terrific booth, running a small business and having fun in the process. With the experience we have now, and some better luck with the weather, our group will certainly have the potential to do even better in the future.

Our 3rd Annual Pacific Northwest Open was held in October. Sadly, I was unable to be present. I have some reliable sources who have contributed some highlights for me to report.

The turn-out was great! Our friends to the North from Washington and to the South from California travelled for many hours to participate in this fun meet. We extend our thanks to all who participated!

Many of the participants were in-liners, just recently exposed to the ice. The in-liners are extremely fit and strong and have incredible endurance. Even with very little ice exposure they are taking blue ribbons. As Gary Gandee (Tacoma) received his 1st place ribbon at the awards ceremony, keeping in mind that this was his in-liner's third time on ice, he said, "I just want to thank all the California people for all the tips they gave me."

Apolo Ohno (11) Tacoma, is the top juvenile in-liner in the country. Since his exposure to the ice his dad reports that Apolo loves the ice and feels like he is flying - he IS! Welcome to the ice, Apolo!

Paul Albert's daughter Nicole (12) also took a first place ribbon. She has a solid, strong and consistent form.

Jerry Suhrstedt (Tacoma) and our own favorite Patty Quinlain were neck and neck, taking turns at the lead. It was a race to the finish where Jerry took the win in the end. Great race!

Our very own Marathoner Bill McConochie wasn't feeling well enough to compete at this event. His contribution to this race will long be remembered. He made up for not being on the ice though... he is now also known as Marathon Microphone McConochie!

Coach Steve Lader is making a nice comeback following knee surgery earlier this year. He participated in his first race since the operation and did well. We are happy to have Steve back on the ice with us.

Due to the interest of the in-liners in our sport, our club has had a sudden and welcome growth spurt. To accommodate the increase in our membership we have added ice time to our Sunday club session. **We are learning to accommodate the varied needs of our club members.** Steve has his work cut out for him. Thanks to Don Kangas and Larry Ralston, and our recent coaching seminar this summer, Steve can delegate some of his work to those of us who participated in the three-day program. We hope to put our training to the test at our next scheduled race on December 4th.

Lane County Ice provided us with drop-in ice times over the summer which many of us regularly took advantage of. We are fortunate to have year-round ice. The 93/94 season holds much promise for our club. We are looking forward to continued growth and hours of fun on the ice.

MISSOURI SKATING ASSOCIATION

by MYRA L. VANDERSALL

Visit St. Louis in March for the 68th annual St. Louis Silver Skates Short Track Speedskating Championships on Saturday, March 5, and Sunday, March 6, 1994. Be sure to come back to St. Louis for the 1994 Olympic Festival in July!

Fast ice and a cornucopia of activities in the St. Louis area always attract a high number of competitors to the Silver Skates meet at the Kennedy Recreation Complex, (formerly the South County Recreation Complex), 6050 Wells Rd. and this year promises to be no exception. Leading up to the Olympic Festival Trials, Silver Skates will be an excellent warm up meet to the excitement of the Trials.

The host hotel this year is the Holiday Inn South, I-55 and Butler Hill Road. Double rooms at \$54.00 per night have been reserved for speedskating. To make your reservations, contact Amy French at 1-800-HOLIDAY, or fax your requests to 314-894-0167. Liz Chapin and her committee are planning a pizza party and hospitality get together for Saturday night at the hotel.

Continued

The meet, sponsored by the Missouri Speedskating Association and the St. Louis County Parks and Recreation Department, will be conducted using the ASU distances and age categories, both A, B, and novice. Relays will be held if time permits.

If you would like to volunteer to help at the meet, contact Meet Director Russ Owen, 1008 Gladfield, St. Louis, MO 63138, telephone 314-355-1837, or FAX him at 314-645-0913. Additional information, maps and entry forms will be sent to all association and club secretaries prior to the meet.

In the meantime, plan to make St. Louis an important stop on your winter competition schedule, and be sure to return for the '94 Olympic Festival in July. After all, where's the best place to be in St. Louis in July? An ice rink, of course!



Dear Shirley

Skating is going well this year. We had a workshop in August that Paul and Liz Marchese conducted and many skaters here are still referring to their pointers. We all learned a lot in this one. I was reading the recent issue of Speedskating Times... there was an item that caught my interest telling of the USISA Coaching Seminar at the OTC in Lake Placid. What interested me was the mention of the Dutch coach Leen Pfrommer and his input to that Seminar. It would be interesting to hear what he had to say or teach, or his philosophy on skating, training etc.

Last winter when I had my week up at Lake Placid I became friends with one of the promising junior skaters who has now gone over to Holland to train with some of the coaches there. And we had an interesting talk on some of the different coaches that he has had or observed and what they each brought to him as a skater. I was interested in hearing what he had to say about Coach Jeroen Otter and his methods.

I am constantly seeking out, or gleaning info, that would improve my skating, and wondered if somewhere in future issues of The Racing Blade that info as such could be featured.

I know not many coaches want to sit down and write, nor do some have the time. But if they only knew that their words can carry such weight and good changes for those who are looking for it in their skating.

Not being in a thick area for skating and input from other coaches, I have to find other sources to feed my interest and desire to learn. I have gained a lot from the articles in the Canadian Skaters Edge and I share them with other skaters and the one person who I feel has been my coach and teacher, Jack Curtain. We will spend

good time discussing what we read and try it and it is such a good feeling to see what the eyes have read and then feel the body do. It's like, so this is what they meant. One to one or person to person it can not replace, but something can be learned from everything.

Maybe some of the coaches do not think it's worth their time to reach out to a multitude of skaters with what knowledge they have gained in all their years of skating. It would be nice to think that in something they said or wrote was taken in by a skater, applied to their skating and they were ready to move on to the next step, and then some years down the road this skater winds up under said coach and has it down right, no bad habits or techniques that he had to undo - and relearn.

So the impact of this coach's words traveled alot further than he or she ever imagined!

Sincerely,

Carrie Grayson
Maryland Speedskating Assn.



Tacoma Speedskating Club

by JERRY SUHRSTEDT
Sec/Treas, Tacoma Speedskating Club

TACOMA CLUB RACE INFO

WHAT?
FIRST ANNUAL CAN-AM SHORT TRACK OPEN

WHEN?
January 9, 1994 - 8:00 a.m. Start

WHERE?
Sprinker Recreation Center, Tacoma, Washington

CONTACT:
Jerry Suhrstedt - Tacoma Speedskating Club
206/839-5997 Fax-473-3791

With Short Track speedskating being the newest kid in the Winter Olympics, in-line roller skaters and ice skaters abroad are fast being drawn to this exciting sport. The City of Tacoma is no exception. With over 15 Northwest in-line roller speedskating clubs already in place, kids are swarming to the ice. With 23 ice Short Track speedskating clubs in British Columbia, it's a natural for Washington to host the Can-Am Short Track Open.

Key Bank, Sprinker Recreation Center and the Tacoma Speedskating Club will host the 1st Annual Can-Am Open January 9th at Sprinker Recreation Center. Ice Short Track speedskating at its best! This event will be open to U.S. skaters as well as Canadian skaters. For more information, contact Jerry Suhrstedt at 206/839-5997.

**AMATEUR SKATING
ASSOCIATION
OF ILLINOIS**



by LISA SUNDSTROM

With the opening of the Pettit National Ice Center in Milwaukee last year, the question often raised was "How will this facility affect speedskating in the Midwest?" Some foresaw an influx of new skaters drawn by the (almost) year-around availability of long track ice. Others believed Short Track would suffer as younger skaters decided to specialize earlier in Long or Short Track. Still others hoped for a time when there would be so many skaters that both long and short competitions could be held on the same day with good attendance at both.

What we have seen so far is a mixture of all three situations. There are many new skaters trying the sport who are drawn by the reliability and availability of early long track ice. Whether these skaters will become regular competitors remains to be seen. The first two Short Track meets of the season, the Chicago Silver Skates and the Great Lakes, have had far lighter attendance than in the last two years. Silver Skates fielded only 111 skaters after having 167 in 1991 and 1992. The Great Lakes expects 128 skaters, down 50 from 1992. The Park Ridge Club decided to cancel its meet primarily because of financial considerations including the anticipation of a small turnout. With Short Track ice costing \$150 per hour or more, a two-day meet needs either a lot of skaters or a good sponsor to cover costs. As to the outcome of the third situation, Long and Short Track meets being held head to head, we'll have an opportunity to see how that works on Thanksgiving weekend when Michigan hosts the Thanksgiving Classic in Muskegon and Milwaukee holds the Gold Cup Long Track. This is in addition to the Long Track time trials which are being regularly held every weekend at the Pettit Center now.

So where are we headed? Every year there are different circumstances influencing whether a skater chooses to skate Long or Short Track at any particular time. These circumstances are changing and broadening. With more choices available, meet sponsors will have to adjust. Shorter meets, one-day meets, different ability groups — these are all options. It wouldn't hurt to recruit a few more skaters along the way and maybe concurrent long and short track meets will be a viable reality.

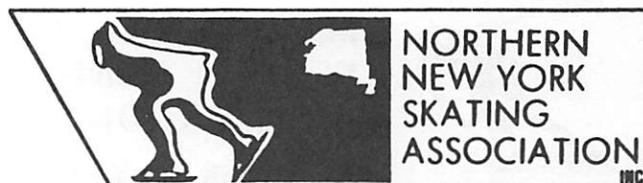
1994 ASU CONVENTION

It's never too soon to let people know about the ASU Convention! Next May seems far away but is actually just around the bend. The 1994 Convention will be held

in Schaumburg, Illinois, at the Hyatt Regency Woodfield. This lovely hotel is right across the street from one of the largest shopping centers in the U.S., Woodfield Mall. Also nearby is the Arlington Park Racecourse which will be holding thoroughbred races in May. Schaumburg is 20 minutes from Chicago's O'Hare Airport and 40 minutes from downtown Chicago making it a convenient location for sightseeing, shopping and meeting. We hope to see all of you there in May!

ASAI SUMMER COACH

As you will see from the ad elsewhere in the Blade, the ASAI is seeking a summer coach to develop and train our skaters. Check out the details and pass the word to encourage any likely candidate to apply. We're excited about the possibilities of this new program!



by BOB COOLEY

The Saratoga Winter Club moved its operations into the new Saratoga Springs Ice Rink on October 12. The dream of a decade, this arena features an Olympic-size rink, affording the club an excellent facility for recreational, instructional, and competitive skating. To be the site of the ASU Short Track Nationals in March, the rink saw its first competitive meet in November, when the club hosted its Eastern States Short Track Meet, featuring the Saratoga Cup.



Randy Doerter, President of Wood & Hyde Leather Co., stands next to one of 5 mats donated to the new Saratoga Springs Ice Rink. Erin Porter of the Saratoga Winter Club looks on.
John Needham Photo

Ann Cooley chaired a very successful drive to outfit the rink with 55 mats, at a cost of nearly \$15,000. The membership strongly supported the effort with the Porter family leading the charge. Thank you, Tom and Betsy, and each of the families who worked so hard to make sure our skaters had the best in safety mats!

(Continued)

The coaching staff of Pat Maxwell, Casey Wager, Tom Porter (the younger), and Joe Dunn are operating an absolutely first-class ice program for the club's 65 skaters. Our new video equipment is being put to good use, enabling skaters to study their technique and style. In-club mini-meets for the younger skaters are allowing them to test themselves, while rewarding effort and improvement.

Focused work, under the direction of Karen Valle, will soon result in 501C3 status with the IRS, affording full non-profit classification, and the attendant benefits, to the generous supporters of the club and its program.

Under the direction of Meet Chairman Tom Campbell, a committee with members from each club in the Association is hard at work, planning and organizing for the March Short Track Nationals. (See article elsewhere in the Racing Blade). The Saratoga Winter Club, now celebrating its 60th year of operation, is proud to welcome the ASU to our city for a first class event! See you in March!

What a summer it has been for the Green Mountain Speed Skating Club, with members skating all over. Elizabeth Lynch has been training at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid. Cap, Jeff, Joe, and Ellie have been tearing up the mountain bike circuit at Catamount.

Guy has been riding a lot, and Tim has been flying around on his in-line skates. Rob Powers has been doing nearly everything, as usual. Joe has been skating for Team Hyper, Dave R. has been trying crit riding and Race SkiRack, which held a great event on the beltline.

If you have not heard, Catamount is almost ready to build a speed skating oval! They are in the process of determining market demand for the oval, so everyone should let Catamount know what a great idea it is to build a skating oval. A 250 meter oval would be just fine.

Plans for the winter skating season are being formed now. The current thinking includes activities at the yet-to-be-built Catamount Outdoor Oval and a new format at the Stowe sessions, including time trials and citizens races. Starting this season there will be two novice skating programs with one at the Salt Shed in Montpelier and the other at the rink in Proctor.

The Most Improved Skater award, in honor of Nancy Miller, was presented to Joe, at the Lake Placid Short Track Race last year.

Green Mountain Short Track Championships were held at Leddy Park, in November. The club's goal was for the meet to be considered by out-of-town skaters as the best conducted and most fun.



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MICHIGAN SPEEDSKATING ASSOCIATION

by MARK JASTRZEMBSKI

Time to set aside the Bonts and haul out the long blades as the first half of the Short track season is history. Mother Nature and the great outdoors beckons. This is skating the way God intended it to be. (At least, that's what our Association's Northern clubs keep saying.) It is time for their members to shine. Our outdoor ice clubs of Bay County, Alpena, and Petoskey will host six fresh-air meets. Every year I advertise these in my Racing Blade articles as Michigan's "Best Kept Secrets" in hopes that some of you from out-of-state will day-trip over, but we have not had any takers except from a few of our Canadian friends travelling south for some milder weather competitions. Alpena has some of the best snowmobile and cross country ski trails in America. Petoskey is five minutes away from Boyne Mountain and the best downhill skiing north of Colorado. If you want to take a weekend skate/ski vacation, give us a call for an entry form and directions: 616-828-4627. We love sharing our secret!

With six clubs up and running in Michigan and each one anxious to host competitions, we have virtually no open weekends without a meet. We are amazed that some states only have one or two meets during the season. We host 14 this year! That puts a burden on our officials. We will be putting the call out to host a clinic to certify more referees, starters and side officials.

Michigan's backstage work continues in our quest for network media and national sponsors for ASU Short Track events. We must say that the recent trend toward lengthening the distances skated has had a severe negative impact on marketing the sport. The attraction of Short Track over metric is the excitement and action of quick, short races. The intention of the powers-that-be in lengthening the distances, may have been to develop stronger skaters. What we are getting however, is "pack style metric" disguised as Short Track. The skaters themselves are showing their dislike by turning the 3000's into 777's at best and 333's at worst. Some may feel that the additional pain for the skaters is good, but from what we've seen from those meets that have adopted the new longer distance format is that the only ones suffering are the officials and spectators who must also endure the pain of these boring, time-consuming, and cost-inflating races. Sponsors and the media want fast-paced action! This sport will not receive corporate and media backing (i.e. growth) unless some major format changes are made. That's the message that is coming forth from out on the hustings.

WISCONSIN SPEEDSKATING ASSOCIATION

by BRAD GOSKOWICZ

Short Track or Long Track, Metric or Pack, Novice, Class A, National or World Class, we have had it all here in Wisconsin this year. One milestone to note in particular is that the Great Lakes Short Track Championship, was successfully moved to the Pettit Center after 22 years at Wilson Park. More than 160 skaters from 12 states participated. It was especially heartening to see the large numbers of new novice skaters there.



New Novice members of the West Allis Club crowd the starting line during practice at the Pettit National Ice Center.

Cy White Photo

By the time of the North American Championships in February, the new timing system on the PNIC oval should be fine tuned. We are hoping to make this an especially memorable occasion for our friends from the North. In any case, we would like to see as many skaters as possible from around the United States as we launch a new era of Indoor Long Track Pack Style skating.

Thanks to everyone who is helping us get through this challenging season, particularly our neighbors from Illinois. We couldn't do it without their help!

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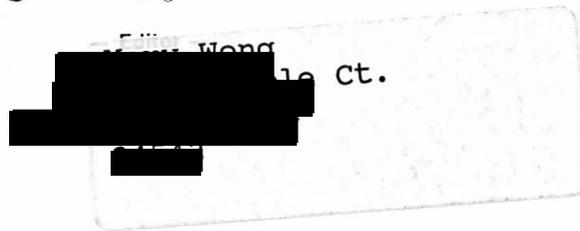
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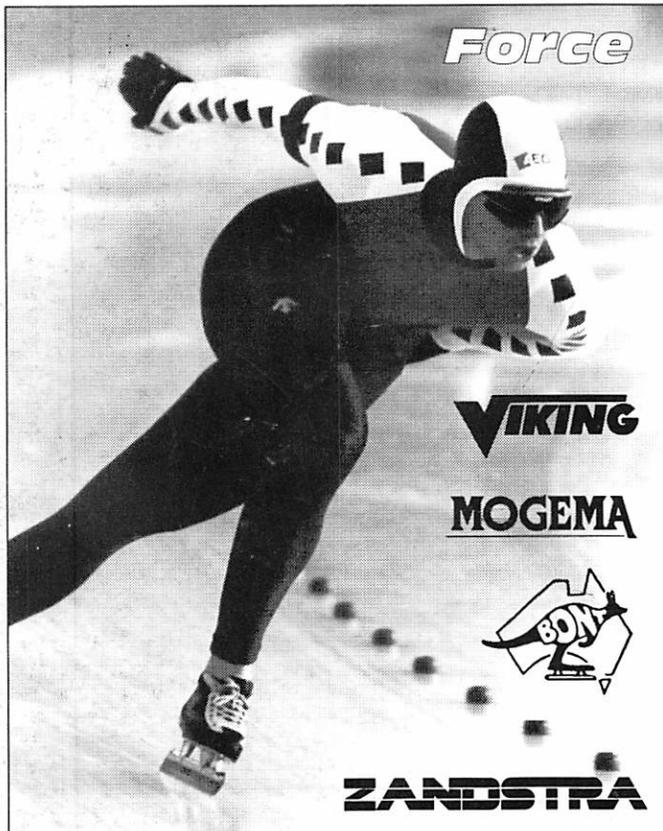


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