

The Racing Blade

NATIONAL SPEEDSKATING NEWS

Published by The Amateur Skating Union of the U. S.



VOLUME XXIV

JUNE, 1991

ISSUE No. 5

They Get Better All The Time

It was . . .

A Terrific Convention!

By Shirley Yates

There was a definite difference in this year's ASU Convention. Was it all the new faces - the "new blood" that we've been saying for years we need? Was it the enthusiasm of the members back for the second or third year who seem visibly "hooked" on the Convention now?

Was it the aura of positiveness exhibited by everyone, even in the face of some unpleasant truths that officers and chairmen felt needed to be aired? Was it the good feelings generated by the encouraging report on the progress of the ASU/USISA relationship?

Was it the efficiency and speed with which the chairmen moved the proposals along during the committee meetings and the all-important delegate and Board of Control voting on Sunday?

Obviously, it was all of these! It was a terrific Convention! The facility was splendid, the service commendable, the food excellent, the banquet memorable.

(Continued on page 5)



SERIOUS BUSINESS—SERIOUS THOUGHTS

Don Anderson of EMN standing in the rear in back of Jerry Kriskovich, Dave Witt, and Joe Obenhoff of Montana; Allan Jakubowski, Wisconsin; Don Lease, Kathy Repenning, and Dennis Marquard of Ohio; Ken Altuchoff of Middle Atlantic; and Doc Savage of Wisconsin.

LAUNCHING A CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

By Dan van Benthuysen
Middle Atlantic Skating Association

Establishing a solid children's program will not only boost your numbers, but create a momentum that would be hard to create any other way. In terms of growth for the sport, a children's program is great, not just because you get new members young when they can establish a lifetime of enjoyment in the sport, but it's also great because for every child you get into the sport, you're also getting several other people involved. Mom or Dad may be willing to act as a timer or judge, while little sister or brother look forward to the day when they can put on skates and join in the fun.

There are lots of ways to get a children's program in speedskating off the ground. Ours is not necessarily the best, but if interested readers pick up some ideas here, so much the better.

THE PROBLEM

The Long Island Speedskating Club has existed for a number of years. Our mailing list includes about a hundred names and an average session attracts two to three dozen skaters. But this membership was almost entirely adult or older adults. Our sessions did not attract kids even though we had willing coaches. The reason: The best time our rink could give us was a 9-11 p.m. week night session. Pretty tough on school nights. But this rink, an outdoor rink with a short season and very good prices for our club, was too good for our adult members to give up.

(Continued on page 9)

CONVENTION MINUTES

Order your 1991 Convention Minutes and "ASU Directory" from the National Office, 1033 Shady Lane, Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137 (708) 790-3239, NOW! The price is only \$6.00 and it will contain a wealth of information you can't afford to be without this next year.



President's Message

Jim Marquard

The 1991 Amateur Skating Convention is now history. This year, a big thank you goes to Roy Helmski, who was the backbone of the organizing committee. It was gratifying to see the number of representatives attending your convention. A great deal of useful information was conveyed to those attending.

Several proposals were made to the convention delegates and board of control. The one proposal I feel warrants mention is the adoption of the National Marathon Championships. A great deal of work in setting up the structure for this discipline of skating proved to make easy passage of the proposal. Before the

convention adjourned, a request for holding the first marathon under the sanction of the ASU was presented by Greg Oly of the Minnesota association.

Once again, it was brought to the attention of the assembly by our treasurer, Shirley Yates, that the ASU operating fund was in serious trouble. Shirley pointed out along with our finance chairman, Ken Altuchoff, where a number of cutbacks will be necessary. The finance committee proposed at its meeting to increase skater registration \$5.00. This would be only to keep up with the ever rising costs in the operation of the ASU. The board agreed that the increase was needed, but, because the proposal was presented on the floor of the convention, a number of board members wanted to make their home associations aware of the proposal. A mail vote will be sent out this summer for approval. Passage of this proposal does not solve the problem for the ASU programs. We still need to find someone who is willing to support speeds skating financially. I am sure there is someone or organization. Please come forward with such a person what we as the ASU can do to help sell speeds skating to a potential backer.

Continue enjoying your summer and be ready to really enjoy the 1991-92 speeds skating season.

THE RACING BLADE

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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 Publisher, Roy C. Helmski, 2504 Seventeenth Street, Wyandotte, MI 48192. (313) 284-1124.

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) 253-4191. Unsigned letters and manuscripts cannot be accepted.

Further information about speeds skating, becoming a member of the Amateur Skating 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, (708) 790-3230. The A.S.U. is a non-profit, charitable organization; donations are tax-deductible.

ADVERTISING SPACE

Advertising space is available at the following rates (per issue) in U. S. funds:
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 Cover.....\$150.00
If interested please contact Roy Helmski
Back issues of the Racing Blade.....\$2.00

Associate Editors

The following super folks have been designated by their Association to gather and funnel news to the RACING BLADE. Help them, to help us all, by getting news items, profiles of skaters or officials, and other articles on club activities to them. Our deadline for the next issue is shown in each issue, so get your material to them in time to meet our deadlines. Thanks!

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Notes from . . .

The National Office

by SHIRLEY YATES



Is this the time of year when you find it most difficult to concentrate on speeds skating? Do your thoughts keep straying to the pool or beach, baseball, golf, seaside vacations, fishing? Would you rather see a hot blazing sun over you and sand under you than the neon lights and ice of a rink?

Don't feel guilty! Unless you're training for an ASU summer camp or National Team activities, you deserve a little change of pace. The 1991-92 season is just a few weeks away. Have some fun in the sun while you can. Before long you'll be right back on our exciting speeds skating circuit!

Before we consign the 1990-91 season to the "record books", there are some late-breaking items which need airing. For instance:

BETSY PORTER of the Northern New York Assn. answered my pleas for information on skate boarding facilities for the man in South Africa. It seems that Saratoga Springs has a Skateboard Park which was constructed to keep skate boarders off the downtown sidewalks. Mr. P.S. Murray's goal is to establish a facility with skateboard ramps of various types and sizes to get the town's youngsters off the streets and into an organized sport. Thank you, Betsy!

Congratulations to the NORTHERN NEW YORK ASSN. for contributing the most \$1.00 donations to the Scholarship Fund which accompanied their individual membership dues. And thank you to the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSN. for their one-time donation of \$40.00 from members. C'mon, folks, it's only \$1.00! We took in a paltry \$117.00 this year in this effort to increase the Scholarship Fund!

One of those dollars was from BOB MASTERS of Reno, Nevada, a brand-new member who just automatically felt checking that voluntary \$1.00 donation box on the registration form was the thing to do! Bob also was the first one to sign up for our Eugene, OR, Training Seminar. He and the manager of the new Reno ice rink are determined to start a speeds skating program there and in other Nevada ice rinks. Why not? As they pointed out to me - they're gamblers!

RESURRECTING AN OLDIE

The GOLDEN GATE SPEEDSKATERS tried something new this year to raise funds - a skate-a-thon. Of course, being new to the sport, they didn't know that skate-a-thons used to be an official ASU annual function - a fund raiser that divided the proceeds between ASU (20%), the association (20%) and the club (60%). The Golden Gate club's skate-a-thon was wonderfully successful. They raised \$2000 in pledges.

What happened to the rest of us? At one time this was such an appropriate, fun way to raise money and build endurance. The National Skate-a-Thon idea was conceived by JOHN DRENCKPOHL of Michigan in 1975 to "promote, encourage and develop speed-skating in the United States" and of course, as a money-making project. The ASU had a Skate-a-Thon Committee that awarded special certificates to participants and trophies and plaques to the most successful. Association reports were published in The Racing Blade and the annual Convention Minutes book (in 1977 - 12 pages were devoted to this subject!) Included was a structure for the clubs and associations to follow that obviously worked because the project flourished for a number of years.

Perhaps people tired of it. As often happens, a small group may have done all the work and gotten "burned out". But we have almost a whole new membership now and the endurance contest (marathon) has become a way of life in this country - there are bike-a-thons, walk-a-thons, dance-a-thons, tele-thons. Maybe it's time for the ASU to bring back the Skate-a-Thon!

LET'S SALUTE THE WINNER!

Congratulations to the DULUTH SPEED-SKATING CLUB for earning the biggest share of USISA's 1990 Novice Development Grant. In an agreement with USISA, ASU awarded \$6,000 of the grant in April to its 74 clubs in the form of "bounty" money - \$5.00 for each new skater and \$10.00 for each second-year skater registered during the 1989-90 season. The Duluth Club's grant of \$365.00 will be a real asset in its continuing efforts to recruit and develop skaters in northern Minnesota.

The MIDWAY CLUB took second honors with a total of \$290.00 in new and renewed skaters. Along with its third club, SHOP POND, the total allotment to the EASTERN MINNESOTA ASSN. was \$780.00, proving that the "bounty" system CAN make a big difference in the future finances of your novice program. Other big winners were clubs that are in associations with only one club: MONTANA, \$440.00, and BAY STATE CLUB of Northeastern Assn., \$305.00.

One of our newest clubs, LANE of Oregon, led the pack of clubs in territories outside of associations with 36 new registered skaters for a total of \$180.00. As you start up your new season now, remember how important all those new skaters are and bear in mind that the BIG BUCKS can be made in bringing them back the second year!

WE HAVE A HERO!

TIMOTHY QUINN JR. of Westlake, OH, National Team Member, 1991 National Short Track Intermediate Champion and the big winner at the 1990 Olympic Sports Festival, is not just a winner in speed-skating circles. He is a true hero. In May, Tim, who attends Northern Michigan University in Marquette, was celebrating the last day of classes with some fellow speedskaters at a local motel and for some fortuitous reason was subconsciously keeping his eye on a man swimming in a nearby pool with two young children.

(Continued on following page)

Notes From National Office

(Continued from page 3)

Suddenly he realized the man was floating face down and in trouble. Tim says without even thinking he dove in, hauled the man out and applied CPR which started his heart beating. All in the day of a speedskater? Hardly! But it's a day this speedskater and an anonymous man will always remember!

MORE MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Indy Club President BRAD HUGHEY very excitedly called me on May 23 with terrific news - Hardees will again be the sponsor of the Indy 500 Meter meet as they were last year for the first one. Brad did not find out until May 20, after the Convention, that the club had secured the dates they requested, Feb. 22-23, on next year's National open meet schedule. What a hustler! He must have gone out immediately and nailed it down. Here's a wonderful side note: Hardees was primed. Several people who attended last year's meet wrote Hardees letters praising it and thanking them for their support!

At the Convention we tried to get a proposal passed that would have moved up the association dues deadline from Sept. 1 to June 1 to alleviate the dangerous cash flow problem the ASU has during the summer. It failed. But at least two of the associations must have gotten the message. KATHY REPENNING, the Ohio Assn. treasurer, wrote their \$300 check on May 19 (as soon as she got home from the Convention?) and the National Office received it May 22! And Dorle Simmons signed the MIDDLE ATLANTIC ASSN. check May 30 and it arrived shortly thereafter.

Speaking of DORLE SIMMONS, this proud Mother wrote the splendid article on son Kurt's participation at the World Winter Games for the Deaf in Banff/Calgary which appeared in the last issue of The Racing Blade. Her by-line was inadvertently omitted from the article but she deserves to be praised for it as does her son for his outstanding performance.

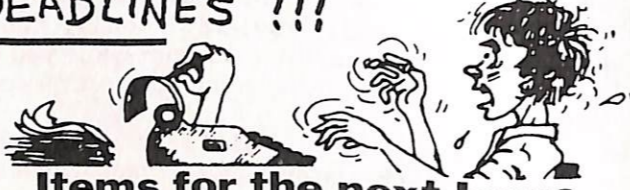
Scholarship Committee Chairman SUSAN JARRETT deserves recognition for the fine job she did in designing and printing Scholarship Fund tribute envelopes and thank you notes, both of which were sorely needed to facilitate our Scholarship program. If you were at the Convention, you most likely saw the envelopes and if you contribute to the Scholarship Fund you will receive one of the classy thank you notes, as did several people at the Convention. Notable among those was a donation from the FITZRANDOLPH FAMILY in Wisconsin and the GAROFOLA FAMILY of Illinois as a tribute to Wisconsin Coach LYLE LEBOMBARD for his years of dedicated service. What a wonderful way to publicly recognize those who have played a significant role in our sport!

We are happy to report that we have located a calligrapher within the ASU ranks and we are looking forward to a long relationship with her I received a letter early this year from LINDA BRUCE-MARSH, Northeastern Assn. speedskater, that had the most remarkable calligraphy on it and it was just at the time

when I was going to start shopping around for a new calligrapher. Some minor negotiating followed and she accepted her first job - about 125 certificates for the 1991 Convention! Calligraphy is such a time-honored skill performed by so few but they all seem to enjoy it so much!

And last, but certainly not least, in our list of People to recognize and honor this issue is a young man of unique stature whose days in the spotlight have just begun. Welcome, JAMES ANTHONY MARQUARD JR., the first son born to ASU President Jim and wife, Kathy, at 11:25 p.m. May 20. Vital statistics: 20½ inches long, 8 lbs., 1 oz. Who's more excited, do you think - the proud papa who witnessed the whole production or James Anthony Marquard Jr.'s four sisters? Our congratulations to Kathy who expected to deliver during the Convention but timed it perfectly for the day after!

DEADLINES !!!



Items for the next Issue are due by:

SEPTEMBER 12, 1991	
November 8, 1991	January 10, 1992
March 12, 1992	June 5, 1992

National Medal Fund Restructuring Provides Added Opportunities

Costs lowered to attract new sponsors

by LARRY RALSTON, Chairman

With the overwhelming approval to restructure the ASU National Medal Fund, we are actively seeking new sponsors. This fund provides an excellent way to honor individuals, in perpetuity, by providing a one time gift at a minimum cost.

There are presently a few sponsorships available for 1st place Gold medals and ALL classes are available for 2nd, 3rd and 4th place sponsorships.

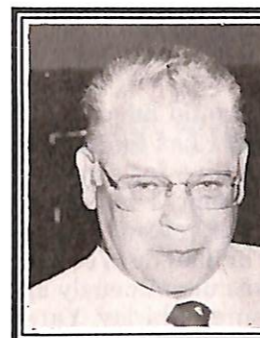
MEDAL SPONSORSHIP COSTS:

1st place GOLD	550.00
2nd place SILVER	450.00
3rd place BRONZE	350.00
4th place GREEN BRONZE	250.00

For details and information on available sponsorships and extended payment plans, please contact me.

Larry Ralston
46948 West Drive, Ackley Beach
Decatur, MI 49045
Phone: 616-423-8810

Contributions are Tax Deductible for Income Tax purposes under section 501 c (3) of the IRS Code.



Overheard In The Heat Box

by LARRY RALSTON

- The latest to join the ever expanding list of retirees is current ASU Vice President, Bill Cawthra. Having left the Aerospace industry, Bill will now have much more time to devote to speedskating activities.
- "NOBODY DOES IT BETTER." Those were the sentiments expressed over the efforts of Roy Helminski and his Wyandotte counterparts for the fine job done in coordinating the 1991 Convention.
- It's going to happen in 1992. The first ASU Scholarship will be awarded and the amount will be at least \$500.00. Hats off to Sue Jarrett and her committee for putting things in order and making a dream come true.
- Former ASU President and Hall of Famer, Ben Bagdade, was on hand for the 1991 Convention banquet and managed to spin a few tales to all within earshot. Ben is 86 years young, resides in Ann Arbor, MI, and was recently inducted into the Michigan Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.
- There were few dry eyes in the audience as Sheila Young Ochowicz made her acceptance speech on being inducted into the ASU Hall of Fame and presented a video montage of her athletic career while paying tribute to her father, Clair Young.
- Late word from Past President and Hall of Famer, Leon Wilmot, has him heading East for a visit to his birthplace in Vermont and then on to Stony Creek, NY, for a visit to the Dave Roche Ranch. He promises to visit yours truly when the mosquitos die off, probably in October.
- The long awaited fishing trip for yours truly and Bob Vehe, with Captain Roy Helminski as guide, was not too productive. One Rock Bass and 2 sunburned noses over 2 days can hardly be construed as good. But Capt. Helminski, forever the optimist, had this to say: "The companionship, conversation, food and fishing was all great; only the catching was lousy".
- Good things seem to proliferate. Included in his acceptance speech into the Hall of Fame, Dick Somalski paid tribute to his wife and family and mentioned that he was the one that introduced current ASU Vice President, Jim Chapin, to the sport and was his first coach.

- Peter J. Miller, one of speedskating's most colorful people and coach of the 1940 and 1948 Olympic Teams, passed away May 21, 1991, at the age of 81.
- Hall of Famer, Jim Campbell, is running his famous "Mini Hockey Camps" in Colorado Springs, teaching "Power Skating." Jim utilizes his years of experience as a top-flight speedskater to enhance the skating ability of the hockey players.

IT WAS A TERRIFIC CONVENTION!

(Continued from page 1)

Roy Helminski, you did a wonderful job. Your conventions are true indicators of the service and devotion you have given to the ASU for many years. We love the little details, the extras you come up with - they may not be apparent in the overall picture but they help to make a Convention special.

Thank you also to Charles and Rosemary Bucska who were Roy's main assistants and indispensable to me and the men from the West Michigan Club who were delightful "hosts" at the Friday night hospitality.

In addition to a guest list totalling 112 people, what made the banquet memorable? Foremost, it was the formal induction of the Hall of Fame members. Skater Richard Wurster was unable to attend due to a conflict, but skater Sheila Young Ochowicz and non-skater, Richard (Dick) Somalski, did and what they added to the program will long be remembered.

Sheila, in her acceptance speech, undoubtedly gave the most moving tribute to a parent we've ever had to an ASU Convention. Through a loving videotape presentation she showed the impact her father, Clair Young, had on her whole speedskating career which culminated in an Olympic Gold medal.

Dick recognized the first skater he coached, ASU Vice President Jim Chapin, and the second, Olympic Gold Medalist and HOF member, Terry McDermott. He also thanked his wife, Marilyn, for her assistance in his speedskating achievements.

SPECIAL AWARDS PRESENTED

President Jim Marquard presented the prestigious President's Award to Donald Kangas of Michigan and Timothy Quinn of Ohio for their "dedication and contribution to the sport of speedskating at the local, state and National level" but more specifically in recognition of Don's efforts as chairman of the Coaching Committee and Tim's as chairman of Fund Raising.

Racing Blade Editor Bob Vehe announced that the 1991 Associate Editor of the Year Award would go to Nancy Clark, MS, RD, who has been faithfully submitting a significant, well-read column, "The Athlete's Kitchen", to The Racing Blade for many years. Master of Ceremonies at the banquet was Bill Ames of the Michigan Assn.

(Continued on page 6)

TERRIFIC CONVENTION *(Continued from page 5)*

CONTROVERSIAL PROPOSAL ACCEPTED QUICKLY

Much to the relief of everyone, the 38 proposals on the Agenda moved through the committee meetings and voting sessions swiftly and without much controversy or heated argument.

One of the most exciting, thought-provoking proposals of the 1990 Convention was a National Marathon Championship. After considerable debate then, it was referred to a Legislative sub-committee for further study and presentation and question/answer period ably conducted by Middle Atlantic BOC member, Bob Fischer, and Skater Rep Bob Finkel.

Also approved unanimously was an official ASU Protocol for the conduct of National and North American Long and Short Track Championships developed by VP of Racing Chapin.

In other Legislative matters, the expansion of the Missouri Assn. to include five counties in Kansas was approved to enable the association to more easily assist one of its members, Bill Houghton, who has recently moved to that area and intends to build the sport there.

RELAY PROPOSAL CONFUSES EVERYONE

In a somewhat bewildering scene, a proposal to change the ASU Relay Rules caused the most confusion and controversy during the Racing Proposal voting on Sunday. After two amendments and several attempted amendments, the proposal was passed as originally written.

It calls for the following changes: all teams shall be equally dressed to the point of having a jersey or bib of the same colors, arranging the heats will not be based on the results of the Championship, associations will not be allowed to make up composite teams but substitute relay team members may be designated prior to the closing of check-in. One change also addressed a breach to relaying during the last two laps.

Further Racing Proposals approved by the BOC call for the following changes:

1. At Long Track meets judges will be positioned on a tiered platform in an area to be designated by roping off or other means.
2. Medical teams at National and NA Long Track and Short Track Championships will consist of a minimum of two people with the minimum qualifications of State Certified Paramedic or State Certified EMT.
3. All Short Track open meets conducted by associations and affiliated organizations shall use padding conforming to the specifications found in Art. XV of the Racing Rules.

Another potentially controversial item, a proposal to eliminate the ASU quota system for associations to qualify skaters for championship meets, was tabled.

MASTERS WOMEN'S DISTANCES SHOT DOWN

In Tracks and Distances the two proposals to add a 3000m and 300m to the Masters Women's Class were defeated. Surprisingly, a proposal to add a Grand

Masters Women's Class was not submitted for consideration this year.

The sole Finance Proposal which would have solved a serious cash flow problem the ASU has during the summer months by moving the deadline for payment of the association annual dues from Sept. 1 to June 1, was defeated after the introduction of several amendments including one to raise skater annual dues to \$25. However, the budget of \$100,100 was unanimously approved as drawn up by the Treasurer Shirley Yates and Finance Chairman Ken Altuchoff.

BOC RETAINS "STAFF" —

The Board of Control unanimously reappointed Sam Hicks as Commissioner of Officials, Bob Vehe as Editor and Roy Helminski as Publisher of The Racing Blade and reelected Shirley Yates to the two offices of Executive Secretary and Treasurer.



Larry Ralston and Mary Smith are both members of the Hall of Fame and the Hall of Fame Committee.

A significant piece of Legislative business was conducted at the 1991 Convention when the position of Hall of Fame Facilities Director was approved. Bob Vehe, a member of the HOF Committee for 10 years and chairman the last three, is required now by HOF rules to leave the committee at a time when the location of the HOF is of considerable concern to the ASU. To enable Vehe to continue some crucial work he has begun on this matter, the delegates elected him the first Facilities Director. Don Anderson moved up to HOF Committee chairman and Larry Ralston was elected to fill the vacancy.

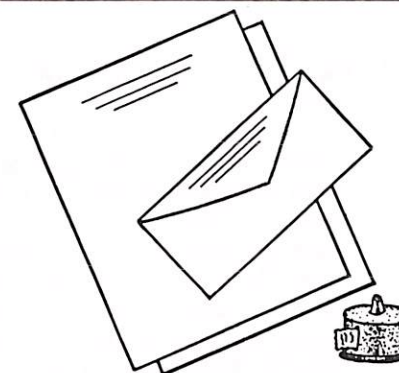
1994 MAJOR EVENTS AWARDED

The following received the bids for the ASU's major events in 1994:

National Short Track Championships — Northern New York
ASU Convention — Amateur Skating Assn. of Illinois
Continuing the rotation system for the National and North American Long Track Championships which was established in 1989 to accommodate the championship meets at the three 400-meter refrigerated

(Continued on page 8)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Bob,

Just received a copy of THE RACING BLADE. Many thanks for the kind words. Many thanks for the recognition of Lamy, etc. all old-timers who were the "acorns" of today's skating "Oak Trees."

It was so great to see the pictures again. Thanks for returning the pictures.

It was a great article you wrote about Harold Beam. He was a great man - a gentleman - I admired him!

Sure appreciate your suggestion of a card to Jewtraw.

God Bless

Jack Shea

* * *

Dear Mr. Vehe,

Just a short note to say thank you for the beautiful Memorial that you wrote for THE RACING BLADE.

It was to the point and very much the truth. Sid loved the sport and was involved till the end. He was involved in speedskating for 25 years, as I have been, and enjoyed every minute of it.

Lynne Stoll

* * *

Dear Racing Blade,

You go back to the good old days and wonder why? My wife, Mary, and I met at a Holy Cross - Boston University football game eons ago in the pouring rain. My mother's brother, one of many, has his name up in the Holy Cross chapel, a victim of airplane testing during World War I off of Long Island. Our meet at Holy Cross under the heading of "Nationals" brought back these fleeting memories.

Despite the pressure of top notch competition during a rainy weekend, one incident brought a moment of truth to my aging mind. It was during a small Special Olympics race. The gun went off and two of the competitors jumped the gun. The lone skater on the line commented as follows: "Hey guys, that was a false start! Come on back!" There was no need for official reprimands, hysteria, or even a hot remark. It was a simple reminder that fair starts are needed in all aspects of life. Perhaps this lesson is one that we all should heed no matter what the competition or where.

Memories,

Ted F. Nowak

Shirley,

It was a pleasure finally meeting you face to face at the ASU Annual Convention May 18th in Southgate. In the short time I was in attendance I met some of the people whose names I have come to respect. I am particularly grateful to have the chance to shake hands with Mr. Marquard and Mr. Vehe. It was a pleasure to eat dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Klaiber as well as Tom Healy. It would seem that everyone has great ambition with respect to an in-line/ice-skating fusion. I am very encouraged by this.

In the few short minutes I was able to speak with Tim Quinn, I was sure that our mutual interests for our respective sports were squarely aligned. His explanation of the vision and his frankness on what is expected to be gained were very refreshing. I would like to have further discussions with him if he feels it could be beneficial. I wonder if you could pass along to him my address and phone number? I would like to thank him personally for the very flattering introduction he gave me in lieu of his acknowledgement of his award presented by Mr. Marquard. I was surprised and flattered, though it is also hard to imagine what I have done to deserve such accolades. As I often say to myself, "I was just skating."

I wish I could have taken more time to sit and talk with the people in attendance. As you know, I had already borrowed from time allocated to another commitment. Such is the past few years in my life. I'm sure you can relate to this schedule. I'm particularly disappointed that I did not have the opportunity to meet Ms. Class face to face.

I thank you again for the invitation to the banquet and look forward to future contacts. Find my address and phone number below, you may feel free to pass it along to the appropriate people.

Regards,

Dave Cooper

1135 N. Denwood

Dearborn, MI 48128-1102

(313) 562-6104

* * *

ASU National Office,

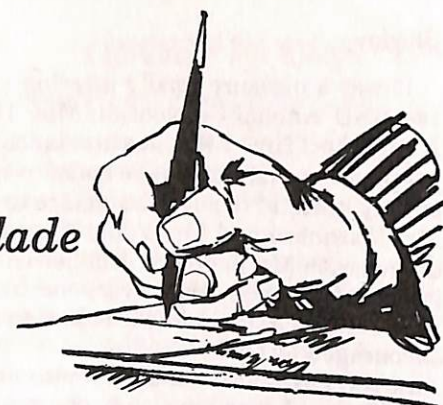
The last issue of THE RACING BLADE that I received was the December 1990, issue. This is probably because we moved on March 1st. If you have an old somewhat used issue, I'd be pleased to get it.

Recently, we went to Chino, California for an in-line roller race and several speedskaters were there. Mark Chrysler finished 9th overall in the 5K. Mark Jeffries finished 12th in the 10K and Laveenja (girl from Romania) was 14th in the 10K, which placed her second or third among the women. Jim Wilkins may have gotten an age group medal and Joey Fresquez was there on skates, but didn't race. I won my age group on borrowed skates.

Sincerely,

John Storm

Dear
Racing Blade
Editor...



Dear Editor,

I have always enjoyed Mark Jastrzembki's articles in *The Racing Blade* and the latest, "What's Good for the Gander..." was no exception. However, I feel compelled to respond to it because of apparent misconceptions that Mr. Jastrzembki has. Being fairly new to the sport and with no background in the "politics" of the ASU, it is not surprising that he would have misconceptions. What is amazing and delightfully refreshing is that he would rightfully choose to air his complaints in *The Racing Blade* instead of grousing in the background where it would do no good. *The Racing Blade* is indeed "the proper forum" for this particular debate.

First, the premise, "What's good for the goose, is good for the gander", is not always true - in real life. Adjustments are made on all levels of all human activities to suit the circumstances. It disturbs neither males nor females because it is understood it has nothing to do with equal opportunity for both sexes but rather the practicality of the situation at hand.

So it is no wonder that the ASU did not establish a Grand Masters Womens Class at the 1990 Convention when it approved the Grand Masters Class for men. The fact of the matter is that the original proposal to add a Grand Masters Class did not include women and **NO MOVE WAS MADE AT THE CONVENTION PRIOR TO VOTING TO AMEND IT TO INCLUDE WOMEN!** No comment was even made during discussions about adding women! The vote on the proposal was 10-6 in favor. One can only assume then that our women skaters did not feel it was practical at the time to include them. Nor had they changed their minds by the 1991 Convention because no proposal addressing this issue was submitted this year either.

What do you suppose is the "practical" reason for this omission? It is certainly not "an oversight by the powers that be at the Convention" because as you know by now, "powers" at the Convention do not instigate changes in our sport. Any member of the ASU may attempt to do that through his association. Of course, there is a strict deadline that must be followed - proposals must be submitted by March 1 for that year's Convention agenda.

The Masters Mens Class was proposed and defeated (by representatives of all our associations) several times before it was accepted. Why? Because it was not proven that there would be sufficient numbers to field the class at a National Championship. Eventually, through the inclusion and success of Masters Classes

on the local and association levels, the ASU Board of Control members had the proof and the item passed with little controversy.

The establishment of a Grand Masters Class for women is definitely an issue that must build grass roots support. Obviously, it has been proven that there is not sufficient interest in it on the National level since we have on occasion had only two Master women enter the National Long Track (in Milwaukee, a "hot-bed" of outdoor skating) and in the East this year, where we have always believed the largest concentration of older skaters was, only five Master women skated. To split the class now would demean the whole Masters program at a time when we are beginning to see such successes in the Masters Mens classes - several heats at National meets.

The Michigan Assn., assuming there was a National Grand Masters Class, inadvertently did the right thing last season by including it in its competitions. Unfortunately, its skaters apparently discovered at a regional meet that a competition did not have to include that class. The ASU recommends that regional meets have the same classes as the National program but it is not required. On the other hand, unless you include the Grand Masters Womens Class in your regional competitions, you will never build the class to the point where it warrants a National Championship classification.

Let's hope that it's the oversight of the local and regional organizing committees in not including Grand Masters Womens Classes in their competitions that has prevented this segment of speedskaters from growing and not the other capricious reason people (both male and female) often snicker about - what woman wants to admit that she is over 50? Yes, this is 1991 and that latter reason has no place in our thoughts.

Many years ago I worked hard to get the Masters Mens Class recognized on the National level and I wholeheartedly support the issue of establishing a Grand Masters Womens Class - when they are ready!

Shirley A. Yates
ASU Executive Secretary/Treasurer

TERRIFIC CONVENTION

(Continued from page 6)

tracks in this country, no bids were taken for these meets. However, the Montana Assn. confirmed they will host the 1994 Nationals and the Wisconsin Assn. will conduct the North Americans.

The Minnesota Assn. bid on and was awarded the National Marathon Championship, contingent on their being able to secure a sponsor and availability of ice. Tentative dates are Feb. 8-9. If Minnesota pulls its bid, the meet will be held in Lake Placid.

For full coverage of the Convention, you may order the 1991 ASU Directory and Convention Minutes from the National Office. The book also includes all committee reports, member associations and club listings, committee appointments and committee members' addresses, National Officials, the Open Meet Schedule for 1991-1993 and addresses and phone numbers for all those involved in the ASU on the National level.

LAUNCHING A CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

(Continued from page 1)

THE SOLUTION

Go to another rink in the area to start a kid's program, while we kept the sessions at the older rink. This new rink happens to be closer to my home, so convenience made it the first rink on my list to approach with our proposal.

START EARLY

Like months and months in advance. Sound too early? Then you've never dealt with a town hall. I talked to the officials at our town-run indoor rink (which operates 11 months out of the year.) In an area where hockey and figure skating are so popular, the idea of attracting kids to another form of skating was appealing to the rink manager and director. The folks at this rink knew me as a familiar figure from public sessions. Our initial conversations were very encouraging. I emphasized that we would have a coach (me) who was not only an active speedskater, but who would have gone through the ASU coaching certification program at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid by the time the program started.

Since the rink manager was encouraging I went ahead and wrote a three page proposal for a children's instructional program.

PUT IT IN WRITING

At this stage it is a tremendous help to talk on the phone with folks like Doc Savage, national novice coordinator, or Shirley Yates, national secretary. I also had frequent conversations with the folks who would later lead me through the coaching certification course, Leslie and Paul Bader.

In our proposal to the town rink, the curriculum or lesson plans actually occupied only about a third or so of the proposal. Much of the rest of the proposal was taken up with answering questions about things like equipment, safety and insurance or items like organization (who our club is and how it fits into the Association and ASU.) I wanted the folks at the rink to realize that we were for-real and we were organized and we meant business! In a town where any parent who just shows up every week can be a softball coach, I wanted the rink to know that we had done our homework.

BE PERSISTENT

From April through mid-summer, I checked in with the rink management about every couple of weeks to see where our proposal stood. Each conversation was generally encouraging but ultimately, non-committal. By mid-July the time was drawing near for my week-end in lake Placid for the Coaching Certification Seminar and I still had no firm commitment from the town that we'd be allowed to run this program. In fact, by now, the conversations had

become somewhat less encouraging. At this rink, hockey and figure skating charters operate around the public sessions and the result is 24 hour a day ice usage 7 days a week in peak winter months! When it came to actually fitting us into the schedule, the rink manager suddenly wasn't so sure.

DON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER

Be polite. Be diplomatic. Be tactful. But don't back down. At this point, on the advice of our club president, Curt Picard, I went up the ladder, around the rink officials and sent a letter to the town parks and recreation officials. In the letter I expressed puzzlement and discouragement that after such initial enthusiasm no commitment had been forthcoming. I also began making phone calls to these people and to officials serving on the town board. Not a one of these phone calls was returned. But a message was getting through, nonetheless. Although my threat was unspoken, it was nonetheless unmistakable. If not given what had been implicitly promised, I might show up at the next town board meeting and embarrass some of the recreation officials with some tough questions.

CO-OPERATION

Very quickly I got a phone call asking if I would come to a meeting at the rink. I was told, in no uncertain terms, that although the rink would go ahead with a version of our proposal, I should keep any problems I had with the rink confined to the rink officials and not turn them into "political footballs" up at town hall. I was happy to nod my assent. Now that both sides understood each other, we began to brainstorm about how to launch the program.

BRIGHT IDEAS

The rink manager's ideas about how to launch the program differed substantially from my own, but I must admit that we ended up adopting most of her ideas because they were better suited toward the launch of a program that was new and unfamiliar (at least to this local population).

The program would be a town sponsored program, much like the existing hockey and figure skating clinics. This had several benefits. First, it gave us a sort of seal of approval as an official offering through the town recreation department. Second, it meant that the town would assume financial responsibility. They would determine what to charge the kids and our club would incur no financial liability for ice-time or insurance.

This also meant that the process of handling publicity would be borne by the rink. And as a town-run program, the rink could place fliers in all of the area public schools. Between the fliers and posters, I estimate that between nine and twelve thousand school children were exposed to the announcement of our program. Some schools just made an announcement over a PA system. Some sent the fliers home with the kids and others just placed the poster in the School office and left it at that.

(Continued on page 10)



The youngest skaters were 5 years old and were not sure that the sport was going to be fun.

North American Short Track Championships

March 29-31, 1991
Franklin Park Ice Arena
Franklin Park, Illinois

* * *

... COMMENTS ...

by BOB VEHE

In a number of other places in this issue of THE RACING BLADE, there are comments about the success of the North American Short Track Championships at Franklin Park. I concur with all of the favorable comments. Accolades are due Meet Director Mike Garofola, ASAI President Ed Sadleir, and all the other people who helped so unselfishly. A particularly fine job was done by Announcer John McGill. He took the time to learn the pronunciations of the many French-Canadian names and other Canadian names that are not common in our country. Possibly I am more aware of names being pronounced correctly, since mine has been mangled—understandably so—most of my life.

My comments on the Nationals in Worcester mentioned that I wasn't thawed out from that meet when I started the three day siege at Franklin Park and my condition deteriorated to the point that I couldn't talk the last day. Subsequently, I found out that I had a lot of company on the sick list. I mention this since it may have had an effect on my irritation at a number of things that took place during the North American.

First of all was the flap over whose heat cards were to be used, who made the heats, were the results to be posted, was the Canadian computer and its software to be used, etc. I am not taking sides since I don't know the whole story on either side, but it is silly that any problems arose. Communication is the name of the game and, sadly, it seemed to be missing at all the required levels.

The second annoyance was related to the unfortunate fact that the short track championships have become tediously long. With the structure of the competition guaranteeing an agonizingly long day for all, the aggravation of having to watch as conference after conference took place between the on-ice officials deter-

(Continued on page 13)



Carl Kainu, Klass Hanje and Art Jennings of Canada.



This is some of the best food ever according to Sam Hicks and Jerry Search.



A surprise visit from the Bunny (LouLou Quinn)



The Franklin Park Ice Arena knows how to decorate!



Sarah Bont and her son came from Australia to compete.



This isn't a bomb shelter — though it may feel like one.



Ernie Kretschmann of Wisconsin, Al Workman of Canada, Greta Hall of Illinois, Judge Debbie of Canada, Joyce Leggatt of Canada, Jim Chapin of Missouri and Bill Cawthra of So. CA relax in the hospitality room.



Greta Hall presents the Master Women Medallion to Champion, Barbara Johnson, of Wisconsin.



Nikki Ziegelmeier accepts the Junior Girls Medallion from Greta Hall.



Mike Murray of New Brunswick, Canada, accepts the medallion for senior men.



Isabell Charest of Quebec, Canada, accepts the Senior Ladies award.



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... COMMENTS ...

(Continued from page 12)

mining answers to questions raised by the horde of coaches who seemed determined to prove that the officials were incompetent and the rules unexplainable made it even more fatiguing. As decisions were rendered, we were treated to the puerile actions of brow-slapping in disbelief, head rolling, arms raised and other immature exhibitions of lack of control or understanding. The judges were even treated to two hoydens who rushed over to dispute calls.

Think of the grief that the poor officials have to take from these yapping swarms of self-appointed experts. No wonder there is a shortage of people willing to take this mindless abuse.

Perhaps, we were just the innocent victims of problems unrelated to skating.



PETER J. MILLER

1910 - 1991

Peter J. Miller, legendary politician and legendary speedskating enthusiast, club manager, association president, promoter and coach of the 1940 and 1948 United States Olympic Speedskating Team, Died May 21, 1991, in Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

Mr. Miller served for 22 years in the Illinois General Assembly through, at times, considerable controversy. He was a Republican serving the Northwest side of Chicago and was able to successfully sponsor important legislation regardless of his position in a minority party. Mr. Miller had a reputation as a fighter for what he wanted.

His political career ended in 1972 when he surrendered his House seat to create a space for Henry Hyde, who was the Majority Leader of the Illinois House, but had been defeated in a primary election when his district was redrawn. Representative Henry Hyde has gone on to be the well-known Congressman from Illinois.

Pete Miller's vocation was politics, but the line between vocation and avocation could become blurred when it involved speedskating. His love for the sport started as a young man when speedskating was an extremely popular sport in the Chicago area. Speedskating drew massive media attention in the Chicago area and his association with the sport helped him in his political career, as his political career certainly assisted his activities in speedskating.

From the 30's to the 50's, politicians were active in speedskating. Some had their own clubs and busily tried to get the better skaters in their



1940 UNITED STATES OLYMPIC TEAM (Left to right) William (Pat) Hodous, past president of the Amateur Skating Union and Manager of the 1940 Olympic Team, Madeline (Maddy) Horn, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin*; Eddie Schroeder, Captain, Chicago, Illinois; Charles "Chuck" Leighton, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Robert (Bob) Heckenbach, Chicago, Illinois; Albert (Al) Kucera, Chicago, Illinois; Delbert (Del) Lamb, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Leo Freisinger, Chicago, Illinois; George Shimek, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Coach Peter J. Miller, Chicago, Illinois; Not shown: George Wallace, San Francisco. *Not a team member

clubs. Pete centered his activities with the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) in Chicago which was created and headed by the very influential Bishop Bernard J. Sheil. Pete headed up the speedskating program for the CYO and made it into a powerhouse club. The super clubs in Chicago, at the time, were the Northwest Skating Club, the CYO and, later, the Peirce Club.

The CYO garnered publicity year-round due to its closeness to the political power-base and its effective promotion of sports for the youth of Chicago. Speedskating, cycling and boxing were a few of its massive promotions. Pete Miller was in the thick of all this work.

Since all the skating from the 30's to the 50's was on outdoor ice, a little political push assured that the parks and playgrounds would make extra efforts to have ice - and the best ice - for clubs and certainly the CYO Club.

Pete Miller was always at the center of the authority, whether as President of the Illinois Association, or whatever and wherever the authority was. His activities were not without controversy, but such a situation was endemic when one is a "mover and shaker." He created enemies and he created lots of friends. He was a popular vote-getter in politics and was a popular leader in speedskating.

If you want Information on advertising including rates, preparation, billing, closing dates, etc.

Contact: ROY HELMINSKI at 2504 Seventeenth Street Wyandotte, Michigan 48192 (313) 284-1124

RACING BLADE

To submit article, photographs, letters to the editor, closing dates, etc.

Suggest ideas for future issues.

Contact: BOB VEHE at 404 Hilusi Avenue Mt. Prospect, Illinois 60056 (708) 253-4191



United States International Speedskating Association NEWS



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT USISA

By Sean Callahan Public Relations Director

U. S. INTERNATIONAL SPEEDSKATING ASSOCIATION

1991 - 92 SCHEDULE

XVI WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES Albertville, France — February 8-23, 1992

WOMEN (Long Track)

Sunday, Feb. 9... 3000 meters Monday, Feb. 10... 500 meters Wednesday, Feb. 12... 1500 meters Friday, Feb. 14... 1000 meters Monday, Feb. 17... 5000 meters

WOMEN (Short Track)

Tuesday, Feb. 18... Heats Thursday, Feb. 20... 500 meters Saturday, Feb. 22... 3000 relay

MEN (Long Track)

Thursday, Feb. 13... 5000 meters Saturday, Feb. 15... 500 meters Sunday, Feb. 16... 1500 meters Tuesday, Feb. 18... 1000 meters Thursday, Feb. 20... 10000 meters

MEN (Short Track)

Tuesday, Feb. 18... Heats Thursday, Feb. 20... 5000 Relay Saturday, Feb. 22... 1000 meters

WORLD CUP (Long Track) (Tentative)

— LADIES —

Nov. 23-24... (East) Berlin, Germany (500, 1500, 1000, 3000) Nov. 30 - Dec. 1... Warschau, Poland (500, 1500, 1000, 3000) Dec. 7-8... Albertville, France (500, 1500, 1000, 3000) Feb. 1 - Mar. 1... Inzell, Germany (FINAL) (500, 1000, 1500, 3000, 5000)

— MEN —

Nov. 23-24... (West) Berlin, Germany (500, 1500, 500, 1000, 5000) Nov. 30 - Dec. 1... Heerenveen, Netherlands (500, 1500, 500, 1000, 5000) Jan. 11-12... Davos, Switzerland (500, 1500, 500, 1000, 5000) Mar. 7-8... Savallen, Norway (500, 1000, 500, 1000) Mar. 14-15... St. Foy, Canada (1500, 5000)

Mar. 28-29... Butte, Montana, U.S.A. (FINAL) (500, 1000, 5000, 500, 1500, 10000)

Number of distances without the final:

Table with 2 columns: LADIES and MEN, listing distances and counts.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Jan. 31 - Feb. 2... World Junior Championships for Ladies and Men - Warsaw, Poland Mar. 7 - 8... World Championship for Ladies Heerenveen, The Netherlands Mar. 14 - 15... World Sprint Championships for Ladies and Men - Oslo, Norway Mar. 21 - 22... World Championships for Men Calgary, Canada Apr. 3 - 5... World Short Track Championships for Ladies and Men - Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.



United States International Speedskating Association NEWS

U. S. OLYMPIC TIME TRIALS

- Dec. 13-15 and U. S. Olympic Long Track Trials Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- Dec. 20-22 U. S. Short Track Trials Lake Placid, New York

1992 UNITED STATES OLYMPIC (Long Track) SPEEDSKATING TIME TRIALS

Wisconsin Olympic Ice Rink, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
December 13-14-15 and 20-21-22, 1991

Schedule of Events

	WOMEN	MEN
Fri., Dec. 13	500m/1500m	500m/1500m
Sat., Dec. 14	500m/1000m	500m/1000m
Sun., Dec. 15	1000m/3000m	1000m/5000m
Fri., Dec. 20	500m/1500m	500m/1500m
Sat., Dec. 21	500m/3000m	500m/5000m
Sun., Dec. 22	1000m/5000m	1000m/10,000m

U. S. allowed to fill the maximum quota for the Olympic Speedskating Team of 12 men and eight women.

MUELLER, KLOTKOWSKI

NAMED NATIONAL OLYMPIC COACHES

Olympic gold medalist Peter Mueller of Mequon, Wisconsin and Stanislaw Klotkowski of Zakopana, Poland, have been named U. S. Speedskating National Team Long Track coaches. The two will also be the Olympic coaches for the American team competing at the 1992 Winter Games in Albertville, France.

The change in the coaching ranks was by mutual consent between the skaters, the coaches and representatives of the U. S. International Speedskating Association. The three parties met in Milwaukee during a USISA Board of Directors meeting April 13-14.

Mueller, who for the past three seasons has been the national team coach of the German Speedskating Team, will be responsible primarily for working with the top sprinters on the U. S. team. A gold medalist in the 1000 meters at the 1976 Olympics, Mueller has served as a coach for the U. S. in the past. He is married to three-time Olympic silver medalist Leah Poulos.

"Pete's very familiar with our program and the skaters," said USISA President Bill Cushman of New Brighton, Minnesota. "We feel Pete's the guy who can help our skaters win medals at the Olympics."

Klotkowski, a former national speedskating champion and national speedskating team coach for Poland, will concentrate on the U. S. all-around (distance) skaters. Last season Klotkowski was a U. S. Junior Team coach.

"The skaters really like Stan and we think he can really help," said Cushman. "He worked well with the younger skaters this past season and he had lots to offer some of our older skaters."

The coaching rotation moves last season's coaching coordinator and 1988 U. S. Olympic coach Mike Crowe of Butte, Montana, into the role of coordinator for the U. S. Junior program.

"Mike's always been interested in the development of young skaters," said Cushman. "Plus, Mike indicated that with a wife and two young children he needed to stay closer to home."

The new set-up will allow Crowe to spend more time at the High Altitude Training Center in Butte. Susan Sandvig of Minneapolis, Minnesota, will resume her duties as a U. S. Junior Team coach.

SHORT TRACK REPORT

April 10, 1991

by **PAUL MUELLER**
V.P. Short Track

The 1990-1991 Season was a pivotal one to our program and also to the very future of Short Track Speedskating in the U.S.A. We had many positive things happen this season, mixed in with a few disappointments.

On the positive side, we now have a home for the National Short Track and Elite Teams where they can not only train, but also get the education the young skaters so badly need. We also have the National Short Track Coach, Mr. Gregg Planert, who resides at N.M.U. at Marquette, Michigan, where he not only oversees, but administers the programs needed.

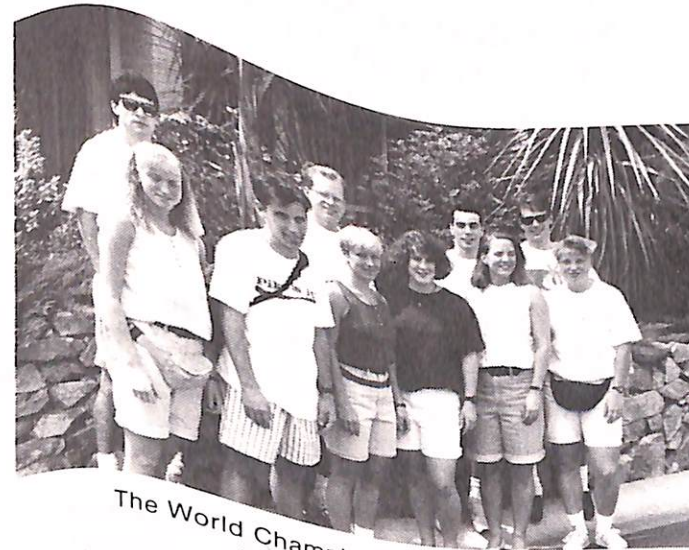
We will again be sending a young team to the Olympic Festival (19 years and under). Experience has shown us that the Junior skaters benefit the most from the Olympic Festival. They need to be exposed to important national events organized by the United States Olympic Committee. This year the Olympic Festival will be held in Los Angeles. The skaters will be traveling to the Festival on the 16th of July, they will practice on the 17th, 18th and 19th and compete on the 20th and 21st. This year will be the first time that our delegation will miss the Opening Ceremonies.

March 1st was my deadline for reporting the Olympic Festival support Team to the United States Olympic Committee. The following personnel will be serving on this team:

(Continued on following page)



United States International Speedskating Association NEWS



The World Championship Team in Australia prior to the competition
Front row: Carrie Johnson, Charles King, Cathy Turner, Darcie Dohnal, Tricia Stennes and Amy Peterson.
Back row: Andy Gabel, Brian Arseneau, John Singer and Randy Bartz.

- Coaches: Gregg Planert, Katie Class, Dennis Marquard, Lynn Peterson
- Managers: Don Anderson, Robert Stennes, Ted Gulczynski, Joan Peterson
- Referee: Jim Chapin
- Starter: Tony Arena
- Judge/Timer: Robert Lunda
- Commissioner: Paul Mueller



Men's Short Track Relay Team Silver Medalists at World University Games at Sapporo, Japan. Andy Gabel, John Singer, Randy Bartz, Charles King.

On March 8, 9 and 10 our U.S.A. University Short Track Team competed in Sapporo at the World Winter University Games with very good results:

- Andy Gabel Silver Medal, 1500m
- Amy Peterson Silver Medal, 500m
- Men's Relay Team Silver Medal, 5000m

On March 22, 23 and 24 at the World Championships in Sydney, Australia, two of our girls qualified for the individual events in the Olympics. The girls also qualified for the Relay Event at the Olympics. Our Girls Olympic Team will have the maximum six members competing at Albertsville, France. Surprisingly only one male skater qualified for the Olympic Team; but we will also be able to take one alternate to Albertsville.

Because Short Track Speedskating will be a new medal event at the Olympics, this will bring new challenges to the 1991-1992 season. We hope to work hard to show the speedskating world that we will be a power to be reckoned with in the future.

Again this season the Short Track Program stayed within the budget allotted by USISA.

Gregg Planert will be briefing you on the skaters performances and other items of importance.

I would like to thank the members of the Short Track Committee for their participation and cooperation throughout the skating season and I thank you for this opportunity to serve.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

**USISA
NATIONAL
OFFICE
NEWS**

by **KATIE CLASS**



Why would I leave Park City in May to travel to Detroit? Park City offered nice weather (a little snow!) and time to enjoy the area and relax after the hectic winter. Detroit offered the ASU Convention. I headed for Detroit.

It was the right decision! I enjoyed the weekend and came away with a feeling that the time was well spent. It was my first ASU Convention. I knew what the ASU was all about although I had not seen the inner workings of it at a convention.

I soon discovered that their committee meetings are made up of everyone attending the convention. Everyone is able to show their position on a matter so when the actual voting takes place the next day the consensus is known. Your vote is noticed, take it from my experience there. On one matter, I left my hand up too long and was counted as a "No." The rest of the weekend people asked me why I voted on the matter that way. Really, I did vote "yes" for the marathon, I think it's a great idea!

(Continued on following page)



United States International Speedskating Association NEWS

The banquet on Saturday night was highlighted by the induction of some special members into the Hall of Fame. I was glad to be a part of the evening when Sheila Young, a longtime friend of the family, and Dick Somalski, someone who I have gotten to know in working with him and his wife over the last year, accepted their awards.

The feeling between the ASU and USISA is definitely moving in the right direction. I was happy to attend the convention and I believe the people from the ASU thought it was important that I was there. I even ended up on an ASU committee! I left Detroit with programs to plan between the ASU and USISA and the thought that the ASU and USISA are really not that far apart.

Other news: My summer (the "off-season"), is full of trips. I will be out of the office from July 6-14. During this time I will be in Marquette, Michigan for a training camp. I can be reached through Gregg Planert's office at (906) 227-2817. From July 16-22 I will be attending the Olympic Festival in Los Angeles. I return for a few days and then I am off again on July 26 - August 5, for a vacation in Minnesota. I can be reached at (612) 698-3162 during this time. I hope you all have a good summer!

OLYMPIC SPEEDSKATING SHORT TRACK TRIALS

December 20-21-22, 1991
Lake Placid, NY

Major Official Assignments:

- Chief Referee..... Greta Hall
- Referee..... James Chapin
- Referee..... Duane Riley
- Chief Starter..... Sanders Hicks
- Starter..... Jeff Fitzrandolph
- Competitor Steward..... Don Anderson
- Steward..... Mike Garofoloa
- Chief Judge..... Robert Stennes
- National Short Track Coach..... Gregg Planert
- Trials Coordinator..... Paul Mueller
- Ice Steward..... Jim Marquard

The fall meeting of USISA will be September 14-15, 1991, in the Twin Cities. For more information call Sean Callahan at (414) 475-7465 or Katie Class at (801) 649-0903.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE U.S. NATIONAL LONG TRACK TEAM AND INTERESTED PARTIES

by MARK GREENWALD
USISA Skater Representative

On Thursday, April 11th, a meeting was held for Long Track National Team members. For those of you who made it, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking part. For those of you who could not attend, I would like to inform you of some of the happenings.

The U.S. National Team members met with USISA president, Bill Cushman, and program director, Katie Class. The topics of discussion ranged from sponsorship concerns to drug testing and ended with a discussion about improving our coaching situation. Here is a brief overview:

1. MIZUNO Sponsorship: We discussed the MIZUNO products and the team expectations of them. We also came up with some concerns of the team and of USISA in order to fulfill our contract with MIZUNO. The USISA Uniform Committee will be making new distribution plans, so I hope everyone has turned in their sizing forms. Otherwise, Katie Class gets to decide what size you are! In addition, the Uniform Committee will be making some rules to encourage the use of MIZUNO products by the National Team. More to come, this fall.

2. Doping: The skaters have expressed concern that the drug testing at all levels is inconsistent in procedures as well as penalties. The USISA promised to look into this at the international as well as the national level. Some stiffer rules in regard to a positive test result have been accepted by the USISA Board with the endorsement of the skater representatives. I encourage all skaters to be FULLY aware of these rules and be conscious of the penalties. A written description of the rules and penalties will shortly be made available to all skaters. Be aware! Be careful! Make sure you know the consequences before you take ANYTHING.



Nick Thometz, Mark Greenwald and Bonnie Blair listen attentively.



United States International Speedskating Association NEWS

3. Coaching: We took the time this season to take a critical look at ourselves as skaters, as well as our program and coaches, the coaching staff. The discussion was very positive, and was not a bashing session, but instead, a chance to take a look at the needs of the team going into the 1992 Olympic year. The USISA officials, Bill and Katie, then followed up by creating a rotation in the coaching staff, with the addition of one new coach. I believe the changes will be explained in Ice Chips, or in the USISA news section of the Racing Blade, or Speedskating Times. Also, John Teaford has chosen not to return to the staff. John was active in bringing in a number of suppliers to the team, and he put a lot of time into his involvement with the team. Best wishes, John!

For future references: I would like to state that when people have the confidence to speak as openly as they did in this group meeting, then the contents of the discussion need to remain confidential. It is my understanding that one or more of the participants took what was discussed out of the room. I would ask that, in the future, the aforementioned individual or individuals show more respect for their teammates.

Again, I would like to thank the team members who attended for their time and dedication. Thanks also to USISA for taking the time to listen. Many of our pro-

blems have been addressed and we have a good, positive situation going into the 1992 season. We have solved some problems off the ice, now let's get down to it and do the job on the ice!

U. S. OLYMPIC HALL OF FAME

Thirty-four gold medalists were nominated recently for the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame will induct two members from track and field or aquatic events, who have competed since 1948 and two from all other summer sports and one from the Winter Olympics. The winter sports nominees are speedskaters Terry McDermott, Sheila Young Ochowicz, Jach Shea, Dianne Holum, Anne Henning and Irving Jaffee; figure skaters Carol Heiss Jenkins, David Jenkins and Hayes Alan Jenkins; bobsledder William Fiske, and skiers Gretchen Fraser and Andrea Mead Lawrence.

Former speedskater, Connie Carpenter-Phinney, has been nominated from the summer games as a cyclist.

Editor's Note: Following are the official summaries of the various I.S.U. Championships as published in I.S.U. Communication No. 760.

A. Speed Skating

World Speed Skating Championship for Men, Heerenveen, Netherlands				February 9th-10th	
	500 m	5000 m	1500 m	10 000 m	points
Koninklijke Nederlandsche Schaatsenrijders Bond					
1. Johann Olav Koss, Norway	38,46	6.41,73	1.52,76	13.43,54	157.396
World Speed Skating Champion 1991					
2. Roberto Sighel, Italy	38,27	6.49,04	1.55,11	14.11,63	160.125
3. Bart Veldkamp, Netherlands	39,38	6.46,46	1.56,08	13.53,45	160.391
Winners of the races:					
Peter Adeberg, F.R.G.	37,52				
Johann Olav Koss, Norway		6.41,73	1.52,76	13.43,54	
World Speed Skating Championship for Ladies, Hamar, Norway				February 2nd-3rd	
	500 m	3000 m	1500 m	5 000 m	points
Norges Skøyteforbund					
1. Gunda Kleemann, F.R.G.	42,47	4.32,00	2.09,45	7.43,10	177.263
Lady World Speed Skating Champion 1991					
2. Heike Warnicke, F.R.G.	44,37	4.38,70	2.12,42	7.53,64	182.324
3. Lia van Schie, Netherlands	44,27	4.40,62	2.13,01	7.59,02	183.278
Winners of the races:					
Qiaobo Ye, China	41,85				
Gunda Kleemann, F.R.G.		4.32,00	2.09,45	7.43,10	



United States International Speedskating Association NEWS

World Sprint Speed Skating Championships for Ladies and Men, Inzell, F.R.G.

February 23th-24th

	500 m	1000 m	500 m	1000 m	points
Deutscher Eissport-Verband e.V.					
1. Igor Zhelezovski, U.S.S.R. World Sprint Champion 1991	37,11	1.13,85	36,92	1.13,90	147.905
2. Uwe-Jens Mey, F.R.G.	36,96	1.14,70	36,64	1.14,37	148.135
3. Toshiyuki Kuroiwa, Japan	37,31	1.14,42	37,22	1.14,75	149.115
Winners of the races:					
Uwe-Jens Mey, F.R.G.	36,96		36,64		
Igor Zhelezovski, U.S.S.R.		1.13,85		1.13,90	
1. Monique Garbrecht, F.R.G. Lady World Sprint Champion 1991	40,88	1.22,28	40,01	1.21,26	162.660
2. Qiaobo Ye, China	40,80	1.22,21	40,34	1.21,88	163.185
3. Christine Aaftink, Netherlands	40,70	1.22,26	40,65	1.22,62	163.790
Winners of the races:					
Christine Aaftink, Netherlands	40,70				
Angela Hauck, F.R.G.		1.22,17			
Monique Garbrecht, F.R.G.			40,01	1.21,26	

World Junior Speed Skating Championships for Ladies and Men, Calgary, Canada

March 1st-3rd

	500 m	3000 m	1500 m	5000 m	points
Canadian Amateur Speed Skating Association					
1. Falko Zandstra, Netherlands World Junior Speed Skating Champion 1991	37,99	3.57,64	1.53,26	6.47,10	156.059
2. Sergej Baryshev, U.S.S.R.	38,27	4.00,57	1.54,99	6.53,95	158.090
3. Keiji Shirahata, Japan	38,68	4.04,60	1.54,97	6.55,12	159.281
Winner of the races:					
Falko Zandstra, Netherlands	37,99	3.57,64	1.53,26	6.47,10	
	500 m	1500 m	1000 m	3000 m	points
1. Anke Baier, F.R.G. Lady World Junior Speed Skating Champion 1991	41,23	2.06,20	1.22,23	4.28,28	169.124
2. Svetlana Bazhanova, U.S.S.R.	42,58	2.05,14	1.23,22	4.21,59	169.501
3. Sabine Volker, F.R.G.	41,80	2.07,31	1.22,78	4.26,29	170.007
Winners of the races:					
Anke Baier, F.R.G.	41,23		1.22,23		
Svetlana Bazhanova, U.S.S.R.		2.05,14		4.21,59	

World Short Track Speed Skating Championships for Ladies and Men, Sydney, Australia

March 22nd-24th

	1500 m	500 m	1000 m	3000 m	points
Australian Amateur Ice Racing Council					
1. Wilf O'Reilly, Great Britain World Short Track Speed Skating Champion 1991		45,66	1.38,67	5.21,98	11.0
2. Ki Hoon Kim, Republic of Korea		45,66		5.21,28	9.0
3. Joonho Lee, Republic of Korea	2.26,02				5.0
3. Geert Blanchart, Belgium			1.38,92	5.21,60	5.0



United States International Speedskating Association NEWS

Winners of the races:

Joonho Lee, Republic of Korea	2.26,02			
Ki Hoon Kim, Republic of Korea	45,66		5.21,28	
Wilf O'Reilly, Great Britain	45,66	1.38,67		

1. Nathalie Lambert, Canada

Lady World Short Track Speed Skating Champion 1991	2.48,58	1.51,05	6.24,66	13.0
2. Sylvie Daigle, Canada	2.48,83	1.50,59	6.24,85	11.0
3. Yamei Zhang, China	47,08		6.40,52	5.0

Winners of the races:

Nathalie Lambert, Canada	2.48,58		6.24,66	
Yamei Zhang, China	47,08			
Sylvie Daigle, Canada		1.50,59		

1. Australia

	5000 m
World Relay Champion 1991	7.38,41
2. New Zealand	7.39,16
3. Great Britain	7.49,14

1. Canada

	3000 m
Ladies World Relay Champion 1991	4.44,59
2. U.S.S.R.	4.44,84
3. Italy	4.46,33

World Short Track Speed Skating Team Championships, Seoul, Korea

March 30th-31st

Korean Skating Union

	500 m	1000 m	1500 m	3000 m	Relay	Total
Men						
1. Japan World Short Track Speed Skating Team Champion 1991	16	11	7	16	14	64
2. Republic of Korea	12	16	10	15	10	63
3. Canada	12	9	18	10	8	57
4. Italy	12	14	9	9	12	56
5. Australia	14	5	10	6	6	41
6. Netherlands	8	8	13	3	8	40
7. U.S.S.R.	11	12	8	2	4	37
8. New Zealand	8	12	13	4		37
9. Belgium	6	8	8	9		31

Ladies

	500 m	1000 m	1500 m	3000 m	Relay	Total
1. Canada Lady World Short Track Speed Skating Team Champion 1991	18	14	15	18	14	79
2. China	14	14	16	9	12	65
3. Netherlands	11	13	10	13	10	57
4. U.S.S.R.	13	13	12	6	8	52
5. Republic of Korea	10	9	11	10	6	46
6. Japan	8	12	13	3	8	44
7. Italy	11	6	8	8	4	37
8. Australia	6	9	7	4	2	28
9. Belgium	8	9	6	2		25

United States International Speedskating Association

Statement of Income and Expenses

September 1, 1990 — March 31, 1991

INCOME	
USOC Grant Contribution.....	\$384,585.00
13 - LAOOC.....	57,894.74
16 - Level I & II Athlete's Grants.....	76,500.00
USOC Olympic Broadcast Properties.....	25,000.00
Olympic Regional Development Authority - TV.....	12,000.00
Contribution.....	6,215.00
Athletes Training Fund.....	20,419.24
Interest.....	2,795.47
Loans.....	<u>151,000.00</u>
EXPENSES	
International Competitions.....	\$137,215.31
Coaching Salary.....	56,090.00
Coaches Expense.....	15,262.64
Training, Summer/Fall.....	54,194.49
World Team.....	36,994.
Junior Team.....	686.00
Short Track.....	7,972.71
Ice Passes, Butte.....	7,600.00
Operation Medals, USOC Level I & II Grants.....	79,500.00
Novice Development, Racing Blade.....	7,600.00
Beginners.....	1,400.00
Bounty.....	6,000.00
Pioneer.....	4,000.00
Other.....	1,000.00
Coaches Clinic.....	5,058.43
Rink Expenses.....	30,000.00
Sports Medicine.....	23,252.09
Training Aids.....	5,444.39
Athletes Training Fund Reimbursed.....	25,147.21
Insurance.....	2,922.00
Banquets, Awards, Plaques.....	3,514.16
Administrative Fees.....	12,490.00
Board Meetings:	
USOC Meetings.....	2,121.50
USISA Board Meetings:	
Board Members.....	2,351.82
Skaters.....	1,289.81
Others—	
USISA/ASU.....	825.00
Travel other than Board Meetings.....	2,920.52
Office Expense:	
Telephone and Fax.....	11,211.16
Postage.....	1,322.93
Legal and Accounting.....	4,861.75
Office Supplies.....	6,849.63
Other (Office moving expense).....	1,614.23
Dues.....	260.00
Contingency - Interview Expense.....	2,174.30
USISA Charitable Fund.....	94,894.74
Miscellaneous, 1992 Olympic Tickets.....	5,280.00
Petty Cash, Katie Class.....	<u>500.00</u>
Increase in Fund Balance.....	<u>\$ 74,588.33</u>
TRANSFERS Petty Cash.....(\$ 900.00)	
Increase in Fund Balance.....	74,588.33
Fund Balance, Beginning.....	<u>43,324.00</u>
	\$117,012.33
ASSETS Cash, Checking.....	\$ 36,121.76
Money Market Account.....	117,012.33
LIABILITY Loan Due to USISA Charitable Fund.....	\$151,000.00

ASU HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Sheila Young Ochowicz

With her innate talents, Sheila Young was fortunate to be a part of a family steeped in sports of all kinds. Her father, Clair, and mother, Georgia, were top-flight cyclists and were active in all other kinds of sports. Along with her two brothers and sister, speedskating was something to do in the winter on naturally frozen ice around Detroit when cycling wasn't possible.

With her father as coach, Sheila, by the time she was ten, was competing regularly at indoor and outdoor meets in the Middle West. Her success came rather quickly when she won the Michigan Midget Championship at age 11 and at 15, she won the award as Michigan's top skater.

Sheila's goal, as a young teenager, was to make the Olympic Speedskating Team, but her first attempt wasn't successful. This didn't deter her competitive spirit and her immediate goal went to pack style skating where she won the National Long Track Championship at St. Paul and the North American at Nineveh, New York in 1970. She repeated the National Championship on Lake Como in St. Paul in 1971. With these pack style championships under her belt, she seriously directed her efforts toward Olympic speedskating.

Her efforts were successful when she made the 1972 Olympic Team and competed at Sapporo, Japan, just missing a bronze medal. Her initial performance marked her as a future champion, which she confirmed by winning the gold medal at 500 meters in the World Championship in 1973 at Stromsund, Norway. The same year, she eliminated any doubts about her championship talents by winning both 500 meter gold medals and a gold and silver medal at 1000 meters at the World Sprint Championship in Oslo, Norway. Her overall points of 177.515 gave her the first of her World Sprint Championships.

In 1974 at the World Sprint Championships at Innsbruck, Austria, Sheila won gold medals at 500 and 1000 meters and a silver at 1000 meters, but was edged by teammate, Leah Poulos, for the championship. The next year at Goteborg, Sweden, she won her second World Sprint Championship by gaining golds in both 500 meter races and a gold in one 1000 meter event for a 178.045 point total. In 1976, Sheila won both 500 meters and both 1000 meters to win her third World

Sprint Championship with 173.950 points. There was no question as to her domination of the sprinters.

Sheila's winning ways carried on to World All-Around Championships as well. As mentioned previously, her first world medal was in 1973 followed in 1974 by placing third overall at Heerenveen, Holland, by winning a 500 meter race and placing third at 1500 meters. In 1975 at Assen, Holland, she had golds at 500 and 1000 meters. A third place overall in 1976 at Gjovik, Norway, was earned with golds at 1000 and 500 meters.

Sheila's major national recognition was attained by her outstanding performance at the 1976 Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria, where she won a gold medal at 500 meters, a silver medal at 1500 meters and a bronze medal at 1000 meters.

While the skating community thinks of Sheila as an outstanding skater, the Cycling community knows of Sheila as a World Champion Match Sprint Cyclist.

Sheila started cycling seriously in 1968 as a means to keep in shape for skating. Her first international success was in Marseille, France, in 1972, when she placed third in the World Sprint Championship. Sheila followed this with the first of her championships by winning at San Sebastian, Spain in 1973. In 1975 in Liege, Belgium, she placed third, but came back in 1976 to win the World Sprint Cycling Championship at Mendrisio, Italy.

Sheila married fellow cyclist, Jim Ochowicz, in 1976 and semi-retired from the sports world for a period. The year 1981 saw her regaining the World Sprint Cycling Championship in Brno, Czechoslovakia. In 1982, she placed second to teammate Connie Paraskevin, at Leicester, England. Connie later was to marry Sheila's brother, Roger, who also was a world class cyclist, national champion, Olympian and Pan American medalist.

Sheila has gained world-wide recognition because of her outstanding and championship performances in two international sports. Her efforts have earned her many awards and privileges and deservedly so.

The Amateur Skating Union of the United States is certainly proud to induct Sheila Young Ochowicz into its most select group of outstanding speedskaters, the ASU HALL OF FAME. Congratulations Sheila!

THAT'S NOT MY JOB

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it. But Nobody realized that Everybody would not do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.

1991 ASU CONVENTION ~ SOUTHGATE, MICHIGAN



Lisa Sundstrom and Kay Klaiber of Illinois, Lorraine Garbe of Wisconsin and Mary Smith and Pat Peaslee of NNY smile for the camera. Photo by Shirley Yates



Lorraine Garbe, Ted Gulczynski and Tony Arena of Wisconsin with Susi and Tom Jarrett of Missouri. Photo by Shirley Yates



VP Pam Garofola of Illinois, Doc Savage and Al Jakubowski of Wisconsin and USISA Program Director, Katie Class. Photo by Shirley Yates



A boat house on the Detroit River, managed by Roy Helminski, was the site of a pre-convention get-together. Don Kangas, Tony Arena and Ken Altuchoff appear relaxed. Photo by Shirley Yates



Here he is - The One and Only - the best fish fryer in the ASU, Roy Helminski. He learned the trade while waiting for fires as a Wyandotte fireman. Pre-eminent convention producer. Photo by Shirley Yates



Ed Sadleir, ASAI President, Roy Helminski, promoting his granddaughter's college, Rita Crowe and President Bill Weaver of the Michigan Association. Photo by Shirley Yates



Greta Hall chats with Olympic gold medalist and ASU Hall of Fame member, Terry McDermott. Photo by Bill Houghton



Paul Marchese of NNY and Skater's Rep., Bob Finkel, of Middle Atlantic, watch a video. Photo by Bill Houghton



Former editor of THE RACING BLADE, John Drenckpohl, and Don Kangas in a serious discussion. Photo by Bill Houghton



Master of Ceremonies Bill Ames makes an announcement while VP Jim Chapin, President Jim Marquard and Bob Vehe listen. Photo by Bill Houghton



Former USISA President, Jack Byrne, John McGill of Illinois and Greta Hall ponder a point. Photo by Bill Houghton



Newly inducted Hall of Fame member, Sheila Young Ochowicz. Photo by Bill Houghton



Newly inducted Hall of Fame member, Dick Somalski shares the dais with his wife, Margaret, with President Jim Marquard enjoying the moment. Photo by Bill Houghton



The Board of Control at work!



Photos by Bill Houghton



Rita Crowe of Missouri shares a table with the famous Michigan Hall of Fame member, Ben Bagdade. Photo by Bill Houghton



Don Anderson of Eastern Minnesota, Greg Oly of Minnesota and Short Track Coach, Gregg Planert wait their turn at the buffet table. Photo by Bill Houghton

ASU HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES



Richard Somalski

After almost 50 years in the sport, first as a competitor and then as a coach, official, promoter and worker on a local, national and international level, Dick Somalski's interest has not lessened. He first became involved in speedskating at a local level in Bay County, Michigan, in 1942, as an Intermediate boy skater. His skating activity was interrupted by World War II and his service in the U.S. Navy from 1944-1946. After the war, he competed until 1951 when marriage and his fledgling business necessarily took priority.

Dick's interest in speedskating led him to work with the Bay County Parks and Recreation Director, Elson Hood, and in 1946 they organized the Bay County Speedskating Club with Dick as the first coach.

One Sunday afternoon Dick saw a young man skating at the rink and noticed that he was the only one with speedskates. He talked to the skater and got him to join the club. That skater was Jim Chapin Sr. Coach Somalski remembers putting McDermott's first pair of skates on when Terry was only seven years old. Dick coached Terry until he made his first Olympic Team in 1960.

Dick carted kids all over the state during the skating season because most parents didn't or couldn't afford to travel. To keep abreast of what was going on, Dick became active on a national level. He served on the Legislative and other committees in addition to his work as a national timer and judge for many years. In the years prior to the creation of USISA, the Olympic competitors were picked by the ASU Olympic Committee. This committee organized the meets and picked the skaters, but the local associations had to come up with most of the money to pay for a skater from their organization to attend a World or Olympic event. Dick got involved in this work and was Chairman of the Michigan Olympic Committee in 1964 that helped raise funds to send Terry McDermott and others to the Olympics. He, of course, remained active on the state and local level and was President of the Michigan Association in 1967.

With his interest in international competition, it was natural for Dick to join USISA to work with them since these were the same people who made up the old



Richard Wurster

Rich Wurster's interest in speedskating started at age 12 when his father took him and his two brothers, John and Dave, to the Eastern States competition at Saratoga Springs, New York - a 15 minute drive from their home in Ballston Spa, NY. Competing on hockey skates, he did his best to keep up with his brothers who were better skaters. This first competition was in a sanctioned meet, but he wasn't discouraged. By the end of the first year, he had earned a pair of speedskates for his determination. Rich competed for the next five years without much success, but he was building a basis for the success that was to come.

He won his first major meet as an Intermediate in Lake Placid. As a Senior skater, Rich developed to his full potential. Numerous records were set and re-set in distances 880 yards and longer. In 1967, he set a record of 1:13.9 in the 880 yard event and a 2 mile

(Continued on page 29)

ASU Olympic Committee. Dick has been a board member of USISA since 1968 and since 1984 he has been the USISA Treasurer.

Dick graduated from Bay City Central High School in 1944 and after the war attended Michigan State University in 1946. His major was to be forestry which led him into landscaping. He is a registered landscape architect. He opened his own landscaping business, Bay Landscaping, in 1948, and continues to run it with the help of his two sons.

That Dick is a worker can be seen by his civic duties in his hometown. Dick is a member of the Elks and a charter member and past president of the Lions Club. He is a former director of the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce and a former member and treasurer of the Essexville-Hampton Board of Education.

In 1986, the Bay County Speedskating Club purchased the Junior Boys National Long Track Speedskating Medals in Richard J. Somalski's name in appreciation for all he has done for their organization.

Dick has worked hard to improve the sport of speedskating at all levels and certainly is a most qualified member to be a part of the ASU Hall of Fame as a promoter of the sport.

Note:

These are the meet schedules for the next two seasons as determined at the 1991 ASU Convention. If changes occur, notices will be put in THE RACING BLADE and sent to Association Secretaries when possible. Please keep me posted and up-to-date.

LISA SUNDSTROM, Meet Scheduling Chairman
721 Duane, Street, Glen Elly, Illinois 60137
(708) 858-4358

MEET SCHEDULE 1991-1992

1991

Oct 26-27	Chicago Silver Skates	A&B	Short	Glen Ellyn, IL
Nov 2-4	Badger International	A&B	Short	Madison, WI
Nov 9	Saratoga Short Track	A&B	Short	Colonie, NY
Nov 09-10	Great Lakes Short Track	A&B	Short	Milwaukee, WI
Nov 17	Green Mountain Short Track	A&B	Short	Burlington, VT
Nov 16-17	Park Ridge Open	A&B	Short	Park Ridge, IL
Nov 28	THANKSGIVING DAY			
Nov 28	10 Mile Turkey Trot		Short	Brooklyn, NY
Nov 28	Thanksgiving Day Championships	A&B	Short	Paramount, CA
Nov 30	Free State Meet	1 Class	Short	Baltimore, MD
Nov 30	Wisconsin Gold Cup	A&B	Short	Milwaukee, WI
Dec 1	EMSA OPEN	A&B	Short	St. Paul, MN
Dec 1	Thanksgiving Classic	A&B	Short	Muskegon, MI
Dec 2	H A N N U K A H			
Dec 7	Northeastern Association	A&B	Short	Holy Cross, MA
Dec 7	Illinois - Wisconsin Open	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Dec 7-8	USOEC Open	A	Short	Marquette, MI
Dec 8	Seaway	A&B	Short	Cleveland, OH
Dec 13-15	Olympic Long Track Trials			Milwaukee, WE
Dec 14	Santa Claus Open	A&B	Short	Paramount, CA
Dec 20-22	Olympic Long Track Trials			Milwaukee, WI
Dec 20-22	Olympic Short Track Trials			Lake Placid, NY
Dec 25	CHRISTMAS DAY			
Dec 28	Christmas Classic	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Dec 29	Powderhorn Open - Lake Ice	A&B	Long	Minneapolis, MN

1992

Jan 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY			
Jan 3-4	USISA Jr. World Trials			Milwaukee, WI
Jan 4	Gene Sandvig Skoyteloppet	A&B	Long	Plymouth, MN
Jan 4-5	Hawkeye Open - Lake Ice	A&B	Long	Cedar Rapids, IA
Jan 5	Silverskates	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Jan 5	City of Lake	A&B	Long	Minneapolis, MN
Jan 11	Gohl Memorial - Lake Ice	A&B	Long	Waupaca, WI
Jan 11	Bill Disney Sprints	A&B	Short	Paramount, CA
Jan *11	Illinois State	Closed	Long	
Jan 11-12	Eastern States Long Track	A&B	Long	Saratoga Spgs, NY
Jan 11-12	Western International	A&B	Long	Butte, MT
Jan *11-12	Minnesota State	Closed	Long	
Jan 12	Ross Zucco Memorial, 10,000	A&B	Short	Paramount, CA
Jan 12	Wisconsin State	Closed	Long	
Jan 18	Gary Eikaas Classic	A&B	Long	Plymouth, MN

(Continued on following page)

1991 - 1992 MEET SCHEDULE

Jan 18-19	Great Lakes Long Track	A	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Jan 18-19	Lake Placid Long Track	A&B	Long	Lake Placid, NY
Jan 19	Silver Skates	B	Long	Minneapolis, MN
Jan 25-26	NATIONAL LONG TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Feb 1-2	NORTH AMERICAN LONG TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Feb 2	Snowflake	B	Long	Lake Placid, NY
Feb 8-9	Eastern Seaboard Long Track	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Feb 8-9	Land of Lincoln	A&B	Short	Lake Placid, NY
Feb 8-9	Tri-State Invitational	A&B	Short	Champaign, IL
Feb 8-9	10,000Lakes	A	Short	Grand Rapids, MI
Feb 8-9	NATIONAL MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIP		Long	Plymouth, MN
Feb 9-20	OLYMPICS - Long Track		Long	Minneapolis, MN
Feb 15	Parkers Lake Challenge	A&B	Long	France
Feb 15	Michigan Festival	A&B	Short	Plymouth, MN
Feb *15	Missouri, Wisconsin & Illinois State	Closed		Midland, MI
Feb 16	Pittsfield Short Track	A&B	Short	North Adams, MA
Feb 16	Mary Dolan Memorial	A&B	Long	Minneapolis, MN
Feb *16	Ohio State	Closed	Short	
Feb 17	5 - Mile Carnival		Short	Brooklyn, NY
Feb 20-22	OLYMPICS - Short Track			France
Feb 22	Syracuse Short Track	A&B	Short	Syracuse, NY
Feb 22-23	Indy 500	A&B	Short	Indianapolis, IN
Feb *29	Empire State Short Track		Closed	
Mar 1	Northbrook Open	A&B	Short	Northbrook, IL
Mar 1	Lake Placid Short Track	A&B	Short	Lake Placid, NY
Mar 7	New York State	A&B	Short	West Point, NY
Mar 7-8	Evanston Northshore Open	A&B	Short	Evanston, IL
Mar 8	Eastern Seaboard Short Track		Short	Colonie, NY
Mar 13-15	NATIONAL SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Short	St. Louis, MO
Mar 21-22	WORLD SHORT TRACK TRIALS		Short	Glen Ellyn, IL
Mar 27-29	NORTH AMERICAN SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Short	Sardis, Br. Col.
Apr 3-5	WORLD SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS		Short	Denver, CO
May 15-17	ASU CONVENTION			St. Louis, MO

*These meets are closed because they are individual state championships.

1992

Oct 24-25	Chicago Silver Skates	A&B	Short	Glen Ellyn, IL
Nov 7-8	EMSA Open	A&B	Short	St. Paul, MN
Nov 14-15	Great Lakes Short Track	A&B	Short	Milwaukee, WI
Nov 21-22	Park Ridge Open	A&B	Short	Park Ridge, IL
Nov 26	THANKSGIVING DAY			
Nov 26	10 Mile Turkey Trot		Short	Brooklyn, NY
Nov 26	Thanksgiving Day Championships	A&B	Short	Paramount, CA
Nov 28-29	Thanksgiving Classic	A&B	Short	Muskegon, MI
Dec	HANNUKAH			
Dec 5	Illinois - Wisconsin Open	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Dec 6	Seaway	A&B	Short	Cleveland, OH
Dec 12	Wisconsin Gold Cup	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Dec 25	CHRISTMAS DAY			
Dec 26	Christmas Classic	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI

(Continued on following page)

1993

Jan 1	NEW YEARS DAY			
Jan 9	Silver Skates	A&B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Jan *16	Wisconsin State	Closed	Long	
Jan *16	Illinois State	Closed	Long	
Jan 17	Gohl Memorial	A&B	Long	Madison, WI
Jan 23-24	Great Lakes Long Track	A	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Jan 30-31	NATIONAL LONG TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Long	Lake Placid, NY
Jan 30	Snowflake	B	Long	Milwaukee, WI
Feb 6-7	NORTH AMERICAN LONG TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Long	Canada
Feb 13-14	Tri-State Invitational	A&B	Short	Cleveland, OH
Feb 15	5 Mile Carnival		Short	Brooklyn, NY
Feb 20	Michigan Festival	A&B	Short	Midland, MI
Feb *20	Missouri, Wisconsin & Illinois State	Closed	Short	
Feb 27-28	Northbrook Open	A&B	Short	Northbrook, IL
Mar 6-7	St. Louis Silver Skates	A&B	Short	St. Louis, MO
Mar 13-14	Evanston Northshore Open	A&B		
Mar 19-21	NATIONAL SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Short	Madison WI
Mar 27-29	NORTH AMERICAN SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS	A	Short	Chicago, IL
Mar 26-28	WORLD SHORT TRACK CHAMPIONSHIP			Beijing, China
May 14-16	ASU CONVENTION			Butte, MO

HALL OF FAME - RICHARD WURSTER

(Continued from page 26)

record of 5:36.9 in the National Long Track Championship at St. Paul. In 1970, he re-set the 2 mile record at 5:24.6 again at St. Paul. A record of 2:09.21 is still listed as a record at 1500 meters for the North American Long Track and was set at Lake Placid in 1976. All of the above records were set on 400 meter tracks, but Rich also set records on the six lap track.

Rich's string of National, North American and U.S. Open Championships in the senior class is impressive. In 1964, he was runner-up in the National Long Track at St. Paul. In 1965 and 1966, he won the National Championship again at St. Paul during the famous St. Paul Winter Carnival. In 1970 and 1971, he again was runner-up only to come back in 1975 and win the championship on Lake Como.

During this period, when an alliance with Canada did not exist, an alternate championship was called the U.S. Open. Rich won this championship twice. This first time was in 1969 in Binghamton, NY, and again in 1970 in the same town. He was runner-up at the 1965 competition in Pittsfield, Mass.

North American Long Track Championships were won by Rich in 1971 at Lake Placid and 1975 in Winnipeg, Canada. He was runner-up in 1973 at West Allis and 1976 at Lake Placid.

Rich's record in pack style meets is extensive. He won the Great Lakes meet three times, the 10,000 Lakes meet four times and the Eastern States Meet 4 times. He won 80 meets and over 300 races.

In addition to his pack style accomplishments, he competed in metric type skating and was a member of the National Team from 1965 to 1977. He was a member of the U.S. World Team in 1965 and 1968.

Rich was a member of the 1968 Olympic Speedskating Team and competed at Grenoble, France, where he set an American record of 2:08.4 at 1500 meters. Rich's brother, John, was also a member of the team making this the first United States Speedskating Team with two brothers as skaters.

After the Olympics, Rich attended Springfield College and obtained a degree in Physical Education. He presently is employed as the baseball coach at St. Rose College of Albany, NY.

Rich's outstanding career as a pack style skater, attained only by his determination to work his way through the sport from midget to senior before success came, is the type of goal-oriented efforts that mark him as a worthy member of that select group of skaters in the ASU HALL OF FAME.

Congratulations Rich!

1991 National Short Track Championships * * * Meet The Champions

Holy Cross College - Worcester, MA - March 22-24

... COMMENTS ...

by BOB VEHE

From the scenic college location high on a hill, to the spacious parking lot, to the carpeted lobby, to the spacious arena, to the judges stand, to the bathrooms, certainly to the food and, last but not least, the competition, what more could anyone want? Well, if you push, maybe a few things. The Hart Recreation Center wins the award as the coldest rink of the year. Of course, who wants a warm rink other than those not involved in the sport? Warm rinks no, but a few degrees up the Fahrenheit scale may have helped.

For those of us who went back to Chicago for the three day North American Championship at Franklin Park, we hardly had time to thaw out. The weekend after the North American was USISA's meeting in Milwaukee and a number of people, who had attended one or both meets, wanted to know what type of germs were distributed in Worcester and Franklin Park. Numerous people lost time from work due to a malady that reacted differently on each. Can't blame the organizers and can't even blame the Russians anymore, so what's left. Look on the bright side, of course.

Many of us took the train into Worcester and were pleased to see Chuck Moore and others at the train station to take us to our hotels. The train was a lot of fun and Jim Marquard's article elsewhere amusingly recounts an experience that can't be duplicated in an airplane.

All in all it was a very good National Championship. Congratulations to President Mike Powers of Northeastern, to Bill Northrup, meet director, who worried his way through his first championship, and to those Northeastern chief officials; Ruth Moore, Chuck Moore, Ed Wentland and to the inimitable Dick Ring, the best announcer in the sport.



Can't get a better start! Haj Sano Photo



Leif Ahlgren of EMN leading a pack of Juniors, while the last three are being splashed. Haj Sano Photo



Will she stay outside the block? Becky Sundstrom of Illinois Haj Sano Photo



Jeff Benjamin of Ill. leading Tim Quinn of Ohio with Mark Jeter of Missouri extending his arm. Haj Sano Photo



Paul Marchese of NNY, Dave Pavlacic of Missouri, Charles King of So Cal, and Justin Brown of NNY. Haj Sano Photo



President Mike Powers of the host association and his fans show off his medallion. Haj Sano Photo



The judges have the best spot in the house.



Mary Smith checks the copying machine while the ladies busy themselves with heat cards. Photo by Shirley Yates



THE BEST AND MOST FOOD EVER! Thanks to Tony and Jill DiPasquale and Norma Sansone. Photo by Shirley Yates



Grand Master Men Co-Champions; Francis Ouellette, of Northeastern and Bob Fischer, of Middle Atlantic, receiving the Amos Ottley Memorial Award from Juan Williams and Eric Flaim. Haj Sano Photo



Master Men Champion, Mike Powers of Northeastern, receiving the Ohio Skating Association Award from Tim Quinn Sr. Haj Sano Photo



Master Women Champion, Carole Moore, of Middle Atlantic, receiving the VFW Auxiliary #2164, Wheaton, IL and Carol Jackson Award from Ron and Jean Kostro. Haj Sano Photo



Junior Boys Champion, Leif Ahlgren, of Eastern Minnesota, received The Dr. Ray Novak Award. Haj Sano Photo



Junior Girls Champion, Nicole Ziegelmeyer, of Missouri. Shirley Yates Photo



Senior Men Champion, Pat Wentland, of Northeastern receiving The Carlstom Family Award from Shirley Yates. Haj Sano Photo



Senior Women Champion, Kristen Talbot, of Northern New York, receiving The Herb Knudten Award from Bob Vehe. Haj Sano Photo



Juvenile Boys Champion, Brad Campbell, of Northern New York, receiving The Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jarrett Award from Rita Crowe. Haj Sano Photo



Juvenile Girls Champion, Jessi FitzRandolph, of Wisconsin, receiving The Joseph A. and Barbara Sulc Award from Bob Finkel. Haj Sano Photo



Midget Boys Champion, Emil Tack, of Eastern Minnesota, receiving The Dave and Betty Roche Award from Dave Roche. Haj Sano Photo



Intermediate Men Champion, Tim Quinn, of Ohio, receiving The James C. (Bunny) Sheffield Memorial Award from Tom Miller. Haj Sano Photo



Intermediate Women Champion, Karen Cashman, of Northeastern, receiving The Blair Family Award from Tim Quinn Sr. Haj Sano Photo



Midget Girls Champion, Erin Baker, of Illinois, receiving The Robert L. Kellerman Memorial Award from Bill Anderson, while Olympian, Eric Flaim stands by. Haj Sano Photo

NATIONAL BUSINESS CARD BLITZ

By TIM QUINN

The Business Card Blitz that was announced at the ASU Convention in 1990 as a fund raiser offered the promise of raising a large sum of money, which was badly needed by the ASU. The concept was unique and was greeted with great enthusiasm. All that was needed was a \$10.00 donation and a business card to be sent to The Amateur Skating Union, c/o Huntington National Bank, 29095 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted, OH 44070. If most everyone were to participate, we could have been looking at over \$20,000.00. For twenty-five contributors, their business cards would be printed in THE RACING BLADE. This could help in business by letting people know that you supported the sport. The Grand Prize was to be a round-trip airplane ticket for two people anywhere in the continental United States. That's a darn good prize for a ten dollar contribution.

For some unknown reason, the lack of support was disheartening. I made mailings to every club and association last winter and leaned on people and groups whenever possible. Still, the result was only about \$1500.00. Folks, we ought to be embarrassed and I know that we can do better. With this confident feeling, it is my pleasure to announce the "SECOND EDITION" of the "BUSINESS CARD BLITZ." It starts RIGHT NOW! Send your money and cards for yourself, your family, your friends, your business associates to The Amateur Skating Union, c/o Huntington National Bank, 29095 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted, OH 44070. Don't forget, every \$10 is another chance at the grand prize, so play the odds.

Let's prove the skeptics wrong, let's prove how important this sport is to us, let's get behind the program and make it work the way it should. THIS YEAR WILL BE SUCCESSFUL!

Notice the business cards of those 25 selected. Let them know that you appreciate their help and ask them to help again.

It is now my pleasure to announce that the winner of the First Annual Business Card Blitz is

JOANNE AND KEN ALTUCHOFF
of Bronx, New York.

CONGRATULATIONS JOANNE AND KEN and let us know where you want to go.

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The ASU needs an Insurance Manager and a Marketing Manager. If you are interested, contact:

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Cellular Phones To The Rescue Or Pizza On The Lakeshore Limited

By JIM MARQUARD

On our Sunday evening return train trip from the National Short Track Championships in Worcester, the skaters traveling with us were not interested in the menu in the dining car. The request was for pizza. I explained that the train did not stop long enough to order a pizza. I remembered that I had my portable telephone in my luggage. As we were passing through Springfield, MA, I called information and obtained the number for the Pittsfield Domino's pizza store. Upon reaching Domino's, I explained we were on a train heading for Pittsfield and we needed to have the driver arrive exactly at 8:20 p.m. The train only stopped for a minute. Everything was OK until the train pulled in to Pittsfield 10 minutes early. I asked the conductor if the train was waiting until 8:20 before departing. He said yes, but that they would leave exactly on time. It was a rainy drizzle as we were standing on the plat-



Who said that food on a train
Thanks Domino!

form. The area
and at 8:15
train.

...now I promised information on the Marketing
...ject done by the students at San Jose State Univer-
...sity. There were sixteen groups of students, about
...per group. They needed a small non-profit orga-
...without any previous marketing strategies, and
...tainly fit the bill. GGSSers Bonnie Crater,
...Kingsley and Sally Schirber are marketing profes-
...sionals who gave their time to talk to the two classes.
...Mary Wong gave them a hint of the GGSS is all about
...when she showed UP on campus in skisuit and
...skelers for her tank. UP on campus in skisuit and
...The one thing the students all agreed on in their final
...presentations is that GGSS has the opportunity for

COACHES FORUM

By DON KANGAS

The Purpose of coaches forum at the 1991 ASU convention was to answer questions, such as, "What is needed for ASU Coaching Education?" and "How are those needs going to be fulfilled?" The active discussion did not come up with final answers. However, a good beginning was accomplished. Many other good questions were raised for consideration and a group of 10 people volunteered to come up with proposals to deal with the answers. The idea that coaching is essential to the growth and enjoyment of speedskating and the need for a program of coaching education was strongly voiced in the discussion.

The forum started with a brief historical review and announcement that ACEP will no longer function as a certification agency for independent sports, such as speedskating. Then Gregg Planert gave an excellent, concise summary of the Canadian system for coaching education and their certification procedure. Round Table presentations by Tony Arena, "Doc" Savage, Jerry Steele, Larry Ralston, Vince Gagliano and Ken Altuchoff outlined the early development of ASU coaching education and some of the present needs. Allan Jakubowski shared a handout and constructive comments were made by Greg Oly and Katie Class to mention a few of the many people that contributed to

the discussion. More complete details are in minutes of the convention. The final presentation of possible new coaching levels led to the formulation of a proposal to be presented at the convention. The volunteers for the formation of the coaching forum are: Cawthra, Jakubowski, Kingsley, Planert, Schirber, and Wong. I hope to be forming the coaching forum by the end of June. Participants will pay the rink for the lessons, use regular rental skates and get group lessons at a special speedskating-only session. In conjunction with this will be a recreational speedskating-only session. snowskating equipment mandatory.

...ing the end of June. Participants will pay the rink for the lessons, use regular rental skates and get group lessons at a special speedskating-only session. In conjunction with this will be a recreational speedskating-only session. snowskating equipment mandatory. club session has moved to Golden Gate Ice Arena. Gabe Kingsley still they named the rink after us. I am looking forward to trying out suggestions and forwarding results to the Racing Blade and to Dr. Brown's students.

The USISA Short Track & Sledging Championships and 16 women and the World Championships competitors will be held March 21-22, 1992, at Center Ice Rink in Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

...article elsewhere on...
...Helen Silk
...Connie McDonald
...Robbie Mann
...Rick Hoffman
...Historian
...Secretary



RACING BLADE REPORT

By JULIE NOWAK

DID YOU FINISH ALL YOUR BROCCOLI?

It's good for you. Ask Mr. Ed. Unfortunately, Mr. Ed was not available as guest speaker for the 1991 Bay State Banquet, but we managed to have fun nonetheless....

After the meal and a stirring slide show (who were those cold people in the flashy racing skins? The Solid Gold Dancers on Winter Break?) the yearly presentation of awards began - both serious and funny. ...all of them earned.

The Long Overdue Kamikaze Award, unseen for a while, went to the skater who crashed into the boards and other immovable objects the most times. Mike Powers won himself a three million dollar life insurance policy courtesy of Bay State. (We are installing foam padding around our valuable Mr. Powers, who has unfortunately just broken three ribs during a bike race.)

In the tough choices category was the Most Improved Awards. It's always difficult to decide on recipients for these because everyone works so hard and enthusiastically to improve! This year's winners were: (Women) Linda Bruce, (Men) Mark Doherty of the leprechaun suits, (Girls) Penelope Lang, who skated up in the Nationals, and (Boys) Kevin "Mr. Enthusiasm" Salemi.

The Lots-A-Haira Award (sung to "That's Amore") went to Tracy Northup, who has had troubles keeping her long hair out of her eyes during races. Not to be caught, Tracy bollixed the judges by showing up with a shorter and very becoming 'do that was the talk of the banquet!

The Most Acrobatic Award - a hula hoop, through which he had to jump - went to Courtney Small. Courtney's gymnastic routines on ice (and mid-race!) should stand him in good stead if he ever wants to join the Flying Wallendas!

The Wink Award was presented to Bruce Hampton. Bruce's winks are frequent signs of encouragement, and he was dubbed the nicest skater at Bay State. To assist in his winking, he was awarded giant sunglasses complete with built-in wipers.

The Dry Land Training Award For the skater most dedicated to lots of same was given to Debbie Sack. She'll look great and get enough replenishing liquids with her official Gatorade bottle and powdered drink packs. Debbie has taken photos at all the meets she's attended...no doubt she was responsible for lots of the slideshow's content.

The Helpful Elves Awards were presented to Jil DiPasquale and Mary Swezy, who knocked themselves out feeding the army of skaters and officials at the Nationals. The banquet judges gave them flowers. The entire club gave them a standing ovation.

The King of Neon Award (soon to be a major postmodernist paperback) went to Chris DiPasquale

due to his vivid ensembles. He was given a Lightstick (the kind you break to make it glow) and cheerfully colored Dunkin' Donuts gummy candies.

Career Changers Awards were given to Captain Steve Hallisey and Controller Jim Walsh. Steve's now a licensed pilot (running the Lake Placid Express, right, Steve?) and Jim's just finished training to be in the control tower. (Club discounts! We want low fares!)

The Cheerleading Award pom-poms went to Joanne Hallisey, coach and encourager. Her kids (the ones she coached) all received Slinkies and Slap Bracelets for all their hard work.

The Three-in-One Award went to Neil Mansfield for numerous oddities, including finishing an entire day of dry land training in combat boots because he forgot his sneakers.

The Mat Man Award was given to Alan Cook for his outstanding work in getting enough mats together to run safe and regulation Nationals. He'll sleep easier on his Mat Man pillow.

The Butterknife Award for incredibly dull blades went to Linda Bruce.

The Save the Fingers Award went to Mark Doherty, whose hand got run over by a whole pack of skaters. He's okay, but he now sells Kevlar gloves for some reason....

The No Left Turn Award went to Jack McMahon, who took one during a race....

The Masters of the Universe Awards (Masters, get it?) were flowers given to Mary Salemi, Jane Leung, and Ann Northup.

Awards of Deep Thanks were presented to those who helped most with the Nationals: Chuck and Ruth Moore, Ann and Bill Northup, all the Parents and Supporters. Chuck Moore put it best, shouting over a standing ovation: "Everyone in this room made the Nationals happen, and don't you forget that!"

And now, something very special: The Edith Walters Memorial Award was presented for the first time ever. This award was created with the help of Eddie Walters, who donated the trophy in memory of his late wife Edie. Edie was involved in skating in almost every way during her adult life, and was always a strong supporter of the Bay State Club. The award is given to a champion skater who puts the sport of speedskating first by helping others and by coaching. This year's recipient was Pat Wentland.

After a very hectic season, this banquet was arranged and entertained by Jody Kosinski, Bernadette Lombardo, Jane Lapato and Judy Wentland. (Thanks, gang! The sirloin tips were delicious!)

And we even finished our broccoli.

As for the Nationals, we hope that all who attended had a great time. We were proud of all our skaters who participated and especially our champions. We were glad at last to be able to showcase all our talent from skating to organization. In addition to those previously named, we thank especially Fred Cashman who worked so diligently to supply tables and chairs (among other things), Mike Powers who constructed the platform used by the judges and for the awards ceremony, Tom Pye who helped put together the program (assisted by the Northups, Nowaks, and Alex

(Continued on page 39)



By MARY JO HEALEY

At the annual meeting of the Northern New York Skating Association the following were elected officers for the 1991-92 season: President, Bill Farry of the Pittsfield Parks Speed Skating Club; 1st Vice President, Paul Marchese of the Capital District Speed Skating Club; 2nd Vice President, Tom Porter of the Saratoga Winter Club; 3rd Vice President, Dave Manfredi of the Green Mt. Speed Skating Club. Appointed secretary/treasurer by Farry was Patricia Peaslee of the Pittsfield Club.

The Association's summer ice program will be held on Thursday evenings at the new rink in Colonie, NY. Times for the program will be 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will be under the direction of Pat Maxwell. The 10 week program will begin on Thursday, June 20. Additional information may be obtained by calling Pat Marchese at (518) 731-6614.

The Pittsfield Parks Speed Skating Club held a season end banquet at which time the following were elected officers for the club for the 1991-92 season: President.....Suzanne Tremblay Vice President.....John Miraglia Secretary/Treasurer.....Pat Peaslee

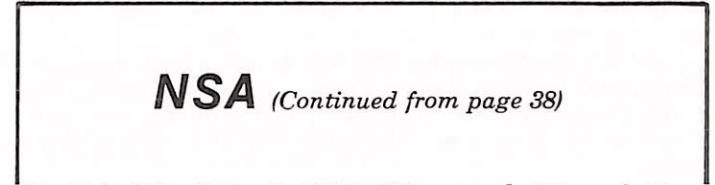
Awards were presented by out-going president Bill Farry to Theresa Sime, rookie of the year; Tony Riello, most improved skater; Gary Riello, the sportsmanship award; Kate Farry, best form; Jennynne Tremblay, most determined, and Jenny Bernardo, most dedicated.

The National Short Track Championships was the frosting on the cake for the Saratoga Winter Club. Our club had 19 skaters competing and came home with 2 National Champions. Brad Campbell earned the title for Juvenile Boys and Kristen Talbot did the same for Sr. Women. The Northern New York Men's and Women's relay team also took first place. The mens team was comprised of Justin Brown, Danny Wood, Todd Porter and Paul Marchese. The women's team was Lexie Riley, Jessica Riley, Kristen Talbot and Mary Brophy. Jeb Gorham took home a well earned first place medal for the Juvenile Boys 200M race. Both Brad and Jeb have been skating for less than 3 years as is the case with many of our skaters. Several other medals were earned by our club and we all felt a great sense of pride in our club. The banquet on Saturday was great and the Saratoga parents had the opportunity to embarrass our offsprings by performing a continuous wave around our table. The children of course, chose to sit at a separate table.

Bill Gorham, father of Jeb, displayed some of his creativity by introducing a new skating award. It's called the BBISS award - an acronym for Best Body in Speed Skating. The regional winner will compete in the NABISCO (National Best Body in Speed Skating Competition). If the Racing Blade should decide to

lower its standards, perhaps we can get the qualifications published.

Summer is upon us and we all scatter in different directions. Many of the skaters are involved in soccer or baseball but they still gather on Saturday mornings at the State Park for dry land training. There have been several questions asked and strange looks received as the club goes through various drills - especially the turn cables. The younger skaters have had the opportunity to see some of the older skaters (as in twentysomething) train this summer. Justin Brown, Dristen Talbot and Maura D'Andrea are staying around for the summer and it is nice for the younger skaters to see how hard work can pay off. We have also had the privilege of having Charlie King here.



Chadis), Vic Totoni, Dick Ring, and Ed and Joan Wentland who served in many capacities in addition to judging. The meet was a success because all of our members and families who did all the work necessary to make it a success and who cheered and yelled for all the skaters. From novices to Olympians, all came together to showcase the best in Bay State skating - which certainly includes skating ability, but more than that the number one thing this club and association has going for it: The spirit of Cooperation, willingness to do what has to be done, and support of each member for every other.

Two of our skaters will be going on to college. Chris DiPasquale will be going to Northeastern University and Myrna Gabbe will be attending the University of Wisconsin.

Our new officers are:

- Northeastern
President.....Joe LaFreniere
1st Vice President.....Joanne Hallisey
2nd Vice President.....Alan Cook
3rd Vice President.....Chris DiPasquale
Treasurer.....Bernadette Lombardo
Secretary.....Bill Northup

- Bay State Club
President.....Jane Lapato
Vice President.....Kevin Keith
Treasurer.....Courtney Small
Secretary.....Jane Leung
NSA delegates.....Pat Wentland
Fred Cashman
Mary Swezy

For anyone traveling to Boston, we have summer ice from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Skating Club of Boston. Call Bill Northup at 617-244-0813 for further information or confirmation of ice. On Thursdays from 7:00 -7:45 Pat Wentland will conduct dry land training workouts in Waltham. Call Pat at 617-545-5846 for confirmation and directions.

Hot Turkey Tamales For Sale Unique Fund Raising in Montana

by ROBBIE HANNI

Charley Worley, club board member, Zamboni driver and finest ice maker in the West, has provided MASSA with our best fund raiser which is making and selling tamales. His recipe is a "guarded secret". We can make about 2500 tamales in two evenings. Volunteer help consists of skaters, coaches and parents.

The first evening the turkeys are boiled whole. Then the cooked meat is taken off the bones and cubed into bite size pieces. There is a mixture of rue which combines the broth and meat and Charley's secret spices. This mixture sets overnight.

The second night, batches of corn meal are cooked on Charley's homemade twelve burner stove for about an hour. Workers at tables wet and place papers, then a layer of corn meal and scoop of filling are rolled together. The ends are twisted and stapled, then set out to dry and be counted. They are ready for dinner or delivery.

Beside the tamale making sessions, our club also raises money by running the concession stand at one of the local ball parks. Parents donate a week of their time in the evenings and weekends. Skaters 15 years and older are hired to work. It's a great way for them to earn some extra spending money and develop that work ethic.

MASSA volunteers also take tickets at the high school football games. Skaters sell candy at Easter. There is a club sponsored volleyball tournament. Parents donate their baked goods during the year at the sport center to bring in money during winter evening practice and weekend meets.

MASSA, along with other local organizations, was involved in a community clean up of a section of Butte-Silver Bow located towards the sport center. This was a civic responsibility and not a fund raiser for the club. After the cleanup, there was a picnic for the participating organizations. Fun was had by all.



Robbie Hanni and Michelle Robinson stir the cornmeal to keep it from burning while Charlie Worley prepares another batch.



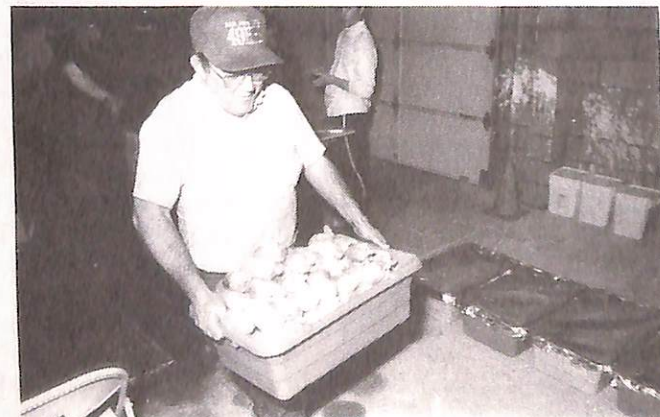
Michelle Robinson and Robbie Hanni keep stirring the cornmeal.



Lee Michalsky and Dave Hanni roll tamales.



Workers lay out the papers, scoop the cornmeal and rue, then twist and staple the tamale.



Coach Chuck Durkin carries the final product to the drying area.

MISSOURI SKATING ASSOCIATION

By MARY E. CHAPIN

The end of another skating season and already we are making preparations for the next one. Many of our skaters, both elite and novice, are getting ready to go to the assorted camps the ASU has to offer. It seems there is something for everyone at most ability levels. Three of our skaters and one official will be at the Olympic Festival in Los Angeles in July. Mark Jeter, Nikki Ziegelmeyer and Bryndon Bay will compete and Jim Chapin will be there as the Referee.

Missouri sent quite a few skaters to the Nationals in Worcester and the North American in Chicago. One of our skaters, Nikki Ziegelmeyer, took top honors in the Junior Girls Class in both meets, setting two new records along the way. There was no stopping her. Others who did well at the Nationals: Senior Men, Matt Renner runner-up and Dave Pavlacic, 4th place; Intermediate Men, Mark Jeter, 5th place; Junior Bryndon Bay, 3rd place in the Boys and Kelly O'Hare, 4th place in the Girls. Both of our Relay teams qualified for the final but had to withdraw from the final in order to make a 6:30 PM (Last Flight) back to St. Louis. Our men, Renner, Pavlacic, Jeter and Bay felt especially

bad as they had the best time in the heats. They felt somewhat cheated and now we'll never know if they could have won the gold.

At the North American, in addition to Nikki's championship with records in the 777 and 1000, Matt Renner placed 4th overall as well as being on the Gold Medal Relay Team. Marge Amelotti was 3rd overall in the Master Women class. You can look to see more of Marge at the meets this coming season.

Kelly O'Hare, over the Memorial Day weekend, placed 4th in the 3,200 Meter event at the Missouri State High School Track Championships. Kelly is only a sophomore and continues to improve each year.

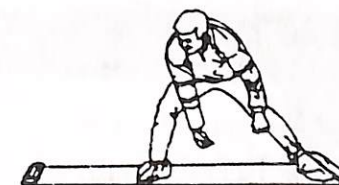
The stork is busy making deliveries around these parts. In March, Mary and Vern Jacquin became grand-parents again. A baby girl, Kimberleigh Marie, was born to son Dave and his wife Jackie. After all those boys there are now some girls in the Jacquin crew.

Marge & Don Pavlacic will be grand-parents twice before the end of the year. Debbie and husband Steve Groeper are expecting in November to be followed in December by Cecelia and Dave Pavlacic. Don was telling us he was finished coaching; now it's only another 20 more years, Don.

We have already put the wheels in motion for a great National Meet and Convention here next season in St. Louis. Vern Jacquin has been named Chairman for the Nationals. Our host hotel for the National will be the

(Continued on page 45)

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC SKATING ASSOCIATION
By Diana Kubler

The MASA had an extremely successful year in both recruitment and performance. We had an increase in the total number of members bringing us up to the total of 132 members. Over the past few years, the MASA has been steadily increasing in size. Along with our increase in size, we have had an increase in the quality and performances of our skaters as well. This has been due to the structured workout schedule set up by Association Coach Paul Bader. Paul and his wife Leslie, 1988 Olympian, will be moving to Pennsylvania later this summer. We wish them the best of luck and happiness in their new home.

The quality of our skaters was evident at the 1991 Short Track Nationals which were held in Worcester, Massachusetts. Our association captured two class titles with Carole Moore winning the Masters Women Class in record times, and Bob Fischer who tied for the Class Championship in the Grand Masters Men. Along with these two class titles, we were able to capture 26 National medals as well. Also competing were Jason Benta (JR), Bob Finkel (M), Vinnie Gagliano (M), Larry Gleason (M), Chris Hawkins (M), Diana Kubler (SR), Nancy Kubler (INT), Jack Mahoney (GM), Chris Malek (M), Marla Merante (SR), Leslie Moore (M), Rich Platt (M), Sarah Polirer (Sr), Monica Sellberg (JUV), Christie Smith (MID), Philip Szot (SR), and Juan Williams (GM).

At the North American Short Track Championship we were represented by three skaters: Bob Finkel, Bob Fischer, and Chris Malek. Bob Fischer captured the Grand Masters Class while Chris captured the Masters Men Class.

I would like to commend both the Northeastern and the Illinois Associations for putting on great meets.

Our association annual meeting was held in April and our new, (mostly returning again), officers for the 1991-92 season are as follows:

- President..... Bob Finkel
- Vice President, Publicity..... Dan Van Bentuysen
- Vice President, Racing..... Laura Verdino
- Vice President, Finance..... Nick DeMarco
- Secretary..... Lynne Stoll
- Treasurer..... Dorle Simmons
- Coach..... Ken Altuchoff

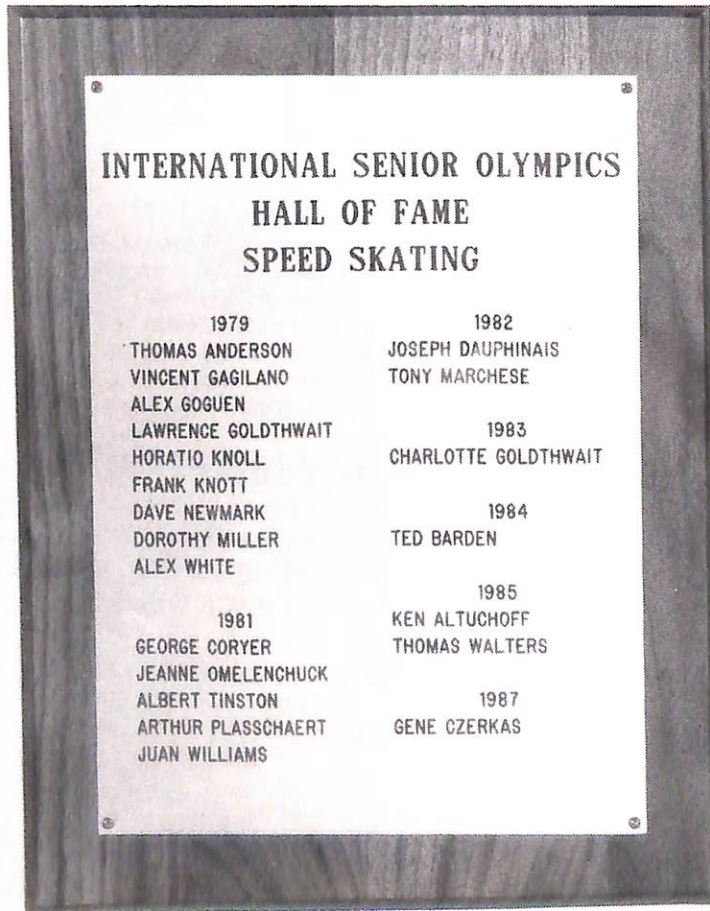
Awarded at the meeting was the Most Improved Skater Award which was given to Monica Sellberg of the Yonkers Club, and the Skater of the Year Award was given to Cameron Beul of the Flushing Club.

Our association hosted the New York State Short Track Championships at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. We had 136 ASU skaters and many novices. For the first time this year, we held relay events for both the men and the women. Marty Hill and Built For Speed graciously donated the awards for the relay events. Congratulations to the 1991 NYS Class Champions: Jonathon Yeming and Maureen

Hanal (PW), James Cooley and Katherine Farry (PONY), Ian Baranski and Erin Porter (MID), Monica Sellberg and Brad Campbell (JUV), Jason Benta (JR), Nancy Kubler (INT), Harry Zaverdas and Rosemary Greenslade (SR-B), Paul Marchese and Jody Kosinski (SR-A), Chris Malek and Carole Moore (MA), and Juan Williams (GM). Special thanks go to Meet Director Laura Verdino, and Co-Director Fred Prilop. Without their extra time and devotion to the meet, it would not have been as successful.

This summer our association has planned several dryland training sessions as well as some ice time. Murray Sherman of the Metropolitan Club once again arranged for our ice time at the South Mountain Arena in West Orange, N.J. We will also be holding pre-season sessions in West Point throughout the month of September. These sessions have gained in popularity over the past few years and have proven to be quite successful and productive.

Congratulations to the proud new parents in our association. Peter Askin and his wife had a daughter Julia May, on February 12. Donna Swanson gave birth to Joseph Raymond on April 14, and Pieter Dykstra and his wife had Pieter Jeremy on May 16. We are definitely going to have quite a large group of PeeWees in a few years. The competition should be most interesting with the four other little ones who were born in the past few years. Everyone should watch out for the recently turned two years old, Meghan Verdino, who already can rollerskate and thinks that doing low-walks across her living room is great.



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SPEEDSKATING ASSOCIATION

By SYDNEY COATSWORTH & MARY WILKINS

While most other speedskating associations are winding down in terms of planning competition and events and are focusing on training, the SCSSA is still buzzing getting ready for the U. S. Olympic Festival to be held at the Paramount Iceland, July 20-21, 1991. Staffing plans are being finalized, equipment is being ordered, and we are ready to put on a class event for all participants, skaters, family and friends. We look forward to seeing you in L.A.!

I would like to take the opportunity to say how much I have enjoyed being the Associate Editor of the Racing Blade for the SCSSA. However, it is time for me to pass the baton and let you know that I am leaving you in the capable hands of Mary Wilkins, Ice Club DeMorra President and SCSSA Novice Coach extraordinaire. Take it away, Mary!

Thank you Sydney for the great introduction, but "coach extraordinaire," you flatter me. I can only hope that I can do half as good a job as you have. Your input is definitely going to be missed. On behalf of the SCSSA, I would like to wish you and Jim Wigney, soon to be proud parents, the very best of everything for you and your new baby. Well now, it's my turn to let the rest of the speedskating world know what's going on in Southern California.

A company called "Visa" will be filming a short track speedskating commercial at Pickwick Ice arena in Burbank, California. We've been told that Sylvie Daigle and possibly Amy and Lynn Petersen will be flown out here to do the commercial. Also, there will be some of our California women participating in it, along with a coach or two. You might have noticed that this commercial featured "women" only. Alright ladies, go for it.

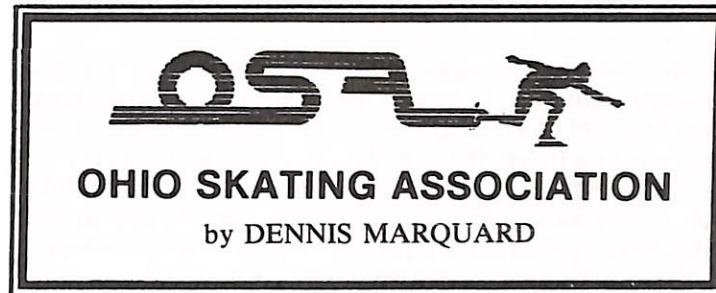
In addition to preparations for the U. S. Olympic Festival, we've also started a training program which seems to be working very well, especially with our young, newer skaters. Looks like we've got some strong contenders coming on line to hopefully give you Easterners some fresh competition. We'll keep trying till we get it right.

Moving along, recently we had the pleasure of a visit from Harold Davis, Speedskating Times. Harold attended two of our on ice training sessions, as well as joining a group of us at a local park for off-ice training; i.e., in-line roller skating, cycling, etc. We enjoyed your visit Harold and welcome you back anytime you're in the area.

As a closing note, living in California offers many unique ways to train all year round and one of those is with in-line rollers. Recently several of our skaters participated in a 5K and 10K in-line roller blade competition in Chino, California. Some of the participants were

Rob Herman, Mark Jeffries, Lavinia Paun, John Storm, and Jim Wilkins. All of them placed high in the ranks of their perspective group. Nice going guys, keep up the good work!

The SCSSA is looking forward to a full summer schedule and will have lots of news to pass on for the next Racing Blade. Have a great summer everyone!



The final results from the 1991 National Short Track Championships at Worcester delighted Tim Quinn Jr. in Intermediate men. Tim won the 500, 777, 1000, 1500 and was fourth in the 3,000 meter races to capture the Intermediate men's 1991 National Championship. Tim skated exceptionally well and the OSA is very proud of Tim's performance. Tim at the North American's at Franklin Park won the 500 meter final and set a new North American record of 48.19. In The Juvenile girls at the Short Track Nationals, Kelly Hurd was 3rd in the 333, 4th in the 500 and 2nd in the 777 to finish 3rd overall. Chaya Cashin was 3rd in 777 and 1000 to finish 4th overall. Junior boy Chris Marquardt was 3rd in the 777 and 4th in 1000 to finish 6th overall. The Ohio men's relay team of Tim Quinn, David Repenning, Scott Koons, and Erin Quinn took fourth place medal in the final on Sunday. Our congratulations to all the Ohio skaters for an outstanding job this year.

Our congratulations to Jim and Kathy Marquard who gave birth to an 8 lb. 1 oz. baby boy on May 20th. Jim and Kathy named the baby James Jr. Both Kathy and J. J. are doing fine.

- The new officers for the OSA are as follows:
- Jean Hurd..... President
 - Bob Reppenhagen..... 1st Vice President
 - Jim Pugsley..... 2nd Vice President
 - Kathy Repenning..... Treasurer
 - Dennis Marquard..... Secretary

Our congratulations to them and we look forward to their guidance for the next two years.

The OSA will hold its annual trip to Geauga Lake on June 27th. This event has grown over the years and we hope it continues.

The Michigan Association did a very good job at the 1991 Convention and a big hand to Roy for his effort. The Michigan and Ohio Associations along with the Indy Club will sponsor a Tri-State meet starting next year. This meet will alternate between the three with Michigan sponsoring the event in 1992. We are looking forward to having a very successful event.

AMATEUR SKATING ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS



By RON KOSTRO & RICH WLOSZEK

The North American Short Track Championships are now history. If letters and reports from visiting coaches and skaters are any indication of the relative success of a meet, then the North American was a winner. Congratulations to meet director Mike Garofola for orchestrating this extravaganza and thanks to the people at the Franklin Park rink for their cooperation.

Mike had a rather interesting observation concerning the volunteers that helped run the meet. For the first time in recent memory, there were more volunteers than required! That's the good news. The fact of the matter is that many meets barely get by with the minimum number of judges, timers, etc. Generally it's the same dedicated individuals week after week officiating, working registration, preparing lunches, you name it. How many times have we heard the PA announcement that "the meet cannot begin unless we get one more...(whatever)".

The message here is a simple one...GET INVOLVED! Speedskating is a very exciting and gratifying sport. It's also a great family sport that allows moms, dads, and siblings to participate both as competitors and as volunteers. How many other sports offer the opportunity for young and old alike to meet and speak with Olympic and other nationally recognized athletes who are on the various United States teams? Many parents new to the sport comment that short track meets are very much like an indoor picnic for spectators who on a weekly basis have the chance to make new friends.

These are the benefits available through speedskating. But organized speedskating cannot thrive and grow without the active participation of skaters as well as their families. Every team could use an extra hand at practices. Maybe stacking safety mats or watering the ice would be helpful. How about offering some suggestions for team fundraising, or better yet, actually assist with fundraisers during your spare time. Parents! Don't drop your kids off at speedskating practice and let the coaches baby-sit while you run off to the gym or to do errands. Stick around, ask if you can help in any way, the sport needs YOU. Become a part of the speedskating family, it's well worth it. During meets, offer to assist however you are able. Become a participant in the sport (skating or non-skating) as well as a spectator. GET INVOLVED!

Getting back to the North American the following Illinois skaters deserve kudos:

- Lucas Mills.....Midget 4th place
- Whitney McGill.....Midget 3rd place tie
- Chad Garofola.....Juvenile 4th place tie
- Jesse Ritter.....Juvenile 5th place tie
- Becky Sundstrom.....Juvenile 4th place tie

- Shana Sundstrom.....Intermediate 5th place tie
- Brian Arseneau.....Senior 5th place
- Steve Giesler.....Master 4th place
- Lisa Sundstrom.....Master 4th place

EASTERN MINNESOTA SKATING ASSOCIATION

by KEN VRAA

It's summer time! Time for baseball, backyard barbeques, bike rides and preparation. That's right! Preparation! Getting ourselves ready for the season just ahead.

It seems as if we've just had the season ending, E.M.S.A. Membership Meeting and election of officers, and here we are getting ready for the next one. The newly elected officers of Eastern Minnesota are as follows:

- President.....Ken Vraa
- 1st Vice President.....Jon Zimmerman
- 2nd Vice President.....Bob Selby
- Treasurer/Secretary.....Linda Fearing
- Recorder.....Karen Olson
- ASU Board of Control.....Joan Peterson

The new E.M.S.A. officers wish to take this opportunity to thank Cristel Tack, Past President, for all of the time and work she has done during her term of office.

For several skaters from the E.M.S.A., preparation for the next season didn't wait until the new board was elected. They have already begun to get themselves fit for the up coming Olympic Festival.

For other skaters, it's having to look beyond the festival to the cool days of October and the first meet. Whatever the goals - skaters are running, biking or getting themselves off to an ASU camp for some serious training.

Skaters aren't the only ones preparing for the season. Each of the Clubs and the E.M.S.A. board has begun to discuss how to make the next year a better one. Work has begun in earnest on the short-track meet planned for November 30th - December 1st. Expectations for having a great meet run high. Advance notice of the meet has been given to the Canadian Clubs that border Minnesota. The welcome reception to the invitation to participate is promising. Despite the late date for a short track meet, the inclusion of Canadian short trackers will make the competition strong.

E.M.S.A. continues to work on a refrigerated oval. Despite the set back last year, we continue to work on obtaining an oval. The traditional avenues of securing such a facility have not worked, so we're into the area of "innovation", with some promising opportunities. Also promising is the possibility of having two larger Olympic size indoor rinks available. The University of Minnesota and a suburban community are building the larger ice sheet, which could be made available for meets. With safety of the skaters foremost in our minds, the larger ice surface may make the difference between an accident and a near one.

(Continued on page 45)

WISCONSIN SKATING ASSOCIATION

by Brad Goskowicz

Summertime is here, the snow is gone, and yet the activities never seem to cease. Coaches Dianne Holum and Bob Fenn both have large groups dry training daily. Plans are in progress for the National Long Track Championships in West Allis, as well as upgrading our other meets. In addition, the WSA is once again holding its family camp for skaters and their families in Waupaca. Skaters are already looking eagerly forward to next season.

The Wisconsin Skating Association held its annual elections in March and several new officers were elected, including Greg Rajala as incoming President. The Officers of the WSA for the coming season are:

- President.....Greg Rajala
- 1st Vice President.....Brad Goskowicz
- 2nd Vice President.....Ernie Kretschmann
- 3rd Vice President.....Walt Witty/Sue Ostrander
- Secretary.....Dianne Witty
- Treasurer.....Stan Strzykalski
- ASU Board of Control.....Jeff FitzRandolph

On April 28th, the West Allis Speed Skating Club held its annual Awards and Recognition Banquet at Franklin Fieldhouse in West Allis. One hundred and thirty skaters and friends attended the banquet, the theme of which, was appropriately "Growth". The following awards were presented:

- Family of the Year.....Butch & Althea Pearson
- Novice Most Improved.....Mathew Elliott
Becky Banker
- Most Improved Skater.....Brian Kretschmann
Kim Strzykalski
- Club Skater of the Year.....Tony Goskowicz
Sarah Elliott
- Team Spirit Award.....Erica Pearson



FUTURE CHAMPIONS!

Tiny Tot competitors, Jacob Boulware and Catie Goskowicz, at the West Allis Speedskating Club Awards Banquet.

In addition, the club's seven World and Junior World Team members were honored. They are:

- Brian Wanek.....World All-Around Team
- Dan Jansen.....World Sprint Team
- Darcie Dohnal.....World Short Track Team
- Brian Kretschmann.....Jr World Team
- Doug MacKenzie.....Jr World Team
- Dave Tamburrino.....Jr World Team
- Dede DeMet.....Jr World Team
- Chris Witty.....Jr World Team

The West Allis Club also held its annual elections in April and the following officers were elected:

- President.....Brad Goskowicz
- 1st Vice President.....Pete Elliott
- 2nd Vice President.....Darell Banker
- 3rd Vice President.....Eric Pearson
- Secretary.....Sue Ostrander
- Treasurer.....Howard Shapiro

Missouri Skating Association

(Continued from page 41)

Holiday Inn at South County, located at Highway I-55 and Lindbergh which is a mile north of our host location the past few years.

Linda O'Hare and Liz Chapin are the Co-Chairs for the Convention. Partytime USA! Headquarters for the convention is the Hampton Inn on the edge of downtown St. Louis. It is twelve blocks from the Gateway Arch and the Riverfront. Make your plans to be with us at both. At this years Convention our 11 members present each wore our yellow "Meet Us In St. Louis" T-Shirts on Saturday.

Have a great summer everyone!

FEEL GREAT SPEEDSKATE

Eastern Minnesota

(Continued from page 44)

If preparation is to have any meaning, it's to give recognition to those that have found time to prepare themselves. Last year we had the following positive results at Nationals and North Americans:

- Senior Womens.....Lynn Peterson - 2nd at Nationals
- Junior Womens.....Lynn Weaver - 2nd at Nationals
- Junior Men.....Leif Ahlgren - 1st at Nationals
- Junior Men.....Aaron Smith - 2nd at Nationals
- Juvenile Men.....Matt Vraa - 2nd at Nationals
2nd at North Americans
- Midget Men.....Emil Tack - 1st at Nationals

Congratulations to all of the E.M.S.A. skaters for their past efforts - and Good Luck in Preparation for the New Season just ahead.

