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Carnival skaters sail the seas

by Mark Holmes

Many exotic creatures were on hand last weekend as the Acton Figure Skating Club set sail for places like Hawaii and the Caribbean.

The theme of the two hour program was "Bon Voyage" and the audience was thrilled by creatures from above and below the water.

Excellent lighting and imaginative props gave the show additional flavor and any old salt would have felt at home on the S.S. Acton.

The Senior Girls got the program off to a tremendous start skating to "Bon Voyage." Debbie Bartels, Tracey Bruce, Kerry Butler, Karlynn Cripps, Lori DeBruyn, Stacey Perry, Jennifer Pearce, Paula Macpherson, Julie Townsley, Barb Wilson, Sharon Campbell, Tracy Frizzell, Ann Gardener, Michelle Perry, Colleen Petty, Gillian Brain, Cheryl Genoe, Kara Leatherland, Kim Pumphrey, Laura Masales, Wendy Norton, Nancy Norton, Julie Atherton and Brenda Porty were all outstanding in the opening number.

The following set, "Sea Fantasy," delighted the audience with a look at the undersea world of Goldfish, Seahorses, Starfish, Octopus, Mermaids, Balloon Bubblefish, Coins, Pearls and Gems.

Despite their young ages the Under the Sea cast were remarkably smooth and a credit to their instructors.

Julie Munroe, Nicole Lee, Nadine Barrett, Tammy Bosch, Melissa Jennings, Meranda Timbers, Sara Murray, Sylvia Smith-Bragg, Lori Grimwood, Elaine Bridgen and Laura Sanderson were Goldfish. Sandy Saccocia, Michael Avery, Alastair McGillvray, Michael Kempton, Jason Ball and Adam Trenton were the Seahorses.

Kara Leatherland followed the Seahorses and portaying an Angelfish, Kara was absolutely heavenly.

The Starfish were next and Sherri McKinnon, Carolyn Kinnon, Tara Toyne, Jamie Davies, Amanda Garwood, Carolyn Cosimo, Jodi Davies, Kathy Shier, Carrie Johnson and Candace Trenton shone brilliantly in their performance.

Sheldon Stuckless, Mike McRae, Kevin Pettipfer, Brian Denny, Michael Denny, David Ware, Ryan Burns, Chris McGeragle, Darryl Darby and Greg Johnson were flitting across the ice next as the Octopus gave chase to some of the other creatures of the deep.

What "Undersea" story would be complete with out Mermaids? Debbie Bartels, Ann Gardener, Wendy Norton, Geryl Genoe, Nancy Norton and Julie Atherton moved gracefully among the rocks and seaweed and the Mermaid's set was warmly received by the audience.

A solo performance by Brenda Porty was next on the agenda and again the crowd was awed by a flawless performance.

Katie McGrath, Deserie Barrett, Lisa Ball, Katie Holmes, Beth Henderson, Wendy Dixon, Jennifer Vidler, Amy Griggs, Michelle Warren, Lise Grimwood and Tina Jennings wowed the audience with their skating talents as the Balloon Bubblefish. Kent Petty was the third solo performer of the program as he "swam" the oceans in search of the beautiful creatures that live there.

Keri McCormick, Jennifer Antolin, Kelly McGeragle, Michelle Pilgrim, Melanie Rogue and Shannon McAfee were the Coins and, in a passionate performance, they too had the crowd ooing and ahing.

Perhaps one of the most colorful acts in the show were the Pearldrops, the Gems and Mother of Pearl.

Beginning with Jill Richmond, Debbie Swinamer, Allison Coe, Dianne Burt, Danille Burns, Christine Billington, Amanda Bogart, Ann Marie Kinnon, Kelly McDonald, Krista Petty, Karen Pettipfer, Michelle Stanfield, Kari Trow, Clare Tangridge and Maureen Thomson the Pearl Drops glided among the seaweed and uncovered the Gems, Kim Crace, Stacia Cockburn, Tara MacDougall and Virginia Pumphrey. The Gems, garbed in beautiful costumes dazzled the spectators and in a flourish of talent the Pearldrops and the Gems complemented their instructors. While the Gems and Pearls slept the Mother of Pearl, Laura Masales, arose from her Oyster shell home and performed an outstanding solo routine.

Charlie the Tuna (Chris Griggs), was next, darting about the ocean talking to all the Sardines, Doug Fresh, Chris White, Jason McCallum, Tim Ware, Stephen Denny, Michael White, Greg Finlay, Ryan Martin, Martie McKinnon and Paul Swackhammer. Again the skating instructors proved themselves to be great teachers and both Charlie and the Sardines performed well.

However, every great show must have its villains so next on the agenda was the sharks. Big, black and mean the sharks, Greg Shannon, Roy Stuckless, Blake Butler, Jeffrey Downs, Scott McIntyre, Chris Grimwood and Andrew Druham performed, effortlessly to inspire great applause from the audience.

Wrapping up the under the sea half of the program were the Neons and the Sunfish. The Neons, Stephanie Cassie, Dionisia

Katsilieris, Marie Katsilieris, Elizabeth Kikic, Katie Munroe, Janey McCallum, Mandy Bosch, Shelley Hornet, Carlee Cowan, Tricia Bailey, Lisa Sanderson, Stephanie Faseruk, Carrie Johnston, Joy Lynn Christopher and Melinda Dunn, were terrific and the use of black lights and white striped costumes was an imaginative touch.

The Sunfish were the last number in the first half of the program but they definitely weren't the least. Karen McKnight, Paula McPherson, Tracey Cripps, Kelly Cooper, Lorena Cosimo, Catherine Kinnon, Stacy Hunter, Maureen McGillvray, Monique Bartlett, Margaret Sales and Paula Raine had the crowds attention as they soared to the highs and lows of the music.

Part two of the show had the crowd taking a cruise on the S.S. Acton and to start, King Neptune (Ron Barker) and his daughter (Michelle Perry) stunned the audience with their excellent technique and skills.

Tracey Bruce, Laura Masales, Kim Pumphrey, Kara Leatherland, Kerry Butler, Michelle Perry, Brenda Porty and Karlynn Cripps came next as tourists in the Caribbean. The eight skaters had a flashy routine that was very entertaining.

Where there are tourists there are maids to look after them and Kim Gillies, Kirsten Murray, Patricia Pearce, Katherine Kinnon, Lorena Cosimo, Laura Anderson, Jill Murray, Maureen McGillvray, Katherine Nikic, Natalie Mance, Tracey Smith, Stacy Hunter, Karen McKnight, Laura Kempton and Sue Ann McGeragle did a fine making the beds and making the audience happy with another fine routine.

Jennifer Pearce followed the Maids as the Limbo Queen and in a superb solo effort the young skater won the hearts of all those in attendance.

Next on the program was the Captain's Ball featuring John and Ann Gardener. The two award winning skaters treated the crowd to a fantastic display of talent as they cruised the ice surface gracefully.

Ron Barker, Karlynn Cripps, Kent Petty, Kim Pumphrey, Chris Griggs, Tracey Cripps, Norm Murray, Stacy Hunter, Derek Robson and Krista Petty were guests at the Captain's Ball and, pairing off, the skaters delighted the audience again and again.

Tricia Benn and Jeff Can were two of the highlights of the program. The pair were the gold medal winners in the Pre-novice dance event at the Western Ontario sectional figure skating competition held this year in Preston.

The two skaters train under coaches Lynda and Malcolm Cannon at the Guelph Figure Skating Club and their outstanding performance last Saturday proved them to be top notch skaters.

The next set had the crowd anticipating the coming summer season as Cheryl Genoe, Tracey Frizzell, Nancy Norton, Gillian Brain, Lori DeBruyn, Julie Townsley, Barb Wilson and Sharon Campbell were "Twistin' by the Pool."

Deck Hands Ron Barker, Chris Griggs, Andy Brouwer, Norm Murray, Derrick Robson and Kent Petty were swabbing the deck until they spied the bathing beauties and, while the girls ignored the passes, the deckhands still had a good time.

Colleen Petty was next on the ice and despite the chilly air she gave a hot performance. Using her skills and talent she was a real showstopper.

Stacey Perry had a tough role to play in her part as a High Roller in the next set and again the Acton figure skating coaches were made proud by another flawless performance.

The next stop was Hawaii, a place many of us would like to be after a hard winter, and the Honolulu Hostess, Kerry Butler led off in fine form.

Hawaii cast members were Loren Cosimo, Stacy Hunter, Karen McKnight, Maureen McGillvray, Katherine Mikic, Kim Gillies, Kirsten Murray, Patricia Pearce, Monique Bartlett, Margaret Sales, Kelly Cooper, Katherine Kinnon, Paula Raine, Tracey Cripps, Natalie Mance and Tracey Smith.

Following the Hawaiian adventure Kevin Parker amazed and astounded both fellow skaters and the audience with a brilliant performance.

Parker, who has accumulated 21 gold medals, seven silver and two bronze medals, proved why he is asked to participate in the Acton Figure Skating Carnival time and time again.

The next set was the closing number for the 1984 Carnival and Debbie Bartels, Tracey Bruce, Gillian Brain, Lori DeBruyn, Tracey Frizzell, Julie Atherton, Cheryl Genoe, Kara Leatherland, Paula McPherson, Wendy Norton, Michelle Perry, Stacey Perry, Jennifer Pearce, Colleen Petty, Brenda Porty, Julie Townsley, Barb Wilson, Laura Masales and Nancy Norton did a smashing job.

All in all everyone, including the skaters and the audience, had a terrific time and it was obvious that everyone involved put a lot of time and effort into the show.

On a special note, Julie Townsley, while skating in the "By the Pool" set Saturday afternoon popped her knee out and despite her injury she came back to perform in the evening show.



Mother of Pearl steps out of her Oyster shell at the Acton Figure Skating Carnival last Saturday.



The Octopus gave the Starfish a bit of a fright at the Carnival last Saturday.



Tricia Benn and Jeff Cann performed beautifully at the annual Figure Skating Carnival last weekend.



Ron Barker was King Neptune and Michelle Perry was his daughter.



Brenda Porty was a Mermaid in the Carnival last Saturday and was outstanding in her performance.



Jennifer Pearce was the Limbo Queen.



Ann and John Gardener, two award winning skaters, were also on hand at the Carnival to perform a dance routine.



Kara Leatherland was an outstanding soloist at the Carnival. Miss Leatherland was an Angelfish.



Colleen Petty had a dazzling routine as Miss Bathing Beauty at the Carnival.



"Twisting by the Pool" was an inspirational performance by some of the Senior Skaters at the Carnival.



Guests at "The Captain's Ball" watched Ann and John Gardener open the set with a beautiful performance.



The Maids made the audience happy with a terrific performance.