

# The Wiz of Oz packs them in

Approximately 1,700 people eased on down the road to Memorial Arena over the weekend to catch three productions of the Georgetown Figure Skating Club's The Wiz of Oz.

Carnival co-ordinator Peggy Shannon said that all the tickets for the three shows

were sold. There was one show Saturday afternoon and two more on Sunday.

The show gave the many talented skaters of the Georgetown Figure Skating club a chance to showcase their talents and also the opportunity to have a little fun with the classic story of

the little girl from Kansas who finds herself in the land of Oz.

The highlights of the show are no doubt the performances of Kris Barber and Kelly Johnson. The dance pair, recently crowned the Canadian Junior champions, performed in both the first and

second half of each show and also did an encore each time. Barber also took part in the show as a member of the Emerald City's dance court. In this scene he skated with Leslie Tonna, a professional with the club.

The script for the show was written by Greg Bodnar. He

used the original book and movie versions of the Wizard of Oz, plus the stage play, the Wiz, to pen the show.

The plot did not vary from the movie which featured Judy Garland in 1939. Its still the same story of the little girl who gets whirled away to the land of Oz. There she makes some great friends as well as at least one vicious enemy and at the end she returns home to her Aunt Em in Kansas.

Shana Armstrong did an excellent job as Dorothy and Debra Dougal was superb as Toto. Both had many chances to showcase their talents on ice.

Eileen Hancock chilled the audience in her solos as the Wicked Witch of the North, who of course was Dorothy's main adversary.

Also playing in the lead parts were Janet Shepherd as the scarecrow, Deborah Newman as the Tin Man and Laura Yerxa as the Lion.

The soundtrack albums from both the Wizard of Oz and The Wiz were used extensively for the show.

Other members of the GFSC professional staff who worked very hard to put the show on were Connie Swallow (carnival director), Janet Fell Burrows, (Carnival costumes), Marilyn Barber (Carnival props and cue sheets), Rick Dowding (Carnival sound, lighting and music), Tonna and Sherry Smeaton.

The skaters are too numerous to list here, but they all did an excellent and superb job.

The professional staff also

received much support from parents of skaters in pulling the show together.

The skaters had just six rehearsals to get the show, which ran for more than three hours, down pat.

## Three advance

Three Georgetown rep teams have earned a berth in the third round of the OMHA playdowns.

The United Rent-All Minor Pee Wees defeated Owen Sound three games to two in a very exciting series. The DRG Stationery Major Bantams and the Rotary International Juvenile squad were both three games to one winners in their series against Owen Sound.

The most heart-breaking loss in the second round was suffered by the Optimist Club Minor Bantams. After losing the first two games of the series in overtime, the bantams showed their spunk by taking the next two games to tie it up. They suffered a close loss in the fifth and deciding game.

The Firefighters and McNally Construction Major Atoms lost their series three games to none to Fort Erie and Labelmasters Minor Midgets and Sunny Acres Farm Major Midgets lost their sets by the same numbers to Owen Sound.

The Al Pilutti Minor Atoms and the Standard Products Major Pee Wees were eliminated in the first round.



This was the scene when the balloon arrived to take Dorothy and Toto back to Kansas. Unfortunately the balloon man (Chris Cox), the Wiz (Stephen Percival), the

Tin Man (Debbie Newman), the Scarecrow (Janet Shepherd) Toto (Debra Dougal), the Lion (Laura Yerxa) and Dorothy (Shana Armstrong).



Kris Barber was kept very busy in the Wiz of Oz. Aside from doing three great dances with his dance partner Kelly Johnson, he also was a member of the Emerald City's dance court. Here he dances with Leslie Tonna of Norval as a partner. Donna is a professional with the GFSC.



Each of the main skaters got to perform at least one solo skate. Here Janet Shepherd struts her stuff as the scarecrow for Shana Armstrong who portrayed Dorothy.