

Disney tour offers world for Milton figure skater

By **STEVE LeBLANC**
Special to *The Champion*



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Kathy Motton plans to lace up her skates with the Disney show in Europe this summer, after performing in Asia and North America.

Choristers team for Double Mendelssohn

The Milton Choristers will join forces with Toronto's St. Elizabeth Scola Cantorum on Sunday Mar. 23 at 3 p.m. for an afternoon of 19th century music at Holy Rosary Church.

The featured piece is Mendelssohn's Te Deum for double choir.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students. There is no charge for children under 12. Tickets are available at Peggy's, Delacourt's or by phoning 875-4588.

KATHY MOTTON will poison a beautiful princess this afternoon (Sunday), and thousands of witnesses will cheer her on.

She'll be cold and conniving, and get paid for her efforts. She'll even hang out with a bunch of bearded old miners in a sinister forest.

Talk about an interesting way to make a living.

If this sounds like a familiar story once read at bedtime — you're right, it is.

These days, 20-year-old Motton lives out a fairy tale with *Walt Disney's World on Ice*. As a member of the Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs company, she wraps up a five-day, nine-show stand at Hamilton's Copps Coliseum today.

The Bishop Reding graduate has been part of the production's Asian-American tour for the last nine-and-a-half months.

"It's nice to be back, to have a kitchen and to sleep in my own bed," said Ms Motton, upon arriving home early last

week. "I'm looking forward to my friends and family seeing me perform."

Today's second show will mark the local skater's debut as a recognized character in the Grimm brothers' 1830s tale.

As a first-year cast member Ms Motton has been part of the chorus line but recently received the second understudy role of the Old Hag (the Evil Queen's disguise). She will now have her moment in the spotlight.

"I'm kind of nervous about being a bigger player in the show Sunday. However, I felt the same way before starting the tour last spring and once we hit the ice for the first time I wasn't nearly as nervous as I thought I'd be. We get so much practice that you barely have to think about the routines during the performance," she said.

Ten years of competition with the Milton Skating Club paid off in huge dividends last March, when Ms Motton inked a one-year contract with Disney.

This followed a successful audition at SkyDome.

Since this time, she's been jet-setting across Korea, Japan and the northern

United States. While being so far away from home has been tough, Ms Motton says it's exciting to wake up in a different city each week.

"Japan is a beautiful country to see. We stayed there for five months so I had the opportunity to visit a lot of sites including the historic A-Bomb Park in Hiroshima," she recalled. "The Japanese just love anything with the Disney name attached to it. They're very reserved during the actual performance, but often gave standing ovations when we were done."

Ms Motton usually performs five straight days in a single city, with Mondays and Tuesdays generally used for traveling.

"It can sometimes be tiring, but being out there performing is so enjoyable. It's a job unlike any other."

The company will double back across the border this week to Hartford, Connecticut. Following a final swing through the U.S., they will begin an anxiously awaited three-week trek through Puerto Rico.

"This was added to the tour just recently."

• see **DISNEY** on page 8

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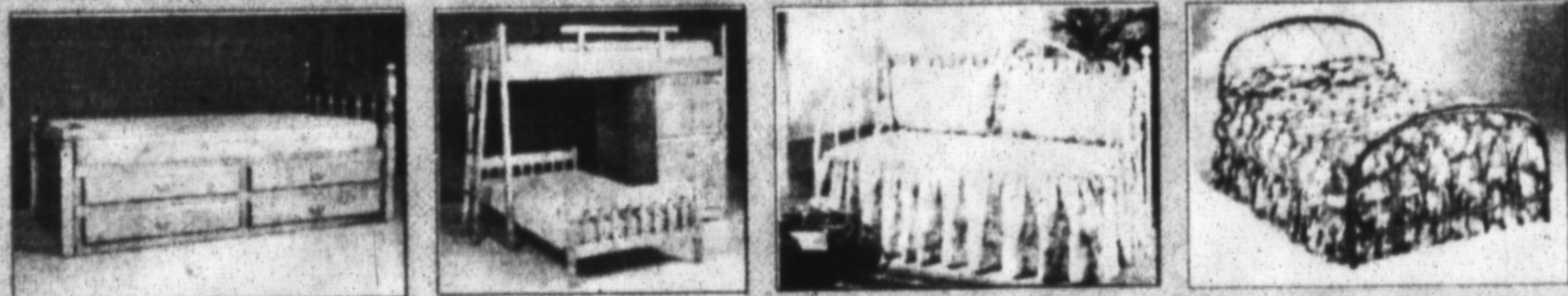
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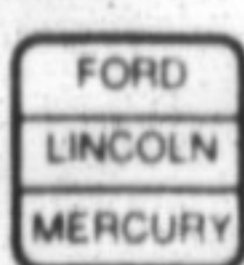


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