

Sports

Tribune

Markham Figure Skating Club

# Annual ice carnival was all-color show

By Bob Hastings  
**MARKHAM** - The Stanley Cup playoffs or the Markham Skating Carnival? Many a Mom and Dad were faced with this decision Saturday night. Many a Mom and Dad chose the latter and turned out en masse to enjoy the sixth annual presentation by the Markham Skating Club.

If applause is any indicator, the packed house was in full accord with the often heard comment that this year's extravaganza was bigger and better than ever. Professional, Karen Lewis once again did an excellent job of writing and producing the show. The double theme, 'Jennifer's Rabbit' and 'Through the Pages of Time' provided variety sufficient to appeal to all ages - whether participant or patron. The other club professionals, Frances Allan, Hans Algren and Aileen Hadley had the close to three

hundred skaters in top form as they went through their glittering routines. Tradition was not denied as the youngest carried out their perennial role of stealing the show with their innocent and unrehearsed deviations from the script. This year, the newly formed group of pre-schoolers turned the most somber spectators into full fledged aisle-rollers with their antics. The 'Lions' got the lion's share of the laughs as they came out determined to keep blade and ice in touch. It only took one spill to trigger the yo-yo brigade. Somehow, they finished their act in fine style - well, almost. One toddler decided that four points of contact were much superior to two. He simply crawled off when his legs wouldn't work.

The Markettes and Wee Markettes brought color and precision together in the opening sequences before the entrance of Wendy Gunn and Mary Lynn Lawrie. Although still eligible for novice competition, Wendy and Mary Lynn recently became Senior Pairs Champions of Central Ontario. Their performance hinted at great things to come for them in the competitive ranks.

'Rabbit', Karen Derey, 'Kangaroo', Debbie Kiernan, 'Turtle', Lea Ann Fervey, and 'Jennifer', Joanne Warne had major parts as they kept the story line, intact and allowed everybody from the 'Oileans' to the 'Hot Dogs' to strut their stuff. Individual performances were shared by Janet Spence, Jan Byrnes, Susan Kiernan, and Donna and Patti White. David Hill, Jim Brickwood and Douglas Gilbert also added to the first half of the program.

After intermission, it was 'Through the Pages of Time' - a spoof made possible by a magic thunderbolt. 'Zeus', played by Graham Manning and 'Zeus' Friend', Ken Dix provided the animated parts. 'The Grande Ball' was a highlight of the carnival. The elegant costumes and clever choreography helped to make it so. The thunderbolt created a unique change of pace as the skaters made the transition from an Elizabethan waltz to an up-tempo rock 'n' roll number.

Gold Medalists, Brenda Sandys and Jim Holden, of the Granite Club, treated the audience to a graceful and fluid dance routine to the tune of 'Hello Dolly'. 'Ye Old West' proved to be a spirited and colourful part of the skating spectacular, featuring Ricky Spence, Wendy Gunn, Valerie Maynard, and John Harrison. A more martial mood was created as the three former branches of the armed forces were brought to life

through costume, movement and music. An acrobatic and smooth performance by Leslie Cooper preceded a very impressive finale. Skating carnivals are still very much a part of our Canadian culture and if they continue to be of the calibre displayed by the young people of Markham, they will be with us for many more years.



Dancers on skates

A highlight of the Markham Figure Skating Club carnival, April 10 and 11 was the 'Grand Ball' that began as a sedate Elizabethan waltz and increased to an up-tempo rock and roll number. Two of the participants were (left) Valerie Maynard, 16, Main Street South and Wendy Gunn, 14, Princess Street. Peter Harris

## Unionville Ice review

### Four performances

**UNIONVILLE** - The Unionville Figure Skating Club will present 'Ice Fantasia', this weekend, April 17, 18 and 19 and like shows of past seasons, this one is no exception.

Unionville's reputation for carnival color, talent and excitement is known for miles around, even attracting spectators from Metro and farther.

Pinochio is the Junior theme, featuring Karen Newton, 1970 Tri-State winner; Irving, the world's most intelligent mouse portrayed by Ricky O'Neill; the Blue Fairy is Donna Harding, Double Gold Medalist. See them bring this age-old fairy tale to life on ice with a cast of over 100 children that will make your eye's light up with laughter at sin-copation that only small children can do.

The second-half of the show features Hotel La Grande; Fiddler on the Roof with Michael Bradley and Debbie Jones, Novice Pair Champions of Canada for 1968. Rendezvous in space with Eileen Pettit, Gold Medalist.

Come and watch breathtaking skating done by Cathi-Lee Irwin, runner-up Senior Ladies of Canada 1970 and a member of the World Team 68-69 and 69-70. Also Mary Church and David Sutton, Senior Dance Champions for 1970 competitions were held in

Ljubljana, Yugoslavia. Roger Uemae, competitor in Junior Mens in Canadians. You will see why these young men and women have brought honour to Canada and themselves after seeing some of the finest skating right here at Unionville.

This year there will be four performances. Friday night April 17th, Saturday matinee and evening and also Sunday afternoon matinee. Tickets are now on sale at Crosby Memorial Arena, Unionville.

## Organize minor softball

**STOUFFVILLE** - A meeting, to organize minor

softball for boys ranging in age from 9 to 16 years, will be held in the Stouffville Municipal Chambers, Monday evening, April 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Registration will take place in the park, May 2 and 4.

The Novice team will be in charge of Lorne Roadway assisted by Ken Wagg. Jack Watson will coach the Pee-wee club.

assisted by Wilf Morley, Dent Smith and Doug Davis. Bud Nichols and Bob Bangay will look after the Midget entry. A coach and manager are still needed for the Bantam team along with umpires and all other helpers available.

Last year, Stouffville's Novice team advanced to the Ontario semi-finals.

## Thursday ladies' league

**STOUFFVILLE** - Nine bowlers in the Thursday Afternoon Ladies League topped the 200 mark. April 2: Bernice Nelson, rolled the high single with 249, followed by Nancy Armstrong, 239; June Ward, 237; 229; June Hopper, 232; Lois Bartley, 228, 205; Ev McKay, 215, 203; Jean Dart, 210; Jean Foley, 206; and Elva Newmarch, 204.

Elva Newmarch led the league, April 9, with a 301 single, followed by Jean Dart, 247, 235; Ev McKay, 230, 218; Lois Bartley, 224, 217, 216; Lil Baker, 210; Marion Green, 206; Anna Fretz, 206; and June Hopper, 205.

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