

Long Beach Skaters In National Contest

The Long Beach Skating Club will close the competitive season by sending ten skaters to enter seven different events to the national championships at Mineola Rink, Mineola, Long Island, Aug. 1-5. This national will be the 13th amateur championships of roller skating to be conducted entirely by amateurs under the auspices of the United States Amateur Rolling Skating Association, which holds direct membership with the Amateur Athletic Union and is recognized by the AAU and its affiliated members as the sole governing body over all amateur roller skating in the United States. On an average there are 670 skaters who participate in the nationals with 31 national trophies at stake.

The Long Beach skaters have qualified to enter the nationals by placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd within their state at the recent New England A.R.S.A. sectionals held at Co-Ed Rollerdom, Allston, Mass. In addition to the Long Beach S C there were entries from Candlewood S C, Danbury; Park City S C, Bridgeport; Worcester Dance & Figure S C, Worcester, Mass.; Shoes Dance and Figure S C, Dorchester, Mass.; Crystal S C, Dorchester, Mass.; and the host club, William T. DiMarzio Dance & Figure S C.

The people of Lordship have watched the building at 85 Washington parkway progress since it was built in 1915 by St. James' church for summer services on Sundays and used for dances during the week.

In 1938 it became Delvi's Crystal Ballroom and began its career as a skating rink.

Ernest Antignani took over and completely remodeled the building in 1945. The first competitive skating club was organized in September of 1949 with the backing of Mr. Antignani. An amateur club, within the meaning of the U.S.A.R.S.A., is composed of skaters who participate in roller skating for the sake of the pleasure afforded by the occupation itself, and not for any pecuniary gain; being persons for whom the pursuit is solely a recreation and in no sense or degree a business. The first executive board, consisting of Cell Decker, Theresa Lioel, Elizabeth Honey, John Midney, Joseph Mastroni, John Felicella, Joseph Cumming and Charles Dannenberg, drew up the first constitution from New England by the U.S.A.R.S.A. The club received its name because of the rink's locating near Long Beach.

Anthony Fellows became owner in 1953, with William J. Fellows as manager and professional of the rink. Mr. Fellows continued to be a good promoter of skating with the interest of the amateur in mind. Monday evenings are given to the club for its exclusive use from 6:30 until 11 o'clock. A full schedule is skated, including all divisions of figures, free skating, dance and speed. The club has approximately 50 members.

Each year the club has sponsored at least two skaters as delegates to the national championships, and is sending ten skaters this year. Skaters placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in the nationals, will be the only skaters recognized as the official U. S. national champions by the Federation Internationale de Roller Skating (world governing body over roller skating); the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States and the United States Olympic Association to the World's Roller Skating Championships to be held this year in Barcelona, Spain.

Sunday Post photos—Karalus



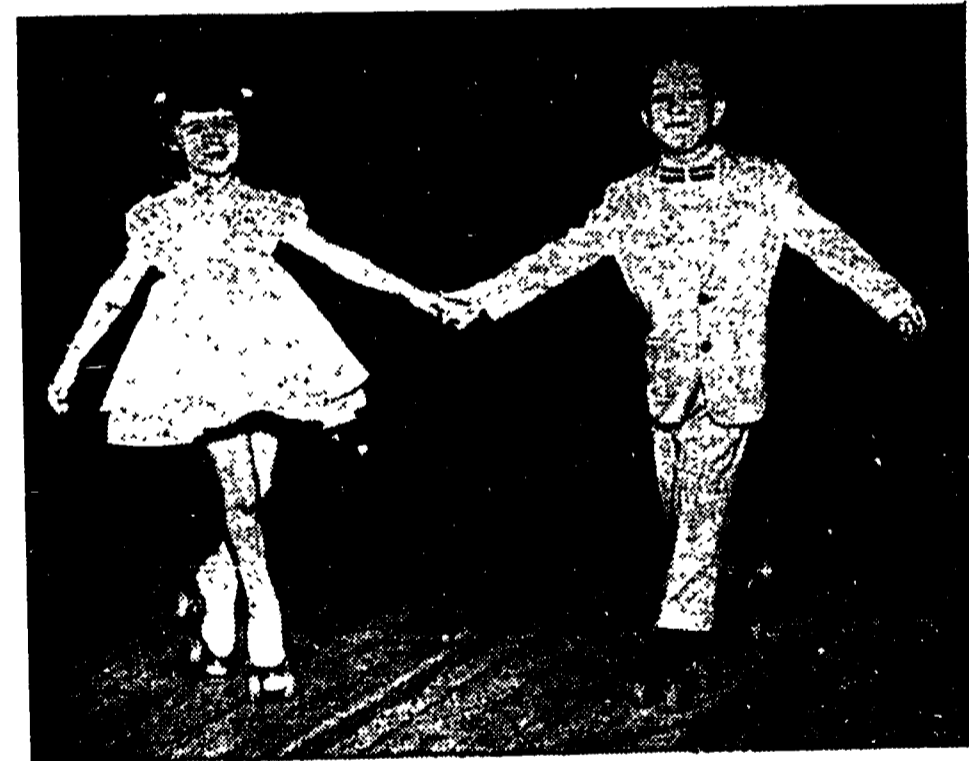
CHARLES DANNENBERG and ELIZABETH HONEY, both of Milford, were awarded 2nd place Connecticut and 2nd place New England in the highest division in dance, Senior. The dances in this division are Carroll Swing Fox-Trot, Quickstep March, Westminster Waltz, Killian March, Iceland Tango, S-Lobe Eight Waltz, Argentine Tango and Viennese Waltz. Charlie and Betty have been skating as a team since 1947. They have the distinction of being the first team in New England to pass Silver Medal Proficiency Tests under the U.S.A.R.S.A. Their sectional titles are: 1947—3rd place Novice Dance; 1948—3rd place Novice Dance; 1949—1st place Junior Dance; 1950, 1951—1st place Senior Dance (retiring the Ernest O. Antignani Senior Dance Trophy); 1953—1st place Senior Dance; and in 1954 and 1955—2nd place Senior Dance. In inter-club competition they have approximately 90 dance medals. They also are U.S.A.R.S.A. officials. Charlie is qualified to judge all divisions as he is a Gold Figure and Gold-Dance Judge, and Betty is a Silver Figure and Silver Dance Judge.



JUDITH L. MILLER, 6 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Miller of Fairchild Park, Shelton, captured 1st place Connecticut and 1st place New England with her jumps, spins and fancy footwork in the Girls' Tiny Tot Free Skating division. She has also passed her Junior Bar Figure Proficiency Test. This is Judy's first year of competition.



1955 EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THEIR OFFICE—left to right: Elizabeth Honey, competitions and tests; Jeanette Dannenberg, publicity; Art Caruso, membership; Veronica Solomon, secretary; Joseph Alarcon, president; Helen Therien, vice president and treasurer; Rod Therien, house, ways and means; Annette Monaco, finance; and Charles Dannenberg, constitution. The executive board is the governing body of the club.



RICHARD HAVENEC, 5 and JUDITH MILLER, 6, gained the title of 1st place Connecticut and 4th place New England in the Juvenile Dance division. Skaters must be under 10 years old in this division and skate the Straight Waltz, Country Polka and the Chicken Scratch with timing, expression, and placement. Richy and Judy will skate two different events in the Nationals.



JOSEPH ALARCON and VERONICA SOLOMON outskated 23 teams winning 3rd place Connecticut and 20th place New England in the Intermediate Dance Division. This is the beginning division for skaters 15 years old and over. They are judged on accuracy and placement in the Karen Lee Tango, Style "A" Waltz, 14-Step March and the Rotation Fox-Trot. Joe, of Bridgeport, and Ronnie, of Stratford, have both passed their Bronze Figure and Bronze Dance Proficiency Tests.



ROBERT LASSEN, 13, was off to a flying start when he won 1st place Connecticut and 1st place New England in the Novice Boys' Speed division. He's son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. Lassen, Jr., of 285 Oak Bluff avenue, Lordship.



RICHARD HAVENEC, 5, skated uncontested and against time racing to finish 1st place Connecticut and 1st place New England in the Boys' Juvenile Speed division. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Havenec, of 498 Honeyspot road, Stratford.



HAROLD THERIEN, 12, is practicing to win the Novice Boys' Speed title. In first year of speed competition he rolled across the finish line in 2nd place Connecticut and 2nd place New England. He's the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Therien of 242 Reed's Lane, Stratford.



WILLIAM SMITH, 12, and CHARL ANN MILLER, 10, were awarded 2nd place Connecticut and 6th place New England in the Sub-novice Dance division, for skaters under 13 years old at beginning of skating season. Accuracy and expression in the Straight Waltz, Collegiate Fox-Trot and 12-Step March was their forte. Bill is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William O. Smith of 903 Pearl Harbor street, Stratford, and Charl Ann is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Miller of Fairchild Park, Shelton.