

McKenzie wins World Inline FSC title

Phyllis McKenzie of the Capital Area Inline Figure Skating Club in Washington, D.C., won the gold medal in the senior ladies category at the third annual World Inline Figure Skating Championships on July 12–14 in Bucharest, Romania.

McKenzie was one of 62 skaters to compete under rules adopted from the International Skating Union. The competitors, using Pic skates, performed at the Sala Polivalenta Sports Complex.

Other U.S. medal winners were Lynette Carol, who claimed silver in junior ladies, and Aleem Tal-

ib, who secured silver in the adult men's division.

The U.S. skaters are advised by PSA-master rated coach Nicolas Perna of Fairfax Va.

The event was sponsored by the Romanian Skating Federation and sanctioned by the World Inline Figure Skating Association headquartered in Paris.

"We are proud and happy to be part of the new sport of inline figure skating," Romanian Skating Federation President Professor Adrian Ciobanu said.



Phyllis McKenzie begins a layback spin.

PHOTO BY ALEEM TALIB



Thirteen skaters from the Colonial Skating Club of Pennsylvania took part in a weeklong camp this summer at the Flyers Skate Zone in Philadelphia. On day one, participants performed S.T.A.R.S. tests, skated together in a group and practiced for the end-of-the-week exhibition for their parents. On the second day, they walked a mile, lifted weights, did yoga and cut loose with some interpretive skating. They made up a dance program, worked on their leg strength by doing shoot-the-duck moves, ate some skate-shaped cookies and performed spirals on day three. On day four, there was weight training, group skating and the kids decorated the shirts that they were to wear for the parents' exhibition. A coach also brought in scarves, skirts and tambourines for some exotic interpretive skating. The camp wrapped up on day five, with the skaters practicing their group numbers. They also retook their S.T.A.R.S. tests, celebrated a birthday and performed their exhibition group programs for the parents. "I made programs for each parent with photos of their skater through the week, their S.T.A.R.S. paperwork and a survey they had filled out about their favorite things we did at camp," Skating Director Amber Hartman said. "These will be memories they will cherish for a long time."

Museum event honors 'Skaters Who Served'

The World Figure Skating Museum & Hall of Fame welcomed military families and invited guests for a special event Aug. 6 in cooperation with Blue Star Museums.

Nearly 50 people explored the exhibits and then were seated for "Skaters Who Served," a presentation focusing on figure skating's history in times of war.

Museum archivist Karen Cover told the story behind the 17th Century silver statue of a Dutch soldier wearing ice skates. In the Battle of IJsselmer in 1572, a small fleet of Dutch ships were frozen solid in ice near Amsterdam. Spanish troops crossed the ice on foot to attack, but the Dutch slipped on their skates and easily defeated their foe. The Spanish then bought 7,000 pairs of skates and trained troops in the art of skating.

Cover focused her presentation on three U.S. Figure Skating hall of famers: Lloyd "Skipper" Baxter, Joan Tozzer and Edward LeMaire. Baxter fought on skis with the famed 10th Mountain division in Europe. Tozzer, who lived on Hawaii during the 1941 attack of Pearl Harbor, worked for the Army's Woman's Air Raid Defense and the USO. LeMaire served as a Navy flight instructor.

Cover also shared how American Dick Button and Canadian Barbara Ann Scott were heralded in North America after winning gold medals at the 1948 Olympics, the first Games held since 1936.

This is the second year the World Figure Skating Museum, located in Colorado Springs, has teamed with Blue Star Museums to offer free admission to the nation's active duty military and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Museum archivist Karen Cover presents a program titled "Skaters Who Served" at the World Figure Skating Museum & Hall of Fame.



The Cutting Edge FSC from Pleasant, Prairie, Wis., won first place in the nonprofit category at the Kenosha Civic Parade on July 4 in Kenosha, Wis. This year's theme was Americas Wild West. The club added a spur at the end of its skate, and the judges rewarded its creativity.