

# Historical Roller Skating OVERVIEW

National Museum of Roller Skating  
4730 South Street  
P.O. Box 6579  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506-0579  
Phone 402-483-7551

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## *Special*

## *Championship*

## *Issue!*



*Speed skaters head down Little Rock, Arkansas' main drag in a special street race held on the afternoon of the opening of the 1960 American Championships*

## Curator's Corner

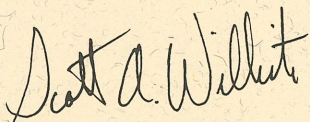
### DID YOU KNOW . . .

--That the National Museum of Roller Skating has more than doubled its membership in the last two years? Membership now stands at nearly 600 people. These are individuals who have made a commitment to preserving roller skating history.

--That the museum has received three federal grants in the last year and a half? This money has gone to aid in the preservation and collections management of the many items in the collection, from skates and photographs, to costumes and paintings.

--That the museum recently completed a computerized catalog of the artifacts in the collection? Now, at the touch of a few buttons, it is possible to find out the answer to "how many Chicago Roller Skates there are in the collection," OR, "how many skates are in the collection that were manufactured in the 1930's," OR any number of other questions.

If you are a member of the museum, YOUR CONTRIBUTION HAS HELPED TO MAKE THESE ACHIEVEMENTS POSSIBLE! The museum wishes to express its thanks to the many of you who have taken part in making the museum a success. If you have not become a member, now is your chance to join in and help make the museum a continued success story.



**Scott A. Wilhite**  
*Director & Curator*



*Museum intern Stacey Stonum entering information into the collections catalog.*

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Historical Roller Skating Overview is the newsletter of the National Museum of Roller Skating. It is available only through honorary membership in the museum. Minimum annual contribution is \$15.00. All inquiries, comments should be sent to the Museum Director, 4730 South St., P.O. Box 6579, Lincoln, NE 68506.

## **TEXAS TORNADO SWEEPS CHAMPIONSHIPS!**

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. - For the second consecutive year, Senior Champions found rough going defending their titles in the 1960 American Amateur Roller Skating Championships, while Paul Boehm of Pasadena, Texas took individual honors with four championships.

The "Texas Tornado" took firsts in Novice Figures, Intermediate Singles and Novice Dance, and Intermediate Pairs with partner Pamela Cornwall.

It marked only the third time in the history of the American Championships that a skater captured four titles. J.W. Norcross (Greeley, Colo.) took four Senior events in 1950 and Roy Huckaby (Beaumont, Texas) won four Juvenile titles in 1956.

Rob Wollard and Carol Stout of Long Beach, Calif. successfully defended their Senior Pairs title. Wollard also captured the Senior Men's Singles on the final night of the competition, with 1955-56 Champion Edgar Watrous of Hartford, Conn. second and James Harmer of Wooster, Ohio third.

1957-58 Senior Ladies Singles Champion Carolyn Sliger of Oklahoma City, Okla. regained her crown with a spectacular routine that brought the spectators to their feet at the finish. Beverly Bowers of London, Ontario was second and defending Champion Sylvia Haffke of Agawam, Mass. third.

Defending Senior Dance Champions Charles Wahlig and Claire Farrell of Brooklyn, N.Y. were dethroned by Linda Jo Baker and Jack Greer of Atlanta, Ga. Wahlig had held the title for three years, the last two with Claire as his partner.

It was the same story in the Senior Figure events with both Darrell Glenn of Long Beach, Calif. and Paulette Stewart

of Redwood City, Calif. losing their titles. Glenn finished second to Tom Gregory of Pontiac, Mich. Paulette failed to make the finals which were won by 1958 Champion Chris Benda of Grandview, Mo.

Sylvia Ritchie, Louis Parker, Rick Martins, and Sue Welch of Pontiac, Mich. won the Senior Fours title with Don Scheiber, Christy Cowdery, Eugene LaBriola, and Judy Nance of Marysville, Calif. second. Last year's championship team did not defend in this event.

### ***Speed Events***

Two speed records, one standing since 1941, were broken during the Championships. George Grudza of Penndel, Pa. who captured the Senior Men's speed championship established a new mark of 14:52.4 in the five mile race, eclipsing the old record of 14:52.7 set 19 years ago in Cleveland, Ohio.

Finishing second behind Grudza in the Senior Men's speed division were John Drewry of Irvington, N.J. and Eddie Perales of Redondo Beach, Calif. Last year's champion Gerry Gohs of Detroit, Mich. finished seventh.

Scott Harrity of Pontiac, Mich. set a new record of :19.3 in the Juvenile "D" Boys one-twelfth mile race replacing the old time of :19.4 set at Cleveland in 1958.

Mary Merrell of Fullerton, Calif. won the Senior Ladies speed event for the second consecutive year with Nina Marmarino of Irvington, N.J. second and Sally Richardson of Detroit third.

Speedsters from Wichita, Kansas captured the Men's, Ladies' and Mixed Relay speed events. Pat Carter, Charles Stover, Ronald Watkins and Richard Edwards won the Men's Relay. With the exception of Watkins, this is the same team that won the event last year.

***Continued on next page***

The Ladies' Relay was won by Jody Fehring, Barbara Solter, Cindy Rodick and Lynda Stawitz with Cindy the only newcomer from last year's winning team.

Patrick Carter, Charles Stover, Jody Fehring, and Barbara Solter won the Mixed Relay with teammates Ronald Watkins, Richard Edwards, Bonnie Matsen and Lynda Stawitz second.



*Mixed Relay Championship team of Patrick Carter, Jody Fehring, Barbara Solter, and Charles Stover of Wichita, Kansas.*



*Senior Fours Championship team of Rick Martins, Sue Welch, Louis Parker and Sylvia Ritchie from Pontiac, Michigan.*

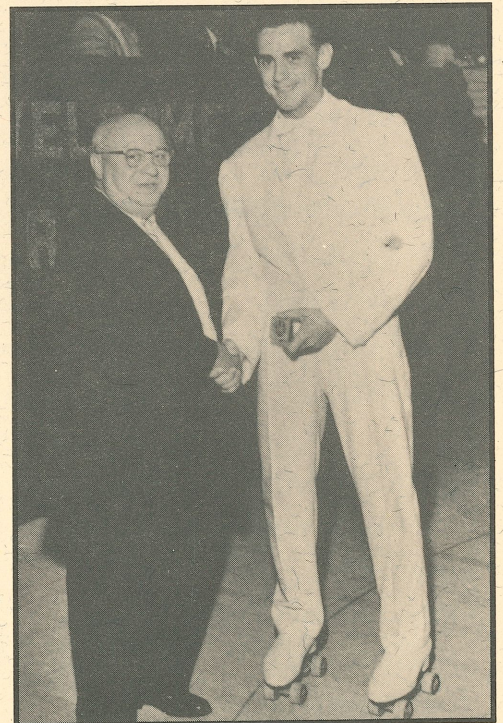
*Senior Ladies' Singles Champion Carolyn Sliger of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma won the coveted title for the third time. She won the Senior Ladies' Singles Championship in 1957 and in 1958 but lost out last year to Sylvia Haffke.*



*Mary Merrell (center) successfully defended her Senior Ladies' Speed title with Nina Marmorina second and Sally Richardson third.*



*Rob Wollard and Carol Stout of Long Beach, California successfully defended their Senior Pairs title during the Championships. Rob also added the Senior Men's Singles Championship to his many skating laurels.*



*Charles Wahlig was presented with a special Life Membership for his outstanding contribution to the sport of amateur roller skating.*

## *National Museum of Roller Skating Members*

	Steve Sweetin	Roller Derby Skate	Joseph Caruso
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Many thanks as well to the Individual/Family level members who are too numerous to list here!



### PATRON MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Remember that the Patron Memorial Plaque still has spaces available for individuals who have made contributions to our roller skating heritage. This could include everyone from rink owners to athletes. A one-time fee of \$250 will place a person's name on the memorial which is permanently displayed at the National Museum of Roller Skating.

## Be a Part of History

The history of roller skating is fragile. Once it is lost, it may never be regained. Help the National Museum of Roller Skating preserve the rich history of our sport by joining one of our special membership categories listed below. Future roller skaters will thank you.

Contributors of \$15 or more become Honorary Members of the Museum and receive a Museum membership pin, official identification card, the newsletter, and free admission whenever they visit the Museum.

- |  |   |
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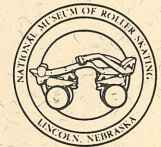
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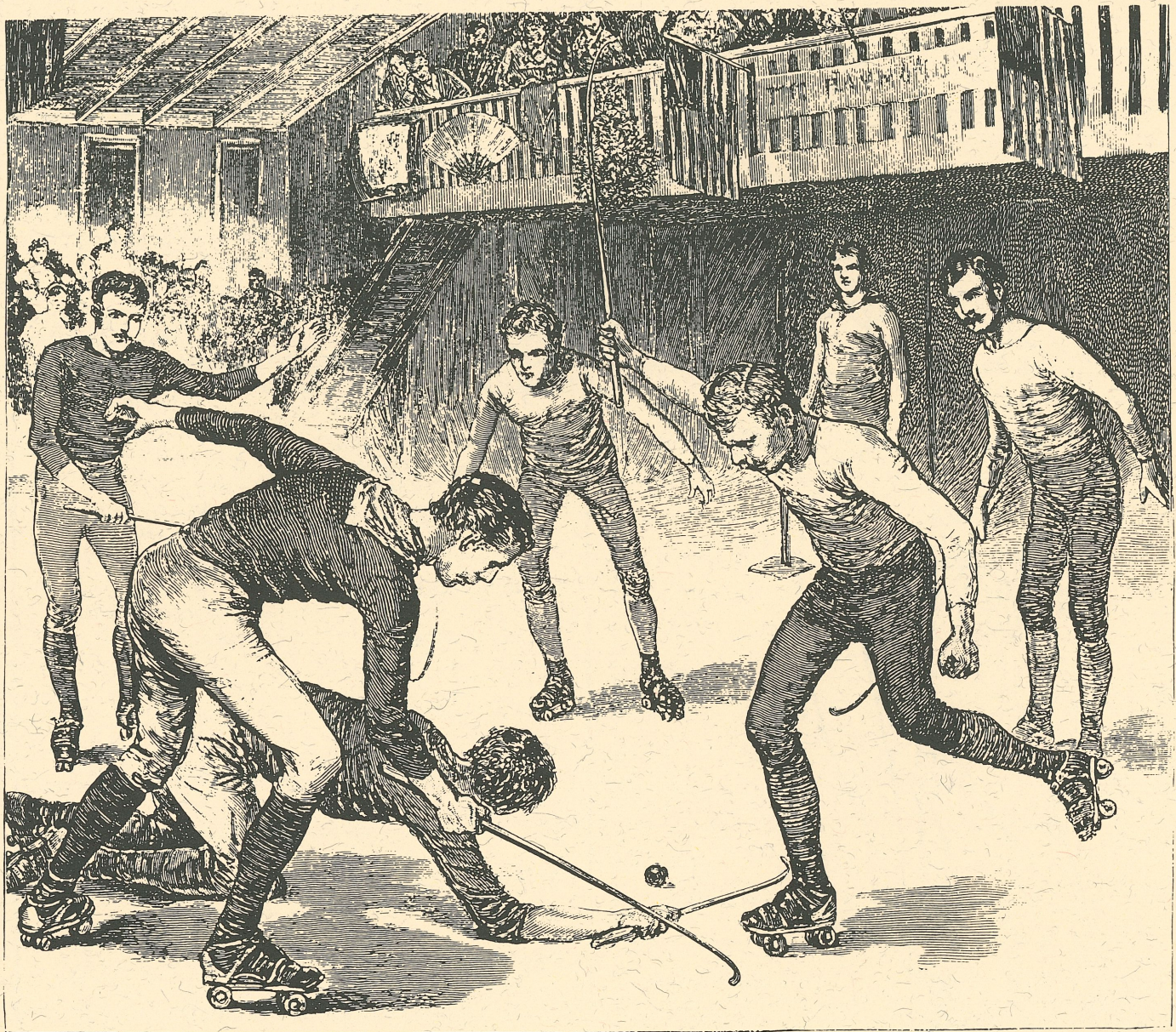
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P.O. Box 6579  
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