

Our Alumni in the News

Another Piece of our History is Gone

The Boss knows how to say goodbye: Bruce Springsteen show the last for Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena

March 14, 2016

Updated March 15, 2016 11:42 a.m.



Bruce Springsteen wrote a song that describes perfectly what will be happening soon in Los Angeles.

The New Jersey rocker's last show at the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena on Saturday will be the last event at the old, oblong building. The wrecking ball is the next scheduled visitor after Springsteen and the E Street Band leave town after shows today, Thursday and Saturday. When you've written songs as long as The Boss has, you learn how to say goodbye.

"When all this steel and these stories, they drift away to rust. And all our youth and beauty has been given to the dust ... Bring on your wrecking ball."

It's a song called "Wrecking Ball," and it was written just before Springsteen played the last show at his beloved Giants Stadium in the New Jersey Meadowlands in 2009.

Springsteen once affectionately called the Sports Arena "the dump that jumps." He's played the venue 31 times since his first show, on Oct. 30, 1980, when he opened with the familiar lines from "Born to Run": "In the day we sweat it out on the streets of a runaway American dream. At night we ride through mansions of glory in suicide machines."

The Sports Arena was once a mansion of glory.

[Click here](#) to read the complete article.

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Scott Hamilton - The Gold Medalist

By [J.R. Lind @jrlind](#)



[Photo: Michael W. Bunch](#)

Photographed at Ford Ice Center

Scott Hamilton hasn't performed his famous backflip since 2010.

The 1984 Olympic figure skating gold medalist says he's unlikely to perform his signature move ever again. But don't count him out — he's been defying the odds his whole life.

Perhaps the most famous and beloved American male figure skater of all time, Hamilton, who now makes his home in Franklin with his wife Tracie and their children, started skating when he was 9.

"I wasn't very good for a long time. ... At the national level, I was a disaster," he says. And that's not false modesty.

After finishing ninth in consecutive years at the novice level, he moved up to juniors and finished seventh. But Hamilton decided to give it one more year his senior year of high school and "freakishly" won the nationals. "Things started happening. The light got brighter and I started learning things. I started landing triples."

[Click here](#) to read the rest of the article

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Bob Turk on playing music for Sonja Henie

Courtesy of Skate Guard



A fun anecdote from Ice Capades director Bob Turk, who played phonograph records for Sonja Henie when she practiced at the Polar Palace ice rink in the forties.

[Click here](#) to view the video

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Headbanging History: Tracing The Roots Of The Bounce Spin

Courtesy of SkateGuard



You know that cherished recipe that has been passed down through the generations? The one your grandmother taught your aunt and your aunt taught your mother and your mother taught you? The story of one of adagio pairs skating's most mind blowing [tricks of the trade](#) - the bounce spin or 'headbanger' goes a little like the story of that recipe... and I had a little fun trying to unravel the mystery.

Before we take a look at the mystery and the history, let's take a look at what the bounce spin is. It's a jaw dropping adagio pairs trick where one partner swings the other around with both feet off the ice, supported only by the grip of the swinger on the swingee's ankle. The swingee is elevated up and down during the spin. Performed well, the head of the swingee comes terrifyingly close to being smashed on the ice. The International Skating Union, of course, wants no part in it. Per ISU regulations "spinning movements in which the man swings the lady around in the air while holding her hand or foot, are illegal... Twist-like or rotational movements during which the lady is turned over one or more times with her skating foot leaving the ice are not permitted."

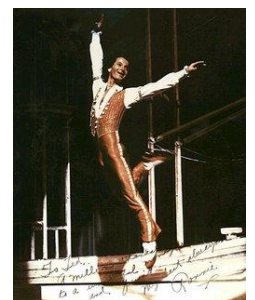


[Click here](#) to read the rest of the article.

[Ronnie Robertson - Ice Capades of 1959](#)

Courtesy of Carl Moseley

Watch Ronnie Robertson's performance on the Ed Sullivan Show, "Pagliacci", "Operama" production. [Click here](#) to view the video.



Our Alumni Keep Getting Together

85th Surprise Party in LA for Hans Mueller



Surprise Dinner for Hans Mueller, hosted by Skip Peeler and Henry Seguin.....Few of The Family members are ...Joyce Brisco, Gigi Trenkler, Jimmy Alvarez, Lee Brink, Jules VanSomeran, Sylvia Brink, Mike O'Gara, Barbara Ann Bullock, John Sheridan, Hans Mueller, Shirley Hill, Jewel Steele, Richard Dwyer, Claudia Lattin

Comments from Last Month's Blade

Lee Brink

I KNEW ORRIN AND IRMA VERY WELL, I SKATED IN CAPADES FROM 1953 TO 1956, I STILL MISS IT SOMETIMES. I AM NOW A RETIRED HAIRDRESSER, HAVE TWO GROWN SIBLINGS, PAUL-53 AND ANDREA ? , MARRIED TO SYLVIA WHATLEY. JOHN HARRIS HIRED HER IN LONDON ALONG WITH 11 OTHERS AND THEY BECAME THE EUROPEAN BALLET TWELVE - JUST A BIT OF NOSTALGIA. ALSO WAS VERY FRIENDLY WITH DONNA ATTWOOD TILL THE END - I CUT HER HAIR FOR PETER PAN AND MADE HER A BLONDE - ANOTHER BIT OF NOSTALGIA. I HAVE LOTS OF STORIES. IT'S AMAZING WHAT YOU CAN REMEMBER FROM TIME TO TIME, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOUR 87. JUST STOPPED SKATING TWO YEARS AGO. LOST MY SECOND HOME, CULVER ICE RINK. I LOVE THE BLADE SO KEEP IT COMING.

Tim Wood

I was with the Protopopov's in that Olympics - what a privilege... Oleg couldn't do an axel, so I taught them an axel, he Oleg taught me the death spiral

Jerry Kidd

I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed the article on Irma and Orrin. Did you know that Irma was the Mother of Mary and Janie "The Thomas Twins" who skated with Follies? Mary is the Mother of my Sister in Law Terrienne Kidd s- kated with Holiday on Ice and that's where she met my Brother. Her sister Mary Catherine also skated with Holiday on Ice. I thought you would enjoy seeing a picture of Irma at my Brother's Wedding reception in 1978 with her son in law Joe Sullivan as they did the "Harvest Moon" routine on the dance floor and brought everyone there to their feet. Thanks for the great work on the newsletter.



Upcoming Events

Ice Show Gypsies Cruise Reunion 2016



September 24, 2016. 7 nights, Sailing on the Norwegian Escape from Miami, Florida.
Itinerary: Miami, sea day, sea day, St Thomas - US Virgin Islands, Tortola, sea day, Nassau - Bahamas, Miami.
All prices are in U.S. Dollars and will be per person for double occupancy.

For more information - <https://www.facebook.com/events/501694283332385/>

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Website Update

The reunion website – www.icecapadesreunion2015.com is still there. Even though the reunion is over, the plan is to continue to use this site for alumni updates so please keep checking back from time to time as news will be added periodically. Don't forget, there are also show rosters for your reference, updated obits and upcoming events.



Ice Capades Reunion Update

To view archived information from the reunion,

including pictures, videos etc

go to www.icecapadesreunion2015.com

and access the archived tabs