

Sad News

Margaret Field-Beard - August 23, 2023



In 1942 Margaret competed in Pacific Coast Junior Champions in Solos, Pairs, and Fours. She placed in the top three in all categories. She also competed in the Senior National Division in Solos, Pairs, and Dance.

Margaret originally signed a contract with Ice Follies in 1946. Ice Follies and Ice Cycles were owned, at that time by John H. Harris and partners. John Harris bought out Ice Cycles along with Margaret's contract. John Harris turned Ice Cycles into Ice Capades International. Margaret skated with **Ice**

Capades from 1947-1957. She did pairs with Bud McNulty and Nadine Schramm, as well as a solo her first three years. She performed all the pantomime and musical productions with Jimmy Lawrence, her husband of 13 years. These productions would be up to a half an hour long. She portrayed, "Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz, Snow White, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Student Prince, Toyshop, and Wish You Were Here," which were many of the iconic productions in her time with Ice Capades International. Whatever Donna Atwood did in the other Ice Capades company, she did. She spent 13 years with Ice Capades. A couple of times she skated with Bobby Specht at the Convention Hall in Atlantic City when Donna Atwood didn't want to skate. She and Jimmy left Ice Capades in 1957 and took a year off. They were later contacted by Morris Chalfen, who owned Holiday on Ice to come back and perform. They came back for one year.

She had two children, Jamie and Kathy, with Jimmy Lawrence.

She later married Marshall Beard, who had skated with the legendary Sonja Henie. When Jamie and Kathy grew a little taller, they went out together as a family act with Holiday on Ice in 1967. Morris Chalfen contacted Margaret and Marshall and asked if they would do a Family Act which is when "The Beard Family" was first formed. Jamie and Kathy did a pair and Kathy did a solo as well.

While with Holiday on Ice, they traveled to South America and did shows in Argentina and Rio de Janeiro. They later rejoined Ice Capades West Company in 1969 to 1971 and performed their family act, Jamie and Kathy did their pair, and Kathy did her solo for two more years.

One of Margaret's fondest memories is performing for Jordan's King Abdullah I in London. He came to the show three times and sat in the front row. She said it was the best show he had ever seen. Margaret did many milk and Wonder Bread ads. All of this was included in her contract. Today, Margaret lives in El Dorado Hills, California, with her daughter, who enjoyed a six-year career with Ice Capades, and son-in-law. She still walks every day. That's what keeps her going.

<https://obituaries.neptune-society.com/obituaries/sacramento-ca/margaret-beard-11420529>

Audrey T. Budney – Sept. 17, 2023



Audrey T. Budny, 87, of Harmony, passed away at home on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023. Mom was born in New Kensington, on Sept. 26, 1935, to the late Andrew Orgal and Margaret Flynn Orgal.

In her early career, Mom figure-skated with her husband, Bob, in **the Ice Capades**. They also enjoyed a love for nice cars and motorcycles. Mom was a school bus driver and always enjoyed and loved her riders. The remainder of her working days were spent in the retail business. She was well-known and liked in the community and had numerous friends. Like her husband, she was a great person who worked hard and enjoyed life.

Mom had a good run. She was a good friend and will be dearly missed by all.

Mom leaves behind to cherish her memory her sons, Bob (Kathy) Budny and Alan (Lissy) Budny; her granddaughter, Amy (Nick) Brenner Mars; and her dearest sister-in-law, Elaine Budny.

In addition to her parents, Mom was preceded in death by her husband, Robert "Bob" J. Budny, who passed away on Sept. 24, 2011; and her daughter, Diane M. Brenner, who passed away on Jan. 19, 2019.

Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at www.boylanfuneralservices.com.

Published by Butler Eagle on Sep. 20, 2023.

Harry Daly Price – Sept. 13, 2023



FORT WORTH, TX - Harry Daly Price passed away at home on September 13, 2023, two days after turning 89. Despite a 2-year prognosis after heart surgery in 2017, he lived a normal life until he faced a short bout with colon cancer.

Harry was born September 11, 1934, in Fort Worth to Sidney and Latrelle Price. He graduated from R.L. Paschal High School, Class of 1953. He was Bat Boy for the Fort Worth Cats and starting pitcher for the PHS baseball team. Harry was an excellent ice skater, performing in the **Ice Capades** at Lake Placid. He was accepted to skate with Sonja Henie Ice Revue but declined to join the show. Harry was one of the top bowlers in the early 50's. He loved hunting and fishing. He loved meeting his pals regularly at Railhead BBQ in Fort Worth and working at Bolen's Automotive every Friday. He enjoyed cooking and was tough to beat in NFL Pigskin Pick Em. Not a man to take seriously most times, he loved jokes and pranks, guaranteed to get a laugh or an eyeroll.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Sydney Joy Hobbs, as well as a host of extended family, long-time friends and pet pal, Sweetie.

[Click here to read the complete obituary](#)

Newsworthy

It's Coming, It's Coming!

By Jan O'Brien Coopman

Folks, take a look at what Olympic pairs figure skater Bill Fauver is doing to realize a fascinating potential near Nashville. He will both enhance local activities and help to ensure that youth won't endure what some under Nassar and Sandusky have, such as with Simone Biles and Aly Raisman. [Take a glimpse here](#), and then keep watching the Blade e-news in early 2024 to learn all about his CoachFax when it rolls out.



Hint:

Hmm, when the full site is ready next year, you'll discover this photo to be as clear as many Canadian lakes!

Ever heard of CoachFax?

It could keep your kids safer in sports

[Click here to learn more](#)

Videos of the Month

Did you know that Hugh Forgie & Shirley Marie appeared on What's My Line?



<https://fb.watch/lehbKkXxZj/?mibextid=2Rb1fB>

Anita Hartshorn & Frank Sweiding – They’ve Still Got It!



<https://youtu.be/zECEAFXccrw>

Legends on Ice. Anita Hartshorn (66) and Frank Sweiding (68) performed in more than 10,000 shows in their illustrious career together, and have not plans to stop soon! Anita has had two hip replacements, while Frank had surgery for a torn hamstring last year. What’s their secret? “You have to love to train, not just perform. But as we get older, it’s very helpful to have either a partner or a social group to skate with. “Here they are performing to Mission Impossible’ during the @proskatersofficial event in Knoxville, March 2023.

Football, basketball, baseball and really any other sport is often considered a young person's activity. Athletes who no longer possess the same speed, quickness and strength as they did in their 20s and 30s, commonly retire, usually announced in tear-filled press conferences.

However, age does not appear to have slowed down two professional ice skaters in their late 60s – Anita Hartshorn,66, and Frank Sweiding,68.

Seconds into the clip, Frank lifts Anita up, placing her onto his shoulders. He then flips her upside down, putting her feet on either side of his head, and swings her around as he spins around on the ice.

Then after putting her back onto the ice, it's time for another trick where Frank holds Anita upside down while twirling her around in a circle, with her head mere inches from the ice.

After a few seconds of synchronized skating, it's time for yet another maneuver that will leave most stunned. At the 1-minute mark of the clip, Frank picks up Anita and basically flips her over his shoulder. This move sends her head over heels toward the ice. She lands on her feet without missing a beat.

But they save their most dangerous and remarkable stunt for the end of their routine. Frank, as he does throughout the clip, picks up Anita, but this time just by one leg. He then swings Anita up and down with a much greater speed and intensity than ever before. Her head gets inches from hitting the ice on multiple occasions. The amount of strength, timing and athleticism these two skaters display is astounding. Frank and Anita's routine would be more than impressive if it were performed by athletes half their age.

Picture of the Month



1965 – Hawaii - Sashi Kuchiki, Inge Paul, Tokiko's mom, Tokiko Lepik, Freddie Trenkler

What were you thinking the first time you stepped on the ice as a member of the world-famous Ice Capades?

Patty Gur (IC 1979-1980)

The first time I performed with Ice Capades, I was a 17 year old girl from California, and had no idea how cold it got in Winnipeg. My heart was pounding and the live band playing inside the arena made me feel magical. I was overwhelmed as I stepped onto the stage...and promptly went the wrong way. I didn't know what to do, but after a few shows I was calmer, though no less excited to perform before the cheering crowds.

But there's another 'first' that is as memorable as my first time on the ice, if not more so. In 1979, the 'suits' came from corporate headquarters to Indiana to see the show. I wore the long-horned headdress with the beautiful, long white and gold train for my number in the Make a Wish Tour. It looked so regal and elegant. But that night, elegance went out the window when my blade got caught in the train. My headdress fell off, along with the pink curlers in my hair for the next Disco number, and my breast pads fell out. I was so busy trying to pick up my pads and curlers that I couldn't stand up. The cast was laughing so hard they were crying. They literally had to roll me off the ice. I will never, ever forget that night. Some still call me the Lucille Ball of Ice Capades!

Roberta Harris Miller (IC 1952-1956)

I remember well my first performance with Ice Capades, because long term memory is the last to go. I had never seen the show when I received a telegram to join the cast in Philadelphia. They hadn't yet played in my hometown of Hershey, Pennsylvania. I arrived in Philly, expecting to watch the show as a spectator, but I was hustled backstage and told to

step in for one of the girls who became ill during the performance. 'Not to worry'...'piece of cake'... 'walk you through every step.' Right!

They gave me my costume (my skates were already there), and then the process of putting on the stage makeup began. "not to worry'...'piece of cake'...walk you through every step'. Well, I had so much makeup on I could have made a fortune standing on any street corner in mid town.

Okay, time to go. 'Get in line' 'Stand here' 'Get your head and put it on'. What? What head? Answer: Lollipop head. Yeas, I had to wear a lollipop head with two little mesh holes to see through and it was a strobe light number. It began with total darkness. I could hear all the kids in the number laughing as I skated by them, each one grabbing one arm and then the other, shouting, "This way!" When the number was over, my first question was, 'Why did I have too much makeup on when I wore a headpiece in total darkness? Answer: It was just their brand of humor. But I got even. When they were on the ice for the finale, I sharpened all their eyebrow pencils. Do you have any idea how long it takes to get an eyebrow pencil point just right? Ha ha! It was just my brand of humour.

Penny Owens (IC 1962)

As I prepared to skate my first number with Ice Capades, I was so excited to finally be doing what I'd waited so long to do. I originally tried out in Los Angeles when I was 14. My teacher wanted me to have the experience of trying out for the show even though he knew I was too young. We were both stunned when I was asked to sign a contract – until they realized my age. But they asked me to come back when I finished high school, and I did. Sharon Kay and myself were the only two chosen to join, and the adventure began: the train ride to Atlantic City, the late night/early morning practices, getting to know the routines and the performers, and finally the first performance! I was so nervous, and thought I looked like a clown in my makeup. I just knew I'd trip and fall flat on my face, and of course, forget the routines. But I didn't forget and I didn't fall....until I was in Dallas and caught a hole with my skate. I discovered how much fun it was to skate the intermission and pick up the cards the audience filled out, especially in San Antonio with the Air Force. People thought we were so glamorous. I'd have skated forever if my dad hadn't gotten sick, making it necessary for me to return home. It was the best time of my life, and though I didn't skate as long as others did, it was still fantastic!

Reunion News

Ice Capades 2025 Reunion Cruise Announcement

'Escapades 2025 Cruise'.... We'll have a good time! 🎵🎵'



Please click below to join the [Escapades 2025 Cruise – events page](#) and get all updates relating to the cruise.

<https://facebook.com/events/s/ice-capades-escapades-cruise-a/746073810575573/>

THIS EVENT IS BEING CREATED AND COORDINATED BY Johnna "J" Bates...

NOTE: **PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED!**

[Click here for more Reunion information](#)

Questions: Contact 'J' directly - dabatej@bellsouth.net

Casting News



2024

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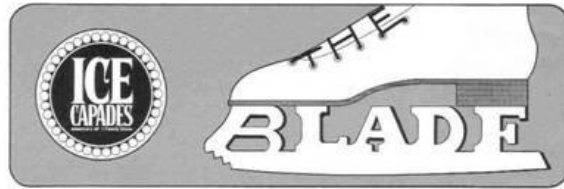
IG: @willybietakproductions

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Pictures from Past Reunions

[All Skater's Reunion – May 1-3, 2023 Las Vegas](#)

[Ice Capades 2022 Reunion pictures](#)



The website, www.icecapadestheblade.com has been revamped and more information has been added. If you have something to add, please send them.

Look here for **2022 Ice Capades Reunion** information, including reunion pictures

Cast, Precision & Production Pictures – Relive some memories.

Past reunion Pictures – Check them out for some you may have missed.

Rosters – Looking for someone or remembering who you skated with in the show?

Video links – have been collecting skating 'You Tube' links from the early years.

Program Covers – we had the most beautiful covers

Past Issues of The Blade – just in case you missed an issue

Past Reunion Pictures – relive the times you attended the reunions

In Memorium – remembering those who have left us too soon

Check it out!

USFA is Looking for Skaters



US Figure Skating for the Centennial Year is reaching out to find and connect former and current members who skated any time in USFS history to reconnect. Please consider registering!!! Share with those skating friends you stay in touch with!!

I can imagine some fun reconnecting events!!!

[Click here for more information](#)

Upcoming Events

*Ice
Theatre
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CELEBRATING THE JOY
OF DANCING ON ICE

Ice Theatre of New York, Inc[®]
presents

<https://www.icetheatre.org/>

ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK TO HONOR DIVERSIFY ON ICE FOUNDATION AT
'FALL FROLIC' FEATURING 'UNPLUGGED' PERFORMANCE OCT. 27
AT CHELSEA PIERS

New York, NY (September 12, 2023): Ice Theatre of New York® (ITNY) will continue its 2023/2024 season with **Fall Frolic** on Friday, October 27, 2023 at 7 pm at the Sky Rink, Chelsea Piers, with an “unplugged” performance by the ITNY Ensemble and guest artists, including four-time U.S. senior men’s competitor Emmanuel Savary.

The event will honor the Diversify Ice Foundation with the Will Sears Award, presented each year to a skater/organization who has shown exceptional daring and persistence in pursuit of their passion. The performance will be followed by cocktails and a buffet dinner at The Sunset Terrace. Proceeds from the fundraising dinner will support rehearsals for our professional ensemble and outreach programming. Tickets are \$20.00 for performance only and \$250-\$1,000 for both the performance and dinner, Junior Tickets are also available for those under 25 for \$150. Tickets are available at icetheatre.org/fall-frolic.html. For more information, contact the ITNY office at (212) 929-5811.

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