

Canada's skaters shine in Soviet Union

Canadian champion Lynn Nightingale won the ladies' singles at the Moscow News International Figure Skating competition held at the beginning of December. Competitors from 13 countries took part in this event, which is sponsored by the Federation of Figure Skating of the U.S.S.R.

Canada's official representation was composed of Miss Nightingale and the dance team of Barbara Berezowski and David Porter, who placed fifth. They had won fourth place in the Skate Canada competition last October.

Cranston popular

In addition to the competitions, Canada was also represented by Toller Cranston, who performed exhibitions only. Cranston, the world's best free skater, won the Gold Medal for that event in the 1974 world championships in Munich. His skating is well-known in Moscow and the large audience applauded loudly each time his name was announced. After his first performance he was called back for three encores and was showered with flowers. He had to make a quick exit by a rear door to avoid crowds of well-wishers outside the stadium. The following night he returned to the ice for four encores.

Miss Nightingale, in Moscow for the



David Leonardi

Ice dancers Barbara Berezowski and David Porter were fifth in their event at the Moscow Skate.



Holiday Studio

Lynn Nightingale of Ottawa, winner of the ladies singles at the Moscow News International Figure Skating competition, last month.

first time, also became well-known by the end of the competition after wide coverage by the Soviet press. Her exhibition performances were warmly received and many encores were performed.

Large portions of the Moscow Skate were shown on Soviet television and major newspapers published accounts of interviews with Miss Nightingale and Mr. Cranston. Miss Berezowski, who was named Miss Moscow News as the most elegant skater, also gained reports and pictures in the press. She and her partner, David Porter, were very popular with the spectators, who at one point jeered, when in their opinion, the judges had not rated the pair high enough.

Members of the Canadian Embassy in Moscow who attended the competition, assisted the team whenever possible and afforded them hospitality.

This event, which was started in 1972, is a senior international competition for ladies' and men's singles, pairs and ice dancing. Each participating country must have a judge on its team.

In 1972 Cathy-Lee Irwin of Toronto placed first in the ladies' singles and Marian Murray and Glenn Moore of Vancouver placed fourth in the pairs. In December 1973, Ron Shaver placed second in men's singles and Murray and Moore seventh in the pairs.

Canadian embassy in Iraq

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced in Ottawa recently that the Canadian Government had reached agreement with the Iraqi Government on the opening of a resident Canadian embassy in Baghdad during 1975.

This decision is a further expression of the Government's policy of strengthening Canada's representation in the Middle East and takes cognizance of the importance of Iraq, both politically and economically, in that area. It is expected that this decision will lead to increased communications between the two countries on the political level and further growth in bilateral economic relations.

Iraq has had an embassy in Ottawa since 1972.

Montreal Olympics '76 — ticket distribution outside Canada

About 1.4 million tickets for the 1976 Olympic Games — 35 per cent of the total — will be available outside Canada at prices from \$2 to \$40, with an average price of \$6 for competitions in Montreal and \$3 at Olympic sites outside Montreal. The prices will bring about \$15 million to the Organizing Committee for the 1976 Olympic Games, COJO (for Comité Organisateur des Jeux Olympiques).

A total of four million tickets — to go on sale about April 1975 — will be available for all events of the 21 sports on the 1976 Olympic program. The \$40-ticket is top price for admission to the opening and closing ceremonies, with other ticket prices at \$32, \$24, \$16 and \$8. Top price for a major competition event is \$32, with a wide range of lower-priced tickets.

Allocation of tickets throughout the world — based on the population of each country, distance from Montreal and accommodations in Montreal in 1976 — is: Canada 2.6 million (65 per cent); United States 800,000 (20 per cent); Mexico and Caribbean countries 42,000 (1.05 per cent); Latin America 108,000 (2.7 per cent); Europe 300,000 (7.5 per cent); Africa 32,000 (.8 per cent); Asia 76,000 (1.9 per cent); and Australia and New Zealand 42,000 (1.05 per cent).