

## Linda Ronstadt Simple dreams for a simple lady

By MARC PEPIN

Linda Ronstadt — Simple Dreams

There used to be a time when Linda Ronstadt played with the Stone Poneys (1967). Then there used to be a time when the Eagles backed her up (1971). Now she's on her own and has she ever had success lately.

It all started with "you're no good" and she zoomed to the top hit after hit and album after album. Her greatest hits album was excellent and so was her double anthology album to a certain degree. Her good looks (check inside cover sleeve) ranks her with Stevie Nicks of Fleetwood once as one of rock's best looking females. Big deal if she is one of the worst dressed women in the world. Who cares!

The name of this album is "Simple Dreams" Kash designed the album cover and if his name doesn't make any impression on you, he is considered the world's best at designing rock album

covers. Linda on this album uses a bunch of L.A. studio musicians but she's in the spotlight all the way.

Opening track is an old Buddy Holly hit, "It's so Easy". She in turn makes it a hit using the extremely powerful vocal chords that she has. She undoubtedly has one of the best female rock voices around ever since Janis Joplin, Peter Asher, the producer brings out the best in her here and the guitar work on this song is pretty good. She really belts this one out!

The follows into "Camelita" which is slow and country oriented. (Linda's roots are country so there are a fair number of country songs in this album). However her country songs are a lot better than Tammy Wynette's which are ridiculous and monotonous (they sound the same -- whining steel guitars, sluggish, accented singing style, and 1-2 bar lines, etc.)

"Simple Man" has just been released as her 3rd hit single off this album. Usually when there are 3 or more hits on one album,

this usually signifies that the album is pretty damn good. (Rumours, Fly Like an Eagle). It's a slow song mixed with steel guitar and strings. It's easy listening and you can appreciate how high she sings here!

"Sorrow Lives Here" is slow and is accompanied only by an acoustic piano. This is where the song fails because it sounds too empty, "something you might want to have at a Red 'n Black review". "I never will Marry" follows and has Dolly Parton doing background vocals. Linda plays acoustic guitar here which leaves much to be desired (plunk-plunk) song tends to drag out.

"Blue Bayou", an old Roy Orbison number, is made into a hit with Linda's version. She uses her high voice here combined with off beat syn drums which works and produces a different kind of rhythm. Don Henley of the Eagles helps out on background vocals.

"Poor poor pitiful me". At last, another foot stomper. It's catchy enough to be released as a



single. Lead guitar accompanies Linda's vocals and this duet sounds nice. Guitar playing is nice and heavy!

"Maybe I'm Right" is slow and no different than "Carmelita". It's a relaxing type of song with acoustic guitar and rich harmonies in the background.

"Tumbling Dice" originally by the Rolling Stones is on the album. Linda does a superb job and it sounds like the way she should do the song. She doesn't change it -- it's funky with good guitar beat.

"Old Pain" ends the album, it's country but at least it's not Tammy Wynette or somebody like that!

The album "Simple Dreams" is classified as very good. Linda is up on top with regards to female vocals. Though she doesn't write any songs, she does other peoples versions very well. She's like 3 Dog Night, they did the same thing and had enormous success. Linda is obviously doing the same thing and having huge success on her own. "Simple Dreams" on the whole is a success!

Fratianne and other champs

## World class skaters at AUC

The 1978 World Figure Skating Tour will appear for one performance only at the Aitken Centre in Fredericton at 8:00 p.m. on March 17, 1978, offering skating fans a rare opportunity to see this year's world champions in action.

The one-time appearance is part of an exclusive 15-city tour immediately following the 1978 World Figure Skating Championships at the Ottawa, Ontario, Civic Center.

Appearing in the 1978 World Figure Skating Tour will be champions and major contenders selected from over 100 skaters representing twenty countries competing in the World Championships in Ottawa from March 7 to 11. All divisions of the 1978 World Figure Skating Championships will be represented -- Ladies', Men's, Pairs and Dance.

All winners of the World Figure Skating Competition are expected to skate in the 1978 World Figure Skating Tour.

Nations represented include Canada, United States, France, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Soviet Union, Poland, Yugoslavia, Norway, Finland, Austria, Sweden, Korea, Great Britain, Germany, Czechoslovakia and Australia.

Among the roster of international medalists participating in the tour are United States' Ladies' Champion Linda Fratianne, British Men's Champion Robin Cousins, and U.S.S.R. Dance Champions Irina Moiseeva and Andrei Minenkov.

Unlike the World Championship competitions, the tour allows each medalist complete freedom in choreographing their skating programs. With the inherent tension of the Championships removed, medalists present free-skating programs of a more varied

nature -- adding innovations in style and technique to their winning World program, or creating an entirely new program.

Fiery, animated moves which sometimes fail under competition pressure frequently have sparked previous World tours, and skaters have delighted audiences with a variety of perfectly executed lifts, flips, jumps and spins, woven into programs highlighted by whimsy and comedy.

All participants are certain to execute skilled and artistic programs of superb technique and interpretive excellence, demonstrating the extraordinary talents which own them World Championship laurels.

The 1978 World Figure Skating Tour is sanctioned by the three most prestigious and distinguished skating organizations in the world -- The International Skating Union (ISU), The United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA), and the Canadian Figure Skating Association (CFSA).

The tour begins March 14 at the Montreal Forum, with subsequent dates in Quebec City, Fredericton, Halifax, Toronto, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Vancouver, Los Angeles, Oakland, Colorado Springs, Cleveland, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and concluding on April 5, Providence.

Tickets for the 1978 World Figure Skating Tour are on sale at the Aitken University Centre -- ONLY. Mail orders can be addressed to: Aitken University Centre University of New Brunswick, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5A3 in care of the 1978 World Figure Skating Tour.

The Tour is presented by Morris Chalfen and Tom Collins of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

For Linda Fratianne, America's reigning queen of the ice, 1977 was a classic example of "the show must go on" perseverance of which stars are made.

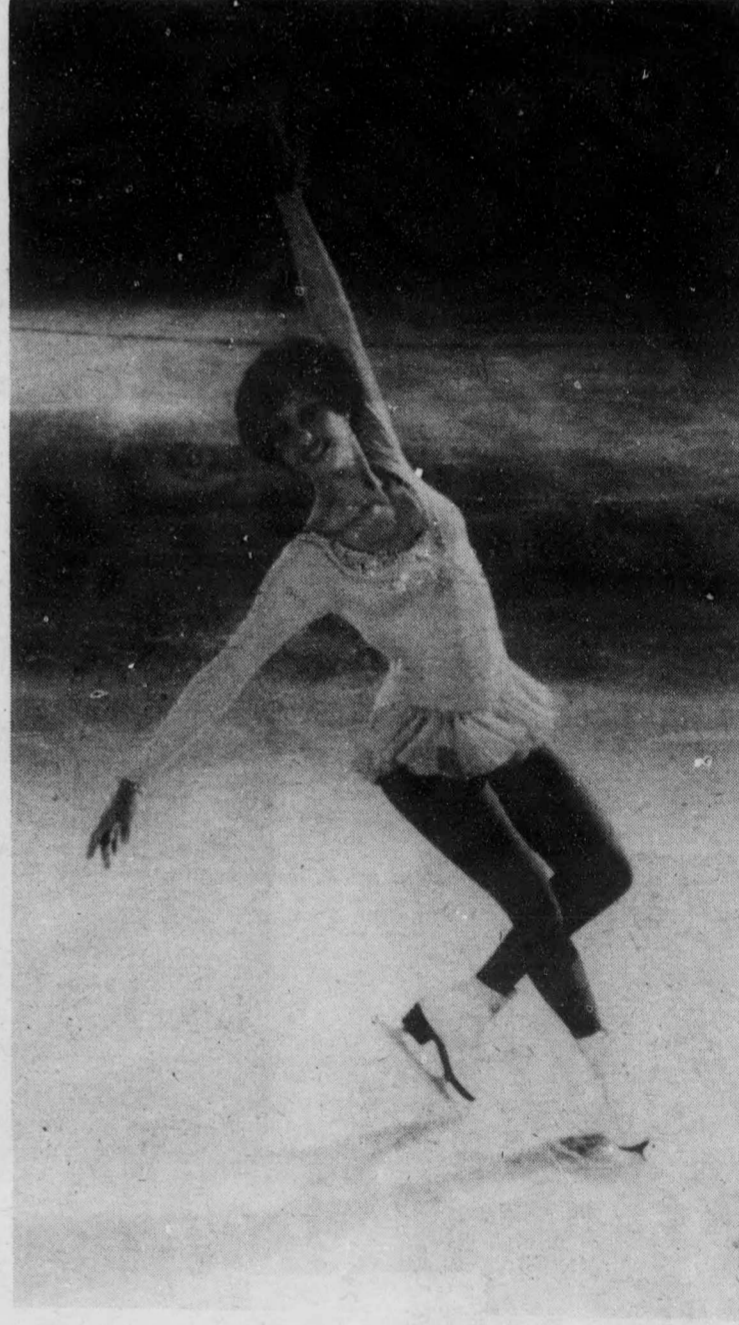
The raven-haired 17-year-old from Northridge, California won the U.S. National Figure Skating title in Hartford, Connecticut last February. A month later in Tokyo -- she won the coveted gold medal that made her the new Ladies' Champion of the World.

Fratianne began skating when she was nine years old, relatively late for a potential world champion. By the time she was twelve, she had moved from novice to senior ladies' division. Her unique skating style now includes enviable triple jumps, fluid movement, and great technical expertise.

Her training routine is typical for an aspiring Olympic champion: up at 4 a.m. for several hours of daily ice practice, classes each afternoon at the Valley Professional School in Los Angeles, twice-weekly ballet classes, and work with a dramatic dance teacher one afternoon each week. And, under the supervision of her coach, Frank Carroll, Fratianne recently began working with skating pro Bob Paul, choreographer of many of Peggy Fleming's routines.

Unlike many other skating hopefuls, who frequently switch coaches during their competitive climb, Fratianne has been coached by Carroll throughout her career. He chooses her music, choreographs her routines, selects her competition wardrobe (and often her street clothes), and takes an active role in shaping her public image with both press and fans.

She can count on her family's support no matter how she places in competition. Her mother who



has four other Fratianne's to raise, often travels with Fratianne, and devotes a major part of her days to the rigorous demands of her daughter's career. But her biggest fan may be her father, a busy,

successful criminal lawyer who was seen running through the corridors of the sedate Van Nuys Superior Court the day Fratianne won the Tokyo competitions shouting, "She won! She won!"