

## Health of babies promoted

The Toronto Board of Health has adopted a program aimed at prenatal care as a permanent part of its departmental service.

The "Healthiest Babies Possible" program was adopted following a 30-month trial which was intended to reduce premature and low birth-weight babies. The prenatal outreach program provided essential information about nutrition and child birth education to women who have not availed themselves of other prenatal services.

A team of specially-trained nutritionists and public health nurses visits women in their homes to provide counselling and support and, if necessary, free vitamins and milk.

## Skaters head for World's

Canada will send its largest team ever to the World Figure Skating Championships to be held in Helsinki, March 7-12.

The 14 skaters were named to the team following the Canadian figure skating championships held in Montreal, February 3-5. The team comprises gold and silver medallists in each category at the Canadian competition along with the third place finishers in the pairs.

The team will be led by Paul Martini and Barbara Underhill of Toronto, who won their fifth national title in Montreal.



Canadian pairs champions Paul Martini and Barbara Underhill.



Men's champion Brian Orser.

Brian Orser of Penetanguishene, Ontario will represent Canada on the strength of his third Canadian men's title. Toronto's Kay Thomson won her second consecutive Canadian title to earn a spot on the team, while Tracy Wilson of Vancouver and Rob McCall of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia will compete in the dance.

Rounding out the team will be: Gary Beacom, Toronto (men's); Charlene Wong, Pierrefonds, Quebec (women's); Cynthia Coull, Greenfield Park, Quebec and Mark Rowsom, Tilbury, Ontario (pairs); Katherina Matousek, New Westminster, British Columbia and Lloyd Eisler, Seaford, Ontario (pairs); and Kelly Johnson and John Thomas, Brampton, Ontario (dance).

## Prisoners help world sports event

More than 100 prisoner volunteers from two Edmonton, Alberta area jails are providing labour that will save the 1983 World University Games more than \$3 million.

Minimum-security prisoners from the Belmont and Fort Saskatchewan correctional centres are working for \$4 a day to produce thousands of pieces of equipment essential for staging the games in July. They have been manufacturing and assembling everything from prefabricated buildings to bed extenders for exceptionally large athletes, says David Clevely, venues manager for the games.

"We feel we're getting more production out of some of these chaps than if we had gone out and hired people," Mr. Clevely said. "They get going so fast that they run out of material and run out of projects on us."

## How it began

What started as a six-week pilot project involving six prisoners now is projected to run 14 months and involves more than 60 prisoners at a time.

Games officials have been able to use prisoners' labour to manufacture \$80 000-worth of portable volleyball courts for one-fourth the usual cost and padded massage tables worth about \$200 for \$54 each.

Donald Westman, a corrections officer supervising one of the shops, said the prisoners had a right to be proud of their contribution. "It's high-quality, precision work that they're doing. It would match anybody's work in Edmonton."

## Standards sought for telecommunications industry

The Canadian Standards Association (CSA), a voluntary non-profit group, has been asked by the federal Department of Communications to draw up guidelines for Canada's burgeoning telecommunications industry.

The government has suggested that the new standards be "forward looking" so Canadian standards will be compatible with United States and international developments.

The CSA has already developed standards for emerging technologies in video-text/teletex, solar energy and health care. CSA committees are already in place to deal with computers, information processing and office equipment. The need for broad, all-encompassing national telecommunications standards has recently been identified by several industry groups, including the TransCanada Telephone System, which is made up of the country's ten major telephone companies.

Robert Miller of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, which represents both users and suppliers of telecommunications equipment, has urged that the standards governing terminal attachment, among other things, assure that Canadian manufacturers can compete fairly to supply equipment needs and that they be as liberal as possible with compatibility in export markets.