

Wheels Slowed Down

Julius Duval, a member of the Rochester Wheels and holder of six world records set in the Special Olympics; shared Janice Smith's interest in The Great Skate.

Duval noted that Rochester has many talented athletes, but they don't always have enough funds to enter competitions. He said the wheelchair he uses in competition is five months old and already has cost him \$800 for repairs.

Because of the ever stiffening national and international competition, it is now necessary to practice year around, he said.

When competing in regional, national and international events he finds he personally spends lots of money, as do others of the Wheels. The money that had been anticipated from the Great Skate would have been used for wheelchairs and their repair, and travel to and from competitions.

Duval said he was happy to have had a part in the Great Skate and especially enjoyed the sense of community the event had kindled. "People helping people," he said.

On Nov. 22, Duval received proclamations from the city and county governments declaring the week of the Great Skate Handicapped Athlete Week.

Duval related some facts about himself. Following an injury which confined him to a wheelchair at the age of 15, he found himself faced, he said, with the negative attitude of those around him. "The attitude I was getting was that I'd never be able to work and get a job. The attitude people had was that there wasn't much I could do.



Lisaanne Noon, a member of the Genesee Figure Skating Club, shows her style.



Dave Trevor, who plays hockey with the Rochester Monarchs, makes a friend as he skates a youngster around.

A smiling Duval added, "I don't like people telling me what I can and can't do. I decided that I wanted to do something with my life. I still feel that I've just started and haven't done enough. He attends the University of Rochester three days a week, aiming to continue his work with people. His job at the Al Sigl Center (he has been on leave from Xerox for 1 1/2 years now) doesn't require his being on call, but he feels personally committed to being available to

counsel those in need. Many doctors and social workers don't really understand the problems of handicapped people, he said, and that is the reason why I like to do speaking engagements with therapists and doctors, to discuss people's goals and their ability to achieve them.

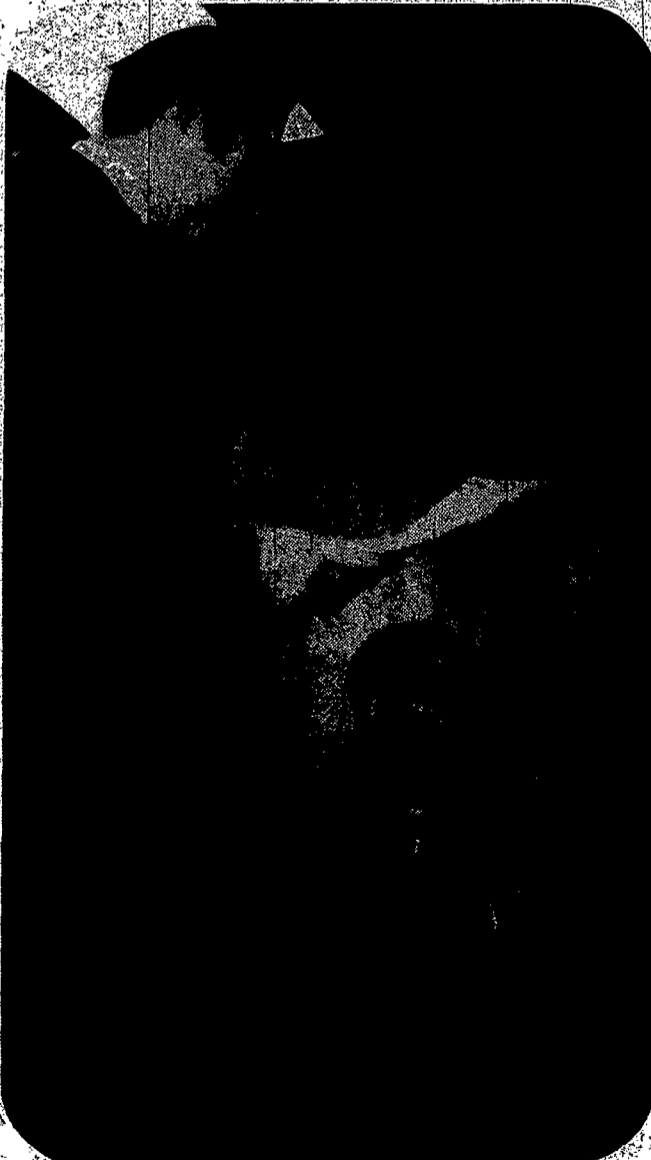
"It is more important to tell them the things they can do than what they can't do," he said. "We have much to contribute."



The Marching Kings and color guard from Bishop Kearney High School heralded the arrival of ice at Xerox and the start of the Great Skate Nov. 24.



Julius Duval, a member of Rochester Wheels, was on hand for ceremonies opening the Xerox rink and Great Skate.



Julius Duval listens as Councilman Jerry Curran reads a proclamation issued by Mayor Thomas Ryan declaring Handicapped Athlete Week.



Gordy Clark of the Rochester Americans hockey team keeps a watchful eye and firm grip on a young skater who kicks up her heels.