

The Skating Nolts



Jeff and Suzy Nolt

Jeff and Suzy Nolt, Mount Joy RD 3, work harder at their hobby than most people work at their jobs.

The brother & sister ice skating team practices 6 to 10 hours a day, six days a week, on and off the ice, summer and winter.

After ten years of practice, the duo is easily among the top fifty teams in the United States, but that isn't good enough for the Nolts. They want to be Olympic champions.

So they keep practicing. Jeff, who weighs 105 pounds, lifts Suzy, who weighs 100 pounds. He holds her high above his head while they speed over the ice. He works out with weights, and expects to grow a bit in the years between now and the 1984 Olympics.

Suzy, who gets accidentally dropped from time

to time, once developed a mild phobia about riding so high above the hard ice. Her fear interfered with her concentration. Finally, she visited a hypnotist, to have the mental block removed. The hypnosis worked, and now the team is back on the road to the Olympics.

Most good figure skating teams are either, married, in love, or brother-sister teams, according to Jeff. Less attached duos tend to break up under the pressure of training. "One skater hit his partner over the head with a skate guard," Jeff recalls.

Another advantage the Nolt team enjoys is the support of their family.

The entire Nolt family has a stake in the two young people's drive toward Olympic perfection. Their parents, Joseph and Lorna, have put a substantial amount of money into the practice (skates can cost \$150, blades \$100, time on the ice \$.50 a minute) as well as time spent driving the two to training sessions and competition events. "It's a family commitment," says Joe. Another Nolt son, Joe III, 18, lends moral support to the team. Lorna spends a great deal

of time driving.

Jeff and Suzy, despite their demanding practice schedule, manage to lead balanced lives. Both are good students at Hempfield High; Jeff is on the honor roll. Suzy plays piano.

Jeff played the lead part in a production of *Oliver* at the Fulton Opera House in Lancaster, and Suzy also performs in variety shows. The Nolts, though, are in show biz not just for fun; they are trying to improve their performance on the ice by getting used to exposure and learning to perform perfectly in front of thousands of people.

Zimmerman sisters in the groove

Four Mount Joy sisters have cut a gospel music record. The young women, all daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Zimmerman, Jr., 122 S. Barbara St., Mount Joy, recorded most of the album in two local churches.

The acoustics in Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Maytown are superb, according to Sharon Zimmerman, who arranged the music. E-town Church of the Brethren was not quite as good. The acoustics in the music building at E-town College, which was the only place where a piano was available, were terrible. "I had to throw a rug over the piano," says Sharon.

The recording was the brainchild of Tim Eshelman, a DHS grad and electronic engineering student. Tim is a sound engineer, whose credits include several commercial recordings. (He was sound engineer for the recent Lancaster County Jr. Miss

Pageant).

Tim approached Sharon about the possibility of recording several months ago, and managed to talk Sharon into the idea.

The Zimmerman girls had been singing with their family ever since they learned to talk, but the four of them had never harmonized in public. They got together at their parents' house to practice. The family dog, Jolie Chienne, tried to help out with the high notes by howling.

Kathy Milovanovic's two year-old daughter, Chrissi, also sang along.

Choosing a name for the group was not easy. The sisters rejected scores of ideas before they settled on "Andante," a musical notation meaning both "moderately slow" and "to be played movingly, with emotion." "I kind of like the second definition," says Sharon.

The album is entitled "Look Beyond," and that song is featured on the

album. Some of the other tunes are; "Pass It On," "I Am the Good Shepherd," "Hear, Oh Lord," and "I Am the Resurrection."

The accompaniment is simple; Sharon plays organ, guitar or piano, and that's it.

"We did them just the way we do them at home," says Kathy, "for our own enjoyment."

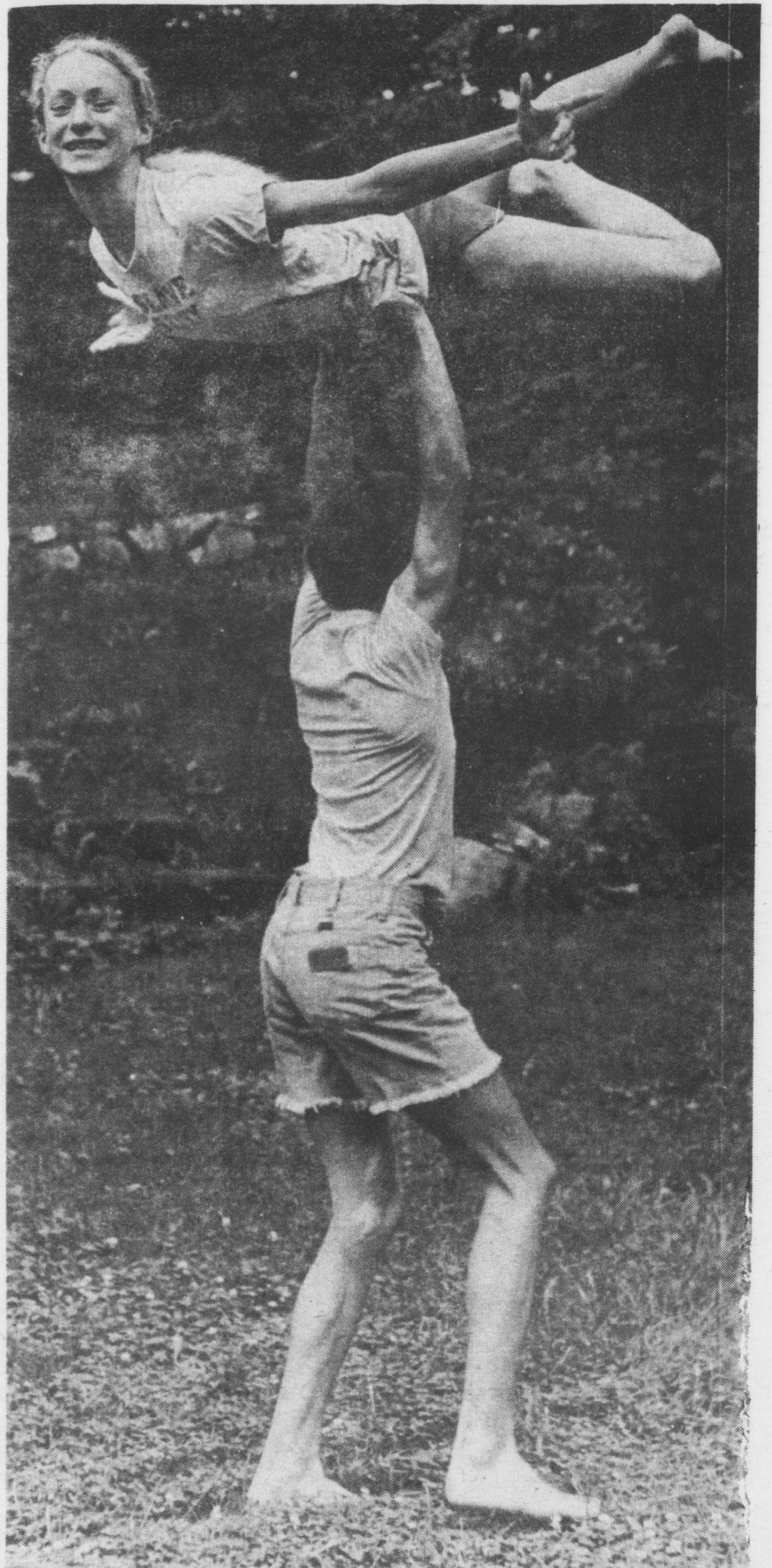
"Electric instruments were a possibility," says Sharon. "It would have been easier in a way..."

"...but that's not our thing," says Carol Witman.

"We play a kind of relaxed, folk-rock style," says Sharon.

The album's lay-out was designed by Ramona Sell of Marietta, and the photos of the group were taken by Tim Eshelman.

The record will be released on the AMP label in a few weeks. To order a copy in advance, call Sharon or Becky Zimmerman at 653-1336.



Jeff, weighing 105 lbs., lifts sister Suzy, 100 lbs.



"Andante," a new gospel group whose first album, "Look Beyond," will soon be released by AMP, has a natural, folk-rock sound. The four singers are all daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Zimmerman of Mount Joy. From left to right, the performers are; Rebecca Zimmerman, Kathy Milovanovic, Carol Witman, and Rebecca Zimmerman.