



June / July 2017

rinkrat

Annual Spring Conference Heading to Lake Placid!

*Do You Believe in Miracles?**

NEISMA President Ben Ruggles announced at the recent Spring Conference and Trade Show in Falmouth, MA that the Board of Directors has decided to “take the plunge” into Lake Placid, NY as the host site of next year’s event on April 22 - 25, 2018.

“With the success of our past few Spring Conferences, and the fact that 2018 is a Winter Olympic year, we believe the timing is right to host the event at this historical location” said Ruggles. “We’re giving folks plenty of notice to start planning now to join us in upstate New York next spring”.



The Board’s Conference Committee, chaired by Michelle Stenberg, is now putting together next year’s program which will include appearances of past and present Winter Olympians. “We’re seeking input and involvement from our members to put together a great program” Stenberg said at a recent meeting. “We’d like to know what people are interested in seeing at the Conference and what attractions they’d like to visit while in town. Some of us have never been to Lake Placid so we want to make the trip memorable and worth the investment.”

The Committee is using the question “*Do you believe in miracles?**” to promote the event as, and Stenberg points out, “we never thought it would be possible for NEISMA to host our annual conference in such an iconic location. It truly is a miracle!”



As everyone knows, Lake Placid was the site of the “Miracle on Ice” when the US Men’s Olympic Ice Hockey team won the Gold Medal in 1980 after defeating the heavily favored Soviet team in the semi-finals, then defeating Finland, 4-2 in the final game (see related story on page 23).

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2018 Spring Conference and Trade Show



**Sunday, April 22 through
Wednesday, April 25, 2018**

*“Do you believe in miracles?” was the famous question ABC TV’s Al Michaels shouted out during the broadcast as the 1980 US Men’s Olympic Ice Hockey team defeated the Soviet Union, 4-3, in the semi-final game. They went on to beat Finland to win the gold medal.

President's Message

by Ben Ruggles, CIRM, PMP



Another successful Spring Conference and Trade Show has come and gone. This year's return visit to Falmouth, MA and the Sea Crest Beach Resort was a huge success with solid attendance at all of the various educational sessions we offered including the keynote address, breakouts for both managers and operators and certification classes in human resources (US Ice Rink Association), rink operations (iAIM) and ammonia safety (Ammonia Safety and Training Institute). The networking sessions were well attended thanks to our generous sponsors and the recreational events - golf, hockey and our controversial Cornhole Tournament - were enjoyed by all who attended. And the Trade Show - the highlight of our event - kept all of our vendor and rink members interacting. There was something beneficial for everyone!

An important initiative that NEISMA took at this year's Conference was introduced and implemented by the Chairperson of our Scholarship Committee, Tom Ferguson. Going forward, the funding for our annual William Chase Scholarship Program will be supplemented by spon-

sorships from members who would like to recognize someone who has passed by naming the award in their honor. Our intent is to generate additional funding for deserving children of member rinks who are pursuing their college education. This year, we were able to award four (4) students with \$1,000 scholarships. Our hope is to double the recipients each year as well as increasing the award. Please contact Tom if you would like to participate or honor someone by awarding a scholarship in their name.

Looking ahead to next spring - as highlighted on the front page - we have announced that we will be hosting next year's Conference and Trade Show in Lake Placid, New York at their Olympic Center. With 2018 being a Winter Olympic year, we felt the timing was right to host our biggest annual event at one of the most iconic locations in American sports history - the site of the "Miracle on Ice"! Those of you who attended this year's Conference were given a piggy bank - with a penny to get you started - to begin saving for next April's event. I promise you that your attendance will be worth your

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time, effort and investment in your career! Please share these plans now with your decision-makers so that they, too, will support your attendance and, hopefully, join you. It will be worth their efforts, as well!

We will once again be hosting regional meetings this fall to bring all of us together to address rink issues. Thanks to those who've agreed to host - Providence College, Princeton University, Cicero Twin Rinks and the University of Vermont. Please go to page 25 for the location and date closest to you - and please join us!

In 2015, with the base of our membership primarily in the New England states, the NEISMA Board of Directors made a decision to reach out to our outlying states in hopes that we get those rinks more actively involved. We hosted meetings in western New York (Rochester) and northern Pennsylvania (Hatfield). NEISMA's annual awards and college scholarships included 2017 recipients from New York. We brought on David Korpiel, from the Greater Canan-dagua (NY) Civic Center, to our board. As you can see

by our listing of fall meetings and bringing next year's Spring Conference and Trade Show to Lake Placid, we are truly committed to our mission - to service the rink industry in our region - and we are trying diligently to do so. Please join our effort to bring rinks together from throughout the northeast region of the country. We will all benefit from this effort.

OUR MISSION

NEISMA is a professional service organization, organized to provide the ice skating industry with education and training. Since 1972, NEISMA has disseminated technical information and conducted seminars on rink equipment, energy, air quality, marketing, skating programs, maintenance and safety. NEISMA provides the professional rink manager with the technical information needed to operate a safe, efficient and profitable facility.

This past year has seen some noteworthy changes in the ice rink industry. Our two national organizations have changed their names: STAR (Serving the American Rinks) changes its name to US Ice Rink Association, and; ISI (Ice Skating Institute) changed its name to Ice Sports Industry. They've both changed their learn-to-skate program titles

as well, all in an effort to be more "user friendly" to make ice skating an easier and more attractive activity in which to get involved. If you think about, isn't that what we're all trying to do - getting families into our facilities to enjoy the various ice activities we have to offer?

2018 is a Winter Olympic year. The time is now!



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“CORNHOLE” TOURNAMENT MAY BE FINAL STRAW

by Ed Peduto

The NEISMA CUP, viewed as far superior to Lord Stanley's Cup by many participants, may have suffered its final indignity with the 2017 version of the “game” played at the Falmouth Ice Arena. Ironically, Cape Cod has hosted more NEISMA Cup games than any other promontory in the Northeast. It has also been the scene of the 5 year disappearance of the actual Cup (Thanks, Gerry!), despite which the games carried on!

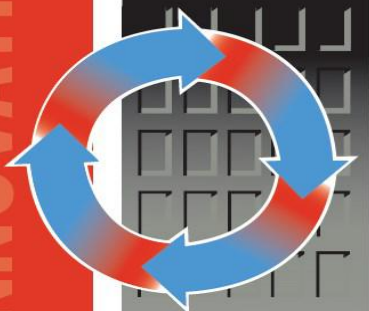
Cup venues have been many and varied. The Cup has been battled for on the legendary ice of the Yale Whale (Ingalls Rink), in the shadow of Mohegan Sun (Norwich Ice Gar-

den), just out of the line-of-fire of the Smith & Wesson factory (Smead Arena), Falmouth Arenas both new and old, on the JFK surface in Barnstable, and the Cup “lived Free & Died” in Dover, NH (the Dover that lacks the white cliffs).



The 2017 Cup battle was slated for Tuesday, April 25 in a return trip to the 1 ½ surface “new” Falmouth Ice Arena. The pregame signups featured 23 All-Stars, 2 1/3 goalies, split very evenly between Vendors & Managers. The rosters were delivered to all registered combatants, the pre-game trash talking was pervasive during the initial 2 days of the NEISMA Conference at the Sea Crest, the battle was tak-

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ing shape! During the game day Trade Show, things began to turn dour for those hoping for a successful defense of the Cup by the managers. To the untrained eye, the trade show activity was benign. Those with knowledge of the rosters had suspicions, later confirmed by Sea Crest pouring records (after a Freedom of Information Act request by this author) that the managers team was partaking of the open bar exponentially more than the Vendors, who were strictly adhering to de facto Vendor Co-Captains Peter Manderino and Jeff Gray's prohibiting their team's game day nectar consumption! Clearly, the Vendors were serious about recapturing their Cup after losing it in 2016 for the first time in many years.



I can think of nothing worse for a rink manager than “double booking” their sheet of ice. Similarly, I can't believe the 2017 Conference Gods “double booked” the NEISMA Cup...I never saw it coming, the campaign was rather stealthy, but NEISMA “King Cornhole” David Korpiel managed to have his “tournament” at the Sea Crest concurrently with NEISMA CUP... Just as Peter Kozodoy had stated in his Employing Millennials presentation earlier in the day, the Managers team didn't show up to the rink because they hadn't bought in to the NEISMA Cup Culture, and the Cup did not have a ping pong table in the break room! The choice was clear, the result should have been aphoristic, I missed it. The chart illustrates it well:



2017 - 2018 Membership Application on page 27.

	<u>CORNHOLE</u>	<u>NEISMA CUP</u>
LOCATION	Stay at hotel	Five minute drive to rink
ENVIRONMENT	Climate controlled	Ice rink
PHONE RECEPTION	Excellent	Non-existent
PERSPIRATION	None	Shower required
BEER IN HAND WHILE PLAYING	Yes	No

2017 Spring Conference and Trade Show





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2017 William Chase Scholarship Program

by Tom Ferguson, Chair, Scholarship Committee

At this year's annual Spring Conference and Trade Show in Falmouth, the Scholarship Committee was pleased to be able to award four (4) William Chase Scholarships to member scholars. We did so using a different format than before. Our goal is to offer as many scholarships as possible. This requires that we spread the NEISMA funds as much as possible. We have decided to recruit member organizations to go 50/50 with NEISMA to make awards in the amount of \$1,000 each. American Insurance Agency, G & A Insurance and Safehold Special Risks each contributed \$500 to spearhead this effort.

I was honored to have the opportunity to present our scholarships to these very deserving individuals:

Cynthia Walsh from Burbank Arena in Reading, MA and entering her freshman year at Bridgewater State where she plans to study Special Education and play field hockey. She is the winner of the award sponsored by NEISMA and G & A Insurance.



Stephenie McSweeney of the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA was the winner of the first award presented by NEISMA. Stephenie is a repeat winner and will be entering her senior year at Westfield State University in the fall. Stephenie is an Elementary Education major.

Megan Korpel of Canandaigua, NY and the Greater

Canandaigua Civic Center was presented the scholarship sponsored by NEISMA and American Insurance Agency. Megan is headed to Loyola University in Maryland and is undecided as to her field of study for the time being.

Sarah Huber of Brewster, MA, Nauset HS and the Charles Moore Arena won the final scholarship awarded by NEISMA and Safehold Special Risk. This award was in memory of our good friend Milan Baljak who passed away earlier this year in Montreal. Sarah will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute this fall to pursue her interests in biology and biotechnology.



Please join me in congratulating all four of our winners. They are all tremendous individuals who will go on to represent our organization well into the future.

Finally, we would like to thank our sponsors American Insurance Agency, G and A Insurance and Safehold Special Risk for helping to pilot this program. If you or your organization would like to help us to include even more students deserving of NEISMA support by sponsoring a scholarship please do not hesitate to contact me. For \$500 you will be able to name the award, pick the winner and receive recognition in print and beyond.

(NOTE: The 2018 William Chase Scholarship Application can be found on page 26 of this *Rink Rat*.)

A special thank you to this year's Scholarship Sponsors:

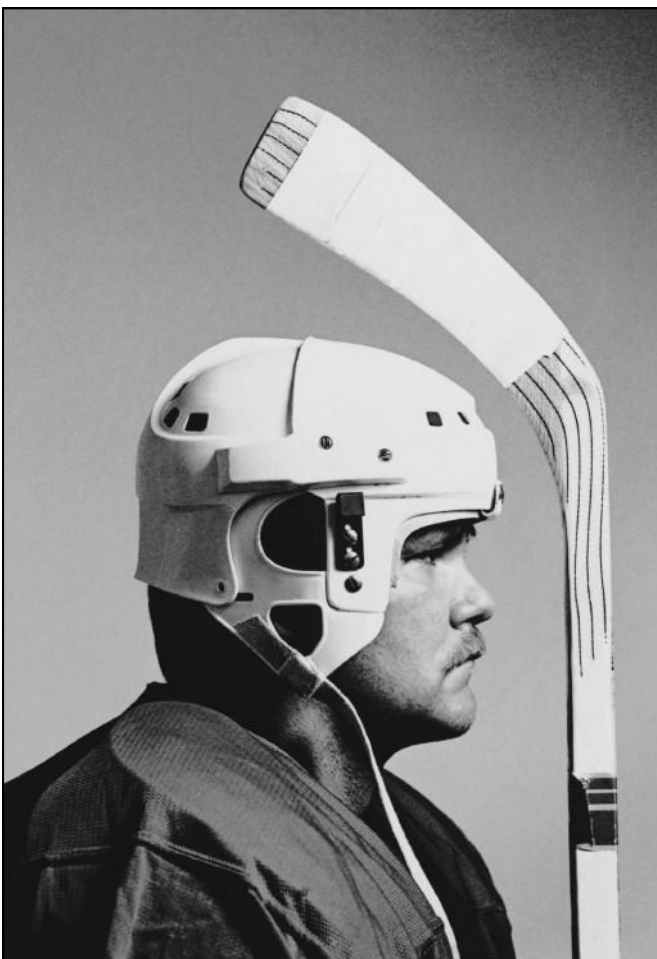
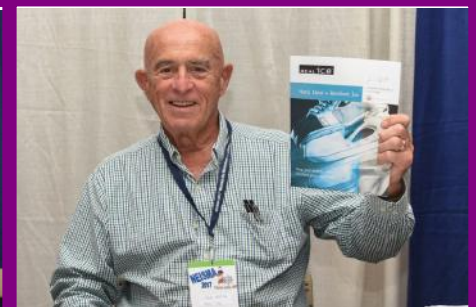


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New Ownership Breathes Life into New York Rinks

By David Korpziel

Rory Fitzpatrick played in 287 NHL games and posted 10 goals and dished out 25 assists in his 12 year career. The 42 year old Fitzpatrick continues to be around rinks. Today, he partners with Tom Masachi, former RIT Hockey player and founder of Will Cup Management. They now operate three ice rinks in western and central New York.



They have bought rinks that needed a face lift. The former SIR Rink (renamed Paul Louis Arena, named after Tom's father) in downtown Rochester is over 60 years old. The also refurbished the Lysander Ice Arena twin rinks in central New York. The last investment was purchasing the old Thomas Creek Ice Arena and renaming it the Rochester Ice Center.

The Rochester Ice Center was purchased by a group of owners in June of 2016 headed by Masachi and Fitzpatrick. They have nine tenants who are proud to call the Rochester Ice Center home. They include Perinton Blades Youth Hockey, Rochester Monarchs, Rochester Jr. Monarchs, Rochester Ice Center Academy, Next Level Strength and Conditioning, Thomas Creek Figure Skating Club, and three high school hockey programs - McQuaid Jesuit, Victor and Fairport. Needless to say, the facility is very busy all year.

The management group came in and made improvements all around the facility. "The facility needed updated", Fitzpatrick said. "We made improvements to the snack bar, pro shop and bar." They also looked at reducing energy costs by installing a low E ceiling, "There were two reasons we decided to go with a low E ceiling. It is environmentally friendly and it will cut down energy," Fitzpatrick said. They also installed T-4 lighting to brighten the place up. Another major improvement was paving the parking lot. "Paving the parking lot gave the customer a better feeling about the place," Fitzpatrick concluded.



The Rochester Ice Center wants the customers to feel it is their rink. "The new ownership group really cares about the place. We want our customers to have a feel of 'ownership' and feel welcome," Fitzpatrick commented. The facility

has added new flooring and added two new locker rooms to accommodate all the teams that are using the facility. In addition to the aforementioned tenants, there are sum-

mer camps, public skating, men's leagues, Strong Hockey Camps and the Mirror Images Synchro Team that use the facility. "I think we have accomplished what we set out to do," Fitzpatrick said.

Not only have improvements been made to the Rochester Ice Center but also to the Paul Louis Arena. The facility has been updated and refurbished by adding a bar and new locker rooms. The most interesting aspect of the new bar is the way it was remodeled. "They took the old wooden bleachers and used them to decorate the bar," according to Clint Campbell, GM of Paul Louis Arena. Campbell was hired away from the Greater Canandaigua Civic Center to give Paul Louis Arena a fresh start.



Paul Louis is the practice facility for the Rochester Monarch, St. John Fisher College Club Hockey and McQuaid Jesuit High School varsity and 2 JV teams. Figure skating and public skating are also offered at the Paul Louis Arena. "We painted the place, added a new ceiling and new lights," Campbell added. "After 60 years, it needed a face lift. People still enjoy skating here because it is an original."

The Lysander Ice Arena in Baldwinsville, NY - just west of Syracuse - is the third Masachi/Fitzpatrick rink to have a facelift. It is home to Baldwinsville and Liverpool High School as well as the Lysander Lightning youth hockey program. It has added two new bars, rubber flooring and reworked and renovated the lobby area.

Hockey and ice skating seem to be doing well in western and central New York thanks to Tom Masachi and Rory Fitzpatrick's efforts and vision.



NEISMA PUZZLER

By Ed Peduto

PRELUDE – Thirty (30) years have passed since my first NEISMA meeting. I still love meeting new people in the rink industry and I savor the friendships I’ve made over the years. As luck would have it, during the Welcome Reception at the recent 2017 Spring Conference, I found myself at a table of four with close to 150 years of rink experience: Jim Hartnett, Syracuse native, legendary CIMCO sales guy and past ISI President; John Zullo, NEISMA Executive Secretary and long-time rink guy in West Hartford, CT; and that “Davis Mechanical Guy” Chris Geatrakis, who has always appeared on the NEISMA mailing list as hailing from Syracuse, NY. Alas, Chris’ daughter has settled on the Cape, and Chris and his wife have recently followed. He is still on the road for plenty of miles but values his time with his family during his rare rest periods! I congratulated Chris on finding his piece of Massachusetts paradise....

THE STORIES – It takes a pretty good story to impress 150 years of experience, yet Chris offered up quite a few - the City who ordered an entirely new refrigeration plant to get their outdoor rink to freeze, but hadn’t turned the glycol below 20 degrees because “someone” told them they couldn’t (despite the unseasonably warm weather in the area). One quick freeze-point check and thermostat adjustment and that City had ice.....without unwrapping the new compressor package! Show up in Lake Placid for NEISMA 2018 and I’ll share some more good ones!

THE CONANDRUM – Chris’ clients ranged far and wide both geographically and economically. He received a Saturday night Service Call from a rink in a hardscrabble former mill town...the ice was melting, the machines were out on “HIGH HEAD PRESSURE”. The mechanic arrived, checked the fan, the belt, the motor, electrical and the water supply....all appeared fine. The mechanic reset the machines, conscientiously stayed a few hours and all was well.....

Chris’ company received the same exact Service Calls for the next two Saturday nights, with the results the same - machines out on HIGH HEAD PRESSURE, checked out fine and a reset restarted the system. By the third weekend, they were all scratching their heads.....

They opened the tower and looked inside, they spotted something that did not belong in there.

The mystery was solved...

Speaking for those of us at the table, we were AMAZED!



YOUR TASK: Answer these two questions:

- What was inside the water tower?
- What is the solution required to prevent a recurrence.

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Zamboni Driver Saves Dad's Life

Reprinted from CBS Local / WBZ-TV Channel 4 Boston - June 19, 2017

CANTON (CBS) – A quick-thinking Zamboni driver helped save a Dorchester, MA man who suffered a heart attack while playing hockey.

"I came out of the compressor room and I noticed a man down on the ice," said Eric Baker who drives the Zamboni at the Canton Sportsplex, in Canton, MA. Baker was working on Saturday as a group of forty-somethings, all friends who grew up together in Dorchester, had their yearly reunion and hockey game when 46-year-old Chris Gracia suffered cardiac arrest.

"His friends were around him and getting emotional and yelling," Baker said. Some of the friends were first responders and started CPR. Baker grabbed the rink's portable defibrillator.

"I got his shirt up, and got the pads on him and turned on the machine," Baker said. "Had to give him a shock. His whole body came literally up in the air."

Canton firefighters Jason Coleman and Brian Pendergast answered the emergency call. "They 100 percent saved this guy's life," Coleman said. "The key to surviving

a heart attack is immediate, good CPR and they were all over it."

"I learned at the hospital he has two small children and the day before Father's Day, it's really nice," Pendergast said. "We don't always get good outcomes so this is really nice."

"It was emotional," Baker said. "It was hard but hopefully the fella's OK."

This is the second time Chris Gracia had a heart attack at a hockey rink and the second time CPR and a portable defibrillator saved him. He's still in the hospital and his brother says he is improving, but that his hockey playing days are over.

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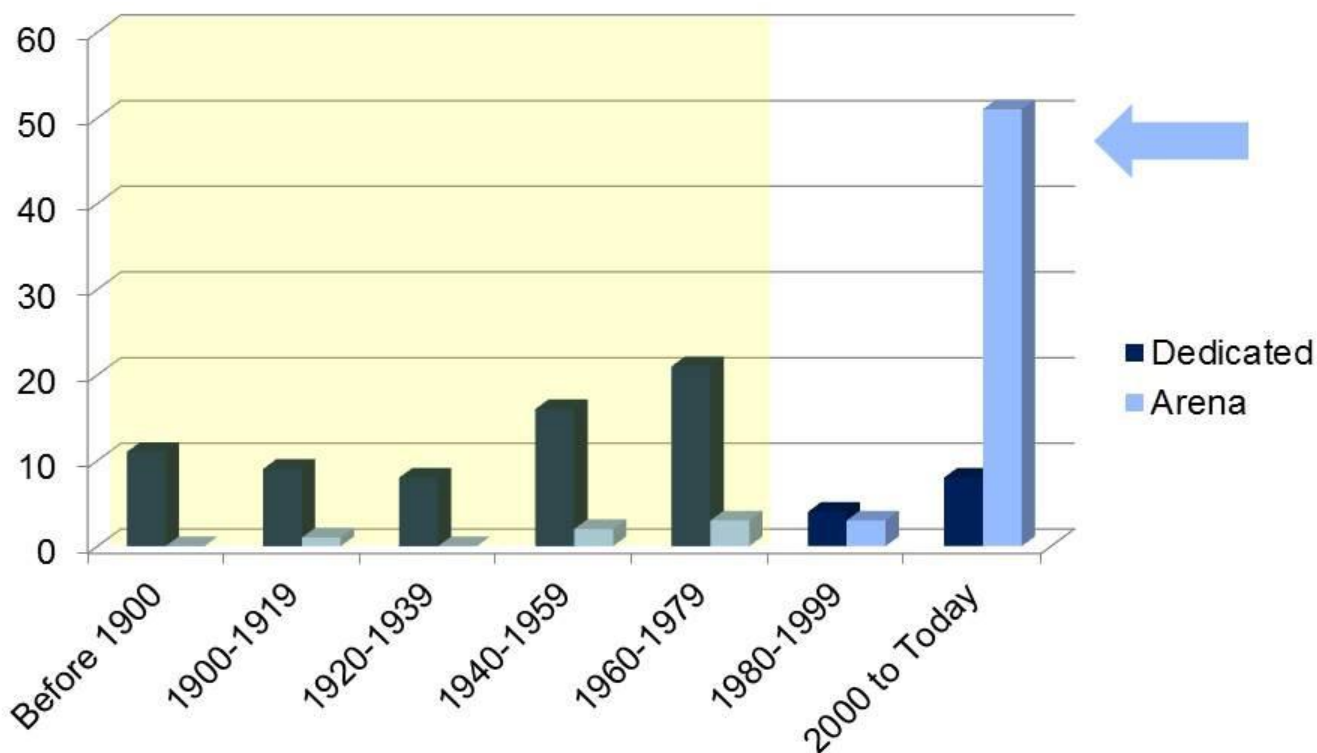
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Arena Curling Continues to Grow!

By Russ Lemcke

Dates Clubs Were Established



Data to May 2016 based on USCA member clubs

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Interested in hosting a Curling program in your rink? Contact Russ Lemcke (russlemcke@comcast.net) or the United States Curling Association (www.teamusa.org/usa-curling) today!

THE RINK RAT

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NEISMA is a professional service organization, organized to provide the ice skating industry with education and training. Since 1972 NEISMA has disseminated technical information and conducted seminars on rink equipment, energy, air quality, marketing, skating programs, maintenance and safety. NEISMA provides the professional rink manager with the technical information needed to operate a safe, efficient and profitable facility. The NEISMA Board of Directors is not a testing lab for vendors or their products. We are not responsible for vendor representations or errors. We neither endorse or recommend any vendors products.



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- Newington Arena (Newington, CT) – Hartford Curling Club (hartfordcurling.com)

Delaware

- Fred Rust Ice Arena (Newark, DE) – Diamond State Curling Club (diamondstatecurling.org)

Maine

- Portland Ice Arena (Portland, ME) – Pine Tree Curling Club (pinetreecurlingclub.com)

Massachusetts

- Bridgewater Ice Arena (Bridgewater, MA) – South Shore Curling Club (southshorecurling.com)
- Blackstone Valley Iceplex (Hopedale, MA) – Blackstone Valley Curling Club (bvcurlingclub.com)
- Charles Moore Arena (Orleans, MA) – Quahog Curling Club (charlesmoorearena.org)
- Nantucket Ice (Nantucket, MA) – Nantucket Curling Club (nantucketice.org)
- New England Sports Center (Marlborough, MA) – Marlborough Curling Club (marlboroughcurlingclub.org)

New Hampshire

- Ham Arena (Conway, NH) – Mt Washington Valley Curling Club (mwvcurlingclub.org)
- Plymouth State University Ice Arena (Plymouth, NH) – Plymouth Rocks Curling Club (plymouth.edu/arena/curling/)
- Pop Whalen Ice Arena (Wolfeboro, NH) – Lakes Region Curling Club (lakescurlingnh.org)

New Jersey

- The Igloo Ice-Rink (Mt. Laurel, NJ) – Jersey Pinelands Curling Club – jerseycurling.org

New York

- LeFrak Center at Lakeside Prospect Park (Brooklyn, NY) – Brooklyn Lakeside Curling Club (lakesidebrooklyn.com/classes-leagues/curling/)
- Long Island Sports Hub (Syosset, NY) – Long Island Curling Club (licurling.org)
- Saranac Lake Civic Center (Saranac Lake, NY) – Lake Placid Curling Club (lakeplacidcurling.com)
- The Rink (Ithaca, NY) – Finger Lakes Curling Club (fingerlakescurling.org)

Pennsylvania

- Toyota Sports Complex (Wilkes-Barre, PA) – Anthracite Curling Club (anthracitecurling.com)

Rhode Island

- Cranston Veterans Memorial Arena (Cranston, RI) – Ocean State Curling Club (oceanstatecurling.org)

Vermont

- Giorgetti Arena (Rutland, VT) – Rutland Rocks Curling Club (rutlandrocks.com)
- Union Arena (Woodstock, VT) – Woodstock Curling Club (uppercalleycurling.org)

And, there are many more arena clubs on the horizon!

For more information on starting a club, please contact Russ Lemcke at 508-540-4493 or russlemcke@comcast.net

Bringing a New Reality to Rockefeller Plaza

By Terry Piche, Technical Director, Ontario Recreation Facilities Association

(Reprinted with the permission of the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association, Inc. (ORFA), Facility Forum, Issue 1.)

It was a November to remember and this night, New York City held up to its name as the city that never sleeps. As the world tuned in to watch the results of the US elections and find out who would become the 45th leader of the free world, I had the privilege to join the Jet Ice team at Rockefeller Plaza to assist in the installation of the on-ice logo. This was the third time that Jet Ice has played such an important role and their continued relationship with NBC News. It was history in the making for us as we embarked on a new reality of the future using on-ice virtual reality technology.



Rockefeller Plaza is an interesting venue. It is an outdoor skating facility that operates from October to April each year, attracting thousands of skaters each day. During each US election held every four years, Rockefeller Plaza is transformed into a visual elections info-graphic. A logo is carefully placed at centre ice with the complete US map outlining all the states. Over the past 12 years, Jet Ice has used a variety of logo materials at Rockefeller Plaza, some more challenging than others. As the results start to roll in, each state is then coloured with either red or blue to reflect which political party had won the state. This was the plan scheduled for this time around, but changed last minute due to use of on-ice virtual reality technology.

To accomplish this task a team of ice professionals were gathered to assist Dave Loverock from Jet Ice. Key assistants were George Arnaoutis and E.J. Gottwald. George has been in the ice business for over 25 years and is a

Doug Moore student. With Doug's encouragement, George attended the ORFA Annual Professional Development Program held at the Guelph University and completed his CIT certification. EJ has over 15 years in the business as a practitioner, also CIT certified and a NEISMA board member. With their skills and expertise, both George and EJ value what ORFA has provided to the industry over the years and the level of professionalism. Two other valuable experts on hand included Joe Sniecinski and Steven Farrell who often assist George on the US east coast. Both were scheduled for the entire project, but were sent home early as the use of virtual reality technology changed the original format.

The process was supposed to begin at midnight on November 7th when the Jet Ice crew were advised they could get things underway. We assembled at 11pm only to wait as NBC took over three hours to complete camera checks prior to airtime. As soon as this was complete we were cleared to get to work. The ice resurfacer tried to level the ice with no real success. The unit used by the ice resurfacer is not like any of the traditional manufacturers. Dave began his calculation measurements to centre the logo, but soon found out that he needed to make changes immediately. Some renovations had taken place since the last election, therefore new calculations needed to be done to ensure the logo was aligned to fit with the new measurements. Two different logo materials were used, a high porosity mesh and textile. The textile logo is the one at the top of the map with the NBC brand. It went down in minutes without any real effort blending perfectly into the ice. Because of the size of the map, high porosity mesh had to be used. Five panels measuring 14 feet wide were laid out (the complete USA print was 73.8' x 46'). Dave took the lead in ensuring that the seams were perfectly matched and then ample amounts of water was released on top by using a squeegee method over the material in an attempt to remove any air bubbles. It was obvious that the Jet Ice team had done this before as they worked in harmony without having to be told what to do. Mesh logos are much more difficult to apply and some small creases and air bubbles occurred which bothered the ice crew, but those not trained in this field would never notice.

Stage two was to have the ice crew remove the Democracy Plaza logo replacing it with a US map outline.

Thomas Grosdoulies and his crew at the Newmarket shop had painstakingly hand-cut out all the artwork for this installation, only to have most of their work not be used. That was the original plan, but since NBC decided to shift to the virtual reality technology the hand placements were not going to be used this time. Virtual reality typically refers to computer technologies that use software to generate realistic images enabling the user to interact with a space and objects depicted using specialized display screens or projectors. In short, the viewer at home saw the state placement, while the on-ice logo never changed. A good example of virtual reality technology is used in football as television viewers see the yellow line to depict the required yardage.

mentored by Dave after Doug Moore left us much too early. There is no doubt that Doug built a strong foundation to ice making sciences and technologies, but Dave has taken these beginnings to a much higher level. I often speak with Dave about his contribution to the industry, but he is always content to shift the accolades back to Doug Moore being comfortable in his shadow. However, Dave, in my opinion, you have earned your place in the limelight as the industries best ice maker!

Thank you to ORFA for providing this article for the Rink Rat!



Once the logos had been sealed in place, it was agreed that George, EJ, Steve and Joe would remain behind to build ice and Dave and I would take the morning shift after some sleep. For those who may have tuned in to watch NBC's syndicated morning show, *The Today Show*, you would have caught a glimpse of George finishing up. On election night, we had full access to the ice surface area. We chatted with NBC security who were full of questions about ice making and even had a chance encounter with Reverend Jesse Jackson as he made his way to the ice deck area for an interview.

As the election night continued, the Jet Ice team estimated schedule to remove the logo did also. The plan was for the ice crew to be on the ice by mid-night, however, it was the early hours of the morning before they were given permission to start the work. Removal involved merely digging down to the logos and hand ripping each panel out. This followed by ice repairs so the facility could then offer the traditional skating schedule by mid-day.

As I watched Dave go about his work over the time I was there, I reflected on how he has changed the business. All three of us, myself, George and EJ have been

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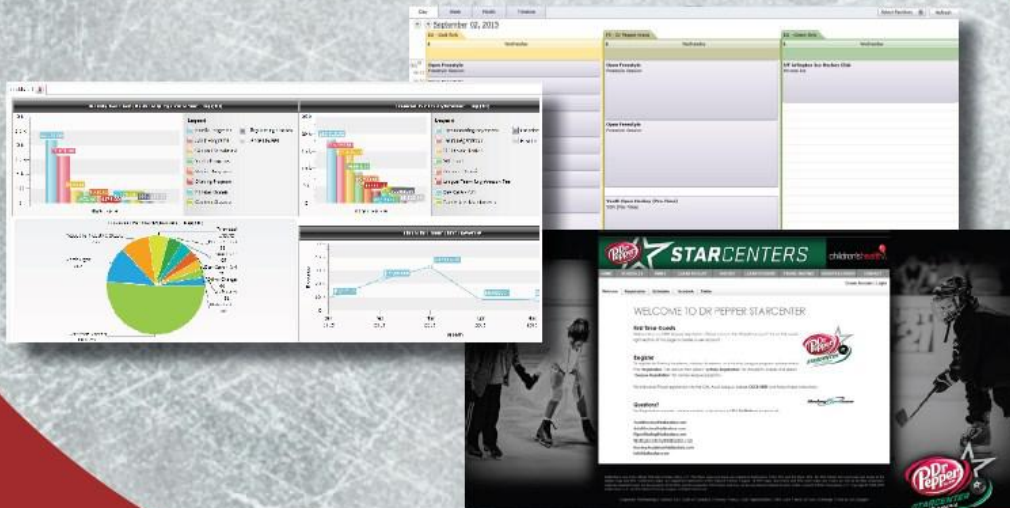
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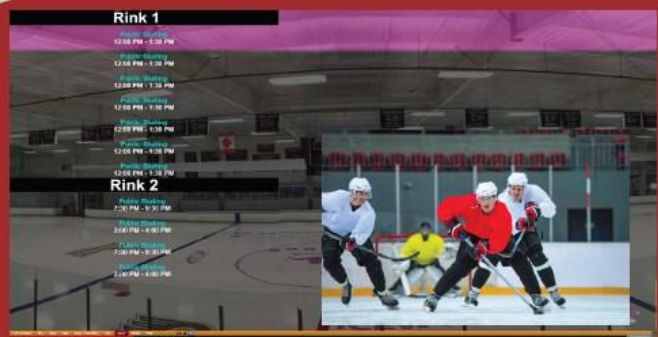
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- Beth Lenz, Kettler Capitals Iceplex



“Miracle on Ice” Relived

(This is an excerpt from the Olympic Regional Development Authority's web site. <http://www.orda.org/miracle/story.php>)

It immediately became known as the Miracle on Ice. USA 4, USSR 3 in the 1980 Winter Olympic hockey semi-finals. It was the result that shocked the world – free and otherwise.

Here was the vaunted Soviet juggernaut - Olympic gold medalists in 1964, 1968, 1972 and 1976 – out to prove the validity of their way of life. The last time the Winter Olympics were held in the United States - 1960 Squaw Valley, Calif. - hockey gold, ironically, went to the Americans. But that was considered ancient history. In addition to four straight Olympic titles, Russia had won the World Cup, the World Championships and had soundly defeated the same USA team, 10-3, at Madison Square Garden just two weeks before the Olympic tournament. The U.S. group was good enough for a medal, most felt, but was not in the league of the Soviets.

The team began the tournament with a come-back tie against Sweden as Bill Baker scored in the final 30 seconds of the contest to earn the deadlock. From there to the semi-finals, the U.S. steamrolled each opponent with a similar story line - stellar play from goalie Jim Craig and a burst of energy from all 20 players in the final period.

Norway, Romania, West Germany fell by the wayside and momentum and optimism was building. It reached a fever pitch when the home squad trounced gold medal contender Czechoslovakia, 7-3. Could the unthinkable really happen?

The night of Feb. 22, 1980 put it all into context. Twenty exuberant players and a single-minded coach hit the ice at 5:06 pm local time unaware that a nation, reeling from an unsettling situation in Afghanistan, a hostage crisis in Iran, a potential boycott of that summer's upcoming Summer Olympics in Moscow and a down-trending economy needed a pick-me-up. And did it get one.

The Russians, clearly overly impressed with their resume, skated in that manner. The U.S., playing with purpose before about 10,000 partisans, seemed to skate above the ice. Nevertheless, the USSR held the lead for much of the contest but could not shake the determined Yanks.

The USSR tallied first (Vladimir Krutov) which only seemed to add to their non-chalance. But later in the opening period, Buzz Schneider tied the count with a slap shot from the left wing. Unfazed, Russia went ahead on a goal by Sergei Makarov and were ready to take the 2-1 advantage into the first intermission. As time was expiring, the Americans fired the puck down ice while the Russians

were headed to the locker room prematurely. But Mark Johnson, skating to the buzzer, walked in behind a sleeping Soviet defense that was moving in the opposite direction. Johnson grabbed the puck and fired it past the heretofore world's best goaltender Vladislav Tretiak with one second remaining.

2-2 after one period. This was noteworthy for the U.S on two fronts: they were deadlocked after one period and Tretiak was mysteriously benched in favor of Vladimir Myshkin.

The USSR's Alexandre Maltsev scored the only goal in the second period to take a 3-2 advantage. However, not many in the audience thought the matter would be this competitive after two periods.

At 8:39 of the final frame, pandemonium erupted when the Red, White and Blue knotted the score at 3-all as Johnson tallied again. Now the visitors were embroiled in the game of their lives against the upstarts and it was clear that they could not shift gears.

The American system of playing in this tournament was actually patterned after the European method. At the time, North American hockey had devolved into a dull pattern of skating the puck to center ice, shooting it deep into the opponent's zone, chasing it and trying to get the opposition to turn it over to you for a scoring opportunity. However, USA coach Herb Brooks felt differently. He wanted to play a possession game emphasizing skating into open ice, precise passing and attacking. To this end, he recruited the fleetest feet in the country, mostly collegians and several minor league professionals. And, of course, he needed a clutch goalie.

When Mike Eruzione scored the famous fourth and winning goal with 10 minutes remaining in the game, a scene of delirium broke out. But still there were 10 minutes to play and, after all, these were the Soviets, who many felt could turn up the heat when needed. It was needed, but they could not turn it up.

With Craig's solid play in the net and the crowd spurring on the rest of the team, Russia had few good chances to tie, while the USA grew stronger and more confident.

As time wound down, sticks and gloves were tossed into the air and jubilation rang out across a nation.

A miracle had been created, one which has stood the test of time, and the likes of which we will never see again.

NEISMA Network Resource Service

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Do you have a question about the rink business that you'd like help with? Let us search our entire network of rink professionals to find you some answers. This vast resource of experience will provide easy access to the information you are looking for. Get responses to your questions or requests directly back via your e-mail address. Just e-mail our Executive Secretary, John Zullo (jjzullo@neisma.com) a question or request. All questions and responses will be moderated and approved by NEISMA before being distributed.

TESTIMONIALS

Question: How do you handle Sledge Hockey players during Stick Time Practice sessions?

From: Jeff Bardwell, Douglas N. Everett Arena, Concord, NH



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I just wanted to drop you an email to let you know what a great response I received when posting a rink question with Nuts & Bolts on the NEISMA website. We received over 40 emails from rinks and vendors within an hour after posting. Great service to offer its members! Keep up the good work!

Request: Posting of used Zamboni for sale

From: Ron King, Millbrook School, Millbrook, NY

Within one hour of blasting out my ad for a Zamboni for sale the responses began to come in. At least thirty asked for more information and our location. Responses came from all over the Northeast and from as far away as Montana and California. Soon the list was narrowed to four or five and then two. Those rinks sent representatives to inspect and drive our machine. I had bids from both. I held short auction on line between the two. The Zamboni sold in ten days after posting the ad. Emailing the ad to you was easy and at no charge. I was glad that the ad only went to people and organizations that were involved in the rink industry. I would like to thank NEISMA for providing this service. I would use the service again and recommend it to all members.

Question: Staffing levels at Multi-Sheet Facilities

From: Joe Izzo, Hyannis Youth & Community Center, Cape Cod, MA

A few months ago I sent a request to NEISMA looking to gather information from other multi-sheet facilities about the staffing levels they maintain throughout the course of the year. The Hyannis Youth & Community Center is fairly unique in that we have two ice rinks, a gymnasium and youth center all under one roof. As we were looking at our staffing levels in the building I thought it would be beneficial to hear from other facilities as to how they handle their staffing. I received over 20 responses from the email request and the information has been helpful as we look to implement changes to our staffing levels in order to suit the changing needs of our facility. I feel fortunate to have the resources of so many different rink professionals available to me through NEISMA. The member service program has been a huge help and I would definitely recommend it to other NEISMA members.

**LET NEISMA HELP YOU!
SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS!**

NEISMA Fall Meetings

Mark Your Calendars!



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Providence, RI

Tuesday, October 24th



CICERO TWIN RINKS

Cicero, NY

Wednesday, October 25th



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Princeton, NJ

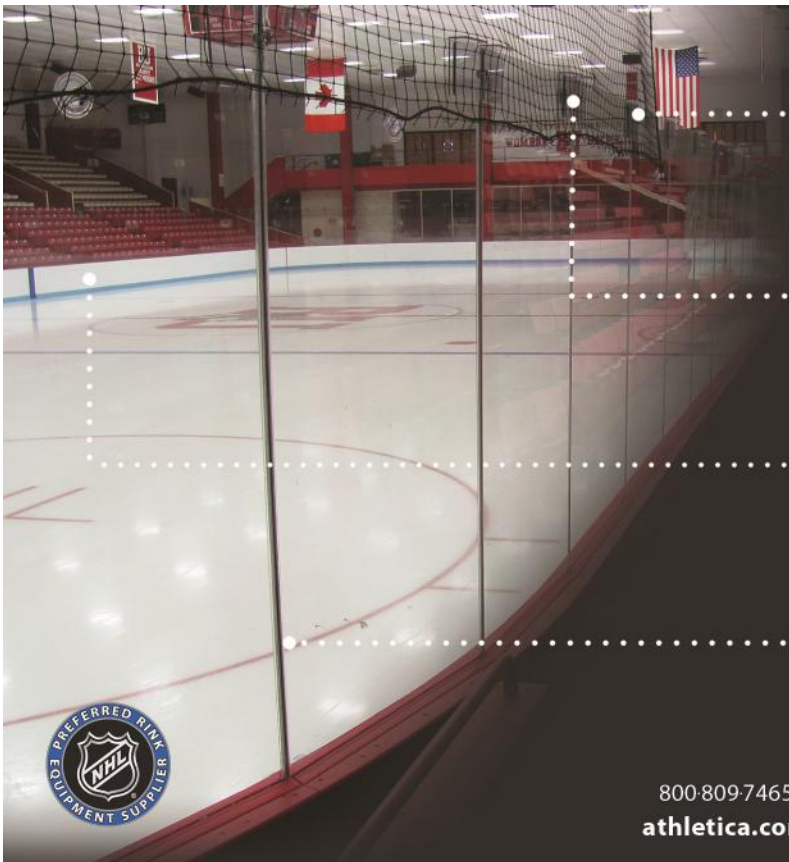
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Burlington, VT

Wednesday, November 1st



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Home Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

High School attended: _____ Year Graduated _____

College/University enrolled in the Fall 2018: _____

Major/Minor: _____

Rink industry work history: _____

NEISMA Member Affiliation (dues paid 2017 – 2018):

Facility/Company Name: _____

Manager/Owner Name: _____

ESSAY (Please include one page, single spaced.)

Please explain how your personal history (school, extracurricular activities, jobs, hobbies, involvements, etc.) has shaped your future plans in your pursuit of a college education and possible career.

ELIGIBILITY

The 2017 – 2018 William Chase Scholarships are open to employees and children of employees of current NEISMA members (rinks and vendors alike). Student applicants shall have worked a minimum of two (2) seasons in a NEISMA member organization, or the student's parent shall have worked a minimum of five (5) years in a NEISMA member facility or company. Students shall be high school graduates and be enrolled into an accredited college or university in the Fall of 2018.

CHECKLIST

A complete application shall consist of the following:

- _____ The above application filled out will all necessary information completed.
- _____ A letter of recommendation from a NEISMA member (facility or business owner/manager, etc. - please no relatives).
- _____ Your most recent high school transcript.
- _____ A one (1) page, single spaced essay on the abovementioned topic.

APPLICATIONS SHALL BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MARCH 15, 2018.

Applicants will be notified in early April. Scholarships will be awarded at our annual Spring Conference.

Send to: NEISMA, P.O. Box 290595, Wethersfield, CT 06129.



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