

The Long Road To Success

IF DEDICATION and long working hours pay off, watch for Jayne Meyer to represent Uncle Sam in the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

Even an Iron Curtain won't stop this talented Sacramento 17-year-old. She has enough energy to light up a Siberian coal mine.

IMAGINE TRYING to keep pace with this schedule. Out of bed at 4:30 and ice skating from 5:30 to 11 a.m. at the Ice House. Grab something for a lunch on the run to classes at Cal State Sacramento from noon until 5 o'clock.

Three nights a week she has ballet lessons under the guidance of Barbara Crockett at her Dance Studio. Other nights are either spent receiving more training from Richard Garrett at the Ice House or dance skating with the Sacramento Skating Club. She somehow manages to sandwich in a quick dinner "somewhere between 5 and 8 o'clock."

AS HER FATHER Arthur Meyer puts it: "It sure helps that Jayne finally has her driving license." Like most parents of successful children, he has been — as has mom Catherine — an instrumental part in helping Jayne achieve the top medal by the U.S. Figure Skating Association for excellence in compulsory figures and free skating.

"We bought our car in 1969," he said, "and it has 137,000 miles on it. I'd estimate 100,000 miles have come transporting Jayne to and from ice skating rinks."

"When she first started skating six years ago I'd either drive her to Iceland or get up at 3:30 and drive to Santa Rosa in the fog. Then I'd drive back to work. But that was only once a week. There were plenty of trips to Burlingame or a 3:30 rise to drive to Berkeley, back to work and then back to Berkeley at night to pick Jayne up."

"IT'S JUST SOMETHING I got interested in and want to do," said Jayne, a lithe lass who carries 125 pounds on her 5-foot-9 frame. "I first became interested when I saw Peggy Fleming and Janet Lynn on television."

Jayne is so engrossed with the sport she's lived away from home in Los Angeles, San Mateo and Colorado Springs at various times to train with different professional instructors. With the rigorous training have come bumps and bruises, a spike wound in the shin which required stitches and a frac-



tured bone in her foot. Her physician wanted to apply a cast for six weeks, but Jayne would have none of it, asking for a tape job so she wouldn't miss valuable training time.

BORN IN NEW YORK, Jayne has three athletic brothers — Greg, 19, a schoolmate who has shot par golf; Jeff, 15, who plays tennis at Jesuit High School, and Robert, 13, a Jonas Salk School student who last year won the junior world golf title for 11-12-year-olds in San Diego.

AN ENCINA High School grad, Jayne takes a correspondence course in trigonometry, in addition to receiving high marks in ballet, gymnastics and biology and serving as a judge at skating events.

Jayne became one of only approximately 50 persons who annually earn the USFSA award

by performing 12 paragraph figures and a four-minute freestyle program before three judges. Skating to the record "Ice Capades," she wowed 'em with double axles, combination jumps, double flips, double toe loops, flying camels and layback and flying sit spins.

JAYNE, WHO has a goal of reaching international competition before becoming a skating instructor, must first place among the top three in the Central Pacific and Pacific Coast competitions to qualify for the national championships.

It's a long way to the top. Success doesn't come easily or cheaply. Skates are \$250 and travel, ice time and instruction costs amount to \$3,600 annually.

But there is a recipe and Jayne has it — desire as the main course and loving parents for dessert.



Jayne Meyer...Gal With Busy Schedule

See Photo by Owen Brewer