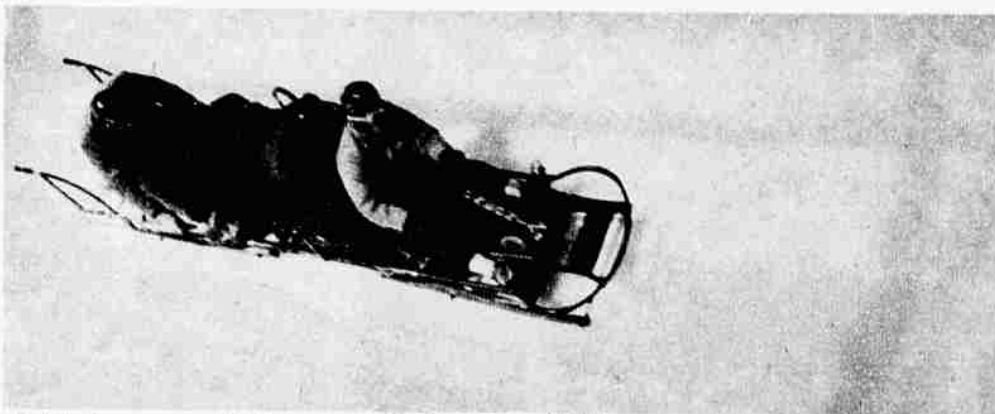


SOME MEN never grow up. Among the most muscular of the Peter Pans are the bobsledders. They've given up belly-flopping on snow-covered streets, but in hanging on to their youth they've taken up screeching around ice-covered curves. "Hanging on" is an apt description, because there's little else required in bobsledding. It's downhill all the way, and on some of the slicker runs—like that near Lake Placid, N.Y.—the built-in acceleration of the slides sometimes speeds the sleds up to 100 miles an hour. It's not for babies. In fact, it's a sport that can make any man searching for eternal youth grow old in a hurry.

Photos: Douglas from Three Lions



Bobsleds carry up to four men. On four-man sled front man steers, rear man brakes, middle men just go along for the ride. Their main job is to add weight to sled.

They Slide at 100 Miles an Hour



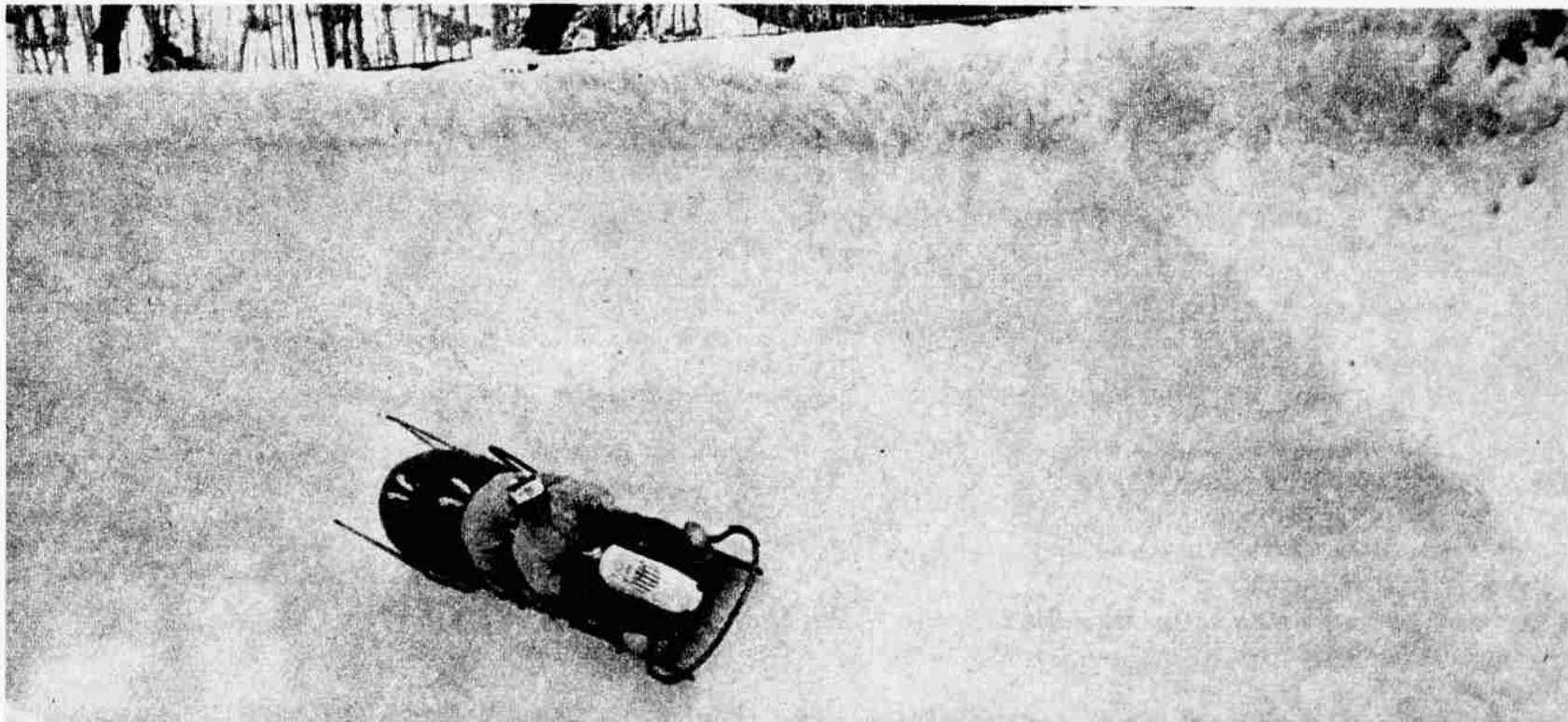
Bobruns must meet rigid specifications; crews spray walls daily, pack them thick with ice.



Sleds need regular maintenance, too. Here bobsledder slickens runners with emery cloth.



Combination of slick runners and even slicker curves makes bobsledding one of fastest sports.



U.S. Olympic team rounds hairpin curve at Mt. Hoevenberg, near Lake Placid. Three men in rear keep heads down to lower wind resistance, increase speed. Driver must keep his up to steer. Curves are dangerous, require adroit coordination of steering and braking.

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