



Howard Prairie lake, a vast frozen whiteness dormant in its wooded seclusion in the Cascade mountains east of Medford, could be a lonely place in the dead of winter. The moan of the wind in the trees, or perhaps a coyote's call, might be the only sounds. But last week end the area was "alive" with people. Perfect ice skating conditions and toboggan and sled runs on the east shore made it a veritable winter sports arena. The picture above shows only a handful of the hundreds of persons at the lake last Sunday.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
MEDFORD OREGON, SUNDAY, JANUARY, 15, 1961

Winter Sport

Carla Paulsen and her sister Janet, Medford (at left), skate hand-in-hand across the broad expanse of ice as the cold wind nips their cheeks and noses. A light dusting of snow a few days before caused the ice to be somewhat "slower" but proved helpful to those who had not skated before.



"Thawing out" beside a glowing fire at the lake's edge, the two families, above, had spent all day skating. They are, left to right, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Owings, Medford, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dalton, Grants Pass, and the Owings' son, Johnny. The group brought a lunch, including thermos jugs of coffee and hot chocolate for the all-day outing. Mr. Owings took lots of colored movies of skaters with the new camera he was given for Christmas.



Two fancy skaters, Dr. Richard Frederick (right), and his brother, Bill, Medford, zoom past the camera with skates pointed in opposite directions and seemingly sitting on air. The pair at one time performed together in ice shows when there was an ice rink in Medford during World War II.



Adults as well as children enjoy the invigorating sport of ice skating, but until one gets the "hang" of it there are apt to be a few spills. Helping their daughter, Leslie, aged 2½ try out her skates (above), are Dr. and Mrs. M. A. Kocks, Ashland. Most beginners have trouble keeping their ankles straight.



Many motorists who drove off the main road to the parking area near the lake found coming out more difficult than going in, for the road was covered with an inch or so of snow. One solution to getting up the hill is illustrated in the picture above, as M. B. Caster, and family, Central Point, got assistance from people on foot when the tires began to spin. The road will be sanded for this week end.