

FORMAL OPENING
OF THE
Roller Drome
SKATING RINK

FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 21
Corner South and Tenney Streets
K E W A N E E

The Roller Drome has a floor specially built for skating and its construction insures excellent skating conditions.

MRS. ELIZABETH BROWN & MRS. W. D. VANCIL, Managers

SKATING HOURS

7:30 to 10:30 Every Night

2:30 to 4:30 Saturday and Sunday Afternoon

OPENING NIGHT SPECIAL

One Lady Admitted Free with the Purchase of Each Gentleman's
35c Admission . . . Friday Night Only .

Plan Formal Opening Of Rollerdrome

Skating Rink On Tenney
Street Ready Friday
Night 04/20/39

The Rollerdrome skating rink, located on South Tenney street, will hold its formal opening Friday evening. It is housed in a new building erected by Vancil and Sons, contractors, with a floor especially constructed for skating. It is well-lighted and ventilated, assuring the patrons comfortable skating.

The Rollerdrome is under the management of Mrs. Elizabeth Brown and Mrs. W. D. Vancil. Chester Nicholson will be floor manager.

Complete new equipment has been secured and a refreshment concession has been installed. Several specialties have been arranged for the opening night.

Contractor of the new building was Vancil and Sons, and electrical work was done by Tom Chinlund. Music for skating is supplied by RCA-Victor sound equipment, purchased from Home Appliance shop, and an attractive sign for the Rollerdrome was designed and installed under the direction of Leo Tangeman and H. H. Brown.

Six To Sixty, They Roll Around At Kewanee Rinks; Get Nowhere But What Fun

BY FRANK TELLEN

Roller skating has taken Kewanee and the surrounding area by storm this summer. Attendance records at the two rinks at the south edge of Wethersfield show that the city has gone skating conscious, just as ten years ago miniature golf was the craze.

Parents who do not know where their children are at night might well look to the roller rinks and chances are they will find them there. The hardwoods are also a likely place to look for missing parents, for married couples seem to enjoy it as much as the younger set.

SIX TO SIXTY

There just doesn't seem to be any age limit. As one rink manager put it, skaters ranged in age from "six to sixty" Even that wide variation does not include one gentleman in his seventies who discovered that his aging legs would still glide him along the smooth surface.

Each rink has an attendance of better than 100 on the average week-day night, while last Sunday one manager reported his rink skated 500 people.

Both rinks are situated at the south end of Tenney street. The Roller Dome, owned by Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Vancil and Mrs. Harry Brown, all of Kewanee, is an indoor rink. Its 8,000 feet of floor space, measuring 164 by 50 feet, makes it one of the largest in the state.

Pollock's rink located just outside the city limits is owned by Gilbert Pollock of Kewanee. It has a portable floor measuring 146 by 50 feet and is sheltered by a colorful canvas roof. A city ordinance requires the Roller Dome to close at 10:30 p. m., but Pollock's rink, being outside the city limits remains open until 12:30.

ELECTRIC ORGANS

Electric organs provide rhythmical accompaniment to skaters at both rinks as they glide along with their favorite partners. The two organist operators, Roy Rohde at Pollock's and Roy Sherman at the Roller Dome, both have the knack of keeping time with the skaters' strokes as they play both the old-fashioned waltzes and the popular "swing" music.

"A rink isn't popular that does not have couple skating," one owner stated. Some of the "skates" which have a universal appeal are Moonlight face-to-face waltz, two-step for couples only, Dutch roll for couples only, and the bell skate, where the boys move ahead one couple whenever the bell rings.

Kewanee has developed an unusual number of good girl skaters, which is not true of most cities. Likewise, the boys are on a par with the best rink skaters in the state, according to local rink owners who have visited other cities. Even older people who have not been on skates in 15 to 20 years regain their skating legs in a comparatively short time and waltz along with the best of them.

MANY OWN SKATES

Better than 25 per cent of the skaters own their own shoe skates. In addition, each rink has in stock better than 150 pairs of the clamp-on variety all with fibre wheels. The latter have proven more practical for rink skating than either wooden or steel wheels. Skates range in size from 6 to 9, and the largest will fit a size 12 shoe.

Many skaters make a hobby of collecting rink stickers, just as college students gather pennants and insignias. A well-travelled skater is evidenced by the number of stickers on the leather bag in which the skates are carried.

Young people think nothing of driving 50 or 60 miles for an evening of skating. Organist Roy Rohde says Kewanee rinks are patronized by skaters from as far away as Dixon, Peoria, Mazon and Mendota.

OPEN TO PARTIES

Every night from 10:30 to 12:30 Pollock's rink is open to parties. Many organizations reserve the floor for such parties as do rural groups, clubs, and organizations from surrounding towns. On Friday night the party season is reserved for married folks. A class for beginners is held on Sunday mornings, in which the novices are admitted to the rink free.

The Roller Dome has afternoon skating on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday only but the rink can be reserved for afternoon parties.

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