

Sports news/ scores

Mother, daughter overjoyed to qualify for Canada's bowling team

Elaine Yamron, daughter Fern 'bowled over' by their wins

When I spoke with Elaine Yamron on Halloween Day, she was higher than a trick-or-treater who'd overdosed on his confectioneries.

SPORTING TOUCH



HARVEY ROSEN

She was one happy kegler who had been completely bowled over. You see, she and her 27-year-old daughter Fern had just returned from Toronto, where they captured berths on the Maccabiah 2001 bowling team. "We're the first mother and daughter to qualify," she noted with glee.

"My daughter qualified first, and I finished fourth after 20 games over the weekend at two different lanes in Toronto."

That's no small feat, I imagine; far more Easterners make the grade than their Prairie counterparts, who are usually badly outnumbered for obvious demographic reasons. There's also the exertion that results from travel, and having to bowl 10 games each on Saturday and Sunday.

"We were each bowling far apart on different lanes and I kept track of Fern. I had someone watching for me while I was trying to qualify," said Elaine whose husband Sheldon and son Nathan also bowl.

It's no accident that Fern is so adept at bowling. "She's been involved since she was eight years old," noted Mom, who has been scattering pins for 38 years, herself. "I bowl three times a week. I'm in the Gateway Mixed, which is a 98-per-cent Jewish league which bowls on Sundays, and I also bowl on Mondays and Thursdays."



ELAINE YAMRON (at right) with daughter, Fern: "We're the first mother and daughter to qualify."

It's clear that Elaine lives and breathes the 10-pin game. She is the president of the Winnipeg Women's Bowling Association as well as president of the Manitoba Provincial Junior Bowling Association.

The mother-daughter combo have appeared to-

gether before in competition. "About four or five years ago in Ottawa, we won the silver in doubles, and Fern won a gold in singles, a gold in team event and a silver in all events."

Competing successfully this time was an even greater high. "It was wonderful. I started to cry. You have no idea the emotion I felt. Neither of us has ever been to Israel before."

For the record, both boast impressive averages. Fern sports a 180, and Mom, a very respectable 170. How do they do it? With a lot of diligent practice and a little help from a volunteer friend, Ats Odaguchi, a retired junior high school teacher for whom the game is "the love of her life."

"She's our coach," said Elaine. "She works with adults as well as with the Junior Bowling Association. She assists me and has been Fern's coach since she started bowling. She's in the Dominican Republic right now with the youth bowlers. She probably doesn't even know that Fern and I qualified for the Maccabiah Games."

Elaine and Fern leave for Israel via Toronto on July 9th, where there is a team get-together and a farewell party. They return on the 26th from the games, which are held every four years in the year following the Olympics.

Participants don't get a total free ride. "We have to raise \$1,000 each," said Elaine. "I have already raised \$800, but I still hope to get some kind of sponsorship."

The 26 Colish Drive resident works at Hussmann Canada. She tried to sound optimistic as she added: "I've already got some pledges. Perhaps a bit of publicity would help."

Hopefully, their efforts won't prove to be as difficult as a tough split.

POST PATTER:

- Former IHL goalie David Littman has hung up his goaltender's mask and is now the color man for the Orlando Solar Bears TV broadcasts on the Sunshine Network.
- The 33-year-old 12th-round draftee out of the Sabres' chain ended up playing three games in the NHL.

- Recently drafted Max Birbraer, a left-winger who was touted as a possible rookie of the year in the NHL has been sent by New Jersey to their American Hockey League team in Albany, N.Y. He was described as being mature beyond his years, with plenty of skills. He fled religious persecution as a Jew from Kazakhstan, and also spent time in an Israeli military jail. With Newmarket last year, he managed 50 goals and 32 assists.

- The Worcester Ice Cats of the AHL, lacking veteran experience, obtained leftwinger Doug Friedman, on loan from the San Jose farm system. Last season with Kentucky of the AHL, Doug scored 13 goals and added 23 assists in 73 games. His specialty, however, is toughness, as he spent 237 minutes in the penalty box.

- Dave Hymovitz is in the AHL with the Lowell Loch Monsters. Last year he spent a half season with the latter, and the rest of his time he skated with Houston of the IHL. He scored 29 goals and added 20 assists in total.

- Israel is readying a bid to host the 2012 Olympics. The largest sports competition the country has hosted was 2,000 in last year's Maccabiah Games. The Olympics draws 10,000 athletes.

- The writer, a Jewish Winnipegger, is a former school teacher, and covers football and hockey for Canadian Press and Broadcast News.

Keep in touch with *Sporting Touch*. Send news about Jewish sports to Harvey Rosen, 360 Scotia Street, Winnipeg, Man., R2V 1W7.

Recreation Men's Bowling League

By SAUL LONDON, secretary
Weekly high scores - November 1

HIGH TRIPLE: Terry Robinson 584 (233, 190); Herb Singer 578 (200, 193); Darren Earn 567 (214, 190); Frank Zipursky 552 (197); Gary Granzberg 548 (198); Mickey Rosenberg 540; Saul London 529; Jack Buchalter 526 (202, 195); Norman Freedman 523; Harold Swick 515 (103); Hersh Doctoroff 515.

HIGH SINGLE: Earle Laveman 191; Rube Helman 188; Chaim Raber 181; Danny Waterman 181.

Jewish Women International Bowling League

By LIBBY GREENFIELD
Weekly high scores - week of November 1

HIGH TRIPLE: Charna Gilman - 524 (161, 205); Carole Jeffries - 512 (189, 169); Rennie Elfenbein - 494 (208); Annette Axelrod - 492 (172, 161); Janice Levine - 478 (177, 168).

HIGH SINGLE: Joyce Rosenhek - 188; Sadie Wolfson - 182; Maxine Benditt - 174, 163; Eleanor Dashevsky - 172; Sheila Kleiman - 165.

Gateway Mixed Bowling League

By SADIE WOLFSON, secretary
Weekly high scores - week of October 29

HIGH TRIPLE
MEN: Ken Sylvester - 617 (232, 182, 203); Saul London - 517 (171, 200).
WOMEN: Sadie Wolfson - 493 (155, 159, 179); Rose Sylvester - 471 (176, 170)

HIGH SINGLE
MEN: Herb Singer - 186.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Play deals with crises in lighthearted way

By GLEN MacKENZIE

The Winnipeg Jewish Theatre's production of *Door to Door* offered a lighthearted, sometimes serious look at the lives of three Jewish women struggling with the men in their lives and the times in which they live.

The title, which means generation to generation, is played out with references to prominent women ranging from Frances Perkins, FDR's labor secretary (and the first-ever U.S. woman cabinet secretary) to Betty Friedman, author of the ground-breaking *The Feminine Mystique*.

Written by James Sherman, *Door to Door* contains some predictably obligatory comments about things women at one time just didn't do (like work as artist painters for a living) and the later importance of the birth-control pill.

Bessie (played by Doreen Brownstone) is the elder of the three, the immigrant from the Old Country with a traditionalist background revealed as less traditionalist as the play develops. Her daughter Mary (Maida Rogerson) came across as rather wooden at first, much more human later on. The fact they weren't more human earlier gave the play a bit of a slow start, but definitely added

Manitoba Opera's Aida magnificent

Review by MATT BELLAN

Aida has been hailed as the grandest opera of all. And the Manitoba Opera's version, which opened at the Centennial Concert Hall last week, does this beloved work justice.

One majestic, "ancient Egyptian" set after another serves as the setting for this nearly-three-hour work, composed by Giuseppe Verdi. Dancers from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and stage "extras" who don't sing or speak add to the visual feast. And a large chorus supplements the singing of the main performers.

Aida is a wonderfully dramatic story. Amneris, daughter of the King of Egypt, loves Radames, captain of the Egyptian guard. But Radames loves Amneris' Ethiopian slave, Aida, who's also in love with him.

Unknown to the Egyptians, Aida is the daughter of Amonasro, king of Ethiopia.

As a reward for leading the Egyptian army to victory against Ethiopia, the Egyptian king offers Radames Amneris' hand in marriage.

Radames declines, and secretly courts Aida instead. He's undone when Aida's father tricks him into revealing the



Door to Door cast, from left: Kerry Sandomirsky, Doreen Brownstone and Maida Rogerson.

to its impact later.

The strongest performance came from Deborah (Kerry Sandomirsky), the youngest and definitely a modern woman who couldn't care less about marrying out of the Jewish faith and who comes through very relaxed, natural and convincing. And like her mother and grandmother, she grows as she goes through some life transitions.

Perhaps the play's greatest strength is how it deals with the characters as they face crises, and that some serious messages get communicated in a light-hearted, humorous way. And it provided a heavy dose of eternal truths about life, with strong characters who have definite ideas about life and which inevitably produced some clashes.

The sets of the play, which took place on the stage of the Asper Jewish Community Campus's

Berney Theatre, were simple: a table - a couple of chairs for it and an easy chair - which strengthened the production by maintaining its focus on the actors.

The audience got an additional treat after the October 30 production - a sold-out mother-daughter night - as the three actors shared some thoughts in a workshop.

Sandomirsky, discussing similarities between her character Deborah and herself, allowed that she recently had a traditional wedding, although she wondered: "Had I sold out - or bought in?" She also said when her family gave a thumbs-down to one of her potential suitors, that was important to her because she wanted their approval (unlike Deborah, who goes ahead despite objections and lives to regret it).

Evening of Musical Theatre

On Thursday, November 16 at 8:00 p.m., the Berney Theatre at the Asper Jewish Community Campus will come alive with the sounds of musical theatre. This concert - An Evening of Musical Theatre - is sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada which, since September, has joyfully been celebrating the history of Jewish music and musicians in Winnipeg through a concert series, a museum exhibit and a commemorative book.

An Evening of Musical Theatre, hosted by Winnipeg Jewish Theatre artistic director Kayla Gordon, will bring together many of the city's most versatile and polished performers singing a variety of hits from on and off Broadway. The show will feature an ensemble medley, as well as the performance of songs from such shows as Hello Dolly, Gypsy and Funny Girl.

Confirmed performers, to date, include past and present community members Kenneth Bell, Miriam Bronstein, Evelyn Hecht, Marvin Kaye, Debbie Maslowsky, Ron Meyers, Sarah Sheps and Richard Yaffe, accompanied by Sheldon Laveman on the piano. Together, these talented men and women bring to the stage years of experience from shows at the Manitoba Theatre Centre, Rainbow Stage, The Hollow Mug and the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre, among

other venues.

Many of the evening's performers are featured or referred to in the Jewish Heritage Centre museum exhibit *Our Musical Heritage - A Century of Jewish Musicians and Music in Winnipeg* - currently on display at the Marion and Ed Vicker Jewish Museum. This extensive exhibit, which explores the rich history of the Jewish community's musical life, remains open to the public until December 31, 2000. Regular museum hours are Sunday to Friday, noon to 4:00 p.m., and Wednesday and Thursday from noon until 8:00 p.m.

As well, many of these entertainers are profiled, quoted and mentioned in the hardcover book, *Our Musical Heritage - A Century of Jewish Musicians and Music in Winnipeg*. This book, which showcases the exemplary musical achievements of myriad Jewish community members in the local and secular worlds of music, is presently on sale from the Jewish Heritage Centre, as well as synagogue gift shops, Gwen Senter Creative Living Centre and McNally Robinson's Grant Park location.

Tickets for An Evening of Musical Theatre are available in advance from the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada. Tickets at the door will depend on availability.

"Our Musical Heritage"

From Broadway to Berney

Thursday, November 16, 2000 • 8:00 pm

Berney Theatre • Asper Jewish Community Campus

Kayla Gordon hosts "An Evening of Musical Theatre" featuring Kenneth Bell, Miriam Bronstein, Evelyn Hecht, Marvin Kaye, Debbie Maslowsky, Ron Meyers, Sarah Sheps and Richard Yaffe, with Sheldon Laveman on the piano.

Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada or by phoning 477-7460.



Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada
114-123 Doncaster Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba
www.jhcw.mb.ca

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