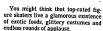
Skaters glide in fun, frustration



rou might think that top-rated fig-ure skaters live a glamrous existence of exotic foods, glittery costumes and endless rounds of applause. There certainly was applause recent-ly when Carol Fox, 22, of Westland, and her partner, Rich Dalley, 21, of Lathrup Village, placed 11th in world championship competition in Vienna in March.

marcn.

But while Rich (Beanie to his friends) enjoyed sampling treats such as Viennese torte cake, Carol couldn't wait to get home so she could sink her teeth into a taco or peanut butter sandwich.

wich.

Carol, a graduate of John Glenn High
School, and Beanie, a graduate of
Southifield-Lathrup High and former
Livonia resident, competed with each
other as roller skaters, before teaming
up on the ice six years ago. The two
currently are ranked second among
one-professional figure skating teams
in the country.

As Carol and Beanie negare to com-

in the country.

As Carol and Beanie prepare to compete for the 1980 U.S. Olympic figure skating team next February, they are embarking on a round of ice-skating show appearances, starting with Lansing and River Rouge this weekend. Later shows will take them around the

er shows will take them around the country.

These shows provide exposure. They also are a chance for the team to earn \$100-250 toward career expenses, which can mean as much as \$30,000 a year in ice fees, coaching expenses dancing lessons and travel coats. Carol and Beanie don't have a sponsor, so they must find yourse of severe so. and Beanie don't have a sponsor, so they must find ways of earning extra

money. Money earned at these shows isn't paid directly to the skaters, but goes to the U.S. Figure Skating Association and applied against Carol's and Beanie's

expenses.
The expenses snowball, Carol said.

be enough for the future."
Regretfully, Carol and Beanie, who practice at the Multipurpose Arena in Westland, had to pass up appearing in the '79 ice Revue to be held in the arena April 6-8. Skaters appearing in that show, which is on a tight budget, are unnaid.

show, which is on a tignt tourget, actuppaid.

The past year has seen the skate gream win a Midwest competition and a national sports festival in Colorade Springs, Colo. They also placed fourth in a competition in Holland and suffered a "hearterushing disappointment" when they came in second in anational championship, said Carol.

Traveling to non-competitive ice shows is fun, because Carol and Beanic can glide around the let in graceful dance numbers, unrestricted by rigid guidelines of competition.

Otherwise, Beanic said, traveling means 'eating, skating and existing.'

The trip to Vienna last month was a little more special than usual because the skators, accompanied by Carol's mother and sister, stayed at a hotel located next to a palace.

Though they visited the opera and other points of interest, 'it still wasn't a vacation by any means,' said Beanic.

Dominating their thoughts are the

Dominating their thoughts are the competition and the reality of practicing three times a day for one hour.

Bill Aydelotte of Farmington is ships to study in West Germany in May among five Eastern Michigan Universiand June. ty students who have received scholar-

"YOU'RE COOPED UP with the same group of people all the time," said Beanie. "After a while (the places)

same group or peupe an uncursaid Beanie. "After a while (the places)
run together."
"You don't get the flavor of the
country," added Carol. "Everything is
planned out."
Carol şaid skaters are well-fed during competition, mostly somewhat
bland food to appeal to a wide variety
of international taste buds.
A sell-described "picky eater," Carol
packs canned food, soups and peanut
butter to eat while traveling abroad.
"I don't like veal or seafood," said
Carol. "In Holland, the beef was so
tough you could hardly cut it.
"When I get home I usually head for

"When I get home I usually head for the nearest taco stand," she added. In the five years that Carol and Beanie have been ice skating, they've

moved quickly up the ranks. Now they believe they've "hit a plateau."

Carol admits to feeling like an "underdog" sometimes because the pair doesn't have a sponsor bankrolling their push for the Olympics. She also feels that judges look down on her and Beanie because they're former roller-skaters.

"You need a lot more going for you than your skating." Carol said. "It's discouraging."

discouraging."

The 10 months leading to the Winter Olympics will be a period of perfecting and polishing their techniques in litting, spinning, footwork and dance steps on ice. It may mean training with special choreographers to improve their skills. The months ahead most certainly will mean a continuation of a "minimal" social life.

"We're going to give it our all for 10 months," said Carol. "It's not so terrible when you think of it that way."

Aydelotte travels

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Westland figure skater Carol Fox (left) and her partner, Rich Dalley of Lathrup Village, have their sights set firmly on a spot on the 1980 U.S. Olympics team at Lake Placid, N.Y.

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