

when he was carting his children around to the various competitions in the East and Midwest. All but two of his 11 children, many of his 16 grandchildren along with his many friends in ASU and USISA were at the banquet to honor Jack.

Bill Cushman, president of USISA, spoke about Jack and his fond reminiscences of their relationship in the sport. The audience enjoyed hearing about some of the "inside" stories. ASU Past President Roy Helminski also spoke about Bob and Jack and presented Bob with Olympian Jack Shea's jersey from the 1932 Olympics for the Hall of Fame.

The full biographies of the four inductees appear elsewhere in this Racing Blade and will be included in the 1994 Convention Minutes book.

OTHER WORTHY MEMBERS WERE HONORED

Editor Vehe announced that the 1994 Racing Blade Editor's Award was being presented to Mark Jastrzembki of Muskegon, MI, who has been a steady contributor to the magazine since he entered the sport and started the West Michigan Speedskating Club five years ago. A former educator, Mark's combination of insight into the world of children, combined with his love for the sport, has resulted in a series of articles which have benefitted skaters, parents, coaches and administrators. Who can forget such Jastrzembki articles as "A Meet Director's Nightmare," "Secret Skate," "What's Good for the Gander..." and "Losing."

ASU President Bill Cawthra presented the prestigious Presidential Recognition Award to four worthy ASU members who have distinguished themselves on the local and National level. The first well-deserved award went to Attorney Fred Benjamin of Illinois who has given unstintingly of his time and legal expertise to the ASU. The ASU has come to rely on him for many things and he always graciously and enthusiastically comes through for us.

Marty Hill of Northern New York, whose knowledge of speedskating equipment, willingness to help all in need of his expertise, and his generous financial contributions to the sport on all levels, was the next recipient. A point of interest for you old timers out there: Marty worked at one time as an associate of the late speed skate guru, Harold Beam of Binghamton, NY. Marty's wife, Sarah, received the award for him. The 1994 Convention was the first in some years that he had missed.

The next recipients were Bill and Linda Houghton of the Missouri Assn. who were awarded, as President Cawthra said, "long over-due recognition of their contributions to the ASU." For many years Bill (ASU Electronic Committee Chairman) and wife Linda have been traveling throughout the country, toting their electronic timing equipment to regional, National and North American meets whenever they've been needed. And then they've spent all weekend running that equipment.

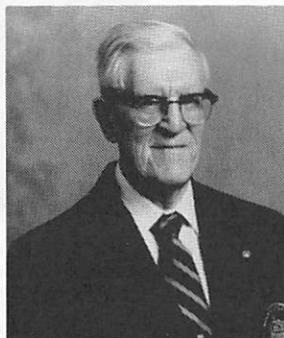
The final recipient was President Cawthra's wife, Sharon—his helpmate through eight years of service on

the ASU Executive board as well as with his position as Training Seminar Director for the ASU. Sharon has also served in various capacities on the association level and last year assumed the position of Training Seminar chairman for the ASU.

Our special thanks to Convention Chairman Lisa Sundstrom who did a masterful job of bringing it all together. She was assisted by Illinois members, Kay Klaiber, Carole Ortiz, Karen Krantz and Becky Sadleir.

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW

For full coverage of the Convention, you may order the 1994 ASU Directory and Convention Minutes from the National Office by Aug. 1. The book also includes all committee reports, member associations and club listings, committee appointments and committee members' addresses, National Officials, the Open Meet Schedule for 1994-1996 and addresses and phone numbers for all those involved in the ASU on the National level. Price of the book is \$10.



ALEXANDER J. HAMILTON

May 3, 1903

May 26, 1994

Al Hamilton had a lifetime involvement with speedskating as a competitor, official, promoter, coach and administrator.

He started skating in 1917 and in 1927 won the Ohio Olympic Trials at 5,000 and 10,000 meters. In 1935, he founded the Edgewater Skating Club where he developed several National Champions. In 1960, he formed the Town & Country Skating Club in Strongsville, Ohio. Once again, he developed championship skaters. During the 1960s, two of his best skaters were the Fish sisters, Debbie and Jenny. One of Al's proudest moments was when Jenny Fish won the silver medal at 500 meters at the 1968 Olympics at Grenoble, France, in a three-way tie with Mary Meyer and Dianne Holum.

Al promoted skating at all levels and was instrumental in the building of two ice rinks in the Cleveland area. He was a charter member of USISA and served on its Board for many years. In May, 1980, Al was elected to the ASU Speedskating Hall of Fame.

He is survived by his wife, Edna, and son, James.