CLIMB ON THE BAND WAGON!

Silver Skates

MONOGRAM PICTURES
FASTEST GROWING COMPANY IN THE INDUSTRY
The “Ice” Has It!

- ONE of 1943’s most pleasant experiences for Mister Exhibitor and John Q. Public is coming on Feb. 5. the day upon which “Silver Skates” goes into national release.... We say pleasant because all showmen like the merry tinkle of coin and the tinkling of greenbacks.... And John Q., his Missus and the Kids, like the merriment and satisfaction which a good picture evokes....

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- Monogram’s aforementioned production is highly geared to attain both these results in handson fashion.... It is the best attraction the company has turned out in a proverbial blue moon, and signals the intent and determination of that company’s solons to hie the org’s status to that of an independent “major”....

- With a few more lectures like “Silver Skates,” the task would be a breeze....

- “SILVER SKATES” cost the Monogram cohorts an impressive bankroll.... And it’s worth it.... But there’s a helluva lot more injected into the footage than production dough.... There’s a husky entertainment value, springing from plenty of thought and planning: a brisk and breezy story; unflagging action; and the talent of name players who are expertly cast, along with a host of skating specialists.... The outcome is a film which is as refreshing as a clear and cloudless winter day—or the crystal ice upon which much of the happenings take place....

- TO classify “Silver Skates,” it is a romantic musical comedy.... The screenplay has altogether too much substance to tag the picture as a revue, although in numerous scenes it is that, but all are close knit with the office doings.... Lovers are concerned chiefly with the love mutually of Kenny Baker and the attractive Patricia Morison.... He is the orch leader of the ice show, and she its producer.—so the yarn has it.... The show is brist with financial difficulties because the comely and flashy femme skating star, Belita, is going to leave it in order to wed a Chicago suiter.... And so, to save the day, the sacrificial Kenny Baker courts the departing lady in the hope that she will remain.... To this plot situation is attached a timely and sympathetically arising circumstance.—that of the diminutive re’agiste girl, Irene Dare, whom Patricia Morison wants to adopt, and who proves to be a skating sensation.... Additionally timely is the whirlwind finale, staged on the deck of a lighting ship.... It is here that the deviant Belita turns in an astonishing routine that will thrill audiences everywhere....

- MUSICAL numbers in “Silver Skates” are of the socko pop type.... For the most part they are rendered vocally by Kenny Baker (in one instance Patricia Morison very neatly teams), and instrumentally by Ted Fio Rito and His Orchestra.... The skating comedy team of Frick and Frack adds to its already verdant laurels on blades, as do Eugene Turner and young Danny Shaw.... Technically, the picture is first-rate, Lindley Parsons having imparted to it his thorough skill, and surrounded himself with a staff adept in the ways of pictorial making.... Our grapevine averns that the budget of this picture was boosted frequently during the shooting stages, always striving for bigger and better values.... It was money well spent, as will be proved when the picture reaches the end of what doubts will be a rugged release life with exhibitors and Monogram mutually profiting.