

LOCAL NEWS

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It was a rare chance to skate at FedExForum, so Midtowner Joy Robertson (right) enjoyed practicing there with Patricia Bush (left) and Caroline Harris. They usually skate at DeSoto County Civic Center.

CLUBS

Skaters ply FedExForum

But DeSoto Center is club's home rink

BY JANE BUSH
Special to My Life

The Figure Skating Club of Memphis (FSCM) got an early start to its 2006-07 season on Sept. 20, when they got to use ice that had been set up for the Nashville Predators hockey game at FedExForum.

Former club skaters, along with new members, practiced jumps, spins and footwork. A basic skating skills class was held for beginner skaters. Club and class registration lasted from late afternoon into the evening for those interested in ice skating.

Club skaters were happy to have access to the facility.

This year's ice skating club, led by president Sheila Camp,

has members ranging in age from 2 to 60, with skill levels from beginner to advanced.

Several skaters are on competitive tracks and are currently preparing for U.S. Figure Skating-sponsored testing sessions. The club has several USFSA-qualified coaches who are available for group or private lessons.

Events planned for this year include a skating skills and artistry workshop and the Silver Skates competition in December.

The club will practice at its home base, the DeSoto County Civic Center in Southaven. Practice sessions typically run Sunday afternoons and Tuesday evenings, or whenever additional ice times can be secured.

Skaters with the FSCM are handicapped by the lack of a home ice rink that's open year-

round. But the club is grateful to the DeSoto County Civic Center for use of the facility. Even though ice times are at a minimum, any ice time is welcome.

For a free introductory ice session, come to the DeSoto County Civic Center from 4:15 to 5:15 p.m. on Sunday. The Figure Skating Club of Memphis, together with the Memphis Youth Hockey League, will host a learn-to-skate event.

Information will be available for those interested in joining either the Figure Skating Club of Memphis or Memphis Youth Hockey League.

Some rental skates will be available on a first come, first served basis for \$2. For details contact Sheila Camp at sk8mom@midsouth.rr.com.

Jane Bush is the publicity chairman for the Figure Skating Club of Memphis.