

SIKATERS

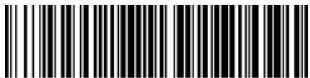
MAGAZINE

2021 NATIONAL TOUR
AT PALM BEACH SKATE ZONE



**Palm Beach Blades
Skating Team**

Issue 05-2021 \$24.99



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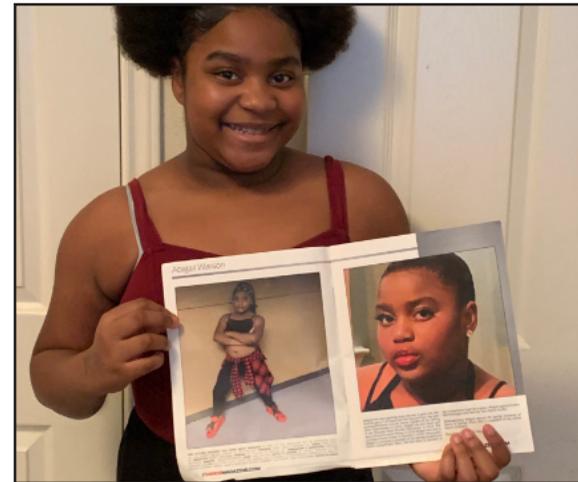
Mission Statement

Our Mission is to Promote Self-Esteem and Recognition to All Talents with Equal Opportunity and without any Discrimination

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mandate is to treat all Talents of all ages, gender, level of ability and expertise equally

PROMOTING SELF-ESTEEM & RECOGNITION

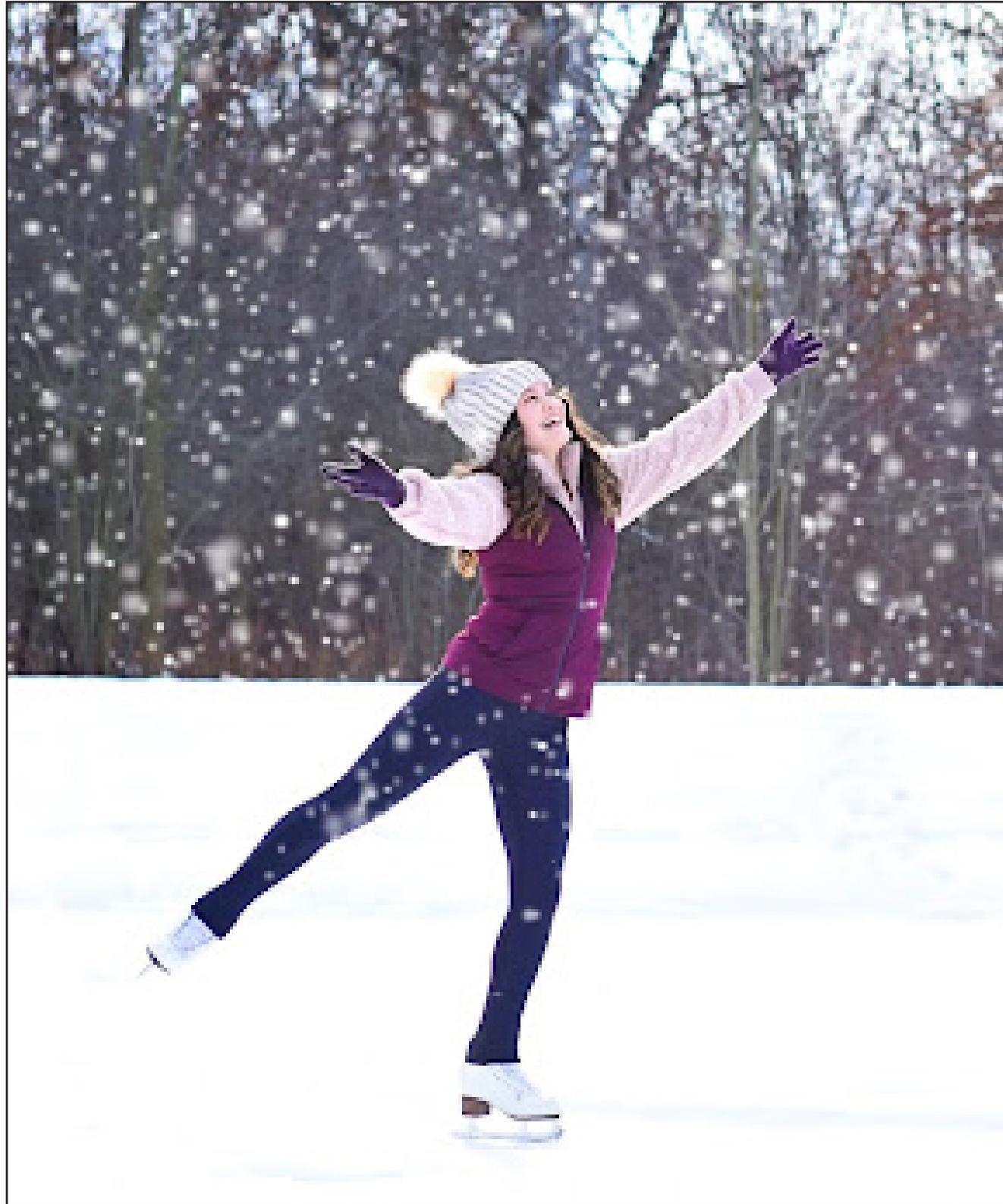


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My name is Lauren Buerk, I am 13 years old and I have been figure skating since I was 5 years old. I am 1 of 5 and 1 of 40 grandchildren. My older cousin skated when she was my age and when I was trying to figure out "what do I want to do, what do I want my "thing" to be, my one sport?" I decided to try skating. I started taking group classes and quickly found that hockey dominated the ice so I found that my parents traveled where there was open ice time. My parents found a coach since it seemed that is what I needed to get one on one. I took lessons and started to compete and that led to testing. I found that I was waking up before school to skate and realized I think I was burning out so I asked my coach and parents if I can scale back. They have always supported me and "followed my timeline," we scaled back in competing because I felt that was a lot of pressure. My coach believed in me and "pushed" me even when I requested on "my terms" but now I found that I love skating so much I joined a competitive synchronization team an hour away from where I live. I hope that one day I can complete my testing to teach one day and skate on a team in college. My mom always told me, "not everyone can just skate, this is gift, embrace it" and that I have! Thank you to my amazing parents and my amazing patient instructor, Coach Danielle.

Photographers Credits: Tara Dzienny Photography















The Palm Beach Blades Synchronized Skating Team is the largest, fastest growing synchronized skating team in the South Florida area. Based out of the Palm Beach Skate Zone in Lake Worth, FL the program is comprised of six teams including the ONLY ALL BOYS team in the United States.

The teams have competed throughout the state and performed in various exhibitions including the Ice Dreams Olympic Tour, and the Make A Wish Foundation's 'Nicole on Ice'.

The skaters enjoy skating with friends and working together as a team to achieve their goals.

Avery Pye, age 6 and a member of the Snowplow Sam Team loves synchro because "its fun learning and skating with my friends".

Tesla Steitz, age 9 and a member of the Aspire Pre Preliminary team loves "performing with friends" but admits in challenging at times "for everyone to do the same moves at the same exact time".

Danielle Chityat, age 10 and a member of the Preliminary team states her biggest challenge is "being a lefty skater and having to learn how to do all the moves as a righty like the rest of the team".

Kaili Rus, age 16 and a member of the Open Juvenile team has her sights set on the future. She states her goal is to "join a collegiate synchro team". She says some of her greatest accomplishments as a skater include competing and being successful with her synchro team.

We can't wait to see what the future has in store for the Palm Beach Blades!

Photographers Credits: Lauren Pye









I've been skating ever since I can walk. It's all I've ever known to do. I have gotten so many opportunities with skating like competing at countless national competitions and as well as skating on behalf of Team USA at the international theater on ice competition in France. With the competition season almost non-existent in

2020 due to COVID, I thought for sure I was done competing. But National Showcase was in Aug. of this year and I had entered 5 programs and found my love for competing again.

Photographers Credits: Melanie Heaney







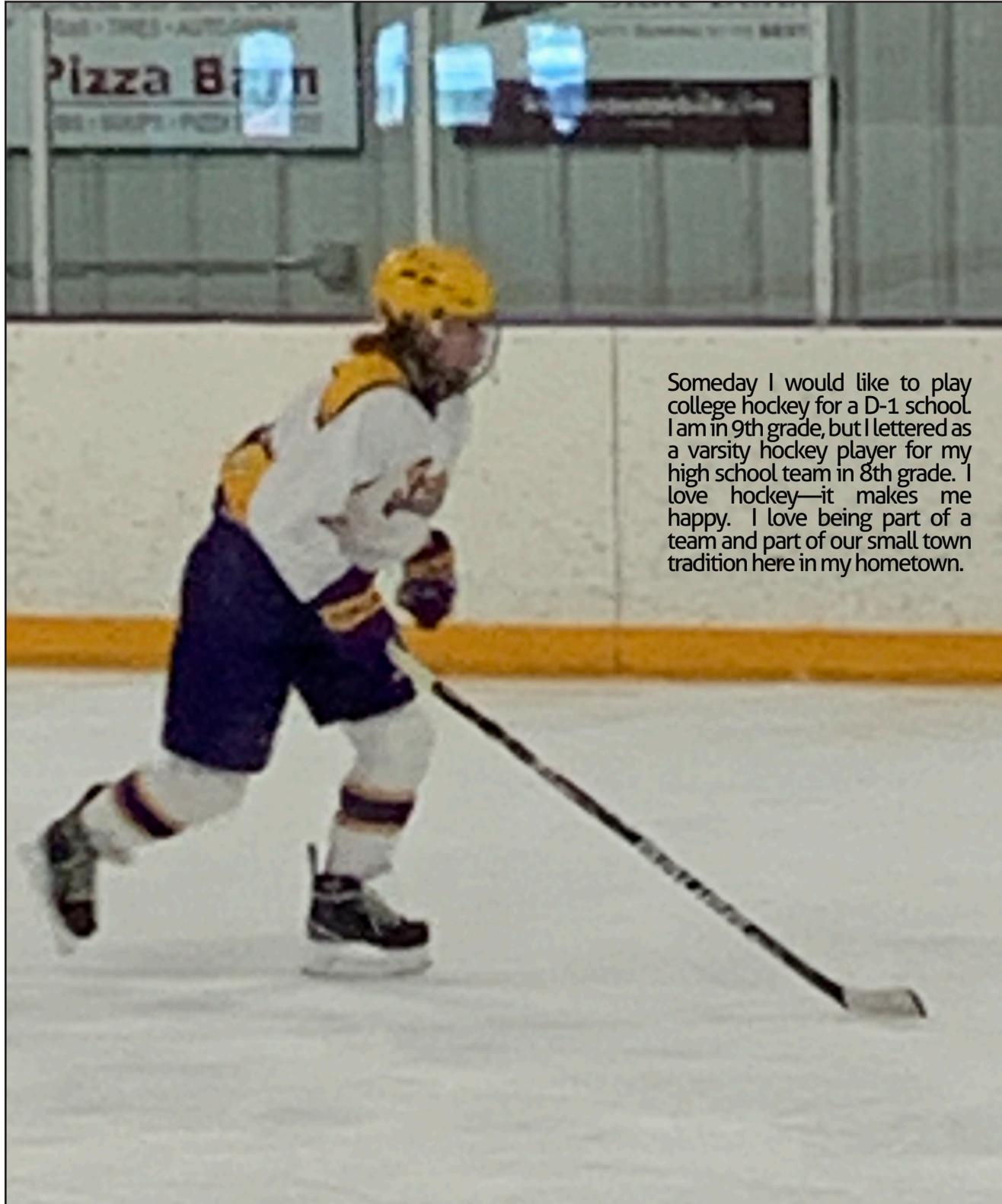


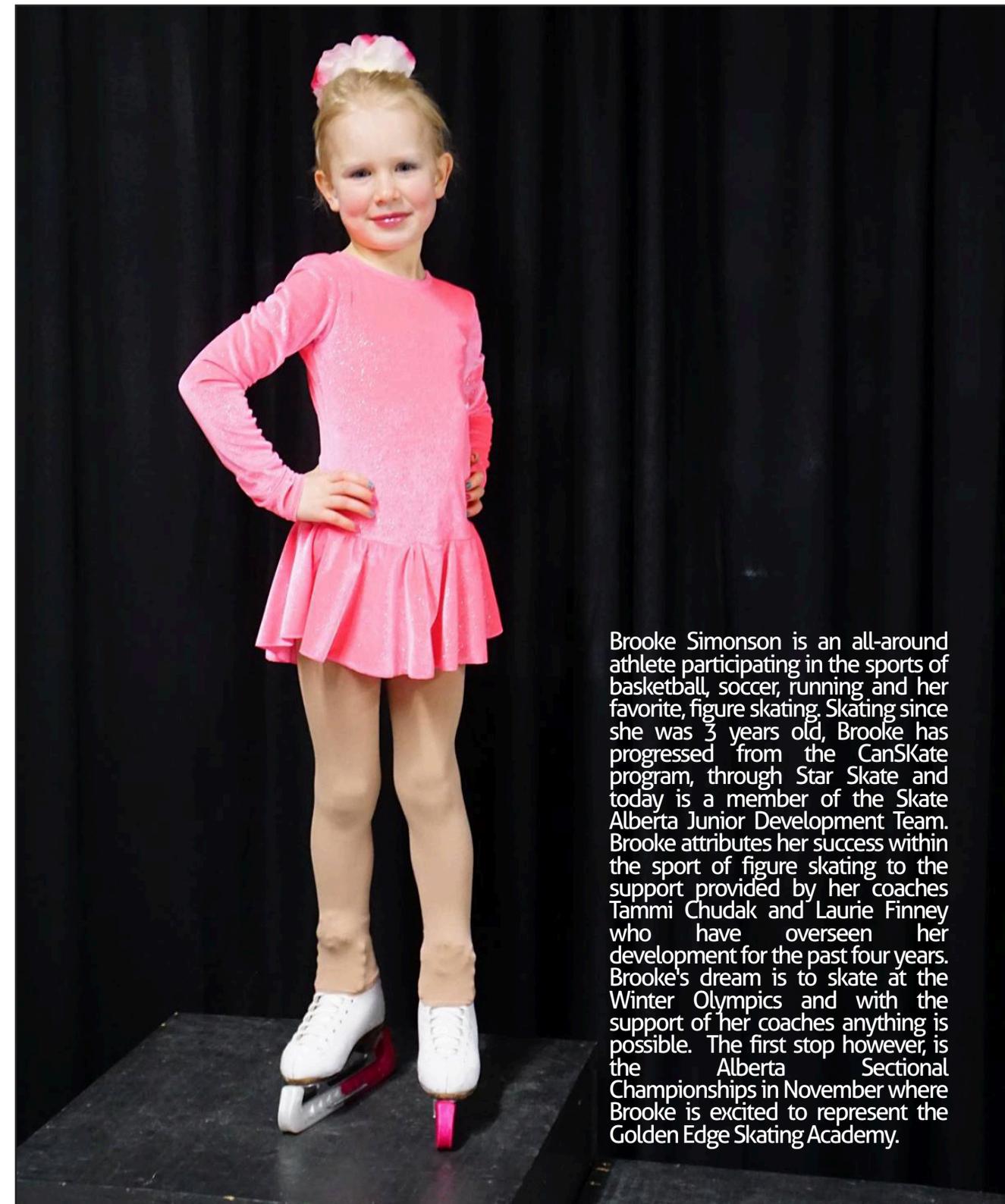
My dream is to become a college hockey player. I know that I have the intelligence, skill and drive to make it happen.











Brooke Simonson is an all-around athlete participating in the sports of basketball, soccer, running and her favorite, figure skating. Skating since she was 3 years old, Brooke has progressed from the CanSKate program, through Star Skate and today is a member of the Skate Alberta Junior Development Team. Brooke attributes her success within the sport of figure skating to the support provided by her coaches Tammi Chudak and Laurie Finney who have overseen her development for the past four years. Brooke's dream is to skate at the Winter Olympics and with the support of her coaches anything is possible. The first stop however, is the Alberta Sectional Championships in November where Brooke is excited to represent the Golden Edge Skating Academy.





Dream of being a great free skater. Tryin to relive my skating day's growing up in the 70s. I have fallen but I did get back up and put that skate in and keep going. I've achieved many obstacles in my life being step on by a horse and had a lot of trauma in my life but the roller

skates has done great wonders for me to keep me inspire I watch a lot of videos and read up on my fav skaters on Instagram and I wanna be able to do all the dancing tricks I love roller skates and my roller skating keeps me happy and inspires me to strive for more





Hockey!! He love the game of Hockey!









Rollerskating is one of those things where the journey is just as fun as the destination!

One of the best decisions I ever made was to do this in a country and city which was completely new to me. The day I discovered that I could combine dance and skating (two things which I love) together, it opened up a whole new world for me which I didn't even know existed!

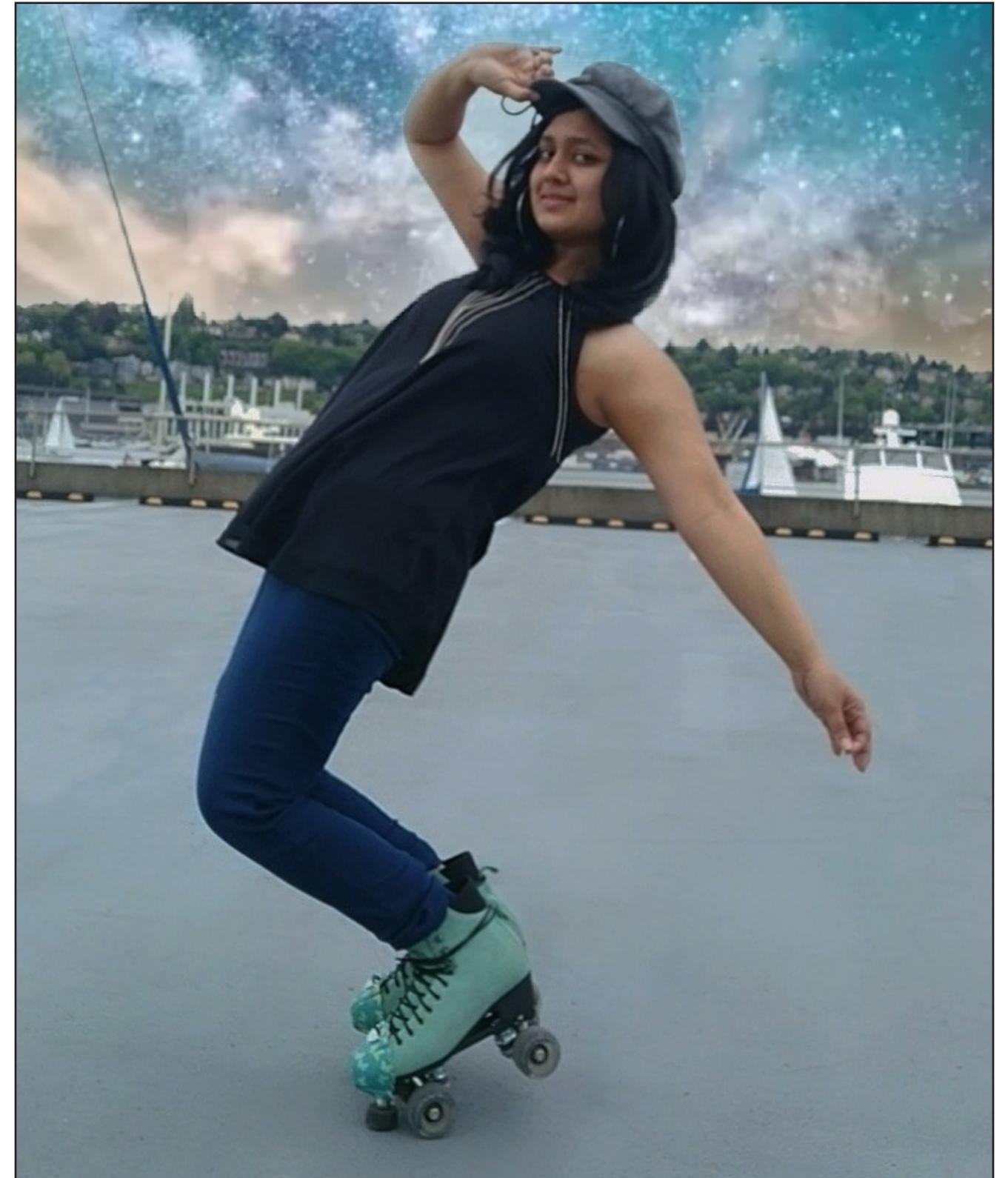
I truly believe that the reason it has so much potential is because it can be equally fun doing alone as it is doing it in a group all while being very accessible.. and it truly was a blessing during the pandemic.

The amount of joy this has bought me over

the past few months is beyond what I had expected. I made a ton of new friends and every person I met was incredibly helpful towards any new skater that they came across and I hope I did the same for others.

One of my dreams is to travel around the world and do city tours on skates while meeting all the people I've virtually been connected with until now!

Although every new move that I learn on skates is an achievement in itself, the notable and unforgettable ones will definitely include being part of a music video and being published in a skating magazine (*wink wink*)





Skating has always been a weekly priority of mine since I was legit 5yrs old. I've been skating for 20 years and I love it now, just as I did from day one. Skating has kept me humble and out the streets, it gave me a place to go when I need to relieve stress or go to a relaxing environment. I've met some of my best friends through skating and met a lot of individuals I can call family through skating...skating may not be as popular as it was back in the day but the pandemic allowed for us skaters that have never stopped to show the world that skating is very much alive still and has evolved into an activity that takes years of dedication to reach the levels you see people at on social media...I want to be looked at as a skating influencer to those who may have only tried it a few times or perhaps never tried it before but want to get into it... I skate to show people that skating is a legit hobby that anyone can do , and there's so many styles and combinations of moves and tricks you can put together to

develop your own style.. no 2 skaters are the same, every skater has their own swagger but before you can develop it, u must learn the fundamentals of skating and build from that. My TikTok: willdamngood, is where I post all my skate content and with each video my goal is to inspire someone to lace up some skates and hit the wood. I post different combos, moves, spins, slides, etc. just to constantly feed my followers new things to try on their next trip to the local rink. The positive feedback and kind words from other skaters and followers drives me to keep doing what I do. Hearing people tell me I've inspired them to get off the couch and get active with skating is one of the best feelings I've ever experienced as a skater, then to meet them and teach them a move as I watch their eyes light up when they do the move right for the first time is the icing on the cake! I'm determined to do my part in keeping the skate culture alive 🙌

SKATERS

MAGAZINE

Valeria Yushkevich



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