

International Management Group

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April 21, 1987

236-0569

Mr. Earl Escue
Buick Motor Division
902 E. Hamilton
Flint, MI 48550

Re: Debi Thomas

Dear Mr. Escue:

Jim Moore of McCann Erickson suggested that I contact you regarding our proposal to Buick.

We represent Debi Thomas, 1986 World Figure Skating Champion and one of the favorites to win an Olympic Gold medal in 1988. Debi is a role model throughout the country as she combines athletic excellence with academic achievement at Stanford University. This determination to be a well-rounded individual has earned her special awards such as Female Amateur Athlete of the Year as well as ABC's Wide World of Sports Athlete of the Year.

Debi is in need of a car which would be used primarily for training purposes. Because Buick is a major sponsor of the Olympics, we would hope that Buick would have special interest in supporting one of the U.S.'s top hopefuls for an Olympic championship. We would like to propose that Buick form an association with Debi. There are several ways to structure this:

I. Buick provides Debi with a Buick car of her choice.

In return, Debi would provide Buick with special appearance days for trade shows, dealer days, corporate outings, etc.

II. Buick provides Debi with a Buick car of her choice. Buick would make a donation to her trust fund (monies would only be used for training until she turns pro).

*#129
received many
requests, will take
time to review
situation*

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In return:

- Buick would receive special appearance days.
- Buick would have the right to utilize Debi as an overall spokesperson to appear in television, print and radio advertising.
- Debi would participate in special promotions in conjunction with the Olympics.
- Debi would act as Goodwill Ambassador and mention Buick whenever and wherever possible.

The above are only two of several possibilities in constructing this association. We are open to discuss other ways to utilize Debi both pre- and post-Olympics.

We feel that this is an exciting opportunity for Buick, and we hope that Buick would be interested in supporting one of America's brightest and most talented athletes.

I will call you in a few days to further discuss our proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

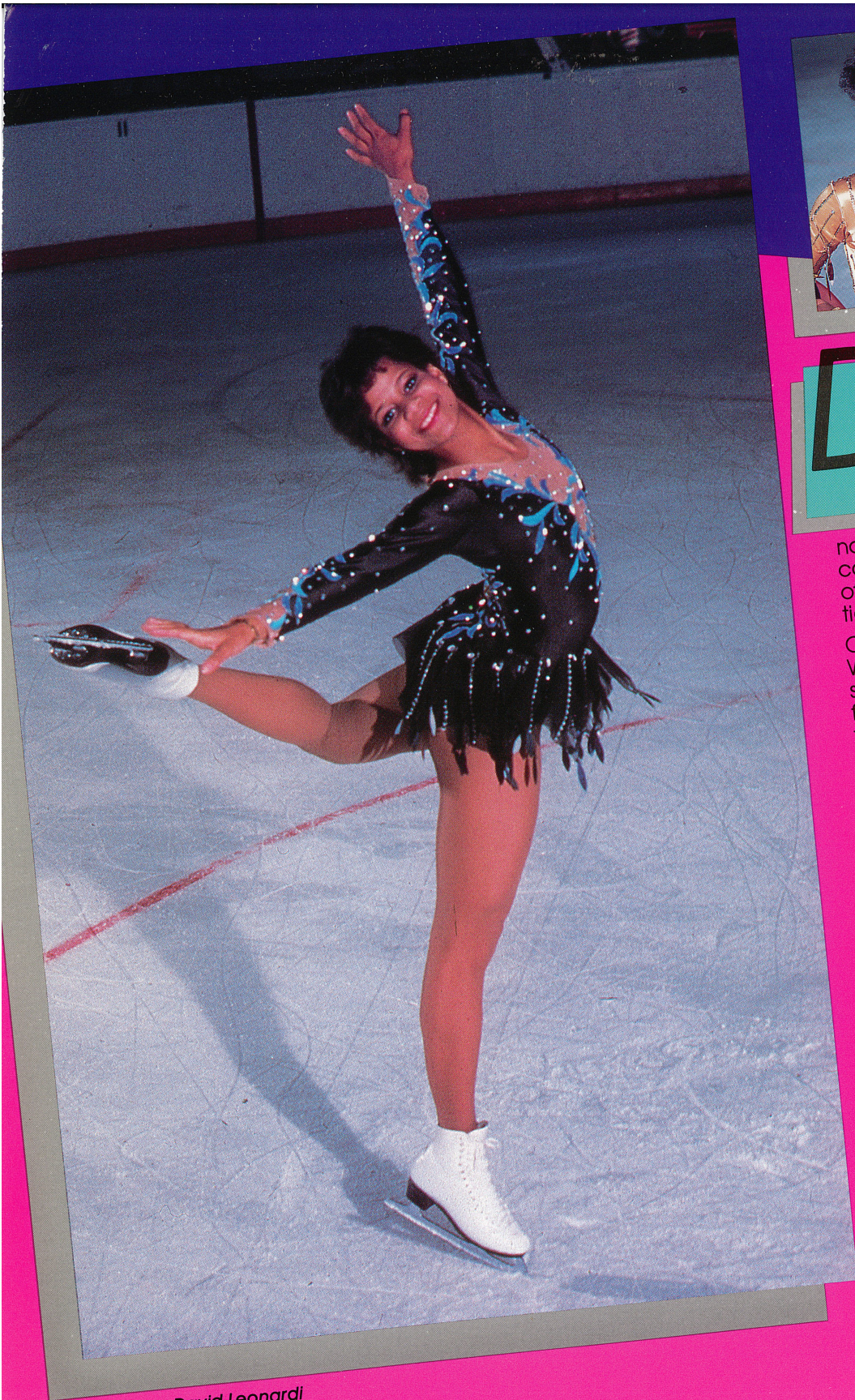

Yuki Saegusa

YS/dn
Enclosure

cc: Jim Moore

Debi Thomas





Debi Thomas is an exceptional pre-med student at Stanford University who shook the figure skating world twice in 1986. In February she upset defending national champion Tiffany Chin to become the only female skater in 30 years to win the national championship while attending college full time. She thus won the hearts of the American public and the admiration of her fellow skaters.

One month later, Debi travelled to the World Championships in Geneva where she again defied the odds by outperforming Olympic gold medalist and two-time world champion Katarina Witt for the championship. This dramatic victory completed a perfect season for Debi, and was one of the reasons why she was chosen amateur athlete of the year by the Women's Sports Foundation. The World Championship victory also proved that Debi has the natural athletic ability, artistry and discipline to fulfill her next ambition — a gold medal at the 1988 Winter Olympics.

Debi began competitive skating in 1976, and was quickly spotted by Scottish coach Alex McGowan who has been her coach ever since. Her mother, Janice, also advises Debi on striking the balance between her demanding studies at Stanford and her rigorous training and competition schedules. This balancing act has Debi skating for six hours a day and then studying for six. Her attitude to such a routine is typically relaxed: "Why should I worry about sleep?" she asks. "I never got any in high school either."

For the future, Debi hopes to combine her two loves, sports and medicine, to become an orthopaedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine. Meantime, her commitment to skating, and her enormous talent, ensure that she will remain one of the world's most accomplished performers for many years to come.

Photos by David Leonardi



For further information, please contact: Jay Ogden or Yuki Saegusa,
International Management Group, 22 East 71st Street, New York, NY 10021, (212) 772-8900

®



DEBI THOMAS - Figure Skater - INFORMATION SHEET

Home:

San Jose, CA

Born: March 25, 1967 - Poughkeepsie, NY Age: 19

Coach: Alex McGowan Choreographers: Debi Thomas and Alex McGowan

Home Club: Los Angeles Figure Skating Club - Burbank, CA

Training Rink: Redwood City Ice Lodge - Redwood City, CA

Figure Skating Test Record: 8th (gold) Figures, Senior Freeskating,
Bronze Dance.

Height: 5'6", Weight: 116 lbs., Hair: Brown, Eyes: Brown

COMPETITION RECORD (Partial list - In reverse chronological order):

YEAR	COMPETITION and LOCATION	PLACE
1986	World Championships - Geneva, Switzerland	1st
1986	U.S. National Championships, Sr. - Long Island, NY	1st
1985	Skate America International - St. Paul, MN	1st
1985	St. Ivel International - London, England	1st
1985	National Sports Festival VI - Baton Rouge, LA	1st
1985	World Championships - Tokyo, Japan	5th
1985	U.S. National Championships, Sr. - Kansas City, MO	2nd
1985	Pacific Coast Sectional, Sr. - Berkeley, CA	2nd
1984	NHK Trophy International - Tokyo, Japan	2nd
1984	Nebelhorn Trophy Int'l - Oberstdorf, W. Germany	1st
1984	Grand Prix International - St. Gervais, France	1st
1984	U.S. National Championships, Sr. - Salt Lake City, UT	6th
1984	Pacific Coast Sectional, Sr. - Los Angeles, CA	1st
1983	Criterium International du Sucre - Tours, France	1st
1983	National Sports Festival V - Colorado Springs, CO	4th
1983	U.S. National Championships, Sr. - Pittsburg, PA	13th
1983	Pacific Coast Sectional, Sr. - Tacoma, WA	3rd
1983	Southwest Pacific Regional, Sr. - Los Angeles, CA	2nd

Debi Thomas, 19, a pre-med freshman at Stanford University, has skated her way into the history books this year with a dynamic combination of artistry, grace, athleticism and determination. At the National Figure Skating Championships in February, Debi landed all five of her triple jumps in the freestyle program to upset defending national champion, Tiffany Chin, and become the first black seniors champion in America.

She is the only female skater in 30 years to win the national championship while attending college fulltime; the last one was Tenley Albright. In March, at the World Figure Skating Championships in Geneva, Switzerland, she scored another stunning upset in defeating the reigning Olympic and two time world champion, Katarina Witt, to become the first black world figure skating champion. This brought to six the number of her victories in international competitions.

It was the famous "Mr. Frick" of the Ice Follies that attracted Debi's attention when her mother took her to a performance when she was three years old. When we watch Debi in her hilarious beginning skater comedy routine during exhibitions, it is obvious that his influence remains with her to this day.

Of course comedy is only secondary in her pursuit of skating excellence. One of the goals of this multi-talented young lady is the 1988 Winter Olympics. There, she intends to skate as capably as she can, because she knows that if she skates her very best, there is a good chance she can gain the Olympic title. She has two more years to continue to develop the confidence and consistency necessary for that effort. With her capture of the World title for 1986, she is well on her way towards that goal.

By the time Debi was five, she was enrolled in group lessons at the Eastridge Ice Arena in a shopping center in San Jose, California. She states, "I thought skating was neat because you didn't have to walk, you could just move." She was eight when she saw her first competition, and was a full-fledged competitor one year later, winning the Preliminary Girls division of the Central California Inter-Club Championships.

Her mother, Janice, was able to ease Debi's way into competition by doing a thorough job of questioning officials, skaters and skating parents about what Debi could expect as a competitor. That kind of homework is still being done by Janice. Debi gives her family a great deal of credit for her success. Debi's parents divorced when she was seven, so she was primarily brought up by her mother who works in the San Francisco Bay Area as a programmer/analyst at Control Data Corporation. She was fortunate to have a schedule flexible enough to be able to drive Debi to skating and to school until high school graduation. Debi's father, McKinley Thomas, is a programming manager at Masstor Corporation.

Richard Taylor, Debi's brother, a U.C. Berkeley graduate with honors in physics, has also been a strong supporter of her skating. Presently enrolled in graduate school at UCLA, he is studying math and science education, as well as trying to get a music career as a rock song composer off the ground.

Alex McGowan, Debi's coach, has been an enormous source of encouragement to her since he began teaching her in 1977. It is with pride that he watched her grow from a wobbly beginner to the top female skater in the United States. He has developed her natural athletic ability, artistry and discipline into the top ladies skater in the world today.

Between her demanding studies at Stanford and her rigorous training and competition schedules, there isn't much time for hobbies in Debi's life, but she does like to pal around with her dorm and skating friends, listen to music and dance. She selects and cuts the music for her skating routines and also choreographed her own short program and most of her freestyle program. She has numerous pen pals, and writes in French to her friends in France and Switzerland. She also corresponds with many

acquaintances in the United States. One of her current projects is teaching herself Russian.

Debi was presented with the Artistic Sports Award for "up and coming" female athletes, presented annually by the Women's Sports Foundation and was selected the Figure Skater of the Year in 1985 by the U. S. Olympic Committee. She graduated from San Mateo High School with honors and was accepted by Stanford, Harvard, Princeton and the University of California at Berkeley. Debi has thrilled audiences around the world with her skating at such exhibitions as the Super Skates Olympic Fund benefit, the Jimmy Fund Show at Harvard, a tour in Australia, and the recent World Tour of Skating Champions after the World Championships. As a result of her many accomplishments, she has been featured on many television shows and in many major newspapers and magazines, both in the United States and abroad. These include Sports Illustrated, Time, People, Women's Sports and Fitness, Skating, Picture Week, Jet, Ebony, the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, the Washington Post, the Olympian and many other publications.

Debi's short range goals are to continue with both her education and her skating through the 1988 Olympics. Her long range goal is to attend medical school and eventually become an orthopaedic surgeon. She sees sports medicine as a way to stay with sports in the future.

