

DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE
Friday, April 6, 1990

Smith student scripts profile of skater on PBS

A television documentary about figure skating, based on a manuscript by Smith College senior Cecily Morrow, will be featured on the Public Broadcasting Service.

Gustave Lussi: The Man Who Changed Skating, is scheduled to be aired locally on 8 a.m. Saturday on Channel 57.

The documentary profiles Gustave Lussi, one of the foremost figure-skating teachers who has coached students to 23 World Championships, six Olympic gold medals, and numerous national and regional titles. A Swiss native, Lussi turned to skating in 1920 after an accident cut short a ski-jumping career. The success of his innovative and widely influential teaching method, which combines elements of music, art and physics, is documented in newsreels and other archival footage. Bearing witness to Lussi's impact are testimonials from many of his champion skaters, such as Dorothy Hamill, Eileen Sleight, Tenley Albright and Dick Button, who recall how their former teacher's determination and demands for perfection affected their performances and won their lasting respect.