

By Susan J. Douglas

I KNOW SOME OF YOU HAVE BEEN BUSY WORKING (I) late at night, or off doing research for consumer activist groups on the relative merits of competing malted beverages, so you weren't able to catch all of the thrilling coverage of the Olympics. Lucky for you, I took extensive notes and can recap the highlights so you won't feel left out. Here's a nearly verbatim transcript.

Bill: Say, Bob, let's go to the luge competition.
Bob: Hey, Bill, no American has a chance of even placing in that; let's go to speed skating.
Bill: Oh, and what a day it was. Young Dan Jansen, so tough and determined, and yet so overwhelmed by the early morning death of his sister. That's one of the truly great things about TV in this great land of ours, Bob, the way one young man's personal torment and anguish can be turned into entertainment for billions of viewers around the world. And we'll be right back after this message.

MUSIC: "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother"
Young woman: Gee, Dad, it sure is good to come home and see you again.
Dad: It's great to see you too, Alice. You know, honey, I don't know how to tell you this, but your mom and I, well, we may lose the farm.
Young woman: Oh Dad, don't you worry, I work for Dow, and our agricultural research means that no one will ever be hungry again, and you'll always have the farm. Dow means always being able to say I Love You.
Dad: Oh honey, you're the greatest—and so is Dow.

Bill: Say, Bob, let's go to figure skating.
Bob: And here come those youngsters from East Germany. A nice crisp start too; too bad they didn't get the applause the Americans did. Uh—oh—oops! She fell on that double helix back flip. Well, we can stop watching their performance, Bill, they haven't got a prayer. Oh, and look at her, too—on the verge of tears. Can we get a camera in on that?

Bill: Here's the instant replay of the fall, and in slow motion, too, so you can see her limbs flying around and watch her bounce excruciatingly on the ice.

Bob: And now we have the fourth-ranked pair from the Soviet Union. What do you think, Peggy?

Peggy: Oh, I don't think their music has a good beat. The Russians always pick such icky music. The audience is practically asleep. And we'll be back after these messages.

MUSIC: "You're Having My Baby"
Voice-over: Three years ago Scott had a heart attack.

Scott: Push, honey. Push. I said PUSH. HARDER!

Voice-over: Then he started taking Bayer Aspirin.

Scott: Would you show a little exertion here and PUSH? I haven't got all day.

Voice-over: He started living again, loving again.

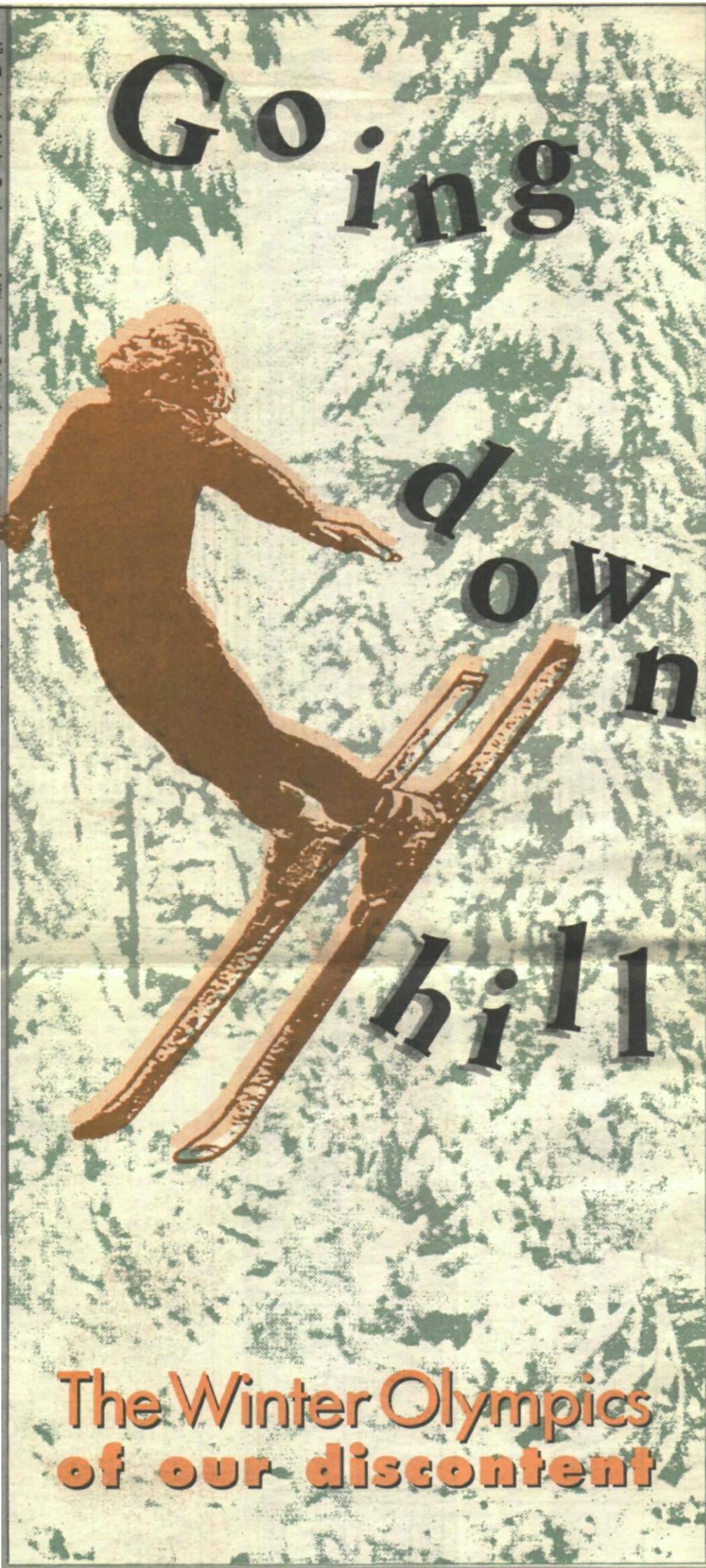
Scott: Jesus Christ, stop sweating and moaning so much and push. I'm losing my patience here. You're keeping me from my board meeting.

Voice-over: Yes, once Scott had a heart attack. Today he had a son.

Scott: Well, finally, it's over. That sure put me through the mill. Thank you Bayer. Bayer means new life.

MUSIC: "Ave Maria"

Voice-over: First it was Gandhi. Then it was



Biko. And now, coming this summer from Richard Attenborough, the motion picture event of the year. Joan Collins is Mother Teresa. You'll cry. You'll sob. You'll weep. And you'll feel good about being a human being.

Bill: And we're back. Finally, we get to see some Americans. You know, training for the Olympics is awfully stressful—let's see how these kids handle it. Let's meet Gillian Wachsmann and Todd Waggoner up close and personal.

MUSIC: Up Where We Belong

Todd: The pressure gets so heavy some times. That's when I get in my plane and go flying. Just to soar—to dance in the sky. A good day of flying really helps my skating—and then I have some milk and cookies. I recommend this stress reducer for everyone.

Bill: These American kids are great, aren't they Bob? What role models.

Bob: You bet, Bill. And now, the Soviet team of Gordeeva and Grinkov. You know, she's not like those beefy, hairy-faced types the Russkies usually send over. Why just look at her. She's so petite and cute, cute as a little button. She's still a little girl, and with

that delicate posture, I'd say she looks just like an angel.

Bob: And that music has a good beat! But she didn't fall down on those throw jumps, so we don't have any replay tape. So, we'll be back after this message.

MUSIC: "America (Oh Beautiful, for Spacious Skies)" sung by Lionel Richie

Vladimir: I used to be hockey player for Iron Curtain country. But in my country, everyone greedy and stingy. Everyone treat me bad. And no microwaves. So I come to best country on Earth and right away get job with best company on Earth, Dow. Now I am American. And Dow lets me do generous, great things for whole world. Dow means love and liberation for everyone.

MUSIC: "Theme from Ben-Hur", aerial shot of Saddle Dome

Bob: And now, what everyone's been waiting for, the ice hockey. Let's get up close and personal with some of those brave U.S. hockey heroes.

Bill: Here's Nick, an astrophysics major at Arizona State. Say, Nick, when you played these guys in 1980, weren't you thinking the whole time about how they invaded Afghanistan and how Soviet imperialism was swallowing up the free world?

Nick: Well, uh, Bill, I, uh—

Bill: And tonight, out here, won't the entire U.S. team be playing not just for our great nation and its people, but for all the freedom fighters of the world bravely resisting Soviet aggression?

Nick: Well, you know, Bill, really.

Bill: And now, to our special commentators for tonight, Donald Trump and Elliott Abrams.

Bob: Oh, Don, what do you think of this rink, having built one of your own?

Don: Well, Bob, it's not as good as we Americans can do in an unlettered free enterprise system, a system that encourages excellence and truly benefits everyone. But it's not bad for Canadians.

Bob: And Mr. Abrams, how do you rate the significance of tonight's Soviet-U.S. face-off?
Abrams: The U.S. must penetrate fast, move quickly behind Soviet lines, get on top quickly and stay on top, and continue thrusting and thrusting again and again and harder and deeper and faster and yes and again and yes and harder and yes, oh yes, until complete conquest is achieved.

Bob: And hear that crowd chanting for their heroes: U-S-A, U-S-A. Isn't that great? Can we get a 360-degree camera pan of that great crowd? Look at all those flags.

Abrams: I think the Soviets are limp right now. I think they'll shoot themselves in the foot.

Bill: You know, we can't show you viewers all the events because we can only be in one place at a time. So we can't show you the women's cross country, the women's luge or women's skiing, right now.

Bob: Boy, what a hockey game! Look! Great! A scuffle between an American hockey hero and a Red. What a game! And we'll be right back.

MUSIC: "Lean on Me"

Voice-over: This is Patty. She's deaf and has a speech impediment. She's going blind and is paralyzed from the waist down. But Patty is happy. Because IBM has dedicated all its energy and research to people like Patty. And now we've given her special equipment. Now, thanks to IBM, the blind can see, the deaf hear, the crippled walk, the mute speak.

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