

# Report

## Pacific Coast

by Janet R. McLeod

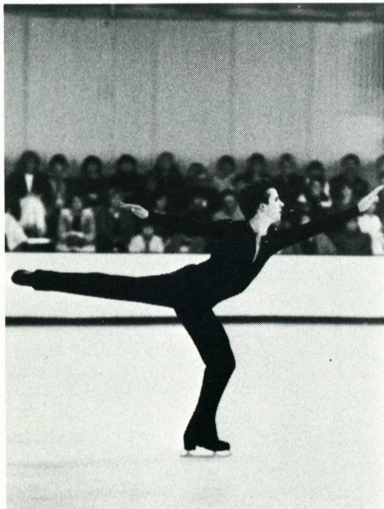
PHOTOS BY WILLIAM L. UDELL

For the first time in its long history, the Arctic Blades Figure Skating Club played host to the Pacific Coast Championships in Paramount, California on December 7-10, 1983.

By far the outstanding event of the competition, was the Senior Men. World Team member Brian Boitano, Peninsula FSC, took the lead in figures followed by Craig Henderson, Stockton FSC, and Christopher Bowman, Los Angeles FSC. A strong performance by Scott Williams, All Year FSC, in the short program moved him from fifth in figures into a tie for third after the short. The warm-up for the free skating was a veritable symphony of triple jumps, including the Axel by Brian. However, he was unable to land it in the program and was scratchy on several other landings. Christopher turned in a superlative performance with a brilliantly choreographed program; strong, secure land-

ings; fast, well-centered spins, and an extraordinary communication with his audience that earned him a standing ovation and first place in the free skating portion. Scott skated a solid program which ensured him the Bronze, while Brian took home the Gold, and Christopher the Silver. Craig Henderson earned fourth place and a trip to Nationals.

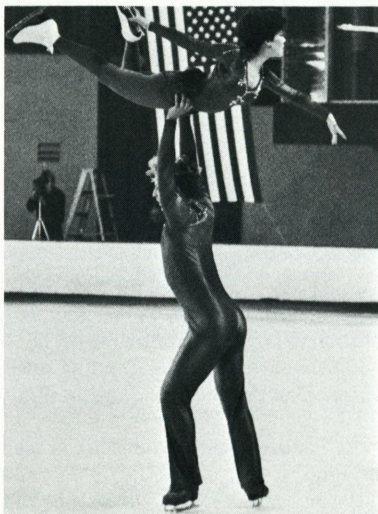
In the Senior Ladies, Debbie Thomas, Los Angeles FSC, skated with consistency throughout and the title was never in doubt. The battle was for the other two National slots. Marianne DeLeeuw, Arctic Blades FSC; Yvonne Gomez, St. Moritz ISC; and Sara MacInnes, Los Angeles FSC; all had their sights set for Salt Lake City. Marianne held second after figures with Yvonne third. However, Yvonne moved up a notch after the short, leaving Marianne third, and Sara fourth. In the free skating, Sara's well-



**SENIOR MEN**  
Brian Boitano, Gold



**SENIOR LADIES**  
Debbie Thomas, Gold



### SENIOR PAIRS

Katy Keeley & Gary Kemp, Gold

balanced, well-choreographed program got the nod for second place with Yvonne placing third and Marianne a disappointing fifth. The overall results found Debbie the champion, Sara second, and Yvonne third.

The Senior Pairs' short program was won by World Team members Jill Watson and Burt Lancon, Los Angeles FSC, who move beautifully, do an innovative combination spin and a spectacular split double twist. Second place went to an improved Katy Keeley and Gary Kemp, San Diego FSC, with third going to the newly formed team of Paula Obydyke, All Year FSC, and Craig Gill, SC of Wilmington. Unfortunately, Jill became ill before the free skating performance and she and Burt were unable to finish the event. Keeley and Kemp won the title handily with Obydyke and Gill second.

The Senior Dance event found Susan Wynne, Philadelphia SC & HS, and Joseph Druar, Seattle SC, first in all segments followed by Margaret Bodo, Peninsula FSC, and Rick Berg, FSC of Madison, in second, and Karen Knieriem, Broadmoor SC, and Leif Erickson, Los Angeles FSC, in third. Wynne and Druar's free dance performed to folk music and in peasant costumes was particularly pleasing.

The Junior Men's event was a scramble from beginning to end. Christopher Mitchell, Los Angeles FSC, won the figures with Scott

Wendland, All Year FSC, second, and Rick Scarry, San Diego FSC, third. However, good short program performances by John Saitta, St. Moritz ISC, and Rudy Galindo, St. Moritz ISC, (fifth and seventh respectively in figures) moved them into contention. And so it came down to the free skating in which both John and Rudy skated exceptionally well with the title going to the stronger, more mature Saitta, the Silver to the consistent Wendland, and the Bronze to the exciting, but less mature Galindo.

A rather lackluster Junior Ladies' event was won by D're Anderson, St. Moritz ISC, who was first in figures, while Tonya Harding, Portland ISC, (fifth in compulsories) proved the better free skater with a second in the short and a first in the long to earn the Silver medal. Consistency again paid off for Andrea Key, Los Angeles FSC, who took the Bronze.

The experienced team of Susanne Steiner and Stephen Kennedy, St. Moritz ISC, won the Junior Pairs with some interesting moves. A new partnership of Lynn Lindborg and Bob Pellaton, San Diego FSC, captured second place with a fast moving program while Tammy Purcell and Jeff Smith, San Diego FSC, had some problems with their unison and dropped to third after being second in the short.

Junior Dance saw two teams vying for the title. Last year's champions, Dorothy Rodek



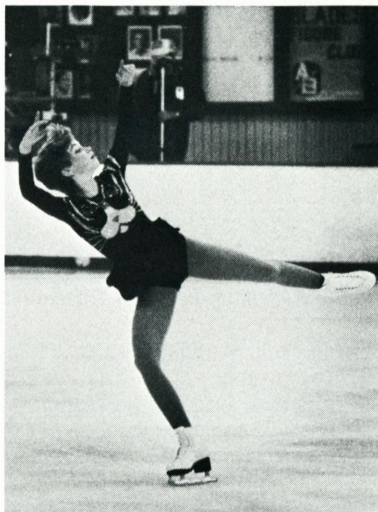
### SENIOR DANCE

Susan Wynne & Joseph Druar, Gold

and Robert Nardoza, Arizona FSC, and newcomers Jill Heiser, San Diego FSC, and Michael Verlich, Arctic Blades FSC, waged a seesaw battle with Rodek and Nardoza edging out Heiser and Verlich on the compulsory dances and the free dance although the OSP was won by Heiser and Verlich. Each of the three segments produced a split panel with the final result going in favor of the more experienced couple. Third place was taken by Colleen Boman and Doug Murray, Arctic Blades FSC.

The Novice Men's event proved to be very exciting with the top four men performing triples. Patrick Brault, Los Angeles FSC, took a strong lead in figures and won the free skating with a surprisingly well-polished performance for this level. He has that "touch of class" and shows great promise. Second was Craig Heath, St. Moritz ISC, (fifth in figures) who skates technically well, but lacks Brault's strength and flow. Third place went to Alex Chang, Arctic Blades FSC, who skated his best to ward off a challenge from Jeff Carstensen, Lakewood WC.

A disappointing Novice Ladies' event saw Paula Losinger, St. Moritz ISC, emerge the champion after a second in figures and free skating. Sharon Barker, Los Angeles FSC, won the long to pull up to second following a sixth place in figures, while Brenda Yaw, Arctic Blades FSC, who was third in figures and fourth in free skating, gained third place



**NOVICE LADIES**  
Paula Losinger, Gold

overall. Shana Scroggie, Los Angeles FSC, held a solid first place in the compulsories, but had a poor showing in the free to drop to fourth.

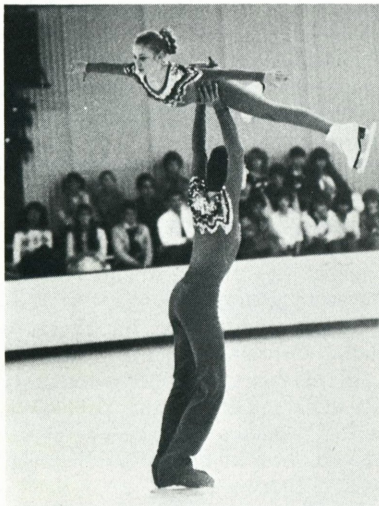
In the Novice Pairs, the flow and maturity of Wendy Baker and Jeffrey Dille, Los Angeles FSC, won out over the youthful Kristi Yamaguchi and Rudy Galindo, St. Moritz ISC, who performed difficult moves with charm, aplomb, and ever-present smiles. Third place went to Olga Varlamov, Highland SC, and Steve Gerard, Seattle SC.

Only two couples were entered in the Novice Dance event which was won without difficulty by Leah Allen and Ron Kravette, Mesa Verde FSC, who skated an excellent Original Set Pattern Dance. The second place couple were brother and sister, Julia and Jeff Smith, San Diego FSC.

Frederick Houghton, Conejo Valley FSC, won the figures and the title in the Intermediate Men with Scott Davis, Great Falls FSC, placing second and Christian Hendricks, Arctic Blades FSC, who included a double Axel in his winning freestyle program, finishing third.

In Intermediate Ladies, Tiffany Ryan, Arctic Blades FSC, held an almost insurmountable lead in compulsories and skated well enough in the free to win the title. Second place went to charming Kristi Yamaguchi, St. Moritz ISC, who was third in

*Continued on page 65*



**JUNIOR PAIR**

Susanne Steiner & Stephen Kennedy, Gold



#### NOVICE LADIES

Danielle-Alyse Babaian, Gold; Ricki Colman, Silver;  
Jackie Hoyt, Bronze



#### NOVICE DANCE

Christie Clark & David Low, Gold  
Tina Marshall & David Nadler, Silver  
Adriana Ernst & Darius Bryant, Bronze

ble Lutz-double toe loop in Intermediate Ladies. Elizabeth Wright, Atlanta FSC, skated a lyrical and powerful program including a double Axel to finish second. Figure winner Tarah Donelan, Colonial FSC, was third.

Harlene Lee & E. Richie Van Vliet, Genesee FSC, placed first in Adult Dance with flowing compulsory dances. Close behind were Judy Reiner and James Maltby, Washington FSC, in second place. Elaine Savoy, SC of Boston, and Frank Tieuli, Mass Bay SC, were third.

The Wissahickon Skating Club was honored to host the competition, and club members graciously contributed their expertise, enabling all participants to enjoy competing as much as visiting Philadelphia. Overall, the 1984 Easterns was a huge success for everyone involved.

*The results of the Eastern Championships were published in the January 1984 issue, page 51.*

—Editor

#### Pacific Coast

*Continued from page 61*

figures and second in the free, while the Bronze medal was won by Cindy Bortz, Los Angeles FSC, with a first place freestyle performance after a disappointing fifth in figures. Both of the two freestyle leaders successfully completed double Axels.

After a tiring but exhilarating four days, skaters, coaches, parents, and officials partied at the official hotel until the wee hours, and, for the lucky ones, farewells included a "see you in Salt Lake City."

*The results of the Pacific Coast Championships were published in the January 1984 issue, page 45.*

—Editor