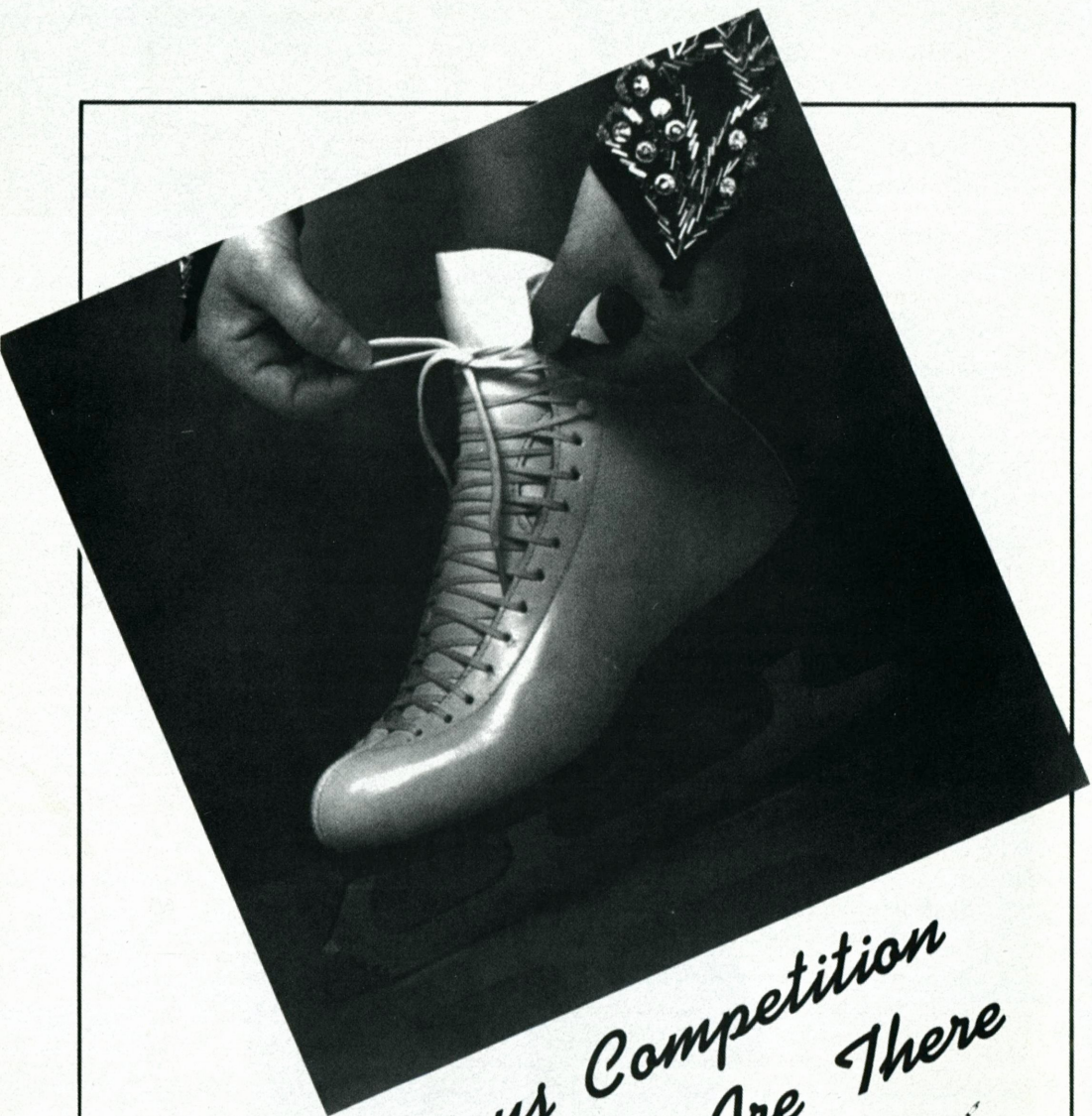


MARCH 1992


Skating

A photograph of figure skater Christopher Bowman in a black sequined jacket, captured in a dynamic pose on an ice rink. He is looking back over his shoulder with an expressive face. The background is a blurred arena.

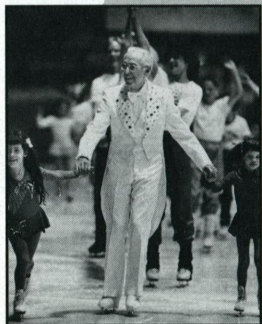
Christopher Bowman
1992 U.S. Men's Champion



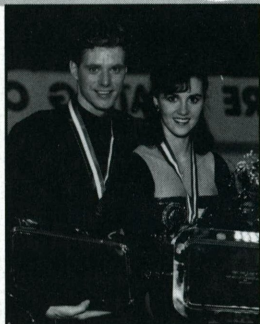
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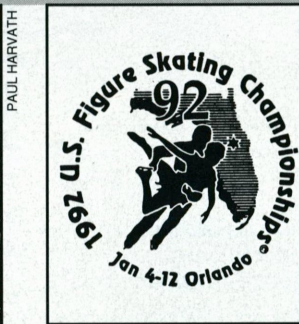
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Cover: Christopher Bowman captured his second U.S. men's title at the 1992 U.S. Championships in Orlando. For a complete report turn to page 34. PHOTO BY DAVE BLACK

News Briefs

Philatelists and sports fans alike will be interested in a unique program offered by the U.S. Postal Service to purchase by mail official postal commemoratives as souvenirs of the 1992 Olympic Games.

The six commemoratives are brightly colored foil-embossed envelopes suitable for framing. Five of the collectibles are dedicated individually to the winter sports of figure skating, hockey, speedskating, skiing, and bobsledding and are priced at \$5.95 each. A sixth collectible which contains all five of the Olympic Winter Games stamps and bears the United States Olympic Committee Logo is available for \$9.95. A set of the six collectibles sells for \$29.95 and a numbered set of the six autographed



by the U.S. Olympic Winter Team is available for \$59.95.

To order, send a check or money order to the U.S. Postal Service Sports Art Collectible, P.O. Box 14328, St. Paul, MN 551124-0328 and specify the number and type of collectible to be purchased or call 1-800-435-0228.

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Evian Waters of France, the exclusive American importer of Evian natural spring water, recently announced the creation of The Evian Peak Performance Team, a group of seven prominent U.S. Olympic athletes who will make speaking appearances across the U.S. throughout the year emphasizing the importance of hydration for proper fitness, health, and peak performance.

Named to the team are: Kristi Yamaguchi, 1992 Olympic gold medalist in figure skating; Bonnie Blair, 1988 and 1992 Olympic gold medalist in speedskating; Matt Biondi, 1984 and 1988 Olympic gold medalist in swimming; Jackie Joyner-Kersey, 1988 Olympic gold medalist in track and field; Steve Timmons, 1984 and 1988 Olympic gold medalist in volleyball; Connie Young, 1988 Olympic bronze medalist in cycling; and Wendy Williams, 1988 Olympic bronze medalist in diving.

☆☆☆

Skating

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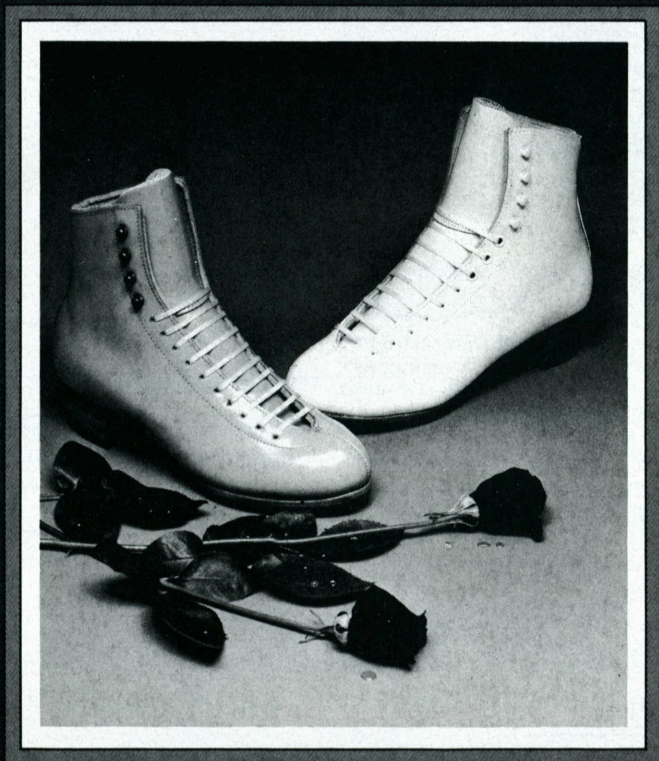


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People

AND PLACES

USFSA SPONSORS MEET U.S. CHAMPIONS



Former Chairman of the Board of Kellogg's, William LaMothe and wife met Kellogg's cereal boxfront girl and U.S. Ladies' Champion Kristi Yamaguchi at the U.S. Championships in Orlando.

In addition to the traditional gold, silver, and bronze, other presentations were made during the U.S. Figure Skating Championships held January 4th to 12th in Orlando, Fla.

Sponsors of the United States Figure Skating Association attended the events and met members of the U.S. Figure Skating Team.

Mary Kasap, associate publisher of *McCall's Needlework & Crafts*, the Official Sweater Manufacturer of the USFSA, presented four of the competitors with hand-knitted sweaters in four different styles specially designed for the USFSA. Ladies' Gold Medalist Kristi Yamaguchi, Silver Medalist Nancy Kerrigan, Men's Gold Medalist Christopher Bowman, and Silver Medalist Paul Wylie were the recipients of the sweaters.

Also on hand to congratulate the competitors were Mr. and Mrs. William LaMothe on behalf of Kellogg's, the Official Cereal of the USFSA. Kellogg's has featured Kristi Yamaguchi on



U.S. Ladies' Silver Medalist Nancy Kerrigan received a specially designed sweater from Mary Kasap, associate publisher of *McCall's Needlework & Crafts* during the U.S. Championships in January.

special "Collector's" boxes of Kellogg's Special K cereal.

MARRIAGES

Charles D. Fetter, Jr., 1964 U.S. dance champion with partner Darlene Streich, married Alice M. Connell on December 27th.

BEREAVEMENTS

Longtime judge **Helen S. Laurie** passed away on January 15th. An Intermediate Figure Judge, Novice Competition Judge, and Silver Dance Judge, she began judging in 1965. She also served as Sectional Vice Chairman of the USFSA Program Development Committee from 1976 to 1977. Laurie was a member of the South Mountain FSC.

Shirley Buckley Henriksen, former president of the Skokie Valley FSC, passed away on January 23rd at the age of 81. An active supporter of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Chicago Symphony, and the Lyric Opera of Chicago, she and her husband Henry enjoyed a long involvement with the Skokie Valley FSC.

William F. Ward, 86, passed away on January 31st. A lifetime member of the FSC of Cincinnati, Ward became an Intermediate Figure Judge and Silver Dance Judge immediately after the opening of the Cincinnati Gardens skating rink in the late 1940's. He was a Judge Emeritus for two years before his death. As a judge, Ward recognized potential champions, having judged tests for future Olympic Champion Scott Hamilton and U.S. Dance Champion Russ Witherby.



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Athletes

ADVISORY

The Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC) is a permanent committee of the USFSA acting as a collecting base for the viewpoints and ideas of individuals who are actively engaged in athletic competition in figure skating. The committee consists of nine voting Board members who have represented the United States in international athletic competition in figure skating within the preceding 10 years. This is the first in a series of articles to be written by members of the AAC. If you have any questions or issues that you would like to be addressed in this column, we will be happy to seek the knowledge of experts within that field and provide responses upon your request. Please address all inquiries to: AAC, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

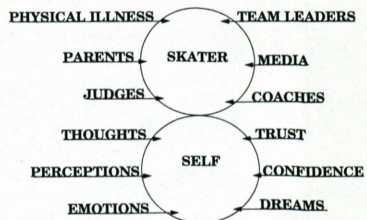
The world of competitive figure skating is one of continuous challenge. There are numerous internal and external forces that can have a powerful affect upon performance. These influential variables can be thought of in terms of a loop. One circle is created by the external forces consisting of judges, coaches, media, parents, team leaders, and physical illness. The internal arc has only one element and that is the *self*. The internal components of the self which may influence performance include an athlete's dreams, thoughts, perceptions, emotions, confidence, and trust. The loop is complete when the internal forces join the external forming what I have termed the "Pressure Loop."

The manner in which athletes perceive and deal with the "Pressure Loop" can have a significant impact upon performance. Skaters have little control over the external elements of the loop. Although athletes possess little power in directing others' actions, skaters do have control over their *own* perceptions of other people and situations. Therefore, the focus of attention needs to be on the elements that can be controlled and that element is the self.

It seems that all great moments in history have had individual leaders and driving forces to provide inspiration and guidance. This inspiration and guidance often provided by parents, coaches, judges, and team leaders can lead to greatness. However, many skaters overlook the fact that the self is the most powerful asset they possess. The power to conceive and create athletic excellence rests within the athlete. Too many athletes stop dreaming or allow others to take their dreams away. These athletes must be made aware that the ability to make their dreams come true lies solely within themselves.

Helping athletes live their dreams is the essence of one approach to the field of Sport Psychology. This philosophy involves empowering athletes with the belief that their potential is created and realized through the self. In this function, the sport psychologist coaches athletes' minds. Often athletes tell me that they play "head games" with themselves, and my response is "then we better make sure you're playing them right." Correct thinking does not guarantee that athletes will realize their dreams. However, it gives them the best chance to live these dreams, and get pleasure from challenging themselves to reach for these new horizons. In this sense, athletes become empowered by a deep trust and belief in themselves.

PRESSURE LOOP



Once athletes believe that they possess and control the power to define and reach their potential, the journey toward trusting their instincts can begin. It is amazing how well the human body will perform when we free our minds of intrusive thoughts. Skaters are conditioned daily to think and try harder in order to improve technique. However, when it is time to perform the skater must let go of all thought and analysis of technique, and trust the training. Having trust in one's ability which is self-created and refined, frees the body to perform as it has been trained.

There are many dedicated athletes who spend a great deal of time worrying about not skating well, not making it, and avoiding failure. These skaters may encounter some success, but these thoughts will never allow them to reach the highest level. Such athletes need to realize that this thinking can hold them back. Skaters must perceive competition as an opportunity to skate their personal best rather than skating tentatively in the hopes of not missing anything.

Changing thoughts and perceptions requires a commitment to remaining focused on living the dreams. As in any sport, skating has its disappointing moments. Athletes have a choice to continue to believe in themselves or to believe in themselves only when they achieve. The athletes who decide to believe in themselves only in times of accomplishment eliminate the best chance for skating their dreams.

Too many of the dreams of skaters are considered by some to be too innocent and naive. Some skaters allow others to prevent them from chasing after their own dreams. Skaters must be reminded that this innocence, free of cynicism and self-doubt, has lead many to achieve greatness. Athletes who take possession of their dreams and enjoy the process of realizing them, define the true nature and value of skating.

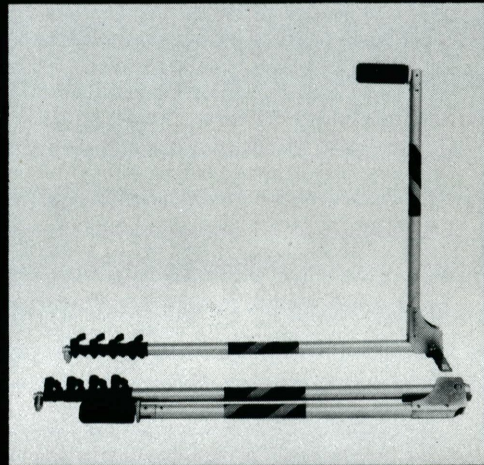
Caroline Silby has a Me.D in Sports Psychology and is currently working on her Ph.D in Sports Psychology, and an Me.D in Counseling. She plans to specialize in the counseling and performance enhancement of figure skaters and their families. Ms. Silby is a former competitive skater who earned berths on both the National and International figure skating teams.

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In Memory F. Ritter Shumway 1906 – 1992

It is with great regret that the United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA) must report the death of F. Ritter Shumway on March 9, 1992 at the age of 85. For over 50 years Shumway dedicated much of his life to the sport of figure skating, not only through his own competitive skating, but also through his tireless efforts to promote and administer what he considered to be the major passion in his life.

The Rochester, N.Y. native began his association with figure skating in 1939 when he was first inspired to don a pair of figure skates after attending a performance of the Ice Follies. For the next 12 years Shumway toiled on the ice, developing the skills required for his new pastime—ice dancing. It was not until 1951 that Shumway entered his first competition. It turned out to be the beginning of a successful career, as Shumway and his partners went on to earn 13 Eastern Sectional Veterans (over age 35) Dance Championships.

That first competition sparked his desire to compete and he continued to do so in the Veterans dance division for the next 25 years. Before retiring from competition in 1979, Shumway had captured 25 gold medals at various competitions throughout the U.S.

Shumway was founder and first president of the Genesee Figure Skating Club in Rochester and was instrumental in the building of the Frank Ritter Memorial Arena on the campus of the Rochester Institute of Technology.

But Shumway's success went beyond the confines of the ice rink. In 1956, an equally impressive administrative career began when he

was named Chairman of the Dance Committee of the USFSA, a post he held until 1959 and again from 1972 to 1975.

Shumway also served as First Vice President and Chairman of the Eastern Committee from 1959 to 1961, and as President of the USFSA from 1961 to 1964. He was president at the time of the fatal plane crash that claimed the lives of the 1961 World Team and was instrumental in founding the USFSA Memorial Fund as a living memorial to them. Shumway was Chairman of the USFSA Memorial Fund Committee from 1972 until shortly before his death. Additionally, he served as Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee and Chairman of the International Committee.

In 1986 Shumway was honored for his dedication and contribution to the sport of figure skating by being inducted into the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame. In 1988 he was presented the Georg Hasler Medal by the International Skating Union (ISU) in recognition of his outstanding service and personal dedication to the sport of speed and figure skating in both athletic and administrative capabilities. Also in 1988, the Professional Skaters Guild of America honored Shumway with a National Recognition of Achievement Award in his name. He was the first recipient of the award which is presented annually to a non-professional person distinguished for unending dedication and significant contribution to the sport of figure skating.

In addition to his career in figure skating, he distinguished himself as both a successful businessman and philanthropist. A 1928 graduate of Princeton University, Shumway received a masters from Oxford University in England before going into private business with the Ritter Corporation where he served as president from 1953 to 1965. The Ritter Corporation later merged to form the Sybron Corporation, in which Shumway served as chairman of the board until 1971, and as an honorary director until 1986.

The USFSA and the figure skating community can only be thankful to have had the services of such an individual and can only hope that the future produces others who show the same vigor and dedication toward the sport of figure skating.

OFFICIAL

Notes

JUDGES' APPOINTMENTS

LOW TEST

Heather Schonrock, Huntsville FSC

INTERMEDIATE TEST

Dorothy Bragle, Pittsburgh FSC
Anne Marie Murphy, St. Paul FSC
Alison Reikes, St. Moritz ISC

BRONZE DANCE TEST

Claudia Mushkin, Anchorage FSC
Charlene Tagas, Sun Valley FSC

SILVER DANCE TEST

Fran Jesel, SC of Morris

NOVICE COMPETITION

Jessica Bussgang, Hayden Recreation Centre
FSC
James Webb, Arctic Blades FSC

JUNIOR COMPETITION

Lorrie Anne Parker, Kansas City FSC

NOVICE DANCE COMPETITION

Carol Ann Bidwell, Lone Star FSC

EMERITUS

Norvald Nielsen, FSC of Omaha
Marilyn M. Smith, Kansas City FSC

REFEREES' APPOINTMENTS

REGIONAL DANCE

William Fitzpatrick, Wissahickon SC

ACCOUNTANTS' APPOINTMENTS

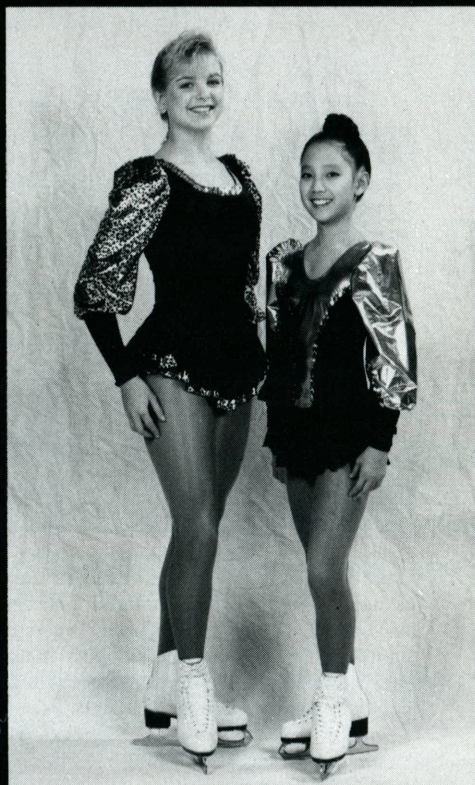
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1992 Canadians

by Peter K. Robertson

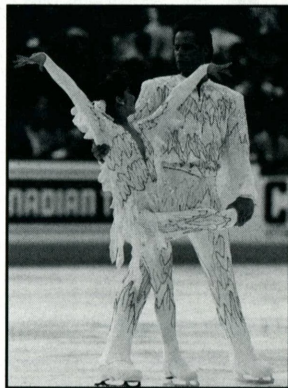
Despite the absence of World Champion Kurt Browning due to a back injury, there was no lack of excitement at the 1992 Canadian Figure Skating Championships in Moncton, New Brunswick. With the added tension that comes with an Olympic year, there were upsets, drama, and one serious controversy.

Senior Pairs

With World Silver Medalists Isabelle Brasseur and Lloyd Eisler the clear favorites, speculation in the Senior Pairs' event centered around which two teams would accompany them to the Olympics. However, the original program produced a major surprise as two serious errors dropped Brasseur and Eisler to second place. Brasseur fell from the individual double Axel and Eisler leaned back too far during the combination spin, lost his edge, and fell as well. Their double twist was in a class by itself and the overall program is a worthy vehicle for them. The unexpected leaders were veterans Christine Hough and Doug Ladret, whose program, although technically less difficult—they did double Lutzes where most of their competitors attempted double Axels—was a slinky blues routine that earned the biggest ovation of the night. Last year's bronze medal winners Stacey Ball and Jean-Michel Bombardier lost their chance with Bombardier's miss on the double Axel and they never really got back into the race, finishing fifth overall. Two other couples, Michelle Menzies and Kevin Wheeler and Sherry Ball (Stacey's younger sister) and Kris Wirtz, were successful with the double Axels and placed third and fourth, respectively, in the original.

Hough and Ladret were the first of the top four to skate the long program. To a medley from *Les Misérables*, they gave a dramatic performance with some fine pair elements and real musicality. The only serious error came when both fell from attempted triple toe loops. Menzies and Wheeler also came to grief with side-by-side triple Salchows. Otherwise, their program was full of excellent single skating, with

Isabelle Brasseur
& Lloyd Eisler,
Pairs Champions



GERARD CHATAIGNEAU

strong double Axel/double toe loop combinations, as well as excellent throw triple Salchow and double Axel jumps. Unfortunately, it was not enough to make the Olympic team, as they were edged out for third place in the long program by Hough and Ladret, and finished in fourth place for the fourth straight year.

The surprise of the event was certainly the second place finish in the free skating by Ball and Wirtz. Their individual skating, highlighted by a pair of side-by-side triple toe loops and double Axels, was the strongest of the field and their throw jumps were superb. If their lifts lacked some of the difficulty of the more experienced pairs, their infectious exuberance more than made up for it. They finished in third place overall.

Brasseur and Eisler easily atoned for their earlier performance with a long program that was remarkably interpretive. It was not without its technical flaws: Brasseur again fell from a double Axel, although she landed a second one perfectly. However, they featured the most difficult lifts, including an enormous triple twist and an equally impressive lateral triple twist, a throw triple toe loop, and a fine back outside death spiral. Many of the standard pair moves were done with unique entrances or exits that increased their difficulty. For technical merit, their marks included one 5.8 and six 5.9's; their artistic impression marks were all 5.9's, except for the only 6.0 awarded in any event at the Canadian Championships this year. They were, of course, unanimously first in the long program and easily took the gold medal.

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Senior Ladies

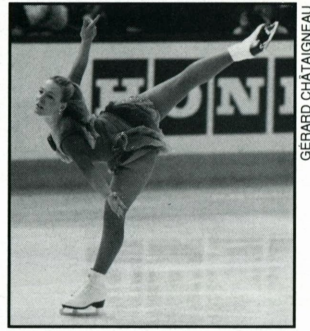
The ladies' event promised to be a battle between the last three champions, Karen Preston (1989), Lisa Sargeant (1990), and Josée Chouinard (1991) with a strong challenge expected from the greatly improved Tanya Bingert. Neither Bingert nor Sargeant got off to a very good start in the original program, as they both fell from triple toe loop attempts and omitted the second jumps of their combinations altogether. They placed fourth and fifth, respectively.

It was Karen Preston who stole the show in the original, with an elegantly choreographed routine, highlighted by a good triple flip/double toe loop combination. Josée Chouinard successfully landed the most difficult combination of any of the ladies, a triple Lutz/double toe loop, but a mislanded double Axel kept her in second place behind Preston. Unexpectedly in third place was the ubiquitous Sherry Ball, who combined a triple toe loop/double toe loop combination and a winning personality to slip into the middle of what was expected to be a four-way race.

The first of the top women to skate the long was Sargeant. Her ambitious program opened with the only triple Axel attempt in the event, but unfortunately she fell and seemed to lose heart. She did rally to land two triple Salchows and a triple toe loop, but her chance of making the Olympic Team was lost, although she did improve one spot to a final fourth place finish. Ball was unable to match her earlier results, falling from a triple Salchow but landing two triple toe loops. Nevertheless, her fifth place finish must be considered very encouraging for this promising sixteen year old in her first year as a Senior lady.

Chouinard attempted what was probably the most technically ambitious program of the event. She included a triple Salchow, triple toe loop/double toe loop, a triple flip to triple toe loop sequence and a triple Lutz. However, the triple flip was over-rotated and, although she appeared to have landed the triple Lutz, she caught her toe-pick and fell on the next step. Her spins and footwork were excellent and her presentation has greatly matured over last year, without losing any of her sparkle. Marks of 5.4

*Karen Preston,
Ladies' Champion*



GERARD CHATAIGNEAU

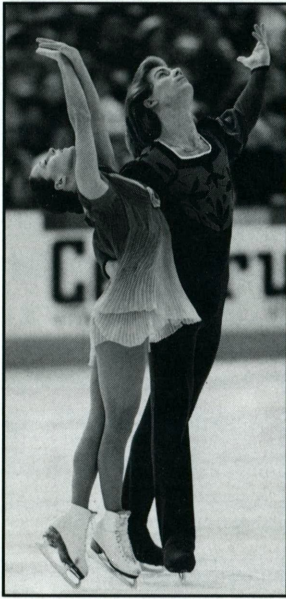
to 5.7 put her in first place at this point, but left her vulnerable.

Preston skated another classy program that opened strongly with a triple Salchow/double toe loop combination and a triple flip. She also landed another triple flip before falling from triple loop and triple Salchow attempts. She was able to regroup during her slow section and finished strongly with a double Axel and a triple toe loop. Her marks of 5.4 to 5.8 gave her a very narrow decision over Chouinard in the long program and the gold medal.

Bingert skated perhaps the cleanest performance but she also attempted less than either Chouinard or Preston. After opening well with a double Axel to triple toe loop sequence, she fell on a triple Lutz. A triple loop and a triple Salchow were successful, however. Although placed first by two of the judges, she had to be content with the bronze medal, and unfortunately only the top two will be going to Albertville.

Senior Dance

The major controversy of the competition came in the Senior Dance event, although it had nothing to do with the skaters, despite the fact that they were the ones most directly affected. Since the team of Jacqueline Petr and Mark Janoschak finished tenth at last year's World Championships in Munich, Canada is entitled to send two couples to the Olympics under the rules of both the International Skating Union and the Canadian Figure Skating Association. However, the responsibility of selecting the Olympic Team rests with the Canadian Olympic Association which decided to apply stricter criteria. Only a team who had demonstrated the



GERARD CHÂTAIGNEAU

*Jacqueline Petr &
Mark Janoschak,
Dance Champions*

capability of finishing in the top twelve would be sent. Petr and Janoschak, of course, had already done this, but only by defeating them could another couple do so. The upshot was that if Petr and Janoschak won, they would be the only team chosen; if they finished second, they would be sent, along with the new champions; and if they finished third or lower, only the champions would go. This decision came in for a great deal of comment, virtually all of it unfavorable.

Given this air of controversy, both the dancers and the judges seemed uncertain. Nevertheless, Petr and Janoschak took an early lead on the first compulsory dance, the Viennese Waltz, followed by Penny Mann and Juan Carlos Noria, and defending champions Michelle McDonald and Martin Smith. Mann and Noria reversed the order on the Tango Romantica, and thus ended the compulsories in a tie for first with Petr and Janoschak. McDonald and Smith remained third.

The original dance produced a delightful comic program from Petr and Janoschak that, for many, was the best polka skated. According to Janoschak, the intent was to be as mad as possible and this was reflected as well in their

witty costumes, with Petr's skirt suggesting a ballerina's tutu. McDonald and Smith's polka, although less unusual, was also well designed and confidently skated. For Mann and Noria, however, the costumes and choreography that worked charmingly for her seemed less suitable for him. Perhaps the Venezuela-born Noria is not particularly comfortable with the polka, and he had a noticeable stumble towards the end of the dance. Nevertheless, the judges chose to award first place to Mann and Noria, which moved them in first place overall, with Petr and Janoschak second and McDonald and Smith still third.

All of this made for a very tense free dance event, with so much at stake and the outcome still so uncertain. The first of the top three to skate were McDonald and Smith, who chose to repeat their *Blood and Sand* program from last year. This was a free dance for those who enjoy a technically difficult number that also presents a genuine sense of emotion and drama. A year's experience of dancing together has smoothed away any rough spots and the couple performed with exquisite musicality and absolute commitment. As would be the case with the top three pairs, their marks showed a wide range from 5.4 to 5.9.

Petr and Janoschak offered a program that was equally impressive, albeit a total contrast. It is set to Prokofiev's *Cinderella*, and it combines traditional dance elements that call to mind the waltz in the grand ballroom of the fairy tale with unusual positions that suggest the ticking of the clock as it edges towards midnight. The final pose might be said to indicate that twelve o'clock has struck. The whole concept was cleverly worked out by choreographer Toller Cranston, with an appeal that is perhaps more intellectual than emotional. They received marks that were comparable to McDonald and Smith's.

Mann and Noria skated well to a program of Latin music, beginning with a tango. He brought a smoldering intensity to the performance, but it lacked the level of difficulty displayed by their two main rivals. Their marks brought them into a virtual tie for the free dance with both other couples. All three had votes for first, second, and third place, but Petr and Janoschak just edged out the others for first place with two

firsts and four seconds. Mann and Noria finished second in the free, as well as overall, and McDonald and Smith took the bronze medal. Petr and Janoschak were worthy and deserving winners, certainly, but it is the C.O.A. that must accept responsibility for the fact that they will be the only Canadian ice dancers at Albertville.

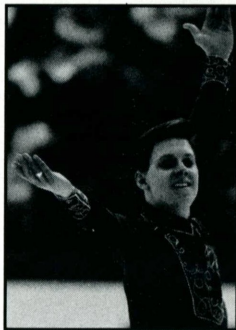
Senior Men

Even without Kurt Browning, there was a clear favorite in the Senior Men's event: Elvis Stojko, with Michael Slipchuk expected to be his main challenger. Certainly Stojko lived up to expectations with an excellent original program. He landed a clean triple Axel/double toe loop combination and a beautiful triple Lutz. His spins, footwork, and overall impression are all considerably improved over last year and his music really complemented his skating as well. He was a unanimous choice for first place. Slipchuk, on the other hand, seemed dogged by bad luck. Just before he was to skate, he came down with a severe nosebleed. He fell from his triple Axel and was obliged to stop skating after the first minute. He was permitted to continue the program from where he left off and attacked the remaining elements with sufficient determination that he moved into third place. The biggest surprise was the second place finish of Sebastien Britten. His combination was a triple Lutz/double toe loop and the other triple jump was a flip. His presentation to "Minnie the Moocher" was outstanding and indeed his marks for this aspect were the highest of all.

In the long program, Stojko was not quite able to maintain his earlier standard. He appeared to be in some discomfort with what was thought to be tendinitis but would later turn out to be a stress fracture. However, even when injured Stojko is capable of some phenomenal jumps. His highlights included two fine triple Lutzes, one combined with a double toe loop, and a triple flip to triple loop sequence. However, two attempted triple Axels were over-rotated and landed on two feet, and he did touch down on a triple Salchow. He confirmed his artistic improvement and marks of 5.6 to 5.8 made him the one to beat.

Slipchuk, who skated immediately after, had already had a rough day. In practice that morning, his nose had begun to bleed again. He was

*Michael Slipchuk,
Men's Champion*



GERARD CHATAIGNEAU

taken to a hospital, where his nose was frozen and the broken blood vessel cauterized. Nonetheless he came up with one of his best programs ever. For the first time, he successfully landed two triple Axels, one combined with a double toe loop, as well as a triple toe loop/triple toe loop combination. There were four other triples, two of them with minor problems on the landings. With the best spins of any of the men and presentation that was more mature than Stojko's, he received all seven votes for first place and took the gold medal. It was a popular victory; this is Slipchuk's last year of competition and he was a sentimental favorite. The general feeling was that Stojko, six years Slipchuk's junior, will undoubtedly have his day in the near future.

Britten had an artistically strong program to some swashbuckling music. His triple jumps included Lutz, loop, Salchow, toe loop, and flip, although he fell from another triple flip. He again made a strong impression and took the bronze medal, although he was beaten for third place in the free skating by Patrick Brault who came back from a disastrous eighth in the original with a long program that was long on triple jumps but short on artistry.

As expected, Kurt Browning was named to the Canadian Olympic Team with a medical bye. He will be accompanied by Michael Slipchuk, Elvis Stojko, Karen Preston, Josée Chouinard, Isabelle Brasseur and Lloyd Eisler, Christine Hough and Doug Ladret, Sherry Ball and Kris Wirtz, and Jacqueline Petr and Mark Janoschak. The team for the World Championships will be the same with the addition of Penny Mann and Juan Carlos Noria.

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Ice

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HELSINKI INTERNATIONAL

We Went, We Saw, We Won!

by Ann Fauver

What a week the first week of the new year was for the 115 U.S. participants in the Helsinki International Precision Competition, namely the Haydenettes and Ice Cubes precision teams from Hayden Recreation Centre, Lexington, Mass., Team Elan from the Detroit area, and the Superettes from Warwick, Rhode Island, along with judges William Beharrell and Shirley Hage, and myself as Team Leader.

In the two year interval since I had last been to this competition, it was evident that the European teams were alive and well, and *growing!* They have learned to flow over the ice with speed, footwork, and edges. They incorporate into their routines lunges, forward and back; fairly good back splices, although not done with great speed; and perhaps one of the most common maneuvers, multiple line back spirals, and Ina Bauers which originated in our country some years ago. It's nice to see our influence in this sport! Also popular was the "shoot the duck" maneuver in a circle, that essentially originated with the Swedish team a few years ago.

There were 29 teams from ten countries represented at this competition, with single

teams from France, Russia, and Estonia (for the first time) and multiple entries from Great Britain, Sweden, Japan, Finland, Switzerland, Denmark, and the U.S.

Every team entering the competition had the chance to skate twice. The 18 junior teams required three flights to seed them for either the gold or silver final round. And the six novice teams and four senior teams, which normally would require only a final round for each division, skated a preliminary round which counted only to establish the order for the draw for the final round.

The final round of the senior division was a truly exciting event contested by four truly competitive teams. It was interesting to note that all four teams consisted of 30 girls each, which led to interesting movements on the ice, and which gave all teams much latitude to be very creative with their music. They all presented exciting programs. Thunder, a Finnish team, demonstrated good ability doing Ina Bauers with a disconnect, a fast backward two-spoke wheel done in pairs, and fast block skating. It was hard to believe that two years ago, the core of this team was a junior team which had little expertise, a poor program, and no speed or flow. Their impressive third place performance makes a statement to the precision world as to the interest and effort the Finns are putting into precision skating.

The Haydenettes showed their expressive, sure presentation the minute they took the ice in their colorful Hawaiian costumes. As U.S. precision followers know, theirs is a very interpretative program using arms, bodies, and heads, as well as close, precise footwork. They skated flawlessly, and it was thrilling to watch knowing that they represented our country. The defending U.S. senior champions skated like champions, placing first in the medal round with all

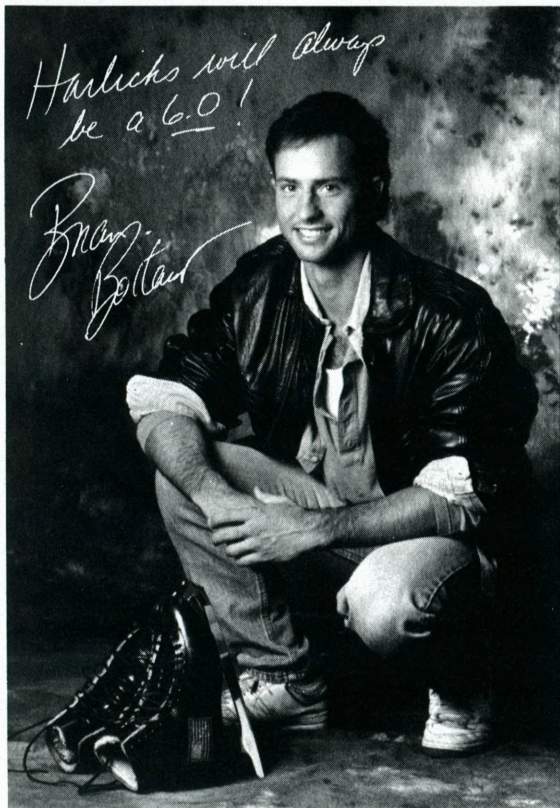
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The Haydenettes

Helsinki International Senior Gold Champions

seven first place votes from the seven judges. The Haydenettes also were awarded the competition's coveted "Most Creative Program" Award.

The Japanese team—Tokyo Women's College—was, as always, a very disciplined team and what they did they did to perfection. (They are eager to learn and constantly observe every practice session.) They presented a beautiful program using their music well, and incorporating several unique moves, but with little footwork. It was unfortunate that in the final round they had two falls. Their recovery at a very difficult spot in the program helped them gain a very creditable and well-deserved silver medal.

The winner of the junior division was a Finnish team, the Rockettes, wearing peasant costumes with bright red skirts, black jumper tops over white blouses, and a red ribbon in their hair. Their speed, flow, and precision were outstanding, as was their interpretation of their music which had marvelous changes of rhythm and tempo.

They showed creativity with an unusual duck-under spiral line, and block pass-thru's incorporating a full turn on one foot (twizzle) at great speed, plus outside spread eagles done in a circle. Finishing close behind the winners was our Team Elan, skating last in the final round on badly cut-up ice which was also rather soft. They were not to be daunted by this. Despite several falls, they performed their splices with breathtaking speed, and handled the unexpected with expertise to take second. The Superettes chose to skate their new Latin number in the final round. While they had moved well in the initial round to earn them a place in the gold division, they, too, encountered difficulties with the ice and found it difficult to handle their new program faced with the unexpected conditions. Overcoming the problems they skated well and placed third.

The novice division consisted of three Finnish teams and teams from Great Britain, Switzerland, and the U.S. The five European teams consisted of 16 to 18 skat-

ers. The Ice Mates, with 24 skaters, took the ice in their deep red, 20's styled costumes, and they were truly an impressive unit. Performing the routine which placed them first in our National Championships last year, they skated a difficult program with sureness and speed, and big smiles. The audience loved their interpretation of the Charleston and the seven judges each awarded them first place. Les Mirages, a Finnish team of just 16 skaters, took second with a routine that moved well over the ice. Throughout the competition many teams used familiar pop music as was the case with the Mini Mints from Finland. Dressed in bright yellow dresses trimmed with black fringe, the Mini Mints skated to "The Yellow Rose of Texas." Great Britain's team, the Ice Dimensions, edged them out for third place with their high quality unison.

The Haydenettes first place finish gave the United States two gold medals (senior and novice), and the silver and bronze in the junior. All of us were deeply moved to hear our national anthem played as our flag was raised, not once, but twice. It was the first time that any U.S. team has placed first in an International precision competition. For the competitors, as well as those of us who were present, we will never forget that moment.

Ann Fauver is the past chairman of the USFSA Precision Skating Committee and a national precision judge.

Helsinki Precision Notebook

by Tara Taylor

Our bus was just moments away from the Helsinki Ice Arena when one of my Haydenette teammates handed me a tape.

"Can you play this now?" she asked. "Sure," I answered "but will everyone like it?" Her reply was absolute. "Of course. I guarantee it." As I pressed play a patriotic spark ignited our bus. All thirty-six skaters, chaperones, parents, and our coach burst into a beautiful rendition of our national anthem. Beautiful not because of our voices—after all we were in Finland for our skating; not our singing! It was beautiful, instead, because of what it stood for and what it meant to us. As I sang the last verse I could feel my body start to tingle. I was extremely proud to represent the United States.

Inside the arena, a feeling of competitive, international electricity engulfed the skating area. Team banners were proudly displayed at each end of the ice. Hanging from the rafters far above, each country's flag flew proudly—including the flags of newly independent Estonia, and the new Commonwealth of Independent States. On the ice surface teams from 10 different countries prepared to display their own interpretation of precision team skating. Each interpretation varied. Most team presentations lacked unified themes. Over the past four years in the United States, the idea of a "complete package" has been of the utmost importance—from music to costume to hairstyle. Following ice dancing's lead, U.S. precision coaches have been told to pick a theme, become it, live it! Only Japan seemed to follow in the U.S.'s footsteps, with their silver medal senior team doing a rendition of *Phantom of the Opera* and the Junior team conveying to the audience traditional Japanese cultural and folk themes.

Once outside the arena we were on our own. None of us spoke Finnish. We prayed to meet people who at least spoke broken English. All in all we managed just fine, yet



(L to R) Co-Captain Courtney Gill,
Coach Lynn Benson, and Captain Tara Taylor
of the Haydenettes.

I think our immense presence was, at times, intimidating to our kind hosts. The Finns we met appeared to be a calm and reserved people. Conversely, anyone who has ever been on a precision team knows that precision skaters tend to be just the opposite. We travel in large groups (herds, if you will), wear identical clothes, and occasionally talk extremely loud (after all, your voice must compete with 35 others). And then there is the natural excitement that comes with being away, competing, and in this case, representing your country. Personally, I too would be overwhelmed if a large, similarly dressed group approached me and, in a foreign language, pleaded with me to point them towards the nearest restroom! And believe me, we did that quite often!

As for food, one small piece of advice. If you are what they would call an experimental eater—the type who will try anything at least once—*go to Finland immediately!* Being pizza addicts, we, however, had quite a difficult time adjusting to such Finnish specialties as ox tail, reindeer meat, and reindeer tongue with cranberry mayonnaise. But to give our hosts credit, by the end of the week our hotel took on a western air, serving such

American classics as hamburgers, fries, lasagna, and Coke! The highlight of my culinary experience in Finland was a seven dollar, pre-competition, excursion to the “Golden Arches” for a hamburger, small fries, and small Coke. Hey, so much for carboloading!

No article describing the Helsinki International Precision Competition would be complete without mentioning the Japanese team from the Tokyo Women’s College of Physical Education. Rarely have we met such happy, exuberant people who share such an immense love of the sport. This team exemplifies what precision skating is all about: love, friendship, and dedication. Just five years ago when they entered the international scene in Lake Placid, they had a slow individualistic style that left them at the bottom of the pack. But their endearing smiles and personalities earned them a first place vote in everyone’s heart. Today they are a highly competitive team, willing to change with the times to make themselves the best they can be. And yet, with their success, their innocence and love of the sport has not been lost. Though we spoke entirely different languages we felt an incredible closeness to this team of tiny Japanese women. Their constant smiles and good luck nods encouraged us all. They were intrigued by us, and we, likewise, were intrigued by them. We learned their *Phantom* program, while they shook their hips and hulaed to our Hawaiian routine. Many of us traded sweatshirts and pins. We hope those “Tokyo Women’s College” shirts contain some of the magical awe and respect the Japanese skaters had for the sport of precision skating.

Finally, after a week of preparation, the moment arrived. Amid the chants of “U-S-A, U-S-A” we glided onto the ice surface. When we glanced up into the

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crowd, the faces of our American teammates were no longer discernible. All we could see were American flags waving in a sea of patriotic excitement and the one symbolic American flag, which had hung from the rafters for the duration of the competition, now seemed to us to be larger than ever.

All skaters know that you have to skate for yourself. Yet, in Helsinki, my American teammates and I learned that sometimes you have that rare opportunity to skate for your country as well. As we stood hand-in-hand to receive our gold medals, we watched our American flag being hoisted high above the crowd. "The Star-Spangled Banner" played. We sang the anthem softly to ourselves, savoring each word, knowing that this would be a moment we would remember forever. As the last bars of the anthem drifted across the arena, I glanced up one last time at our American flag. I blinked. A tear trickled down my cheek and meshed in with the cold ice surface below.

Tara Taylor is Captain of the Haydenettes. She is a sophomore at Tufts University, Medford, Mass., an intermediate figure judge, and a member of the USFSA Precision Skating Committee.

HELSINKI INTERNATIONAL PRECISION COMPETITION '92 HELSINKI, FINLAND JANUARY 3-4, 1992

SENIOR GOLD FINAL

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. **Haydenettes, USA, 1-1.0**
2. Women's College of Phys. Ed., JPN, 2-2.0
3. Thunder, FIN, 3-3.0
4. Festa Aboensia, FIN, 4-4.0

SENIOR PRELIMINARIES

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. **Haydenettes, USA, 1-1.0**
2. Women's College of Phys. Ed., JPN, 2-2.0
3. Thunder, FIN, 3-3.0
4. Festa Aboensia, FIN, 4-4.0

JUNIOR GOLD FINAL

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. Rockettes, FIN, 1-1.0
2. **Team Elan, USA, 2-2.0**
3. Superettes, USA, 3-3.0
4. Women's College of Phys. Ed., JPN, 4-4.0
5. Filiae Aboenses, FIN, 5-5.0
6. Attraction Precision Skaters, SWE, 6-6.0
7. Les Rousettes, FIN, 7-7.0
8. Team Spirit, SWE, 8-8.0
9. Starlight Team, SWI, 9-9.0

JUNIOR PRELIMINARIES—FIRST FLIGHT

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. Attraction Precision Skaters, SWE, 1-1.0
2. Filia Aboensis, FIN, 2-2.0
3. Women's College of Phys. Ed., JPN, 3-3.0
4. Team Silverblades, SWE, 4-4.0
5. Luzhniki, RUS, 5-5.0
6. Effi Magic Queens, SWI, 6-6.0

JUNIOR PRELIMINARIES—SECOND FLIGHT

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. **Team Elan, USA, 1-1.0**
2. Les Rousettes, FIN, 2-2.0
3. Starlight Team, SWI, 3-3.0
4. Queen's Coronets, GB, 4-4.0
5. Rainbows, DEN, 5-5.0
6. Ice Diamonds, SWE, 6-6.0

JUNIOR PRELIMINARIES—THIRD FLIGHT

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. Rockettes, FIN, 1-1.0
2. **Superettes, USA, 2-2.0**
3. Team Spirit, SWE, 3-3.0
4. Rukki Lill, EST, 4-4.0
5. Les Cristallines, FRA, 5-5.0
6. Tagi Girls, SWI, 6-6.0

NOVICE GOLD FINAL

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. **Ice Mates, USA, 1-1.0**
2. Les Mirages, FIN, 2-2.0
3. Ice Dimensions, GB, 3-3.0
4. Mini Mints, FIN, 4-4.0
5. Starlight, FIN, 5-5.0
6. Kloterettes, SWI, 6-6.0

NOVICE PRELIMINARIES

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. **Ice Mates, USA, 1-1.0**
2. Les Mirages, FIN, 2-2.0
3. Starlight, FIN, 3-3.0
4. Ice Dimensions, GB, 4-4.0
5. Mini Mints, FIN, 5-5.0
6. Kloterettes, SWI, 6-6.0

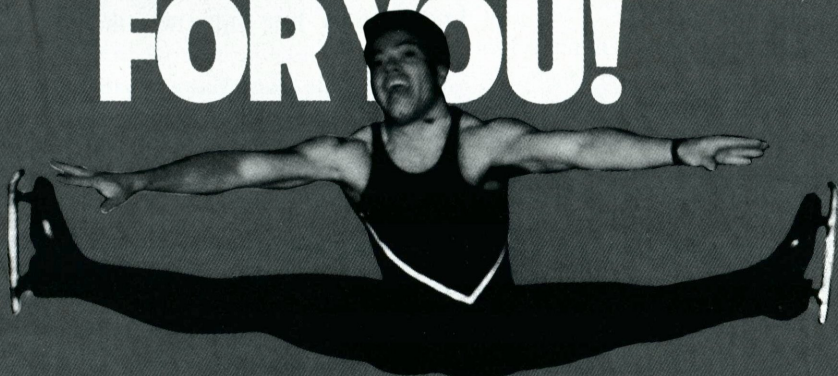
JUNIOR SILVER FINAL

TEAM NAME, COUNTRY, FS-PLACES

1. Queen's Coronets, GB, 1-1.0
2. Team Silverblades, SWE, 2-2.0
3. Rukki Lill, EST, 3-3.0
4. Luzhniki, RUS, 4-4.0
5. Les Cristallines, FRA, 5-5.0
6. Rainbows, DEN, 6-6.0
7. Effi Magic Queens, SWI, 7-7.0
8. Ice Diamonds, SWE, 8-8.0
9. Tagi Girls, SWI, 9-9.0

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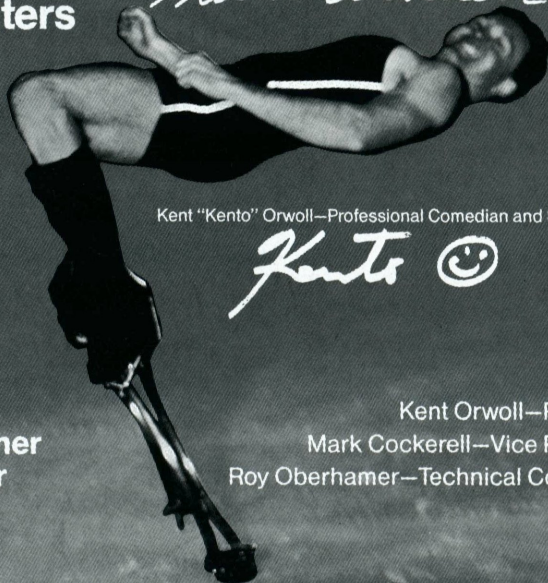
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France Names Olympic Team for Albertville

by Jean-Christophe Berlot

While Albertville was welcoming the first snowflakes of the season, the best national ice dancers gathered in Bordeaux two months prior to the Olympics to decide who would join Paul and Isabelle Duchesnay on the Olympic Team.

Even though the Duchesnays did not defend their national title in Bordeaux, the contest was of a high standard, with at least the first six dance couples of international stature. Dominique Yvon and Frédéric Paluel won their second national title thanks to a very entertaining and high paced free program. Sophie Moniotte and Pascal Lavanchy won the Original Polka and finished a deserved second. Marina Morel and Gwendal Peizerat, and Isabelle Sarechs and Xavier Debernis, followed in third and fourth, respectively.

Three weeks later the skating world of France gathered again in Colombes, one of the suburbs of Paris, for the National Figure Skating Championships. Whether it was the importance of the event or the fantastic impact figure skating was having in the media because of the proximity of the Games, the spacious rink of Colombes was fully packed with skating enthusiasts.

The ladies' contest brought another national title to high jumper Surya Bonaly, who won both the original and the free program. She noticeably improved her glide last summer training with Frank Carroll in the United States, and her jumping abilities are as strong as ever. She did not manage to complete her quad but her triple to triple combinations were truly amazing.

Laetitia Hubert was a logical second. She confirmed her brilliant victory in the World Junior Championships two weeks before with four different triples and a beautiful smile that may become her trademark. Third was Marie-Pierre Leray, who also secured four triples including the Lutz. A unique line, great edges, and most creative spins made her one of the audience's favorites. Cécile Tribolet and Stéphanie Ferrer took fourth and fifth.

Eric Millot won the men's title for the third time in a row. In a superlative class of his own, Millot impressed both the audience and the judges with his very fast and clean skating. He mastered all triples, except the Axel which made him tumble in the free. An unexpected second was talented Nicolas Pétorin, whose opening combination (triple Axel to double toe) was most impressive. Philippe Candeloro could have won his first national title this year if a bad moped accident had not deprived him of training for several weeks this fall. His sixth place in the original program did not leave him much of a chance for the title, yet he had an open door for a spot on the team. Undoubtedly the strongest skater of the field, Candeloro skated a brilliant free loaded with technical difficulty and with two triple Axels. He missed the silver by one judge.

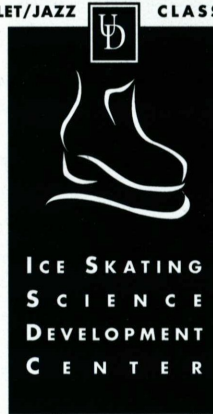
Paul and Isabelle Duchesnay did not participate in the final gala as it was expected, due to their tight schedule. They have nonetheless disclosed a few steps of their intended new free dance to *West Side Story*. Constant innovation in moves, steps, and shapes, and that permanent quest for balance they have always cultivated, provide once more the drive of their program.

Continued on page 81

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MARCH

- 5-8 **Lake Placid Figure Skating Test Sessions**, to be held at the Olympic Center, Lake Placid, NY. USFSA and CFSa tests for figures, freestyle, dance, and pairs will be offered. One and two-day practice ice packages will also be available. For test applications and information contact: Colleen M. Duffy, Figure Skating Director, Olympic Center, Lake Placid, NY 12946, 518-523-3325.
- 6-8 **1992 Midwestern Sectional Precision Championships**, hosted by the Garfield Heights FSC, Garfield Heights, OH. For information contact: Marge Johnston, 216-883-6686.
- 13-15 **1992 Atlanta Open**, sponsored by the Atlanta FSC, at Parkaire Olympic Ice, 4880 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta, GA 30068. Figures, Freestyle, Pairs, Dance, Solo Dance, and Interpretive events (including Adults). For information, contact Bob Kearman or Sue Aguiar, 4880 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta, GA 30068, 404-973-0753.
- 13-15 **18th Annual Braemar McCandless Competition**, sponsored by the Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, at the Braemar Arena, 7501 South County Rd. #18, Edina, MN 55435. Figures, Free Skating, Dance, Interpretive, Compulsory, and Team events. Beginner through Senior levels. For

information contact: Liz Brown, 18195 South Shore Lane W., Eden Prairie, MN 55346, 612-934-9194.

- 21 **Annual Challenge Cup Precision Competition**, sponsored by the Wyandotte FSC, at the Yack Arena, Wyandotte, MI. For information contact: Bill Claeys, 12528 Huron, Taylor, MI 48180, 313-287-6389.
- 21 **Midwest Basic Skills Invitational Championships**, sponsored by Indiana/World Academy & Research Center, Pan American Plaza, 201 S. Capitol Ave. #001, Indianapolis, IN 46225. For information contact: Kristi S. Petruzzi, 317-237-5565.
- 26-29 **20th Anniversary Ice-Travaganza**, ice show sponsored by the Wyandotte FSC, at the Yack Arena, Wyandotte, MI. For information contact: Bill Claeys, 12528 Huron, Taylor, MI 48180, 313-287-6389.
- 28-29 **Ice Review**, sponsored by the Southern New Hampshire SC, at the JFK Coliseum, Manchester, NH. For information contact: Judy Leshinski, 603-434-3104.

APRIL

- 2-4 **1992 National Juvenile and Intermediate Championships**, hosted by the St. Clair Shores FSC, at the St. Clair Shores Civic Arena, 20000 Stephens Drive, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080. Intermediate Men and Ladies Freestyle, Intermediate Pairs and Dance, Juvenile Boys and Girls Freestyle, and Juvenile Dance events. For information contact: Karen Wolanchuk, 313-445-5350.
- 2-5 **22nd Annual Tri State Competition**, sponsored by the Detroit SC, at the

- Detroit SC, 888 Denison Ct., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Freestyle, Pairs, Dance, Showcase, and Compulsory events. For information contact: The Detroit SC, 313-332-7133; FAX, 313-332-9912.
- 4-5 **29th Annual New Jersey Council of Figure Skating Clubs Competition**, sponsored by the New Jersey Council of Figure Skating Clubs, at the William G. Mennen Sports Arena, 161 E. Hanover Ave., Morristown, NJ. Open to New Jersey residents or any person who maintains a New Jersey USFSA club as his/her home club. Freestyle, Dance, Interpretive Freestyle & Dance, Precision & Maneuver Teams events. Open to New Jersey residents or any person who maintains a New Jersey USFSA club as his/her home club. For information contact: Janet Crisso, 21 Crossbrook Ln., West Caldwell, NJ 07006, 201-226-2416.
- 5-7 **United States National Special Olympics Championships**, hosted by the Indiana/World Academy & Research Center, Pan American Plaza, 201 S. Capitol Ave. #001, Indianapolis, IN 46225. For information contact: Kristi S. Petruzzi, 317-237-5565.
- 7-12 **1992 U.S. National Precision Championships**, hosted by the SC of Maine, Portland, ME. For information contact: Suzanne Baker, 207-377-6679.
- 9-12 **Spring Festival**, annual competition sponsored by the Portland ISC, at the Ice Capades Chalet, Portland, OR. Figures, Compulsory Moves, Free Skating, Pairs, and Showcase events. For information contact: Barbara Crosswhite, 503-638-7757 or Lori Moiel, 503-697-0564.
- 10-12 **7th Annual Florida Open Competition**, sponsored by the SC of Florida, at the Goldcoast Ice Arena, 4601 North Federal Highway, Pompano Beach, FL 33064. For information contact: Doris Dahl, 407-641-0985.
- 13-14 **I/WSA April Dance Week**, sponsored by the Indiana/World Skating Academy & Research Center, Pan American Plaza, 201 S. Capitol Ave. #001, Indianapolis, IN 46225. Intensive week of dance concluded by Dance Test Session. For information contact: Kristi S. Petruzzi, 317-237-5565.
- 23-26 **Darien Open Competition**, sponsored by the Darien SC, at the Darien Ice Rink, Old Kings Highway No., Darien, CT 06820. Figures, Freestyle, Pairs, Dance, and Showcase events. Tots to Adults have separate Figure, Original Program, Free Skating, and Dance events. For information contact: Ellie F. Kimelman, 31 Bronxville Glen Dr., Bronxville, NY 10708, 914-237-3962.
- 24-26 **1992 Springtime Invitational**, sponsored by the Ann Arbor FSC, at the Veterans Ice Arena, Ann Arbor, MI. Figures, Freestyle, Compulsory Moves, and Artistic Showcase events for competitors in Basic Skills and Low Test levels. For information contact: Sandy Dunkel, 724 Patricia Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48103, 313-663-9470.
- 25 **Annual Spring Precision Team Competition**, sponsored by the Bowling Green SC, at the Bowling Green University Ice Arena, Mercer Rd., Bowling Green, OH 43402. For information contact: Darlene Householder, 16620 Mitchell Rd.,

Bowling Green, OH 43402,
419-352-7295.

- 25-30 **USFSA Elite Sports Science/Training Pair Camp**, held at the Indiana/World Skating Academy & Research Center, Pan American Plaza, 201 S. Capitol Ave. #001, Indianapolis, IN 46225. U.S. Elite Pair Teams will undergo Sport Science Testing and Training. For information contact: Kristi S. Petruzzi, 317-237-5565.

- 29-5/3 **Phoenix Fiesta Skate**, sponsored by the SC of Phoenix, at Oaks Ice Arena, 1520 N. Hayden Rd., Tempe, AZ 85281. Run like a qualifying competition with elimination rounds. Over 350 skaters are expected to compete. For information contact: Debbie Timmons, 602-827-2748 or Sandy Hough, 602-973-3785.

MAY

- 1-3 **Casper Invitational, Wyoming Figure Skating Championships**, sponsored by the Casper FSC at the Casper Ice Arena, Casper, WY. Compulsory Moves, Preliminary through Intermediate; Original Program, Intermediate through Senior; Free Skating, Pre Preliminary through Adult; Artistic Free Skating, Pre Preliminary through Adult; and Precision events. For information contact: Mary Jo Sannes, Competition Chairman, 51 Magnolia, Casper, WY 82604-4034, 307-235-1662.
- 1-3 **1992 Colonial Open Competition**, sponsored by the Colonial FSC at the Nashoba Valley Olympia, Rte. 111, Boxborough, MA 01719. Figures, Free Skating, Dance, Pairs, and Team events. For information contact: Karl Walczak, 16 Chadbourne Rd., Lexington, MA 02173, 617-861-1079.
- 1-3 **1992 Nassau County Championships**, sponsored by the Cantiague FSC, at the Cantiague Park Rink, West John St., Hicksville, NY 11801. Figures, Freestyle, Pairs, Dance, Showcase, Interpretive, and Precision events, Basic Skills through Senior levels. For information contact: Susan Lynch, 516-785-7162, after 6:00 P.M. or Tom Dodge, 516-226-8286.
- 3, 9-10 **Music, Music, Music**, ice show sponsored by the Babson SC, at the Babson Skating Center, 150 Great Plain Ave., Wellesley, MA 02181. For information contact: Joan Allen, Babson Skating Center, 150 Great Plain Ave., Wellesley, MA 02181, 617-431-7820.
- 14-16 **The Los Angeles Championships**, sponsored by the Los Angeles FSC, at the Pickwick Ice Arena, 1001 Riverside Dr., Burbank, CA 91506. For information contact: Eleanor Curtis, 818-368-5767 or Andrea Lewis, 818-783-7436.
- 16-17 **Spring Skate Festival**, sponsored by the SC of Western New York, at Holiday Twin Rinks, Cheektowaga, NY (a suburb of Buffalo). Figures, Freestyle, Compulsory Moves, Solo Dance, Similar Pairs, Showcase, Team Figures & Compulsory Moves events. Badge through Senior levels. For information contact: Mrs. Linda Dick, 716-668-2098.
- 17 **The Adult Open Championships**, sponsored by the Los Angeles FSC, at the Pickwick Ice Arena, 1001 Riverside Dr., Burbank, CA 91506. For information contact: Eleanor Curtis, 818-368-5767 or Andrea Lewis, 818-783-7436.

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1992 NutraSweet "Giving It 100%" Award



PAUL HARVATH

April Sargent-Thomas and Russ Witherby struck double gold at the 1992 U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Orlando in January when they won not only the gold medal in the Dance Championship but the NutraSweet "Giving It 100%" Award as well.

Now in its sixth year, this prestigious award is given annually to dedicated athletes who display a high degree of perseverance and motivation in meeting the challenges they place on themselves.

"The judges had a difficult selection to make because there were so many exceptional athletes and performances at this year's competition," said Sarah Baldwin, manager, special events and promotions, The NutraSweet Company. "But Sargent-Thomas and Witherby best demonstrated the exemplary qualities this award signifies."

When April Sargent-Thomas underwent emergency surgery a few days before Christmas due to a serious illness, she and partner, Russ Witherby thought their dream of a national championship would never be realized. Through sheer determination, perseverance, courage, and a love of the sport, they proved themselves wrong by overcoming the obstacles that stood in their way. Sargent-Thomas recovered sufficiently to compete in the 1992

U.S. Figure Skating Championships where they won their first national dance title and a place on the U.S. Olympic Team headed for Albertville.

Sargent-Thomas and Witherby have been skating together for five years and train in Toronto, Canada under Marijane Stong and Robbie Kaine. Both belong to the University of Delaware Figure Skating Club.

The selection criteria for the NutraSweet "Giving It 100%" Award are: an exceptional level of accomplishment relative to length of participation and available resources; stamina under pressure; grace and good sportsmanship; generosity of spirit; the ability to achieve a balance between individual accomplishment and team/colleague/family relationships; and an unusual or inspirational personal story. Selections are made by a United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA)-based committee comprised of coaches, judges, and officials.

In addition to the trophy itself, a financial contribution is made by The NutraSweet Company in the name of the recipients to the USFSA Trust Fund for their use toward continued training.

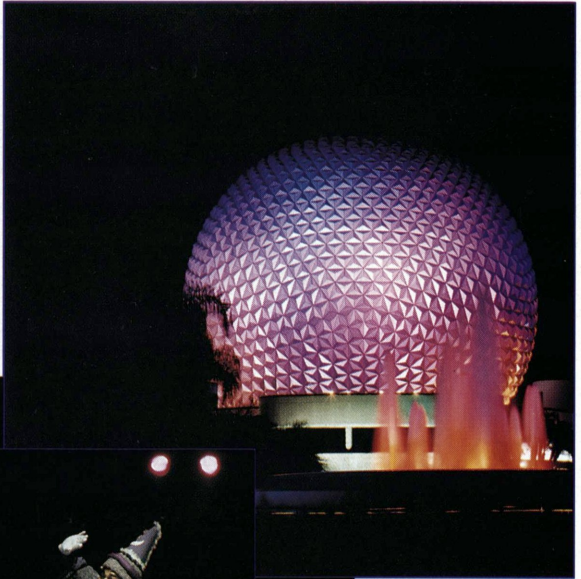
1992 U.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS



New Champions Crowned in Orlando's Magic Kingdom



PAUL HARVATH



INGRID BUTT



This was a championship of records. It was the first time ever that four new champions were named at a U.S. Championships in an Olympic year. Last year's champions did not fare better than third place in any of the skating disciplines this year.

Evidence of the direction the sport is taking was seen especially in the singles events where more triple jumps were performed than ever before, and the ratio of injuries to triples also became apparent.

The fabulous new Orlando Arena comfortably housed a record number of spectators: nearly 95,000 skating enthusiasts attended the events throughout the week. Plus, more than 330 competitors participated at Nationals this year—25 more than last year and more than 140 over the year before. Obviously the addition of the Novice pair and dance events has affected the number of participants, as well as the additional figures participants at the Junior and Senior levels. This year only five competitors, however, competed in both the figures and the free skating events.

SENIOR MEN

What would the U.S. Figure Skating Championships be without a little bit of controversy surrounding the senior men's event? For once, the controversy didn't only surround Christopher Bowman, but Todd Eldredge, Paul Wylie, and Mark Mitchell as well.

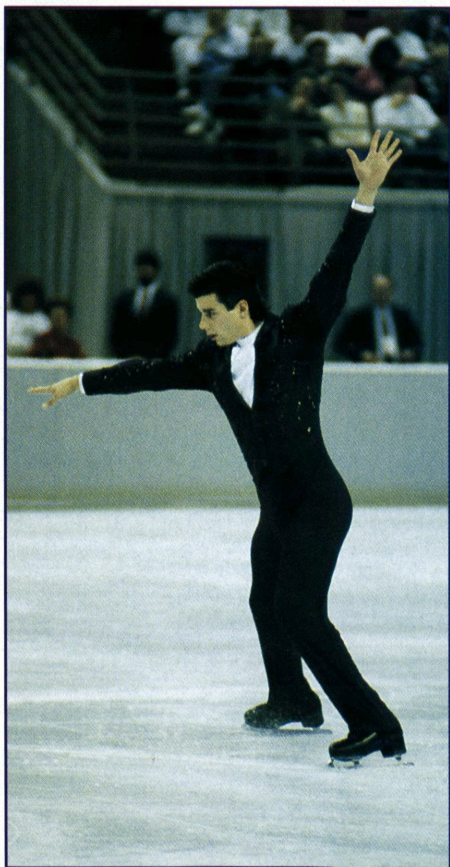
Eldredge withdrew from competition early in the week after learning that the pain in his lower back was due to a severe back sprain and required immediate rest to quickly and properly heal. His withdrawal was like opening Pandora's box.

The USFSA has a policy (rule ICR 5.03) that allows an athlete to be named to the Olympic Team when he is unable to compete due to injury. "The USFSA does not select the Team based on one qualify-

ing competition, but in the event of illness or injury to a World medalist of the previous year a skater placing in the top three of the current Nationals could possibly be displaced by another skater."

The Olympic and World teams would not be named until after the men's final event; after the competition's three medalists were named.

Bowman's pre-event publicity surrounded what he called "simply a mug-



Christopher Bowman
Senior Men Free Skating
Gold

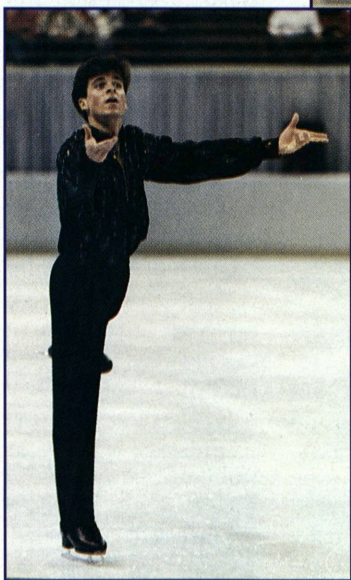
INGRID BUTT

ging” last fall outside of (his now former coach) Toller Cranston’s house. He had to have some reconstructive facial surgery as a result of the attack. He was drilled by media about rumors of drug use. Bowman, his coach John Nicks, and USFSA President Dr. Franklin Nelson, firmly denied all rumors. Nicks subjects his students to routine, but confidential, drug testing and Nelson issued a statement declaring that “the USFSA has no basis at this time to believe that Mr. Bowman is engaging in any type of activity which would adversely affect his eligibility to compete.”

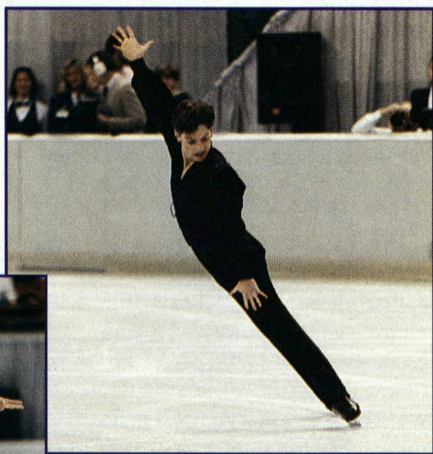
Despite media pressure, Bowman skated a beautiful OP to “Piano Concerto No. 3” by Rachmaninoff, a program he introduced at ’91 Nationals. He opened with a clean triple Lutz/triple toe combination and included a triple flip. Six of nine

judges awarded him first placements. The other three placed Mark Mitchell first.

Bowman’s free skate, “1812 Overture” was loaded with every triple, minus the—almost-required—triple Axel. Nicks explained that Bowman’s goal was to make the Olympic team and he didn’t need a triple Axel to do that. Once in Albertville they plan to add the Axel to his program. Two of his triple jumps were done in combination, one a triple flip/triple toe com-



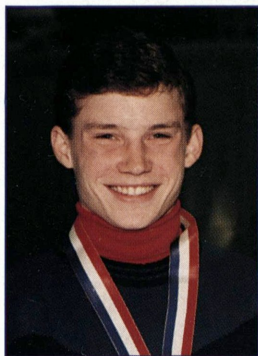
Mark Mitchell
Senior Men Free Skating
Bronze



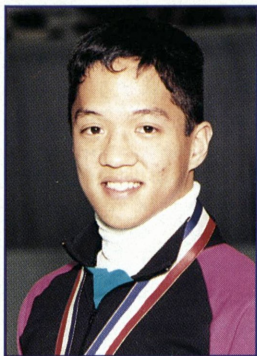
Paul Wylie
Senior Men Free Skating
Silver

GEORGE ROSSANO

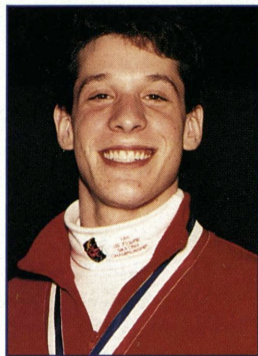
GEORGE ROSSANO



Brian Schmidt
Senior Men Figures
Gold



Gig Siruno
Senior Men Figures
Silver



Troy Goldstein
Senior Men Figures
Bronze

bination. The audience rewarded him with a standing ovation and eight of the nine judges awarded him with first place marks; Mitchell the one remaining.

Really not wanting to dwell on the fact that this was his 11th Senior Nationals appearance, Paul Wylie stated he was "here for personal reasons." Wylie graduated from Harvard University last June with a political science degree and for the first time in his life he has had time since then to dedicate solely to figure skating.

"I'm here because I am skating well. I am at the top of my game and I feel I'm skating the best I have in some time."

The OP was a disappointing start. He touched down on his opening triple Axel and stepped out of a double toe but managed to hold on to fourth place. He did land seven triples during his long program including a flawed triple Axel, and he stepped out of three others. He was greeted with huge applause and his many, many fans let him know how much they appreciated his performance. His marks were high—5.6-5.8 for technical merit, and 5.7-5.8 for artistic impression.

Mitchell was second after a clean OP skated to to "When a Man Loves a Woman." He opened with a triple Axel/double toe combination followed by a triple loop. Mitchell's long program finish bumped him down a notch to third place—the hot seat when someone like Todd Eldredge is waiting in the wings hoping to be named to the Olympic team.

Although he was the only man in the top group to land a clean triple Axel, along with six other triples (he stepped out of his triple flip/triple toe combination) the judges didn't feel that his program warranted more than a third place finish.

"I should ask the judges what they want this year. This was a tough week and everything has been on the line. Everybody was waiting to talk to the third place finisher. Surprise, surprise, it's me."

Eldredge was named to the Olympic team, displacing Mark Mitchell. Mitchell was, however, named to the World Team in place of Paul Wylie.

A particularly bright spot in this year's men's competition was the emergence of Scott Davis. Last year he finished eighth in this event and this year, after the OP, he found himself in third place.

"This is a dream. I am excited to be here. I just wanted to skate well because it is a personal goal to be on *ABC's Wide World of Sports*," Davis added.

He moved to Colorado Springs a year ago along with coach Kathy Casey. Although both were enthusiastic and lighthearted about Davis' luck to be "in the medals," his performances were deserving. He had a beautiful triple Axel/double toe combination, ultra-fast spins, and a strong, consistent style. He had two falls during the long program but his remaining elements and previous marks allowed him to easily place fourth and win a position as alternate to the Olympic and World teams. Brian Schmidt, Broadmoor SC, Gig Siruno, St. Paul FSC, and Troy Goldstein,

Los Angeles FSC, captured first, second, and third places in the figures event. They skated: LFI, RBI Counter, RBO, LBI Paragraph Bracket, and LFO, RFI Paragraph Loop.

SENIOR LADIES

Before the season began, there were five World medalists in contention for the coveted three positions on the ladies' 1992 Olympic and World team rosters plus another group of young, eager Olympic hopefuls.

After a disappointing season last year, splitting with her longtime coach Kris Sherard, moving to Colorado Springs to train with Kathy Casey at the Broadmoor, and finally moving to Harbor City, Calif.



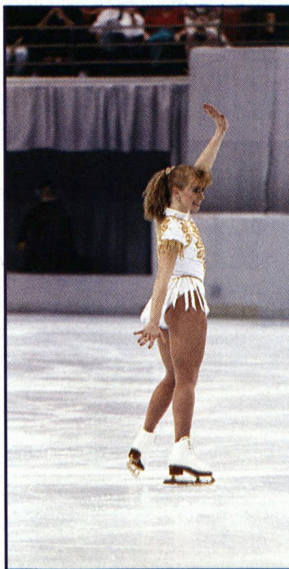
Kristi Yamaguchi
Senior Ladies Free Skating
Gold

INGRID BUTT

to train with Barbara Roles, 1990 World Bronze Medalist Holly Cook was the first to throw in the towel and look ahead to a professional career.

1990 World Figure Skating Champion and three times U.S. Champion, Jill Trenary, announced in late December that she would not compete in the 1992 Nationals, and as a result, would not be eligible to compete in the 1992 Olympic Winter Games. Trenary was unable to compete throughout the 1990-91 season due to an ankle injury and resultant surgery. She began training again in the spring of 1991, but continued to suffer from recurring ankle and foot problems. In the fall of 1991, Trenary moved from her longtime training base in Colorado Springs to Cleveland to train with Carol Heiss Jenkins. She competed in Skate Canada in

October with a new long program and finished a disappointing fourth. After this, she and Heiss Jenkins decided to completely re-choreograph the long program for the U.S. Championships. In mid-November, however, Trenary had severe ankle bruises caused by new boots which aggravated the ankle tendons. She also had training problems putting together the new long program. After consulting with her orthopedic surgeon and others close to her,



Tonya Harding
Senior Ladies Free Skating
Bronze



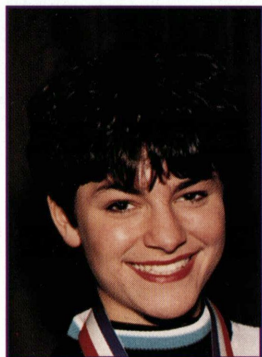
Nancy Kerrigan
Senior Ladies Free Skating
Silver

GEORGE ROSSANO

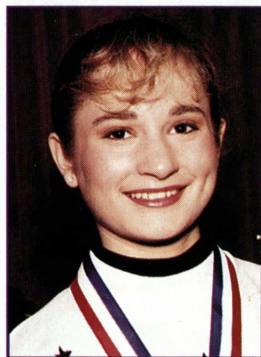
GEORGE ROSSANO



Kelly Ann Szmurlo
Senior Ladies Figures
Gold



Sarah Gendreau
Senior Ladies Figures
Silver



Sharon Sargent
Senior Ladies Figures
Bronze

Trenary decided not to compete.

“Once I’m healthy, I look forward to continuing with my skating career,” Trenary added.

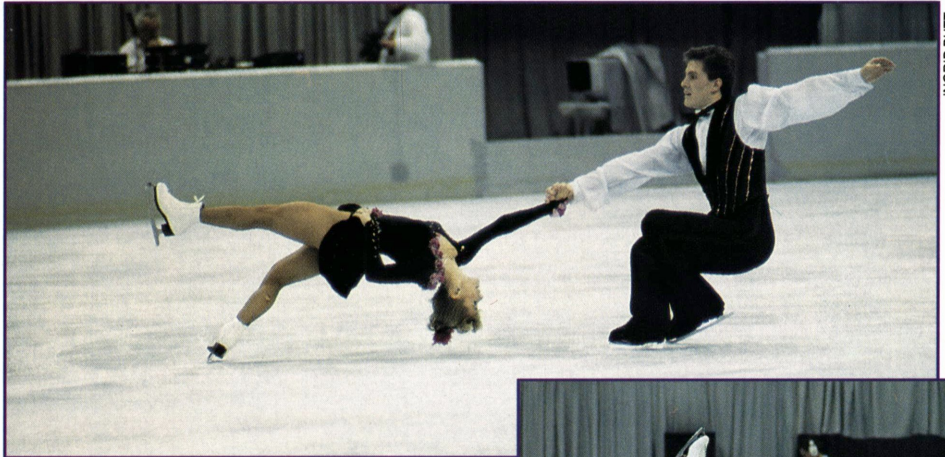
It was then, no real surprise that the three medal positions belonged to the three ladies that claimed the first-ever American sweep at the World Championships last year. Perhaps Kristi Yamaguchi said it best, “I’ve always looked at the U.S. Nationals as the toughest competition.” Most likely it would be those three plus a handful of international skaters that would compete for Olympic medals.

Yamaguchi came into this competition with confidence and maturity. She was the last of the top three to skate the original program and the audience showered her with applause for her solid performance. The music she selected for her free skating program was “Malagueña”—music she skated to once before as a Novice. Yamaguchi possibly skated her best performance to date. She was graceful to watch, incorporated footwork and arm movements into nearly every beat of the music, and performed seven solid triple jumps. In the end she was awarded the only 6.0 in this competition—a 6.0 for

artistic impression. The gold medal was hers.

The silver medal went to Nancy Kerrigan who has as much elegance and technical ability as ever, except now she has learned how to couple the two with mental toughness and competitiveness which has helped her consistency. Her draws were less than desirable—she was second out of 21 to skate the OP—but didn’t affect her performances. Her long program included four triple jumps, one in combination, and a total of six other jumps. Skating to “Born on the Fourth of July” by Davis, she garnered audience appreciation for her trademarked spiral ending. The judges were unanimous in her second place marks.

1991 U.S. Champion Tonya Harding had to fight to hang on to her bronze medal finish. She caught her blade against the wall during a practice session which caused a tendon in her right foot to inflame. Regardless, she refused to leave the triple Axel out of her programs. And, on the heels of Eldredge’s withdrawal due to injury, the media was quick to question her status.



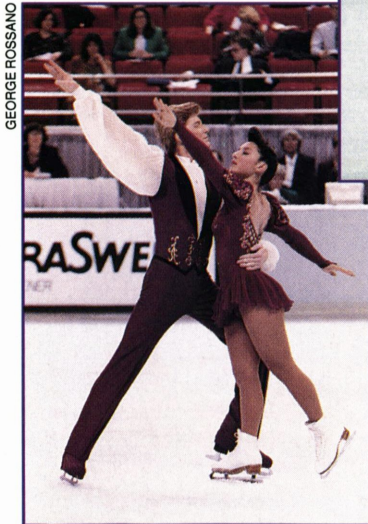
INGRID BUTT

Calla Urbanski & Rocky Marval
Senior Pairs
Gold



INGRID BUTT

Jenni Meno & Scott Wendland
Senior Pairs
Silver



GEORGE ROSSANO

Natasha Kuchiki & Todd Sand
Senior Pairs
Bronze

“I would never pull out of a competition. I don’t think that is right,” said Harding.

“She’s a tough cookie” is the expression often heard in reference to Harding; she didn’t withdraw from the competition nor did she remove her Axel. She fell on her opening triple Axel during both performances, however, and each time seemed to lose momentum. After a hard fall during the free, she only managed to include two of her six remaining triple jumps.

Lisa Ervin left a tremendous impression on the audience, judges, and skaters alike, by jumping from 1991 Junior champion to an ever-so-close fourth place finish this year. She skated two very strong programs. Ervin admires and wants to emulate her coach Carol Heiss Jenkins by winning titles at each competition level. Ervin was 1990 Novice Champion and 1991 Junior Champion just as Heiss Jenkins was 1951 Novice Champion and 1952 Junior Champion. Heiss Jenkins was also U.S. Champion 1957-60 and won the Olympic gold in 1960.

Kelly Ann Szmurlo, Broadmoor SC, tapped her second figures gold medal in as many years. Sarah Gendreau, Lakewood WC, was the silver medalist, and Sharon Sargent, Philadelphia SC & HS, bronze medalist. They performed: RFI, LBI Counter, LBO, RBI Paragraph Bracket, and RFO, LFI Paragraph Loop.

SENIOR PAIRS

All week long there was evidence that Calla Urbanski and Rocky Marval were present. “I support Urbanski/Marval” buttons could be seen on spectators’ apparel throughout the arena.



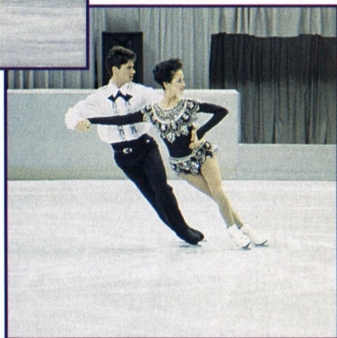
GEORGE ROSSANO

April Sargent-Thomas & Russ Witherby
Senior Dance
Gold



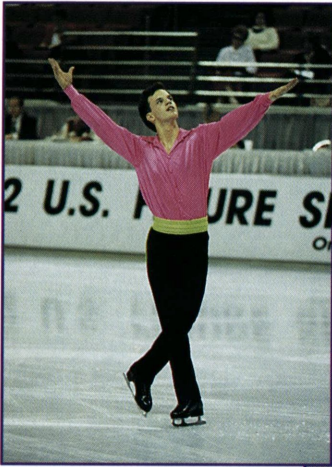
INGRID BUTT

Rachel Mayer & Peter Breen
Senior Dance
Silver



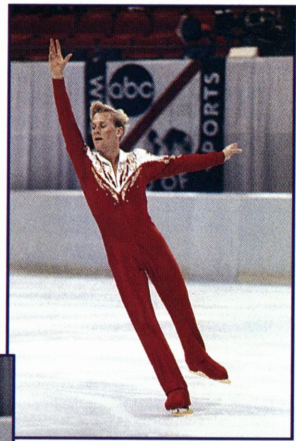
INGRID BUTT

Elizabeth Punsalan & Jerod Swallow
Senior Dance



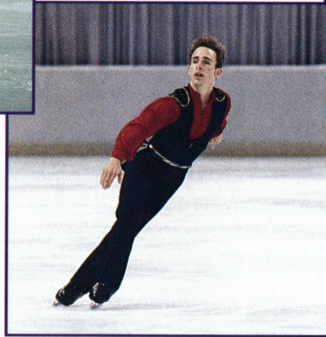
GEORGE ROSSANO

Ryan Hunka
Junior Men Free Skating
Gold



GEORGE ROSSANO

John Baldwin, Jr.
Junior Men Free Skating
Bronze



GEORGE ROSSANO

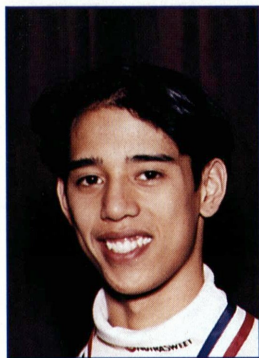
Daniel Hollander
Junior Men Free Skating
Silver

“We’re happy with the support we have received from our federation (USFSA) and the USOC,” Marval said. “But it just isn’t enough. Our expenses have doubled this year (over last year). Our on-ice time has doubled in one year. We made a commitment to make a run for the Olympic team. Every hour we could have been on the ice this season, we have been on the ice.”

As the week progressed Urbanski and Marval became known as “the blue collar couple” or “the waitress and the truck driver.” Both are dedicated to their skating and support themselves by working full-time and attending school. Feeling no regret, Marval quipped, “The life we have is the life we have chosen to live.”

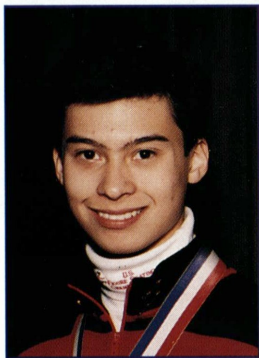
The duo did not start the competition as intended. During the OP they performed a nice split double twist but Urbanski fell on an edge after landing their side-by-side double Axels, narrowly avoiding the boards. This kept their timing off on their sit spins to follow. They were third going into the free skating portion of the event.

Their maturity and dedication was evident during their long program. They showed tremendous speed and confidence, and nice height on their throw jumps. They opened with a huge triple twist, included a throw triple loop, side-by-side double loops, side-by-side double Axels (she singled), throw double Axel, double flip step to a double toe. Their marks were high 5.7-5.8 and 5.7-5.9. They won the long



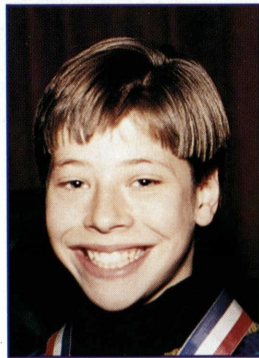
PAUL HARVATH

Jay Cochon
Junior Men Figures
Gold



PAUL HARVATH

Mark Drouillard
Junior Men Figures
Silver



PAUL HARVATH

Jeffrey Adler
Junior Men Figures
Bronze

program and the national title displacing former champions and World Bronze Medalists Natasha Kuchiki and Todd Sand.

“We plan to go on to '94, there's a lot we're working on that isn't yet in our program. We have a long way to go and lots of medals to win. It will be a thrill just going to the Olympics to be with all of the top athletes of the world and experience the energy. Winning is not really a vindication. I'm glad I can make my parents proud and I'm glad that Rocky stuck with me,” Urbanski stated.

Jenni Meno and Scott Wendland were easily second place finishers all around, and after skating together for only over one year, they have quickly developed a clean style with plenty of technical difficulty. They were not as fast as the other two top teams but their original program was flawless—two judges awarded them first place marks.

They had trouble with two elements during the long program—Meno fell on their side-by-side triple toes and they had a shaky landing coming down from a lift—but completed several difficult elements including side-by-side double Axels,

throw double twist, and a double/double combination. They took the competition silver and the second pair slot on the Olympic Team.

Last year's World Bronze Medalists Natasha Kuchiki and Todd Sand have had a troublesome season due to injury to one or the other, but were still expected to win the U.S. title.

Their original program, skated to “Concerto in F” by Gershwin, was clean, fast, and powerful. They started strong and won the OP portion of the event. They lost their consistency, however, during their long program.

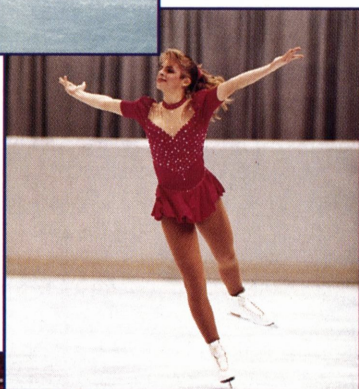
“I really don't know what happen on the first one,” said Sand in reference to his fall on a their side-by-side double Axels. “It was like a carpet was pulled out from underneath me.” The next one, I guess I was just tired. I didn't feel that off. Kuchiki remained confident throughout her partner's misses but stepped out of a double flip at the end. They had scaled down a couple of their elements in hopes of skating a clean program, which ended up hurting their overall score.

“We took the triple loop out of our program after learning that Calla and Rocky



INGRID BUTT

Caroline Song
Junior Ladies
Free Skating
Gold



INGRID BUTT

Lisa Matras
Junior Ladies
Free Skating
Silver



GEORGE ROSSANO

Lefki Terzakis
Junior Ladies Free Skating
Bronze

had skated well, but that they didn't do everything. We figured if we skated cleanly we would be okay," said Sand.

Last year's champions narrowly earned the third place spot but nevertheless grabbed the last pair position on the Olympic and World Teams, a position they created by winning the bronze medal at the 1991 World Championships.

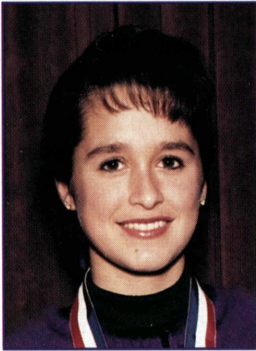
Demonstrating the persistence of Calla Urbanski, Karen Courtland returned to Nationals this year to present another strong program with her partner of only a few months, R. Todd Reynolds. The two were powerful and strong and should develop well with a little bit of training time in their favor. Courtland was fifth last year with partner Jason Dungjen and fourth place this year.

SENIOR DANCE

The compulsories were the determining factor in this year's dance event. There were two ties among the top four: Rachel Mayer and Peter Breen, and April Sargent Thomas and Russ Witherby were tied for first place; Elizabeth Punsalan and Jerod Swallow and Amy Webster and Leif Erickson were tied for the third spot.

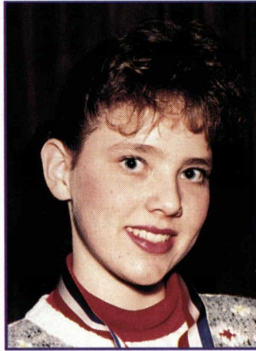
Said Peter Breen, "We're more than excited to be where we are. This year we have been working on our compulsories, softening their line." Mayer and Breen moved to Colorado Springs last summer to train with Sandy Hess at the Broadmoor World Arena. Hess also coaches last year's U.S. Champions Punsalan and Swallow.

"We have spent a lot of time on compulsory dances. Most of June, July, and August was spent concentrating on the



PAUL HARVATH

Jessica Posada
Junior Ladies Figures
Gold



PAUL HARVATH

Jennifer Carlson
Junior Ladies Figures
Silver



PAUL HARVATH

Kristin Knotts
Junior Ladies Figures
Bronze

compulsories. This work paid off tonight,” said Hess.

The compulsory dances this year were the Viennese Waltz and the Tango Romantica followed by a Polka for the original dance.

April Sargent Thomas and Russ Witherby looked more consistent than they have in the last year despite recent medical problems. Sargent Thomas was hospitalized late December for emergency surgery.

“When I was in the hospital on December 21, I didn’t think we would be able to skate. The hardest thing was talking to Rusty about it. We got back on the ice within a week,” said Sargent Thomas.

“I was devastated when I heard the news,” added Witherby. “This year has been an upward climb, both personally and skating.”

After the World Championships last year the couple left Delaware where they trained for nearly eight years with Ron Ludington, and moved to Toronto to train with Marijane Stong.

“We had to re-group after Worlds last year...we had to take charge and make some major decisions,” said Sargent Thomas in reference to the couple’s move.

They won the original dance with an animated polka filled with intricate footwork and good speed throughout. Their free skate dance, performed to “There’s a Balm in Gelead, Amen,” “Diner Blues,” and “Sing-Sing-Sing,” was fast and consistent, with easily enough difficulty to keep them in first place to win the gold medal.

Mayer and Breen were third after their Polka; they demonstrated nice lines and deep edges but didn’t have the speed that the other two couples did. They pulled up a notch with their free dance which boosted this young couple to a silver medal finish and a spot on the Olympic and World Teams.

Punsalan and Swallow were second in the OD but dropped to fourth with their free dance and a disappointing third overall. They expressed confusion over the judging of the events.

“We thought the compulsories were being judged fairly until we got to the Tango and we thought those scores were unfair,” said Swallow.

Their style is different from most of the other couples—more of a European style which caused some fluctuation in scoring by the judges, especially during their free

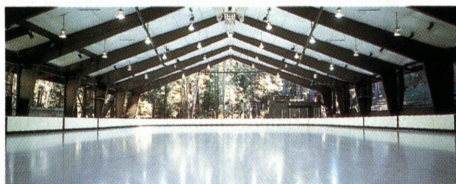
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dance . Their costumes were stunning: sleek white unitards (hers with a skirt) with seven gold rings placed at the neckline. They skated a program choreographed to interpret different events at the Olympic Winter Games. They fell on a difficult "luge" lift toward the end of the program which cost them the valuable points that they needed to retain their title or even earn a spot on the Team.

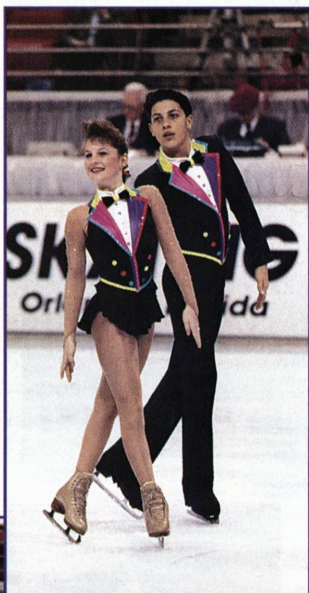
"There is a mandatory deduction for a fall. I think that is what did it. We're still pleased with the program and the direction we're taking. We're not pleased with the way this week has been going. It's really tough when you skate 300% and the judges don't give you any breaks as returning champions. It's been a long hard week. We've been thrown some strikes, but we've learned a lot, and we'll probably be more mature as skaters and people as a result," said Swallow.

JUNIOR MEN

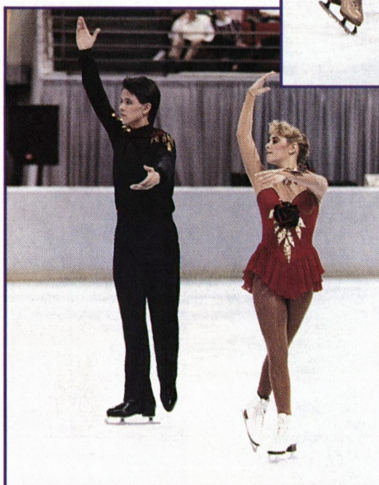
The Junior men's event was exciting to watch. It has been several years since so much talent has shown at this level of competition. The technical difficulty these top young men are performing sometimes rivals that at the Championship level.

Another of Carol Heiss Jenkins' proteges, 16-year-old Ryan Hunka, Winterhurst FSC, won the OP, the free skate, and the Junior men's gold medal. Hunka skated fast, clean, and with control. He opened his free skate program with a well-executed double toe/triple toe/double

Nicole Sciarrotta &
Gregory Sciarrotta
Junior Pairs
Gold

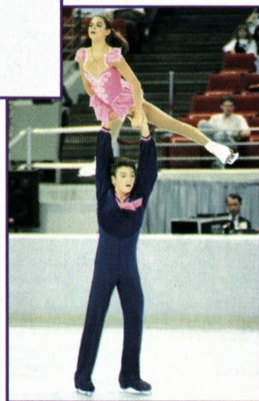


GEORGE ROSSANO



Dawn Piepenbrink &
Nick Castaneda
Junior Pairs
Silver

GEORGE ROSSANO



Robin Heckler &
Jeff Tilley
Junior Pairs
Bronze

INGRID BUTT

toe combination to set the pace for the final group that followed, along with five other triples, one in combination. Hunka won the national Novice title two years ago.

Enter Daniel Hollander. Sometime between his sixth place finish in last year's Junior men's championship and this year's event, Hollander took hold of the triple Axel. Unfortunately he didn't land it as well in competition as he did in practices and warm-ups all week. He has also improved upon his presentation. He was third after the original program but brought up his overall placement with his action-packed free skate. He won the silver medal following his performance that included

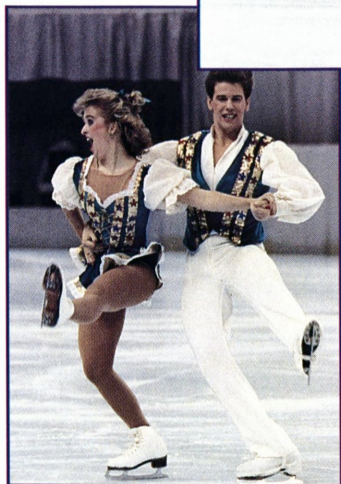
seven triples, two in combination. He was forced to put his hand down on his triple Axel, however, and stepped out of his opening double/triple combination.

The Junior men's championship evaded John Baldwin, Jr. once more. This competition was his fourth attempt at the Junior title and his fourth finish in the top three. Baldwin skated a strong original program demonstrating enough technical ability to place second. He has good speed and has improved on consistency and strength but touched down early in his long program on a triple Lutz and later doubled a planned triple jump. His performance was met with



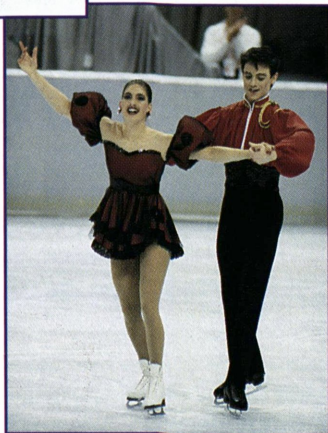
GEORGE ROSSANO

Christine Fowler & Garrett Swasey
Junior Dance
Gold



GEORGE ROSSANO

Cheryl Demkowski & Sean Gales
Junior Dance
Silver



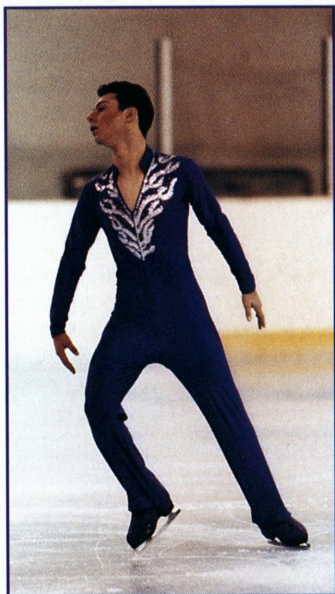
INGRID BUTT

Kimberly Hartley & Michael Sklutovsky
Junior Dance
Bronze

audience approval but he had to settle for bronze.

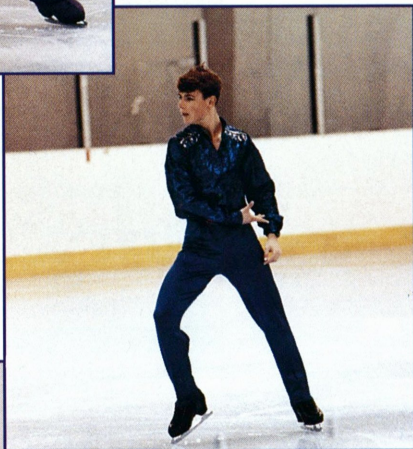
John Bevan and Michael Weiss last year's Novice gold and bronze medalists, skated respectable performances in Orlando to end the competition in fourth and fifth places, respectively.

Jay Cochon, DuPage FSC, Mark Drouillard, Colorado SC, and Jeffrey Adler, Rye FSC, took the gold, silver, and bronze Junior men's figures medals. Drouillard was also second in this event last year; Adler made a jump from second in Novice figures last year to his third place performance this year. The men performed: RFI, LBI Counter, LBO, RBI Paragraph Three, and RFOI, LFIO Change Loop.



PAUL HARVATH

Roman Fraden
Novice Men Free Skating
Gold



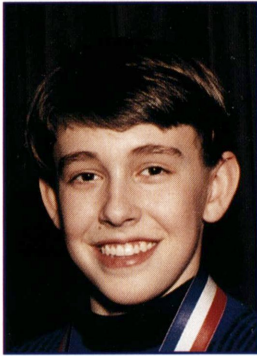
PAUL HARVATH

Matthew Kessinger
Novice Men Free Skating
Silver



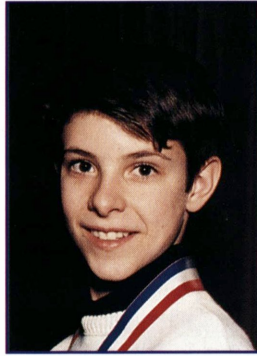
PAUL HARVATH

Jere Michael
Novice Men Free Skating
Bronze



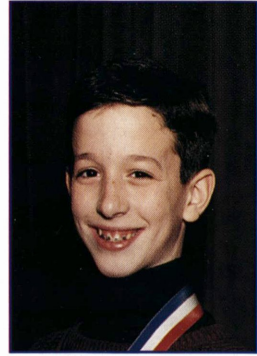
PAUL HARVATH

Danny Clausen
Novice Men Figures
Gold



PAUL HARVATH

Ryan Jahnke
Novice Men Figures
Silver



PAUL HARVATH

Townsend Morris
Novice Men Figures
Bronze

JUNIOR LADIES

The Junior ladies' event jumped around in standings other than the first two placements. Caroline Song won the OP and won the free skate, followed by Lisa Matras, last year's Novice silver medalist, who was second in each portion of this event.

Fourteen-year-old Song skated fast and with consistency. She landed three triples among a total of 13 jumps executed in her free skating program; enough for her to easily capture the gold.

Coached by 1987 Junior Ladies' Champion Jeri Campbell, Lisa Matras, although unable to match the technical difficulty of the other two medalists, was able to top the consistency problems that plagued Lefki Terzakis earlier in the week. The two tied in the free skate, but Matras' OP finish gave her the competition's Junior ladies' silver. Terzakis was 10th after the OP and after a stunning free skate, she took home the Junior bronze medal.

1991 Novice Bronze Medalist Teresa Aiello placed fourth overall and '91 Novice Champion Tanya Street moved from 11th after the OP to fourth after the free skate to finish sixth.

Jessica Posada, Los Angeles FSC, Jennifer Carlson, All Year FSC, and Kristin Knotts, Springfield FSC, were awarded the gold, silver, and bronze Junior ladies' figures medals. Carlson was 10th in this event last year. The 12 ladies' figures competitors skated: LFI, RBI Counter, RBO, LBI Paragraph Three, and LFOI, RFIO Change Loop.

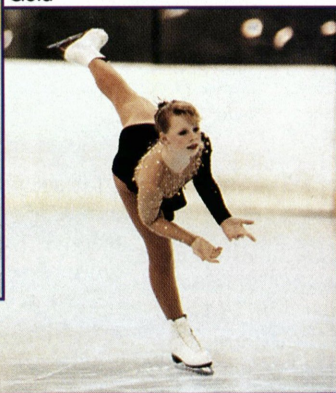
JUNIOR PAIRS

Last year's fourth place Junior pair team, siblings Nicole and Gregory Sciarrotta, showed marked improvement and maturity in their programs this year and won both portions of the pairs event and the national title. They were last to skate the OP and demonstrated good speed, a nice footwork sequence, and good spins among their other required elements. They are a charming pair to watch and under the tutelage of John Nicks, they have greatly improved upon their technical ability. Nicks has coached them through such difficult elements as a throw double Axel and throw triple Salchow.

Dawn Piepenbrink and Nick Castaneda were second after the original program. She stumbled out of their side-by-side



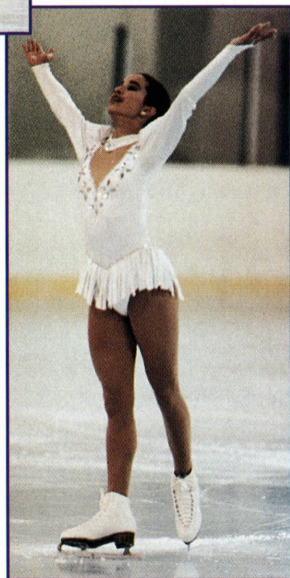
Michelle Cho
Novice Ladies Free Skating
Gold



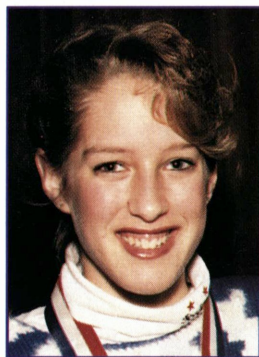
Kristy Venasky
Novice Ladies Free Skating
Silver

double Axels and their sync was off on their spins, but the difficulty of their other elements and their speed kept them in the second place position. During the long program their sync was a bit off again and even though they experienced a couple of shaky landings on their throw jumps, they held on to them and on to the Junior silver medal. They finished just behind the Sciarrottas last year, in fifth place.

Third place went to Robin Heckler and Jeff Tilley. Their OP marks varied from 4.3 to 5.1 for technical ability but they held on to third after the original program. He stepped out of their side-by-side jumps during their free skate performance but they demonstrated enough unique and difficult overhead lifts to hold their marks. They placed fourth in the long program and held on to the bronze medal overall.

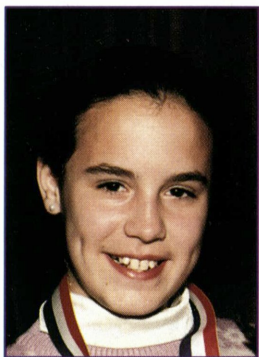


Chrisha Gossard
Novice Ladies Free Skating
Bronze



PAUL HARVATH

Melanie Dupon
Novice Ladies Figures
Gold



PAUL HARVATH

Ashley Novak
Novice Ladies Figures
Silver



PAUL HARVATH

Jennifer Lynn Clark
Novice Ladies Figures
Bronze

Andrea Catoia and Paul Dulebohn finished third in the long program but fourth overall because of their sixth place finish earlier in the OP. The two are strong singles skaters and during both programs won the approval of the audiences with their animation and enthusiasm. Catoia and Dulebohn won the Novice pair event last year in Minneapolis.

JUNIOR DANCE

Undoubtedly the biggest jump from last year to this year came from Christine Fowler and Garrett Swasey. They won the Junior dance title after placing last out of 14 couples last year. This year they were third in both of the compulsory dances (a Viennese Waltz and a Rocker Foxtrot) but won the original dance and the free dance.

Junior Silver Medalists Cheryl Demkowski and Sean Gales won both of the compulsory dances showing nice edges and unison, and placed second and third respectively in the original and free dances. They were fifth and ninth (each with a different partner) in this event last year and now train with Ron Ludington.

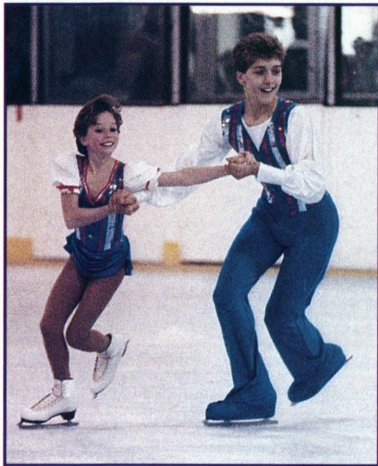
After finishing fourth in both of the compulsory dances, Kimberly Hartley and

Michael Sklutovsky pulled up to a bronze medal finish. They were third in the original dance and skated a clean, well-balanced free dance to place second in that portion of the dance event.

This year there was added incentive for the Juniors to win their respective divisions. NutraSweet awarded first place Junior finishers in each category — men, ladies, pairs, and dance — \$4,000 scholarships to be applied to the USFSA Trust Fund for the winners' use toward continued training.

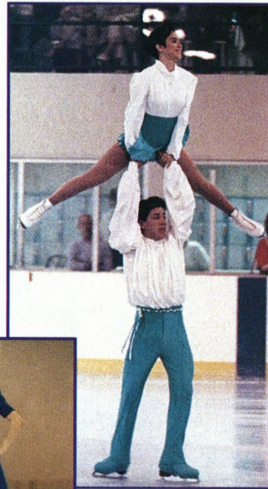
"It is the Junior-level competitors who can most benefit from these scholarships at this stage of their careers," said Sarah Baldwin, manager, special events and promotions, The NutraSweet Company. "We are proud to help support these talented young athletes and their parents. We wish each of them a bright and promising future in figure skating."

NutraSweet's scholarship program is an extension of the company's commitment to encourage figure skating at the grassroots level and part of the company's overall commitment to figure skating, which spans grassroots, amateur, and professional levels.



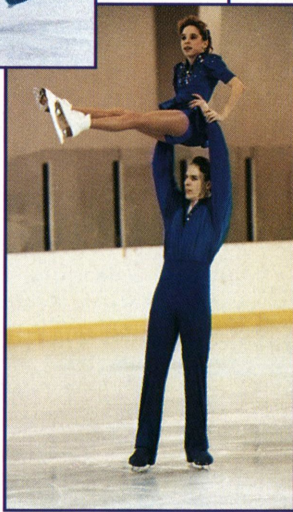
GEORGE ROSSANO

Nicole Bateson-Rock &
J. Paul Binnebose
Novice Pairs
Gold



GEORGE ROSSANO

Sabrina Corbaci &
Eddy Zeidler
Novice Pairs
Bronze



PAUL HARVATH

Emily Pirronello &
Brent Echols
Novice Pairs
Silver

NOVICE MEN

Twelve men competed in the Novice free skating event this year; the top three finishers were national Novice competitors last year. Derrick Delmore was last year's Intermediate men's champion and finished in a respectable fourth place at this competition. Last year's first and third place Novice medalists, John Bevan and Michael Weiss, moved up to Juniors leaving Jere Michael as heir apparent for Novice gold.

The gold escaped Michael, however. This was Roman Fraden's competition. Fraden, who finished 10th last year, won the OP with a strong, fast program that included a triple Salchow/double toe combination, double Axel, double Lutz, and double flip. He came back to skate an even

more impressive long program to win the event with unanimous first place marks. He was the only men's competitor to do a layback spin combination and he also succeeded in landing a triple Salchow, triple toe/double toe combination, double flip, double Axel, triple Salchow/double toe combination,

another double Axel, double Lutz and a toe loop — marked improvement over last year's performances.

Matthew Kessinger captured second after the OP and second place overall. His intricate footwork sequence captured attention during the OP and the height and solid landings on his jumps in his free program held his placement high. He performed three triples, one in combination,

and seven other double jumps — Axel, toe loop, Lutz — to take home the silver.

Jere Michael had to settle for the bronze medal this year. He got off to a rocky start with a fifth place finish after the OP. His elements were fine and his spins difficult, but a hand down on his triple toe/double toe combination held him back. It was this same jump that caused havoc during his free skate. He performed three triple jumps (hand down on the triple toe) and seven other double jumps. He had some trouble with his spins but grabbed third place in the free skate therefore hanging on to the competition bronze.

Twelve men also competed in the Novice figures event and performed: RBOI, LBIO Change Double Three, LFI, RGO Bracket, and RBO, LBO Loop. Danny Clausen, Anchorage FSC, captured first place; eight notches higher than his placement last year. Ryan Jahnke, Fraser FSC, who finished 12 in the Novice free skate, placed second, and Townsend Morris, Philadelphia SC & HS, finished third.

NOVICE LADIES

Twelve-year-old Michelle Cho led the way for the Novice ladies. She was first after the original program, one of the few in the top group to hold on to her position. Cho was second in Intermediate ladies free last year and third in figures at that inaugural competition. She had a beautiful layback and fast spins included in her original program. The sprightly Cho was quick to capture the attention of the audience. She opened her free skate with a trip out of a triple toe but regained her composure to complete a well choreographed program and successfully land a triple toe late in her program. She



PAUL HARVATH



GEORGE FOSSANO



GEORGE FOSSANO

Novice Dance

Top

Kate Black & Kevin Spada
Gold

Middle

Jordan Gawinski & Garrett Brockert
Silver

Bottom

Stephanie Crawford & Gregory Maddalone
Bronze

won the free skating portion of the event and easily, the Novice title.

Kristy Venasky had an average showing in the OP that left her in fifth position going into the long program. She came back to wow the audience with a fast and exciting long program. She opened with a delayed Axel, followed with a double Axel with extraordinary height, a triple Salchow/double toe combination, double loop, double flip/double toe combination, triple toe, double Axel, and a double Lutz. Her footwork and spins only boosted her presentation. She finished second to Cho in the long and second overall.

Chrisha Gossard performed both of her programs with solid jumps. Third after the OP, she fell on a triple toe during the long program and stepped out of a double Axel toward the end, of the program but showed nice style and posture mixed with enough jump talent to place fourth in the long, and third in the competition.

The figures that the Novice ladies skated included: RBOI, LBIO Change Double Three, LFI, RBO Bracket, and RBO, LBO Loop. Melanie Dupon, Rim of the World FSC, won the gold medal, Ashley Novak, Philadelphia SC & HS, the silver, and Jennifer Lynn Clark, Lakewood WC, the bronze.

NOVICE PAIRS

Novice newcomers Nicole Bateson-Rock and partner J. Paul Binnebose captured seven first place votes to win the competition. Their free skate performance included a split double twist, throw double loop, a forward inside death spiral, side-by-side double flips which she fell on, a nice star lift, and a camel sit change sit spins. Their presentation was nice and kept their marks high.

The competition silver medalists are also newcomers to the Novice events.

Emily Pirronello and Brent Echols opened with a nice split double twist and solid side-by-side double loops. They completed other more difficult moves like the one handed lasso lift, a throw Axel, a table top to a star lift, a forward inside death spiral, side-by-side double flips and side-by-side double Salchows, in which she put her hand down. They skated fast and show a lot of promise.

Last year's silver medalists fell one notch this year and took home the bronze. Sabrina Corbaci and partner Eddy Zeidler showed good unison throughout their program and performed elements with enough technical difficulty. They were shaky on their death spiral and lacked the presentation that the top two couples showed.

NOVICE DANCE

One couple out of the group of Novice dance medalists competed in last year's Novice event. Silver medalists Jordan Gawinski and Garrett T. Brockert moved up from fifth place last year. They won the compulsory dance showing nice extension and unison, received third place marks in the free dance, and captured the silver medal.

The dance champions, Kate Black and Kevin Spada were second in the compulsory dance but demonstrated good presentation and a well-choreographed free dance to win the Novice dance title.

Taking home the bronze medal, Stephanie Crawford and Gregory Madalone were third after the compulsory dance, second after a nice, flowing free dance performance, and third overall.

Skating magazine would like to thank Kristen Varney and Lisa Johnson for their assistance in covering the Novice events at the 1992 U. S. Championships.

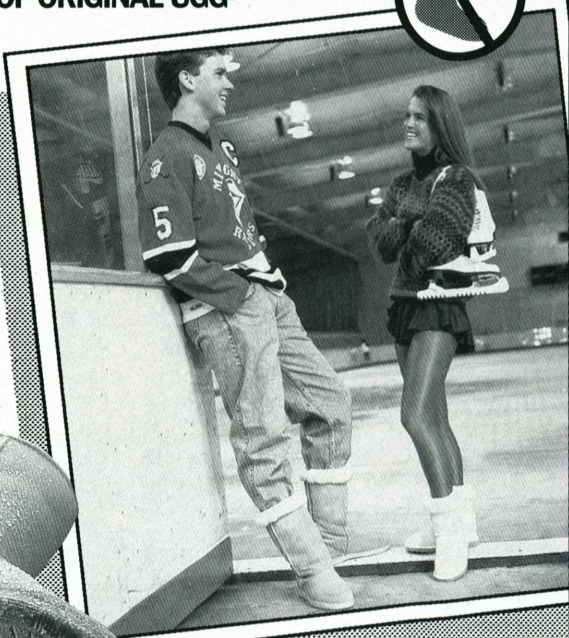
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Skateology and the Co-planar Solution

by Sidney Broadbent, P.Eng.

“SKATEOLOGY—The Science and Technology of the Edge/Ice Interface,” appeared in the November and December 1988 issues of *Skating* magazine. In it, I advanced certain skate and skating boot design innovations to avoid the mounting problems that have plagued skaters seemingly forever. At the time I termed it the “planar mount” but more recently have used the term “co-planar” since this better emphasizes that the heel and sole surfaces are co-planar with each other on both skate and boot.

The problem lies in the fact that we are still skating in what is basically a walking boot configuration (characterized by the upturning of the toes known in the trade as the “toe kick” or “toe spring”) incorporated to aid the walker’s gait in a flexible walking boot. It is disadvantageous for skating in that it curves the foot and boot unnecessarily. The resulting mismatch of mounting surfaces can cause blade distortions, blade problems, and blade location difficulties. It isn’t conducive to foot comfort in a snug fitting boot.

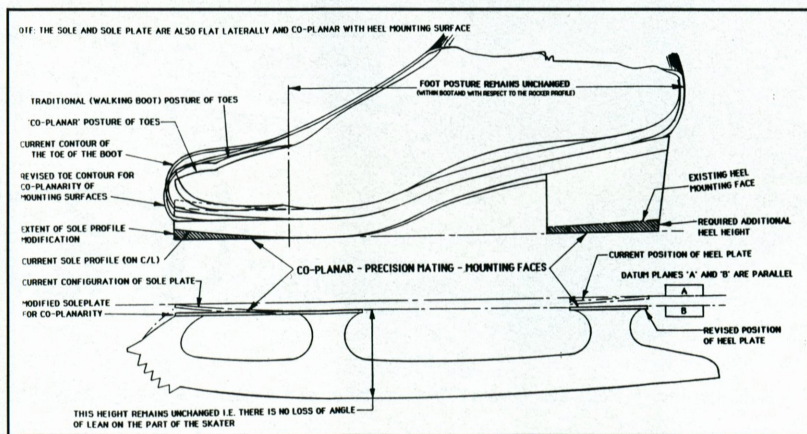
This stems from the early 1800’s (before the time of artificial ice and shoe stores) when enthusiastic skaters went to the local cobbler for an extra pair of boots for permanent attachment

of their skates to eliminate the ineffectiveness of the strappings and heel spike conventional at that time. Made on a walking boot last, the walking boot with its compound curved sole and angled heel was the only kind available and the skate (blade) manufacturer made skates to approximate this peculiar geometry. Now, a century and a half later, the situation remains unchanged! (Blame this on the very small skating market and consequent lack of research incentive.)

The present day skating boot manufacturers merely inherited this situation but it must be recognized that within the constraints of this legacy the boot and blade manufacturers have provided an excellent product which has indeed supported many magnificent skating feats. The co-planar concept is not expected to enhance this ultimate technical accomplishment but should enable many more skaters to reach that level—or at least the peak of their potential.

The figure below shows how removing that toe spring lowers the toes only slightly while maintaining foot posture unchanged relative to the skating surface of the blade. At the same time the planar sole allows the metatarsal joints

continued on page 94

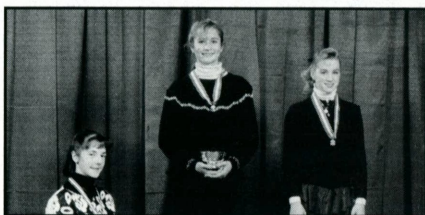
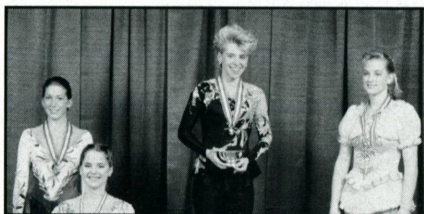


1992 SOUTH ATLANTICS

The South Atlantic Regional Championships were held November 4-9, 1991 in Alexandria, Virginia and were hosted by the Washington Figure Skating Club. Complete results can be found in the February 1992 issue of *Skating*.

Senior Ladies Free Skating

(L to R) Dara Steele, third;
Heather Hughes, fourth;
Andrea Catoia, first; Karen
Gooley, second.

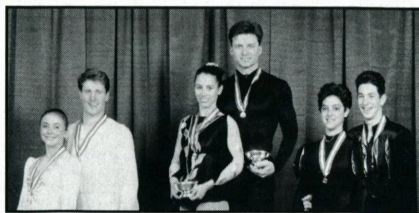


Senior Ladies Figures

(L to R) Doreen Randenbush,
fourth; Sharon Sargent, first;
Karen Gooley, second; (not
shown) Heather Hughes, third).

Senior Pairs

(L to R) Kara Paxton & Brad
Cox, third; Karen Courtland
& R. Todd Reynolds, first;
Aimee Offner & Brian
Helgenberg, second.

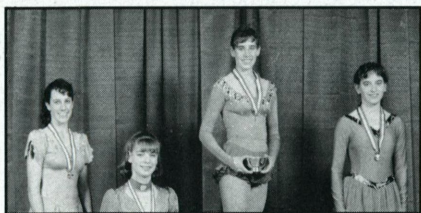


Junior Men Free Skating

(L to R) Erik Rockwell, third;
Michael Weiss, first; Philip
Dulebohn, second.



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE PRUETT



Junior Ladies Free Skating

(L to R) Julie Peacock, third;
Heather Wagner, fourth;
Shirl Marie Cattani, first;
Julie Piano, second.

Junior Ladies Figures

(L to R) Tiffany Purcell, third;
Sarah Harre, fourth; Desiree
Toneatto, first; Allison
Ferrentino, second.

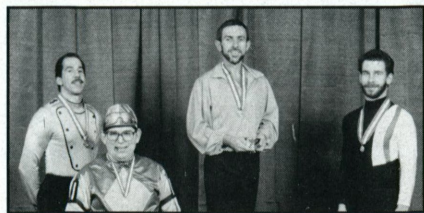
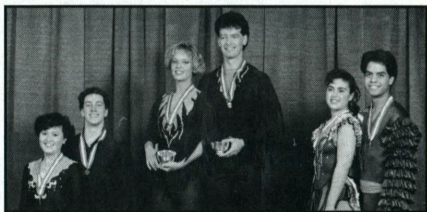


Junior Pairs

(L to R) Adrienne Lenda &
Keith Tindall, third; Andrea
Catoia & Paul Dulebohn,
first; Heather Hughes & Scott
Messmore, second.

Junior Dance

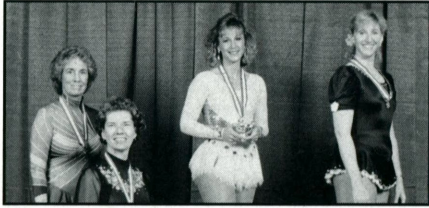
(L to R) Kaho Koinuma &
Jeff Czarnecki, third; Melinda
Sweeney & Gary Irving, first;
Brandy Valencia & Yovanny
Durango, second.



Adult Senior Men

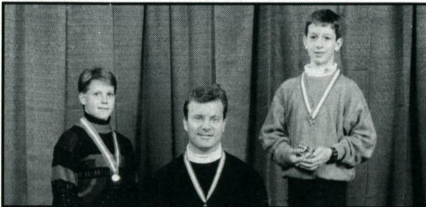
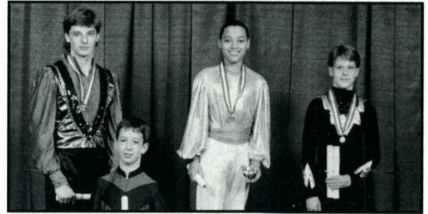
(L to R) Jerome Jones, third;
John Chambers, fourth; John
Kwitvich-Hoover, first; John
Kauffman, second.

Adult Senior Ladies
(L to R) Janet Long, third;
 Sandra Brust, fourth; Beth
 Jackson, first; Elizabeth
 Hotvedt, second.



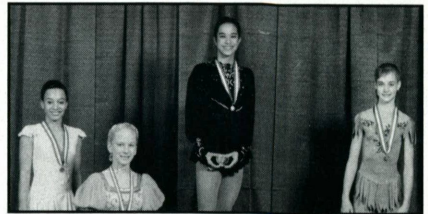
Adult Junior Ladies
(L to R) Dorothy Ray, third;
 Carol Alt, fourth; Debi
 Shapiro, first; Cynthia
 Devore, second.

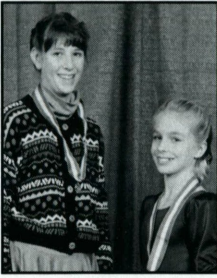
Novice Men Free Skating
(L to R) John Zimmerman,
 third; Townsend Morris,
 fourth; Derrick Delmore, first;
 Bert Cording, second.



Novice Men Figures
(L to R) Bert Cording, third;
 Charles Robel, fourth;
 Townsend Morris, first; (not
 shown John Zimmerman,
 second).

Novice Ladies Free Skating
(L to R) Rojan Quarles, third;
 Sunny Domark, fourth;
 Chrisha Gossard, first; Jenna
 Pittman, second.





Novice Ladies Figures
(L to R) Susan Reynolds, third; Alix Clymer, second; (not shown Ashley Novak, first).



Novice Pairs
(L to R) Alison Sandler & Dwayne Parker, third; Cortney Riffée & Stephen Foy, first; Marisa Rendeiro & Bert Cording, second.



Intermediate Ladies
(L to R) Sabrina Comins, third; Diane Chen, fourth; Marisa Rendeiro, first; Jennifer Tilley, second.

Intermediate Pairs
(L to R) Abigail Gleeson & J. Wick McIlvain, third; Christine Lee & David Lee, fourth; Mina Pell & William Rasmussen, first; Lauren Weldon & Andrew Muldoon, second.



Intermediate Dance
(L to R) Melissa Garrity & Jason Wahl, third; Shannon Simon & Jason Simon, first; Quinn Weaver & Geoffrey Turk, second.

Juvenile Dance
(L to R) Christi Moxley & Thomas Gaasbeck, third; Rebecca Weisberg & Marty Weinberger, fourth; Rebekah-Harlow Breen & Noah Breen, first; Laura Jean Lacasse & Richard Collis, second.

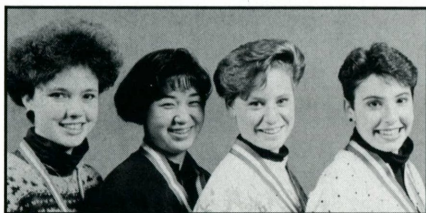
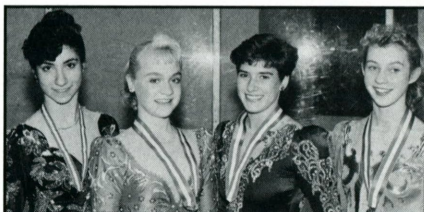


1992 EASTERN GREAT LAKES

The Eastern Great Lakes Championships were held November 4-9, 1991 in Indianapolis, Indiana and were hosted by the Winter Club of Indianapolis. Complete results can be found in the February 1992 issue of *Skating*.

Senior Ladies Free Skating

(L to R) Lisa Boukis, fourth;
Lisa Ervin, second; Tonia
Kwiatkowski, first; Patricia
Suyak, third.

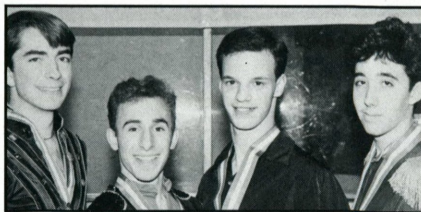


Senior Ladies Figures

(L to R) Jodi Lee Lewis,
fourth; Tisha Lacuesta,
second; Shannon Livingston,
first; Maggie Licata, third.

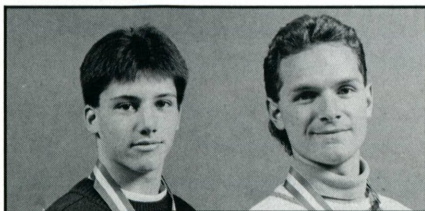
Junior Men Free Skating

(L to R) Arthur Reid, fourth;
Daniel Hollander, second;
Ryan Hunka, first; Clifford
Retamar, third.



Junior Men Figures

(L to R) Fred Palascak,
second; John M. Wright, first.

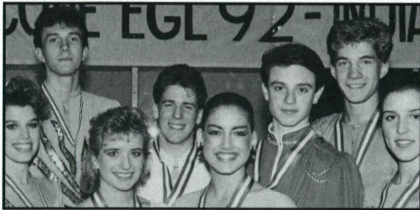


PHOTOS BY LEDIN PHOTO



Junior Ladies Free Skating
(L to R) Megan Kelly, fourth;
 Dawn Ziegler, second; Lisa
 Matras, first; Kristin Buckler,
 third.

Junior Ladies Figures
(L to R) Dorota Meller,
 fourth; Veronica Votypka,
 second; Jessica Rainey, first;
 Brenda Blackmer, third.



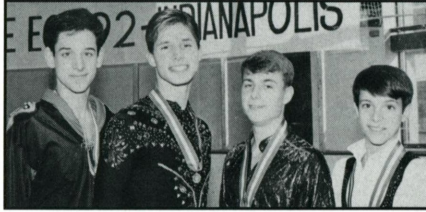
Junior Dance
(L to R) Jennifer Gray &
 Kirk Strotman, fourth;
 Cheryl Demkowski & Sean Gales,
 second; Kimberly Hartley &
 Michael Sklutovsky, third.

**Adult Senior Ladies
 Free Skating**
(L to R) Cindy L. Eckert,
 fourth; Lenore Hiscoe,
 second; Michelle Millar, first;
 Lisa A. Sauer, third.



Adult Senior Dance
(L to R) Alan Narvy & Sandy
 Burkons, second; Connie
 Harpole & James Harpole,
 first.

Adult Junior Dance
 (L to R) Gregory Pfeifer &
 Kathiejane Oehler, second;
 Heidi Allis & Tanner Allis,
 first.



Novice Men Free Skating
 (L to R) J.P. Russell, fourth;
 Robert Lombard, second;
 Matt Kessinger, first; Ryan
 Paul Jahnke, third.

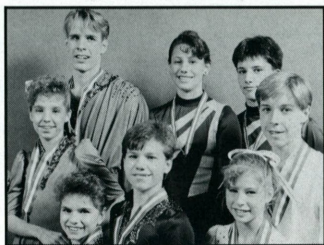
Novice Men Figures
 (L to R) Matt Kessinger,
 fourth; Michael Keller,
 second; Ryan Paul Jahnke,
 first; Jeff Burke, third.



Novice Ladies Free Skating
 (L to R) Nicole Janda, fourth;
 Deana Gerbrick, second;
 Emily Freeman, first; Michele
 Forchione, third.

Novice Ladies Figures
 (L to R) Patricia Kendra,
 fourth; Lori Williamson,
 second; Donita Roal, first;
 Gwen Cherne, third.



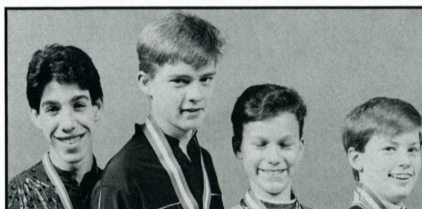


Novice Pairs

(*L to R, front row*) Danielle Hartsell & Steve Hartsell, first; Ali Blank & Jeb Gerth, third; (*L to R, back row*) Emily Pirronello & Brent Echols, second; Theresa Palascak & Fred Palascak, fourth.

Novice Dance

(*L to R, front row*) Andrea L. Messer & Carl Wasielewski, second; Molly Nook & Jamie Matthew Rossino, fourth; (*L to R, back row*) Kate Black & Kevin Spada, first; Mary Cooley & Shawn Jellse, third.

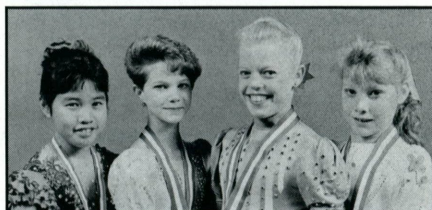


Intermediate Men

(*L to R*) Robert Shmalo, fourth; Scott K. Omlor, second; Bjorn Herman, first; David Forchione, third.

Intermediate Ladies

(*L to R*) Susan Reyes, fourth; Marie Pronko, second; Jennifer Katulski, first; Hope Alteri, third.



Intermediate Pairs

(*L to R, front row*) Jessica E. Hunt & Jonathon A. Hunt, second; Jolene Carney & Brad Russi, third; (*L to R, back row*) Jennifer Oertley & John Harrison, first; Staci Guberman & David Zint, fourth.



Intermediate Dance

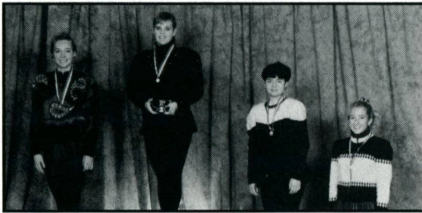
(*L to R*) Mark Leibold & Stephanie Miller, second; Keith Schonrock III & Pam Meininger, first; Charles F. Butler, Jr. & Jessica Jacqueline Joseph, third.

1992 SOUTHWESTERNS

The Southwestern Regional Championships were held November 4-9, 1991 in Colorado Springs, Colorado and were hosted by the Broadmoor Skating Club. Complete results can be found in the February 1992 issue of *Skating*.

Senior Ladies Free Skating

(L to R) Jodi Friedman, second; Robyn Petroskey, first; Tracy Vopnford, third; Tiffany Severa, fourth.

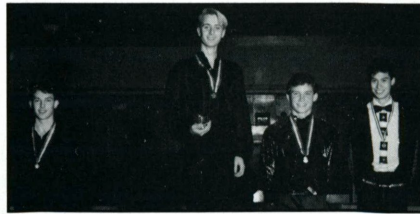


Senior Ladies Figures

(L to R) Natalie Thomas, second; Allyson Fenlon, first; Janette Lewis, third; Shannon Bryant, fourth.

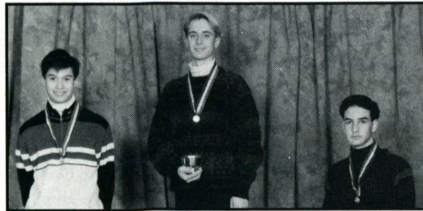
Junior Men Free Skating

(L to R) Curtis Socha, second; Eric Bohnstedt, first; Brian Schmidt, third; Mark Drouillard, fourth.

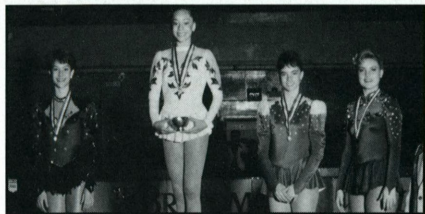


Junior Men Figures

(L to R) Mark Drouillard, second; Eric Bohnstedt, first; Anande Bokde, third.



PHOTOS BY REGENCY PHOTO

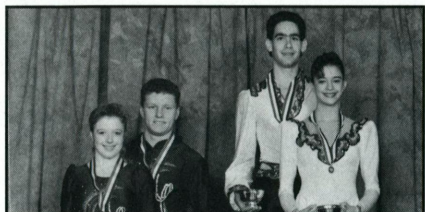
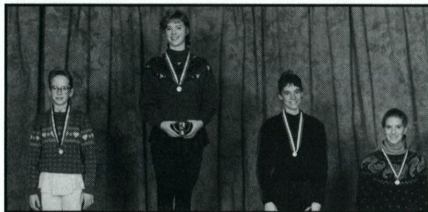


Junior Ladies Free Skating

(L to R) Michelle Bacher, second; Lefki Terzakis, first; Dawn Jensen, third; Shannon Smith, fourth.

Junior Ladies Figures

(L to R) Sarah Brock, second; Leah Hardy, first; Dawn Jensen, third; Lisa Bryson, fourth.

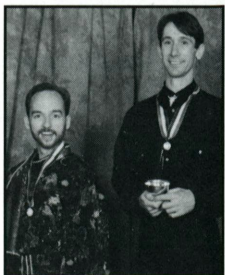


Junior Pairs

(L to R) Jennifer Darst & Floyd Johnson, second; Benjamin Oberman & Robyn Sudkamp, first.

Junior Dance

(L to R) Jennifer Nieman & DeWayne Browning, second; Christine Fowler & Garret Swasey, first; Sian Matthews & Jeremy Wyndham, third; Dawn Ponte & James Stephens, fourth.



Adult Senior Men

(L to R) Gene Broadwater, second; Vernon Bell, first.

Adult Senior Ladies
(L to R) Penny Hopkins, second; Sherry Dowlen, first; Mary Newcomer, third; Deborah York, fourth.



Adult Junior Ladies
(L to R) Jayne Gaunt, second; Linda Dowlen, first; Valerie Voss, third; Sharran Welty, fourth.

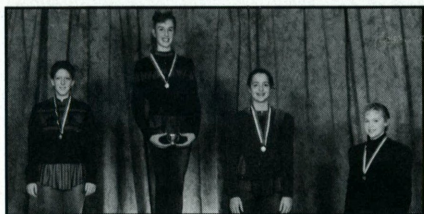
Novice Men Free Skating
(L to R) Jere Michael, second; Stephen Bidon, first; Jeremiah Jackson, third; Bryan McCarthy, fourth.



Novice Men Figures
(L to R) Keith Yingling, Jr., second; Everett Weiss, first; Daniel Rudnicki, third.

Novice Ladies Free Skating
(L to R) Hollie Price, second; Stephanie Leatherwood, first; Ilyssa Lerner, third; Robyn Sudkamp, fourth.

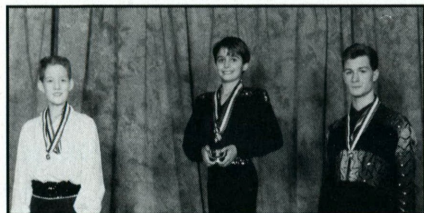
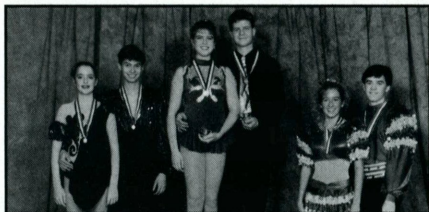




Novice Ladies Figures

(L to R) Bonny Clore, second;
Cassy Papajohn, first; Natalie
Granger, third; Candace
Holmes, fourth.

Novice Dance
(L to R) Natalie Granger &
Mark Drouillard, second;
Julie Wilson & Geoffrey
Murfitt, first; Shannon Bryant
& Robert Baker, third.



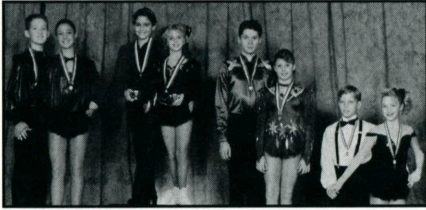
Intermediate Men

(L to R) James White,
second; Derek Trent, first;
Christopher Castleberry, third.

Intermediate Ladies
(L to R) Ashlee Bean,
second; Kelly Komadoski,
first; Dawn Whalen, third;
Becky Bradley, fourth.



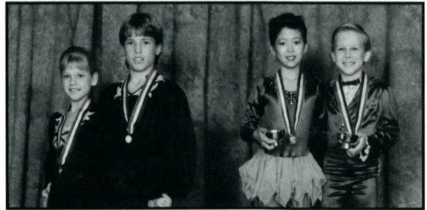
Intermediate Pairs
(L to R) Megan Insko &
Russell Sale, second; Becky
Bradley & John Bailey, first.



Intermediate Dance

(L to R) James White &
Hilary Rabun, second; Derek
Trent & Kelli Trent, first;
Alvin Steffey & Tara Smith,
third; Russell Sale & Lindsay
Walter, fourth..

Juvenile Dance
(L to R) Erin Williams &
Caleb Heaton, second;
Catherine Yu & Andre
LeBlanc, first.

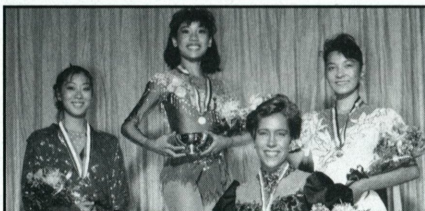


1992 SOUTHWEST PACIFICS

The Southwest Pacific Regional Championships were held October 31-November 3, and November 8-10, 1991 in Culver City, California and were hosted by the All Year Figure Skating Club. Complete results are in the February 1992 issue of *Skating*.

Senior Ladies Free Skating

(L to R) Jennifer Itoh, second; Joanna Ng, first; Julie Shott, fourth; Tamara Kuchiki, third.



Senior Ladies Figures

(L to R) Shannon Caudill, second; Casey Link, first; Julie Shott, fourth; Dawn Goldstein, third.

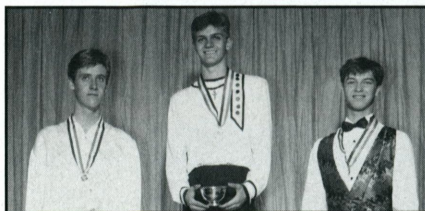


Senior Pairs

(L to R) John Denton & Sharon Carz, second; Tracey Damigella & Doug Williams, first; (not shown Kristy Bingham & Carmine Marinari, third).

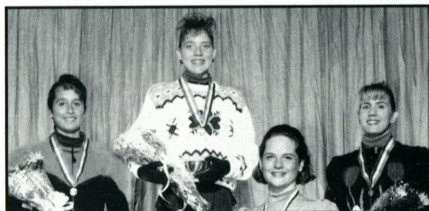
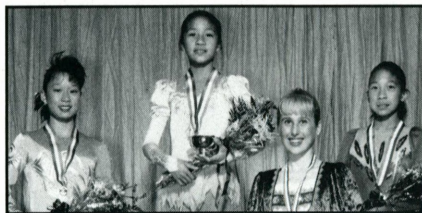
Junior Men Free Skating

(L to R) Todd Garrett, second; Jason Kane, first; Chris Hendricks, third.



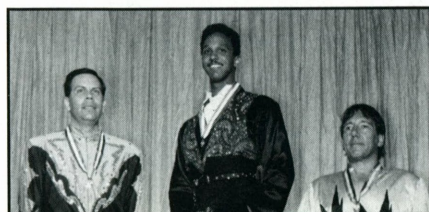
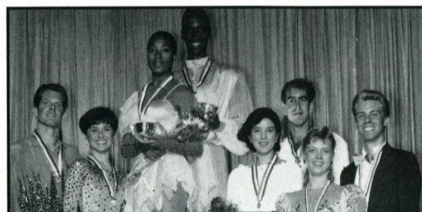
PHOTOS BY WILLIAM UDELL

Junior Ladies Free Skating
 (L to R) Caroline Song,
 second; Michelle Kwan, first;
 Keri-Anne Thomas, fourth;
 Karen Kwan, third.



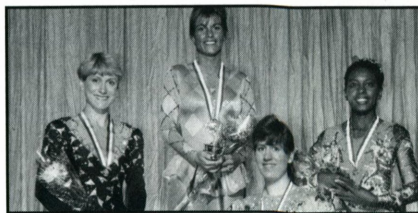
Junior Ladies Figures
 (L to R) Jessica Posada,
 second; Jennifer Carlson,
 first; Michelle Young, fourth;
 Shantelle Westbrook, third.

Junior Dance
 (L to R) Doug Murray & Samantha
 Liegner, second; Tiffani Tucker &
 Frank Singley, first; Christine
 Corbaci & Scott Merrill, third;
 Lucinda Day & Vearle Klingler,
 fourth.



**Adult Senior Men
 Free Skating**
 (L to R) Wade Crabtree,
 second; Garry Mallett, first;
 Richard Leo, third.

**Adult Senior Ladies
 Free Skating**
 (L to R) Mary Lucas, second;
 Cynthia Hafif, first; Jenna
 Whitney, fourth; Nancy
 Horton, third.



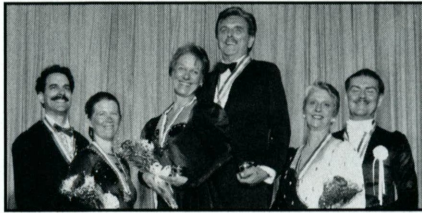
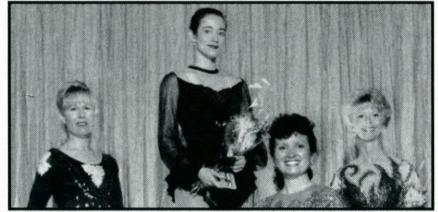


Adult Senior Dance

(L to R) Robert Engle & Brigit Luciani, second; Deanna Stanton & Paul Morris, first; Julia Lisa Hall & Michael Curtis, third.

**Adult Junior Ladies
Free Skating**

(L to R) Betty Lou Keehn, second; Gigi Neville, first; Cece Frankhuizen, fourth; Pam McDonald, third.

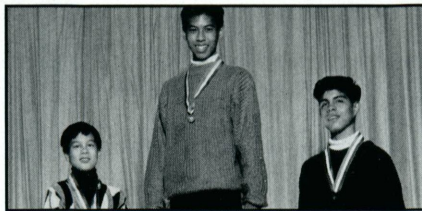


Adult Junior Dance

(L to R) Warren Schein & Maureen Grant, second; Judy Armstrong & Lee Brink, first; Karen Timberlake & Neal Buehling, third.

Novice Men Free Skating

(L to R) Trifun Zivanovic, second; Roman Fraden, first; Peter Kongkasem, fourth; John Wagner, third.

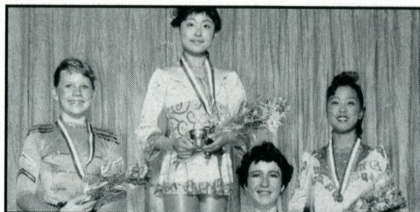


Novice Men Figures

(L to R) John Wagner, second; Peter Kongkasem, first; Allen Howard, third..

Novice Ladies Free Skating

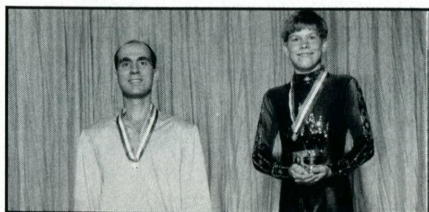
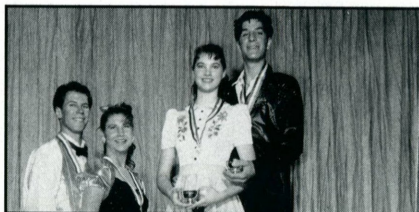
(L to R) Kristy Venasky, second; Michelle Cho, first; Laura Lipetsky, fourth; Sonia Kim, third.



Novice Ladies Figures

(L to R) Diane Halber, second; Barbara Tang, first; Melanie Dupon, fourth; Theresa Cho, third.

Novice Dance
(L to R) Tim Powell & Amanda Glazebrook, second; Kara Thornham & Jonathan Magalnick, first.



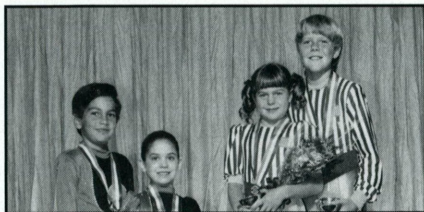
Intermediate Men

(L to R) Adam Swift, second; Jonathan Keen, first.

Intermediate Ladies

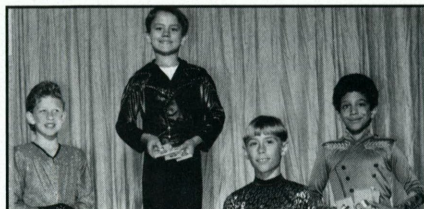
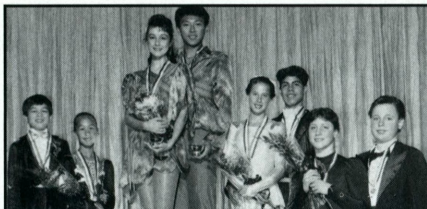
(L to R) Monica Kim, second; Shannon Livingston, first; Angela Nikodinov, fourth; Melissa Paull, third.





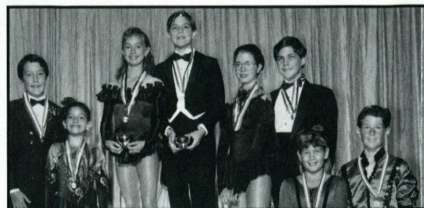
Intermediate Pairs
(L to R) Josh Martin &
 Christina Duclos, second;
 Tiffany Stiegler & Johnnie
 Stiegler, first.

Intermediate Dance
(L to R) John Wagner & Lisa
 Dimmitt, second; Mica
 Darley & Casper Young, first;
 Hayley Raynes & Allen
 Howard, third; Jennifer
 Patigler & B.J. Risnes, fourth.



Juvenile Boys
(L to R) Kirk Rorbes, second;
 Jered Guzman, first; Travis
 Perkins, fourth; Amir Ganaba,
 third.

Juvenile Girls
(L to R) Shannon Murphy,
 second; Dena Darland, first;
 Elizabeth O'Donnell, fourth;
 Vanessa Badillo, third.



Juvenile Dance
(L to R) Dustin Fujiwara & Sarah
 Alesafar, second; Vanessa Badillo &
 Edmund Hollis, first; Shaun Rodman
 & Christopher Miller, third; Donna
 Baldwin & Shaun Blase, fourth.

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Continued from page 17

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Ice Abroad

Continued from page 26

The French had not seen such a high standard at their Nationals in years. Indeed it could not have happened at a better time, and the French audience in Albertville can be proud of its representatives, as well as quite hopeful for the future of French ice skating!

Laurels

Skating congratulates the following skaters who have passed USFSA tests in figures, pair, and dance. Only completed dance tests, rather than the individual dances, are recorded below.

New Test Abbreviations are as follows: PRE = Preliminary Figure; 1 = First Figure; 2 = Second Figure; 3 = Third Figure; 4 = Fourth Figure; 5 = Fifth Figure; 6 = Sixth Figure; 7 = Seventh Figure; PF = Preliminary Free; JF = Juvenile Free; IF = Intermediate Free; NF = Novice Free; JRF = Junior Free; PPR = Preliminary Pair; IPR = Intermediate Pair; NPR = Novice Pair; JPR = Junior Pair; GPR = Senior/Gold Pair; P DT = Preliminary Dance Test; PBR DT = Pre Bronze Dance Test; BR DT = Bronze Dance Test; BFD = Bronze Free Dance; PS DT = Pre Silver Dance Test; S DT = Silver Dance Test; SFD = Silver Free Dance; PG DT = Pre Gold Dance Test; G DT = Gold Dance Test; GFD = Gold Free Dance; I DT = International Dance Test; ABFI = Adult Bronze Figure; ASFI = Adult Silver Figure; AGFI = Adult Gold Figure; ABFS = Adult Bronze Free Skating; ASFS = Adult Silver Free Skating; AGFS = Adult Gold Free Skating; PBR ADT = Pre Bronze Adult Dance Test; B ADT = Bronze Adult Dance Test; ABFD = Adult Bronze Free Dance; PS ADT = Pre Silver Adult Dance Test; S ADT = Silver Adult Dance Test; PG ADT = Pre Gold Adult Dance Test; G ADT = Gold Adult Dance Test; PBR MDT = Masters Pre Bronze Dance Test; BR MDT = Masters Bronze Dance Test; PS MDT = Masters Pre Silver Dance Test; S MDT = Masters Silver Dance Test; PG MDT = Masters Pre Gold Dance Test; G MDT = Masters Gold Dance Test; I MDT = Masters International Dance Test; MBFD = Masters Bronze Free Dance; MSFD = Masters Silver Free Dance; MGF D = Masters Gold Free Dance; P SDT = Special Olympic Preliminary Dance Test; PBR SDT = Special Olympic Pre Bronze Dance Test; BR SDT = Special Olympic Bronze Dance Test; PS SDT = Special Olympic Pre Silver Dance Test.

EIGHTH FIGURE TEST

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ADULT GOLD FREE SKATING TEST

Nancy Horton, Orange County FSC.

GOLD DANCE TEST

Aimee Kreimer, University of Delaware FSC; Alice Martin, University of Delaware FSC; Angela Jackson, Washington FSC; Diana Harrison, Ann Arbor FSC; Dora Harrison, Warwick Figure Skaters; Hayes Alan Knorr, Seattle SC; Kim Verde, Sun Valley FSC, Inc.; Yvonne Olson, Individual Member (Midwest).

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Janet Allen, FSC of Minneapolis.

GOLD FREE DANCE TEST

Jason Tebo, The SC of Boston.

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LAS VEGAS FSC: JF-Laura Beisser.

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ORANGE COUNTY FSC: PRE-Carina Sampson, Heidi Holland, Meera Rana. PF-Carina Sampson, Heidi Holland, Meera Rana.

OXFORD SC: PF-Kristen Spielbauer. P DT-Kimberly Davis. PBR DT-Kristen Spielbauer.

PALACE FSC: PFD-Noreen Diaz. BFD-Noreen Diaz. SFD-Noreen Diaz.

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ROCHESTER FSC: PRE-Breanna Merkle, Heidi Engebretson, Joseph Kurland, Rechelda Ramirez, Sarah Blekre. PF-Joseph Kurland, Rechelda Ramirez, Sarah Blekre, Tya Sykes.

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STONEHAM FSC: 5-Allison Sarno. JF-Heidi Farber.

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Skateology

Continued from page 60

to lie more naturally and comfortably within the boot. The other enormous advantage of the concept can not be visualized—it provides an engineering datum plane, the universal and logical basis for design, manufacturing, and quality control. All these functions will be enhanced to the benefit of the skater. Non-technical people including coaches and the skaters themselves may not appreciate these advantages but the skate specialist (for want of a better term) behind every serious skater will delight in having the mounting and sharpening advantages this co-planar concept provides.

The figure on page 60 also shows how the location of the co-planar interface has been selected to permit the blade to be manufactured utilizing existing tooling. Without this, the innovation would have been fiscally impractical. The only new tooling required for skate manufacturers is the brazing fixtures which have already been designed and manufactured. Prototypes of the skates have been manufactured and tested and production skates will be unveiled at SkateFair, the trade show being held during the World Championships in Oakland, March 23-29.

The detailed shape of the co-planar last has been optimized by Dr. R. Daryl Phillips in conjunction with boot and last manufacturers, using advanced computerized machining techniques and covering all combinations of lengths and widths. Eliminating the toe spring does nothing to detract from the good looks of the conventional boot.

Another disadvantage inherited from the walking boot is the fashion and manufacturing convenience trend of using a constant heel height throughout a wide size range. Foot posture therefore changes from one size to the next, thus accounting for some of the problems of growing skaters.

The co-planar lasts will overcome this by utilizing an alternative approach known as "proportional grading" whereby optimum foot posture is maintained throughout the size range. Dimensional requirements will be involved and skaters will be able to check on what they get instead of having to accept what is given to them.

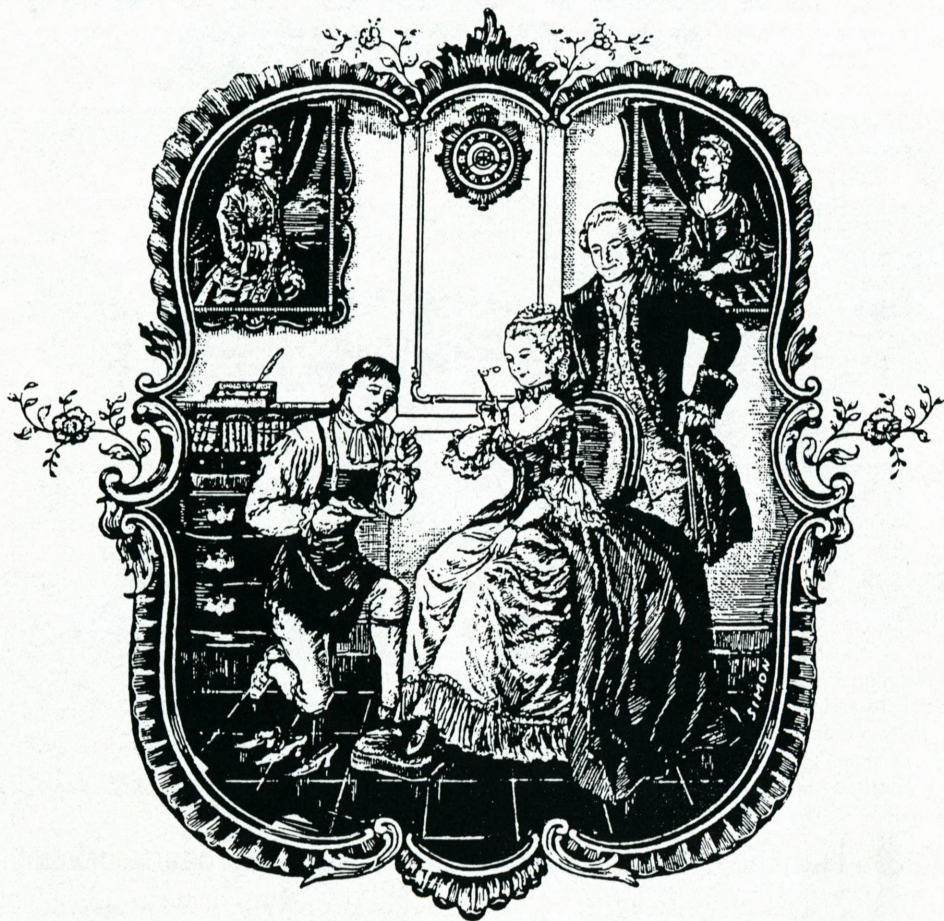
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