

SKATING



Haydenettes



Team Elan

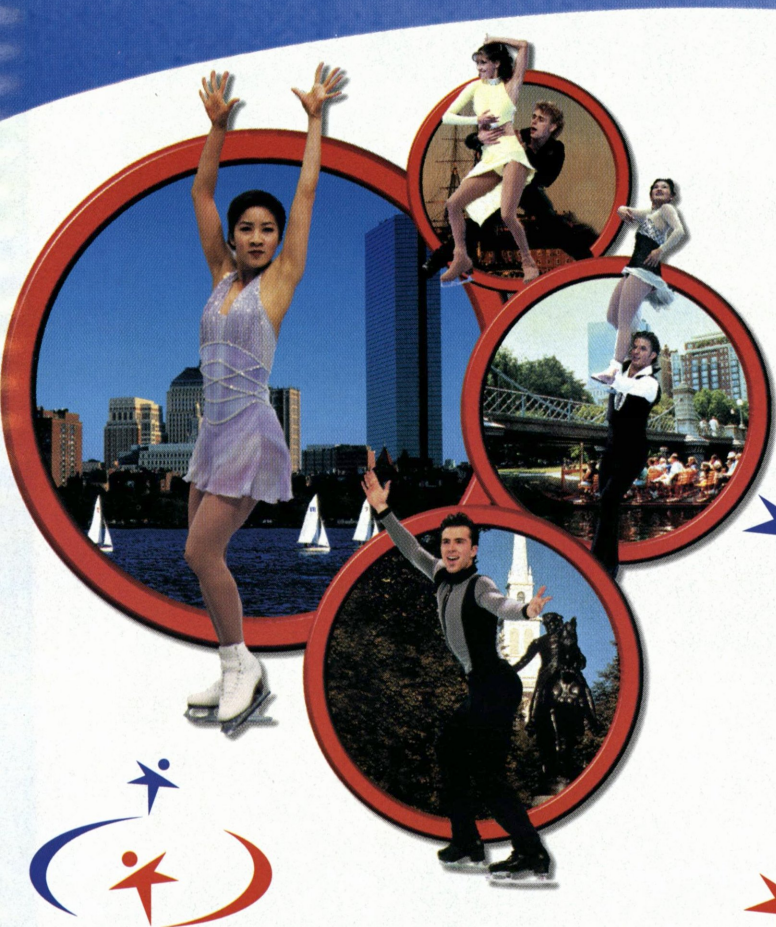
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Inside:

- Kids' Questions: Judge Charlie Cyr
- 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships
- 2000 Chevrolet U.S. Synchronized Team Skating Championships

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SKATING

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The Haydenettes and Team Elan are headed to Minneapolis, Minn., as the U.S. representatives for the World Synchronized Skating Championships. Photos by Paul and Michelle Harvath. Cover design by APEX Communications.

on the web www.usfsa.org

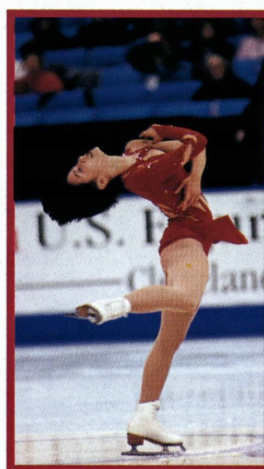
You can find out more about the stories in this issue of SKATING at U.S. Figure Skating Online

2000 State Farm U.S. Championships: www.usfsa.org/uschamp2000

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Challengers in the senior division were everywhere at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships, but none of them were able to dethrone the reigning champions.

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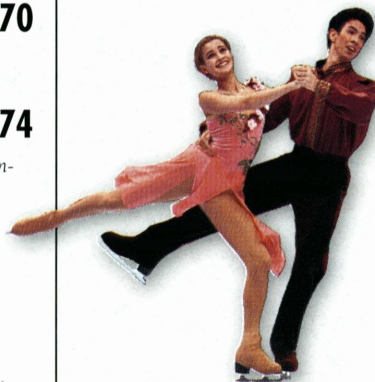
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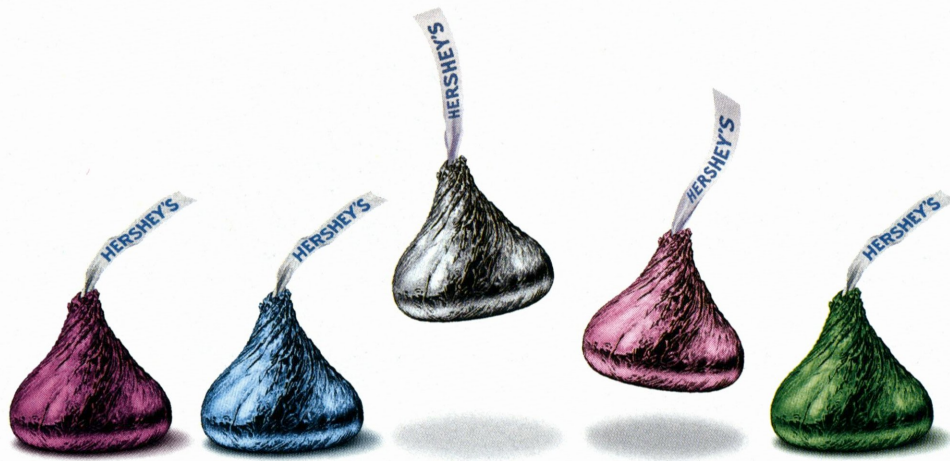
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Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto



———— HOPPY EASTER FROM HERSHEY'S KISSES. ————

2000 Chevrolet/USFSA Scholastic Honors Team

The United States Figure Skating Association and Chevrolet Motor Division announced the 2000 Chevrolet/USFSA Scholastic Honors Team during an on-ice ceremony at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships on Feb. 10th.

Five of this year's team members competed at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships and all of the members have competed in the past in either the U.S. Championships or with a team at the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships.

The USFSA developed the Chevrolet/USFSA Scholastic Honors Team program to recognize high school student-athletes who have excelled in both academics and figure skating. The Honors Team is open to all full-time high school juniors and seniors who have competed at the novice, junior or championship levels at a USFSA qualifying event. Athletes from all disciplines -- men's and ladies' singles, pairs, ice dancing and synchronized team skating -- are eligible for the program.

Applicants were required to have at least a 3.4 grade point average (based on a 4.0 scale) and submitted a written essay and two letters of recommendation, one from a school official and one from an individual involved in figure skating.

This year marks the fourth year of Chevrolet's involvement in the program. Chevrolet, in conjunction with the USFSA, will be providing scholarships to all team members and a 2000 Chevrolet/USFSA Scholastic Honors Team letter jacket. This year's "Team" members are:

- ◆ Whitney Gaynor of San Francisco, Calif. (Peninsula SC) -- Gaynor is a National Merit semi-finalist and competed in the last three U.S. Championships in pairs.

- ◆ Abbi Gleeson of Wayne, Pa. (Univ. of Delaware FSC) -- Gleeson is a National Merit Commended Scholar who is involved in church and community volunteer work. She has competed in the last three U.S. Championships, finishing fifth in junior pairs this year.

- ◆ Paul Goldner of Katonah, N.Y. (Hickory Hill FSC) -- Goldner is a National Merit Commended Scholar and active with Amnesty International. He has competed in two U.S. Championships.

- ◆ Sonja Gullen of Madison, Wisc. (FSC of Madison) -- Gullen ranks first out of a class of 454 and is involved in volunteer work with the Salvation Army and her local hospital. She won the silver medal



The members of the 2000 Chevrolet/USFSA Scholastic Honors team with USFSA first vice-president Phyllis Howard (far left) and Dianne Hemminger, Chevrolet brand promotions manager (right).

in Championship Figures at the 1999 U.S. Championships.

- ◆ Lauren Hill of Hockessin, Del. (Univ. of Delaware FSC) -- Hill works with underprivileged children, tutoring them in math and reading. She won the bronze medal in Championship Figures at the 1999 U.S. Championships.

- ◆ Benjamin Miller of St. Paul, Minn. (St. Paul FSC) -- Miller was this year's bronze medal winner in the Junior Men's event at the U.S. Championships. He is actively involved with Habitat for Humanity.

- ◆ Susan Ng of Cerritos, Calif. (Rim of the World FSC) -- Ng was seventh at last year's World Junior Figure Skating Championships. She is involved with her church and maintains an outstanding GPA and class rank.

- ◆ Shandra Slorby of Minot, N.D. (Magic City FSC) -- Slorby is a member of the Magic Blades synchronized skating team. She is active in her school's student government and volunteers her time at a Minot nursing home.

- ◆ Scott Smith of Sandy Spring, Md. (Univ. of Delaware FSC) -- Smith was the 1998 Junior Men's Champion. In 1999, he competed in the National Science Fair in California.

- ◆ Christy Taylor of Bel Air, Md. (Univ. of Delaware FSC) -- Taylor is active in her school's student government and her church's Sunday School program. In 1998, she competed in the Junior Ladies' event at the U.S. Championships.

- ◆ Meredith Webb of Kildeer, Ill. (Wagon Wheel FSC) -- Webb maintains a perfect 4.0 GPA in addition to being a member of the 1999 U.S. synchronized skating third-place team -- the Starlets.

- ◆ Kimberly Young of Ann Arbor, Mich. (Ann Arbor FSC) -- Young was a member of the synchronized team that won the silver medal in the junior division at last year's U.S. Championships. She maintains a 3.9 GPA while also playing varsity field hockey.

In addition, 10 student-athletes received Honorable Mention recognition. They are: Renee Botens of Berkley, Mich. (Detroit SC); Kelsey Davidson of Eagle River, AK (Anchorage FSC); Shannon Gulliver of Sherborn, Mass. (SC of Boston); Kristina Hall of Minot, N.D. (Magic City FSC); Katy Hill of Plano, Texas (Lone Star FSC); Matthew Inman of Meadville, Pa. (Meadville FSC); Nicole Lemanski of Niskayuna, N.Y. (Achilles FSC); Whitney Luke of Springfield, Ill. (Springfield FSC); Kimberly Olson-Wheeler of Wilmette, Ill. (DuPage FSC); and Valerie Wolenter of Cheswick, Pa. (Pittsburgh FSC).

Applications for the 2001 Team will be available in May. They will be sent to all club presidents and can also be obtained by calling USFSA Headquarters or e-mailing program coordinator Ron Dei Cas at skatjudg@aol.com.

Ron Dei Cas contributed to this story

USFSA Honors New Hall of Fame Inductees

Debi Thomas, Scott Ethan Allen, Frank Zamboni and Gretchen Merrill enter the U.S. Hall of Fame, while legendary coach Ron Ludington joins the World Hall of Fame.

Some of the most legendary names in figure skating joined some of the newer stars at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Four "legends" were inducted into the U.S. Hall of Fame, while one earned his place in history by joining a select group in the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame. The induction ceremonies occurred in an on-ice presentation in Gund Arena on Feb. 11, after the Championship Pairs Free Skate.

World Hall of Fame

The top honor of the night went to Ron Ludington, the only U.S. inductee this year into the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame, located in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Ludington, who was inducted into the U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame in 1993, currently serves as the Director of the Ice Skating Science Development Center at the University of Delaware. His accomplishments as a coach extend over many generations, having guided numerous U.S., World and Olympic medalists throughout his career. He has coached in nine consecutive Olympics and 36 World Championships.

As a competitor, Ludington, along with partner Nancy Ludington, claimed U.S. pairs' titles from 1957-60 as well as bronze medals in the 1959 World Championships and the 1960 Olympic Winter Games.

Established in 1976, the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame honors those who have made outstanding contributions to the sport of figure skating around the world. Election to this elite group is decided by an international committee of 23 judges, and requires a consensus of at least two-thirds.



Michelle Harvath

From Left: World Hall of Fame Elector Hayes Jenkins, U.S. Hall of Fame Electors' Chair Hugh Graham, SC of Boston President Joe Blount, accepting on behalf of Gretchen Merrill, Ron Ludington, Debi Thomas, Scott Ethan Allen, Richard Zamboni (son of Frank Zamboni), USFSA First Vice-President Phyllis Howard, USFSA President Jimmy Disbrow.

U.S. Hall of Fame

Four names who will be forever associated with figure skating in the U.S. were also inducted into the U.S. Hall of Fame.

The "Class of 2000" inductees are Debi Thomas, Scott Ethan Allen, Gretchen Merrill and Frank Zamboni.

Thomas, who claimed a World title in 1986, is a two-time U.S. ladies' champion, winning titles in 1986 and 1988. A four-time U.S. World Team member, Thomas claimed a bronze medal at the 1988 Olympic Winter Games in Calgary. She earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and obtained her medical degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. She currently practices medicine in Little Rock, Ark., where she resides with her husband Chris Bequette and son Luc.

Allen holds the distinction of being the youngest man to ever win the U.S. Championships, a feat he accomplished at the 1964 U.S. Championships in Cleveland, Ohio, when he was just 14. Allen would go on to win a second U.S. title in 1966. His career is highlighted by a bronze medal at the 1964 Olympic Games, as well as being a seven-time U.S. World Team member from 1962-68.

Merrill, who passed away at the age of 38 in 1965, was a six-time U.S. ladies' champion competing for the Skating Club of Boston. Merrill placed eighth in the 1948 Olympic Winter Games for the U.S. and also claimed the bronze medal at the 1947 World Championships.

Zamboni, who passed away in 1988 at the age of 87, is recognized for a lifetime of dedication and contribution to the sport of ice skating. A name that is synonymous with ice skating and arenas worldwide, Zamboni created the first ice resurfacing machine in 1949. Today, Zamboni resurfacing machines are used throughout North America and Europe. His daughter, Joan, claimed the 1956 U.S. ice dancing gold medal with partner Ronald Junso.

A Closer Look

DEBI THOMAS

1988 Olympic Games - 3rd
1988 World Championships - 3rd
1988 and '86 U.S. Championships - 1st
1987 World Championships - 2nd
1986 World Championships - 1st
1985 World Championships - 5th

SCOTT ETHAN ALLEN

1968 World Championships - 4th
1967 World Championships - 5th
1966 World Championships - 4th
1966 and '64 U.S. Championships - 1st
1965 World Championships - 7th
1964 Olympic Games - 3rd
1964 World Championships - 4th
1963 World Championships - 5th
1962 World Championships - 8th

GRETCHEN MERRILL - (1927-1965)

1948 Olympic Games - 8th
1947 World Championships - 3rd
1943-48 U.S. Championships - 1st
1939 U.S. Junior Championships - 1st
1938 U.S. Novice Championships - 1st

FRANK ZAMBONI (1901-1988)

Inventor of the Zamboni ice resurfacing machine



Michelle Kwan tries on a leather Chevrolet jacket given to her by Jim Jandasek, Director of Chevrolet Advertising and Sales Promotion, at a press conference in Cleveland on Feb. 9.

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Chevrolet Extends Partnership with USFSA

Chevrolet Motor Division announced at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships that it is extending its long-standing agreement with the United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA) through 2004.

The partnership continues Chevrolet's commitment to support and sponsor innovative programs that provide training, incentives and college scholarships to figure skaters at all levels -- from grassroots to novice to elite.

"We're thrilled to be associated with programs that encourage both academic and athletic excellence," said Kurt Ritter, Chevrolet general manager. "During the past five years we have reached a tremendous number of skaters, families and fans, and we're looking forward to implementing more impactful programs for aspiring skaters in the next five years."

The programs Chevrolet sponsors include the following:

◆ Skate with U.S. – the USFSA's successful learn to

skate program that teaches children and adults of all ages how to skate and enjoy skating as a lifelong sport.

◆ Scholastic Honors Team – a program that awards \$1,000 stipends to high school students who excel academically and in figure skating. These awards are given out yearly in a special ceremony at the U.S. Championships (see the icebreaker on page 7).

◆ Team 2006 – a program that provides special training to top novice skaters selected by the USFSA. The training sessions are held in conjunction with the U.S. Championships.

"On behalf of our 575 member clubs, I'm extremely pleased about Chevrolet's extended commitment to U.S. figure skating," said Jimmy Disbrow, USFSA President. "Chevy's support helps us continue quality skating programs at all levels, as we reach out to millions of skaters, families and fans throughout the U.S."

Chevrolet and Kwan Join Forces To Help Student-Athletes

Chevrolet Motor Division announced it has signed a multi-year agreement with Michelle Kwan. The partnership is one of the most expansive in Chevrolet history and will integrate advertising, marketing and promotional activities.

As a leading member of the U.S. figure skating team and one of the front-runners for an Olympic gold medal in 2002, Kwan is not only an outstanding and popular athlete, but also a young woman committed to excellence in all endeavors.

"Michelle's vision of success matches Chevrolet's 100 percent," said Kurt Ritter, Chevrolet general manager. "We both believe passion and quality are key factors in achieving success, whatever the arena. Chevrolet chooses to partner with people who are not only successful, but who serve as good role models as well. Michelle is one of the best female athletes competing today -- and we're thrilled Chevy's support will help her inspire others."

As part of the agreement, Chevrolet and Kwan will create a program to benefit aspir-

ing, young student-athletes. Details of the program will be announced later this year.

"Chevy's support for student-athletes is for real, and I believe that our partnership will help other young people achieve their dreams," said Kwan, who, in addition to being a world class athlete, is also a student at UCLA.

As winner of the "Chevrolet Cavalier Perfect Six Award" in 1998, Kwan has experienced Chevy's connection to skating first hand. She still drives her 1998 Cavalier convertible, which Chevrolet awarded her after earning 15 perfect scores at the U.S. Championships.

The relationship with Chevrolet is part of Chevy's ongoing partnership with the United States Figure Skating Association (see Icebreaker on this page).

"We are honored to work with Michelle," said Ritter. "Her spectacular athletic and scholastic ability, plus her dedication to young student-athletes will be a winning combination for Chevrolet. Michelle's example lets other young people know that they too can achieve greatness."

Yamaguchi Will Be Goodwill Ambassador

1992 Olympic champion Kristi Yamaguchi will be a 2002 Olympic Winter Games goodwill ambassador. Yamaguchi and the Salt Lake Organizing Committee announced the partnership on Feb. 21 -- the date commemorating the eight-year anniversary of Yamaguchi's Olympic gold at

the 1992 Games in Albertville, France. Her involvement in Salt Lake City will include promoting SLOC activities, especially education and youth sport initiatives; participating in volunteer celebrations and special events; and providing input on athlete-related issues.

In Memory --

Ronnie Robertson

Skating lost another legend when 1956 Olympic silver medalist Ronnie Robertson died on Feb. 4 at Orange Coast Memorial Hospital in Fountain Valley, Calif. He was 62.

Robertson, who fell into a coma due to pneumonia in early February, had a history of heart and lung problems.

A coach after his skating career, Robertson finished second at the 1956 Olympics in Cortina, Italy, behind Hayes Jenkins and in front of Hayes' brother David. Robertson was also the U.S. and World silver medalist that year behind Hayes Jenkins.

He won a World silver medal in 1955, also finishing between the Jenkins brothers. Robertson was a three-time medalist at the U.S. championships, and he also skated in a variety of ice shows. He was considered the best spinner in skating throughout his career, and also was a fine jumper who frequently hit triple jumps in practices long before they were fashionable. He performed the first triple Salchow at the 1955

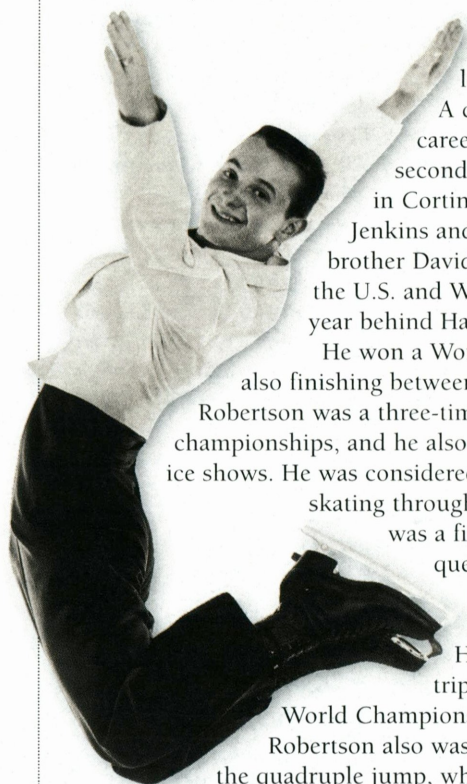
World Championships in Vienna, Austria.

Robertson also was considered a pioneer of the quadruple jump, which he occasionally did during teaching sessions as far back as the 1970s. Also known as the "human blur," his spinning abilities were famous nationwide. He even appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show to demonstrate that he could spin faster than an electric fan. He coached skaters at various rinks over the last 10 years. He also worked with Olympic champions Brian Boitano and Kristi Yamaguchi early in their careers.

Robertson was born Sept. 25, 1937, in Brackenridge, Pa., but discovered figure skating at age 7 after his family moved to Long Beach, Calif., in 1940. After his competitive career, he joined the Ice Capades and later toured with Holiday on Ice. He is a member of both the U.S. and World Figure Skating Hall of Fames.

Charles Schulz -- Skating's Good Friend

The U.S. Figure Skating Association mourns the loss of Peanuts' creator Charles Schulz. Schulz was heavily involved in skating -- both through his comic strip, his hockey-playing and his ice arena in Santa Rosa, Calif. Look for the USFSA's farewell to Charles Schulz in the next issue of Skating.



Eldredge States His Case

The five-time U.S. Champion met the media in a teleconference on Feb. 16 and let everyone know once and for all that he plans to shoot for the 2002 Olympics.

Todd Eldredge is back. Make no mistake about that. He actually really never "went away" in the first place. His goals and plans have always been the same -- one more shot at an Olympic medal. Now that he has taken a much needed two-year break from the fast-paced world of Olympic-eligible competition, he's ready to return to the ranks.

"I've always wanted to have the option of coming back," he said. "The reason I kept my eligibility is if I felt the field looked like I could be competitive again if I did come back, I wanted that option. Obviously I feel like I can be very competitive in there right now if I want."

Eldredge jumped into the mix at February's Four Continents Championship in Osaka, Japan, where he finished fourth. He decided to compete at Four Continents because it seemed like a good opportunity to pick up where he left off. Eldredge felt it was important to get his name back out there with the judges' panel. At the Championships, he attempted one quad in his free skate, but did not complete the jump.

How has the quad been looking?

"It's going well in practice," he said. "I have tried one or two on tour, but have two-footed the landings. It's a little harder trying the quad under spotlights than regular house lights."

Besides the quad, Eldredge has also been developing his artistry while touring with Champions on Ice the last two years. He hopes that will also be evident when he comes back next season.

For the most part, the media participating in the teleconference wanted the answer to one question -- why? Why now? Why come back when a lucrative pro career awaits?

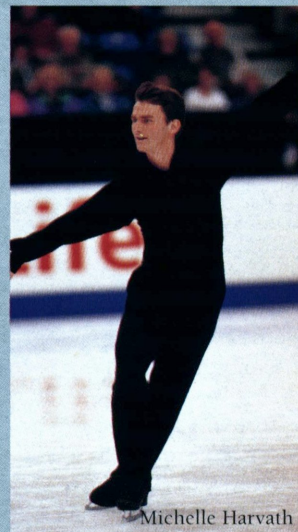
"I want to come back for the Olympics more than anything," he said. "I have not accomplished what I would like to there yet...That's the motivating factor for me to come back."

Eldredge plans to get back into the ISU Grand Prix Series next year and participate at the U.S. Championships in Boston.

"You'll see me in Boston," said Eldredge, who grew up in nearby Chatham, Mass. "It should be interesting. I'll have a lot of friends and family in the stands...I look forward to coming back next year and going for a sixth title."

Should Eldredge win his sixth title, he will be one of only three U.S. men's skaters to win more than five -- both Dick Button and Roger Turner collected seven. Eldredge hopes to join Button by winning an Olympic medal after disappointing finishes in 1992 and '98.

"I'm going to do whatever it takes over the next couple of years to try to make sure my next go-around at the Olympics, if I get there, will be the way I want it to be."



Top Names Ready to Battle it Out at USFSA Spring Event

Binghamton, N.Y., is set to welcome some of the legendary names of figure skating at the International Skating Challenge on Tues., April 11.

The last major event of the season, the International Skating Challenge is an open event pitting the stars of U.S. figure skating (both eligible and professional) against a team of international stars.

There will be three ladies and three men's head-to-head match-ups. Michelle Kwan and 1992 Olympic gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi are already committed

for the U.S. ladies, while two-time U.S. champion Michael Weiss and Timothy Goebel are set for the U.S. men's team.

Two-time Olympic gold medalist Katarina Witt, three-time World Champion Elvis Stojko and Evgeny Plushenko will be the headliners for the international team. The complete lineup for both teams (not available at press time) can be found at U.S. Figure Skating Online (www.usfsa.org).

This is the second consecutive year Binghamton has hosted the USFSA spring event.

Ludington Calls for Helmets on Ice Skaters

The newest member of the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame, Ron Ludington, has had some anxious moments in his 39-year career on ice.

All of them pale, however, in contrast to the 10 seconds last Sept. 29 when he watched in horror as one of his rising stars, pairs skater Paul Binnebose, crashed onto the ice in a near fatal fall. Ludington, director of the Ice Skating Science Development Center at the University of Delaware, now says he plans to lobby the International Skating Union (ISU) to make helmets mandatory during practice. He knows it's not a popular stance.

"I've thought about helmets for years and even keep one right here in case anyone wants to wear it, but of course they don't," he said. "If Paul had been wearing a helmet, he might have suffered a concussion or had a bad headache, but he wouldn't have been injured as seriously.

"The girls -- the ones who will fight this the most -- need to wear them, too," he said. "They are the ones who get thrown up in the air. Before this I had seen girls injured -- four of them in the course of 39 years, all with head injuries, but nothing as serious as this.

"I'd like to be the one who initiates this change. Maybe it's something I should have done 30 years ago. There's no doubt that skating is a dangerous sport, but the ISU would have to be the one to enforce a helmet policy. If they don't require it, no one will wear them."

Appearance plays such a role in figure skating that Ludington doubts there could ever be a rule requiring helmets during performance, but having skaters wear them for practice would cut risks significantly, he said.

"The helmets would have to be sharp and nice looking, to get the kids to wear them," said Ludington. "They'd need to be thin, light and hard."

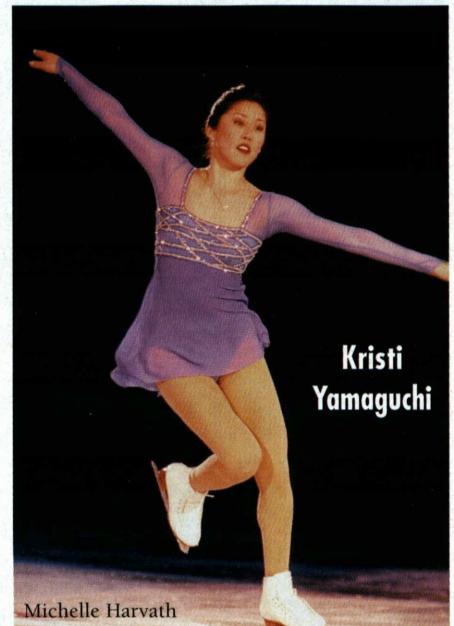
Tribute to Wally Distelmeyer

A tribute dinner in honor of Canadian figure skater Wallace Distelmeyer will be held Friday, June 2, at the Jack Bell Arena in Niagara Falls, Canada.

Distelmeyer passed away on Dec. 23, 1999. He was the 1948 Olympic and World bronze medalist in pairs and was

a Canadian pairs' and men's champion.

Distelmeyer spent many years teaching in both the U.S. and Canada. Tickets for the dinner are \$50 and can be purchased by contacting Nathalie Brown at 905-684-1944. CFSA Director-General David Dore will be the guest speaker.



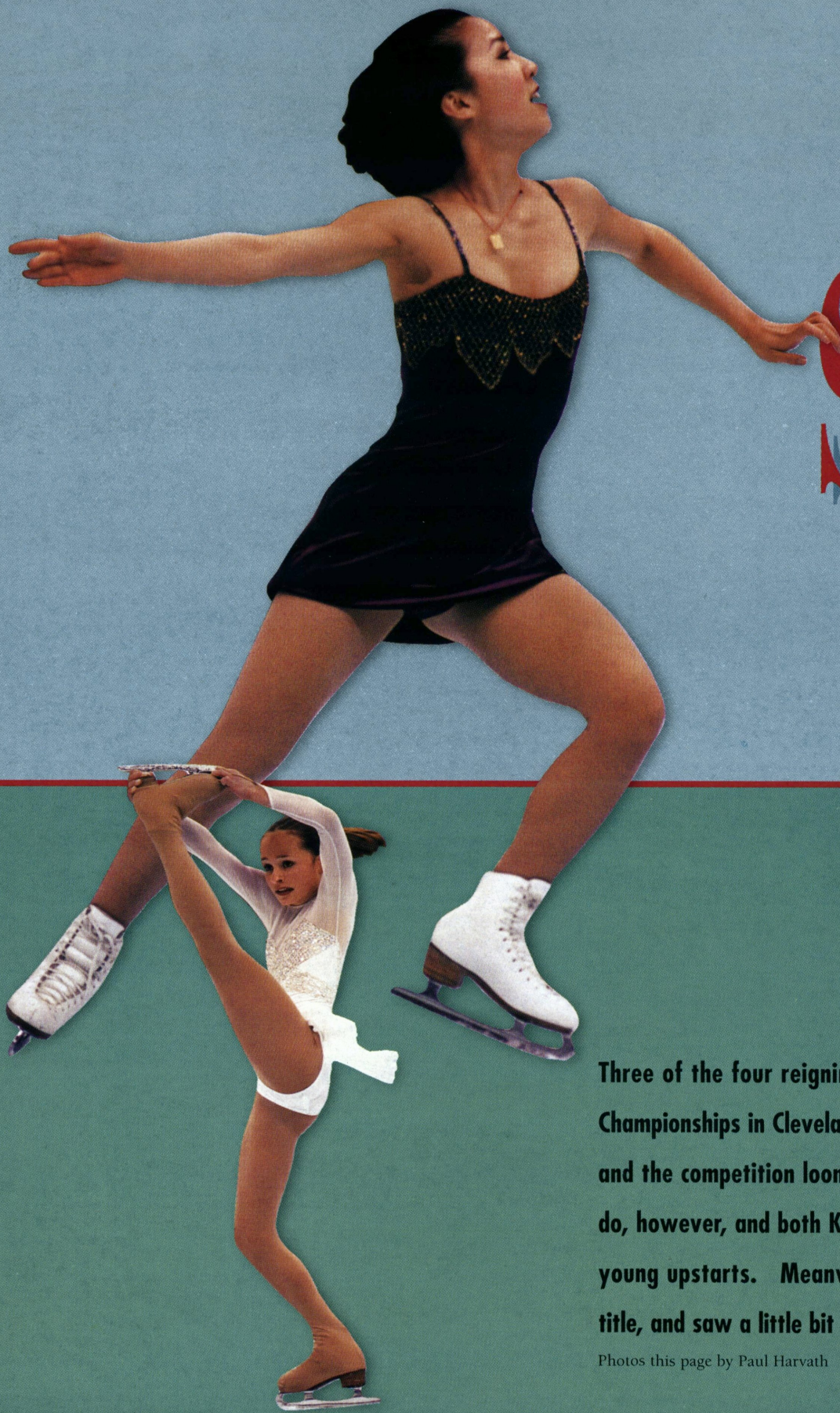
Ladies' Battle Helps Boost TV Ratings

The three-way showdown between Michelle Kwan, Sasha Cohen and Sarah Hughes helped figure skating boost its television ratings for the 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

Michelle Kwan's win in the ladies' final Sat., Feb. 12, on ABC picked up a 7.6 rating and 14 share -- up 10.1 percent from the 6.9 rating and 12 share it received a year ago. It was the second-highest rated sports telecast of the weekend, beating out the NBA All-Star Game (6.9/12), but behind Tiger Woods' quest for his seventh straight PGA Tour victory at the Buick Invitational (8.0/18).

The Nielsen Fast National rating indicated a 13 percent gain over 1999, with a 14 percent gain on adults. The program peaked from 10:30 p.m.-11 p.m. at an 8.7/16. The highest-rated markets were Cleveland (14.7/24) Seattle (12.3/24), Columbus (12.2/20) and Chicago (11.5/20).

The Saturday 4-6 p.m. telecast, which included the men's final, drew a rating of 3.4/8. It was the seventh-highest rated sports broadcast of the weekend.



In Sha 0 Grea

Three of the four reigning U.S. Champions defended their Championships in Cleveland, Ohio. For Michelle Kwan and and the competition looming behind them grows stronger do, however, and both Kwan and Weiss reached inside to young upstarts. Meanwhile, fans in Cleveland cheered title, and saw a little bit of history as Naomi Lang and Peter

Photos this page by Paul Harvath

THE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

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titles at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating
Michael Weiss, the competition was tougher than ever,
every day. Dethroning a champion is not an easy thing to
perform impressively under enormous pressure from the
Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman to their first U.S. pairs'
Tchernyshev earned their first-ever 6.0.

Story by Lynn Novelli



Michael Weiss arrived in Cleveland for the 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships with a metal ankle brace in his left skate boot and a determination to defend his title as U.S. men's champion.

Three-time U.S. ladies' champion Michelle Kwan came to skate in her first U.S. Championship as a college student attempting to balance skating and school.

All of the pairs' skaters looked forward to the competition with mixed emotions, knowing that comrades Paul Binnebose and Laura Handy and Steve and Danielle Hartsell would be on the sidelines with injuries instead of on the ice.

1999 U.S. junior dance champions Jamie Silverstein and Justin Pekarek arrived at the championships feeling they had to prove that they belonged in the senior ranks.

In a span of five days, all of these dramas played out on the smooth, gleaming ice surface of Gund Arena in downtown Cleveland, in front of a record-breaking crowd of more than 118,000 fans for the week. The thrills and excitement of the competition paralleled the enthusiasm of the city itself, which embraced the competition with unabashed fervor, pulling off one of the best-ever U.S. Championships.

A packed house greeted the competitors at every Championship-level event, and the spectacle of personal triumphs and disappointments held the city of Cleveland in thrall.

LADIES

It wasn't that long ago -- actually only six years ago -- that Michelle Kwan was the young upstart, stealing the thunder from her more seasoned competitors with a dashing repertoire of jumps and artistry. Since then, she has developed into the premier ladies' figure skater in the world. But, even as her talents continue to blossom, the new generation continues to gain on her. Last year, it was the sparkle of Naomi Nari Nam providing the biggest challenge to the reigning queen.

This year, the challengers were many, and although Kwan could hear the loud footsteps echoing behind her, she once again proved with style and determination that dethroning a champion is



Michelle Harvath

**Silver medalist
Sasha Cohen**

I want to bring the jumping
bean back. I feel I can do it.



**Gold medalist
Michelle Kwan**

Paul Harvath

not an easy thing to do.

Not surprisingly, the Championship Ladies' events quickly shaped up as a battle of youth vs. experience.

Although Kwan sits at the top of the pyramid, a number of young ladies are carefully working their way up the steep slope.

Among the contenders were 1999 World seventh-place finisher Sarah Hughes, who captured her first Grand Prix medal this season; 15-year-old Sasha Cohen, who was injured most of the season and competed in just one ISU Junior Grand Prix event; 1999 U.S. bronze medalist Angela Nikodinov; Deanna Stellato and Jennifer Kirk, who finished 1-2 in the ISU Junior Grand Prix Final last December; and of course, last year's silver medalist, Nam.

Who would turn out to be the upstart in the competition? It was anybody's guess, but it didn't take very long for the nation to find a new sweetheart.

In the short program, Cohen, all 79 pounds of her, made national headlines as the newest star in ladies' figure skating with a breathtaking skate that drew the audience to its feet in appreciation.

Nikodinov opened the ladies' short program with a smooth and self-assured performance that drew good marks for skating first. She stayed in first place despite solid programs from the next 11 skaters. Nam, skating third, found herself in trouble after doubling her triple flip.

By the time Kwan took the ice with the second-to-last group of skaters, she already had her work cut out.

Ever self-possessed, Kwan concentrated on skating, tuning out the enthusiastic crowd. She was not able to establish a technical edge throughout the program, however, even falling on a triple toe -- a rarity for the three-time champion.

"That was the first time I missed a triple toe in my short program since the '95-96 Grand Prix," Kwan said later with a mixture of surprise and regret.

Despite the fall, the superior artistic quality of her program to "A Day in the Life," landed her in first place temporarily.

Cohen took the ice four skaters later knowing that there was room at the top and she didn't disappoint. All but one of the top skaters (Hughes) skated before her, and Kwan's uncharacteristic fall had left the ladies' field wide open.

"Sasha...is naturally unable to get into an ugly position."

John Nicks

Displaying a mixture of mature artistry, flexibility and precise jumps, Cohen moved ahead of Kwan with technical scores as high as 5.7 and artistic scores ranging from 5.4-5.9.

Following the thunderous applause for Cohen, the 14-year-old Hughes rose to the challenge with a graceful program that placed her solidly in second.

After the short, John Nicks, Cohen's coach, made no secret of the fact that his young protege still had work to do.

"It [being in first place after the short] is only a moment, and it won't last very long. She has business tomorrow," he said. "She is wonderful in so many ways and she is naturally unable to get into an ugly position."

Nam, Nicks' other young star, sat in fifth place after the short -- still not out of medal contention, with Nikodinov in fourth.

For her part, Cohen was obviously thrilled and surprised with her standing.

"I'm really excited that I skated a clean program and to be on top is just really great," she said. "I really didn't expect to do this well."

With her sights set on the 2002 Olympics and Cohen and Hughes hungry for their first U.S. title, Kwan knew she had no margin for error in the free skate.

As it turned out, the less experienced Cohen and Hughes could not hold up against the combination of technical expertise and artistic expression that a determined Kwan displayed in her free skate.

Hughes skated first in the final group, and fans were eager for her performance, which included two planned triple-triple combinations. She completed the triple Salchow-triple loop combo, but not the second triple toe-triple loop combo and later fell on another triple near the end of her program. Artistically, she continued to show how much she has improved over the last year, skating an emotional program that earned mostly 5.7s and 5.8s for presentation.

Sitting in third place, Kwan knew that

a victory in the free skate would still assure her of her fourth U.S. title, and she planned to hold nothing back.

After substituting a triple-double for a planned triple toe-triple toe early in her program, Kwan knew she had to make amends or would lose technical points. She improvised, adding another triple toe near the end of her program.

"I actually thought I would do the triple-triple, but I set up and hesitated and I knew right away I would only do a triple-double," she said. "If I didn't add, I would only have six triples."

Her strategy worked, despite a fall on the triple loop. Cohen was the second to last skater of the evening, and although she skated a beautiful program, she did just four clean triples, allowing Kwan to capture the gold.

Kwan later admitted that defending her title against two younger and talented skaters gave her a new perspective.

"This was my seventh U.S. Championships, and I feel ancient next to these people," she said, referring to Cohen and Hughes. "I really feel I have to up the ante technically."

Kwan and coach Frank Carroll stated that they plan to continue working on a triple-triple combination for Worlds, while she maintained that she will probably have to add a second triple-triple combination if

she wants to stay on par with competitors like Hughes, Cohen and Russia's Irina Slutskaya.

"I feel I can raise the bar again," she said. "I remember my first year and everybody was calling me a jumping bean. Now they talk about how artistic I am. I want to bring the jumping bean back. I feel I can do it."

Despite the two falls over the course of the competition, Carroll was still exceptionally pleased with his student.

"I'm extremely proud of Michelle," he said. "I don't think any of you understand the pressure there is to defend the national title. It's not a walk in the park."

Kwan became the first U.S. woman to win three consecutive titles since Rosalyn Sumners won from 1982-84.

Cohen was named to the World Team, but her participation was contingent on medaling at the World Junior Championships in early March. If she did not medal, then fourth-place finisher Angela Nikodinov would take her place.

Also of note was the solid performance of fifth-place finisher Andrea Gardiner, who earned her first ever standing ovation with a clean, balanced program. Nam missed a few jumps in the free skate and finished eighth, behind Stacey Pensgen and Kirk.

Sarah Hughes skated two artistically beautiful performances to earn her first U.S. medal -- a bronze -- and a spot on the World Team.



Michelle Harvath

MEN

The debate started well before any of the men hit the ice at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships. In fact, it's a debate that's haunted skating for years -- athleticism vs. artistry. Which is more important? For which aspect should a skater be rewarded more?

According to the results of the men's competition the answer is clear -- although it may not satisfy everyone.

"You gotta have both," said Audrey Weisiger, coach of two-time gold medalist Michael Weiss. "It's a real athlete-artist combination that succeeds."

That particular combination is the reason Weiss emerged as the U.S. champion for the second year in a row. He failed to complete a quad in either one of his performances, but his otherwise technically flawless routines and interesting choreography helped him earn the gold.

Losing out in the battle was silver medalist Timothy Goebel, who again stunned the figure skating world with three quads in his free program. Jumpwise, he can be considered the best in the U.S., but his lack of artistic style hurt his chances at the gold. Still, it wasn't news to Goebel, who is fully aware he has a lot of work to do.

"I've really made great strides in improving my artistry, but I've got a way to go," he said. "I need time...I don't think they (the judges) are sending a message other than I need to improve my artistry more. They're not telling me anything I don't already know."

The quad watch began in the short program as both Goebel and Weiss

planned quads. Goebel, skating last in the first group, missed his quad attempt, but picked up scores ranging from 5.2-5.6 for technical merit and 5.6-5.8 for presentation.

Weiss was the last skater in the second group, and his program to "On the Waterfront" was clean and precise. He tripled his quad toe attempt, resulting in a wide range of technical scores -- from 5.0 to 5.7. His presentation scores were much higher, and he took the lead from Goebel with six skaters remaining.

The second to last skater of the evening brought the audience to its feet -- but not in the way Shepherd Clark would have wanted it. The 28-year-old skater was forced to withdraw in the middle of his program when a lower back injury flared up.

Matt Savoie rounded out the short program group with a realistic shot at grabbing the lead. He skated superbly, garnering three first place votes, but the other six judges placed him third and that's where he stayed heading into the free skate.

"I felt really good throughout (the program)," said Savoie. "I was pretty nervous going out but I was pleased that I could skate well for me."

Quad watchers were not disappointed as Cleveland's hometown favorite -- Goebel -- became the first man to land a quadruple jump in the U.S. Championships with his quad Salchow-triple toe combination in the free skate. Goebel, skating first in the last group, landed two more quadruple jumps, plus a triple Lutz, a triple loop and a triple Salchow in rapid succession, proving his athletic

Artistry vs. Athleticism? The debate continued in the men's competition as Timothy Goebel landed three quads in his free skate, but came in second to Michael Weiss' excellent combination of technical prowess and artistic talent.

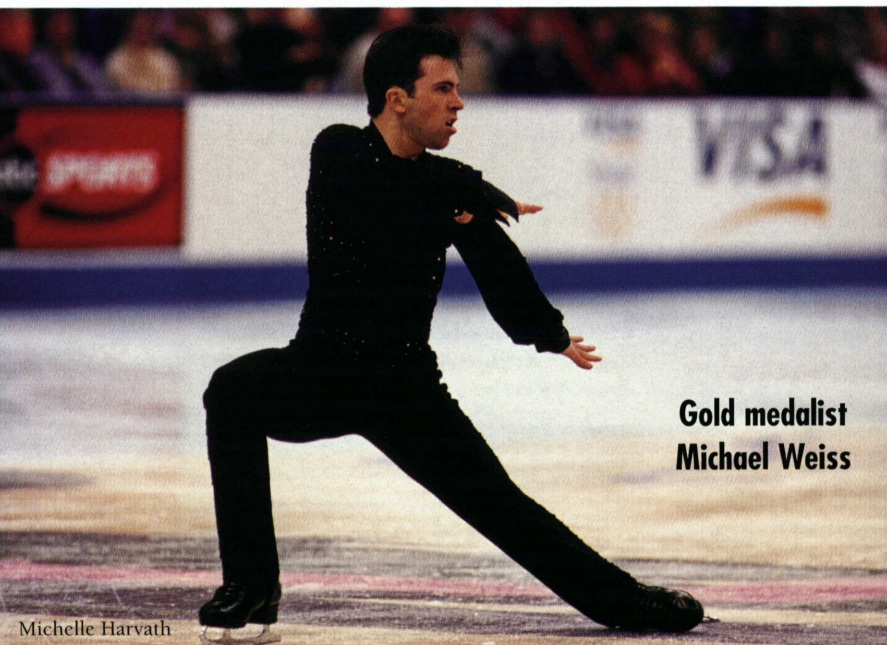
ability and earning straight 5.9s for technical merit. However, his presentation marks, ranging from 5.6-5.8, left room at the top.

Following Goebel was 1999 U.S. Junior Champion Ryan Bradley, who earned television time by finishing sixth in the short program. Bradley's free skate was one of the unexpected highlights of the men's events.

Skating to a Hungarian medley, the irrepressible Bradley showed off his technical skill with two triple-triple combinations, a triple Salchow and his signature "Yeldarb" jump. His lively spirit, interpretive talent and youthful enthusiasm totally charmed the audience. Bradley, 16, was satisfied with his seventh-place finish in Cleveland, his first senior Championship.

"This is exactly where I wanted to be right now," he said. "I am very excited that I skated the best I could. I still have a lot of time to get there."

It was Weiss' total package of techni-



Gold medalist
Michael Weiss

Michelle Harvath

Anytime you come to nationals, it's going to be a dogfight...I'm just really psyched to pull this one off."

Michael Weiss

cal excellence plus artistry that captured the gold medal.

**Silver medalist
Timothy Goebel**

Michelle Harvath



Weiss was the final skater of the night, and he had already heard Goebel's marks, so he knew the pressure was on him.

"I heard the marks and knew that he (Goebel) skated great,"

said Weiss. "Anytime you come to nationals it's always going to be a dog-fight...To skate last is always a bit more stressful. All you can do is control what you're doing out there...I'm just really psyched to pull this one off."

Weiss exuded strength and power as he worked his way through a challenging program that included nine triples (two triple Axels and two triple-triple combos). But, as exciting as his jumps were, it was Weiss' ability to deliver a complete, polished package of jumps, footwork, spins and artistic expression that made the decisive difference. Weiss' artistic marks included a 6.0 -- his first -- an event he later said he "will cherish the rest of my life."

"The judges have shown that they like you to skate a solid program. I worked really hard on that and I made sure I perfected it in the last few years," said Weiss.

Still recovering from an ankle injury that required him to skate wearing a steel ankle brace in his left boot, Weiss was restricted from practicing the quad toe until early January.

Although Weiss plans to add quadruple jumps to his program, Weisiger said that has not been their training focus.

"We have worked hard on Michael's program, developing the character and getting everything in there," she said.

The combination proved to be a winning one, as Weiss picked up six of the nine first-place ordinals for the victory.

1999 silver medalist Trifun Zivanovic, fourth after the short program, came back with a powerful free skate to last year's "West Side Story" medley that secured his place on the podium.

"I'm happy," said Zivanovic. "I came here an improved skater. Every year I've done that, and this is my ninth U.S. Championships. I'll be back next year."

Savoie dropped to fourth place after the free skate, while the surprise of the men's competition may have been Ryan Jahnke of the Broadmoor SC. Jahnke, seventh after the short program, skated an excellent program, with marks good enough to hold up for a fifth-place finish.

PAIRS

Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman, first after the short program, clinched the gold medal in pairs with a free skate that brought the audience to its feet in a standing ovation.

Ina has been criticized in the past for being "too athletic," while critics have called Zimmerman "too artistic." Their exquisite skate to "Phantom of the Opera" combined powerful throws and side-by-side moves with graceful lifts and creative footwork, confirming their ability to meld the two. Their interpretive talent complemented their technical expertise to create a total package of skating.

"This was the zenith of it all. We were able to put it all together and show we can be artistic as well as athletic," said an exuberant Zimmerman.

Ina and Zimmerman's skating has improved tremendously since taking on world-renowned coaches Tamara Moskvina and Igor Moskvina. Moskvina

was in Cleveland to coach the team this year, as his wife traveled to Austria for the European Championships with her other top team, Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze.

Ina's victory gives her a special place in the history book. She is only the fourth person in U.S. figure skating history to win a U.S. pairs' gold medal with different partners. It's her third U.S. pairs' gold medal -- the other two were with former partner Jason Dungjen. Zimmerman won a bronze medal in 1997 with Stephanie Stiegler.

Tiffany Scott and Philip Dulebohn, second after the short program, skated first in the final group. Skating to a Rachmaninoff concerto, they executed a difficult program that included a powerful throw double Axel, a throw triple Salchow that Scott managed to hold on

With two of the top pairs out with injuries, a new U.S. Champion was guaranteed. Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman were the favorites, and they didn't disappoint, skating brilliantly for the gold.

to and a star lift into a back press.

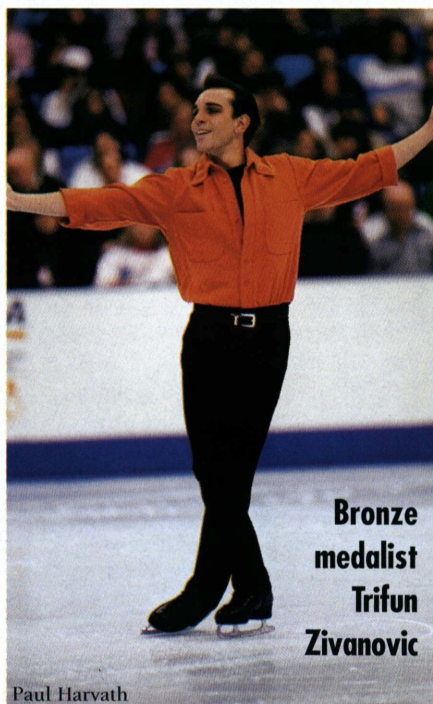
Leaving the ice, the two skaters "high-fived" each other. Dulebohn said he knew that they had skated strongly, but that it was too soon to celebrate.

"We felt good, but the placement was not decided yet," he said. "There were other couples still to skate."

Their marks were strong enough to hold out against the other competitors, earning the pair a satisfying second place, their first medal in the U.S. Championships and a berth on the World Team.

Satisfying, said Dulebohn "because we accomplished our personal goals out there. Qualifying for the World Championships was the icing on the cake. I know we are ready now for world-class competition."

Larisa Spielberg and Craig Joeright, skating second to last in the field of 12 teams, came on the ice determined to move into the medals. Clad in dramatic black outfits and skating to the soundtrack to "Armageddon," they performed an exciting program in perfect unison. They achieved tremendous height on their jumps, including side by side triple



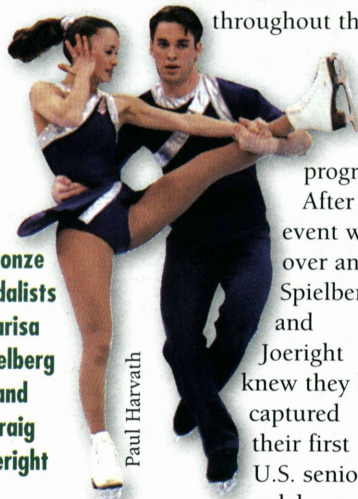
**Bronze medalist
Trifun
Zivanovic**

Paul Harvath

toes and a throw triple loop, but never lost control throughout their

Bronze medalists Larisa Spielberg and Craig Joeright

Paul Harvath



program. After the event was over and Spielberg and Joeright knew they had captured their first U.S. senior medal -- a

bronze - they admitted that waiting and watching the other competitors had been nerve-racking.

"Watching makes me more nervous than skating," said Spielberg.

"Waiting is definitely the hardest part," Joeright agreed.

Last to skate was the brother-sister duo of Tiffany and Johnnie Stiegler. It's been a tough year for the team, and their troubles followed them into the free skate.

Hampered by Johnnie's groin injury early in the season, the Stieglers were determined to be ready for Cleveland.

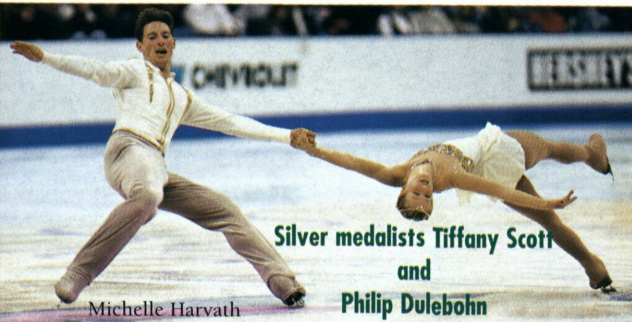
"Two weeks before this competition I was 95 percent back," said Johnnie.

Their short program, although flawed by Tiffany falling on a side by side triple toe and the throw triple, was strong enough to place the team in third.

"We're not surprised to be in third with two falls. We're surprised we made two falls," said Johnnie after the short. "We just had a little bit of an off-night. It's fine that we're in third. It's a good place for the long."

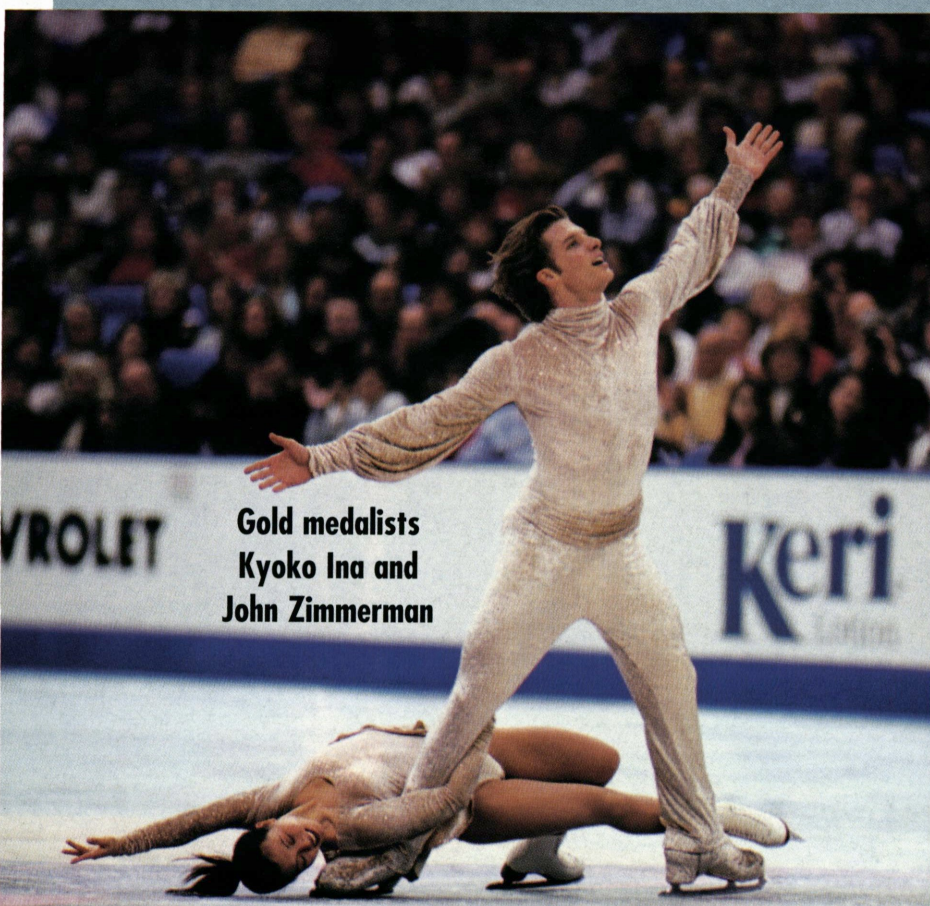
But it was not to be for the Stieglers. Their free skate was beautifully interpreted, but fraught with problems, dropping the team to fifth.

Despite the incredible performances, much of the story of the pairs' competition was about who wasn't competing.



Silver medalists Tiffany Scott and Philip Dulebohn

Michelle Harvath



Gold medalists Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman

Paul Harvath

"This was the zenith of it all. We were able to put it all together and show we can be artistic as well as athletic."

John Zimmerman

The pairs' teams could not help but think of the missing teams of Laura Handy and Paul Binnebose and Danielle and Steve Hartsell. Both teams were in the stands cheering on their friends, but their presence stood as a reminder of how dangerous the sport can be.

Joeright expressed the thoughts that were in all the competitors' minds.

"Before we left Detroit, the Hartsells were in tears when they came over to us and said 'Get on the podium for us.'

That's what we did," said Joeright, who said he prays for all the pairs' teams before they compete.

The loss this season of two of the top pairs teams has affected the sport from two perspectives, Joeright added.

"The quality of pairs

has gone down this year because of the injuries, but that gives lots of potential for other teams."

That may be true, but Ina summed up the situation with feeling.

"We wish they were here," she said.

DANCE

In a field of 12 of the best ice dance teams in the country, Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev proved they were the best of the best.

It's been a season to remember for Lang and Tchernyshev -- one that included their first-ever Grand Prix medal at Skate America (a bronze). Their preeminence in U.S. ice dance was solidified with a resounding victory against one of the most talented U.S. dance fields in years.

After earning 17 of 18 first place ordinals for the compulsory Yankee Polka and Quickstep, the defending U.S. cham-

pions electrified the Gund Arena audience with their spectacular performances in the original dance and free dance.

Skating to "Anytime, Anywhere," Lang and Tchernyshev executed a free dance that called on their considerable technical expertise and demonstrated their talent for interpretation. It earned the team their first 6.0 for presentation, an event that moved Lang to tears.

"It's something I've always dreamed about. It's your childhood dream to get a perfect 6.0, and for that to come true this week means so much to us," she said.

Last years' U.S. and World Junior Champions, Jamie Silverstein and Justin



**Silver medalists
Jamie Silverstein
and
Justin Pekarek**

Pekarek, made an exuberant debut at the senior level, capturing the silver medal.

In her typical upbeat way, Silverstein explained that they strive to please their audiences.

"I had a blast, and the audience was entertained," she said. "That's what we were aiming for."

Pekarek, the more serious of the two, said that the move to seniors was a major one.

"We had to grow up a little bit with our presentation and our difficulty in programs," he said. "It was pretty much like a whole makeover to step up to seniors."

Silverstein and Pekarek have been dubbed by many as the future of U.S. ice dancing, and earned at least one first-place ordinal in all but the first compulsory dance. Both gold and silver medal-winning teams are coached by Igor Shpilband and Elizabeth Coates at the Detroit SC, and there's no doubt that Lang and Tchernyshev have felt the heat from Silverstein and Pekarek all year.

However, the winners showed a mature, romantic style that capitalized on their experience, and even a slight bobble by Tchernyshev in the free dance didn't hurt the overall expression.

"We had a really fabulous time out

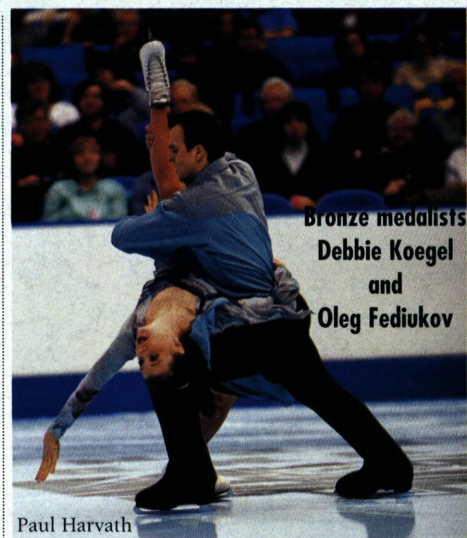
Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev earned their first-ever perfect 6.0 mark and continued their reign as the best ice dancers in the U.S.

there today," said Lang. "I think that's the best we've ever skated that free dance and we're just very happy with it."

Debbie Koegel and Oleg Fediukov took home their second U.S. Championship bronze medal, moving up from what Koegel described as a "disappointing fourth" position after the original dance.

"It made us hungry for the bronze medal," she said. "We knew we could do it. Our free dance is our favorite program, and that gave us extra confidence and pumped us up."

With a free dance that demonstrated a Russian influence in its balletic character, Koegel and Fediukov were able to satisfy their medal hunger. Fediukov was competing in his first U.S. Championships as an American citizen (see



**Bronze medalists
Debbie Koegel
and
Oleg Fediukov**

Paul Harvath

story on page 55).

Fourth-place finishers Beata Handra and Charles Sinek rocked the arena with a sizzling original dance to temporarily take third place from Koegel and Fediukov.

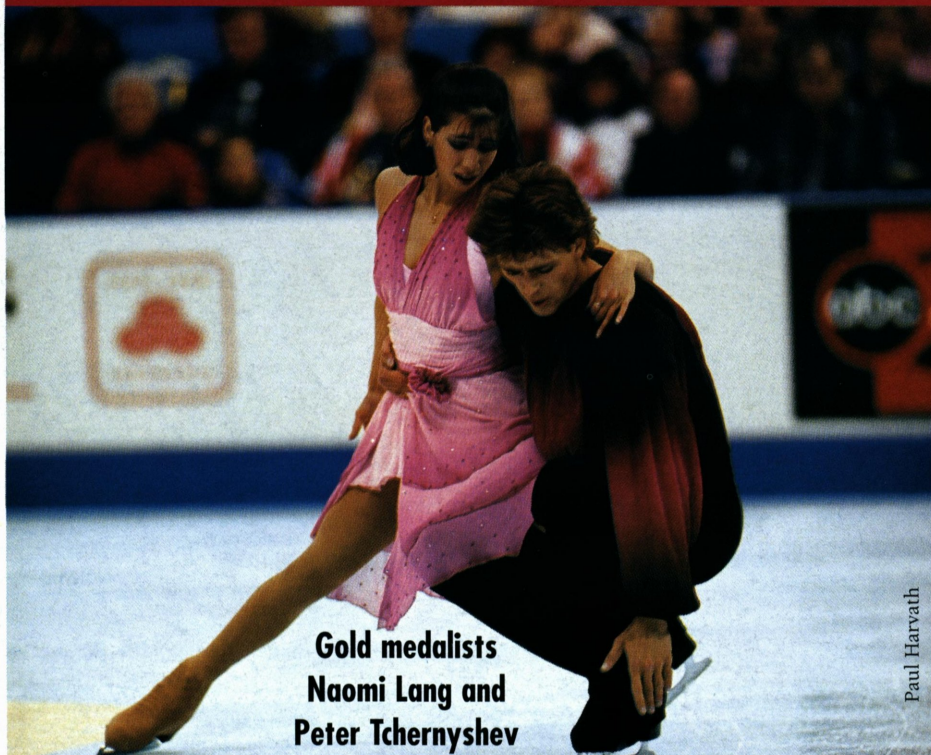
Full results on page 33. For more U.S. Championships insight, see the Championship extra on page 77.

Lynn Novelli is a freelance writer based in Cleveland, Ohio.

Skating editor Laura Fawcett contributed to this story.

"It's a childhood dream to get a perfect 6.0 and for that to come true this week means so much to us."

Naomi Lang



**Gold medalists
Naomi Lang and
Peter Tchernyshev**

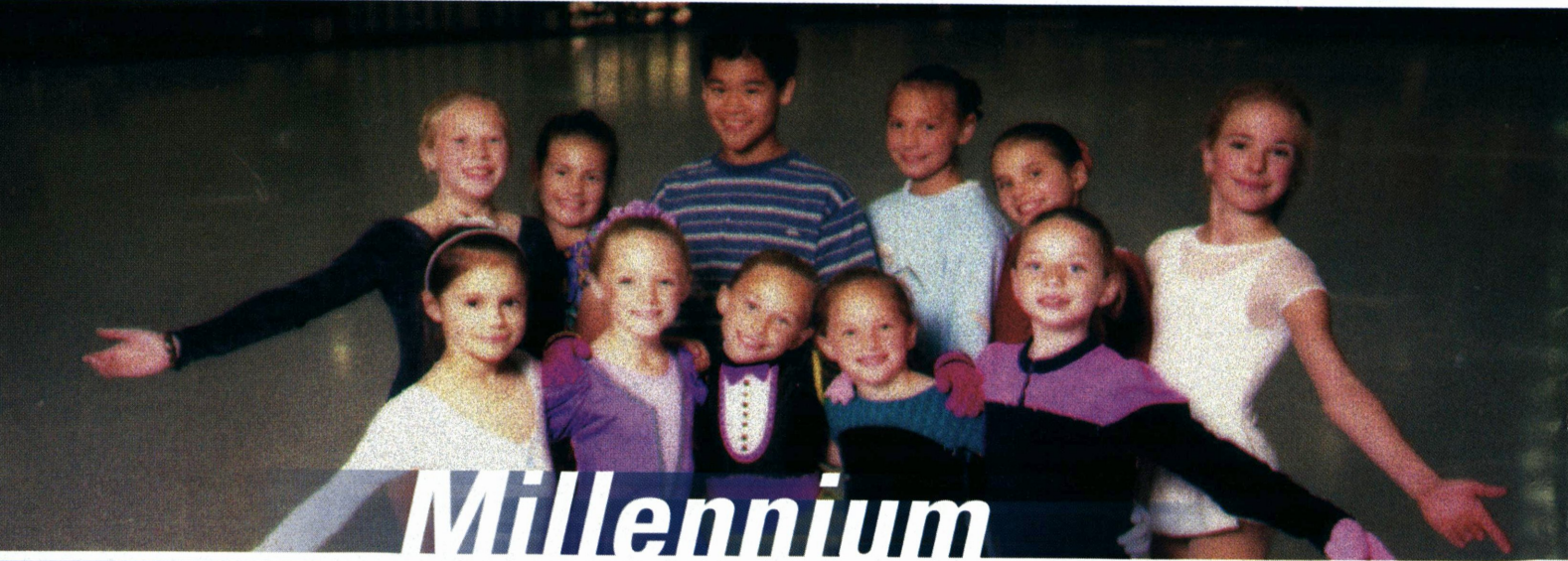
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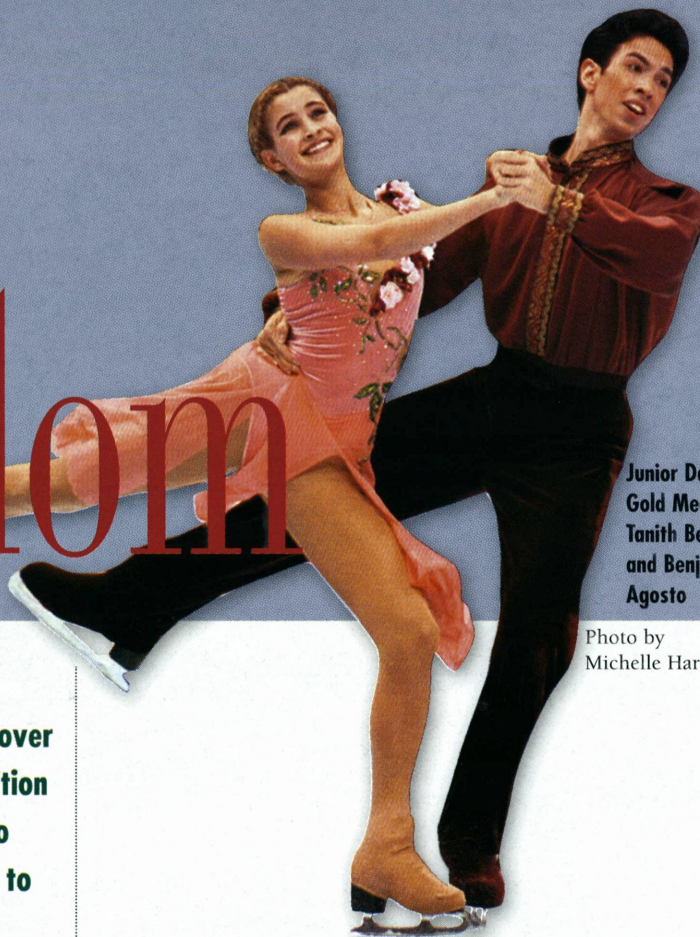
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On the Brink of Stardom



Junior Dance Gold Medalists
Tanith Belbin
and Benjamin Agosto

Photo by
Michelle Harvath

The junior events at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships proved that nothing in skating is over until the last marks are read. The dance competition turned into a seesaw battle between the top two teams, and the men -- well, folks almost needed to be mathematicians to figure that one out. In the end, it was all about great skating and may the best athlete win!

Story by Marge Reynolds

The junior competition at the U.S. Championships is always one of the most watched events by fans and the media. It's sometimes the first look at the next great U.S. skaters. This year's event didn't disappoint, as an impressive mix of competitors put on a spectacular show to capture gold.

LADIES

Newcomers to the junior ranks populated this year's ladies' roster, with Ann Patrice McDonough the only returnee from 1999's Junior Ladies' top 10 field. McDonough (Broadmoor SC) showed renewed determination to become the champion after placing sixth in 1999 and fifth in 1998.

"I stayed back one more year because I really wanted this Junior Ladies' title. I've dreamed of winning it for three years," she said.

Lisa Nesuda (Dallas FSC) missed last year's junior event with competitive regional level problems, but returned this season with renewed dedication and she credits her new coaching team of Gordie and Chris McKellen.

"Working with a sports psychologist has also been a big help," she said. "I had a good time out there for both programs but I really wanted to land that final triple loop in my free skate." Her programs, "On Golden Pond" and "Fiesta" were choreographed by Walter Afalla. She was first after the short.

McDonough placed second in the short program after triple flip problems in her performance to "Gypsy."

Jordana Blesa of Los Angeles FSC was third in the short program after missing the triple Lutz. She dropped to sixth in the free skate and fifth overall, finishing out of the final medals.

Beatrisa Liang, the diminutive 1999 Novice ladies' bronze medalist, made a meteoric rise in this year's free skate, going from 10th in the short program to third in the free skate. She placed sixth overall and grabbed the audience's attention early as the second skater to compete, landing five triples.

"My music was Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 and I have never experienced anything like that (audience's response) ever," said Liang, who is coached by Tiffany Chin.

This year's free skate featured many Spanish music choices and "Mask of Zorro" was particularly popular in the final group. Nesuda performed with wonderful presentation in her free skate but two-footed her triple Lutz, landing three clean triples to finish second.

"I think the triple Lutz made the difference," said Gordie McKellen. "After landing them in practice all week, she just didn't trust it and two-footed."

As the final skater, McDonough performed a strong program with five triples and strong spins to "Malaguena."

"I gave her a rock before the free skating program that was engraved with the message 'Seize the Day' instead of a stuffed animal," said her coach Janet Champion.

"Malaguena" is special to McDonough, who also skated a variation of it for her 1996 Junior Olympics Intermediate title.

Kathryn Orscher (SC of Hartford) and Dirke O'Brien Baker (University of Delaware FSC) both made their first trips to the U.S. Championships count as they took home the bronze and pewter medals, respectively.

"When they played 'Mask of Zorro' for the third time in a

row, I heard some of the audience laughing about that and I laughed along with them inside while I skated," said Orscher. "I am thrilled the world could see how well I skated."

Orscher pulled up from fifth in the short program to fourth in the free skate and third overall.

A deep U.S. senior ladies' field of junior eligible international competitors kept the junior medalists off the World Junior team this year, but look for some of these talented young ladies to challenge in the future.

MEN

The junior men's event brimmed with surprising twists and turns, keeping Cleveland's audience in suspense until the final results flashed on Gund Arena's scoreboard. Results can "flip-flop" when major placement movement occurs among the top skaters.

Parker Pennington (Winterhurst FSC) and Johnny Weir (Delaware FSC) returned this season as junior competitors after earning bronze and pewter medals, respectively, in last year's junior event. 1999 Novice champion Evan Lysacek (Dupage FSC) and 1999 Novice pewter medalist Benjamin Miller (St. Paul FSC) also figured into this year's medal mix.

Weir won the short program with a completed triple Lutz and double Axel, but fell on the triple Axel of his planned combination jump while skating to "Espana Cani" by Eric Konzel. He was one of only two competitors attempting the triple Axel in the short (Jordan Wilson, 11th, was the other).

"The more times he can get the triple Axel out there the better," said Weir's coach Priscilla Hill.

Miller, who trains in Minneapolis with Ted Engelking, skated a clean and fast paced short program for second.

"I really enjoy performing for people although the jumping is fun, too," said Miller.

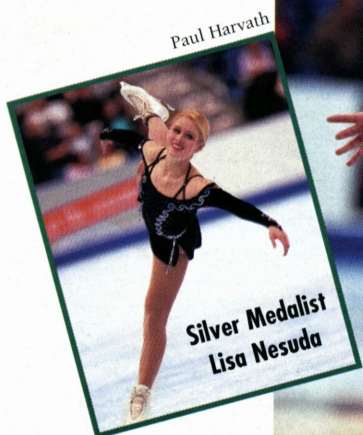
Third place in the short program went to Daniel Lee (Broadmoor FSC), who finished sixth overall last year.

After strong practices all week, Pennington and Lysacek both missed triple flips in their short programs, placing them fourth and fifth, respectively, going into the final round.

The stage was set for a battle among the top five. Pennington opened the final group with his John Tesh free skate to "One World." He remained standing on his triple Axel attempt, but missed his triple Lutz late in the program.

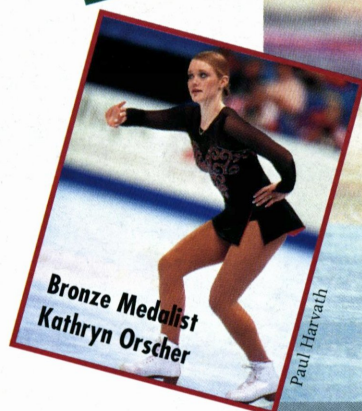
"I didn't skate that well, but I am satisfied with how I skated under tough conditions," he said. "I think missing the triple Lutz at the end cost me."

Lysacek next presented his "Romeo and Juliet" program. He included a triple flip-half loop-triple Salchow combination and a triple Lutz for a total of five triples.



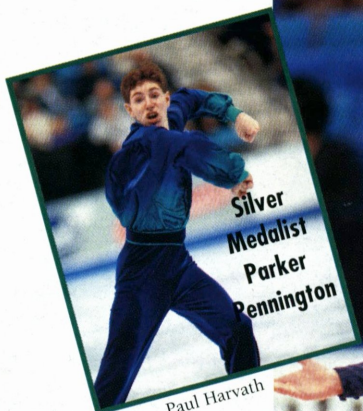
Paul Harvath

Silver Medalist
Lisa Nesuda



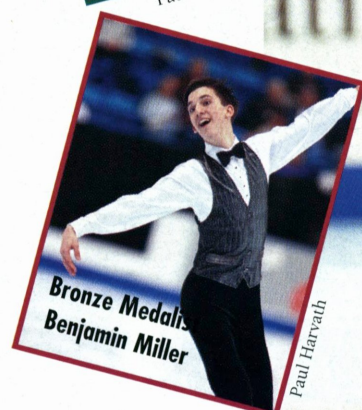
Paul Harvath

Bronze Medalist
Kathryn Orscher



Paul Harvath

Silver Medalist
Parker Pennington



Paul Harvath

Bronze Medalist
Benjamin Miller



Michelle Harvath

Ann Patrice McDonough jumped up from sixth place a year ago to capture Junior Ladies' gold. Evan Lysacek made it a double -- he was last year's Novice Champion.



Paul Harvath

Stephanie Kalesavich and Aaron Parchem captured all nine first-place votes in the free skate to defeat defending champions Sima and Amir Ganaba.

Lee entertained with Cherry Popping Daddies' music, but had jump problems while Miller skated solidly to "Putting on the Ritz" and "The Old Soft Shoe" including two triple Lutzes, one in combination.

Pennington led with Miller in second and Lysacek in third until the last competitor -- Weir -- took the ice. Weir had a disappointing outing, dropping to fifth in the free skate and fifth overall. One first place judge's ordinal went to Weir while Miller had three, Lysacek three and Pennington two. Using second place ordinals as the first tiebreaker eliminated Miller, placing him third but kept Pennington and Lysacek tied with six second place majorities. The second tiebreaker used total ordinals and Lysacek won that by one judge to capture the title over Pennington.

Lysacek and Pennington were 2000 World Junior team alternates as two highly ranked senior competitors (Ryan Bradley and Matthew Savoie) still have junior international eligibility.

"At first I felt really lucky to win, but after I watched the tape of the event I realized I had worked really hard all year and deserved to succeed," said Lysacek.

"Only one other man in the past 50 years won back-to-back novice and junior titles," said Lysacek's coach, Debbie Stoery. Terry Kubicka won both titles in 1971 and 1972, and won the 1976 U.S. senior men's championship.

The other seven men to accomplish the novice-to-junior title feat earned back-to-back medals during the 1930's and 1940's.

Lysacek plans to stay in the junior ranks next year, while Pennington remains undecided.

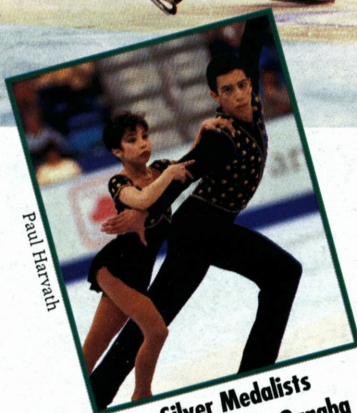
PAIRS

The pairs' event featured last year's returning medalists, although two new partnerships figured into the final standings. Aaron Parchem (Detroit SC) and new partner Stephanie Kalesavich finished atop the medal stand.

"We didn't want to focus on winning;

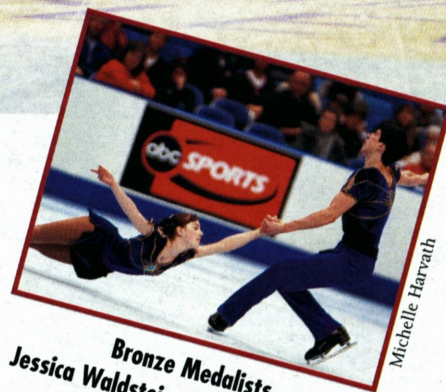


Paul Harvath



Paul Harvath

**Silver Medalists
Sima and Amir Ganaba**



Michelle Harvath

**Bronze Medalists
Jessica Waldstein and Garrett Lucash**

we wanted to skate well," said Kalesavich.

Sima Ganaba and Amir Ganaba (Los Angeles FSC) returned as the defending champions, while Garrett Lucash (Charter Oak FSC) re-entered with new partner Jessica Waldstein (South Bay FSC). Lucash was the silver medalist last year with Jaisa MacAdam. Megan and Dustin Sierk (Huntington FSC) won last year's bronze medal while Parchem finished ninth with former partner Shawna Winter.

The short program belonged to the Ganabas, who entertained with their engaging "Two Guitars" program -- revamped from last season. They won over Kalesavich and Parchem with five first-place marks -- their only flaw being a slight footwork slip.

"We added a category six lift that is a variation on the star takeoff with three position changes that they have trained all year," said the Ganabas' coach/choreographer Peter Oppgaard.

Parchem and Kalesavich performed to the "French Kiss" soundtrack by Louie Armstrong for their short.

"They have only been a team since May," said coach Johnny Johns, who works with the team along with Mitch Moyer and Jason Dungjen in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. "Changing partners was a

hard choice for Aaron, but it has worked out very well."

"From the first time they worked on the ice together we all knew this partnership would be the best possible combination," added Moyer.

For the free skate, Kalesavich and Parchem set the bar with a fast, clean and entertaining performance to "Dragonheart," ultimately taking all nine judges' first place ordinals and first place overall.

"We need to add side-by-side triples and more complicated lifts for next season," said Parchem, who plans to advance to the senior level with Kalesavich.

The Ganabas settled for second place with their "1905" program about an unsuccessful Russian revolution.

"We got a little jittery on our double Axels," said Sima Ganaba.

Waldstein and Lucash, training in Simsbury, Conn., with Bob Young, pulled up to third place with their free skate to "The Mummy" after placing fourth in the short.

"I am pleased with how we skated as we are still getting used to how we each react in competition," said Lucash.

The top two medalists were not eligible for the World Junior Championships

In second after the original dance, Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto won the Junior Dance title with a scintillating free dance.

due to the ISU's July 1 cut-off date. Sima Ganaba is too young at age 13 with an October birthday while Parchem, who turned 22 last June 6, can no longer compete at the international junior level.

"I would love to see this age rule changed," said Oppegard. "The Ganabas can compete in the Junior Grand Prix series next year but not World Juniors. I wrote a letter to the ISU requesting the next ISU Congress change the rule."

DANCE

Emilie Nussear and Brandon Forsyth (Charter Oaks FSC) returned this season after winning silver medals last year. Jessica Valentine (SC of Maine) and Matthew Kossack (SC of Boston) were fifth at those championships. Kakani Young and Ikaika Young (Seattle SC), 1999 Novice champions, proved to be a team to watch this year as were Lia Nitake (All Year FSC) and Ryan O'Meara (Coyotes SC), who took 1999 Novice bronze. But it was national newcomers Tanith Belbin (Detroit SC) and Benjamin Agosto (Skokie Valley SC) who successfully challenged Nussear and Forsyth for this year's junior title.

Compulsory dance competition was held at Winterhurst, the only junior competition not at Gund. Belbin and Agosto, who train in Detroit with Igor Shpilband and Liz Coates, led the field after the two compulsory dances (Westminister Waltz and Tango), winning eight of the nine judges for both rounds.

Belbin grew up in Kingston, Ontario, but moved to the U.S. from Kirkland Lake, Quebec, where Paul Wirtz formerly coached her for pair skating.

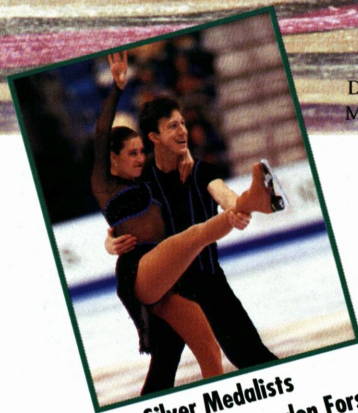
"My whole family has moved here from Canada and my mom makes our costumes," said Belbin. "I haven't started the U.S. citizenship process yet but I will soon."

Shpilband teamed her with Agosto, who competed two years ago with Katy Hill at the U.S. Championships. The new team has skated together since March 1998.

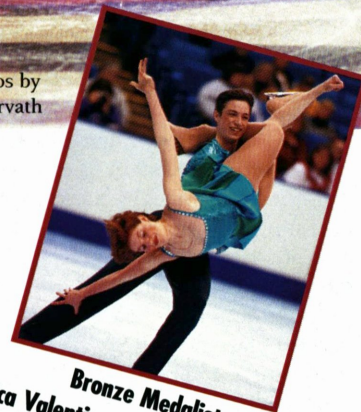
"I could see their potential immediately the first time they skated," said Shpilband.



Dance photos by
Michelle Harvath



Silver Medalists
Emilie Nussear and Brandon Forsyth



Bronze Medalists
Jessica Valentine and Matthew Kossack

Nussear and Forsyth followed them in the standings, with Valentine and Kossack solidly in third place after the compulsory rounds. The tide changed when Nussear and Forsyth battled back for the original dance lead, using samba and rumba rhythms in a program choreographed by 1993 World Ice Dance Champion Sasha Zhulin.

The duo's program was highlighted by difficult moves and positions and pulled them ahead in the overall standings. Belbin and Agosto, who performed a lovely flowing program to music from "The Mambo Kings" soundtrack, used samba and rumba rhythms to place second in a five to four judges' decision.

Valentine and Kossack further distanced themselves over fourth-place Young and Young by receiving nine third-places.

The judges saw a variety of styles in the free dance, which determined champions and medalists. Nussear and Forsyth opened the final four group with a lively performance to music from the musical "Chicago" that was choreographed by former U.S. dance champion Michael Seibert. Their energetic number included spectacular lifts and positions and good speed.

Valentine and Kossack cemented their third position, taking eight of the nine judges for third place with their dance to the Afro-Celt Sound System.

"We came here hoping for third place," said Valentine.

The pewter medal went to Nitake and O'Meara, who entertained the Gund Arena crowd with their strong performance to win by one judge over the Youngs, who placed fifth.

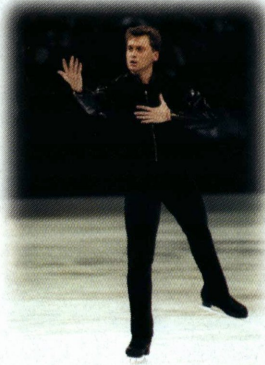
Belbin and Agosto, the final team to take the ice, performed to Vivaldi's "Four Seasons," which highlighted their deep edges and elegantly sensual style. Shpilband did their choreography and included a variety of dance holds for this talented team. Winning by seven judges over Nussear and Forsyth for the title, Agosto said, "We felt really strong and gave it our best effort."

The top three U.S. junior teams represented the U.S. at World Juniors and should do well on the international stage.

Marge Reynolds is a frequent contributor to Skating.

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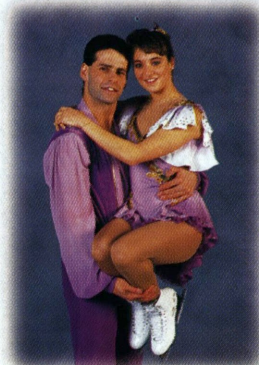
VIKTOR PETRENKO



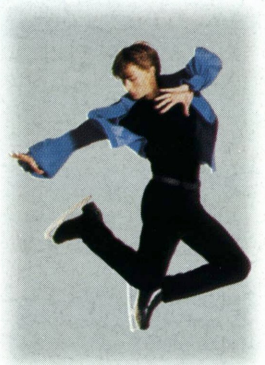
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Winners Shine at Winterhurst



Novice Dance Gold Medalists Loren Galler-Rabinowitz and David Mitchell

Photo by Paul Harvath

Winterhurst Arena boasted a packed house with standing room only for both days of the Novice events at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships. For many people, it was their first look at some of the country's up and coming young stars -- and it served as a springboard for future success and as a learning experience for all participants.

Story by Lynn Novelli

Winterhurst Ice Rink in Lakewood, Ohio, has been best known in recent years as Timothy Goebel's training site. To the local residents in this Cleveland suburb, Winterhurst is the neighborhood ice rink. It's where school kids have birthday parties, where local hockey rivalries flourish, and where dozens of aspiring young skaters train.

For the first weekend in February, Winterhurst stepped into a new role -- host rink for the U.S. Novice Championships.

The competition attracted more than 1,100 fans both days. The box office quit selling tickets by noon and people waited outside hoping to get in and see the action.

Inside, it was standing room only as the crowd settled in to enjoy its first look at the rising stars of U.S. skating.

MEN

The Novice Men's events showcased a talented new generation of male figure skaters ranging in age from 11 to 17. Only three of last year's novice men competitors returned this year, and two of those skaters (Shaun Rogers and Dustin Brinsmade) moved up to finish in the top five.

The decisive free skate was a free-for-all, with the skaters throwing in every triple and double jump, Russian split and flying sit spin in their repertoires. In the quest for the title, all of the skaters impressively risked their best, and, as a result, none of the three medalists skated a clean program.

Shaun Rogers (University of Delaware FSC), fresh from first

place finishes at the 2000 Eastern Novice and 2000 South Atlantic Novice Championships, skated to the gold medal.

Rogers took the early lead with a scintillating, technically solid short program that had the crowd thundering for more and earned him all nine first-place marks. The seventh-place finisher in the same event last year, Rogers said being in first place heading into the long program didn't put a lot of pressure on him because he doesn't "really get nervous." He admittedly did not have his best performance in the free skate, but it was enough to hold on to the gold medal.

"It (my performance) was good, but I wasn't really thinking about a couple of the jumps so I missed them," said Rogers. "I was sick before the short, though, and then I won the short, which I wasn't even close to doing last year. I'll remember that."

Christopher Toland (Glacier Falls FSC) took home the silver after finishing second in both the short program and free skate. Toland's free skate earned four first place marks, and he was pleased with his results against a good group of skaters.

"It was tough out there," said Toland, who was the pewter medal winner in intermediate men at the 1999 Junior Olympics. "But that was the level of competition I expected."

Adam Aronowitz (Charter Oak FSC) made one of the biggest jumps in the event by moving up to third place after placing fifth in the short program.

"I was very mad at myself for popping a good double Axel-double toe combination, but I think I made up for it after I landed both triple Salchows. I'm very happy about that," said Aronowitz.

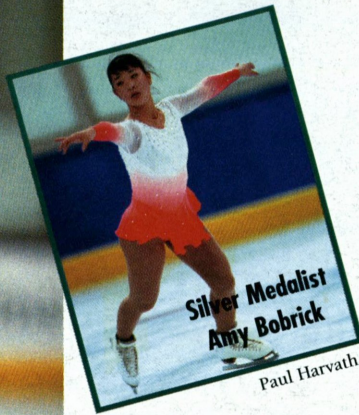
LADIES

The Novice Ladies events were the last on the schedule both days, but nobody gave up their seats in the bleachers to go home for dinner.



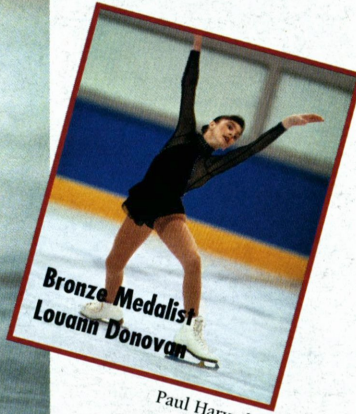
Michelle Harvath

Colette Irving won the free skate to capture ladies' gold in the novice event, while Shaun Rogers, seventh in the same event last year, won both programs for the overall victory.



Silver Medalist
Amy Bobrick

Paul Harvath

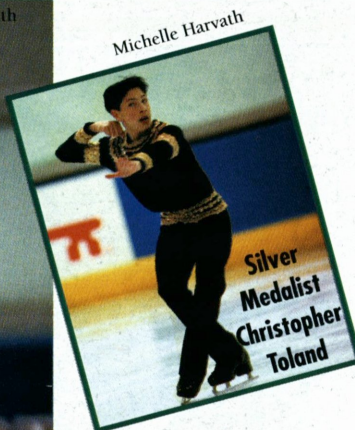


Bronze Medalist
Louann Donovan

Paul Harvath

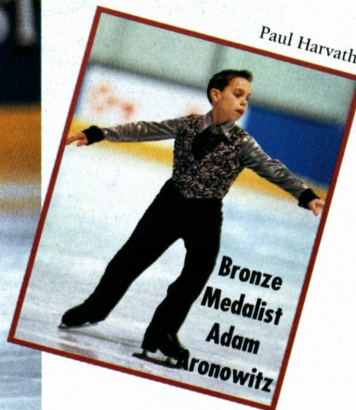


Paul Harvath



Silver Medalist
Christopher Toland

Michelle Harvath



Bronze Medalist
Adam Bronowitz

Paul Harvath

Ranging in age from 12 to 15, the ladies presented a highly competitive event. After the short program, it was clear that this would not be a cakewalk for anyone.

Amy Bobrick (New England FSC) was first after the short program, with Colette Irving (SC of Boston) breathing down her neck in second place. Joan Cristobal (Peninsula SC) was third.

Irving returned to the ice with a stunning free skate that included a triple toe-double toe, a triple Salchow and a triple toe. Her free skate earned technical marks as high as 4.9 and captured five of the first-place marks.

Bobrick followed with a graceful skate that combined artistry and athleticism and earned a 5.0 for technical merit from one judge. But Irving's free skate reversed the previous day's order of finish, moving her to first and Bobrick to second in the final standings.

Louann Donovan (SC of Boston) skated a well-choreographed jazz program that propelled her from fifth after the short to the bronze medal.

PAIRS

It would have been hard not to like any of the novice pairs competing at Winterhurst. From the dramatic West Side story short program of Alicia Heelan (Skating Club of Vail) and Eric Leser (Broadmoor SC) to the Swan Lake free skate of Sarah Jo Damron-Brown and Themistocle Leftheris (SC of New York), the pairs' teams exhibited creativity and technical expertise.

But when Kristen Roth and Michael McPherson (Detroit SC) took the ice for their short program, it was clear they had that extra sparkle. Their snappy "In the Mood" short program earned all first-place ordinals, and they continued to dazzle the fans with a daring free skate that clinched the gold. The 14-year-old Roth and 17-year-old McPherson are coached by the team of Tracie Sheppard, Johnny Johns, Mitch Moyer and Jason Dungen.

"We had two minor little bobbles, but nothing really major at all," said McPherson. "I thought it was one of the better performances we have had all year. We were completely ready and raring to go out there and get it over with."

Heelan and Leser made a major jump in the standings after sitting in fifth place after the short program. The pair skated a solid free skate to move three

places and pick up the silver. Erin Goto and Scott Smith (Glacier Falls FSC) showed off their beautiful line with elegant paired footwork and spirals to take home the bronze medal.

"Last year at nationals we were 11th going into the long and this year we were third," said Smith. "We had all the confidence we could. It was great."

DANCE

Clevelanders love ice dancing, especially when they can cheer on the hometown team of Katie Collins (Pavilion SC) and Lincoln Coverdale (Shaker FSC). Friends and local fans shook the bleachers with cheers when the young pair took the ice and finished a respectable eighth.

Nonetheless, gold medalists Loren Galler-Rabinowitz and David Mitchell (SC of Boston) won the hearts of the audience with their graceful compulsory dances followed by a fast-paced, peasant-inspired free dance. The win highlighted an already successful year for the couple, who won the dance event at the North American Challenge Skate in Toronto last summer and then swept the Eastern Sectionals. Galler-Rabinowitz, who said she never remembers how she skates, did remember the roar of the crowd.

"It's very helpful when you get on the ice and everybody's screaming for you," she said. "Knowing that you have support, it makes you skate better."

Silver medalists Shelley MacLeod and Nicholas Moormann (SC of Boston), second after the compulsory dances, returned for the free dance with a high speed, energetic jazz program. They again exhibited the sharp, clean footwork and strong edges that gave them a solid second place.

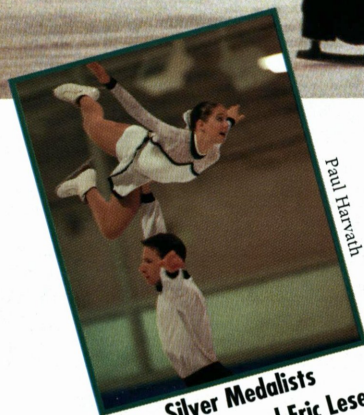
"I couldn't imagine anything more," said Moormann after the free skate. "That was the best performance I've ever felt in my whole entire life. We have worked too hard and too long to blow it. We just wanted to have fun."

Kirsten Frisch (SC of Morris) and Brent Bommentre (Wissahickon SC) broke free from a tie for third after the compulsory dances (with Laura Smith and Andrew Smith) to finish with the bronze medal. Their exciting, Spanish-style performance included intricate footwork and lifts and a dip that drew cheers and whistles from the audience. The Smiths finished in fourth.



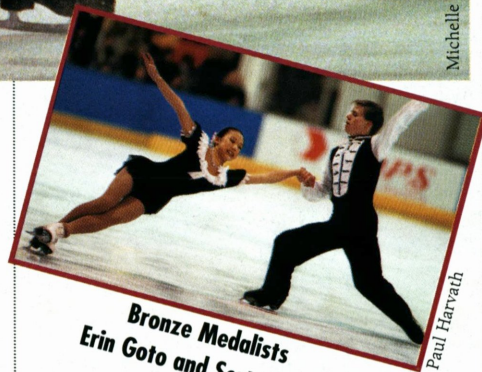
Kristen Roth and Michael McPherson were the unanimous winners in the pairs' event.

Michelle Harvath



Silver Medalists Alicia Heelan and Eric Leser

Paul Harvath



Bronze Medalists Erin Goto and Scott Smith

Paul Harvath

TEAM 2006

Part of the excitement of U.S. Championship week for the novice participants has little to do with the competition. After the medals were awarded, the novice competitors participated in the Chevrolet Team 2006 novice seminar. The seminar included workshops for both skaters and their parents and is designed to give the young skaters specific training in many different areas.

This year's Chevrolet Team 2006 seminar kicked off with a breakfast that included inspiring speeches from 1984 Olympic gold medalist Scott Hamilton and 1999 pairs' medalists Laura Handy and Paul Binnebose and Danielle and Steve Hartsell.

Hamilton reminded the participants that less-than-stellar results by skaters at a young age isn't necessarily an indication of future success. Hamilton himself finished last in the U.S. Novice Championships as a child, but eventually used those results to inspire him to work harder and improve.

The pairs' teams gave advice on how best to work with partners, understand each other and share goals.

The skaters attended seminars on sports medicine and nutrition, psychology, learned about strength and conditioning (including aerobic exercise and weight training), met with judges and received a first look at how they appear on television through media training. After every competitor's free skate, the athletes were ushered into a mock "kiss and cry" area where they were videotaped in two-minute interview sessions. Later the videos were evaluated and skaters were given tips on how to best express themselves in an interview. Parents also received media training and attended workshops on nutri-



Michelle Harvath

Chevrolet Team 2006

tion and psychology.

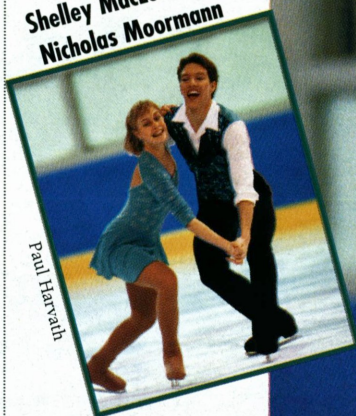
The Chevrolet Team 2006 seminar continues to be a successful way to develop

novice athletes and help guide them down the path to more national glory.

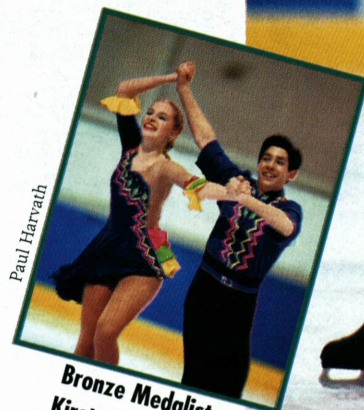
Lynn Novelli is a freelance writer based out of Cleveland, Ohio.

The Team 2006 story was written by Skating editor Laura Fawcett.

**Silver Medalists
Shelley MacLeod and
Nicholas Moormann**



Paul Harvath



Paul Harvath

**Bronze Medalists
Kirsten Frisch and
Brent Bommertre**

**Loren Galler-Rabinowitz
and David Mitchell
delighted the sellout
Winterhurst crowd and
won the dance gold**



Paul Harvath



Y2K @ IWSA

At Indiana/World Skating Academy, we're dedicated to the athletes' pursuit of maximizing their skating potential. Our dual rink facility, set in the heart of downtown Indianapolis, houses an intensive program featuring:

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IN SKATING
TECHNOLOGY



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OF THE YEAR

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ROB MCBRIEN
JUNE 6 - 10



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ACADEMY & RESEARCH CENTER**
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2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships

Feb. 6-13 -- Cleveland, Ohio

CHAMPIONSHIP LADIES

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 2 Kimberly Heim, Troy, OH; 3 Robert Rosenbluth, Philadelphia, PA; 4 Joseph Inman, Alexandria, VA; 5 Tamie Campbell, Eden Prairie, MN; 6 Joseph Driano, Edmonds, WA; 7 Kathaleen Kelly Cutone, Reading, MA; 8 Lorrie Parker, Overland Park, KS; 9 Larry Kriwanek, Manhattan Beach, CA; **REFEREE:** Bette Snuggerud*, Minnetonka, MN; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Phyllis Howard, Arlington, VA; **ACCOUNTANT:** Michael Meyer, Springfield, IL

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 2 Kimberly Heim, Troy, OH; 3 Robert Rosenbluth, Philadelphia, PA; 4 Joseph Inman, Alexandria, VA; 5 Tamie Campbell, Eden Prairie, MN; 6 Joseph Driano, Edmonds, WA; 7 Kathaleen Kelly Cutone, Reading, MA; 8 Lorrie Parker, Overland Park, KS; 9 Larry Kriwanek, Manhattan Beach, CA; **REFEREE:** Bette Snuggerud*, Minnetonka, MN; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Phyllis Howard, Arlington, VA; **ACCOUNTANT:** Michael Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

- Michelle Kwan, Los Angeles FSC, 3-1-2.5
- Sasha Cohen, Orange County FSC, 1-2-2.5
- Sarah Hughes, The SC of New York, 2-3-4.0
- Angela Nikodinov, All Year FSC, 4-4-6.0
- Andrea Gardiner, Houston FSC, 6-5-8.0
- Stacey Pensgen, Genesee FSC, 7-7-10.5
- Jennifer Kirk, The SC of Boston, 11-6-11.5
- Naomi Nari Nam, All Year FSC, 5-9-11.5
- Deanna Stellato, Wagon Wheel FSC, 8-8-12.0
- Sara Wheat, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 12-10-16.0
- Andrea Aggeler, Broadmoor SC, 10-12-17.0
- Brittney McCann, Atlanta FSC, 9-13-17.5
- Amber Corwin, All Year FSC, 15-11-18.5
- Elizabeth Kwon, SC of Northern Virginia, 14-14-21.0
- Heidi Pakkala, Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, 13-15-21.5
- Stephanie Roth, The SC of New York, 16-16-24.0
- Katie Lee, St. Paul FSC, 19-17-26.5
- Susan Ng, Rim of the World FSC, 18-18-27.0
- Cohen Duncan, St. Moritz ISC, 17-20-28.5
- Kimberly Kilby, St. Moritz ISC, 20-19-29.0

CHAMPIONSHIP MEN

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Joan Burns, Millbrae, CA; 2 Gale Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; 3 Deborah Hagenauer, Whitehall, PA; 4 Shannon Hunter, Seattle, WA; 5 Dorothy Jamison, Hancock, MI; 6 Ron DeiCas, Trenton, NJ; 7 Susan Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 8 William Smith, Tulsa, OK; 9 Charles Cyr, Palm Desert, CA; **REFEREE:** Lucy Brennan, New York, NY; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Jon Jackson, San Francisco, CA; **ACCOUNTANT:** Lainie DeMore*, North Ridgeville, OH

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Joan Burns, Millbrae, CA; 2 Gale Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; 3 Deborah Hagenauer, Whitehall, PA; 4 Shannon Hunter, Seattle, WA; 5 Dorothy Jamison, Hancock, MI; 6 Ron DeiCas, Trenton, NJ; 7 Susan Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 8 William Smith, Tulsa, OK; 9 Charles Cyr, Palm Desert, CA; **REFEREE:** Lucy Brennan, New York, NY; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Jon Jackson, San Francisco, CA; **ACCOUNTANT:** Lainie DeMore*, North Ridgeville, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

- Michael Weiss, Washington FSC, 1-1-1.5
- Timothy Goebel, Winterhurst FSC, 2-2-3.0
- Trifun Zivanovic, All Year FSC, 4-3-5.0
- Matthew Savoie, Illinois Valley FSC, 3-5-6.5
- Ryan Jahnke, Broadmoor SC, 7-4-7.5
- Damon Allen, Broadmoor SC, 5-6-8.5
- Ryan Bradley, Broadmoor SC, 6-7-10.0
- Derrick Delmore, Washington FSC, 10-8-13.0
- Justin Dillon, St. Moritz ISC, 8-9-13.0
- Johnnie Bevan, Spokane FSC, 12-11-17.0
- Kurt Fromknecht, Westminster FSC of Erie, 15-10-17.5
- Don Baldwin, Los Angeles FSC, 13-12-18.5
- Danny Clausen, St. Paul FSC, 11-14-19.5
- Jeff Merica, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 9-15-19.5
- John Baldwin, Jr., All Year FSC, 14-13-20.0
- Shepherd Clark, The SC of Boston, - withdrew

CHAMPIONSHIP DANCE

JUDGES - COMP DANCE 1: 1 Linda Leaver, Salt Lake City, UT; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 4 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 5 John Millier, New York, NY; 6 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 7 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 8 Elaine DeMore, Cleveland, OH; 9 Ann Greenthal, New York, NY; **REFEREE:** Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; **ACCOUNTANT:** Edward Mann, Park Ridge, IL

JUDGES - COMP DANCE 2: 1 Linda Leaver, Salt Lake City, UT; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 4 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 5 John Millier, New York, NY; 6 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 7 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 8 Elaine DeMore, Cleveland, OH; 9 Ann Greenthal, New York, NY; **REFEREE:** Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; **ACCOUNTANT:** Edward Mann, Park Ridge, IL

JUDGES - ORIGINAL DANCE: 1 Linda Leaver, Salt Lake City, UT; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 4 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 5 John Millier, New York, NY; 6 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 7 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 8 Elaine DeMore, Cleveland, OH; 9 Ann Greenthal, New York, NY; **REFEREE:** Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; **ACCOUNTANT:** Edward Mann, Park Ridge, IL

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NAME, CLUB NAME, D1-D2-OD-FD-PLACES

- Naomi Lang, Detroit SC, Peter Tchernyshev, Detroit SC, 1-1-1-1-2.0
- Jamie Silverstein, Detroit SC, Justin Pekarek, Detroit SC, 2-2-2-2-4.0
- Deborah Koegel, Iceworks SC, Oleg Fediukov, Iceworks SC, 3-3-4-3-6.6
- Beata Handra, Santa Rosa FSC, Charles Sinek, The SC of New York, 4-4-3-4-7.4
- Alison Newman, New England FSC, Dmitri Boundoukin, New England FSC, 5-5-5-5-10.0
- Crystal Beckerdite, Broadmoor SC, Matt Healy, Broadmoor SC, 6-6-6-6-12.0
- Jamie Katz, Washington FSC, Vasilij Serkov, Washington FSC, 7-7-8-7-14.6
- Kristen Fraser, Detroit SC, Jonathan Nichols, Detroit SC, 8-8-7-8-15.4
- Annie Yang, Los Angeles FSC, Walter Lang, The SC of Boston, 10-10-10-9-18.8
- Stephanie Woodman, Univ. of Delaware FSC, Robert Peal, Skokie Valley SC, 9-10-9-10-19.2
- Caitlin Obrenski, Washington FSC, Jonathan Magalnick, Coyotes SC of Arizona, 12-12-11-11-22.4
- Disa Steiber, Skokie Valley SC, Patrick Connolly, All Year FSC, 11-11-12-12-23.6
- Elizabeth Curtiss, Univ. of Delaware FSC, Vincent Vanvliet, Genesee FSC, - withdrew

CHAMPIONSHIP PAIRS

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Margery Schleh, Sacramento, CA; 2 Kitty DeLio, Denver, CO; 3 Anne Cammett, Rush, NY; 4 Steve Winkler, Copalis Beach, WA; 5 Kristin Arneson Cutler, Eden Prairie, MN; 6 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 7 Colette Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 8 Beth Graham, Denver, CO; 9 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; **REFEREE:** Kathy Slack, Troy, OH; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Josephine Lawless, West Hills, CA; **ACCOUNTANT:** Suzanne Courtright, Arlington, VA

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Margery Schleh, Sacramento, CA; 2 Kitty DeLio, Denver, CO; 3 Anne Cammett, Rush, NY; 4 Steve Winkler, Copalis Beach, WA; 5 Kristin Arneson Cutler, Eden Prairie, MN; 6 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 7 Colette Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 8 Beth Graham, Denver, CO; 9 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; **REFEREE:** Kathy Slack, Troy, OH; **ASSISTANT REFEREE:** Josephine Lawless, West Hills, CA; **ACCOUNTANT:** Suzanne Courtright, Arlington, VA

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

- Kyoko Ina, The SC of New York, John Zimmerman, Birmingham FSC, 1-1-1.5
- Tiffany Scott, Colonial FSC, Philip Dulebohn, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 2-2-3.0
- Larisa Spielberg, Detroit SC, Craig Joeright, Detroit SC, 4-3-5.0
- Amanda Magarian, Broadmoor SC, Jered Guzman, Los Angeles FSC, 5-4-6.5
- Tiffany Stiegler, Los Angeles FSC, Johnnie Stiegler, Los Angeles FSC, 3-5-6.5

- Jessica Miller, Northern Kentucky SC, Jeffrey Weiss, Peninsula SC, 8-6-10.0
- Natalie Vlandis, Los Angeles FSC, James Peterson, Lakewood Winter Club, 6-7-10.0
- Molly Quigley, Nashville FSC, Bert Cording, Nashville FSC, 7-8-11.5
- Whitney Gaynor, Peninsula SC, David Delago, St. Moritz ISC, 11-9-14.5
- Po Hayes, Atlanta FSC, Richard Gillam, Los Angeles FSC, 9-10-14.5
- Ashley Wilson, Ann Arbor FSC, Mel Chapman, Garden City FSC, 10-11-16.0
- Christina Connolly, Nashville FSC, Kevin Donovan, Yarmouth Ice Club, 12-12-18.0

JUNIOR LADIES

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Susan Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 2 Kristin Arneson Cutler, Eden Prairie, MN; 3 Kirsten Novak, Salt Lake City, UT; 4 Colette Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 5 Gale Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; 6 Joan Burns, Millbrae, CA; 7 Deborah Hagenauer, Whitehall, PA; 8 William Smith, Tulsa, OK; 9 Margery Schleh, Sacramento, CA; REFEREE: Jon Jackson, San Francisco, CA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Kathy Slack, Troy, OH; ACCOUNTANT: Suzanne Courtright, Arlington, VA

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NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

- Ann Patrice McDonough, Broadmoor SC, 2-1-2.0
- Lisa Nesuda, Dallas FSC, 1-2-2.5
- Kathryn Orscher, SC of Hartford, 5-4-6.5
- Dirke O'Brien Baker, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 4-5-7.0
- Jordana Blesa, Los Angeles FSC, 3-6-7.5
- Beatrisa Liang, All Year FSC, 10-8.0
- Kim Ryan, Lilac City FSC, 6-7-10.0
- Lindsey Weber, Detroit SC, 9-8-12.5
- Midori Williams, Colonial FSC, 7-9-12.5
- Kimberly Olson-Wheeler, DuPage FSC, 11-10-15.5
- Joanna Glick, The SC of New York, 8-12-16.0
- Felicia Beck, Los Angeles FSC, 12-11-17.0

JUNIOR MEN

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Joseph Driano, Edmonds, WA; 2 Tamie Campbell, Eden Prairie, MN; 3 Judith Reiner, Arlington, VA; 4 Linda Leaver, Salt Lake City, UT; 5 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 6 Beth Graham, Denver, CO; 7 Anne Cammett, Rush, NY; 8 Kathaleen Kelly Cutone, Reading, MA; 9 Steve Winkler, Copalis Beach, WA; REFEREE: Josephine Lawless, West Hills, CA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Bette Snuggerud*, Minnetonka, MN; ACCOUNTANT: Susan Magalnick, Phoenix, AZ

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REFEREE: Phyllis Howard, Arlington, VA; ACCOUNTANT: Susan Magalnick, Phoenix, AZ

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

- Evan Lysacek, DuPage FSC, 5-1-3.5
- Parker Pennington, Winterthur FSC, 4-2-4.0
- Benjamin Miller, St. Paul FSC, 2-3-4.0
- Daniel Lee, Broadmoor SC, 3-4-5.5
- Johnny Weir, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 1-5-5.5
- Michael Villarreal, Arctic Blades FSC, 6-6-9.0
- Nicholas Laroche, Colonial FSC, 7-7-10.5
- David Glynn, Los Angeles FSC, 8-8-12.0
- Michael Sasaki, South Bay FSC, 9-9-13.5
- Jason Heffron, FSC of Rockford, 12-10-16.0
- Victor Ehre, III, Jamestown SC, 10-11-16.0
- Joshua Murphy, New England FSC, 13-12-18.5
- Jordan Wilson, Santa Rosa FSC, 11-13-18.5

JUNIOR PAIRS

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 2 Dorothy Jamison, Hancock, MI; 3 Joseph Inman, Alexandria, VA; 4 Shannon Hunter, Seattle, WA; 5 Lorrie Parker, Overland Park, KS; 6 Ron DeCas, Trenton, NJ; 7 Robert Rosenbluth, Philadelphia, PA; 8 Kimberly Heim, Troy, OH; 9 Larry Kriwanek, Manhattan Beach, CA; REFEREE: Lucy Brennan, New York, NY; ASSISTANT REFEREE: John Chrien, Shaker Heights, OH; ACCOUNTANT: Esther Winslow, West Chatham, MA

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NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

- Stephanie Kalesavich, Detroit SC, Aaron Parchem, Detroit SC, 2-1-2.0
- Sima Ganaba, Los Angeles FSC, Amir Ganaba, Los Angeles FSC, 1-2-2.5
- Jessica Waldstein, South Bay FSC, Garrett Lucash, Charter Oak FSC, 4-3-5.0
- Megan Sierk, Huntsville FSC, Dustin Sierk, Huntsville FSC, 3-4-5.5
- Abbi Gleeson, Univ. of Delaware FSC, Jonathon Hunt, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 7-5-8.5
- Terese Anselmi, Detroit SC, Michael Adler, Detroit SC, 6-6-9.0
- Emily Morgan, Jamestown SC, Justin Cogley, Jamestown SC, 5-7-9.5
- Lindsay Rogeness, Los Angeles FSC, Brian Rogeness, Los Angeles FSC, 8-8-12.0
- Christen Dean, New England FSC, Joshua Murphy, New England FSC, 11-9-14.5
- Emma Phibbs, Washington FSC, William Rasmussen, Washington FSC, 10-10-15.0
- Brooke Kayland, Los Angeles FSC, Everett Weiss, All Year FSC, 9-11-15.5
- Kristen Treni, Jamestown SC, Robert Schupp, Santa Rosa FSC, 12-12-18.0
- Carey Floyd, Nashville FSC, Scott Shelton, Detroit SC, 13-13-19.5

JUNIOR DANCE

JUDGES - COMP DANCE 1: 1 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 4 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 5 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 6 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 7 Charles Cyr, Palm Desert, CA; 8 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 9 John Millier, New York, NY; REFEREE: Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; ACCOUNTANT: Anita Conrad, Mountlake Terrace, WA

JUDGES - COMP DANCE 2: 1 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 4 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 5 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 6 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 7 Charles Cyr, Palm Desert, CA; 8 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 9 John Millier, New York, NY; REFEREE: Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; ACCOUNTANT: Anita Conrad, Mountlake Terrace, WA

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JUDGES - FREE DANCE: 1 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 4 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 5 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 6 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 7 Charles Cyr, Palm Desert, CA; 8 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 9 John Millier, New York, NY; REFEREE: Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; ACCOUNTANT: Anita Conrad, Mountlake Terrace, WA

NAME, CLUB NAME, D1-D2-OD-FD-PLACES

- Tanith Belbin, Detroit SC, Benjamin Agosto, Skokie Valley SC, 1-1-2-1-2.6
- Emilie Nussear, Charter Oak FSC, Brandon Forsyth, Charter Oak FSC, 2-2-1-2-3.4
- Jesica Valentine, SC of Maine, Matthew Kossack, The SC of Boston, 3-3-3-3-6.0
- Lia Nitake, All Year FSC, Ryan O'Meara, Coyotes SC of Arizona, 5-5-5-4-9.0
- Kakani Young, Seattle SC, Ikaika Young, Seattle SC, 4-4-4-5-9.0
- Lydia Manon, Univ. of Delaware FSC, Chris Obzansky, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 6-6-6-6-12.0
- Wendi Mangiagli, All Year FSC, Joshua Abrahams, The SC of Boston, 9-7-7-7-14.4
- Katy Hill, Lone Star FSC, Nick Traxler, Lone Star FSC, 7-8-8-8-15.8
- Laura Munana, Palomares FSC, Paul Goldner, Hickory Hill FSC, 8-9-9-10-18.8
- Kimberly Navarro, Santa Rosa FSC, Robert Shmalo, Queen City FSC, 10-10-10-9-19.2
- Kendra Goodwin, SC of Morris NJ, Tyrrell Cockrum, Seattle SC, 11-10-11-11-21.8
- Donna Baldwin, Los Angeles FSC, Zachary Fix, Texas Gulf Coast FSC, 12-12-12-12-24.0

NOVICE LADIES

JUDGES – SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Kirsten Novak, Salt Lake City, UT; 2 Elaine DeMore, Cleveland, OH; 3 Ron DeiCas, Trenton, NJ; 4 Anne Cammett, Rush, NY; 5 Beth Graham, Denver, CO; 6 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 7 Steve Winkler, Copalis Beach, WA; 8 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 9 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; REFEREE: Josephine Lawless, West Hills, CA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Lucy Brennan, New York, NY; ACCOUNTANT: Michael Meyer, Springfield, IL

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NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Colette Irving, The SC of Boston, 2-1-2.0
2. Amy Bobrick, New England FSC, 1-2-2.5
3. Louann Donovan, The SC of Boston, 5-3-5.5
4. Theresa Antinori, Greater Grand Rapids FSC, 4-4-6.0
5. Joan Cristobal, Peninsula SC, 3-6-7.5
6. Tiffany Vise, Broadmoor SC, 6-5-8.0
7. Kailee Watson, Los Angeles FSC, 8-7-11.0
8. Lisa Horstman, DuPage FSC, 9-8-12.5
9. Joelle Forte, The SC of New York, 11-9-14.5
10. Samantha Mohr, Broadmoor SC, 7-12-15.5
11. Lanique Ruffin, St. Moritz ISC, 12-10-16.0
12. Brianna Weissmann, Los Angeles FSC, 10-11-16.0

NOVICE MEN

JUDGES – SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Deborah Hagenauer, Whitehall, PA; 2 Kristin Arneson Cutler, Eden Prairie, MN; 3 Larry Kriwanek, Manhattan Beach, CA; 4 Robert Rosenbluth, Philadelphia, PA; 5 Kitty DeLio, Denver, CO; 6 Colette Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 7 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 8 Lorrie Parker, Overland Park, KS; 9 Margery Schleh, Sacramento, CA; REFEREE: John Chrien, Shaker Heights, OH; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Kathy Slack, Troy, OH; ACCOUNTANT: Esther Winslow, West Chatham, MA

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NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Shaun Rogers, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 1-1-1.5
2. Christopher Toland, Glacier Falls FSC, 2-2-3.0
3. Adam Aronowitz, Charter Oak FSC, 5-3-5.5
4. Dennis Phan, Los Angeles FSC, 3-4-5.5
5. Dustin Brinsmade, Detroit SC, 4-5-7.0
6. Mauro Bruni, Windy Hill SC, 8-6-10.0
7. Wesley Campbell, Nashville FSC, 10-7-12.0
8. David Cochran-Yu, Rim of the World FSC, 6-9-12.0
9. Christopher Vaeth, Wissahickon SC, 11-8-13.5
10. Traighe Rouse, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 9-10-14.5
11. Benjamin Zumsteg, Skokie Valley SC, 7-13-16.5

12. Sam Dafoe, Dallas FSC, 12-11-17.0
13. Jed Hopkins, Utah FSC, 13-12-18.5
14. Daniel Steffel, Peninsula SC, 14-14-21.0

NOVICE PAIRS

JUDGES – SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Kathaleen Kelly Cutone, Reading, MA; 2 Gale Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; 3 Charles Cyr, Palm Desert, CA; 4 Judith Reiner, Arlington, VA; 5 William Smith, Tulsa, OK; 6 Joseph Driano, Edmonds, WA; 7 Susan Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 8 Tamie Campbell, Eden Prairie, MN; 9 Joan Burns, Millbrae, CA; REFEREE: Jon Jackson, San Francisco, CA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Phyllis Howard, Arlington, VA; ACCOUNTANT: Anita Conrad, Mountlake Terrace, WA

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Kathaleen Kelly Cutone, Reading, MA; 2 Gale Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; 3 Charles Cyr, Palm Desert, CA; 4 Judith Reiner, Arlington, VA; 5 William Smith, Tulsa, OK; 6 Joseph Driano, Edmonds, WA; 7 Susan Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 8 Tamie Campbell, Eden Prairie, MN; 9 Joan Burns, Millbrae, CA; REFEREE: Jon Jackson, San Francisco, CA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Phyllis Howard, Arlington, VA; ACCOUNTANT: Anita Conrad, Mountlake Terrace, WA

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Kristen Roth, Detroit SC, Michael McPherson, Detroit SC, 1-1-1.5
2. Alicia Heelan, SC of Vail, Eric Leser, Broadmoor SC, 5-2-4.5
3. Erin Goto, Glacier Falls FSC, Scott Smith, Glacier Falls FSC, 3-4-5.5
4. Sarah Jo Dameron-Brown, The SC of New York, Themistocles Leftheris, The SC of New York, 7-3-6.5
5. Keri Lynn Blakinger, Univ. of Delaware FSC, Mark Ladwig, Red River Valley FSC, 4-5-7.0
6. Nicole Hartunian, All Year FSC, Kirk Forbes, All Year FSC, 2-6-7.0
7. Amy Howerton, Dallas FSC, Steven Pottenger, II, Dallas FSC, 8-7-11.0
8. Alexis Hoffstadter, DuPage FSC, Lucas Vriner, DuPage FSC, 6-9-12.0
9. Alexa Ainsworth, North Atlantic FSC, Noah Abrahams, The SC of Boston, 9-8-12.5
10. Karen Clark, Glacier Falls FSC, Yevgeniy Shvetsov, Van Nuys FSC, 10-10-15.0
11. Courtney Mew, Georgia FSC, Drew Gray, Georgia FSC, 11-11-16.5
12. Tiffany Nielsen, All Year FSC, Robert Chrisman, Arrowhead FSC, 12-12-18.0

NOVICE DANCE

JUDGES - COMP DANCE 1: 1 John Millier, New York, NY; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 4 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 5 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 6 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 7 Ann Greenthal, New York, NY; 8 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 9 Linda Leaver, Salt Lake City, UT; REFEREE: Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; ACCOUNTANT: Susan Magalnick, Phoenix, AZ

JUDGES - COMP DANCE 2: 1 John Millier, New York, NY; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 4 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 5 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 6 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 7 Ann Greenthal, New York, NY; 8 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 9 Linda Leaver, Salt Lake City, UT; REFEREE: Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; ASSISTANT REFEREE:

Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; ACCOUNTANT: Susan Magalnick, Phoenix, AZ

JUDGES - FREE DANCE: 1 John Millier, New York, NY; 2 Richard Dalley, Grosse Ile, MI; 3 Janis Engel, Valencia, CA; 4 Sharon Rogers, Salt Lake City, UT; 5 Mary Karen Henderson, East Lansing, MI; 6 Sherie Grimson, Santa Ana, CA; 7 Ann Greenthal, New York, NY; 8 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 9 Linda Leaver, Salt Lake City, UT; REFEREE: Robert Horen, New Hope, PA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hal Marron, Phoenix, AZ; ACCOUNTANT: Susan Magalnick, Phoenix, AZ

NAME, CLUB NAME, D1-D2-FD-PLACES

1. Loren Galler-Rabinowitz, The SC of Boston, David Mitchell, The SC of Boston, 1-1-1-4.0
2. Shelley MacLeod, The SC of Boston, Nicholas Moormann, The SC of Boston, 2-2-2-8.0
3. Kirsten Frisch, SC of Morris NJ, Brent Bommentre, Wissahickon SC, 4-3-3-13.0
4. Laura Smith, Los Angeles FSC, Andrew Smith, Los Angeles FSC, 3-3-4-15.0
5. Layne Lawyer, Golden Blades FSC of Ohio, Matthew Inman, Meadville FSC, 5-5-7-24.0
6. Meryl Davis, Detroit SC, Charlie White, Detroit SC, 10-6-5-26.0
7. Hilary Dubose, Univ. of Delaware FSC, Paul Arthur Kimzey, Arctic Blades FSC, 9-6-6-28.0
8. Katie Collins, Pavilion SC, Lincoln Coverdale, Shaker FSC, 6-8-9-32.0
9. Kelly Goodsell, Oswego FSC, Aaron-Taylor Austin, Oswego FSC, 8-9-8-33.0
10. Janna Napier, Lone Star FSC, Peter Kimzey, Arctic Blades FSC, 7-9-10-37.0
11. Dorsie Beth Smith, Arctic Blades FSC, Christian Wilson, Los Angeles FSC, 11-11-11-44.0
12. Alyssa Takatsuki, Hawaii FSC, Jonathan Ige, Hawaii FSC, 12-12-12-48.0

2000 Midwestern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 26-30 -- Fraser, Mich.

SENIOR TEAM

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; 2 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 3 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 4 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 5 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 6 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 7 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 8 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 9 Karen Wolanчук*, Eastpointe, MI; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Barbara Gloeckner, Cincinnati, OH

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 2 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 3 Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; 4 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 5 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 6 Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; 7 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 8 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 9 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; REFEREE: Karen Wolanчук*, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 1-1-1.5
2. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 2-2-3.0
3. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 3-3-4.5
4. Goldenettes, Garfield Heights FSC, 4-4-6.0
5. University of Michigan, University of Michigan SC, 5-5-7.5
6. Team Braemar, Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, 6-6-9.0
7. WMU Synchronized Skating Team, Western Michigan University SC, 7-7-10.5
8. Synchro Panache, FSC of Minneapolis, 8-8-12.0

JUNIOR TEAM

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 2 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 3 Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; 4 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 5 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 6 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 7 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 8 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 9 Karen Wolanчук*, Eastpointe, MI; REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Mary Holman*, Toledo, OH

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 2 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 3 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 4 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 5 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 6 Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; 7 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 8 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 9 Karen Wolanчук*, Eastpointe, MI; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ACCOUNTANT: Mary Holman*, Toledo, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 1-1-1.5
2. Starlets, Wagon Wheel FSC, 2-2-3.0
3. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 3-3-4.5
4. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 4-4-6.0
5. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 6-5-8.0
6. Magic Blades, Magic City FSC, 5-6-8.5
7. Team Kinetic, Southwest Michigan SC, 7-7-10.5
8. Oxford Ice Crystals, Oxford SC, 8-8-12.0

JUNIOR TEAM - GROUP A

JUDGES: 1 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 2 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 3 Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; 4 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 5 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 6 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 7 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; REFEREE: Karen Wolanчук*, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 5/2
2. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 4/2
3. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 6/3
4. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 7/4
5. Sailorettes, Lake Minnetonka FSC, 6/5
6. The Cutting Edge, Timberline SC, 7/6

JUNIOR TEAM - GROUP B

JUDGES: 1 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 2 Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; 3 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 4 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 5 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 6 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 7 Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Starlets, Wagon Wheel FSC, 6/1
2. Magic Blades, Magic City FSC, 5/2
3. Team Kinetic, Southwest Michigan SC, 7/3
4. Oxford Ice Crystals, Oxford SC, 4/4
5. Ice Elite, DuPage FSC, 6/5
6. Super Stars, Lake Region SC, 5/6
7. Diamond Edges, St. Peters FSA, 7/7

NOVICE TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 2 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 3 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; 4 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 5 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 6 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 7 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 8 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 9 Karen Wolanчук*, Eastpointe, MI; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ACCOUNTANT: Mary Holman*, Toledo, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 5/1
2. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 6/3
3. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 5/3
4. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 8/4
5. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 9/5
6. Team Braemar, Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, 6/6
7. Sparklettes, Garfield Heights FSC, 9/7
8. Synchro Panache, FSC of Minneapolis, 5/8
9. Ice Elite, DuPage FSC, 9/9

INTERMEDIATE TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 2 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 3 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 4 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 5 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 6 Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; 7 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; REFEREE: Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 4/1
2. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 5/2
3. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 4/3
4. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 6/4
5. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 4/5
6. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 5/6
7. Fond du Lac Blue Line Blades, Fond du Lac Blue Line FS, 4/7
8. Oxford Ice Crystals, Oxford SC, 7/8

INTERMEDIATE TEAM-GROUP A

JUDGES: 1 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 2 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 3 Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; 4 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 5 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 6 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 7 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; REFEREE: Karen Wolanчук*, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 6/1
2. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 6/2
3. Oxford Ice Crystals, Oxford SC, 4/3
4. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 5/4
5. Starlets, Garfield Heights FSC, 5/4
6. Mentor Ice Diamonds, Mentor FSC, 5/6
7. Fantasia, Farmington Hills FSC, 7/7

INTERMEDIATE TEAM-GROUP B

JUDGES: 1 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 2 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 3 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 4 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 5 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; 6 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 7 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 4/1
2. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 6/2
3. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 5/3
4. Fond du Lac Blue Line Blades, Fond du Lac Blue Line FS, 6/4
5. Kalamazoo Kommotions, Kalamazoo FSC, 4/5
6. Shoreliners, St. Clair Shores FSC, 7/6
7. Fire on Ice, Glenwood FSC, 7/7

JUVENILE TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 2 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 3 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 4 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; 5 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 6 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 7 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Barbara Gloeckner, Cincinnati, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 5/1
2. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 6/3
3. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 4/3
4. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 4/4
5. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 4/4
6. Hockettes, Ann Arbor FSC, 5/6
7. Starlets, Wagon Wheel FSC, 5/7
8. Team Braemar, Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, 5/8
9. Oxford Ice Crystals, Oxford SC, 4/8
10. Silver Blades, Chicago FSC, 7/10

ADULT TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 2 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 3 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 4 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 5 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 6 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 7 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Mary Holman*, Toledo, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 7/1
2. Ice Fusion, Wyandotte FSC, 5/2
3. Synchro Panache, FSC of Minneapolis, 6/3
4. Cleveland Edges, Greenbrier FSC, 4/4
5. Debonaires, Ann Arbor FSC, 7/5

MASTER TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 2 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 3 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 4 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 5 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 6 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 7 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanчук, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Barbara Gloeckner, Cincinnati, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. North Coast Line, Shaker FSC, 5/1
2. The Turning Points, Midland FSC, 4/2
3. Ice Fusion, Skate Company SC, 7/3
4. Ice Cadettes, DuPage FSC, 4/4
5. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 5/5
6. Debonaires, Ann Arbor FSC, 7/6
7. Team Du Coeur, Lakeland SC, 4/7
8. Team Mystique, Huntsville FSC, 7/8
9. Ice Force, South Dayton FSC, 7/9

JUNIOR CLASSIC TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; 2 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 3 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 4

Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 5 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 6 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 7 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; REFEREE: Karen Wolanchuk*, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Barbara Gloeckner, Cincinnati, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Cleveland Edges, Brooklyn FSC of Ohio, 6/1
2. Fond du Lac Blue Line Blades, Fond du Lac Blue Line FS, 5/3
3. Maplewood Highsteppers, Maplewood FSC, 4/3
4. Chicago Skates, Windy City FSC, 4/4
5. Silver Blades, Chicago FSC, 4/5
6. Team Mystique, Huntsville FSC, 4/5
7. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 6/6
8. Pivot Points, Midland FSC, 5/8
9. Team Du Coeur, Lakeland SC, 7/9

PRELIMINARY TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 2 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; 3 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 4 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 5 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 6 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 7 Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanchuk, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Karen Wolanchuk*, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 5/2
2. Fire on Ice, Glenwood FSC, 5/2
3. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 4/2
4. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 5/4
5. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 5/5
6. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 5/6
7. Mentor Ice Diamonds, Mentor FSC, 5/7
8. Hockettes, Ann Arbor FSC, 7/8

PRELIMINARY TEAM-GROUP A

JUDGES: 1 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 2 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 3 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 4 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 5 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 6 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 7 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; REFEREE: Karen Wolanchuk*, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Fire on Ice, Glenwood FSC, 5/1
2. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 5/2
3. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 4/3
4. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 4/3
5. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 4/4
6. Kalamazoo Kommotions, Kalamazoo FSC, 5/6
7. Northern Illinois Nova, Northern Illinois SC, 7/7

PRELIMINARY TEAM- GROUP B

JUDGES: 1 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 2 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 3 Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; 4 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 5 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 6 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 7 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanchuk, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Sharon Meyer, Springfield, IL

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 5/1
2. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 7/2
3. Hockettes, Ann Arbor FSC, 4/4
5. Mentor Ice Diamonds, Mentor FSC, 4/4
5. Fantasia, Farmington Hills FSC, 4/4
6. Team Mystique, Huntsville FSC, 6/6
7. Oxford Ice Crystals, Oxford SC, 5/7
8. Ice Cadettes, DuPage FSC, 7/8

TEEN INTRODUCTORY TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 2 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 3 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 4 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 5 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 6 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 7 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; REFEREE: Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; ACCOUNTANT: Mary Holman*, Toledo, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Kinetic, Southwest Michigan SC, 7/1
2. Maplewood Highsteppers, Maplewood FSC, 5/3
3. Ice Fusion, Skate Company SC, 4/3
4. Elites, Bowling Green SC, 5/4

5. Cleveland Edges, West Shore FSC, 7/5
6. Ice Cadettes, DuPage FSC, 6/6
7. The Cutting Edge, Timberline SC, 5/7
8. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 7/8

TEEN INTRODUCTORY TEAM - GROUP A

JUDGES: 1 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; 2 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 3 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 4 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 5 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 6 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 7 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; REFEREE: Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ACCOUNTANT: Mary Holman*, Toledo, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Kinetic, Southwest Michigan SC, 6/1
2. Elites, Bowling Green SC, 4/2
3. Ice Fusion, Skate Company SC, 7/3
4. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 4/4
5. Chicago Blades, Windy City FSC, 6/5
6. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 4/6
7. Mentor Ice Diamonds, Mentor FSC, 4/6

TEEN INTRODUCTORY TEAM - GROUP B

JUDGES: 1 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 2 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 3 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 4 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; 5 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 6 Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; 7 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanchuk, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Karen Wolanchuk*, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Mary Holman*, Toledo, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Maplewood Highsteppers, Maplewood FSC, 4/1
2. Cleveland Edges, West Shore FSC, 6/3
3. Ice Cadettes, DuPage FSC, 5/3
4. The Cutting Edge, Timberline SC, 4/4
5. Ice Force, South Dayton FSC, 5/5
6. Northern Illinois Supernova, Northern Illinois SC, 5/6
7. Capitals of Lansing, Michigan State University, 7/7
8. Queen City Royals, Queen City FSC, 7/8

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY TEAM

JUDGES: 1 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 2 Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; 3 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; 4 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 5 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 6 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 7 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; REFEREE: Lydia Wolanchuk, Eastpointe, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Karen Wolanchuk*, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Barbara Gloeckner, Cincinnati, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Du Coeur, Lakeland SC, 6/1
2. Birmingham Blazing Blades, FSC of Birmingham, 6/2
3. Cleveland Edges, Brooklyn FSC of Ohio, 4/3
4. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 6/4
5. Twinklettes, Garfield Heights FSC, 5/5
6. Shoreliners, St. Clair Shores FSC, 5/6
7. Starlets, Wagon Wheel FSC, 7/7
8. Buckeye Blades, South Dayton FSC, 7/8

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY TEAM - GROUP A

JUDGES: 1 Elizabeth Barrow, Clinton Township, MI; 2 Glennace Cohen, Castle Rock, CO; 3 Dann Krueger, Minneapolis, MN; 4 Bette Todd, Indianapolis, IN; 5 Dr. Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 6 Hannelore Murphy, Almont, MI; 7 Hazel Wecal, Denver, CO; REFEREE: Stephen Hartley, Roseville, MN; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Karen Wolanchuk*, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Barbara Gloeckner, Cincinnati, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Du Coeur, Lakeland SC, 7/1
2. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 6/2
3. Starlets, Wagon Wheel FSC, 6/3
4. Buckeye Blades, South Dayton FSC, 4/4
5. Hockettes, Ann Arbor FSC, 4/5
6. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 4/5

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY TEAM - GROUP B

JUDGES: 1 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 2 Jeanette Davey, La Mesa, CA; 3 Dorothy Nyman, Euclid, OH; 4 Sharon Wright, Waukesha, WI; 5 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 6 Greg Taber, Barrington, RI; 7 Gay Barnes, Boulder, CO; REFEREE: Dr. Louis Rossoni, Farmington Hills, MI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Lydia Wolanchuk, Eastpointe, MI; ACCOUNTANT: Barbara Gloeckner, Cincinnati, OH

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Birmingham Blazing Blades, FSC of Birmingham, 6/2
2. Cleveland Edges, Brooklyn FSC of Ohio, 4/2
3. Twinklettes, Garfield Heights FSC, 5/3
4. Shoreliners, St. Clair Shores FSC, 5/4
5. Team Kinetic, Southwest Michigan SC, 5/4
6. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 7/6
7. Queen City Royals, Queen City FSC, 7/7

SENIOR



First Place:
Team Elan
Detroit SC



Second Place:
Crystallettes
Dearborn FSC

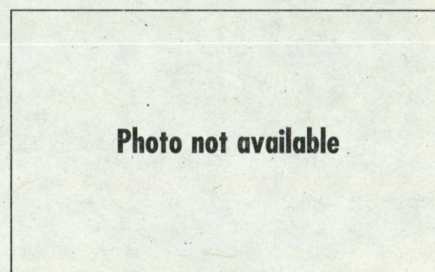


Photo not available

Third Place:
Chicago Jazz
Chicago FSC



Fourth Place:
Goldenettes
Garfield Heights FSC

2000 Midwestern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 26-30 -- Fraser, Mich.

Photos by Ledin Photo and Video

JUNIOR



First Place:
Chicago Jazz
Chicago FSC

NOVICE



First Place:
Crystallettes
Dearborn FSC

INTERMEDIATE



First Place:
Chicago Jazz
Chicago FSC



Second Place:
Starlets
Wagon Wheel FSC



Second Place:
Gems on Ice
Plymouth FSC

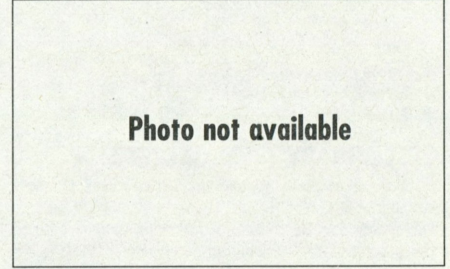


Photo not available

Second Place:
Team Elan
Detroit SC



Third Place:
Fraser Eclipse
Fraser FSC



Third Place:
Team Elan
Detroit SC



2000 Midwestern Synchronized Team

Third Place:
Wisconsin Edge
Wisconsin FSC



Fourth Place:
Crystallettes
Dearborn FSC



Fourth Place:
Fraser Eclipse
Fraser FSC



Fourth Place:
Gems on Ice
Plymouth FSC

2000 Midwestern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 26-30 -- Fraser, Mich.

Photos by Ledin Photo and Video

JUVENILE



First Place:
Chicago Jazz
Chicago FSC

ADULT



First Place:
Team Elan
Detroit SC

MASTER



First Place:
North Coast Line
Shaker FSC



Second Place:
Crystallettes
Dearborn FSC



Second Place:
Ice Fusion
Wyandotte FSC



Second Place:
The Turning Points
Midland FSC



Third Place:
Gems on Ice
Plymouth FSC



Third Place:
Synchro Panache
FSC of Minneapolis



Third Place:
Ice Fusion
Skate Company SC



Fourth Place:
Fraser Eclipse
Fraser FSC



Fourth Place:
Cleveland Edges
Greenbrier FSC



Fourth Place:
Ice Cadettes
DuPage FSC

2000 Midwestern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 26-30 -- Fraser, Mich.

Photos by Ledin Photo and Video

JUNIOR CLASSIC



First Place:
Cleveland Edges
Brooklyn FSC of Ohio

PRELIMINARY



First Place:
Team Elan
Detroit SC

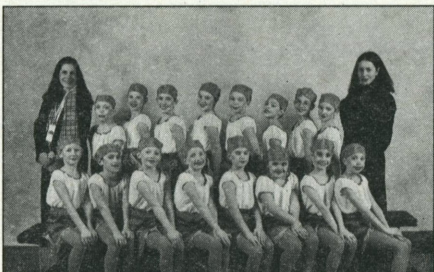
TEEN INTRODUCTORY



First Place:
Team Kinetic
Southwest Michigan SC



Second Place:
Fond Du Lac Blue Line Blades
Fond du Lac Blue Line FS



Second Place:
Fire on Ice
Glenwood FSC



Second Place:
Maplewood Highsteppers
Maplewood FSC



Third Place:
Maplewood Highsteppers
Maplewood FSC



Third Place:
Crystallettes
Dearborn FSC



Third Place:
Ice Fusion
Skate Company SC



Fourth Place:
Chicago Skates
Windy City FSC



Fourth Place:
Fraser Eclipse
Fraser FSC



Fourth Place:
Elites
Bowling Green SC

2000 Midwestern Sectional

YOUTH



First Place:
Team Du Coeur
Lakewood SC



Second Place:
Birmingham Blazing Blades
FSC of Birmingham, Mich.



Third Place:
Cleveland Edges
Brooklyn FSC of Ohio



Fourth Place:
Fraser Eclipse
Fraser FSC

2000 Pacific Coast Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 27-29 -- Eugene, Ore.

JUNIOR

JUDGES — SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Ann Wachendorfer, St. Joseph, MO; 2 Martha Hanson, Concord, CA; 3 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 4 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 5 John Maier, Seattle, WA; 6 Kim Cool, Venice, FL; 7 Joan McDonnell, Palo Alto, CA; REFEREE: Nola Joy Carello, Sacramento, CA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Dick Lean, Concord, CA; ACCOUNTANT: Robert S. Watson, Santa Ana, CA

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Ann Wachendorfer, St. Joseph, MO; 2 Martha Hanson, Concord, CA; 3 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 4 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 5 John Maier, Seattle, WA; 6 Kim Cool, Venice, FL; 7 Joan McDonnell, Palo Alto, CA; REFEREE: Dick Lean, Concord, CA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Nola Joy Carello, Sacramento, CA; ACCOUNTANT: Robert S. Watson, Santa Ana, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Ice Angelzz, Cottonwood Heights FSC, 1-1-1.5
2. Les Patineurs, Front Range FSC, 2-2-3.0
3. Berkeley Blades, St. Moritz ISC, 3-3-4.5
4. United Skates, All Year FSC, 5-4-6.5
5. Pacific Stars, Santa Rosa FSC, 4-5-7.0
6. Fire Crystals, ISC of Fort Collins, 7-6-9.5
7. Team Solano, Vaca Valley FSC, 8-7-11.0
8. Seattlites, Seattle SC, 6-8-11.0

NOVICE

JUDGES: 1 Sharon Watson, Los Angeles, CA; 2 Martha Hanson, Concord, CA; 3 Joyce Butchart, Seattle, WA; 4 Mary Lou Rothman, Cypress, CA; 5 John Maier, Seattle, WA; 6 Kim Cool, Venice, FL; 7 Joan McDonnell, Palo Alto, CA; REFEREE: Donald E. Mumper*, Clarksville, TN; ACCOUNTANT: Miriam K. Hillier*, San Mateo, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Arctic Jewels, Arctic Blades FSC, 6/1
2. Team Allure, Rocky Mountain FSC, 4/2
3. Team Solano, Vaca Valley FSC, 7/3

INTERMEDIATE

JUDGES: 1 Sharon Watson, Los Angeles, CA; 2 Ann Wachendorfer, St. Joseph, MO; 3 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 4 Joyce Butchart, Seattle, WA; 5 Mary Lou Rothman, Cypress, CA; 6 Kim Cool, Venice, FL; 7 Dianne Clendenin, Santa Rosa, CA; REFEREE: Donald E. Mumper*, Clarksville, TN; ACCOUNTANT: Miriam K. Hillier*, San Mateo, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Del Sol, San Diego FSC, 6/1
2. Cascades, Portland ISC, 6/2
3. Arctic Jewels, Arctic Blades FSC, 5/4
4. Columbine Wildflowers, Columbine FSC, 5/4
5. Silver Stars, St. Moritz ISC, 4/5
6. Seattle Reigns, Highland SC, 4/5

JUVENILE

JUDGES: 1 Bill Cloran, Salem, OR; 2 Sharon Watson, Los Angeles, CA; 3 Martha Hanson, Concord, CA; 4 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 5 Mary Lou Rothman, Cypress, CA; 6 John Maier, Seattle, WA; 7 Joan McDonnell, Palo Alto, CA; REFEREE: Dick Lean, Concord, CA; ACCOUNTANT: Robert S. Watson, Santa Ana, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Del Sol, San Diego FSC, 7/1
2. Columbine Blossoms, Columbine FSC, 4/2
3. Ice Angelzz, Cottonwood Heights FSC, 7/3
4. Pacific Stars, Santa Rosa FSC, 7/4

MASTERS

JUDGES: 1 Sharon Watson, Los Angeles, CA; 2 Ann Wachendorfer, St. Joseph, MO; 3 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 4 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 5 Mary Lou Rothman, Cypress, CA; 6 Joan McDonnell, Palo Alto, CA; 7 Dianne Clendenin, Santa Rosa, CA; REFEREE: Donald E. Mumper*, Clarksville, TN; ACCOUNTANT: Miriam K. Hillier*, San Mateo, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Seattle Ice, Seattle SC, 7/1
2. The Mt. View Summits, Portland ISC, 7/2
3. Portland Rosettes, SC of Oregon, 7/3

ADULT

JUDGES: 1 Bill Cloran, Salem, OR; 2 Ann Wachendorfer, St. Joseph, MO; 3 Richard Perez, Mountain View, CA; 4 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 5 Mary Lou Rothman, Cypress, CA; 6 Joan McDonnell, Palo Alto, CA; 7 Dianne Clendenin, Santa Rosa, CA; REFEREE: Donald E. Mumper*, Clarksville, TN; ACCOUNTANT: Robert S. Watson, Santa Ana, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Icesymmetrics, St. Moritz ISC, 4/1
2. L.A. Express, All Year FSC, 7/2
3. The Cutting Edge, Denver FSC, 7/3

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY

JUDGES: 1 Bill Cloran, Salem, OR; 2 Sharon Watson, Los Angeles, CA; 3 Martha Hanson, Concord, CA; 4 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 5 Mary Lou Rothman, Cypress, CA; 6 John Maier, Seattle, WA; 7 Joan McDonnell, Palo Alto, CA; REFEREE: Dick Lean, Concord, CA; ACCOUNTANT: Miriam K. Hillier*, San Mateo, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Berkeley Blades, St. Moritz ISC, 7/1
2. Team Solano, Vaca Valley FSC, 7/2

2000 Pacific Coast Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 27-29 -- Eugene, Ore.

Photos by Creative Endeavor Photography

JUNIOR



First Place:
Ice Angelzz
Cottonwood Heights FSC

NOVICE



First Place:
Arctic Jewels
Arctic Blades FSC

INTERMEDIATE



First Place:
Team del Sol
San Diego FSC



Second Place:
Les Patineurs
Front Range FSC



Second Place:
Team Allure
Rocky Mountain FSC



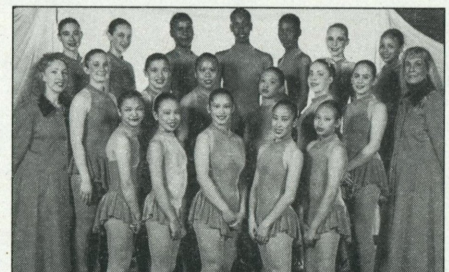
Second Place:
Cascades
Portland ISC



Third Place:
Berkeley Blades
St. Moritz ISC



Third Place:
Team Solano
Vaca Valley FSC



Third Place:
Arctic Jewels
Arctic Blades FSC



Fourth Place:
United Skates
All Year FSC



Fourth Place:
Columbine Wildflowers
Columbine FSC

2000 Pacific Coast Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 27-29 -- Eugene, Ore.

Photos by Creative Endeavor Photography

JUVENILE



First Place:
Team del Sol
San Diego FSC

MASTERS



First Place:
Seattle Ice
Seattle SC

ADULT



First Place:
IceSymmetrics
St. Moritz ISC



Second Place:
Columbine Blossoms
Columbine FSC



Second Place:
The Mt. View Summits
Portland ISC



Second Place:
L.A. Express
All Year FSC



Third Place:
Ice Angelzz
Cottonwood Heights FSC



Third Place:
Portland Rosettes
SC of Oregon



Third Place:
The Cutting Edge
Denver FSC



Fourth Place:
Pacific Stars
Santa Rosa FSC

2000 Pacific Coast Sectional

2000 Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 28-30 -- West Acton, Mass.

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY



First Place:
Berkeley Blades
St. Moritz ISC



Second Place:
Team Solano
Vaca Valley FSC

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES — SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 2 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 3 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 4 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 5 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 6 Jacqueline Addis, Palm Harbor FL; 7 Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; ACCOUNTANT: Benjamin T. Wright, Belmont MA

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 2 Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; 3 Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; 4 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 5 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 6 Robert Bell, Lincoln RI; 7 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ASSISTANT REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ACCOUNTANT: Benjamin T. Wright, Belmont MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. The Haydenettes, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 1-1-1.5
2. Team Esprit, Hamden FSA, 2-2-3.0
3. Team Millennium, New England FSC, 3-3-4.5
4. The Skating Edge, University of Delaware FSC, 4-4-6.0

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES — SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Lois Long, Newcastle WA; 2 Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; 3 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 4 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; 5 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 6 Judith Cambal Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; 7 E. Richie VanVliet, Lima NY; REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Jacqueline Addis, Palm Harbor FL; 2 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 3 Lois Long, Newcastle WA; 4 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 5 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; 6 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 7 Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. The Colonials, Colonial FSC, 1-1-1.5
2. Shoreline of Cape Cod, The Bourne SC, 2-2-3.0
3. Northern Stars, Massena FSC, 4-3-5.0
4. Ice Liners, Newburyport FSC, 3-4-5.5
5. Rainbow Connection, Potsdam FSC, 6-5-8.0
6. Wallace Snowbirds, Wallace FSC, 5-6-8.5
7. Metroliners, Bowie FSC, 7-7-10.5
8. Precisely Right, SC of Morris NJ, 8-8-12.0
9. Clinton Silver Blades, Clinton FSC, 8-9-13.0
10. Symmetric Ice Crystals, Symmetric FSC, 10-10-15.0

NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; 2 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 3 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 4 Robert Bell, Lincoln RI; 5 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 6 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 7 Lois Long, Newcastle WA; REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ACCOUNTANT: Benjamin T. Wright, Belmont MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Ice Mates, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 7/1
2. Munchkins, Warwick Figure Skaters, 7/2
3. Team Millennium, New England FSC, 4/3
4. Team Esprit, Hamden FSA, 6/4
5. Prisms, Potsdam FSC, 6/5
6. The Ice-lantics, Garden State SC, 7/6
7. Clinton Silverettes, Clinton FSC, 7/7

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 2 Robert Bell, Lincoln RI; 3 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 4 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 5 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 6 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 7 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ACCOUNTANT: Alan S. Heinold, Westford MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. The Colonials, Colonial FSC, 7/1
2. Nor'easters, Wilmington FSC, 4/2
3. Shoreline of Cape Cod, The Bourne SC, 5/3
4. Team Image, Yonkers FSC, 5/4
5. Munchkins, Warwick Figure Skaters, 5/5
6. Northern Stars, Massena FSC, 5/6
7. Sheer Ice, Pawtucket & Providence FSC, 4/6
8. Frederick Blaze, Frederick FSC, 4/8
9. Icicles, University of Delaware FSC, 4/8
10. Bluewater Blades, Skaneateles FSC, 4/9

JUVENILE CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Lois Long, Newcastle WA; 2 Jacqueline Addis, Palm Harbor FL; 3 Thomas Sobell, Nashua NH; 4 Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; 5 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 6 E. Richie VanVliet, Lima NY; 7 Judith Cambal Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Colonials, Colonial FSC, 6/1
2. Ice Cubes, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 4/2
3. Shoreline of Cape Cod, The Bourne SC, 5/3
4. Saint Sensations, St. Lawrence FSC, 6/4
5. Team Image, Yonkers FSC, 4/5
6. Snowflakes, Warwick Figure Skaters, 6/6
7. Team Millennium, New England FSC, 6/7
8. Icy Hots, Pawtucket & Providence FSC, 5/8
9. Blades of Gold, New England FSC, 7/9
10. Sharper Image, SC of Utica, 4/10
11. Jagged Ice, Charter Oak FSC, 7/11

COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Judith Cambal Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; 2 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; 3 Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; 4 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 5 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 6 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 7 Thomas Sobell, Nashua NH; REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

2000 Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 28-30 -- West Acton, Mass.

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Univ. of Delaware Precisionaire, U of Delaware FSC, 7/1
2. University of New Hampshire, University of New Hampshire, 7/2

ADULT CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; 2 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 3 E. Richie VanVliet, Lima NY; 4 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 5 Judith Cambal Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; 6 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 7 Robert Bell, Lincoln RI; REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Thomas Sobell, Nashua NH; ACCOUNTANT: Benjamin T. Wright, Belmont MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Esprit de Corps, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 7/1
2. Diamondaires, University of Delaware FSC, 7/2

MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 2 Robert Bell, Lincoln RI; 3 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 4 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 5 Jacqueline Addis, Palm Harbor FL; 6 Thomas Sobell, Nashua NH; 7 E. Richie VanVliet, Lima NY; REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ACCOUNTANT: Alan S. Heinold, Westford MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Silhouettes in the Night, Bay Path FSC, 6/1
2. Delaware Diamonds, University of Delaware FSC, 5/2
3. Metro Blades, Bowie FSC, 7/3
4. Bea's Follies, Philadelphia SC & HS, 6/4
5. Frederick Embers, Frederick FSC, 7/5

JUNIOR CLASSIC CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 2 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 3 Jacqueline Addis, Palm Harbor FL; 4 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 5 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 6 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; 7 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ACCOUNTANT: Alan S. Heinold, Westford MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Peach Frost, Georgia FSC, 5/2
2. Capitol Steps, SC of Northern Virginia, 5/2
3. Hershey Chocolate Kixx, Hershey FSC, 4/3
4. Crystals, The Alexandria Bay FSC, 4/3
5. Shadows, Greenwich SC, 4/5
6. The Ice Prisms, Pilgrim SC, 5/6
7. The Sharper Edge, Great Bay FSC, 6/7
8. Sharper Image, SC of Utica, 5/7

PRELIMINARY CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 2 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; 3 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 4 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 5 Robert Bell, Lincoln RI; 6 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 7 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ASSISTANT REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ACCOUNTANT: Benjamin T. Wright, Belmont MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Nor'easters, Wilmington FSC, 4/2
2. The Ice-lantics, Garden State SC, 6/3
3. Snowflurries, Warwick Figure Skaters, 5/3
4. Wallace Snowbirds, Wallace FSC, 5/4
5. Peach Frost, Georgia FSC, 5/4
6. The Colonials, Colonial FSC, 6/6
7. Team Image, Yonkers FSC, 4/7
8. Northern Sparkles, Massena FSC, 5/8
9. Symmetric Ice Crystals, Symmetric FSC, 5/9
10. Team Millennium, New England FSC, 5/10
11. Jagged Ice, Charter Oak FSC, 5/10

ADULT INTRODUCTORY CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; 2 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 3 E. Richie VanVliet, Lima NY; 4 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 5 Judith Cambal Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; 6 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 7 Robert Bell, Lincoln RI; REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Thomas Sobell, Nashua NH; ACCOUNTANT: Alan S. Heinold, Westford MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Delaware Dazzle, University of Delaware FSC, 6/1
2. Capitol Steps, SC of Northern Virginia, 7/2

TEEN INTRODUCTORY CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Judith Cambal Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; 2 E. Richie VanVliet, Lima NY; 3 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 4 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 5 Thomas Sobell, Nashua NH; 6 Lois Long, Newcastle WA; 7 Jacqueline Addis, Palm Harbor FL; REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Spitfires, Springdale FSC, 4/1
2. Genesee Express, Genesee FSC, 7/2
3. Blades of Gold, New England FSC, 4/3
4. Wallace Snowbirds, Wallace FSC, 5/4
5. Symmetric Ice Crystals, Symmetric FSC, 5/5
6. Sharper Edge, Great Bay FSC, 4/6
7. New Jersey Angels, Upper Mountain SA, 4/7
8. Team Image, Yonkers FSC, 4/8
9. Silver Swans, University of Delaware FSC, 4/8
10. Ice Connection, Tampa Bay SC, 4/10
11. Cutting Edge, Camillus FSC, 7/11

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES: 1 Jacqueline Addis, Palm Harbor FL; 2 E. Richie VanVliet, Lima NY; 3 Martha L. Cogan, Ray Brook NY; 4 Sara Jayne M. Stephens, Marietta GA; 5 Judith Cambal Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; 6 Lois Long, Newcastle WA; 7 Thomas Sobell, Nashua NH; REFEREE: Ann T. Fauver*, Gorham ME; ASSISTANT REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Ice Liners, Newburyport FSC, 6/1
2. Capitol Steps, SC of Northern Virginia, 5/2
3. The Spitfires, Springdale FSC, 4/3

4. Ice Magic, Hickory Hill FSC, 4/4

5. Frederick Flames, Frederick FSC, 4/5
6. Crystalettes, The Alexandria Bay FSC, 5/6
7. The Ducklings, University of Delaware FSC, 5/7
8. The Pilgrim Popsicles, Pilgrim SC, 4/7

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY GROUP A

JUDGES: 1 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 2 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 3 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 4 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 5 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 6 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 7 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Ice Magic, Hickory Hill FSC, 6/2
2. Crystalettes, The Alexandria Bay FSC, 5/3
3. The Ducklings, University of Delaware FSC, 4/3
4. Frederick Flames, Frederick FSC, 4/3
5. Team Esprit, Hamden FSA, 4/4
6. The Sharper Edge, Great Bay FSC, 4/6
7. Sharper Image, SC of Utica, 7/7

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY GROUP B

JUDGES: 1 Martha Rasmussen, Buffalo NY; 2 Helen Y. Wong, Sacramento CA; 3 Christine Nelson, Chicago IL; 4 Leonard J. Colarusso, Quincy MA; 5 Susan M. Haugh, Livonia NY; 6 Colette B. Nygren, Sudbury MA; 7 Susan A. Johnson, Atlanta GA; REFEREE: William R. Beharrell, Lunenburg MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Wendy L. Weston-Enzmann, Stow MA; ACCOUNTANT: Michael L. Kudravetz*, Gardner MA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Ice Liners, Newburyport FSC, 4/1
2. Capitol Steps, SC of Northern Virginia, 4/2
3. The Spitfires, Springdale FSC, 6/3
4. The Pilgrim Popsicles, Pilgrim SC, 7/4
5. New Jersey Angels, Upper Mountain SA, 5/5
6. Bluewater Blades, Skaneateles FSC, 4/6
7. Genesee Express Lites, Genesee FSC, 7/7

2000 Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 28-30 -- West Acton, Mass.

Photos by Gerardy Photography

SENIOR

JUNIOR

NOVICE



First Place:
The Haydenettes
Hayden Recreation Centre FSC



First Place:
The Colonials
Colonial FSC



First Place:
Ice Mates
Hayden Recreation Centre FSC



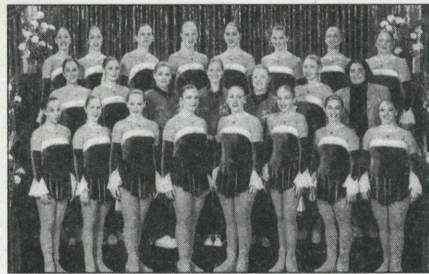
Second Place:
Team Esprit
Hamden Figure Skating Association



Second Place:
Shoreline of Cape Cod
The Bourne SC



Second Place:
Munchkins
Warwick Figure Skaters



Third Place:
Team Millennium
New England FSC



Third Place:
Northern Stars
Massena FSC



Third Place:
Team Millennium
New England FSC



Fourth Place:
The Skating Edge
University of Delaware FSC



Fourth Place:
Ice Liners
Newburyport FSC



Fourth Place:
Team Esprit
Hamden Figure Skating Association

2000 Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 28-30 -- Acton, Mass.

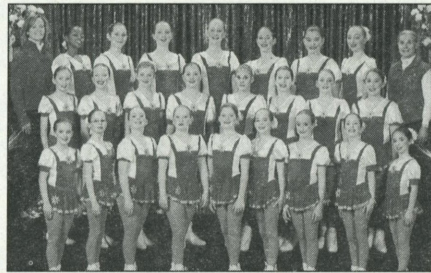
Photos by Gerardy Photography

INTERMEDIATE



First Place:
The Colonials
Colonial FSC

JUVENILE



First Place:
The Colonials
Colonial FSC

COLLEGIATE



First Place:
University of Delaware Precisionaire
University of Delaware FSC



Second Place:
Nor'easters
Wilmington FSC



Second Place:
Ice Cubes
Hayden Recreation Centre FSC



Second Place:
University of New Hampshire
University of New Hampshire



Third Place:
Shoreline of Cape Cod
The Bourne SC



Third Place:
Shoreline of Cape Cod
The Bourne SC



First Place:
Esprit de Corps
Hayden Recreation Centre FSC

ADULT



Fourth Place:
Team Image
Yonkers FSC



Fourth Place:
Saint Sensations
St. Lawrence FSC



Second Place:
Diamondaires
University of Delaware FSC

2000 Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 28-30 -- Acton, Mass.

Photos by Gerardy Photography

MASTERS

JUNIOR CLASSIC

PRELIMINARY



First Place:
Silhouettes in the Night
Bay Path FSC



First Place:
Peach Frost
Georgia FSC



First Place:
Nor'easters
Wilmington FSC



Second Place:
Delaware Diamonds
University of Delaware FSC



Second Place:
Capitol Steps
SC of Northern Virginia



Second Place:
The Ice-lantics
Garden State SC



Third Place:
Metro Blades
Bowie FSC



Third Place:
Hershey Chocolate Kixx
Hershey FSC



Third Place:
Snowflurries
Warwick Figure Skaters



Fourth Place:
Bea's Follies
Philadelphia SC & HS



Fourth Place:
Crystals
The Alexandria Bay FSC



Fourth Place:
Wallace Snowbirds
Wallace FSC

2000 Eastern Synchronized Sectional Championships

Jan. 28-30 -- Acton, Mass.

Photos by Gerardy Photography

TEEN INTRODUCTORY



First Place:
Spitfires
Springdale FSC

YOUTH INTRODUCTORY

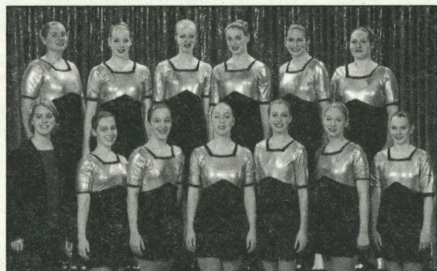


First Place:
Ice Liners
Newburyport FSC

ADULT INTRODUCTORY



First Place:
Delaware Dazzle
University of Delaware FSC



Second Place:
Genesee Express
Genesee FSC



Second Place:
Capitol Steps
SC of Northern Virginia



Second Place:
Capitol Steps
SC of Northern Virginia



Third Place:
Blades of Gold
New England FSC



Third Place:
The Spitfires
Springdale FSC



Fourth Place:
Wallace Snowbirds
Wallace FSC



Fourth Place:
Ice Magic
Hickory Hill FSC

2000 European Championships

Feb. 6-13-- Vienna, Austria

MEN

JUDGES (Qualifying Group A): Mona Kjell-Johnson, SWE; Thomas Biegler, AUT; Anita Hilbert, DEN; Daniela Cavelli, ITA; Ute Boehm, GER; Nicolae Bellu, ROM; Gavril Velchev, BUL; Substitute Judge: Elizabeth Clark, CAN; Referee: Sally Anne Stapleford, ISU; Assistant Referee: Marina Sanaia, ISU.

JUDGES (Qualifying Group B): Jozica Podbevesek, SLO; Noriko Shirota, JPN; Marie Reine Le Gougne, FRA; Jarmila Portova, CZE; Evgenia Bogdanova, AZE; Anna Sierocka, POL; Laura McNair, GBR; Substitute Judge: Zofia Wagner, HUN; Referee: Ubavka Novakovic-Kytinoy, ISU; Assistant Referee: Igor Prokop, ISU

JUDGES (Short Program and Free Skate): Georg Krummenacher, SUI; Janet Allen, USA; Anna Sierocka, POL; Marie Reine Le Gougne, FRA; Evgenia Bogdanova, AZE; Elizabeth Clark, CAN; Igor Prokop, SVK; Gavril Velchev, BUL; Noriko Shirota, JPN; Substitute Judge: Laura McNair, GBR; Referee: Sally Anne Stapleford, ISU; Assistant Referee: Ubavka Novakovic-Kytinoy, ISU.

Place, Name, Country, Q-SP-FS

- 1 Evgeny Plushenko, RUS, 1(B)-2-1-2.6
- 2 Alexei Yagudin, RUS, 1(A)-1-2-3.0
- 3 Dmitry Dmitrenko, UKR, 2(B)-3-3-5.6
- 4 Alexander Abt, RUS, 2(A)-6-4-8.4
- 5 Ivan Dinev, BUL, 3(B)-4-6-9.6
- 6 Vitaly Danilchenko, UKR, 5(B)-5-7-12.0
- 7 Andrejs Vlasenko, GER, 9(A)-9-5-14.0
- 8 Stefan Lindemann, GER, 6(B)-7-9-15.6
- 9 Stanick Jeannette, FRA, 4(B)-12-8-16.8
- 10 Vincent Restencourt, FRA, 3(A)-8-11-17.0
- 11 Szabolcs Vidrai, HUN, 8(B)-11-10-19.8
- 12 Michael Tyllesen, DEN, 4(A)-10-13-20.6
- 13 Margus Hernits, EST, 6(A)-14-12-22.8
- 14 Robert Grzegorzczak, POL, 7(B)-13-14-24.6
- 15 Gabriel Monnier, FRA, 8(A)-15-15-27.2
- 16 Vakhtang Murvanidze, GEO, 5(A)-16-16-27.6
- 17 Sergei Rylow, AZE, 10(A)-18-18-32.8
- 18 Matthew Davies, GBR, 9(B)-17-19-32.8
- 19 Michael Shmerkin, ISR, 11(B)-20-17-33.4
- 20 Angelo Dalfini, ITA, 12(A)-19-20-36.2
- 21 Kristoffer Berntsson, SWE, 14 (B)-22-21-39.8
- 22 Patrick Schmitt, LUX, 13(A)-23-22-41.0
- 23 Hristo Tourlakov, BUL, 10(B)-25-23-42.0
- 24 Juraj Sviatko, SVK, 15(B)-21-24-42.6
- 25 Christian Horvath, AUT, 16(B)-29-25-48.8
- 26 Lukas Rakowski, CZE, 15(B)-24
- 27 Jan Cejvan, SLO, 12 (B)-26
- 28 Kevin van der Perren, BEL, 11(A)-27
- 29 Gheorghe Chipur, ROM, 13(B)-28
- 30 Oscar Peter, SUI, 14(A)-30
- R Patrick Meier, SUI, 7(A)
- 32 Markus Leminen, FIN, 16(A)
- 33 Maurice Lim, NED, 17(B)
- 34 Yon Garcia, ESP, 17(A)
- 35 Aidan Reklis, LTU, 18(B)
- 36 Panagiotis Markouizos, GRE, 18(A)

LADIES

JUDGES (Qualifying Group A): Adriana Ordeanu, ROM; Lovorka Kodrin, CRO; Margo Pauw, NED; Christine Blanc, SUI; Maria Miller, POL; Dennis McFarlane, CAN; Leena Kurri, FIN; Substitute Judge: Agnes Morvai Kovacs, HUN; Referee: Britta Lindgren, ISU; Assistant Referee: Rita Zonnekeyn, ISU.

JUDGES (Qualifying Group B): Olga Zakova, CZE; Helene Bylund, SWE; Paula Naughton, USA; Helmut Sieber, AUT;

Krunoslava Cunic, YUG; Hideo Sugita, JPN; Sigrun Markeseth, NOR; Substitute Judge: Teri Sedej, SLO; Referee: Matjaz Krusec, ISU; Fabio Bianchetti, ISU.

JUDGES (Short Program and Free Skate): Dennis McFarlane, CAN; Maria Miller, POL; Rita Zonnekeyn, BEL; Lovorka Kodrin, CRO; Paula Naughton, USA; Fabio Bianchetti, ITA; Agnes Morvai-Kovacs, HUN; Helmut Sieber, AUT; Hideo Sugita, JPN; Substitute Judge: Olga Zakova; Referee: Britta Lindgren, ISU; Assistant Referee: Matjaz Krusec, ISU.

Place, Name, Country, Q-SP-FS-Places

- 1 Irina Slutskaya, RUS, 1(B)-1-1-2.0
- 2 Maria Butyrskaya, RUS, 1(A)-4-2-4.8
- 3 Viktoria Volchkova, RUS, 2(B)-2-4-6.0
- 4 Vanessa Gusmeroli, FRA, 4(B)-3-3-6.4
- 5 Elena Liaschenko, UKR, 3(B)-6-6-10.8
- 6 Julia Sebestyen, HUN, 2(A)-13-5-13.6
- 7 Mikkeline Kierkgaard, DEN, 5(A)-9-8-15.4
- 8 Silvia Fontana, ITA, 6(B)-5-10-15.4
- 9 Tamara Dorofejev, HUN, 9(A)-11-7-17.2
- 10 Alisa Drei, FIN, 3(A)-7-12-17.4
- 11 Diana Poth, HUN, 4(A)-16-9-20.2
- 12 Julia Lautowa, AUT, 6(A)-10-13-21.4
- 13 Anna Rechnio, POL, 5(B)-17-1-23.2
- 14 Mojca Kopac, SLO, 9(B)-8-15-23.4
- 15 Galina Maniachenko, UKR, 7(B)-15-14-25.8
- 16 Sarah Meier, SUI, 7(A)-14-16-27.2
- 17 Sanna-Maija Wiksten, FIN, 8(A)-12-18-28.4
- 18 Zoya Douchine, GER, 8(B)-20-19-34.2
- 19 Olga Vassiljeva, EST, 14(A)-21-17-35.2
- 20 Anna Lundstrom, SWE, 10(B)-19-20-35.4
- 21 Karen Venhuizen, NED, 10(A)-23-21-38.8
- 22 Yulia Lebedeva, ARM, 12(B)-18-24-39.6
- 23 Tamsin Sear, GBR, 12(A)-22-23-41.0
- 24 Kaja Hanevold, NOR, 13(A)-24-22-41.6
- 25 Sara Falotico, BEL, 11(A)-26
- 26 Sabina Wojtala, POL, 14(B)-25
- 27 Idora Hegel, CRO, 11(B)-29
- 28 Valeria Trifanov, LAT, 13(B)-28
- 29 Eva Chuda, CZE, 15(B)-27
- 30 Roxana Luca, ROM, 15(A)-30
- 31 Dominyka Valiukeviciute, LTU, 16(B)
- 32 Silvia Koncokova, SVK, 16(A)
- 33 Helena Pajovic, YUG, 17(B)
- 34 Melania Albea, ESP, 17(A)
- 35 Liza Menagia, GRE, 18(B)

PAIRS

JUDGES: Igor Obraztsov, RUS; Audrey Williams, CAN; Heinz-Ulrich Walther, GER; Adriana Domanska, SVK; Vladislav Petukhov, UKR; Joan Gruber, USA; Alexei Shirshov, BLR; Vanessa Riley, GBR; Frank Parsons, AUS; Substitute Judge: Anne Hardy-Thomas, FRA; Referee: Monique Georgelin, ISU; Assistant Referee: Walburga Grimm, ISU.

Place, Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 Elena Berezhnaya/Anton Sikharulidze, RUS, 2-1-2.0
- 2 Maria Petrova/Alexei Tikhonov, RUS, 1-2-2.5
- 3 Dorota Zagorska/Mariusz Siudek, POL, 3-3-4.5
- 4 Sarah Abitbol/Stephane Bernadis, FRA, 5-4-6.5
- 5 Peggy Schwarz/Mirko Muller, GER, 4-5-7.0
- 6 Tatiana Totmianina/Maxim Marinin, RUS, 6-6-9.0
- 7 Yulia Obertas/Dmitry Palamarchuk, UKR, 7-7-10.5
- 8 Aljona Savchenko/Stanislav Morozov, UKR, 11-8-13.5
- 9 Katerina Berankova/Otto Dlabola, CZE, 10-9-14.0

- 10 Mariana Kautz/Norman Jeschke, GER, 8-11-15.0
- 11 Viktorya Shklover/Valdis Mintals, EST, 12-10-16.0
- 12 Inga Radionova/Andrei Kroukov, AZE, 9-12-16.5
- 13 Olga Bestandigova/Josef Bestandig, SVK, 13-13-19.5
- 14 Ekaterina Danka/Gennadi Emeljenenko, BLR, 14-15-22.0
- 15 Catherine Huc/Vivien Rolland, FRA, 17-14-22.5
- 16 Maria Krasiltseva/Artem Znatchkov, ARM, 16-17-25.0
- 17 Evgenia Filonenko/Alexander Chestnikh, GEO, 15-18-25.5
- 18 Sarah Kemp/Daniel Thomas, GBR, 20-16-26.0
- 19 Line Haddad/Vitali Lychenko, ISR, 18-19-28.0
- 20 Tatjana Zaharjeva/Jurijs Salmanovs, LAT, 19-20-29.5

ICE DANCING

JUDGES (Compulsory Dance 1): Robyn Nott, AUS; Halina Gordon Poltorak, POL; Roland Mader, SUI; Elena Buriak, RUS; Katalin Alpern, ISR; Yury Kliushnikov, UKR; Liliana Strechova, CZE; Substitute Judge: Hilary Selby, GBR; Referee: Ann Shaw, ISU; Assistant Referee: Courtney Jones, ISU.

JUDGES (Compulsory Dance 2): Jean-Bernard Hamel, FRA; Judith Furst-Tombor, HUN; Anne Saraskin, EST; Eugenia Gasiorowska, LTU; Maria Hrachovcova, SVK; Miekko Fujimori, JPN; Rolf Pipoh, GER; Substitute Judge: Irina Absaliamova, BLR; Referee: Heide Maritzczak; Assistant Referee: Walter Zuccaro, ISU.

JUDGES (Original Dance): Halina Gordon Poltorak, POL; Robyn Nott, AUS; Katalin Alpern, ISR; Jean-Bernard Hamel, FRA; Anne Saraskin, EST; Maria Hrachovcova, SVK; Eugenia Gasiorowska, LTU; Miekko Fujimori, JPN; Liliana Strechova, CZE; Substitute Judge: Elena Buriak, RUS; Referee: Ann Shaw, ISU; Assistant Referee: Heide Maritzczak, ISU.

JUDGES (Free Dance): Jean-Bernard Hamel, FRA; Anne Saraskin, EST; Hilary Selby, GBR; Elena Buriak, RUS; Miekko Fujimori, JPN; Rolf Pipoh, GER; Robyn Nott, AUS; Walter Zuccaro, ITA; Roland Mader, SUI; Substitute Judge: Eugenia Gasiorowska, LTU; Referee: Ann Shaw, ISU; Assistant Referee: Heide Maritzczak, ISU.

Place, Name, Country, CD1-CD2-OD-FD-Places

- 1 Marina Anissina/Gwendal Peizerat, FRA, 1-1-1-1-2.0
- 2 Barbara Fusar-Poli/Maurizio Margaglio, ITA, 2-2-2-2-4.0
- 3 Margarita Drobiazko/Povilas Vanagas, LTU, 4-3-4-3-6.8
- 4 Irina Lobacheva/Ilia Averbukh, RUS, 3-4-3-4-7.2
- 5 Kati Winkler/Rene Lohse, GER, 6-5-5-5-10.2
- 6 Galii Chait/Sergey Sakhnovsky, ISR, 5-6-6-6-11.8
- 7 Sylwia Nowak/Sebastian Kolasiński, POL, 8-8-7-7-14.4
- 8 Elena Grushina/Ruslan Goncharov, UKR, 7-6-8-8-15.4
- 9 Isabelle Delobel/Olivier Schoenfelder, FRA, 9-9-10-9-18.6
- 10 Anna Semenovich/Roman Kostomarov, RUS, 10-10-9-10-19.4
- 11 Federica Faiella/Luciano Milo, ITA, 13-13-12-11-23.4
- 12 Oksana Potdykova/Denis Petukhov, RUS, 12-11-11-13
- 13 Eliane Hugentobler/Daniel Hugentobler, SUI, 11-12-13-12-24.4
- 14 Agata Blazowska/Marcin Kozubek, POL, 14-14-14-14-28.0
- 15 Stephanie Rauer/Thomas Rauer, GER, 15-15-15-15-30.0
- 16 Julie Keeble/Lucas Zaleski, GBR, 16-16-16-16-32.0
- 17 Katarina Kovalova/David Szurman, CZE, 18-19-17-17-34.6
- 18 Kristina Kobaladze/Oleg Voiko, UKR, 17-17-18-18-35.6
- 19 Zita Gebora/Andras Visontai, HUN, 19-18-19019-37.8
- 20 Zuzana Durkovicova/Marian Mesaros, SVK, 20-20-20-20-40.0
- 21 Anna Mosenkova/Sergey Sychoy, EST, 22-21-21-21-42.2
- 22 Alissa de Carbonnel/Alexander Malkov, BLR, 23-22-22-22-44.2
- 23 Tiffany Hyden/Vazgen Azrojan, ARM, 21-23-23-24-46.6
- 24 Ana Galic/Andrei Griazev, BIH, 24-24-24-24-47.0

2000 Four Continents Championships

Feb. 21-27 -- Osaka, Japan

PAIRS

JUDGES: Ubavka Kytinoy-Novakovic, GRE; Irina Absalimova, BLR; William Smith, USA; Valerie Huart-Greugny, FRA; Jiasheng Yang, CHN; Felicitas Babusikova, SVK; Ingrid Reetz, GER; Deborah Islam, CAN; Evgenia Bogdanova, AZE; Substitute Judge: Frank Parsons, AUS; Referee: Sally Ann Stapleford, ISU; Assistant Referee: Lucy Brennan, ISU.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 Jamie Sale/David Pelletier, CAN, 1-1-1.5
- 2 **Kyoko Ina/John Zimmerman, USA, 2-2-3.0**
- 3 **Tiffany Scott/Philip Dulebohn, USA, 4-3-5.0**
- 4 Kristy Sargeant/Kris Wirtz, CAN, 3-4-5.5
- 5 Qing Pang/Jian Tong, CHN, 5-5-7.5
- 6 Valerie Saurette/Jean-Sebastien Fecteau, CAN, 6-6-9.0
- 7 Marina Khalturina/Valeriy Artyuchov, KAZ, 7-7-10.5
- 8 Xiaojian Wang/Wei Tao, CHN, 8-8-12.0
- 9 Natalia Ponomareva/Evgeniy Sviridov, UZB, 9-9-13.5
- 10 Irina Chabanova/Artem Knyazev, UZB, 10-10-15.0

LADIES

JUDGES: Susan Johnson, USA; Marianne Oeverby, SWE; Vladislav Petukhov, UKR; Seppo Kurtii, FIN; Susan Lynch, AUS; Robert Warsfold, GBR; Benoit Lavoie, CAN; Masako Kubota, JPN; Annette Boeren, NED; Substitute Judge: Ubavka Kytinoy-Novakovic, GRE; Referee: Ronald Pfennig, ISU; Hideo Sugita, ISU.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 **Angela Nikodinov, USA, 2-1-2.0**
- 2 **Stacey Pensgen, USA, 3-2-3.5**
- 3 Annie Bellemare, CAN, 1-4-4.5
- 4 Fumie Suguri, JPN, 4-5-7.0
- 5 Yoshie Onda, JPN, 10-3-8.0
- 6 Jennifer Robinson, CAN, 6-6-9.0
- 7 Tatyana Malinina, UZB, 5-8-10.5
- 8 **Andrea Gardiner, USA, 9-7-11.5**
- 9 Rui Pang, CHN, 7-10-13.5
- 10 Young-Eun Choi, KOR, 13-9-15.5
- 11 Jia Yao, CHN, 11-11-16.5
- 12 Anastasiya Gimazetdinova, UZB, 8-13-17.0
- 13 Michelle Currie, CAN, 12-12-18.0
- 14 Chisato Shiina, JPN, 14-14-21.0
- 15 Shirene Human, RSA, 15-16-23.5
- 16 Siyin Sun, CHN, 18-15-24.0
- 17 Min-Ju Jung, KOR, 17-18-26.5
- 18 Chu-Hong Lee, KOR, 21-17-27.5
- 19 Quinn Wilmans, RSA, 20-19-29.0
- 20 Diane Chen, TPE, 19-20-29.5
- 21 Simone Joseph, RSA, 16-22-30.0
- 22 Dow-Jane Chi, TPE, 24-21-33.0
- 23 Sarah-Yvonne Prytula, AUS, 23-23-34.5
- 24 Andrea Boss, AUS, 22-24-35.0
- 25 Gladys Orozco, MEX, 25
- 26 Rocio Salas Visuet, MEX, 26
- 27 Maricarmen Szeszko, MEX, 27

MEN

JUDGES: Frank Parsons, AUS; Brigitte Adam, BEL; Lone Villefrance, DEN; Jiasheng Yang, CHN; William Smith, USA; Berit Aarnes, NOR; Jurg Badraun, SUI; Deborah Islam, CAN; Teri Sedej, SLO; Substitute Judge: Hisashi Yoshikawa, JPN; Referee: Junko Hiramatsu, ISU; Assistant Referee: Britta Lindgren, ISU.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 Elvis Stojko, CAN, 4-1-3.0
- 2 Chengjian Li, CHN, 2-2-3.0
- 3 Min Zhang, CHN, 3-3-4.5
- 4 **Todd Eldredge, USA, 1-5-5.5**
- 5 Takeshi Honda, JPN, 6-4-7.0
- 6 Anthony Liu, AUS, 5-7-9.5
- 7 Roman Skorniakov, UZB, 10-6-11.0
- 8 Yamato Tamura, JPN, 11-8-13.5
- 9 **Trifun Zivanovic, USA, 9-9-13.5**
- 10 Ben Ferreira, CAN, 8-10-14.0
- 11 Yunfei Li, CHN, 7-12-15.5
- 12 **Ryan Jahnke, USA, 12-11-17.0**
- 13 Emanuel Sandhu, CAN, 13-13-19.5
- 14 Naoko Shigematsu, JPN, 14-15-22.0
- 15 Kyu-Hyun Lee, KOR, 17-14-22.5
- 16 Yuriy Litvinov, KAZ, 15-16-23.5
- 17 Ricky Cockerill, NZL, 18-17-26.0
- 18 Bradley Santer, AUS, 16-18-26.0
- 19 Peter Nicholas, AUS, 19-19-28.5
- 20 Joon-Ho Park, KOR, 21-20-30.5
- 21 Yun-Ki Jin, KOR, 20-21-31.0
- 22 Mauricio Medellin, MEX, 22-22-33.0
- 23 Ricardo Olavarrieta, MEX, 24-23-35.0
- 24 David del Pozo, MEX, 23-24-35.5

DANCE

JUDGES: Igor Dolgushin, RUS; Hongguo Ren, CHN; Robyn Nott, AUS; Evgeni Rohkin, UZB; Margaret Faulkner, USA; Christ Heidler, AUT; Evgenia Karnolska, BUL; John Greenwood, CAN; Konstantin Kaplan, ISR; Substitute Judge: Hisashi Yoshikawa, JPN; Referee: Alexandr Gorshkov, ISU; Assistant Referee: Mieko Fujimori, ISU.

Name, Country, CD1-CD2-OD-FD-Places

- 1 **Naomi Lang/Peter Tchernyshev, USA, 1-1-1-1-2.0**
- 2 Marie-France Dubreuil/Patrice Lauzon, CAN, 2-2-2-2-4.0
- 3 **Jamie Silverstein/Justin Pekarek, USA, 3-3-4-3-6.6**
- 4 Megan Wing/Aaron Lowe, CAN, 4-4-3-4-7.4
- 5 **Beata Handra/Charles Sinek, USA, 5-5-5-5-10.0**
- 6 Josee Piche/Pascal Denis, CAN, 6-6-6-6-12.0
- 7 Nakako Suzuki/Rinat Farkhoutdinov, JPN, 7-7-7-7-14.0
- 8 Nozomi Watanabe/Akiyuki Kido, JPN, 8-9-8-8-16.2
- 9 Weina Zhang/Xianming Cao, CHN, 9-8-9-9-17.8
- 10 Rui Wang/Wei Zhang, CHN, 10-10-10-10-20.0
- 11 Rie Arikawa/Kenji Miyamoto, JPN, 11-11-11-11-22.0
- 12 Lina Qi/Hao Gao, CHN, 12-12-12-12-24.0
- 13 Portia Duval/Francis Rigby, AUS, 13-13-14-13-26.6
- 14 Olga Akimova/Andrey Driganov, UZB, 14-14-13-14-27.4

2000 Finlandia Cup

Jan. 28-30 -- Helsinki, Finland

JUNIOR

JUDGES: Shizuko Ugaki, JPN; Joanne Shaw, CAN; Marielle Sarte-Lequeux, FRA; Lee Ann Miele, USA; Maria Wetterborg, SWE; Igor Orbaztov, RUS; Mika Saarelainen, FIN.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 Les Supremes, CAN, 1-1-1.5
- 2 Filiae Aboenses, FIN, 2-2-3.0
- 3 **Superettes, USA, 3-3-4.5**
- 4 Ice Lightning, CAN, 4-4-6.0
- 5 Team Fantastic, FIN, 5-5-7.5
- 6 Reflections, FIN, 7-6-9.5
- 7 Seaside, SWE, 6-7-10.0
- 8 Musketeers, FIN, 9-8-12.5
- 9 Steps on Ice, FIN, 8-9-13.0
- 10 Team Mystique, FIN, 10-10-15.0
- 11 Team Bladerunners, SWE, 11-11-16.5
- 12 Silver Skate, EST, 12-12-18.0
- 13 U.J. Ice Messengers, JPN, 13-13-19.5

SENIOR

JUDGES: Maria Wetterborg, SWE; Joanne Shaw, CAN; Gale Tanger, USA; Marielle Sarte-Lequeux, FRA; Anna Tarkkala-Hellstrom, FIN; Rita Tognali, SUI; Igor Orbaztov, RUS.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 black ice, CAN, 1-1-1.5
- 2 Rockettes, FIN, 2-2-3.0
- 3 Marigold Ice Unity, FIN, 3-3-4.5
- 4 Team Unique, FIN, 4-4-6.0
- 5 Energetics, FIN, 5-5-7.5
- 6 Step by Step, FIN, 7-6-9.5
- 7 Les Alouettes, FRA, 6-8-11.0
- 8 Paradise, RUS, 9-7-11.5
- 9 **Miami University, USA, 8-9-13.0**
- 10 Ice Elite, CAN, 11-10-15.5
- 11 Dream Team, RUS, 10-11-16.0
- 12 Les Zoulous, FRA, 12-12-18.0
- 13 Cool Dreams, SUI, 13-13-19.5
- 14 North Pacific, SWE, 14-14-21.0
- 15 U.J. Ice Sparx, JPN, 15-15-22.5

2000 French Cup Synchronized Skating Competition

Feb. 3-6 -- Rouen, France

SENIOR

JUDGES: Maria Lysel, SWE; Seppo Kurtti, FIN; Eva Ludvikova, CZE; Aart Blok, NED; Laetitia Nerrant, FRA; Noel Grimshaw, GBR; Kirsten Tillmann, GER; Nicole Roch, CAN; Vera Birbraer, RUS; Substitute Judge: Shirley Hage, USA; Referee: Marie Lundmark, ISU; Assistant Referee: Daniel de Paix, FRA; Assistant Referee Ice: Helen Poole, GBR.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 **Haydenettes, USA, 1-1-1.5**
- 2 Team Unique, FIN, 2-2-3.0
- 3 Les Pirouettes, CAN, 3-3-4.5
- 4 Les Supremes, CAN, 4-4-6.0
- 5 Rockettes, FIN, 6-5-8.0
- 6 Kweens on Ice, CAN, 5-6-8.5
- 7 Team Paradise, RUS, 7-7-10.5
- 8 Dream Team, RUS, 10-8-13.0
- 9 Les Zoulous, FRA, 8-9-13.0
- 10 Starlight, SUI, 9-10-14.5
- 11 Team Champagne, GRB, 11-11-16.5
- 12 **Team del Sol, USA, 14-12-19.0**
- 13 United Angels, GER, 13-13-19.5
- 14 Berlin Ice Company, GER, 12-14-20.0
- 15 Team Spirit, SWE, 15-15-22.5
- 16 Team Poderoso, SWE, 16-16-24.0

- 17 Les Felines, FRA, 17-17-25.5
- 18 Team Olympia, CZE, 20-18-28.0
- 19 Duke Town Diamonds, NED, 18-19-28.0
- 20 Les Nereides, SUI, 21-20-30.5
- 21 Magic Diamonds, SUI, 19-21-30.5
- 22 Apollo Team, BEL, 22-22-33.0

JUNIOR

JUDGES: Nicole Roch, CAN; Odile Barranco, FRA; Maria Lysel, SWE; Sandra Woollam, RSA; Pierre Alain Varisco, SUI; Substitute Judge: Sanna Kohi, FIN; Referee Helen Poole, GBR; Assistant Referee: Marie Lundmark, ISU; Assistant Referee Ice: Daniel de Paix.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 Kanata Techniques, CAN, 1-1-1.5
- 2 Filiae Aboenses, FIN, 1-2-2.5
- 3 Team Fintastic, FIN, 1-3-3.5
- 4 Musketeers, FIN, 4-4-6.0
- 5 Les Zazous, FRA, 5-5-7.5
- 6 Silver Shadows, GER, 6-6-9.0

NOVICE

JUDGES: Odile Barranco, FRA; Pierre Alain Varisco, SUI; Shirley Hage, USA; Sanna Kohi, FIN; Noel Grimshaw, GBR; Sandra

Woollam, RSA; Nicole Roch, CAN; Substitute Judge: Maria Lysel, SWE; Referee: Marie Lundmark, ISU; Assistant Referee: Helen Poole; Assistant Referee Ice: Daniel de Paix.

Name, Country, FS-Places

- 1 **Ice Mates, USA, 1-0-4**
- 2 Starlights, FIN, 2-0-8
- 3 Ice Steps, FIN, 3-1-2
- 4 Lollypops, SUI, 4-1-6
- 5 Alouettes Novice, FRA, 5-2-0
- 6 Chrysalides, FRA, 6-2-4
- 7 Les Zouaves, FRA, 7-2-8
- 8 Droopies, FRA, 8-3-2
- 9 Team Sparkle, GRB, 9-3-6
- 10 Hippocampes, FRA, 10-4-0
- 11 Montem Minuettes, GRB, 11-4-4
- 12 Black Panthers, RSA, 12-4-8

2000 Spring Cup Synchronized Skating Competition

Feb. 10-13 -- Milan, Italy

SENIOR

JUDGES: Alicja Eklow, SWE; Odile Barranco, FRA; Rita Tognali, SUI; Seppo Kurtti, FIN; Miranda Marchi, ITA; Karen Robertson, CAN; Karen Wolanchuk, USA; Substitute Judge: Uta Limpert, GER; Referee: Marie Lundmark, ISU; Assistant Referee: Massimo Orlandini, ITA; Assistant Referee Ice: Elisabetta Boschetto, ITA.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 Team Surprise, SWE, 1-1-1.5
- 2 Marigold Ice Unity, 4-2-4.0
- 3 Ice Image, CAN, 2-3-4.0
- 4 Step by Step, FIN, 3-4-5.5
- 5 Berlin 1, GER, 5-5-7.5
- 6 **Starlets, USA, 7-6-9.5**
- 7 Les Alouettes, FRA, 6-8-11.0
- 8 Hot Shivers, ITA, 9-7-11.5
- 9 **Miami University, USA, 8-9-13.0**
- 10 Cool Dreams, SUI, 10-10-15.0
- 11 North Pacific, SWE, 11-11-16.5
- 12 M-Style, CZE, 12-12-18.0
- 13 Shooting Stars, GER, 14-13-20.0

- 14 Shining Blades, ITA, 13-14-20.5
- 15 Etoiles, ITA, 15-15-22.5
- 16 Duisburger Ice D., GER, 16-16-24.0

JUNIOR

JUDGES: Isabella Micheli, ITA; Alicja Eklow, SWE; Seppo Kurtti, FIN; William Beharrell, USA; Michael Schallhart, SUI; Uta Limpert, GER; Helen Poole, GBR; Substitute Judge: Karen Robertson, CAN; Referee: Elisabetta Boschetto, ITA; Assistant Referee: Marie Lundmark, ISU; Assistant Referee Ice: Massimo Orlandini, ITA.

Name, Country, SP-FS-Places

- 1 Ice Infinity, CAN, 1-1-1.5
- 2 Steps on Ice, FIN, 3-2-3.5
- 3 Finnlines, FIN, 2-3-4.0
- 4 Team Mystique, FIN, 4-4-6.0
- 5 **Hockettes, USA, 6-4-7.0**
- 6 **The Colonials, USA, 5-6-8.5**
- 7 Stella Polaris, FIN, 7-7-10.5
- 8 Ice Jems, GBR, 8-8-12.0
- 9 The Icebreakers, SUI, 9-9-13.5

- 10 Hot Dreams, SUI, 10-10-15.0
- 11 Shining Blades, ITA, 11-11-16.5
- 12 Silver Shadow, GER, 13-12-18.5
- 13 Arioso, SWE, 12-13-19.0
- 14 Zagreb Snowflakes, CRO, 14-14-21.0



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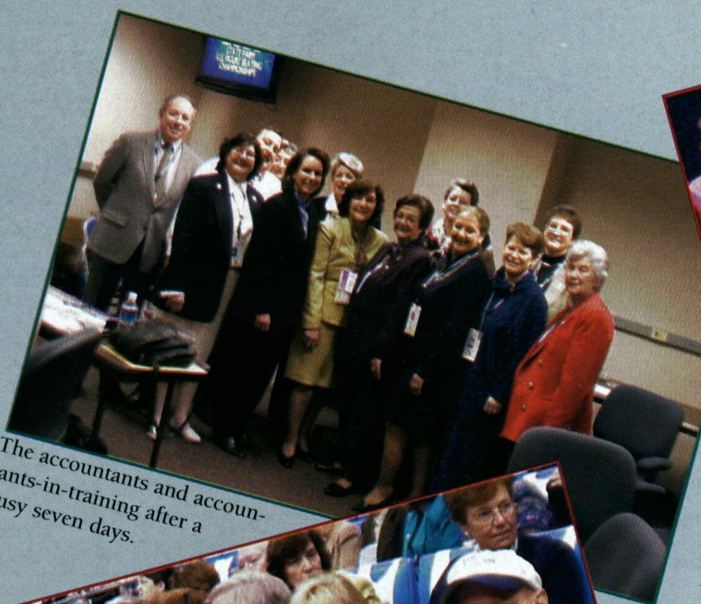
Gymnasium



Scrapbook from

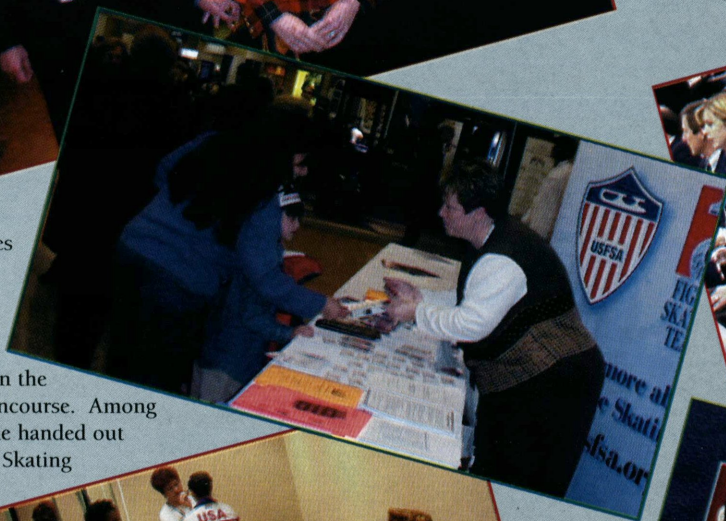
For the USFSA Headquarters Staff, Executive Committee members and countless volunteers from Cleveland and across the country, the 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships are the culmination of a year of hard work and planning. Fans of the sport mostly see what's on the ice, but here's a look at what goes on behind the scenes...

USFSA Executive Director John LeFevre, USFSA President Jimmy Disbrow, USFSA Second Vice-President Nancy Bizzano, Bill Howard (husband of USFSA First Vice-President Phyllis Howard) and USFSA Past-President Morry Stillwell at VIP Hospitality.



The accountants and accountants-in-training after a busy seven days.

USFSA Co-Director of Member Services Kathy Drevs spent the week working the USFSA information booth on the Gund Arena concourse. Among other things, she handed out 4,000 copies of Skating magazine!



USFSA President Jimmy Disbrow and his wife, Dede, check out the skating action. To Dede Disbrow's right are John LeFevre and Phyllis Howard.

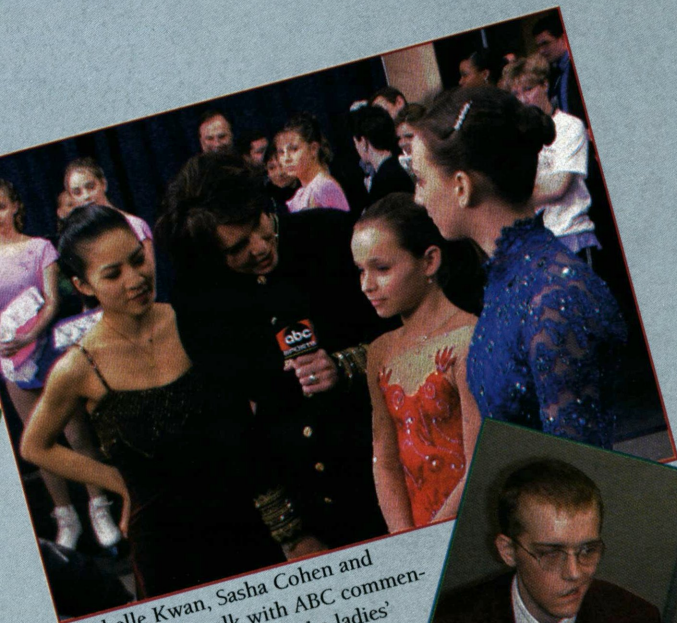


The costume repair shop is a busy place during competition week.



USFSA Communications Coordinator Bob Dunlop (right) coordinates a pre-event press conference with Michael Weiss.

om Cleveland



Michelle Kwan, Sasha Cohen and Sarah Hughes talk with ABC commentator Lesley Visser after the ladies' final.



Thanks to Chevrolet, fans at the arena had a chance to be on the cover of Skating magazine! Jill Raleigh (left) and Amy Naeem show off their winning smiles!



At left, Paul Binnebose and Laura Handy answer questions from a stream of reporters.



USFSA Treasurer Bruce McNally and Second Vice-President Nancy Bizzano catch some of the action.



Sarah Hughes, Angela Nikodinov and Stacey Pensgen stop to sign autographs after practice.



Hayes Jenkins, Phyllis Howard, Jimmy Disbrow, and Hugh Graham at center ice for an awards' presentation. Photo by Michelle Harvath.



USFSA Director of Events Carrie Wolf had her hands full during the competition. Wolf is one of the driving forces behind the logistics of the event and meeting the needs of ABC Television.



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Oleg -- We Got You Now!

On Sept. 2, 1992, Oleg Fediukov left his family and friends in Moscow, Russia, to start a new life – the life of an American. Heading to the United States to continue his love for ice dancing, he envisioned the USA as filled with Harley Davidsons and cowboys -- just as the movies depicted. He didn't know English. He didn't know what lay ahead for him, but Fediukov knew he wanted to be an American.

"Oleg said that since he was a little kid, his dream was to be an American -- not just to go to America, but to be an American," said his coach Uschi Keszler.

As it turned out, the past seven years has brought a new life for Fediukov. He has found success in skating as the two-time U.S. Dance bronze medalist with his partner of three years, Debbie Koegel, under coaches Keszler and Robbie Kaine. He learned the language by watching the Discovery Channel and teaching Russian to a friend in exchange for English lessons. And, on Jan. 19 of this year, Fediukov proudly became an American citizen. His citizenship will allow him to compete in the Olympics for the U.S., if he qualifies.

Of course, citizenship doesn't come very easily. Before Fediukov could be considered, he had to live in the country for five years. Finally, in the last week of December 1999, he was notified that he would have the opportunity to begin the process of becoming a citizen.

Sharing the news with his family back in Moscow, Fediukov said, "I called my mom on New Year's Eve and told her that I got an appointment on Jan. 6 to go to the test. She was excited -- my whole family was. At first it was hard for them when I moved here -- my mom kind of knew what I wanted to do (become a citizen). They missed me, but in a way it got easier because they didn't have to take care of me."

On the drive to the test, Koegel quizzed him on the 100 possible questions.

...At the end they say, 'Oleg Fediukov - formerly Russia, now the United States...'

--Uschi Keszler--

"He was confusing the names, but by the time we got to the office, there was only about 30 minutes to the test and he knew everything!" said Koegel.

Fediukov explained, "I was really nervous!"

But he passed the test with red, white and blue colors, and on Jan. 19th, he attended his swearing-in ceremony. About 70 other people took the oath along with him. Koegel and Keszler were both part of Fediukov's entourage that supported him at the ceremony.

"I don't know if you have ever heard the oath -- it's quite emotional because you actually denounce everything that goes prior," said Keszler. "You denounce where you're from. You denounce where you were raised. You denounce everything."

And, as Fediukov took his oath, the reality of fulfilling his dream began to hit him.



Story by Jenna Thurmes
Photo by Paul Harvath

"Certain phrases and words used at the ceremony just made me realize that I was giving up Russian citizenship and I was becoming an American," said Fediukov. "And the way they put it -- if there were to be a war between Russians and Americans, I would have to fight against Russia. My brother is still in Russia and that means that I would have to fight him, so it's a scary thing."

Keszler expressed pride in her student.

"I started crying. It was very emotional," she said. "At the end they say 'Oleg Fediukov -- formerly Russia, now the United States' and that is the last time he will ever be announced in connection with Russia."

After the ceremony, Fediukov had more than a warm reception by his 17 friends who attended, including good friend and fellow local ice hockey team member, Elvis Stojko, who is also coached by Keszler.

"We were all embarrassing him. We had a whole cheering section. Everyone else only had one person," said Keszler.

Before heading back to the rink that afternoon with Koegel, Fediukov insisted on immediately getting his passport, only to find the office closed.

"We went back the next day to get his passport," said Koegel. "It was a very good start to the new millennium."

When returning to the rink after the ceremony, not only did Oleg find a huge banner with "Congratulations, Oleg!" but on the digital display outside the rink, his friends made him know he was here to stay. It read "Oleg, We Got You Now!"

Minneapolis Bound

The 2000 Chevrolet
U.S. Synchronized
Team Skating
Championships



The Haydenettes



Team Elan

The Haydenettes captured an unprecedented 10th U.S. title at the 2000 Chevrolet U.S. Synchronized Team Skating Championships, while Team Elan surprised the field by gliding to a second-place finish. In the most important year ever for synchronized skating, these two teams will represent the United States at the World Synchronized Skating Championships in Minneapolis, Minn., this month. Meanwhile, seven other U.S. Champions were crowned in Plymouth, Mich., as synchronized skating continues to increase in popularity.

Story by Susan Schilling and Laura Fawcett
Photos by Michelle Harvath

There was a feeling about this year's 2000 Chevrolet U.S. Synchronized Team Skating Championships in Plymouth, Mich., that was just a little bit different. Maybe because, in a sense, it was different...at least for the teams competing in the senior division.

No longer is the title of "U.S. Champion" the pinnacle of success for the senior teams. Now it's "U.S. Champion and World Team Member" that means the most.

For the first time, two teams have that tag behind their names. The Haydenettes and Team Elan are headed to Minneapolis for the first-ever World Synchronized Skating Championships, April 5-8. It's an important step for the development of the sport on the international level, and the U.S. couldn't have asked for more qualified entrants.

"I think the U.S. Figure Skating Association has been 100 percent behind this final step toward the World Championships," said Project 2000 chair Gale Tanger. "I am very comfortable that (our teams) have all the preparation they need to step onto the world stage. I think we've accomplished our mission and are ready for Worlds."

The Haydenettes (Lexington, Mass.) swept to their record 10th U.S. title in 12 years behind a sultry and energetic free skate to music from the musical "Fosse" -- chosen by coach/choreographer Lynn Benson.

The U.S. Champions sprinkled their free skate with daring and original moves, including their trademark -- the disappearing "T" line -- and domino back shoot the duck lines.

The Haydenettes regrouped last summer after finishing second in the U.S. Championships to Miami University. After a few sessions of hashing out the previous year, Benson said the team closed the chapter on 1999 and focused only on the possibilities in 2000.

I think we've accomplished our mission and are ready for Worlds.

Gale Tanger

"We tried to put a strategy together of what we needed to do," said Benson. "It wasn't about winning medals, but what we needed to do to put two good programs together, have the girls in shape and be able to skate them well and also enjoy the process of getting there."

Benson said enjoying that process has been a main focus of the team all year long, and she and her coaching staff assumed a leadership role in that goal.

"It was deliberate to have two programs that were very different from each other," said Benson, who also choreographed the team's short program to "The Skater's Waltz." "I think that's very important. That's another way to keep things interesting as you're going through the process."

It has already paid off. Besides the national victory, the Haydenettes also scored a major win by grabbing the gold at the French Cup in early February.

Team Elan made one of the biggest one-year turnarounds in synchronized skating, jumping up from fifth in 1999 to second this year. The team from the Detroit SC finished second in both the short and the long program to stay ahead of defending champion Miami University for the coveted second place spot.

Team Elan used a patriotic theme in red, white and blue costumes for their free skate, with music from Aaron Copland and an original arrangement by Jeff Laduke. They opened the program with visually dynamic forward and backward edge pull circles and went on to showcase a full team spiral line and

impressive hydroblade lines into a back lunge intersection.

"The size of the crowd was stunning -- it was also very up close and personal and intimate," said Team Elan coach Jeannine Cullen, referring to the packed house for the free skate. "You could reach out and touch the spectators."

Although Team Elan earned the silver medal, there was no guarantee that they would receive the second berth to the World Championships. The U.S. Champion received an automatic berth, but the second team was chosen at the discretion of the USFSA International Committee's Synchronized Skating Management Subcommittee.

"There are two approaches you can take," said International Committee Chair Bob Horen. "One is to take the order of finish and say this is a head-to-head competition and we will live with that finish. The other approach is to look at a season or a couple of seasons and take that into account. The mission of the International Committee is to win medals. Someone who has had a spectacular season could have one bad incident that could drop them off in competition. That may not actually produce the results you want and you may not be sending the best or the most likely team to win a medal at the World Championships."

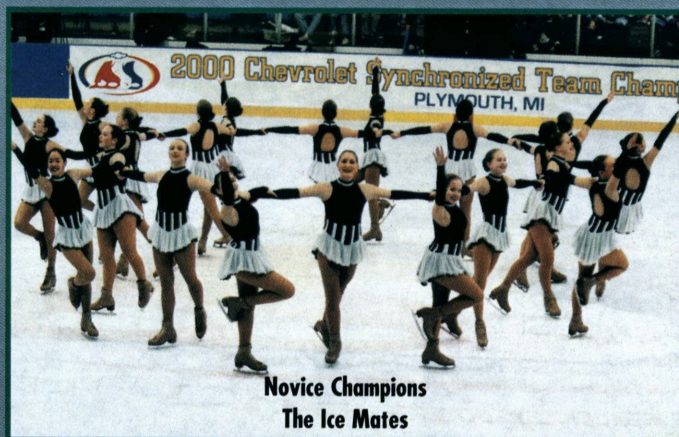
Therefore, Horen said the committee has the option of not only looking at the results of the U.S. Championships, but taking into account a body of work for the second team.



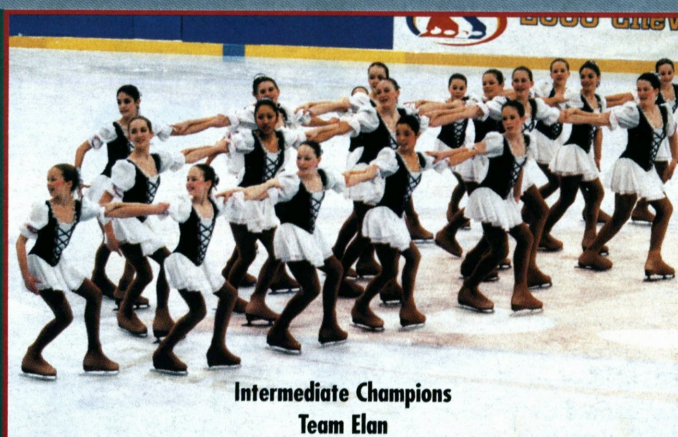
Senior Third Place Miami University



Junior Champions The Superettes



Novice Champions
The Ice Mates



Intermediate Champions
Team Elan

Team Elan had not competed internationally before the championships, but their intricate, beautifully flowing programs impressed the judges, spectators and the committee -- resulting in a well-deserved trip to Worlds. Both the Haydenettes and Team Elan will have their work cut out for them in Minneapolis, where they will be up against technically precise teams from Canada, Sweden and Finland, among others.

Defending champion Miami University came into the competition with two international events already under its belt. Outfitted in elegant, flowing turquoise and white costumes, Miami incorporated a "sea" theme into their program, with music from Waterworld, The Crimson Pirate and Cutthroat Island. Highlights included high flying Arabian pulls, hydroblading and an edgework section that showcased long flowing edges, deep knee bends, speed and power.

JUNIOR

The Superettes (Warwick Figure Skaters) made it two titles in a row with a victory in the junior division. Nancy Rossi's superior team has been technical-



Juvenile Champions
Ice Cubes

ly and artistically solid all year, finishing third at February's Finland International competition. The Superettes' free skate was set to Ravel and Tchaikovsky classical music and included three different intersections -- a twizzle, block and back lunge -- superb transitions and an excellent variety of hand holds.

Silver medalists for the second consecutive year, the Hockettes (Ann Arbor FSC) continue to show athletic and powerful skating. Dressed in blue and gold for the free skate, the program's highlights included a traveling basket weave circle that floated effortlessly across the ice and pair waltz jumps at the end.

Third place went to the Starlets (Wagon Wheel FSC), who made an impressive jump after failing to qualify for the U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships last year.

NOVICE

Benson picked up another gold medal when her novice team, the Ice Mates, successfully defended their 1999 championship. The Ice Mates won the 2000 French Cup in February and continued their winning ways in Plymouth.

Skating a theatrical program to "Mac and Mabel," the Ice Mates mixed up their routine with an exemplary triple wheel, a tight block with choctaws and a three-line intersection.

Although they stand on their own, in a way the Ice Mates are a "farm team" for the older Haydenette squad.

"The Ice Mates are on target," said Benson. "Their mission is to get all the qualities they need in order

to move on to the Haydenettes. It's certainly nice that they do well, too. It's a little easier to get the girls going in the right direction."

Novice second place Team Elan skated to the Rock and Roll Nutcracker by the Trans Siberian Orchestra. Decked out in hot pink chiffon with black trim, the squad opened with spiral lines transitioning to back hydroblade lines. This is the second consecutive year Team Elan has captured the silver in the novice division.

"The team going into the championships had one common goal -- to have their greatest performance at nationals," said Team Elan coach Brooke Sloan. "Before they took the ice, every skater said 'this one comes from the heart.' And that's what they did."

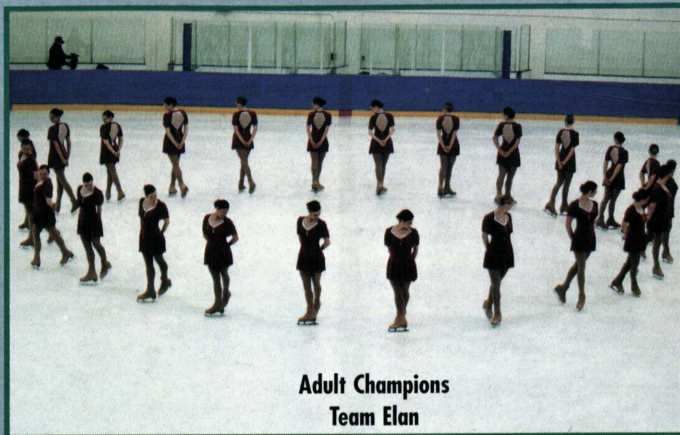
1998 U.S. novice champions Chicago Jazz finished third.

INTERMEDIATE

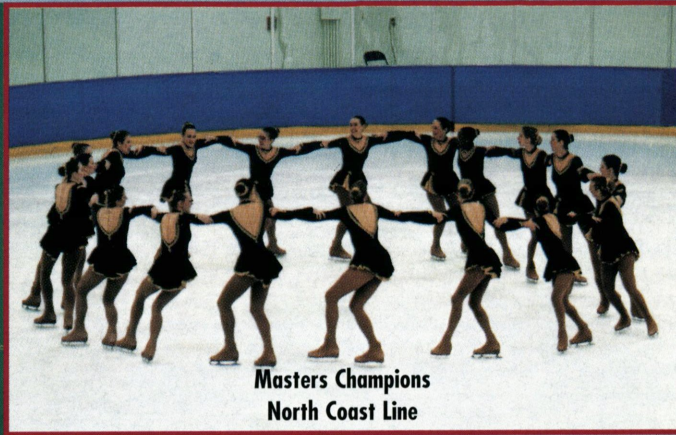
Team Elan captured their second straight gold medal in the intermediate division with a program set to the Hungarian Rhapsody. The team skated with exceptional skill considering their level, with a sureness to their skating that exuded confidence. Highlights included a circle transitioning to a triangle then back to a circle and an intersection with duet twirl.

Last year's bronze medalists, Team del Sol (San Diego FSC), moved up a place to earn the silver in 2000. Coached by Karen Weismeier, the team boasted creative choreography and great presentation.

The Colonials (Colonial FSC) captured third place with an interesting program set to a "dreams" theme. Dressed in aquamarine velvet dresses with raspberry and holographic inserts, their program featured an exquisite retrogressed



Adult Champions
Team Elan



Masters Champions
North Coast Line

diagonal line, intersecting circles and an original pinwheel with breakoff high-lights.

"I think what makes all of my teams compete consistently is that we never, ever think about winning," said Colonials' coach Merita Mullen. "We just try to bend our knees and flow."

COLLEGIATE

The collegiate division is one of the fastest-growing sections of synchronized skating, with 10 colleges participating this year. Oswego State, Princeton and Notre Dame all entered teams for the first time, while representatives from Michigan Tech University and the University of Findlay were on hand to check out the development of the sport.

Miami University, skating to the James Bond theme, outdistanced the field with superior speed, intricate footwork with brackets and choctaws and a three-spoke wheel with hydroplaning. It was the third collegiate title in four years for Miami, who took home silver last year. This Miami University team is not the same one that competes at the championship level, but can be described as the "junior varsity" team at the school.

Wearing elegant lavender dresses inspired by their "Cinderella" theme, the University of Delaware won the silver with a program that included a beautiful spiral line, flowing "S" wheel and tight blocks. The team's final element was a "kaleidoscope" where the centers of egg beaters formed counter rotating circles, and the prongs traded places with one another to finish on the opposite side of the rink.

Last year's champions, the University of Michigan, skated to music from the "Pulp Fiction" soundtrack to capture third place.

JUVENILE

While the Haydenettes were soaking up their 10th senior national title, the Ice Cubes, also from Hayden, were making a little history of their own. With their sixth national title, the Ice Cubes boast the most U.S. titles among all juvenile teams. Their last title was in 1993 and they finished ninth last year.

"We all know the juvenile event -- no one ever knows how they will perform under pressure," said Ice Cubes' coach Doreen Trunfio. "The Ice Cubes had a great skate."

The Ice Cubes skated to a Mardi Gras theme and highlights included a shoot the duck circle and pair intersection.

The Chicago Jazz opened with a pyramid formation that transitioned into a fast moving block. Their well-choreographed number to "The Nutcracker" was good enough to earn them the silver medal for the second consecutive year.

Third place went to the Colonials, who impressed audiences with a break out circle that magically blended back into itself.

ADULT

Team Elan picked up back to back adult titles with a victory this year in Plymouth. The squad skated a jazzy number to music from "Swing Kids" that included a fast six-spoke wheel and back outside whip lines transitioning into a three-way pass.

Silver medalists Esprit de Corps (Hayden Recreation Centre FSC) created original formations that reflected their chosen music of "Miss

Saigon," including a spiral sequence on both inside and outside edges.

Ice Fusion (Wyandotte FSC) earned the bronze medal with great energy and enthusiasm, including a well-done double "V" intersection.

MASTERS

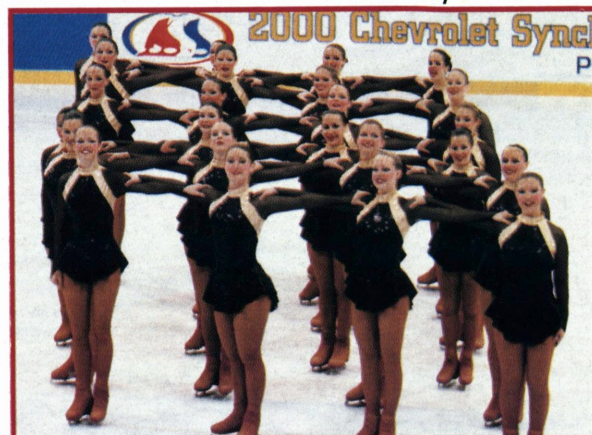
North Coast Line won its fifth consecutive title with an energetic number to Irish-themed music. The five straight titles ties the record held by the Ice Mates (novice) for most consecutive titles. Should North Coast Line win next year, the team will hold the record alone with six consecutive titles.

"Each year we improve our individual skills and the technical difficulty of our program," said North Coast team captain Caryl Richards. "Each team member has stepped up to the challenge."

The Turning Points (Midland FSC) used good speed and a superior five-spoke wheel to win the silver.

Seattle Ice (Seattle SC) skated to a circus theme and included a triangle intersection and two "V" intersections in their program.

Collegiate Champions
Miami University



2000 Chevrolet Synchronized Team Skating Championships

March 1-4
Plymouth, Mich.

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Shirley M Hage, Marine St Croix, MN; 2 Lois Long, Newcastle, WA; 3 Colette B Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 4 Susan A Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 5 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 6 Margaret Faulkner, Ann Arbor, MI; 7 Jeanette A Davey, La Mesa, CA; 8 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 9 Helen Wong, Sacramento, CA; REFEREE: William R Beharrel*, Lunenburg, MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Patricia S French, Williamsville, NY; ACCOUNTANT: Carmilla J Scott*, Grand Prairie, TX

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Shirley M Hage, Marine St Croix, MN; 2 Lois Long, Newcastle, WA; 3 Colette B Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 4 Susan A Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 5 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 6 Margaret Faulkner, Ann Arbor, MI; 7 Jeanette A Davey, La Mesa, CA; 8 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 9 Helen Wong, Sacramento, CA; REFEREE: William R Beharrel*, Lunenburg, MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Patricia S French, Williamsville, NY; ACCOUNTANT: Carmilla J Scott*, Grand Prairie, TX

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Haydenettes, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 1-1-1.5
2. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 2-2-3.0
3. Miami Univ. Varsity Synch Team, Miami Univ., 3-3-4.5
4. Starlets, Wagon Wheel FSC, 4-4-6.0
5. Team Del Sol, San Diego FSC, 6-5-8.0
6. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 5-6-8.5
7. Goldenettes, Garfield Heights FSC, 7-7-10.5
8. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 8-8-12.0
9. Superettes, Warwick Figure Skaters, 9-9-13.5
10. University of Michigan, Univ. of Michigan SC, 10-10-15.0
11. Team Braemar, Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, 11-11-16.5
12. The Skating Edge, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 12-12-18.0
13. WMU Synch Skating Team, Western Michigan Univ. SC, 13-13-19.5
14. Team Esprit, Hamden FSA, 16-14-22.0
15. Team Allure, Rocky Mountain FSC, 14-15-22.0
16. Team Millennium, New England FSC, 15-16-23.5

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

JUDGES - SHORT PROGRAM: 1 Susan M Haugh, Livonia, NY; 2 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 3 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 4 Jeanette A Davey, La Mesa, CA; 5 Colette B Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 6 Lois Long, Newcastle, WA; 7 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 8 Susan A Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 9 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; REFEREE: Gale H Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Judith C Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; ACCOUNTANT: Avonia M Dondero, Walnut Creek, CA

JUDGES - FREE SKATING: 1 Susan M Haugh, Livonia, NY; 2 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 3 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 4 Jeanette A Davey, La Mesa, CA; 5 Colette B Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 6 Lois Long, Newcastle, WA; 7 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 8 Susan A Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 9 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; REFEREE: Gale H Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Judith C Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; ACCOUNTANT: Avonia M Dondero, Walnut Creek, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, SP-FS-PLACES

1. Superettes, Warwick Figure Skaters, 1-1-1.5
2. Hockettes, Ann Arbor FSC, 2-2-3.0
3. Starlets, Wagon Wheel FSC, 3-3-4.5
4. The Colonials, Colonial FSC, 4-4-6.0
5. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 4-5-7.0
6. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 6-6-9.0
7. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 7-7-10.5
8. Shoreline of Cape Cod, The Bourne SC, 8-8-12.0
9. Ice Liners, Newburyport FSC, 9-9-13.5
10. Northern Stars, Massena FSC, 10-10-15.0
11. Les Patineurs, Front Range FSC, 11-11-16.5
12. Berkeley Blades, St. Moritz ISC, 13-12-18.5
13. United Skates, All Year FSC, 14-13-20.0
14. Ice Angelzz, Cottonwood Heights FSC, 12-14-20.0

NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES: 1 Helen Wong, Sacramento, CA; 2 Shirley M Hage, Marine St Croix, MN; 3 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 4 Margaret Faulkner, Ann Arbor, MI; 5 Sara Jayne Stephens, Marietta, GA; 6 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 7 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 8 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 9 Susan A Johnson, Atlanta, GA; REFEREE: Patricia S French, Williamsville, NY; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Ann T Fauver, Gorham, ME; ACCOUNTANT: Patricia J Soanes, Toronto, ONT

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Ice Mates, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 8/1
2. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 7/3
3. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 5/3
4. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 5/4
5. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 6/5
6. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 8/6
7. Munchkins, Warwick Figure Skaters, 6/7
8. Team Millennium, New England FSC, 7/8
9. Team Esprit, Hamden FSA, 7/9
10. Prisms, Potsdam FSC, 7/10
11. Team Allure, Vaca Valley FSC, 7/11
12. Team Allure, Rocky Mountain FSC, 7/12
13. Arctic Jewels, Arctic Blades FSC, 9/13

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES: 1 Margaret Faulkner, Ann Arbor, MI; 2 Susan M Haugh, Livonia, NY; 3 Jeanette A Davey, La Mesa, CA; 4 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 5 Lois Long, Newcastle, WA; 6 Colette B Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 7 Susan A Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 8 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 9 Helen Wong, Sacramento, CA; REFEREE: William R Beharrel*, Lunenburg, MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Donald E Mumper, Clarksville, TN; ACCOUNTANT: Carmilla J Scott*, Grand Prairie, TX

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 6/1
2. Team Del Sol, San Diego FSC, 5/2
3. The Colonials, Colonial FSC, 7/3
4. Wisconsin Edge, Wisconsin FSC, 5/4
5. Nor'easters, Wilmington FSC, 6/5
6. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 5/6
7. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 5/7
8. Shoreline of Cape Cod, The Bourne SC, 7/8
9. Team Image, Yonkers FSC, 5/8
10. Cascades, Portland ISC, 6/10
11. Arctic Jewels, Arctic Blades FSC, 8/11
12. Columbine Wildflowers, Columbine FSC, 9/12

JUVENILE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES: 1 Sara Jayne Stephens, Marietta, GA; 2 Helen Wong, Sacramento, CA; 3 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 4 Susan M Haugh, Livonia, NY; 5 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 6 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 7 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 8 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 9 Shirley M Hage, Marine St Croix, MN; REFEREE: Judith C Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Donald E Mumper, Clarksville, TN; ACCOUNTANT: Arlene Sibrell, Golden, CO

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Ice Cubes, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 6/1
2. Chicago Jazz, Chicago FSC, 6/2
3. Colonials, Colonial FSC, 5/3
4. Team Del Sol, San Diego FSC, 6/4
5. Gems on Ice, Plymouth FSC, 5/4
6. Shoreline of Cape Cod, The Bourne SC, 5/6
7. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 7/7
8. Crystallettes, Dearborn FSC, 6/7
9. Saint Sensations, St. Lawrence FSC, 5/9
10. Team Image, Yonkers FSC, 5/10
11. Columbine Blossoms, Columbine FSC, 7/11

12. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 5/11
13. Ice Angelzz, Cottonwood Heights FSC, 9/13

MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES: 1 Susan A Johnson, Atlanta, GA; 2 Jerry Shipley, Cincinnati, OH; 3 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 4 Helen Wong, Sacramento, CA; 5 Shirley M Hage, Marine St Croix, MN; 6 Sara Jayne Stephens, Marietta, GA; 7 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; 8 Susan M Haugh, Livonia, NY; 9 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; REFEREE: Ann T Fauver, Gorham, ME; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Judith C Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; ACCOUNTANT: Patricia J Soanes, Toronto, ONT

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. North Coast Line, Shaker FSC, 7/1
2. The Turning Points, Midland FSC, 6/3
3. Seattle Ice, Seattle SC, 5/3
4. Silhouettes in the Night, Bay Path FSC, 6/4
5. Ice Fusion, Skate Company SC, 5/5
6. Debonaires, Ann Arbor FSC, 7/7
7. Ice Cadettes, DuPage FSC, 5/7
8. Fraser Eclipse, Fraser FSC, 6/8
9. Metro Blades, Bowie FSC, 5/8
10. Delaware Diamonds, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 6/9
11. Frederick Embers, Frederick FSC, 9/11

ADULT CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES: 1 Sara Jayne Stephens, Marietta, GA; 2 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 3 Margaret Faulkner, Ann Arbor, MI; 4 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 5 Jeanette A Davey, La Mesa, CA; 6 Colette B Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 7 Eleanor Curtis, Albuquerque, NM; 8 Lois Long, Newcastle, WA; 9 Paula Ziegler, Rockford, MI; REFEREE: Judith C Edmunds, West Yarmouth, MA; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Gale H Tanger, Milwaukee, WI; ACCOUNTANT: Avonia M Dondero, Walnut Creek, CA

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Team Elan, Detroit SC, 6/1
2. Esprit de Corps, Hayden Recreation Centre FSC, 8/2
3. Ice Fusion, Wyandotte FSC, 5/3
4. L A Express, All Year FSC, 7/5
5. Diamondaires, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 5/5
6. Icesymmetrics, St. Moritz ISC, 7/6
7. Synchro Panache, FSC of Minneapolis, 8/7
8. Cleveland Edges, Greenbrier FSC, 5/8
9. Debonaires, Ann Arbor FSC, 6/9
10. The Cutting Edge, Denver FSC, 5/9

COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUDGES: 1 Beverly Davis, Scottsdale, AZ; 2 Colette B Nygren, Sudbury, MA; 3 Shirley M Hage, Marine St Croix, MN; 4 Joyce Burden, San Carlos, CA; 5 Helen Wong Sacramento, CA; 6 Jerry; 7 Lee Ann Miele, Narragansett, RI; 8 Margaret Faulkner, Ann Arbor, MI; 9 Sara Jayne Stephens, Marietta, GA; REFEREE: Donald E Mumper, Clarksville, TN; ASSISTANT REFEREE: Patricia S French, Williamsville, NY; ACCOUNTANT: Arlene Sibrell, Golden, CO

NAME, CLUB NAME, MAJORITY-TIE BREAKER

1. Miami Univ. Collegiate Team, Miami University, 9/1
2. Univ. of Delaware Precisionaire, Univ. of Delaware FSC, 9/2
3. Univ of Michigan, University of Michigan SC, 9/4
4. WMU Synch Skating Team, Western Michigan Univ. SC, 5/4
5. MSU Synch Skating Team, Michigan State U, 9/5
6. Bowling Green St Univ. Prec, Bowling Green State U, 9/6
7. Princeton Ice of the Tigers, Princeton Univ.FSC, 5/7
8. U of Notre Dame Synch Skating Team, Univ. of Notre Dame, 6/8
9. Providence College Friettes, Providence College FSC, 8/9
10. Lakers, Oswego State Univ. of New York, 9/10

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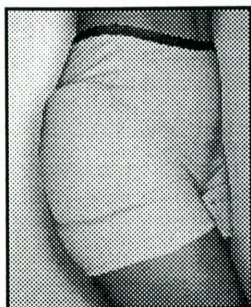
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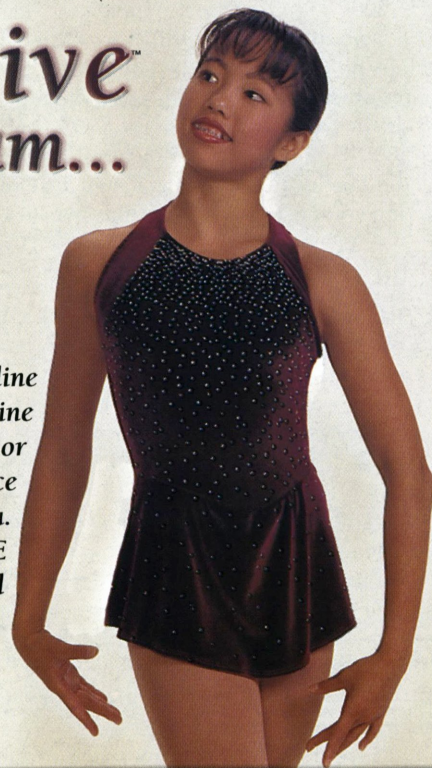
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Changing of the Guard

At the 2000 European Figure Skating Championships in Vienna, new champions were crowned in all four categories. Three defending champions had to settle for silver this time, and the upheaval holds promises of more excitement in the coming years.

Story by Tatiana Flade

The short program proved to be a battle of nerves, but Yagudin stood up and won after drawing to skate first.

"I just went out and skated like in practice," he said after the clean program that featured a quad toe-loop, a somewhat scratchy triple Axel-triple toe combination and an impressive flying sit spin.

It was just enough to fend off teammate Plushenko. The 17-year-old also pulled off a very good program, including a quad toe, a breathtakingly fast circular step sequence and a triple Axel-triple toe combination. It was a tough decision to make, and the judges went 5 to 4 in favor of two-time champion Yagudin, preferring the jazzy Nutcracker routine to Plushenko's Sabre Dance.

After the short, it was obvious that the two skaters would battle it out for gold and silver. Dmitry Dmitrenko of the Ukraine, who had not medaled at an international championships after winning Europeans in 1993, skated a solid program to place third in the short.

The gold medal contenders were the final two skaters. First up was Plushenko who knew that any mistake would cost him dearly. He opened with a beautiful quad toe-triple toe, but stepped out of the double loop in the three-jump-combination. As if nothing happened, he continued with the triple Axel-triple toe, four more triples, high speed and good spins in his Russian Folk Music routine. He just slightly touched down with the second blade on his triple Axel.

As Yagudin stepped on the ice, his competitor's marks of 5.8 and 5.9 were being read by the announcer -- and that perhaps put a little too much pressure on him. The defending champion held on to the landing of his quad toe, but wasn't able to complete the planned combination. His jumps didn't look as easy as Plushenko's and he appeared to be tense. He still might have had a chance to win with a strong second mark for his artistically demanding program to "Broken Arrow," but he stumbled on the triple Salchow. When the marks for technical merit were shown, Yagudin stormed off, disappointed and mad

Everything looked different at the top of the podium at the 2000 European Championships. Many of the names were the same, but the order of finish proved that there will be no easy rides to the gold medal in the next few years. Three of the four 1999 European Champions were dethroned, while the fourth -- dancers Anjelika Krylova and Oleg Ovsyanikov -- were forced to watch as an injury kept them from defending their title. Russian skaters again dominated the ranks, as three of the four gold medalists hailed from that country.

MEN

The men's competition started with a rather poor qualifying round. Just the top two skaters in each group delivered good performances, while everyone else struggled. Although the qualifying counted toward the final score, some skaters didn't appear to be too motivated or just wanted to save their strength.

Alexei Yagudin and Evgeny Plushenko both won their respective qualifying groups, with Yagudin skating stronger. Although his right hand was in a partial cast, the 19-year-old landed a quad toe, while Plushenko fell on his. Yagudin broke a bone inside his hand when he slammed against the boards at practice in Moscow on Jan. 25. Although he was hampered by the injury, he didn't consider withdrawing.

"This was very good for the qualifying," he said. "My hand hurts, and it's affecting my skating. But I wanted to skate in Vienna no matter what."

Plushenko skated in Group B, and because he missed the quad toe, he did his new three-jump combination a bit later, landing triple Axel-triple toe-double loop.

at himself. His coach Tatiana Tarasova remained relaxed.

"It's not bad," she said. "After all, he won two portions of the event. It was hard for him to skate last, and it was hard to skate with the injured hand anyway."

Plushenko became the second youngest champion since Alain Giletti in the 1950s. At the press conference following the event, Plushenko talked

about the future. "I believe that a quad-quad combination is possible," he said. "Some skaters are working on this already -- the Chinese for example. I think I could do it."

Yagudin is now focusing on Worlds:

"I had some bad luck in the new year, and now nothing should happen to me anymore."

Dmitrenko skated one of the most beautiful programs of the evening and took the bronze. The audience enjoyed his interpretation to music from the Al Pacino movie "Scent of a Woman." The Ukrainian showed excellent feeling for the music and had many original ideas in his choreography, including a delightful "tango scene." The 26-year-old has improved his technique, and his jumps were higher and cleaner, only falling on his second Axel.

"I had the idea for the program," he explained. "I watched the movie several times and I studied how Al Pacino moves. I didn't copy him, though. This wouldn't have been possible anyway."

The Europeans were a well-deserved comeback for Dmitrenko, who has struggled with inconsistency in the past years.

PAIRS

Last season, Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze were leading after the short at Europeans and were the clear favorites for the free program. However, Berezhnaya fell ill and the couple had to withdraw. Their compatriots, Maria Petrova and Alexei Tikhonov,

seized their chance and pulled up from fifth place to win the title in their first season as a pair.

This year, Petrova and Tikhonov have proven much more consistent than Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze and came in as favorites. They won the short with a flawless and powerful performance that featured side by side triple toe-loops and a gorgeous throw triple Salchow.

Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze finished second as she touched down on the triple toe.

"Compared to the short program in other competitions, it was still better," said Berezhnaya.

In the free skate, the current World Champions managed a good performance to their romantic "Waltz Sentimentale" by Tchaikovsky to claim the gold. The biggest flaw was a double toe by Berezhnaya.

"I'm not pleased with myself. I did mistakes I shouldn't do," she said.

However, all the top teams made one mistake, so the victory for the Russians was still justified.

Petrova missed the triple toe in the interesting "Four Seasons" program, landing the pair in second place.

"I just didn't take off for the triple toe. The rest was OK," she said.

Poland's Dorota Zagorska and Mariusz Siudek had to skate first in the short, but didn't make a major mistake and were third -- the same place they finished the competition. Zagorska singled the Axel, but other than that the team delivered a clean program to last season's "Symphony from the New World" by Antonin Dvorak that featured impressive lifts.

"It was hard to skate," explained Siudek. "There were two strong couples in front of us and some other very good couples right behind us. We skated the best program this season so far and we are happy with our bronze medal."

Last year's bronze medalists, Sarah Abitbol and Stephane Bernadis, struggled with inconsistent jumps and finished fourth. German champions Peggy Schwarz and Mirko Müller had beautiful programs (particularly the long to the "Patch Adams" soundtrack), but Schwarz fell twice on the double Axel in the long, so they finished fifth.

Berezhnaya/Sikharulidze photo by J. Barry Mittan

DANCE

The new ice dance millennium didn't leave any Russian teams on the podium -- the first time this has happened since 1968. On the other hand, Italy (silver) celebrated its first ice dance medal, and Lithuania (bronze) celebrated its first European figure skating medal in the history of the sport.

"That's the new millennium," commented a delighted Gwendal Peizerat.

Together with partner Marina Anissina, Peizerat won the first European ice dance title for France since 1962.

However, Russia wasn't totally absent on the podium. Anissina and Lithuania's Margarita Drobiazko are Russian-born and hail from Moscow, while the Italians, Barbara Fusar-Poli and Maurizio Margaglio, work with famous Russian coach Tatiana Tarasova.

The Russian team of Irina Lobacheva and Ilia Averbukh finished fourth and was disappointed. The two are very talented but need a new beginning with programs that suit them and point out their strengths.

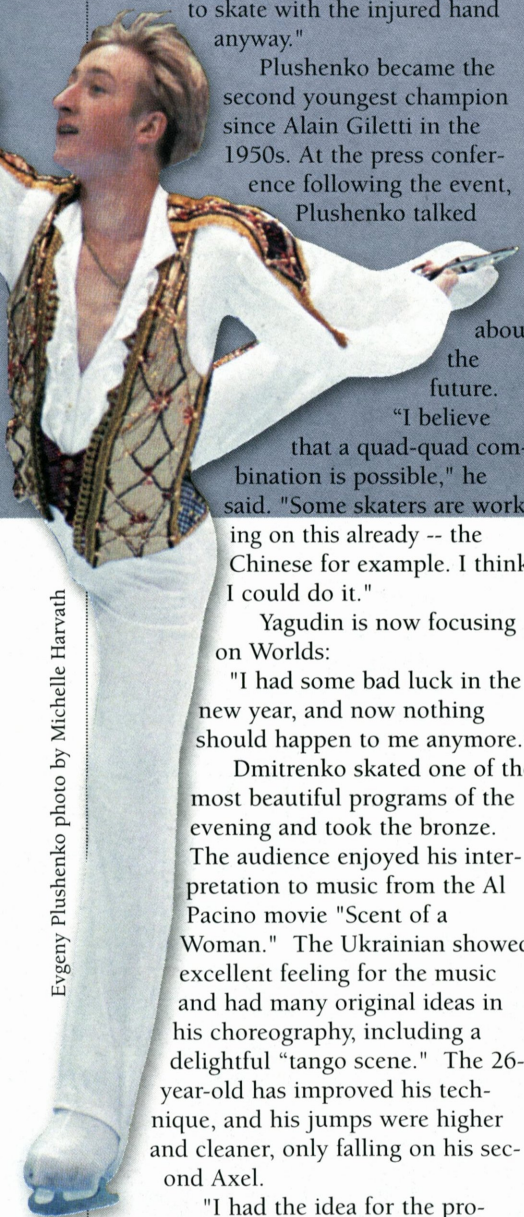
The compulsories (Yankee Polka and Argentine Tango) made it clear who was battling whom. Drobiazko and Povilas Vanagas and Lobacheva and Averbukh were tied in third place. Anissina and Peizerat won the compulsories in spite of two obvious mistakes in the Polka and a less than stellar Tango.

The next step towards the podium was the Latin American Combination in the original dance -- a difficult dance to realize on ice. Only a few couples really managed to catch the character of the music. The French placed first (three of the nine judges voted for the

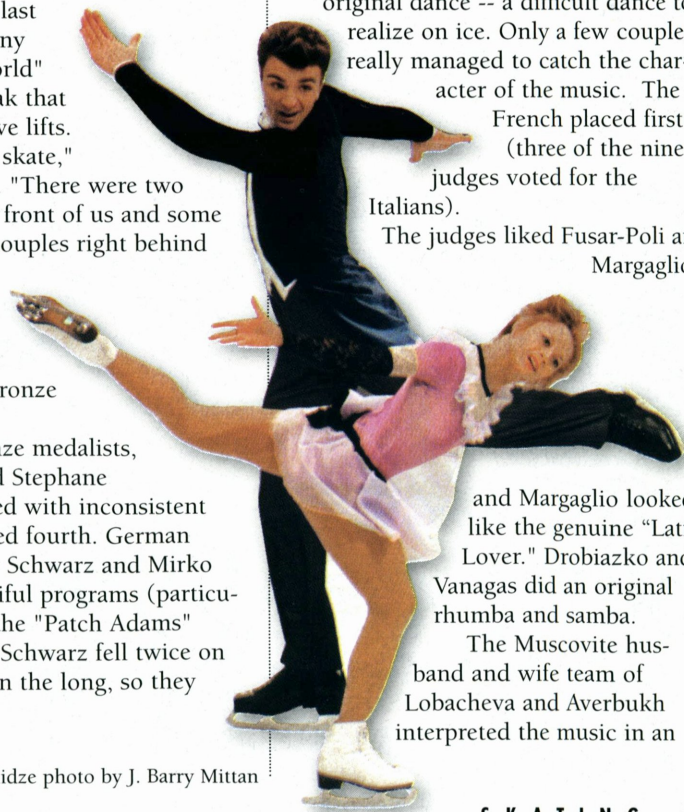
Italians). The judges liked Fusar-Poli and Margaglio,

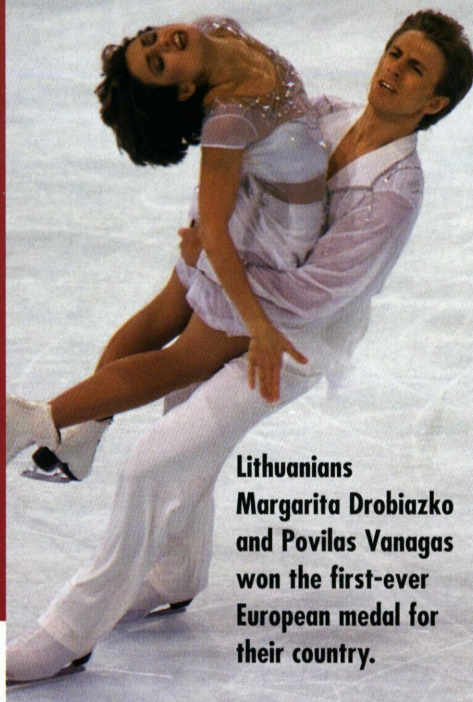
and Margaglio looked like the genuine "Latin Lover." Drobiazko and Vanagas did an original rumba and samba.

The Muscovite husband and wife team of Lobacheva and Averbukh interpreted the music in an



Evgeny Plushenko photo by Michelle Harvath





**Lithuanians
Margarita Drobiazko
and Povilas Vanagas
won the first-ever
European medal for
their country.**

excellent way, and were third in the original dance.

The only perfect 6.0s at the event went to Anissina and Peizerat for their fantastic "Carmina Burana" free dance. The dance was the strong point for the French, and all nine judges voted for them. The high speed, the many and difficult steps and the spectacular lifts formed a great package. Even without Krylova and Ovsyannikov their victory was a triumph.

"I never felt as stressed as today," said Anissina. "We were tense. We wanted to win so much! At the end of the program, I was just happy that we didn't make any mistakes and that the audience liked our performance. We still can skate this program better."

Peizerat agreed. "We want to skate our best program of the year at Worlds."

The other top couples also skated very well. Fusar-Poli and Margaglio's dynamic "Duel on Ice" won the silver.

"It was a great performance, the best of the year," said a happy Margaglio.

With just a five to four split of the judges, Drobiazko and Vanagas danced to the bronze medal.

"This is the best we ever achieved so far," said Vanagas proudly.

A little stumble during a lift never stopped the flow of their innovative "Spente le Stelle" program with beautiful spins.

Lobacheva and Averbukh's recently-created "Release" program by Afro Celtic Sound System didn't look as polished as the programs of the others.

LADIES

Irina Slutskaya continued her impressive comeback at the European Championships. The Russian and Grand Prix Champion went on to win her third consecutive competition with rock solid performances. She never appeared nervous, but looked confident and poised in each portion of the event.

"Well, you just think I'm not nervous," she laughed when someone asked her about it. "I'm as nervous as everybody else."

She looked good in the qualifying, although she watered down her program and didn't try the difficult combinations. Slutskaya celebrated her 21st birthday the day of the qualifying round and was even presented with a cake by a long-time fan. In the short, the Muscovite pulled off another clean program that featured a triple Lutz-double toe combination, a triple flip and beautiful spins and spirals. She was the clear winner.

Slutskaya had a solid lead going into the long, but since her competitors skated well, she knew that she needed a clean program. She opened with a triple Lutz-double loop combination and reeled off six triples altogether in her "Carmen" program.

"I decided not to go for the triple-triple combinations, because I wanted to skate a clean program without the slightest mistake," she said.

She didn't need the triple-triples this time. In practice, Slutskaya showed them

(Lutz-loop, Salchow-loop) and even tried a triple Salchow-triple loop-double toeloop-double loop combination.

Reigning World Champion Maria Butyrskaya has struggled throughout the season. The demolition of her car by still unidentified people at the Russian Championships was another setback for her. Butyrskaya's qualifying was less than stellar, but she won because the stronger competitors (Slutskaya, Viktoria Volchkova, Vanessa Gusmeroli, Elena Liashenko) were in the other group. But, it was her short program that was doomed. Butyrskaya landed a wobbly triple Lutz but failed to complete the required combination. She then two-footed the double Axel. The performance to "Scene d'amour" looked shaky overall, and the two mistakes cost her dearly.

She finished fourth in the short, but was third overall thanks to the qualifying. Butyrskaya rushed off to the dressing room after the short program, unavailable for comments. The next morning's practice didn't look promising as the World Champion had trouble landing clean jumps. But, she wouldn't be herself if she couldn't come back strong in spite of everything and pull herself together. She did it finally in the free skate. It was the best performance of the season for her, and it bought her the silver medal. The 27-year-old was the only competitor in the last group to land a

continued on page 78

"I decided not to go for the triple-triple combinations, because I wanted to skate a clean program, without the slightest mistake."

Irina Slutskaya

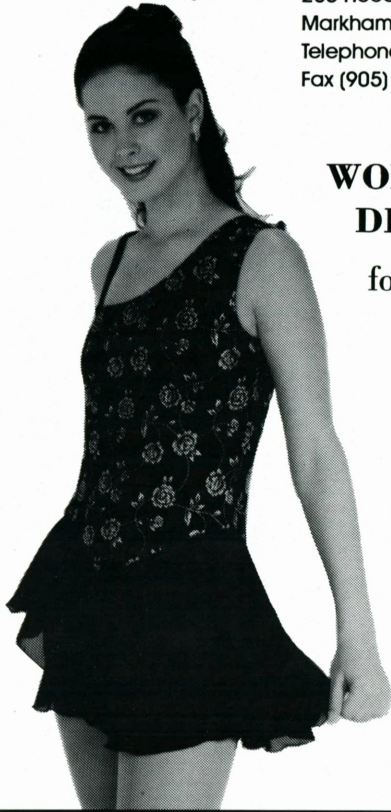


(L-R): Maria Butyrskaya, Irina Slutskaya, Viktoria Volchkova

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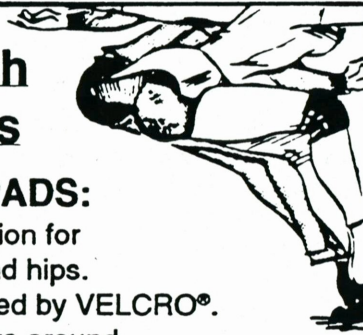
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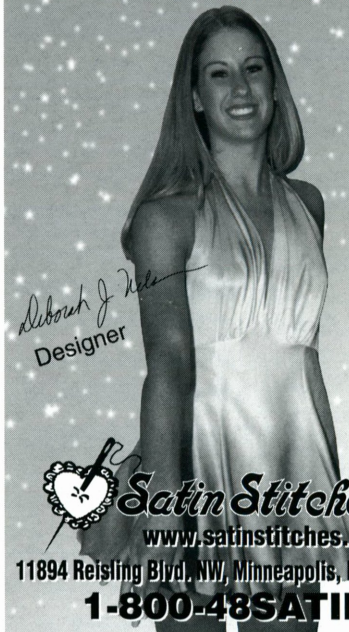
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American Medal Rush

U.S. skaters outdueled the competition at the Four Continents Championships, held Feb. 23-27, in Osaka, Japan. American skaters dominated the ladies', pairs' and dance competitions, winning two medals in each event. Meanwhile, Todd Eldredge was the top U.S. finisher for the men -- letting the world know that he means business.

Story by Tatiana Flade

medalists Tiffany Scott and Philip Dulebohn skated a clean program but sat in fourth. Scott had injured her back in practice earlier, but she didn't give up.

"It feels a lot better everyday," she said after the short program. "The injury occurred in practice. I didn't fall, but I landed a jump and my back hurts. I don't know why."

In the free skate, Sargeant and Wirtz skated first in the last group. Sargeant fell on the side by side triple toe and on the throw triple Salchow, leaving the door wide open for Scott and Dulebohn. The young team seized the chance. Scott fell on the opening triple toe, but after that the team didn't make any major mistakes. The program featured a triple twist, a throw double Axel and throw triple Salchow as well as good lifts and spins. The Americans pulled up one spot and claimed the bronze medal – their first medal in an ISU championship.

"Last year, we placed sixth in this competition, so we worked very hard the past year and I guess it shows," said Scott.

Ina and Zimmerman's "Phantom of the Opera" program started well with triple toeloops and a triple twist, but then Zimmerman fell on the double Axel and Ina landed a wobbly throw triple Salchow. They still clearly won the silver medal.

"Well, yes, it was not the one we had at Nationals, which is one we were hoping to kind of replicate," commented Zimmerman.

"But again, every performance is a learning step and we hopefully will be able to build toward Worlds," added Ina.

Last to skate were Sale and Pelletier. In their "Love Story" program, the Canadians showed the finest pairs' skating, including side by side triple toeloops, a high triple twist, throw triple Salchow and throw triple loop. The French judge awarded them a 6.0 for presentation -- the first-ever 6.0 in the Championships.

"We were very surprised to get a 6.0," said Sale. "We didn't expect that at all – especially from the French judge. It's difficult to please the different countries. It's a bit easier at Nationals, I guess."

The second Four Continents Championships in history took place in Osaka, Japan, Feb. 23-27. The ISU created the event to give non-European skaters another opportunity to compete on the highest level and to promote skating all over the world. Additionally, skaters from North America, Asia, Africa and Australia can win prize money as the European skaters do at the European Championships.

At the event, 99 skaters from 12 countries competed. For the USA, it turned out to be a successful competition. U.S. skaters won six out of 12 medals: two in pairs, two in ice dance and two in ladies.

PAIRS

Newly-crowned Canadian champions Jamie Sale and David Pelletier met newly-crowned U.S. champions Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman. Both pairs won their first national titles as a team just a few weeks before the event. They hadn't competed against each other since Skate America last October, where the Canadians won and the Americans finished fifth.

Sale and Pelletier took the lead in the short, skating a flawless program to the amusing tango "Por una Cabeza." Ina and Zimmerman were second after Ina struggled with the throw triple Salchow.

"I don't know what happened," said Ina. "It felt fine, and then I was just leaning forward and I didn't want to fall, so I really touched down with my hand."

Last year's Four Continents silver medalists, Canadians Kristy Sargeant and Kris Wirtz, had trouble with the triple toe loop and the side by side spin to finish third. U.S. silver



**Naomi Lang
and
Peter Tchernyshev**

Michelle Harvath

footwork in her Big Band routine.

Angela Nikodinov had to skate first in the short. She opened her performance with a clean triple Lutz-double toeloop combo, but doubled the flip.

"I'm not completely happy with the way I skated because I didn't do a clean program," said Nikodinov.

Stacey Pensgen, sixth at the U.S. Championships, also missed the flip.

"I don't know what happened," said Pensgen. "I was skating clean programs all week."

In the long program, the placements at the top switched. Nikodinov began with her solid triple Lutz-double toeloop combination and a triple loop. In the middle of her performance, the Californian ran into trouble, doubling the Salchow and struggling with the triple flip. But she produced a triple toe-double toe combination at the end.

"I didn't skate the program as strong as I could have," she said. "I started strongly, but I just kind of let it go in the middle."

Still, it was enough to win the free skate and the gold medal. It was the first major international title for the 19-year-old. Pensgen, who along with Nikodinov is coached by Richard Callaghan, had a strong opening with a triple Lutz-double toe and triple flip-double toe combination. She singled the Axel and doubled the Salchow, but recovered for three more triples.

"I just popped two jumps, but I got back into it," said Pensgen, 17. "I'm happy about that. My legs were tight, after that I tried to loosen them up."

With her performance, Pensgen moved up one spot and won the silver at her first international senior competition.

Bellemare obviously felt the pressure of being in the lead. Her opening triple Salchow was good, but then she barely landed her triple Lutz. The Canadian also stumbled on a doubled loop, but landed a triple toe and a good double Axel in her entertaining "My Fair Lady" program. She finished fourth in the

free program, but stayed in third overall to claim the bronze.

Andrea Gardiner, fifth at the U.S. Championships, landed a wobbly triple Lutz-double toe combination in the short and two-footed the triple toe to finish ninth in the first portion of the event. She came back strong in the free skate to move up to eighth overall.

"There were a couple of glitches in there, but I can work on it for the next time," said Gardiner, who also took home a lot of important experience. "I was skating sixth in the group, and I have to learn how to handle that a little bit better."

DANCE

U.S. Champions Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev arrived as the clear favorites to this year's competition. Defending champions Shae-Lynn Bourne and Victor Kraatz had withdrawn due to Bourne's knee injury, and last season's silver medalists, Chantal Lefebvre and Michel Brunet (also from Canada), are no longer competing together.

Not surprisingly, Lang and Tchernyshev dominated the competition. They won the two compulsory dances (Viennese Waltz and Quickstep), looking confident in both.

The new Canadian champions, Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon, finished second in the compulsories ahead of 1999 World Junior Champions Jamie Silverstein and Justin

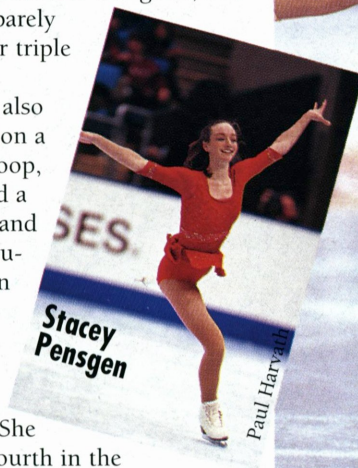
LADIES

In the ladies' event, Tatiana Malinina was expected to repeat last year's success. But the defending champion wasn't fully recovered from two injuries that have hampered her all season. The Uzbekistan skater pulled her groin at Nations Cup in November, and suffered a painful cyst in her left foot. To remove the cyst, she underwent surgery and lost training time. She wasn't yet in shape to defend her title and struggled to a disappointing fifth-place finish.

"I wasn't ready yet. It's better that it happened here than at Worlds," she said.

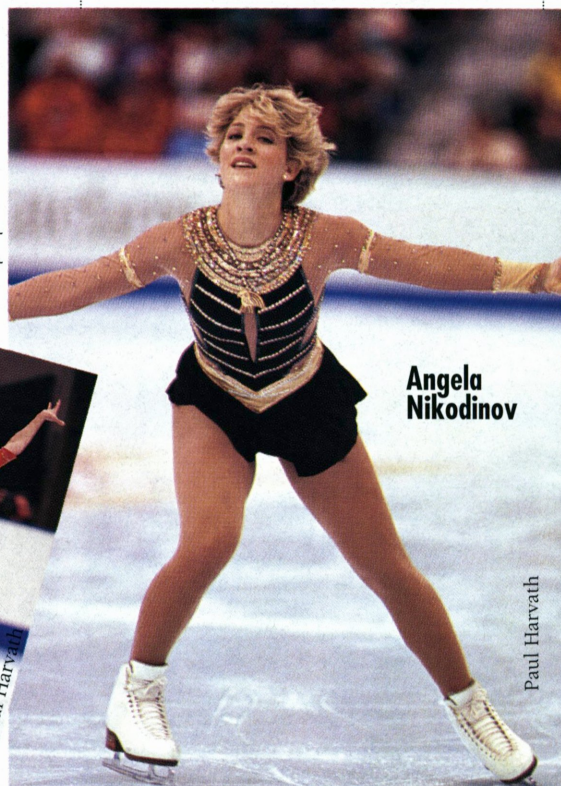
The U.S. team celebrated its second triumph by taking the gold and silver in the event.

Annie Bellemare won the short program, which came as a big surprise to the Canadian skater. Bellemare, who was the Canadian bronze medalist, was one of only two skaters to show a technically clean performance in the short. She landed a triple Lutz combination, a double Axel and a triple toeloop out of



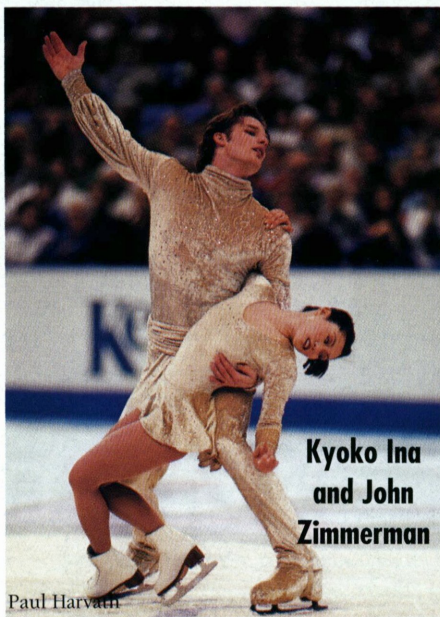
Stacey Pensgen

Paul Harvath



Angela Nikodinov

Paul Harvath



**Kyoko Ina
and John
Zimmerman**

Paul Harvath

Pekarek. Pekarek slipped at the beginning of the Quickstep, but it didn't affect the performance.

Beata Handra and Charles Sinek of the U.S. made a good impression in their first Four Continents Championships, skating solid compulsories to move into fifth.

In the original dance, Lang and Tchernyshev defended their lead. They skated last out of the top couples and excited the crowd with their funny and characteristic interpretation of Cha Cha and Rhumba.

"That's probably the best we've done the original dance in competition," said a delighted Lang.

Dubreuil and Lauzon also showed a fast and lively performance. Silverstein and Pekarek had a strong OD with a technically difficult Cha Cha and Rhumba until the side by side step sequence, when Silverstein suddenly slipped and fell.

"I think our tracking was just off, and I got a little hesitant," said Silverstein.

Two judges placed them second and two others third, but overall they dropped to fourth. Canada's Megan Wing and Aaron Lowe moved ahead of the young Americans.

Lang and Tchernyshev won the third part of the event as clearly as the others and took home their first international gold medal. In their romantic program, the U.S. Champions showed off their flowing and elegant movements, good style and edges. Their dance included step sequences on one foot and an original spin in various positions. All seven judges had them first, with marks ranging from 5.5 to 5.7 for technique and from 5.5 to 5.8 for presentation.

"We felt like we skated a really good performance," said Lang. "It was better than Nationals, and that's what we wanted."

Dubreuil and Lauzon produced a dramatic, expressive program with fast steps and innovative lifts to win the silver.

"This was our last competition before Worlds and it went well," said Dubreuil. "We're going to be confident for Nice. There are a few more things we want to work on, but that will be our surprise at Worlds."

Silverstein and Pekarek came back strong after the disappointment in the OD. They impressed with good lines and edges as well as with difficult footwork in their routine set to soft music from "Great Expectations" and "Siren."

"We put a lot into this one. It wasn't perfect, but it was very good," said Pekarek. "Winning a medal is awesome!"

It was Silverstein and Pekarek's first medal in an international senior competition. Handra and Sinek finished fifth.

MEN

The men's competition turned out to be exciting, although U.S. Champion Michael Weiss and silver medalist Timothy Goebel were both missing. The short program was a festival of quadruple jumps. Six skaters, including Trifun Zivanovic, landed clean quadruple toes -- the highest total of clean quads landed in the short program ever in any ISU championships. Also landing quads were China's Chengjiang Li, Yunfei Li and Min Zhang, Australia's Anthony Liu and Japan's Takeshi Honda.

But none of these jumping specialists won the short program. Instead the early lead went to Todd Eldredge, competing in an ISU championship for the first time since 1998. His entertaining "Cabaret" program featured a triple Axel-triple toe combination, a triple Lutz, fast footwork and excellent spins. The whole package, including his superior presentation marks, gave Eldredge the edge over Chengjiang Li and Zhang, who finished second and third in the first portion of the event. Eldredge received marks up to 5.9 for presentation.

"I injured my foot a little bit on Wednesday," said Eldredge. "I had planned the quad here in the short, but because of that (I didn't go for it). I just wanted to go out and skate a clean short program and not take myself out on the first day."

Three-time World Champion Elvis Stojko was fourth after doing a triple toe instead of the planned quad in his dynamic program to "LEclipse."

Zivanovic, meanwhile, landed his first quad in competition.

"I was really thrilled that I did my quad for the first time," said the U.S. bronze medalist.

However, he stumbled in his triple

Photos courtesy of Susan Johnson



**L-R: Annie Bellemare, Angela Nikodinov,
Stacey Pensgen**



**L-R: Jamie Sale/David Pelletier; Tiffany
Scott/Philip Dulebohn; Kyoko Ina/John
Zimmerman**



**L-R: Jamie Silverstein/Justin Pekarek; Naomi
Lang/Peter Tchernyshev; Marie-France
Dubreuil/Patrice Lauzon**

Four Continents Championship Note

Trifun Zivanovic landed his first quad in competition

Axel-triple toe combination to finish ninth. Ryan Jahnke, making his international senior debut, was 12th after two-footing the triple Axel and his triple flip.

In the free skate, Jahnke pulled off a strong performance and left a very good impression, moving up to 11th. The crowd appreciated his expressive style to Spanish guitar music.

"I felt really connected with the audience," said Jahnke. "It's a very dance-minded program. I really tried to bring that out more than many other programs do."

Zivanovic remained in ninth, hitting six clean triples and proving again his fighting qualities.

In the last group, Min Zhang of China skated first. He was the only skater to land two clean quads in the program and received strong marks for technical merit, but the marks for presentation were considerably lower. The spins, steps and in between elements were still too weak.

"My presentation wasn't strong enough to win," he admitted.

Eldredge risked the quad in his free skate, but it was the beginning of a very disappointing program for the five-time U.S. Champion. Eldredge, who hasn't landed a quad in competition, fell hard and seemed to lose all his confidence with the fall. He struggled through the rest of his program, two-footing the first Axel, doubling the Lutz and landing a shaky triple flip before he finally nailed a triple Axel-double toeloop combination. The performance cost him a medal, dropping him to fourth.

"I really wanted to have a good skate," said Eldredge. "The

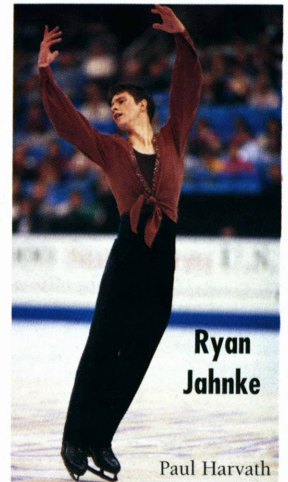
quad is a hard jump, of course, and there is pressure on it. I'll work on the consistency of the quad over the summer to have it next season."

Chengjiang Li skated a well-balanced program, including a quad and seven triples, to earn the silver medal.

For Stojko, everything was still possible when he went out to skate last. The Canadian opened with a quadruple toe, but stepped out of it. A triple Axel-double toeloop combination followed, but Stojko knew he needed more. Instead of a solo triple Axel, he threw in a triple Axel-triple toe combination and completed four more triples. Stojko won the free program and surged from fourth to first place to win his first major international title since his 1997 World title.

"Everything except for the quad felt more solid than at Nationals," he said. "After the first Axel-toe, I came back and put another one in, and doing both Axels in combination, I guess, pushed it up a little. It feels good to be back on top."

Tatiana Flade is a regular contributor to *Skating* magazine.



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Kids' Questions

Hey Charlie!

USFSA International Judge Charlie Cyr answers your tough questions on what judges are looking for and how you can get better scores! The response to Kids' Questions continues to be impressive, so keep those questions and photos coming every month.

Editor's Note: "Kids' Questions" is a regular feature in Skating magazine, so check back next month for Peggy Fleming's answers to your questions. To ask a question for the June/July issue of Skating magazine, check the outside wrap of this issue for details on who the next star will be to answer your toughest questions!

Q: If, for example, Maria Butyrskaya falls twice and Sarah Hughes skates a clean program, how does Maria still win? How is it possible in dance for a team to fall and still finish ahead of another team that doesn't fall? Morgan Griffin, 9, Trumbull, Conn. (pictured above) and Steven Marano, 15, Greenville, S.C.



CC: You have hit a question that is asked by many, including the judges. We as officials are asked to evaluate skating. The jumps, spins, moves in the field, etc., are placed in a program in order to make it more difficult yet pleasing to the eye. We as judges are asked to evaluate the quality of skating above and beyond the jumps. Both the skaters you named have exceptional quality and therefore the scenario is not real unless you were comparing Maria as a senior skater and Sarah as a novice skater. The quality of skating is especially true in dance. Falling does not qualify a team to finish second or last. There are other attributes that a judge needs to evaluate.

Q: What do you personally look for in a skater? Is there anything that really gets someone extra points? What catches the judges' eyes? Casey Smith, 10, Ft.

Myers, Fla.; Sarah Garnai, 11, Sterling Heights, Mich.; Lindsay Isler, 8, Hamilton, N.J. and Nichole Wrinn, 14, Orange, Conn.

CC: I personally look if the skater is performing skills that they *can* perform or is the skater trying to do skills that they can only do 25% or 50% of the time. I really look at the way skaters cover the ice with their stroking ability. A double Axel means nothing to me if the skater can't do cross-overs properly.

Q: How do you and other judges record the things the skaters do well or badly so quickly at the competition? Ami Parekh, 11, Princeton, N.J.

CC: Recording programs while they are being skated takes a lot of practice. As you come up through the judges' ranks, you develop your own type of shorthand to mean certain things. If a skater falls, I circle the jump; if the jump is two-footed – I make a slash through it, and so on. It takes a lot of practice!

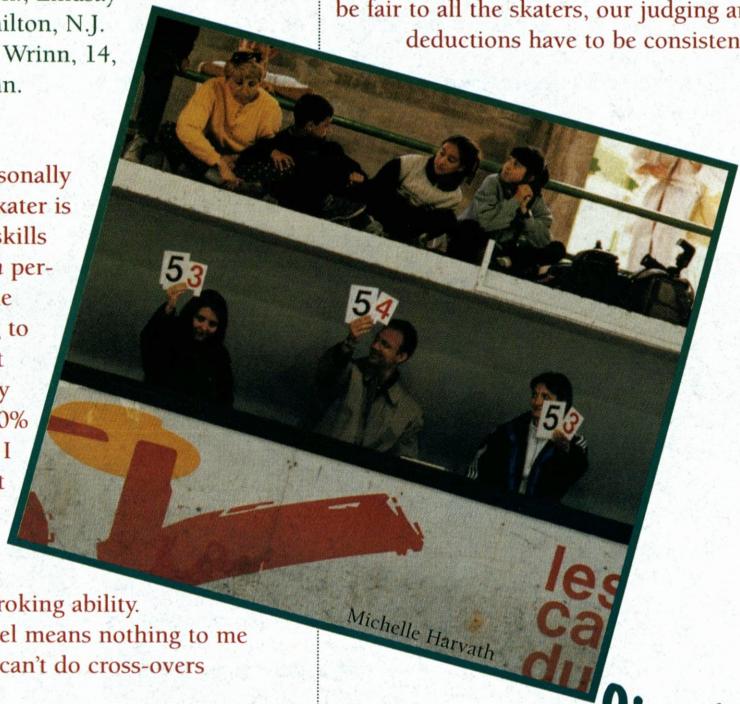


**Charlie
Cyr**

Photo by Tom Kimmell

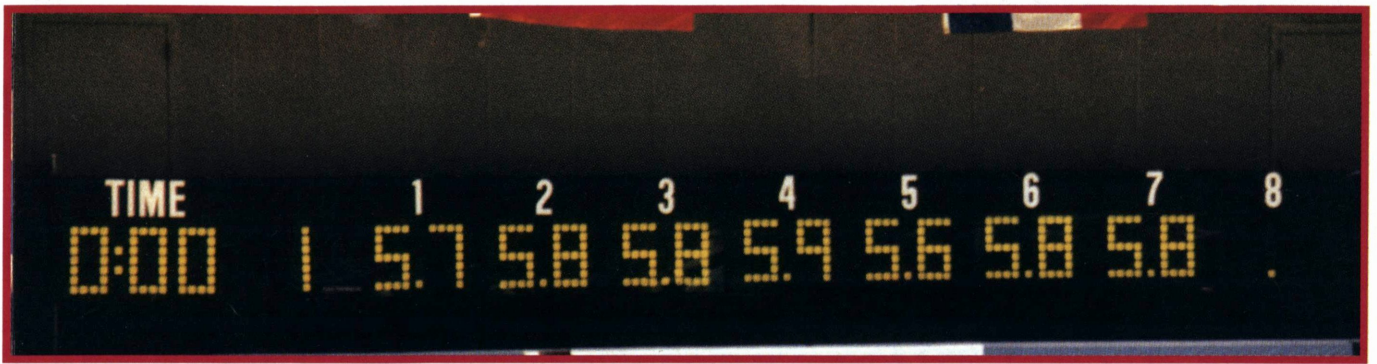
Q: Do you always give deductions for a barely noticeable bobble? Eric Klotz, 12, Stevensville, Mich.

CC: Whether it is a barely noticeable bobble or it is a big bobble, we as judges are instructed to deduct something. If the suggested deduction is .1 - .3, the barely noticeable bobble may get a .1 and the big bobble a full .3. In order to be fair to all the skaters, our judging and deductions have to be consistent.



Q: People always say that I am an artistic skater. I can skate beautifully, but don't have a lot of power to get my double jumps consistently. If I compete with a skater who has very powerful jumps, but no artistry, who will win? Victoria Cai, 10, Framingham, Mass.

CC: As judges, we are taught to judge the entire program. Jumps and spins are placed in a program to enhance the difficulty of the program. That exact question is discussed amongst the judges all the time. I don't believe that there is



an answer for this. I do believe that the judge must mark it so that both technical and artistry are properly evaluated.

Q: Do you ever regret your score-making decisions when the other judges' scores don't agree with your own?
Raishel Wasserman, Englewood, Colo.

CC: I could say no... but you wouldn't believe me. There have been times when I did not think that I was judging the same test or same event. At the time, I was very justified for posting the mark. However, it is very important to me to evaluate the how and the why it happened. Sometimes I am OK with what has happened and other times I have had to change my way of evaluating in order to match the changes that are occurring in the sport.

Q: How can the opinions of some judges be so different? I have recently placed second, fourth and eighth in a competition and received very different marks from all the judges. Is it just what the judges like, or do they look at different things? Emily, 10, England

CC: The judges are individuals and therefore evaluate differently. We try to place the same emphasis on certain aspects of skating but sometimes we see it differently also. It makes for great discussions in the judges' rooms after the event with great learning on the part of the judges coming out of it.

Q: While watching a competition, what's the #1 thing that you see in a skater that makes you say, "Wow! This kid is good!"? Lydendorff J. Melenex, 17, Cleveland, Ohio

CC: When the skater takes the ice and is in full control of the warmup and his/her surroundings. I pay particular attention to the stroking and the glide.

Q: If you see a skater who does very well at a competition and then you see them at another one and they skate poorly, do you still give them credit because you know they can do better? Lainie Levin, 11, St. Louis, Mo.

CC: Each competition is different and should be treated as such. Sometimes

emotions get involved and skaters are given the benefit of the doubt but that certainly is not fair to the other skaters who are having a great day. If you are a champion, you must skate like one and not rest on your past performances.

Q: When you are judging an event with 18 or more skaters, how do you remember what the first few skaters do? Do the judges remember the early skaters if it is a so-so number, or does it have to be awesome and eye-catching to even have a chance against an OK program that someone skates later in the event? Taylor Nicole Taglia, 10, Indianapolis, Ind.

CC: It is very difficult to judge large groups, and especially to remember the first skaters. I always refer back to the first skaters when comparing the group so as not to forget them. Eighteen skaters is not bad; it is when you get to judge 28 that it gets a

little hairy. The best you can try to do is get them into groups. Top group, Top Middle, Middle Bottom and Bottom.

Q: How would someone who has never skated seriously become a judge? Would that person still have as much of a chance to be a judge as someone who has skated? Amanda Ross, 18, Campbell, Texas

CC: Yes, there is no prerequisite in becoming a judge. Passion for the sport is the only criteria. Of course, if you are



Judges do more than just judge events -- they also teach others the ins and outs of judging. Above left, USFSA judges Will Smith and Roger Glenn at a Team USA Camp judges' seminar. At right, Smith and Glenn with USFSA president (and judge) Jimmy Disbrow and USFSA judge Janet Allen on the ice at Team USA Camp.

not a skater, you will have to spend lots of hours at the rink listening and keeping your eyes open. Asking questions and sitting in on lessons also helps.

Q: If a skater comes on the ice with dirty skates, a sloppy hairstyle or an astonishingly revealing dress, do judges count off of their scores? Are those kinds of things actually illegal in eligible competition? Brittney, 12, Winter Haven, Fla.

CC: If a skater would do that, then she is not very serious about her participation in the sport. As a judge I certainly don't consciously deduct anything, but it certainly is not impressive. I would certainly talk to the skater and the coach after the session.

Q: What is worth more to a judge -- a double jump or a missed triple? Robby Flynn, 13, Beverly, Mass.

CC: How high was the triple and

how high was the double? I much prefer a high double with control than a triple twizzle.

Q: What do you think is the hardest category to judge in skating and why? Melissa Behrens, 12, Palatine, Ill.

CC: I think that Juvenile is probably the hardest category for me to judge. The skaters are beginning to do the hard tricks and then they forget how to stroke or they can stroke but can't jump. Everyone usually makes the same mistake on a double toe or double Salchow and the music chosen seems to be just background noise. You have eight groups of 15 and everyone is wearing pink, red, or white. It's a tough group.

**Thanks
Charlie!**

Hey Kids!

Want to be in the spotlight?

Here's your chance. Skating magazine is running a new feature that puts you in the spotlight! We will feature one kid (18 and under only) each issue. Send us your name, age, hometown, a photo and include some information about yourself, and we might feature you in the magazine. Do you skate? If so, tell us what level you're at and how often you skate. Tell us about your favorite jumps, your favorite competition, or your best moment on the ice. What are your favorite things about skating? Who are your favorite skaters and why? What kind of awards have you won, on and off the ice? We want to hear your thoughts on the sport that you love!

Remember to include your member number, a phone number and/or an email address so we can contact you if we need further information. Sorry, Skating magazine cannot return the photos we receive. Send the information to SKATING, Kid Spotlight, 20 First Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80906.

Axel Annie

It's the year 2000 and Annie and her friends are ready for another year of hard work and great fun on the ice. Skating magazine presents the eighth installment of "Axel Annie" by Andrea Nason. Will Annie get her Axel this year? Keep reading this year to find out! "Axel Annie" is a regular feature in the kids' section of Skating magazine, so let us know what you think!



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Appointments

The USFSA congratulates the following members on their recent appointments.

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Silver Singles/Pairs Test Judge

Susan Karl, Peninsula SC
Melissa Dingle-Nelson, Peninsula SC
Roberta Miller, Glacier Falls FSC

Junior Competition Judge

V. Lynn Bell, Austin FSC
Kate Bower, The SC of Boston
Lori Sonderegger, New Haven SC
Dennis Morrill, Pawtucket & Providence FSC
Jaclyn Ward, SC of New York

Silver Dance Test Judge

Melissa Skylas, Glenwood FSC

Novice Dance Competition Judge

Mary Hauck, Sun Valley FSC
Cynthia Drayton, Philadelphia SC & HS

ACCOUNTANTS

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Mary Robertson, Los Angeles FSC

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WORLD FIGURE SKATING HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM ENDOWMENT FUND

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The Love of the Sport

Ice Time with...

Disa Steiber and Patrick Connolly

Story by Joanne-Theresa Vassallo
Action photos by Paul and Michelle Harvath

There are a hundred stories at every U.S. Championships, and the 2000 edition was no different. What the fans see on television is just the tip of the iceberg -- before the bright lights glare down and the producers yell 'action!', many skaters have already traced their patterns on the championship ice. Skating magazine introduces you to two of those skaters -- Disa Steiber and Patrick Connolly -- who fulfilled a dream at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships without ever being on TV or meeting the media in a crowded press conference room.

It is every skater's worst nightmare. A long-awaited trip to the U.S. Championships, a once-in-a-lifetime chance to medal, and suddenly the unthinkable happens -- an injury -- and a withdrawal.

Disa Steiber and Patrick Connolly lived that nightmare in Salt Lake City at the 1999 State Farm U.S. Championships. The current 2000 Pacific Coast Senior Dance Silver Medalists were competing as juniors last year and had successfully competed their original dance -- the waltz. The following evening at a practice session their U.S. Championships' experience came to a startling end when Steiber ripped her hamstring.

"The medical staff was very helpful in trying to keep me on the ice," recalled Steiber. "But the pain was too severe and we had to withdraw."

The two young dancers quietly returned home to their training center at the Twin Rinks Ice Arena in Buffalo Grove, Ill., just outside Chicago. They were temporarily down, but definitely NOT out. Taking a bit of time to rethink and regroup, they quickly moved up to the senior level, hired two new coaches, Kirk Langseth and former U.S. Dance champion Susie Wynne, and a new choreogra-

pher for their free dance (Julia Bikbova).

"The change had a great impact on our skating for the better," said Connolly.

Indeed. First there was a fifth place in compulsories at the 1999 Lake Placid Summer Dance Competition. Then, just one year later, and with a new free dance featuring music from the movie "Great Expectations," Steiber and Connolly returned to Pacific Coast Sectionals, placed second and made a return trip to the U.S. Championships.

They placed 12th in Cleveland, a position that would discourage some, but not Steiber and Connolly. What mattered was the experience, and the

fact that they achieved their goal and were able to return to the U.S. Championships after the disappointment in Salt Lake City.

"I felt we went into Nationals very prepared and in all our events we skated our very best and put in a lot of energy and effort," said Steiber. "Sure, being higher would have been fabulous, but the most important thing is that we were having fun and that we really could get the crowd into it, too."



SMILES AND ATTITUDE

The first thing you notice about this dance team is their bright smiles and

positive attitude -- something that has served them well this past year. You also notice a strong resemblance to each other, although they are not related.

"While we were skating people always asked if we were brother and sister," recalled the 25-year-old Connolly.

The two have been skating successfully together for two and a half years. They met when Steiber, 18, needed someone to partner her through her dance tests.

At that time Connolly was coaching and had time to work with her.

"After much thought we decided to compete in Junior Dance," said Connolly. "With only four months to go until



sectionals, the first year was very difficult. The second year was much more rewarding."

Other difficulties included working around Steiber's high school schedule (she graduated in June 1999).

"It made it difficult to get a lot of training time," said Steiber. "The unfortunate part is that I have had to overcome many injuries this past year."

They skate six days a week, four hours a day with an additional hour of ballet. They also do Pilates when time permits, and Steiber does an hour of ballroom dancing twice a week in Chicago.

And, like many skaters, they have also endured the difficult expense of training, along with the extended hours.

"I am thankful that my partner's family has been so supportive," said Connolly. "I have had to teach a lot to support my skating, which has been helpful in my knowledge of the sport but keeps me on the ice long hours."

Steiber teaches one day a week -- tot classes through Basic Skills. Both see

When I compete I get an amazing rush... that is unlike anything else I have ever experienced.

Disa Steiber

coaching as always being a part of their skating, but not, perhaps, their entire future.

"I love coaching but I don't want to do it full-time," said Steiber. "I had been looking into primary education for a major in college, but since then I have changed my mind. I would really like to go to the Massage Therapy School of Chicago and get my certification. I have really been inspired by my boss Linda Tremain to get in along the lines of Physical Therapy, and learning massage has always interested me."

Connolly coaches with most of his free time, and knows coaching will always be a part of his life. Still, he would like to pursue other goals as well.

"I would like to pursue my psychology degree and continue my education in other fields," he said.

FAMILY SUPPORT

They also credit their families with helping them achieve their goals.

Steiber's family resides in Homewood, Ill. She has four older half-brothers, a niece and a nephew and she is proud to be the first skater in her family.

"But since I started skating everyone has made an attempt or two," she said. "A lot of my friends did other sports, but when skating was offered in gym class they also decided to give it a try."

Connolly's small family includes his parents, a married brother and three nephews. Two nephews participate in learn to skate classes. He enjoys training in his hometown and the diversity and entertainment Chicago offers.

They also receive a great deal of support from each other. Both acknowledge their friendship and their ability to communicate in a special way on the ice.

"I think we work well together because of our desire to skate," said Connolly. "Skating is an exhilarating form of expression, which I think we both indulge in. We express ourselves in very different ways that I feel creates a diversity and balance for us on the ice."

PURE JOY

There is also the joy of performing, with a schedule often filled with shows and exhibitions. Steiber especially loves to perform and feels shows are the best part of the sport. She loves to appeal to an audience and finds performing with her partner a perfect way to inspire young skaters.

"That's how I got drawn in," she said. "I remember Natalie Walenter and Colin Ward when they were skating together in an ice show in my home arena. Her red sequined dress, the Blues they were skating to and the way they looked at each other. I knew this was the sport for me, and every year since then I have always been in at least one ice show."

Whether performing, competing or simply talking about the sport, it's their love of skating that shines through.

"When I compete I get an amazing rush that goes through my body that is unlike anything else I have ever experienced," said Steiber.

Connolly loves the expression of ice skating, the contrast of movement, the freedom to fly around a freshly cleaned sheet of ice, and the chaos of the prints left behind.

"No two are ever the same," he said. "There is no experience like being a sufficient skater free to express him or herself on a cold, hard sheet of ice."

For Steiber and Connolly, it is a sheet of ice that has always been lined with great expectations.

Joanne Vassallo is a freelance writer based out of New Hartford, N.Y.

A Closer Look

2000	U.S. Championships	12th
	Pacific Coast Sectionals	2nd
1999	Pacific Coast Junior	2nd
1998	Pacific Coast Junior	7th
	Southwest Pacific Regionals	7th

Hometowns: Steiber -- Homewood, Ill.
Connolly -- Chicago, Ill.

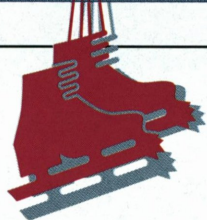
Home Clubs: Steiber -- Skokie Valley SC
Connolly -- All Year FSC

Age Began Skating: Steiber -- 5
Connolly -- 4

More on Steiber: If she wasn't skating, she would be a ballroom dancer. Her hero is Jeff Gordon because "he is strong in his religious beliefs."

More on Connolly: His hobbies are playing drums and modern dance. His heroes are Elvis Stojko, Michael Jordan and the late Walter Payton for "their ability to focus and their determination."

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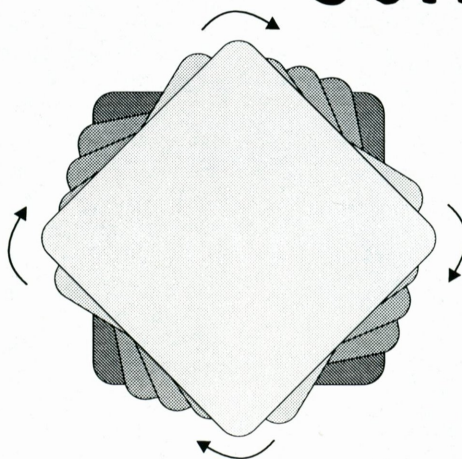
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COMPETITION EXTRA

Skating Fans Go the Distance

Some of the most loyal sports fans in the world choose figure skating as their favorite sport. Contributing writer Lynn Novelli caught up with some of these dedicated followers at the 2000 State Farm U.S. Championships.

By bus, car and plane they came to Cleveland from all over the United States for the 2000 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships. They were young, middle-aged and senior citizens, men and women, all shapes, sizes and economic classes.

"Our kids think we're nuts," said Clement Ellis, a retired technical engineer. He and his wife, Priscilla, have been traveling from their home in Phoenix to the Sectionals, U.S. Championships, Skate America and

Story by Lynn Novelli

World competitions since 1995.

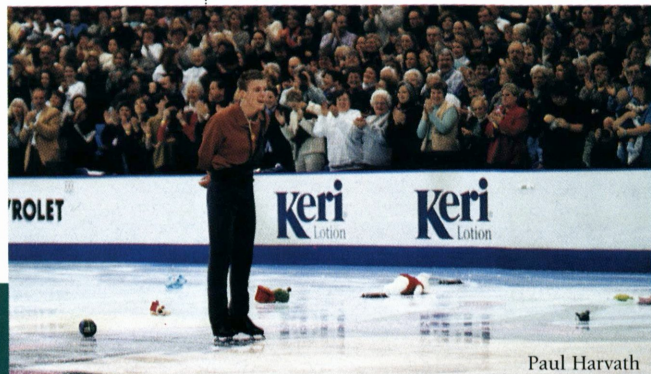
Wearing red, white and blue U.S.A. Olympic jackets covered with souvenir skating pins, they sat front and center at Gund Arena.

"We go to everything," said Mrs. Ellis. "It's fun to watch the skaters grow up and develop over the years."

In Cleveland, they met up with Dee Toohey, a computer consultant from Longwood, Fla. The Ellis' and Toohey regularly get together at competitions around the country.

Toohey brought a garbage bag full of stuffed animals to throw to skaters in

Fans littered the ice with stuffed animals for Tim Goebel in Cleveland



Paul Harvath

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Changing of the Guard

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clean triple-triple combination (toeloop-half loop-Salchow). She went for a second triple Lutz in the program, but doubled it.

"It wasn't difficult for me to go out and skate today, because I had nothing to lose," said Butyrskaya.

Last year's bronze medalist, Viktoria Volchkova, was hampered by an inflamed muscle in her leg. While the qualifying and the short went well, the 17-year-old faltered in the long. She popped some jumps and was placed fourth in the free skating. However, thanks to the lead from the qualifying and short program, she managed to claim the bronze. France's Vanessa Gusmeroli finished right behind Volchkova in fourth. She had a solid qualifying, doubling only the loop, but finished fourth. She beat Butyrskaya in the short for third place, but another third place finish in the long wasn't enough to win her a medal. Gusmeroli wasn't able to compete in the Grand Prix Series because of an ankle injury, but skated well in Vienna. Her "Legends of the Fall" free program included solid and high jumps as well as beautiful spins (in two directions) and excellent choreography.

"It was the best program of my life," said Gusmeroli, still stunned and on the brink of tears of happiness. The French Champion even received some second place ordinals. If Volchkova had been placed fifth, Gusmeroli would have won the bronze.

Tatiana Flade is a regular contributor to Skating.

Skating Fans

continued from page 77

Seated in Row 2, one row ahead of Toohey, was David Donahue from Knoxville, Tenn., where he is employed by the University of Tennessee. He and Toohey, partners in the stuffed animal routine, meet up every year at the U.S. Championships.

"I'm usually the one with the rental car, so I'm the one who goes out and gets the stuffed animals," said Donahue.

This year the pair spent about \$110 for 26 bears, plus the monkey and gorilla for Scott.

They know the skaters by name and discuss their strengths and foibles knowledgeably.

"In men's, watch Matt Savoie. He skates last. He almost never falls," said Donahue.

"We also like Ryan Bradley. He enjoys being on the ice, and he is just wonderful to watch," added Toohey.

"We told Angela [Nikodinov] in practice to quit concentrating so hard and smile," chimed in Karen Druin of Greenville, S.C. Her husband stays home with the children so she and her mother can travel to skating competitions. They already have tickets for Skate Canada next year.

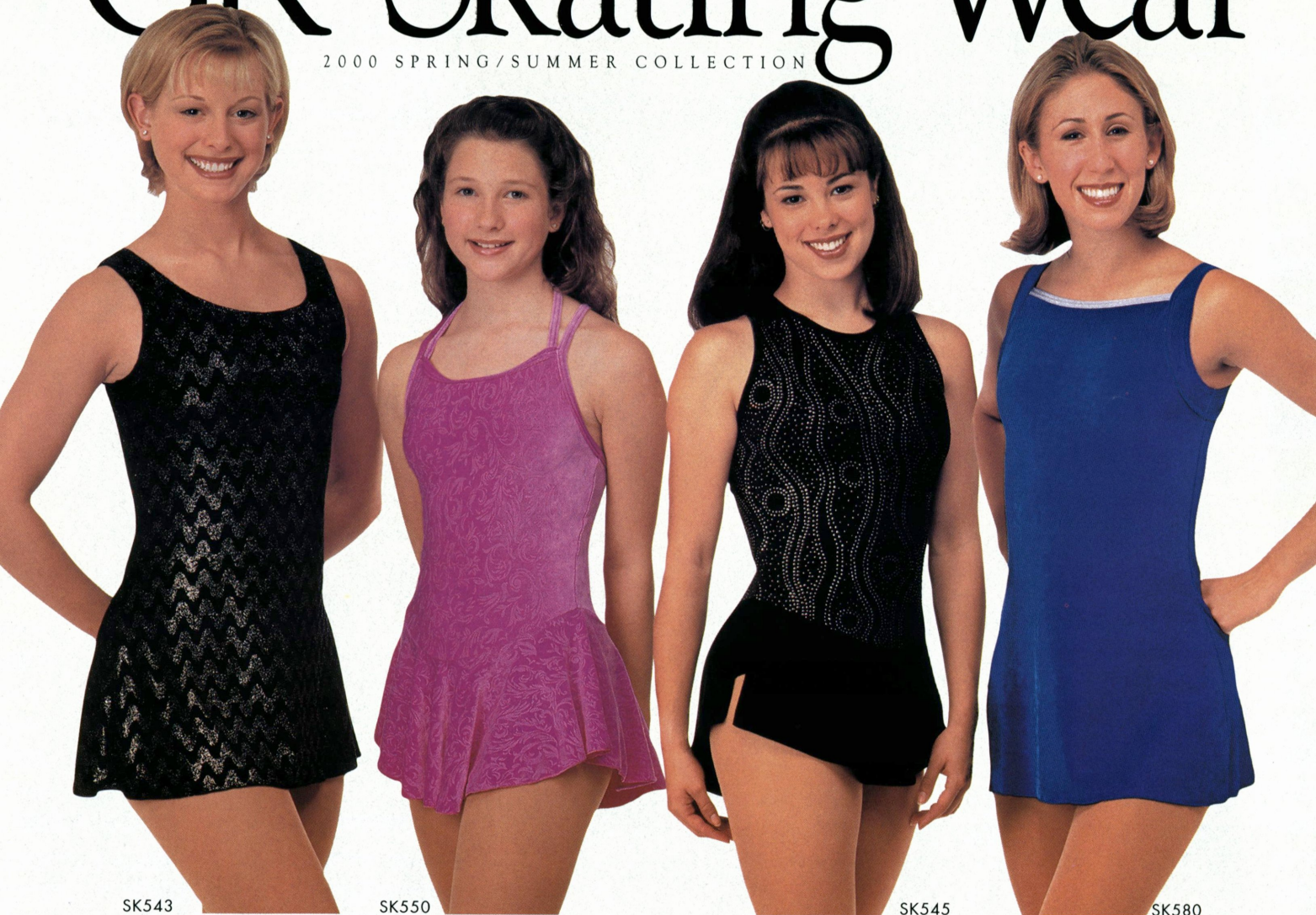
What drives these fans to use their vacation time, spend a considerable sum of money and leave their families behind while they go watch ice skating?

That's easy, say Joseph and Edna Tortoriello, a retired couple from Gladwin, Mich.

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