



THE SKATING CLUB OF BOSTON

# CHIPS

December 2009

## 15 are Spokane Bound!

The Club is proud to be sending 15 terrific skaters to Nationals in Spokane, Washington in January. Congratulations to our skaters and their partners who've qualified to compete on the big stage!

### Byes (Qualified for Nationals)

#### Senior Men

Stephen Carriere (Skate Canada)

Ross Miner (Junior Grand Prix Final)

*Placements sending our skaters to Nationals at the 3 sectionals for skaters representing The Skating Club of Boston:*

### Easterns:

#### Novice Men

Harrison Choate - 4th

#### Novice Pairs

Morgan Sowa and David Leenen - 2nd

#### Junior Ladies

Yasmin Siraj - 1st

#### Junior Men

Peter Max Dion - 4th

#### Junior Pairs

Olivia Gibbons and Tyler Harris - 4th

#### Junior Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio and Colin McManus - 1st

#### Senior Men

Jason Wong - 2nd

#### Senior Pairs

Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnapir - 1st

Daniyel Cohen and Molly Aaron (elected not to compete with less than 4 couples)

### Midwesterns:

#### Junior Pairs

Gretchen Donlan and Andrew Speroff - 2nd

#### Senior Pairs

Drew Meekins and Jessica Rose Paetsch - 3rd

We'll be cheering for all of you!

*List contributed by Jim McManus*



## President's Letter

Dear Members,

Hope everyone has had a great Thanksgiving and as a Club we have many things to be thankful for: the dedication of your Board of Governors, the many members who volunteer and constantly provide their time and talent to make sure that all events at the club are performed at the highest level, the skaters who work hard and get results as indicative of their performances on the ice and as club members, our Coaching Staff for their constant attention to the skaters and their needs and to the staff who handle the daily matters that keep the wheels turning. Thank you one and all for making The Skating Club of Boston what it is and will continue to be.

Congratulations to the skaters who have advanced to the US Figure Skating Championships and Junior US Figure Skating Championships. Great job and good luck to all, skate for yourself and have a great time.

We continue to work diligently on our Long Range Plan and are actively evaluating three opportunities for locations at this time. When we have decisions to be made by the membership we will bring you up to date on what was available to us and our recommendations on what option we should act on.

The Board of Governors will take time December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> to do an organizational assess-

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# President's Letter

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ment and planning session for both the staff and the Board. Rose Snyder is a club organizational specialist for US Figure Skating and has worked with many sports groups and clubs; she will lead the charge and we look forward to a successful weekend for the benefit of the club.

**Today's technology has given us many ways to communicate and it also has opened the door for behavior that is not in the best interest of individuals and groups of individuals.**

**We have had a number of incidents called to our attention and while some of them have been non-club-related, we need to review and call everyone's attention to the club policy on abuse, harassment and bullying and things of like kind. Information posted on Facebook, You Tube etc. can be disrespectful and destructive to the person the comments are directed to and also to the person who has directed the comments.**

**U.S. Figure Skating and The Skating Club of Boston have policies on Abuse and Harassment. The Skating Club of Boston has policies on abuse, harassment and bullying and the review of these policies by all is encouraged since a violation of these policies that carries over to U.S. Figure Skating or The Skating Club of Boston operation or events could result in consequences that would result in the suspension or loss of**

**membership, both USFS and club.**

**United States Figure Skating and The Skating Club of Boston strive to provide a safe environment for its members and to protect the opportunity of its members to participate in our sport in an atmosphere that is free of harassment and abusive practices. The Association and The Skating Club of Boston will not tolerate or condone any form of harassment or abuse of any of its members including coaches, officials, directors, employees, parents, athletes and volunteers – or any other person – while they are participating in or preparing for a figure skating activity or event conducted under the auspices of U.S. Figure Skating or The Skating Club of Boston. The complete Policy is available at the U.S. Figure Skating web site and is being sent with this Newsletter. We also refer you to Club Rule CR 8 that further clarifies our position.**

**It is our hope and desire that we all respect one another and to that end the Board will act promptly when we find there is a violation of these policies.**

Happy Holidays

Regards,  
Joe



*CHIPS* is the official publication of The Skating Club of Boston and is edited by **Barb Fritz**

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is **January 15, to editor @chipsboston.com**. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, and accuracy.

**Chips** is emailed to readers to conserve paper, toner and postage. Please make sure the Club office has your preferred email address.

The Skating Club of Boston is located at 1240 Soldiers Field Road in Boston, Massachusetts 02135. Telephone 617-782-5900, fax 617-782-7846. Visit The Skating Club of Boston website at [www.scboston.org](http://www.scboston.org).

Member:  
**US FIGURE SKATING**  
[usfigureskating.org](http://usfigureskating.org)

# Balancing Act: life of a college athlete

**Martha Buckley** knows all about discipline and commitment. Skating Club regulars will remember Martha as the beautiful Team Boston skater who frequently cross-skated for two of our teams (Junior and Novice most recently), always with a smile, never a sparkle out of place on any of the costumes she sometimes had to dash to change. She would tell you that other Boston teammates did the same thing. College has taken her to Miami University and a similar, but much bigger stage. As a sophomore, Martha is now co-captain of the Junior synchro team; as she did for us, she also skates on the Collegiate team. Her team also represents the United States in international competitions as members of Team USA, which she finds to be a wonderful honor.

Becoming a member of Miami's elite synchro teams is highly competitive, and hundreds of qualified skaters audition each year. Martha earned a spot on her team last year as a freshman, but that didn't guarantee her a place this year. She had to try out again. Asked if being a Miami synchro skater was something she'd always dreamed of, Martha was humble, and told Chips she'd only started skating synchro in her first year of high school. It wasn't until she attended a synchro camp at Miami the summer before her senior year that she really thought about skating after high school. Now, she finds herself a varsity athlete, and in arguably the top synchro program in the country. Skating in a program like Miami's is really special, she says, because in addition to being part of a top team, she and her fellow teammates are recognized on campus as student-athletes. And they should be.

Her schedule is daunting. While other college students might complain about early-morning classes, Martha is up before daylight at 6:30 am practices each weekday. She logs more than 15 hours of early on-ice practice with her teams each week, and does individual on-ice training as well. Off-ice, she works out alongside other varsity athletes in a special athletic training facility three days a week, and says working with the other athletes has helped her to push herself physically in ways she'd never thought possible. Her travel for competitions is an additional time commitment, and includes international trips (Prague, Czech Republic last year and Neuchatel, Switzerland later this year.)

Still, Martha didn't go to Miami to skate. She maintains a strong focus on school work, and is studying Strategic Communication with a minor in Spanish language. Martha's also active in her dorm as a member of the Community



*Martha (center) performs the Junior Long program with her Miami University team at Synchro Nationals in Portland, Maine, last Spring*

# Balancing Act

Continued from page 3

Council, which plans community service activities, dances, sporting events and more. In addition, she has a job working at the campus Sports Recreation Center in maintenance. Asked whether it's hard to find a balance, she says she's very clear about what her priorities are, and thinks of her role as a Division 1 Student-Athlete as a job (and clearly one she loves.) "I have two main priorities, Academics and Athletics. Everything else is secondary. Skating on two teams is very demanding but I've been able to strike a balance and I still have a normal life on-campus. (Committing the discipline to) Academics is actually easier with the structure of (my) skating schedule, but there are definitely times when it is very challenging, like when we travel."

The synchro season at Miami parallels the school year: individual and team tryouts start with the first week of classes, and the team works together until the school year ends in May. Their competitive season typically runs from December through March. When school's over for the year, skaters are expected to train both on- and off-ice, and are given a specific regimen of weight training, cardio and skating skills to work on over the summer. Martha's an accomplished ice dancer, so she is also working to pass additional dance tests. At Miami, some of her individual skating training time is focused on dance as well as individual work with the synchro coaches on her parts of the team programs.

If all of this sounds overwhelming, Martha is clearly not just managing, but thriving in her role of student-athlete and co-captain. "Skating at the collegiate level has far surpassed any level of expectation that I had. I have never held such a deep connection to a group of people and to skating before coming to Miami. We are truly a family and I honestly cannot look back on my college experience thus far and not express how instrumental Miami skating has been on making it one of the best years of my life."

*Editor's note: several of Martha's Team Boston teammates, as well as recent high school graduates who skated on Team Excel coach Merita Mullen's teams, are now skating on collegiate synchro teams – proof that the team skating skills and discipline can transfer well to college-level team skating. Chips and the Skating Club of Boston are very proud of all our skaters who are combining skating with higher education!*

## New Members

Continued on page 12

### Family Members

**Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. MacInnis**  
(Kimberly)  
(Colleen)

North Andover, Massachusetts  
*M. Lee / P. Johansson*

### Single Members

**Ms. Jessica Franzino**  
Brighton, Massachusetts  
*K. Kurkjian-Jones / A. Plazonja*

### Introductory Members

**Mr. Bruce Western & Ms. Josephine McKendry**

(Grace Western 12/19/98)  
Brookline, Massachusetts  
*L. Blount / A. Farkas*

**Mr. & Mrs. William Abraham**  
(Cathleen)

(Audrey)  
Belmont, Massachusetts  
*J. Whouley / L. Blount*

**Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Blyth (Anita)**  
(Athena, Sophia)  
Brookline, Massachusetts  
*J. Wong / S. Murray*

**Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hart (Pamela)**  
(Chloe)  
Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

*A. Farkas / S. Murray*

**Mr. Stephen McMillan & Ms. Anne Welch**

(Ever, Finn, Frances (McMillan))  
Boston, Massachusetts  
*L. Blount / R. Stump*

**Mr. & Mrs. Henry Rosenkranz**  
(Yayoi Miya)

(Aliza, Greg, Leah)  
West Roxbury, Massachusetts  
*L. Blount / R. Stump*

**Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Catania (Julie)**  
(Caitria, Erin)

Natick, Massachusetts  
*T. Gibbs Thierwechter/A. Farkas*



# Club benefits from Eagle Scout Project

There's a great new look to the outside seating area as Michael Bramante, Novice Ice Dancer, finishes his final step on his path to Eagle Scout. With the sponsorship of Jim McManus, the SCOB Board of Governors, and the leaders of Troop 157 Weston, this fall Michael worked to carry out his Eagle Scout Project which involved improving the outside luncheon seating area at the Skating Club of Boston. The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest rank possible in Boy Scouting, and only 3% of scouts nationwide ever achieve this prestigious level. Some famous Eagle Scouts include President Gerald Ford, Walter Cronkite, Steven Spielberg, to name a few...and our very own SCOB skaters Buck Withrow, Andy Withrow, and Jim McManus!

The Eagle Scout Leadership Project is the most challenging advancement requirement in all of scouting. It involves planning, leadership, and community service. In addition to planning and implementing his own project, part of Michael's Eagle commitment involved working with fellow scouts on their Eagle projects.



*The benches and trellis under construction. Photo by Paula Bramante*

The planning phases of the project began over a year ago and included a presentation to the SCOB Board of Governors on September 17, 2008. To get the seating area ready to install, Michael led teams of scouts from his Troop in building and installing a Trellis/Arbor, a box planter, and several seating benches. For ease of ongoing maintenance, he designed the components using composite board decking. The project was built to fit the dimensions of the Club's current seating area, but will not be permanently attached, which will allow the pieces to be moved in the future.

Having completed the project, Michael still has to complete



additional steps in order to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. He's been documenting every part of his project, from planning and budgeting through the presentation he made to the Board authorizing the funding and the work itself. He will present this overview to a Board of Review. He also has to present details about his 12 years in Scouting and the leadership skills he has gained through his experiences. In addition, he will need to make a statement about his ambition and life purpose – a lot of extra work for an already-busy high school senior!

Michael installed the seating area pieces in early October with the help of Jim McManus, Paul Danner, Tyler Harris, Wayne Smith and his parents, Paula and Jim Bramante. In all, Michael and his volunteer team spent over 162 hours completing the project. The final step in the project was to plant a small tree and/or vines in the planter to add color to the space. His work, and that of his scout colleagues, is a lasting improvement for all Club members to enjoy.

Asked about how Scouting and his experiences as a competitive Ice Dancer parallel each other, Michael noted that perseverance is an important part of competitive skating, and said it is certainly something he has learned through scouting. "In scouting, you need to keep achieving higher levels of rank, and with each rank there are more responsibilities and skills that you need to acquire. This is very similar to the drive that is needed in skating to keep learning and developing skills in order to pass tests to move to the next level. I am also hoping to be an ice dance coach, so the leadership skills I've learned in scouting will certainly help in that area."

We're glad to have Michael in our Skating Club family, and are proud of his accomplishments in skating and in scouting. Thanks, Michael, for the great addition to our outdoor space!

# Team Excel News

By Jeff Sokolov

*Photos by Ted Castro and Jeff Sokolov*

The Team Excel competitive season is off to a wonderful start and there is a lot of exciting news to report.

Team Excel and the Skating Club of Boston have been awarded the 2010 Boston Synchronized Skating Classic at The Skating Club on March 27, 2010. The Boston Classic is a proud participant of the Eastern Synchronized Skating Challenge Series. The challenge series provides an opportunity for non-qualifying divisions to collect points during the year towards a year-end championship. As an added bonus, the Boston Classic will feature a very special complementary clinic for all coaches and skaters by Merita Mullen.

We are now featuring Beginner teams at two locations (Boston or MetroWest). With two locations, parents can choose whichever is more convenient for them. Our Boston team practices on Saturdays at 5:00-6:30pm at the Skating Club of Boston while our MetroWest team practices on Mondays from 6:00pm-6:50pm at the New England Sports Center. There are openings on both teams. Skaters just getting started can enjoy the synchronized skating experience at a skill and age appropriate level.

Our Boston Beginner, Preliminary, Novice and Juniors teams exhibited at three recent Friday nights at the Skating Club. The Team Excel skaters enjoyed the opportunity to demonstrate their considerable skills and the results of their hard work along with other SCOB skaters. Many Team Excel families attended the exhibitions and



*Team Excel Juniors exhibit at The Skating Club of Boston (© Ted Castro)*

stayed to enjoy the food and festivities of the Friday night dinners. Our director, Merita Mullen, spoke briefly at each dinner. We all felt very welcomed and happy to be part of such a great community.

Our coaching staff is expanding. Merita Mullen, Director of Synchronized Skating, is pleased to announce the appointment of Melissa Delano to the Team Excel synchronized skating coaching staff. Melissa is currently coaching our MetroWest Beginner team and our Learn to Synchro class at the Rivers School in Weston. She also volunteers with the Juvenile and Novice teams. Melissa has been deeply involved in the sport of synchronized skating for over ten years. Learn more about Melissa at the Team Excel website.

Team Excel represented The Skating Club of Boston for the very first time at the Thanksgiving Classic in Plymouth, MA on November 14<sup>th</sup> and earned our first two medals ever in the Beginner and Juvenile divisions. The Preliminary and Novice teams also debuted and finished 7<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively. And on Friday November 13<sup>th</sup>, the Team Excel Juniors were monitored by US Figure Skating officials who critiqued both their short and free skate programs. All our teams looked very elegant in their new competition dresses and skated with speed, grace and precision to their creatively choreographed programs.



*The Team Excel Juvenile team competes at The Thanksgiving Classic (© Jeff Sokolov)*

Beyond results, Team Excel is guided by an empowering



# Team Excel News

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mission – to promote synchronized skating and prepare synchronized skating teams for national and international competition, encourage teamwork and sportsmanship, and support individual skaters as they seek to attain their unique potential, and teams as they seek to achieve their full potential as a team.

Merita Mullen, the Director of Synchronized Skating, works together with her staff of dedicated and passionate coaches to choreograph the programs for each line, combining in every case fast moving elements, intricate transitions and complicated footwork sequences. The end result is a dynamic routine, both graceful and technically demanding that is sure to please.

We look forward to our next competitions at the Dr. Porter Classic (Dec 4-6 in Ann Arbor, MI), Cape Cod Classic (Dec 11-12 in Bourne) and the Colonial Classic

(Jan 8-10 in Lowell). This quick sequence of four competitions in about a month will be followed by the World Challenge Cup for Juniors Qualifier (Jan 8-9 in Lowell) and the Eastern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships (Jan 28-30 also in Lowell).

Finally, Team Excel will be embarking on a grand adventure shortly by blogging about our inaugural year. Starting with Merita Mullen who will be writing about her vision, upwards of ten members of the Team Excel community will be blogging about what it takes to create, manage and grow a vibrant synchronized skating community with teams covering the competitive US Figuring Skating pipeline. Look for our blog at [www.ExcelSynchro.org/blog](http://www.ExcelSynchro.org/blog).

Please visit our website at [www.ExcelSynchro.org](http://www.ExcelSynchro.org) for news and updates.

## Tests Passed

**Amy Barnett-Nakamura** - Novice Free

**Katherine Capossela** - Pre-Preliminary Moves

**Emily J. Catenzaro** – Senior Moves, Senior Free

**Meaghan F Corcoran** - Pre-Preliminary Moves

**Kevin R. Coppola** – Senior Free

**Una M Donegan** - Junior Moves

**Gretchen V Donlan** - Novice Pair, Junior Pair

**Rochelle Y. Dost** – Senior Moves

**Katharine LT Francendese** - Preliminary Moves

**Amanda Gollaher** – Pre-Juvenile Moves

**Bennett Gottlieb** - Novice Moves

**Madeline A. Gupta** – Pre-Preliminary Free

**Lauren N. Henderson** – Pre-Bronze Dance

**Jenelle T. Herman** - Novice Free

**Jordana F. Itzkowitz** – Senior Free

**Alyssa Karbel** – Pre-Juvenile Moves

**Andrew M. Korda** - Junior Moves

**David Leenen** - Novice Pair

**Katherine Lin** - Pre Preliminary Free

**Rebecca Lin** - Preliminary Free, Preliminary Moves

**Dominique Monteiro** – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

**James M. Morgan** - Intermediate Pair

**Caitlin E O'Neill** - Preliminary Dance

**Katie Rosen** - Preliminary Free, Juvenile Moves

**Jennifer Rosenthal** - Juvenile Moves, Juvenile Free

**Michaelee N. Scarincio** – Senior Free

**Alexandria Shaughnessy** - Intermediate Pair

**Jessica Sims** - Juvenile Free, Novice Moves

**Morgan Sowa** - Novice Pair

**Emily G. Stevenson** – Junior Free, Senior Free

**Matthew M. Swinton** - Novice Free

**Breanne M. Kenney** - Silver Dance

**Isabella Villafuerte** – Pre-Preliminary Moves, Pre-Preliminary Free

**Amanda Wang** - Preliminary Free

**Joelle E. Young** - Novice Moves

**Editor's note: *Have you passed a test, but don't see your result here? Chips relies on the US Figure Skating website for our Tests Passed information. Results published here were available as of our November 15, 2009 deadline.***

## Q and A with Sarah and Drew

*Editor's note: Pairs skater Drew Meekins and writer/photographer/illustrator Sarah Brannen write the wildly popular blog, **The Inside Edge with Sarah and Drew**, for icenetwork.com. Drew is a new MetroWest Skating Club member.*

**Chips: How did the two of you get started with the Sarah and Drew blog for icenetwork? Was your idea dreamed up over a late-night latte? How did you “sell” it to icenetwork?**

Drew: In 2008, I didn't have a partner, and so I had a lot spare time on my hands in between tryouts. Sarah has always been into writing about skating, as she has written for Skating Magazine a few times, and we have both always been into gossip, of course. After talking one day, we decided it would be a lot of fun to combine both of those interests of ours. When we realized that neither one of us would be busy competing or even attending Nationals that year, we came up with the idea of proposing a behind-the-scenes Nationals blog, with my unique perspective as a current competitor. Ice Network liked the idea and off we went! The blog was a hit, so they asked us to keep doing it.

**Chips: Are you old friends? Did you skate together?**

Sarah: I took some pictures of Drew and his former partner at Nationals in 2005. I'm an adult skater, and right after Nationals Drew started training at the same rink I skate at. So I introduced myself and asked if he wanted some of the pictures. He gave me his email and I sent them, and then we just kept on talking, first by email and then by phone. And we haven't run out of things to say yet! Eventually, I started taking skating lessons from Drew as well.

**Chips: How do you work as a team? Does one of you generate the writing topics, one of you do more of the researching, one do more of the writing? I've noticed many of the photos have Sarah's name credited!**

We both write; Sarah does most of the research when necessary. Drew tends to hear more of the inside gossip, given that he spends most of every day at the rink. Sarah does all the still photography, although Drew did most of the video for our video blog in Cleveland.

**Chips: Drew now trains in Colorado – is it hard to write together when you're in separate cities? Are**



*Blog writers Sarah Brannen and Drew Meekins*

**there technical tools that help you stay connected? Do you use old-fashioned telephones or something more modern?**

We email the blogs back and forth - one of us will write a piece and then send it for the other one to work on. We also talk about pieces and changes to the blog over the phone, since Drew is a serious multi-tasker and frequently does not spend a lot of time sitting down in front of anything! We also use AIM or Facebook chat a lot of the time to send ideas and blog pieces back and forth quickly while we are working on them. At competitions, we do spend a lot of time in the media room, working together on the same computer.

**Chips: How often do you write the blog, and do you set the schedule?**

Our blogs usually run once every two weeks, occasionally more often when we have a lot of topical news. Yes, we



# Q and A with Sarah and Drew

set the schedule.

**Chips: How do you decide what to write about? As a SCOB skater, I can't help but notice that our club gets mentioned fairly regularly, which we love.**

We just keep our eyes and ears open! Whenever we hear something interesting we run after it. We can only use a small percentage of what we hear, of course! And when we bump into a "name" skater or coach, in person or online, we always ask if we can interview them. Sometimes we just wonder about what someone's up to and email them. Only two people have ever turned down an interview request. You'll have to guess who.

We mention SCOB skaters a lot because, since we're both from Boston, we're friends with a lot of them and we see them often. Ditto for Colorado. We really make an effort to talk to skaters from other areas, and other countries, as much as possible.

**Chips: Are you free to write about what you like, or does icenetwork edit you? ...Or ask you to write about certain topics?**

Usually we write about whatever we want to. Occasionally our editor from Ice Network asks us to cover something. We have been edited on occasion, not too often though. We like to skate pretty close to the line!

**Chips: What about readers? Do they ask you to cover certain topics and skaters?**

Yes, people email us and ask us to talk to various popular skaters or to cover charity events. We do our best to accommodate them, but it can be challenging if we are not actually at the event, or do not have an 'inside' source their either.

**Chips: Do you know how many hits you get (per day / per article?) Does icenetwork track this for you? Are your fans primarily US-based, or international as well?**

We do know, but this is proprietary information and we can't share it. Sorry! We can tell you we get a lot of hits.

**Chips: Have you become famous within the skating community because of your blog? Do people come up to you at competitions and ask you about the column and your work together? What**

**is your fan base like?**

Sarah: "Famous" would be going too far, but people do come up to me and tell me they read the blog – I've even been recognized at practice, shows and competitions. People ask me about the blog all the time.

Drew: Often times at competitions people will come up to me and tell me they love the blog, or ask if I'm blogging from that event. It's always really surprising to me that people I don't know read it!

**Chips: Do you get any negative responses?**

Oh yes, the internet being what it is, we get hate mail occasionally. Not too often.

**Chips: I'm impressed at how positive your column is – it's a lot of fun to read, but I've never heard you say anything snarky about another skater. Is that something you really work at, or are you both inherently nice?**

Sarah: We try not to be mean! I like almost all the skaters I know personally a lot, so it's not hard to write nice things about them

Drew: Haha, well I don't think either one of us likes to be mean - for the most part! I also think that since a lot of the skaters we talk to are our friends, we don't really have anything bad to say about them, even if we wanted to! Personally, I think in skating, and in life, that sometimes just telling the truth and the facts of a story, and the letting the readers make up their own minds, is the funniest and even snarkiest way to say things!

**Chips: We read that icenetwork is not going to have commentary from Nancy Kerrigan this season, as it did last year. Have they asked you to provide it? Would you ever consider doing skating (action) commentary?**

Actually, they did ask us if we wanted to do ice dance commentary at 2008 Nationals, but it was a last minute thing and neither of us felt we would be prepared enough on such short notice! We would love to do it someday, we think it would be a lot of fun, and we could provide an 'interesting' point of view for fans!

**Chips: If you can tell us, does icenetwork cover your training expenses when you're covering an event like the World Championships? How many**

# Q and A with Sarah and Drew

## skating events do you go to each year?

Drew goes to events in his area or that he's competing in. Sarah goes to as many events as she can manage, not as many as she would like.

**Chips: Drew, when you were looking for a pair partner, do you think your blog helped bring attention to your search? (We know you were Junior World Champion and probably had girls lining up, but it's still a fair question!)**

Drew: I think it was actually very helpful! Obviously I had other resources, like IcePartnerSearch.com, and a few coaches helping me, but I think getting exposure from the blog got more people aware of my situation, and thus kept it in the back of a lot people's minds, who normally wouldn't have had it there.

**Chips: Sarah, you're a very talented illustrator in addition to your wonderful writing and photography skills. What advice would you give young people who want to work in the creative arts?**

Sarah: Thank you! This could end up being a very long answer, but to keep it short:

1. Follow your heart and do what you really love doing. I waited a long time to pursue children's book illustration because I didn't think I could make a living at it and I wish I had started sooner.
2. Have a second career. It is nearly impossible to make a

living in the arts, today more than ever.

**Chips: One more rather shameless question for Drew: you've just joined the Skating Club this summer, as a MetroWest member. Welcome! We're happy to have you in our family! Can you tell us why you've come over to the SCOB?**

Drew: Well, I have always loved skating at the Skating Club of Boston! When I was younger, I used to pick up an extra session at the club once or twice a week, on top of all the other sessions I did, just because I loved skating in the environment the club created.

When I was looking for a partner, I began to train at the Skating Club of Boston every day. Everyone there, from the skaters, to the coaches, to the parents were more than welcoming to me, and made me feel like a part of the community. In the time between then and when I found a partner, the Skating Club became my home and was an essential part in me re-affirming my passion for skating. Because of all that, I feel a sense of loyalty and a connection to the Club, which I am grateful for. When it was time for me to renew my membership this year, and join a club, the choice was clear!

**Editor's note: Who would you like to see profiled in our Q&A Column? Drop us a note at**

**[editor@chipsboston.com](mailto:editor@chipsboston.com)!**

## *We're listening...*

What kinds of articles are you interested in seeing in upcoming issues of Chips?

We're dedicated to bringing you information on our New Members, recent Tests Passed, the Club Calendar, and our most current Competition Results. Our President's Letter is always a favorite to hear about what the Club Leadership is working on.

We've tried to bring you feature stories on different Club members including Competitors, Adult Skaters, and Volunteers, along with information on our newest programs.

Chips is your newsletter—so please tell us if we're doing our job well, or if you'd like to see changes made. Different types of articles, "just the facts," more photos—ask, and we'll do our best to respond. Drop us a note at **[editor@chipsboston.org](mailto:editor@chipsboston.org)**.

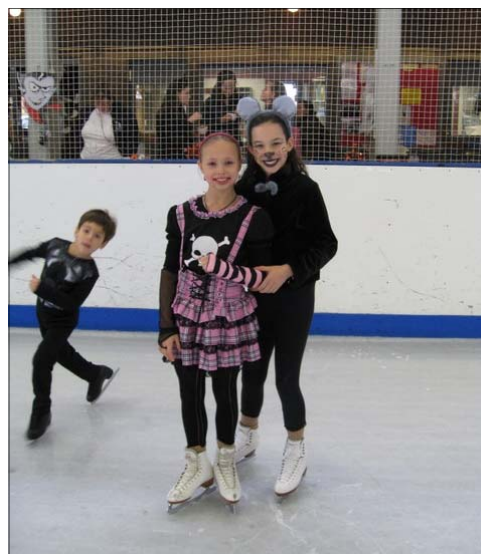
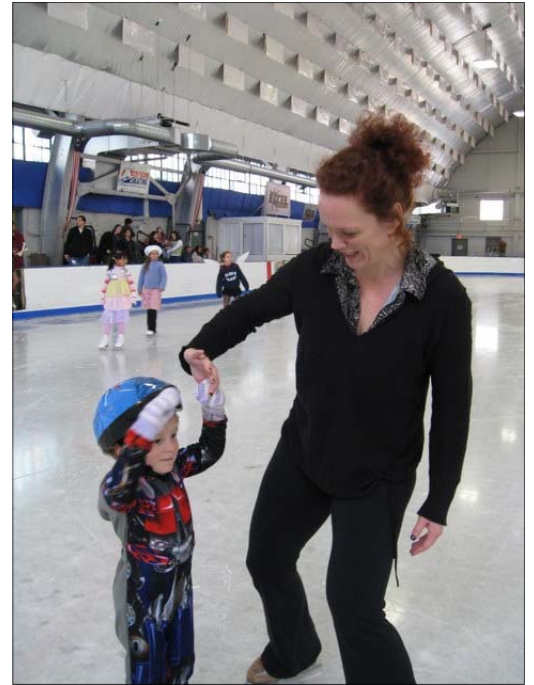
Also, we'll grab a bit of this space to thank our contributors to this issue: Aaron Williams, Colleen O'Brien, Jim McManus, Christie Allan-Piper, Jeff Sokolov, Paula Bramante, Sarah Brannen, Drew Meekins, Alisa Plazonja, Colin McManus, Kim Donlan, Paul Crugnola, Joe Blount, Lydia Magill and the incomparable Jarshen Lin.

# JAC Halloween Party

The JAC did an incredible job putting together this year's Halloween party. Kicked off by a performance by students from our new Basic Skills **Artistry In Motion** class skating to *Thriller* (choreographed by our own Jason Wong), young and old were wowed by the games, goodies, and gore in the JAC Haunted House. Thanks to Chair Olivia Gibbons who pulled through when many of her teammates were sick with the flu, and helped to make a great event happen!

Kudos to our favorite fang fan, Jarshen Lin, who balanced the sweets table with a display of tooth-care treats including brushes and tooth-pastes in cool flavors.

We're really glad there was no Costume contest! With all of these great costumes, how could anyone have chosen a winner?





# New Members

Continued from page 4

**Mr. & Mrs. William Hughes  
(Linda)**  
(Alyson, Sara)  
Randolph, Massachusetts  
*L. Blount / J. Lin*

**Ms Bidisha Islam Khandaker  
(Meenal Khandaker)**  
Belmont, Massachusetts  
*C. Nutter / F. Aronno*

**Mr. & Mrs. Photios Kim (Georgia)  
(June)**  
Sharon, Massachusetts  
*S. Gibbons / C. Wall*

**Mr. & Mrs. Justin Kermond  
(Lorraine)**  
(Georgia, Julia)  
Belmont, Massachusetts  
*L. Moscato / J. Whouley*

**Mr. & Mrs. Marc Rie (Paula)  
(Annabelle)**  
Melrose, Massachusetts  
*G. Miner / B. Munger*

## *MetroWest Members*

**Mr. & Mrs. James Gennis (Stacey)  
(Cassie)**  
North Easton, Massachusetts  
*D. Volpicelli / L. Tufts*

**Ms Jane Gruber**  
Acton, Massachusetts  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Mr. Dmitri Kazarlyga & Ms.  
Genevieve Coulombe  
(Kassandra Skye Carpentier)**  
Worcester, Massachusetts  
*S. Murray / K. Kurkjian- Jones*

**Mr. & Mrs. Rob Weinstein (Mary)  
(Alexandria)**  
Hopkinton, Massachusetts  
*B. Burley / T. McGinnis*

## *Synchro Members*

**Miss Kaitlyn Elliot**  
Lisbon, Connecticut  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Miss Hannah Kristin**  
Lexington, Massachusetts  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Miss KD Larche**  
Holliston, Massachusetts  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Miss Erika Pun**  
Brighton, Massachusetts  
*S. Murray / W. Naphtal*

**Miss Caleigh Smith**  
Franklin, Massachusetts  
*P. Johansson / M. Naphtal*

**Miss Taryn Sousa**  
North Kingstown, Rhode Island  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Miss Morgan Dennison**  
Acton, Massachusetts  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Ms Lillian Allison**  
Woods Hole, Massachusetts  
*M. Naphtal / K. Fuller*

**Ms Rebecca Cunningham**  
Upton, Massachusetts  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Ms Melissa Delano**  
North Attleboro, Massachusetts  
*M. Naphtal / K. Fuller*

**Ms Katherine Gendreau**  
Bristol, Rhode Island  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Ms Lauren Gendzier**  
Longwood, Florida  
*M. Naphtal / K. Fuller*

**Ms Caitlin Higgins**  
Boston, Massachusetts  
*M. Naphtal / K. Fuller*

**Ms Claire Marcus**  
Waban, Massachusetts  
*M. Naphtal / K. Fuller*

**Ms Kimberly McCarter**  
Mansfield, Massachusetts  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Ms Kirsten Peramba**  
East Falmouth, Massachusetts  
*M. Naphtal / K. Fuller*

**Ms Emily Shelkowitz**  
Livingston, New Jersey  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

**Ms Debra Tomanek**  
East Providence, Rhode Island  
*M. Naphtal / K. Fuller*

**Ms Emily J. VanDeventer**  
Windham, New Hampshire  
*K. Fuller / M. Naphtal*

## *Theatre on Ice Members*

**Miss Rachel Reeds**  
Somerville, Massachusetts  
*S. Crugnola / E. Rioux*

**Ms Lisa Rockefeller**  
Waltham, Massachusetts  
*M. Gervais / J. McManus*

## *Non-Resident Family Members*

**Mr. & Mrs. Zdravko Markova  
(Irene)**  
(Teodora)  
Newington, Connecticut  
*G. Miner / P. Johansson*

**Make it your New Year's  
Resolution to Volunteer:**

**Ice Chips**

**Basic Skills Competition, 2/6**

**National Skating Month  
events, 1/9**

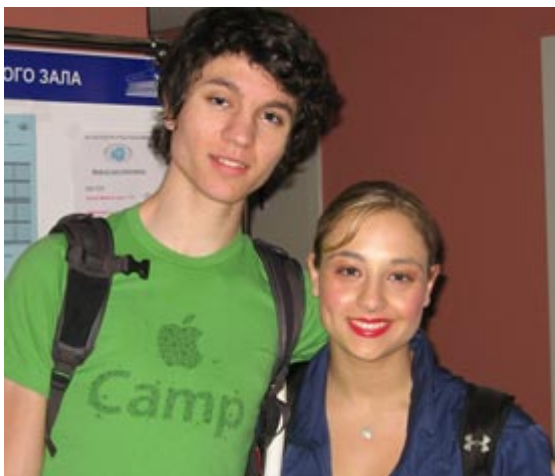
**Chips Newsletter**

**So many fun options!**

# Colin's JGP blog

Continued on pg 19

*Editor's note: ice dancer Colin McManus and his partner Anastasia Cannuscio traveled to Istanbul, Turkey, in October to compete in the JGP Turkey. Colin wrote a blog of his journey for icenetwork, which is excerpted here with his permission. Read his whole diary at icenetwork.com*



## Tuesday, Oct. 13

I would like to start off the blog by just saying how extremely excited I am to have a second chance to represent the United States overseas at the JGP Turkey.

My first experience at the JGP Belarus was unforgettable, and I am so happy to be given another opportunity to make new friends and experience the world.

I promised my mother I would not embarrass her, but there were a few nostalgic moments when she found out that Anastasia (Cannuscio) and I got a second assignment. One of which was the, "look how far you've come from those days when you were in your little helmet and hockey skates doing your learn-to-skate classes. You would lay on the ice making snow angels when you were supposed to be skating"! Yes, we have the home videos to prove that. Take three steps, slip, fall, then make snow angels. The same thing over and over again. Who knew an international competitor was in the making? Not me!

Since then, it's been a VERY long and very rewarding road. I would like to thank all the people who helped me along the way! (mom and dad -- that definitely means you!)

It was a very long day of traveling, but luckily we have some great training mates -- Ian Lorello and Isabella Cannuscio -- to share all the fun with. There was a 5:45 a.m. wake-up call on Monday, which no one was happy about (the UD dancers are quite spoiled with their skating schedule). After squeezing in a couple of sessions, we were off to Philadelphia International Airport! We all arrived safe and sound into Istanbul, with skates and costumes all accounted for. I should take this time to mention the magnitude of our group that traveled to Istanbul -- it includes four skaters, two coaches, Anastasia and Isabella's mother and grandmother, Ian's mom and my dad. Ten Americans ready to take the city by storm.

Our hotel is magnificent! Not to mention that Istanbul is one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. After checking in, and getting our credentials, we figured we had the whole day left to do whatever we wanted. Anastasia suggested that we make our way to the Old City, to which Ian enthusiastically replied, "We can do anything! The world is our burrito!"

The Old City is located about 30 minutes away from our hotel, and is home to the Blue Mosque and the Grand Bazaar. By the time we got there, we were all starving and exhausted. We probably looked like the walking dead roaming through the crowded streets of Istanbul, but behold we found a beacon of hope... STARBUCKS! So, after a much needed pick-me-up, we were ready to go! We navigated our way through the tiny streets packed with shops and Kebab stands. Eventually, we made our way back to the hotel -- looking forward to a nice dinner and our beds!

Tomorrow we are jumping right into the competition with an early practice! I'm really looking forward to my time in Istanbul and all it has to offer!

## Wednesday, Oct. 14

Today was practice day. There was a 6:50 a.m. wake-up call, and then we met downstairs for breakfast. After filling up, we were off to our first practice of the day!

We all packed into the bus outside the hotel, and took a 35-minute bus ride to the rink. The views were spectacular! We drove a majority of the way right along the water. There were lines of ships waiting to pass through Istanbul, so they could continue on to the Mediterranean; the crowded skyline of the city and mountainous terrain served as a beautiful backdrop. There are ruins of fortresses scattered all along the shoreline, some dating back to the 1400's. It was a beautiful sight to see -- that's when we weren't distracted by the borderline life-threatening driving. I swear you cannot travel three feet without getting cut off, and I think people constantly honk their horns just for the fun of it. Eventually, we arrived at a massive worn fortress that dated back to the 1450's. Ian (Lorello) and I were in awe when the bus was passing it then, to our surprise, we took a sharp right turning into the interior of the fortress to where the rink is located.

The rink is brand new, and apparently last Sunday was the first time anyone has skated on the ice. Practice ensued, and

# Club News

## ***In memory: Kathy Johnson, ice dancer***

Kathy Johnson, longtime Skating Club member, dancer, longtime Bostonian, longtime designer and maker of the Bostonians costumes, was a gallant fighter right until the end. All through her long, long, and repeated chemotherapy, she kept sending her friends funny, joyous email messages, lifting our spirits, when she was ill.

Early this past June, on a Friday night dance session, she skated as beautifully as ever. We did not know it would be the last time. She even passed another dance test this past year, the Starlight Waltz, wearing a glamorous wig she'd fashioned to conceal the ravages of chemo.

She lived by the sea and was an ebullient leader of volunteers planting sea grass. Even when she knew it would be taken by winds and water in the end, even when she knew she would be as well, she kept on planting, until she had no life left.

She, herself, was like the sea grass. Blown down repeatedly by adverse events, she put her roots into the sand as deeply as she could and stood against the wind.

On Friday evenings, we always will think of her, half expecting her still to fly onto the ice, exuberant as ever, with lilted knee, and head and spirits high.

*-Christie Allan-Piper*

## ***Jane Gowdy, photographer and great volunteer***

Long time SCOB member, Jane Potter Gowdy, died on November 12, while reading at home, after an enjoyable outing with friends only hours before.

Jane grew up at the club. Her children,

Gretchen, Christian, and Duncan grew up there as well. Her father, Dr. Theodore Potter, served on the Board, as her husband, Doug, later did as well. Jane's work on the Board is also fondly remembered.

As a child, she skated in every Ice Chips, as her children later did. She did photography and publicity for Ice Chips for more years than even she could count and worked on every committee.

The Gowdys, along with other hard workers, even managed one year to borrow a Swan Boat from Boston Garden for a surprise Ice Chips appearance.

She was an advocate for and friend of every child at the club, cheering and rooting for them all.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, November 21, with many of her Club friends in attendance.

*-Christie Allan-Piper*

## **Watch your bags!!**

Please: Be smart about your belongings! Over the past several weeks, we've had a few things disappear from the Club. Money from a skater's bag, a Professional's jacket left rinkside, an article from a parked car. Ours is a private club, and our staff does a great job watching who comes in to the building, but please lock your valuables in a locker while you are in the ice or in a training session. Just as you would at school or in your office, please try not to leave your valuables unattended.

## **National Skating Week:**

Celebrated at the Club on January 9, our event will include an Open House, Exhibition, and raffle. Our coaches will offer lessons to promote our great sport. Watch for more details and plan to get involved!

## **A new bundle of Joy!**



**Robert Louis Medico III**  
Born October 9, 2009 at 2:42pm  
Weighing 6 Pounds, 10 Ounces  
19 Inches Long



*Welcomed With Love  
by Jen & Rob Medico  
Proud Grandparents:  
Joe & Karen Blount  
Proud Aunt: Linda Blount*

*We can't wait to see him on skates!*

## **Save these Dates!**

### **Basic Skills Competition— February 8**

Our 11th Annual...and a great event! Chair Paul Crugnola is looking for volunteers. If you've never been involved, make this your year to— it's a blast. For more info, contact paulcrugnola@bigbandnet.com or the Club office.

### **Skate Fest at Harvard— February 14**



# Competition Results

## 2010 New England Regional Figure Skating Championships

*Burlington, Vermont - October 22-26, 2009-  
Hosted by the Champlain Valley Skating Club  
Competitors Photographs by Jarshen Lin*



### **Juvenile Girls Group A (QR)**

Isabelle Dost – 1st (40.34)  
Olivia Pastore – 3rd (37.10)  
Christine Magill – 4th (36.64)  
Gianna Beniers – 7th (31.93)  
Jessica Lin – 8th (31.07)  
Caitlyn Smith – 13th (27.60)

### **Juvenile Girls Group B (QR)**

Victoria LoRusso – 3rd (40.58)  
Maria Minaeva – 4th (40.11)  
Julia Marie Rapela – 6th (35.21)  
Nicole Lee – 12th (25.70)  
Jennifer Rosenthal – 17th (14.48)

### **Juvenile Girls Final (CR)**

Maria Minaeva – 1st (44.87)  
Olivia Pastore – 3rd (41.70)  
Christina Magill – 5th (41.09)

Victoria LoRusso – 6th (36.90)  
Isabelle Dost – 8th (35.01)  
Julia Marie Rapela – 9th (34.19)

### **Juvenile Boys**

Bennett Gottlieb – 2nd (38.08)

### **Intermediate Ladies Group A (QR)**

Melissa Lee – 1st (51.90)  
Courtney O'Regan – 2nd (49.07)  
Heidi Munger – 3rd (47.13)  
Courtney Phillips – 9th (31.02)

### **Intermediate Ladies Group B (QR)**

Rachel Zeppi – 1st (52.67)  
Isabelle Bertolozzi – 6th (36.15)

Christine Wang – 7th (35.43)

### **Intermediate Ladies Group C (QR)**

Alexia Rogers – 2nd (48.38)  
Anna D'Amico – 3rd (47.19)  
Lauren Lampiasi – 4th (46.46)  
Brianna Coviello – 7th (42.34)

### **Intermediate Ladies Group D (QR)**

Lauren Cumming – 10th (28.83)

### **Intermediate Ladies Short Program (CR)**

Melissa Lee – 2nd (30.82)  
Rachel Zeppi – 3rd (29.14)  
Courtney O'Regan – 4th (28.84)

# Competition Results

Anna D'Amico – 5<sup>th</sup> (27.24)  
 Heidi Munger – 6<sup>th</sup> (27.11)  
 Lauren Lampiasi – 10<sup>th</sup> (23.28)  
 Alexia Rogers – 11<sup>th</sup> (23.06)

## Intermediate Ladies Free Skate (CR)

Rachel Zeppi – 2<sup>nd</sup> (58.27)  
 Melissa Lee – 4<sup>th</sup> (53.73)  
 Courtney O'Regan – 5<sup>th</sup> (53.29)  
 Lauren Lampiasi – 7<sup>th</sup> (49.68)  
 Heidi Munger – 8<sup>th</sup> (49.65)  
 Anna D'Amico – 10<sup>th</sup> (46.60)  
 Alexia Rogers – 14<sup>th</sup> (43.26)

## Intermediate Men Short Program

Adrian Huertas – 1<sup>st</sup> (25.58)

## Intermediate Men Short Program

Adrian Huertas – 2<sup>nd</sup> (42.99)

## Novice Ladies Short Program

Morgan Sowa – 1<sup>st</sup> (35.15)  
 Taylor Foley – 2<sup>nd</sup> (33.97)  
 Ursula Munger – 4<sup>th</sup> (32.05)  
 Mia Eisenhandler – 5<sup>th</sup> (31.73)  
 Jenelle Herman – 8<sup>th</sup> (30.19)  
 Nora Smith – 9<sup>th</sup> (30.04)

Kayla Thierwechter – 13<sup>th</sup> (27.47)  
 Kaitlin Manning – 14<sup>th</sup> (27.26)

## Novice Ladies Free Skate

Mia Eisenhandler – 1<sup>st</sup> (67.07)  
 Jenelle Herman – 2<sup>nd</sup> (59.53)  
 Morgan Sowa – 5<sup>th</sup> (54.80)  
 Kaitlin Manning – 7<sup>th</sup> (51.99)  
 Taylor Foley – 8<sup>th</sup> (51.40)  
 Ursula Munger – 9<sup>th</sup> (50.63)  
 Nora Smith – 11<sup>th</sup> (49.19)  
 Kayla Thierwechter – 16<sup>th</sup> (42.52)

## Novice Men Short Program

Harrison Choate – 1<sup>st</sup> (40.10)  
 Kevin Han – 2<sup>nd</sup> (32.92)  
 David Conley – 4<sup>th</sup> (28.46)  
 Matthew Swinton – 5<sup>th</sup> (26.76)  
 James Morgan – 6<sup>th</sup> (25.90)

## Novice Men Free Skate

Harrison Choate – 1<sup>st</sup> (71.67)  
 James Morgan – 3<sup>rd</sup> (57.53)  
 David Conley – 4<sup>th</sup> (57.29)  
 Kevin Han – 5<sup>th</sup> (50.98)  
 Matthew Swinton – 6<sup>th</sup> (49.23)

## Junior Ladies Short Program

Yasmin Siraj – 1<sup>st</sup> (57.16)  
 Keilani-Lyn Rudderham – 2<sup>nd</sup> (48.11)

Sydney Cusack – 4<sup>th</sup> (39.55)  
 Layla Siraj – 5<sup>th</sup> (37.54)  
 Kendyl Murtaugh – 7<sup>th</sup> (33.45)  
 Katelyn Rota – 14<sup>th</sup> (25.84)

## Junior Ladies Free Skate

Yasmin Siraj – 1<sup>st</sup> (92.44)  
 Sydney Cusack – 3<sup>rd</sup> (72.41)  
 Keilani-Lyn Rudderham – 4<sup>th</sup> (70.01)  
 Layla Siraj – 5<sup>th</sup> (65.93)  
 Kendyl Murtaugh – 9<sup>th</sup> (50.73)  
 Katelyn Rota – 14<sup>th</sup> (36.28)

## Junior Men Short Program

Peter Max Dion – 1<sup>st</sup> (47.88)  
 David Leenen – 3<sup>rd</sup> (38.17)

## Junior Men Free Skate

Peter Max Dion – 1<sup>st</sup> (91.54)  
 David Leenen – 3<sup>rd</sup> (60.02)

## Senior Ladies Short Program

Alexander Volpicelli – 1<sup>st</sup> (45.86)  
 Carly Mildren – 7<sup>th</sup> (33.78)  
 Jordana Itzkowitz – 8<sup>th</sup> (32.31)

## Senior Ladies Free Skate

Alexander Volpicelli – 1<sup>st</sup> (74.59)  
 Carly Mildren – 3<sup>rd</sup> (65.98)  
 Jordana Itzkowitz – 7<sup>th</sup> (58.47)



A bevy of beauties at the New England Send-Offs. From left: Courtney O'Regan, Alexia Rogers, Rachel Zeppi, Anna D'Amico, Brianna Coviello, Heidi Munger, Lauren Lampiasi and Melissa Lee

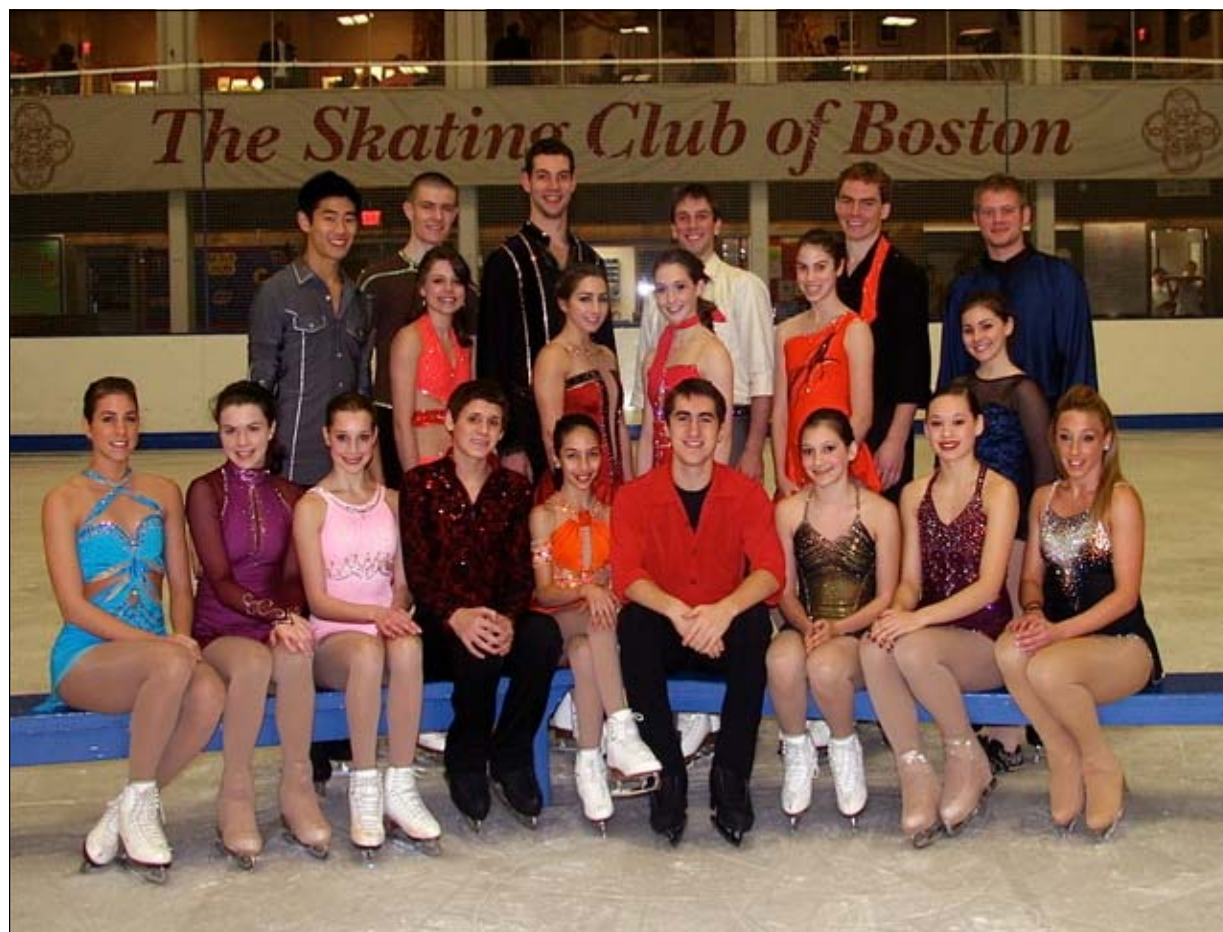


Looking relaxed: Jason Wong, Emily Young, Harrison Choate, Ross Miner and college freshmen Brittney Rizo and Curran Oi enjoy the Send-Offs in the stands



# Competition Results

2010 Sectional Championships  
November, 2009



## **2010 Midwestern Sectional Figure Skating Championships**

*Wichita, Kansas –  
November 17 – 22, 2009  
Hosted by the Wichita  
Figure Skating Club*

### **Junior Pairs Short Program**

Gretchen Donlan & Andrew Speroff –  
4<sup>th</sup> (39.13)

### **Junior Pairs Free Skate**

Gretchen Donlan & Andrew Speroff –  
2<sup>nd</sup> (76.17)

## **2010 Pacific Coast Sectional Figure Skating Championships**

*Jackson Hole, Wyoming –  
November 17 - 22, 2009  
Hosted by the Jackson Hole  
Figure Skating Club*

### **Junior Dance CD: Westminster Waltz**

Alison Carey & Ryan Van Natten –  
4<sup>th</sup> (25.68)

### **Junior Dance Original Dance**

Alison Carey & Ryan Van Natten –  
5<sup>th</sup> (36.68)

### **Junior Dance Free Dance**

Alison Carey & Ryan Van Natten – 4<sup>th</sup>  
(57.28)

### **Junior Dance Final Place- ment**

Alison Carey & Ryan Van Natten – 5<sup>th</sup>  
(119.64)



# Competition Results

## 2010 Eastern Sectional Figure Skating Championships

*Newark, Delaware –*

*November 18 – 21, 2009*

*Hosted by the University of  
Delaware Figure Skating  
Club*

### Novice Men Short Program

Harrison Choate – 4<sup>th</sup> (42.48)

David Conley – 9<sup>th</sup> (25.73)

James Morgan – 10<sup>th</sup> (25.32)

### Novice Men Free Skate

Harrison Choate – 4<sup>th</sup> (78.80)

James Morgan – 6<sup>th</sup> (59.15)

David Conley – 9<sup>th</sup> (51.17)

### Novice Ladies Short Program

Morgan Sowa - 5<sup>th</sup> (32.19)

Mia Eisenhandler – 7<sup>th</sup> (31.06)

Jenelle Herman – 11<sup>th</sup> (27.64)

### Novice Ladies Free Skate

Mia Eisenhandler – 7<sup>th</sup> (60.67)

Morgan Sowa - 8<sup>th</sup> (58.03)

Jenelle Herman – 10<sup>th</sup> (54.60)

### Novice Pairs Short Program

Morgan Sowa & David Leenen -  
3<sup>rd</sup> (28.33)

### Novice Pairs Free Skate

Morgan Sowa & David Leenen -  
1<sup>st</sup> (62.35)

### Junior Men Short Program

Peter Max Dion – 4<sup>th</sup> (49.12)

David Leenen – 12<sup>th</sup> (38.96)

### Junior Men Free Skate

Peter Max Dion – 2<sup>nd</sup> (96.35)

David Leenen – 10<sup>th</sup> (66.70)

### Junior Ladies Short Program

Yasmin Siraj – 1<sup>st</sup> (51.45)

Keilani-Lyn Rudderham – 2<sup>nd</sup> (43.58)

Sydney Cusack – 7<sup>th</sup> (37.47)

### Junior Ladies Free Skate

Yasmin Siraj – 1<sup>st</sup> (89.47)

Sydney Cusack – 7<sup>th</sup> (66.28)

Keilani-Lyn Rudderham – 9<sup>th</sup> (63.62)

### Junior Dance CD: Westminster Waltz

Anastasia Cannuscio & Colin McManus –  
1<sup>st</sup> (30.11)

### Junior Dance Original Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio & Colin McManus –  
1<sup>st</sup> (48.12)

### Junior Dance Free Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio & Colin McManus –  
1<sup>st</sup> (73.17)

### Junior Pairs Short Program

Olivia Gibbons & Tyler Harris – 4<sup>th</sup>  
(39.04)

### Junior Pairs Free Skate

Olivia Gibbons & Tyler Harris – 4<sup>th</sup>  
(70.42)

### Senior Men Short Program

Jason Wong – 1<sup>st</sup> (63.96)

Schuyler Eldridge – 9<sup>th</sup> (41.16)

### Senior Men Free Skate

Jason Wong – 2<sup>nd</sup> (110.63)

Schuyler Eldridge – 6<sup>th</sup> (86.32)

### Senior Ladies Short Program

Alexandra Volpicelli – 8<sup>th</sup> (36.63)

Carly Milden – 10<sup>th</sup> (28.59)

### Senior Ladies Free Skate

Carly Milden – 10<sup>th</sup> (55.79)

Alexandra Volpicelli – 11<sup>th</sup> (54.59)

### Senior Pairs Short Program

Marissa Castelli & Simon Shnapir –  
1<sup>st</sup> (58.68)

### Senior Pairs Free Skate

Marissa Castelli & Simon Shnapir –  
1<sup>st</sup> (92.17)

### Intermediate Pairs Free Skate

Alexandria Shaughnessy &  
James Morgan – 7<sup>th</sup> (20.50)

### Junior Grand Prix Croatia

*Zagreb – October 7-11, 2009*

### Junior Men Short Program

Ross Miner – 2<sup>nd</sup> (66.86)

### Junior Men Free Skate

Ross Miner – 2<sup>nd</sup> (129.22)

### Junior Men Final Placement

Ross Miner – 2<sup>nd</sup> (196.08)

**Qualified for JGP final in Tokyo**

### Junior Grand Prix Turkey

*Istanbul – October 14 – 18,  
2009*

### Junior Dance Compulsory Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio & Colin McManus –  
8<sup>th</sup> (26.68)

### Junior Dance Original Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio & Colin McManus –  
10<sup>th</sup> (38.89)

### Junior Dance Free Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio & Colin McManus –  
7<sup>th</sup> (62.71)

### Junior Dance Final Placement

Anastasia Cannuscio & Colin McManus –  
7<sup>th</sup> (128.28)

# Competition Results

## **Grand Prix of Paris**

### **Trophee Eric Bompard Cachemire**

*Paris – October 15 – 18,  
2009*

### **Pairs Short Program**

Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnafir – 7<sup>th</sup>  
(49.50)

### **Pairs Free Skate**

Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnafir – 7<sup>th</sup>  
(83.51)

## **Cup of China**

*Beijing – October 29 –  
November 1, 2009*

### **Senior Men Short Program**

Stephen Carriere – 7<sup>th</sup> (65.24)

### **Senior Men Free Skate**

Stephen Carriere – 5<sup>th</sup> (129.84)

### **Senior Men Final Placement**

Stephen Carriere – 6<sup>th</sup> (195.08)

## **Skate Canada**

*Kitchener, Ontario –  
November 19 – 22, 2009*

### **Senior Men Short Program**

Stephen Carriere – 10<sup>th</sup> (59.40)

### **Senior Men Free Skate**

Stephen Carriere – 7<sup>th</sup> (128.91)

### **Senior Men Final Placement**

Stephen Carriere – 8<sup>th</sup> (188.31)

## **Synchronized Skating**

### **Thanksgiving Classic**

*Plymouth, MA –  
November 19-22, 2009*

*Hosted by the Pilgrim  
Skating Club*

### **Juvenile**

Team Excel – 4<sup>th</sup>

### **Beginner**

Team Excel – 4<sup>th</sup>

### **Preliminary**

Team Excel – 4<sup>th</sup>

### **Juvenile**

Team Excel – 7<sup>th</sup>

### **Novice**

Team Excel – 5<sup>th</sup>

## **Champlain Valley Open**

*Burlington, VT—July 24 – 26, 2009*

### **Adult Bronze Ladies Free Skate**

Kristen Ervick—3<sup>rd</sup>

# Colin's JGP Blog

Continued from pg 13

everything went smoothly. After practice we had a couple of hours to spare before we were to meet at the rink to catch the bus to our team dinner.

Our team dinner was held at an authentic Hungarian restaurant, so all of Team USA piled onto the bus. As we were exiting the fortress walls -- we hit a road block. The bus was too tall to fit under one of the archways of the fortress! We were stuck in the ruins! There were multiple attempts to just drive right through, but the horrible scratching noise coming from above us was a good indication that there was no way we were driving out of this situation.

Finally, we figured out that if we all crammed into the back of the bus our weight would lower it enough to fit through. Images of the fortress walls just crumbling into dust were running through my head the whole time. These walls were able to fight off armies in the 15th century, but I guess they just can't handle a bus full of Americans.

Needless to say, we made it out of the fortress with the bus and ruins intact. Our team dinner was wonderful! Unfortunately, the dancers did not have a long time to sit and eat because we had our second practice soon after.

The four dancers and our coach were supposed to take the same bus back to the rink, but the driver did not understand that we were not waiting for the other team members. So, we spent ten minutes trying to explain to the driver that we had to get to the rink immediately -- in any way we could. But, after ten minutes of no progress -- we decided that the only way to make it to our practice on time was to cram into the back of a cab. The city was all lit up and it was a beautiful, but again we were too distracted by our lives flashing before our eyes to notice that much!

Our second practice went very well and, now, we are all back at the hotel looking forward to a good night's sleep. Compulsory starts tomorrow! I'm really looking forward to getting started!

***Want more? Find the rest at [icenetwork/news](http://icenetwork/news)***

# Club Calendar

## December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Test Applications are due Two weeks	Prior to test date!	1	2 Dance Test	3 JGP/GP Final	4 JGP/GP Final	5 JGP/GP Final
6 JGP/GP Final Free skate test	7	8	9	10	11 JN's Send Off Dinner	12
13	14 Junior Nationals	15 Junior Nationals	16 Junior Nationals	17 Junior Nationals	18 Dinner, Junior Nationals	19 Junior Nationals
20 Holiday Pageant	21	22	23	24	25 No Dinner	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 No Dinner	2
3	4	4	6	7	8 Nationals Send Off	9
10 Free- skating Test	11	12	13	14 Nationals	15 Nationals	16 Nationals
17 Nationals	18 Nationals	19 Nationals	20 Nationals	21 Nationals	22 Nationals	23 Nationals
24 Nation- als/31	25	26	27	28	29	30