



THE SKATING CLUB OF BOSTON

CHIPS

Winter 2012

It's Competition Season!



We've heard President Joe Blount, our competitors and our skaters' parents talk about it—our athletes' support of one another is one of the things that helps make The Skating Club of Boston such a special place to be. Here, a group of our competitors in the stands at an important Fall event is ready with a set of signs to cheer on our skaters—and make them feel ready to do their very best.

Our skaters did just that at the U. S. Junior Championships, Synchro Easterns and the U.S. Championships, supporting one another with the cheers and support we've become known for. The signs, cheers and hard work paid off with great results at every level.

Results start on page 18!

President's Letter

Dear Members,

Hope everyone had a great Holiday season and the New Year has been good to all.

Congratulations to all of the skaters who competed this year and represented the club at all levels with great skills and sportsmanship. We congratulate our U.S. Championships medalists for their outstanding accomplishments. Well done!

As we move through and celebrate our 100th Anniversary year, there are many things to be thankful for, and one of the greatest is the continued support and talent of our members. Without your support we would not be able to do what we do in support of the club, our skaters and the sport of figure skating.

The major event of our celebration is The Skaters' Ball scheduled for February 18, 2012 at The Fairmont Copley Plaza, and we are looking forward to a great event with minimum focus on speeches but a large focus on having a good time and celebrating the club's 100 years of excellence. We hope to see you there, and if you are not able to attend this

Inside This Edition of 'CHIPS' ...

President's Letter

p. 2-3

Youth In Sport

p. 6-7

Paul Danner: The ice is Nice

p. 8-9

Contents:

President's Letter	1-2
McGinnis Honored	3
Giving in Belmont	5
Youth In Sport	6-7
Danner: Ice	8-9
Jin Baseman	10-11
Tests Passed	15-16
New Members	16-17
Results	18-20

President's Letter

event that you attend or participate in upcoming event later this year. A special thank you to the 100th Anniversary Committee and staff for an outstanding job in informing as many members as possible, which required a great deal of research on pass members and their addresses. There will be many friendships renewed at this event, I'm sure.

If you did not receive an invitation, we apologize - we were working with archive information in some cases and tried to reach as many current and former members as we could. The committee has sold close to 500 tickets, which is our capacity, and that's a testimony to the diligence paid to contacting past members. Thank you!

February will be a very busy month with the Basic Skills Competition on the 11th, The Skaters' Ball on the 18th and hosting of the 2012 U.S Synchronized Skating Championships at the DCU Center in Worcester.

The 2012 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championship will start load-in to the DCU Center in Worcester MA on the February 28th with Official Practice starting on the 29th and competition starting on March 1 through 3. Come join us in celebrating the first Championships of Synchronized Skating hosted by The Skating Club of Boston. We have eighty-nine teams and over 1800 skaters participating in the event. Many thanks to the Committee members from Team Excel and who have dedicated a great deal of time and talent in making sure this event lives up to the standards we have set for the Championships we hosted in the past.

As mentioned in my November letter, we have been diligently working on the agreement for land for our new club facility which was finalized in November 2011. We now have enough concrete information that we are starting to have membership meetings to outline the details of the Land Swap Agreement, the revisions to the conceptual plan that was presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting in 2009 due to the land configuration, the projected cost, a proposed schedule and what is required for us to bring the plan to fruition. This newsletter will reach members after some of the membership meetings have commenced however there will be continued opportunities for member access to the information. The membership meetings were announced in emails; we hope you take the time to review and support the Board's vision for the next 100 years of excellence. Thank you all for your support.

Enjoy the 100th year celebrations!

Regards,

Joe Blount
President

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

Your editor can use your help! Articles, photos, compiling information and even creating puzzles are much more fun when you contribute! Join in!

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is **April 13**, to **editor@chipsboston.com**. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, and accuracy.

Chips is emailed to readers to conserve resources. It is posted on the Club website.

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Visit The Skating Club of Boston website at www.scboston.org.

McGinnis Honored

We have a magnificent legacy of champions, leaders, and legends at the Skating Club. On January 13, as President Joe Blount and Chairman of the Board Ben Wright congratulated our U.S. National Championships competitors, they had a special surprise up their sleeves: an Honorary Membership for the Club's own much-loved coach Tom McGinnis.

Ben gave a heart-warming speech highlighting Tommy's contributions to skating and to the Club. He spoke of Tommy's diversity as a coach. Many who've worked with him over the years know he has coached all disciplines of skating: figures, singles, pairs, dance and choreography. Ben told the crowd that Tommy, who directed and choreographed Ice Chips successfully for many years, had also coached the Haydenettes (synchronized skating) team for two years. In addition to skating, Tommy has performed as an actor and dancer, including musicals on Broadway and work with the New York City Center Opera. He even performed as a swimmer with the Aquacade in Flushing, NY. Indeed, diversity is a good word for his talents!

A wonderful one-page overview of Tommy's career highlights was passed to the full house of dinner guests. It included his work with champions Laurence Owen, Mary Bonacci & Gerald Lane, Sheryl Franks & Michael Botticelli and others. Tommy later told **Chips** he was "floored" by the honor, and especially by the crowd's reaction of a standing ovation, led by the competitors on their way to the Championships.



At the Skating Club, Tommy founded and continues to lead the Monday evening Basic Skills program, in addition to teaching private lessons. His work outside the Club includes performing and choreography for Holiday on Ice and coaching star performers in the Ice Capades. He co-founded *International Figure Skating* magazine, a testament to his love for the sport.

In 2009, Tommy was elected to the Professional Skaters Association (PSA) Hall of Fame. He is also an Honorary Member of that organization and received a Lifetime Achievement Award for dedication and service in 1999. He holds eight PSA Master ratings and organized three of the organization's major conferences, including the first to combine U.S. and Canadian coaches.

In this 100th year anniversary of the Skating Club of Boston, it seems like the perfect time to welcome Tom McGinnis as our 35th Honorary Member!

Chips Thanks

Chips gratefully thanks the contributors who make this publication possible: Colleen O'Brien, for her endless question-answering and support, Jarshen Lin and Mark Hunt for their beautiful images, Susan Withrow for articles, Evelyn O'Connor and Aaron Williams who painstakingly compile results and lists, Becky Stump, Jeanne Raftery, Paul Danner who let this reporter in early to watch his operations, our president Joe Blount, Alisa Plazonja, Kim Donlan, Executive Director Doug Zeghibe, Suna Murray, Veronica Hernandez, Alex Shaughnessy, Mary Naphtal and the Skating Club Board.

In our next issue, expect reports on The Skaters' Ball, Synchro Championships, and Ice Chips. We're collecting pictures from the recent U.S. Championships and would love to include them in a photo essay; if you have some to share please send them to editor@chipsboston.com. Your suggestions and involvement, as always, are welcome!

Ice Chips 2012

'100 Years of Excellence' is not just the Skating Club's anniversary slogan, it's the theme of this year's Ice Chips show. Fittingly, the logo, designed again this year by Jason Wong, is a stylish retro update of our familiar typography, complete with an elegant pair of skaters.

Our guest star, Olympic Men's Champion Evan Lysacek, will be a terrific addition to our own cast of champions, and will be sure to draw a great crowd.

A number of changes have been planned to make this year's show, planned for March 31 and April 1, very special. Tim LeBlanc will head the Creative team as Show Director, and Jason Wong as Head Choreographer. Alongside them, a team of talented choreographers will help keep our skaters' steps sharp. Choreographers Linda Blount and Marissa Castelli will be assisted by Merita Mullen, Christie Allan-Piper and Jessica Dupuis.

Show co-chair Kim Donlan explained at a recent Board meeting that another change will help skaters to have more rehearsal time while using our available practice ice as effectively as possible. "The choreographers have already designed all of the numbers," she told the Board, "and they've taught them to Line Captains, who will be able to help teach them to all of the skaters in each number." Rehearsal schedules allow time for each group to practice first off-ice with their choreographers, then on-ice with the assistant choreographers. Any skater in doubt of the exact steps in a rehearsal can look to the Line Captains to see just how it's done.

Skaters and choreographers alike are excited about the new rehearsal schedule and the opportunity to be able to learn both on- and off-ice. The Line Captains were selected both for their ability to remember choreography and their commitment to be at each rehearsal, something Kim reminds all Ice Chips skaters we've committed to. With a great theme, a team of choreographers and line captains working together with our case, Excellence is just what our audience will see.

Ice Chips Line Captains

Olivia Gibbons
Melissa Lee
Julia Rapela
Rochelle Dost
Jenelle Herman
Courtney O'Regan
Courtney Phillips
Kayla Thierwechter
Rachel Zeppi
Andrea Jacobs
Cindy Stevenson



Critical Dates

Photo Day: March 4
Full Run-Through: March 24
Full Dress Rehearsal: March 25

Tech Rehearsal at Harvard: March 30
Show 1 and 2: March 31
Show 3 and Cast Party: April 1

For rehearsal times, dates, and locations, please keep checking the Club website!

Giving back in Belmont

For three of our members, being on the ice is not just about teaching and practicing double axels!

For competitors Jacqueline Raftery and Rebecca Jacobs, a big part of skating is the “giving back” they do as volunteers. Jacqueline, a Novice Ladies competitor, and Rebecca, an Intermediate Ladies competitor who finished fifth at this year’s Junior National Championships, don’t leave their skates at their training rinks. Both ladies volunteer, along with Jacqueline’s mom Jeanne Giblin Raftery, at Belmont S.P.O.R.T. (special programs organized for recreation time), a program for individuals with special needs. Ice skating is offered from November-March at the Belmont town rink. The program teaches basic ice skating skills and provides coaching for skaters who would like to participate in Special Olympics. “The kids love being on the ice,” says Rebecca, “Sunday mornings are very special to me as a result of my participation in this program.”

Jeanne, a staff coach at the Skating Club’s Metrowest location, has been coaching in the program for over 30 years. In addition to her volunteer work in Belmont, she also teaches at the Skating Club of Boston Skating Academy in Marlboro and Foxboro. She explained to Chips that each skater in the S.P.O.R.T. program is paired with a volunteer to be their “skating buddy” in each week’s class. The skilled skating volunteers include high school hockey players and competitive figure skaters.

Jeanne oversees the on-ice activity to match each skater with a volunteer and provide coaching for those skaters who would like to compete in the Special Olympics figure skating and speed skating events.

Both Rebecca and Jacqueline are committed to volunteer work in the community and take care to track the hours they work as part of Community Service programs.

Rebecca, a seventh grader at the Kennedy Middle School in Natick, initially joined the Belmont S.P.O.R.T. program as part of her Hebrew School’s service project. As part of the Bar / Bat Mitzvah learning process, 6th and 7th grade students from Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley participate in a meaningful community service project. Becca wanted to pair her love of children with her love of skating. The Belmont Special Olympics program seemed a perfect fit for the young skater. “I always love to be on the ice, but this is really special because I am on the ice and not training for myself, but rather helping others,” Becca said. “Sometimes it is difficult to get the kids to focus, but I have found that if I change the subject and then come back to it I can get results.”

Jacqueline, a junior at Bishop Feehan High School in Attleboro, is a member of the Spanish National Honor Society. In the summer, she also volunteers at Children’s Hospital in their Organ Transplant unit working with the children in the Child Hope program. Her commitment to community service is to log 60 hours’ work, and she has already completed 75! She loves what she’s doing, and plans to continue working with the program.

We’d love to have Jacqueline, Becca, or Jeanne as a skating buddy – but we’re thrilled to have them as members of the Skating Club. Ladies, thanks for showing us how good work is done!

Are you doing good work as well? Share your story with us at editor@chipsboston.com!



Jeanne and Jacqueline Raftery (far left) and Becca Jacobs (far right) with their Belmont S.P.O.R.T. friends

Youth in Sport: Beneficiary of the Skaters' Ball

By Susan Withrow

This past year, The Skating Club of Boston began a new community initiative, Youth in Sport, with the intent to provide funding and opportunities for city youth interested in learning, appreciating, and excelling in the sport of skating. The initiative is planned for skaters of every ability, novice and experienced alike, with a focus on kids who live, learn or train in Boston. As the program grows and funding increases, the plan is for the program to also include support for deserving skaters who train at the Club.

This winter Youth in Sport is supporting the launch of a Boston-based program of U.S. Figure Skating's Skating in the Schools at the Boston Common Frog Pond. Skating in the Schools is designed to introduce skating to the general community through school physical education programs or as an after-school activity. The Frog Pond program is being made possible through the Friends of the Public Garden's financial support of Youth in Sport.



Skaters and teachers gather for fun on the Frog Pond ice

Teachers from the Washington Irving Middle School in Roslindale nominated pre-teens to participate in the program based on their academic performance and behavior. The school principal approves all nominations. At present, there are 16 excited sixth graders participating in the after-school activity. The program will run eight weeks on Monday afternoons. Chosen students take a private bus from school to the Frog Pond where instructors from the Club's Skating Academy teach them basic skills lessons. Then students have time to hone their new-found skills and have some fun during supervised practice ice. The Skating Academy coaches and their assistants work hard to keep the material fun and fresh for the students, sometimes using games and group activities that are a bit off the regular curriculum. Each child is given a healthy snack during their stay at the Frog Pond before they board the bus back to their school and home. Participants are also given a season pass for future admission to the Frog Pond rink so they can come back with their family or friends and share what they have learned from the program.



Cheri Rigby is the Director of the Club's Skating Academy and also Director of Programs at the Frog Pond. She is thrilled with how things have been going with the students from Washington Irving School. "Today was the third session and the kids were so happy to be on the ice. Several of them seemed worried that the program would be ending soon, but when we distributed their season passes today and they realized their lessons continued until mid-February, they were so excited!" Although the Frog Pond attracts multiple after-school group outings, the Skating in the Schools program is unique because Academy instructors can give this group particular attention, adapting the program to fit their needs, and providing a wonderful introduction to skating. "The children are met by our skating ambassador at Charles Street when the bus delivers them to the Common, and they are guided through their afternoon with care and attention. They are a very

Youth in Sport

well-behaved and appreciative group of kids.” Cheri tells of one young lady who was utterly afraid to take the ice, but really wanted to get out there with her friends. With the encouragement and patience of her instructor, by the end of the 30-minute lesson she was happily scooting back and forth without clutching the wall in fear! Cheri believes the children are not only learning to skate but learning life lessons as well, including perseverance and confidence and that goals can be reached literally taking one step at a time! “The delight on their faces is so encouraging,” she says. Who knows, one day one of these students might train at the Club, compete in the Olympics, become a skating coach, or a Stanley Cup-winning Boston Bruin!

In January, the program expanded to the Mather School in Dorchester, the oldest elementary school in the country. On Wednesday mornings, 50 children in Grades 2, 3, and 4 climb aboard a bus for their weekly outing to Boston Common for skating lessons at the Frog Pond. Criteria for selection by their Vice Principal and teachers are based on behavior and homework. As part of the program, Mather Elementary School is also welcoming The Skating Club of Boston’s Junior Activities Committee members to mentor children during afternoons at the school. Jenelle Herman and Layla Siraj have volunteered to be the first JAC members to donate their time at the Mather School. They are to be applauded for their leadership both inside the Club and at the Mather School.

As a proud member of the Boston community, The Skating Club of Boston is bringing the joy of skating to a whole new generation of youth, while educating the public that ice skating is a fun, healthy and accessible activity for everyone. Through the Skating in the Schools program, The Skating Club of Boston is offering skating to those who might not otherwise have an opportunity to venture onto the ice, let alone pursue lessons, performing and competing. Executive Director Doug Zeghibe is interested in increasing the Club’s visibility and seeing it become a more active member of the Boston community. “Creating a positive after-school experience for deserving city youth while increasing the community’s awareness and interest in skating is a win/win opportunity,” says Doug. “As one of the oldest clubs in the country, and a founding member of U.S. Figure Skating, it is only natural for the Club to also reaffirm its leadership in the local community.” And there is no better time to increase its own awareness and visibility than during its centennial celebration.



A great day of Skating in the Schools at the Frog Pond

In fact, the upcoming Skaters’ Ball, where the Club will toast those 100 years, will also be a benefit for the Youth in Sport program. Proceeds from the gala will benefit the Youth in Sport initiative, which in turn will underwrite the Club’s Skating in the Schools and other future programs. Intended as an on-going, long-term program, The Skating Club of Boston established Youth In Sport to assist young people with an interest in pursuing the sport at all levels and abilities, whether that adventure is recreational or competitive. As it grows, Youth in Sport will also underwrite programs and seminars at the Club that support and enrich its own skaters. Eventually, the vision is to be viable enough to provide financial assistance to deserving skaters representing the Club and the City of Boston in national and international competition.

For more information visit www.youthinsport.scboston.org or <http://100.scboston.org/beneficiary/> or contact Doug Zeghibe for Youth in Sport at douglas.zeghibe@scboston.org or Cheri Rigby for Skating in the Schools at cheri.rigby@scboston.org.

The Ice is so Nice!

On the list of things Skating Club skaters are thankful for, our building and our ice are always at the top. Even if we take our fresh, beautiful ice for granted, a rare breakdown of our Zamboni can remind us just what a wonderful job Paul Danner and his crew of operations engineers do in taking care of it.

We've all watched as one of our seven trained drivers resurfaces the ice – moving the electric Zamboni around the rink in a specific path designed to lightly shave the top and then apply a fresh new coat of hot water. By the time the “ice make” is done, in less than 10 minutes, the ice is dry and ready for another skating session.

What we may not know is what else it takes to keep our ice feeling perfect. Operations manager Paul Danner, a 38-year veteran of the Skating Club, arrives at the rink literally in the middle of the night to start preparing the ice surface for the day. Depending on the condition of the surface from the day before, he might begin his early morning work with a dry cut, shaving off a layer of the ice, and then follow with a more traditional ice make, in which the ice is shaved and smoothed, and sprayed with water for a refreshed surface. Every other day in the winter, and daily in the summer, Paul must also “edge” the ice surface, running a special Zamboni-designed machine all along the ice at the boards, to remove the build-up from the prior day's ice makes. The edger, which looks and acts like a combination of a floor sander and lawn mower, is electric too – no gasoline emissions to pollute our skaters' air. It leaves a circular pattern when it blasts away the excess ice – and snow flies in its wake. To operate it, Paul first puts a pair of ice cleats on his shoes, to keep him from slipping. To watch him edge the ice is to understand the strength required to do his job. The powerful machine requires an enormous heavy-duty extension cord. After edging, Paul must make a fresh coat of ice again to clean up the excess snow.

Our Zamboni is a model 552, a top-of-the line Electric model that keeps our indoor air clean. It was chosen in part for its ability to turn a very tight radius, helping Paul and his team to maneuver more easily on our ice surface's curved corners. What else helps the Zamboni move exactly as directed? Specially-studded tires. In the case of our machine, they are installed by Paul himself. Like every Zamboni, ours is made in Paramount, California. We have a nearby dealer who can help with parts when needed, but Paul and Rich Newberg do most of the needed repairs themselves. The cost of a Zamboni? As the old adage goes, if you have to ask...well, we'll just say you could buy a lovely sports car for the price of one. But that wouldn't make our perfect ice.

Talking to Paul about making ice, you learn that he and all of his crew are dedicated to perfection. They take great care not to



Above, master ice maker Paul Danner edges the ice at 4 am with a special Zamboni tool. Below, the snow left behind after edging. Bottom: the edger leaves a circular, buffed pattern on the ice surface



...the Ice

overlap the fresh ice they've just laid down with the next pass of the Zamboni, not only because it would take more time to make the ice, but because putting too much water on an area would weaken the ice's surface. An ice resurface follows a time-tested path, making sure every inch is covered, but just once.

Scheduled ice makes happen through the day like clockwork, and it helps a lot, Paul says, when skaters fill the holes in the ice at the end of the session. The protocol on filling holes? If you've made one, or noticed one while skating, when the buzzer rings at the end of the session, grab a handful of snow from the bucket, pack the hole with snow, and get back off the ice. Our drivers will gladly wait for the few minutes it takes for skaters to fill holes! Plus, it makes the ice safer and nicer for every skater.

What kind of professional does it take to drive the Zamboni? First, someone who is skilled with machines and willing to do "whatever it takes" to help with the building operations. (This writer found "wet paint" signs at the Club at 6:30 am one day – proof that building maintenance is ongoing and varied!) Paul also looks for highly responsible people – he has to be able to rely on them to be here to make ice for us on time, every time. And that note about whatever it takes? There's no sitting around between ice makes! Our Zamboni experts are maintaining the building's mechanical systems that keep the ice cold and building warm (thank you!), moving tables for every function we hold, keeping the building clean, and even building things from benches to sets for our Theatre teams.



Above: specially-studded snow tires keep the Zamboni from slipping on its route. Below: The very organized Zamboni garage: a place for everything, and everything in its place.

Working at the Skating Club, for Paul, is a family affair. His father, Bill Danner, is also a Club Zamboni driver. If you think dad Bill got Paul his job, you're wrong. Paul says it was his grandmother, Margaret Carlson, who got him started here when he was just a boy. She ran the Skating Club kitchen for many years and was responsible for Friday Night dinners. Paul's wife Carol remembers visiting him at the Club when they were in high school!

President Joe Blount raves about Paul that he keeps our 1938 building running like a new one, often repairing old machinery with hand-built parts and "lots of ingenuity." He's no stranger to arriving here in the middle of the night to fix something, or helping at other facilities like our Frog Pond operation.

Next time you see Paul or one of his crew, stop them to say hello and "thank you" for a job – many jobs – really well done.



Jin Baseman skates right past obstacles

by Julia Savacool for espnW.com (reprinted with the author's permission)

At an age when most girls are figuring out boys, algebra and personal fashion statements, Jin Baseman is doing all that -- and training to become one of the top figure skaters in the country. No small task for the girl from Brookline, Mass., but given the obstacles she's surmounted this far, no big deal either.

Baseman, who competes for the prestigious Skating Club of Boston, was born in China's southern province of Jiangxi. For reasons she'll never know, when she was an infant her biological parents left her in a box by the side of the road, not far from an orphanage. Exposed to the elements, she nearly froze to death. When her parents, Deanna and Karen Baseman, adopted her, their only thoughts were for her good health and happiness. That she would blossom into one of the most talented young skaters in the U.S. never crossed their mind.

When Jin was 5, her grandmother took her to a skating arena for the very first time. "I remember how much I loved the smell of the rink," said Baseman (no small irony, since most skaters complain of the Zamboni fumes and poor ventilation). "I knew right away I wanted to be a skater."

Though they knew nothing about the skating world, Deanna and Karen wanted to support their daughter's enthusiasm for the sport, so they enrolled her in the local Learn to Skate program. Baseman's quick improvement led to a few private lessons, competition medals and the eventual realization that skating could be more than just a weekend hobby. A few years ago, Baseman switched coaches to Peter Johansson, a Swedish national champion and coach of some of the sport's biggest stars. Under his tutelage, her skating has reached the next level, leading to her win in last fall's New England Regional Juvenile Girls Free Skate Championships.

"For me, that's been the highlight of my skating so far," said Baseman. "After all I'd been through in the last year, I was really happy with how I skated at regionals."

Facing setbacks

What Baseman went through is something many young athletes face -- just usually not all in the same year. It started with a hairline fracture in her foot last January. When that healed, she was on the ice practicing a new program when a collision with another skater resulted in a serious concussion, and more time away from the ice. "It was really scary," said mom Deanna. "She needed help in school; her ability to focus was gone. It took her weeks to get back to jumping on this ice."

Not long after she resumed normal practice, she slipped in the shower and bruised her femur, which required more time to heal. The final blow came after Baseman won regionals -- another broken ankle. "It happened in practice. I went to pick in for a double lutz, and my ankle rolled," said Baseman. And just like that, there went her shot at competing in this December's junior nationals.

Seeing Jin's determination to stick with skating despite one obstacle after another has reaffirmed for Deanna her daughter's true dedication to the sport. "When you have children, whether they have an aptitude for something or a disability, all you want to do is support them," she said. "You could see with Jin how much skating meant to her. Watching her move past the disappointment of not going to nationals -- I was really proud of the way she handled it."

After weeks of rest and then physical therapy, Baseman is back on the ice. "The hardest part about being injured was being afraid to push myself during practice," she said. "It felt a little like starting over at first." Pushing yourself, she explained, is a necessary part of improving in her sport. "Skating can be physically tough," she said. "You're practicing a lot of hours, and if you want to get better you have to keep going, even when your body gets tired."

A fine line

Pushing her limits as a skater means sometimes missing school (usually gym class) so her parents can drive her to on-ice sessions, and giving up a lot of after-school freedom that other kids her age enjoy. Baseman doesn't seem to mind, but it gives Deanna pause on occasion. "We work really hard to try and make sure she does things outside of skating -- spending time with friends, going to a public school, just living a normal life," Deanna said. "If it were up to Jin, she'd be at the rink all the time, but it's important to have some balance."

Jin Baseman

After all, she pointed out, despite Baseman's obvious natural talent, she's still only 12. "There are plenty of young, talented skaters who go on to do other things," Deanna said. "I just want Jin to be happy." For now, that means lacing up and cutting her edges on the ice.

To see a great video on this story, created by Rebecca Gitlitz, go to:

<http://espn.go.com/espnw/mobile/touch/journeys-victories/7503024/figure-skating-jin-baseman-skates-right-obstacles>

Exhibitions at the Frog Pond!

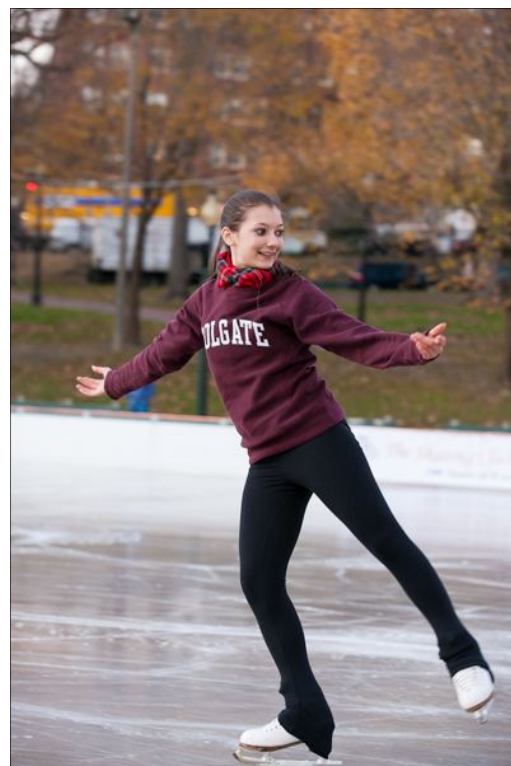
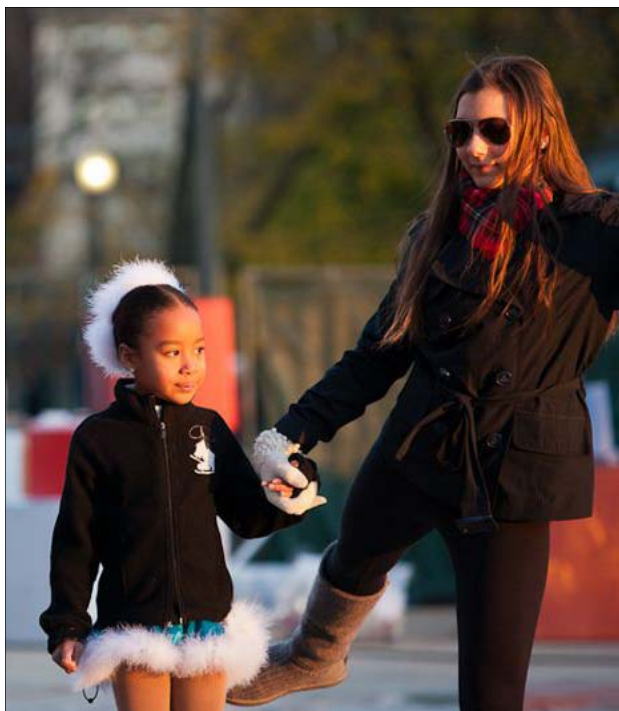
The Frog Pond has brought many wonderful opportunities to the Club and our skaters. One of the newest is its Saturday morning exhibitions, which run after group lessons at 10:00 am. "Why not have our own version of Rockefeller Center," coach Suna Murray said one morning, talking about the famous outdoor New York venue. The Frog Pond draws tourists, neighborhood visitors, and recreational skaters. All enjoy watching our terrific skaters perform. One recent morning found our exhibiting skaters darting between snowflakes as they warmed up, looking like a scene from a snow globe. Michael Parker's daughter, Gemma, was among the skaters. "She was thrilled to be skating," he told Chips, noting Gemma wasn't at all bothered by the snow.

Exhibitions are scheduled through the end of February, and sign-ups are available in the Club office. Why not plan on skating, or going over on Saturday mornings to cheer for our performing skaters?

Frog Pond Skating Academy student Juliet Burr (above right) and Skating Club performers Gemma Parker (below right) and Gabriella Sousa (below left) skate in the snow. Photos courtesy of huntstock.com.

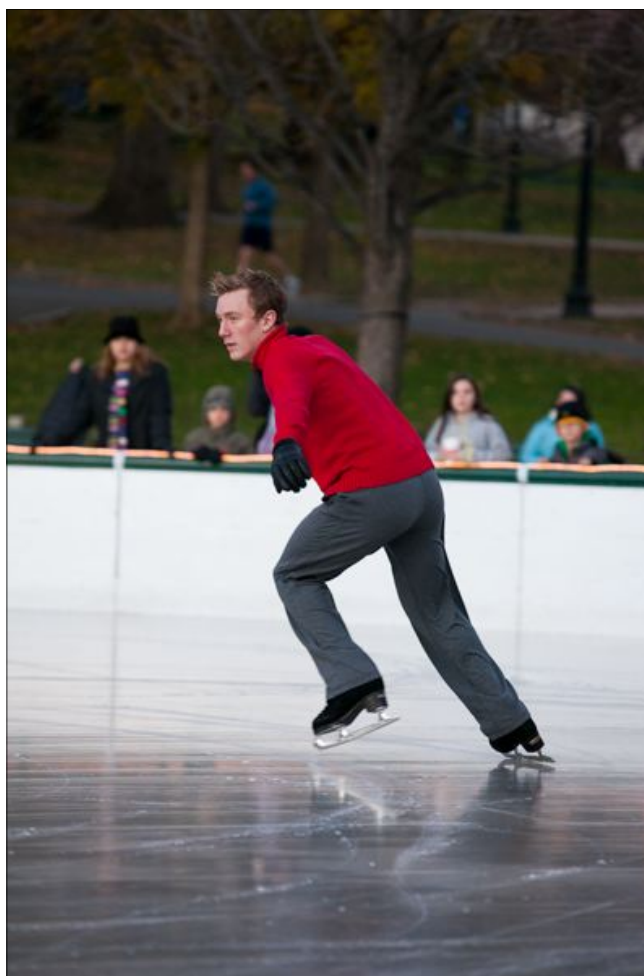
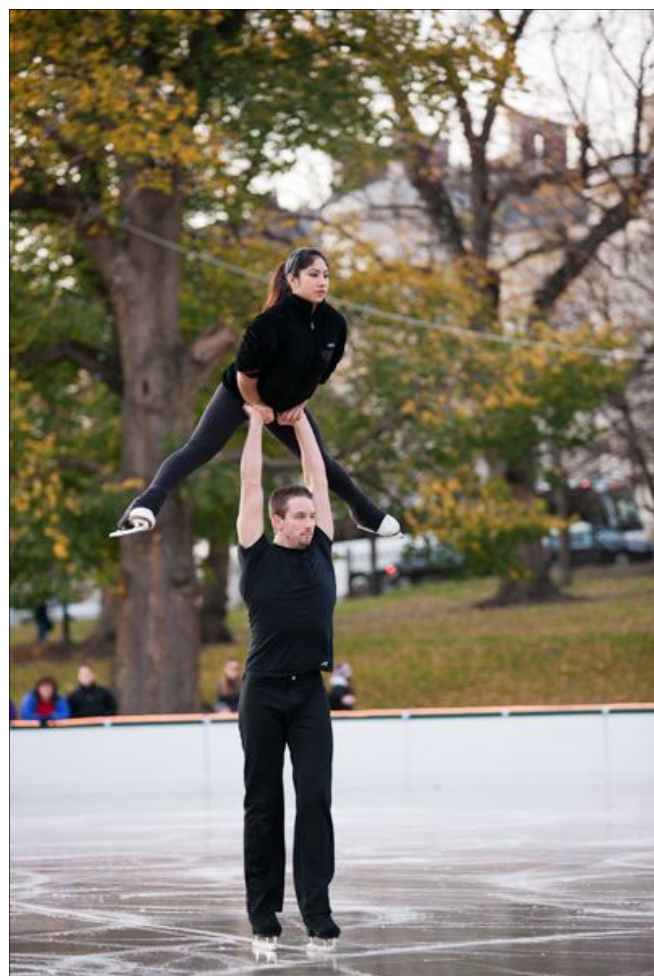
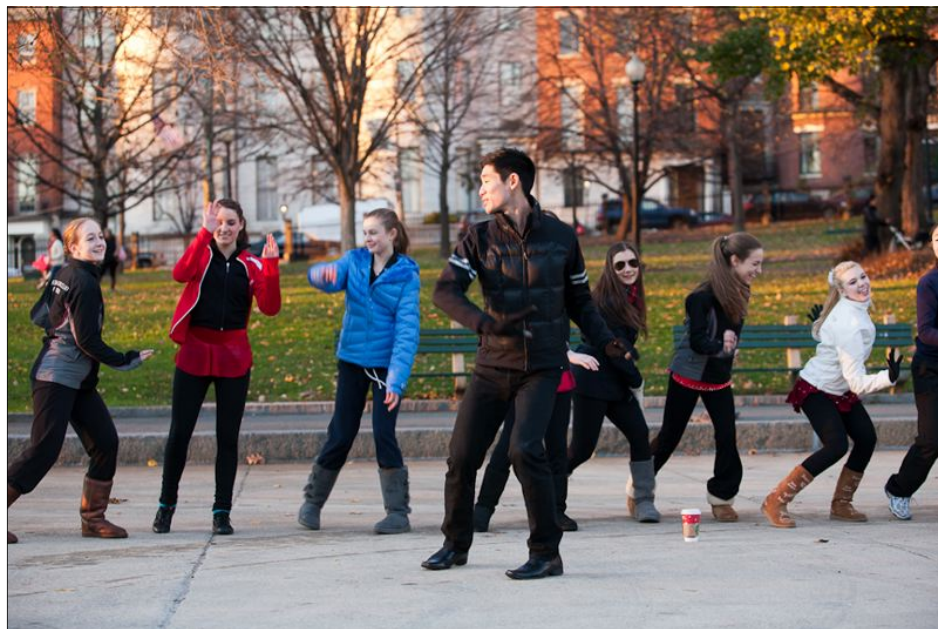


Frog Pond Photo Gallery



The Frog Pond events gave our skaters many opportunities to perform and entertain Boston early this winter. What a great place to enjoy skating and show our love of our sport! Photography by Mark Hunt, huntstock.com

Frog Pond Photo Gallery



Frog Pond photography appears courtesy of Mark Hunt, huntstock.com

Celebrate!

A full house gathered at the Skating Club for the annual Chinese New Year dinner, celebrating the Year of the Dragon. Our own beautiful (from left) Amber Wolf, Jessica Lin and Melissa Lee performed traditional dances, and a fabulous dragon raced through the Club and even (gasp) skated!

The decorations, by the talented Maria Lee, were gorgeous, and the food was wonderful. The sellout crowd had a fantastic time.

Photos courtesy of Chips' own amazing Jarshen Lin.

The House Committee has outdone itself with “full house” dinners for the U.S. Championships send-offs as well as Eastern Synchro Sendoffs, for which chair Tammy Thierwechter reports a crowd of 250 attendees! This team of volunteers and their charming servers is doing everything well.

Now that Ice Chips rehearsals have started on Friday nights, expect the same fun upstairs / downstairs dinner format we've all loved in years past: parents and non-rehearsing skaters can have a relaxing dinner in the Lounge, while skaters can eat a casual dinner in-between run-throughs downstairs.

We'll see you on a Friday!



Tests Passed

Sybrinna Allen – Intermediate Free

Grace Austin – Pre-Juvenile Moves

Elizabeth Bakhnov – Pre-Preliminary Free

Emilia Bartel – Pre-Juvenile Moves

Katarina Bartel – Novice Moves

Morgan Besse – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Lilia Brooker – Preliminary Moves

Juliet Burr – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Kassandra Carpentier – Juvenile Free

Sara Celanovic – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Dayoon Chang – Pre Juvenile Free, Pre-Juvenile Moves

Valerie Chen – Intermediate Free

Jaden Cheng – Intermediate Moves

Katherine Chin – Junior Moves

Emma Condie – Preliminary Moves

Caroline Depietri – Pre Juvenile Free, Pre-Bronze Dance

Abigail Enoch – Pre-Preliminary Free, Preliminary Moves

Emily Enoch – Pre-Preliminary Free, Preliminary Moves

Ingrid Farrell – Preliminary Free

Paige Felton – Preliminary Moves

Katharine Francendese – Pre Preliminary Free

Casey Gallagher – Preliminary Moves

Kelly Gallagher – Pre-Preliminary Moves

Cassie Gennis – Preliminary Free

Astrid Grahn-Farley – Preliminary Free

Adrianna Grinder – Intermediate Free

Meghan Gupta – Intermediate Free

Allegra Hawkins – Pre-Gold Dance

Evin Hazar – Pre-Preliminary Moves

Sofia Hennessey – Intermediate Moves

Veronica Hernandez – Adult Bronze Moves

Jilly Hughes – Bronze Dance, Pre Bronze Dance

Gabriella Izzo – Juvenile Free, Intermediate Moves, Preliminary Dance

Damian Jarvis – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Emilina Jarvis – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Paul Jarvis – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Peter Jarvis – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Julia Jeffries – Preliminary Moves

Karina Jha – Preliminary Moves

Lindsay Kershaw – Preliminary Moves

Meenal Khandaker – Preliminary Moves

June Kim – Juvenile Moves

Julie King – Bronze Dance, Pre Bronze Dance, Preliminary Dance

Lauren Lampiasi – Senior Free

Natalie Levinson – Preliminary Free

Avital Liberzon – Pre-Juvenile Moves

Jessica Lin – Junior Free

Rachel Locke – Pre Juvenile Moves

Kate Lummis – Juvenile Free

Erica MacSweeney – Preliminary Free

Christine Magill – Junior Free
Kaitlin Manning – Senior Free, Senior Moves

Joanna Masley – Intermediate Moves

Lauren McCabe – Junior Moves

Ever McMillan – Preliminary Free

Ruth Meadow-MacLeod – Pre Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Anning Mi – Pre-Preliminary Moves

Hanna Mochida – Preliminary Moves

Rachel Moss – Pre-Juvenile Free

Anna Pandolfi – Preliminary Free

Gemma Parker – Preliminary Moves

Juliet Patrick – Preliminary Moves

Kelly Petitpas – Pre-Preliminary Moves

Isabela Piedrahita – Preliminary Moves, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Allison Plotnik – Pre Preliminary Free, Pre Preliminary Moves

Tallia Popowycz – Intermediate Free

Benjamin Powdermaker – Pre Preliminary Free, Preliminary Moves

Hannah Puhov – Pre-Preliminary Moves

Julia Marie Rapela – Senior Moves

Rena Repenning – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre Preliminary Moves

Elise Requadt – Preliminary Free, Juvenile Moves

Nicole Rezza – Preliminary Moves

Lola Richards – Preliminary Moves

Adriana Rochelle – Preliminary Free, Preliminary Moves

Alexandra Roloff – Preliminary Free, Preliminary Moves

Lindsey Scally – Pre Juvenile Moves

Annabel Schmahmann – Pre Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Olivia Schmahmann – Pre Juvenile Free, Pre-Juvenile Moves

Amanda Scudder – Pre Preliminary Free, Pre-Preliminary Moves

Jessica Sims – Novice Free

Jillian Smart – Pre Preliminary Free, Preliminary Moves

Caitlyn Smith – Novice Free

Allison Sokoloff – Adult Pre Bronze Free

Lindsey Stevenson – Intermediate Free

Eva Supanc – Preliminary Moves

Lina Takaoka – Novice Free

Tests Passed

Yurika Tarui – Pre-Preliminary Moves

Rachel Tortora – Juvenile Moves, Preliminary Dance

Abigail Trivella – Preliminary Moves

Kelly Trivella – Preliminary Moves

Isabella Villafuerte – Preliminary Free, Pre-Juvenile Moves

Yuri Wada – Pre-Preliminary Moves

Cecilia Wang – Pre-Preliminary Free, Pre Preliminary Moves

Amanda Wang – Novice Moves, Pre Bronze Dance

Madeleine Weiler – Preliminary Free

Alexandria Weinstein – Juvenile Free, Intermediate Moves

Grace Western – Pre-Juvenile Moves

Craig White – Preliminary Free

Jessica White – Preliminary Free

Samantha Winawer – Juvenile Moves, Preliminary Dance

Chips congratulates all of our Club skaters who have passed their tests! If you don't see your result here, please look for it in our Spring issue—we print results based on those available on the US Figure Skating website. The results posted here are from October through December and were available as of late January, 2012.

Results compiled by Aaron Williams.

New Members

Family

Mr. L. Kenney and Mrs. Lee Marshall
(Christine, Holly)
Barrington, RI

Mr. Dean and Mrs. Katharine Steeger
(Amelia, Julia)
Medfield, MA

Mr. Michael and Mrs. Felicia Wessenberg
(Megan)
Medway, MA

Single

Mrs. Rina Spence
Cambridge, MA

Non-Resident Single

Dr. Hugh C. Graham, Jr.
Tulsa, OK

Junior

Miss Chantine Akiyama
Cambridge, MA

Miss Roxette Howe
Cambridge, MA

Introductory

Ms. Jenelle Baldassari
Malden, MA

Mr. Charles and Mrs. Jennifer Kwan
(April, Charlene)
Brookline, MA

Dr. Stanley Ross and Mrs. Suzanne Ross
(Sophie, Whitney)
Hyde Park, MA

MetroWest

Mr. Mark and Mrs. Rosemary Donnelly
(Emma)
Bolton, MA

Mr. Yury Faktorovich and Ms. Marina Sheresherskaya
(Berta)
Sharon, MA

Mr. Randy Feldman and Dr. Valerie Veridiano
(Liana)
Boylston, MA

Dr. Ellen Geminiani
Bolton, MA

Ms. Judi McCoy
Norton, MA

Ms. Amy Sapouits
(Catherine)
Mansfield, MA

Ms. Kim Weinstein
(Elle, Lauren)
Mansfield, MA

Synchronized Skating

Miss Casey Brodsky
Moraga, CA

Miss Nicole Caron
Weymouth, MA

Miss Kathleen Chubb
Burke, VA

New Members

Miss Kary Church
Pawtucket, RI

Miss Meghan Donahue
Westwood, MA

Miss Abigail Holmes
North Easton, MA

Miss Amanda Kazier
Montville, NJ

Miss Jessika Mantenuto
Boston, MA

Miss Nikki Ouellette
East Granby, CT

Miss Lindsey Powers
Mansfield, MA

Miss Abbey Saba
Bourne, MA

Miss Emily Saba
Bourne, MA

Miss Emily Walton
Bourne, MA

Miss Ashley Whalen
Westwood, MA

Theatre on Ice

Miss Andrea Barbato
Watertown, MA

Ms. Jo-Ann Capobianco
Stoughton, MA

Miss Kirstyn Haley
Humarock, MA

Miss Julia McGourty
Shrewsbury, MA

Ms. Rebecca Turkel
Newton, MA

Miss Brooke Warshafsky
Boxford, MA

Ms. Penny Xifaras Jones
Melrose, MA

Membership Changes

To Family

Mr. Christopher and Dr. Debbie Collier
Dr. Don and Dr. Lois Condie
Dr. Donato del Camino and Dr. Fuchia Yang
Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Sarah DeStefano
Mr. Michael Doherty
Mr. Anthony Farley and Mrs. Maria Grahn-Farley
Dr. Leena Merdad
Mr. Peter Osterland and Ms. Amy Baker
Mr. David and Mrs. Doris Rezza
Dr. Sang and Mrs. Minjung Kim
Dr. Tomo Tarui and Dr. Tomoko Kaneko-Tarui
Dr. Hiromi Wada

To Single

Ms. Kristen Ervick
Ms. Svetlana Savelyeva

To MetroWest

Mr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Leslie Noonan

Milestones

Baby brother's here!!

Baby Joseph Edward Medico
Born February 1, 2012 at
4:00 PM
Weighing 8 pounds, 6 ounces
20 inches

Welcomed with love by
Jennifer Blount, Rob Medico,
and big brother Bobby

A new little skater!

Baby Ethan Joseph DePari
Born February 4, 2012 at
12:44 AM
Weighing 7 pounds, 8
ounces
19.5 inches

Welcomed with love by
Liane Moscato and Keith
DePari

Club Condolences

Our thoughts go out to the Crugnola family, on the passing of Angelo Crugnola, January 23, 2012.

Father of Paul Crugnola (and father-in-law to Katie) and grandfather to their three girls, Jacki, Stephanie and Melissa.

Competition Results



2012 U.S. Junior Figure Skating Championships

December 10 - December 14, 2011

Intermediate Ladies QR A – Qualifying Free Skate

Rebecca Jacobs – 6th (57.53)
Isabelle Dost – 12th (51.37)
Rebecca Peng – 14th (48.71)

Intermediate Ladies QR B – Qualifying Free Skate

Maria Minaeva – 20th (41.02)

Intermediate Ladies – Short Program

Rebecca Jacobs – 5th (33.17)

Intermediate Ladies – Free Skate

Rebecca Jacobs – 5th (61.30)

Intermediate Ladies – Final Placement

Rebecca Jacobs – 5th (94.47)

Intermediate Men QR A – Qualifying Free Skate

Bennett Gottlieb – 4th (50.24)

Intermediate Men – Short Program

Bennett Gottlieb – 8th (27.48)

Intermediate Men – Free Skate

Bennett Gottlieb – 4th (53.63)

Intermediate Men – Final Placement

Bennett Gottlieb – 5th (81.11)

Juvenile Dance – P1: Fourteenstep

Kassandra Carpentier & TJ Carey – 15th (12.81)

Juvenile Dance – P2: Ten Fox

Kassandra Carpentier & TJ Carey – 17th (24.68)

Juvenile Dance – Free Dance

Kassandra Carpentier & TJ Carey – 22nd (22.66)

Juvenile Dance – Final Placement

Kassandra Carpentier and TJ Carey – 19th (47.34)

Juvenile Girls QR B – Qualifying Free Skate

Alexandra Iovanna – 16th (38.58)

2011 Cape Cod Synchronized Skating Classic

December 9-11, 2011

Beginner Teams 1A

Excel Crystals White – 2nd

Excel Crystals Gold – 3rd

Beginner Teams 2A

Excel Crystals Green – 3rd

Pre-Juvenile Teams A

Excel Crystals White – 2nd

Excel Crystals Gold – 4th

Competition Results

Juvenile Teams

Team Excel – 5th

Preliminary Teams A

Excel Crystals – 6th

Open Collegiate Teams

Team Excel – 2nd

2011 Ice Challenge

Graz, Austria—November 1-5, 2011

Senior Men Short Program

Stephen Carriere – 1st (71.96)

Senior Men Free Skate

Stephen Carriere – 1st (143.24)

Senior Men Final Standings

Stephen Carriere – 1st (215.20)

2011 New England Inter-Club Council Competition

November 13, 2011

Beginner Girls Free Skate

Jillian Smart – 1st

Preliminary Girls Free Skate

Nikki Montanaro – 2nd

Madeleine Weiler – 3rd

Intermediate Ladies Short Program

Maddey Juliano – 1st

Intermediate Ladies Free Skate

Maddey Juliano – 1st

Juvenile Girls Free Skate

Kayla Tashjian – 2nd

Kathleen Gordon – 3rd

Novice Ladies Free Skate

Jacqueline Raftery – 1st

2012 Eastern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships

Hershey, PA - January 26-28, 2012

Collegiate Free Skate

Team Excel – 4th (63.41)

Pre-Juvenile Free Skate

Group A - QR

Excel Crystals Gold – 8th

Pre-Juvenile Free Skate

Group C - QR

Excel Crystals – 8th

Preliminary Free Skate

Group A - QR

Excel Crystals – 4th

Preliminary Championship Round

Excel Crystals – 5th

Juvenile Free Skate

Team Excel – 9th

2012 U.S. Figure Skating Championships

San Jose, CA - January 22-29, 2012

Please see competitors' picture on page 20

Championship Dance – Short Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio and Colin

McManus – 6th (53.82)

Championship Dance – Free Dance

Anastasia Cannuscio and Colin

McManus – 7th (83.55)

Championship Dance – Final Placement

Anastasia Cannuscio and Colin

McManus – 6th (137.37)

Championship Ladies – Short Program

Yasmin Siraj – 11th (51.96)

Championship Ladies – Free Skate

Yasmin Siraj – 15th (86.87)

Championship Ladies – Final Placement

Yasmin Siraj – 15th (138.83)

Championship Men – Short Program

Ross Miner – 4th (78.90)

Stephen Carriere – 9th (71.82)

Championship Men – Free Skate

Ross Miner – 3rd (151.42)

Stephen Carriere – 7th (141.59)

Championship Men – Final Placement

Ross Miner – 3rd (230.32)

Stephen Carriere – 6th (213.41)

Championship Pairs – Short Program

Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnapir – 4th (60.56)

Gretchen Donlan and Andrew Speroff – 5th (57.77)

Championship Pairs – Free Skate

Gretchen Donlan and Andrew Speroff – 4th (113.84)

Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnapir – 7th (108.25)

Competition Results



Championship Pairs – Free Skate

Gretchen Donlan and Andrew Speroff – 4th (171.61)

Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnapir – 5th (168.81)

Junior Dance – Short Dance

Kaitlin Hawayek and Michael Bramante – 6th (48.65)

Roxette Howe and Mark Jahnke – 10th (43.33)

Junior Dance – Free Dance

Kaitlin Hawayek and Michael Bramante – 5th (69.92)

Roxette Howe and Mark Jahnke – 8th (65.61)

Junior Dance – Final Placement

Kaitlin Hawayek and Michael Bramante – 6th (116.77)

Roxette Howe and Mark Jahnke – 10th (108.94)

Junior Ladies – Short Program

Jenelle Herman – 10th (39.03)

Junior Ladies – Free Skate

Jenelle Herman – 7th (78.82)

Junior Ladies – Final Placement

Jenelle Herman – 8th (117.85)

Junior Men – Short Program

Harrison Choate – 10th (45.18)

Junior Men – Free Skate

Harrison Choate – 4th (118.25)

Junior Men – Final Placement

Harrison Choate – 4th (163.43)

Novice Pairs – Short Program

Alexandria Shaughnessy and James Morgan – 3rd (37.02)

Victoria LoRusso and Timothy Habeeb – 11th (18.07)

Novice Pairs – Free Skate

Alexandria Shaughnessy and James Morgan – 4th (76.85)

Victoria LoRusso and Timothy Habeeb – 11th (38.68)

Novice Pairs – Final Placement

Alexandria Shaughnessy and James Morgan – 3rd (113.87)

Victoria LoRusso and Timothy Habeeb – 11th (56.75)

The Skating Club of Boston congratulates all of our competitors on their outstanding accomplishments!