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VOLUME LXXXV

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AFSC

Freestyler

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTA FIGURE SKATING CLUB

www.atlantafsc.org

Club To Host U.S. Figure Skating S.T.A.R.S. Camp



The Atlanta FSC has been selected to host one of two **S.T.A.R.S.** camps in the Southeast on **Sunday, June 17**, following the Atlanta Open at The Cooler. **S.T.A.R.S.** is a new system of off-ice fitness assessment and development designed to support U.S. Figure Skating's existing testing and competition progressions.

The camp's objectives are to promote and enhance athleticism and athletic ability in all young figure skaters through assessment, recognition and opportunity; reduce the rate of injury across all figure skating disciplines and competitive levels; identify skaters who demonstrate exceptional aptitude for athleticism; and assist coaches and parents in developing and guiding their skater's potential.

In order to participate, you must be a U.S. Figure Skating member, at least six years old, have passed the pre-preliminary moves in the field test, and be injury free upon time of assessment.

(Cont'd on Page 8)

Board of Directors Elections

The 2012 Nominating Committee, chaired by **Barry Johnson**, is pleased to announce the following slate of candidates to fulfill expiring terms of current Board of Directors members:

Senior Candidates

- Judith Flair
- Gloria Lewis
- Brittany Marshall
- Janet Payne
- John Richardson

Junior Candidates

- Jan Brown
- Christi Fisher
- Dale Haar

A total of five candidates will be elected, two of whom must be Senior members to fulfill our bylaw requirements.

Ballots will be distributed/mailed to all eligible members by April 1st and must be returned by April 30 (postmark).



Congratulations, Tim!

Tim Dolensky, 2012 U.S. Championships Junior Men's silver medalist, placed 12th out of 30 competitors at the 2012 World Junior Championships on February 27 - March 4 in Minsk, Belarus.

He scored an ISU personal best in his short program to cap off a tremendously successful season that included a bronze medal at the Junior Grand Prix Volvo Cup and a pewter medal at the Junior Grand Prix Austria.

Final	12th/30
Free Skate	13th/30
Short Program	9th/30



New Outstanding Skaters Categories

This year the Board of Directors will expand the outstanding skater award to include all test levels:

Senior	Senior, Junior, Novice free skate test passed
Junior	Intermediate and Juvenile free skate test passed
Freshman	Pre-Preliminary – Pre-Juvenile free skate test passed

Awards will be based on both competition and testing accomplishments for the 2011 - 2012 season.

All awards will be presented at the 2012 Awards Banquet at The Cooler following the Sunday Spring Ice Show performance on April 29.

SPRING SHOW UPDATE

Groups and associated coaches have been assigned for all skaters and posted at the rinks. To date, nearly 75 skaters will participate. Please contact Event Chair, **Christi Fisher**, if you have any questions.

Practice sessions for the show will begin on March 16 during Club Ice and continue through April 20. Photos for the program will be taken on Sunday, April 15 during the dress rehearsal, so please make every effort to attend.

Good luck ads for your skater as well as business ads in the keepsake program may be purchased through a form posted online. We appreciate your support, and the skaters love seeing messages from their friends and family.

Volunteers will be needed for many areas - costume construction, chaperones, ticket sales, lighting, sets/props, sponsorships, and more. Contact Volunteer Coordinator **Jan Brown** to sign up.

Club Ice Update

Club Ice will be used for practice sessions for the Spring Ice Show on the following dates:

March 16	April 6
March 23	April 12
March 30	April 20

Club Ice remains open to all members but they must give right of way to show groups and not disturb any show participants.

Off-ice classes are cancelled for the above dates and will resume on May 4 for the S.T.A.R.S. camp prep.

Atlanta Open Update

The 2012 Atlanta Open will be held at The Cooler on June 14 - 16. Disciplines include singles, dance, and pairs for No Test - Senior and Adult Pre-Bronze - Gold levels. Registration through EntryEeze will be available through the club website at atlantafsc.org.

EVENTS

- Free Skate
- Short Program
- Compulsory Moves
- Spins
- Showcase
- Footwork
- Jumps
- Couples Compulsory Dance
- Solo Dance
- U.S. Figure Skating National Solo Dance Series
- Pairs

Technical Panel Continuing Education School To Be Offered During 2012 Atlanta Open

U.S. Figure Skating will offer a Technical Panel Continuing Education School on June 15 -16 during the Atlanta Open. The school will provide continuing education as well as the opportunity for already certified technical controllers and specialists to test for advancement. Those who do not hold an appointment may attend for educational purposes, but will be ineligible to test for an initial certification. Participants will be credited with technical panel official activity.

The school will be conducted under the direction of the Technical Panel Committee and will include trial calling during the competition events followed by event debriefings.

Registration fees are: \$50 to attend for education and/or to test for advancement as a controller, \$75 to attend for education only as a specialist, and \$125 to attend for education and test for advancement as a specialist.

Detailed schedules will be provided to registrants via e-mail as available. If participation is inadequate, the school may be cancelled.

The deadline is **May 13**. Online registration link: https://fs12.formsite.com/USFSAIT/TPSAtlantaOpen/secure_index.html.



SPOTLIGHT SKATER

Amanda Bao

What do you love most about skating?

I can't say that I love early mornings, but once I get to the rink and step on the ice, I love the feeling of gliding across the smooth ice surface. I enjoy learning a new element, especially when I'm good at it, and I really like my new programs.

What is your weekly training regimen?

I skate everyday but Sunday. I do off-ice at home 2-3 times a week.

What are your favorite and least favorite elements?

Overall I definitely like jumps more than spins, and my favorite jumps are double loop and double flip. My favorite spins are variations of back camel. My least favorite elements are double Salchow and Biellmann spin.

Favorite program?

I really enjoyed skating to the music "Snowflakes" from the Nutcracker ballet by Tchaikovsky and wearing a dress that I helped my mom decorate.

What is the most memorable event of your skating career?

I will never forget my first competition, when I wore a little purple dress (how was I ever that small?) and had my hair in a ponytail. I got first place. ☺

Whom do you admire most?

I admire my parents because they support me so much, my friends because they are always understanding and fun to be around, and my teachers and coaches because I don't know what I would do without them.

Who is your favorite skater?

I like Alyssa Czsiny for her grace and style. I also like Kanako Murakami for her feeling of freshness and her jumps.

Tell us about your school and extracurricular activities.

I am in the seventh grade at River Trail Middle School. I love math and science, and I have always been on the principal's honor roll. I also take weekly Chinese class and play the flute. I volunteer as a part of the Jr. Beta Club.

Tell us about your family.

I am an only child. ☺

Best advice you have ever received?

"What are you waiting for? You don't know your full potential until you have tried."

What are your future skating and educational goals?

I will go to college and continue to skate for as long as I can. I want to become an architect.

I would like to meet ...

Kim Yu-Na, because she is an amazing skater, and she is so beautiful.

If I weren't a skater, I would have been

a dancer.

Tell us something about yourself or your family that no one knows.

I love to travel with my family, especially to different national parks. I collect pressed pennies as souvenirs wherever I go.

Anything else you want your fans to know about you?

I love to read, and when I really get into a book, I just can't stop!

My three favorite things are

Drawing and coloring, homemade food, stuffed animals.

Favorite word: Exhilaration

Least favorite word: Disappointment

Favorite quote: "Truly great friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget" ~G. Randolph

What turns me off: People who can never be satisfied with what they receive.

Favorite book: *The Hunger Games*, *First Light*, *The Sight* just to name a few

Favorite movie: "Harry Potter and the Death Hallow" and "Spirited Away"

Favorite song: "Safe and Sound" by Taylor Swift (feat. The Civil Wars)

Sound I love: Soft piano music

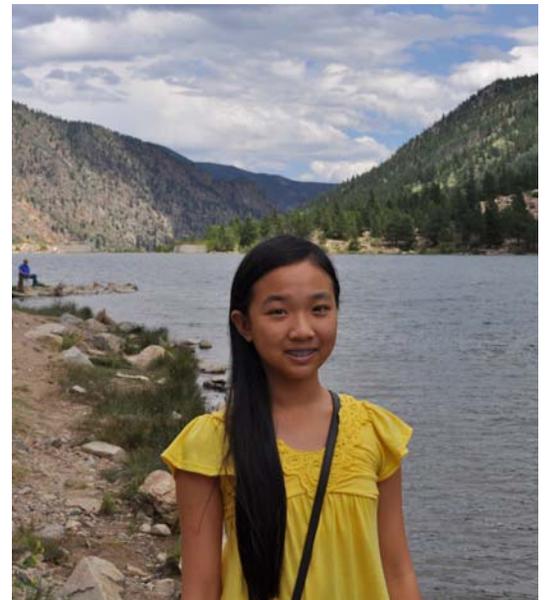
Sound I dislike: Loud obnoxious sounds made by brass instruments

I would never want to be: Surgeon

Three words that best describe me: Spirited, amiable, organized

If I were stranded on a desert island, I would have to have: Books, my domo pillow, and sticky rice cake

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Marvelous Magnolia!



Over 265 skaters from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina and 18 clubs and rinks participated in the 2011 Magnolia Open on March 9 -

11.

Thanks to our officials, the local organizing committee and member volunteers for their tireless contributions to the success of the competition. A special thanks to Chief Referee, **Jeannette Doney**, Registrar Chair, **Christi Fisher**, and Operations Chair, **Dale Haar**.

Member results are listed on pages 6 -8.

Congratulations to our Gold Medalists!

Stephanie Amodeo	Wendi Hiller	Risako Nonaka
Olivia Barnes	Elizabeth Jester	Aspen Ono (4)
Stephanie Brimeyer	Sydney Jiang	Rahly Osenbaugh
Chloe Briscoe	Shayla Jolliffe	Kaitlyn Plaziak (2)
Emily Brothman	Elvira Junnila	Alexa Phillips (3)
Violet Burkus	Tea Junnila	Nancy Ellis Riggs
Ashley Catanzarite	Julia Kornetzke (2)	Chloe Rutter
Alexa Davila	Charles Liu (4)	Katie Sanyal
Melody DeMerchant	Mingda Liu	Alexandra Strain
Helena Fisher (2)	Natalie Martin	Naomi Schneibaum
Trinity Fong	Kelly Mi	Leah Schultz
Madeline Freeman	Kayla Moradi	Morgan Sliker
Jessica Gregory	Caroline Mura	Julia Wittosch (2)
Elise Heydet	Maya Neel	Ying Yip (2)



55 Gold Medals



48 Silver Medals



33 Bronze Medals

Magnolia Open Exhibitions



Hard Knock Lifers Small Ensemble: Elise Heydet, Katy Plaziak, Sammy Sanyal, Claire Sosnow, Athena Landon, Regan Williams, Katie Sanyal (kneeling)

Magnolia Open Exhibitions



Maya Neel (Novice), Nancy Ellis Riggs (Adult Silver), Gabrielle Kuse (Preliminary), Rahly Osenbaugh (Pre-Juvenile), Mingda Liu (Preliminary), and Renee Wang (Preliminary).



Charles Liu (Pre-Preliminary)



Alexa Davila (Pre-Preliminary), Chloe Rutter (Basic 5), Lydia Choe, Ying Yip, Emily Nolan (all Pre-Preliminary), Olivia Patrick (front center, No Test), Jessica Gregory (No Test B), and Elise Heydet (Beginner).

Magnolia Open Exhibitions



Morgan Sliker (Pre-Preliminary), Katy Plaziak (No Test), Katie Sanyal (No Test), Elvira Junnila (Preliminary), Claire Sosnow (Pre-Preliminary), Grace Crossen (Limited Beginner), Madeline Freeman (Beginner), Kelly Mi (Beginner), Caroline Mura (Freeskate 5).

2012 Magnolia Open Member Results

NOVICE

Free Skate, Test Track

Maya Neel 1st/1

INTERMEDIATE

Free Skate, Test Track

Aspen Ono 2nd/4

Kayla Moradi 3rd/4

Stephanie Niu 4th/4

Compulsory Moves

Aspen Ono 1st/2

Stephanie Niu 2nd/2

Jumps

Helena Fisher 2nd/2

Spins

Helena Fisher 1st/1

Light Entertainment

Aspen Ono 1st/1

Impromptu Interpretive

Aspen Ono 1st/2

Stephanie Niu 2nd/2

Dramatic

Aspen Ono 1st/1

JUVENILE/OPEN JUVENILE

Free Skate, Test Track

Sydney Jiang 1st/1

Compulsory Moves

Kayla Moradi 1st/2

Natalie Martin 2nd/2

Jumps

Natalie Martin 1st/2

Sydney Jiang 2nd/2

Moves in the Field

Charles Liu 1st/2

PRE-JUVENILE

Free Skate

Rahly Osenbaugh 3rd/5

Natalie Martin 4th/5

Compulsory Moves

Rahly Osenbaugh 1st/3

Rachel Korn 2nd/3

Olivia Shapiro 3rd/3

Jumps

Naomi Shneibaum 1st/2

Rachel Korn 2nd/2

PRE-JUVENILE

Spins

Natalie Martin 3rd/6

Drew Bryant 4th/6

Rahly Osenbaugh 5th/6

Rachel Korn 6th/6

PRELIMINARY

Free Skate, A

Mingda Liu 1st/5

Elvira Junnila 2nd/5

Olivia Barnes 3rd/5

Olivia Shapiro 4th/5

Renee Wang 5th/5

Free Skate, B

Julia Kornetzke 2nd/5

Naomi Shneibaum 3rd/5

Natalie Mueller 4th/5

Emily Moosbrugger 5th/5

Free Skate, C

Emily Brothman 1st/3

Drew Bryant 2nd/3

2012 Magnolia Open Member Results (cont'd)

PRELIMINARY

Free Skate, Test Track, A

Madeline Green	2nd/4
Alyssa Levitt	3rd/4
Olivia Garrett	4th/4

Free Skate, Test Track, B

Ashley Cantanzarite	1st/5
Gabrielle Kuse	2nd/5

Compulsory Moves, A

Olivia Barnes	2nd/6
Elvira Junnila	3rd/6
Alexa Davila	5th/6
Ying Yip	6th/6

Compulsory Moves, B

Julia Kornetzke	1st/4
Emily Nolan	2nd/4
Gabrielle Kuse	3rd/4

Jumps

Julia Kornetzke	1st/5
Emily Brothman	2nd/5
Elvira Junnila	4th/5
Alexa Davila	5th/5

Spins, A

Elvira Junnila	1st/5
Claire Sosnow	2nd/5
Olivia Barnes	3rd/5
Melody DeMerchant	4th/5
Alexa Davila	5th/5

Spins, B

Ying Yip	1st/5
Alyssa Levitt	3rd/5
Gabrielle Kuse	4th/5

Moves in the Field

Melody DeMerchant	1st/1
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Light Entertainment

Olivia Barnes	1st/2
Emily Moosbrugger	2nd/2

PRE-PRELIMINARY

Free Skate Girls, A

Alexa Davila	1st/5
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Free Skate, Girls, B

Ying Yip	1st/5
Claire Sosnow	3rd/5
Lydia Choe	4th/5

Free Skate, C

Emily Nolan	2nd/4
Morgan Sliker	3rd/4

Free Skate, Boys

Charles Liu	1st/1
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Free Skate, Test Track

Stephanie Brimeyer	2nd/5
Kaitlyn Plaziak	3rd/5

PRE-PRELIMINARY

Compulsory Moves, A

Charles Liu	1st/6
Katie Sanyal	2nd/6
Melody DeMerchant	5th/6

Compulsory Moves, B

Alexa Phillips	1st/5
Olivia Garrett	5th/5

Jumps, A

Alexa Phillips	1st/5
Melody DeMerchant	3rd/5

Jumps, B

Morgan Sliker	1st/4
Olivia Garrett	2nd/4

Spins, A

Charles Liu	1st/5
Katie Sanyal	2nd/5

Spins, B

Alexa Phillips	2nd/5
Olivia Garrett	3rd/5
Ashley Catanzarite	4th/5

Moves in the Field

Elise Heydet	1st/2
Jessica Gregory	2nd/2

Light Entertainment

Athena Landon	2nd/5
Madeline Green	3rd/5
Alyssa Levitt	4th/5
Athena Landon	3rd/4
Alyssa Levitt	4th/4

NO TEST

Free Skate, A

Olivia Patrick	3rd/5
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Free Skate, B

Katie Sanyal	1st/5
Melody DeMerchant	3rd/5
Risako Nonaka	5th/5

Free Skate, C

Alexa Phillips	1st/5
AnnaHayette Pittman	2nd/5
Mathilda Zimmerman	3rd/5
Jessica Gregory	4th/5

Free Skate, D

Leeanne Duncan	2nd/5
Chloe Briscoe	3rd/5

Compulsory Moves, A

Kaitlyn Plaziak	2nd/6
Grace Crossen	4th/6
Olivia Kaloyannides	5th/6
Madeline Freeman	6th/6

NO TEST

Compulsory Moves, B

Jessica Gregory	1st/6 (Tie)
Chloe Briscoe	1st/6 (Tie)
Stephanie Brimeyer	1st/6 (Tie)
Elise Heydet	4th/6
Risako Nonaka	6th/6

Compulsory Moves, C

Zoe Dellaert	2nd/4
Rylee Manning	4th/4

Jumps, No Test

Kaitlyn Plaziak	1st/4
Regan Williams	2nd/4

Spins, No Test

Risako Nonaka	1st/1
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Impromptu Interpretive

Jessica Gregory	2nd/4
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Light Entertainment

Kaitlyn Plaziak	1st/7
Katie Sanyal	2nd/7
Regan Williams	5th/7
Elise Heydet	6th/7
Jessica Gregory	7th/7

DANCE

Solo Free Dance, Novice

Wendi Hiller	1st/3
Helena Fisher	3rd/3

Solo Dance, Silver

Helena Fisher	1st/4
Wendi Hiller	2nd/4
Christina Cole	3rd/4

Solo Dance, Pre-Silver

Olga Vacariuc	3rd/3
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Solo Dance, Pre-Bronze

Stephanie Brimeyer	2nd/3
Madeline Green	3rd/3

Solo Dance, Preliminary

Elvira Junnila	2nd/2
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ADULT PRE-BRONZE

Free Skate

Tea Junnila	1st/6
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ADULT SILVER

Free Skate

Nancy Ellis Riggs	2nd/3
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Impromptu Interpretive

Nancy Ellis Riggs	1st/1
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2012 Magnolia Open Member Results (cont'd)

SMALL ENSEMBLE

<u>Hard Knock Lifers</u>	2nd/2
Elise Heydet	
Athena Landon	
Katy Plaziak	
Katie Sanyal	
Sammy Sanyal	
Claire Sosnow	
Regan Williams	

BEGINNER

<u>Free Skate, Test Track, A</u>	
Madeline Freeman	1st/6
<u>Free Skate, Test Track, B</u>	
Alexandra Strain	1st/6
Olivia Kaloyannides	2nd/6
Grace Crossen	3rd/6
<u>Free Skate, Test Track, C</u>	
Kelly Mi	1st/5
Regan Williams	3rd/5
<u>Free Skate, Test Track, D</u>	
Elise Heydet	4th/6
<u>Free Skate, Test Track, E</u>	
Zoe Dellaert	4th/5
<u>Free Skate, Test Track, F</u>	
Anna Bowden	4th/5

LIMITED BEGINNER

<u>Free Skate, Girls, A</u>	
Anastasia Papathanasiou	3rd/5
<u>Free Skate, Girls, B</u>	
Rylee Manning	3rd/4

FREESKATE 6

<u>Program with Music</u>	
Stephanie Amodeo	2nd/2
<u>Compulsory</u>	
Stephanie Amodeo	1st/2

FREESKATE 5/6

<u>Interpretive</u>	
Stephanie Amodeo	2nd/2

FREESKATE 5

<u>Program with Music</u>	
Caroline Mura	2nd/4
<u>Compulsory</u>	
Caroline Mura	1st/2

FREESKATE 2

<u>Program with Music, A</u>	
Leah Schultz	2nd/5
<u>Compulsory</u>	
Leah Schultz	1st/6

FREESKATE 1

<u>Program with Music, A</u>	
Elizabeth Jester	1st/5
Triniti Fong	2nd/5
Melanie Schael	5th/5
<u>Compulsory, A</u>	
Triniti Fong	1st/5
Melanie Schael	5th/5

BASIC 8

<u>Elements</u>	
Juliana Holland	4th/4

BASIC 7

<u>Program with Music, A</u>	
Miranda Corbin	3rd/4
Nicole Strain	4th/4
<u>Program with Music, B</u>	
Shayla Jolliffe	3rd/4
<u>Elements</u>	
Sophie Burkus	2nd/2

BASIC 7/8

<u>Interpretive</u>	
Shayla Jolliffe	1st/2
Juliana Holland	2nd/2

BASIC 6

<u>Program with Music, A</u>	
Campbell Young	2nd/7
Kasey Anne D'Eloia	3rd/7
<u>Program with Music, B</u>	
Julia Wittosch	1st/6
<u>Elements, B</u>	
Julia Wittosch	1st/4
Kasey Anne D'Eloia	2nd/4

BASIC 5

<u>Program with Music, A</u>	
Chloe Rutter	1st/4

SNOWPLOW SAM

<u>Program with Music</u>	
Violet Burkus	1st/3

S.T.A.R.S Camp (cont'd from page 1)

PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

Three areas will be measured: 1) Agility/Balance/Coordination, 2) Strength/Power, and 3) Flexibility. All participants will complete a series of 15 off-ice assessments in the above categories and seven anthropometry measurements (body measurements). All of the trainers who administer the S.T.A.R.S. tests are National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) C.S.C.S. trainers. Participants are scheduled for a one hour window and asked to arrive 15 minutes prior to the assigned time.

PREPARATION

Participants and coaches are encouraged to review the online S.T.A.R.S. Program Exercise Guide.

RESULTS

Participants will receive a copy of the Raw Scores on the day of their test. At the end of the entire S.T.A.R.S. combine season, the S.T.A.R.S. reports will be available using the online system.

COST

The fee is \$39.00, which includes all testing and a camp t-shirt. Registration will open on April 16 at starscombine.org.



SALUTING OUR 2012 GRADUATES



MARTINE SZANTO

High School, Honors, Activities

I will be a graduate of Blessed Trinity Catholic High School, where I have earned Summa Cum Laude recognition every semester. I am a member of the National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, and BT for Life (pro-life group). I served as Co-President of the French Club and was selected as the Outstanding French Student in 2009 and 2011.

Future Plans

I am attending Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT, where I will major in exercise science in the pre-physical therapy program and will participate in the Thomas More honors program. I will continue to skate with SHU's Club Figure Skating Team, but I definitely want to focus on my schoolwork. No more before-dawn practices. :)

Skating Career Highlights

South Atlantics this past year was awesome. I skated wonderfully, and I was so honored to perform at Regionals as a senior. Every competition is a blast, but also a spectacular learning experience. Skating has shaped me so much as a person. I am so blessed to have such supportive parents and friends, all of whom have assisted me on my path. The relationships I have developed with my mom, my coaches, my peers, and my friends through skating are absolutely invaluable to me.

Extra-Curricular Activities

I work out with my trainer twice a week to pump some hard-core iron. I love to exercise. I also serve at my parish, Saint Peter Chanel Catholic Church as a Lead Teen for our youth program, preparing and leading special events for the teens to help our youth ministers. I read scripture readings at Mass on Sundays and I am also an extraordinary Eucharistic Minister.

PS.

I am very involved with my Catholic faith and relationship with Christ. My spiritual life has grown exponentially since I first moved to Georgia in 2006. My faith has truly helped me overcome obstacles in many areas of my life, but especially in skating. Every time I perform, I skate from my heart for the greater glory of God.



JACQUELINE MORRIS

High School, Honors, Activities

I will graduate from Woodward Academy, where I was Captain of the Varsity Riflery Team and a state qualifier for three years running, and on Honor Roll for four years.

Future Plans

I will attend Washington University in St. Louis, majoring in architecture and potentially a second major in Jewish studies. I will pursue skating as a pastime.

Skating Career Highlights

I remember my very first competition was at the Knoxville ice rink. I was 6 years old, and I thought the place looked weird because it was so small with only one rink and it looked like it was made out of wood. I was frightened not because there was a big crowd, but because it was the first time I had ever been on a ice rink all by myself. My performance was to a song from "Mulan." I wore a red skating dress, and my Mom had sewn the top of a geisha dress as an over-cover and the sleeves went down to my knees, I still have the outfit in my closet. I didn't do very well but that was OK, I still had fun obviously because I continued on with

skating. I also enjoyed competing at Regionals and the Magnolia Open.

Extra-Curricular Activities

I am a Senior Girl Scout working on my Gold Award, a teacher at religious school at Synagogue (The Temple), and a summer camp counselor at Camp Barney Medintz. I'm also on the board of my Jewish youth group.

PS.

I got interested in skating through Woodward North's monthly "Skate Day," and I was on The Cooler's Fire on Ice synchronized skating team when I was younger for numerous years. I am extremely passionate about my religion, Judaism, and spent two months my senior year doing a high school program in Israel.



Wherever you go,
go with all your
heart.
~ Confucius

SYDNEY KOSSE

High School, Honors, Activities

I've been home schooled through my junior year in high school when I started the Dual Enrollment program at Georgia Perimeter Community College. As a high schooler, I take college classes along with my high school curriculum which allows me to get credit for high school as well. It's a great way to get ahead and keep myself challenged.

Future Plans

I was fortunate enough to be accepted at both Appalachian State University and North Carolina State University. I recently applied to a new program at NC State's textile and fashion design program, for which there are only 16 spots. If I'm not accepted, I will probably choose Appalachian State where in addition to apparel design, I will apply to the Art Department in my sophomore year. I plan to double major in apparel design and studio art with a minor in marketing. Unfortunately, I am also interested in German, environmental science and sustainability, and political science. I want to do everything! I also have an ambitious goal of testing out of my moves before fall. I would love to continue to skate in college: NC State has three rinks near campus, but Appalachian State only has one 45 minutes away. Either way I will be having a very busy four years, but I plan on continuing to skate until my legs give out from underneath me and then inventing skates for my hands. ☺



Skating Career Highlights

One of my proudest moments was making final rounds at Regionals one year. Although my height works against me, I persevere and remember why I continue to skate every time I land a jump or hit a spin just right. The feeling I get when I have one of those moments is enough to drown out the uncertainty.

Extra-Curricular Activities

For two years I interned with my wonderful mentor, Trudi McClain, who created the foundation of my sewing knowledge. I continue to intern with John Richardson, furthering my construction knowledge to include a plethora of other fabrics and couture techniques.

PS.

I have been a vegetarian for six years and feel very strongly about living sustainably and taking care of our environment.



OLGA VACARIUC

High School, Honors, Activities

I am graduating from Milton High School where I have been on the Honor Roll all four years, I am involved in an internship program at Northside Hospital, and I am a member of the Interact Club, which focuses on volunteering and community service, Healthcare Occupations Students of America (HOSA), National Spanish Honor Society, and National Science Honor Society. Last year, I received an AP Scholar with Honor award, which was my biggest achievement!

Future Plans

I will attend the University of Georgia, majoring in chemistry. Unfortunately, UGA does not have a skating rink nearby, so I won't be able to continue skating.

Skating Career Highlights

I will never forget my first competition! I was incredibly nervous, but at the same time excited to get out on the ice in my purple dress and do my best. It felt great to do my program in front of the judges. I remember getting off the ice and hugging my wonderful and amazing coach, Anya, and

just feeling happy and relieved. I had no idea what to expect from the judges, they can be so unpredictable, but I didn't care what place I got since I was very pleased with my performance. I remember waiting in the lobby and seeing my mom run up to me and tell me that I got first place. I couldn't believe it; my first competition and I was going to get a gold medal

Extra-Curricular Activities

I like to volunteer with my Interact Club and give back to the community. I also have a part-time job at Hudson Grille, which keeps me occupied.

PS.

I love going on mission trips! Last spring break I went on a mission trip to Puerto Rico with my church and it was the most amazing experience I have ever had. I am planning on going on another mission trip to New Jersey in July and I can't wait!

TIM DOLENSKY



I guess I'll start with what it's like to travel to an international competition. Debbie and I flew to Washington, DC first before we flew out of the country. There, we met up with a lot of other people on the US team and proceeded to wait there for 5 hours until our next flight. I know! It's a long time. It was alright though because I got to spend time with and talk to the other people on the team who I'm already good friends with. Then we boarded the plane for the 8-hour flight to Vienna. Most of us try to sleep on the plane but I always have trouble. When we got to Vienna it was morning on the next day already. We had a short layover there and then we got on another plane to Minsk, Belarus. As soon as we dropped through the clouds there, I was so amazed because as far as I could see it was white! Snow was on the ground. When we boarded the bus to head to the rink I had to use the big Team USA coat they gave us for the first time because it was so cold. The bus then took us to the rink first so we could all turn in our music, and get our accreditation badges. After we were done with that we headed to the hotel. Everyone was VERY tired from traveling for so long! But I tried to stay up until 8 or 9 pm to help me adjust to the new time zone.

The next morning (Monday) Debbie and I took the bus to the rink just to check it out. We had the whole day free because I didn't have my first practice until 8pm that night. So we went to the rink and it was pretty cool! The arena was huge! I was excited because it was an Olympic size (a little wider than normal rinks). Debbie and I then walked through an underground tunnel that led to the building where the practice rink was next door. When we came out of the stairs that led back up I was blown away! We were in a huge building, surrounded by a great big speed skating oval. The practice rink was inside the oval! In the afternoon, we had our first team meeting with the Atlanta FSC's own Dana Graham, who was an awesome team leader. When we came back that night I practiced in a group with Josh Farris and Jason Brown (my other US teammates) and the two Chinese boys, it's always so much fun skating on practice ice with such good skaters! That practice was a little shaky. The first day is always like that after traveling such a long way.

All that week my practices got better and better and by Thursday, when I would do my short program, I felt ready. Skating in the big arena is such an amazing experience. The lights are so bright and the ice is SO perfect. Skating my short was a little bittersweet because it was the last time I was using the music I wrote. I was pretty happy with my performance because I landed my second triple-triple in competition, and I landed my Lutz that was WAY off and should not have been landed. The only thing I was disappointed about was my last combo spin because my leg on my camel spin dropped real quick and because of that I got a level 1 on a spin that normally is a level 4. I could've gotten 60 points if not for that. But it is what it is!



Tim and Debbie

remember feeling relieved and excited just to sit back and watch the rest of the competition.

The next day, Friday, I only had one practice - a little rough. But I wasn't worried because that's what happens when you have a day in between your programs. You come down again before you go back up. A lot of the times when Debbie and I had some down time, we would go out walking down the street. We went in these mini malls that looked like department stores but they had everything. I got a coffee mug that says Minsk on it for my Dad, and a small wooden jewelry box for my mom.

The next day, the day of the long, we had to get up early because I had an 8am practice. After my practice I went back to the hotel and took a quick nap. Then I got my outfit together and took the bus to the rink. They used this big gym at the arena for a warm up room. I always like to watch the pairs warm up and practice their lifts off the ice. I was feeling really good about my long that I was about to skate. I always love when they announce your name with "Representing the United States....". It's an incredible feeling. After my long I was just a little bit disappointed because it could have been a little bit better but there were still a lot of things in my program that I thought were really good. After it was over I

The whole time I was there I became really good friends with a lot of the team! It's always so much fun to sit in the stands and cheer on our teammates with our American flags. Since we had the biggest team we always screamed the loudest. It was so much fun! I can say that one of my new best friends is Jason Brown! We had so much fun together. He is so nice and is so funny! He was so obsessed with my accent (I hardly think I have one) and I always exaggerated it when I was around him. There was one time when he asked if my practice was good and I said that my long run through wasn't very good. And then I said "But that's alright," with a big southern accent. And he said "You saw a rat!?" because that's what it sounded like I guess. The whole trip was SO much fun and I had a blast. I got to know a lot of great people well. I love spending so much time with Debbie; she's such a great coach. Junior Worlds is an experience I'll never forget!

2012 U.S. Junior Championships



JABE ROBERTS

I had already dealt with the disappointment of missing my spot at Junior Nationals by one place when my Mom called me over to her to read an email. A wave of shock, surprise and excitement overcame me for I was going to Lansing, Michigan! I jumped up and down, waving my arms and yelling. It took my Mom two hours to get me to calm down and talk to her about the next steps. She said later that I hadn't been that excited when we got a trip to Disneyworld for Christmas!

Miss Anya, Miss Tami and Miss Debbie were thrilled, to say the least, and they put their heads together to come up with a plan to accomplish the most in the short time we had to prepare. The preparation was harsh, but so worth it! I ran farther and worked harder with greater focus than I have ever had before. The experience that I was about to have was such a rare opportunity that not everyone gets to have and I knew it to be precious. And through it all I had my mentors, my coaches, who have seen me grow through so many challenges.

When I took my first step in the state of Michigan it was like someone hit a spark in me. I was overjoyed! It wasn't a dream, I realized. This was real life – as real as it gets – and I was one of only two people in Georgia to have earned this opportunity.

I went to Junior Nationals knowing, realistically, that I wouldn't win, but that I could go and have the opportunity to do my best against the best of my level in the nation. I could experience something new and increase the depth of my understanding of competing in skating, from a greater perspective. I would be seen and listed among the best of my class, and importantly, my coaches would be counted among those who have achieved this with me. I went to compete and share the pride and adventure with my family and coaches, and to have fun. And that I did.



Jabe with proud coaches Tami Mickle and Anya Martynenko and dad, Bill.

ALICE QIAO

My first trip to Junior Nationals in East Lansing, Michigan last December was very thrilling and exciting.

It was snowing outside and it was very beautiful. The rink was very nice and the surroundings were very calm. The walls of the rinks were decorated with snowflakes that each had a skater's name on it. It was also very nice inside the rinks. There was a large set of bleachers and lots of people were there watching. The audience was supporting and they would clap very loudly at the end of your program and they would throw stuffed animals over the glass. After your program, if there were stuffed animals on the ice, some sweepers would come on the ice and pick them up. Also, after you finished there was a kiss and cry area that you would sit at while you waited for your scores. They also have a lounge for the skaters and their coaches. In that room you could sit on the chairs or stretch. That was also the room where the official drawing was held. During the drawing, an official came to the front of the room and called out a name on the list of people in my group. That person came to the bag and picked a number out randomly. That number was going to be the first person to start drawing. After someone drew a number, they let that person pick out a set of mittens that were hanging on a Christmas tree. The outside lobby was quiet and calm too. Nobody was shouting and screaming; everybody was doing their own thing. It was all set up very nicely.



Alice with coach Barbara Wagner and Barbara's former student, coach Tammy Gambill.

I met a lot of people during the competition, including the people from New York that I had competed with before, and coach Tammy Gambill who was also Ms. Barbara's student years ago. In the initial round, there were 42 competitors overall (21 in each group) in Juvenile level and only the top 10 in each group got to advance to the final round. This included me. I was really happy and excited when they announced my scores for the initial round because I knew that I would be going on to Finals. I got a lot of support from many of my Atlanta Figure Skating Club friends and families. They sent texts and emails to me during the competition to wish me good luck. I really think that their support was very helpful.

Between the initial round and the final round, we had one day to rest. And during that time, I skated at the ice rink in Michigan State University. The rink there was awesome. The bleachers went up forever, and the seats made it feel like the rink was so humongous. I felt so cool skating there.

During the final round, Ms. Barbara told me to just have fun and that is just what I did. When I finished, I was happy about what I did but I felt I could have done better.

My overall experience at Junior Nationals was a great one. I loved being at Junior Nationals. It was a very fun, exciting and awesome experience. I hope that I will be able to experience this again and represent the Atlanta Figure Skating club well!



VOLUNTEER Movers & Shakers

Francesca Sichenze-Bryant "Registering" A Friendly Smile and Welcome!

When did you join the Atlanta FSC, and how did you first become involved as a volunteer?

Our family joined the Atlanta FSC in 2009 soon after our daughter Drew began taking figure skating lessons. I soon found out that as a member of the Atlanta FSC all families are required to volunteer. After my first experience volunteering I realized how essential the volunteer commitment is to the growth and sustainability of the club. Meeting many of the wonderful volunteers and having the opportunity to give back through volunteering has been most rewarding and fulfilling.

Describe your past and current positions as well as any other contributions to the club.

From the beginning of my time working with the Atlanta FSC I have focused primarily on supporting the needs of the registration desk during both the Magnolia and Atlanta Open. It has been an extraordinary way to meet so many of the club members and to learn so much about the sport too!

Please describe your accomplishments as a skater or your participation in other sports.

Although as a little girl I always dreamed of being a figure skater, this never came to fruition for me. However, I am very fortunate to be able to live vicariously through my daughter and to witness all the accomplishments of the many talented skaters in our club.

Why do you stay involved as a volunteer with the Atlanta FSC?

Through my time as a volunteer I learned firsthand that the club cannot survive without the hard work and commitment of the volunteers. I am continually amazed and humbled by the generous efforts and time the members put forth to make the club the vital force it is and I am proud to be a part of it.

Tell us a little about your background, profession, hobbies, and family.

I was born and raised in New York City and eventually moved to the Atlanta area after stops in Raleigh, North Carolina and Dallas, Texas.

I love my job in early elementary education and most importantly, as a devoted wife and mother. My hobbies consist of spending as much down time possible with my husband Mark and daughter Drew. I also enjoy my involvement with ministries at my Church in addition to reading, knitting, working out and traveling.



Please support our generous sponsors!



POTPOURRI

Tests Passed

January

Ying Yip Preliminary MIF

February

Emily Brothman Pre-Juvenile MIF

Wendi Hiller European Waltz

Alice Qiao Senior MIF

Leah Schultz Pre-Preliminary MIF

Olivia Shapiro Preliminary Free Skate

Sofia Varshavskaya Pre-Preliminary Free Skate

Melody Wang Juvenile Free Skate

Catherine Yen Pre-Juvenile Free Skate

Nile Ziegler Juvenile MIF

The Atlanta Figure Skating Club presents



The 5th Annual Atlanta Ice Dance Weekend
June 1-3, 2012

The Cooler, Alpharetta, GA

Contact Laurie Sanii for details -
laurie.sanii@gmail.com/404-987-2123
On Facebook: Atlanta Ice Dancers group

Registration Deadline - May 11!



Juliana Holland
Elizabeth Jester

Megan Jester
Shayla Joliffe

May

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May

Ally Chebuhar	1	Ying Yip	13
Tony Maness		Naomi Shneibaum	15
Kerri Kosse	3	Catherine Yen	16
Barbara Wagner	5	Marc Galonsky	18
Haibo Jiang	6	Mathilda Zimmerman	
Cindy Patrick		Bruce Catanzarite	22
Madeleine Brown	7	Heather Heydet	23
Tom Swendiman		Ansleigh Rainey	25
Sofiya Varshavskaya		Kimberly Rutter	26
Milica Palermo	8	Karen Hiller	27
Emily Nolan	9	Debbie Labuz-Miller	
Jeannette Doney	10	Brenda Sliker	
Elaine Bialczak	11	Zhe Zhang	
Victoria Williams			

Jun

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jun

George Emmert	1	Violet Burkus	16
Vickie Joseph		Brittney Bottoms	17
Haritha Pavuluri		Robert Osenbaugh	
Natalie Dubose	4	Lei Bao	20
Tatiana Kozmava		Elvira Junnila	
Frank Burkus	6	Aspen Ono	21
Chen Hu	8	Alexa Phillips	
Emily Moosbrugger		Chuck Miller	23
Peggy Rydberg	9	Susan Dolensky	24
Charles Sliker	11	Sandy Levitt	25
Lindsay Green	12	Alexander Aiken	26
Stephanie Amodeo	13	Chris Nolan	28
Stephanie Brimeyer		Mindy Sellers	
Ilysa Shneibaum	15	Caroline Catanzarite	29
		Marie Neel	

Atlanta Figure Skating Club
P.O. Box 185
Roswell, GA 30077



Upcoming Events

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>SPONSOR/LOCATION</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
U.S. Adult FS Championships	April 10 - 14	Bensenville, IL	
Florida Open	April 13 - 15	Central Florida FSC, Orlando, FL	
TEST SESSION	April 15	Atlanta FSC	March 25
SPRING SHOW DRESS REHEARSAL	April 15	Atlanta FSC	
World Team Trophy	April 15 - 23	Tokyo, Japan	
Greenville Open	April 27 - 29	Greenville, SC	April 1
SPRING ICE SHOW	April 27 - 29	Atlanta FSC	
AWARDS BANQUET	April 29	Atlanta FSC	
Governing Council	May 2 - 6	U.S. Figure Skating, Myrtle Beach, SC	
ICE DANCE WEEKEND	June 1 - 3	Atlanta FSC	
ATLANTA OPEN	June 14 - 16	Atlanta FSC	
S.T.A.R.S CAMP	June 17	USFS/Atlanta FSC	