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The DuPage FSC Newsletter

Monica Decker, Editor

For Skater Letter Submissions, email: mjdeckersk8@comcast.net

DuPage Figure Skating Club

2010 United States Figure Skating Championships

The stage was set for another great Nationals in Spokane, especially with so much on the line for naming our United States Olympic team. Once again, the DuPage Figure Skating Club is proud to have one of its own on the Olympic team, **Evan Lysacek**. Congratulations to Evan on his great performances and a 2nd place finish overall.

The DuPage FSC was also very proud to have some other very talented skaters at this year's Nationals. Simply to make it to this level of competition is an exceptional achievement. Congratulations are in order to **Jessica Noelle Calalang** for her 8th place finish in Novice Ladies, and also for doing double duty in the Novice Pairs division with Partner Danny O'Shea where they finished 5th. Senior Lady **Kayla Howey** was 20th in the short program but withdrew before the long. We congratulate you all!



Jessica Noelle Calalang



Coach Frank Carroll and Evan Lysacek after the short program at Nationals

pP

Nationals, Jr Nationals & Synchro Mids



Jessica Noelle Calalang and Daniel O'Shea in a beautiful death spiral



Congratulations to our United States Junior National Competitors —

Tomoki Hiwatashi—1st Juvenile QR Group B and 6th in Final Juvenile Boys

Theodora Gherman—8th in Juvenile QR Group B and 18th in Final Juvenile Girls



2010 Midwestern & Pacific Coast
SYNCHRONIZED SKATING SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The US Midwestern Synchronized Skating Championships just wrapped up this past weekend in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Congratulations to:
Open Juvenile - **Dazzlers 2nd place**
Intermediate – **Dazzlers, 3rd place**
Adult Masters – **Team Glace, 4th place**

Our congratulations to all! With their placements in these qualifying events, the Dazzlers Intermediate Team and Team Glace Masters earned a trip to the Synchronized Skating National Championships to be held March 3-6 in Minneapolis.

Evan, Meryl & Charlie grace the cover of last month's Skating magazine for their spectacular Grand Prix wins



Applause, applause — Congratulations on the following tests passed:

Provided below are results from DuPage Club Test Sessions of November 23rd, December 2nd, December 16th (Dance), December 21st, and January 18th. As always, a big thanks to our Test Chairs, Dana Calayag, Angela Pearson, Kay Larson, Lisa Fitzmaurice and their great assistants!



MOVES IN THE FIELD

Pre-Preliminary Moves & FS

Faith Bonds (M)
Chloe Brown (M & FS)
Paula Burgeson (M & FS)
Annie DeCero (M & FS)
Ryen Delaney (FS)
Sarah Fee (M)
Alexa Gorecki (FS)
Maddi Gould (M & FS)
Cassandra Hansen (M & FS)
Madalyn Haugh (FS)
Reyanna James (M & FS)
Journie Kalous (M)
Amber Keahey (M & FS)
Ella Lambert (M & FS)
Kalysa Pampuch (FS)
Sophie Paradi (M)
Ashley Peterson (M)
Leia Sohn (M & FS)
Emily Varshavski (FS)

Preliminary Moves

Alyssa Carbonara
Ellie Crabill
Cassandra Hansen
Madelyn Haugh
Reyanna James
Jamie Knippen
Catie Knoverek
Ella Lambert
Harper Slusher

Adult Pre-Bronze Moves

Rebecca Dobbins

Pre-Juvenile Moves

Annabelle Burke
Olivia Grenzebach
Sara Kostecka
Kalysa Pampuch

Juvenile Moves

Emanuela Alexe
Natalia Bafia
Katie Czch
Robyn Hager
Natalia Joukova
Isabel Reiches
Lindsay Weinstein
Adam Wesolowski-Mantilla

Intermediate Moves

Celia Glastris
Magdaline Orchard
Katarina Pearson
Keenan Prochnow
Sydney Stacy

Novice Moves

Olivia Allan
Christinie Ansani
Jizelle Chloe Bacani
Rachel Heinz
Alex Mains
Sarah Nunez
Jordan Power
Alyssa Pressley
Samantha Rekas

Junior Moves

Ashley Bernardo
Karen Tom

Senior Moves

Nicole Drake
Carina Glastris

FREE SKATING

Preliminary Free Skating

Natalia Bafia
Alyssa Carbonara
Victoria Hill-Cornfield
Ellie Crabill
Reyanna James
Ella Lambert
Heather Millikan

**FOR UPCOMING
TEST SESSIONS,**
Please remember to check our
website —
www.dupagefsc.org

Adult Pre-Bronze Free Skating

Rebecca Dobbins

Pre-Juvenile Free Skating

Olivia Grenzebach
Adam Wesolowski-Mantilla

Juvenile Free Skating

Olivia Allan
Abigail Koeller
Alex Mains
Mallory Mancini
Sarah Nunez

Intermediate Free Skating

Kristin Chivers
Erika Galloway
Theodora Gherman

Junior Free Skating

Carina Clastris
Jessica Young

Senior Free Skating

Alissa Matsumoto

ICE DANCING

Lauren Szandzik –
Hickory Hoedown, Willow Waltz



Dear DuPage FSC:

When I made the speech at the Brunch Party last June, I declared that I would proceed to the final round next year. So I am satisfied with the 6th place. The most exciting moment was when I landed double axel in the qualifying round. It was the first time for me to make the clean jump with GOE at competition. My score was 2nd in both of the qualifying rounds. I thought I could reach the podium. I fell down on the same jump in the final round. However, I think all the hard work really paid off.

Thank you so much for all of your support. I am really proud to represent DuPage in competition.

Dear DuPage FSC,

While many may have been there to help me celebrate when I made it to the 2010 Midwestern Sectional Championships, only a select few have been with me throughout my whole journey there. I'm proud to say that DuPage FSC was one of the few.

Aside from my yearlong rendezvous to Southern California, I've been a proud member of DuPage since I was a youngster. Throughout my years representing DuPage, I've been lucky enough to claim 2 regional gold medals. I've also been able to represent my club at the 2002 US Junior National Championships, the 2005 Midwestern Sectional Championships, along with attending a Young International Competition in the Netherlands.

After 5 years of frustrating practices, tears, and coaching changes, this year was finally my year. After returning home from California, I went through some tough changes. I came home to a new head coach and a few new secondary coaches. I also dealt with minor injuries, and eating problems. In September of 2008, I switched back to my longtime coach, Alex Ouriashev. We spent hours and hours trying to accomplish months of work in only a month and a half. The hard work didn't pay off enough for Regionals that year. I ended up finishing 5th. But, with another year before 2010 Regionals, that's all it took.

Having Regionals at home was such an amazing experience. It was the first major competition since JN's in 2002 where my family and friends could come support me. Having the crowd roar before each skate, made me feel like I could conquer the world. After short, I was sitting in 3rd and going into long, I could taste Sectionals on the tip of my tongue. I could also smell the fear of just missing it again like last season. I was nervous for long but refused to let my nerves get in the way of my goals for the season. I ended up skating great and placed 4th, earning my trip to Kansas.

After 5 years, I did it!! I was going to Mids! Training for Mids was hard but it was a good kind of hard. I knew with each run through, my stamina was improving and I was one step closer to being ready for Mids. Day by day, my programs were getting easier, my jumps were becoming more consistent in my program and I just couldn't wait to leave for Kansas.

The flight to Mids was crazy! The plane felt no bigger than my dad's Chevy Suburban. However, it was a painless flight, only about an hour and a half. I slept the whole way and woke up in the middle of nowhere! Wichita, KS is somewhere I've never been before. Our hotel was gorgeous, brand-new Hyatt Regency and you could see the rink from our hotel room window.

Practices were a bit shaky and that made me nervous going into short. My triple sal's had been off all week and they weren't much better in warm-up. I was first to skate so I knew I had to make the best of things. Once my music started, I told myself, "Whatever you do, rotate the sal." Well, I rotated. I flipped out of it and went on to single my required double axel. However, I nailed an awesome triple toe double toe combination, the first one I've done in my short program all season. Once short program was over, there was a mere 3 points between myself, (9th), and the 2nd place girl.

Going into long, I knew that it was anyone's opportunity to claim the 3rd and 4th place spots. Secretly, I was hoping I'd be one of those girls. Going into long I was even more nervous. The point spread was so small that I knew if I didn't skate well, my goal of making it to Nationals would be shattered. Before I knew it, my warm-up was over, the girl's before me had skated, and it was my turn to skate. AH! My music started and I immediately began visualizing what it was like doing my long program at home. I pretended like I was in pants and I could hear what my coach normally yelled to me in practice and could picture what I felt like completing each jump in practice. This calmed me down and made my performance feel like practice. I finished my program, only doubling a planned triple toe and flipping out of the last double toe in my double flip double toe combination. I skated off all smiles. I conquered my nerves and skated a great skate as well! My coach hugged me and told me "that's the best skate of the week!" I was so proud, it didn't matter anymore what place I ended up in.

I ended my week in Kansas with a 6th place finish. Unfortunately, I didn't make it to Nationals but I did conquer my nerves and stayed on my feet the whole week. Coming off the ice twice with a dry dress was an amazing feeling!

continued...

Going into next season, I'm excited to maintain my stamina and continue to grow technically. I'd love to compete a few more years and see where my skating journey takes me. Hopefully it takes me all the way to Nationals but only time will tell.

I'd like to thank DuPage FSC for all of the support they have given me throughout the years. I can't imagine ever representing another club. The year I skated for a club in Southern California never felt like home. There's nothing like being announced as a member of the DuPage FSC and I'm so thankful to have them on my side. Thank you!

Love, Taylor Kulpa

*The Newsletter Committee welcomes skater letters and submissions from **all** members. Letters may be edited for clarity and space as needed. We request that you submit via email as this saves much time in re-typing text and formatting.*

Thanks —

Monica Decker
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Dear DuPage Figure Skating Club:

This past year was an amazing ride for me. This was my second time making out of the Region, but this time I was going to Sectionals in Wichita, KS as Novice Ladies and Novice Pairs with my partner, Danny O'Shea. Going to Sectionals in two disciplines was a great honor. My main goal was to have as much fun as possible because I knew I was going to be very busy competing in singles and pairs. My pair partner, Danny O'Shea and I have been skating together since April 2009. Our short program was the first event. We skated a clean program and took 5th after the short. Right after the Pairs event, I had practice ice for my singles events. My singles short program was the next day. I had one mistake and put in 3rd after the short. I was in striking distance for being in the top 4 spots. Saturday was a very long day for me. I had both the singles and the pairs freeskate programs to compete. I knew that I had to go for it and that I had nothing to lose and all to gain. My singles freeskate was first. I skated second to the last. After my very last jump, I knew in my head, I did it! I made the top 4 to Nationals! Right away, results were being posted on Icenetwork live. My coaches, Cindy Caprel, Kristen Mita and Damon Allen pulled out an iPhone. I had placed 2nd in the freeskate, and 3rd overall. I was going to the 2010 US Nationals in Spokane! I wanted to celebrate but I had to keep my composure because in 4 hours, I had to skate my pairs freeskate. We were 2nd to skate our freeskate. We skated the best program we have ever skated before. We got 4th in the freeskate and pulled up to 4th overall. I couldn't believe I was going to Nationals in two disciplines. The next seven weeks were intense. I had to make sure that I put in equal time for singles and pairs before Nationals.

When I was on the same ice as Evan Lysacek, Jeremy Abbott and Johnny Weir, it solidified in my mind that this was the real deal! I loved skating at the Spokane arena. There were a lot of people in the stands for both practices and the events!

Pairs was the first event I competed. We skated a clean program and were 7th after the short. We knew that our freeskate program is a strong one. The very next day, I had to compete my singles short program and my pairs long program within 2 hours of each other. My singles short was ok. I made a mistake and did my best and got 8th after the short. My pairs freeskate was good. We did side by side triple salchows! We were the only Pairs team that did a triple jump. We ended up 4th in the freeskate and 5th overall, only behind 4th by .29 points. It was an amazing accomplishment. The next morning, I had my singles freeskate to compete. I had a few mistakes, and was 8th overall. I was glad that I went for it, did not hold back and tried the best I could do. Overall, it was a great experience that I will value in my skating career. I met so many new people who are now a part of my skating family! I hope to return to Nationals next season.

I want to thank my family and the DuPage Figure Skating Club for supporting me throughout the year. I look forward to another great season next year!

Jessica Noelle Calalang

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www.dupagefsc.org

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FYI...

U.S. Figure Skating Announces Helen M. McLoraine Figure Skating Scholarship Program

Colorado Springs, CO – Dec. 17, 2009 – U.S. Figure Skating and the Pioneer Fund announced today the establishment of the Helen M. McLoraine Figure Skating Scholarship Program to assist eligible current and former amateur and professional figure skaters who wish to pursue a college education. Scholarships are offered each year for full-time undergraduate study at an accredited institution of the student's choice.

The scholarship program is administered by Scholarship Management Services, a division of Scholarship America. Scholarship applications must be postmarked by **February 18, 2010**.

Information on the program and the scholarship application can be found at:
<http://sms.scholarshipamerica.org/pioneerfund/>

NEW MOVES IN THE FIELD

Yes, they are a' coming!! We will be sure to post any info about upcoming schools for coaches and judges as soon as we're notified. General information on the new moves can be found on the US Figure Skating site at:

<http://www.usfsa.org/Shell.asp?sid=42287>

2010 Winter Olympics

All eyes will be on Vancouver this February for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games, and taking center stage are the figure skating events. Provided below is the NBC website with an updated schedule of television coverage:

<http://www.nbcolympics.com/tv-listings/zone=CT/sport=FS/index.html>

We wish all of our US Figure Skating Team members the very best!

NEW MEMBERS — WELCOME!

Junior, unless otherwise noted:

Chloe Brown
Paula Burgeson
Emma Chapman
Emma Clary
Erin DeCero
Annie DeCero
Mia Jawor
Amanda Leverenz
Anissa Maravilla
Alexis Nino
Kayla Typlin
Kristen Zydowsky