



Rink Link

March/April 2013

Congratulations Team Braemar!! Braemar breaks through again for junior crown

By Josh Ellis, special to icenetwork.com



(03/01/2013) - They had nothing to lose, and they didn't. [Team Braemar](#) led after Thursday's short program and sealed the junior championship at the [2013 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships](#) with a first-place finish in the free skate Friday. They earned a total of 173.26 points for the competition and claimed the top prize.

Finishing a distant third at last month's [World Junior Team Selection Competition](#) in Fraser, Mich., the competition which determined the two teams that would represent Team USA at the [2013 World Junior Synchronized Skating Championships](#) in Finland next week, Team Braemar came into this event with a fresh mindset, which helped them to gold.

"We had nothing to lose," coach Pam May said. "That's an easier position to be in, but we just wanted to prove that we were at the same caliber."

The team, which represents the Braemar-City of Lakes FSC, earned nearly 40 more points at this event than they did last month, and it was all about skating consistently and putting together two strong performances. "I feel like they did it," said May about skating consistently this week. "I feel they pulled from within and really gave it their all. They really came through when it counted and got it done."

Skating to *Cleopatra* in a costume designed by May herself, Team Braemar earned not only the top score for their elements, but for their components as well. Each of the team's nine elements earned a positive grade of execution (GOE) and their Level 4 wheel was the event's top-scoring element, earning 7.64 points.

"We finally feel like all of our hard work has paid off," said Taylor May, the team captain and coach's daughter. "We had zero expectations coming into this event and we skated the best we could, and it just happened to be enough."

(02/28/2013) - Starting from scratch in November with a completely new short program, [Team Braemar](#)'s junior synchronized skating team was behind the eight ball, but that change has done them well. After the short program, Team Braemar led the field in the junior event at the [2013 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships](#) in Plymouth, Mich. While other teams were refining their programs, Team Braemar was rebuilding theirs. After a visit from officials in October, a suggestion was made to scrap their current program and start over. That's exactly what Pam May and the Minnesota-based team did with a new song and new costumes. The team had 58.57 reasons to be glad they did.

"I'm happy I listened to direction," coach Pam May said. "Sometimes as a coach, you don't want to change because you think you know it all, but I could see what they were seeing."

Skating their new program to "The World Will Remember Us" from the *Bonnie and Clyde* musical, Team Braemar earned a competition-high 28.11 points for their elements. They were the only team to earn a score of more than seven points for a single element, which they did on their intersection, receiving 7.09 points. All told, for their five elements, their lowest grade of execution (GOE) was 1.30.

"I felt they skated the best they could," May said. "We went for the highest levels on everything and we were really close. I am really happy with their execution; they made sure each element was executed properly."



Feb
27 -
Mar
2,
2013

Junior
Team Braemar
(1,1,1),
Braemar City of
Lakes FSC



French Cup
Rouen, France
February 1 - 2, 2013

Team Braemar
(3,8)(6)

2013 Midwestern Synchronized Sectional Championships ~ Jan 23-27



<p>Intermediate Synchro Panache (I), FSC of Minneapolis - 8 Team Braemar (I), Braemar-City of Lakes FSC - 9 Open Collegiate U of Minnesota- Duluth SST, University of Minnesota - 5</p>	<p>Adult Synchro Panache (A), FSC of Minneapolis - 8 Open Juvenile Ice Kicks A, Woodbury FSC Grp C- 2, FR - 9 Preliminary Ice Kicks, Woodbury FSC - 10</p>
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Minnesota Skaters at 2013 U.S. Figure Skating Championships



<p>January 20-27, 2013</p>	<p>Senior Ladies Kiri Baga (13,13,13), FSC of Bloomington Senior Pairs Kiri Baga (8,8,8), FSC of Bloomington</p>	<p>Novice Men Daniel Kulenkamp (5,7,5) St. Paul FSC</p>
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Adult Midwestern Sectional Championships ~ March 8-10, 2013 ~ Championship Events



<p>Championship Masters Junior/Senior FS Brianna Jones, Burnsville MN Valley FSC - 2 Kelsey Traul, Braemar City of Lakes FSC - 5 Championship Masters Intemediate/Novice FS Colleen Bloom, St. Paul FSC - 2 Elaine Walin, St. Paul FSC - 3</p>	<p>Championship Masters Intemediate/NoviceMen FS Christopher Williams, FSC of Minneapolis - 2 Championship Adult Pairs Courtney Baga, FSC of Bloomington & Peter Biver, St. Paul FSC - 1</p>
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Advancing to Adult National Championships ~ April 9-13, 2013



<p>Championship Masters Junior/Senior FS Brianna Jones, Burnsville MN Valley FSC Championship Masters/Intemediate/Novice FS Colleen Bloom, St. Paul FSC Elaine Walin, St. Paul FSC</p>	<p>Championship Masters Intemediate/NoviceMen FS Christopher Williams, FSC of Minneapolis Championship Adult Pairs Courtney Baga, FSC of Bloomington & Peter Biver, St. Paul FSC</p>
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Non Qualifying Events

<p>Masters Intermediate Ladies Kari Kloster, FSC of Minneapolis - 2 Championship Adult Gold Lynne Maker Kuechle, St. Paul FSC - 7 Rebecca Johnson, St. Paul FSC - 10 Adult Gold Men Chi Meng Fong, FSC of Minneapolis - 3 Adult Gold Ladies Bianca Dickson, St. Paul FSC - 1 Lynne Maker Kuechle, St. Paul FSC - 3 Kayla Thompson, St. Paul FSC - 6 Cathy McNeill, St. Paul FSC - 7 Adult Pre-Bronze Ladies III Free Skate Corinna Venters, FSC of Minneapolis - 3 Ellen Sendelbach, Rochester FSC - 4 Adult Pre-Bronze Ladies IV, V FS Morgan Crawford, Durango FSC - 1 Sonja Faust, Starlight IDC - 2 Debra Anderson, Three Rivers FSC - 3 Mary Anne Razim-FitzSimons, Starlight IDC - 4 Adult Bronze Ladies III FS Renee Parker, St. Paul FSC - 2 Deborah Wertanen, St. Paul FSC - 4 Heather Thorne, St. Paul FSC - 5 Adult Bronze Ladies IV, V FS Julie Schulte, Three Rivers FSC - 2</p>	<p>Adult Silver Ladies IV, V FS - Group A Renee Rahimi, Eden Prairie FSC - 4 Lisa Veith, Starlight IDC - 5 Adult Silver Ladies I - III FS Bonnie Goranowski, Roseville FSC - 1 Kelly Gulbrandson, St. Paul FSC - 3 Lisa K Becker, St. Paul FSC - 4 Adult Silver Ladies IV, V FS - Group B Linda Gunderson, Rochester FSC - 3 Adult Bronze Dramatic Showcase Sarah Klosterbuer, Lake Minnetonka FSC - 1 Linda Gunderson, Rochester FSC - 2 Adult Silver Dramatic Showcase Bonnie Goranowski, Roseville FSC - 1 Adult Gold Dramatic Showcase Rebecca Johnson, St. Paul FSC - 2 Lynne Maker Kuechle, St. Paul FSC - 5 Masters Dramatic Showcase Page Kirkpatrick, St. Paul FSC - 5 Master Men Dramatic Showcase Christopher Williams, FSC of Minneapolis - 1 Adult Bronze Light Entertainment Showcase Linda Gunderson, Rochester FSC - 1 Heather Thorne, St. Paul FSC - 3 Adult Silver Light Entertainment Showcase Kelly Gulbrandson, St. Paul FSC - 3</p>	<p>Adult Gold Light Entertainment Showcase Lynne Maker Kuechle, St. Paul FSC - 2 Masters Light Entertainment Showcase Page Kirkpatrick, St. Paul FSC - 1 Elaine Walin, St. Paul FSC - 2 Adult Pre-Gold Couples Dance Josephine Lee, & Jim Kamin, Starlight IDC - 1 Adult Pre-Gold Solo Dance Kelsey Traul, Braemar City of Lakes - 1 Adult Pre-Silver Solo Dance Sonia Srichai, FSC of Minneapolis - 2 Janey Stringer, St. Paul FSC - 3 Lisa Veith, Starlight IDC - 4 Adult Bronze Solo Dance Janey Stringer, St. Paul FSC - 1 Sonia Srichai, FSC of Minneapolis - 4 Ellen Sendelbach, Rochester FSC - 5 Sonja Faust, Starlight IDC - 7 Adult Pre-Bronze Solo Dance Renee Rahimi, Eden Prairie FSC - 2 Sonja Faust, Starlight IDC - 3 Adult Bronze Couples Dance Sonia Srichai, FSC of Minneapolis - 1 & Gregory Garvin, Detroit SC, Inc.</p>
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GOLD ♀ IST ~ Katherine Foy

Lake Minnetonka Figure Skating Club

Katherine, a senior at Benilde-St. Margaret's High School, passed the US Figure Skating Gold Freestyle Test in April of 2012. She began taking lessons at the Minnetonka Ice Arena when she was three years old.

Katherine will be attending the College of St. Benedict in the Fall. Skating has taught her to work hard and perform the best she possibly can, and have fun at the same time. Katherine thanks Jill Cummings and Carol Timm for their guidance and support over the years and plans on skating just for fun in the future!



Supporting Minnesota Skaters since 1991

Minnesota Skating Scholarship is proud to announce the distribution of scholarship monies to 7 skaters in honor of the memory of Harris Collins who was the creative force behind Collins Tour of World Figure Skating Champions for 20 years, The awards help skaters whose Home Club is in Minnesota and who are motivated, show promise and love skating, but need financial assistance to continue in our sport. Skaters who fit these guidelines and plan to continue to skate are encouraged to apply for the Awards. Application forms are made available in December of each year.

Since 1991, Bette Snuggerud has been an integral part of Minnesota Skating Scholarship as one of the founding members and then serving as a board member for 22 years during which over \$205,000 was distributed to deserving Minnesota skaters. Thank you Bette for your many years of service!

Donations to Minnesota Skating Scholarship are greatly appreciated and tax deductible. Donations can be made to honor someone by making a contribution in his or her name to celebrate a special event such as a birthday, holiday gift or a personal accomplishment. You and your honoree will receive a personal note from us and will be acknowledged in the Twin City Figure Skating Association newsletter. Your gifts make a very big difference to our youth!

To make a tax-deductible donation to Minnesota Skating Scholarship, contact Herb Morgenthaler at 612-926-9560 or Herbmn61@usiwireless.com or or mail to MSS %Herb Morgenthaler, 3851 Beard Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55410

Minnesota Judge, Skater Explores the History and Imagination of Figure Skating

"Why am I madly in love with something at which I'm mediocre, at best?"

That's a question U.S. Figure Skating judge and adult skater Lynne Maker Kuechle has been asking herself for decades. In January, she received a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board to help her explore that question and other aspects of her lifelong fascination with figure skating.

With the grant, she'll travel to the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame in Colorado Springs, Colo., to research the early years of figure skating. The funds will also compensate for lost income as she reduces her work schedule for a year to concentrate on producing a full manuscript of her book.

"There are lots of books about skaters who started young, worked hard, and eventually went to the Olympics," she remarks. "Those are great stories. But they aren't my story—or the story of most of the skaters I know."

Lynne is writing about three main topics: the history of skating, an exploration of school figures, and her own experiences in the sport. "I'm writing about the way skating feels, the reason I loved school figures, the joy of practice as compared to competition," she says. "I want to let readers know how it feels to skate. And I want to honor the discipline of working on something that doesn't always bring tangible results."

Lynne will read from her work in progress at The Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis on Wednesday, April 17. The event is free and open to the public.

Lynne Maker Kuechle is a Gold Test and Regional Competition Judges and a fiscal year 2013 recipient of an Artist Initiative grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature; and by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2011, Lynne was a creative nonfiction winner in the Mentor Series at The Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis. She also is pursuing a master of fine arts degree in creative writing at Hamline University.

Sanctioned by US Figure Skating
Sponsored by the Twin City Figure Skating Association

Celebration of Champions

Feb 17th, 2013

1:30 p.m. Bloomington Ice Garden
3600 W. 98th St. Bloomington, MN

Featuring MN State Champions, Sectional,
National & International competitors

\$8^{Adult} \$5^{Student}
pricing at the door

Twin City Figure Skating Association Presents Celebration of Champions Sunday

February 17, 2013

Celebrating

- ✦ Minnesota State Champions,
- ✦ Sectional and National Competitors
- ✦ James Disbrow Award Winner
- ✦ Bette Snuggerud Award Winner
- ✦ Marlys Larson Award Winner

Thanks to:

- ✦ The Bloomington Ice Garden Staff
- ✦ Music Coordinators: Chip Rauth & Mike Wittmann
- ✦ Announcer: Stephen Masten
- ✦ Reception: Tina & Brian Flaa
- ✦ St Paul FSC Volunteers: Marina Brykalova, Cathy Lambert, Sandy Wittmann, Jonathan Yang, Pa Yang & Elaine Walin



David Kaufmann (Minnesota State Juvenile Boys Champion, Upper Great Lakes Juvenile Boys Bronze Medalist, Midwestern Sectional Juvenile Boys Competitor)

Ryan Santee (James Disbrow Award, Midwestern Sectional Junior Mens Competitor)

Ben Jalovick (Minnesota State Junior Mens Champion, Upper Great Lakes Junior Mens Bronze Medalist, Midwestern Sectional Junior Mens Competitor)

Cale Ambroz (Upper Great Lakes Junior Mens Pewter Medalist, Midwestern Sectional Competitor)

Daniel Kulenkamp (Upper Great Lakes Novice Mens Silver Medalist, Midwestern Sectional Novice Men Bronze Medalist, 2013 US National Novice Mens Competitor)

Rebecca Johnson
Minnesota State Adult Gold
Champion

Linda Gunderson
Minnesota State Adult Bronze
Champion

Corinna Venters
Minnesota State Adult Pre Bronze
Champion



Shannon Brakke
Bette Snuggerud Award

Kate Charbonneau
Minnesota State Senior Ladies
Champion

Hanna Johnson
Minnesota State Junior Ladies
Champion



Emma Enebak
Minnesota State Juvenile Champion,
Upper Great Lakes Juvenile Silver Medalist,
Midwestern Sectional Juvenile Competitor

Kirsten Horsmann
Minnesota State Intermediate Champion
Upper Great Lakes Intermediate Bronze Medalist
Midwestern Sectional Intermediate Competitor

Michelle Hedges
Minnesota State Novice Ladies Champion
Upper Great Lakes Novice Silver Medalist
Midwestern Sectional Novice Competitor
2012 U.S. Figure Skating Novice & Junior
Challenge Skate Competitor





Kim Doerr

Minnesota State Open Juvenile
Champion

Rachel Blais

Minnesota State Preliminary
Champion

Caroline Bercaw

Minnesota State Pre-Preliminary
Champion

Silvia Hucec

Minnesota State Pre-Juvenile Girls
Champion

**Jilian Christie,
Julie Hussian,
Izzi Gorowsky,
Abby Richardson
Amber Van Wyk
2012
US National
Team Ensemble National Champions**



**Team Braemar
Junior Team ~**

Marlys Larson Award
2012 US Junior
National Gold
Medalist
2012 Junior World
Challenge Cup Pewter
Medalist
2013 US Junior
World Qualifier
Competitors
2013 French Cup,
Rouen, France
Competitors



FIGURE SKATING – USFS

Pleasant Arena, St. Paul, MN, Saturday June 22, 2013

Hosted by the St. Paul Figure Skating Club at Pleasant Arena, St. Paul MN

[Register online](http://www.starofthenorthgames.org) at www.starofthenorthgames.org ~ Entry Deadline: May 26, 2013

The Star of the North Games is a member of the National Congress of State Games, a national organization of 31 State Games organizations around the country which hosts a national championship every two year. Medalists in the 2013 Star of the North Game qualify for the 2015 State Games of America scheduled for one of three locations ~ Hampton Roads VA, San Diego CA or Lincoln NE.

Reflections.....

Words Worth Sharing! Roy Blakey is a Minnesota resident and has generously shared his collection during some of the major skating events TCFSA has held in the cities! Below is a reprint of the article from **SKATING** magazine.

There is also a great article in [April 2013 Minnesota Monthly](#) on this documentary! The documentary will be shown at 2 upcoming Film Festivals - the Tribeca Film Festival in New York City and the Minneapolis St Paul International Film Festival! Sunday April 14 - 7:00 pm at the St. Anthony Main Theatre, 115 SE Main, Minneapolis MN 55414 (612.331.4723) [Purchase Tickets online](#) General admission (\$12) - seating first come/first served

Filmmakers Attending!

The journey begins in 1915 when a young German skater ignites America's love with dancing on ice. **The Fabulous Ice Age** chronicles a century of theatrical skating, from Berlin's Charlotte, to America's Ice Follies, Ice Capades, Holiday on Ice and the Sonja Henie shows, illustrating how they dominated live entertainment for decades, while also depicting one skater's quest to share this history. Never before seen footage, photos and memorabilia introduce us to a handful of skaters, producers and entrepreneurs who helped change their world.



'The Fabulous Ice Age' to Chronicle Traveling Ice Show Era Donations sought to complete documentary

By Troy Schwindt

When skating legends Richard Dwyer and Tom Collins reminisce about the glory days of the traveling ice show, they paint a picture of a magical time that is never coming back.

The glamorous skaters, the elaborate production sets and costumes, the intricately orchestrated routines all melded together to entertain families across the nation for much of the 20th century.

"We used to fill Madison Square Garden, Boston Garden, Chicago and many other of the country's major arenas, and every show was sold out," said Dwyer, who played the iconic "Mr. Debonair" in the Ice Follies and Ice Capades. "Every city loved the ice shows."

While those wonderful times hold fond memories for Dwyer and Collins, they hope that a documentary film that's almost completed can preserve this golden age of the traveling ice show for everyone to see



Roy Blakey's history is interwoven with skating stars such as Dick Button and Scott Hamilton telling the story of a century of ice shows. His story is a part of *The Fabulous Ice Age* by Keri Pickett. and enjoy.

Filmmaker Keri Pickett is in the final stages of completing her movie, titled *The Fabulous Ice Age*. She started on the documentary film nearly seven years ago in an effort to help tell the story of her uncle, Roy Blakey, who became a show skater after seeing the famous

Sonja Henie perform on the silver screen. During his time as a performer, Blakey collected thousands of pieces of ice show memorabilia. He hopes to find a permanent home for his vast collection in conjunction with the film's release.

"Roy is the viewer's backstage pass to this unique history," Pickett said. "The movie covers the history and Roy's passion for the ice shows, his skating career and the fact that he wants this history to be remembered for all the glamour, but also because the shows offered a skater an opportunity — a way to make a living."

Pickett has traveled the country interviewing skaters and others associated with the traveling ice shows. Her film, which she hopes to enter in various film festivals this year, has the financial support and backing of many of the sport's greats, such as Dwyer, Collins, singles and pairs star Ken Shelley and two-time Olympic champion and show skater Dick Button.

"It takes people back to when the ice show industry was started, where it all came from," Dwyer said. "It has the great entrepreneurs like the Shipstads (Roy and Eddie) and (Oscar) Johnson, Morris Chalfen and John Harris, all of those people who created those shows."

With the project 90 percent finished, Pickett is turning to the public to help her complete the film. She has spent more than \$100,000 of her own money and needs help raising the final \$77,000. You can learn more about the film at www.fabulousiceage.com and about Blakey's ice show memorabilia collection at <http://www.icestagearchive.com>.

"My bills will be coming in over time, because after post-production there is the cost of the festival entry, attendance and public relations," Pickett said.

Collins, who skated in the shows and launched Champions on Ice in 1969, said many young people don't know anything about the traveling ice show era. This film, he said, will "be an education for them."

It was typical, Collins said, to have 100 performers in a show, and that they traveled city to city by train.

"You had the large casts, you had the unbelievable costumes, you had the beautiful girls," Dwyer said. "It was an extravaganza."

"The show itself was the star," Collins added. "People came to see Ice Follies or Holiday on Ice or the Ice Capades. They bought tickets just for the name of the show."

These shows used to sell out famous venues such as Madison Square Garden for two weeks (24 shows) at a time.

"People loved it and they had their favorites, and they would applaud when certain people came out, such as Frick and Frack, Freddie Trenkler and Hans Leiter," Dwyer said.

"People would actually wait from year to year for the ice show to come back," Collins added. "It was the event of the year."

When one of the ice shows came to town, the local newspaper would often put it on the front page or the sports page.

"We have to admit, it was before television," Dwyer said. "So we were the great family entertainment and it lasted for many years after that."

Collins is looking forward to seeing the film upon completion and believes that everyone will be in for a treat.

"When they see it, it's going to be a thrill for them," Collins said.

Those interested in helping Pickett fund the rest of the film can go online and make a donation at www.indiegogo.com/The-Fabulous-Ice-Age. People can also donate to the Independent Film Maker Project at www.ifpmn.org/sponsored-project/fabulous-ice-age.



The Champion For Skating Award

The Champion For Skating Award, created in 1993 to recognize sustained, selfless service to the sport of eligible figure skating in Minnesota, is an inclusive award and has been bestowed on officials, organizers, parents, skating enthusiasts and combinations thereof. Previous winners are:

1993 - Marlys Larson	1999 - Sylvia Olson	2003 - Carolyn Marker	2008 - Lori Rothmund
1994 - Bette Snuggerud	2000 - Jimmy Disbrow	2004 - Chip Rauth	2009 - Tamie Campbell
1995 - Bev Ameson	2001 - Lynda Lubratt	2005 - Pat St. Peter	2010 - Arnie & Michelle Schmidt
1996 - Janet Allen	2002 - Anne Klein	2006 - Shirley Hage	2011 - Jane Lincoln
1997 - Lexie Kastner	1998 - Merry Fragomeni & Worlds Volunteers	2007 - Nancy Kaufmann	2012 - Gretchen Wilson

The most important qualification is a demonstrated devotion to service. Anybody meeting the following criteria can be nominated. Everybody can nominate.

- ❖ Person with eligible status
- ❖ Directly or indirectly involved with own club, TCFSA or any other amateur USFSA sanctioned/affiliated activity for a minimum of five years.
- ❖ Minnesota resident
- ❖ Mixture of "high visibility" and sustained "low profile" involvement in figure skating activities

Volunteer characteristics to include:

- ❖ Time devoted
- ❖ Talents contributed
- ❖ Demonstrated leadership
- ❖ Spirit of cooperation

**This is your chance to nominate your favorite champion for skating!
Print, complete and return 2013 TCFSA nomination form to Gretchen Wilson.**



The Champion for Skating Award Nomination Form

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- Minnesota resident
- Mixture of "high visibility" and sustained "low profile" involvement in figure skating activities
- Volunteer characteristics to include: Time devoted, Talents contributed, Demonstrated leadership, Spirit of cooperation

This is your chance to honor your favorite champion for skating! Submit a nomination form today.

Nominee

Address _____

City/State Zip _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____ **Email** _____

Years Involved in Skating _____ **Nominee's TCFSA Club** _____

Past activities connected with figure skating (be specific about positions held):

Present activities (be specific about positions held):

Why I feel this candidate should receive the TCFSA Trophy:

(Please use another sheet if more room is needed.)

Submission Deadline: August 1, 2013

Return to: Gretchen Wilson, 20 Wilson Way, Wabasha, MN 55981-1312