



# Rink Link

March 2011

**Congratulations Team Braemar!!**



Team Braemar Junior Team captured the gold medal in the Junior division at the **2011 French Cup** for synchronized skating, an International Skating Union-sanctioned event. Team Braemar won the short competition on Friday, February 03, 2011, and returned to the ice for the freeskate event on Saturday, February 04, 2011. The team took first place in the freeskate event for the gold-medal finish.

Team Braemar Junior is the reigning national champion and represented United States Figure Skating (USFS) as Team USA at the 2011 French Cup. The competition featured eleven top synchronized skating teams from nine different countries.

Team Braemar Junior will be defending its national championship at the USFS National Synchronized Skating Championships March 2-5, 2011 in Ontario, CA at Citizens Bank Arena.

Team Braemar Junior is one of three synchronized skating teams led by daughter-mother coaches, Pam May and Toni Swiggum.

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|  | <p><b>Junior</b><br/>Team Braemar (2,3,2)<br/>Braemar City of Lakes FSC</p> | <p><b>Novice</b><br/>Team Braemar - 3, Braemar City of Lakes FSC<br/>Windjammers - 14, Lake Minnetonka FSC</p> | <p><b>Adult</b><br/>Synchro Panache - 6<br/>FSC of Minneapolis</p> | <p><b>Collegiate</b><br/>University of MN - 8</p> |
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| <p><b>Adult</b><br/>4 - Synchro Panache<br/>FSC of Minneapolis<br/><b>Open Adult Free Skate</b><br/>2 - Rhythm and Blades Rochester<br/>FSC<br/><b>Collegiate</b><br/>6 - University of Minnesota <b>Novice</b><br/>5 - Windjammers<br/>Lake Minnetonka FSC</p> | <p><b>Intermediate</b><br/>5 - Rhythm and Blades<br/>Rochester FSC<br/>6 - Maplewood Highsteppers<br/>Maplewood FSC<br/>7 - Windjammers<br/>Lake Minnetonka FSC<br/>13 - Synchro Panache<br/>FSC of Minneapolis<br/>18 - Granite City Rockettes<br/>St Cloud FSC</p> | <p><b>Juvenile Free Skate</b><br/>8 - Rhythm and Blades<br/>Rochester FSC<br/><b>Open Juvenile Free Skate</b><br/>Ice Kicks, Woodbury FSC<br/>QR C - 1, FR - 5<br/><b>Open Juvenile FreeSkate A</b><br/>8 - Maplewood Highsteppers<br/>Maplewood FSC</p> | <p><b>Open Juvenile FreeSkate B</b><br/>11 - Rhythm and Blades Rochester<br/>FSC<br/><b>Open Juvenile Free Skate C</b><br/>8 - Windjammers<br/>Lake Minnetonka FSC<br/><b>Pre-Juvenile Free Skate</b><br/>Ice Kicks, Woodbury FSC<br/>QR B -4 , FR - 4</p> |
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**Interested in continuing your passion for figure skating after high school?**



Consider joining the University of Minnesota Duluth's Synchronized Skating team. It's a great way to meet new people and have fun, while keeping up your passion for the sport.

We are an open collegiate team that receives funding from the university.

We compete at local and regional competitions and would love to have you join our team.



No synchronized skating experience is necessary, but we do recommend juvenile moves in the field. Tryouts will be held the first week of school and more information can be found on our facebook page. Questions? Contact our club president Katie Murphy at [murph686@umn.edu](mailto:murph686@umn.edu)



**Synchronized Skating Seminar ~ April 23, 2011 ~ 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Bloomington Ice Garden ~ 3600 West 98th Street ~ Bloomington, MN 55431**

The Twin City Figure Skating Association is offering a free seminar to any TCFSA member club with skaters Beginner thru Juvenile level who are interested in learning more about Synchronized Skating.

This Seminar is being conducted by Vicki Korn, National, International & World Synchronized Skating Coach. On Ice, edge and turns seminar, by Laurie Cole Benson, Gold Medalist Dance , PSA Master rated MIF, Soloist for 8 years Holiday on Ice. Competitor World Professional Skating Championships 1989. Off Ice training by Lisa Zamarripa, professional ballet, musical theater & ballroom dancer.

Each skater will spend time in all three areas of instruction and a seminar will be held for the parents. A deposit of \$ 50.00 will be needed to hold your place in the seminar. Your full deposit will be returned to you after your full completion of the Seminar.

A tentative schedule is listed below; you will receive a set schedule after registration deadline of April 1, 2011. Limit 20 skaters per session.

Group A 8:30 am – 11:00 am Group C 12:15 pm – 2:45 pm

Group B 10:15 am – 1:00 pm Group D 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Please print this page, fill out the form below & return with deposit check of \$ 50.00 by April 1, 2011.

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(Please Print)  
Skaters Name \_\_\_\_\_ Highest MIF test passed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Skaters Age \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list group time slot by choice (1-4): Group A \_\_\_\_\_ Group B \_\_\_\_\_ Group C \_\_\_\_\_ Group D \_\_\_\_\_


Send deposit to: TCFSA, Treasurer Nancy Kaufmann, 430 Peavey Lane, Wayzata, MN 55391

Questions: Call Marlys Larson 952-925-4597 or Nancy Kaufmann 612-860-7760

## Minnesota Skaters at 2011 U.S. Figure Skating Championships

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|  <p><b>Junior Nationals ~ December 14-18, 2010</b><br/> <b>Intermediate Men</b><br/>                 Daniel Kulenkamp, St. Paul FSC<br/>                 QR A-6, Finals (13,12,12)<br/>                 Coltan Johnson, FSC of Bloomington ~ QR B-13</p> |  | <p><b>National Championships ~ January 22-30, 2011</b><br/> <b>Junior Men</b><br/>                 Juran Yang, St. Paul FSC (11,13,13)<br/> <b>Novice Men</b><br/>                 Cale Ambroz, FSC of Bloomington (10,12,12)</p> |
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### Adult Midwestern Sectional Championships ~ February 26-27, 2011

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|  <p><b>CHAMPIONSHIPS EVENTS (Qualifying)</b><br/> <b>Christopher &amp; Elaine advance to Adult Nationals!</b></p> | <p><b>Masters Intermediate-Novice Ladies Freeskate</b><br/>                 Colleen Bloom - 5<br/>                 St. Paul FSC</p> | <p><b>Masters Intermediate-Novice Men Freeskate</b><br/>                 Christopher Williams - 2<br/>                 FSC of Minneapolis</p> | <p><b>Gold Ladies Freeskate</b><br/>                 Elaine Walin - 4<br/>                 St. Paul FSC<br/>                 Rebecca Johnson - 8<br/>                 St. Paul FSC</p> |
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### Non Qualifying Events

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| <p><b>Bronze Ladies 4</b><br/>                 Linda Grunderson Rochester FSC<br/> <b>Bronze Ladies 2</b><br/>                 Sonia Srichai FSC of Minneapolis - 1<br/> <b>Pre-Bronze Men 2</b><br/>                 Jon Koser Starlight Ice Dance Club - 2<br/> <b>Pre-Bronze Ladies Freeskate 3</b><br/>                 Ellen Sendelbach Rochester FSC</p> | <p><b>Pre-Gold Solo Dance</b><br/>                 Christina Larson-Dickson Starlight IDC - 7<br/> <b>Pre-Bronze Couples Dance Initial &amp; Final Round</b><br/>                 Sonia Srichai FSC of Minneapolis &amp;<br/>                 Jon Koser Starlight Ice Dance Club - 1<br/>                 Brad Whitlock Rockford Skating Club<br/> <b>Pre-Bronze Solo Dance</b><br/>                 Sonia Srichai FSC of Minneapolis - 2</p> | <p><b>Masters Dramatic Ladies Interpretive 3</b><br/>                 Christina Larson-Dickson Starlight IDC - 2<br/> <b>Adult Light Entertainment Ladies Interpretive 4</b><br/>                 Linda Grunderson Rochester FSC<br/> <b>Beginner Light Entertainment Ladies Interpretive 3/4</b><br/>                 Ellen Sendelbach Rochester FSC</p> |
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## Minnesota Skating Scholarship Celebrates 20 years of Supporting Minnesota Skaters!

Minnesota Skating Scholarship has been helping Minnesota skaters since 1991. The awards given this year bring the total of financial help given local skaters over the past 20 years to over \$200,000 - which coincides so nicely with the 20th Anniversary of the Minnesota Skating Scholarship! We will be hosting a Silent Auction in conjunction with St. Paul FSC's 75th Anniversary Celebration Dinner emceed by MSS Founder Bobby Mecay on April 10, 2011. Dinner tickets are available on line at [Anniversary Celebration Dinner](#).

### Collins and Disbrow Awards

Awards given in memory of **Harris Collins** were distributed to 8 skaters. **Harris Collins** was the creative force behind the Collins Tour of World Figure Skating Champions for 20 years, a friend and advisor to hundreds of skaters, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Skating Scholarship.

This year's Minnesota Skating Scholarship **Jim Disbrow** Awards for qualifying for US National Championships were awarded to seven Minnesota skaters. Awards were given to TJ Yang, Daniel Kulenkamp, Coltan Johnson, Kiri Baga, and Cale Ambroz

We are most grateful to all who have supported our efforts as are the skaters who received assistance. "Thank you so much for the scholarship. It has not only helped to support my skating, but it has given me a boost in my confidence as well. It is always good to believe in yourself, but it can never hurt to know that there are others who are behind you as well."

In these stressful economic times, the Minnesota Skating Scholarship needs your tax-deductible support. Any donation will be greatly appreciated but perhaps you would like 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!

### Minnesota Skating Scholarship gratefully acknowledges donations from: TCFSA & Harriet Sutton Norgren

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

The TCFSA Rink Link is a triennial publication mailed to members in October March and June. Please submit information/articles by the end of the month preceding mailing to: TCFSA Rink Link %Lexie Kastner, P. O. Box 296, Deerwood MN 56444



## TCFSA Celebration of Champions Sunday February 13th, 2011 Bloomington Ice Garden featuring

- Minnesota State Champions
  - Sectional, National, International Competitors
  - TCFSA Award Recipients
- Special thanks to:
- Chip Rauth and Mike Wittmann for providing the music
  - Steve Masten for announcing
  - Tina and Brian Flaa for preparing the food for the reception
  - FSC of Bloomington for providing the volunteers to help host the event
  - The Bloomington Ice Garden staff



**Emma Enebak** ~ Minnesota State Preliminary Girls Champion  
**Joanna Liu** ~ Minnesota State Juvenile Ladies Champion  
**Gracie Bryant** ~ Minnesota State Pre-Preliminary Girls Champion  
**Rachel Kamer** ~ Minnesota State Pre-Juvenile Girls Champion



**Kate Charbonneau** ~ Minnesota State Senior Ladies Champion  
**Onia Gelecinskyj** ~ Bette Snuggerud Award  
**Sophie Stillman** ~ Minnesota State Novice Ladies Champion  
**Samiera Abou-Nasr** ~ Upper Great Lakes Senior Ladies Gold Medalist,  
 Midwestern Senior Ladies Competitor  
**Shannon Brakke** ~ Minnesota State Junior Ladies Champion



**Team Braemar Junior Team**  
 2010 Marlys' Larson Award  
 2010 U.S Junior National Gold Medalist  
 2010 US world Team Members  
 2011 French Cup Gold Medalist  
 2011 World Junior Team Selection Silver Medalist



**Elizabeth Ploumidis** ~ Minnesota State Intermediate Ladies Champion  
**Samantha Considine** ~ Minnesota State Open Juvenile Ladies Champion  
**Cassidy Murray** ~ Minnesota State Open Pre-Juvenile Girls Champion



**Cathy McNeill** ~ Minnesota State Adult Silver Champion  
**Erin Swanson** ~ Minnesota State Adult Masters Champion  
**Elaine Walin** ~ Minnesota State Adult Gold Champion



**Colton Johnson**

Upper Great Lakes Intermediate Mens Gold Medalist  
 2011 U.S. Junior National Competitor

**Cale Ambroz**

Upper Great Lakes Novice Mens Pewter Medalist  
 Midwestern Novice Mens Pewter Medalist  
 2011 U.S. National Novice Mens Competitor

**Juran Yang**

Upper Great Lakes Junior Mens Gold Medalist  
 Midwestern Junior Mens Silver Medalist  
 2011 U.S. National Junior Mens Competitor

**Ryan Santee**

Minnesota State Novice Mens Champion  
 James Disbrow Awards

**Daniel Kulenkamp**

Minnesota State Intermediate Mens Champion  
 Upper Great Lakes Intermediate Mens Pewter Medalist  
 2011 U.S. Junior National Competitor



**GOLD ♂ IST ~ TJ Yang, St. Paul FSC**

TJ Yang passed the US Figure Skating Gold Freeskating test on February 10 at Pleasant Arena. He is coached by Ann Eidson and Ben Miller. TJ began skating in Florida when he was 7 years old after watching the World Figure Skating Championships on television. His family relocated to St. Paul to train with Ann Eidson in 2006 at the St. Paul FSC.

TJ graduated from Central High School last spring and plans to attend Saint Paul Community College next Fall for two years and then transfer to a university to study Physics and Astronomy. When not skating, TJ loves to read, most especially about stars and outer space.

When asked about what skating has taught him, TJ wrote that it has taught him a lot about who he is on the inside. He knows skating has been and always will be a big part of his life. Through skating he has learned life is a process of working with both your strengths and weaknesses to make the most of whom you are and what you have to offer life. TJ feels skating has helped him learn about the emotional control needed to get through happy, sad, good and difficult times. He's learned to listen to his emotions in order to learn more about himself. He has also learned to never give up on himself. Skating has taught TJ more about himself than anything else in his life and it will always be a big part of his life. TJ thanks his parents and his sister Mary for their love and support, and will be forever grateful to Ann Eidson for her support, guidance and years of believing in his abilities.



## GOLD IST ~ Melissa Jasperson, St. Paul FSC

Melissa Jasperson passed the US Figure Skating Gold Freeskating test in December at Pleasant Arena. Melissa's first venture on the ice was when she was 6 years old. Her godmother had given her a pair of skates for Christmas, and that winter Melissa tested out her new skates on the frozen lake next to her family's home. The following winter she began taking group lessons, and has been skating ever since!

Melissa would like to thank all of her friends and family for their support throughout the years, as well as all of the coaches who have helped her accomplish her goals, especially Ben Miller. The lessons he has taught her have been very valuable to Melissa in skating, coaching, and in life. The most important lessons Melissa has learned is that she is the only one who determines the limits of her capabilities.

Melissa plans to continue coaching and skating with the St. Paul Figure Skating Club. She has enjoyed coaching in the competitive environment, and is looking forward to conquering her next skating challenge - though she hasn't yet decided what that may be! Melissa also plans to attend graduate school for sport psychology and to work exclusively with figure skaters.



*Gold Singles/Pairs Test Judge Appointment: Jill Cummings, Lake Minnetonka FSC*



## 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:

|                 |                        |                |                  |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Marlys Larson   | Merry Fragomeni &      | Anne Klein     | Nancy Kaufmann   |
| Bette Snuggerud | 1998 Worlds Volunteers | Carolyn Marker | Lori Rothmund    |
| Bev Arneson     | Sylvia Olson           | Chip Rauth     | Tamie Campbell   |
| Janet Allen     | Jimmy Disbrow          | Pat St. Peter  | Arnie & Michelle |
| Lexie Kastner   | Lynda Lubratt          | Shirley Hage   | Schmidt          |

*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 2011 TCFSa nomination form to Arnie & Michelle Schmidt.



## The Champion for Skating Award Nomination Form

*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.*

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- 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 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):**

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**Present activities (be specific about positions held):**

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**Why I feel this candidate should receive the TCFSA Trophy:**

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

**Return to: Arnie & Michelle Schmidt, 3665 84<sup>th</sup> St. E, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076**