

FEBRUARY
2003

The Blade

Peach Frost Heats Up the Ice at Eastern Sectionals

Marianne Campbell

The Peach Frost synchronized skating teams competed in January at the Eastern Sectionals in Charleston, S.C., under the direction of coach Patti Van Den Eynde.

The Youth Introductory team placed third in their qualifying round, and then took the bronze medal in the final round; The Junior Classic team took the silver medal with their spectacular routine to "Evita".

In addition to the fun of competition, the skaters enjoyed trading pins with other teams, cheering on other teams, and seeing the sights of Charleston. Highlighting the last day of competition, the Haydenettes, a favorite of Peach Frost, gave a dazzling performance to capture the gold in the Senior division.

Terrific job, Peach Frost!

We are very proud of you!



The Peach Frost teams show off their medals!



Year End Party

Ben Loggins

After the great success of last years party, the club has decided to let the Southlake members host the year end party once again at Dixieland Park. There is fun for the whole family with three Go-Kart tracks providing high-speed excitement for thrill-seekers and Laser Duel challenge. This game of "tag" takes participants to a whole new level of fun and excitement! Two teams explore a two-level arena seeking to protect their base, infiltrate the enemy base and tag all opposing teammates in between. There are many more Attractions. Find out more about Dixieland at www.dixielandfunpark.com

The party will be on Saturday April 26 starting at 1pm with awards about 2pm and ending when you get tired of having fun.

Please mark this on your calendars. Your rink V.P. will be getting more information soon.

**Board of Director Elections**

Linda Saunders

Each year the membership of the club elects members to represent them on the Board of Directors. This year there are eight positions that need to be filled.

Each elected board member serves a two year term. Board meetings are held approximately every month, usually the Saturday before the month's test session.

While I'm sure many of the current board members whose terms are up will be seeking re-election, we urge all interested members to consider running for the board.

WE NEED YOU AND YOUR IDEAS.

If you are interested in serving as a director, please submit your name to the nomination committee. Please forward your nominations to me at AmazGrc@aol.com or 678-417-8747.

Georgia Figure Skating Club's website

Rob Lichtefeld

In case you haven't noticed, the Georgia Figure Skating Club's website has been updated. You can see the changes at <http://www.gafsc.org/>.

We are trying to keep it up-to-date with news, test results, competition results, and photos. If you have any information that you would like to submit to the website, just email the items to webeditor@gafsc.org.

Another feature of the website is a link to a Yahoo! Group. This group allows us to get information to our members very quickly. One of the items sent out is notifications of upcoming competitions and their application deadlines. Also, there is a calendar where all of the known competitions are listed as well as their application deadline dates. You can see the calendar at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GaFSC-Members/cal>

2003 Peach Classic and Peach Open



The Georgia Figure Skating Club hosts the largest non-qualifying all adult figure skating competition in the world: the Peach Classic. The only larger all adult competition is the US Adult Figure Skating Championships (Adult Nationals).

This year we will be adding the Peach Open. Both will be held over Labor Day weekend. The Peach Open is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, August 29-30. The Peach Classic is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, August 30-31.

The Peach Open will be "open" to all USFSA members from No-Test through Senior level. The Peach Classic is "open" to all USFSA members at least 18 years old.

Volunteers

Since adding this event will increase the need for volunteers, we are asking that you find a way to give your time to help with this worthwhile event.

We will need volunteers for the following areas: Hospitality, Ice Monitors, Registration, Music, Media Relations, Setup, Tear-Down, Practice Ice, and Judge's Transportation. We cannot put on these two events without your help.

Nancy Anderson is handling the volunteer assignments this year. Please contact her with your availability this coming Labor Day weekend. Her phone number is 770-978-7138, and her email is: nanston1@bellsouth.net

Program Ad Sales Contest

One of the integral parts of a competition is a printed program. The program for the Peach Classic and Peach Open will contain ads. We are offering a "commission" for all of our skaters that sell ads to be placed in the program. For every \$100 that a member sells, they will be able to spend \$10 at the T-shirt/sweatshirt vendor that will be setup at the event. The more ads that we sell, the more money the club will make that we can use for our skaters!

Logo Design Contest

The Peach Classic and the Peach Open need logos! The official logo is used on the T-shirts and sweatshirts and is on the cover of the program. Everyone is invited to offer as many designs as they would like. If your design is picked, you will win a free sweatshirt at the T-shirt/sweatshirt vendor. Get you pens, pencils, crayons, and/or computer mouse warmed up and get your designs on paper. Please submit your designs to the Peach Classic/Open committee before June 1.





Tickets are now on Sale for the 2004 United States Figure Skating Championships

The 2004 United States Figure Skating Championships will be held January 3-11, 2004 in Atlanta. The 18,750 seat Philips Arena will serve as the primary venue for the event. Three ice surfaces are needed for this event. Since there are no ice surfaces in the downtown area, two additional temporary ice surfaces will be constructed at the Georgia World Congress Center.

The U.S. Figure Skating Championships is the premier amateur event for skaters in the United States. Top skaters from all over the country qualify for this event through regional and sectional competitions. National titles will be awarded in Pairs, Dance, Men's Singles and Ladies' Singles during the weeklong competition on the Novice, Junior and Senior level. These skaters will also compete to represent the United States at the 2004 World Championships in Dortmund, Germany.

All-Event tickets are now on sale for this prestigious event. Buy today to get the very best seats. Ticket orders have been flowing in from all over the country. Many skating fans travel to this event on a yearly basis. An all-event ticket gives you admission to every competition and practice session for the Championships. The Philips Arena is a unique arena. One full side of the arena is dedicated to suites and club seats. All-Event ticket buyers have the opportunity to purchase Club Seats. Club Seats are located within the first 19 rows of the ice and include high-quality food and beverage service by top Atlanta restaurants along with extra-wide, extra-comfortable, extra-supportive seats with cup

holders. Non-Club Level seat holders will not have access to this area of the Arena.

Tickets to individual events will go on sale September 2003. Everyone, including volunteers, will be required to have a ticket to attend the events. For the best seats, order all-event tickets. For more information on the 2004 United States Figure Skating Championships, visit the website www.atlanta2004.org.

Volunteers Needed for 2004 Nationals

Ginger Whatley

The 2004 U.S. Figure Skating Championships are less than a year away. More than 800 volunteers are needed to help with the event. Volunteers are vital to the success of the event and are guaranteed an unforgettable experience! All volunteers must be at least 21 years of age at the time of the U.S. Championships. Volunteers do not need a skating background. Everyone is welcome to volunteer. If you are interested in joining the Atlanta 2004 Volunteer team, visit the web site at www.atlanta2004.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

My First Nationals

Rob Lichtefeld

I attended my first Nationals this year. It was amazing: the level of competition, the atmosphere of skating enthusiasts, the accessibility of most of the skaters—present and past.

I worked as a volunteer at this year's event, because I will be working at the event next year and needed to learn my job. The Dallas LOC gave their volunteers a fleece vest, tickets to two competitions, and if they worked all of their assigned shifts—a set of event pins. The shifts in Dallas were 6 hours. And, volunteers were expected to work 4 shifts during the week.

I would highly recommend working as volunteer next year at the 2004 event in Atlanta. I will be!

Tickets Now on Sale



Stars on Ice is coming back to Atlanta for the first time since 1993. This year's show will be held at the new Arena at Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center in Lawrenceville on March 29, 2003. This new arena is located on Sugarloaf Boulevard in Duluth. The 2003 Stars on Ice cast includes: Alexei Yagudin, Todd Eldredge, Elena Berezhnaya & Anton Sikharulidze, Kurt Browning, Katerina Witt, Jenni Meno and Todd Sand, Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman, Renee Roca and Gorsha Sur, and Jamie Sale and David Pelletier.

Tickets are now on sale through Ticketmaster. To order tickets through Ticketmaster, call 404-249-6400, or visit their website at: www.ticketmaster.com or visit any Ticketmaster Outlet located at most Publix grocery stores.

Ticket prices are \$82, \$57, \$42 and \$32. For more information on Stars on Ice, visit the website at www.starsonice.com.



Champions on Ice is coming to Philips Arena May 6th. Showtime is 7pm. Tickets are now on sale through Ticketmaster. The following skaters are scheduled to appear on this year's tour: Michelle Kwan, Sarah Hughes, Irina Slutskaya, Timothy Goebel, Michael Weiss, Evgeni Plushenko, Elvis Stojko, Sasha Cohen, Victor Petrenko, Phillippe Candeloro, Surya Bonaly, Nicole Bobek, Rudi Galindo, Oksana Kazakova and Artur Dmitriev, Shae-Lynn Bourne and Victor Kraatz, Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev, Dan Hollander, and Elizabeth Punsalen and Jarod Swallow. Some skaters do not perform in all cities.

For more information on the tour, visit the Champions on Ice website at: www.championsonice.com.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Ticketmaster charge by phone line at 404-249-6400, through the Ticketmaster website at www.ticketmaster.com or by visiting any Ticketmaster outlet located in most Publix supermarkets. Ticket prices are \$67, \$47 and \$32.

New Judges needed

Ginger Whatley

Have you ever watched a competition and felt that you would be a great judge? The USFSA is actively recruiting new judges. Anyone over the age of 16 can begin trial judging. Parents and adult skaters are especially welcome. If you are interested in becoming a skating judge, please contact Gloria Lewis or Ginger Whatley.

Also, check out the February issue of Skating Magazine for more information on becoming a USFSA judge.

Congratulations to these skaters who passed tests recently

November 17, 2002

Haley Adcox	Junior MIF
Erica Anderson	Juvenile MIF
Kara Barlow	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Naomi Bradley	Pre-Preliminary Moves
Naomi Bradley	Pre-Preliminary Freeskate
Alicia Caldwell	Pre-Juvenile Freeskate
Alicia Caldwell	Juvenile MIF
Karina Chobanyan	Swing Dance
Kristina Chepaitis	Preliminary Freeskate
Holly Faris	Preliminary Freeskate
Holly Faris	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Heather Hatzenbuhler	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Alison Hyde	Pre-Preliminary Freeskate
Jennifer Gresenz	Preliminary MIF
Courtney Kingston	Preliminary MIF
Christopher Nolan	Intermediate MIF
Sheryl Nolan	Gold MIF
Tina Washington	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Tina Washington	Pre-Preliminary Freeskate
Brooke Wright	Pre-Preliminary Freeskate
Brooke Wright	Pre-Preliminary MIF

January 5, 2003

Ann Bartone	Fourteenstep
Tristin Carney	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Kristina Chepaitis	Pre-Juvenile MIF
Eugene Chun	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Eugene Chun	Pre-Preliminary Freeskate
Lauren Ditthardt	Pre-Juvenile Freeskate
Jade Kohser	Junior Freeskate
Brandi Royer	Kilian
Alyssa Thrower	Intermediate MIF
Alyssa Thrower	Intermediate Freeskate
Wendy Thrower	Pre-Bronze MIF

January 31, 2003

Tristen Carney	Pre-Juvenile Freeskate
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February 2, 2003

Amanda Hyde	Pre-Preliminary MIF
Cathy Procaskey	Adult Silver MIF

Welcome to the new and renewing members

Lauren Arnone	Arthur Jinks
Wanda Arnone	Andrea John
Robert Arnone	Vicki Kirkley
Janet Austin	Jennifer MacGirr
Wendy Betenia	Barbara MacGirr
Anthony Blevins	Larry MacGirr
Caroline Bradley	Jasmine Momin
Ellen Campbell	Celeste Momin
John Campbell	Scott Neidhofer
Michele Cataldi	Christina Ott-
Hannah Cobb	Fornasiero
John Cobb	Dawn Paletta
Brittany Cook	Joe Paletta
Brandilyn Cook	Pamela Paszke
Jamie Cook	Jessica Richardson
Megan D'Ambra	Debbie Richardson
Carole D'Ambra	Keith Richardson
Charles D'Ambra	Amenda Sali
Sonia Denning	Linda Sali
Donald Denning	Susan Sheldon
Rivka Emory	David Sheldon
Sherry Emory	Sarah Sklar
Megan Floyd	Alice Smith
Jessica Fuchs	Janice Smith
Kristel Fuchs	Brittany Steen
Bill Fuchs	Julie Steen
Taylor Garren	Jeffrey Steen
Gwen Garren	Wendy Thrower
Steven Garren	Kristin Toussaint
Savanna Gary	Tina Washington
Barbara Gary	Indra Washington
Wister Gary	Abraham Washing-
Marcela Gedzikova	ton
Felicia Gerlach	James Wright
Jennifer Gerlach	Brooke Wright
Scott Gerlach	Beth Wright
Jennifer Harman	David Wright
Terri Herron	
Jean Holcomb	
Bruce Horacek	
Ally Hyde	
Amanda Hyde	
Eileen Hyde	
Whitney Jinks	
Beverly Jinks	



Todd Eldredge visits Duluth

Lots of lucky winners and figure skating fans took part in Chevy's highly successful "It's Great to Skate" Festivals in six different locations over the summer and fall of this year: Detroit, Cleveland, Philadelphia Scottsdale, Ariz., Atlanta, and Dallas.

The Atlanta event took place at the Atlanta IceForum in Duluth on October 6.

The festivals featured exclusive skating clinics and autograph sessions with, none other than, six-time U.S. men's champion Todd Eldredge.

Todd and his coach, Richard Callahan, worked on the ice with groups of skaters.

Above is a photo of Todd and GaFSC member Aerial Breneman. This photo, and lots of others, can be found on the USFSA website at: <http://usfsa.org/chevyskatefest/>

Upcoming Test Dates

Test Date	Location
March 2, 2003	Duluth
March 30, 2003	Southlake
May 4, 2003	Town Center
June 1, 2003	Southlake
June 29, 2003	Duluth
August 3, 2003	Duluth
August 10, 2003	Town Center

Test dates and locations are subject to change. Please verify all test dates and times with your coach and on the GaFSC website: www.gafsc.org.

Let's Cheer for Georgia!

Lori Faris

As competition season rolls around, we are excited and a little scared! Isn't it wonderful when club members cheer for us on the ice? At each rink we know our fellow skaters. We see each other just about everyday working and playing together. We cheer for our buddies!

However, we have fellow team members that we don't always know! There are other rinks in Atlanta that have Georgia Figure Skating Club members. We may not know them, but they are our team members!

What about cheering for everyone? We may not know certain skaters, but when we hear the name Georgia Figure Skating Club called out during an event...WE CAN CHEER!

This year let's really raise our voices together for skaters in the Georgia Figure Skating Club! Who knows? We might even make a new friend!

Georgia Figure Skating Club
1533 Glencrest Trail
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
<http://www.gafsc.org>

Mail To:

A note about test sessions and schedules....

As always, test dates and times are subject to change! The scheduled time for your test is NOT a fixed time but an approximate time that the test chairman is planning to hold your particular test. Many factors can cause this time to vary; therefore, skaters should plan to arrive at the rink on test day a minimum of 60 minutes prior to their scheduled warm-up. For example, another test participant (scheduled to test before you) may withdraw at the last minute and your test will be moved up. Please be sure to verify all information with your coach as soon as you arrive.

