



# THE INSIDE EDGE



December 2011



This group of 24 club skaters gathered for a picture at Maria Kalina's sendoff to USFS Sectionals in Colorado

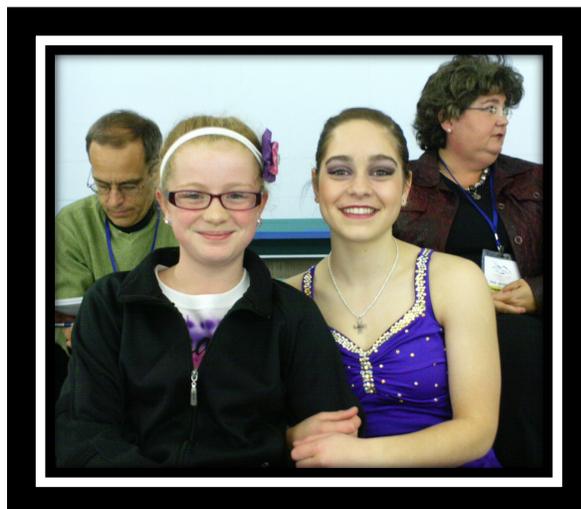
**Editor's note:** Grace and Korey Stoelzing traveled to Colorado to watch Maria skate. Grace wrote this special article for *The Inside Edge*.

## MY TRIP TO SECTIONALS BY GRACE STOELZING

Fort Collins, CO. After we found out that Maria made it to Sectionals my mom was talking to Maria's mom and asked her where it was going to be held. Sectionals were going to be held in Ft. Collins, Colorado. We couldn't believe it because that is where my grandma, aunt, uncle and cousins live. On the way home from skating that night we talked about how much fun it would be to fly out to Colorado, see my cousins and see Maria skate! We didn't know if my dad would go for it or not, but he did and so we decided to go! I couldn't wait to leave and was so excited about the trip.

We went to Colorado on the Wednesday before Maria was to skate. When we got to the rink on Thursday of her competition we looked for Maria and ran into her right away, took a picture and wished her good luck. We ran into Page and she told us that Maria wasn't nervous at all. It was amazing to sit there and see so many great skaters and we cheered the loudest when Maria came out. We were so proud of her!

We also went back on Saturday to see her skate her long program. She did a great job. It was really fun to go on that trip with my mom and see her skate. We think Maria is #1!!



Grace with Maria. Maria's parents, Paul and Alexandra are in the background

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Summary of major events. See website **CALENDAR** for complete club schedule

- Dec 12: ISI Test Session, 7:00 pm
- Dec 15: NO CONTRACT ICE SESSIONS
- Dec 16: Registrations due to Karen for Frosty Blades ISI competition in Blaine
- Dec 17: Holiday Party & Bake Sale at Parade, 11:30-1:00
- Dec 27: *IllumiSkate* Exhibition at Parade, 7:00-9:00 pm
- Jan 7: Blizzard Blast ISI Competition in Plymouth
- Jan 10: Tuesday classes begin for Skate School
- Jan 14: Saturday classes begin for Skate School
- Jan 14: Test Session. 12:00-1:00
- Jan 14: Blades of March registrations due
- Jan 15: Team Ensemble Party, 5:00-7:00 pm
- Jan 21: *Snow Daze* Exhibition, 11:30-1:00
- Jan 28: Spring Ice Show registrations due  
Exhibition Ice, 12:00-1:00
- Feb 10-12: Frosty Blades Competition in Blaine
- Feb 19: Club Skating Party at Depot Ice Rink
- Feb 25: Test Session, 12:00-1:00
- Mar 3-4: 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Blades of March competition hosted by SQSA Parade
- Apr 26: Spring Ice Show Dress Rehearsal
- Apr 27-28: Spring Ice Show
- June TBD: Spring Banquet

## ***SENIOR SPOTLIGHT ON LIZ BURKE***

Liz Burke will spend a portion of this winter in Europe. Not on vacation, but training and competing with the Braemar Junior synchronized skating team that is a representative of Team USA. (Club members Alana and Jillian Christie are also on the team). Their season culminates with the World's competition in March.

It takes a long time on the ice to reach this elite level. Liz began skating at age seven and spent time skating at rinks at Breck, Edison, Bloomington and Parade. "My best memory of skating at Parade is three summers ago when I came back to skating at Parade full time. That summer is when I rediscovered my love for skating and that I contribute to my coach, Karen (Olson)." She also credits her mom Nancy, who she says was a huge support for her.

Liz has had great times at Parade. "When I was younger, my skating friends and I would be at the rink from 9 am to 3 pm and we would all play hide 'n seek and freeze tag during our breaks." She also loves skating in the Spring Ice Shows. Her favorite was the "Black Cat" by Janet Jackson number two years ago. "That program was so much fun."

Liz has advice for young skaters: "Put 100% into it. I know it seems like a lot of fun to goof off and talk during sessions, but if you put in the effort now, it is a lot easier than trying to do it when you are older." Liz definitely put her time and effort in and it has paid off by being a member of Team USA.



**Broadmoor Open (Colorado), age 11**

## ***COACH SPOTLIGHT IS ALSO A FAREWELL***

Skating came naturally to Viktors Ayele. That is once he started. He didn't begin skating until he was 10 years old but within a year and a half he was competing at Junior Nationals.

Viktors started skating in our skate school and stood out immediately to the instructors, including Gailene Norwood, as a special talent. Gailene had spotted another young skater a year or so earlier named Rohene Ward. Viktors and Rohene would go on to be formidable skating forces.

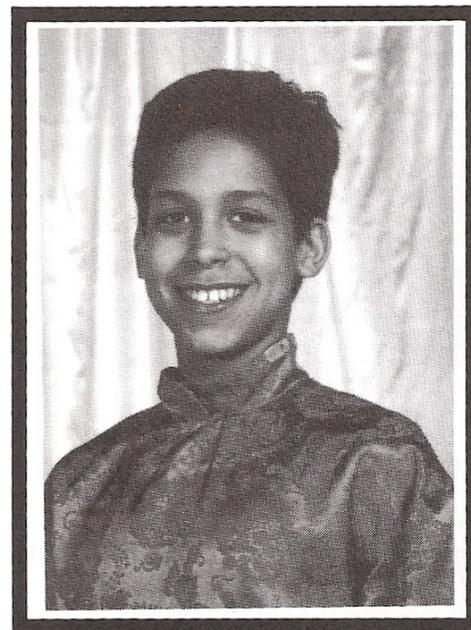
Viktors was coached and nurtured along the way by Gailene, Page, Karen and several other Parade coaches who guided him rapidly through the ISI and USFS skating levels. He commented about those early years: "I liked to perform, was a ham and could *really* jump!" That all helped."

He went on to compete for several years and qualified for Sectionals as a USFS Intermediate skater and passed the Senior Freestyle and incredibly challenging FS 10 tests.

Viktors has worked part time for several years giving lessons to share his skating and jumping expertise. You've probably seen him working on the pole harness with students.

Viktors graduated from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota a few years ago and has launched several internet based businesses that he now runs.

We'll be losing Viktor's calm presence and warm smile. He is relocating to Washington DC this month. We wish him a fond farewell and thank him for his loyalty and dedication to SQSA Parade.



**Viktors in the  
1996 Spring Ice Show**



## COMPETITION RESULTS

### MIDWEST SECTIONALS (COLORADO) - USFS

Maria Kalina Senior Ladies Freestyle SP & LP 12<sup>th</sup>

### BURNSVILLE AUTUMN SKATE FEST - USFS

Sophie Sela Pre-Prelim. Compulsory 5<sup>th</sup>

Sophie Sela Pre-Prelim. Freestyle 2<sup>nd</sup>

### NEW ULM FALL FEST - ISI

Mimi Longe FS1 Freestyle 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mimi Longe FS1 Compulsory 1<sup>st</sup>

Mimi Longe FS1 Stroking 3<sup>rd</sup>

Ashley Schilling FS6 Compulsory 2<sup>nd</sup>

Ashley Schilling FS6 Ribbon 3<sup>rd</sup>

### WHITE BEAR LAKE HOLIDAY OPEN - ISI

Kyle Berglund FS6 Freestyle 6 2<sup>nd</sup>

Kyle Berglund FS6 Light Entertain 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grace Byers FS 4 Freestyle 3<sup>rd</sup>

Isabel Constable FS3 Solo Compulsory 3 1<sup>st</sup>

Kirby Goodman FS 7 Freestyle 7 1<sup>st</sup>

Kirby Goodman FS 7 Footwork 7-9 5<sup>th</sup>

Kirby Goodman FS 7 Jump & Spin High 5<sup>th</sup>

Kirby Goodman FS 7 Solo Compulsory 7 3<sup>rd</sup>

Izzi Gorowsky FS6-8 Interpretive 1<sup>st</sup>

Izzi Gorowsky FS6 Lt. Enter Spot 1<sup>st</sup>

Izzi Gorowsky FS6-8 Jump & Spin High 5<sup>th</sup>

Izzi Gorowsky FS6 Solo Compulsory 3<sup>rd</sup>

Breckie Hill FS2 Solo Compulsory 3<sup>rd</sup>

Breckie Hill FS2 Freestyle 1<sup>st</sup>

Kate Hockin FS 4 Freestyle 1<sup>st</sup>

Julia Hussian FS7-9 Footwork 1<sup>st</sup>

Julia Hussian Platinum Freestyle 1<sup>st</sup>

Maria Kalina FS7-9 Footwork 2<sup>nd</sup>

Maria Kalina Platinum Freestyle 2<sup>nd</sup>

Isabel Kleinschmidt-Garcia FS5 Freestyle 4<sup>th</sup>

Isabel Kleinschmidt-Garcia FS5 Footwork 1<sup>st</sup>

Isabel Kleinschmidt-Garcia FS5 Interpretive 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mimi Longe FS1 Stroking 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mimi Longe FS1 Solo Compulsory 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mimi Longe FS1 Freestyle 3<sup>rd</sup>

Lucy Mayer FS 3 Freestyle 1<sup>st</sup>

Emily McGlynn FS6 Dramatic 5<sup>th</sup>

Greta Paschke FS5 Freestyle 1<sup>st</sup>

Greta Paschke FS5 Jump & Spin Intermed 4<sup>th</sup>

Allison Pasdo FS 5 Freestyle 5 2<sup>nd</sup>

Allison Pasdo FS 5-6 Open Gold FS 5-6 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mara Petersen FS 5 Freestyle 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mara Petersen FS 5 Jump & Spin Intermed 4<sup>th</sup>

Ava Pihlstrom FS1 Solo Compulsory 4<sup>th</sup>

Ava Pihlstrom FS1 Freestyle 1<sup>st</sup>

Vivien Pihlstrom Pre-Alpha Freestyle 1<sup>st</sup>

Abby Richardson FS6 Open Gold 1<sup>st</sup>

Abby Richardson FS6 Character Spotlight 1<sup>st</sup>

Abby Richardson FS6 Solo Compulsory 2<sup>nd</sup>

Abby Richardson FS6 Jump & Spin High 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mia Romsaas FS1 Freestyle 2<sup>nd</sup>

Casey Schwarzkopf FS4 Solo Compulsory 4 4<sup>th</sup>

Casey Schwarzkopf FS4 Freestyle 5<sup>th</sup>

Grace Stoelzing FS3 Freestyle 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grace Stoelzing FS3 Solo Compulsory 1<sup>st</sup>

Gabby Sullivan FS1 Freestyle 2<sup>nd</sup>

## ISI & USFS TESTS PASSED

Grace Goers - FS4

Caroline Bercaw - FS5

Rebecca Matson - FS3

Isabel Bercaw - FS5

Lika Corson - FS4

Jillian Christie - Sr. Gold Freestyle

## JILLIAN CHRISTIE ATTAINS SENIOR GOLD LEVEL

Passing the US Figure Skating Senior Gold tests are a huge accomplishment for high-level skaters. SQSA



Parade has produced several skaters who have passed a Senior Gold test. We proudly add Jillian Christie to the exclusive list.

Jillian passed her Senior Gold Freestyle test in November. Jillian, 15, is one of the youngest SQSA Parade skaters to pass this challenging test.

## REPORTING COMPETITION RESULTS

After each major competition, competitors will receive an email with a link to a shared "Google Docs" document and brief instructions on how to enter the results. There will be a separate spreadsheet for each competition.

If you are in a competition and there is not a spreadsheet for it, email [sqsaparade@gmail.com](mailto:sqsaparade@gmail.com) and one will be set up.

We only publish results that are reported by families and please enter only results for your child (even if a partner event).

### A couple friendly reminders to skaters and parents:

When submitting competition forms, please remember to fill out the form completely. When leaving off ISI number, expiration date, skating level and coach verification, it makes the team liaison job more difficult and time consuming. Please review your forms before submitting to the team liaisons, who perform this service on a volunteer basis. Forms cannot be registered for competitions with any missing information.

--Michael Luedtke, Team Liaison for Plymouth Bizzard Blast.

Along the same line, all club forms should be filled out completely. When you leave information blank, one of your fellow club members has to look up the info, call or email to get it. Club activities are handled by volunteers who appreciate your help in expediting club business.

## CLUB & MEMBER TRIVIA

Test your club knowledge. (Answers on back page.)

1. How many pair of sister members do we have? Can you name them?
2. What percentage of club members is named Sophie/Sophia or Isabel/Izabel?
3. Which early 1990's coaches are still affiliated with SQSA Parade?
4. What famous Olympian exhibited at Parade in 1989 to officially open the new rink addition?
5. What other Olympic skater has been spotted coaching at Parade recently (did you read the November *Inside Edge*?)



**IllumiSkate** is coming up quickly. Have you picked a fun piece of holiday music to skate to? This is the first year for this fun, skater-driven holiday theme exhibition to be held Tuesday, December 27 from 7:00-9:00 pm on the North Rink at Parade Ice Garden. Registration is free and open to any current SQSA Parade member and is due December 13<sup>th</sup>.

Skaters are encouraged to invite friends and family members. There will be no admission charge and refreshments and holiday goodies will be served in the lobby after the performance.

More detailed information and registration forms available on [www.sqsaparade.com](http://www.sqsaparade.com) under "IllumiSkate".

## HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE FOR SECOND HARVEST

There will be a club food drive for Second Harvest throughout December culminating at the Holiday Party December 17<sup>th</sup>. Collection boxes and information sheets will be in both rinks.

Second Harvest serves communities throughout the metro area by helping stock area food shelves. Did you know that 1 in 8 Minnesota children lives at risk of hunger or 40% of household members served are children under 18?

Second Harvest welcomes non-perishable items. Here is a list of MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Meats, fish and protein - canned tuna, ham chicken, beef stew, chili peanut butter, beans
- Fruits & vegetables
- Complete meals - pastas, boxed meals, soups
- Grains - cereal, rice
- Hygiene products & cleaning supplies

To make a cash donation go to: [www.2harvest.org](http://www.2harvest.org), click DONATE to search by organization (SQSA) to arrive at our page. You may also give a monetary donation to Isabel Kleinschmidt-Garcia who is coordinating this event and will send to Second Harvest.



## Holiday Party & Bake Sale

Skating \* Face Painting \* Treats

Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup> 11:30 - 1:00

Parade Ice Garden



## NOTES AND REMINDERS

The club website, [www.sqsaparade.com](http://www.sqsaparade.com) is being updated regularly. Please check it for any questions on schedules, team practices, contract ice, etc. **Click on "Calendar"** button for complete club schedule.

**Reminder:** There are no ice sessions or classes on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Bake Sale:** Dig out your best goodie recipe. Members are invited to donate items to our Holiday Party Bake Sale on Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Items can be dropped off on Friday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> or as early as possible on Dec 17<sup>th</sup>. We appreciate anyone who can donate and be sure to check out the offerings for sale at the party.

## SKATE SCHOOL WINTER SESSION

POWER HOCKEY CLASS ADDED TO CLASS LINE-UP

SportQuest Skating Academy Skate School classes begin for the Winter Session on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Many of our club members began their skating "careers" by taking these high quality classes.

If you have friends or know someone in your neighborhood that has a child (or adult) who wants to learn to skate, please refer them to our skate school. This session, in addition to learn to skate, freestyle and "Pixies" team skating there is an offering for hockey players, called "Power Skating for Hockey".

Information and registration forms are on the website under "Learn-to-Skate."

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Kirby said to me the other day, "Mom, the skater's don't read your newsletter. We don't read **email**".

I conceptually knew that, but I haven't figured out a way to text **Inside Edge** to the skaters. I do see them huddled around the copy I put on the bulletin board each month to see what's in the latest issue.

So parents, help us by printing out the newsletter for your skater. This is "their" club. We want them to know what is going on and celebrate our happenings and accomplishments.

## ANSWERS TO CLUB & MEMBER TRIVIA

1. We have 5 sets of sisters: Isabel & Caroline Bercaw, Alana & Jillian Christie, Carmen & Katie Ercolani, Olivia & Isabella Litecky, and Ava & Vivien Pihlstrom.
2. 17.2 %
3. Char Martin, Sheila Thelan, Debbie Einzig, Michael Luedtke, Gailene Norwood (Skate School), Jean Albrightson (Blades of March Chief Referee) and Elaine Hilmer-Green (then a coach; now a parent).
4. Dorothy Hamill performed in an Exhibition in 1989 to officially open the addition and new sheet of ice at Parade
5. Karen Kadavy, member of the 1988 US Olympic team.