



# Rink Link

June 2007



**August 24-26, 2007**

*By Dann Krueger*

The Bloomington Figure Skating Club is hosting the 2008 Minnesota State Figure Skating Championships on Friday, August 24 to Sunday August 26, 2007. The competition will be held at the Bloomington Ice Garden, 3600 West 98<sup>th</sup> Street in Bloomington.

One of the goals of the Minnesota State Championships is to prepare skaters for the upcoming qualifying competition season. To accomplish this, Minnesota State is run like a Regional competition. It includes such special features as 6 minute warm-ups for Juvenile and above, Regional-size skating groups, and posting of marks for all events. Additionally, this event will use the International Judging System (IJS) for Juvenile through Senior divisions. This competition is great preparation for the officials as well!

At the competition, our new Minnesota State Champions will be crowned. Besides securing their place in Minnesota skating history, these champions will also be celebrated at the annual Twin City Figure Skating Association banquet on Sunday September 16.

Additionally, the Minnesota State Champions will be featured along with our Sectional, National and International competitors at the "Celebration of Champions" in February 2008. I look forward to seeing all skaters, and their families, friends and fans at Minnesota State.



**Miami University Hosts**

**2007 U.S. Collegiate Championships**

Miami University will host the U.S. Collegiate Championships this August. The nation's top collegiate athletes will battle for medals at Goggin Ice Center, Miami's state-of-the-art, two-rink skating facility.

The 2007 U.S. Collegiate Championships will feature top junior and senior level competitors. Beginning Saturday, Aug. 4, college-aged skaters will arrive in Oxford, Ohio, for unofficial practice ice. The senior ladies qualifying round will be held on Sunday, with the short program and free skate events taking place throughout the next two days and culminating with the senior ladies free skate on Tuesday.

The university is thrilled to host this exciting event, and collegiate athletes are eager to visit another university and display higher levels on their required elements. The U.S. Collegiate Championships is the only collegiate skating event that utilizes the international judging system and typically draws competitive skaters who have participated in regional and sectional championships—and a few who have even competed at the U.S. Championships.

The announcement and registration for the 2007 U.S. Collegiate Championships are now available and can be found at [http://www.usfigureskating.org/event\\_details.asp?id=37175](http://www.usfigureskating.org/event_details.asp?id=37175).

***The entry deadline is June 20, 2007.***



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! EXPERIENCE THE "BEHIND THE SCENE" ACTION! 2008 U.S. Figure Skating Championships ~ January 20 - 27, 2008 XCEL ENERGY CENTER, ST. PAUL MN**

- ★ To volunteer you must be at least 18 by the time of the event.
- ★ All volunteers must be available for at least four shifts, six hours each.
- ★ There will be a mandatory orientation in early December 2007.
- ★ Where do your talents lie? Sign up for:

Competition Services	Hotel Coordination	Monitor/Practice Ice	Registration
Event Setup/Breakdown	Information	Music/Announcing	Telecommunications
Hospitality	Media Services	Office Services	Transportation

- ★ You will be contacted at a later date regarding your availability, final schedule, and assignments..
- ★ For Volunteer Registration Form, go to <http://www.xcelenergycenter.com/saintpaul2008/VolunteerForm.jsp>
- ★ You can either register on line ~ or ~ download printable form and Mail/Fax/E-mail Information:  
Nancy J. Meyer, 14286 Dulcimer Way, Apple Valley, MN 55124  
E-mail: [nancy.meyer@captionminnesota.com](mailto:nancy.meyer@captionminnesota.com) ~ Fax: 952.322.2110

# 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.*

*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 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: Shirley Hage, 16125 St Croix Trail N, Marine St Croix MN 55047



## City of St. Paul Declares April 21 "Eliot Halverson Day!"

*(from US Figure Skating website)*

St. Paul, Minn., native and reigning U.S. junior men's figure skating champion Eliot Halverson, 16, received a special honor Saturday, April 21, at the St. Paul Figure Skating Club Ice Show at Richfield Ice Arena in Richfield, Minn. April 21 was proclaimed "Eliot Halverson Day" in the City of St. Paul by St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman. Deputy Mayor Ann Mulholland delivered the proclamation following Halverson's performance in the ice show.

Halverson has won back-to-back U.S. titles, earning gold at the novice level in 2006 and again at the junior level in 2007. In doing so he's followed in the footsteps of former St. Paul Figure Skating Club skater John Lettengarver, who accomplished the same feat in 1945 and 1946. Halverson has finished third or better in more than a dozen regional, national and international figure skating competitions. Last month, he finished 10th at the 2007 World Junior Figure Skating Championships in Oberstdorf, Germany.

Halverson next moves up to the top level – senior – to compete at the 2008 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, which will be held at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 20-27, 2008.

Halverson, a high school junior, maintains a straight-A grade point average while pursuing his figure skater career. The St. Paul-native, born in Bogotá, Columbia, practices at Pleasant Arena in St. Paul. In his free time, Halverson also shares his skating talents as a U.S. Figure Skating Basic Skills instructor.

## Alex Johnson, Gardena Spring Trophy Bronze Medalist

Alex Johnson, current National Novice Silver Medalist and Braemar City of Lakes FSC member, represented the United States at the Gardena Spring Trophy in Ortisio Italy March 28 through April 1. Alex was awarded the Bronze Medal after placing 5<sup>th</sup> in short program and 3<sup>rd</sup> in freeskating.

Alex was invited to perform in the **Tom Collins Champions on Ice** shows at the DECC in Duluth on May 10<sup>th</sup> and the Target Center in Minneapolis on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Spectators were delighted with Alex's performances!



## Team Braemar Junior Synchronized Skating Team Wins Gold Medal at 2007 Zagreb Snowflakes Trophy International Competition

Team Braemar's Junior Synchronized Skating Team won the gold medal at the 2007 Zagreb Snowflakes Trophy held in Zagreb, Croatia, March 16-17, 2007.



Team Braemar competed as Team USA, representing the United States of America and U.S. Figure Skating. They placed first in both the short program (50.21) and the freeskate (87.92), winning the overall crown with a score of 138.13 and capturing their first international gold medal.

Western Michigan University of Kalamazoo, Michigan, earned the bronze medal in the Senior Division at the Zagreb competition. Teams from Austria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia, and Sweden also competed in this sixth-annual international synchronized skating competition for Novice, Junior, and Senior teams.

Team Braemar's Junior Team earned their international assignment by medaling at the 2006 U.S. Synchronized Team Skating Championships. This year the Junior Team finished in third place with a bronze-medal performance at the 2007 U.S. Synchronized Team Skating Championships held February 23-24, 2007, at the World Arena in Colorado

Springs, Colorado. As a result, they have been placed in the U.S. Figure Skating envelope system to receive another international assignment for the 2008 competitive season.

Team Braemar is a part of the Braemar-City of Lakes Figure Skating Club that operates out of Braemar Arena in Edina, Minnesota.

Beautiful Colors! Order yours now!



Great gift idea!



Big calendar squares for all your notes!  
 Dates of many important skating events I included on calendar pages!

Limited number available ~ \$20 of purchase price is tax deductible donation!

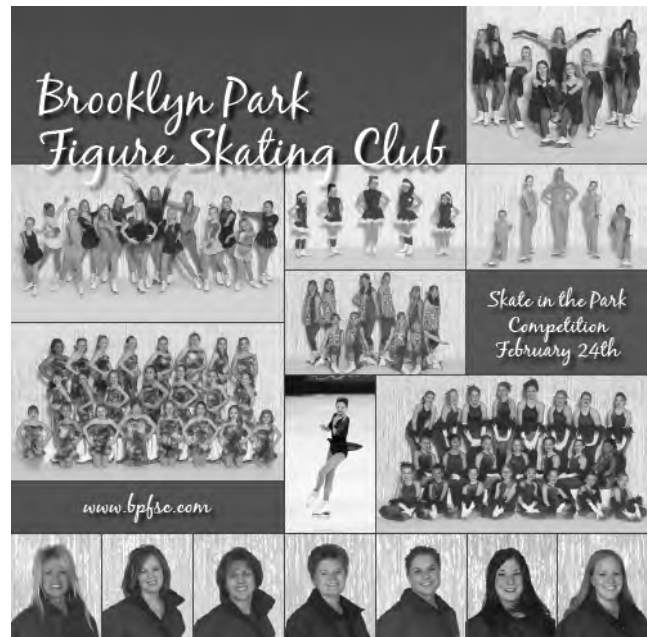
**MINNESOTA SKATING SCHOLARSHIP 18 MONTH CALENDAR ORDER FORM**

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# \_\_\_\_ x \$30 + \$5 shipping = \$\_\_\_\_\_ ~ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ payable to MSS enclosed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



Filled with great pictures of local skaters!



And some not so local ~ but visiting soon!

Return order form or purchase at  
 Richfield Arena during  
 Skate St. Paul ~ July 20-22!



## GOLD IST

**Ashley Wilson**

### **Elk River Figure Skating Club**

Ashley Wilson, a senior at Zimmerman High School, passed the US Figure Skating Gold Freestyle Test. Ashley, coached by Sandra Johansson, Janice Perszyk, and Julie Dupre is the first skater from the Elk River FSC to pass the Gold Freestyle Test and hopes that she will be the first of many.

She began skating when she was eight years old and shares her love of skating by teaching in freestyle and basic skills classes. Ashley is also beginning to teach private lessons and hopes to continue to do so along with her college class schedule.

Ashley will be attending Anoka Ramsey Community College in the Fall with plans to get a teaching degree from either Mankato or St. Cloud State.

Skating has taught Ashley a lot about herself and given her the self confidence and goal setting skills needed to continue her education and pursue a teaching career.



## GOLD IST

**Valerie Marchenko**

### **Starlight Ice Dance Club**

Valerie Marchenko, a sophomore at Eagan High School, has recently passed the US Figure Skating Gold Freestyle Test. She has been skating for almost as long as she can remember.

For the first three or four years Valerie was just a young recreational skater; she began training full time, before and after school, when she was in fifth grade. It was during long and difficult months of recovering from a stress fracture in her back, that made her appreciate the ability to skate and excel in such a beautiful and athletic sport. Valerie considers it to be an incredible privilege to be able to skate again full time.

She is looking forward to competing at State and Regionals this year, and wishes to continue skating for as long as she is able to do so. Valerie simply cannot imagine her life without skating.

Valerie was born in Moscow, Russia, and moved to Hanover, New Hampshire, when she was five months old. Valerie started skating at the age of 6 with the Dartmouth Figure Skating Club. Michael McGean, a Dartmouth graduate, and 1950 World and US Ice Dance Champion, was her first figure skating coach and his wise and kind guidance helped to instill a long-lasting love of skating in Valerie.

After moving to Minnesota, Valerie was coached by Lorie Wallace for five years. Page Lipe, also a Dartmouth graduate, has been Valerie's coach for the past three and a half years. Valerie plans to continue training in skating through her Junior and Senior year of high school and in college.

Together with skating, Valerie has also been playing piano since she was five years old. This month, she became one of the four scholarship winners in the Upper Midwest Music Festival, performing in Level A at the Northwestern College. Valerie is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Art Honor Society. Valerie has a deep interest in literature, art, math, and music. In her free time, Valerie enjoys drawing, reading, listening to or playing music, and spending time with friends and family. It has been her longtime dream to be able to attend Dartmouth College one day.



Congratulations to Ben Miller, St. Paul FSC, who was selected to serve as one of the two athlete delegates on US Figure Skating International Committee Management Sub-Committee. This committee selects all of the skaters who represent the United States in international competition.

Congratulations to Eliot Halverson, St. Paul FSC, who was named to US Figure Skating Team B and will be representing the United States at JGP Romania in September.

Congratulations to Alex Johnson, Braemar City of Lakes FSC and Team Braemar Synchronized Team who were named to US Figure Skating Team C.



Congratulations to former Twin City Synergy Senior Team member Rachel Funk and her current synchronized skating team, Miami University Varsity, for their 2nd place finish at the World Synchronized Skating Championship in London, Canada on March 31, 2007.

Representing the USA, Miami University made skating history by being the first US team to medal at a World Synchronized Championship. Also on the podium was Sweden in first place and Canada in third.

Rachel began synchronized skating on Roseville's Team Expression with team coaches Pam Sandborg and Amy Koland and individual coach Mary Lou Gerebi. Rachel graduates this year, but will be staying at Miami University in Oxford, OH, for graduate school and to work for the Miami University Athletic Department teaching skating.



# 2008 United States Figure Skating Championships Award Presenter Application

### Job Description:

The job of an award presenter for the 2008 US Figure Skating Championships is to assist in the presentation of medals, gifts, and flowers at the awards ceremonies.

### Requirements for applicants:

1. Must have passed Novice Moves in the Field test and/or completed Silver Dance level on or before June 30, 2007;
2. Must be 14 years of age but no older than 18 years of age on or before June 30, 2007;
3. Must be a continuous member of a TCFSA member club since July 1, 2006; and
4. Must be available **ANYTIME** from January 20 – 27, 2008 and follow a general code of conduct. There will also be a mandatory orientation/practice approximately two days before the start of the Championships.

### Selection Process:

Award presenters will be selected by a lottery drawing to be held on August 13, 2007, following the regularly scheduled TCFSA meeting. Applications will be sorted according to TCFSA member club. One (1) skater will be drawn from each TCFSA member club. One (1) alternate will be drawn from each TCFSA member club. Each club is asked to have its TCFSA official delegate(s) and/or club president in attendance to witness the lottery. A list of the twenty (20) award presenters and twenty (20) alternates will be posted on [www.tcfsa.org](http://www.tcfsa.org) by 5:00 p.m. on August 14, 2007. Each skater selected as an award presenter or an alternate will also be notified in writing.

Please complete the application below and mail it, **postmarked** on or before July 14, 2007, to:

**Marion Curry**  
**3670 Gettysburg Avenue #93**  
**St. Louis Park, MN 55426**

All questions should be directed to Marion Curry at 952-935-8514/ [marionc@att.net](mailto:marionc@att.net).

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### **AWARD PRESENTER APPLICATION**

*(Please fill out legibly and completely)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ USFSA # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Club \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or guardian email address (write clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Passed Novice Moves in the Field test: \_\_\_\_\_

and/or

Date of completed Silver Dance level: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Required signatures**

Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Club President or Membership Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Test Chair to verify date of passed test(s): \_\_\_\_\_



## 2008 United States Figure Skating Championships Sweeper Application

### Job Description:

The job of a sweeper for the 2008 US Figure Skating Championships is to collect flowers and other gifts thrown onto the ice surface after each of the performances.

### Requirements for applicants:

1. Must have passed Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field test on or before June 30, 2007;
2. Must be 8 years of age but no older than 13 years of age on or before June 30, 2007;
3. Must be a continuous member of a TCFSA member club since July 1, 2006; and
4. Must be available **ANYTIME** from January 20 – 27, 2008 and follow a general code of conduct. There will also be a mandatory orientation/practice approximately two days before the start of the Championships.

### Selection Process:

Sweepers will be selected by a lottery drawing to be held on August 13, 2007, following the regularly scheduled TCFSA meeting. Applications will be sorted according to TCFSA member club. Two (2) skaters will be drawn from each TCFSA member club. One (1) alternate will be drawn from each TCFSA member club. Each club is asked to have its TCFSA official delegate(s) and/or club president in attendance to witness the lottery. A list of the forty (40) sweepers and twenty (20) alternates will be posted on [www.tcfsa.org](http://www.tcfsa.org) by 5:00 p.m. on August 14, 2007. Each skater selected as a sweeper or an alternate will also be notified in writing.

Please complete the application below and mail it, **postmarked** on or before July 14, 2007, to:

**Lindsey Davis**  
**500 Washington Ave. South, Suite 4000**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55415**

All questions should be directed to Lindsey Davis at 612-359-4237 / [ldavis@zelle.com](mailto:ldavis@zelle.com).

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### **SWEEPER APPLICATION** *(Please fill out legibly and completely)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ USFSA # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Club \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or guardian email address (write clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Passed Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field test: \_\_\_\_\_

Required signatures

Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Club President or Membership Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Test Chair to verify Date of Passed Pre-Juvenile Moves in the Field test: \_\_\_\_\_

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**UPDATE**

***Congratulations to newly elected  
Midwestern Vice President ~ Pat St. Peter!***

**OFFICIALS & TECHNICAL PANEL APPOINTMENTS**

**National Singles & Pairs Judge**

Bridgit Wallace, St. Paul FSC

**National Singles Technical Controller**

Tamie Campbell, Braemar City of Lakes FSC

**Sectional Singles & Pairs Technical Controller**

Cheryl Marker, St. Paul FSC

**Sectional Singles & Pairs Technical Specialist**

Cheryl Marker, St. Paul FSC

**Sectional Announcer**

Stephen Masten, St. Paul FSC

**Sectional Accountant**

Krystal Himmler, Rochester FSC

**Silver Singles/Pairs Test Judge**

Kathryn Lambert, Maplewood FSC

**Bronze Singles/Pairs Test Judge**

Julie Mattson Ostrow, St. Paul FSC

**Regional Singles Technical Specialist**

Thomas Incantalupo, St. Paul FSC

**Non-Qualifying Singles Technical Controller**

Gregory Rouw, St. Paul FSC



Thanks to all who supported  
Minnesota Skating Scholarship Reception  
before the Champions On Ice performance!

Attendees had a chance to meet the skaters  
“up close and personal” and went home with an  
autographed program & a memento of  
Minnesota Skating History!

Plus the show was wonderful!  
Plan now to join us for next year!

*The Minnesota Skating Scholarship gratefully  
acknowledges the following contributions ~*

*In Honor of :*

*Tom Collins ~ Dick & Arne Klein*

*To make a tax-deductible donation to  
Minnesota Skating Scholarship, contact Herb Morgenthaler, Chair/Minnesota  
Skating Scholarship Committee at [HerbM@cinternet.net](mailto:HerbM@cinternet.net) or 612-926-9560.*