

# Synchronized Skating magazine

## Winter 2006

Midwestern Sectional Championships  
Fraser, Michigan

Fraser Figure Skating Club in Fraser, Michigan was host to 116 teams in 13 divisions for the 2006 Midwestern Synchronized Team Skating Sectional Championships.

The competition began early Friday morning at 8 a.m. with the qualifying rounds for the open juvenile division. Open juvenile was the largest division, with 23 teams competing. Of the 23 teams, 12 qualified to compete in the final rounds held Friday afternoon. After a tight competition, Fire on Ice skated an energetic program to take the bronze. Rhythm and Blades (Minnesota) won the silver skating with an Indian theme. Their program contained a difficult inside turn into a back hydro in a circle. They had great choreography that worked well with the music.

The gold went to Team du Coeur from Lakeland, Michigan. The skaters started their 'Witch' themed program by wiggling their noses. Coach Heather Blasko walks us through their program, "It's all about the 'Magic' of a great team, and the skaters are portraying 'good witches' through most of the program. Opening with the traditional 'Bewitched' theme song and 'magical' theatrics, it quickly flips to a fun, techno version of the song, which showcases the team's speed and power. A few pop songs added some fun to the mix (Do You Believe in Magic), and the finale is a powerful Bette Midler special, 'I Put a Spell on You'."

Both coaches, Heather Blasko and Sara Jack Grzymkowski were very happy with their team's skate. Coach Blasko said, "We were thrilled with the team's performance! They pulled together to



skate a clean program with all of the speed, power and enthusiasm of a championship team." What does she think it took to win the gold? "It took a lot of drive and determination, a positive attitude from each and every skater, the desire to ENJOY their time spent together...and a little 'magic'!" Team captain Rebecca Kather, 18, and co-captain Kayla Ridgway, 15, were very excited with their skate and really enjoyed being 'witches' for the program. Rebecca said, "I felt we had a very strong skate and had a lot of fun doing it." Kayla agreed, "I think we did amazing!" Rebecca's favorite part of the competition was "interacting with other teams and skating our hearts out when we competed."

