



QUICK QUOTES

Pairs, Free Skating (warm up groups 1 & 2)

Haven Denney/Brandon Frazier (USA), 2019 National silver medalists

Frazier: We're proud of our performance because we had a tough start to the season and we came out here showing promise and improvement. We're going to talk about the missed technical elements and work on them. With the season we've had, the injury, and battling some ups and downs, we've both been trying to stay in it so next season we can come back with everything. This is our last competition of the season and we're not going to take much time off and get to work so we are ready for the start of next season.

Denney: During the off season some of our main focus will be on the technical elements, like our jumps and creating new lifts. We can of course also always improve on our skating skills, transitions and the intricacy of our programs.

Tarah Kayne/Danny O'Shea (USA), 2018 Four Continents Champions

Kayne: I'm very disappointed in my performance today; we've been practicing and training really well and we even had a really strong six-minutes warm-up, but I think we just got a little off and unfortunately we weren't able to overcome today. (On selecting new free skating music for next season) We've been playing around with a few different music options but haven't settled on anything yet. (On off season goals) We're excited to have an off season so this will be nice to be able to recover and rest without having to overcome a major injury (by her in recent seasons). (On improvements) I feel much stronger as an athlete; my throws have really improved. Unfortunately, it didn't show in that performance but in practice we're having had consistency in practice. We had our first Grand Prix medal (silver at 2018 Internationaux de France) which was very exciting for us as well.

O'Shea: (on their improvements this season) We feel that we're building and in order to build sometimes you have to tear a little apart; there's a lot that we have that we can build on and we're excited to keep building and getting better.

Ashley Cain/Timothy Leduc (USA), 2018 Four Continents silver medalists & 2019 National Champions

Cain: I wasn't feeling great this morning, the practice was really rough for me and I was really dehydrated. So I went back to the hotel to rest and hydrate, and when I woke up I felt like a whole new person. That's how I wanted to come into the area, forget about what happened this morning and be as strong as I can be. Our goal for Worlds is to place in the top 10 and get the second slot back for the US. The only way to do that is to skate two solid performances.

LeDuc: (on competing in their home country as National Champions) It is a wonderful feeling to be announced as National Champions. And to come out carrying a responsibility is something we have wanted for a long time. We're really proud of our effort today, it sets us up well for the World Championships. We're really excited to go to Japan to compete for the USA.

Cheng Peng/Yang Jin (CHN), 2018 ISU GP Final silver medalists

Peng: We're not very satisfied with the performance today. We need to keep improving the quality. (on the problems with the triple Salchow) Despite the success rate of the triple jump in the training, we want to try that and challenge ourselves, and show what we have done in our training. (On the upcoming World Championships) To me what I learned from today's competition is to stay focused on myself. A lot of people,

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including our coach, are constantly reminding me of this point. And I realized how important it is to stay focused in this competition.

Jin: She did better than me today. My landing of the triple jump was not very steady. But overall the program was good. This competition is a good learning experience and wake up call. We have done the throw jump of good quality many times before and never had such mistake in the short program. This lets us know that in the future when competing in a smaller rink we need to more attention to the elements

Wenjing Sui/Cong Han (CHN), 2018 Olympic silver medalist & 2017 World Champions

Han: We were only showing what we have completed during our training, but actually we are not familiar with our program yet. Like the number of time we skated with music is really insufficient. We were a little stressed on ice today. It was a bit tough because we weren't familiar enough. (on winning by a small margin) Wow we are only 0.06 points higher than them. So close. We weren't really ready for this competition.

Sui: Right, we are really not familiar yet with our program, we did four or five, maybe even less (full run throughs), two or three times? The third time (complete run through) was actually this very time. I feel like overall we were less prepared and needed more systematic training. (On today's feeling and adjustment) I actually didn't adjust very much because I was still in that mood and state. Yesterday I felt I was too excited in general so today I tried to calm myself down a little. Maybe I overdid it a little. I think we will have a better control over the competition after this time. (on lack of preparation) We were pretty nervous. I'm really happy we can show what we have today on ice, but honestly we are not the best of us. We will do the best we can and continue training hard. For us this is our fifth Four Continents title, but it was my third time coming back. It's very different every time I come back. I want to thank people who helped me and stood by me, my opponents, my partner, and my coaches, they really helped us a lot. I also hope in the remaining time every athlete can perform well and present the best of themselves.

Kirsten Moore-Towers/Michael Marinaro (CAN), 2019 National Champion

Moore-Towers: I think having the result being so close to winning is a little bit bittersweet for us. We're proud of ourselves, but we know we left some good points on the table that maybe would have made for a result that we were more happy with, but if you would have told us last year we would have been disappointed at second, we would have called you crazy. We do something right, we know what we need to do and we'll work for it for Worlds. This Chinese team, the champions, are my favorite pair skaters maybe ever. So it's nice for us to skate with them and learn from them and to be so close is thrilling as well. So we're happy for the most part.

Marinaro: We're disappointed in the lifts today. We've been focusing on that all season and we've been progressing pretty well on them and for that go that way today was a pretty big disappointment, because it's been so tight. But we did a lot to be proud of today and we have our biggest score by a lot.

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