



Hayden Synchronized Skating Teams
Lexington, MA

PRESS RELEASE

HAYDENETTES KICK-OFF SKATING SEASON WITH APPEARANCES

Lexington, MA, October 4, 2007 – The Haydenettes, U.S. Figure Skating's 2007 Synchronized Team Skating Champions, recently kicked off the figure skating season. In their earliest ever appearance, the team exhibited their short program at "An Evening for Iveta," a benefit for world-class ice dancing coach Iveta Ice. Ice, a national and international ice dancing coach who was diagnosed with acute leukemia earlier in 2007. All proceeds from the show went to the Iveta Ice Fund to assist with her medical and family expenses. Three-time World medalists and four time U.S. champion ice dancers Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto, three-time U.S. champion Johnny Weir, U.S. pairs champions Brooke Castile and Ben Okolski and World Junior champion Stephen Carriere appeared along with the Haydenettes.

“ This was a great opportunity to have this year's Haydenettes team performing in front of a crowd very early in the season and to help a figure skating coach at the same time,” noted Saga Krantz, Director of Synchronized Skating for the Hayden Teams and Head Coach of the Haydenettes and Ice Mates. “It is important to skate well in events where we join with other elite figure skaters. We want to be good representatives of our community, fans and the sport of synchronized skating whenever we take the ice, it was pleasing to me that our short program is in such good shape at this time of year to do this,” noted Krantz.

Two weeks later the Haydenettes walked and supported the *Susan Komen Race For the Cure* run/walk to raise funds to fight cancer. The Haydenettes were joined at the event by Hayden's Lexettes Junior team, this will be the second year in a row both teams have supported this worthy cause.

Two years ago the scare of cancer came close to the Hayden organization when long time Haydenettes' Team Manager, Gail Hanson-Mayer was diagnosed with cancer. For many of the skaters this was a first-time experience with cancer in someone they are very close to. As the season progressed, the skaters learned first hand the challenges of cancer surgery, radiation and chemotherapy and the routine of treatment with good days and bad days of Hanson-Mayer's treatment and recovery. A recovery that continues to find Hanson-Mayer healthy and joining the team again this year for the walk.

It was Hanson-Mayer's experience that inspired the team to join in the *Race for the Cure* last year. The experience of the race and seeing so many survivors involved and the reality that virtually everyone has been touched either directly or indirectly by this dreaded disease reinforced the teams' resolve to continue to be involved and help raise awareness and money for the Cure.



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The Haydenettes team also announced three of the team's upcoming appearances. The team will once again skate at *An Evening With Champions*, the Jimmy Fund skating event benefiting the Dana Farber Cancer Institute to be held October 12th-13th. This is the 38th year of *An Evening With Champions* and again this year there is a stellar line-up including many of the stars noted above plus Emily Hughes who now attends Harvard herself. The event will once again be held at Harvard's Bright Arena in Cambridge. For tickets and more information see <http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~ewc/index.htm>. The Saturday evening show will be taped and *An Evening With Champions* will once again be broadcast by COMCAST cable on their CN8 Channel (see local listings for dates and times).

The team also announced an invitation by U.S. Figure Skating to appear and skate in the champions' exhibition on October 28th as part of Skate America, the ISU Grand Prix competition, one of six stops on the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series. The event will take place at the Sovereign Center, in Reading PA with competition in ladies, men's, pairs and ice dancing. Other stops on the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series each year include Skate Canada, the Cup of China, Trophée Eric Bompard in France, the Cup of Russia and the NHK Trophy in Japan. The Grand Prix Final takes place each December and rotates among the countries that host the ISU Grand Prix events.

Immediately following Skate America the team will travel again this year to New York City where they will be featured in the opening of The Pond at Bryant Park, a seasonal ice rink in mid-town Manhattan across from the public library. This is the third year of The Pond and the third year the Haydenettes have been featured at the opening event which this year on Monday October 29th. To view a slide show of last year's performance at Bryant Park see http://www.haydensychroteams.com/slideshow/Bryant%20Park%20Opening%20Ceremonies/bryantpark2006_1.htm

The Haydenettes will announce additional appearances for the team that are currently under discussion when commitments and dates are finalized. In addition to the team's appearances the team has a full schedule of competitive events. For more information see www.haydenettes.com

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