

Beverly figure skaters show the Way to gold at Bay State Games



An eighth grader at the Briscoe Middle School, Beverly's Samantha Way won a pair of gold medals in figure skating at the Bay State Games, Jan. 28-30.

**By Christopher Hurley / churley@cnc.com
GateHouse News Service
Feb 04, 2011**

Beverly, Mass. — Beverly's Samantha Way and Kimberly Way certainly found their way to Bay State gold last weekend.

The figure skating sisters took home four medals, including three gold in the 26th annual Bay State Games in Williamstown, Jan. 28-30

The girls, both members of the Cape Ann Skating Club, faced a highly competitive field, going up against skaters from Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire.

An eighth grader at the Briscoe Middle School, Samantha earned her first gold medal in the Female Artistic Freestyle (age 13 division), Jan. 28. Skating to "On My Own" by Glee, the big sister picked up her first of two gold medals in the competition.

Samantha continued to shine just two days later scoring her second gold medal after performing her freestyle program skating to "Phantom of the Opera. This marked Samantha's second time competing at the Bay State Games, previously picking up a bronze medal last year.

A third grader at the Cove Elementary School, kid sister Kimberly Way made an impressive Bay State Games debut taking the bronze in the Female Artistic Freestyle (age eight division), while skating to a medley from "Pocahontas," Jan. 28. She earned Bay State gold just two days later, taking top honors in the Female Freestyle (age eight division), after dazzling the crowd to the "Hawaiian Roller Coaster Ride" from Lilo and Stitch.

Both of the girls programs were choreographed by head coach Faye Greel, who is the Learn to Skate Director of the Cape Ann Skating Club. Faye currently skates on the Skating Club of Boston's adult Theatre On Ice Team, Imagica, 2010 International and National gold medalists and 2010 Nations Cup gold medalists in Paris, France. The girls are also coached by professional figure skating coach Alisa Contreras.

According to Samantha Way, the Cape Ann Skating Club has gotten a tremendous amount of support from its team throughout the Bay State Games.

"It creates a sense of community in the club; to comfort each other in our losses and cheer each other on [when we win]," Samantha said. "Then again it's not just Bay State Games and competition that make our club, unlike some others. Being there is like having an extended family. You're never alone and it's just a good feeling."

And with the Way sisters in the fold, the Cape Ann Club may have to add another shelf to its ever-growing trophy case.

Bay State Games results

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

Event 4 - Female Artistic Freestyle 2 Age 8

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------|
| 1. Nicole Takacs | Portsmouth, RI | Gold |
| 2. Sarah Gioiosa | N. Dartmouth | Silver |
| 3. Kimberly Way | Beverly | Bronze |

Event 14 - Female Artistic Freestyle 4 Age 13

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------|--------|
| 1. Samantha Way | Beverly | Gold |
| 2. Maddie Humphrey | Granby | Silver |
| 3. Alexandra Arnaud | Rockport | Bronze |

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

Female Preliminary-Restricted / Test Track – Group 5

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|--------|
| 1. Samantha Way | Beverly | Gold |
| 2. Jacqueline Wonson | Gloucester | Silver |
| 3. Nicole Butler | North Reading | Bronze |

Female Freestyle 2 Age 8

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------|
| 1. Kimberly Way | Beverly | Gold |
| 2. Nicole Takacs | Portsmouth, RI | Silver |
| 3. Sarah Gioiosa | N. Dartmouth | Bronze |
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Cape Ann Skating Club skaters heading to California



Members of the Cape Ann Skating Club get together at the Bay State Games in Williamstown over the Jan. 28-30 weekend.

By Staff reports
Cape Ann Beacon
Feb 07, 2011

Boston — Eleven members of the Cape Ann Skating Club recently competed in the 26th Annual Bay State Games, which were held in Williamstown on Jan. 28-30.

Skaters from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont and Rhode Island attended.

The Cape Ann Team consisted of 11 girls ranging in age from 8 to 15. Members of the team included Alexandra Arnaud and Amanda Greel (both of Rockport), Emily Askwyth and Carly Jennings (both of South Hamilton), JiaLi Mulvey and MeiLan Mulvey (both of Manchester), Mauryn Tyack and Kailey Wright (both of Essex), Kimberly Way and Samantha Way (both of Beverly) and Jacqueline Wonson, of Gloucester.

Unlike some local competitions, only the top three skaters in each flight receive a medal. Several of the flights had up to nine skaters competing. Skating in individual events, the girls earned a total of 20 medals. Each skater now qualifies to represent Massachusetts in the State Games of America to be held this summer in San Diego, Calif., and in the 2013 State Games in Hershey, Pa.

This group of girls has been skating together for several years. Although skating is mostly an individual sport, the girls are a team. They often compete against each other, but they cheer each other on and are happy with whatever the results may be.

Four different Cape Ann-based figure skaters earned gold medals in the annual Bay State Winter Games.

The skating events were split into ISI (Ice Skating Institute) and USFS (U.S. Figure Skating) rule competitions.

In ISI events, MeiLan Mulvey won gold in the Female Artistic Freestyle 1 Age 8 division, and she also won silver in the Female Freestyle 1 Age 8 division.

JiaLi Mulvey won gold in Female Artistic Freestyle 3 Age 8-9 (just ahead of Essex's Mauryn Tyack, who won silver in that event and in Female Freestyle 3 Age 8-10). JiaLi Mulvey also won gold in the Female Freestyle Bronze Age 8-9 division.

Kailey Wright was the gold medalist in the ISI Female Freestyle 3 Age 11-12 Division, and won bronze in the Female Artistic Freestyle 3 Age 11 division.

Gloucester's Jacqueline Wonson won gold in the ISI Female Freestyle 5 Age 13 division. She also took silver in the Female Preliminary-Restricted/Test Track – Group 5.

Rockport's Alexandra Arnaud won silver in the Female Freestyle 4 Age 13-14 and bronze in the Female Artistic Freestyle 4 Age 13 division.

Amanda Greel, also from Rockport, won silver in the Female Freestyle Gold Age 15-16 division.



Two Georgetown skaters win Bay State Games gold

By Staff reports
Georgetown Record
Feb 07, 2011

Georgetown — Madison McClung skated in the Bay State Games in Williamstown at the end of January. In her first year of eligibility, she won gold in her flight (USFS Female Preliminary-Restricted/Test Track – Group 1) and will go on to compete nationally in the State Games of America in August in San Diego, Calif., and is automatically invited to compete in Pennsylvania in 2012.

Georgetown's Deborah Wood also won gold in the Female Adult Silver division.



Brookline Sports Notes

By Anonymous
Wicked Local Brookline
Posted Feb 10, 2011

Brookline — Hoshida earns bronze medal at Bay State Games

Ayaka Hoshida of Brookline took home a bronze medal in figure skating at the Bay State Winter Games held Friday, Jan. 28.

Hoshida medaled in the female preliminary unrestricted/well balanced, group 1 category.

3 Walpole girls pursue skating dreams at annual Bay State Games



Gary Gartley photo courtesy of SportsPix
Chantal Chammas got interested in skating after watching an older sister do it.

By Keith Lewis
The Walpole Times
Feb 10, 2011

WALPOLE — Winning ugly is almost a regular thing in ice hockey, but in that other sport on skates, ugly won't get you anything.

Figure skating is like gymnastics, where every little move is scrutinized by judges, coaches and fans alike, and not only does a competitor need thick skin to survive the constant inspection, but also needs the patience of Job to pursue the sport.

Despite not getting the instant gratification winning ugly can offer, figure skaters keep inching along toward perfection, alone or in pairs, and often out of view of the mainstream.

That's especially true in Massachusetts where hockey is king, but despite the fact that girls' ice hockey is the fastest growing sport in the state, three sophomores residing in Walpole have fallen in love with the sport and keep pursuing their dreams.

Just last week the trio of girls – Chantal Chammas, Jacqueline Raftery and Charlotte Marquis – traveled to Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, to participate in the 26th annual Bay State Winter Games to continue that pursuit. All three locals competed well, with Chammas netting bronze in Artistic Freestyle 5, Marquis grabbing silver in Female Freestyle Silver and Raftery eighth in a very tough Female Novice Unrestricted/well balanced category. They all met their own expectations despite competing in a Bay State Games opened for the first time to competitors from other New England State.

"We opened it to all of New England," said Peter Cohenno, director of the Games. "It's something we wanted to try for the winter games, the first 25 winter games the competitors were just all Massachusetts.

"We thought it would help the local economy, with people having to stay in the area and taking advantage of what local shops, hotels and restaurants have to offer."

While the three girls are in the same grade and have a true passion for their sport, they all came to it in different ways.

Rafferty more or less grew up in the sport as her mother competed when she was younger and now coaches. She is also one of Rafferty's coaches.

"I can work with her whenever I want; we get along very well," explains Rafferty.

Skating is also in Chammas' family, as her older sister picked up the sport before she did.

"I started when I was eight years old, my older sister was skating before I was," says Chammas. "A friend and I thought it would be fun. I got to the highest level of the Learn to Skate program (at the Iorio Arena), and I decided to take private lessons. I thought it would be fun to compete."

Marquis had no family influence, but says she became interested while watching the competitions on television.

"I started when I was seven years old," says Marquis. "I started to fall in love with skating, and it never gets boring. I originally saw the skaters on TV, and I said 'now that looks like fun.' After that it was history."

All three girls are currently making history, and could make a lot more. Marquis, who attends Ursuline Academy in Dedham and claims Tara Lipinsky and Michelle Kwan as her current heroes, is serious about reaching competitive goals she has set for herself.

"I feel like skating is where I am right now, and is my goal, my destinations," says Marquis. "Since 2008 I've been doing the Bay State Games, and I feel every year there's something to learn and every competition you go to, you can improve on what you've done. It's good for you."

Marquis' other main interest is showing horses, and she's pursuing that as well. Riding for two years, she was already fourth out of 16 at last year's regional championships.

"These two sports take up a lot of time," admits Marquis, "But every show's an experience, just like skating. I love them both."

While the others are BSG veterans, this was Chammas' first.

"It was like my other competitions, I wasn't that worried about it," says Chammas, another Ursuline student. "Before I got to the competition I got to the rink. I got to feel what it was like, and then I wasn't nervous."

"My first skate (Juvenile-Restricted/Test Track – Group B) I felt better than the second one I got my medal in. Overall, I was happy with what I did."

Chammas lists as a hero her coach, Michelle Weber, who also coaches Marquis.

"She's like a hero," says Chammas. "She also went to Ursuline, and she competed at the senior level before coaching."

This was the fifth Bay State Games for Rafferty, who has skated 11 years, and won gold at the State Games of America back in 2009.

Like the others she hopes to pursue competition, but also has other aspirations as well.

"I also coach figure skating," says the Bishop Feehan student. "I like to do that too, and to work with children. I do a lot of babysitting, and some of my neighbors are taking lessons where others want to try when they get older."

And also like the others, Rafferty enjoys blazing her own trail and not following the crowd.

"I never had any second thoughts about it," says Rafferty. "It makes me who I am and different from everybody else."

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/walpole/sports/x1055385951/3-Walpole-girls-pursue-skating-dreams-at-annual-Bay-State-Games>

Hamilton figure skaters Jennings, Askwyth rule rink at Bay State Games



SportsPix photo by Gary Gartley

Hamilton's Carly Jennings won a gold and silver medal in figure skating at the 2011 Bay State Winter Games, Jan. 28-29.

By Dom Nicastro / Correspondent
GateHouse News Service
Feb 09, 2011

Hamilton — Hamilton figure skaters Carly Jennings and Emily Askwyth recently went for the gold at the 2011 Bay State Winter Games.

The South Hamilton residents both delivered the goods, each winning a gold medal.

Jennings, 11, took home the top prize in Female Freestyle Bronze, Age 11-14 division, Jan. 30. The Ford Street resident also secured a silver medal in Female Artistic Freestyle 3, Age 11 division, Jan. 28.

Askwyth, 14, also dominated winning the Female Freestyle Silver, Age 14 division, Jan. 29. The Essex Street resident also rounded out the top five in the Female Artistic Freestyle 4, Age 14 division.

Q: How does it feel bringing home Bay State gold?

Jennings: It's really exciting. I'm really thrilled that I got the gold.

Askwyth: Good, I was excited. I've been competing at the Bay State Games a few times before getting a gold and a bronze. This event was much harder. I was competing against more advanced people, but it was a really fun competition.

Q: What did you skate to during your routine?

Jennings: I skated to Beauty and the Beast and Somebody to Love by Queen.

Askwyth: It didn't have words, because there wasn't an artistic program, but it was from Chicago.

Q: How long have you been skating competitively?

Jennings: Probably since I was about eight.

Askwyth: I think my first competition was when I was eight.

Q: What was it that attracted you to the sport of figure skating?

Jennings: I started taking group lessons as a toddler when I was about three and I just really like it and I would skate with my friends. It just sort of grew on me.

Askwyth: I learned to skate when I was four and I guess I just liked it, so I kept on going.

Q: What's next competition wise?

Jennings: My next competition is the Viking, which will be Feb. 13.

Askwyth: My next competition is this weekend, the Viking Competition, which will be Feb. 13.



SportsPix photo by Gary Gartley
Hamilton's Emily Askwyth won a gold medal skating at the 2011 Bay State Winter Games, Jan. 29.

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/hamilton/features/x1055382906/Hamilton-figure-skaters-Jennings-Askwyth-rule-rink-at-Bay-State-Games>

Medford figure skater Carol DiMati strikes gold at Bay State Games



Medford figure skater Carol Dimati won her second gold medal at the Bay State Winter Games, Jan. 28. DiMati, 15, aced her most recent test taking top honors in the Female Intermediate-Unrestricted / Well Balanced division.

**By Christopher Hurley / churley@cnc.com
GateHouse News Service
Feb 09, 2011**

Medford — The third time was definitely the charm for Carol DiMati.

The Medford figure skater won her second gold medal at the Bay State Winter Games, Jan. 28.

DiMati, 15, aced her most recent test taking top honors in the Female Intermediate-Unrestricted / Well Balanced division. It was the Woburn Street resident's second Bay State gold in three years, previously winning the medal in 2009.

Medford native Caroline Cronin also competed in the competition placing fifth, Jan. 30, in the Female Preliminary-Restricted Test Track Group.

Meet Carol DiMati

Q: How does it feel to bring home Bay State gold?

A: I feel great, because I've been working really hard. It was an exciting competition.

Q: What did you skate to during your routine?

A: I skated to "Don't Rain on My Parade" by Glee. It went pretty well.

Q: Have you competed in the Bay State Games before?

A: Yes. This was my third time competing in the Bay States Games. The first time I competed I came in first, but the second time it didn't really go well. This one was a little different, because my program had words to it, so it was more like a little show.

Q: How long have you been skating competitively?

A: Since I was four, so 11 years.

Q: What attracted you to the sport of figure skating?

A: I just love being on the ice.

Q: What's next competition wise?

A: I'm not really sure. I think I'm going to take some tests, my junior moves and my novice freestyle.



LMS Student Competed In Bay State Games

Figure skater Alexa McCormick was in Williamstown in late January.

By William Laforme | February 9, 2011

Name: Alexa McCormick

Age: 13

School: Lynnfield Middle School

Accomplishment: In late January, Alexa competed at the Bay State Games in Williamstown, placing fifth of nine in the preliminary test track.

Alexa has been skating since she was in the 4th grade and has been a competitive skater for almost as long. She devotes five days a week to her sport: three of them with coach Amy Hanson Kuleszka, another day for her own individual practice, and the other with her training coach. She is also currently a volunteer at the Burbank Ice Arena in Reading.

Looking ahead, one of Alexa's goals as a figure skater is to compete in next year's State Games of America. When asked what motivates her, Alexa replied that skating is simply something she enjoys very much.

Whiz Kid of the Week: Nicole Takacs

Only in second grade, Nicole has already won a gold medal



Nicole Takacs of Portsmouth (center) skate with sisters Kera and Kristen at the recent Winter Bay State Games.

By Sandy McGee | [Email the author](#) | February 14, 2011

- * Nicole Takacs, second grader
 - * Melville Elementary School, Feinstein Junior Scholar
 - * What makes Nicole awesome: Nicole recently earned a gold medal by figure skating at the Winter Bay State Games, the first time Rhode Islanders were eligible to compete. Nicole captured a gold medal in her artistic event and a silver medal in her freestyle event.
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PatriotLedger.com

Weymouth girl takes gold in Bay State Winter Games



Zina Seminara, 11, of Weymouth

By Anonymous

Posted Feb 14, 2011 @ 01:44 PM

Zina Seminara of Weymouth won the gold medal in the female freestyle skating competition for 11-year-olds in the Bay State Winter Games on Jan. 30. Alexa Parham, also of Weymouth, took the silver.

Athletes from around the South Shore medal in Bay State Winter Games



Photo courtesy of SportsPix

Rosie Stefanidakis of Milton was just one of over 30 participants from the South Shore in the figure skating competition at the 2011 Bay state Winter Games on January 28 and 29.

By Anonymous
GateHouse News Service
Feb 15, 2011

A number of local high school athletes participated in the Bay State Winter Games a few weeks ago and were successful in winning a medal.

Here is a list of the medalists from across the South Shore:

Madelyn Driscoll (Milton, MA)
Rebekah Leahy (Kingston, MA)
Lily Barrett (Norwell, MA)
Tallia Popowycz (N Easton, MA)
Jessica Shaw (Hanover, MA)
Nicole Lee (Quincy, MA)
Rose Stefanidakis (Milton, MA)
Liliana Baker (Abington, MA)
Alexa Parham (Weymouth, MA)
Abigail Judson (Kingston, MA)
Ashley Perez (Brockton, MA)
Kyla Hansen (Avon, MA)
Courtney Willis (Whitman, MA)
Jayda Jones (Randolph, MA)
Katie Stapleton (N Easton, MA)
Caitlin Rodway (Bridgewater, MA)
Alexis Nixon (Hanover, MA)
Isabelle Driscoll (Milton, MA)
Kathleen Gordon (East Bridgewater, MA)
Julianna Mori (Plymouth, MA)

Jordyn DiLorenzo (Abington, MA)
Danielle Donovan (Abington, MA)
Abigail Goodson (Hanover, MA)
Julia Tasiopoulos (Norwell, MA)
Madelyn Driscoll (Milton, MA)
Rebekah Leahy (Kingston, MA)
Jaimee Sullivan (Hanover, MA)
Emily Argiro (Norwell, MA)
Nicole Brow (Braintree, MA)
Vanessa Munn (Quincy, MA)
Brianna Byrne (Bridgewater, MA)
Samantha Tullis (Stoughton, MA)
Nicole Smith (Bridgewater, MA)
Madeline Patrick (South Easton, MA)
Nicole Perry (Raynham, MA)
Nicole Lee (Quincy, MA)
Brianna Byrne (Bridgewater, MA)
Kelly Cronin (Duxbury, MA)
Maddey Juliano (Hanover, MA)
Caitlin Rodway (Bridgewater, MA)
Hannah Murphy (Hanover, MA)
Kailey Murphy (Hanover, MA)
Madeline Patrick (South Easton, MA)
Olivia Morris (Pembroke, MA)
Danielle Donovan (Abington, MA)
Tallia Popowycz (N Easton, MA)
Jessica Shaw (Hanover, MA)
Lyndsey Marshalka (Scituate, MA)
Ashlee Wright (Pembroke, MA)
Tess Perrone (Abington, MA)
Nikki Montanaro (Whitman, MA)
Lyndsey Marshalka (Scituate, MA)
Vanessa Munn (Quincy, MA)
Emily Argiro (Norwell, MA)
Ashlee Wright (Pembroke, MA)
Christine Donahue (Scituate, MA)
Katie Walsh (Hanover, MA)
Stephanie Rodway (Bridgewater, MA)
Rachel Spitz (Hanover, MA)
Haley McKay (Abington, MA)
Julia Tasiopoulos (Norwell, MA)
Benjamin Anderson (Plymouth, MA)
Olivia Morris (Pembroke, MA)
Caroline Vitaro (Duxbury, MA)
Melissa Scammon (Quincy, MA)
Rose Stefanidakis (Milton, MA)
Jillian Smart (Hanson, MA)
Zina Seminara (Weymouth, MA)
Alexa Parham (Weymouth, MA)
Melissa Mello (Randolph, MA)
Abigail Judson (Kingston, MA)
Ashley Perez (Brockton, MA)
Erin Bryan (Braintree, MA)
Kelsey Girard (Rockland, MA)
Alexis Nixon (Hanover, MA)
Danielle Shaw (Hanover, MA)
Shannon Donahue (Scituate, MA)
Allura Campbell (Rockland, MA)
Rachelle Beauchesne (Brockton, MA)
