



## PRESS CONFERENCE

Pairs, after Free Skating

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

Kayne: Winning this event means so much to us. I think much more than winning in any other year because of what we had to go through, coming back from injury. This year specifically was very tough. I spent many months off the ice while Danny was training by himself. Not only to be here as a competitor, but to have won the event that's huge for us. (on being in Taiwan) This is our third time in Taiwan. Danny and I have had a great experience all three times. We really liked being here, we especially like going to the night market, it is so great and colorful. Everyone is so friendly, the competition is so organized. That's one of the reasons we enjoy coming here. When we found out we were assigned to the competition we were both very excited. (on achieving a personal best) We're extremely pleased with our scores and our performance. We did lose a few points. We're happy that even with that we got a great score and we can build on it. If we hadn't lost those few points our scores would have been even higher. Looking forward to the future, there're definitely points that we left on the board. We feel great about what we put out there today knowing that we could pick up a few more points.

O'Shea: (on the level of the competition with some leading teams not attending) Every time you go to competition you just have to deal with what you have there. We cannot control who comes to competition and how other skaters skate. We just focus on ourselves and try to skate the best we can. As it was said, it was our personal best scores I think for both American teams. So that is something that we can be very proud of, no matter who else was at the competition. We skated well and did our best. (on being in Taiwan) I love being here. I love the food, the people are wonderful and it's so nice to have the hotel so close to the arena and there is a mall.

### **Ashley Cain/Timothy Leduc (USA) 2018 Four Continents silver medalists**

Cain: We're extremely proud of ourselves. Being in first place after the short program was a really big thing for us, but we kept our goals the same and we just stayed connected. I got some devastating news yesterday. My grandfather was in the hospital and he might pass away soon. So when I skated out there today I skated for him and I felt his presence. He was always such a supporter of my skating and of me. Timothy helped me through that yesterday and today and so did my parents. That means so much to me. That's why that skate and that silver medal, although we had a few iffy areas, mean a lot to us.

Leduc: (on the level of the competition with some leading teams not attending) Certainly, when you enter a competition, we always see to promote the values that we athletes hold to which are self-betterment and unity. Regardless who else is in the competition, we want to do our best to promote these values and be the best athletes that we can be and promote the sport in the best way we can. (on being in Taiwan) We're very happy to be here. It's been a wonderful competition. Everyone has been very hospitable and friendly. The skating federation in Taiwan has been a wonderful host.

### **Tae Ok Ryom/Ju Sik Kim (PRK) 2018 Four Continents bronze medalists**

Ryom: After the short program we were fourth and I regretted that and hoped that we'd be able to do better in the free. When we came third and got the medal I was very happy. (on the significance of performing at the Olympic Games) For us, each competition is very important, not just the Olympics. One of our aims is at each competition to challenge ourselves and to get more points.

Kim: The Four Continents were a preparation for the Olympic Games for us. We'll participate for the first time in Olympic Games and we'll train as usual and do what our coach says. (on their goals for the Olympic Games) Participating in the Olympic Games we just want to do what we do in regular training and we hope we can improve our scores. We don't expect a medal, but just we can improve and challenge ourselves. (on working with Canadian coaches and choreographers during the summer) In order to improve our performance we needed to work with a Canadian choreographer. (on their training) We train about three hours a day on the ice, sometimes more or less, it is flexible. Our government supports us so we can fully focus on our training. (on the Korean pair Kim/Kam withdrawing from the competition) It is sad that the Korean pair was injured and could not participate in the competition. I told myself I need to be more careful so I don't get injured.

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