

## QUICK QUOTES

Pairs, Free Skating (warm up group 4)

### **Riku Miura/Ryuichi Kihara (JPN) 2020 National Champions**

Miura: I made many mistakes and should have been much more careful. I'm very frustrated about that. (on her fall on the throw triple loop) I think that our timing was off and that influenced the jump. When I threw her I leaned too far forward and I should have followed her as soon as I released her, but I didn't do that. That's the biggest reason I think.

Kihara: During our practice we almost reached 100 % and were very confident, but after we started I noticed that our bodies became quite heavy. We had two mistakes, but we set a new personal record and that helped us to become more confident.

### **Alexa Knierim/Brandon Frazier (USA), 2021 National Champions**

Knierim: I felt like I let down the team. I made too many mistakes. I've never been more prepared for an event in my whole skating career. The throw loop is one of our better elements and this week it's been off. I didn't really feel like the Alexa that I am when I compete and, when the music started, I felt like during the whole program I was trying to find myself.

Frazier: There were a couple of things that were a little shakier than normal but overall, I'm happy with how we handled ourselves. It has been a long season -- a lot of work for us to build and get out quickly -- but I am beyond proud of our first season together. We showed a lot of fight and determination and we did a lot of good things out there.

(On their future plans) Everything needs to continue to grow naturally -- the skating, the elements, the technical, the performance side. We will get back and start making a list of things to do and what we want to keep striving for.

### **Ashley Cain-Gribble/Timothy LeDuc (USA), 2018 Four Continents silver medalists**

LeDuc: We are a bit disappointed with some of the things today at the same time very proud of some of the things today. We really love that program so we wanted to do what we do well. We did some of these things today, but missed some of those elements, in particular the triple loop on my part. We will always be pushing ourselves as a team trying to find the way to get to the top. (on the expectations for getting three spots for next year) The three spots being part of a conversation was an achievement, we can be really proud of ourselves for pushing ourselves and pushing forward. It would be great to keep the spots, but realistically it's exciting it was part of a conversation

Cain Gribble: (on their plans for the next season, working with Nina Mozer in Russia) Nina always lived in Russia full time so hopefully next season if we are able to travel to the different countries we should be able to train with her. We will be trying to put together two really strong programs, continue to push the levels, make us stronger and just come strong overall. We plan to have two new programs

### **Cheng Peng/Yang Jin (CHN), 2020 Four Continents silver medalists**

Jin: First of all, I want to say that we tried our best tonight though we made a mistake. This season is very hard for every skater. I think we all very much appreciated this competition and I believe we all tried our best and we are no exception. This is a very precious experience for us. (on next plans) We will take a little break afterwards. First of all, we need to find our problems and learn our lessons from this Championship. And we will fix them for next season. The next season is very important and critical to us so we really wish we could show our best then. (on working with choreographers Marie-France

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Dubreuil and Pascal Denis) After every training session (here), he (Denis) gave us so much advice. He helped us to polish our short program. And this is a big difference between working online and offline. After we met face to face, Pascal was able to see the pattern and frame of our program. Therefore, he did so many adjustments and helped us a lot. This reminds us that we need to take into account the difficulties of working remotely when we plan for our choreography next season.

Peng: (on programs for next season) We still need to discuss with our choreographer. This is the first time we worked with Marie (Marie-France Dubreuil who did the SP), and she's not so familiar with us. We did all our choreography online. Through these competitions, she got to know us better. Though she's not here, her coaching partner (Pascal Denis) came here. He kept a close watch on us every training session.