



U.S. CHAMPIONSHIPS QUOTES

2020 Toyota U.S. Figure Skating Championships
Greensboro, North Carolina | January 20-26, 2020



Thursday, Jan. 23, 2020

Championship Pairs Short Program

Alexa Knierim and Chris Knierim (77.06, first)

On their performance tonight...

Chris Knierim: "The last time in Greensboro we had a great short. It's nice to come back, be comfortable and put out, finally, a good short, even though throughout nothing felt easy as we were going through. But, it's good to know regardless we can throw all our elements out there with some improvements we lost some levels."

Tarah Kayne and Danny O'Shea (70.35, second)

On their performance tonight...

O'Shea: "We came in with a brand-new short program. We finished the international season feeling pretty good about our performances. Our goal was to step up the performances and each showing we felt like we really did that, but overall here at the end of the international season the short program never quite scored like we felt it could, or even we felt it should. It just wasn't coming across to other people. We talked with Dalilah (Sappenfield), we talked with Tarah and the two of them came up with the idea for Clair de Lune. I think it's amazing."

On the music and new short program...

Kayne: "The music itself really settles me. I get really nervous at competitions. It's a piece of music that I feel really at home with and feel like myself skating it. I'm not trying to be someone else. The music comes on and I feel comfortable."

Ashley Cain-Gribble and Timothy LeDuc (68.86, third)

On their performance tonight...

LeDuc: "It was a bit of a surprise. We felt we gave a really good effort today. We've worked so, so hard for this competition, and we really wanted that to show out on the ice and we did a lot of our stuff well. And to be taken down by a death spiral...it's a bit of a shock and disappointment. Our task remains the same. We're gearing up for the long program. Where we feel like we can make up a lot of ground. We have worked really hard for this and we're ready to kill it in the long program."

Jessica Calalang and Brian Johnson (67.56, fourth)

On their performance tonight...

Calalang: "You know we did have that first mistake at the beginning, but what I am most proud of as a team for us is that we put it past us and we kept skating forward."