

QUICK QUOTES

Ladies, Short Program (warm up group 7)

Anna Shcherbakova (RUS), 2019 GP Final silver medalist & 2020 National Champion

(on the venue and the rink) it's the first time I tried it, I cared about the ice and not about what goes on around. It's nice. The practice ice was good, now I have to get used to this one there are no more practices on the practice rink. (on becoming taller) I became a bit taller, but it comes in stages, I don't grow suddenly, so there are no coordination problems. (on the marks) Am not upset about the marks, they are quite similar. All was marked well. I was nervous, am glad I overcame that and did my elements. Indeed it feels like something that is behind and now I have to set myself to tomorrow. I skated it all many times and it was quite as in the practice. (on skating as a senior) I like it, I was waiting for it, am happy I can now show my skating. Tomorrow will be even better than today. (on goals) they are always the same - I need to skate clean, think of the elements, be clean and do my jumps. (on her favorite element) I love them all I just try to show the jumps and the emotional skating, I love my program. (comparing Europeans to Nationals) More or less the same. I was nervous, perhaps it showed, am glad all the elements worked, it feels like a not a major thing, tomorrow is the main thing. I always am more nervous before the long program. I am always nervous during the competition - it helps to show myself better and yes, the first senior season is hard. (on the triple Axel) it's not yet consistent and I will not integrate it in my programs till it is.

Alena Kostornaia (RUS), 2019 GP Final Champion

For today, my goal was just come in and do what I used to do. Of course, I kept in mind that this is a big competition. I skate my short program for the second season and of course as far as I'm growing the program is growing with me. I can interpret the character better. But the character itself is still the same. It is an angel who came to earth and got a chance to return back in the end of the story. I hope I perform this program once more this season and I'm not planning to change the technical content anymore.

Nicole Schott (GER), 2020 National Champion

In spite of this groin injury, I was hoping for a different performance, because this season started off so well. The atmosphere is great and the crowd is amazing here. During the men's short, it was rather empty, but now the arena is quite packed. (On stepping out of the combination) This was not because of the injury, but it was my own fault and this is not satisfying. (On her costume) For a long time already, my coach and I said I should skate in a „leotard“ (in pants) but first, we needed to find an adequate music and we found this rocking blues. The pants are similar to one of my training pants and the top part was made after a ballroom dance dress that I discovered on Instagram. (On her plans for the free skate) I will fight for sure. All the skaters are tight together, it's only 3 points to place 7, so I really want to show everything I am capable of.

Ekaterina Ryabova (AZE), GP Rostelecom Cup 5th

Everything was performed on an approximately good level. There were a couple of small mistakes but they were seen only by judges and were not easy to spot for the audience. I'm satisfied with my short program. (on Youth Olympics) Actually, I have positive experience about the Youth Olympics. Although I wasn't fully satisfied with the result as I didn't have enough time to prepare well enough. The support was on a high level. I had 4 days to get ready to European Championships and, I think, I'm well prepared for the competitions.

Alexandra Trusova (RUS), 2019 & 2018 World Junior Champion

My coaches explained me what the error on the double Axel was. The double Axel is an easy jump and I want to do a triple Axel so badly. (on becoming taller) No, I did not grow, perhaps 1 cm. (on the content) After the new year's break it took me about a week and half to get back to shape and skate the current content. The content I want to do - am only now in the right shape to do. (on the complexity of her programs) I want the hardest possible content - otherwise I will make mistakes on the easier things. (on not doing a triple Axel) it's not yet recovered completely after the New Year break, I sometimes land it, but not always. I haven't yet competed after the New year's and it'll wait. (on how nervous she is) Not so much now, but I will once I will integrate the triple Axel into my programs. (on doing triple Lutz-triple toe instead of



triple Lutz-triple loop in the short program) It's not worth it- the difference is just 0.35 points and it's not worth the risk.

Alexia Paganini (SUI), 2020 National Champion

I was really happy with my performance. I was actually pretty nervous, more than usual I think, because I really prepared the best ever going into this competition and I really, really wanted to deliver here. I fixed my levels now, I got finally all level four, but there are still little things I can improve on like the flow of the landings, always components can be better, I can skate faster. (on skating last) I didn't even think it was possible for me to skate last, I thought they're doing subgroups. I actually draw last kind of often. Last year I was both time last (at European), I'm kind of used to it now. (on heading into the Free Skating) It sets me up well. Obviously, the points are really close and I think tomorrow it's going to be a whole new battle. I still have to deliver. I did my job today, but I still have to do my job tomorrow.

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