



Picture: JOAN LEONG

DAILY DISH

Grease on ice

By Sheela Narayanan

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LOCAL ice-skaters Maxel Lee and Bramina Braet (pictured) were all quivering.

And it was not from the cold of the Fuji Ice Palace skating rink where they were rehearsing.

Maxel, 8, and Bramina, 9, are part of a team of 12 skaters from the All Stars Figures Skating Club who will be joining the professional ice-skaters of the Holiday On Ice — Hollywood show.

This is the first time the show has invited local young skaters to perform with them.

The two young skaters will be performing to a medley from the 1978 movie Grease.

Maxel will play Danny Zuko, the John Travolta character, and Bramina is Sandy Olsson, which was Olivia Newton-John's role.

Considering that she was not even a twinkle in her parents' eyes when the movie was released, Bramina was pretty informed about the film.

"My friend lent me the DVD. I know all about it," said Bramina.

Maxel, on the other hand, had no clue about Grease.

"I have never seen it before.

"I thought it was about something greasy," he said.

The two Henry Park Primary school students have never seen a Holiday On Ice show and are very excited about performing in tonight's opening show.

"It's better than Christmas," said Maxel.

The skaters will only be performing for tonight's show.

Maxel has been skating for four years when he accompanied his sister into the skating rink, while Bramina has been whizzing around on ice for slightly more than a year.

Both of them only learnt the Grease routine a week ago.

Said Bramina: "I am afraid I will fall during the show and not do my elements properly."

Elements are what ice-skaters call spins, jumps and their footwork.

Robin Cousins, the co-choreographer for Holiday On Ice — Hollywood said that the company was impressed with these young skaters.

Mr Cousins, who is also the 1980 Olympic gold medallist in men's figure skating, said: "They are young but so earnest and hardworking. We wanted to give them a chance to show Singapore why they love skating so much."

What Maxel and Bramina are looking forward to in particular, is meeting some of the Olympic skaters in the show.

Said Bramina: "I want to watch them carefully and see how they skate.

"Maybe they can tell me how I can become an Olympic skater too."

Maxel, on the other hand, said: "I just want to say hello."

FYI

WHAT: Holiday On Ice — Hollywood
WHERE: Singapore Expo Hall 3
WHEN: Tonight to 12 Dec
TICKETS: \$48, \$68 and \$98 from Sistic
 (tel: 6348 5555 or www.sistic.com.sg)