

## 2008 PROFILE

### MICHAEL WEISS

**PERSONAL DATA:** Born: August 2, 1976, in Washington, D.C.

**COMPETITIVE RECORD:**

- 2006 --- 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Championships
- 2005 --- 5<sup>th</sup> U.S. Championships
- 2004 --- 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Championships  
6<sup>th</sup> World Championships
- 2003 --- **1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Championships**  
5<sup>th</sup> World Championships
- 2002 --- 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Championships  
7<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games (Salt Lake City)
- 2001 --- 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Championships
- 2000 --- **1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Championships**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> World Championships**
- 1999 --- **1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Championships**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> World Championships**
- 1998 --- 2<sup>nd</sup>, U.S. Championships  
7<sup>th</sup> Olympics (Nagano, Japan)  
6<sup>th</sup> World Championships
- 1997 --- 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Championships  
7<sup>th</sup> World Championships
- 1996 --- 5<sup>th</sup> U.S. Championships
- 1995 --- 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Championships
- 1994 --- 1<sup>st</sup> World Junior Championships
- 1993 --- 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Junior Championships

Skating since he was 9, being an athlete runs in the Weiss family. Sister Geremi was a national figure skater; sister Genna was a junior world diving champion; his mother was a national gymnastic champion, and his father was a member of the 1964 Olympic Gymnastic Team. Before turning to skating full time, Michael also participated in both diving and gymnastics, and continues one of the most arduous daily off-ice training regimes in the family-owned gym.

Weiss went on to become a three-time U.S. Champion, two-time World Bronze medalist and two-time Olympian.

Weiss made his first trip to the Olympic Games in 1998 in Nagano, Japan. His career started taking off from there. In 1999, he claimed his first national title and followed that up with a bronze medal at the World Championships. In 2000, he repeated both of those feats. Two years later, he qualified for his second Olympic berth with a third place at the

U.S. Championships. He was part of the team that competed in Salt Lake City, and he finished seventh.

Weiss continued on, training with the goal of competing in yet one more Olympics. Shortly after his dream did not come true --- he finished fourth in the 2006 U.S. Championships, just missing one of three spots on the U.S. Olympic team --- he decided to retire from competitive skating.

Now, with no judges or rules to follow, Weiss can entertain audiences full time.

And boy does he.

A show-stopping performer, Weiss has always dazzled crowds with his intricate choreography, back flips and blinding spins.

Weiss maintains his interest in the competitive side of the sport, however, and is a big believer in helping young skaters with Olympic aspirations achieve their goals. He started the Michael Weiss Foundation, which helps young skaters with the financial demands of the sport. He recently held his fourth annual foundation fundraiser ice show and many elite skaters traveled across the country at their own expense to help Weiss with this cause --- a tribute not only to young skaters but to their friendship with Weiss as well. He's raised more than \$115,000 and among the skaters he has helped is reigning U.S. champion Mirai Nagasu.

In addition, Weiss spends a great deal of time with his family. In September 1998, they had their first child, a daughter named Annie Mae, and in October 1999, the family grew to include a baby boy named Christopher Michael. Between training, competing, performing and family duties, there is little free time left for the champion skater who was honored as one of the 1999 Fathers of the Year by the National Fatherhood Initiative.