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Padua Franciscan High School

Press Release

Padua Skating Team Wins 12th State Title

PARMA, Ohio – (February 7, 2024) Padua Franciscan High School's Figure Skating Team won the Ohio High School Team Figure Skating Championship on Sunday, February 4, 2024 at Thornton Park in Shaker Heights. They claimed their 12th state title in school history. (Past championship years include: 2023, 2022, 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2011, 2010 and 2008.)

This year, in addition to winning overall first place, Padua took first place in Solo Dance events, Excel Free Skate events, and Showcase/Interpretive events. The team won second place in Maneuver Team events. The Bruins finished third in the Production Ensemble event, in which teams of eight or more skaters performed a themed group number. The team performed to music from *The Lion King*. (The numbers are judged on illustration of character, music interpretation, costuming and audience appeal.)

Overall, the Bruins won 41 medals in 50 events. The girls earned 20 gold medals, 15 silver and 6 bronze. Padua's top high school skaters were Abbey Kubit '26, Alexis Martin '24, and Celine Yoon '24.

"I am so incredibly proud that we were able to pull off another state win," said senior captain Alexis Martin '24, who is wrapping up her fifth Padua season. "Being a part of this team has had the biggest impact on my high school experience and life. I met so many new people through this team and I have no doubt that these friendships will last a lifetime."

Padua's head coach is Alex (Miranda) Babb '11. The assistant coaches Alexis (Hipkins) Flinn '10 and Allison (Margevicius) Vega '10 have been part of the successful program, since its inception in 2007, along with team manager Lori Margevicius.

"This is our strongest team of the past 18 years," said Margevicius. "The competition was intense, but we came prepared. I'm so proud of how our skaters all supported each other and how well they represented Padua."

With each new state title earned, the program has become more popular. They receive year-round inquiries from area skaters and their parents about when their daughters, and occasionally their sons, can join the team as junior varsity members, during seventh and eighth grade. For more information, please contact Lori Margevicius at lmargevi@kent.edu or Admissions Director Katie Martin '08 at kmartin@paduafranciscan.net.

School Background: Padua Franciscan High School is located at 6740 State Road in Parma, Ohio. Padua is a Catholic, college-prep, co-educational school with 750 students. Padua was founded by Franciscans in 1961 and bases its educational philosophy on the life and spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi. The school's mission is to develop the unique talents of each student, while giving them the skills they need to succeed in college and beyond.
