Dartmouth Figure Skating Team

MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER
DARTMOUTH QUALIFIES FOR NATIONALS!

After a hard fight and a great competition hosted by BU/MIT on February 27-28, the Dartmouth Figure Skating Team successfully qualified for the 2010 U.S. Intercollegiate Figure Skating National Championships! The Team had eight first place finishes from Deborah Lee ’12 (who finished with four event wins—a personal sweep!), Vanessa Szalapski ’10 (with two event wins!), Annie Saunders ’12, and the Low Team (comprised of Alexandra Mahler-Haug ’11, Alina Everett ’12, Runi Goswami ’13, Isabel Hines ’13, and Jing Jiao ’13) while additional strong performances clinched Dartmouth’s strong finish with 87.5 points behind the University of Delaware and Boston University!

Supported by friends, family, and alumni (as well as lots of tea and food!), the members of the Dartmouth Figure Skating Team endured a weekend of stress, injury and sickness, and fierce competition to skate their way to third place and U.S. Nationals, which will take place April 17-18 at the University of Delaware! Kat Kalaris ’07 and Rachel Bloch ’07 came out on Saturday to cheer, while numerous other alumni across the globe (from the U.K. to Colorado!) tuned in to follow the competition and give their best to the team! The Team scored 33 points in Freestyle events, 46 points in Dance events, and wrapped it up with a win for Low Team and second place for High Team in Team Maneuvers! It was the first time competing in the pressure-packed environment of Team Maneuvers for the three ’13s, but they performed admirably, while Deborah Lee ’12 continued her successful season with a round of wins in all of her events!

COACH’S UPDATE

It’s hard to believe that it’s March already! Spring is in the air, the snow is melting, the skaters are preparing for Nationals, and I am about a month away from my due date. While my husband and I are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the next little Dartmouth Figure Skating fan in mid-April, my due date means that, unfortunately, I will not be able to be with the girls as they compete at Nationals in Delaware. However, I will still be working with them in Hanover, preparing them to compete. Additionally, I am pleased to announce that I will be leaving them in the very capable hands of Alicia Walter! A coach for over 20 years, Alicia will bring much experience, and a deep love of figure skating to the Dartmouth Team. She is a U.S. Figure Skating gold medalist in her own right and has coached countless students to gold medals in figures, freestyle, ice dance, and moves in the field. Alicia is also PSA Senior Rated and a staff coach at many rinks in the Northern New York area, including St. Lawrence University and the Olympic Center in Lake Placid. I am completely confident in Alicia and all of the girls at Dartmouth—I know they will give 100 percent!

-Jacki Smith

Follow the Dartmouth Figure Skating Team on Twitter!

www.twitter.com/dartmouthfsc

The team debuted its new communication method during the BU/MIT competition, with co-captains Natalie Falsgraf ’10 and Rory Grant ’11 ‘tweeting’ live-action updates throughout the weekend!

Many thanks to all our Friends of Dartmouth Figure Skating, who help make our team possible! We use Friends donations for coaching fees, competition travel fees, and other necessary team expenses. For more information about how you can make a contribution, visit our team website www.dartmouth.edu/~skating. Your Friends of Dartmouth Figure Skating donation is tax-deductible and will be used exclusively for the support of the Dartmouth Figure Skating Team. We appreciate all of your support!