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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WEBER COUNTY ICE SHEET'S OWN TRAVEL TO COLUMBUS FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

OGDEN, UT (January 12, 2024)- Three Ogden-based figure skaters will head to Columbus, Ohio to compete in the 2024 Prevagen U.S. Figure Skating Championship. Those three skaters, Kai Kovar, Milada Kovar and Nikolai Apter, will ring in the start of 2024 by showcasing their talents at the prestigious and respected competition. All three figure skaters train at the Weber County Ice Sheet, home of the 2002 Olympic Games.

Kai Kovar, a seasoned competitor, will be taking the ice in the Senior Men level. Having previously participated in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships at the Junior level and taking home the gold in the junior men's division in 2022, Kai will bring his experience, expertise, and skill to the competition once again. His dedication and commitment to his programs are sure to captivate audiences.

Milada Kovar and Nikolai Apter, a fierce duo, are anticipating their debut at the national stage. Competing amongst the top four skaters in the Novice Pairs competition, Milada and Nikolai have devoted months to refining their routines and improving their performances. This year's competition marks their first appearance at the U.S. Figure Skating National Championship and their first year competing as a novice pair.

Kai Kovar's coaching team includes his parents, Amanda, and Karl Kovar, alongside Tammy Gambill. Milada and Nikolai are guided by their exceptional parents: Amanda Kovar, Karel Kovar, and Nick Apter. The unwavering support of these dedicated coaches and parents has played a pivotal role in helping the skaters' journey to the U.S. Figure Skating National Championship. When asked how he was feeling about the upcoming National Championship, father and coach Karl Kovar said that he is thrilled to see his skaters compete. "Obviously it's very exciting. We're excited to watch Kai compete again and see Milada and Nikolai compete in this type of event for the first time...At the same time, there is a lot of work ahead of us as we continue to improve their routines."

The excitement is palpable as all three skaters express their thrill at the opportunity to represent themselves on such a grand platform. Kai, Milada, and Nikolai have worked tirelessly, both individually and collaboratively, on and off the ice to prepare for this momentous competition.

The U.S. National Figure Skating Championship can be watched on the streaming platform Peacock. Novice events will be available to stream on the U.S. Figure Skating YouTube Channel. Competition will be held from Monday, January 22nd through Sunday, January 28th. The Weber County Ice Sheet is delighted to watch and support our incredible figure skaters who will be competing in the championship this year.

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