

SKI TRACKS

MT. BACHELOR SPORTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION
RACE TRAINING CENTER NEWSLETTER



Volume 11, Number 3

Mar 2008

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY CHUCK KENLAN

A lot has happened since the February 1st issue of Ski Tracks; most importantly, MBSEF was able to change Oregon Law! The legislation that passed both houses of the Oregon Legislature allows MBSEF to continue to use volunteers for our ski races without the liability of having to pay wages and workman's compensation. Had we not been able to create this change, there was a very good chance that we would be out of the ski race business. This would have had a serious effect on our athletes and the rest of the PNSA Division.

As some of you know, MBSEF produces the lion's share of alpine races in our division. We also have the best professional race crew in the West and many regional championship events would have to go elsewhere. The effect of our races trickles down to the rest of our community. In the 2006-2007 ski season, a conservative estimate of the economic impact our alpine races had on our economy is \$1,400,000.

This change in Oregon Law would not have been possible without the hard work and "bull dog" determination of Representative Chuck Burley. On an issue that on the surface looked like it shouldn't face any opposition, there certainly was. On many occasions it looked like we had reached a dead end but Representative Burley made things happen. Whether you know Chuck or not, I hope that some of



Knut Renton, Mike Widmer, and Gunnar Oliphant keep on truckin' at the New Years Day Relay Race

you can take the time to thank him. His work on this will have a positive effect on this district for years to come. His e-mail address is: chuck@burleyandassociates.com. Senator Ben Westlund also deserves our thanks. He was able to get this bill through the Senate with a unanimous vote in favor. I personally want to thank our membership who offered their support through this process.

January and February were big months for travel for many MBSEF athletes. A group of our full-time Snowboard athletes spent 3 full weeks on the road traveling to Revolution Tour and Grand Prix events. A group of Nordic athletes traveled to Michigan to Nationals. And, our Alpine athletes traveled around the Northwest to J-3 and Northwest Cup qualifiers as well as FIS races all over the West. The experience our athletes have while traveling is something that they will remember the rest of their lives. I see what these athletes have to do to keep their lives in order while competing at a high level and I am extremely impressed. Our traveling athletes are not only great competitors, they are great people.

continued on page 14

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 1	Par Fore the Course II (Freestyle)
Mar 15-16	Mini World Cup Finals
Mar 22-25	Snowboard Spring Break Camp
Mar 22	Cascade Crest Tour (Mass Start)
Mar 24-28	Alpine Spring Break Camp (9am-1pm)
March 26-Apr 1	Alpine Western Junior Championships
Apr 10-13	PNSA Masters Championships
Apr 12	Skyliners Summer Sports Swap
Apr 18-20	Alpine Northwest Cup Finals
Apr 20-21	Banff Mountain Film Festival
Apr 25-27	May Day Races
Apr 26	MBSEF Annual Awards Banquet
May 17	U.S. Bank Pole Pedal Paddle
May 18	Kids Mini Pole Pedal Paddle

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REMI NDER!!!



Don't forget to shop our MBSEF email for all of your purchases this year! You can access it through our website at www.mbsef.org.

A percentage of all purchases comes right back to benefit MBSEF's Junior Scholarship Fund. Tell all your friends and family - they can all help!



These embroidered patches are available for \$5 each! Contact Kathy at mbsef@mbsef.org.



Name: Heath Cotter Age: 8
Sport: MBSEF Skyliners Development Team
School: St. Francis Catholic School
Favorite class: Math ❄️
Hobbies: Skiing, Lacrosse, Soccer, Horseback riding and anything that involves competition ❄️
Years in sport: 1
Quote: 'Mama and Papa, can we go faster?'

SKI TRACKS is the official newsletter publication of Mt. Bachelor Sports Education Foundation, a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) membership association.

SKI TRACKS is published four times per season (December, February, March, and April). Publications are available to current members enrolled in an MBSEF program. Membership year runs September through August.

Publisher: Chuck Kenlan
Editor: Kathy Kurtz

Contributions are always welcome! We appreciate in-kind and financial contributions supporting our Foundation.

Please have stories in by the third week of the month, for publication the following month. We prefer stories and photos sent via email. Contact us at the numbers and addresses below.

Mt. Bachelor Sports Education Foundation
 563 SW 13th Street, Suite 201
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Fax: (541) 388-7848
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MBSEF Brings the Bling to the Buddy Werner Championship Races



by Penny Nakamura

MBSEF Max Stamler led the boy's team at Steven's Pass Ski Resort to a third place finish in the slalom race at the 2008 Buddy Werner Championship Races. Taking advantage of his first start seed order Stamler, 11, laid it on the line and put in a scorching, near-flawless run on the last day of the competition. "My first run was better than my second run, because I needed to be more forward," said Stamler who placed 30th in the slalom at last year's competition. "It was definitely exciting. Next year, I'd like to do even better." Casey Shannon skied to an 18th place finish in the same slalom race, and rounding out the top 25 was Jack Botti.

Over on the other side of the mountain, the girls team was trying to find its' groove in the flat light of the giant slalom course, where race officials sprinkled down pine needles on the snow to give the racers some extra depth perception. By the time the second GS course was up and running so was the sun, and the top three seeded MBSEF girls knew what they had to do. Kiki Nakamura-Koyama who was competing in her third and final Buddy's Championship races led the way with a 17th place finish, followed by Brooke Kelley with a 19th place finish, and rounding out the top 23 was Megan Olson, also skiing in her last Buddy's races.



All seven MBSEF girls finished the GS races, with youngest member (J-5) JoJo Bond making her debut at Buddy's with impressive heart. Despite catching an edge and falling, Bond got up quickly hiked the gate and made it down without giving up, something head coach Mike Evans has stressed all season long. The girls did better on the GS course, than they had the previous day on the slalom course, where only three were able to complete both runs. Megan Olson had the MBSEF top finish on Saturday with 12th place in the slalom, with teammate, Kiki skiing into 18th place.

Broken foot= broken heart The boy's team also had its heart rendering moments, when Tanner Olson, gritted his teeth, held his breath and stuffed his broken, swollen, and bruised foot into a ski boot. The day before the Olson's were to leave for the races, Tanner was pulled down by friends on the basketball hoop he was hanging from— the result was not good. Still, in typical Tanner form, he sucked up the pain and did his best to make it cleanly through his races, but in the end it would be his bindings that would fail him. Despite his disappointment, the ever- competitive Tanner did manage to wrangle and wrestle for a free sweatshirt, that was thrown out to the racers, at the awards ceremony. This wasn't an easy feat with a broken foot!



Bling, bling, bling It would appear MBSEF has a thing for bling. At the opening ceremony where all 24 teams from Oregon, Washington and Northern Idaho are introduced— people took notice of MBSEF's Mardi Gras theme— which included lots of necklaces, masks and shamrock face tattoos. "It would appear Mt. Bachelor has more bling than any other team, so far," said Stevens Pass General Manager John Gifford, as he announced each team. Not to be out-done, Team Lyon, which also trains at Stevens Pass, had its' full regalia of

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Club to College: The Transition

by Dakota J. Blackhorse-von Jess

Here I am a junior in College – and a junior the same age as everyone in the senior class because I took a post-grad year. And yet, it is only now that I find myself beginning to settle into the routine of college life and ski racing. It's a long adjustment period, I know. For context, here is a brief overview of a skier's college life: 11-15 hours a week in the classroom, 20-30 hours a week out of the classroom (on an average week, forget about sleeping during exam periods), 10-15 hours a week of actual on-snow training/racing, and another 20+ hours traveling if you factor in traveling to Carnival races every weekend. Carnivals are the eastern collegiate circuit; every big winter sports college back here has a weekend they designate as their "Carnival Weekend". Basically it's a great/terrible excuse for a lot of partying and celebrating school spirit. Well, that doesn't sound so bad, right? I mean, sure, it's not easy, but hey – it's college. It's not supposed to be easy, is it? Then you factor in the Carnivals. We leave at noon on Thursday and come home sometime Saturday evening after Friday-Saturday races. So now you can scratch three days of getting pretty much anything done from your week and suddenly there just doesn't seem to be much time left for eating, sleeping, or personal hygiene. Now things are starting to look bleak, eh?



So what's the point of the doom-and-gloom story? Well, it's not really doom and gloom. I won't even touch on the things about the skiing world back here that really set me off, especially considering how well run things are back home at MBSEF, but the point was to just to begin to illustrate some of the obstacles to settling into the routine. At first I resisted everything. I was critical of everything that didn't meet the standards I've come to expect from an elite racing organization, and that set me apart and left me with a negative attitude towards the whole deal. Needless to say, my results suffered – badly. I had to take a look back at myself and ski racing and say, "Hey – this is something I love and something I want to keep doing, and doing well. What do I need to do to make it?" Consistency, accountability, responsibility, hard work – these are all traits I've developed over time being an athlete, but still there was something missing that was keeping me from making it all work.

And then I realized: I was getting in my own way. See, when I work and train with MBSEF, I get to be a professional athlete. I have a good coach who writes a training plan tailored to meet each athlete's needs and who is intimately connected with how his athletes are doing on a day to day basis. When we travel on the road, things are done in a professional, organized manner and every detail has been accounted for and covered. The team works seamlessly and on race day my only job is to be an athlete. Things just aren't like that at college. But that's part of the beauty of college I now see, you aren't a professional racer. You can't be. You have to juggle the rest of life in this kind of dangerous balancing act that can collapse in the most catastrophic way, if you let it. The better you are at juggling, the closer you can get to being pro. That's the give-and-take of college racing.

It might seem silly to say, but even now at 21 years of age I did a lot growing up this summer and fall when I stayed home from school to pursue just ski racing again. In all honesty, that is probably what lies at the core of my much smoother transition back to school this year. I found a way to couple my passion with temperance, how to address chaos with professionalism, and how to handle adversity in stride, rather than seeking out the sources of these problems and trying to cut them out from the root. These problems are just inherent in the system; they will never go away, and learning how to handle them rather than resist them has changed everything. Although certainly I have made some very serious jumps in fitness and technique this year, Ben's primary goal for me was to learn how to "avoid any major setbacks." Well – I'm learning how. Going with the flow is helping me manage my stress levels and keeping me from imploding like I have the last two years. US Nationals went as well as I could have hoped for, but the question always remained: "What happens when I go back to school?" Here I am, a victory and 3 podiums already, I'm the current Eastern circuit points leader, and I get to wear the yellow bib at races. Horrible self-call, I know, but I hope it serves to illuminate the point that transition is frustrating, the different is irritating and scary, and learning how to make it work for you instead of against you is the key to success. Good luck to everyone this winter, and for those of you going on to college next year: it's a whole different world out there; don't let it freak you out.

Bill Warburton sent in these photos of the Stevenson Youth Program kids - thanks Bill! They look like they are having a blast. . . .



CLASSIFIED ADS -
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Check out our new classified ads at mbsef.org! Sell your old sporting goods gear, outgrown gear, new gear, old gear. Or post for a wanted item, or buy some great bargains! This site is just getting up and going, so we welcome your feedback.

Hilary Garret just sent me a line saying she listed two bicycles, and within two weeks, both were sold! So try it out!



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MBSEF Athlete of the Week

Name: Kelly Crowther

Sport: Nordic Skiing **Age:** 18

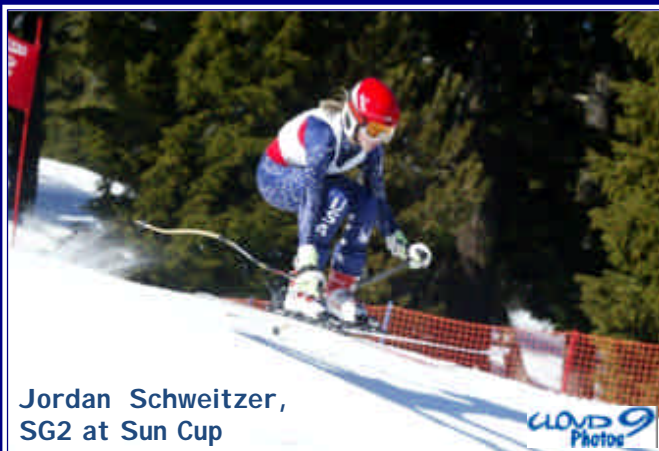
School: Sisters High School

Favorite class: Math

Hobbies: Alpine Skiing, Kayaking, Reading

Years in sport: 4

Quote: If you don't take a chance, you don't get a chance.



Jordan Schweitzer,
SG2 at Sun Cup

**SUN CUP
2008**



**MT BACHELOR
OREGON**

SUN CUP RESULTS

Top finishers of the Sun Cup Women's Super G are Jetta Rackleff in first both days, Devon Engle eighth and tenth, and Liz Dale eleventh.

Mens Super G had Kevin Francis and Eric Holmer in first, Anton Hilts in second and third, Kevin Prodehl in fifth and eighth, Ian Halderman in sixth and seventh, and Cole Timm in fourteenth.

After the Super G wrapped up, Pat pulled out of town with a van full of racers headed to Snow King for the Wild West Classic WR FIS Elite Tech Series. This left a smaller MBSEF field for the Sun Cup Downhill.

Women's Downhill had Jordan Schweitzer placing tenth, and Men's Downhill had Eric Holmer in second both races, and Ian Halderman in fifth and fourth.

Overall standings saw Jetta Rackleff in third for the Women, Men with Eric Holmer taking second, Ian Halderman with fourth, Anton Hilts with fifth, Kevin Francis ninth, and Kevin Prodehl twelfth.

Congratulations MBSEFers for the great showing on first page results!

Central America Adventure

By Adam R. Sather
Head Snowboard Travel Coach

Editor's Note: This is the third part in a four part series of Adam's excellent adventure last summer! Continued from page 7 of February's newsletter, Adam has just scaled the tallest peak in Costa Rica, Cerro Chirripo, and rigged his broken sandal back together on the trip down.



When I got back to the trailhead I decided to stay at the closest place, the casa mariposa (butterfly house). It was a neat place. The house was built around giant natural boulders and there was a small waterfall next to the kitchen and dining room. It cost twelve dollars for dinner and a one night stay.

The next morning I shared a taxi to San Isidro with a couple I met. It cost me 7 dollars. I wasn't stoked on that since hitchhiking is free. It worked out well though as I was in San Isidro in time to catch a bus toward Panama. I traveled the rest of the day by bus and found myself at the border town of Neilly at 10 o'clock at night. I asked a police officer where a good place to camp was and he said to camp at the bus station. It didn't seem right and there were sketchy people around, so I told him I was going to get food and come back. I later found it is illegal to camp at the bus station.

Ten minutes later I sit down in a bar to eat some food and a guy with missing teeth starts talking to me. I ask him where to stay. He says to come stay at his house. I start to get a weird feeling about this guy and notice a Nicaraguan guy in a nice suit motioning me to not go with the weird guy. So I tell the weird guy that I'm just going to stay in a hotel down the way. He gets frustrated and leaves. So I talk to the Nicaraguan guy named Domingo and he tells me I'm in a dangerous place and don't trust guys with missing teeth. He said the guy was probably going to mug me. So I'm a little uncomfortable, but for some reason I trust Domingo and I ask him where a cheap and safe place to stay is. He takes me to the motel that he was staying at

and it only cost 8 dollars for a nice room. We ended up going to a club after that and had a great time.

The next day I took a bus to the border. I got out of the bus and walked across the border without anybody talking to me. No checkpoint or anything. I thought they would at least stamp my passport. So I was in Panama and walking down the road trying to catch a ride. I walked for probably three miles in the beating sun before some young guys picked me up in their brand new Toyota Forerunner. They gave me a ride to the city of David where I used an ATM because I needed cash. In Panama they use Panamanian dollars which are the same as U.S. dollars with Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, etc. I asked the guys if they knew who Jefferson was. They had no idea. I thought it was funny that they use our dollars with our presidents. They then took me almost all the way to the town of Boquete. There I would find the trail to the tallest peak in Panama, the Volcon Baru.

When I got to Boquete I found a nice little restaurant with friendly people and ate a huge meal for 4 dollars. It was delicious. I asked the way to Baru and headed on my way. The road to the volcano wound through beautiful organic farms and coffee plantations. I found some mangos, avocados, and oranges next to the road and put them in my pack for later. A few miles up the road I decided to camp in one of the coffee fields. It was a beautiful sunset.



Part 4 will be published in April 1 issue of Ski Tracks -
Stay Tuned!



Ryan

Each Sunday during the spring, Mt. Bachelor Village Resort and MBSEF, sponsored by Brooks Resources, features an athlete of the week in The Bulletin newspaper. The athletes are selected by their coaching staff, for outstanding achievement, positive attitude, leadership, accomplishments, etc. Our first athlete this year is Ryan St. Clair. Congratulations Ryan!

NAME: Ryan St. Clair

SPORT: MBSEF Cross Country Ski Program

AGE: 13

SCHOOL: Trinity Lutheran

FAVORITE CLASS: Algebra and PE

HOBBIES: Snow Boarding, Music, "Guitar Hero", Cross Country Running

YEARS IN SPORT: 6 years

QUOTE: "You're never old, because you can always get older"

NEEDED!



Our ca. 1970's model refrigerator blew up this month, after many years of loyal service to the MBSEF office and coaching staff. If you have a refrigerator sitting around that you are not using, and would like to donate it to a good cause, we would love to hear from you!

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To Know Us Is To Love Us . . .

- an interview with Carol Nelson -



by Rochelle Schueler

Rochelle: Do you ski?

Carol: I used to ski. I started skiing when we lived in Utah in the 70's. We skied Powder Mountain. At the time it was a small local ski area, similar to Hoo Doo. I skied a lot up until 1987. In my first season as Race Administrator I used to take my skis to the mountain with me but I never had time to put them on so I quit taking them. As the years progressed, I skied less and less and now I don't ski at all. If I do ski it's cross country; alpine plays havoc with my arthritis.

Rochelle: How did you become involved with MBSEF and what positions have you held.....

Carol: We moved from Utah back to OR in Oct 1979. The summer of 80 I learned about Skyliner's Ski Club and signed Jake and Ben up. I did the typical parent thing, gate keeping, timing, whatever was required. In the 80's the club members traveled on their own and went where they wanted. When you got there you volunteered to work the race. The season of 86/87 MBSEF formed and the boys were racing. Feb of 87 the race secretary quit a week before an upcoming race and a friend and I took on the job of learning the program and running the race. I guess we were successful because the next week I was hired as the new Race Administrator. For several years I was Race Administrator and the office receptionist. I remained race administrator until I took over the bookkeeping position. In 2003 I was the bookkeeper and the Race Administrator (not good). That was a stressful year and I opted to keep the bookkeeper job and passed the RA position to Rochelle.

Rochelle: Tell us something nobody knows about you.....

Carol: I guessing very few people here know about my "ranching" days. We own property at Deschutes Junction, 26 acres to be exact. For approximately 15 years we raised cattle. And when the boys were old enough to join 4H we also had swine on the place. I did all the inoculations and castrations. In fact I got pretty good with the knife. When the boys went off to college we quit raising cattle and went to renting the pasture to a cattle buyer. It's great; they bring in the cattle, take care of the vet needs and haul them out when the irrigation water goes off. Winter comes and we are done till spring, love it.



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Junior Olympic Qualifier 2008: Saga at Crystal Mountain, WA, USA



by Christian Schuster, Nicole Ringsdorf, Lucie Pepper, Luke Welborn,
Kate Puddy, Jordan Caine, and with some input from various others

Thursday Feb 7: In our quest for victory, we embarked on the greatest race at Crystal Mountain this year. After school we all met at MBSEF, packed the trailer, and set off. If you do not know what goes on in the van during long trips like this the following might seem a little weird. We watched movies, ate, slept, and had a nice game of dead leg (a game in which you punch your opponent until you can't feel your legs anymore). Realizing we were too tired to continue on for the day we decided to stay in Puyallup for the night.



Friday Feb 8: When we reached the parking lot at Crystal Mountain, we circled around and attempted to reach our hotel. The parking lots for the hotels are up this little incline, and with us hauling a heavy trailer and with a road filled with snow; our tires couldn't gain any traction, and we kept slipping back down the hill. We finally had to put a set of chains on just so we could park! For dinner, we went to this little deli with the best pizza. About halfway through eating the power went out, encompassing the entire resort. By moon and cell phone light we started working our way back to the hotel, when the power came back on, darn!

Saturday Feb 9: We awoke, stumbled out of bed, dressed, ate, and started hiking up to the lift. Being able to inspect the course while riding up the lift is nice. Crystal Mountain Ski Patrol stayed busy blasting to prevent avalanches all day. Since Crystal is a huge valley you would hear the dynamite go off on one side of the mountain and hear it ripple around to the other side. After skiing we all went back to the hotel, waxed our skis, and went to dinner at the coaches condo, where Lucie Pepper's mom, Ruth, cooked up an awesome pasta dinner.



Sunday Feb 10: No one spoke as we carried our skis and stumbled up the hill to the lift as the snowflakes fell. After two days of skiing the race hill, we were excited but not as anxious as the last two days. The race hill was cool, but Crystal Mountain itself was awesome. This mountain is huge; it's like a big valley with lifts going in every direction. The lodge was great, the bathrooms were air conditioned, and the food prices were reasonable.

Did we mention the snow cave? As we waited patiently at the start while the lift was broken down, we decided that a shelter might be necessary. It was Christian "The Mole" who got it started, first as a little pit that accelerated into a larger hole and then became a cave that eventually fit six stranded athletes. After the cave was completed, the sun came out, totally destroying the purpose of our last forty minutes of hard effort on this magnificent shelter. So we tore it apart and then cheered each other on as all of us had excellent and fast runs down the course. This trip was a good experience for all of us.

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FOR MORE INFO, CALL KATHY at 541-388-0002 OR VISIT www.mbsef.org



Mt. Bachelor Village/MBSEF second athlete of the week - CONGRATULATIONS KIKI!

Name: Kiki Hope Nakamura-Koyama
Sport: MBSEF Alpine MWC Skiing
Age: 12
School: Seven Peaks Middle School
Favorite Class: Language Arts
Hobbies: Ski racing, swimming, piano, and reading
Years in Sport: Skiing since I was two, racing with MBSEF 4 years
Quote: "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll still land among the stars."

SPRING EVENTS UPDATE

By Molly Cogswell-Kelley

Back by Popular Demand

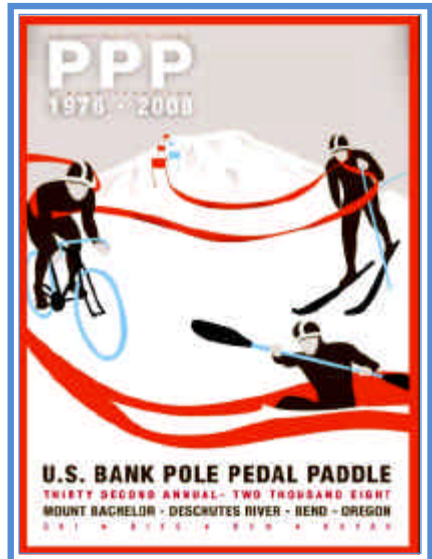
The Retro category for the US Bank Pole Pedal Paddle is back this year. You haven't seen mad until you have encountered an angry gear minimalist. We decided not to continue the Retro category in 2007 since only a handful of people participated in it in 2006. But apparently there were many Retroe's prepared to get their Olin Mark V's and Puegot road bikes out. I nearly avoided getting kicked in the shin by an upset Puma wearer. So, to circumvent the situation, we decided to bring it back. And it's less restrictive. It's up to the racers to decide what they feel qualifies as retro gear. So this leaves the category pretty wide open which should be entertaining for spectators. Costumes are encouraged!! Registration forms for the Pole Pedal Paddle will be available at the MBSEF office and at all Central Oregon US Bank locations on March 3.

Clean Out Your Garage-Make Room For More Gear

Come out for the second annual Skyliners Summer Sports Swap, Saturday April 12 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mt. Bachelor Bus Barn. On Friday April 11, come check in your gear that you would like to sell from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. We will have much more gear for sale than last year since we have commitments from 3 large Ski Swap retailers. They will have bikes, water sports equipment and much more. Remember to volunteer so you can shop early and get the really good stuff!

Banff Mt. Film Festival

The Sunnyside Sports Banff Mt. Film Festival will be here before you know it. Mark your calendars for April 20 and 21. This event will be held again at Summit High School and will feature some of the most exciting extreme sport and adventure travel films. Tickets will be available at Sunnyside Sports, MBSEF and at the door. To view the film line-up, please visit our website at www.mbsef.org.



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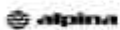
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Good Luck MBSEF Racers And Riders! Have a Great Season!



MBSEF/Mt. Bachelor Village athlete of the week - Congratulations Cole!

Name: Cole McGregor

Sport: MBSEF Snowboarding

Age: 14

School: Summit High

Favorite class: Science

Hobbies: Snowboarding, skateboarding, video games

Years in sport: 3

Quote: Mmmn! That's delicious...

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We are now entering another busy part of our season. Many of our athletes have qualified for championship events and will be on the road again soon. At the end of March, we are hosting the Western Region Alpine Junior Championships. This is a four event race that many of our athletes will be competing in. As always, we need a lot of volunteers for this event, especially the ones that help mid week.

The US Bank Pole Pedal Paddle and Kids Mini PPP are May 17th and 18th. Registration is open for both of these annual events. Again, volunteers are needed. Tickets are also on sale for the Sunnyside Sports Banff Mountain Film Festival held on April 20th and 21st. They can be purchased at Sunnyside Sports and at MBSEF.

Congratulations to all our athletes that qualified for their championship events and have a great March everyone.

Chuck Kenlan
Executive Director MBSEF



MBSEF/Mt. Bachelor Village athlete of the week - Congratulations Lucie!

Name: Lucie Pepper Sport: Alpine ski racing

Age: 14 School: Seven Peaks Years in sport: 8

Favorite class: math and music

Hobbies: soccer, singing/music, camping, hiking, river rafting

Quote: "fall down seven times get up eight"
- Buddhist Quote

For a special getaway, book a rustic cabin or a new spacious suite at Elk Lake Resort. A 14 passenger Snowcat will transport you or your gear in from Dutchman Snowpark to Elk Lake. Enjoy the groomed Elk Lake Loop, or simply relax and let Executive Chef Mark Saxena prepare you in the Lodge restaurant which seats up to 75. MBSEF members will receive a 10% discount on cabin rentals!

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The Buddy Bling, cont.

sparkles in red, white and blue. And wouldn't you know it; they also had their lion mascot marching happily into the opening ceremony. So they have a lion. It was MBSEF that set this ski racing community roaring with its' fashion forward Buddy Werner Championship ski jackets. "Other teams kept telling us we had the best jackets, they thought the jackets were so cool," said Kiki. "Even the other coaches kept complimenting them."

Keeping the passion Two-time Olympian, and U.S. Ski team member Caroline Lalive was the guest speaker at the opening ceremony - she encouraged the kids to thank their parents and to keep up their passion. "I was watching some of you train out there today, and some of you were really ripping it," said Lalive, 28, who made the U.S. developmental ski team when she was 15 years old. "It takes a lot of dedication and hard work, and I encourage you to follow your passion...and if any of you are looking for a dance-off at your banquet, I'll be interested."

Gaining experience Mini World Cup head coach Mike Evans was back at his childhood mountain where he spent weekends skiing the steep slopes of Stevens Pass with his dad. For Evans, these big races give MBSEF skiers a chance to gain more experience, and test themselves against other skiers from other mountains. "It's very competitive here, they really have to go for it, and push to the finish to get in the top," said Evans on his way to a coaches meeting. "This Buddy's hill is good to test the skill and level of these kids; the course is set just right for their skill level."

A nervous girl's team with butterflies in their stomachs confessed that this race can be intimidating, but they hope to learn from others too. "There's actually more teams here than I thought, and I think this mountain is a lot harder and steeper," said Brooke Kelley, 11, as she put on her helmet. "It's a lot of fun to see the other teams, and to see other racers that are better, because you can learn from them. I'm really impressed."

This year's MBSEF Buddy's team is relatively young, with only three boys and three girls, moving onto J-3's next season. Building on their experience here at Stevens Pass, next year's Buddy's team could generate some strong showings.

With a taste for the podium and a glass trophy in hand, Max Stamler and his "crew" have the ambition and talent to bring it all home next year. Congratulations to the entire 2008 MBSEF Buddy Werner Ski Team members: Max



Max Stamler on the Podium at Buddies

Stamler, Jack Botti, Casey Shannon, Wilder von Rohr, Tanner Olson, Jared Schiemer, Keenan Seidel, Megan Olson, Kiki Nakamura-Koyama, Brooke Kelley, Hadlie Plummer, Natalie Goodman, JoJo Bond and Elinor Wilson.



Editor's note: Thank you Penny for your wonderful accounting of this year's Buddy Werner trip - we appreciate all your work!! And thank you to Elinor Wilson's family for the photos!!



MBSEF

RACE TRAINING CENTER

**Mt. Bachelor Sports Education
Foundation
Race Training Center
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MBSEF MISSION STATEMENT

The Mt. Bachelor Sports Education Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development and support of competitive Alpine, Cross Country and Snowboard race training in Central Oregon. MBSEF provides the opportunity for introduction to advanced levels of race training and competition.

Our main objective is to assist student athletes in achieving their individual athletic, academic and personal goals. The program's guiding philosophy is to encourage academic achievement and promote the positive values of competitive sport: sportsmanship, self-discipline, goal setting, character building and the pursuit of healthy lifetime activities.

MBSEF

**563 SW 13th Street, Suite 201
Bend, OR 97702**

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Monday - Friday

E-Mail: mbsef@mbsef.org

Home Page: www.mbsef.org

Executive Director: Chuck Kenlan
Events Director: Molly Cogswell-Kelley
Membership Coordinator: Kathy Kurtz
Snowboard Director: Hans Hibbard
Alpine Director: Nils Eriksson
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Accounting Department: Carol Nelson

MBSEF Office Phone: (541) 388-0002
MBSEF Office Fax: (541) 388-7848
Volunteer Hotline: (541) 385-1999
Junior Race Center: (541) 382-2607 Ext. 2243
Nordic Center: (541) 382-2607 Ext. 2210
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