

# SKI TRACKS



MT. BACHELOR SKI EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
RACE TRAINING CENTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 8, Number 3

Mar 2005

## GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

by Chuck Kenlan

No brackets, face painting, or office pools. At MBSEF March Madness means something entirely different. March is when we celebrate those athletes who have achieved the goals that they set forth to accomplish at the beginning of the season. These are the championship races and contests that many of our athletes have qualified to attend.

For our snowboard athletes, this means the USASA National Championships. At the time of this writing, **Gus Warbington, Ben Watts, Ben Ferguson, Cole Ortega, Michelle Warren, Katie Williams, Kyle Sayeg, Ryan Linnert** and **Jordan Rymer** have all qualified.

For our Alpine skiers, this means the Buddy Werner Championships. The seven girls are **Lindsay Brewis, Lindy Holts, Anneliese Pozzi, Kori Coggin, Sarah Oller, Lucie Pepper,** and **Paige Stevenson**. The seven boys are **Jordan Schiemer, Camron Riemhofer, Ian Bristow, Jordan Rudinsky, Trevor Olsen, Christian Schuster,** and **Robert "Bo" Hall**. **Laurenne Ross** has qualified for the U.S. Nationals to be held in Mammoth, CA on March 27-April 3. The National J-2 Junior Olympics will be held at Sugar Loaf, Maine. The athletes who qualified are **Erica Durtschi, Laurenne Ross, Jeff Gomber** and **Tommy Ford**. The J-3 Junior Olympics athletes are still to be announced. The Western Region J-1/ J-2 Championships also are still to be announced.

For our XC skiers, the National Junior Olympics will be held March 5-13 in Truckee, CA. The athletes



Mini World Cupper Jack Botti - Jack, you definitely are photogenic!

who qualified are **Tom Smith, Joe Madden, Carson Miller, Eloise Zimbelman, Charlie Smith, Dakota Blackhorse von Jess, Stuart Smith-Blockley, Collin Rymer, Dane Johnson,** and **Patrick Carroll**.

Congratulations to all of you. Your hard work and discipline over these past months has paid off.

If we measure our success by results, the standout performance this year has been by XC athlete **Dakota Blackhorse Von Jess**. By aiming high and doing the work, Dakota qualified for the World Junior Championships. This is a first for an MBSEF XC skier and we are very proud of his achievement. The entire XC team set admirable goals for themselves this season and I feel that the rest of the team can take some credit for Dakota's success.

We are also proud of XC Director **Ben Husaby** for once again being

selected to coach at the World Juniors. Being asked to be a part of this coaching team is a reflection on Ben's coaching ability and his strengths as role model.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 3-4 Alpine High School State Championships
- Mar 5 - Par Fore the Course II (Sk)
- Mar 11-13 Buddy Werner Championships
- Mar 18-20 - XC Western Youth Festival
- Mar 20 - Cascade Crest Tour (Mass Start)
- Mar 22-24 - Alpine Spring Break Camp (Tue-Thu)
- Mar 24-27 - Snowboard Spring Break Camp
- Mar 25-26 - Mini World Cup Finals
- Apr 15-17 - NWC Finals
- Apr 21-24 - PNSA Masters
- Apr 24-25 - Banff Mtn Film Fest
- Apr 29-May 1 - May Day Races
- Apr 30 - Awards Banquet

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# Snowboard Corner

By Dave Reynolds

THE RESULTS ARE IN! After competing in the "Enter the Dragon" series held at Mt. Bachelor, we now know which MBSEF Snowboard Athletes will be heading to Copper Mountain Colorado for the USASA National Championships April 2-9. The series consists of 3 Slopestyle and 3 Halfpipe contests held over 3 weekends in January and February. We have these snowboard contests to thank for some of the snowfall we have received this season. It can be easy to predict a powder day just by looking at a calendar to see when an Enter the Dragon contest is scheduled. We received our fair share of rain, snow, and fog, but everyone battled the weather and rode AWESOMELY!

Automatic invitations go to athletes who have the most points in their age group at the end of the series. Athletes can go in individual events, Halfpipe, Slopestyle, or both. Ben Ferguson (8-9 age group), Ben Watts (10-11), and Michelle Warren (14-15) all qualified first for both events in their age groups and will get automatic invitations. Some other MBSEF riders who rode really well and are hoping to get a Wild Card invitation are Samantha Baron (14-15), Natalie Clark (16-17), Landon Steward (14-15), Donny Stevens (14-15), Josh Dodson (14-15), and last years Halfpipe Bronze medalist Garrett Warnick (10-11).

*All of us at MBSEF would like to give Karen and Greg Huston a great big thank you for supporting MBSEF and our athletes. They financially helped send eight MBSEF athletes to Tahoe for an elite level Western Region Tech Devo Race Series on March 10th through the 13th.  
Thank you!*

## XC MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

By Luke Foster, former  
MBSEF Athlete

I started cross country skiing in high school and quickly fell in love with the sport. After high school I started skiing with MBSEF because they were the only club in town that I knew of. MBSEF was a wonderful experience for me and I wish I would have learned about it earlier. It combined two of my most cherished activities, travel and working out in the outdoors. I met many new friends and my skiing ability increased past where I thought it would. The MBSEF coaches were great and seemed to be more of a part of the group rather than the adult. They would always have time to work one-on-one with me if I needed help.

I am very happy that I was asked to coach the Middle School Program. At first I was a little nervous, but that was me hoping that I would be at par with the other coaches around me. I'm also glad to be a coach because it is one more year that I'm able to be in the MBSEF loop, which has become my way of life and it's going to be hard to change that. This opportunity to coach the younger kids not only gives me a chance to share my skiing experience and memories with kids that I hope will be creating

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Debi Stangeland

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

Please have articles in by the last week of the month, for publication the following month. We prefer articles on diskette in a Microsoft Word program (please include a hard copy) or sent via E-Mail. Diskettes and photos will be returned after newsletter is printed. Contact us at the numbers/addresses provided below.

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their own wonderful memories, but I also feed off of their experiences. Sometimes skiing with the kids is just like being a kid again. It shows me what I missed by not being in the program as a middle schooler. Coaching is something that I will remember forever, and I hope that I'm able to impact at least one kid with memories that will last him/her a lifetime.

Luke and the Kids





The Snowboard Team

## Snowboard Hood Series

By Hans Hibbard

MBSEF's Competition Snowboard Team has competed in USASA series at both Mt. Bachelor (Enter the Dragon) and at Timberline (The Hood Series). Going to the Hood Series contests was a good opportunity for our Team riders to measure their skills against other regional riders. The Hood Series draws riders from all over Oregon and, this year, many riders from Washington came due to low snow conditions at their home series.

Timberline did an excellent job of providing contest facilities given their lack of snow. When rain ruined the snow needed for holding the slopestyle contests on Stormin' Norman chairlift (lower-mid mountain), Timberline put together a fun terrain park within two days on Palmer lift (uppermost lift). That was the first contest and everyone had a blast. However, operation of the Palmer lift is vulnerable to any type of weather that isn't bluebird. The second slopestyle was postponed due to low-visibility and rescheduled to be held the following weekend along with the final slopestyle. Both slopestyles were nearly cancelled the next weekend until Timberline saved that weekend's doubleheader by holding both slopestyles in their beginner terrain park! Yes, the jumps were small but, freestyle competitions are always determined by who is the most creative and consistent on whatever features are presented.

MBSEF Comp. Team riders who qualified for Slopestyle spots to USASA nationals

(continued on page 13, column 3)

## staying on Budget at the Outsiders Inn

By the MBSEF Nordic Team

Midway between Bend, Oregon and Soldier Hollow Utah, the MBSEF Nordic team van exited I-84 and arrived in the foggy, plateau settlement of Snowville, Utah. The name Snowville evokes images of a sleepy, happy, log cabin filled town with weekly community potlucks. Snowville is actually a motel, a gas station and a general store. The plateau in and around Snowville is a temporary home to hundreds of migrating deer. When the deer cross I-84, semi trucks and passenger cars rarely take out one or two animals, they annihilate the whole herd.

Five sleepy skiers and one coffee-filled coach grabbed sleeping bags and left the van for a night at the Outsider's Inn. This motel features a self serve campground style check in. Guests pull up to the unoccupied office, write down a credit card number, hope not to have thousands of dollars of eBay purchases on the card the next week, pick a room, any room, walk through the unlocked door and find the room key on the dresser. When guests enter their room, they are transported back in time.... to the unmistakable odor of prom.

Joe Madden discovered that the bathroom sink has two settings "off" and "drenched from the waist down." Charlie Smith channel surfed both channels. One channel was very educational. The other, very, very educational. Tom Smith and Collin Rymer made a list of all of the communicable diseases that they were sure to be exposed to while Dakota Blackhorse von Jess begged to sleep in the van. Cozy on the concrete floor between the two beds, the coach reassured the



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**Nordic Team Members contact Ben or Brenna for uniform prices/sizes.**

boys that they would be better, stronger more well-rounded people for having stayed at the Outsiders Inn and assured them that they could not catch any horrible virus or bacteria.

The boys eagerly jumped into the van the next morning and as we fueled up they microwaved delicious egg sandwiches that Mrs. Madden had sent along. Once back on I-84 the team played a new game where points were awarded to individuals who could correctly name the detached deer parts strewn about the freeway through the thick fog. Price per person for a night's lodging and hot breakfast \$8. Overall experience in Snowville, Utah.... priceless.

# SHANDAR'S GREAT NORDEEN EXPERIENCE

By Kathy Kurtz

Kathy: So Shana, I heard a funny story from Fred Shick about your Great Nordeen Race experience, and need to verify a few things. Do you have a couple minutes?

Shana: Sure dude!

K: Tell me about the race?

S: Well, it was FAST! I was one of only two classic skiers, every one else was skating, and there was no track set. I was cruising along, pacing myself. It was a great day! I was passing quite a few skiers, and I really didn't know the course, or have any idea how far I had gone. I pulled over after a ways, and was having a little berry snack, then I decided I wanted to change my music, so I messed around with my c.d. for awhile. You know, I was just taking a little break. Some of the racers I had passed came by, and I was getting some real funny looks. Then the other classic skier came by, and he gave me a real funny look too.

K: Did you just think that Nordic skiers are just a different breed of cat?

S: Yeah, like I've just been getting into Nordic skiing this year, and it sure is different than alpine. It's great, like I can't wait till we go on our back country outing up in the bowl of Broken Top.

K: I think we should go on a day trip first, since I really don't have much experience in Nordic. We can scope out where to build our snow cave for the overnighiter, and maybe drop in and stash a few supplies. A couple of people I've been talking to about this want to come too!

S: Dude, I know! I've got more people wanting to come too! We better set a limit, otherwise it'll be a total crowd. You know, you really need to get out and have some practice before we go.

K: I know. Brenna loaned me her great back country gear, and I haven't had time to get out there yet. I've been really busy. Maybe this weekend I can get up to Dutchman if there's enough snow, and cruise around. Hey, back to the Nordeen, did you figure out why you were getting funny looks when you were taking your break?

S: Yep, I did. After I got done fiddling around with my little berry snack and c.d., I took off again, and after about a hundred yards, I came over a little rise, and there was the finish! Like, if I had known that, I totally would'nt have stopped! Now I know why I was getting the funny eye! My mom was at the finish, all worried about where I was, cause she knew I should have been in by then!

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# Events

## Director News

By Kalisha Fleischmann

Spring events planning is in full swing! Our next fundraiser, the Mountain Supply Banff Film Festival will be on April 24th & 25th at Summit High School. See the program for both nights on our website and come out and support MBSEF! Tickets are \$13 in advance, \$15 at the door. Highlights of the event include a sponsor raffle, concession stand and sponsor displays in the lobby. Films will highlight mountain culture, environment, extreme sporting and more. Don't miss it!

The U.S. Bank Pole Pedal Paddle Race will have some changes come May 14<sup>th</sup>. Instead of an elite category, we will feature an elite wave whereby special petition, racers can apply for the wave and still be eligible for their age category prize as well. There will be a limit of 50 racers in this wave, and since the overall Male/Female Individual prize money has been doubled, we anticipate a strong race among the competitor's. Make sure you don't miss out on this exciting race. There are a number of ways to become involved and the race won't be the same without you!

The Columbia River Bank Cascade Cycling Classic is in the planning stages as well. Instead of the McKenzie Pass stage, we will have a new and exciting Bend to Prineville and back stage on Wednesday. This stage is guaranteed to tire our pro riders and challenge them to their limits! As always, a highlight of the race week will be the Friday night Downtown Criterium featuring the pro men and women as they compete for money and product prizes and excite spectators with their awesome speeds of 35-40MPH!

Make sure you are there to support our athletes by volunteering to help with one or all of these events. We count on you, supporters of MBSEF, to make our fundraising events a success. The better our fundraiser, the better financial support we can offer our athletes. See you this spring!

## Volunteer Opportunities Abound at MBSEF

by Debi Stangeland

The 2005 event season is just around the corner. There will be some exciting and fun volunteer opportunities for all who are interested as we prepare for the Mountain Supply Banff Mountain Film Festival in April, the U.S. Bank Pole Pedal Paddle and Kid's Mini PPP in May and the Columbia River Bank Cascade Cycling Classic in July. If you are interested in volunteering for any or all of these events, please let us know. We'd love to have you as part of the team. In most cases volunteers are given a free event t-shirt for their valuable efforts.

The Mountain Supply Banff Mountain Film Festival is shaping up to be a great event. It will be held April 24 & 25 at Summit High School. We will need ushers, ticket sellers, concession stand workers and much more. Please email Debi at [debi@mbsef.org](mailto:debi@mbsef.org) if you are interested in helping out with this important MBSEF fundraiser. This will be an evening time commitment.

The U.S. Bank Pole Pedal Paddle is one of the Northwest's premier racing events. There are volunteer positions available for all the

different legs of the race, from Mt. Bachelor to the Les Schwab Amphitheater. If you would like to see the action up close, please contact Kalisha at [kfleischmann@mbsef.org](mailto:kfleischmann@mbsef.org). This event will be held Saturday, May 14.

Not to be left out, the U.S. Bank Kid's Mini PPP will be held the next day, May 15, at Harmon Park. If you would like to help out with this fun community event, please email [debi@mbsef.org](mailto:debi@mbsef.org). We always need help and support for our up and coming racers.

Finally, the Columbia River Bank Cascade Cycling Classic will be held July 6-10. Some of the nation's best cyclists will be in Central Oregon for this challenging race. We have need for volunteers throughout this week-long event. Please contact Kalisha at [kfleischmann@mbsef.org](mailto:kfleischmann@mbsef.org) for more information about how to get involved.

We value our volunteers and recognize that we would not be able to hold such successful events each year without your help. Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a great event season in 2005.



*Do we have your E-mail? We now have the ability to distribute our newsletter via E-mail. If you would like to receive Ski Tracks electronically, please send a message to [mbsef@mbsef.org](mailto:mbsef@mbsef.org).*



Buddy Werner

## WHO WAS BUDDY WERNER?

by Kathy Kurtz

Wallace "Buddy" Jerold Werner  
1936-1964

Buddy Werner was an internationally renowned alpine ski racer who died trying to outrace an avalanche in the Swiss Alps on April 12, 1964. He was widely acknowledged as America's greatest skier of the time. Contributions from all over the world were given in Buddy's memory and used to build a new public library for the community of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The Bud Werner Memorial Library opened its doors with a dedication ceremony on February 4, 1967.

Buddy was a native of Steamboat Springs. He had a breakneck style which caused spectacular spills, but also enabled him to win virtually every championship available during his mercurial career. He was America's first truly world class racer. Among his accomplishments were Olympic Alpine Team, 1956, 1960, and 1964, and Federation International du Ski Alpine Team 1954 (alternate), 1958, when he was the first American selected, and 1962. He was a three time National Alpine Champion in Giant Slalom in 1957, 1959, and 1963.

Buddy's skiing activities began as a ski jumper on Howelsen Hill, winning his first Regional Championship in jumping at the age of 10. During this time, he decided to concentrate on alpine events. As a competitive skier he completed a skiing record which is unequaled by any other American.

His international competition began in 1954. He competed in the FIS games in Bad Gastein, Austria in 1958. Buddy was the first American male to win a major European downhill, winning at the Hahnenkamm in Kitzbuehl, Austria. Although a team member for the 1960 Olympic winter games at Squaw Valley, California, a broken leg kept him from competing. In 1964, Buddy was again an Olympic competitor for the United States at Innsbruck, Austria. That same year, he was killed by the avalanche in Switzerland.

Buddy was posthumously inducted into the National Ski Hall of Fame in 1964. In 1965, Steamboat Springs renamed its Storm Mountain to Mount Werner in honor of Buddy. A long time resident of Steamboat Springs recalled that Buddy always had time for the youngsters in the Winter Sports Club. He reminisced, "When he was home he would always come over and ski with the local kids. He just impressed the heck out of us. He was the best skier in the world."

## MWC Update

By Inge Scheve

First, we would like to take the opportunity to welcome all of our new and returning coaches. "All the new coaches and all the returning coaches bring excitement and enthusiasm to work every day," says MWC Head Coach, Mike Evans. He points out that MBSEF alumni coach Julie Pliska, who brings joy and skill to every practice, stands out among the coaches. "Julie gives everything to the kids despite battling some health challenges of her own," he says, adding that each MBSEF coach, athlete and parent makes a difference and allows the program to prosper. "Somewhat special to us is coach Kelsey Holmer," Evans says, noting that Holmer works with the one-and-a-half day J4 athletes. "Kelsey is an alumni from MBSEF

who, with one swoop of her skis, was able to take the Junior Olympics title a few years ago. Also, I had the pleasure of coaching her J5 and J4 years," he explains. Evans adds that new athletes also contribute to allow the Mini World Cup program to grow, both socially and competitively. "There are tons of ripping 6, 7 and 8-year-olds in MBSEF, a growing number of 9 and 10-year-olds and more 11 and 12-year-olds than ever before. This is in itself exciting."

## MI TEY MI TE Update

By Inge Scheve

The biggest news for the 2004-2005 Mitey Mites season was changing the five-week two-session set-up to a new, 10-week single session set-up. "The new set-up allows the kids to stay with their 'team' and to also stay with their coach for the full ten weeks," explains Fred Faria, Mitey Mites head coach, noting that most feedback on the new structure has been positive. In other news, the Mitey Mite race course at Mt. Bachelor has been moved from Pat's Way to Pit's Way because Pit's Way is somewhat longer and steeper, providing a more appropriate challenge for the athletes, Faria notes, adding that the kids and the coaches ski as much of the mountain as possible to get comfortable with a variety of terrains. Faria also thanks all returning coaches and welcomes new ones. "We have many coaches who return year after year and are very dedicated to this program, and many are ex-racers, and one coach - Heather Risseuw - is a former pro patroler," Faria says, adding that the coaches and parents are key ingredients to the Mitey Mite program.

**2004-2005**

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Photo: Chuck Kenlan





## Local Racing's Golden Era

*(This is the third in the four-part series on Bend ski history by local ski historian and writer Bob Woodward.)*

And so it came to pass that the interim coach, the one hired until an Austrian coach could be found, became the Skyliners new ski racing coach. His name was Frank Cammack and before joining the Brooks Scanlon company as a mill employee, he'd been a top national cross-country ski racer and a member of the U.S. team for the 1958 World Cross-Country Ski Championships. Cammack recalls that a few days after he'd volunteered for the coaching job that he "arrived at the hill at 8 a.m. and there were 20 kids raring' to go." Twenty kids, who Cammack would later say, "always had such enthusiasm and they were tough." Concurrent with Cammack taking over the Skyliners race program, ski racing in the northwest was gaining notoriety primarily because of a junior sensation named Jean

Saubert. Saubert quickly rose to the top of the U.S. junior ranks and in 1962 placed 6th in the giant slalom at the World Championships. Two years later, she won a silver medal in the giant slalom and a bronze in the slalom at the Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria. As Saubert was making her name in racing so too were that bunch of young kids from Bend and Mount Bachelor, now fondly known as "Frank's Kids". They kept winning races and moving into national prominence. Fast rising star Kiki Cutter won the U.S. Junior Nat'l Championship downhill in 1967 at the age of 17. A year later, she placed 17th in the downhill at the Grenoble, France Winter Olympic Games. She went on to become the first American, male or female, to win a World Cup race. Later she was inducted into the Ski Hall of Fame. Other Skyliners of note of the Frank's Kids era were Mike Lafferty who made the U.S. Ski Team in the late 1960s and had several World Cup top three finishes in the downhill

discipline. He competed in the 1972 Winter Olympics in Sapporo, Japan. Never a World Cup or Olympic racer but an outstanding junior competitor, Jerry Blann went on to become one of the ski industry's most recognized ski area leaders first as president of the Aspen Ski Corporation and more recently as President of the Jackson Hole Ski Corporation. Blann, Cutter and Lafferty made their mark on the alpine ski world and helped set the table for the next generation of local alpine ski racers. And as they were doing that a local kid named Mike Devecka, whose mother worked at Mount Bachelor, began making a name for himself as a combined (jumping and cross-country) skier and set the table for nordic ski racers to come. Devecka would go on to become a member of the 1968, 1972, 1976 and 1980 U.S. Olympic teams.

*Editors note: Part four will appear in the April issue of Ski Tracks.*





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## *From Park City to Schweitzer to Big Sky and Home*

*by the three amigas (Laurenne, Christina, Erica)*

The drive to Park City was quite boring, the usual. There weren't many athletes in the van, only Durtsch, Laurenne, Jeff, and Tommy. We slept and slept and did some homework. On the way we stopped at a nice little spring and got some fresh spring water right out of the ground. This Park City race was a Western Elite tech series race, and a J2 national qualifier. It was also a U.S. national qualifier. The races were at two different mountains, Park City and Snowbird. We stayed in Park City, which is about 10 minutes away from the hill, and 45 minutes away from Snowbird. The ladies raced slalom the first two days at Snowbird, while the gentlemen raced GS at Park City. The last two days we switched it up. The weather was quite interesting. It was very windy and a bit snowy at Snowbird, and raining cats and dogs at Park City. There was no lodge at the bottom of the hill, so we put our boots on in the parking lot, an unusual thing for us racers. As for the social aspect of the trip, the place to hang out was the lobby, mostly because of the wireless internet. We walked to dinner most nights, but Durtsch and Laurenne went grocery shopping at Wild Oats Market and feasted off of our healthy groceries; Thai noodles, apples, and cereal. The coaches meeting was held by the pool side, and while most normal coaches were dressed properly and sitting in chairs, Kent was soaking it up in the hot tub. He was, of course, taking notes. Marc Nabelek tweaked his ankle before one of his runs doing sneidleighs. The racing was quite interesting, and not so easy to finish. Bachelor came home empty handed, but with smiles on their faces. Most people stayed an extra day because one of the guys' races got canceled. On the day that they made up the guys' race, Tommy Ford moved from 60<sup>th</sup> place to 2<sup>nd</sup> on the first run! As for Laurenne, she went home to go to school like a good girl, but her plane got canceled and she was left in a fluster in the middle of the San Francisco airport. Thanks to the help of our lovely coach, Jeff Kai, she made it out with out any scratches and a hotel room to herself. Durtschi had to stay for a lonely extra day of sleeping in and shopping, that lucky bum. After speaking to a baggage claim lady who didn't actually speak English, Laurenne thought her luggage was gone forever. But three days later, Laurenne's luggage came in the mail and we were off to Schweitzer, Idaho.

Schweitzer was the beginning of the "Grilled Cheese Week." Oh, man...I don't think we'll ever eat a grilled cheese sandwich again. The Schweitzer race was a PNSA northwest cup race. The van ride up to Schweitzer was the same ol' same ol', lots of sleeping and homework. There was one exciting stop on the way, when a box on top of the van was open. We were stopped at a red light and Kent jumped out of the van and sprinted up the top of the van to close the box. While he was up there, the light turned green and we were pretty much left in the middle of the highway with other cars screaming past us. Not only was this a bit scary, it was extremely funny. Most athletes from Bachelor came to this race, which made it probably the coolest race ever. Elizabeth Rosemary Dale made the trip all the more exciting, with her loud laugh and hilarious jokes. The night that we got there all the ladies put on lots of make-up and walked over to Domino's Pizza for dinner. The weather was very cold, yet sunny. The snow was decently hard until the last day of GS, when it snowed and we raced a course in powder. Who is the best at skiing through gates in powder?!?!? Liz and Laurenne went for a jog and almost got hit by a train! They survived and are still alive today. There we went, straight from Schweitzer to Big Sky, Montana!

We had to drive overnight in order to make it to the Downhill training races on the first day at Big Sky. We weren't thinking ahead when we realized that we were going to be racing for ten days straight, with an overnight van ride in the middle. Some vans barely even made it the next morning for their training runs! The van ride should have only been 7 hours long, but because of the icy roads, and freezing rain it took approximately 11 hours. The Big Sky race was a Western Region devo FIS speed race, we only raced Super G and Downhill, the most fun events! This race was a J2 national qualifier. The weather in Big Sky was quite

lovely, sunny skies all week. It was a very icy course, making it hard to have a clean run through. The Downhill course was the same all week, and the Super G course was very similar, only a few changes were made to make it FIS legal. PNSA stayed in the Comfort Inn, about 15 minutes from the ski hill. There was a water slide into a pool at our hotel, making it all the more exciting to go swimming. Having no restaurants around us, we had to order pizza practically every night, and the mountain food was not so hot, which forced us to order grilled cheese sandwiches and milkshakes every day for lunch. One day in the pool, the ladies made a synchronized swimming routine which was very enjoyable. Being gone for 12 days straight, most of us had plenty of homework to keep us busy, especially because we all had finals the week we got back. Laurenne practiced her violin at night, putting on secret performances. Oh yes, can't forget the wireless internet in the lobby, which made it the place to be, once again. The only problem with the hotel was that they didn't get FOX, making the ladies miss the O.C., a very tragic incident. The boys and girls raced on the same hill, same course, every day. Jeff Gomber unfortunately partially tore his ACL in one of the DH races. He will be back on skis in only one week! Being that the curfew was at 9:30 p.m. every night; there weren't too many exciting nights. On the way home from Big Sky, we stopped at the same spring we were at on the way to Park City, and made Kent fill up all of our water bottles.

We are now taking about a 9 day break, before we head off on another trip to Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Being on the road for this long makes us very tired and pretty stupid, which makes me ask, why are we even writing this article right now?! We should be asleep. Well, farewell until next time, in a few weeks when we arrive home from Jackson! Until next time (as Kent would say...) DOOSCH!



Shane Halderman, age 8, Mini World Cup Program



The Four Amigas - Laurenne, Erica, Christina, and Katie



Coach Pat



Yeeeeehaaaaaw! Oh Doh! Gerhett vom Steeg splats on the Wall of the Natural Terrain Halfpipe (Just Like a Bug on the Windshield)



Eloise Zimbelman and Krysten Fitzsimmons (Fitty) at Methow WA JO Qualifier



Kent Explains the Meaning of Life, Ryan and Pat Listen Intently



Ryan Linnert - photo by cloud9photos



## Snowboard Athlete Profile

By Hans Hibbard

Ryan Linnert is a rookie member of the Snowboard Competition Team. His easy-going personality and impressive riding skills have made him a favorite among his teammates. Ryan focuses on slopestyle competitions and will usually place top three...providing he finishes his run. This winter, he is working hard at improving his consistency while also developing his rail and halfpipe riding skills. Ryan has so much talent that he needs to be fed nearly his own body weight in food daily (really, this kid is always hungry).

### **For the record; your age, years riding, years with MBSEF, grade, and years competing?**

I'm 17, I've been snowboarding for 10 years, this is my 1<sup>st</sup> year in MBSEF, I'm a junior, and I've been competing for 5 years.

### **Where were you born and where did you grow up?**

I was born in Capistrano Beach, the O.C. (throws a chaka). I lived there for 6 years and then we moved here.

### **How did you get involved in snowboarding?**

My friend in elementary, his dad had a snowboard and he said that I could try it.

### **Where did you learn?**

I went to Hoodoo and rode the rope-tow on a 110cm Yellow Bus. It was like the worst day to learn how to snowboard. It was raining. I got it right off the bat though. I took one run on the rope-tow and just got it naturally. I went on the lift after that and just started riding.

### **What are some of your interests and hobbies?**

I like to play golf and wakeboard in the summer. I like to sleep, eat, and snowboard. I'm on the Bend High Golf Team and we compete against other schools.

### **How are you at golfing?**

I'm okay.

### **What's your handicap?**

Seven.

### **Dang that's good.**

Ya, sometimes I tend to blow-up on the last two holes and go triple-triple. My coach says that I need to work on that.

### **Huh, so that sounds kind of familiar to me. What's the deal with that? You tend to do the same thing in snowboarding.**

In golf, I'll get a bad shot in the woods and then instead of punching it out onto the fairway I'll go for some big amazing shot. Sometimes I do the same thing in snowboarding. Like at Hood (at Timberline, Ryan was trying backside rodeos in a competition that was held in the mini-park due to lack of snow. Clearing the landing in both runs, Ryan came down solid on his feet, but just couldn't absorb the impact to ride away clean). It's tough sometimes to plan out a run. I have a lot of tricks that I can do and I want to go for it.

### **What do you like about snowboarding competitions?**

It pushes me more...when I'm riding on my own, I tend to ride for fun but, when I'm in a competition there are other good riders and it pushes me. I like being judged. It's good to know how someone else judged your trick, the landing, etc.

### **Have you learned any new tricks this year?**

Ya, cab spins...I learned them last year but, I've gotten better at them this year. I learned cab sevens this year. I also got better at frontside boardslides and hitting rails switch.

### **What aspects of your snowboarding are you working on now?**

I need to work on landing my tricks better....being consistent.

### **What are your goals in snowboarding?**

I'd like to compete in the X-Games someday...if they have slopestyle in the Olympics soon, that would be cool. I'd like snowboarding to be my job.

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## **2005 SUMMER CYCLE PROGRAM**

*By Bill Warburton and Brenna Knowles  
MBSEF Cycling Coaches*

The MBSEF Summer Cycling Program will continue, for a second summer, to engage our young winter athletes during the summer months. The program is open to alpine, cross country and snowboard athletes, or non-MBSEF youth age 8 to 16. Participants should have the desire to improve their mountain biking skills, strength, fitness, and have a great time during the summer months.

Participants will have three sessions to choose from. Session 1 - May, Session 2 - June and Session 3 - July. Athletes can choose any combination of complete sessions. During each session, athletes will meet with their coaches ten times during a 3 - 4 week period. Each session includes one all day camp or race experience. Athletes may enroll in Session 1, 2, or 3 and learn the basics. For athletes who want to participate in successive sessions, an alternate skills progression will be available for sessions 2 and 3. This will ensure that participants will not be subject to the same progressions per session and will encourage athletes to learn new skills over the entire summer. For athletes who cannot commit to a full session, we will have five one-day race/camps throughout the summer that will be open to everyone.

Realistic goals must be set for each athlete. The basic progression is fundamental for any rider—including experienced riders who are already racing—and all athletes will achieve throughout the progression even if their individual skill levels may vary from novice to expert. Along with bike handling skills, the program will encourage stewardship of trail systems, set examples of good riding ethics, inform the athletes of proper bike maintenance and promote activities to keep young athletes mentally and physically healthy.

Mountain biking encompasses much more than simply racing so the progressions are created on

this premise. We want to develop good riding skills, not simply push athletes into racing. However, riders who can demonstrate to the coaches a high level of independence and fitness may be encouraged to participate in appropriate mountain bike races in the area. Racing is not a requirement of the program.

We are currently accepting applications for paid coaching positions. If you are interested in coaching, please choose a session(s) from the dates below and send an email to [bknowles@mbsef.org](mailto:bknowles@mbsef.org) with your contact information and a paragraph on your mountain bike and coaching/teaching experience.

Parents can show their support by riding their bikes to work and riding with their children around town and on the trails. We're looking forward to another great summer on two wheels! Registration and sign up information will be published in March.

### 2005 SEASON SCHEDULE

*(Subject to change)*

- \* All Sessions Meet 4:00-5:30pm
- \* Locations TBA
- \* Parent Information Meeting Will Be Held Thursday April 21<sup>st</sup> 6:00pm at the MBSEF Office

#### Pre Season Camp April 23/24

Session 1 - May  
2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 20  
Race/Camp May 21

Session 2 - June  
6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 22, 27, 29, Jul 1  
Race/Camp July 2

Session 3 - July  
4, 6, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 27, 29  
Race/Camp July 30

#### Required equipment:

- \* Mountain bike w/gears (sorry, no BMX bikes)
- \* Helmet (must fit)
- \* Eye protection
- \* Repair kit and pump
- \* Gloves
- \* Water bottle and cage

#### Optional equipment:

- \* Cycling shoes
- \* Clipless pedals
- \* Cycling shorts
- \* Hydration pack

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## ON THE ROAD WITH THE US SKI TEAM

by Kevin Francis

Our favorite tech, Pam Warman is back. She's tuning Fischer skis and has sweet talked Sigi the Austrian rep into getting us some brand new SG and DH skis that were at the factory and ground yesterday, on the test track today and we will get them tomorrow. I don't think many other Europa Cup athletes have these skis yet.

### JANUARY 15 PATCH AUSTRIA @ USST HOUSE

This is a house the USST has access to any time of the year and is used for R&R and to train and ski test out of. There's 3 of us here now and tomorrow 2 of us will train GS in the morning and 3 train SG in the afternoon, then the next day 2 athletes will leave and 3 more come in. Last night Mike Morin the WC tech coach stopped by between races, so it's always a parade through here. Fischer came through with 4DH and 4SG skis for us plus a new WC DH they just produced that we tested the last two days. We were on a glacier that only sees the sun a couple hours a day and the snow temp was -22C so now we know which skis will run at frigid Le Massif Canada but that's about it. We'll have to retest in more normal temps later. Ski testing is more than just finding the fastest skis, it's great for technique because it gives me the chance to work on gliding and lots of small things I need to focus on that don't get much attention in a normal training day.

### JANUARY 24-26 TARVISIO ITALY DH

Training: I have great news...I crashed hard off the last jump in the training run .....but I'm OK.....beat up but ok. Unfortunately I broke a new fast pair of DH skis and Zamansky bent a pair today so our quiver is dwindling. 25% of the field crashed or had major problems off that jump. Usually the take-off on a jump faces downward or level but these jumps have a lip built in that kicks you back AND up. These Europa Cup races are one step below the World Cup and we've found that many dangerous

safety issues are ignored because there isn't enough volunteer help.

Race Day: Well I had some bad luck today. My back is really sore from crashing yesterday, but not too painful so I don't think about it when I'm skiing. When I got in the start gate it was snowing and windy and the guy before me crashed so I was standing there in the cold which was ok because I was real warm from warm-up. But it snowed 5 cm while I waited so I requested a forerunner. They sent one and then waited 5 intervals to send me so there wasn't a track by the time I went even if I could see which I couldn't because 30mph gusts hit me while I was on course. So I came down 8 seconds out and owned the board by 2 seconds. I skied well and the coaches were impressed I didn't die off any of the jumps so I hope I get better luck tomorrow.

### DARON STORY ONE

European TV runs World Cup races live in all lodges and most bars so we get to watch what's going on with our teammates. Daron Rahlves originally qualified for the US team on his GS strength but has become one of the best DH/SG guys on the circuit. The last few years he's started to focus more on GS. At Adelboden, which Schlopy calls "one of the real GS courses" because it is so technical, Daron was in 3rd place after the first run. We watched his second run and at the last split he was ahead by quite a bit. He came over the last pitch and skied it better than anyone. He was carrying good speed at the bottom when he hit a bump and high sided, then his inside ski hooked up and he was tossed into the air as the hill fell away from him. He was so high he spun around twice before he landed hard, blew through a barrier and into the fence. He was slow to get up but walked through the finish to a huge cheer. He's lucky not to be hurt more than just a good beating and hopefully will make the Lauberhorn DH.

## Snowboard Hood Series

(continued from page 3)

are Gus Warbington (8-9), Cole Ortega (10-11), Katie Williams (15-16), Jordan Rymer (16-17), and Ryan Linnert (16-17). Kyle Sayeg had strong finishes and is hoping for a Wild Card spot in slopestyle at Nationals.

Timberline has not had enough snow this season to build a halfpipe. With riders still needing to somehow qualify for halfpipe at Nationals, Timberline put a considerable amount of time and effort into building a REALLY good quarterpipe. They built an enormous quarterpipe that is 18 feet tall and about 55 feet wide, with huge transitions cut by Timberline's Zaug pipe cutter.

MBSEF riders rode amazingly well on the quarterpipe! Quarterpipes are scary at first since they are not a common thing to ride and because any air you get is on top of the 18 feet you are already looking down towards the ground. Imagine Katie Williams' 6 foot methods, from her perspective, looking 24 feet down to the ground! Even our little guys were pushing 2 ½ feet out. Without exception, the MBSEF Team impressed everyone with their consistently large airs and riding versatility.

At the time this is being written, there is still one quarterpipe competition remaining that will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. We will be taking the entire Competition Team up to Timberline for the experience of riding a quarterpipe. MBSEF results have been solid enough that the following riders are very likely to have halfpipe spots for Nationals: Gus Warbington (8-9), Cole Ortega (10-11), Katie Williams (15-16), and Kyle Sayeg (16-17).



# MBSEF

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The Mt. Bachelor Ski 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 introductory 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**

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