

Alpine skiers race in white-out

Winter conditions were blustery for the Sisters High School Alpine Ski Team's first slalom race of the season. High winds, blowing snow, and soft snowpack made the course "a rodeo," according to Head Coach Greg Ausman.

"Many racers disqualified, missed gates, and DNF (did not finish) the course, but our kids skied strong."

Betsy Ausman, senior and co-captain of the team, made two consistent runs, which placed her sixth overall.

"Betsy did a great job. Her transitions were smooth, and she made the most of the rough course," said Coach Ausman.

Senior and co-captain Cammi Benson placed 15th.

"The wind picked up during Cammi's run, so she was skiing practically blind in the

white-out conditions. But she went after it anyway, made clean runs, and placed well," said Assistant Coach Kelly Martin Davis.

Holland Hartman placed 32nd overall.

"This was Holland's first slalom race, and she did everything she needed to do. This was an especially challenging course, and Holland stayed focused, in spite of the snow conditions," said Ausman.

The girls team placed seventh out of the 13 teams competing.

On the boys team, Lachlan Wood placed 23rd overall.

"Lachlan caught an edge on his first run, but he made a quick recovery and kept racing," said Coach Davis Martin.

Freshman John Banks placed 25th.

"John had the most consistent runs on the men's team. In conditions like this, it pays off to be conservative. He skied strong and his technique was excellent all the way through the course," said Ausman.

Newcomer to the team this year is Sam Lewis.

"Sam missed a gate and blew out of the course on his first run. His second run was equally as exciting — he caught a gate with a ski near the end, which spun him around, and instead of trying to turn back around, he just finished the course backwards! Whatever works, as long as it's legal," said Martin Davis with a laugh.

The boys team scored team points which ranked them seventh out of the 13 teams competing.



PHOTO BY JULIE BENSON

The ski team tries to stay out of the weather at the start gates.

Habitat volunteer marks 93 years

By Diane Goble
Correspondent

Robin Tawney, manager of Sisters Habitat for Humanity ReStore, and a few of her volunteers showed up at the store on Saturday to surprise Russell Williams with a cake for his 93rd birthday.

Russell has been volunteering with Sisters Habitat since it started as an affiliate 25 years ago and still works his Saturday-morning shift every week. He always has time to share stories with customers about his long and interesting life since 1923.

Born on a farm in Floyd, New York, Russell was one of 16 children. He started working when he was 8 years old from sun-up to sundown.

He attributes his longevity to good genetics, since all the men in the family lived into their 90s; and the women, 87 to 91. Wife Nancy tells him he has to stay around for another 10 years to keep



PHOTO BY DIANE GOBLE

Robin Tawney presented Russell Williams with a birthday cake.

her company, and Robin says nine and a half of those years have to be at the ReStore.

Sporting a black eye from a slip on the ice, Russell blew out the candles and cut the cake.

What advice does he have for young people today?

"Get up, enjoy life, and work hard."

“ Get up, enjoy life, and work hard. — Russell Williams



Photo by Kathy Krause

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DUCTLESS HEAT PUMP TECHNOLOGY

Recently, Randall Marchington, an expert Mechanical Estimator from Bend Heating, answered questions about the newest high-efficiency *ductless* heat pump systems on the market.

Q *We have heard there is something new in the world of ductless heat pump technology. Would you mind talking about that?*

A Sure. Carrier Corporation, one of the largest manufacturers in the heating industry, has recently released the Carrier Infinity ductless heat pump, one-head system. The first thing that comes to my mind is that as we live in a high, dry, cold climate and this new Carrier Infinity system will produce heat to -22°F at 80% capacity output. No other system can work this well for our winters.

Q *Well, that is exciting! What else is new?*

A One of the newest innovations that Carrier has brought to this technology is the sleek and slim look of these indoor units that also come in white or silver, which allows them to blend into the interior of your home. Not the big bulky things hanging on your wall anymore.

Q *Are incentives like rebates and tax credits available when you convert to a ductless heat pump?*

A Because we are approaching an energy crisis in the NW, there are incredibly *generous incentives* available to homeowners that qualify for these systems, totaling as much as \$2,700, which can cut your total investment in half, as well as reducing your utility bill by half, plus they have air conditioning and air filtration to boot!

Q *And, about Bend Heating...?*

A One thing that I like is that Bend Heating was the 1st "Certified Master Installer" of ductless heat pumps in the area and is Carrier's 1st and oldest factory-authorized dealer in Central Oregon. That means every single homeowner gets a 100% satisfaction guarantee or your money back, written contract from Carrier Corporation themselves.

Q *Is the initial investment expensive?*

A Not at all, especially when you consider that the money you save on utility bills pays for the investment in as little as a few years in most homes, and the comfort is incredible.

Q *What sets Bend Heating apart from other well-known heating companies?*

A Bend Heating is the oldest heating company in Central Oregon and has been serving our neighbors heating needs since 1953. We are required to be certified by federal, state and local agencies. We participate in rigorous ongoing training that requires us to perform many different tests to certify the installation is correct. We do all the paperwork for you and make sure it is all in order for the rebates and tax credits.

Q *How can people contact you for more information?*

A You can contact me at 541-382-1231 or email randall@bendheating.com and I'll be happy to discuss how and if this might work for your home.

turn to the experts

541-382-1231 | www.BendHeating.com

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