

World class skiers set for Kandaha ski

By Joe Englesby

Hoodland opens the gates to some of the world's best skiers this week with the running on Saturday and Sunday of the Far West Kandahar Ski Championships at the newest of Mt. Hood's three major winter sports areas, The Meadows.

The full U.S. Ski Team, some 25 to 30 racers, will be on hand. This includes the "A" squad, as well as the training squad and talent squad. It is from these ranks that America's representatives will come for the 1972 Olympic Games in Japan.

Also ticketed for Hoodland and the Kandahar are 10, and maybe more, members of the Canadian National Team as well as five representatives from the Norwegian National Team.

The Kandahar! What does it mean? What is its part in skiing?

Kandahar is a battlefield in India where British forces many years ago in colonial times scored a major military victory under the command of Sir Arnold Lund, founder of the Ski Club of Great Britain and regarded as the father of modern skiing in England. For many years, the Arnold Lund Downhill was a top race on Mt. Hood.

There are four Kandahar races held each year throughout the world, all sanctioned by the Ski Club of Great Britain as well as the FIS, the Federation de Internationale Ski, which controls competitive skiing world wide. One of the Kandahar's is staged in Austria, another in France and the other two in the United States. The Eastern Kandahar alternates throughout the top ski areas in New England.

The Far West Kandahar was long a fixture in western ski racing, but was dropped for several years and then revived by the Schne Vogeli Ski Club of Mt. Hood, composed of some 125 male members all of whom are former racers. The Far West Kandahar was sanctioned to Schne Vogeli in 1956 and the races were staged annually on Mt. Hood until 1964 with the exception of 1962 when the ski club's one big annual effort went to stage the regional junior racing championships under sponsorship of the Pacific Northwest Ski Association, the area affiliate of the U.S. Ski Association, which controls all national and international racing for U.S. skiers. The event has alternated at top Western ski areas since 1965 and was combined with the Rose Festival's "Golden Poles" in 1966 and 1968.

One Oregonian, Eugene's Mike Lafferty, is currently a member of the U.S. "A" team. Jenny Carson, a Mt. Hood area racer from Lake Oswego, was an "A" member of the women's squad until a broken leg two years ago dropped her back. She is now a talent squad member bent on regaining a top-level position. It might be recalled it was from the talent squad in 1968 that Bend's Kiki Cutter and the Seattle sister combination of Cathy and Judy Nagle moved directly to medal-winning roles in the Winter Olympics.

U.S. Head Coach Willy Schaeffer will have his entire staff on hand for the Kandahar, according to Race Chairman Matt Greenslade, an inspector with the Portland Fire Department who serves as a youth program through the Mt. Hood Racing Team.

The select field will headquarter at Bowman's Mt. Hood Resort with skiing, of course, at The Meadows. In addition to PNSA, there are seven other regional divisions of the U.S. Ski Association. These include the Eastern, Far West, Intermountain, Alaska, Rocky Mountain, Northern Rocky and Central. All will be allowed a limited number of entries in the Kandahar, which, with the foreign entries, will swell the total entry to some 84 men and 52 women, or approximately 136 total.

General Chairman of the Kandahar is Tom Markham, an investment officer for the Downtown Portland Main Branch of First National Bank of Oregon.

Funds have been raised through contributions from Oregon businesses, including Mt. Hood Meadows, Ltd., under President Franklin P. Drake, as well as numerous individuals and professional people.

While the decks have been cleared for the Kandahar, the last weekend in March was a

busy one for Hoodland, both from the standpoint of recreational skiers winding up a week of spring vacation and racing competition among the younger slat runners as well as the annual Cascade Ski Club Nordic Championships in cross-country and jumping at Government Camp's Multapor Winter Sports Area.

Several Mt. Hood racers were in Washington for international level racing in the Apple Cup Invitational, an FIS sanctioned contest, staged at the Mission Ridge Ski Area. Two Cascade Ski Club junior racers finished up in the pack of top men performers. Government Camp's Lee Englesby was 24th and Mike Durtschi, a Wilson High Student from Portland, was 38th. Jenny Carson, home in prelude to the Kandahar, was 10th in the women's field.

Joe Junker, 19-year-old Mt. Hood Meadows ski patrolman, led a delegation of Hoodland skiers in the Nastar National Giant Slalom Championships at Mt. Snow, Vt. Junker was first in the division for ski area employees. Lionel Wilbault, Meadows racing coach from France, was second in the pacesetters division way in front of his boss, Meadows Ski School Director Rene Farwig, who was eighth. Denise James, 19-year-old Hood River skier, was fifth in the women's recreational skier class. She represented Meadows Nastar. Vern Miller of Lake Oswego, representing Government Camp's Multapor Nastar, was 11th in the tough senior men's classification.

In the Cascade Nordic Events on Saturday and Sunday, Neikki Niskanen of the Oregon Nordic Club was the fastest of 41 cross-country runners and the national junior champion, Ron Steel from Leavenworth, Wash., paced the Sunday jumping.

Other x-country winners included Dick Arkley of Seattle's Kongsbergers in men's "B", Odd Moen, Kongsbergers, in men's veterans and Scott Lag of Bend

Skyliners in men's junior expert. In senior men, Mead Schmoekle of ONC was the winner. In the Mitey Mite action, members of the Mt. Hood Racing Team from Cascade Ski Club won four of five first-place trophies with crowns to Steve Gibbons, 11-12 boys; Tom Tourangeau, 13-14 boys; John Swan, 10-under boys, and Joyce Woodring, 11-12 girls. The lone non-MHRT breakthrough was in the 10-under girls division by Mary Miller of Bend Skyliners.

Tourangeau, son of the Mt. Hood Racing Team jumping coach, was one of four combined trophy winners at the windup of Sunday jumping. Combined winners were based on both x-country and jumping results. Tourangeau, on leaps of 86 and 81 feet, edged out Don Alexander of Leavenworth for the junior novice jump title. Leavenworth has a big youth jumping program on a hill adjacent to the town where young jumpers practice almost daily, giving it a string of potent competitors.

Joining Tourangeau as combined winners were John Swan and Greg Wiley of Cascade and David Antis of Mt. Hood Ski School's Alpine-Nordic Racing Team. Other youthful jumping winners along with Tourangeau, and all from MHRT, were Jeff Durt-schi, 8, with jumps of 44 and 37 feet; Preston Vielbig, 10, at 60 and 51 feet, and Jesse Scroggins, 12, on two jumps of 55 feet.

Leavenworth's Ron Steel, leaping from Multapor's "B" hill, hit the 168-foot mark twice in winning the Junior Expert title and posting the longest jumps of the tournament at near-hill-record levels.

Seattle Kongsberger Ragnar Ulland, who holds the Multapor "A" hill record of 224 feet set back in 1959, won the class A division with leaps of 145 and 146 feet. Ulland's teammate Asbjorn Nordheim was second with Guy Hughes, back in jumping competition for the first time in four years, third. Hughes, of Mt. Hood Ski

School, is the area gelande champion and will compete in the national gelande championships this month in Utah. The gelande is jumping on an acrobatic basis while wearing conventional skis as opposed to special, heavier jumping skis in

the top jumping competitions such as Sunday at Multapor.

A jumper with some 40 years experience, Frits Pedersen of Seattle's Kongsbergers, won the veterans division with jumps of 117 and 120 feet.

Saturday's weather was at

times blustery with heavy snow falling, particularly during the finish of cross-country competition and the running of the Farrell's Ice Cream Parlour Kids Costume Capers, an obstacle-type ski race with all competitors aged six-through-

12 attired in costume.

Despite the near-blizzard conditions, over 40 young skiers took part in the racing. Prizes were awarded only to youngsters who had not won a place trophy or medal in Mitey Mite level of racing. In addition

to trophies presented to the winners by Farrell's, there was plenty of ice cream for the snow-covered youngsters. Government Camp's Lynn and Terry Pearson put in many hours as co-chairmen of the event.

Weekend ski races on Mt. Hood draw World Cup skiers



Mike Lafferty

Oregon's own Mike Lafferty (Eugene, Oregon), U.S. National Ski Racing Team member and World Cup competitor is one of 38 men and 19 women of the U.S.A. Ski Team to compete at the 1971 Far West Kandahar National Alpine Races at Mt. Hood Meadows on April 3 and 4.

Mike is 22 years old, 5' 11 1/2" and 160 pounds worth of talent. He is a member of Colorado University Racing Club, Pacific Northwest Ski Association. Best 1969-70 results: 5th Downhill, World Cup Race, Val d' Isere, France; 7th Downhill, World Cup Race, Morzine, France; 19th Giant Slalom, Winterstart Race, Vail, Colorado; 49th, World Cup Standing and member 1970 FIS Team. Motorcycle riding and golf are listed among his hobbies.

Other U.S. National Team members scheduled to compete in the Far West Kandahar are the famed and colorful Cockran sisters, Marilyn and Barbara. These two girls boosted the prestige of the United States Ski Association's Alpine Program February 13 with a one-two finish in the Bank of Montreal World Cup Slalom at Mont Ste Anne, Quebec. Not only was it Marilyn's initial World Cup victory in three years of international racing, it was also the racing highlight of the weekend. The amiable 21-year old from Richmond, Vermont decided "to just go all-out" on her second run and

had a blistering time of 39.45 seconds to take it all. Barbara, 19, beat everybody else through the run, just 1.25 seconds behind her sister.

Marilyn also took the combined title at the French National Women's Ski Championships last week at La Plagne, France.

Total field of competitors scheduled at this writing are 57 women and 88 men. Included in this figure are 10 men and 10 women from the Canadian National Team and 5 members from Norway. All will be arriving in Portland on April 1 just back from the Final World Cup Races at Norway. U.S. Ski Team Director, Willie Schaeffer and the coaches will accompany the team.

Tom Markham, general race chairman of the Schne Vogeli Ski Club who is sponsoring the 1971 Far West Kandahar stated that this will be the most important Alpine Race ever held in the Northwest prior to an Olympic year. All competitors are looking for a seat on the 1972 Winter Olympics in Sapporo, Japan.

Bank debits in county reported up

Bank debits for the 22 reporting banks including Clackamas counties were up in February, 1971, compared to February, 1970; the University of Oregon Bureau of Business and Economic Research has reported.

Debits for February, 1971 totaled \$124,261,000. For January, 1971, the total was \$125,615,000 and for February, 1970, the total was \$111,077,000. Oregon had 366 banks reporting had a percentage decrease of 3.5 per cent in February, 1971, as compared with January, 1971, and a 4.5 per cent increase in February, 1971, as compared with February, 1970.

Total bank debits for February, 1971, came to \$4,542,662,000. For January, 1971, the total was \$4,708,675,000, and for February, 1970, the total was \$4,347,875,000.

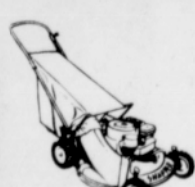


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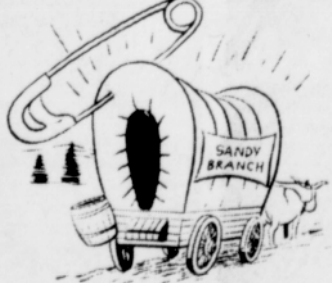
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