

The Sandy Post

Sports and Recreation

Sandy skiers take second place at state race



Senior Eric Marter in the giant slalom.



Senior Dave Lambert on the ridge

Photos by Marty Morrison



Senior Brian Silvey in the giant slalom.



Senior Marcy Huff in the giant slalom.



Senior Jeff Day in the slalom.

Sarich is named 'king of the hill'

by MARTY MORRISON

This year the Sandy skiers fell short of their dreams at the state high school championships, but kept the winning tradition burning as Steve Sarich renewed his title as king of the mountain.

While many have visions of last years Pioneers taking dual state titles still in mind, in 1985, Mountain View and Clackamas proved to be the swiftest teams on the slopes, as the girls from Bend took a state title and the boys from Clackamas took the other.

Sandy also had to give up its team combined trophy to the Mountain View team as the Pioneers took a distant second place.

According to Sandy coach Robert Karsten, the Pioneers weren't out classed at the two day event held last Thursday and Friday on the Pioneers home turf at Mirror Mountain.

"The reason is, we held back a little and the competition didn't, they let 'em rip and we got beat."

That reasoning of course didn't apply to the "Stever" Sarich as the quiet senior skied to a first place finish in the slalom on Thursday as he led the Pioneers to a first place finish in the slalom. Second seed Jeff Day brought in the second qualifying time as the senior crossed the finish line two seconds behind Sarich for sixth place. Eric Marter posted the third qualifying time on a "stand-up" run as third seed Brian Silvey took a

fall. Marter, skiing as the 65 racer on the slalom, came in 15 place.

Junior Tim Kasch was right on the tails of Marter's skis from the starting gate to the finish gate as he also made it into the top twenty with a 17 place finish. Senior Peter Valian shook off a spin-out seven gates from the finish to take 45 place.

While the boys slalom course was a smooth flowing course, the girls had to navigate a tight awkward slalom course.

For Marcy Huff, being the first racer on the course was a disadvantage as she fell victim to the tight turns several times.

"It was a terrible course, there was no rhythm to it at all," said Huff.

The course didn't seem to slow Holly Sarich down, as the Pioneer's second seed cooked a third place finish to lead the girls team to a fifth place finish.

Fourth seed Tahnee Swanton, put in the hot seat as third seed Jennifer Day took several falls, skied a fast stand-up run for Karsten posting a ninth place finish and the Pioneers second qualifying time.

Just when it looked as if the girls would rally to a strong finish with the times of the last two seeds, fifth seed Amy Lynch took a fall. That left Huff's run, with a crash, to stand as the Pioneers third qualifying time. Huff finished in 57 place, as Sylvia Hertrich took 62 place, while Lynch and Day finished in 68 and 76 place respectively.

While slaloms are generally a two run event, this years slalom was held to one run as the second run was cancelled because of the lack of daylight.

On Friday, the Sandy skiers put on their helmets and longer skis for the high speed giant slalom which began in the Upper bowl on Downhill run and descended down Dog-Leg run into the lower bowl.

The course was set fast and long, and the snow was extremely hard, which increased the speeds and difficulty of the giant slalom significantly.

The difficulty was apparent as most of the racers fell on the top section of the course.

According to Karsten, the survival rate on the giant slalom was approximately 45 percent.

Huff was fortunate to be in the first seed on this day as the latter seeds had to contend with chatter marks in the gates. The senior took full advantage of her position, leading the Sandy girls to a fifth place finish with her third place performance.

For the sophomore Sarich, the top section spelled "frustration," as she lost her ski on the third gate. Sarich finished the course, but finished in a disappointing 75 place.

The frustration continued, as Day also took a fall on the hard ice, leaving the Pioneers still without a second qualifying time. After the race was over, and her older brother Jeff had also fell victim to the icy slope,

she jokingly said, "today wasn't a good day for the Days."

With Day's fall, all hopes were once again pinned on Swanton, but they were quickly dashed as she disqualified on the top section after missing a gate.

On the giant slalom it was Lynches turn to pull a rabbit out of the hat, as the fifth seed skier got the Pioneer's second qualifying time with her 16 place finish.

The Pioneers alternate, Nichole Schouten, posted the essential third qualifying time with her 46 place finish.

The results were better for the boys, as Sarich set the track for the Pioneers with a smart line and a second place finish.

After the first seed boys completed their run, the course, with all its deep chatter marks, looked like a winding flight of stairs.

Second seed, Day, "stubbed his toe" on one of the stairs causing his ski pop-off. However, the rough course didn't disenchant the Pioneer.

"I liked that course. I took it straight," said Day, as Karsten replied humorously, "straight into the hole."

Day completed his run finishing in 86 place.

Fourth seed Brian Silvey, who prefers to race giant slaloms, showed why taking 18 place for the Pioneer's second qualifying time.

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Sandy High School's ski team