

CALEidoscope

by Cale Kenney

Slope scope Ski area admits truth of race-ism



Tuesday it was colder than a witch's left tonsil but the race crew was out there on Hughes running the blue and red ribbons that separate the doers from the watchers. **THE RACERS ARE COMING, THE RACERS ARE COMING.** The course will be a giant slalom for the B-racers this Friday and Saturday and then a downhill for the World Pro Series next week. Already, the air about the ski area is festive.

Wednesday, Coors sponsored a Rest-tour-rant race in conjunction with the CPT. L.C. Benedicts proved who serves the best race results in town. Dave Johnson, Wendy Engel and Chris Christensen won the number one spot, and Adolfs took second piece of cake with Rick DiDonato, Bob Wolfe, and Susan Van Dune. Third was from the Shed -- Billy Bowlby, Joe

Ward and Mimi Bowes whetting everyone's appetites for the season of racing to come.

The Coors Colorado Pro Tour comes to Winter Park Thursday expecting about 190 racers to sign up. According to Sandy Nichols, tour director for CPT, this is more of an A-minus series than a B, because of the level of competition. The men on the Winter Park team would agree, citing the original purpose of the Coors Tour as a working man's chance to race and maybe make some money, but racers are coming in droves from Europe and all over the U.S. to make money on this, the richest race on the circuit. Local chances are slim against men with the sponsored leisure to track all season.

Winter Park has four men

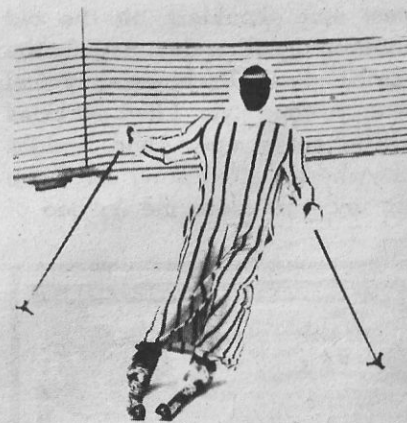
racing for their team--Tom Carr, Bob Wolf, Doug Lynch and a surprise secret weapon in the person of Nestor Burgener from Switzerland who will be the stand-in for Bruce Bowlin, the other *Official* Winter Park team member. Bowlin is in Japan skiing for Interski.

Burgener blew everyone else off the course last week on Phipps in a qualifying race for alternates. He won't be in town until this Thursday, so the *Manifest* won't have a chance to do a profile until the future. If you can't be at the races, catch Friday's action on Channel 3 at 7:30. With Bob Singley behind the camera and Beryl Bender behind Bob, it could be a wild goose chase-of-a-race on film.

Congratulations Otto Tschudi for placing fourth in giant slalom in

Japan. Walter Tresch, who will be skiing at Winter Park, rumor has it, placed second in the same race. Tresch is Winter Park's secret hopeful for the WPS races next week.

Monday, the bartenders are coming out from behind their respective altars and going for the Bartender Cup sponsored by Miller's Lite, the same setup as the Coors restaurant race, two members have to work at a bar or restaurant with a bar, and the third ringer has to be female. D.A. Greg Long won't be there to coach you guys, so good luck. □



The Sheik is a little shaky.



by Cale Kenney

Slope scope

A salute to the Duke of Dubuque

Last year when the chic and the sheik came to town for the World Pro Series Race it was a grand and (spectacular) event. How could we all have known what the Lebanese sheik whose picture was splashed all over the globe by UPI was in reality just a shoe salesman from Duluth, Minnesota named George Haddad? We were all haddad.

Stories abound about the miniscams Jake Hoeschler and Doug Shelton pulled off to make the sheik seem authentic. He drove here in a van but was escorted to the ski area in a borrowed limousine. "Gee, a real Lebanese sheik." An excited doctor from Denver who spoke Lebanese, coveted this occasion to converse with the sheik in his own tongue. After the doctor's first question, the charlatan sheik (who speaks only English) was saved by his quick interpreter who informed the good doctor, who was waiting for the sheik's reply, that he must realize that the sheik cannot speak freely with anyone below his station. The doctor meekly stepped away.

My own contribution to the rapscaillon scam legend happened during the handicap program's "ski down" exhibition before the day's ceremonies. The sheik, with a handicap of his own in those long and striped robes, was among our entourage snaking down Hughes in hopefully controlled slow traverses. We were all threatened with losing it totally if the person

directly in front of and behind the sheik couldn't compensate for his unrhythmical style.

"The sheik is a little shaky," Hal yelled back to us all with a cautioning grin. We all laughed. Good thing he doesn't understand English!

Ya. We were all haddad. It was pretty funny to everyone when it was all over. Already Larry Petersen was drawing up plans for Winter Park Sheik Day the next season when the whole ski area would sport sheik suits. But there were a few who didn't smile.

Jerry Grosword, President of Winter Park, blew smoke out of his ears for more than a few weeks afterward. His wife, Maryanne, and Larry Petersen sewed up their bunny outfits from old white sheets the day before Easter, and when Larry's creative costuming at one point or another would revert back to his rendition of the Easter bunny sheik, Jerry was not amused.

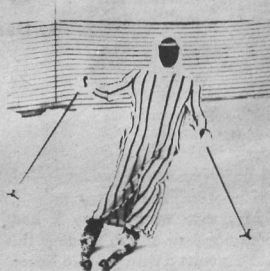
The ski area had been publicly insulted, and UPI was angry at the ski area for sending them false information. Vail had already lowered the press's tolerance thresholds with a two-year-old picture that was supposed to have been taken that year of the great snow conditions in Vail. That would have gone by unnoticed if the woman whose children were in the picture didn't blow Vail's cover to the press services by asking if she could have a copy. She'd missed it the first

time around.

But all seems to be forgiven. At the calcutta Tuesday night at Cherry Hills Country club, the biggest money making team, \$2200, was Otto Tschudi's, composed of Jim Carter, Paul Troyer, and (yes, folks it takes us a while but we really can take a joke) the shaky George Haddad and one of his master minders, one-time employee of Winter Park, Jake Hoeschler.

The calcutta raised \$22,000, and it was said that the First of Denver slide show of the handicap program, complete with two screens, six projectors and a stimulating narration, opened the crowd up to some serious, generous bidding. The respective team-owners will be watching their racers and the ski area itself will be watching Walter Tresch, the number two man on the circuit who will be skiing for Winter Park. The two other members of the Winter Park team are Bohn and Tschudi. All three Winter Park

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racers made the top six in the practice times on Wednesday.

For more information on the teams, their prices, and the breakdown on where the money goes, read page 3. Also, if you are going to miss the action because your boss is sending you on a business trip to Dubuque, Iowa, maybe you can see the canned-action on closed circuit t.v. after its debut on Channel 3, Friday, Feb. 2nd at 7:30 p.m. □