

JAN 30 1975
MAIL STAR



The avalanche did not prevent cross country skiers from beginning their competition. The women's 10 KM race drew comment from Nova Scotia coach Carl Purcell of Dartmouth.

Dianne Powell's 24th placing among the 45 entries was the highest of the four Nova Scotians. It was not so much the placings of his team which delighted Purcell as to the personal goals achieved by the Nova Scotians.

Prior to the race Purcell and the four girls, Powell, Linda Lawrence, Kerry Feetham and June Bagnall held a meeting to discuss the race and to set objectives of beating their personal bests.

"I'm very pleased with the girls," said Purcell as they all attained their goals. Powell's time in the race, which was won in 40.43, was 47. even and two minutes better than her previous best time. Lawrence finished 29 in 50.12 to break her previous best of 52.

Feetham was 33 in 51.51, and she had never beaten 52 before while Bagnall's 37th placing in 53.52 was an improvement as she never broke 55 before.

The girls finished ninth overall in an event which marked the first time any of them had competed outside Nova Scotia. "The experience itself was tremendous and worthwhile," said Purcell.

He described the course as challenging and one which called for a great deal of skiing technique. He also predicted an improved performance from the team Saturday in the 3 x 5 KM relay.

skiing are Dianne Powell and Jane Bagnall, both of Halifax; and Kerry Feetham and Linda Lawrence of Sackville. The team, which will be managed by Barbara Linke, has Pam Pulsifer, Sackville as spare.

The father-and-son combination of Martin and Bryan Aller from Dartmouth and Bryan Scallion, Tantallon and Gary Hartling, Halifax make up the men's team. The spare is Brian Cochrane of Dartmouth.

The women's competition consists of a 10 kilometer race for individuals and a three by five kilometer relay race. The men's individual race is 15 kilometers and the relay a three by 10 kilometers.

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He said Nova Scotia lacks the snow conditions other provinces have in order for preparation and secondly, "we lack competition with other parts of Canada."

Regarding the team's performances, he said, "If any of the skiers finished in the top six or seven, I'd be very happy. I don't mean to degrade anyone. I'm just being honest."

Members of
country ski
manager;
and Di-

anne Powell; back row, Carl Purcell, coach;
ling, Moe Aller and Bryan Scallion.

Thursday, January 30,

READY FOR
the Nova Scot
team. Left to
Jane Bagnall,

Women representing Nova Scotia in the cross country ski race, both of Halifax; Kerry Feetham and Linda Lawrence of Sackville. The team, which will be managed by Barbara Linke, has Pam Pulsifer, Sackville as spare.

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Province's ski

There's

(Editor's note: This is the ninth of a 16-part series on the sports in which Nova Scotia will participate at the Canada Winter Games which open in Lethbridge, Alta., Feb. 11).

By KEN JENNEX
Staff Reporter

Alpine coach Brian Todd thinks Nova Scotia can go all the way while cross country coach Carl Purcell says he feels his team lacks the experience to place high in the skiing competitions scheduled at the Canada Winter Games in Lethbridge Feb. 11 to Feb. 23.

THE MAIL-STAR

Monday, February 17, 1975

medalists Northwest Territories in 1:48.31.12; silver medalists Quebec in 1:48.51.66 and bronze medalists Ontario, 1:50.50.44. Nova Scotia was close in finishing with the leaders by clocking a time of 1:52.37.44

Gary Hartling and Bryan Scallion built up a lead for Nova Scotia over the first two thirds of the race. The third member of the relay team, Bryan Aller was unable to compete because he had the flu. He was replaced by his father, 46-year-old Moe who turned in a personal best of 39 minutes on the last 10 KM.

The women's cross country ski team finished its agenda of competition Saturday afternoon with the 3x5 KM relay race. Nova Scotia finished ninth with a time of 1:08.09.02. The winning time for the gold medal in this event was 57.44.79 by the Ontario entry.

Nova Scotia just missed

Jennex
er Games

winning a medal in the 3 x 10 KM men's relay race Sunday afternoon as they placed fourth. Nova Scotia led for the race's first 20 KM before dropping behind gold

THE MAIL-STAR

Saturday, February 15, 1975

Coach Purcell continues to be elated with the performances of his cross country ski team. Yesterday in the men's initial event the team placed two members among the top 10 in the 15 KM race which had an entry of 48 racers.

Gary Hartling was the highest finishing Nova Scotian in a time of 55.41 to take seventh place. Bryan Scallion was ninth in the race, in which the winning time was 53.04, with a time of 55.45.

Bryan Aller placed 21st in 59.23 and his father Moe 31st in 1.06.

Purcell describes the men's performances as "just beautiful" over the challenging cross country course. He also is optimistic about the men's team's chances in the 3-10 KM relay race in which Scallion, Hartling and Aller will be competing. "I personally believe we have a chance for a medal in the 3 x 10," said Purcell yesterday.



Facing
facts

by Hugh Townsend
Sports Editor

Wed. - Feb 12/75

Cross-country skiing: lack of government aid scored

Alison Griffiths is a 22-year-old senior economics student at Dalhousie University. She has competed nationally in swimming and cycling competitions, has been involved in international cross-country skiing and is now an active participant in cross-country.

She is also a concerned young lady . . . concerned about the lack of attention being given cross-country skiing in this province, particularly the lack of financial help from governments at the provincial and municipal levels in relation to what is being done for other sports in Nova Scotia.

But first, a little background on the Halifax resident: she competed for Nova Scotia as a swimmer in the 1969 Canada Summer Games held in Halifax-Dartmouth, she was a member of the provincial team in last year's national cycling competitions and, also last year, she was manager of the United States cross-country women's ski team that competed in Europe.

The European experience gave her "a very big insight into the kinds of programs that are producing top athletes in United States. Since then I've given the Nova Scotia problem a lot of thought."



ALISON GRIFFITHS
. . . she's concerned

Stressing the need for cross-country skiing assistance, she pinpointed three skiers who are in Alberta for the Winter Games competitions that begin today, Brian Scallion, Gary Hartling and Brian Aller, all members of the national B team.

"All three," she said, "want to try out for the Olympic trials next year . . . yet if they don't get into competitions it's going to put them sadly behind the eight ball."

Alison cites the shortage of money in the cross-country racing budget as a major problem, making it almost impossible for skiers like Scallion, Hartling and Aller to participate in the national championships in British Columbia next month and the North American championships later in Quebec.

"The racing budget comprises a very small portion of the cross-country skiing budget," she explained. "There are coaching clinics, instruction clinics, the costs of a provincial coach . . . so little is left for racing."

She said the budget is small enough to begin with but "with so much for promoting the Winter Games team there isn't enough left to send these athletes to the championships."

Yet the championships are "absolutely critical" if these skiers are to remain on the national team.

The Winter Games competitions, she pointed out, are not recognized by the Canadian Ski Association.

"Even if they win gold" in Alberta "it would have no bearing on their national team status. And if they don't get

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